

# Roald Dahl's the TWITS

## **STORY SUMMARY**







Mr and Mrs Twit are a hideous and hilarious couple who love to play nasty pranks on each other and their pet monkeys, the Muggle-Wumps. Glass eyeball in your drink anyone? How about worm spaghetti made with real worms? And bird pie made with real ... you get it. Ugghh! Luckily, when Mr Twit tries to create the world's first Great Upside Down Monkey Circus, the Twits get a dose of their own nasty medicine.



During this sensory relaxed performance, we have not changed the plot, characters, or story from our standard performances. Instead, we have done our best to adjust for sensory sensitivities and preferences while still staying true to the spirit of the play, and we provide as much information as possible so you can prepare in advance for the show you are attending. Everyone is unique in their requirements for enjoying the performance, and we have tried to accommodate a wide range of preferences and needs. Please keep in mind that you know your child best in deciding if this show will be suitable for them, and that during a live theatre performance unpredictable events and last-minute changes may occur. Warning- Spoiler Alert! If you do not want to learn about details and surprises in the show, do not read any further.

#### There are 8 scenes and 7 songs in the show.

- Scene 1: Meet the Twits, "The Twits" song
- Scene 2: The Frog, "Skillywiggler" song
- Scene 3: Worms and Nighttime Revenge
- Scene 4: Shrinking and Stretching, "The Shrinky Shrink Blues" and "Going to the Moon" songw
- Scene 5: Catching Birds and Muggle Wump
- Scene 6: Muggle Wump's tricks
- Scene 7: Muggle Wump Jive and Roly Poly Bird, "Muggle Wump Jive" and "Everybody Needs A Friend" songs
- Scene 8: Tricking the Twits, "Everything is Upside Down", "The Shrinky Shrink Blues Reprise", "The Twits Finale" songs

This story summary will give details about each scene, along with pictures.



#### **Scene 1: Meet The Twits**



1/ Music starts, and the Gas Meter Reader and three trainees walk out onto the stage, snapping their fingers. The song introduces the nasty Mr and Mrs Twit.



2/ At the end of the song, the Gas Meter Reader tells us all about how nasty the Twits are. The Gas Meter Reader describes in detail Mr Twit's dreadful habit of failing to wipe his mouth properly, and Mrs Twit's thoughts turning her face ugly and mean.



3/ At the end of his speech, the Twits come to life and scare off all the meter readers. Mrs Twit pranks Mr Twit, putting her glass eye into his beer.



4/ He chokes and splutters and Mrs Twit laughs and laughs, as they both leave.



### Scene 2: Mr Frog



1/ A Frog hops in, catching flies. Mr Twit spots the Frog and persuades him to get under the covers of the bed, to trick Mrs Twit. Mrs Twit settles into bed and gasps as she feels something small and slimy. Mr Twit tells her it's a giant skillywiggler!



2/ He sings a song about the skillywigger, dancing around the stage with the Gas Meter Readers, as we can see a lump bouncing and writhing under the covers around Mrs Twit.



3/ At the end of the song, Mrs Twit is so frightened she faints! Mr Twit dumps a watering can onto her. The frog pops up under Mrs Twit's chin from below the duvet, and she struggles off the bed. They frantically shake out the duvet, swapping it round and round, but there's nothing there.



4/ Mr Twit sees something on Mrs Twit's leg, and she frantically shakes it off- only to discover that it's just her sock! She storms out and Mr Twit, cackling with glee, gets back into the bed with the Frog hopping onto Mrs Twit's pillow.

#### **Scene 3: Worms and Nighttime Revenge**



TIM BRAY

1/ The next morning, Mrs Twit carries in a small table with two plates and a saucepan of spaghetti. She gets a nasty idea. Uprooting a plant, she plucks long, pink wriggling worms (made from pink wool) from underneath, and add them to Mr Twit's spaghetti.



2/ Mr Twit comes in for lunch, munching up the spaghetti and worms. When Mrs Twit reveals what she's done, Mr Twit gags and splutters over the audience! They leave and the lights dim, and the Twits tuck themselves into bed.



3/ Mr Twit creeps out of bed, and picks up Mrs Twit's walking stick (interrupted by a barking dog in the distance, that we can't see) and carries it around the back of the house, where he makes an enormous noise of hammering and sawing. He returns with the stick- he's nailed a long piece of wood to the bottom so the stick is now almost twice as long.



4/ He picks up Mrs Twit's chair and repeats the exercise (and the dog barks again), returning a very tall chair to side of the bed. Mr Twit gets back into bed and an alarm rings immediately, and the lights turn on bright.

#### **Scene 4: Shrinking and Stretching**



TIM BRAY

1/ Mrs Twit gets out of bed and picks up her long stick. Mr Twit tells her she must have caught the "Shrinks" as the stick, and the chair, are much too big for her! Mr Twit sings a song about the "Shrinks" accompanied by the gas meter readers.



2/ Mr Twit takes Mrs Twit into the garden to stretch her. He ties rope around her ankles and ties the rope to a rock at the front of the stage. He hands Mrs Twit a large bunch of orange balloons, and she is pulled upward. Mr Twit cuts the rope, and a lighting effect makes it appear like Mrs Twit is soaring up into the sky!



3/ Mrs Twit sings a song about going to the moon. The gas meter readers, holding fluffy clouds on sticks, join her. In the song, Mrs Twit realises she can come back down by getting rid of the balloons. She hands them one by one to the gas meter readers.



4/ Mr Twit sits down on a stool to enjoy a beer as Mrs Twit lands back in the garden, and she pummels him with her remaining balloon in a fury.

#### Scene 5: Catching Birds and Muggle Wump



TIM BRAY

1/ The Gas Meter Reader sneaks in, dressed as a tree, to try to read the gas meter. But the Twits enter with a bucket of glue to paint on the rocks, for catching birds for bird pie. The Gas Meter Reader hides behind the rock and stays very still, but the Twits eventually spot him and chase him away.



2/ Two birds fly in and get stuck in the glue, and Mr Twit catches them. Mrs Twit takes them inside for the pie and Mr Twit looks for Muggle Wump the monkey for circus training.



3/ The Gas Meter Reader enters, this time dressed as a garden gnome. He's almost to the gas meter when he hears Mr Twit coming and has to hide again.



4/ Muggle Wump the moneky appears, and Mr Twit chases her all around the stage, eventually ending up with Muggle Wump on his shoulders trying to get the banana Mr Twit pulled out of this pocket. Mrs Twit joins in the taunt Muggle Wump. Muggle Wump tumbles off of Mrs Twit and laughs.

Note: Muggle Wump looks like she is falling off Mr Twit's shoulders, but that's all part of the trick. All the actors have practiced all the tricks and gotten training to be very safe.





TIM BRAY

1/ Mr Twit wants Muggle Wump to perform upside down tricks, but Muggle Wump instead crawls through his legs and makes Mr Twit tumble head over heels trying to catch her. Muggle Wump laughs.



2/ Mr Twit makes her show Mrs Twit what she just learned, and Muggle Wump does a series of tricks including cartwheels and handstands. The Twits make Muggle Wump do the Muggle Wump Jive upside down, and then Mr Twit cruelly eats a banana in front of Muggle Wump.



3/ Mr Twit will only give Muggle Wump a banana if she eats it upside down, so she does a handstand and hangs with her legs over Mr Twit's shoulders as she eats. Muggle Wump does a raspberry in Mr Twit's face, spitting banana all over him.



4/ The Gas Meter Reader runs over to try to protect Muggle Wump, but ends of stuck in the glue. He escapes by pulling his feet out of his shoes and running off. The Twits take his shoes inside to add it to their pie.

#### Scene 7: Muggle Wump Jive and Roly Poly Bird



TIM BRAY

1/ When the Twits are gone, Muggle Wump tells the audience how much she hates living with the Twits. She teaches everyone the Muggle Wump Jive the right way up. She'll invite the whole audience to stand up and dance- you can join in if you want to.



2/ After the song, two more birds fly in. Muggle Wump tries to warn them, but they don't understand her and they get stuck in the glue. Mr Twit catches the birds for the pie.



3/ Muggle Wump sings a song about friendship, during which we meet Roly Poly Bird, Muggle Wump's best friend. Roly Poly Bird helps warn two new birds to stay off the glue covered rock. The birds tease Mr Twit, who tries to catch them but ends up stuck to the rock himself!



4/ Mrs Twit pulls Mr Twit off the rock, and they both tumble over. Angry, Mr Twit and Mrs Twit go into town to buy guns to shoot the birds. They lock Muggle Wump in her cage.



### **Scene 8: Tricking the Twits**



1/ Roly Poly Bird helps Muggle Wump escape the cage, and Muggle Wump plans a trick for the Twits to make them believe they are upside down.

Note: When the lamps are turned upside down, light will shine briefly toward the audience.



2/ When the Twits return, shooting the audience with water from water pistols, Roly Poly Bird paints glue on the tops of their heads. When the Twits go inside, they think they are hanging upside down!



3/ The Twits decide to stand on their heads to be right way up. Their heads stick with a loud squelch- they are stuck, upside down. The Twits shout for help as Muggle Wump and Roly Poly Bird fly away to be free.



4/ The Twits realise they both have the Shrinks. The gas meter readers sing the Shrinky Shrink Blues as the Twits slowly shrug out of coats and shoes, leaving them behind on the bed, and then float away as ghosts.

The Gas Meter Reader, dressed as an old lady, returns to see the Twits have disappeared. He is overjoyed! He delivers their gas bill, and leaves. The full cast returns to sing the finale song as they all bow, and leave the stage.