

MR. SWIMMIE
A monologue
by
Tara Meddaugh



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DETAILS:

Genre: Comedic/Children

Running time: Approximately 1 minute

Cast: Male/female

Age range: 4-10 years old

Setting: A kitchen

Chloe tries to convince her mom she has matured since she let her pet fish die, and now she is ready to take care of a puppy.

CHLOE

I know Mr. Swimmie died, but this is different. Mr. Swimmie was weird as soon as we got him. Half the time he swam backwards, remember? I'm not a veterinarian but I do not think fish are supposed to swim backwards. I did try to feed him—when I thought of it. You know, like when you bake that chocolate cherry cake I love or even if you were making that gross pot roast that stinks up the house. I had to think of food because I was smelling it. So I'd feed him. Like, every day. Honest!

(pause)

So I know I forgot a few days. I'm not perfect like Emily, ok? Maybe I was watching tv, and maybe I didn't think about Mr. Swimmie, like, every second of the day, but at least I watch PBS, right? And...look, Mom, I was different then, when I had Mr. Swimmie. I was just a little kid! He died such a long time ago and you really have to get over it. I think it was maybe like...two...or three weeks ago? I'm a lot more grown up now.

(pause)

So. Let's go back in the pet store, and get me that puppy!

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To learn more about Tara's plays, visit www.tameddaugh.com.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Tara's plays have been presented by theater companies around the world such as Fusion Theatre, Mosaic Theater Company of DC, The Directors Company, Le Petit Theatre de Terrebonne, Theatre One, Tutti Bravi Productions, Westchester Collaborative Theater, Possibilities Theater, Tagragg Productions, One Armed Man, Oracle Theatre, Inc, the Bobik Theatre Ensemble, The Acme Theatre Company, The Harlequin Players, Woman Seeking, and numerous schools, universities and colleges including Colgate, Gardner-Webb, Prince Williams, and Peru. Her work has showcased at festivals such as the Artists of Tomorrow Festival in NYC, The Bangkok Community Theatre Fringe Festival, the Pittsburgh New Works Series, and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Alaska. Tens of thousands of teachers, actors and students world-wide have utilized her monologues for competitions, course material, auditions, showcases, and in workshops at theaters, acting studios, colleges and schools. Tara has taught Playwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has led Creative Dramatics Workshops for children and teens in underserved areas throughout New York and New Jersey. She has script consulted on several animation and VR projects. Tara's work has been published by Oxford Press South Africa, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), Limelight Editions/Applause Acting Series, YouthPLAYS, The Hunger Journal, Meriweather Publishing, Applause Theatre & Cinema, Performer Stuff and Ace-Your-Audition. She is a recipient of the Shubert Fellowship in Dramatic Writing, the Sloan Screenwriting Fellowship, the New Works for Young Women [Actors] Award, The Write Stuff Award, and is a member of the Dramatist's Guild. She holds her MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University.

Tara has a knack for spotting four-leaf clovers, can recite all 50 states in less than 30 seconds and can't help but do different character voices when reading children's books out loud. She lives near New York City with her husband and two kids.

For more information about Tara Meddaugh or her work, visit her website at www.tameddaugh.com.