

# **AS BAD AS IT GETS**

## **By Peter Lancaster Walker**

Copyright © 2008 by Peter Lancaster Walker, All rights reserved.  
ISBN: 1-60003-402-0

**CAUTION:** Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

**RIGHTS RESERVED:** All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

**PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS:** All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work 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. 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.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

**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*

**COPYING:** Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Brooklyn Publishers, LLC.

**AS BAD AS IT GETS**  
**A COMEDY SKIT**

by  
Peter Lancaster Walker

**CAST: 3 FEMALES**

***LUCY sits at her desk. DAPHNE sits opposite LUCY the other side of the same desk. They dislike each other.***

*(Telephone rings; BOTH go for the phone; DAPHNE gets there first)*

DAPHNE: Daphne Dibble? *(listens)* It's for you. *(hands over the telephone to LUCY)*

LUCY: *(answers call)* Lucy Bowker. Oh hello Jerry. No, things are very bad here. New Boss, a Mr. Hawkins, has just taken over. Lots of cutbacks. I'm sharing a desk with . . . someone. I'm also sharing a new personal assistant. Things could hardly get worse. I dread to think what they'll do next. This is as bad as it gets. See you later.

DAPHNE: Could I have the stapler?

LUCY: Of course.

DAPHNE: And the hole punch.

LUCY: The hole punch is all yours. *(slams it down to her)*

*(GINA comes in; SHE looks around.)*

DAPHNE: This must be *my* personal assistant.

LUCY: *My* personal assistant.

DAPHNE: I am senior to you.

*(GINA looks at each in turn like watching a tennis match.)*

LUCY: Oh, no you're not.

DAPHNE: Yes I am.

LUCY: You're not!

DAPHNE: I am!

LUCY: You're not.

DAPHNE: I am.

LUCY: No, you're not.

DAPHNE: I'm Daphne. *(To GINA)* Miss Dibble to you.

LUCY: I'm Lucy. *(To GINA)* Miss Bowker to you.

AS BAD AS IT GETS - Page 3

GINA: I'm Gina. Do I work for you both? Miss Dibble and Miss Bowker?

LUCY: Mainly me, Gina.

DAPHNE: I think you'll find it's mainly for me, Gina. I am the senior person here.

LUCY: No you're not.

DAPHNE: I think you'll find I am, Lucy. I started here on a Monday. You started here on a Friday.

LUCY: Yes, the Friday before you did.

DAPHNE: No. The Friday *after* I did.

GINA: I understood I worked for you both- equally.

DAPHNE: You come to me for jobs, Gina.

LUCY: No you don't.

DAPHNE: Yes, you do.

LUCY: Fetch my diary, Gina. It's over on that table. It's green.

GINA: Yes, Miss Bowker.

DAPHNE: Fetch my diary, Gina. It's over on the table. It's red.

GINA: Yes, Miss Dibble.

*(GINA finds both diaries.)*

LUCY: Me first. What am I doing today?

DAPHNE: Just a minute . . . !

LUCY: Me first.

GINA: Miss Bowker, you have a meeting at 9 o'clock, with Mr. Perkins about the Oliver case.

LUCY: Good. Fetch me the Oliver file.

GINA: Yes, Miss Bowker.

*(GINA is about to move)*

DAPHNE: Not yet, Gina! Let's go through my diary.

GINA: Miss Dibble, you have a meeting at 9.30 with Mrs. Billows about the Baxter case.

DAPHNE: Baxter file, Gina.

GINA: The Baxter file?

LUCY: I am still waiting for the Oliver file.

DAPHNE: I want the Baxter file.

*(GINA finds both files and brings them over.)*

GINA: There you are. The Oliver file and the Baxter file.

DAPHNE: Yes, I think that should be a good meeting.

LUCY: I know mine will be.

DAPHNE: Gina, take this letter to the post room.

LUCY: Gina, take this letter to the post room.

*Thank you for reading this free excerpt from AS BAD AS IT GETS by Peter Lancaster Walker. For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script, please contact us at:*

**Brooklyn Publishers, LLC**  
**P.O. Box 248 • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406**  
**Toll Free: 1-888-473-8521 • Fax (319) 368-8011**  
**[www.brookpub.com](http://www.brookpub.com)**