

Omigosh Sarah
By John C. Wilson

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Created in FPCT's Introduction to Playwriting class, fall 2020

PRODUCTION HISTORY: Virtual reading hosted by Fells Point Corner Theatre on December 7, 2020.

SYNOPSIS: Sarah Palin enters with her grandson and welcomes guests to the grand opening of the John McCain Presidential Library where she is to provide tour of her exhibition room. They take us through the 3 themes of the exhibition: personal history, political history, and vice presidential story. He reads from and comments on the exhibits, she responds. A app is pushed for the interactive piece of the exhibit, which is narrated by Rocky and Bullwinkle. The information gets increasingly unflattering until Sarah has a meltdown. Sarah rallies and rises to the moment to announce her candidacy for President of the U.S. Cleaning up after the confetti and balloon drop are two janitors (Boris and Natasha).

SET: The Sarah Palin exhibit at the John McCain Presidential Library. Minimal or no set needed. Exhibits can be left to the imagination or as projections. A stand with a app is important set piece.

TIME: One Act, 25 min.

ACTORS: This is primarily a vehicle for 50-60 y/o female, and a 15 y/o boy. Two additional actors provide cartoon voices (Rocky and Bullwinkle) from backstage, and can be double-cast to appear briefly on stage as Boris and Natasha.

OMIGOSH SARAH

A One-Act Play
By John C. Wilson

Characters:

Sarah Palin

Tripp Palin, her grandson

Plus voices of Rocky and Bullwinkle (2 actors)

Boris and Natasha (double cast with Rocky and Bullwinkle, cameo appearance)

Setting:

The opening of the John S. McCain III Presidential Library in Sedona, AZ

Time:

An alternative reality

(Sarah Palin struts in wearing a smartly-tailored red jacket and skirt and high heels. Tripp, her teenage grandson sheepishly escorts her to CS. She addresses those assembled for the library opening.)

SARAH

Good afternoon and welcome! I'm pleased to be here in Sedona for the opening of the John McCain Presidential Library, and delighted to welcome you to the Sarah Palin Room. Such a beautiful building – don't ya' think? *(she winks)*

This is my grandson Tripp. He's kinda shy, but give him a big welcome too! *(he wrinkles his nose and reluctantly bows)*

It was my great honor to serve as John McCain's vice president, and to support his agenda of reform, prosperity, and peace. Together we rescued our nation from the financial crisis with tax cuts that stimulated the economy and brought back industry. And who can forget winning the war, and bringing our boys – *and girls* – home from Iraq? We're all so proud of our soldiers – you betcha! John McCain was a true maverick, a true military hero, a true leader. He served his country well – may he rest in peace – and that is why we're here to celebrate his administration.

It's great to have such a wonderful crowd for this special occasion. Great to have you all here. *(She steps forward, and Tripp grabs her arm so she doesn't step off the stage. She whispers 'where's the McCain family?' to him, then he escorts her DSL to talk directly to the McCains. Sarah holds a pitying posture.)*

And let's get this out of the way. I hold no animosity toward the McCain family for not inviting me to his funeral. Perhaps the invitation got lost in the mail. I'm sure it was an oversight in a time of grief. I extend my condolences to each member of President McCain's family. No hard feelings here. Nope, not one – because I got to watch the State Funeral from the comfort of my home in Wasilla.

(Tripp leads her back to CS.) But enough on that! We're here to celebrate our new Presidential Library set amidst these beautiful red rocks in a marvelous red state, Arizona!

I'm overjoyed to open my exhibit – check it out – the Sarah Palin Vice-presidential Room. And to help me introduce it I've brought Tripp along to help me read things. He's such a help to me.

A big thank you to the museum staff for pulling this all together. I'm told my exhibit has three themes. They're focused on my personal history, my political history, and my presidential story so far. Is that right Tripp? *(he shakes head yes)* And as we give ya' a little tour, please save your questions until the end. Thank you.

I'm sorry the rest of my family can't be here today, but you'll get to meet them somewhere in the exhibit. So let's get started! Whata ya' say?

(Tripp brings Sarah SR to first exhibit of personal history. The slogans for each section appear above the displays. There is a station for interactive Q&A. This is their first time seeing the exhibit. Rather than building a set, I envision the whole piece done on a blank stage with black drapes or backdrop, or with projections of the displays.)

TRIPP

Look Gramma, there are huge graphics above the displays. *(she squints to read one)*

(He reads aloud)

SARAH PALIN: HOCKEY MOM • BIBLE-BELIEVING CHRISTIAN • AUTHOR

SARAH

Well, doesn't that sum it all up? Darn tootin'! I'm so proud to be a Mom, a Christian, and an author. And by the way, my books are available in the gift shop.

(Sarah instructs Tripp to take one of the books from the display and carries it DS, crossing from left to right to give everyone a good view of the cover. If there isn't a literal display, a stagehand hands her the book from behind the black drape and magically disappears it again.)

TRIPP

This first display is about your childhood and your parents.

SARAH

Oh, I wish my folks – Sally and Chuck Heath – were here to see this.