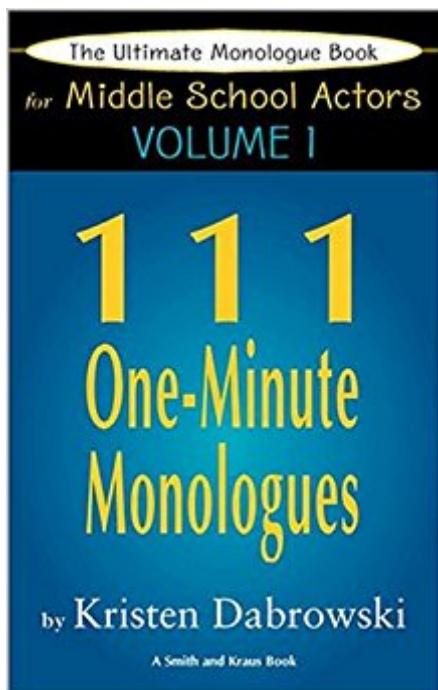


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# The Ultimate Monologue Book For Middle School Actors Vol. I: 111 One-Minute Monologues



## **Synopsis**

Middle school could not be more dramatic! Everything is both highly serious and seriously funny at the same time. This is the perfect time to showcase your acting skills. But where can you find juicy monologues? In this book! This is the guide for middle school actors. Nothing is held back. All the clean-your-room, give-me-your-lunch-money, take-a-shower-already, buy-me-some-lip-gloss, he-does-not-like-me, you-puked-on-my-math-book incidents are in here. Plus a whole lot of other stuff you wish would happen. Get ready for stage and screen!

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

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## **Customer Reviews**

The latest in a series that deals with situations, emotions and characters representative of modern adolescence. --Stage Directions Magazine, March 2005

KRISTEN DABROWSKI is an actress, writer, acting teacher, and director residing in New York City. She received her MFA in Performance from The Oxford School of Drama in Oxford, England. She is the author of The Ultimate Audition Book for Teens Volume 3: 111 One-Minute Monologues. Kristen was once quiet and shy before discovering her inner diva through acting.

Decent monologues, though not all may be appropriate for MS. There were a few that my students would not have been able to handle. There was one about bra shopping, and some others of similarly giggle-worthy content that some classes may not be able to work with. Overall they are good, short, monologues and worth the purchase.

## Fantastic

After reading the reviews of this book, I was hoping to find current monologues that would interest and entertain my seventh and eighth grade intro to public speaking classes. The selections in this book may cover topics my students talk about, but parts of the book contain material I don't find suitable. A monologue about a girl and her mother shopping for a bra is not something to share in a classroom of both boys and girls. Instead of ending a monologue with "bite me" in pig Latin, perhaps another phrase could have been used with the same effect. A girl telling her mother not to wear the girl's clothes because the mom is supposed to look like a mom--not a high school student might have ended there instead of continuing with the girl telling her mother she's one step away from being on Jerry Springer, and all she has to do is seduce one of the girl's friends. When I read the "comic" monologue "Object of Desire" in which a young man talks about teachers having babies with their students and then expresses his concern about a teacher who might "have a thing" for him, I had seen enough. I am returning the book today.

Over the years I've purchased a variety of monologues to use with my students in a summer theater program. Most of them are edited books that are okay but not very good to use with young teens. This is the first book that I must admit provided a lot of fun for my students. If anything, this is a review which reflects their impressions as well as my own. From my students, I heard comments like the following: "This is so much fun.", "Oh, I can identify with this." and "I want to do this one, you do the other." In short, my students identified with the subject matter because the monologues truly captured the essence of the teen years. The author, Kristen Dabrowski, used words to paint colorful images that provoked laughter, giggles and uproar. They are funny monologues. If there is a test for a book, it is how an actor and his/her audience reacts to the material. Well, this had an extremely positive reaction from my students. They all had their favorite monologues. Like them, I also have some favorite monologues that I think are very creative. If you purchase the book, get a laugh by reading these particular ones: "The Smartass of Stratford," "Nickname Calling," "Family Vacation to Hell," "Woo-Hoo" and "Literature Losers." A great buy!

As a teacher, director and coach for young actors I was thrilled to discover Kristen Dabrowski's 111 One-Minute Monologues for Middle School Actors. I have been very frustrated in the past by the substandard material out there for kids. For example, many other books attempt at modern slang

has been laughable and I end up spending class time helping my students find ways to make the language conversational rather than on the work itself. Dabrowski's monologues use the vernacular of today's middle schooler and the kids immediately relate to the conflicts she presents in her work. The monologues are fresh, funny and completely unique. And for young character actors there she provides a number of "period" monologues from such historical figures as an adolescent Martha Washington, Annie Oakley or William Shakespeare. My students enjoys these monologues so much they find it difficult to choose only a few to work on in class. I am eager to get my hands on more of Ms. Dabrowski's exciting new works! Two thumbs up!

What a good series. I have read a great many pieces which purport to be written for this age group and unfortunately as a result am also painfully familiar with the dull subject matter or condescending manner which tend to emerge from a usually leaden series of diatribes. It is of great credit to the author that she not only puts words in the mouths of children which can be spoken with genuine interest, but also without losing the natural rhythm and swing of speech. A consistently good and deceptively skillful enterprise.

I bought this book for my daughter at the recommendation of her drama teacher. It has been very useful for both school performances and competition meets. Has some very fun monologues in it.

My daughter is very pleased with this book. She takes an acting class and needs easy access to short monologues. She is almost 13 and this book was just right for her.

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