

# 11. Imaginary Pets

CAST: (2M, 2F) BILLY, WES, AMY, RENE

PROPS: Books, dictionary.

SETTING: A school library.

1           *(At rise BILLY, WES, AMY and RENE are at a table reading.)*  
 2 **BILLY:** *(Glances up and looks down.)* No, no ... you have to be  
 3           quiet.  
 4 **WES:** Who? Me?  
 5 **AMY:** Who's not being quiet?  
 6 **RENE:** I'm being quiet. I didn't say a thing.  
 7 **WES:** Well, I didn't say anything.  
 8 **AMY:** Well, someone did.  
 9 **RENE:** Not me.  
 10 **WES:** Billy, who were you telling to be quiet?  
 11 **BILLY:** Relax, relax, it wasn't any of you.  
 12 **WES:** But who was it?  
 13 **BILLY:** Someone.  
 14 **AMY:** Does that someone have a name?  
 15 **BILLY:** Yes.  
 16 **RENE:** And is that someone at this table?  
 17 **BILLY:** Yes.  
 18 **WES:** Is that someone a girl?  
 19 **BILLY:** No.  
 20 **WES:** Then it's me!  
 21 **BILLY:** No, it's not you, Wes.  
 22 **AMY:** I know! He's talking to himself! *(They ALL nod as if this*  
 23           *makes sense, and then go back to their reading.)*  
 24 **BILLY:** *(After a pause, he looks down)* What's wrong? Are you  
 25           hungry?  
 26 **WES:** Who said they're hungry?

1 **RENE:** I'm hungry, but I didn't say it out loud.  
 2 **AMY:** I didn't say anything.  
 3 **WES:** Billy?  
 4 **BILLY:** What?  
 5 **WES:** Who were you talking to?  
 6 **BILLY:** Someone.  
 7 **AMY:** I bet he was talking to his stomach!  
 8 **RENE:** Oh, I do that! Mine starts growling in third period and I  
 9           say, "Shut up, stomach." *(They ALL nod, and then go back to*  
 10           *their reading.)*  
 11 **BILLY:** *(After a pause)* No, no, sit down!  
 12 **WES:** What?  
 13 **AMY:** Who needs to sit down?  
 14 **WES:** No one is standing here, Billy.  
 15 **RENE:** Who are you talking to?  
 16 **WES:** Maybe it's some mind game he's playing.  
 17 **AMY:** That's a weird game.  
 18 **RENE:** Oh, I played that before. What you do is stare into  
 19           someone's eyes and try to figure out what they're thinking.  
 20           So Billy thought Wes wanted to stand up. Right, Billy?  
 21 **WES:** You got that one wrong, Billy. I wasn't thinking about  
 22           standing up, I was thinking about what I was reading and  
 23           how I didn't understand it. But good try.  
 24 **AMY:** Yeah, good try. *(They ALL go back to their reading.)*  
 25 **BILLY:** *(After a pause)* Yes, I love you, too!  
 26 **WES:** Who?  
 27 **AMY:** *(Points to RENE.)* Her?  
 28 **RENE:** Not me! *(Points to AMY.)* Her? You love her?  
 29 **AMY:** Not me!  
 30 **RENE:** Well, it's not me!  
 31 **WES:** Well, don't look at me!  
 32 **AMY:** It could be you, Wes. Guys can love each other ... you  
 33           know, like a brother.  
 34 **WES:** Well, let me clue you in, Billy. *(Points finger in his face.)*  
 35           Don't say that to me again! Unless I croak and you're

1       **trying to deal with your loss!** *(As if crying)* "I miss you,  
 2       **man! You were my best friend! I love you, man!"**  
 3   **RENE:** Wes, you are so stupid.  
 4   **WES:** Hey, wouldn't you girls cry if I suddenly bit the dust? *(A*  
 5       *short pause as the girls look at each other)*  
 6   **RENE and AMY:** No.  
 7   **WES:** Gee, thanks. *(They ALL go back to their reading.)*  
 8   **BILLY:** *(After a pause, speaking baby talk)* What is it? Huh? What  
 9       is it?  
 10   **WES:** *(Pushes his chair back and looks on the floor.)* What is it?  
 11   **AMY:** *(Pushes chair back and looks on the floor.)* I don't see  
 12       anything.  
 13   **RENE:** *(Looks under the table.)* I don't see anything either.  
 14   **WES:** Is it a bug?  
 15   **AMY:** *(Moves away.)* A bug?  
 16   **RENE:** *(Moves away.)* I hate bugs!  
 17   **BILLY:** It's nothing.  
 18   **WES:** Hey girls, it's nothing.  
 19   **RENE:** Thank goodness.  
 20   **WES:** He thought it was something, but it wasn't. *(They ALL go*  
 21       *back to their reading.)*  
 22   **BILLY:** *(After a moment, he looks up.)* Shhhh ...  
 23   **WES:** Shhhh? Who? Who's being loud?  
 24   **AMY:** I didn't say anything.  
 25   **RENE:** Neither did I.  
 26   **WES:** Then who are you telling to be quiet?  
 27   **RENE:** Well, this is a library, Wes.  
 28   **WES:** I know, Rene, but no one was talking.  
 29   **AMY:** Well, maybe he was thinking so loud that it sounded like  
 30       someone was talking.  
 31   **RENE:** I've done that.  
 32   **AMY:** So I guess he was telling himself to be quiet. *(They ALL*  
 33       *nod and go back to their reading.)*  
 34   **BILLY:** *(After a moment, he looks down.)* No, no, I can't play right  
 35       now.

1   **WES:** Play? Play what?  
 2   **RENE:** I didn't say anything.  
 3   **AMY:** Me neither.  
 4   **WES:** Billy?  
 5   **BILLY:** *(Looking down)* Get down! *(WES, AMY and RENE look*  
 6       *under the table.)* You've got to be quiet!  
 7   **WES:** Who are you talking to?  
 8   **RENE:** Do you have a pet insect or something?  
 9   **AMY:** Or an imaginary friend?  
 10   **BILLY:** How did you know?  
 11   **AMY:** Know what?  
 12   **BILLY:** About Bruno.  
 13   **WES:** Who's Bruno?  
 14   **AMY:** Is Bruno your imaginary friend?  
 15   **WES:** You have an imaginary friend?  
 16   **BILLY:** He is a friend, but actually...  
 17   **RENE:** What?  
 18   **BILLY:** He's a dog.  
 19   **WES:** *(Looks under the table.)* I don't see a dog.  
 20   **AMY:** That's because he's imaginary, Wes!  
 21   **RENE:** *(Looking under the table)* Ahhhh ... . What color is he?  
 22   **BILLY:** Black with white markings on his paws and ears.  
 23   **AMY:** Oh, how cute!  
 24   **WES:** Billy, you're joking, right?  
 25   **BILLY:** Hey, don't step on his paw!  
 26   **WES:** *(Jumps up.)* I didn't step on his paw!  
 27   **AMY:** Wes!  
 28   **RENE:** How could you do that?  
 29   **WES:** I didn't? Did I? No, of course I didn't! How can I hurt  
 30       someone who doesn't exist?  
 31   **BILLY:** Yes, he does!  
 32   **WES:** Then why can't I see him?  
 33   **AMY:** Because you don't have an imaginary bone in your body!  
 34   **RENE:** Is he OK, Billy?  
 35   **BILLY:** *(Looking down)* He's OK.



1 WES: Hey, can your imaginary dog fetch?  
 2 BILLY: What?  
 3 WES: Can he fetch? *(Tosses a pencil across the room.)* Fetch, Fido!  
 4 BILLY: His name is Bruno!  
 5 WES: Fetch, Bruno! *(Pause as they stare at the pencil.)* Guess not.  
 6 AMY: Maybe he doesn't want to, Wes!  
 7 RENE: Yeah, and maybe he only takes orders from his master!  
 8 Billy, can I pet him?  
 9 BILLY: Sure.  
 10 WES: *(Laughs.)* If you can find him!  
 11 RENE: He's right here. *(Pets imaginary dog.)* Isn't that right,  
 12 Billy? *(Billy nods.)* Oh, you're such a sweet dog!  
 13 AMY: Let me pet him, too! *(Pets dog.)* Oh, he is sweet!  
 14 WES: *(Suddenly)* Uh-oh!  
 15 AMY: What?  
 16 WES: My imaginary cat is hissing at your dog.  
 17 RENE: Wes, you don't have a cat!  
 18 WES: Sure I do. And I hope they don't get into a fight because  
 19 my cat has these super sharp claws. See?  
 20 AMY: I don't see a cat.  
 21 RENE: I don't either.  
 22 BILLY: Me neither.  
 23 WES: You don't see my cat, but you see his dog?  
 24 AMY: Yes!  
 25 RENE: That's right, Wes. We don't see your cat.  
 26 WES: *(Looking down, baby talk)* It's all right, little kitty. I see  
 27 you.  
 28 AMY: Does your cat have a name?  
 29 WES: Yes, she does.  
 30 RENE: And that would be?  
 31 WES: Kiki.  
 32 RENE: Kiki?  
 33 WES: That's right. With huge, super sharp claws! *(Hisses.)* Did  
 34 you hear that?  
 35 AMY: What I heard was you, Wes.

1 WES: No, no, that was my cat! Listen! *(Covers his mouth and  
 2 hisses again.)*  
 3 RENE: That was you, Wes.  
 4 BILLY: My dog's not afraid of your cat, Wes.  
 5 WES: Well, he should be. 'Cause my cat is mean! *(Hisses.)*  
 6 AMY: Oh, no!  
 7 WES: What?  
 8 AMY: I'm sorry, Wes!  
 9 WES: For what? What?  
 10 AMY: *(Smiles.)* My coyote just ate your cat. *(As if petting her  
 11 coyote)* Were you hungry, Sweetheart?  
 12 WES: Amy, you don't have a coyote!  
 13 AMY: Yes, I do! And your cat ... well, I'm sorry.  
 14 RENE: Want to know what I have?  
 15 WES: What? A stupid parakeet?  
 16 RENE: *(Proudly)* I have a monkey!  
 17 WES: A monkey?  
 18 RENE: Yes, and I dress her up and carry her around with me  
 19 everywhere.  
 20 AMY: Ahhhh ... What's her name, Rene?  
 21 RENE: Mitzy.  
 22 AMY: That's a cute name.  
 23 WES: *(Points to RENE.)* You don't have a monkey! *(Points to  
 24 AMY.)* You don't have a coyote! *(Points to BILLY.)* And you  
 25 don't have a dog!  
 26 AMY: And you don't have a cat! Sorry. Nature can be cruel at  
 27 times.  
 28 WES: Can we just lose this conversation over our imaginary  
 29 pets and get back to our reading? Book report in one week,  
 30 people!  
 31 RENE: Fine with me.  
 32 AMY: Yeah, I need to finish this book. *(They ALL go back to their  
 33 reading.)*  
 34 BILLY: *(Stands, speaking to his dog.)* Stay.  
 35 WES: Where are you going?

1 **BILLY:** To get a dictionary. I'll be right back. *(Points to dog)*  
2 **Stay!** *(Exits.)*  
3 **AMY:** That's right, you're a good boy.  
4 **RENE:** He minds well.  
5 **WES:** You are all crazy! You know that?  
6 **RENE:** Wes, have you not ever had a pet before?  
7 **WES:** Sure! One that I could see!  
8 **AMY:** And you can't see Bruno?  
9 **WES:** No! I see nothing! I see air!  
10 **RENE:** You can't see air!  
11 **WES:** And you can't see an imaginary pet!  
12 **AMY:** Yes, we can. *(WES shakes his head. They go back to their*  
13 *reading. BILLY returns.)*  
14 **BILLY:** *(Sits down.)* Good boy. *(A pause as they ALL read)*  
15 **WES:** *(Jerks his hand back.)* Stop it!  
16 **BILLY:** What's wrong, Wes?  
17 **WES:** Someone licked me!  
18 **BILLY:** Stop it, Bruno.  
19 **WES:** *(To AMY)* Did you do that?  
20 **AMY:** Uh, no!  
21 **WES:** *(To RENE)* Did you?  
22 **RENE:** No! Gross! *(WES shakes his head. They continue to read.)*  
23 **WES:** *(After a moment, he begins to mumble.)* I've heard of an  
24 imaginary friend, but an imaginary pet? And aren't you  
25 supposed to outgrow that like at the age of five? Are you  
26 going to take him everywhere with you? Like to college?  
27 Talk about embarrassing! "But Professor, he's real!"  
28 Dude, they might just send you to the psycho ward. So, a  
29 little advice, lose the little invisible pet.  
30 **BILLY:** *(Stands.)* Bruno ... Sick 'em!  
31 **WES:** *(He bolts out of his chair, jumping up and down.)* Stop it!  
32 **Stop it! He's biting my ankles! Stop it!** *(Screaming, he runs*  
33 *off.)*  
34 **BILLY:** Good dog. *(They ALL go back to their reading)*

## 12. Home Alone

CAST: (2F) ERICA, BROOKE

PROPS: Cell phone.

SETTING: ERICA's bedroom.

1 **ERICA:** I was thinking ...  
2 **BROOKE:** Uh-oh.  
3 **ERICA:** What if we borrow my mom's car and ...  
4 **BROOKE:** Borrow?  
5 **ERICA:** We'll bring it back!  
6 **BROOKE:** In one piece?  
7 **ERICA:** We borrow my mom's car and ...  
8 **BROOKE:** We?  
9 **ERICA:** I borrow my mom's car and ...  
10 **BROOKE:** Wait! You don't have a driver's license!  
11 **ERICA:** So, we'll take the back roads and be careful not to get  
12 caught, head to Jake's and ...  
13 **BROOKE:** Erica, have you taken Driver's Ed?  
14 **ERICA:** Brooke, what do you think? So, anyway, here's what I  
15 thought we'd do ...  
16 **BROOKE:** Wait! Do you even know how to drive?  
17 **ERICA:** Of course I do! My papa used to take me out on the  
18 country roads.  
19 **BROOKE:** The country roads? Where there are no traffic  
20 signals and you just weave all over the place?  
21 **ERICA:** I didn't weave all over the place! I'd sit in Papa's lap and  
22 he'd let me steer and ...  
23 **BROOKE:** See, you don't know how to drive!  
24 **ERICA:** Brooke, don't you trust me?  
25 **BROOKE:** No!  
26 **ERICA:** Thanks a lot!