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# GUYS RULE!

**Fifteen one- and two-minute  
monologue characterizations**

**by Lynne Elson**

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1. Dance Fever
2. Gym Time
3. Mega Monster
4. Old Man Trapped in a Teenage Body
5. Prince Charming No More
6. Black and Blue
7. Pitchman
8. Satan's Funhouse
9. Ticket to Freedom
10. Gamer Geek
11. Hi, My Name Is ...
12. Risky Business
13. Signs
14. A Star at Starbucks
15. Girl-Friend



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## Introduction

The two-minute monologue is a basic tool of the acting profession. It is used for auditions, competitions, and performing in variety shows, or whatever opportunity arises. Whether you plan to be a professional actor or whether you are simply using acting as a way of expressing your creativity in school, you need to conquer the form of the two-minute monologue. If you are at all serious about performing, you should develop a repertoire of two-minute monologues on a variety of subjects.

The monologues in this collection cover a variety of subjects. They are tough and timely, funny and real. You should be able to find monologues in this collection that you identify with strongly and believe in. Those are the keys to performing a monologue: make it about you and feel about the story the monologue has to tell as strongly as you feel about the real and exciting moments of your own life.

## Some Tips for Performing a Monologue

- Perform the monologue as though it actually happened to you. Make it your personal story.
- Know more about the events in the monologue than the monologue reveals. Make up a whole story around it.
- Be excited about the monologue.
- Tell the story as though it is happening in the present.
- Find the most exciting moment in the monologue and start your performance at that level of excitement. Then go beyond that level.
- Don't ever allow a character to be self-pitying. *Make the character full of grit and toughness.*
- All monologues have a chance for humor. Find the humor and go for it.
- Your performance should have a lot of mood changes. Watch that you do not feel or sound the same all the way through. Your voice should change. Your movements should change. Your emotions should change.
- Move as you perform the monologue. Walk around. Sit on the floor. Stand on a chair if you can make it work.
- Never be casual about how the listener is receiving the monologue.
- *Remember:* When performing, you are never being cool. You are excited about the story and character you have to communicate.
- *Acting is about strong emotion. You must find the way to tap that source in yourself, tap it instantly and share it!* When you perform a monologue, you are out there to go further in the world than you've ever gone before!

## Comedic Monologues

### 1. Dance Fever

(BEN, nineteen, has contracted the first case of a disease that causes him to dance all the time.)

BEN: And then the next thing I know my hand's moving like this, *(Arm goes up and down behind his head)* and it's bad enough we're at my favorite uncle's funeral, but I'm with Beth, my girlfriend. *(Dances the Macarena.)* She's never met my relatives before, so it's stressful enough. Then at the part where they ask if you'd like to say a few words, I'm trying like crazy to hold my hand down, *(Unsuccessfully tries to hold down his hand)* but it's got a mind of its own and it's too late, they see me. I bring my other hand up and, I don't know, I panicked. "Raise the roof! Raise the roof! He was eighty-two and still pleasing you know who!" My Aunt Shirley stopped crying and blushed. Everyone just stared at me. Beth whispered, "Are you on something?" And the moment she did, I heard *A Chorus Line* in my head, and I "Da da da da da da da," and I *(Does a high kick, mimes kicking BETH into the grave, and then continues doing the kick line)* her into the hole. Beth screams, "Get me outta here!" I thought she meant out of the grave, but she meant outta my life, 'cause she got out and kept running. *(Starts Salsa dancing.)* Have you ever seen this before? Don't get me wrong, I don't want a cure. *(Takes out a sandwich and eats while dancing.)* Excuse me. The calories just fly right outta me. Look at me, I've lost a hundred and ten pounds. I used to be f-a-t fat, and now I got my own *(Starts doing the Twist)* exercise show on ABC with *(Insert popular fashion model)*. I mean, come on! *(Does Disco moves.)* I've got a Guinness Book record, won two dance marathons, and they're naming dance halls after me.

1           *(Starts Waltzing with imaginary partner.)* My life has never  
2           been better. It's just, well, I was hoping there'd be  
3           someone, you know, who's got my condition, who could  
4           keep up with me. *(Break dances.)* Do you know of anyone?  
5           *(Dances ballet.)* Anyone?

## 2. Gym Time

10           *(DEVON, sixteen, lifts weights at the gym as if he's a pro.)*

11       DEVON: *(Strains, lifting a heavy weight.)* Eighteen, nineteen,  
12       twenty. So we were working out, right, and this guy  
13       accidentally hit Dad as he walked by. The guy said,  
14       "Sorry," but Dad went off. "You better be sorry." You  
15       should have seen Dad's face. It was red, and his veins  
16       were bulging like Frankenstein. Guess I'm not asking  
17       him if I can drive home tonight. My driver's test is in a  
18       few days, and I still need to practice merging or I'm  
19       gonna fail. So Dad's trainer, Mindy — man, she melts  
20       butter, no toast necessary. But I'd never — she's like a  
21       sister. Dad and I've been working out with her for  
22       years. So she saw Dad, you know, almost kill this guy,  
23       and she mentions a class he needs to take, to chill out. I  
24       was like, "Yeah. Dad just needs to do a few intense  
25       reps." But man, I couldn't believe it. He followed Mindy  
26       and now *(Nodding in the direction of the class)* he's in there.  
27       You should see him. He's like the only guy. And he can't  
28       even touch his toes. Aw man, Dad, I'm scarred for life.  
29       You're not a plumber, pull up your pants. Are you  
30       serious? Now they're balancing on one foot. OK, like  
31       that's going to do anything. I can do that. *(Stands,*  
32       *balances poorly, and falls over.)* Yeah, well ... oh, ow — that  
33       can't be good for guys. Oh, now they sound all hippie.  
34       "Om. Om. Om." My lord. Man, we're gonna laugh so hard  
35       when he gets out here. I'm gonna bust him so bad. Yoga.

1       Yeah, right. *(Continues lifting weights.)* Here he comes.  
2       *(Dad walks up.)* Hi, Dad. Man, that looked really ... you  
3       OK? What are you smiling about? It's that good, huh?  
4       Yeah, sure, I can drive home. Thanks. Maybe I should  
5       try this Yoga thing.

### 3. Mega Monster

6  
7  
8  
9  
10       *(JOE, thirteen, is waiting in line at a roller coaster with a*  
11       *friend. He tries to sound brave.)*

12       JOE: You sure? I don't want to pressure you. It's one  
13       hundred feet straight up. It's made of wood. It has  
14       rained a lot lately. Probably rotted a little. Nah, I'm just  
15       kidding. I'm sure no screws fell out or anything. No, I'm  
16       not chickening out. We came here to go on the Mega  
17       Monster Coaster and I'm psyched! Whoo-hoo! Line's  
18       moving fast, huh? That's good. *(Looks up at roller coaster.)*  
19       Shouldn't have had that taco before going on this ride.  
20       I mean, how long does it take to digest a taco? An hour?  
21       Definitely isn't an hour yet. You ever puke on a ride?  
22       Me? No. But I saw someone once. Yeah, got all over the  
23       people behind him. Nasty. No, no, I'm ready, willing,  
24       and able. You know, when they first opened this ride,  
25       they had to shut it down again. Someone flew out. I'm  
26       serious. The bars didn't go down far enough and the  
27       person was screaming, "Help! Help!" But they didn't  
28       hear her so the ride started and at the first loop she fell  
29       out. But don't worry, they must have fixed it since then.  
30       You don't look so good. You OK? You want to sit down?  
31       No, I don't care if we get out of line. So what if it's  
32       longer later. So we'll wait until next time to go on it.  
33       Sure, we'll play skeeball instead. I love skeeball.  
34       Nobody ever puked playing skeeball.



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