

# BATH TIME IS FUN TIME

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A ten-minute comedy by  
Arthur M. Jolly

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

RUBBER DUCKIE

SPONGE

WASHCLOTH

SUBMARINE

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*(RUBBER DUCKIE, SPONGE, WASHCLOTH and SUBMARINE are on the edge of a bathtub.)*

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I think I'm gonna throw up.

**SUBMARINE:** You were lucky. I was in it. I mean...in it!

**SPONGE:** It got into me. I could feel it. It went inside me. *(Sponge grabs Submarine.)* Right through me! It was everywhere!

**SUBMARINE:** Keep it together.

**SPONGE:** I feel so...I can't describe it.

**WASHCLOTH:** *(Plaintive:)* Hold me.

**SPONGE:** I'm bloated. Heavy. Like—like I'll never be me again.

**SUBMARINE:** I thought I was going to pass out. I mean—he just kept holding me under the—whatever it was. Holding me, and pushing me around going "Awhooga! Awhooga!" *(Beat.)* What in the bathtub is an awhooga? Do you have any idea? You?

*(The others shake their heads.)*

**SUBMARINE:** I kept thinking—he wants something. If I tell him, he'll let me breathe again. I was desperate—ask me a question—tell me what you want me to do, I'll do it! Whatever it is—I'll do it. He never asked any questions. Just kept saying...awhooga.

**SPONGE:** Awhooga?

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Awhooga...

**WASHCLOTH:** Hold me.

**SUBMARINE:** Can he do that? Can he just do that to us?

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Apparently.

**SUBMARINE:** We just...we have no rights?

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** How did you do it?

**SUBMARINE:** Do what?

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Go under like that.

**SUBMARINE:** I don't—I just did.

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I could never do that.

**SUBMARINE:** You wouldn't have had a choice. He drags you down there...awhooga!

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I'd make a break for the surface, the first chance I'd get.

**SUBMARINE:** You say that now...

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I don't get it—you guys—all three of you—just went under. I mean, Sponge stuck around for a while—

**SPONGE:** I held on as long as I could.

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I know you did.

**SPONGE:** I just started feeling...heavy. This warm feeling, spreading up through me. And I sank, slowly, into oblivion.

**SUBMARINE:** Heavy.

**SPONGE:** Then...a resurrection—yanked upwards by an almighty hand, squeezed—squeezed to my very core. Then rubbed all over that dirty, sticky kid. What did I do to deserve that?

**SUBMARINE:** Awhooga...

**WASHCLOTH:** You sinned.

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**SPONGE:** What?

**WASHCLOTH:** You're a sinner.

**SPONGE:** I'm a sponge!

**WASHCLOTH:** To be a sponge is to be a sinner.

**SUBMARINE:** So you're saying we brought this on ourselves, is that it? You're saying that I'm...awhooga?

**WASHCLOTH:** We are all awhooga.

**SUBMARINE:** Go soak your head.

*(Washcloth goes and sulks in a corner.)*

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I didn't sink.

**SUBMARINE:** We noticed. You looked very happy, bobbing about. No worries for you—you took to that stuff like a...well...like a something to something, anyway.

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Does that mean that I'm not awhooga?

**SUBMARINE:** You think you're better than us?

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I'm not saying that.

**SUBMARINE:** Floating about—

**SPONGE:** Bet he never got squeezed by the hand.

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I'm not saying I'm better than you—I'm just saying, perhaps, if you were more duck-like, you wouldn't have so much awhooga. Or be so awhooga... Or suffer from the awhoogas.

**SPONGE:** I'm duck-like.

**SUBMARINE:** You are not.

**SPONGE:** I'm more duck-like than you are.

**SUBMARINE:** Oh my goodness—you're a square blob! Does the duck have sharp corners? No. He's smooth—sleek. Very like, oh...a submarine, maybe?

**SPONGE:** You?

**SUBMARINE:** I think I have certain duck-like features.

**SPONGE:** I'm yellow!

**SUBMARINE:** What are you saying?

**SPONGE:** I'm not saying—I'm not saying! But I am yellow. Duck is yellow. You are gray. You've always been gray. You are always going to be gray.

**SUBMARINE:** I could be yellow if I wanted to be.

**SPONGE:** Submarines are gray.

**SUBMARINE:** There could be a yellow submarine.

**SPONGE:** Don't be ridiculous.

**SUBMARINE:** It's all about color with you, isn't it.

**SPONGE:** I can prove it.

**SUBMARINE:** You can't possibly prove—

**SPONGE:** Who sank first?

**SUBMARINE:** What?

**SPONGE:** Who. Sank. First.

*(A moment.)*

**SUBMARINE:** We all sank. I mean, we all—okay, except for the duck—but we all...

**SPONGE:** *We* all floated.

**SUBMARINE:** At first.



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**SPONGE:** At first. Rubber Duckie stayed on top, he floats —

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I have natural duckness. It's a gift.

**SPONGE:** Washcloth went gently, but only just below the surface. I mean, even after we'd been there forever, washcloth—she danced. Just below the surface, peeking her head out...

**SUBMARINE:** She got twisted up and poked in his ears!

**SPONGE:** But she was anointed with soap. She was cleansed. (*Beat.*) You sank.

**SUBMARINE:** I—

**SPONGE:** You sank.

**SUBMARINE:** The voice...

**SPONGE:** The voice spoke to you. Are we awwhooga?

*(A moment.)*

**SUBMARINE:** It's me. I sank to the bottom. I was judged and found...awwhooga.

*(Submarine gets up and starts to walk away.)*

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Wait—

**SUBMARINE:** (*Distraught:*) I brought this on us. And I don't even know how.

*(Submarine goes to Washcloth.)*

**SUBMARINE:** Washcloth?

**WASHCLOTH:** Yes?

**SUBMARINE:** How do I find soap?

**WASHCLOTH:** Soap?

**SUBMARINE:** You were anointed with soap. You were cleansed. Will I get soap?

**WASHCLOTH:** A submarine doesn't get soap.

**SUBMARINE:** Why not?

*(Washcloth shrugs. Submarine's almost in tears.)*

He tried to drown me—and I don't know why. Perhaps...if I were more duck-like...

**WASHCLOTH:** You are who you are.

**SUBMARINE:** You get soap, I get drowned, Sponge gets squeezed...and Rubber Duckie rides above us all.

**WASHCLOTH:** Rubber Duckie got squeezed.

**SUBMARINE:** What?

**WASHCLOTH:** He got squeezed more than anyone. I heard him.

**SUBMARINE:** How could you hear—

**WASHCLOTH:** He squeaked. Whee-wheee!

**SUBMARINE:** No.

**WASHCLOTH:** Yes. Whee-whee!

**SUBMARINE:** That hypocrite!

*(Submarine takes Washcloth's hand, and they go back to the others.)*

**SPONGE:** Oh look—it's the sinking sinner and the soapy saint joining forces. Come to cleanse us of our awwhooga?

**SUBMARINE:** *(To Rubber Duckie:)* You were squeezed.

**SPONGE:** Rubber Duckie was not squeezed! I was squeezed by the almighty hand, and I felt—lighter! As though the weight of the world was pouring out of me!

**SUBMARINE:** Duckie was squeezed. He squeaked!

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** I never squeak.

**SUBMARINE:** Washcloth heard you!

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** Washcloth lies.

*(Gasps.)*

**WASHCLOTH:** I don't lie.

**RUBBER DUCKIE:** You're lying right now. *(To Sponge:)* Who are you going to believe?

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