

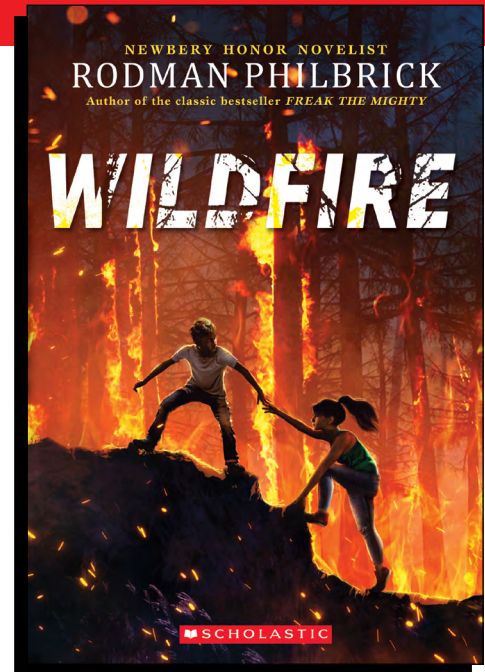
Booktalk!

Wildfire Script

For this Book Talk you will need

- 2 actors (Sam, Delphy)
- **Sam:** tattered blue jeans, dirty white t-shirt, hiking shoes, smudge marks on face and arms
- **Delphy:** tattered blue jeans, dirty green t-shirt, running shoes, small backpack, large stick, smudge marks all over her face and on her arms
- **Additional props:** dimly-lit stage, three chairs positioned side-by-side, with cushions on each (to simulate a couch), 2 chairs, copy of *Wildfire*

(scene opens with Sam sitting on the 'couch'; Delphy slumping in a chair with the stick at her feet)



Delphy: *(sounding relieved)* How lucky were we to have found this abandoned cottage? *(pausing, then sounding scared)* It almost got me, Sam... The fire last night. I ran and ran. No idea where I was going. Just trying to get away...

Sam: *(leaning forward slightly & speaking reassuringly)* So lucky. Especially after spending half a day outrunning the fires. *(looking concerned & speaking gently)* Delphy? You okay?

Delphy: *(rubbing eye as if to wipe away a tear)* Sorry. Sorry. I never cry. Well, hardly ever. But I thought I was dead... *(pausing)* And then I heard that beautiful motor sound. I was so afraid it would pass by before I could find it. Ran as hard as I could, until I tripped and hurt my ankle. *(motioning to ankle)*

Sam: But you kept on running.

Delphy: I guess... *(pausing, then taking a deep breath)* And then I saw the jeep... and you... and... *(squinting slightly and asking quizzically)* Wait a minute. Are you even old enough to drive? You're what – twelve?

Sam: Almost thirteen. And... well, under the circumstances, I didn't exactly think anyone was going to pull me over.

Delphy: *(questioningly)* What are you even doing out here?

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- Sam:** I go to Camp Wabanaski. We woke up and smelled smoke. It wasn't too bad at first but, by the time breakfast was over, the counselors said a decision had been made to evacuate. When the buses arrived, they shouted for us to grab our gear and get on... *(hesitating & thinking a moment before continuing)* I was just stepping onto the bus when I realized I had left my phone behind...so I raced back to my cabin, thinking I could make it there and back in no time... I could've, if the fire hadn't spread so quickly and blocked my path back to the bus. *(pausing, lowering his eyes)* They must've left without me, so my only option was to run. Fast.
- Sam:** *(waiting a moment then looking up at Delphy)* What about you?
- Delphy:** *(looking away, sounding evasive)* I was, ah, out in the woods the night before the fire... *(fumbling with her words)* I was, um, texting someone... Then it was really late and really dark, so I had to spend the night out in the woods. In the morning, I could see my camp through the trees but the fire was blocking my way. I realized all I could do was run. *(looking at Sam)* Never been so scared in my life.
- Sam:** *(holding up his hand to quieten Delphy)* Hang on – I hear something. *(standing up suddenly, looking into the distance)* Over there. Across the lake. *(pointing)* Do you hear them? There are a couple of dirt bikes circling that house... *(Delphy grabbing stick & getting to her feet; Sam's expression turning to concern)* That house is...on fire!
- Delphy:** *(limping a few steps away; waving one arm and yelling)* Hey! Hey! Over hear! Help! Help! Help!
- Sam:** *(running over to Delphy & grabbing her arm)* No – wait! Don't shout... Something doesn't feel right... *(staring off then suddenly looking very serious)* Delphy - quick! We have to get out of here! *(turning to audience & speaking urgently)* Something is definitely wrong... *(holding up a copy of Wildfire)* Grab a copy of *Wildfire* – it's at your Scholastic Book Fair – and find out what happens next.