

COUNT SPATULA

A short comedy by
Keegon Schuett

Inspired by the novel *Dracula* by Bram Stoker

This script is for evaluation only. It may not be printed, photocopied or distributed digitally under any circumstances. Possession of this file does not grant the right to perform this play or any portion of it, or to use it for classroom study.

www.youthplays.com
info@youthplays.com
424-703-5315

Count Spatula © 2017 Keegon Schuett
All rights reserved. ISBN 978-1-62088-714-1.

Caution: This play is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, Canada, the British Commonwealth and all other countries of the copyright union and is subject to royalty for all performances including but not limited to professional, amateur, charity and classroom whether admission is charged or presented free of charge.

Reservation of Rights: This play is the property of the author and all rights for its use are strictly reserved and must be licensed by the author's representative, YouthPLAYS. This prohibition of unauthorized professional and amateur stage presentations extends also to motion pictures, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video and the rights of adaptation or translation into non-English languages.

Performance Licensing and Royalty Payments: Amateur and stock performance rights are administered exclusively by YouthPLAYS. No amateur, stock or educational theatre groups or individuals may perform this play without securing authorization and royalty arrangements in advance from YouthPLAYS. Required royalty fees for performing this play are available online at www.YouthPLAYS.com. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Required royalties must be paid each time this play is performed and may not be transferred to any other performance entity. All licensing requests and inquiries should be addressed to YouthPLAYS.

Author Credit: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisements and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line with no other accompanying written matter. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s) and the name of the author(s) may not be abbreviated or otherwise altered from the form in which it appears in this Play.

Publisher Attribution: All programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice:

Produced by special arrangement with YouthPLAYS (www.youthplays.com).

Prohibition of Unauthorized Copying: Any unauthorized copying of this book or excerpts from this book, whether by photocopying, scanning, video recording or any other means, is strictly prohibited by law. This book may only be copied by licensed productions with the purchase of a photocopy license, or with explicit permission from YouthPLAYS.

Trade Marks, Public Figures & Musical Works: This play may contain references to brand names or public figures. All references are intended only as parody or other legal means of expression. This play may also contain suggestions for the performance of a musical work (either in part or in whole). YouthPLAYS has not obtained performing rights of these works unless explicitly noted. The direction of such works is only a playwright's suggestion, and the play producer should obtain such permissions on their own. The website for the U.S. copyright office is <http://www.copyright.gov>.

COPYRIGHT RULES TO REMEMBER

1. To produce this play, you must receive prior written permission from YouthPLAYS and pay the required royalty.
2. You must pay a royalty each time the play is performed in the presence of audience members outside of the cast and crew. Royalties are due whether or not admission is charged, whether or not the play is presented for profit, for charity or for educational purposes, or whether or not anyone associated with the production is being paid.
3. No changes, including cuts or additions, are permitted to the script without written prior permission from YouthPLAYS.
4. Do not copy this book or any part of it without written permission from YouthPLAYS.
5. Credit to the author and YouthPLAYS is required on all programs and other promotional items associated with this play's performance.

When you pay royalties, you are recognizing the hard work that went into creating the play and making a statement that a play is something of value. We think this is important, and we hope that everyone will do the right thing, thus allowing playwrights to generate income and continue to create wonderful new works for the stage.

Plays are owned by the playwrights who wrote them. Violating a playwright's copyright is a very serious matter and violates both United States and international copyright law. Infringement is punishable by actual damages and attorneys' fees, statutory damages of up to \$150,000 per incident, and even possible criminal sanctions. **Infringement is theft. Don't do it.**

Have a question about copyright? Please contact us by email at info@youthplays.com or by phone at 424-703-5315. When in doubt, please ask.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

COUNT SPATULA, an evil vampire posing as a chef.

VANESSA HELSING, a budding suburban vampire hunter.

JONATHAN HARKENS, an aspiring scientist.

MINA, hypnotized.

LUCY, helpful, but vain.

ELVIRA, a vampire lunch lady.

AORTA, a vampire lunch lady.

MARGE, an ordinary lunch lady.

(Outside the school cafeteria. Three teenagers enter. VANESSA, carrying a small bag of supplies, drags JONATHAN by the arm. They're followed by LUCY. He shakes loose.)

JONATHAN: No, you lied to me! You said this was for the Science Club.

VANESSA: This is about science! I have a scientific question: "Is Chef Spatula a vampire?" My hypothesis is "I can prove it."

LUCY: You have to admit that your science fair project is boring, Jonathan.

JONATHAN: It's not boring! It's about molecules. Your project is about kissing, Lucy. That's not science.

LUCY: Is too. Ever heard of chemistry?

JONATHAN: Romantic chemistry and scientific chemistry are different!

VANESSA: Listen! Mina has been in the cafeteria alone with him for too long. I saw the comment you left on her photo. You two have romantic chemistry.

JONATHAN: That's not even relevant.

VANESSA: You wrote, "There are dark spots in the world and there are lights. You are one of the lights."

LUCY: Aw, that's kind of sweet. Three different guys asked me out in the comments of my new profile photo. I'm still trying to pick, but who knows...maybe I'll get more comments tonight!

JONATHAN: Enough! So you have a hypothesis—that's great but it's not proof.

VANESSA: Oh, we don't have proof? One: He's from Transylvania.

JONATHAN: Now that's just prejudiced, Vanessa. Not all Transylvanians are vampires and you know that.

VANESSA: Two: He doesn't go out into the sun. Like ever.

JONATHAN: Maybe he's afraid of melanoma.

VANESSA: Three: He wears a cape.

JONATHAN: I think that's just how he wears an apron.

LUCY: Also I'm pretty sure when I saw Chef Spatula kissing the lunch lady's neck...he was biting her! She had like the worst hickey I've ever seen.

VANESSA: So what do you say, Vice President of the Science Club...are you going to help us or are you chicken?

JONATHAN: I'm not chicken! You're paranoid! You're just like your dad.

VANESSA: Wow. Just wow. Do you know what my father did, Jon? Do you?

LUCY: Mina could be getting a weird hickey right now! We don't have time for this.

VANESSA: No, Lucy. We do. My father killed a vampire. And yes, he might have only been drinking raccoon blood. And yes, we might be a bit iffy on the evidence. But Mr. Nosferatu never came out into the sun, and he kept, like, impaling dead raccoons on his fence.

JONATHAN: Gross.

LUCY: Let's go!

(She grabs Jonathan's arm and starts to pull. He shakes loose.)

JONATHAN: No! I don't want to go in there. The cafeteria is scary.

VANESSA: A lot of science is scary! Scary science is important too!

LUCY: Just as important as kissing science!

JONATHAN: We don't know that he's a vampire! And even if we did, we don't know how to kill a vampire.

VANESSA: Oh, we don't? Good thing I'm here. I've got everything we need.

(She begins to pull items out of her bag.)

Holy water, some wafers from a church, a wooden stake, and garlic bread.

LUCY: Garlic bread? How is that gonna kill a vampire?

VANESSA: I don't know, but if it doesn't work at least we'll have a delicious snack.

(A blood-curdling scream! All three teens jump!)

Here, you take the stake.

JONATHAN: No, the stakes are too high, you keep it.

VANESSA: Well, then take the garlic bread.

(She tosses it at him. Lucy takes the remaining items. The three teens run inside the cafeteria, which is perhaps shrouded in crimson curtains. A tall, terrifying man in a chef's hat and a cape stands over a young woman. This is COUNT SPATULA and MINA. She holds a wooden spatula and a pot. Count Spatula looks at the children and stands regally.)

COUNT SPATULA: Ahhh, welcome to my cafeteria, children of the night.

LUCY: We heard a scream!

VANESSA: I won't let you hurt Mina.

COUNT SPATULA: Now, now, Miss Helsing. No need to worry. Mina and I vere just about to have a bite.

JONATHAN: No!

VANESSA: Don't bite her!

MINA: (*In a trance:*) Bite me? Don't be silly. Chef Spatula was just giving me a cooking lesson. He's teaching me how to make his signature blood orange soufflé.

VANESSA: Mina, you've been hypnotized! Snap out of it!

COUNT SPATULA: I have heard a lot about you, Vanessa Helsing.

VANESSA: And I've heard a lot about you, Count Spatula. You can't throw on a chef's hat and fool everybody. I see right through you!

COUNT SPATULA: If there's one thing I can count on, it's the Helsing family's habit of jumping to conclusions. Where did you get the idea that I vas going to bite Mina?

VANESSA: Because you're a vampire!

COUNT SPATULA: Vat makes you think that?

VANESSA: Vell, vat do you think, Count Spatula?

JONATHAN: Hey, don't make fun of the way he talks. That's uncalled for.

COUNT SPATULA: It's quite all right, young Jonathan. Perhaps you should all stay and learn a thing or two about cooking. Ve like to experiment vith ingredients in my kitchen. It's very scientific. Lots of vonderful knives. Ve need to be careful ve don't cut ourselves and bleed everyvere.

JONATHAN: Maybe we should go.

COUNT SPATULA: No, I impale you to stay.

LUCY: You impale us?

COUNT SPATULA: Oh, I'm sorry. Implore. Do you know this word?

VANESSA: Yes, it means beg...which you'll soon be doing for your life!

COUNT SPATULA: I don't think my team of lunch ladies would agree with you. Elvira! Aorta! Marge! Come greet the children.

(Three beautiful lunch ladies, ELVIRA, AORTA, and MARGE, enter carrying trays of cooking supplies.)

ELVIRA: Oh my, vat beautiful children.

AORTA: Vhen did these mouth-vatering creatures valk in?

MARGE: Y'all have such a fun way of talking. Don't you think they talk so great, kids?

LUCY: Wait, Miss Marge...are you still all right?

MARGE: Well, if I'm being honest I just ain't been the same since my pet raccoon went missing, but otherwise I'm doing A-OK. Why do you ask?

VANESSA: You're working with a bunch of vampires, Miss Marge!

MARGE: Vanessa Helsing! I'm surprised at you. Just because these new lunch ladies like blood oranges and they got these funny accents don't mean you can just up and call 'em vampires. It ain't polite. Just look at Chef Spatula...if he were a vampire, would he be wearin' a chef's hat? I don't think so, missy!

VANESSA: They really are vampires, Miss Marge! We'll prove it! Lucy, put the church wafers around Mina to protect her.

(Lucy runs to Mina and puts the wafers around her. Count Spatula stands back and hisses. Elvira and Aorta also hiss.)

Look! They're all driven back by the religious wafers.

MARGE: Y'all don't work with 'em like I do. They just do not like a messy floor.

LUCY: I did it! Now Mina's safe. We're all safe!

JONATHAN: Lucy, look out!

(Count Spatula lurches over Lucy and hides her behind his apron/cape. She screams!)

LUCY: Help!

Want to read the entire script? Order a perusal copy today!