PSYCHIC HOTLINE

A Ten-Minute Comedy Monologue

by Kelly Meadows



Brooklyn Publishers, LLC
Toll-Free 888-473-8521
Fax 319-368-8011
Web www.brookpub.com

Copyright © 2001 by Kelly Meadows

All rights reserved

CAUTION: Professionals & amateurs are hereby warned that *Psychic Hotline* is subject to a royalty. This play is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, Canada, the British Commonwealth and all other countries of the Copyright Union.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this play are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion pictures, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS & ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this play are controlled exclusively by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. If necessary, we will contact the author or the author's agent. PLEASE NOTE that royalty fees for performing this play can be located online at Brooklyn Publishers, LLC website (http://www.brookpub.com). Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC. You will find our contact information on the following page.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged. Only forensics competitions are exempt from this fee.

AUTHOR CREDIT: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this play is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice:

Produced by special arrangement with Brooklyn Publishers, LLC

(http://www.brookpub.com)

TRADE MARKS, PUBLIC FIGURES, & MUSICAL WORKS: This play may include references to brand names or public figures. All references are intended only as parody or other legal means of expression. This play may contain suggestions for the performance of a musical work (either in part or in whole). Brooklyn Publishers, LLC have not obtained performing rights of these works. The direction of such works is only a playwright's suggestion, and the play producer should obtain such permissions on their own. The website for the U.S. copyright office is http://www.copyright.gov.

COPYING: from the book in any form (in whole or excerpt), whether photocopying, scanning recording, videotaping, storing in a retrieval system, or by any other means is strictly forbidden without consent of Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

TO PERFORM THIS PLAY

- 1. Royalty fees must be paid to Brooklyn Publishers, LLC before permission is granted to use and perform the playwright's work.
- 2. Royalty of the required amount must be paid each time the play is performed, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.
- 3. When performing one-acts or full-length plays, enough playbooks must be purchased for cast and crew.
- 4. Copying or duplication of any part of this script is strictly forbidden.
- 5. Any changes to the script are not allowed without direct authorization by Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.
- 6. Credit to the author and publisher is required on all promotional items associated with this play's performance(s).
- 7. Do not break copyright laws with any of our plays. This is a very serious matter and the consequences can be quite expensive. We must protect our playwrights, who earn their living through the legal payment of script and performance royalties.
- 8. If you have questions concerning performance rules, contact us by the various ways listed below:

Toll-free: 888-473-8521 Fax: 319-368-8011

Email: customerservice@brookpub.com

Copying, rather than purchasing cast copies, and/or failure to pay royalties is a federal offense. Cheating us and our wonderful playwrights in this manner will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Please support theatre and follow federal copyright laws.

PSYCHIC HOTLINE

by Kelly Meadows

CAST: one female

(on the phone, angry) Okay then, so it rains this spring and you have to take a boat to the laundry room, I don't want your ugly hindquarters calling me up saying why didn't we come out here sooner!

(off the phone) Being a phone solicitor is hard work. It's thankless, demanding, abusive, and then after you spend all day on the phone, you come home for dinner and you can't get a moment's peace.

(as a solicitor) "Would you like to change your long distance service?"

No, but I wish you were further away!

(as another) "Would you like a free internet upgrade."

How about <u>www.don't-call-me-anymore.com</u>?

(as another) "Are you wearing anything?"

(pause, disgusted) Oh, that's mom. We're having issues about her dropping over unannounced. Then there's the worst one.

"I'm not trying to sell you anything."

Well that's good, because I'm not buying anything.

"We want to offer you a free trip to the Bahamas."

Excuse me, but been there, done that, hated it, hated the t-shirt, hated the cab driver. (more pleasant) Aruba's nice.

I got started in the business working for a psychic phone line. People paid \$3.99 a minute for us to make – or should I say make up – predictions about their future. Then they want you to tell them about their present. "You knew I had three children! You're amazing!"

No, what's amazing is that you're paying someone four dollars a minute to tell you that you have three children.

"Well, we weren't sure about Bobby. My aunt thinks he's a terrier."

Me? Psychic training? The future? Bosh. I don't even know what I'll be doing five minutes from now.

But I liked to talk on the phone, and boy do I like scoop. So I took the job. In walks Miss Linda, the head psychic psycho.

(a British accent would be good) "Sit down, and take your first call."

I don't know what to do yet.

"Make something up!"

But isn't that illegal?

(insistent) "Make something up!"

So I did. I became really psychic, really fast.

(as a customer) "My husband isn't paying any attention to me."

That's because you're spending all your time on the phone!

"I think he's cheating on me."

Well why don't you get off the phone and spend some time with him?

(whining) "Because he's not heeeeeere!"

Well when was the last time you cooked him dinner?

"How can I afford to make dinner when I'm paying you \$3.99 a minute?"

So I looked into her future. Debt, divorce, misery, loneliness.

"Oh my gosh, what can I do?"

Well, why don't you STOP CALLING ME!

Obviously Miss Linda wasn't thrilled with me. She wanted me to lead that woman on. "We make a living out of cheating husbands. If we can't find them, we manufacture them. I'll bet your husband is cheating on you right now."

I don't have a husband, I told her, but if you were my wife, you're darn tootin' I'd be cheatin'!

Then, of course, five minute later *he* calls up. The husband. (as a man) "My wife's spending all her time on the phone. Do you think she's seeing someone else?"

Well no, I think she's calling the psychic hotline.

"Why would she be wasting her money on that?"

She thinks you're cheating on her.
"Cheating?"
"Are you cheating?"
"You're the psychic, you tell me."
And then the wife breaks right back in just as pleasant as black eyed Susans in the Georgia sunshine. (nagging, "Who are you talking to."
(cowed) "No one, honey."
"Why are you on the phone if you're not talking to anyone? I want to know, this instant, who you're talking to."
"It's Jay, honey."
"It better not be Jay!"
"Then it's Leanna."
"It better not be Leanna."
"Then it's Jay."
"Okay. But it better not be."
So that was an easy call. Debt, divorce, doom, despair. I couldn't really fix anybody's life. But with my psychic powers, I could make things much, much, worse.

End of free preview