

The Runaway Piggy: A Reader's Theater

Cast:

Piggy	Marta	Lorenzo
Mamá Nita	Joaquín	Ernie
Leti	Isabel	Juana
Rosa	Miss Carranza	

Scene 1: Bakery

The morning sun shines through the window of 'Marta's Bakery' as Marta looks at the shelves of fresh bread.

Marta: Let's see: *Conchas?* Check. *Oejas?* Check. *Cuernos?* Check. *Empanadas?* Check.

A timer sounds.

Marta: Oh, good! The *cochinitos* are done!

Marta pulls the tray out of the oven, and places it on a counter to cool.

Marta: Perfect!

Marta pulls the last batch of the day out the oven; One of the brown and soft piggy cookies, or 'cochinitos', jumps off the counter and onto the floor!

Marta: Get back up there with your brothers!

Marta points at the tray.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! This is one piggy you won't get to eat!

Scene 2: Lorenzo's Auto Shop

Shaking his stubby brown tail, the piggy runs out of the bakery. He bumps into a car and Lorenzo, underneath, bumps his head.

Lorenzo (rubbing his head): What's going on? (See's Piggy). Careful, Piggy, what's the rush? I have some coffee that you'd love!

Lorenzo gets his cup.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! But this is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta, and I'll run away from you!

Shaking his stubby brown tail, Piggy runs under the car and continues down the sidewalk with Marta and Lorenzo chasing him. Mamá Nita sticks her head out the window.

Scene 3: Beauty Salon

Mamá Nitá: Wait!

Mamá leaves the coffee she is brewing and sticks her head out the salon window.

Mamá Nita: Piggy! If you come in, I can disguise you so no one will find you.

Piggy sees the coffee brewing and laughs.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! This is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta and Lorenzo, and I'll run away from you!

Piggy jumps on each chair in the salon and back out the door with Mamá Nita, Lorenzo and Martá chasing close behind him. The Piggy runs up the sidewalk and reaches a corner where Joaquín, a telephone repairman, is leaning on his work truck.

Scene 4: City Sidewalk

Joaquín: Slow down, Piggy!

Joaquín sees the others chasing Piggy. He opens his lunchbox and holds it out.

Joaquin: Why don't you hide here?

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! This is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta and Lorenzo and Mamá Nita, and I'll run away from you!

Shaking his stubby brown tail, Piggy kicks the lunch box into the street runs away with Marta, Lorenzo, Mamá Nita and Joaquín chasing behind him. Ernie is sitting outside on the sidewalk playing a guitar when Piggy runs up.

Ernie: Hey, Piggy! Want to hear a song?

Ernie strums the guitar.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! This is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta and Lorenzo, Mamá Nita, and Joaquín and I'll run away from you!

Shaking his stubby brown tail, Ernie puts his guitar down and joins the others in the chase. Piggy runs up the sidewalk and between two large buckets filled with carnations outside Leti's Flowershop.

Scene 5: Leti's Flower Shop

Leti: Piggy! Come hide in my flower shop, you can hide behind the roses!

She puts a rose between her teeth.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! But this is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta, Lorenzo, Mamá Nita, Joaquín, and Ernie, and I'll run away from you!

Piggy knocks over the bucket and runs away. Leti joins in the chase. As Piggy stops to catch his breath a city bus pulls up next to him. Isabel, the driver, opens the door.

Isabel (whispering): Get in, Piggy. I'll take you anywhere you want to go.

Isabel takes a sip of her coffee.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! But this is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta, Lorenzo, Mamá Nita, Joaquín, Ernie, and Leti, and I'll run away from you!

Piggy runs away. Isabel stops the bus, gets out, and joins in the chase. As Piggy turns the corner he bumps into a desk with a teapot outside of Juana's Thriftshop.

Scene 6: Juana's Thriftshop

Juana: Why are you running, Piggy?

She sees the crowd and nods.

Juana: Why not stop here? No one will see you in this old teapot.

Juana pulls out a teapot and lifts the lid off as steam rises. Piggy laughs and shaking his stubby brown tail runs down the sidewalk.

Piggy: Chase me! Chase me down the street! But this is one piggy you won't get to eat! I ran away from Marta, Lorenzo, Mamá Nita, Joaquín, Ernie, Leti, and Isabel, and I'll run away from you!

Piggy jumps and runs to the corner. Rosa stands there waiting

Rosa: Where are you going, Piggy?

Piggy (out of breath): I got away from Marta. I got away from Lorenzo. I got away from Leti and Mamá Nita. I got away from Joaquín and Ernie. I got away from Isabel, and Juana, and I can get away from YOU!

Piggy tries more to catch his breath while deciding what to do. Rosa just shrugs.

Rosa: I'm not chasing you. I'm just crossing the street to go to school.

Piggy You know how to cross the street? Can you teach me how?

Rosa: But you're too small! The cars might hit you! You better let me carry you across the street.

Piggy: You're lying. You just want to eat me!

Rosa crosses her arms and stomps her foot.

Rosa: I NEVER lie! I don't care if you don't believe me because I have to cross or else I'm going to be late for school.

The light turns green and Rosa takes a step off the sidewalk as Piggy looks back to see everyone chasing after him.

Piggy: Wait! Please carry me across!

Rosa thinks for a moment.

Rosa: Ay! I better not be late! Come on and jump in my backpack, or they're going to see you.

Piggy sticks his tongue out at the crowd on the corner. He hides.

Piggy: Ha! They didn't catch me; I knew they were too slow!

Piggy wiggles down into the backpack and falls asleep.

Scene 7: Classroom

Miss Carranza: Rosa, you made it!

Rosa (holding a napkin): Sorry I'm late, Miss Carranza, but I brought you a fresh piggy cookie from my mom's bakery!

THE END