



A LIFE SPURRED INTO
MEANINGFUL ADVENTURE

A 10-minute play

TARA MEDDAUGH



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By

Tara Meddaugh

EXCERPT

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A Life Spurred into Meaningful Adventure is included in the collection, *When Fairy Tales Falter: The Prettiest Duckling and Other Moral Ambiguities* (previously titled, *When Fairy Tales Falter: The Devious Duckling and Other Untold Adventures*).

For permission to perform, contact tmeddaugh@gmail.com.

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**A Note About
*A Life Spurred into Meaningful Adventure***

A Life Spurred into Meaningful Adventure stands alone as a ten-minute piece but is also included in a 4-piece collection of short plays which follow disrupted or tangential fairy tales titled, [*When Fairy Tales Falter: The Prettiest Duckling and Other Moral Ambiguities*](#)

If you would like more information about the entire play, [*When Fairy Tales Falter: The Prettiest Duckling and Other Moral Ambiguities*](#) please visit:

www.tameddaugh.com/when-fairy-tales-falter-the-prettiest-duckling-and-other-moral-ambiguities

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A LIFE SPURRED INTO MEANINGFUL ADVENTURE**EXCERPT**Character Breakdown

LITTLE BEAR	A young bear. Around 10-18 in human years. Raised in a loving home, used to being well cared for, naïve to the dangers of the world. Excited to be on an adventure and experiencing the world like never before, but the reality is a bit more daunting than Little Bear bargained for. Best friends with Goldilocks.
GOLDILOCKS	A girl, around 10-18 years old. Jaded, has been taking care of herself for quite some time, due to absent parents. Has not experienced care or much outward familial love. Bonded closely and best friends with Little Bear.

Setting

A forest not too far past the house of the Three Bears.

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AT RISE: Best friends, LITTLE BEAR and GOLDILOCKS, are walking in the woods, not too far past the house of the Three Little Bears, but far enough that finding one's way back would be a quite a challenge. The sun is setting.

LITTLE BEAR

There it is!

GOLDILOCKS

What?

LITTLE BEAR

There! In the distance! The purple sky! The orange! The yellow! It's pouring rainbow sherbet!

GOLDILOCKS

It's the sunset, Little Bear.

LITTLE BEAR

The...well, I thought we were headed there.

GOLDILOCKS

To the sunset?

LITTLE BEAR

To the...to the "rainbow sherbet in the sky" ... "raining down for all to eat?"

GOLDILOCKS

I'm sorry...It's only the colors of the sun turning into the moon. That's not where we're headed.

LITTLE BEAR

Oh.

(pause)

Well, might you tell me...where was it we were headed?

GOLDILOCKS

You forgot again?

LITTLE BEAR

Well, I didn't forget. I know we are going somewhere deliciously exciting, terrifically adventurous, I just...could you remind me of the exact...terminology?

GOLDILOCKS

Our destination is...Where Life Takes Us!

LITTLE BEAR

Oh, right.

GOLDILOCKS

See?

LITTLE BEAR

Where Life Takes Us! Yes. I remember now.

GOLDILOCKS

So there really is no way of knowing if we've made it or not.

LITTLE BEAR

But then...if our destination is Where Life Takes Us and we're going Where Life Takes Us, then aren't we reaching it as we speak? As we live? And then, wouldn't it be time for a break and...some porridge?

(pause)

GOLDILOCKS

No.

LITTLE BEAR

With honey?

GOLDILOCKS

We'll eat soon enough. When the sun's colors are...more faded.

LITTLE BEAR

I was enjoying eating at home this morning.

GOLDILOCKS

I imagine you were.

LITTLE BEAR

I love to stretch out in my little bed, wait for Mama to tell me the porridge is ready, then bound out of—

GOLDILOCKS

You bound?

LITTLE BEAR

I'm an expert in bounding!

GOLDILOCKS

But you walk as though your feet were stuck in molasses.

LITTLE BEAR

Not when there's porridge and honey to be had! Then I bound!

GOLDILOCKS

I'd like to see that some day.

LITTLE BEAR

Oh, you will. This morning, I was cuddled up, with the little corn doll you made for me, when Mama announced the porridge and I bound out of bed to it!

GOLDILOCKS

I bet you burned your tongue.

LITTLE BEAR

(laughing)

I did!

GOLDILOCKS

You think that's funny!

LITTLE BEAR

I do!

GOLDILOCKS

Those burns take a few days to go away.

LITTLE BEAR

Oh, not when you rub them with honey. Then they're gone by the afternoon.

GOLDILOCKS

So is yours gone?

LITTLE BEAR

Hm...well...no, not quite. I don't think I had the chance to rub it with honey properly. Not like I should anyhow.

GOLDILOCKS

Because of me.

LITTLE BEAR

Because of our Adventure.

(pause)

GOLDILOCKS

You didn't have to come—

END OF EXCERPT

To read the entire play, [A LIFE SPURRED INTO MEANINGFUL ADVENTURE](http://www.tameddaugh.com/a-life-spurred-into-meaningful-adventure), visit:
www.tameddaugh.com/a-life-spurred-into-meaningful-adventure

For more information on the collection, [THE PRETTIEST DUCKLING AND OTHER MORAL AMBIGUITIES](http://www.tameddaugh.com/when-fairy-tales-falter-the-prettiest-duckling-and-other-moral-ambiguities), in which *A Life Spurred into Meaningful Adventure* is also featured, please visit:

www.tameddaugh.com/when-fairy-tales-falter-the-prettiest-duckling-and-other-moral-ambiguities

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Tara's plays have been presented by theater companies 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 Acme Theatre Company, The Harlequin Players, Woman Seeking..., and numerous schools, universities and colleges including Gardner-Webb, Prince Williams, and Colgate. 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, performances, and showcases. Tara has taught Playwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has led Creative Dramatics Workshops for children in underserved areas throughout New York and New Jersey. Additionally, she has script consulted on several animation and VR projects. Tara's work has been published by Smith & Kraus, YouthPLAYS, Oxford Press South Africa, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), Limelight Editions/Applause Acting Series, 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. Tara holds her MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University.

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