

## PUNISHMENT

*(Scene for two people.)*

*(BAILEY and TAYLOR have been locked in a bedroom as punishment. For the first few lines, BOTH are standing at the locked door, pounding on it and yelling through it.)*

BAILEY: Hey!

TAYLOR: Hey!

BAILEY: Let us out!

TAYLOR: Yeah, let us out!

BAILEY: *(To TAYLOR.)* What kind of parents would even do that? Lock their own kids in a bedroom?

TAYLOR: Not very good parents.

BAILEY: Bad parents.

TAYLOR: Terrible parents.

BAILEY: *(Yelling at the door.)* The very worst parents!

TAYLOR: It's not even like we did anything.

BAILEY: Almost nothing.

TAYLOR: Very, very little.

BAILEY: As if a water balloon could even hurt somebody.

TAYLOR: Even if someone threw that water balloon off the roof.

BAILEY: Right? I mean, how high is the roof to begin with?

TAYLOR: Maybe thirty feet.

BAILEY: More like twenty.

TAYLOR: Probably ten.

BAILEY: And no one could *drown* from a water balloon.

TAYLOR: Or even two of them.

BAILEY: Not even if they both hit you right in the back of the head.

TAYLOR: It was perfect!

BAILEY: She never saw it coming!

*(BAILEY and TAYLOR laugh.)*

TAYLOR: But that's not what's important.

BAILEY: What's important is that we didn't know that Mom and Dad were standing right on the corner, watching.

TAYLOR: *(Yelling at the door.)* The two worst parents in the world!

BAILEY: Locking their own kids in a bedroom. *(Yelling through the door and rattling the doorknob.)* For two hours! *(To TAYLOR.)* Hey wait a second. This door isn't even locked.

TAYLOR: Really?

BAILEY: Yeah, look. *(BAILEY turns the doorknob, but doesn't open the door.)*

TAYLOR: We could just walk out of here.

BAILEY: We *should* just walk out of here. Except . . .

TAYLOR: I know.

BAILEY: I mean, maybe what we did was the tiniest little bit bad.

TAYLOR: Like ten percent bad.

BAILEY: Or even fifteen percent.

TAYLOR: Yeah. Fifteen percent.

BAILEY: We should stay in here for like fifteen percent of two hours.

TAYLOR: Exactly. Just long enough for them to feel guilty for being so mean to us.

BAILEY: Or we could stay in here for forty percent of two hours and they'd feel even worse.