

# LARRY OF THE LAKE

---

A ten-minute absurdist comedy by  
Matt Buchanan

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](http://www.youthplays.com)  
[info@youthplays.com](mailto:info@youthplays.com)  
424-703-5315

*Larry of the Lake* © 2011 Matt Buchanan  
All rights reserved. ISBN 978-1-62088-336-5.

**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 his 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:info@youthplays.com) or by phone at 424-703-5315. When in doubt, please ask.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

JACK

LARRY

---

*(The setting is a dock or beach at the edge of a lake, but it is not necessary to represent a lake onstage. At the opening we hear the sounds of a lake – waves lapping against the dock, birdcalls, etc. The lights come up on Jack, seated in a deck chair, with a little table at his elbow. He has a laptop computer in his lap and a cellular phone in his ear. He is dressed in business casual – black socks and shoes with khakis and a polo shirt.)*

**JACK:** *(Into the phone:)* Fine... Fine, Mr. Phipps. Fine... I'll get right on it... Yes, sir. I'll have those figures for you by eight AM... I'll fax them to your office... It's no problem, Mr. Phipps. Enjoy your Sunday... See you tomorrow.

*(He puts down the phone and begins typing rapidly on the computer. A voice speaks from offstage.)*

**VOICE:** Working hard?

*(Jack looks around, but sees no one. He gets back to work.)*

Whatcha writing?

*(Jack still sees no one.)*

**JACK:** Who are you? Where are you?

*(We hear splashing, and Larry emerges from offstage, as if from the lake. He is dressed exactly like Jack, except that he is completely drenched. He sports a broad grin.)*

Jesus. Where did you come from?

**LARRY:** The lake.

**JACK:** *(Snorts:)* Obviously.

**LARRY:** *(Cheerful:)* Hey, when somebody asks me a question, I answer it. Doesn't cost me anything, right? There are no stupid questions...

**JACK:** Shut up.

**LARRY:** Gotcha. *(Pause.)* I mean, who am I to make assumptions? I don't know you. You could be really stupid. You *are* working on a Sunday.

**JACK:** Shut up.

*(Jack resumes his typing. Larry stands over his shoulder and watches. After a while...)*

What!?

*(Larry says nothing. Jack tries to continue working, but curiosity gets the better of him.)*

What were you doing in there anyway?

*(Larry says nothing.)*

Well?

**LARRY:** Oh. Can I speak now?

**JACK:** Yes!

**LARRY:** Okay. *(Pause.)* What was the question?

**JACK:** Look, I've got work to do, all right?

**LARRY:** Great! What can I do?

**JACK:** What?

**LARRY:** To help. What can I do?

**JACK:** I can handle it.

**LARRY:** Come on. Lemme help.

**JACK:** If you really want to help, you could leave me alone.

**LARRY:** Gotcha.

*(Larry moves away and stares at the lake. Jack types. After a moment Larry becomes curious and moves back to look over Jack's shoulder.)*

Two "L"s.

**JACK:** (*Angry:*) What!?

**LARRY:** In "parallel." Well, three, actually.

*(He touches Jack's shoulder.)*

Wow, are you tense! Your blood pressure must be sky high.

*(He begins to massage Jack's shoulders.)*

**JACK:** Do you mind!?

*(Larry moves away again. After a pause, Jack changes the spelling on his computer, muttering to himself as he does.)*

**LARRY:** You're welcome.

*(Jack types.)*

Because little things like spelling can make or break a first impression. You might be the smartest guy in the world, but if you make mistakes like that people will think you're an idiot. *(Pause.)* You might want to invest in a spell checker if you have trouble with spelling.

**JACK:** What is wrong with you?!?

**LARRY:** You really should keep an eye on that blood pressure. You keep overworking like that and you're just letting your health tick, tick away.

*(Jack ignores Larry. There is a pause.)*

Tick...tick...tick!

*(Jack puts aside his work in exasperation.)*

**JACK:** Do you get some kind of thrill out of annoying innocent people while they're trying to work?

*(Pause.)*

**LARRY:** Honestly?

**JACK:** What?

**LARRY:** Honestly?

**JACK:** *(Shrugs:)* Suit yourself.

*(Larry puts his face very close to Jack's and speaks confidentially.)*

**LARRY:** Yes.

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