

The United Plays of America – Texas – Invasion of the Tumbleweeds
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CAST: 2 (any gender)

Sawyer (male or female); 18; maybe fearless

Skyler (male or female); 15; riddled with fear

PLACE: Lubbock, Texas

TIME: Autumn or Winter

SYNOPSIS: What happens when tumbleweeds invade a town? It could happen. It did happen.

TAGS: Texas, comedy, pseudo-horror

(Lights up on SKYLER reading in a home – living room? Dining room? Your choice. SKYLER hears knocking and goes to investigate. You don't need a literal door. The actor can work it out with the director.)

SKYLER

Hello? Anybody there?

(Banging intensifies.)

Nobody's home! Go away!

(More banging.)

SAWYER! SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR!

SAWYER (O.S.)

ANSWER IT!

SKYLER

THEY WON'T SAY WHO THEY ARE!

(SAWYER enters.)

SAWYER

Really, Skyler. It's probably a boy scout or a kid raising funds for the school.

(Looks in peephole.)

Can't see who's there. Everything's dark.

SKYLAR

It's a huge person. Peek out the window.

(Peering out into the audience.)

SAWYER

Really dark. Light night time dark. Maybe there's a storm coming.

SKYLAR

I'm going under my bed.

(Knocking again.)

Now!

SAWYER

Wait! I can make out some things. Come here.

SKYLAR

No thank you.

SAWYER

I think I see thorns.

SKYLAR

Like the thorns that covered Sleeping Beauty's castle? Disney thorns?

SAWYER

Tumbleweeds? The front of the house is covered in tumbleweeds. Nothing to be afraid of.

(SKYLAR comes closer.)

SKYLAR

Whoa! Big tumbleweeds. Huge.

SAWYER

But harmless.

SKYLAR

Big thorns. Huge. Get rid of them. Before they come in the house and drain the blood out of us.

SAWYER

They're not zombies. They're just weeds.

SKYLAR

Killer weeds.

(More knocking.)

SAWYER

I think they want to come in.

SKYLAR

Don't let them!

SAWYER

We're safe. It's not like a tumbleweed has opposable thumbs.

(The knocks is now an insistent banging.)

SKYLAR

SAWYER!

(More banging. SKYLAR runs to SAWYER.)

The tumbleweeds are invading!

(The noise increases and increases.)

SAWYER

Maybe we can sneak out the back!

(Runs to the back and comes back to SKYLAR.)

They've surrounded us!

(More knocking.)

SAWYER

It's just a weed... just a weed... Just a weed ... just a weed

(The banging increases, SAWYER keeps saying "it's just a weed" as SKYLAR hangs on to SAWYER and the lights fade to black. Some more knocking/banging after lights go down.)

END OF PLAY