

# PLAYS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

A PARTNERSHIP OF SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE AND CHILDREN'S THEATRE COMPANY-MINNEAPOLIS

2400 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55404  
612-872-5108  
FAX 612-874-8119

## *Mercy Watson to the Rescue*

By  
Victoria Stewart

Adapted from the Mercy Watson series by  
Kate DiCamillo

*Mercy Watson to the Rescue* was first presented by The Children's Theatre Company for the 2011-2012 season.

The license issued in connection with PYA perusal scripts is a limited license, and is issued for the sole purpose of reviewing the script for a potential future performance. All other rights regarding perusal scripts are expressly reserved by Plays for Young Audiences, including, but not limited to, the rights to distribute, perform, copy or alter scripts. This limited license does not convey any performance rights of any kind with this material. By accepting any perusal script(s), Licensee agrees to and is bound by these terms.

**Characters:**

- Mercy Watson, a sweet, spoiled pig
- Mr. Watson, Mercy's father
- Jimmy the Workman
- Mrs. Watson, Mercy's mother
- Trixie Patootie, this year's Butter Queen
- Eugenia Lincoln, a spiteful spinster
- Baby Lincoln, a kindly spinster
- General Washington, an eager cat
- Baker
- Man in the Movie Theater
- Tour Director
- Lorenzo, the Fireman, eager, youthful
- Animal Control Officer Francine Poulet, ambitious but maybe not the sharpest knife in the drawer

ACT ONE  
SCENE ONE

Mr. Watson reads the paper in the kitchen. Mrs. Watson sets the table.

MR. WATSON        Darling, this is a wonderful house for our family.

MRS. WATSON      Yes it is, my dear.

MR. WATSON        Just big enough for you, me and Mercy.

MRS. WATSON      The bed is perfect for her. Just her size.

MR. WATSON        Watching her sleep last night -

MRS. WATSON      She was so peaceful, snoring softly-

MR. WATSON        Her little pink belly moving up and down.

MRS. WATSON      Her lovely little snout twitching –

MR. WATSON        What's for breakfast, darling?

They laugh heartily together.

MRS. WATSON      What else would I make on Mercy's first morning in our new home!

MR &

MRS. WATSON      Toast!

Mercy pokes her head up from behind the toaster.

MERCY              (Snorts)

Mercy pops back down.

MRS, WATSON      I wonder where Mercy is?

Mrs. Watson puts two pieces of toast in the toaster, stands with her back to the toaster.

MR. WATSON      Sleeping in probably!

They move to the stairs and call up.

MRS. WATSON      Mercy!

MR WATSON        Come down for breakfast!

The toast pops up out of the toaster. Mercy pops up again to take the toast out of the toaster. Mrs. Watson walks over to the toaster.

MRS. WATSON      (To Mr. Watson) Now who took my toast?

MR. WATSON        I don't know!

MRS. WATSON      I'll just have to make more.

She puts two more pieces in. She goes to Mr. Watson, turning her back to the toaster again. The toast flies up, Mercy grabs the toast, chomps on it. Pops back down. Mrs. Watson walks back to the toaster.

MRS. WATSON      It happened again! Did you hear something?

Giggle, giggle from behind the toaster.

MERCY              (Hiding) Toast....

Mrs. Watson puts two more pieces in.

MRS. WATSON      I bet this toast would be better with butter!

Mercy pops up, wanting to be seen!

MERCY              Butter!

MR &

MRS. WATSON      Mercy!

Mr. Watson chases after Mercy while Mrs. Watson puts another two slices in.

MR. WATSON        I want to butter a piece of toast! (*Mr. Watson catches and tickles Mercy.*) That's a good buttering!

MRS. WATSON      Mr. Watson, more toast!

MR. WATSON        Ready for your toast, Mercy?

MERCY              Toast!

*Mrs. Watson fires toast at him, Mr. Watson catches it, butters it, flings it in the air. Mercy grabs it. It's like the Harlem Globetrotters, over one shoulder, like a Frisbee, Mercy grabs them all. Another piece of toast! Another! Mrs. Watson turns to look out the window.*

EUGENIA            Baby! Breakfast!

MRS. WATSON      Look, our neighbors are up!

*Lights down on the Watsons, lights up on sisters Baby and Eugenia Lincoln as they greet the morning.*

BABY                Good morning, I hope you slept well, my dear sister.

EUGENIA            I slept as well as can be expected, Baby.

*Baby looks over at the house next door.*

BABY                Isn't it wonderful, Eugenia, new neighbors!

EUGENIA            Hm. I saw a baby's furniture. A little bed. Little pink curtains.

BABY                A baby!!!! Won't that be lovely, to have a baby next door?

EUGENIA            I don't like babies. They are noisy and they are messy. And they don't do what they are TOLD. (Like an army general) GENERAL WASHINGTON! TIME FOR YOUR BREAKFAST!

*Meowing. General Washington rushes on.*

WASHINGTON      What? Food? Food? What? Food? (*Eugenia places a dish down for him. He eats a little. Distastefully*) Phfe!

BABY                I'm not sure he likes it.

EUGENIA            It's not my job to entertain his senses. (*He holds his nose and makes do, eating the food.*) See, he loves it.

BABY                Eugenia, but what did you make for us? Did you cook some muffins or maybe even some pie?

General Washington perks up at pie. Eugenia deposits bowls on the table.

EUGENIA            It's oatmeal.

BABY                (*Obviously disappointed*) Oh. Oatmeal's tasty too. But then what's that smell? It's warm and comforting with a touch of sweet creaminess.

EUGENIA            I believe it's coming from next door.

BABY                Really?

Baby goes to the window to look.

EUGENIA            Baby, that's rude!

Baby sees what's making that lovely smell.

BABY                Oh, toast. Piled high. Slices and slices of toast with pats of butter. How delightful!

Lights up at the Watsons'. Mrs. Watson spots Baby through her window.

MRS. WATSON      Someone's watching us through the window!

She's always delighted to meet new people. Back in the Lincoln household.

EUGENIA            Duck!

Eugenia and Baby duck below their window.

MRS. WATSON Hellooooo!

Baby pokes her head up, waves meekly. Eugenia stays on the floor, pulling on Baby's dress.

BABY Hello! I'm Baby.

EUGENIA Have you no decorum!?

BABY And this is my sister, Eugenia and the cat is General Washington!

MRS. WATSON I'm Mrs. Watson and this is Mr. Watson!

MR. WATSON And this is Mercy!

They part, Baby, Eugenia and General Washington can see Mercy for the first time. Mr. and Mrs. Watson coo at Mercy. Eugenia pulls Baby away from the window. General Washington nips at their ankles, syncopating their dialogue with short little whats.

EUGENIA (Whispering) Sister, there's a pig sitting at their table.

BABY (Whispering) I know, sister.

EUGENIA (Whispering) It's a monstrous creature with hooves and a tail and a snout.

BABY (Whispering) She doesn't look monstrous. She seems rather sweet.

EUGENIA (Whispering) That's not the point!

Mercy reaches for a piece of toast, she pauses, which slice should she pick up? Her hoof goes back and forth between two piles of toast, trying to decide.

MERCY White toast, wheat toast, white toast...

MR. WATSON Look! She's waving!

MERCY (She picks) Wheat toast!

Mercy grabs the piece of toast, starts munching.

MRS. WATSON     She always wants to make friends!

MR. WATSON     *(To Baby)* She's very advanced.

MRS. WATSON     *(To Mercy)* Are you inviting our neighbors over for toast?

MERCY             Toast.

MRS. WATSON     Would you two like to join us? We'll never get through all this toast.

Baby looks back at Eugenia, who is frantically shaking her head.

MERCY             Toast.

Mercy chomps on her toast and burps.

EUGENIA           *(Disgusted)* I don't think I'll ever be able to eat again.

BABY               Thank you, no. We'll stay here and eat our oatmeal.

MRS. WATSON     It was lovely meeting you!

BABY               It was, wasn't it?

EUGENIA           It was NOT!

MR. WATSON     We'll see you soon.

EUGENIA           What can they be thinking? Pigs should live on farms, they should not live on Deckawoo Drive! Our new neighbors must be completely and utterly insane!

General Washington nuzzles Eugenia in agreement. In the Watson's house, Mrs. Watson to Mr. Watson:

MRS. WATSON     They seem nice!

SCENE TWO

Eugenia is putting on her gloves, Baby is cleaning up from breakfast.

EUGENIA            We're out of oatmeal.

BABY                Maybe we should make something new for breakfast -

EUGENIA            I'm going out for more.

WASHINGTON      Out. Out. Out.

Eugenia nudges General Washington aside.

EUGENIA            General Washington, stay! (To Baby) I'll be right back.

BABY                (A sigh) I will keep General Washington company. Here, kitty, kitty! (General Washington curls up in a corner, disappointing Baby.)

WASHINGTON      Nap, nap, nap...

BABY                Or I will entertain myself until you get home. (Baby sees Eugenia peering out the window suspiciously.) What are you doing?

EUGENIA            Making sure that horrible pig hasn't been let outside.

BABY                I'm sure they keep her in the house.

EUGENIA            (Satisfied) Coast is clear. I shan't be long. (Eugenia leaves.)

BABY                Goodbye!

As soon as Eugenia is out the door, Baby looks wistfully at the house next door. Mrs. Watson walks through the kitchen in her own house, Mercy sitting at the kitchen table. Baby, surprising herself, speaks up.

BABY                Hello! Mrs. Watson!

MRS. WATSON      Baby! I was just about to come see you two!

BABY                    Were you???

MRS. WATSON        I was going to bring over some toast!

MERCY                Toast.

BABY                You were?!

MRS. WATSON        I'll be right over.

BABY                Oh, yes! Please!

*Baby fusses, gets her butter cookies out. She sits, excitedly, puts her hands in her lap. The doorbell rings, she claps her hands with happiness and runs to the door. Then she tries to act cool.*

BABY                It's so lovely to see you. (*Mercy trundles by her, sniffing happily. Mrs. Watson carries a plate of toast with a napkin over it.*) Oh, you brought Mercy...

MERCY                Yum!

*Mercy snuffles around, oh so many new smells! Baby is a little freaked out but also fascinated.*

MRS. WATSON        And where is your sister?

BABY                Not here – thank goodness!

MRS. WATSON        Why?

BABY                Because she would be horrified! (*She covers*) To see that you were here and I hadn't invited you in – please come in!

MRS. WATSON        Here's some toast for you.

MERCY                Toast.

*Mrs. Watson unveils the toast on a plate, handing it to Baby.*

BABY                    That's so neighborly!

Mercy puts her hand on the plate.

MERCY                    (With a smile) Toast!

BABY                    Oh!

MRS. WATSON        Mercy, it's not for you.

Mercy frowns, doesn't get it, explains it logically to Mrs. Watson.

MERCY                    Toast.

BABY                    She can have it. Really.

Mercy likes this! She kisses Baby's cheek. Baby giggles, pleased.

MRS. WATSON        (Laughing) Mercy. (To Baby) We're trying to teach her patience. (Face to face with Mercy) This toast is for Baby and Eugenia. If you can wait until we get home, I will make an extra large stack of toast, for you and you alone.

MERCY                    (Enthusiastically, loudly) Toast! Toast! Toast!

MRS. WATSON        Inside voice, Mercy.

MERCY                    (Whispering but as excited) toast! toast! toast!

BABY                    Mrs. Watson, would Mercy like a butter cookie?

At the word "butter", Mercy gets a little squirrely.

MERCY                    Butter? Butter. Butter. Butter?

MRS. WATSON        Oooo, if there's anything Mercy likes almost as much as toast, it's butter.

Mercy jumps, taking it from Baby's hand, Baby bursts out in gales of laughter.

BABY                    Oh, what fun!

Mercy eats it chaotically and messily. General Washington wakes up.

WASHINGTON        Napping!

BABY                    General Washington, Mercy is here to make friends.

General Washington looks at Baby like she's crazy.

WASHINGTON        (A horrified hiss) WHAT?!

BABY                    Don't mind him, he's jittery.

MERCY                    (To Baby, a little demanding) Cookie!

BABY                    Can I give her another?

MRS. WATSON        Mercy, show Baby your tea time manners.

Mercy takes the cookie. Mrs. Watson sings "Tea for Two" as Mercy puts both pinkies up and takes little nibbles. Baby claps blissfully in appreciation.

BABY                    So sweet!

Mercy shows the plate to Mrs. Watson, wanting more.

MERCY                    Cookie.

MRS. WATSON        Yes, Mercy, it is a pretty plate.

BABY                    It's been in the family for generations.

MRS. WATSON        She has such an appreciation for good china.

BABY                    Can I give her the last one?

MRS. WATSON        Oh, do what I do. Turn around and put it in the pocket of your apron without her seeing. Mercy, look over here!

Mercy looks at Mrs. Watson. Baby turns, puts the cookie in her apron. Turns around, eager in anticipation.

BABY                      Mercy, I have a cookie for you.

MERCY                     Cookie?

Mercy looks at her happily. But then gets confused, there's no cookie.

MRS. WATSON        (Prompting) Where's the cookie?

BABY                     Where's the cookie, Mercy?

MERCY                    (She gets the joke, a slow smile) Butter cookie.

Mercy starts giggling and nosing into Baby. It tickles!

BABY                     Where's the cookie? Hahahaha!

MERCY                    Cookie...cookie...cookie...

MRS. WATSON        (Chanting and clapping in time) Find the cookie! Find the cookie!

Mercy continues to nose, Baby continues to laugh, it builds.

BABY                     Where's the cookie? Where's the cookie?! Hahahaha!

It's a little crazy, Baby's having a great time, everyone is in gales of laughter. Eugenia walks in and reacts, shocked to see her sister in such an indecorous position with a FIG.

EUGENIA                What are you doing?!!

BABY                     (Meekly, caught) I was just playing "where's the cookie" ...

MRS. WATSON        Would you like to play?

EUGENIA                I would NOT.

General Washington immediately goes to Eugenia, totally on her side.

BABY                    We're out of cookies actually.

EUGENIA                How did this PIG get in my house?

BABY                    I...let her...in...

EUGENIA                Is it too much to ask that I don't come home to FARM ANIMALS traipsing around my KITCHEN?

MRS. WATSON        I think it might be time for us to go...

EUGENIA                Yes, it is.

BABY                    It was a lovely visit.

*Mercy begins to cry, she never got her cookie. She noses into Baby.*

MRS. WATSON        Look. She's sad to go! She really likes you.

MERCY                    (Weeping) Cookie!

BABY                    Goodbye, Mercy, enjoy your extra helpings of toast.

*Mercy turns, happy to leave now. Right, there's toast at home.*

MERCY                    Toast, toast, toast...

*Eugenia shouts after them.*

EUGENIA                Eat your toast at home!

WASHINGTON        Out. Out. Out.

*General Washington tries to get out the open door. Eugenia slams the door in his face.*

EUGENIA                Never again.

BABY                    But, sister-

EUGENIA                NEVER AGAIN.

SCENE THREE

Mr. and Mrs. Watson tuck in a sleepy Mercy, singing her a lullaby. Mercy makes sleepy oinks in rhythm.

MR. AND

MRS. WATSON (Singing) Bright, Bright is the morning sun  
brighter still is our darling one.  
dark, dark is the coming night  
but oh, our Mercy shines so bright.

MERCY (Singing) Toast...

MR. AND

MRS. WATSON (Singing) She's warm -

MERCY (Singing) Toast -

MR. AND

MRS. WATSON (Singing) She's sweet -

MERCY (Singing) Toast -

MR. AND

MRS. WATSON (Singing) There's no one better.

MERCY (Singing) Butter.

MR. AND

MRS. WATSON Shhhhhhh...

A long sigh as she drifts off to sleep. Mr. and Mrs. Watson tiptoe to their bed. Mr. and Mrs. Watson get into bed themselves.

MR. WATSON What a day, what a day! New neighbors and Mercy waved for the first time.

MRS. WATSON I love our Mercy and I love you.

MR. WATSON I love you and I love our Mercy.

They kiss and go to sleep. In her bed, Mercy begins to dream.

MERCY Toast, butter, cinnamon sugar...toast....

The Watsons too begin to dream.

MR. WATSON Vroom, vroom! ...The fastest car on the road!... Faster! Faster!

MRS. WATSON Mercy! ...A beautiful ballerina!...Spin, Mercy, spin!

Mercy in her bed, dreaming. She is very, very happy.

MERCY Big toast! Big toast! (She chortles. She bites into her pillow. But she wakes up, realizes she is NOT eating a big piece of toast, but her pillow. She's frustrated!) No toast! No toast! (She looks around, it's dark and scary.) Mr. and Mrs. Watson? (She walks to Mr. and Mrs. Watson's bed.) Mr. and Mrs. Watson.

She dives in and snuffles around. They both wake up and see Mercy.

MR. WATSON (Touched) Oh, Mercy must have gotten scared!

Mercy makes a happy noise, now that she's with Mr. and Mrs. Watson.

MRS. WATSON Of course you can cuddle with us. We missed you too.

They get comfortable, Mercy falls asleep. A strange squeak from the floorboards. A CRACK. Mrs. Watson sits up in bed, looks around vigilantly.

MRS. WATSON Mr. Watson, I thought I heard something.

MR. WATSON No, it's nothing. Go back to sleep. (CRACK! Mr. Watson listens.) I heard something too. (CRRRRACK!) It came from the floor.

MRS. WATSON That's strange, what would be coming from -

A long groan from the floor.

MR. WATSON Mrs. Watson, perhaps Mercy's weight has pushed our floorboards to the max-

A long moan from the floor. And the floor below us is... A sigh from the floorboards - Giving way! CRACK!

MERCY (Waking) Toast!

MRS. WATSON Mercy, don't be scared!

MR. WATSON Don't move - whatever you do, don't move!

ANOTHER CRACK!

MERCY Toast?

MR. WATSON We need to call the fire department. They will rescue us.

MRS. WATSON But you said we shouldn't move. How can we call the fire department if we can't move?

MERCY HUNGRY!

She jumps out of the bed onto a secure part of the floor. Mr. and Mrs. Watson cry out. The floor begins to break!

MR. WATSON Don't!

MRS. WATSON Mercy!

The bed sways a little. Mercy, unfazed, begins to pad around the room. Mr. Watson is losing it.

MR. WATSON Mercy, what are you doing?!

Mrs. Watson has a revelation, is touched by Mercy's act of bravery.

MRS. WATSON Look! She's getting help! She's so brave!

Mr. and Mrs. Watson fade away, teetering in their bed. Mercy goes in search of toast.

MERCY                    Toast. (*Mercy wanders into the kitchen.*) Toast? (*She finds the toaster.*)  
Toast! (*She looks into it. She pushes down the toaster bar. She waits. The  
toaster bar springs back up, she looks into it. Puzzled*) No toast. (*She  
picks up the toaster and shakes it over her face, covering herself in crumbs.  
At first she doesn't like it, it makes her sneeze.*) Achoo! (*She considers the  
toaster again, licks her lips.*) Tiny toast! (*She shakes the toaster over her  
mouth again. The crumbs are all gone.*) No toast. (*She's disappointed.  
She looks out the window at Baby and Eugenia's. She gets a great idea!*)  
Butter cookies! (*She exits.*)

#### SCENE FOUR

*Mr. and Mrs. Watson in bed. They sit very still.*

MR. WATSON            (*Paralyzed with fear, in a small voice*) help. help. help.

MRS. WATSON        Have faith, my dear. Mercy will come back to save us.

*CRACK. Mr. Watson gets frantic.*

MR. WATSON        We can't wait for her! We have to get DOWN!

MRS. WATSON        How?

*He pulls the sheet over his head and cowers.*

MR. WATSON        help. help. help.

*She sees the sheet and gets an idea! She begins to tie the sheet and the blanket together.*

MRS. WATSON        We'll tie these together and shimmy down.

MR. WATSON        Oh! Yes! Brilliant!

*A big CRACK from the floor!*

MR. WATSON        Quickly, quickly! This is a very good plan, Mrs. Watson!

MRS. WATSON      Ready? (*Mr. Watson feeds to sheet to Mrs. Watson who feeds the sheet down to the floor.*) Keep it coming. Keep it coming.

*But the sheet isn't tied to anything and lands on the floor. They realize this too late as the sheet falls through their hands to the floor.*

MRS. WATSON      I suppose we should've tied them to something first. Live and learn.

MR. WATSON        We're doomed! (*He begins to sob.*)

MRS. WATSON      We'll just have to wait for Mercy to save us.

*The floor creaks ominously.*

MR. WATSON        MERCY!

## SCENE FIVE

*Eugenia and Baby's bedroom. General Washington sleeps at the foot of the bed.*

EUGENIA            (*Asleep*) Oh, my darling! (*Eugenia hugs a pillow.*)

BABY                (*Asleep*) A lovely balloon ride!

WASHINGTON      (*Asleep*) Out...

*Mercy enters their house.*

MERCY              Butter cookie? (*Baby laughs in her sleep.*) Butter cookie.

*Mercy goes upstairs and enters their bedroom. Eugenia talks in her sleep.*

EUGENIA            Oh darling... (*Mercy moves to her and licks Eugenia's face.*) Sir, now you are getting fresh!

Eugenia hits Mercy on the nose. Mercy does not like THAT. Baby laughs. Mercy moves around to Baby's side of the bed, breathes in her face.

MERCY                      Butter cookie.

BABY                        The wind in my hair! An adventure!!!

She wakes up and looks at Mercy. Mercy looks at her.

BABY/MERCY            AHHHHHHH!

WASHINGTON        WHAAAAT!

MERCY                    Tag!

Mercy runs from the room, followed by General Washington. Eugenia wakes up.

EUGENIA                What is it? What is it?

BABY                      A monster! There's a monster in the room, sister!

EUGENIA                A monster!? Where!?

In a frenzy, Eugenia grabs for the phone, begins to dial.

BABY                      In the house! It's in the house!

EUGENIA                *(Into the phone)* I need to talk to the Fire Department this INSTANT!

BABY                      It had large eyes -

EUGENIA                There is a crisis -

BABY                      And a big snout -

EUGENIA                Of an uncertain nature -

BABY                      And it was PINK!

EUGENIA                52 Deckawoo Drive! Come immediately!

Eugenia slams the phone down. The sound of Mercy and General Washington chasing each other through the house. Sound of crashing furniture.

WASHINGTON     WHAT!!?

MERCY             Butter Cookies!

EUGENIA           General Washington is alone with that monster! We have to go save him!

BABY              No!

EUGENIA           We are brave women -

BABY              No, we aren't!

EUGENIA           There are two of us, Baby. And only one monster.

BABY              One monster is enough!

Another crash downstairs. Eugenia gets a HUGE flashlight from the bedside drawer.

EUGENIA           Come, Baby.

BABY              Aren't you scared?

EUGENIA           (Terrified) Not at all. You go first.

They walk into the kitchen in the dark. Eugenia turns on the light. The place is torn up! General Washington is on top of a China Cabinet. Mercy is looking for food below.

EUGENIA           GENERAL WASHINGTON!

General jumps off the china cabinet, which makes the plates clicks against each other like dominos. One falls off-

BABY              THAT PLATE!

Mercy catches it. She looks at it for a butter cookie.

BABY                    It's not a monster at all!

EUGENIA                It's that PIG from next door!

WASHINGTON        What? *(an exasperated sigh)*

BABY                    Look Eugenia, Mercy saved our plate.

*Mercy licks the plate, turns to Baby showing her the empty plate.*

MERCY                 Butter cookie?

EUGENIA                Throw that plate out! It's been licked by a pig – it's covered in contagion. *(A sudden realization.)* I'VE been licked by a pig!!!! That pig licked me while I was sleeping!

BABY                    Oh no.

*Eugenia wipes at her face.*

EUGENIA                I'll get mad-swine flu! I'll get foot-and-mouth disease!

BABY                    I'm sure she was just being affectionate.

MERCY                 *(Still on a mission)* Butter cookie?

EUGENIA                *(To Mercy)* You gruesome beast!

BABY                    Don't yell at her. You'll hurt her feelings.

EUGENIA                She doesn't have feelings. She's a PIG!

MERCY                 Toast?

EUGENIA                Pigs do not belong in houses. Get out of my house, pig!

*Eugenia takes a swipe at Mercy, hitting her shoulder. Mercy is thrilled, she tags Eugenia back!*

MERCY                 Tag!

Eugenia, furious, chases Mercy out of the house.

BABY                      Oh dear. (*The doorbell rings.* ) Eugenia?

Baby opens the door. Lorenzo, the fireman, stands in the doorway. Lorenzo is like a little boy in an oversized costume. He holds a ladder.

LORENZO                Lorenzo, Fireman with the 19th Precinct! Where's the fire?

BABY                      Oh, I don't know.

LORENZO                But I got a phone call to 52 Deckawoo Drive... (*Looking for the fire, he almost knocks Baby over with his ladder. He sees this and corrects himself.*) Rule number one: Lorenzo, put down that ladder before you hurt someone. (*Puts down the ladder, walks into the house, sniffing.*) I don't smell a fire.

BABY                      Oh, there's no fire.

He looks at her confused.

LORENZO                Then why did you call the fire department?

BABY                      I didn't. My sister did.

LORENZO                Your sister?

EUGENIA                (*from offstage*) PIG!!!!

BABY                      My sister.

LORENZO                Oh, the one playing tag with the pig? They seem to be having fun.

BABY                      Eugenia does not have fun.

LORENZO                So, why did she call?

BABY                      I thought there was a monster in my bedroom. But it was only Mercy.

LORENZO            Mercy?

MERCY              *(from offstage)* TAG! TAG! TAG!

BABY                Mercy.

LORENZO            There's no fire? Not even a little one?

BABY                Oh no.

LORENZO            Shoot. I just started on the job and this is my first call and I'd love to use the hose. Do you think we could light something on fire?

BABY                I don't know...

LORENZO            I'd put it out real quick.

BABY                Sometimes I burn a batch of cookies, will that do?

LORENZO            That would be fantastic!

*Baby is energized.*

BABY                Here you go.

*Baby hands Lorenzo cooking supplies.*

LORENZO            What is this for?

BABY                We have to make the cookies first!

*They proceed to make cookies.*

MR. &  
MRS. WATSON      *(From offstage)* Help! Help!

MRS. WATSON      Mercy, Where are you?

BABY                I love making cookies!

LORENZO            Me too!

They continue making cookies.

MRS. WATSON    Help us!

LORENZO            (Unfazed) Is that your sister?

BABY                (Happily making cookies) I don't think so.

MR. &  
MRS. WATSON    HEEEEEEELLLP!

He finally hears this, reacts.

LORENZO            Somebody is in trouble! (He drops the cookie baking utensil.)

BABY                How exciting!

LORENZO            I get to use the hose! I get to use the hose!

MR &  
MRS WATSON    Help!!

LORENZO            Let's go rescue somebody! (Lorenzo runs with his hose but Baby's foot is on the hose. He falls.) Ma'am, your foot.

MR. &  
MRS. WATSON    HELP!

Lorenzo and Baby run to the scene. On their way:

LORENZO            Let's go! I hope it's a grease fire!

Lights up on the Watsons, the bed is about to fall through the floor.

MR. WATSON       Mrs. Watson, no one is coming. Farewell!

Lorenzo and Baby arrive, Lorenzo still carrying his hose.

BABY                    Mr. and Mrs. Watson!

LORENZO                This is the best first day on the job EVER!

MRS. WATSON          Who are you?

LORENZO                Lorenzo, Fireman with the 19th Precinct!

MRS. WATSON          Mercy called the fire department!

MR. WATSON            I told you she'd save us!

Lorenzo gets ready with his hose.

LORENZO                *(Calling off)* OK, TURN THE WATER ON!

MR. WATSON            No!

MRS. WATSON          Don't turn the water on!

BABY                    You don't need a hose, you need a ladder.

LORENZO                Really?

BABY                    Yes!

LORENZO                You should be a fireman.

Lorenzo and Baby exit the house to get rid of the hose and get the ladder.

MR. WATSON            Don't leave!

MRS. WATSON          Help!

MR. WATSON            Where did he go?

MRS. WATSON          Come back!

MR. WATSON            We're done for!

Lorenzo arrives with his ladder. He leans it against the bed through a crack in the floor.

LORENZO           Climb down, quickly! (*Mrs. Watson climbs down as the bed makes a crazy creaking sound.*) Now you, sir! (*Mr. Watson looks over the edge.*)

MR. WATSON       It's too far down!

MRS. WATSON     Mr. Watson, you have to climb!

MR. WATSON       I'll fall!

LORENZO           You might.

MR. WATSON       WHAT?!

LORENZO           But you probably won't.

BABY               Mr. Watson, just put one foot in front of the other.

MR. WATSON       No, thank you, I'll wait for a ladder that doesn't have holes in it!

MRS. WATSON     Do you happen to have a ladder with no holes?

LORENZO           A ladder with no holes? Like a slide?

MR. WATSON       A SLIDE YES! A SLIDE!

LORENZO           No.

MR. WATSON       No slide, I'm not coming down!

All sigh then a huge creak from the floor!

MRS. WATSON     But Mr. Watson, you have to come down!

BABY               The bed's about to fall!

LORENZO           How can we get him down without the ladder?

CRACK from the floor. Mercy comes flying through the door, Eugenia is close behind.

MERCY                    Wheee!

MR. WATSON            I'm toast!

MERCY                    Toast?

EUGENIA                We have to talk about your PIG!

Mercy runs up the ladder to get the toast.

MRS. WATSON        Mercy!

Mercy scampers on the bed, looking for the toast! The bed rocks even more!

MR. WATSON        No, Mercy!

BABY                    Oh, no!

A part of the bed is freed from all of her exertions and falls, making a slide. Mercy slides down to the floor.

MERCY                    No toast.

MRS. WATSON        (Astounded) Mercy made a slide for you, Mr. Watson!

MR. WATSON        Mercy, you are AMAZING!

Eugenia shakes her fist at Mr. Watson.

EUGENIA                She is not amazing! She is an intruder! (To Lorenzo) Do something!

LORENZO                (Thrilled) I am doing something! I am SAVING someone!

Mercy claps her hands in excitement.

EVERYBODY            One two THREE!

Mr. Watson slides the very small distance to the floor. Once on the floor, Mr. and Mrs. Watson hug Mercy. Everyone cheers.

EUGENIA            Your pig was on my property!

MRS. WATSON      Please don't call her a pig.

MR. WATSON        We'd prefer if you called her a porcine wonder.

MRS. WATSON      After all, she did save Mr. Watson.

MR. WATSON        She's a hero.

LORENZO            I never woulda thought of making that slide, that's for sure.

MRS. WATSON      You did your part.

LORENZO            Aw shucks.

EUGENIA            *(To Lorenzo)* What are you going to do about THAT PIG?

LORENZO            You're right! *(Lorenzo turns to Mercy, puts his hat on Mercy's head.)*  
Mercy, I'd like to make you an honorary member of the fire  
department.

MRS. WATSON      Our little hero!

MR. WATSON        Young man, what can we do to thank you? Would you like to stay  
for some toast?

MERCY              Toast! Toast!

LORENZO            I would love some toast!

MERCY              Toast!

EUGENIA            I don't believe this!

MRS. WATSON      Toast for everyone!

MERCY              Toast!

BABY                    Eugenia, could we have some?

EUGENIA                This is outrageous!

Eugenia stomps away out the door, Baby trailing her.

BABY                    I guess not...

They start to sing "For she's a jolly good fellow" softly. Eugenia pivots to yell at the Watson's house.

EUGENIA                There was a pig in my house!

BABY                    Eugenia.

Eugenia pivots again.

EUGENIA                In my room!

BABY                    There, there sister...

Eugenia pivots again, shaking her fist.

EUGENIA                IT LICKED MY FACE!

BABY                    Maybe you're over-reacting.

ALL                      Yay Mercy!

MERCY                  TOAST!

Eugenia scowls at the Watson's house. Baby sees an unholy glint in Eugenia's eye.

BABY                    Uh-oh.

EUGENIA                Brace yourself baby. This battle has just begun!