

Sideways Stories from wayside School

AUDITION MONOLOGUES

Please *memorize* and be prepared to perform one of the two following monologues. Gender does not matter. When you are called into the room to audition, be prepared to introduce yourself and say which monologue you have prepared (Example: "Hi, my name is Sally Smith and I will be performing Myron's monologue.") When you are finished, the director might ask you questions or ask to you make adjustments and do the monologue again. Be loud and be expressive! Show us what you've got!

LESLIE

I don't get it. I really, truly don't. What is it about *my* pigtails that makes people lose their minds? I sit down, minding my own business, and then—yank! It's not like they're magical. They don't grant wishes. They don't make candy appear. They're just hair! Hair that happens to grow out of my head! But for some reason, people see them and think, *Oh wow, I simply MUST give them a tug!*

And when I tell them to stop do they? No, of course not. Because clearly, *my* personal space is less important than *their* urge to play tug-of-war with my scalp. So I have three options: I could scream (Which, let's be honest, is my usual strategy.). I could turn around and yank *their* hair! Or... I could cut them off. Just take a pair of scissors and—snip, snip— so there's nothing left to pull. (*She pauses, considering.*) Nah. Then *I* have to deal with a bad haircut. But next time? Next time, I'll just *duck*— see how much *they* likes surprises.

MYRON

Every day, I sit here, and there they are—Leslie's pigtails. Long, brown, just hanging there, begging to be pulled. I know I shouldn't. Mrs. Jewls will write my name on the board, Leslie will scream, and I'll get in trouble. But the urge is so strong.

Today, I couldn't resist. I reached out and yanked one. Leslie screamed, of course. Mrs. Jewls wasn't happy. But it didn't stop there. The other pigtail... it was like it was calling me. I imagined it whispering, daring me to pull it too. And I did.

Now, I'm sitting here, my name on the board with two checkmarks. Was it worth it? I don't know. But those pigtails... they have a power over me I can't explain.