

BETTY LOU TWINKLE'S TABLOID SCANDAL

By Bobby Keniston

Copyright © 2013 by Bobby Keniston, All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-60003-688-0

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.

BETTY LOU TWINKLE'S TABLOID SCANDAL

A One Act Satire On Teen Fame

By Bobby Keniston

SYNOPSIS: Betty Lou Twinkle wants to be a normal teenage girl and play soccer. Unfortunately, her mother has other ideas. Ever since Betty Lou was a toddler on “Divas in Diapers,” her mother has dragged her to every pageant or reality show she could find, determined to make her little girl the brightest star in the world. After winning “America’s Future One-Hit Wonders,” Betty Lou’s mother hires an obnoxious “Fame Mentor” who claims the only way to stay famous is to have a scandal in the tabloids. Tired of it all, Betty Lou escapes to the park to meet with her secret friend who hides under the bandstand, and appreciates Betty Lou for who she really is. Will Betty Lou find comfort and peace with her secret friend, or is this friend the very tabloid scandal Betty Lou’s mother has been waiting for? This laugh-out-loud satire targets the very notion of teenage fame, stage mothers, and the exploitative nature of the media.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(4-5 WOMEN, 3-6 MEN)

BETTY LOU TWINKLE (f) 15-16. She has been pushed into pageants and performing by her Mother/Agent for as long as she remembers (way back to her “Divas in Diapers” days.) What she would really like to do is play soccer and have a bit more control over her own life. *(115 lines)*

DARLENE ROSEPETTLE (f) 30s-40s. She is Betty Lou's mother, and the personification of living vicariously through a child. She sees herself as an agent first, mother second. Wants her daughter to be famous at any cost, even if it means pushing her into a tabloid scandal. (110 lines)

VERSAILLES WALDORF-ASTORIA (f) .. 17. Recruited as a "fame" mentor for Betty Lou. She is rich, shallow, talentless, but very famous. She carries a pet komodo dragon in her designer purse as a pet. (20 lines)

HUGO ADAMS (m) Late teens, host for the popular reality singing contest show, "AMERICA'S FUTURE ONE-HIT WONDERS." He is overly cheerful and a bit phony. (12 lines)

TYLER RAMONE (m) 17, is a has-been, one-hit wonder rockstar who still thinks he's hot and relevant. He is the top judge for "AMERICA'S FUTURE ONE-HIT WONDERS." (2 lines)

CHARLIE JABBAR (f) Late teens, early 20s, the female judge for "AMERICA'S FUTURE ONE-HIT WONDERS." She is a fading pop star. (2 lines)

BETTY LOU TWINKLE'S TABLOID SCANDAL

- CATBOY (m) 15-16. He is part cat, and has lived under a bandstand in a park for as long as he can remember. He was raised by strays, but learned to speak by listening to humans in the park. He would like to live a life that is not confined to hiding in shadows. (27 lines)
- TANGY DELUTH (f)..... Late teens, early 20s, a gossip reporter for a tabloid TV show. This part can be played by the same actress playing Versailles if so desired. (7 lines)
- PAPARAZZI 1 (m)..... Can be doubled with Hugo or Tyler. (3 lines)
- PAPARAZZI 2 (f)..... Can be doubled with Charlie. (3 lines)
- NEWSBOY (m) Can be doubled with Hugo or Tyler. (2 lines)

COSTUME SUGGESTIONS

BETTY LOU: In scene 1, she should be wearing a midriff bearing shirt and jeans that look like a “designer” brand. For the rest of the play, she is in her soccer outfit.

DARLENE ROSEPETTLE: She dresses to look young, the type who would delight in saying “most people think my daughter and I are sisters!”

HUGO ADAMS: Like a young, hip, host of a reality competition show. Dressy, but made to look casual dressy. Think Ryan Seacrest of “American Idol.”

TYLER RAMONE: I think of him as a has-been rock star, though still young. Perhaps a throwback to the type of clothes Aerosmith front man Steven Tyler might be seen in.

CHARLIE JABBAR: As a fading pop princess, she might be dressed similarly to Betty Lou, but look slightly ridiculous because of it.

VERSAILLES WALDORF-ASTORIA: Yes, her name is a take-off on Paris Hilton, and her wardrobe should reflect that as well.

CATBOY: As he is “part boy, part cat,” he should have cat ears, whiskers on his face, and perhaps even a tail. These pieces are encouraged to look as silly as possible.

TANGY DELUTH: Since she fancies herself a “serious journalist” she can be dressed in a flashy businesswoman type skirt and suit.

The PAPAZZIS can be dressed almost identical. You can do this in a couple of ways: you can make them like old-time newspaper photographers in hats (with a “press” card in the hat band) and trench coats, or you can make them more modern like slobs in jeans and t-shirts.

THE NEWSPAPER BOY can be dressed like an old-time newsie, perhaps even in knickers, to make the juxtaposition of the laptop and references to blogging and tweeting even funnier.

PROP LIST

- Pocket-sized photograph (BETTY LOU)
- Two Suitcases with make-up inside (DARLENE)
- Microphone (HUGO)
- Handbag with komodo dragon (stuffed) inside (VERSAILLES)
- Cell Phone (VERSAILLES)
- Deli bag with container of tuna salad (BETTY LOU)
- Cameras (PAPARAZZI 1 and 2)
- Microphone (TANGY)
- Laptop computer (NEWSPAPER BOY)
- Soccer ball (BETTY LOU)

- Cell Phone (DARLENE)

AUTHOR'S NOTE

I have wanted to write a satire about teenage fame for a long time. This quest for fame, even though the worst of behaviors, is something I find troubling. The excess of it all, the de-humanizing effect. So what better way to deal with this issue than to make a wild comedy about it?

Due to the nature of this piece, I have included some current references for the time I wrote the play (for example, "iCarly," "Tiger Woods," etc.). Please feel free to substitute any of these references with up-to-date ones if need be, hopefully along the same lines to ensure laughs.

Settings should be kept simple and representational so that the play can move along at a good clip.

I had a great deal of fun writing this play. I hope you have fun performing it!

DEDICATION

This play is dedicated to Tracy Sue,
With great appreciation.

SCENE ONE

SETTING: *Backstage of the reality show, "America's Future One-Hit Wonders."*

AT RISE: *BETTY LOU TWINKLE, 15 is looking into a mirror. She doesn't like her outfit, mainly because it doesn't cover as much of her as she would like. She is a pretty, sweet girl, who has been pushed around by her mother all of her life. She takes her midriff-bearing shirt and pulls it down, trying to stretch it past her belly button, and finally succeeds. When she is satisfied with this, she takes a seat in front of the mirror, looks around, and then takes a photograph from her pocket and looks at it.*

BETTY LOU: Oh, Catboy, I wish you were here right now. In a world like this, you're the only normal person I know. And you're part cat. What does that say about society?

Suddenly, DARLENE ROSEPETTLER enters. She is a force of nature. She carries a small suitcase that contains assorted makeup.

DARLENE: Who are you talking to?

BETTY LOU, startled, quickly stashes the photo in her pocket.

BETTY LOU: Hi mom!

DARLENE: Are you hiding something from me?

BETTY LOU: Of course not. I was just talking to myself in the mirror, trying to psyche myself up for tonight.

DARLENE: *(After inspecting her a moment.)* And just where is your belly button?

BETTY LOU: *(Trying to joke.)* Same place as everybody's!

DARLENE: I see. You're startin' in early with the sass today. Why are you hiding your navel?

BETTY LOU: I'm not...

DARLENE: What do I always say?

BETTY LOU: Mom...

DARLENE: What do I always say?

BETTY LOU: *(Sighing.)* “A teenage girl’s belly button on display, helps make her a star in every way.”

DARLENE: That’s right! You know how important tonight is! Once you win “America’s Future One-Hit Wonders,” you can wear a sweater for all I care. *(Beat.)* Well, maybe for a day or two, and not in public. But if we’re going to win this competition tonight, we’ve got to give them some skin, sugar.

BETTY LOU: But it makes me uncomfortable!

DARLENE: You want to discuss discomfort? Try being in labor for four and a half hours!

BETTY LOU: I know, but...

DARLENE: No buts! Look, my little peachy-bear, we’ve made it through thirteen weeks of the show, we’re in the top two, and tonight, we are one step closer to our dream of being the most famous singer in the world!

BETTY LOU: But that’s not my dream.

DARLENE: Of course it is! I happen to remember a little girl who told me she wanted to be the biggest star who ever lived!

BETTY LOU: I was only four! And you had just asked me if I wanted to be the biggest star who ever lived.

DARLENE: Don’t you dare pretend that you haven’t wanted this, Miss Betty Lou Twinkle!

BETTY LOU: That’s not even my real name.

DARLENE: We’ve been using that name ever since you were a contestant on “Divas in Diapers”! I don’t have to tell you that people won’t want to listen to music by someone named Elizabeth Korsinski-Brattwurst. Why do you think I changed my last name to Rosepettle after your daddy did the world a favor and croaked?

BETTY LOU: But mom, I don’t want this anymore. I don’t want to be in front of the camera, I don’t want to pretend I’m happy when I’m not, I don’t want a fake name. I just want to be me. I want to have a normal life. I want to hang out with Ca... *(Beat.)* I want to play soccer.

There is a long pause.

DARLENE: I should wash your mouth out with soap!

BETTY LOU: Mom...

DARLENE: You get to sing and flaunt your goods in front of millions of viewers, and you'd rather be out on some field kicking a ball around? I have worked long and hard for your career...

BETTY LOU: I know, I know. But don't you care what I want? Doesn't the fact that I'm your daughter mean anything?

DARLENE: Sweetie-britches, I know it's hard for you to understand, but I'm your agent first, and your mother second. Now let's fix your make-up, okay?

BETTY LOU: Fine.

DARLENE: That's my little twinkly star!

DARLENE opens the suitcase which has tons of make-up. BETTY LOU sits down, and DARLENE starts applying make-up to her.

BETTY LOU: Mom? Can I ask you something?

DARLENE: Of course.

BETTY LOU: Will you still love me if I don't win the competition tonight?

DARLENE: What a thing to say?! I know you're going to win tonight!

BETTY LOU: Yeah, but... what if I don't? Will you still love me?

DARLENE: Now, Betty Lou, I am shocked that you even have to ask! I am your Mother! I love you no matter what!

BETTY LOU: I'm happy to hear you say that. Thank you.

Beat.

DARLENE: It's just that I love you even more when you win things. *(BETTY LOU reacts.)* Look, you can't fault me for that. It's human nature. People like winners. I'm allowed to be human, right?

BETTY LOU: *(Tired.)* Yeah.

DARLENE: That's a good girl. Now, remember when you perform tonight, I want you to flirt with the judges.

BETTY LOU: Come on.

DARLENE: Now, none of that, missy. What have I told you since you were eight?

BETTY LOU: *(By rote.)* "Flirting's never been a sin, especially when you want to win."

DARLENE: That's right! Especially make eyes at that Tyler Ramone, maybe even sit in his lap.

BETTY LOU: I am not sitting in Tyler's lap!

DARLENE: And just why not? He used to be one of the biggest rock star heartthrobs in the world!

BETTY LOU: 3 years ago! A lifetime in this industry! Now he looks like a long-haired piece of leather, and smells like wet cigarette butts.

DARLENE: That may be so, but he likes you. You need to take advantage of that.

BETTY LOU: He's a creeper.

DARLENE: Honestly, Betty Lou, I'm not asking you to marry him! Or even take him to the prom! Just give him a smile and a wink or two.

BETTY LOU: Fine. But I'm not going to touch him.

DARLENE: I ask you to do one thing, one thing! Is it really so much to ask that you win this competition, so you can buy me a big house and provide for me in my autumn years? I have sacrificed my life for you, I flushed my own dreams down the toilet! Is it so much to ask that you sit in a has-been poseur's lap?

She finishes with the make-up and storms a few steps away, sulking.

BETTY LOU: Are you saying that you're sorry you had me?

DARLENE: *(Turning to face her.)* No! I'm just saying that after all I've given up, it shouldn't be such a chore to let me live vicariously through you. That is the natural order of things, you know. *(She turns away, in tears, her voice breaking on the following:)* I... just...just...wanted you to have...ev...everything...I... I... NEVER HAD! *(She begins "sobbing" and turns away from her daughter.)* Like your own bikini calendar and reality show!

BETTY LOU watches her mother's display of "emotion" for a moment, then crosses to her and puts a hand on her back.

BETTY LOU: Don't cry, mom. It will make your mascara run. *(Beat.)* I mean it, stop crying. *(Beat.)* I'll do what it takes to win tonight, all right?

Immediately, DARLENE spins around with a big smile on her face.

DARLENE: Now that's my little deep-fried pickle! Now, you've got the new song I wrote for you memorized, right? It's a guaranteed winner!

BETTY LOU: Actually, since you've brought it up, I wanted to talk to you about changing some of the lyrics.

DARLENE: *(Immediately suspicious.)* Oh?

BETTY LOU: Now don't get upset. I'm doing what you asked me, so I think you can at least consider doing something for me.

DARLENE: *(Barely concealed seething behind a smile.)* And what lyrics are you having trouble with, dear?

BETTY LOU: Well, mom... it's not that the song is bad... I just don't think it sets a very good example for girls my age.

DARLENE: Why would you say that?

BETTY LOU: Well, for example... *(Reciting.)* "Come on baby, let me show my love is real, my mamma won't mind if you cop a feel." I just don't feel comfortable projecting that kind of image.

DARLENE: It's a dance song! Besides, if you cut that line, the title doesn't make sense! If a song is called "My Mamma Won't Mind if You Cop a Feel" you've got to have that phrase in the lyrics somewhere, or people won't be able to follow. And, that's a perfect part in the song for you to give Tyler a little wink!

BETTY LOU: I don't want to be a bad role model...

DARLENE: Sugar-bean, good role models don't sell records. What do I always tell you?

BETTY LOU: I know, but...

DARLENE: What do I always tell you?

BETTY LOU: *(Reciting.)* "A good girl's career will hit a slump, unless she learns to shake her rump."

DARLENE: Very good, my precious plum! Now that that nonsense is out of the way, I better scoot. The camera crew needs to do the pre-interview before you sing! I'll be right out in the front row, holdin' up my sign!

BETTY LOU: Okay.

DARLENE: Remember... eyes and teeth, eyes and teeth!

BETTY LOU: Yeah, I know.

DARLENE: Kisses! *(She puckers and makes a few kissing noises in the air, then exits.)*

BETTY LOU turns around to the mirror. She looks very weary and sad. Suddenly, she puts on a big smile. She is startled by how phony, yet real it looks. She goes back to looking sad, then immediately smiles again. She sighs, and returns to looking weary. She takes the photo of Catboy out of her pocket, strokes it lovingly, then replaces it in her pocket and looks in the mirror.

BETTY LOU: All right, Betty Lou. Time to go twinkle.

Blackout. End of Scene One.

SCENE TWO

SETTING: *The performing stage for "America's Future One-Hit Wonders."*

AT RISE: *BETTY LOU is onstage, holding a bouquet of roses, doing her best to smile and look happy, while HUGO ADAMS talks to her. HUGO is the host of "America's Future One-Hit Wonders," and is overly cheerful, phony, vain and enthusiastic. He holds a microphone.*

HUGO: All right, America, we are back! And yes, for those of you wondering, this is my real hair, and I use very little product in it! *(Beat.)* We have just learned that between the judges, and your precious votes, America, that Betty Lou Twinkle is our next Future One-Hit Wonder!!! *(He waits for applause, then turns to BETTY LOU.)* I can't even imagine what you must be feeling right now! What would you like to say to all of your fans?

BETTY LOU: *(Pure pageant autopilot.)* I just want to thank all of you for supporting the show, and for voting for me week after week. Your support means so much to me, and I love you all!

HUGO: Uh-huh, uh-huh. Now, this has been a pretty intense competition...

BETTY LOU: Yes, it...

HUGO: Wait, I'm not done. This has been a pretty intense competition, with a lot of talented teens. What would you like to say to your competitors?

BETTY LOU: *(As above.)* To be honest, I don't really think of them as competitors. We've been through this show together, shared our hopes and dreams. I think of them as friends, and I respect each and every one of them for their massive talent.

HUGO: Awwww, that was beautiful. Especially considering how three of them sent you death threats tonight. *(Beat.)* I'm told your mother wrote the winning song for you. I guess talent must run in your family!

BETTY LOU: *(With deeper meaning.)* I think it's safe to say that my mother has made me what I am today.

HUGO: *(With faux sincerity.)* That is so sweet and refreshing to hear. If I hadn't just had my eyes done, I would cry, seriously. I bet her support helped to carry you through this.

BETTY LOU: She was always there with... words.

HUGO: Of encouragement?

BETTY LOU: Sure.

HUGO: I know two people who would love to congratulate you! Ladies and gentlemen, say hello to Tyler Ramone and Charlie Jabbar, our esteemed judges!

TYLER RAMONE and CHARLIE JABBAR enter to a smattering of applause, which they play to for quite some time before turning their attention to BETTY LOU and HUGO. TYLER dresses in clothes that are too small for him, and, as described earlier, looks like overly tanned leather. CHARLIE is a fading pop star, but still wears "hip" clothes, and has a bubbly personality. After they have milked their applause sufficiently, they cross to HUGO and BETTY LOU, TYLER getting especially close to BETTY LOU.

HUGO: Whooh! There they are! Tyler, as a singer yourself, are you surprised with the results at all?

TYLER: Naw, man. Are you kidding? From the first time she auditioned, I knew this girl was goin' places. She's got it all, man, you know, the pipes, and all. And man, just look at that body... *(Beat.)* ... of work, I mean. You know, these last thirteen weeks. Yeah. Body of work. Yeah. *(Beat.)* I'm so proud of you, Betty Lou. *(He crosses to her and gives her a hug. It is a close hug that BETTY LOU keeps delicately trying to pull away from.)* That's the good stuff, right there. *(He lets her go.)*

HUGO: Charlie, what are your thoughts?

CHARLIE: Girl, I am so happy for you! Your performance tonight, girl, was just unbelievable. It reminds me when I performed at the MTV Music Awards two years ago, and got that standing ovation! I mean, I was like, a huge star, and that's what I felt from you tonight, girl. You were definitely twinkling like a star tonight! *(Beat.)* By the way, I won best female artist that year, and best newcomer. I did.

HUGO: We know, Charlie, we know. Funny what happens in two years.

TYLER: *(To BETTY LOU.)* Charlie's right, you were somethin' tonight! When you were up there, shakin' all around, connectin' with the crowd, and then... oh, man! When you came down and sat in my lap... I mean, oh, MAN! *(He hugs her again.)* I'm just so proud of you! *(He lets her go.)*

CHARLIE: Girl, as someone who knows, I have got to tell you, that I see big things for you. You just keep working hard, following your dream, and I can see you winning a Grammy someday. *(To Audience.)* Like I did two years ago, for my debut album!

HUGO: Betty Lou, would you say that the support of the judges has made a difference throughout the competition?

BETTY LOU: Definitely. *(TYLER stands behind her, begins to rub her shoulders.)* They have given me such... *(She is tensing up, trying to wiggle out of the shoulder rub.)* ... great advice and always the right word of encouragement when I needed it. *(She takes two steps forward, moving away from TYLER.)*

HUGO: Congratulations, Betty Lou! I know this must be the best night of your life! And for all of us here at America's Future One-Hit Wonders, thanks for watching. Give 'em your soon-to-be-famous smile!

CHARLIE and TYLER play to the audience. BETTY LOU gives almost a robotic wave, as the lights fade. End of Scene Two.

SCENE THREE

SETTING: *The next day at BETTY LOU's house. It can be represented by just an easy chair or a small couch.*

AT RISE: *DARLENE is fretting about the space, clearly agitated. She is wearing a "young looking" outfit.*

DARLENE: *(Calling offstage.)* Betty Lou! Where are you, girl?!

BETTY LOU: (OFFSTAGE) What?

DARLENE: We have got company coming!

BETTY LOU: (OFFSTAGE) I don't feel like having company!

DARLENE: Well, Lima-Sprout, that's just too bad! You get yourself out here!

BETTY LOU enters wearing a pair of shorts and soccer jersey.

BETTY LOU: Mom, I thought we agreed we could start all the interviews and publicity tomorrow!

DARLENE: Oh, look at you! What a mess! This is how you dress with company coming?

BETTY LOU: I didn't know company was coming. If you had told me you scheduled an interview...

DARLENE: This isn't an interview, Miss Mouth. Your career is in serious trouble!

BETTY LOU: *(Astounded.)* What?! I just won the show last night!

DARLENE: *(Almost dismissing this.)* Yes, yes, and I'm proud of you, but that was LAST NIGHT! We have to think about TODAY.

BETTY LOU: I can't believe you. This is just too much.

DARLENE: What is the name of the show that you won? Hmmmm? What's the name of it?

BETTY LOU: America's Future One-Hit Wonders. So what?

DARLENE: So, my little mashed sweet potato, being a one-hit wonder is not going to give you a lifetime of fame and luxury, now is it? So I have taken the liberty of getting you a fame mentor.

BETTY LOU: A fame mentor? Are you serious?

DARLENE: As your father's fatal heart attack, yes.

BETTY LOU: Mom, I wanted one quiet day to myself. Just one! I was going to go to the park and relax.

DARLENE: You've been spending an awful lot of time at that park as it is. Just what do you do there?

BETTY LOU: *(Evasive.)* Nothing.

DARLENE: I don't believe that. Tell me exactly what goes on at that park!

BETTY LOU: I just go there to unwind and to try to be myself. It feels like the one place I CAN be myself.

DARLENE: Do you talk to anybody?

BETTY LOU: *(Again, evasive.)* Sometimes... sure.

DARLENE: Betty Lou, you have got to be careful. Now that your star is rising, you could be in real danger whenever you go out in public!

BETTY LOU: The park isn't dangerous. I just go there to meet... *(She stops herself.)*

DARLENE: Meet who?

BETTY LOU: Nobody. I didn't mean "meet," I meant... uh... I go there to...

DARLENE: You better not have a boyfriend! Millions of teenage boys around the world need to believe they have a shot with you. I have told you time and again, that you can't have a boyfriend unless he's starring on Nickelodeon or the Disney Channel.

BETTY LOU: I don't have a boyfriend. Let's just drop the subject.

DARLENE: Fine. We'll drop it. For now. Company's coming.

BETTY LOU: *(With a sigh.)* Who is this "fame mentor" anyway?

DARLENE: *(Excited.)* Oh, just a little somebody named... VERSAILLES WALDORF-ASTORIA!!! *(Beat.)* Am I the best agent/mother in the whole world or what? Imagine, THE Versailles Waldorf-Astoria teaching my little honey jar how to be famous! *(BETTY LOU looks less than thrilled.)* Why, I thought you'd be jumping up and down! What's wrong with you?

BETTY LOU: Versailles Waldorf-Astoria is nothing but a talentless bimbo who's rich and goes to lots of clubs and parties. She's only famous because she does stupid stuff all the time and goes on \$70,000 shopping sprees.

DARLENE: That may be. But you know who she is! Just like millions of other people know who she is!

BETTY LOU: But people don't know her for anything good!

DARLENE: What's that got to do with the price of corduroy in Wichita?

BETTY LOU: I am not going to be like her. Ever.

DARLENE: I never said you had to be like her. But what's the harm in learning a few tricks of the trade from an established celebrity?

BETTY LOU: *(Muttering.)* Yeah, I bet she has a great big bag of tricks.

DARLENE: What? What was that you said, Smarty-Face?

BETTY LOU: Never mind.

DARLENE: That's right, never mind! You'd think you could trust me by now. Why do you have to try and vex me today of all days? *(The doorbell rings. DARLENE adjusts her outfit.)* That's her. Now you be nice. I mean it.

***Thank you for reading this free excerpt from BETTY LOU TWINKLE'S
TABLOID SCANDAL by Bobby Keniston. 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**