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BOY'S ESSAY ON BOYS

A MONOLOGUE

By
LILLIAN DAVIDSON

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BOY'S ESSAY ON BOYS

MONOLOGUE FOR A MAN OR WOMAN

By

LILLIAN DAVIDSON

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BOY'S ESSAY ON BOYS

Monologue for Male or Female, by Lillian Davidson.

[*This goes best when read as an essay, in costume; let voice fall where word is repeated.*]

Firstly, boys is boys, only they don't think so, they thinks they is men, I don't tho. I thought so oncet an' one day I said to Jim Crow, Jim's as big as, as, oh, Jim's awful big, an' I sez to Jim, sez I, I kin kick you an' I ain't never thought I was a man since.

Secondly boys has one 'bed, one nose, two eyes, two ears, two arms, eight fingers, two thumbs, two legs, ten toes, only Hank he cut his big toe off, he did wif a ax, he did, so he ain't got but nine he ain't, he ain't.

Teacher is the smartest woman in the world she is, she is, so smart she never was married a tol, a tol, an' that's lots smarter an' most wimmin. Ellie Elkin's ma's been married three times an' I was jis wonderin' if she wasn't most nearly a fool. I'm goin' to ax my teacher how many times marryin' it takes to make a woman a fool, a fool.

Thirdly most boys won't never steal nothin', they may say some words they didn't hear at Sunday School, an' they tell their ma's that they never did nothin' when they did, but stealin', no siree, sir-ee. Why if boys saw a whole hundred dollars right in the road in front of them they wouldn't touch it, if somebody was lookin' but jis let a boy see a watermelon on the other side of a ten foot barb wire fence an' he'll have that melon if he tears every blamed rag offen his back an'

scratches his one hed, one nose, two eyes, two ears, eight fingers, two thumbs, two legs, ten toes, only Hank.

An' they'll take every darned—I don't think that's swearin' cause I heard Sammy say that at Sunday School, when him an' me, I mean me an' him, went out to get a drink of water so we wouldn't hear Deacon Jones' long prayer, an' he bit his tongue when he was makin' faces at Sally Todd, Sally Todd. Where was I at? Oh yes, I was in the melon patch, I mean the other boys is an' they take every darned one they can get over that ten foot barb wire fence, an' if the bull dog don't come too soon or the man with the gun, why nen they jis busts every melon they can't get over an' eats em' they do, they do. An' nen we, I mean they was so full at they jis can't git over that fence, they can't but by and by we, I mean they, heard a bull dog a barkin' an' nen we, I mean they can climb over that fence you bet, you bet. But they got caught in the barbs and the bull dog was quicker an' we, I mean they was an' atween him an' the barb wire fence we, I mean they had so little clothes left we had to walk behind each other an' go in by the wood shed, wood shed.

Fourthly, boys is, is boys. Leastwise I've heard pa say more'n a billion times at "boys will be boys." I know it was a billion cause teacher says nobody can't never count a billion an' teacher is the smartest woman, woman. Pa always said "Boys will be boys" like he felt glad of it but ma allus sighed like she felt awful but couldn't help it. I s'pose she wanted us to be girls, leastwise she made Tom an' me, I mean me an' Tom wear dresses jist as long as ever she could. No, I don't think that's swearin' 'cause I heard ma say that an' I never heard her sware but oncet—an' at was when Pa axed her if she wanted lobster for supper an' she said no, if all lobsters chawed tobacco like he did she didn't want none to eat, to eat.

Let's see where was I at? Oh yes, about Pa sayin' "boys will be boys," but Tom an' me, I mean me an' Tom, Tom's my brother an' he's a boy. We jis couldn't

be boys with those old dresses on so I thot pa was wrong, was wrong.

Well I s'pose I'd better hurry 'cause teacher said to make our essays short, an' teacher's the smartest woman in the world. I don't see why God didn't make such a smart woman a boy so I'll jist start on lastly.

Lastly, I've told everything there is about boys, 'ceptin' one thing an' I don't like to tell that, cause I just told you 'at Tom an' me, I mean me an' Tom, was boys. I'm sorry I told you but here goes, here goes. Some boys is mean, ist downright mean, an' the bigger they get the meaner they is. Why I saw a great big boy, I did, ist tooked a teenty weenty boy that was as good as he could be an' the big boy ist grabbed him by his hair an' dragged him a whole block, he did, an' the little boy he didn't yell, 'at is he didn't yell much, leastwise not so as you could notice it when the big boy was yellin' like a wild Indian 'at he was goin' to scalp the little boy, little boy. An' the little boy thot he was scalpen, he did. Now the big boy ist frowed the little boy rite in the gutter he did, an' the gutter was wet it was, an' dirty an' ist awful it was, an' the big boy he ist laffed he did an' held up the little boy's hair when he's scalped him, he did, an' the little boy's one head, two ears, one nose, two eyes, two arms, eight fingers, two thumbs, two legs, ten toes, was so full of water an' mud an' slime at he didn't care if he was scalped, he didn't, an' the big boy come real close and the little boy saw it was only his curls 'at the big boy cut off, an' he was glad he wasn't scalped. But all boys is not mean 'cause the little boy was the bestest boy I ever knew 'cause that little boy was me, was me. But mostest all boys is mean 'ceptin' brother an' me an' sometimes brother is a little mean, little mean.

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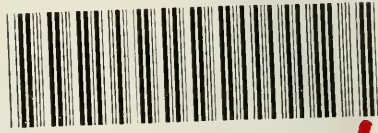
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