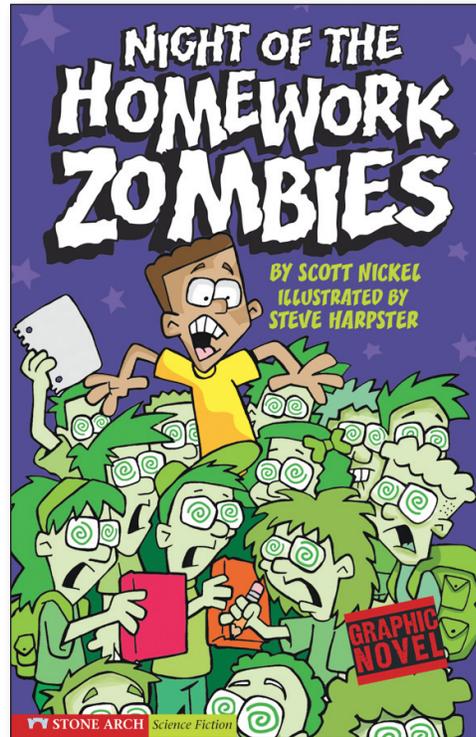




READER'S THEATER



Night of the Homework Zombies by Scott Nickel

Characters:

- Trevor** (props: baseball hat)
- Mr. Winklepoof** (props: lab coat, wig, professor glasses)
- Kid #1** (props: crazy goggles)
- Kid #2** (props: crazy goggles)
- Narrator**

Genre: Science Fiction

Ages: 8-10

Night of the Homework Zombies page 1

Trevor is a smart, happy-go-lucky 4th grader. When he finds his friends are in trouble, he will do anything to save them.

- Narrator:** It was a normal day in Trevor Walton's class . . . then someone strange entered the room.
- Mr. Winklepoof:** Good morning, boys and girls. I am Mr. Winklepoof, a genuine substitute teacher and not an escaped mad scientist wanted by the law. I have a special treat for you today. We're going to watch a movie.
- Kid #1 and Kid # 2:** Yeah!
- Trevor:** Excuse me, Mr. Winkle Doof.
(raises his hand)
- Mr. Winklepoof:** That's Winkle — POOF!
- Trevor:** I need to use the bathroom. I drank a giant juice box on the bus this morning.
(jumps up and down)
- Narrator:** As Trevor runs to the boys' room and plays with the new soap dispenser, Mr. Winklepoof puts a special tape in the classroom's VCR.
- Mr. Winklepoof:** Keep your eyes on the screen, class.
- Narrator:** The screen emits a strange, swirling vibration.
- Mr Winklepoof:** Class repeat after me: Homework is cool. Math is fun.
- Kid #1 and Kid #2:** Homework is cool . . . Math is fun.
- Mr. Winklepoof:** Excellent!
- Narrator:** When Trevor returns to class, he realizes that something strange is going on.
- Kid #1:** Load us down with lots of homework, Mr. Winklepoof.

Night of the Homework Zombies page 2

Kid #2: Yes, please. And our favorite — math word problems!

Trevor: What is going on here?

Kid #1 and Kid #2: Must study! Must study!

Trevor: The worst possible thing has happened! They've all become homework zombies. I've got to do something.

It might be contagious! But how do I change them back? And why am I talking to myself?

Narrator: Yes, why is Trevor talking to himself?

Trevor (thinking): Wait! I've got it.

They've been brainwashed to love homework. I need to UN-brainwash them by making them do everything that's the opposite of school.

Narrator: Eventually, Trevor tries out his plan on his friend, Bo.

Trevor: I'm forcing Bo to play a video game, watch mindless cartoons, and eat ice cream and cheese puffs. If this doesn't work, nothing will!

Narrator: Read further in our terrifying saga, to learn if Trevor is successful. Will he outwit the evil Mr. Winkeldoof?

Mr. Winklepoof: That's Winkle — POOF!

Narrator: Sorry. Will Trevor save his classmates from this truly disgusting fate?

Kid #1 and Kid #2: Must study! Must study!

Narrator: And why does the story end at Cheesy Charlie's Pizza Arcade?

Trevor: Try their nachos. They're the best!

Kid #1 and Kid #2: Must try nachos! Mmmmmmmmm!

THE END