Three Feet Under – Reader’s Theatre

Narrator 1
Narrator 2
Clay – the villain, a bully, a teenager
Scott – one of the heroes, an 11 year-old
Rico – the other hero; Scott’s friend

Sound effects: footsteps, creaking, crashing, clang, collapsing mine

NARRATOR 1: Chapters five and six from Paul Kropp’s novel Three Feet Under. Performing this reader’s theatre will be (student names)

NARRATOR 2: Scott and Rico reached the end of the tunnel. In front of them was Clay, digging into the mine floor

NARRATOR 1: Scott and Rico watched from the darkness.

Sound effect (digging, then hitting metal): Chunk-chunk-clang!

CLAY: (talking to himself) Got it!

NARRATOR 2: Clay lifted an old metal box from the ground. He took the shovel and smashed open the lid.

Sound effect: CLANG!

NARRATOR 1: Clay opened the box and looked inside.

Sound effect: CREAK!

CLAY: Well, look at that! Looks like I hit the jackpot!

NARRATOR 2: Clay scooped out handfuls of money. He was laughing to himself.

NARRATOR 1: That’s when Scott yelled out from the darkness.

SCOTT (angry): That’s my grandfather’s money.

CLAY: Who … who’s there?

SCOTT: You stole my grandpa’s map. That money belongs to him … or to me.
CLAY (making fun of him): Finder’s keepers. And who says I stole the old man’s map? It’s your word against mine, Scott.

NARRATOR 2: Rico stepped from the shadows.

Sound effect: footsteps

RICO: And my word, too, Clay. I bet that money really belongs to the bank. If we give it back, there should be some kind of reward.

SCOTT: If you stop being a jerk, maybe we’ll cut you in for a share.

CLAY: Fat chance, you losers. My share is 100%. Your share is zero. Now I think you two should get out of here. I’ve got a treasure to take home.”

NARRATOR 1: The three boys stared at each other. If it came to a fight, it would be two against one. But Clay was bigger than either Rico or Scott. He was used to beating up kids, and he knew how to use his fists.

NARRATOR 2: Scott would be useless in a fight. So the odds weren’t that good, and Rico knew it. He decided to bluff.

RICO: Over my dead body.

CLAY: If that’s what you want …

NARRATOR 1: Clay came towards Rico holding the shovel. Rico backed off into the darkness. He couldn’t be seen. But he was till trapped in the tunnel.

NARRATOR 2: Scott had run back to the entrance. All he could do was wait. His friend was trapped.

CLAY: I’m going to get you …

NARRATOR 1: Clay smashed the shovel into the wall.

Sound effect: CRASH!

RICO: Missed me!

NARRATOR 2: Clay swung again.

Sound effect: CRASH again.

RICO: Over here, reject.

Sound effect: CRASH!
RICO: Missed me again.

NARRATOR 1: Scott was amazed. His friend was playing cat-and-mouse with this bully. But Clay had a shovel, and he was a lot bigger than either of them. Rico wouldn’t have a hope if Clay found him.

NARRATOR 2: Clay went back to get his flashlight. Then he beamed it all over the tunnel. Soon he found Rico in one corner.

CLAY (laughing): Now I’ve got you.

NARRATOR 1: Clay lifted the shovel, but this time he hit an old wood beam.

Sound effect: CRASH!

RICO: Nice work, reject.

NARRATOR 2: But now there was a cracking sound.

Sound effect – the mine ceiling is falling down: CRACK!

NARRATOR 1: Then a creaking sound.

Sound effect: CREAK!

NARRATOR 2: In seconds, the ceiling of the mind began to fall down!

Sound effect: terrific crash

RICO: Let’s get out of here!

Sound effects: running footsteps, collapsing mine.

Closing music to finish.