

**“What A Load Of Rubbish”**  
by Sophie Gilbert and Suzanne Duce

**Scene:** *On stage are 4 different bins: Flower is compost bin (enthusiastic), Martini is a bottle bank (friendly), Picture is paper-recycling bin (posh) and Dump is a black bin bag (grumpy).*

*Picture:* What a terrible smell! I have to put up with this stink on such a lovely day. Is it you Martini?

*Martini:* It isn't me Picture. I am a bottle bank and glass doesn't smell. *(Sniffs the air)*

*Picture:* Don't sniff in my direction. It isn't me! I'm a paper-recycling bin, there's only paper inside me.

*Martini:* So it must be you Flower. What is inside you?

*Flower:* It can't be me. I am a compost bin. All I contain is organic waste like apple cores, orange peel, grass cuttings, dead flowers and leaves.

*Picture:* That is an odd mix. Are you sure it isn't you?

*Flower:* Yes I am sure. It all rots and turns into lovely rich soil. Soil doesn't stink does it? My compost can be put on flowerbeds to help the plants grow. I reckon it is her over there; that black bag.

*Martini:* I haven't seen her before. Excuse me! What is your name?

*Dump:* My name is Dump?

*Flower:* What is inside you? What type of recycling bin are you?

*Dump:* Recycling bin!! Recycling bin!! Phaaah! I am a black bin bag. I don't recycle. I have all kinds of rubbish inside me.

*Picture:* Don't you recycle any of your rubbish?

*Dump:* Rubbish, of course I don't. I can't be bothered. When I am full I just go to the dump.

*Flower:* Shhh everyone, a human is coming.

*Everyone freezes and a man enters with a box full of glass bottles.*

*Man:* Oh I'll be glad to get ride of all these bottles and jars. I can't believe I have so many wine bottles. There they go. Good riddance. Recycling makes me feel I'm doing my part to help the planet earth.

*Flower:* Wow, how many bottles did that man put into you Martini?

*Martini:* I lost count after the 6 white wine bottles, the 4 red wine bottles, the whisky and gin bottles. In fact I don't think he washed them out. I'm feeling rather dizzy. Hic!

*Picture:* Oh no I warned you about mixing your drinks.

*Martini:* Well isn't life great. Hic!

Would you like to hear some of the jokes that the dustcart told me last week? *(Coughs for effect)*

Doctor, Doctor I think I am a DVD!

Doctor, I thought I'd seen you before.

Do you know where Tarzan goes to buy his clothes?

*Flower:* I don't know.

*Martini:* A jungle sale! *(chuckles)*

I would tell you one about a black bin bag *(nodding towards Dump)*, but it's a load of rubbish! *(laughs behind her hand)*

I do feel happy. Have I told you that I love you Picture and you Flower. And I love you Dump. In fact I love everybody. Hic!

I think I may go to sleep now. the alcohol seems to have gone to my head. I'm feeling rather strange.

*Dump:* I'll be glad if you all go to sleep. Maybe I'll get a bit of peace and quiet.

*Picture:* That is no way.....

*Dump:* Shhhh, some children are coming.

*Everyone freezes and three children come on stage with their picnic boxes.*

*Boy in Red:* This looks like a great place for a picnic.

*Boy in Blue:* Yeah, let's tuck in. I wonder what my mum has put in my lunch box.

*Boy in Red:* Cor your lunch looks delicious Jessie. I wish my mum would make my sandwiches with white bread. Good she has given me a bottle of pop.

*Jessie:* I love these tuna sandwiches.

*Red in Blue:* Would anyone like my apple?

*Jessie:* Yes please. I can't swap as I have already eaten my grapes.

*Children sit eating their lunch.*

*Boy in Blue:* I'm going to throw my rubbish away.

*Jessie:* Wait for me.

*Boy in Blue puts his rubbish in black bin. Jessie puts her rubbish in the recycle bins. Then they turn to follow the boy in red off the stage.*

*Flower:* The children's picnic was making me feel hungry. The little girl in blue put all her leftovers into our recycling bins. The apple core filled me up. Did you like the paper bag she gave you Picture?

*Picture:* Scrumptious. Mind you the boy in the red football shirt left all his rubbish on the floor. Disgraceful, what a mess. That fizzy drinks bottle will take hundreds of years to decompose.

*Flower:* 450 years in fact!

*Dump:* The other boy put his rubbish in me.

*Flower:* Whilst it is good to bin your rubbish, he should have recycled it so that it can be used again.

*Dump:* I can't see the point of recycling.

*Flower:* There are lots of reasons. *Picture* why should we recycle paper?

*Picture:* Well every ton of paper I collect saves 17 trees and stops the need to use those terrible chemicals that turns wood into paper.

*Flower:* I have already told you how good my compost is. And the waste doesn't take up space at those awful landfill sites.

*Picture:* Recycling saves energy. It takes a lot less energy to recycle metal from a can than from rocks mined out of the earth. Did you know coke cans could be recycled and filled with drink again in less than 6 weeks!

*Flower:* Wake up Martini! Why should we recycle glass?

*Martini:* Glass is a beautiful material. Whilst it is only made from common sand and limestone, it is expensive to make. However less energy is needed to make glass from recycled glass. Glass is also much easier to recycle than plastic. I think all bottles should be made of glass and all bottles should be recycled. Oh dear I am feeling dizzy again.

*Flower:* So what do you think of that Dump! Oh no! What is happening to Dump?

*Two people come and remove Dump from the stage like a prisoner.*

*Martini:* Oh dear it looks like they have taken him to the rubbish dump. That's him thrown away.

*Flower:* What a load of rubbish!

**Characters:** *Bins:* Flower, Martini and Picture, Dump (costume can be made from cardboard with actors standing inside)

*Humans:* Man, Boy in Red, Boy in Blue, Jessie

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