

PLAYS FOR  
**New Audiences**

A Division of Children's Theatre Company

# ***Maddi's Fridge***

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From the book by Lois Brandt

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## CAST

Sofia

Maddi

Luis

Pepito / Dog

\*\*Pepito is a puppet manipulated by Sofia and Luis.

SOFIA and MADDI are standing at the rock climbing wall. It's covered with colorful hand holds.

SOFIA and MADDI's backpacks are nearby. SOFIA eats carrots and offers one to MADDI. They crunch together.

Come on, Sofia! Just try. MADDI

I did! SOFIA

When? MADDI

(beat) The first day they put it up. SOFIA

That was the last time?! MADDI

The *last time* my legs started shaking, my hands got all sweaty, and I could barely breathe. I slipped off and I hit my head right here. SOFIA

SOFIA points to her head. MADDI giggles and nudges SOFIA playfully. SOFIA looks up at the wall.

I'm too scared. SOFIA (CONT'D)

I know. Just let me help you. MADDI

But I stink at climbing... SOFIA

You're really good at running! MADDI

Wanna race me?! SOFIA

You're gonna win! You always do. MADDI

Maybe not this time. SOFIA

MADDI  
I'll race you once and then you have to try the wall again!

SOFIA  
OK.

MADDI  
Promise?

SOFIA  
Promise!

SOFIA and MADDI get into runner's position.

MADDI  
The first person to touch this blue hold, wins!

SOFIA  
On yours marks, get set, GO!

They race each other. SOFIA is fast!

SOFIA runs up and touches the blue hold first. A few moments later, MADDI arrives.

MADDI  
(out of breath) Time to climb.

SOFIA  
Do I have to?

MADDI  
You promised.

MADDI takes off the lanyard with a key she wears around her neck. She hangs it on one of the low holds of the climbing wall.

MADDI begins to climb, swiftly and confidently. She sits on the top of the wall.

MADDI (CONT'D)  
C'mon Sofia!

SOFIA takes a deep breathe and touches one of the holds. MADDI looks down expectantly.

SOFIA  
I think I need a snack first.

You have to try! MADDI

I will, I will. It's just... (beat) You got any snacks in your bag? SOFIA

No. MADDI

What about at your house? SOFIA

No. MADDI

Chips? SOFIA

No. MADDI

Pretzels? SOFIA

No! MADDI

Ooooh! What about Cheesy Pizza Bombs?!! SOFIA

Cheesy Pizza Bombs? MADDI

They're the most ooey, gooey delicious snack ever! SOFIA

Oh yeah! Luis is always talking about those things. MADDI

SOFIA takes MADDI's keys from the wall hold.

You gotta have something good at your house. SOFIA

No, Sofia. MADDI

SOFIA starts to skip away backwards swinging the key in her hand.

Are you sure? SOFIA

Stop, Sofia! MADDI

SOFIA runs off.

Catch me if you can! SOFIA

No! Sofia! DON'T! MADDI

MADDI quickly climbs down the wall.

SOFIA! SOFIA!!! MADDI (CONT'D)

SOFIA runs into MADDI's home. We see a refrigerator, small table, and chairs. There's a large magnet on the fridge in the shape of a rock climbing hold. A basket of unfolded laundry is on one of the chairs.

SOFIA yanks open the door to the refrigerator and stares inside. MADDI runs in behind her.

Sofia?! MADDI (CONT'D)

Maddi?! There's...nothing in your fridge. Except milk. SOFIA

Why did you do that?! MADDI

Do what? SOFIA

Why did you come in here? MADDI

We always go to my house for snacks. (looks around) Do you have some other food? SOFIA

Some bread. MADDI

SOFIA  
Is that...it? You have to have more than bread.

MADDI  
Well, I don't.

SOFIA  
(closes fridge) Why not?

MADDI  
We just don't have enough...(quietly) money. OK?!

SOFIA  
OK.

(beat)

MADDI  
You can't tell anyone.

SOFIA  
About your fridge?

MADDI  
Yeah.

SOFIA  
Why?

MADDI  
I'm serious Sofia! No one at school. You can't tell any of the other kids.

SOFIA  
I won't.

MADDI  
No one!

SOFIA  
Maddi! I said I won't and I won't.

MADDI  
Just--promise me.

SOFIA  
I promise.

(beat)

SOFIA (CONT'D)  
You're my best friend. Always.

Double always!

MADDI

SOFIA hesitates.

SOFIA  
Well, I guess I better get home. (beat) Bye.

MADDI  
Bye.

SOFIA leaves.

MADDI goes to the fridge. She finds a note under a magnet that looks like a wall climbing hold.

She reads.

MADDI  
Hey Maddi Girl,  
Be home late again. Some work came up. Sorry. Please do your homework and fold laundry. There's some bread left. Thanks for being my big girl. Love ya, Mom.  
PS. Did you find your new pet bird?

MADDI looks around, excited.

MADDI (CONT'D)  
A pet bird!

MADDI searches in a few places Mom usually hides things, but no pet bird in sight. MADDI finally shrugs and sits down. She takes out her homework and begins to work.

SOFIA enters her home. We see a refrigerator, small table, and two chairs.

SOFIA's younger brother, LUIS, is inside playing with their pet dog, PEPITO. PEPITO is a puppet, manipulated by LUIS and SOFIA.

LUIS is holding a treat above PEPITO's head.

LUIS  
Up! Up, Pepito! C'monnnn!! Up! Up!!

SOFIA  
What are you doing?



LUIS

Pepito may look like an ordinary dog...but once I teach him how to leap up onto his hind legs and spin, he'll be a superdog!

SOFIA

Good luck.

SOFIA kneels down and pets Pepito.

SOFIA (CONT'D)

Pepito's good at snuggling, not tricks.

LUIS

I know. Snuggling can be one of his other superdog powers.

LUIS gives PEPITO the treat.

SOFIA

Mom here?

LUIS

Work. She just left.

SOFIA

What's for dinner?

LUIS

Not sure. She left our plates in the fridge. You need to heat it up.

SOFIA

(to PEPITO in doggie voice) You hungry? You little cutie?

LUIS

Always.

SOFIA

I wasn't talking to you! You feed Pepito and I'll get our dinner ready.

LUIS puts food in Pepito's bowl.

SOFIA gets up and goes to the fridge. She opens it to reveal a fridge full of food.

SOFIA stares.

SOFIA (CONT'D)

Wow.

LUIS

What?

SOFIA  
We have a lot of food.

LUIS  
Same food we always have. (beat, smiles) Except...

SOFIA  
Except what?

LUIS  
Look in the freezer.

SOFIA  
What's in the freezer?

LUIS  
Just look!

SOFIA closes the fridge and yanks open the freezer  
and pulls out a box of Cheesy Pizza Bombs!

SOFIA  
I can't believe it! Mom caved?!

LUIS  
She finally bought them for us!

LUIS grabs the box of Cheesy Pizza Bombs from  
SOFIA.

LUIS  
(sings) *If you like cheese the way that we do,  
we've got the perfect snack for you!*

SOFIA joins in the song.

*CHEESY PIZZA BOMBS!  
OOOEEEE!!!  
CHEESY PIZZA BOMBS!  
GOOOEEEE!!!  
CHEESY PIZZA BOMBS!  
(sound effect of cheese exploding)  
A FLAVOR EXPLOSION!*

LUIS (CONT'D)  
Please, please, PLEASE! Can we have these for dinner tonight?!

SOFIA takes the box from LUIS.



Promise.

LUIS

SOFIA puts the Cheesy Pizza Bombs back in the freezer.

SOFIA goes to the fridge and takes out a plate.  
LUIS peeks at the plate.

Fish and rice...again?

LUIS

Set the table.

SOFIA

SOFIA prepares the plates and starts the microwave. LUIS gets silverware, napkins, and glasses on the table. SOFIA pours milk into two glasses.

MADDI takes the milk from her fridge, shakes it to feel how much is left, and pours a glass. She takes out a fancy red napkin and lays it on the table. She puts the plate on top of the napkin.

SOFIA and LUIS' microwave dings!

PEPITO starts to whine. SOFIA scoops some fish and rice into Pepito's bowl.

SOFIA (CONT'D)

OK, Pepito. Just a little bit. (to LUIS) Time to eat!

**PURCHASE PERUSAL FOR FULL SCRIPT**