

DOCTOR DOLITTLE AND THE MONKEY MAYHEM

The Pushmi-Pullyu enters. It is a remarkable creature, comprising one body, four legs and two heads.

Pushmi Good morning, Pullyu. Did you sleep well?

Pullyu Yes, very well, Pushmi. Thanks for my lie in.

Pushmi You're welcome.

Pullyu Have you had a stretch?

Pushmi Not yet, I thought we could do it together.

Pullyu You're so thoughtful, much more fun than doing it by myself.

They now undertake a stretching routine unlike any other. Head rotations, shoulder rolls, forelegs, hind legs, all perfectly coordinated ... at first. Then gradually one front leg starts to go one way whilst a back leg goes another, or something along those lines, leading to an increasingly painful-looking series of lunges.

Pullyu Stop it, stop it, you're doing it all wrong.

Pushmi I'm doing alright.

Pullyu Precisely, it should be all left.

Pushmi Oh, right.

Pullyu No, left!

Pushmi Left where?

Pullyu Left there. Right, come on.

Pushmi Hold your horses. Come on where?

Pullyu We need to do our squats.

Pushmi Do we have to?

Pullyu Would you rather be eaten by a lion?

Pushmi Of course not, but what has that got to ...

Pullyu Then stop arguing and get on with it. Come on, put your back into it.

They ready themselves to descend into squat position when Pullyu looks up and makes eye contact with the audience. She stares at them, much like a deer in the headlights.

Pullyu (*stage whisper*) Pushmi? We're being watched.

Pushmi Don't be ridiculous. Who on earth would be ... oh.

He has looked up and clocked the audience in front of him.

Pullyu Stay still. They may not have seen us. They might have limited eyesight, the sort that only picks up sudden movements. *They freeze, awkwardly.*

Pushmi They don't seem to be doing much. Do you think they're awake?

Pullyu looks all around the audience, really taking them in.

Pullyu Yes, most of them. All apart from that one there.

Pushmi Which one?

Pullyu The funny looking one.

Pushmi Oh yes, the one dribbling.

Pullyu Come on, let's get out of here.

He steps one way just as Pushmi steps in the opposite direction.

Pushmi Ow! What are you doing? Come this way.

Pullyu That's the wrong way. Come this way.

Pushmi No, this way.

Pullyu No, this way.

Pushmi This way.

Pullyu This way.

Pushmi Oh fine, we'll just stay still then. Again. Like we always do.

The Pushmi-Pullyu stands comically frozen.