

VILLAINS *INCORPORATED*



Villains Incorporated

By Mary J. Long

Cast:

Nefarious – a male school aged modern villain
Nemesis – a female, school aged super villain
Notorious – a male/female, school aged melodrama-style villain
Virtuous – a female/male, school aged hero
Principal
Assistant Principal
Mom – can be a dual role with ninjas/school kids
School kids – dual roles with ninjas
Two Girls – dual roles with ninjas and /or school kids
5 -- 6th grade robotic ninjas – can be dual roles with school kids

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Synopsis:

Three school aged villains are banned by the principal from the Halloween Dance. Can a hero help them change their wicked ways, so they can save the day and attend the dance?

About this play:

This is a 30 minute comedy. It can be cast with as few as 11 actors, or it can be expanded to include more. Many of the roles can be adapted for boys or girls. It was written for the 2015 Virginia Beach Public School's One Act Play Festival held on November 12-13, and was performed by a cast of 18 students from Virginia Beach Middle School. I am submitting this play to several play publishing companies in hopes of making it available for my more schools to perform.

About the author:

I have been an English teacher at Virginia Beach Middle School for 26 years. I live in Virginia Beach, Virginia with my loving and supportive husband, my two artistic and dramatic daughters, two cats, a spoiled rotten gerbil, a hermit crab, and a bearded dragon. I enjoy reading, teaching, and acting crazily in front of my students during the school year.

About the artist:

The cover art for this play was drawn by my daughter, Megan C. Long, a graphic design major at Radford University. She acted in the One Act Play at Virginia Beach Middle School when she was 12 and 13 years old.

(School Bell Rings)

(School kids enter from different areas of the wings. They cross the stage and exit. Nefarious enters the stage obviously angry and holding a detention form. He is wearing a black jacket and jeans. He balls it up and stomps on it as Nemesis and Notorious enter and meet him center stage. Nefarious sits down on the stage, head in hands.

Nemesis – *(she is dressed in red and black with black boots)* Whoa, whoa, whoa! What's wrong?

Nefarious – Ms. Goodwin just gave me detention, but it's ridiculous to think that I, Nefarious, could be sentenced to something as meaningless as ...detention! *(evil laugh)*

Nemesis – What did you do?

Nefarious – *(stands)* I simply refused to sign the honor code. There is no honor among thieves, scoundrels, or tricksters! I will not sign my name to such a thing!

Nemesis – It is getting harder and harder to stand up for the villain principles – lies, naughtiness, and dishonor to all.

Notorious – *(Notorious has a black vampire style cape on. She/he squirts hand sanitizer into hands and wrings hands)* Indeed, punishment and detention are beneath us. We cannot be punished for being awesome villains! We must retaliate! Let me think... *(wringing hands)*

Nefarious – It must be diabolical!

Notorious – And obnoxious!

Nefarious – Oh, oh, I’ve got it! *(he moves into spotlight and says in deep movie announcer voice)* In a world, where villains are discriminated against, only three can stand against the will of society and destroy –

Nemesis – *(cutting off Nefarious)* Stand down guys, have to maintain a low profile right now.

Nefarious and Notorious – LOW PROFILE! That’s ridiculous. We have to stand true to our code—

Nemesis – It’s almost Halloween.

Notorious -- *(backing down)* Oh, right, right. *(wringing hands)*

Nemesis – I’ll fix up one of our robots to look just like you, Nefarious. I’ll send him to detention in your place, and no one will be the wiser. That will free us up to make finalize our plans for the Halloween Dance *(gestures to poster advertising the dance)*

Notorious – Ah yes! I love those robotic minions you created to advance our evil plots against humanity *(all laugh)*. What do you have planned for them now?

Nemesis – Something extra special. *(evil laugh)* But, back to business...how are our plans for the dance coming along?

Nefarious – I have begun to stock up on toilet paper, so we can Decorate! *(evil laugh)*

(From the wings Virtuous enters the stage. Virtuous notices the group and stops to listen, hiding behind the scenery)

Notorious – And I, have purchased a new cape for our entrance. *(swishes cape around)*

Nefarious – Really, where did you get it? I’ve been looking for a new cape.

Nemesis -- I was thinking we could get some dry ice and make a thick fog so when we force everyone into the villains' flash mob... *(group does short dance)*

Nefarious – *(evil laugh)*

Nemesis – *(looking off stage)* Uh oh, principal at 2 o'clock.

(Principal and assistant principal enter and walk up to the group)

Nemesis, Nefarious, and Notorious – *(in insincere voices with grimaces)* Hello, Principal Shuschter and Assistant Principal Snelwell.

Principal – Good afternoon. I was reminded today that the Halloween Dance is in two weeks. After the fiasco at the Welcome Back Dance, I wanted to remind you all that you have been banned from attending all dances.

Assistant Principal – That's right banned!

Notorious and Nefarious – What? Wait a minute! Why?

Nemesis – Isn't that a little harsh?

Principal – Harsh? Harsh would be expelling you from school for sabotaging the DJ's playlist. And your entrance with those zombies --

(all villains stagger around stage imitating zombies)

Principal – Stop that! *(villains freeze)*

Assistant Principal – That's right, stop that!

Principal – As I was saying your entrance was, um, memorable, but you took it too far by forcing us to dance to that horrible villains' theme song of yours.

Assistant Principal – I think it's kind of catchy.

Principal – Stop that!

Assistant Principal – Oops, sorry boss.

Nefarious – (*rapping*) Be villains; it’s worth it! You don’t have to be fair.

Notorious – (*rapping*) ‘Cause bad is more fun than good is, and you get to dress with flair!. (*spins and flairs out cape*)

Nemesis – Bravo! (*clapping*)

Principal – Enough! (*villains jump back*)

Assistant Principal – That’s right, simmer down!

Principal -- All that would have been bad enough, but you crossed the line when you had all your little friends call all the parents and extended the dance from ending at 6:30 to 10:30.

Assistant Principal – That WAS crossing the line!

(*Notorious and Nefarious high five. Notorious gets out hand sanitizer*)

Principal -- (*continues forcefully, ticking off items on fingers*) Children did not get home at a reasonable hour.

Assistant Principal – Past their bed times!

Principal -- The teachers were exhausted.

Assistant Principal – That’s right! Plain tuckered out!

Principal -- And the parents were inconvenienced! (*shaking finger at villains*)

Assistant Principal – That’s right! Inconvenienced!

Principal -- I should have expelled you on the spot.

Assistant principal – Expelled! (*to Principal*) Really?

Principal -- Yes, Snelwell, expelled. It is what they deserved.

Nemesis – One would think, since dance ticket sales are at an all time high because of our involvement at the Welcome Back Dance, and that your goal is to raise \$10,000 dollars to buy that precious, new scoreboard for the football team, you would be thanking us, not banning us. *(Principal notices the crumpled detention on the ground; she picks it up, smooths it out, and reads it while Notorious finishes up her speech)* Why, the profit margin from the Halloween Dance alone could pay for a nice chunk of that scoreboard, and if you authorized our involvement in the Winter Dance and the Valentine Dance. That beautiful scoreboard would be all yours by next fall.

Assistant Principal – *(to Principal)* Nemesis is making some good points, boss.

Principal – *(to AP)* Stop that! Don't side with them!

Assistant Principal – Sorry, boss.

Principal -- *(to Nemesis)* That was a good try, Nemesis, but the bottom line is you will not be allowed at any school dances for the remainder of the year. *(she exits past the villains and hands detention back to Nefarious.)*

Assistant Principal – That's right! No more dances for you! *(Exit)*

(Nefarious throws the detention off stage after the principals)

Notorious – What are we going to do now?

(the three huddle murmuring strategies)

Virtuous – **(stepping forward)** Excuse me, guys. My name is Virtuous, and I couldn't help but overhear...

(villains gasp, startled. They assume karate poses)

Nemesis – *(circles Virtuous and speaking right into her face threateningly)* Be afraid. Be very afraid!

Nefarious – You heard, her, be gone vile cretin!

Notorious – Yeah, what he said! *(uses hand sanitizer)*

Virtuous – Guys, I can help. What you need *(dramatic pause)* is to become *(dramatic pause)* HEROES! *(strike a heroic pose)*

Nefarious and Notorious – *(falling to their knees)* NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

Notorious – Why did he have to say the H word!

Nefarious – *(whiney)* It's hurting my brain! I can't bear the thought.

Nemesis – Guys...

Notorious – *(whiney)* We have to end the torture.

Nemesis – You mean begin the torture. *(evil laugh)* On her! *(points to Virtuous, and Nemesis and Notorious start circling her)*

Nefarious – *(moves into the spotlight and says in movie announcer voice)* In a world where a demented do-gooder tries to interfere with evil-geniuses --

Virtuous – **(interrupting)** I just thought...I mean. I just wanted to help. It just seems like justice is not on your side. You need vindication...

(Nemesis seems to be thinking, taking in his words)

Notorious – *(assumes boxing stance)* If you mean vengeance, *(boxes toward Virtuous while Virtuous backs away)* you are correct. Fight!

Nefarious – *(joining in the boxing)* Of course justice is not on our side! We're villains.

Notorious – Yeah!

(they circle Virtuous, jabbing at her and making faces)

Nemesis *(to Notorious and Nefarious)*– Wait, guys. *(getting between them and Virtuous)* I think Virtuous here is just the girl we need to help us.

Nemesis – *(to Virtuous)* If you are still willing to help us, I like to talk to you more about how you could turn us in to heroes. *(she throws her arms over Virtuous’ shoulder and walks her off the stage.)*

Notorious and Nemesis – Heroes? *(Pause)* Us? *(they shrug at one another and exit.)*

(It is later that day. The setting is in the basement of Nefarious’ home. There are a few chairs, a box of toilet paper, tissues, a stuffed cat in a basket or box, plastic snakes and spiders and other toys on the stage.)

(Notorious, Nemesis, Nefarious return to the stage leading Virtuous)

Notorious -- All I’m saying is who is this girl? Virt--? Virtu-? Virgil? Vernon?

Virtuous – Virtuous.

Notorious -- What kind of name is that? It makes me want to ... *(shivers exaggeratedly; hand sanitizer and hand wringing)*

Virtuous – It means honorable and honest.

Nefarious –That’s gross; all goody-goody. Yuck! What was your mother thinking when she named you that? *(gagging noises)*

(Nemesis removes Virtuous’ blindfold.)

Virtuous – My mother wanted me to have a strong, heroic name.

Nefarious -- Nemesis, you want us to work with this..um..person? Whatever her name is --Vermin? Virus?

Virtuous – *(running out of patience)* It's Virtuous. *(pause)* Look do you want my help or not?

Nemesis – *(pulling Notorious and Nefarious away)* Let's just hear him out, guys. He might be able to help us with our little problem.

Notorious – Problem? There is no problem. We can find plenty of other ways to make mischief. School dances can be so boring.

Nefarious – But...I bought all that toilet paper *(picks up a roll and tosses it)*

(from off stage a loud female voice calls)

Mom – Jimmy? Are you down there?

Virtuous – *(snickering)* Jimmy? Who's Jimmy?

Nefarious – *(yelling back)* MOM! I told you my name is Nefarious now, and yes, I'm down here.

Mom – *(yelling)* Okay, Jim – Nefarious. Would you like me to bring you some cookies and juice?

Nefarious – *(yelling)* No, MOM, we do not want cookies. *(stage whisper off stage)* Stop embarrassing me.

Mom – *(yelling)* I just wanted to help. Are your little friends in there with you?

(Nefarious falls down and pretend to be dead)

Nemesis and Notorious – *(yelling)* Hi, Mrs. Zanburger.

Mom – *(Yelling)* Hi, kids. Let me know if you want anything.

All Villains (*yelling*) – Okay.

Virtuous – (*yelling*) I would like some cookies ---(*villains run and suppress her*)

Nefarious – Shhh! She'll hear you and come barging in. There are no moms allowed in the B.A.D. Cave.

Virtuous – Bat cave (*pause*) Jimmy?

Nefarious – Do. Not. Call. Me. Jimmy. I am Nefarious! My name is cool unlike yours, Vile Verizon.

Virtuous – Okay, okay. I'll call you Nefarious if you'll stop messing up my name. But, I thought Batman was good. Why would you name your hideout the Bat Cave?

Nefarious (*offended*) – Not the Bat Cave, imbecile, the B.A.D. cave. It stands for Be Awful Daily. That's the Villains Incorporated motto.

All Villains – (*stand and raise right hand and cross fingers*) I promise to be awful daily, cause trouble for others, and one day take over the world. (*Evil laughs, high fives, hand wringing, etc*)

Virtuous – Well, that sounds ...great...and all, but that isn't going to solve your Halloween Dance problem. Principal Schuster (*villains hiss*) isn't going to let you come to the dance unless you can show your good side.

(*Nefarious and Notorious make gagging sounds. While Nemesis and Virtuous are talking, they go sit down making faces and throwing snakes and spiders at each other.*)

Nemesis – (*sighs*) Pay no attention to them. They are immature brats. I would like to hear what you have to say.

Virtuous – Well, I was thinking that your problem all comes down to connotation.

