

SERIAL KILLER BARBIE

By Colette Freedman

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CHARACTERS

CASSANDRA	High school girl, brunette, jealous of the DEBBIES
DEBBIE	High school girl, blonde, cheerleader, a DEBBIE
DEBBY	High school girl, blonde, cheerleader, a DEBBIE
DEBBI	High school girl, blonde, cheerleader, a DEBBIE

PROPS

Two cans of cherry Coke
Three matching lunch boxes
A straw
Brown lunch bag
Three blonde Barbie dolls
Knapsack
One Brunette Barbie doll
Charlie's Angels poster
Flask
Campaign poster
Envelopes
Tape recorder

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The more the DEBBIES are choreographed to move alike, the funnier the play is.

Serial Killer Barbie had its debut at the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles on March 9, 2004. The cast was as follows:

Cassandra:	Elizabeth Kouri
Debbie:	Zak Ruben
Debby:	Jade Sealey
Debbi:	Elise Robertson

Directed by: Alexander Yannis Stephano
Produced by: Jack and Jeannine Stehlin, Circus Theatricals

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AT RISE: An empty stage. Light comes up on CASSANDRA, a brunette wearing pigtails and a carrying a large knapsack. SHE holds a brown paper bag. SHE addresses the audience.

CASSANDRA: When your name is Cassandra Olympia Dunbarton, life is not a piece of cake. That's why I needed to get in early with the Debbies. They were the most popular girls in the first grade. Debutantes in training. Untouchable. ***(DEBBIE, DEBBI and DEBBY, three perfectly coiffed blondes walk out onstage in a row, carrying matching lunch boxes. SHE looks longingly at them.)*** Everyone wanted to be a Debbie. Their parents were divorced and remarried by the time they were seven. They had been to therapy. They were... cool.

(DEBBIES open their lunch boxes.)

DEBBIE: I have wheat bread with turkey.

DEBBI: I have a tofu salad with raisins.

DEBBY: I have yogurt and grapes.

CASSANDRA: ***(reaches into her brown paper bag and pulls out a pitiful sandwich)*** I have pb and j.

DEBBIES: Let's trade!

(DEBBIE gives to DEBBI who gives to DEBBY who gives to DEBBIE. They eat.)

CASSANDRA: It's funny how one's personality is determined so early in life. ***(SHE pulls out four Barbie Dolls. Three are blonde and one is brunette. SHE stands behind each respective DEBBIE about whom SHE is speaking and holds up the representative Barbie.)*** Take Debbie with an e. Classic A type personality: has to be first in the lunch line, first to the playground, first to learn the ABC'S. She always needs to be first. ***(pulls off the head of Barbie 1)*** Then Debby with a y. A bit dumb, but the prettiest of the Debbies, so they accept her unequivocally. She doesn't even know what the word unequivocally means. Sure, I'm bitter, but look at her. She's a doll. ***(pulls off the head of Barbie 2)*** And then there's Debbi with an i. That doesn't even spell Debbie, it spells, deb-eye. She's the toughest one to figure out. My ultimate nemesis and the one with whom I so desperately want to be best friends. ***(pulls off***

the head of Barbie 3) And me. I guess I'm serial killer Barbie. **(makes an evil laugh as her Barbie stomps all over the headless Barbies)** Kidding. I'm kidding. What? Did you think I was a psychopathic killer or something?

DEBBI: Let the meeting of the Charlie's Angels Club begin.

CASSANDRA: **(to audience)** This was it! I'd have my chance. All three of them were blonde. I had a 66.6% ratio of being an angel. Both Sabrina Duncan and Kelly Garrett were brunettes. Even if we picked seasons two through five, there was ALWAYS a brunette in the trio. I was in! I had already endured being ALICE in the Brady Bunch and Ruben Kinkaid in The Partridge Family. This was it. My big break!

DEBBI: After careful consideration, I have found the perfect way to assign parts fairly. Debby, because your name ends in 'y', you get to be Kelly. Debbie, you have six letters in your name and so does Farrah, so you get to be Jill. Because I look most like Sabrina, I will be Sabrina.

CASSANDRA: But, I look more like Sabrina than you do!

DEBBI: No, you don't. Fine. We'll put it to a vote. Cassandra and Debby stand side to side. **(DEBBIE unrolls a poster of KATE JACKSON as SABRINA.)**

DEBBIE: Debby definitely looks more like her.

DEBBY: Definitely.

DEBBI: Definitely.

(The DEBBIES leave.)

CASSANDRA: So, I played Bosley. And when Farrah turned into Cheryl Ladd, Debbie played her. And when Sabrina turned into Shelly Hack, Debby played her. Even when Tonya Roberts joined the show, Debby played her. **(DEBBIES return in matching girl scout uniforms.)** The Debbies remained popular all through elementary school and my need to conform grew even stronger.

DEBBI: Welcome to the first meeting of Whitefish Bay Middle School's AA club.

CASSANDRA: **(to the audience)** Their parents were all in various twelve step programs, so having our own club for addictions was in the vogue.

DEBBIE: I'll begin. Hi, my name is Debbie.

DEBBI, DEBBY and CASSANDRA: Hi, Debbie.

DEBBIE: And I'm a workaholic. I take care of my brother in the morning, I go to school all day, I come home and do my homework, talk on the phone, feed the dog and then go to bed.

DEBBY: Hi, my name's Debby.

DEBBI, DEBBIE and CASSANDRA: Hi, Debby.

DEBBY: And I'm a sodaholic. I love carbonated beverages. Orange Slush, Diet Coke, Dr. Pepper, you name it, I love it. I know we're not supposed to drink soda in school, but- **(sheepishly pulls out a flask)** I can't go anywhere without my Mr. Pibbs.

DEBBI: That's okay Debbi, one day at a time. Hi, my name's Debbi

DEBBIE, DEBBY and CASSANDRA: Hi Debbi.

DEBBI: Hi. I can't decide which I am more of, a foodaholic or an exerciseaholic. I mean I love to eat. Everything, candy, hotdogs, chips. When my mom put me on a Slim Fast diet, I actually started to enjoy the bars and would eat four or five of them at a time. But, see, I'm also an exerciseaholic. I love doing aerobics, running, dancing -

CASSANDRA: Throwing up.

DEBBIE: Not everything has to be cardiovascular.

DEBBY: Go on.

DEBBIE: Bicycling, Richard Simmons videos, gymnastics and ballet.

CASSANDRA: Oh. I guess it's my turn. Hi, my name's Debbie.

DEBBI: No, it's not.

CASSANDRA: Yes it is, I'm in the process of having it legally changed.

DEBBI, DEBBY and DEBBIE: **(annoyed)** Hi, Cassandra.

CASSANDRA: Okay, hi, everyone, I mean, my name's Cassandra, I'm really pleased to be here and I'm a, I'm a, I'm a... **(DEBBIES get frustrated and exit.)** I'm fourteen years old... let's be honest, the only thing I'm really obsessed with is Sean Cassidy and being a Debbie. I couldn't figure out the source of my obsession. In "Free To Be You And Me," Marlo Thomas sang repeatedly about the importance of being yourself. **(sings)** 'And you and me are free to be, you and me, babababa, yeah, babababa...' **(back to audience)** But I didn't want to be me. I wanted to be a Debbie. Why did I feel such a strong need to assimilate. I'm Jewish for god sakes, we've been forced to assimilate our whole lives, I was perpetuating the historical cycle.

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