

# SIDE #1

Characters: Maurice

**MAURICE** Good evening. This is a story about people and rats. The difficult part is deciding who are the people, and who are the rats.

Me? I am the Amazing Maurice. How did I get to be amazing? Well, it just happened. It was a while back, just after lunch one day. I looked at my reflection in a puddle and thought *'that's me'*. I mean, not 'hey, there's a cat' but 'that is me'. I was smart. And suddenly I knew that, in the real world, the smart thing is to be rich. Money is the key to everything. And then I found the educated rats. They could talk, too. And think. I'd always thought rats were stupid but suddenly they were clever. Some of them. Some of them could even read. The first book they read got them very excited. It told of a world they wanted to live in. A world with talking animals. A world where animals lived together in peace and harmony. The book became their *inspiration*. It was called 'Mr Bunnsy Has An Adventure'.

And then, one morning, soon after I found the educated rodents, I saw this stupid-looking kid playing the flute with his cap in front of him for pennies and I had an idea. An amazing idea. Rats, flute, stupid-looking kid...