

# A frozen tableau skit based on the book, *Julian, Secret Agent*

By Ann Cameron, Illustrated By Diane Worfolk Allison

## Participants:

Terrie Fleming (teacher/ "director") and her 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class in Hampden/Wilbraham Regional School District (actors) in Massachusetts

## Description:

A tableau is a "living picture," so to speak. A group of actors in costume, sometimes with special lighting, carefully posed. During the display of a scene, the actors do not speak or move. A Tableau is, in essence, a combination of acting (stage performance) and art (painting/photography).

## Procedure (as described by the "director"):

The class read the book *Julian, Secret Agent*. Then, as a class, we used the Story Grammar Marker® manipulatives and SGM® maps to work on our "script." This is an 8-part script that retells the story, *Julian Secret Agent*.

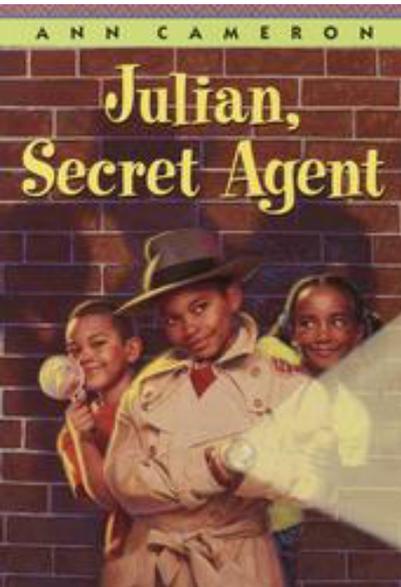
During the enactment of our tableau skit, each scene is read by a student narrator\* while other students\* are behind a curtain quietly setting up their frozen tableau of that scene. (A large bed sheet held up by 2 other students works well.) The sheet holders simply drop the sheet and step to the side when each tableau is ready.

*\*To pick the parts, I put MindWing's SGM® Icon Stickers on index cards, and pulled as many of their names from a bag as I needed for each one. For example, one card had the character and setting icons, so I chose 3 kids names for that scene. Another card had a kick-off and feelings stickers, so I chose 5 more names...etc.*

## Characters\*\*:

3 FRIENDS  
CRUMBLES THE DOG  
AN OLD WOMAN  
STORE MANAGER  
"MIGHTY ONE," THE DOG'S OWNER

*\*\*In order to include all 24 students, several students played a single character. For example, the 3 friends are in all 8 scenes, but played by a total of 15 different students so that everyone would be in at least one scene. Colored t-shirts, and hats were used so that the audience wouldn't be confused about the change of characters. For example, anyone who played "Friend 1" wore an orange shirt, and anyone who played the store manager wore a black cap, etc.*



- Reading level: Ages 9-12
- Paperback: 64 pages
- Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers
- ISBN-10: 0394819497
- ISBN-13: 978-0394819495

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## SCENE 1: (Characters, setting)



This is a story about three friends who enjoy solving crimes. One very hot day, the friends rode their bikes looking for one to solve...

(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 2: (Kick-off & feelings)



Soon the three friends came to the grocery store parking lot. They were filled with dismay and panic upon seeing a car with a dog locked inside. The windows were shut tight, and the dog did not look well. They knew that the inside of the car must have been over 100 degrees. An old woman was looking on, "It's a crime!" she exclaimed. The friends knew they had a job to do...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 3: (Plan, attempt)



They thought for just a moment as to how to save the poor dog. "Let's take down the license plate of the car, and find the owner!" one friend suggested. The plate spelled out the name, "MIGHTY 1."...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 4: (Attempt)



With no time to waste, the friends ran into the store, searching frantically for the store manager. When they found him, they explained the problem, and he announced the plate number over the store's intercom...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 5: (A second kick-off & feelings)



The car's owner came to see what was the matter. When they saw him, the children were frightened. He was big. He was bad. And he looked mean! Meanwhile, back in the parking lot, the poor dog was getting worse...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 6: (Attempt, Kick-off & feelings for man)



The friends were afraid to talk to the man, but the store manager encouraged them. Finally, one friend told him about his dog and he was shocked and very upset. Meanwhile, the dog in the car fainted...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 7: (Attempt, Direct Consequence)



They ran to the parking lot! The man unlocked the door, and carried his dog to the shade. After feeding him some water, the dog began to feel better...(DROP SHEET)

## SCENE 8: (Feelings)



The man, who turned out to be a nice guy after all, was so relieved and happy that Crumbles, his dog was alright. He vowed to never leave him in a hot car again!

The end.

# SCENE 1



# SCENE 2



# SCENE 3



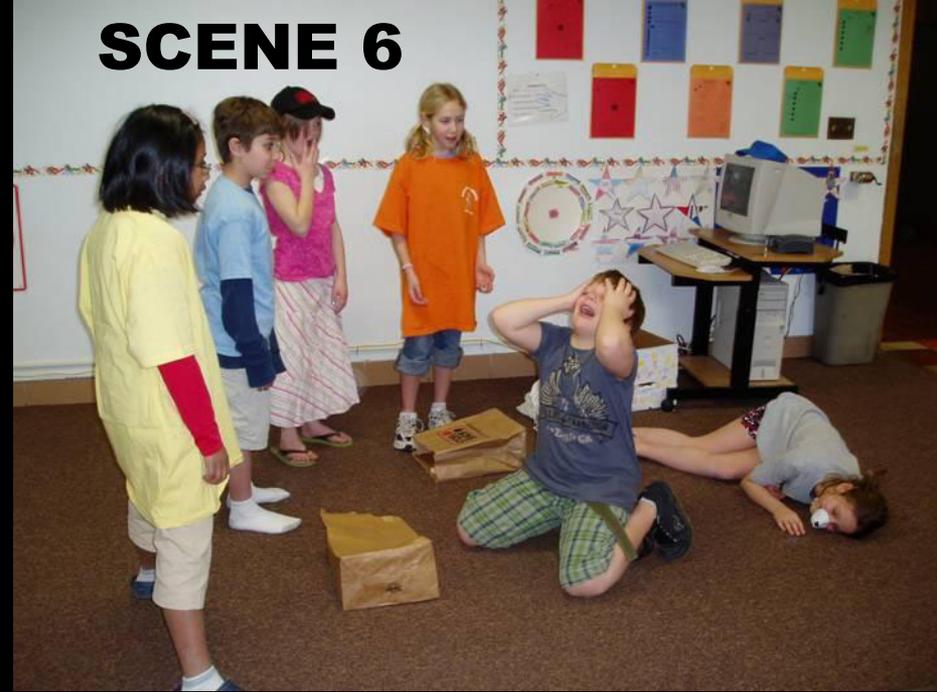
# SCENE 4



**SCENE 5**



**SCENE 6**



**SCENE 7**



**SCENE 8**

