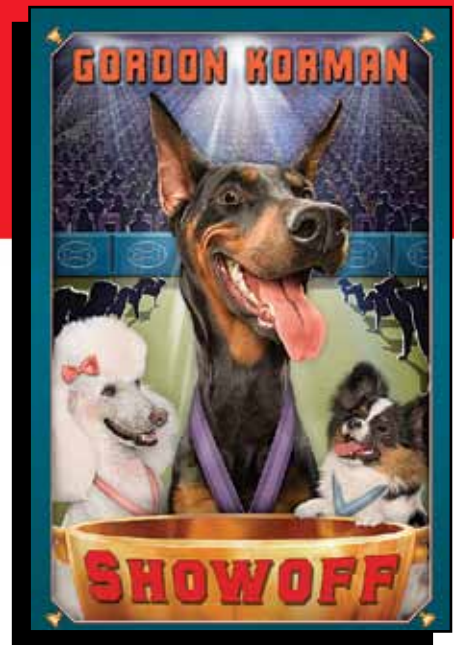


Booktalk!

Showoff Book Talk Script

For this Book Talk you will need:

- A copy of *Showoff* (Use as a dog training book)
- A leash
- Plush dog as prop for Luthor
- 2 actors (Ben, Griffin)
- Off-stage growling helper



Ben: *(Pace in front of the audience, stop. Say EMPHATICALLY) Rule number one; absolutely NO plans (then mumble...) except for the plan of having no plans. (Pause...) Rule number two; when in doubt, stick to rule number one. (Pause again) Rule number three; non-plans, that are really the exact same thing as plans, are strictly forbidden!*

Griffin: *(Smoothly, reassuringly...a bit like a slick salesman...place a hand on Ben's shoulder...)* Think of this more as an operation, a strategy, a brilliant tactic to turn Luthor into a class-act, show-winning dog. *(Seriously)* Also, this cannot be considered a plan since we are helping Savannah, who just so happens to be our best friend, and whose family is being sued!

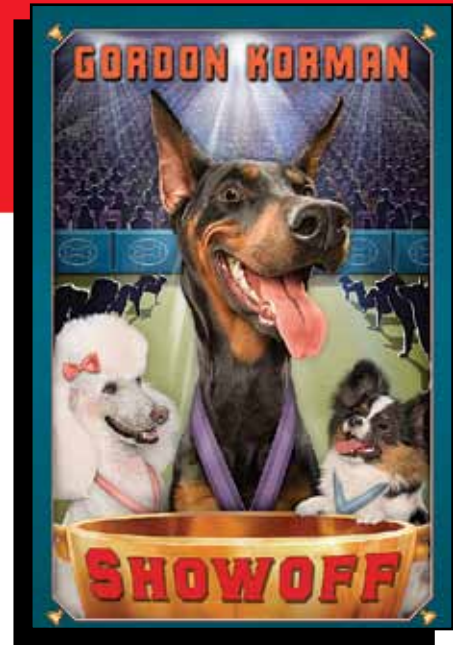
Ben: Luthor will never win a dog show Griffin! He is a monster!
(Look over at the plush dog...deep growling off-stage. Pause, sigh loudly)
Fine, we can try your crazy plan, but only because Savannah's family is in big trouble.

Griffin: *(Walk over to Ben and the plush dog)* This IS going to work Ben! Don't worry so much. *(Shake head at Luthor in disbelief)* I still cannot believe it cost a hundred bucks to spring this mutt from doggie jail. Good thing Dad left me his credit card for emergencies.

Ben: *(Whining)* And, I can't believe we have to look after Luther now. He scares me! He's always looking at me funny. *(Stare at dog...off-stage growl gets louder!)*

☛ *continued on next page...*

Booktalk!



Showoff Book Talk Script

Continued...

Griffin: *(Growling stops as soon as Griffin turns towards the dog)* He's behaving! This might not be such a bad plan Ben. *(Point to Luthor)* I mean Luthor seems pretty calm right now, and once he wins the Dog Show, the Drysdales will have enough money to pay off their law suit.

Ben: Oh yeah, this is going to be a real breeze. Since we know less than nothing about dogs, it makes perfect sense that we will just walk in and mop the floor with people who have devoted their whole lives to training their dogs.

Griffin: It is not like we have to teach Luthor how to play the piano. Dog shows are about dogs being dogs; Luthor has been doing that his whole life!

Ben: You're dreaming. Luthor is not just a dog; he is the biggest, most vicious Doberman I have ever seen! *(Turn and look at the dog, more deep growling off stage. Shiver and cringe with fear.)*

Griffin: You worry too much Ben, Luthor is going to be invincible, a champion.
(Growling gets louder, and explodes into deafening barks)

Ben: *(Pick up copy of Showoff, shake your head and roll your eyes)* Oh yeah, a real champion.

Griffin: *(Point at the dog, your voice uneasy)* Easy boy... Good boy...

Ben: *(Scared)* ...Uhm Griffin, Luthor doesn't look so friendly right now!

(Griffin & Ben look at each other, drop the book and say:) Runnn! *(More loud barking)*