

## Puppet Show

A play written by Marianne Engleken, has roles for children of all ages.  
Modified for use at a FRIENDS one-day

### Rudi and the little stuttering monster

Narrator: Today we have a show for you, **RUDI AND THE LITTLE STUTTERING MONSTER**. We hope you will all have a lot of fun!!!

Once upon a time there was a little boy. He was called Rudi and he was a stutterer. He was mad about his stuttering and also very sad about it. The other kids at pre-school sometimes teased him and even his best friend told him:" Hey, your speech is so bumpy. Can't you speak fluently?" But the more he tried harder not to stutter the worse his speech was. Finally he went to Ms. Butterfly. Ms. Butterfly is a speech pathologist.

Rudi: He-he-he-hello, my name is R-r-r-r-r-rudi and I stutter. Please please he-he-he-help me t-t-t-t-to give up s-s-s-s-s-stuttering. I am so a-a-a-a-angry about it.

*Rudi is weeping bitter tears.*

Narrator :

Ms. Butterfly would love to be a magician. But we all know that she is not. But she wants to help him anyway. So she talks with him about stuttering, and they both think about whose fault Rudi's stuttering is.

Ms Butterfly:

Rudi, whose fault is your stuttering? What do you think?

Rudi: I really d-d-d-d-d-don't know. M-m-m-m-may be it's my fault? Yes, sure, it's my own fault.

*Turns to the audience :*

Or what do **you** think?

*The audience shouts:*

NO!!!! It's not your fault!!!!

Ms Butterfly:

Well! That's right! Let me hear that a little bit louder:

**IT'S NOT MY FAULT!!!!!!**

Rudi : Is it mom's fault?

*All together :* **NO!! IT'S NOT MOM'S FAULT!!!**

Rudi : Is it dad's fault?

*All together :* **NO IT'S NOT DAD'S FAULT!!!**

Rudi: So, whose fault is it???

Narrator :

Ms Butterfly explains Rudi that stuttering is nobody's fault. **Nobody!** And nobody really knows where stuttering comes from. To some kids it comes and to others it doesn't.

When we talk there is a little computer working in our head. The computer helps us talk. It tells our lips, tongue, teeth and throat what to do while talking. So the computer in our head gives orders to our mouth. And in most cases the mouth obeys automatically. But sometimes it can't.....

Rudi: That's right. Sometimes it does not work automatically. Then I g-g-g-g-gget stuck, and then I-I-I-I-I get sssssssssscared that I can't go on sssssssspeaking, and then I press my mouth but it doesn't work, then I press harder, but it even g-g-g-g-ggets worse. Oh, how I hate that!!!

Ms Butterfly:

That is when the **little stuttering monster** appears and starts to cause problems. It bothers and annoys Rudi in many ways. **Oh, there it is!**

*The little stuttering monster appears*

The little stuttering monster:

Hee hee hee hee! Here I am, ha, Rudi, I enjoy bothering you whenever I can. Because you don't like me, hee hee hee .....

Rudi: Shut up you stupid little stuttering monster! I ha-ha-ha-hate you!

The little stuttering monster:

The more you want me to go away the more I like to bother you. That's what I love to do !!!!

Narrator:

Rudi did not know what to do. The little stuttering monster did not stop teasing and annoying him.

*Turned to the audience:*

Do you have any ideas about how he could get rid of the stuttering monster?

*The audience gives advice.*

Narrator:

I'll tell you a good way: Rudi just shouldn't care about the stuttering monster. He should make fun of it. If he succeeds in making fun of it, the little stuttering monster won't feel like bothering him. It will start to get bored. Will Rudi be able to do that? Do you think, he will be able to tell the little stuttering monster: "Hey, you don't bother me at all, you can try to tease me as long as you like, I don't care. You can stay with me if you want." Do you think, he can do it?

Rudi: O. K. I'll try to do that:

Oh, there you are, mmmmmmy little ssssssstuttering monster, my little sweetie. I don't care if you want to annoy me. Just ssssssstay with me as long as you l-l-l-l-like.

The little stuttering monster:

What has happened? I don't like that. I don't like that at all! But I'll stay here anyway. Maybe it's only a joke. Maybe Rudi starts to get mad at me again, sooner or later.....

*The little stuttering monster keeps on bothering Rudi.*

Narrator:

Rudi tried hard not to get angry. But the stuttering monster did not change its attitude. Sometimes it was gone, because it really got bored. But it always came back. It didn't really believe what Rudi said. And it was right -- Rudi was full of despair.

Rudi: Now I have t-t-t-t-ried not to get angry, but the ssssssssstuttering mo-mo-mo-monster does not sssstop c-c-c-c-coming back. What else c-c-c-can I do???

Narrator:

Ms. Butterfly had another idea. Listen to this! She told him do some fake stuttering, some EXTRA-STUTTERING on purpose!!! That is something the stuttering monster does not like at all. It starts feeling mocked and getting very very angry. Who dares to mimic the little stuttering monster??? Those are very courageous people. Do you think, Rudi is as courageous? Do you think he dares faking stuttering? Who can show him how to stutter on purpose? ???

*The audience is asked to tell their names with some EXTRA-STUTTERING.*

Rudi: O. k. , I'll try it too.

You sssssilly little su-su-su-stuttering monster . You ca-ca-can stay with me as lo-lo-long as you like. I-I-I-I don't care. Ha ha ha!

The little stuttering monster:

Help, help, Rudi is stuttering on purpose. He doesn't take me seriously, and he is laughing at me! Oh, how I hate that!!! I'm getting out of here!

*The little stuttering monster disappears. Everyone laughs and cheers.*

**END**

Added with permission November 6, 2014