

# Copyright © 2015 by Tara Meddaugh

All rights reserved. No part of this monologue may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without permission in writing from the author, except by a reviewer, who may quote brief passages in a review. Any members of educational institutions wishing to photocopy part or all of this monologue for classroom use, or publishers who would like to obtain permission to include the work in an anthology, should send their inquiries via email <a href="mailto:tmeadaugh@gmail.com">tmeadaugh@gmail.com</a>.

Those who wish to read, photocopy or produce the entire one-act play, <u>What Happened at the Mud Puddle</u>, should request permission via the publisher, <u>YouthPLAYS</u> at: www.youthplays.com/play/what-happened-at-the-mud-puddle-by-tara-meddaugh-351

CAUTION. Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that <u>What Happened at the Mud Puddle</u> is subject to a royalty. All rights, including professional, amateur, motion picture, recitation, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound taping, all other forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as information storage and retrieval systems and photocopying, and rights of translation into foreign languages, are strictly reserved. There are minor, mainly punctuation, edits in this monologue that may not appear in the published one-act play. Usage information detailed on following page.

## **HOW TO USE THIS MONOLOGUE**

# To use this monologue for auditions or in the classroom:

- Contact tmeddaugh@gmail.com for permission.
- There is no fee for this specified use.

# To use this monologue in a competition:

- Purchase one copy (digital or printed) of the play from which this monologue comes per participant, found <a href="here">here:</a>
   www.youthplays.com/play/what-happened-at-the-mud-puddle-by-tara-meddaugh-351
- In addition, contact <u>tmeddaugh@gmail.com</u> for permission.
- There is no fee to perform this monologue in a competition.

# To use this monologue in a non-competitive public showcase or performance:

- Purchase one copy (digital or printed) of the play per participant found <a href="here:">here:</a>
   www.youthplays.com/play/what-happened-at-the-mud-puddle-by-tara-meddaugh-351
- In addition, contact tmeddaugh@gmail.com for permission and details.
- There may be a small royalty fee for this purpose.

# WHAT HAPPENED AT THE MUD PUDDLE – Amanda's Monologue By Tara Meddaugh

# About the play, What Happened at the Mud Puddle

Taylor and Chloe have been best friends for years. At least, they had been, until Taylor suddenly and mysteriously throws an over-the-top yacht party the same day as Chloe's birthday party. Despite Taylor's reputation as the meanest girl in school, her party fills up, as no one wants to turn down the chance to sample an extravagant candy station, dance to the live music of the hottest new band, or receive a pricey swag bag. But before the boat even leaves the dock, Taylor begins to turn on her guests, moving in on Jasmine's crush, telling Ronni to "walk the plank!" and humiliating the new girl, Amanda. Will the lure of the luxurious yacht, complete with its very own Ferris wheel, and live entertainment, be enough to keep the guests from walking? Or will they abandon ship for nicer ground at Chloe's backyard ice cream party? Loyalties and friendships are tested in this ensemble cast play, and of course, someone gets pushed into a mud puddle.

# **About Amanda's monologue:**

Amanda is new to her middle school, and has endured humiliation from resident mean (but, somehow, of course still popular) girl, Taylor. When Amanda is faced with the choice to go to the party of a friendly classmate, Chloe, or go to the much-hyped party Taylor is throwing, she isn't proud of the decision she makes. This monologue is a spoken to the audience.

#### **DETAILS**

Genre: Comedy/Drama

Cast: Female

Age range: Tween/teen Time period: Present

Running time: Approximately 2 minutes

#### **AMANDA**

I wanted to go to Chloe's party. I did. She's kinda nice, and she's helped me open my locker a few times before. And she didn't make a big deal about it either. She said it happens to everyone, so don't worry, and smiled at me.

(pause)

Taylor's really pretty, I guess, and people seem to wonder what she thinks about a lot of things, but I don't like Taylor. I moved here in December and even though Mrs. Fields told her to help me find my way around, she didn't. But she didn't just ignore me, which would have been, I don't know, not really nice either. But she actually...I don't know, tricked me and stuff. She told me I had to pay the lunch lady in all pennies, or else I couldn't buy lunch. So I didn't even get in the lunch line—she made me sit by the windows by myself, and I was starving that first day. And the next day, when I collected all the pennies in my mom's purse and in the car and in my old piggy bank, and went to pay the lunch lady, she was really annoyed with me, and kind of yelled at me in front of the other kids and said, "How am I supposed to count all these pennies with a line of kids behind you?"

(pause)

And then she made me wait until all the other kids had their lunch. Then she counted the pennies and I barely had time to eat that day.

(pause)

And when I sat down, I found out Taylor had told everyone how poor I was that I only had pennies for lunch.

(pause)

I know I shouldn't have believed Taylor, about paying for lunch that way. But. I don't know. I usually just believe people. Because, why would they lie?

(pause)

Chloe and Taylor usually sat next to each other at lunch, but I noticed Chloe sat somewhere else that day. I should have gone to her party. But Taylor asked me to go to her party. Taylor. Asked. Me.

(pause)

And that's why I went.

### **END OF MONOLOGUE**

For use of this monologue, see page 3 or contact tmeddaugh@gmail.com.

For the complete play, *What Happened at the Mud Puddle*, visit: www.youthplays.com/play/what-happened-at-the-mud-puddle-by-tara-meddaugh-351

# **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 YouthPLAYS, Smith & Kraus, 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.

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