

## Chapter 1 : Short Comedy Plays and Skits (free comedy no royalty scripts)

*Short Scripts (multiple genre) - A Showcase for Original Scripts on the Net! See new additions below or pick your genre on the left. Please Note: If you wish to contact any of the writers, please change the (a) to an @.*

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When sound broadcasting was introduced as a public communication channel after the First World War, the purveying of drama was one of its many functions. Indeed, radio drama was to overtake the theatre in quite a few countries, in terms of both output and audience figures. By the BBC was putting on twice as many plays as the London stage. Half a century later, its annual production of new plays was somewhere in the region of It all began with a transmission by the British Broadcasting Company, on 16 February , of three different scenes from Shakespeare plays. Theatre plays have figured in the radio repertoire ever since, in Britain and elsewhere. But it was soon realized that radio also needed a new kind of drama specially written for the medium. It is true that sightlessness imposes certain constraints on radio drama. A prolonged general silence might mean the end of the programme rather than a significant pause. Too large a number of speakers may well confuse the listener. Gestural communication does not read. It is often said that radio drama paradoxically gives us the best pictures. It has the greatest freedom in the handling of time and space. Radio drama is particularly well suited to rendering inner processes: However, to conclude from this "as some critics have done" that radio drama naturally inclines towards an absurdist view of life is itself an absurdity. Besides the human voice, sound effects "recorded or produced on the spot, naturalistic, suggestive or symbolic" create place, action and atmosphere. Music, too, can play a role as mood setter or bridge between scenes. Actually, at certain periods in the history of radio drama, effects and music have been used to excess. Its technology being relatively inexpensive at least compared to film and television , it is a useful launching pad for new playwrights; John Mortimer, Harold Pinter and Tom Stoppard all wrote for radio in the early parts of their careers. For established playwrights, too, radio offers a stimulating challenge though only relatively modest fees. After the success of *Waiting for Godot*, Beckett showed his grasp of the sound medium with *All that Fall* and *Embers* Technological change was bound to affect the nature of radio drama. The dramatic control panel, introduced in , made a multi-studio technique possible; the voices of actors working from several studios with different acoustics could be modulated and combined. Later, filters served to modify microphone characteristics, providing such effects as telephone conversations. A major innovation pioneered in Germany and quickly adopted everywhere after the end of the Second World War was the audio tape recorder. Drama had gone out live before; now it became normal to pre-record it. In such a recording there was no longer any need to run a play through from start to finish in one go; it became possible to take individual scenes and then edit them together, just as in film-making. The highly portable tape recorder can also be taken outside to record a play, or parts of it, on location though this is by no means universal practice. The institutional framework of broadcasting cannot fail to have a bearing on the type of drama produced or indeed whether any drama is produced at all. In the United States, radio has been a commercial enterprise from the start. As more and more programmes were commercially sponsored, it became imperative to maximize audiences. Not surprisingly, controversy and experimentation were frowned upon. Mystery and detective series were popular. But the staple fare of US radio drama was the family serial "intellectually untaxing, but involving. Because many of these were sponsored by soap manufacturers in the early days, they came to be known as soap operas. By there were as many as 38 of these on the air, aimed chiefly at women listeners housebound during the daytime. But throughout the s competition between the networks produced what has hyperbolically been called the Golden Age of Radio Drama in America. It was to last barely a decade and a half. Perhaps the most talented person in American radio drama was Orson Welles. When he directed *H. With the coming of television, high-quality drama virtually disappeared from American radio. In the United Kingdom, on the other hand, the BBC has represented public service broadcasting and has built up a solid tradition of drama. The contribution to drama of Independent Local Radio, set up in , has been negligible. A good many BBC plays have been avowedly popular, from the detective series *Dick Barton* "Special Agent, which by had some 15 million listeners, to that longest-running of all family serials, *The Archers*. By the end*

of the century this rural saga was in its fifth decade and enjoyed a devoted following, many listeners believing in the characters with astonishing literal-mindedness. Relieved of the pressure of ratings, the BBC has been able to appeal to a wide spectrum of tastes, with the Third Programme Radio 3 since explicitly featuring works with a minority appeal. From onwards, Features rivalled it in drama output for some 30 years. Thus Christopher Columbus , one of the most successful plays by the prolific poet-producer Louis MacNeice, was classed as a feature. This investigation of a non-existent small Welsh seaside town was a work of the imagination, though in quasi-documentary guise. Feature or drama, it turned out to be probably the most acclaimed radio play of all time – repeated three times within three months of the original broadcast, transmitted overseas six times in the following year and put out again many more times in subsequent years. It quickly appeared on the market as a book and a record. Television has long since cut into the audience figures of the s and s, but a weekday afternoon play will still draw hundreds of thousands of listeners. Interest in radio drama has been worldwide. Radio drama has been particularly important in postwar Germany. Indeed, a great many countries from the Czech Republic to Canada, from Switzerland to Japan, have all laboured to built up a vast, though unfortunately to the reader mostly inaccessible, corpus of plays for broadcasting. It is true that television has decimated the audience for radio drama. But the latter continues to be an interesting, if insufficiently regarded and remunerated, form of playwriting – different in form from, but closely affiliated to, other forms of drama and literature in general. Colin Chambers London,

## DOWNLOAD PDF SHORT RADIO DRAMA SCRIPTS

### Chapter 2 : free radio scripts (pdf)

*The Old Time Radio Scripts Page! See below for what is new on the site or click on a letter under "Radio Scripts". Scripts are listed by the first noun in the title.*

Pre-recorded music tracks [13 MP3s]: Set in Turkey in A. This show is especially popular with students, who tend to be both horror fans and pirate fans. Hare Dryer [short radio play] by Tony Palermo - A humorous short play based on an outrageous urban legend about neighbors, a dog, and a dead bunny Run time: Pre-recorded music tracks [4 MP3s]: A short, comic dramatization of an urban legend. However, a twist ending delivers a marvelous payback to the sneaks. It employs an authentic soap opera organ score and simple sound effects. Teenagers especially enjoy performing this short play. In this original episode, "Injuns at Coyote Creek," mysterious, night-time raids threaten to spark an Indian war! The "Injuns" are actually the white henchmen of a powerful land baron. Here, our fearless lawman, The Hawk, is caught in a buffalo stampede while his Indian companion, Uzumati, is captured by an angry posse! Only Prairie Rose, the tough lady rancher, and Chief Thundercloud, can help our heroes survive this slam-bam action adventure. And far from stereotype, in this Western, the Indians ride to the rescue! This show is actually a re-write of my original Lone Ranger episode. Please note, even though this is a horse-opera, gals have plenty to do in this show. Pre-recorded music tracks [22 MP3s]: However, it is not dumbed-down for kiddies. Depicts the history of California gold rush through the lives of ordinary people. Our hero pans for gold, meets other fortune hunters, tours the crowded camps and booming cities, and gets caught up in gold fever--with all its enterprise, greed, and hardships. This historical fiction is a dramatic and rollicking western that features an authentic folk music score chock full of banjo, mandolin, guitar, autoharp, dulcimer, harmonica and more. Pre-recorded music tracks [16 MP3s]: Inspector Rufflethorpe is a classic Golden Age whodunit, with an English manor and a fresh corpse. See the program notes for background info. This "jolly-good show" features a classic s-style radio theatre organ score.

### Chapter 3 : Browse Sketches and Short Plays

*Comedy Skits, Funny Skits, Short Skit Ideas, Sketches for Radio/Video/TV, Parody Skits, Interviews, Funny Ads.*

### Chapter 4 : It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play (short version) adapted by Joe Landry | Playscripts Inc.

*This beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve.*

### Chapter 5 : ROMANTIC PLAY SCRIPTS - Off The Wall Plays

*The "Generic Radio Drama" website has created a wonderful list of classic radio drama scripts. Although radio drama and live theater are two very different art forms, these scripts can still be excellent learning resources.*

### Chapter 6 : comedy play scripts

*the otr script library over vintage radio series have scripts online: Click on a series title to see the scripts available.*

### Chapter 7 : Radio drama - Drama Online

*These were written to be performed on radio, but most can be staged live for an audience as well. A BRIEF HISTORY OF 20TH CENTURY THEATRE A survey of dramatic styles as seen through the lens of a hand lotion [ ].*

### Chapter 8 : Radio Plays Available from calendrierdelascience.com

*Free Audio Drama (Radio Drama) Story Downloads FinalRune Productions is proud to offer all (most) of our field-recorded radio drama stories as free MP3 downloads. Enjoy post apocalyptic science-fiction, mystery, drama, chilling bone-crunching horror, retellings of classic tales and fantasy stories beyond description all gratuit.*

### Chapter 9 : BBC - Script Library - Writers Room

*[Updated] This short radio play example package includes an introduction to writing drama for radio as well as production note and tips. It also includes a short scene from a radio play complete with script, sound FX and production notes.*