

THE NO-GOODNIK, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

A One Act Stage Play

by

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THE NO-GOODNIK, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

Cast of Characters

- Boris Badenov: Male teacher in a black hat, and the world's leading no-goodnik. He speaks in a mock-Russian accent
- Natasha Fatale: Brunette female teacher and nefarious partner of Boris. She speaks in a mock-Russian accent.
- Rocket J. Squirrel: Male, posing as Rocky Raccoon, a student.
- Bullwinkle J. Moose: Male, posing as Bull Pucky, a student.
- Fearless Leader: Male Pottsylvania dictator in military garb with eyepiece. He speaks in a mock-German accent.
- Mr. Peabody: Male, and time-traveling genius.

Scene

Classroom at Pottsylvania's University of Safe-Cracking.

Time

The present.

SETTING: A desk with two chairs on one side, stage right, facing two side-by-side chairs center stage.

AT RISE: Boris and Natasha are seated behind the desk. Rocky and Bullwinkle are seated, facing them.

Boris

Welcome to first day of Winter term at University of Safe-Cracking. Allow me to introduce myself. I am Boris Badenov, world's greatest no-goodnik. My nefarious partner is Natasha Fatale.

Natasha

Thank you for the nice compliment, dahlink.

Boris

This course is No-Goodnik 101, where you will learn the ABC's of being a productive citizen of Pottsylvania.

Natasha

That's right, students. Who can tell me what our ABC's are?

Rocky and Bullwinkle raise their shoulders.

Natasha

Arson, bomb-throwing, and conspiracy. And, upon graduation, you'll earn Pottsylvania's highest honor, the Double Cross.

Boris

And who knows our school motto?

Rocky and Bullwinkle shake their heads.

Natasha

No good deed goes unpunished.

Boris

Now, please tell us your name. I need to take assurance.

Natasha

Attendance, dahlink.

Rocky

My name is Rocky. Rocky Raccoon.

Bullwinkle

And I'm Bullwin...

Rocky elbows Bullwinkle in the ribs.

Bullwinkle (cont)

Pucky. Bull Pucky.

Boris

And where you from?

Bullwinkle

Frostbite Falls.

Rocky elbows Bullwinkle again.

Bullwinkle (cont)

I mean, Pottsylvania's own Whynchatakea Peak.

Natasha

(eyes Bullwinkle)

Why does Frostbite Falls ring bell?

Rocky

Don't mind him. He gets confused easily.

Boris

How you find out about class?

Rocky

From an ad in the Pottsylvania newspaper, the *Eavesdropper*.

Boris

We are very proud of our paper. Only national news printed in invisible ink.

(frowns)

How you read invisible ink?

Rocky

The same way you do, of course.

Boris

Hmmm. Okay, let's get started. To be successful no-goodnik, you must become master of the language of your enemies.

(beams)

Natasha and I are excerpts at this.

Natasha

Experts, dahlink. We first focus on American grammar.

Boris

Important rule. Never underestimate comma. Natasha will read sentence without comma, and I will read with proper grammar.

Natasha

Bomb is intended for disabled elderly pregnant children.

Boris

Bomb is intended for disabled, elderly, pregnant, or children. See the differential?

Natasha

Difference, dahlink. Notice first option too limited in target.

Bullwinkle

You two sure do like bombs.

Rocky elbows Bullwinkle in the ribs.

Bullwinkle (cont)

Ow.

Rocky

Don't give us away!

Natasha

Here is next one. Let's kill grandma.

Boris

Or, let's kill, grandma. See difference? My version is inviting grandma to participate.

Natasha

One more. Let's see who can fix this one. I find inspiration in cooking my partner and my Pottsylvania Creeper.

Bullwinkle excitedly raises a hand. Rocky tries to stop him.

Boris

You. Fix sentence.

Bullwinkle

I find inspiration in cooking poachers. And litterers.

Boris

(astounded)

Not even close. Correct response is I find inspiration in cooking, my partner, and my Pottsylvania Creeper. You place comma where I pause.

(addresses Natasha)

There's something squirrely about that guy.

Natasha

Fishy, dahlink.

Bullwinkle

(whispers to Rocky)

They think I'm the squirrel. They're just as dumb as I remember. Our plot to capture them is going according to plan. By the way, what's a Pottsylvania Creeper?

Rocky

Man-eating plant, found only in Pottsylvania.

Bullwinkle

Remind me not to do any gardening while we're here.

Boris

Next, we discuss American idioms. You will need strong use of these to converse in America. We start with easy one. Moose got your tongue?

Natasha

Cat.

Boris

What?

Natasha

Cat got your tongue. Not moose.

Bullwinkle

You wouldn't want a moose to get your tongue.

Rocky glares at Bullwinkle.

Boris

Next one. Use this when the answer is an obvious 'yes'. Do squirrels fly?

Natasha

(annoyed)

Birds. Do birds fly?

Boris

Oh, right.

Rocky

Some squirrels fly.

Bullwinkle glares at Rocky. Rocky shrugs.

Boris

Next one. Do not look gift moose in the mouth.

Natasha

Horse. Do not look gift horse in mouth. Seriously, dahlink, you need to get over obsession with moose and squirrel. It's been a long time. They probably dead long ago.

Boris

Moose and squirrel.

(pounds his fist on desk)

How many times did they stand between us and our dreams of glory? We tried to stop them, shoot them, smash them, crush them, bash them, gnash them, squish them. How many times did they foil Fearless Leader's plans with their bungling interference?

Bullwinkle

One hundred sixty-three.

Rocky elbows Bullwinkle in the ribs.

Bullwinkle (cont)

Hey. That's starting to smart.

Boris

How do you know so much about moose and squirrel?

Rocky

We don't know anything about those courageous, handsome heroes of the sixties.

Boris

I smell a squirrel.

Natasha

A rat, dahlink. You smell a rat.

(narrows eyes at Bullwinkle)

Allow me to be frank.

Bullwinkle

Okay, Frank, allow me to be Bull.

Boris

Enough rock walling.

Natasha

That's stonewalling, dahlink.

Natasha stands and exhales.

Boris, I am tired of all this. I don't want to be spy teacher no more. Let's face it. Our only job was to catch moose and squirrel, and we failed. We suck.

Boris

(gets up and hugs Natasha)

You are dismembering our accomplishments. We started the Local 12 of the Villians, Thieves, and Scoundrels Union. We designed the Assassin-8, the only vehicle in Pottsylvania. We export more mean per square inch than other countries do in a square mile. With no natural resources, we built an entire national economy based on theft and trickery.

Natasha

(lovingly)

You are ruby in sand trap.

Boris

I think you mean a diamond in rough.

Bullwinkle

Look. The no-goodniks are still infatuated with each other.

Boris

(releases Natasha)

Wait a minutia. *Still* infatuated?

(stares closer at Bullwinkle)

And that voice. I've heard that before.

Natasha

Yes. But where?

Bullwinkle

(to audience)

Only on 163 episodes. And they call me dumb.

Rocky

Shhh.

Natasha

Of course. Frostbite Falls. The home of moose and squirrel!

Boris

Can it be? After all these years, our nemeses fall into our stomach.

Natasha

Lap, dahlink.

Boris

You two. Stand up and face your fate. Your goose is fried.

Natasha

Cooked.

Bullwinkle and Rocky stand. Bullwinkle points at Boris.

Bullwinkle

We're not afraid of you. We have truth, justice, and the American way on our side. You're just a no-goodnik.

(points at Natasha)

And you're just bad. I'm inclined to give you both a piece of my mind!

Rocky

That's what I like about you. No matter how little you have, you're still willing to share.

Boris
(pulls out a bomb)

Refrigerate!

Natasha
Freeze. But, dahlink, is that a good idea? Usually we are ones that get blown up by our own bomb.

Bullwinkle
We're not afraid of your bomb.

Rocky
Bullwinkle, do you remember what a bomb is?

Bullwinkle
Sure. A bomb is what some people call this play.

Rocky
I don't think that's very funny.

Bullwinkle
(indicates audience)
Apparently, neither do they.

Boris
Quiet! You busy-bodies have busied your last body.

Natasha
You have plan, dahlink?

Boris
Of course I have plan. I've always got fiendish plan. They never work, but I've always got one! Listen closely.

Boris whispers gibberish.

Natasha
I can't hear word you say, dahlink. Speak up.

Boris
(points to audience)
You think I want them in on plot?

Bullwinkle
You don't scare us.

Natasha
Why not? We scare everybody.

Bullwinkle

I know my pal Rock has a plan for our escape. He's the brains of the outfit.

Boris

And what does that make you?

Bullwinkle

What else? The executive.

Natasha

Light the fuse, dahlink. End moose and squirrel once and for all.

Boris fumbles in his pocket but comes up empty.

Boris

You got match?

Natasha

(exasperated)

Matches were your job.

Boris

(tosses bomb aside)

Raskolnikov!

Natasha

Before we kill them, we should get directions to Frostbite Falls. I want to wipe out entire legacy.

Boris

Good idea.

Rocky

Why would we tell you where our families live?

Boris

We pay you a thousand deer.

Natasha

Bucks.

Bullwinkle

A thousand dollars to get to Frostbite Falls? You can buy the place for eight dollars cash. You two do suck.

Boris

Sharrup your mouth! Never underestimate the power of a Shnook! Natasha, call Fearless Leader.

Natasha pulls out a cell phone and frowns.

Natasha

Pottsylvania not so good with wireless. I'm braless.

This peaks Bullwinkle's interest.

Bullwinkle

This may require more investigation.

Rocky

I think you mean your phone has no bars.

Bullwinkle

Oh. Then, never mind.

Fearless Leader enters next to Boris and Natasha.
Rocky and Bullwinkle cringe.

Bullwinkle

His drawings don't do him justice. He's even uglier in person.

Fearless Leader

(addresses Boris and Natasha)

Lucky for you two incompetents I saw through moose and squirrel registration deception.

Boris

Fearless Leader! We finally capture moose and squirrel.

Fearless Leader

Capture? You almost blew it again. But you get one more chance. Don't fail me this time.

Boris

What happens if moose escapes?

Fearless Leader

You get shot.

Boris

If squirrel escapes?

Fearless Leader

You get shot.

Boris

(to Natasha)

Well, at least I got a choice.

Natasha

What do you want me to do, dahlink?

Boris

Smush them!

A crash sound comes from stage left and Mr. Peabody enters moments later.

Mr. Peabody

Not so fast, Fearless Leader.

Fearless Leader

Who are you?

Mr. Peabody

My name is Peabody. *Mister* Peabody.

Boris

Where you come from?

Mr. Peabody

My WABAC machine brought Rocky, Bullwinkle, and me from the 1960s. All as a trap to lure Fearless Leader out.

Fearless Leader

(to Boris and Natasha)

Get them!

Mr. Peabody

I don't recommend it. I brought two dozen commandos. You're completely surrounded. Hands up. Or I order them to shoot.

Boris, Natasha, and Fearless Leader raise their hands in surrender.

Natasha

Oh, Boris, the jiggle is up.

Boris

Jig.

Mr. Peabody

You three, get in the WABAC machine.

Boris, Natasha, and Fearless Leader exit stage left.

Rocky

You really have commandos surrounding the school?

Mr. Peabody

No. But Sherman *is* in the WABC machine with a squirt gun.

Bullwinkle

What are we going to do with them? No jail has ever been able to contain them.

Mr. Peabody

Let's send them where they'll be surrounded by other no-goodniks. Where they'll be nothing but run-of-the-mill villains. It will drive them insane.

Rocky

But where?

Mr. Peabody

I'm thinking Washington.

(FADE TO BLACK)

(END OF SCENE)