The Pied Piper of Hawaii

(Trouble in the Old West)



by Kate Goddard

The Pied Piper of Hawaii

(Trouble in the Wild West)

funny children's one act play

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The Pied Piper of Hawaii (Trouble in the Wild West) by Kate

Goddard

In Curly Creek in the American wild west, the Fluffy Rats and their boss, Reg the Rat Man, live in harmony with the townsfolk and keep the town clean and tidy for them. Suddenly the peace of the town is disrupted with the arrival of Rotter Rat and his gang of Bad Rats. The Mayor of Curly Creek and the townsfolk decide that they need to find a way to get rid of the Bad Rats. Unfortunately, they can't seem to find anyone who can do the job. Perhaps the mythical Pied Piper of Hawaii could be the man to rid Curly Creek of its troublesome Bad Rats...

CAST LIST:

Buffalo Betty - Narrator and resident of Curly Creek

Wild Gill Cough-up - Narrator and resident of Curly Creek

Mayor Basil - Mayor of Curly Creek

Mildred - The Mayor's wife

Sheriff Dibble - Sheriff of Curly Creek

Paulie the Plumber - resident of Curly Creek *

Frankie the Fishmonger - resident of Curly Creek

Harriet the Hairdresser - resident of Curly Creek

Hilda the Hairdresser - resident of Curly Creek

Reg the Rat Man - Boss of the Fluffy Rats

Top Rat (TR) - A Fluffy Rat (and Leader of the Fluffy Rats)

Sniffer - A Fluffy Rat

Brainy - A Fluffy Rat

Greeny - A Fluffy Rat

Ajax - A Fluffy Rat

Raymond - A Fluffy Rat (perhaps with a French accent!)

Gary the Gunslinger - An gunslinger from out of town *

Cool Cat - A cat from out of town *

Mysterious Marge - A mysterious lady from out of town *

Rotter Rat - A Bad Rat (and Leader of the Bad Rats)

Slimy - A Bad Rat

Scumbag - A Bad Rat

Portaloo - A Bad Rat

Trumpit - A Bad Rat

Guzzler - A Bad Rat

Pied Piper of Hawaii - A mythical piper from Hawaii with a hypnotic power over rats

(*Paulie the Plumber can be doubled up with the Pied Piper of Hawaii.

Gary Gunslinger, Cool Cat and Mysterious Marge can each be doubled up with one of the Fluffy Rats)

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(MUSIC # 1. Introduction)

(Enter Narrators – Buffalo Betty and Wild Gill Cough-up. They move centre stage and talk to the audience)

Betty: Howdy partners! I'm Buffalo Betty.

Gill: And I'm Wild Gill Cough-up!

Betty: Welcome to our town, Curly Creek, way out in the American West.

Gill: It's a peaceful town where we all live in harmony together.

Betty: Our friends the Fluffy Rats help keep the town in order. In return we give

them food and a home.

Gill: And here they come now.

Betty: With their boss, Reg the Rat Man.

(MUSIC # 2. Fluffy Rats)

(Betty and Gill move to side of stage. Enter Reg and Fluffy Rats)

Reg: Now then, you fluffy bunch, it's round up time!

(The Fluffy Rats gather around Reg)

Reg: Top Rat?

Top Rat: Yes sir.

Reg: (Moving to one side and gets out a small bag filled with bits of cheese)

Do the role call TR.

Top Rat: Certainly Reg. Line up lads.

(The fluffy rats line up)

Top Rat: Sniffer?

Sniffer: (Taking a step forward) Here boss. No smells to report.

Top Rat: Ajax?

Ajax: (Taking a step forward) Here TR. Everything squeaky clean and germ free.

Top Rat: Greeny?

Greeny: (Taking a step forward and waving) I'm here! All rubbish cleared and

recycling done.

Top Rat: WC?

WC: (Taking a step forward) Yes TR. The toilet seats are shining. You could eat

your dinner off them!

Top Rat: Raymond?

Raymond: (Taking a step forward) I have prepared ze most magnificent feast for ze

town's celebrations of rat and human harmony.

Top Rat: Brainy? Everything OK?

Brainy: (Taking step forward) Well of course, TR. We fluffy rats continue to keep

this town functioning perfectly.

Top Rat: **(To Reg)** No problems to report Reg.

Reg: Well done my fluffies. Come get your pickin's.

(Reg hands out pieces of cheese to each Fluffy Rat. The all nibble contentedly on their cheese.)

Betty: So you can see that everything is hunky-dory in good ol' Curly Creek.

Wild Gill: Those fluffy rats sure do a fine job.

Betty: Now, here comes Curly Creek's newly elected Mayor with his wife Mildred

and Sheriff Dibble and the rest of the townsfolk.

(MUSIC # 3. - Townsfolk)

(Fluffy Rats move to one side. Enter Mayor Basil, Mildred, Sheriff Dibble, Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda)

Mayor: Welcome folks. As Mayor of this town, I pledge to keep Curly Creek a clean,

safe and happy place to live.

(All the townsfolk and rats clap)

Mildred: Basil, you are surely the most popular Mayor Curly Creek has ever had.

Sheriff: It's good to know you'll make sure there ain't no trouble in this town. That'll

make my job nice 'n' easy.

Mayor: (To Sheriff) Well Sheriff I sure will. (To everyone) Now, to celebrate my

election as Mayor of Curly Creek, I have generously laid on a party for the whole town. So I hope y'all join me in celebrating with a good ol' hoe down!

(All cheer!)

(MUSIC # 4 - Hoe down)

(All Fluffy Rats and townsfolk join in line dance. They all exit when it ends)

Betty: Well that was fun! Those furry rats sure know how to dance.

Gill: But, (Sniffing the air) there seems to be a real bad smell floating over from

the west!

Betty: And there's a rumour spreading 'round Curly Creek.

(MUSIC # 5. - Townsfolk)

(Enter Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda - They line up next to Betty and Gill along the stage with a gap between them all)

Betty: (To Gill) Hey Gill, have you heard there's BAD RATS coming this way. Tell

Paulie the plumber.

Gill: (To Paulie) Hey Paulie, have you heard, there's MAD CATS coming this way.

Tell Frankie the fishmonger.

Paulie: Hey Frankie, have you heard, there's SAD BATS coming this way. Tell

Harriet and Hilda the hairdressers

Frankie: (To Harriet and Hilda) Hey Girls, have you heard, there's GLAD HATS

coming this way.

Betty: Hey What? No no no! I said BAD RATS coming this way!

Harriet: Oh no! I heard they eat all the town's food

Hilda: I've heard they spread germs!

Paulie: What are we gonna do?

Gill: Someone needs to tell Sheriff Dibble.

(Exit Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda, Betty and Gill)

(MUSIC # 6. – Bad rats)

(Enter Bad Rats)

Rotter: Well my dirty rotten rats, this is Curly Creek, I've heard the resident rats are a

push over.

Scumbag: Let's spread some germs!

Slimy: Let's spread some slime!

BP: Let's po-lute the water supply.

Portaloo: Let's mess up the toilets.

Guzzler: Let's eat and drink 'til it's all gone.

Trumpit: Yeah, let rip!

All: Yeah!

Rotter: Ok Lads, do your worst!

(MUSIC # 7.- Bad rats)

(The Bad rats cause chaos by running into the audience shouting and throwing 'rubbish' then they exit. Enter Betty and Gill)

Betty: Well what a darn ol' mess them dirty rats have made of our town.

Gill: They sure have! Now Mayor Basil has called a town meeting.

(MUSIC # 8. - Townsfolk)

(Betty and Gill move to side of stage. Enter Mayor, Mildred, Sheriff, Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda)

Mayor: Order! Order! Now listen up everybody we have here a problem in Curly

Creek. It seems some unlikable rats have decided to disturb the peace of our

town.

Harriet: They messed up the hair salon something rotten!

Hilda: They drank all our shampoo!

Paulie: My u-bends are all blocked. It's carnage. I ain't seen nothin' like it since the

great baked bean catastrophe of 1806!

Frankie: The smell is real bad around here and it ain't from my fish shop.

Mildred: My husband will sort it out. He is the richest man in the town you know.

Mayor: We need to round up these varmints.

Sheriff Dibble: Reg the Rat Man's your man. He'll know what to do.

Betty: So that's what the Mayor is gonna do. Reg the Rat Man will sort out the bad

rats.

(MUSIC # 9. - Fluffy Rats)

(Enter Reg and Fluffy Rats)

Gill: Oh those Fluffy Rats are so cute!

Mayor: Well Reg, we need action and we need it now!

Reg: I'll do my best Mr Mayor, but my rats ain't made for fighting

Top Rat: Yes sir, we're domestic rats. We're happy to help the community but we're

not rat vigilantes sir!

Sniffer: Yeah, we just like cleaning and dancing.

Mildred: He's right Basil, they're a bit too cute and fluffy for fightin'.

Sheriff Dibble: Look at 'em Mr Mayor. They're just furry bits of fluff!

(Fluffy Rats do a cute look to audience)

Betty & Gill (Together): Aww!

Mayor: Reg, I don't employ you to have cute-lookin' rats. Get them Bad Rats out of

here or y'all be lookin' for a new job!

Reg: Well I'll try. **(To Fluffy Rats)** C'mon you furry fellows.

(Reg and Fluffy Rats exit looking worried followed by Mayor, Mildred, Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda.)

Betty: Well, those Bad Rats are gonna be hard to persuade.

Gill: They sure are. Oh no! Here they come...

(MUSIC # 10. – Bad Rats)

(Exit Betty and Gill. Enter Bad Rats)

Rotter: Okay lads, tell me how it's going in this pathetic town. I wanna hear all the

gory details. Scumbag, you start.

Scumbag: I've been spreading muck all over town boss.

Rotter: Good, good. Slimy, what about you?

Slimy: Me too, boss. I left my trail all over the place. Bit globs of it!

Rotter: I like it! BP?

BP: Po-loo-tion, boss. Po-loo-tion! Bad Pollution is my name. Bad Pollution is my

game, boss.

Rotter: Nice one. Portaloo?

Portaloo: Those toilets are all nicely blocked, boss...with my special method!

Rotter: Good work. And Trumpit, what have you been doing?

Trumpit: You know my smells are the best. Those townsfolk don't stand a chance!

Rotter: I like your style. And last but not least. What about you Guzzler?

Guzzler: (Stuffing his face with food). Food nearly all gone...(He does a loud burp!)

Scumbag: Yeah, he's eating all their food so fast, they'll run out of beans by sundown.

Trumpit: Don't let him eat too many beans or he'll be taking over my job!

(All the Bad Rats, except Rotter, laugh and blow raspberries! They are interrupted by Rotter)

Rotter: Okay, Okay, that's enough. (Then impatiently) I said THAT'S ENOUGH!

(The Bad Rats stop)

Rotter: Right, you've done well. If we keep messing up the town like that, those

townsfolk will soon be our slaves.

Slimy: Yeah, sure thing boss. It'll be easy!

(They all celebrate by doing high-fives)

(MUSIC # 11. - Fluffy Rats)

(Bad rats move to one side of stage. Reg and Fluffy Rats enter on the other side.)

Reg: (Aside to the Fluffy Rats) There they are lads. There's their leader, Rotter

Rat. Go and talk to him TR.

Top Rat: (Aside) Well, er, he looks a bit mean, Reg. Wouldn't you like to have a go

first?

Reg: (Aside) Nah, he might be intimidated by me. You do it!

Top Rat: (Tentatively to Rotter) Er, excuse me sir, do you mind if we interrupt your

meeting? The Mayor of Curly Creek has asked us to have a word. We have a

business proposal for you?

Rotter: What?

Portaloo: (Making fun out of Top Rat) They got a 'business proposal' for us boss!

(All the Bad Rats laugh)

Sniffer: Yes, my boss said business.

Rotter: (Laughing) What kind of business?

Top Rat: Tell him what we do, Brainy.

Brainy: We Fluffy Rats keep Curly Creek clean and tidy and provide all the food for

the town. In return the townsfolk let us live here and give us their left over

food.

Slimey: (Sarcastically) Well, that's nice!

Top Rat: Our proposition is for you join us. They'll be plenty of work for all of us. You

won't get a better offer. I know you started off a little bit heavy pawed, but

we're willing to overlook that.

(Bad Rats all laugh)

Rotter: You've gotta be kidding. We ain't dealing with you. You're not even proper

rats!

Scumbag: Yeah, those humans have got you sussed!

Slimy: You're too clean for rats!

Ajax: We do try our best to keep our fur in tip top condition.

Greeny: We are very proud of our personal hygiene and our environment.

WC: You could eat your dinner off our toilets, they're so clean.

Raymond: And our food is ze best in all of ze west.

Sniffer: (Sniffing the air) There's a bad smell around here, TR!

Trumpit: Yeah, that's me!

(Bad Rats laugh)

Top Rat: This is no laughing matter. You could actually learn a thing or two from us if

you'd just give it a try.

Brainy: And, we'd be happy to show you what to do.

Sniffer: We know some terrific line dancing.

Top Rat: Yes, we'll show you. You just have to say the magic word.

Trumpit: What a load of old wind and puff!

Sniffer: That's not the magic word.

Guzzler: Rubbish! (Burps loudly)

Ajax: Neither is that!

Brainy: They're not very polite TR.

Raymond: Yes, zey 'ave no class.

Guzzler: Yeah! (Burps loudly)

Top Rat: Oh dear, it looks like our negotiations have broken down already. (Aside to

Reg) What shall we do Reg?

Reg: (Aside to Top Rat) Well the Mayor said we gotta sort 'em out. If they ain't

gonna join us then we gotta make them leave town.

Top Rat: (Aside to Reg) Well I'll try. (To Bad Rat) Right, now listen Mr Bad Rat. If

you can't co-operate with us, I'm afraid I'm going to have to ask you to leave

Curly Creek.

Rotter: And what if I don't want to leave? Are you gonna make me?

Reg: (Putting up his fists) Go on lads, let them have it.

Top Rat: Alright then, you leave me no choice. It's fisticuffs! (Putting up his fists)

Stick 'em up you bunch of hillbillies!

(Fluffy Rats stick up their fists but Bad Rats just turn away laughing)

Top Rat: (To Bad Rat and dancing around like a boxer with his fists up) Stand up

and fight like a proper rodent sir!

Rotter: (Turning round menacingly) Who are you calling a rodent? We're vermin

and don't you forget it!

BP: And we ain't working for no human people

Portaloo: Yeah, we're gonna get 'em to work for us!!

Rotter: So if you want a fight, you've got one.

(MUSIC # 12. - fight)

(The Bad Rats crowd around the Fluffy Rats and Reg and then chase them off stage - all exit. Enter Betty and Gill)

Betty: Now that ain't a good start now is it?

Gill: Those nasty bad rats have run those poor Fluffy Rats and Reg right out of

town. The Mayor and the townsfolk don't know what to do next.

Betty: So the mayor's gonna call another meeting!

(MUSIC # 13. Townsfolk)

(Enter Mayor, Mildred, Sheriff, Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda)

Mayor: Good people of Curly Creek, I'm afraid our plans to sort out those stinkin' bad

rats have failed.

Mildred: I told you it wouldn't work, Basil. Those fluffy rats are dancers not fighters.

Sheriff Dibble: Mr Mayor, we need to get them varmints outta here fast.

Harriet: We've got no customers. Folks daren't go out to get their hair done.

Hilda: Nobody wants a shampoo and set in these troubled times.

Mildred: That's right Basil. I'm desperate to top up my blue rinse but I'm just too

scared to cross the street.

Frankie: And those bad rats have eaten all the fish in my shop and the smell 'round

here has got even worse.

Paulie: Yeah, the main sewers are blocked now. If something ain't done soon

they're gonna blow!

(They all start shouting at the Mayor until he holds his hands up to stop them.)

Mayor: Alright, alright! Has anybody got any good ideas?

(Everyone mutters and shakes their heads)

Betty: Well, you could advertise for someone outta town to get rid of the bad rats.

Gill: Yeah, you could put out a reward.

Mayor: You know that might just work. Sheriff Dibble, put up some posters right

away. A reward of five hundred dollars in real gold to the man or woman who

can get rid of these nasty rabid rats!

Mildred: But Basil, that gold is to build a new town hall, with some nice new curtains?

Mayor: (Aside to Mildred) Mildred my dear, don't you worry your pretty little head

about that. We ain't giving any gold to anyone. It's just a lure to get some

one here who can get rid of those pesky rats!

(MUSIC # 14. Townsfolk)

(Whilst the music plays, everyone on stage goes into the audience and gives out posters - 'Reward 500 dollars' etc. Music ends, everyone returns to stage. Paulie, Frankie, Harriet and Hilda exit. Mayor, Mildred and Sheriff sit behind a table or in a line. Betty and Gill stand at side of stage.)

Betty: So now it's a few days later and there are three candidates for the job of get

ting rid of those bad rats.

Gill: Here's the first one, Gary the Gun Slinger.

(MUSIC # 15. GARY GUN SLINGER)

(Gary enters to music)

Gary: Howdy Pardners! (He twiddles his gun/s around dramatically)

Sheriff: So you think you can do the job do you?

Gary: Yup! (Twiddles his guns)

Mayor: What makes you so sure?

Gary: I'm the fastest gun slinger in all the west. There ain't no gun slinger faster

in these parts. (Twiddles his guns)

Mildred: Well, you sure can twiddle your gun's!

Gary: Yes ma'am I can shoot twenty men before breakfast, eat my baked beans

and then, with a good wind behind me. I can shoot twenty more before lunch

(Twiddles his gun).

Sheriff: Yes but we're talking about rats, not men.

Gary: (Surprised and alarmed) Rats! Darn it, why didn't you say so? Them rats

scare the pants off'o me! I'm outta here! (He runs off stage)

Betty: Next up is Cool Cat! He has a reputation for catching rodents all over the US

and Qatar.

(MUSIC # 16. COOL CAT)

(Enter Cool Cat dancing to music)

Cool Cat: Hey there I'm Cool Cat. I'm the coolest cat in the west and the east and the up and the down and the in and the out **(He does some kung foo moves)**

Mildred: It does make sense getting a cat to catch the rats.

Sheriff: Interesting moves, Mr Cool, but these ain't your regular town rats you know.

Cool Cat: No problem! Watch this! (He does some bizarre kung foo/karate moves

and ends up getting tangled up and falls over onto the floor in a daze)

Mayor: I don't think he's gonna be much help!

Cool Cat: I just need to work on that last karate chop action and I'll be back.

(Cool Cat exits)

Mayor: Rubbish!

Gill: So now it's down to the last one, Mysterious Marge. She lives down in

Bendy Brook.

Betty: She likes to keep herself to herself. Folks say she has magic powers and

can see the future!

(MUSIC # 17. - Mysterious Marge)

(Enter Marge to music)

Marge: I knew those rats were up to no good, I saw it in my bowl of grits last week.

Mildred: Well, why didn't you warn us?

Marge: I can't tell you everything can I?

Mayor: So can you help us?

Marge: I have brought my crystal ball (gets out ball and looks into it) I see...I

see.... I see cleaning products, and recycling bins... Everyone is laughing and

happy...Little fluffy rats are working hard...

Sheriff: But that's what it used to be like here.

Marge: Oh sorry, my ball is in reverse! I'll switch it to forward gear (looking into her

ball) Now then, I see... I see... A fog...

(Rotter enters and hides behind her ball. She can see him through the other side of it)

Marge: I see a big hairy face, whiskers, sharp teeth, a hideous dirty...

Rotter: BOO! (He pops his head over the ball so that Marge can see him. Marge

runs off stage screaming)

Rotter: So what's going on here then?

Mayor: Ah Mr Rotter. We're, er, just interviewing for a new, er, cleaner for the Town

Hall.

Rotter: (Going right up to the Mayor) Yeah well, just you watch your step Mr

Mayor. We don't want this town getting too clean!

(Rotter exits laughing! Mayor, Mildred, Sheriff put heads in their hands)

Betty: Oh dear. What are we going to do now?

Wild Gill: Well it might be alright. Look, Reg the Rat Man and the good ol' fluffy rats

have come back.

(MUSIC # 18. - Fluffy Rats)

(Enter Reg and Fluffy Rats)

Mayor: Well, well, well. Look who it is! You were supposed to get rid of Rotter rat

and his gang and instead you ran away! Come back groveling for work have

you?

Reg: We're sorry Mr Mayor but it wasn't that easy. They're big and hairy and

smelly...smelly and....

Top Rat: And they refused to listen to reason. We had to resort to fisticuffs and I'm

afraid they seemed to have taken the upper paw in that department. How

ever, we've now found a possible solution.

Sniffer: And we'll tell you if you say the magic word!

Mildred: What?

Sniffer: No, that ain't it!

Sheriff: Quit messing around. Tell us what it is.

Top Rat: Yes sir.

Brainy: We know of someone who can be our a secret weapon.

Ajax: Someone who can clean this place up.

Greeny: A true rainbow warrior!

WC: He'll flush them bad rats right outta town.

Raymond: And we will all be able to celebrate wiz a 'uge feast and ze best moonshine.

Sniffer: Ah, baked beans and moonshine. My favourite!

(Fluffy rats all mutter in agreement and rub their bellies)

Mayor: Hold it! Aren't you all getting a bit carried away? Who is this miracle person

then?

Reg: Go on, tell them lads.

Top Rat: We've heard of a fellow.

Sniffer: He's a bit of a legend.

Brainy: Nobody 'round here has ever met him.

Sniffer: He lives far, far away...

Ajax: Right at the ends of the earth...

Greeny: Past the windswept wilderness...

WC: Beyond the scorching desert...

Ajax: Over the Big Blue Mountains...

Greeny: Across the raging river...

WC: Through the dark and ferocious forest...

Brainy: The wild ocean...

Raymond: Where zere are no restaurants.

Top Rat: They say he has amazing powers over all rats.

Sheriff: Yes but who is he?

All Fluffy Rats and Reg: The Pied Piper of Hawaii!

Mayor: The Pied Piper of Hawaii? I've never heard of him!

Reg: He's well known in the rat community, Mr Mayor.

Sheriff: (To Reg and the fluffy rats) Can you find this Pied Piper?

Mayor: They've gotta find him. It's our only hope.

Sheriff: If he actually exists!

Mildred: (To Reg and the fluffy rats) Go on then. Off you scuttle!

Reg: Come on lads, lets prepare for our epic journey.

(All exit except Betty and Gill who remain at side of stage)