

## **PAPER BAG PRINCESS**

by Holly Adams, based on a book by Robert Munsch, with his permission

FACILITATOR:

Welcome to The Paper Bag Princess. We're the [Name of Your Company]. (normal intro for puppet show) The show today has been adapted by Robert Munsch's book, Paper Bag Princess. Has anyone read it? (*Engage the kids—Discuss!*) That's great! Well, we have to get started—the Dragon doesn't like to wait. So, on with the show!

*(The play begins with all 3 characters- dragon, princess, prince coming onstage. They all rock out to the Beatles tune "Paper Back Writer" but the puppets sing "Paper Bag Princess")*

*(Dragon is the last one onstage, still rocking out. Ad-libs something about Ringo Starr )*

*(Sam-a savvy girl puppet-- enters in full princess regalia)*

SAM:

Hello everyone. My name is Elizabeth. I am a beautiful princess. I live in a huge castle and I have expensive princess clothes.

*(Arte pops up)*

ARTE:

And I'm prince Ronald. I also live in a huge castle and I have expensive prince clothes.

DRAGON:

And I'm the Dragon. Do not interfere with the affairs of dragons, for you are crunchy and good with ketchup.

ARTE:

Tonight we're going to the ball.

*(gazing into each other's eyes)*

SAM:

We're in love and we're...

*(Prince and Elizabeth sing together to the tune of "Going to the Chapel)*

GOING TO GET MARRIED

Going to the ball and we're to get married

Gee I really love me and we're gonna get married

Going to the castle of love

DRAGON:

Oh, brother. Gag me. *(or any other ad-lib to show disgust and then leave)*

SAM:

Oh, smoochie-kins, I have to get ready for the ball.

ARTE:

OH, parting is such sweet sorrow.

SAM:

A farewell by any other name would still mean goodbye...

ARTE:

Oh, my pumpkin-wumpkin.

SAM:

Goodbye my schnookums. I'll see you tonight. (*kissy noises to each other while Sam exits. Sam does a quick change into a red towel and starts "singing in the backlit shower".*)

DRAGON:

(*Big entrance and loud voice*)

Unfortunately for them- a dragon came and destroyed the castle!!

ARTE:

Oh my!!

DRAGON:

And burned all their beautiful clothes with his fiery breath.

ARTE:

Oh dear!

DRAGON:

And carried off Prince Ronald!

ARTE:

Oh- WHAT?! I don't think so!!!

DRAGON:

Oh yeah? (*Look to audience and then to Prince, breathes in his face, Prince faints*)

Ha ha ha. Breath of death and all that! (*Or something else about his stinky breath*)

As I was saying, and then the dragon carried off prince Ronald! As a snack for later!

(*Carries him offstage*)

FACILITATOR:

When princess Elizabeth got out of the shower, she was in for a big surprise.

(*Elizabeth enters still in a towel*)

SAM:

My beautiful castle! It's all burned and ruined. And all my beautiful dresses! There is nothing left at all. Oh, woe is me! If only the prince would ride in and rescue me! (*sigh*) I said, if only the prince would ride in and rescue me! (*waits*)

Well, this isn't helping. I'll just have to rescue myself. Hey, wait a minute. Where is the prince?

Have you seen him?

(*Audience tells Sam how the dragon came and took the prince back to his lair so he could eat him*)

SAM:

The dragon took the prince away? He's gonna eat him? Who does this dragon think he is? Destroying

my castle and stealing my Princie Pooh!! I'll teach him!! I'm gonna go find that dragon and beat him up!

FACILITATOR:

Wait a minute. What do you kids think? If the princess tries to beat up the dragon, what do you think will happen?

*(Get suggestions from the kids. The princess should be part of the discussion too. "I don't want to get hurt", etc. Once they've talked about the option of beating up the dragon...*

SAM:

I suppose beating up the dragon isn't a very good idea. But then what should I do?