

# WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...? EIGHT 10-MINUTE TALES OF IMPROBABILITY

By Sean Abley, Scott Oken, Randy Wyatt and Amy Seeley

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# WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...? EIGHT 10-MINUTE TALES OF IMPROBABILITY

*A Full Length Comedy*

**By Sean Abley, Scott Oken, Randy Wyatt and Amy Seeley**

**SYNOPSIS:** Dr. Scientist hosts an evening of “What would happen if...?” experiments like “What if Cinderella was a vampire?” (Cinderella: Bloodsucker), “What would happen if Peanut Butter never met Jelly?” (Pantry Tales: A Matter of Flavor), “What would happen if the Three Stooges were rational people?” (Stooge Upgrade), “What would happen if the Queen of England was a robot?” (Queen Elizabeth: The World’s Only Robot Queen!), “What would happen if Cleopatra hosted a talk show?” (Cleopatra’s Ancient Egyptian Awesome Talk Show!), “What would happen if Winnie the Pooh was a samurai?” (The Way of the Bear), “What would happen if Free Muffin Day was a lot more dangerous?” (Free Muffin Day) and “What would happen if all the bicycles in Britain had square wheels?” (The Square-Wheeled Bicycles of London, England). This is a great evening of theater, OR you can break out each one-act for drama festivals and competitions!

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(5-17 females, 4-16 males, 0-19 either; doubling possible, gender flexible)*

### **WRAP AROUND SEGMENT #1-#10**

DR. SCIENTIST (m/f)

### **CINDERELLA: BLOOD SUCKER**

CINDERELLA (f)

OLD CODGER/CRONE (m/f)

DRACULA (m)

EVIL STEPSISTER (f)

PRINCE CHARMING (m)

FAIRY GODMOTHER (f)

**PANTRY TALES: A MATTER OF FLAVOR**

PEANUT BUTTER (m/f)

JELLY (m/f)

BREAD (m/f)

BUTTER KNIFE (m/f)

**THE WAY OF THE BEAR**

SMART ONE (m/f)

WORRIER (m/f)

BEAR (m)

LITTLE BOAR (m/f)

LARGE NINJA (f)

SMALL NINJA (m/f)

EMO DONKEY (m/f)

INTRUDER (m)

**CLEOPATRA'S ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AWESOME TALK SHOW!**

CLEOPATRA (f)

KING TUT (m)

MARK ANTONY (m)

JULIUS CAESAR (m)

TINA SPHINX (f)

DUSTY BREEZE (m)

SHIRLEY DAVENPORT (f)

YOUNG WOMAN (f)

MISS JUPITER VENUS (f)

**THE SQUARE-WHEELED BICYCLES OF LONDON, ENGLAND**

BRITISH MAN (m)

BRITISH WOMAN (f)

SALESMAN/SALESWOMAN (m/f)

THIEF (m/f)

PARBOIL (f)

**STOOGES UPGRADE**

ANGIE (f)

MOE DEWEY (m)

LARRY CHEATUM (m)

CURLEY HOWE (m)

**QUEEN ELIZABETH: THE WORLD'S ONLY ROBOT QUEEN!**

QUEEN ELIZABETH (f)

PRINCE WILLIAM (m)

CATHERINE (f)

HUNNICUT (m)

MINISTER (m/f)

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT (m)

THE REAL QUEEN (f)

MARGARET (f)

**FREE MUFFIN DAY**

AMY (f)

JIMMY (m)

PATRICK (m/f)

CLERK (m/f)

MRS. SCONENIBBLER (f)

AGENT ONE (m/f)

AGENT TWO (m/f)

AGENT THREE (m/f)

## NOTE ON DOUBLING

As you can see, this collection can be performed by as few as nine (yes, nine!) actors, and as many as 52, and any number in between! If you choose to double cast, each story is self-contained, so you can cast each actor in as many stories as you see fit; however, DR. SCIENTIST would probably be difficult to double. We recommend that role be played by a non-doubled actor.

**DURATION:** 80 minutes.

## PRODUCTION NOTES

This collection of short one-acts was written to be performed together as one evening's worth of theater, broken out for high school and middle school drama festivals, or one-act festivals in general. The wrap-around dialogue may be eliminated if unnecessary for your production, and proper playwright credit should be given when specific pieces are performed.

Two pieces in this collection, *Cinderella: Bloodsucker* and *The Square-Wheeled Bicycles of London, England*, were written to be performed as quick-change one-acts for two performers. Casting all the roles separately is also acceptable.

## PROPS

### CINDERELLA: BLOODSUCKER

- Glass Slipper
- Pumpkin
- Bat
- Mouse
- Chair
- 1-2 Vampire Fangs

### PANTRY TALES: A MATTER OF FLAVOR

- Glass of water that is labeled "Garlic Juice"
- A long staff, Butter Knife carries to signify her spreading power
- Slice of Bread

**THE WAY OF THE BEAR**

- Pool Noodle Swords
- Medicine Bottles
- Nun Chucks
- Donkey's Tail

**CLEOPATRA'S ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AWESOME TALK SHOW!**

- Clipboard
- Scroll
- Cup of Juice
- Headset
- Ace Bandage (2 feet length)

**THE SQUARE-WHEELED BICYCLES OF LONDON, ENGLAND**

- Square-Wheeled Bicycles (2)
- Child's Purse with Keys, Address Card, 1000 British Pounds
- Bicycle Bell

**STOOGES UPGRADE**

- Phone
- Watch
- Tool Bag with Crazy Tools
- Wrench
- Pickaxe
- Shovel
- Sledgehammer
- Pliers
- Pies
- 3 Pie Boxes
- Pipe
- Silverware
- Soda Water

**QUEEN ELIZABETH: THE WORLD'S ONLY ROBOT QUEEN!**

- Tea Pot
- Three Tea Cups
- Cream and Sugar
- Tray of Scones
- Tool Belt with Tools
- Tape Measure
- Jar of Marmalade
- Bouquet of Flowers

**FREE MUFFIN DAY**

- Service Bell
- "Free Muffin Day" Flyer
- Muffins on Tray
- Muffin ammo Belt
- Basket of Muffins
- "Perfectly Normal Bakery" Sign

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### PRODUCTION HISTORY

*WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF...? SIX 10-MINUTE TALES OF IMPROBABILITY* was first produced at Kankakee High School, Kankakee IL, on May 17, 2013 under the direction of Deena Badr-Cassady, stage management and light board by Kevin Gaytan, technical direction by Eric Penrod, props by Cynthia Harris, costumes by Nancy Coghlan and Jean Roth, prop management by Tatyana Pore, wigs by Jackie Fischer. The cast was as follows:

DR. SCIENTIST -----	Orlando Higginbottom
OLD CODGER -----	Curtis Goodman
DRACULA -----	Brandon Tutewiler
EVIL STEPSISTER -----	Teanna Grzych
PRINCE CHARMING -----	Seth Serena
CINDERELLA -----	Natalia Walker
FAIRY GODMOTHER -----	Mila Nickens
CLEOPATRA -----	Lauren Hill
KING TUT -----	Sion Lightfoot
MARK ANTONY -----	Bryan Jones
JULIUS CAESAR -----	Trey Anthony
DUSTY BREEZE -----	Teonne Randolph
SHIRLEY DAVENPORT -----	Leslie Taylor
MUMMY -----	Ethan McChristy
MISS JUPITER -----	Julianna Ramos
BRITISH MAN -----	Mick Mullady
BRITISH WOMAN -----	Emma Acevedo
SALESMAN -----	Chase Carson
PARBOIL -----	Kennadi Malone
THIEF -----	John McMullen
LARRY -----	Will Tudor
MOE -----	Vernon Freeman
CURLY -----	Juan Garcia
ANGIE -----	Re'Anna Clark
ELIZABETH -----	Dylanie Denoyer
PRINCE WILLIAM -----	Jose Batana
CATHERINE -----	Gabby Keller
HUNNICUT -----	Ana Castillo
MINISTER OF DECORATIVE HATS -----	Gustavo Gonzalez
PRESIDENT TAFT -----	Dylan Harris
THE REAL QUEEN OF ENGLAND -----	Tatyana Pore

\*"The Way of the Bear" and "Free Muffin Day" were not included in the first performance.

## WRAP AROUND #1

**SETTING:** A laboratory.

**SET PIECES:** Lab table, Lab equipment. (Set pieces are optional)

### COSTUME

**DR. SCIENTIST** – White lab coat over office attire. Dress, shirt/blouse, tie slacks, dress shoes.

**AT RISE:** *Lights up, DR. SCIENTIST, in a lab coat and protective glasses, is revealed on stage. He addresses the audience.*

**DR. SCIENTIST:** Hello, and welcome to “What Would Happen If...?”, where questions you never asked are answered in a way you never expected. I’m Dr. Scientist, and I’m the official smart person here at “What Would Happen If...?” I lead a team of marginally talented pseudo-scientists dedicated to making stuff up. Or do we? Tonight we have six hypothesis based on ridiculous premises. Seriously, who comes up with this stuff? Oh, wait – I do! We’ll start our evening with a simple twist to a favorite fairy tale. What would happen if...Cinderella met Count Dracula?

**CINDERELLA: BLOODSUCKER****By Sean Abley****CAST OF CHARACTERS***(3 female, 2 male 1 either)*

CINDERELLA (f) .....	The legendary princess-wannabe with a bloodsucking twist. <i>(24 lines)</i>
OLD CODGER/CRONE (m/f) .....	That wise old person from every fable. <i>(3 lines)</i>
DRACULA (m) .....	The Prince of Darkness. <i>(6 lines)</i>
EVIL STEPSISTER (f).....	Cinderella's terrible stepsister. <i>(5 lines)</i>
PRINCE CHARMING (m).....	Handsome and charming and not a great guy. <i>(17 lines)</i>
FAIRY GODMOTHER (f) .....	She means well, but maybe not so on the ball. <i>(11 lines)</i>

**CAST NOTE:** The play was originally written so two actors could play all the roles with basic quick changes (see below). Some of the humor will come from the cheap and unconvincing costumes used for the changes. Casting individual actors for each role would also be acceptable.

ACTOR ONE.....	OLD CODGER/CRONE, DRACULA, EVIL STEPSISTER, PRINCE CHARMING.
ACTOR TWO.....	CINDERELLA, FAIRY GODMOTHER.

**SETTING:** The forest and Cinderella's home.

**SET PIECES:** Something to represent a large log on which the characters sit (forest).

## PROPS

- Glass Slipper
- Pumpkin
- Bat
- Mouse
- Chair
- 1-2 Vampire Fangs

**COSTUMES:** Modify and simplify as needed for quick change version.

CINDERELLA – Typical princess costume.

OLD CODGER/CRONE – Large cloak or cape with hood over old, torn clothing. (If clothing can be seen.)

DRACULA – All black shirt and pants, and a cape.

EVIL STEPSISTER – Typical princess costume, but more obnoxious.

PRINCE CHARMING – Some version of bright military uniform, or puffy shirt with fancy belt, boots and pants.

FAIRY GODFATHER – Big and flowy attire, with lots of crinolines, bustle and volume, plus fairy wings.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The characters in Cinderella: Bloodsucker know they are characters in a play, so feel free to break the fourth wall as often as you'd like!



**AT RISE:** *Lights up, An OLD CODGER/CRONE speaks to the audience.*

**OLD CODGER/CRONE:** Welcome, my children. That is, I assume some of you are my children. I've very old, and to be honest large portions of my life are a bit of a blur. But let's assume the best and you're all my children. Welcome! Come closer if you want to hear a dark tale.... closer... closer... (*Reacts to smell.*) Okay, move back a little. One of you needs a mint or one of those breath strip things. (*Fanning his/her nose.*) Whew, garlic for lunch. Good choice. Anyway... (*Back to being a storyteller.*) Tonight I will tell you a dark tale, a horrid tale, a tale of ne'er-do-wells of the night and their terrible misdeeds. A tale so chilling it has been buried for centuries. The tale of...Cinderella! (*Waits a beat, then.*) There was supposed to be thunder and lightning there. Thanks for nothing, back stage crew! Man, I hate these low budget productions. Anyway, once upon a time Cinderella was running home from the Royal Ball where she'd met the handsome prince. (*Exits.*)

**CINDERELLA:** (*Enters, limping, wearing one glass high heel shoe and carrying a pumpkin.*) I can't believe Fairy Godmother talked me into this "pumpkin into carriage into pumpkin at midnight" deal. Worst lease agreement ever! And glass slippers? Definitely for photo shoots, *not* for runway. (*Sits down and rubs her feet.*) And did ya half to include the "mice into horses into mice at midnight" thing into the deal? At least I could have ridden one of them home.

**DRACULA:** (*Enters.*) Well, well, well. What do we have here?

**CINDERELLA:** (*Startled.*) Aaaaahh!!! You scared me! Who are you?

**DRACULA:** Count Dracula. And you are?

**CINDERELLA:** Pleased to meet you, Mr. Count Dracula. Were you at the ball? I'm Cinderella, and I've had a night, let me tell you. I met this awesome guy at the Royal Ball, and then my horses turned to mice, and my carriage turned into a pumpkin, and my dress turned to rags, and I lost one of my shoes. And P.S., I'm not sure why my shoes didn't turn into something when everything else did. And now I have to walk home by myself through these dark woods, but I'm pretty sure nothing terrible will happen to me out here.

**DRACULA:** (*Encroaching on CINDERELLA, hypnotic.*) But you are trespassing. And the punishment for trespassing is... something terrible happening to you!

**CINDERELLA:** (*Backs away, holding the pumpkin as a shield.*) Now don't come any closer! I've got a pumpkin and I'm not afraid to use it! Ooohh, I wish I would have taken that karate class my father told me about before he died!

**DRACULA:** Your pumpkin is no match for a creature of the night! You will be my bride!

**CINDERELLA:** No! Stay back!

*The action goes slow-mo, with DRACULA grabbing at CINDERELLA as she fends him off. They sing the melody of that song used in every action film during the action sequences.*

**CINDERELLA:** (*Slow-mo.*) Nooooooooo.....!!!

**DRACULA:** (*Slow-mo.*) Ah-ha-ha-ha.....!

*DRACULA bares his fangs and moves in to bite as CINDERELLA swings the pumpkin around to protect herself. DRACULA bites into the pumpkin, takes it from her, makes a "This tastes terrible" face, and then tosses it offstage. He finally catches her and bites her in the neck. She pushes away. The slow-mo stops, and action resumes in real time.*

**CINDERELLA:** You bit me! And my pumpkin! Who bites a pumpkin?! Get away from me, freak! (*Exits.*)

**DRACULA:** You can run, but you can't hide from the darkness that will slowly envelop you! As my blood courses through your veins, you will slowly transform into... a vampire! AH HA HA HA HA HA!!! (*Takes way to long to exit, laughing all the way.*) Ah ha ha ha ha ha! AH HA HA ha ha ha ha! Ah ha ha ha ha ha!! (*Exits.*)

*CINDERELLA'S HOME. CINDERELLA staggers in, holding her neck.*

**CINDERELLA:** Ow, ow, ow, ow! I can't believe that guy bit me! What a jerk! Ouch! (*Reacts to something in her pocket.*) Oh, what's that?! Oh, Mousey Mouse! I forgot you were in there. (*Pulls a mouse out of her pocket.*) Hello, Mousey Mouse! Thanks a lot for changing back to a mouse right when I could have used a horse. Super weak, dude. But I forgive you. You're too cute to be mad at for long. (*Reacts to her stomach growling.*) Oh! My stomach! I'm suddenly so hungry! Oh! My goodness, I'm so...so...hungry.... (*Reacts to Mousey Mouse speaking to her.*) No, Mousey Mouse, I don't want a Chipotle Chicken Panini. I want something...bloodier... (*Eyeing Mousey Mouse.*) Something warm...and living...I'm so hungry I could eat a horse...that's now a mouse...

*EVIL STEPSISTER enters as CINDERELLA begins to devour Mousey Mouse.*

**EVIL STEPSISTER:** Oh, there you are, Cinderella. Looking D-list as always, I see. What are you doing?

**CINDERELLA:** (*Tosses Mousey Mouse aside.*) Nothing. Just a little pest control. What do you want, Evil Stepsister?

**EVIL STEPSISTER:** While you were out all night chasing a prince, this place got filthy dirty and turned into a pigsty.

**CINDERELLA:** And?

**EVIL STEPSISTER:** And you need to clean it up!

**CINDERELLA:** With?

**EVIL STEPSISTER:** With a broom or a Swiffer or something! I don't know! That's not my job! I'm the evil stepsister. My job is to be evil and laugh when you fall down stairs and stuff. I don't do housework. Now get to work or I'm telling mom. Man, sometimes you are such a pain in the neck.

**CINDERELLA:** For that horrible set up, you deserve this.

*CINDERELLA attacks EVIL STEPSISTER, biting her on the neck.*

**EVIL STEPSISTER:** Nooo! Stop biting me! I just put on some [name of current expensive or well-known perfume] and you're wrecking it! (*She pulls away from CINDERELLA, almost dead.*) I'm going to die offstage because this is a low budget production, and they can't afford enough actors to fill out the cast... (*Exits.*)

**CINDERELLA:** First a mouse, now my evil stepsister! My hunger is growing! What did that guy in the cape do to me?! I must feed! I must run into the night and feed! (*Exits. From offstage.*) I transformed into a bat and I'm flying into the night!

**SFX:** *From offstage we hear knock on the door.*

**PRINCE CHARMING:** (*Offstage.*) Hello? Hello? Cinderella? It's Prince Charming! I found your shoe and I'm here to whisk you off to a life of amazingsness! I'll just let myself in. (*A beat. Still offstage.*) I'm in now! Where are you? Where is everyone? Oh, my goodness! Evil Stepsister! Someone has killed you in a horrible, bloody way and now I've found your body right here by the front door! Murder! (*Enters.*) Murder! Cinderella! Are you alright?! I have your shoe, and I'm still interested even though your sister's dead body is in the foyer!

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** (*Enters. Then sweetly.*) Did someone say "dead body"?

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Fairy Godmother! You're here!

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Yes, young man. I came to check on Cinderella.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Speaking of Cinderella, you look a lot like her.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Well, you look a lot like her evil stepsister. What about it?

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Point taken. Where is my love? I come bearing the glass slipper she left behind. And speaking of glass slippers, why did her carriage, horses and gown all change at midnight, but the glass slippers didn't?

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Look, I'm Fairy Godmother to three different, sad and pathetic princess wannabes. Sometimes these things slip through the cracks. Sue me.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Prancing and jumping around the stage, looking for CINDERELLA.)* Cinderella! My love? Light of my life? Where are you? Are you here? Are you under this chair? Where are you my darling?

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Prince, have a seat. I have some bad news.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(He sits.)* Yes?

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** So... while I wasn't looking, which is *totally* my bad, and I take full responsibility... a certain princess-to-be was...attacked by Count Dracula. And then she ate a mouse, and then killed her evil stepsister – no loss there – and now she's transformed into a bat and is terrorizing the villagers.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Leaps off his chair.)* You mean she—?

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** –is a vampire.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Dramatically falling to the floor in a heap.)* Nooo! It can't be true! She's the only woman I've ever loved! Why? Why? *(Has a little temper tantrum on the floor.)*

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** I hate to bring this up at such a sensitive time, but I'm going to need that glass slipper back.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Clutching the glass slipper.)* No! It's all I have left of her!

*FAIRY GODMOTHER tries to take the glass slipper away from PRINCE CHARMING, resulting in a tug of war.*

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Well, that's not true. You have the wonderful magical memories of your night together at the Royal Ball, and her evil stepsister's dead body in the foyer. *(She gets the glass slipper.)* Gotcha! Okay, the other one must be in her somewhere. If she's a bat, it's obviously not still on her foot. *(Searches the room.)*

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Fairy Godmother, you have to save her! Can't you transform her back into a human?

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Sorry kiddo, can't use my magic to undo someone else's work. Professional courtesy. What I *can* do is hook you up with one of my other projects. I might have to turn you into a frog first to get them to kiss you, but hey, a date's a date.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** No, thanks.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER:** Suit yourself. Let me know if you change your mind. Now where is that other shoe...? *(Exits.)*

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Whoa is me! Me is whoa! My beautiful bride-to-be has flown away into the night. What am I to do now?

*A BAT flies in. It speaks with CINDERELLA'S voice.*

**CINDERELLA:** *(Offstage as BAT.)* Hello, my prince!

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Terrified, backs away.)* Aahhhh!!! A talking bat!

**CINDERELLA:** *(Offstage as BAT.)* I'm not just a talking bat! I'm Cinderella, the talking *vampire* bat. You totally fell in love with me at the Royal Ball, and now you're here to make me your bride, right? Seriously, I'm so in love with you, I can barely stand it!

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Avoiding the flying BAT.)* Whoa, wait a minute! Yeah, I fell in love with you, but that was the pretty, human-shaped you. Bats are, like... *(Full body shudder and 'I'm grossed out' noise.)*

**CINDERELLA:** *(Offstage as BAT.)* Do you mean to tell me that you don't want to marry me because of the way I look? That you can't see the real me, the Cinderella at the Royal Ball, inside this bat's body? I'm still the person you fell in love with. My circumstances may have changed, but deep down, I'm still Cinderella, the lonely girl from the village in love with a prince.

**PRINCE CHARMING:** *(Kindly.)* You're right. It was wrong of me to judge you by the way you look. What matters most about someone is what's on the inside. I apologize. I love you, Cinderella, and I always will.

**CINDERELLA:** *(Offstage as BAT.)* Oh, Prince Charming, I'm the happiest girl on Earth!

**PRINCE CHARMING:** Me, too, my love. Me, too. *(Sees something offstage.)* Hey, is that a very slow villager pushing a cart of small, defenseless, delicious looking animals?

**CINDERELLA:** *(Offstage as BAT.)* What?! Where?! *(Flies off.)*

**PRINCE CHARMING:** I'm outta here. *(Races off in the opposite direction.)*

**CINDERELLA:** *(Enters.)* There wasn't any slow villager out there, you silly prince! I love your sense of humor. Prince? Prince? Where are you? *(Sees him in the distance.)* Prince, why are you sprinting down the road? We need to get fitted for wedding rings! *(Exits off after PRINCE CHARMING.)*

**OLD CODGER/CRONE:** (*Enters and speaks to the audience.*)

Cinderella tracked Prince Charming down, bit him on the neck thus turning him into a vampire, and they lived happily ever after until angry villagers drove stakes into both their hearts. The end. Now wasn't that terrifying and gruesome? No? Some people have no taste. Just FYI, the Fairy Godmother finally did find that other glass slipper, but no one ever found the pumpkin that was once a carriage. There are rumors, however...

*The pumpkin, now a vampire pumpkin with fangs, flies in and attaches itself to OLD CODGER/CRONE'S neck.*

**OLD CODGER/CRONE:** (*Struggling with vampire pumpkin.*)

Ahhhh!!!!

*Blackout.*

**END OF PLAY**

## WRAP AROUND #2

**AT RISE:** *Lights up, DR. SCIENTIST is on stage.*

**DR. SCIENTIST:** Ouch! That is one super mean pumpkin! And that Count Dracula isn't such a great guy, either. Cinderella is one of our favorite subjects around here. Check out our website for the full episodes of "What would happen if Cinderella just wasn't into Prince Charming?" and "What would happen if Cinderella ate a live rattlesnake?" We had to be careful with our next experiment. When you're rearranging the building blocks of life itself, the proper precautions must be taken, lest you accidentally wipe humanity off the face of the earth. With that, we present – What would happen if...peanut butter and jelly never met?

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**PANTRY TALES: A MATTER OF FLAVOR****By Scott Oken****CAST OF CHARACTERS***(4 either; gender flexible)*

PEANUT BUTTER (m/f) .....	Classic sandwich spread made of peanuts. <i>(32 lines)</i>
JELLY (m/f).....	Any flavor, smooth, sweet. <i>(26 lines)</i>
BREAD (m/f).....	High in fiber. <i>(59 lines)</i>
BUTTER KNIFE (m/f) .....	Sharp, smart, a matchmaker. <i>(40 lines)</i>

**CAST NOTE:** Ideally PEANUT BUTTER and BREAD should be played by males and JELLY and BUTTER KNIFE should be played by females, but it will work any way you cast it.

**SETTING:** A typical kitchen pantry.

**SET PIECES:** This can be achieved by using multiple levels as shelves. (i.e. The floor, a chair, or some theatrical blocks to show levels.)

**PROPS**

- Glass of water that is labeled “Garlic Juice”
- A long staff, Butter Knife carries to signify her spreading power
- Slice of Bread

**COSTUMES**

PEANUT BUTTER – Light brown shirt and brown cap.

JELLY – Purple shirt and purple cap.

BREAD – White t-shirt with light brown gloves and brown fedora type hat  
(to signify crust.)

BUTTER KNIFE – Silver shirt with a silver hat made to fashion a blade (this can be done with cardboard.)

## DIRECTORS NOTES

Stage right is the entrance to the bakery. Stage left is the entrance to the back room where the offstage actions takes place.

**AT RISE:** *Lights up. We are in the very first pantry ever! PEANUT BUTTER and BREAD are sitting on the shelf. They move next to each other and start talking.*

**BREAD:** Peanut Butter, my good man!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Oh, hey Bread.

**BREAD:** Did you hear about Mustard and Mayonnaise?

**PEANUT BUTTER:** They made up, right? I knew they couldn't stay mad at each other.

**BREAD:** Quite correct, if they would have broken up, that would not have been good. I don't like that much change.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Maybe a little change is what we need.

**BREAD:** Come again?

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Man I'm bored

**BREAD:** Bored? What do you mean? It's almost lunchtime!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** So...

**BREAD:** So?!?!? It's time for us to combine our efforts and make something delicious...like always!!!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** That's just it...like always! Every day around noon, sometimes 3, sometimes 11pm, some of me combine with some of you and the same old flavor happens. It's getting old!

**BREAD:** What are you talking about? It's the classic way!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Classic boring way, it's only one slice. I don't even get to be a sandwich! I never get to know what that's like! You get to be a sandwich constantly!

**BREAD:** Well you can't have a sandwich without bread, now can you?

**PEANUT BUTTER:** That doesn't make me feel any better. Ham, Bologna, Salami, heck even Cheese gets in on it! What do I get? One slice?!?! It's not fair!

**BREAD:** You need to calm yourself. Sometimes we have to be happy for what we are and not worry about what we are not. As you know, to be a sandwich, one must have one flavor per slice.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Why Bread? Why? Why can't there be a sandwich with one flavor. One flavor TWO pieces of Bread!

**BREAD:** Stop that talk right now! You know you will dilute between two slices. It only lessens your impact!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Sage advice as always, Bread, but I still don't like it. If only there was another flavor out there, something unique, that I can merge with and make one great sandwich!

**BREAD:** I don't think you and Ham would work.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Probably not...what about Bologn...

**BREAD:** ...still a meat...

**PEANUT BUTTER:** How about Cheese!

**BREAD:** You're lactose intolerant.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** I could think outside the box...chocolate?

**BREAD:** Now you're just reaching...

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Darn it!!!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** (*Enters.*) Gentlemen!

**BREAD:** Ah! Hello, Butter Knife!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** (*Dejected.*) ...Hi...

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Hey, what's eating you?

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Apparently those who are content with complacency!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Now that's a mouthful...

**BREAD:** Peanut Butter is lamenting the sandwich issue.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Oh, I see, well chin up, PB, I hear there's talk of an all PB sandwich, with 2 slices of bread.

**BREAD:** Heresy! Dilution of flavor!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** That's a little extreme, don't you think? It's been said that they're trying to come up with a meat alternative. I mean, you have to say you are one of a kind.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** They'll never do it! Face it! I'm destined to be a half a sandwich for the rest of my life! (*Storms off.*)

**BUTTER KNIFE:** My, he's really upset!

**BREAD:** He's still young. He'll get over it. Nobody likes change anyway.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Oh, I don't know about that. Did you hear Pickles are joining up with Tomatoes and are going to work with the Meat boys?

**BREAD:** What?!?!? That's not right!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I hear it works.

**BREAD:** Maybe you hear too much!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Why the resistance? I like it. You know me; I'm always here to help.

**BREAD:** I know, you help everyone. Don't you get tired of that? Don't you get tired of having to be the tool that gets everyone to their slice?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I never get tired of it. It makes me feel fantastic!

**BREAD:** If we start combining these flavors, there's going to be more options, and then more work for me!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Don't you want to keep working?

**BREAD:** Not all the time! I like it here. I have my nice little plastic wrapping, I'm sliced perfectly... heck... they used to think I was the greatest thing! They still use me as a comparison when something new comes around!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** "The greatest thing since sliced bread" Yeah, I remember. You know my family has a hand in that, you know.

**BREAD:** *(Not amused.)*...of course they do...

**JELLY:** *(Enters.)* Hey guys! You hear about Mustard and Mayonnaise?

**BREAD and BUTTER KNIFE:** Yes.

**JELLY:** How about Pickles and Tomatoes!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** We were just discussing it.

**JELLY:** I just love when new flavors get together.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Hey, wait a minute... Jelly, you've been around forever, and you've been on one slice for some time. Have you ever been on two?

**JELLY:** It was tried once...it didn't go over too well

**BREAD:** Hey, is it not lunchtime? Butter Knife, take a slice and combine Jelly so they could eat!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Hold on...J, have you ever met Peanut Butter?

**JELLY:** No. Is he new?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Relatively...you two should....

**BREAD:** BUTTER KNIFE! QUICK! YOUR DRAWER IS OPEN AND FORK AND SPOON ARE GETTING READY TO FIGHT!!!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** What??! Again??! I better go check that out. See you later guys! *(Exits.)*

**JELLY:** Wow, she's really dedicated. I like her.

**BREAD:** Yeah, well...she's from the drawer, so I guess she's "special"

**JELLY:** Ha! So tell me about this Peanut Butter. Does he combine?

**BREAD:** (*Shifts eyes.*) No. He is content with his status. He's kind of a loner. He always wants to stay the course and he will lash out if one suggests otherwise.

**JELLY:** That's too bad. I mean, I like where I'm at too, but sometimes I'm thinking I would be a good match for another flavor, what do you think?

**BREAD:** Are you kidding? You're perfect the way you are! You don't need another flavor! Please...why change now? It never does any good!

**JELLY:** Wow...you make sense, Bread, you know I trust what you have to say!

**BREAD:** Good...I mean...thank you.

**JELLY:** You will let me know if there comes a flavor that's a good match, right?

**BREAD:** ...sure... (*Shifts eyes.*)

*We hear PEANUT BUTTER from offstage.*

**PEANUT BUTTER:** (*Offstage.*) YEAH, MEAT!!!!!!

**JELLY:** What's that?

**BREAD:** My word! Is that Cane Sugar I see? What's she doing here?

**JELLY:** MOM!

*JELLY exits as PEANUT BUTTER enters.*

**PEANUT BUTTER:** ...and the casing he rode in on!

**BREAD:** Where you just yelling at the Meat boys?

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Yeah, I was just talking hypothetically, you know, throwing things out like myself and Ham and they just laughed, and made fun of me!

**BREAD:** (*Going along with it.*) Those carcasses!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Then they told me to get outta there or they were gonna sick Jar of Olives on me.

**BREAD:** Those Olives are flavor bullies!!!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** You ain't kidding! Whatever...hey, who were you talking to just now?

**BREAD:** Uh...Butter Knife.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** It didn't look like Butter Knife.

**BREAD:** Uh...I mean...Salsa

**PEANUT BUTTER:** What? What's she doing here?

**BREAD:** Looking for Chip...

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Crud, I missed lunch, didn't I?

**BREAD:** Yes.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** Things are just not working out for me here.

**BREAD:** Perhaps you're right.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** You really think so?

**BREAD:** It may be time for you to move on. Find yourself. Maybe the sandwich route isn't good for you. Maybe you work better as a straight spread.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** What? Are you serious?

**BREAD:** I'm afraid so, my friend. Sometimes it takes a while before we find our true purpose. Did you know that my ancestors were originally eaten alone? No accompanying flavors. They would just break them into pieces, maybe dip them in Wine...Red wine...

**PEANUT BUTTER:** (*Shivers.*) Yyyuuuck!

**BREAD:** That's right. It took a while for us to find ourselves. Now it seems the same journey is upon you. You may never have a better time. Leave now...and look...Jar of Olives has you in their sights.

**PEANUT BUTTER:** I'm not afraid!

**BREAD:** Be afraid...be very afraid. They play for keeps! Trust me! Go! NOW! Leave this pantry and never look back!!!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** I am not a coward!

**BREAD:** This is not about cowardice! This is about Peanut Butter taking care of Peanut Butter for a change!

**PEANUT BUTTER:** You're right...thank you Bread...thank you.

**BREAD:** Vaya con George Washington Carver, my son.

*PEANUT BUTTER leaves as we switch to a different shelf and pick up with BUTTER KNIFE and JELLY talking.*

**JELLY:** You didn't see my mother over here, did you?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** No, I didn't

**JELLY:** Hmm. Weird. So did you resolve things with Fork and Spoon?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** There was nothing to resolve. The drawer's been closed for the last hour. I just made my rounds for lunch anyway but now I'm done. Why did you ask about your mother?

**JELLY:** Bread said he saw Cane Sugar come in, but I asked around and nobody has seen her today.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** That's two false stories by Bread today...what's up with that?

**JELLY:** Maybe somebody cut off his crusts again?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Hmm, he does hate that. Oh well, did he tell you about PB?

**JELLY:** You mean Peanut Butter? He said he doesn't combine. He said that he likes to work alone.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** What?!?!? That's the exact opposite of the truth! PB is BEGGING to combine! He wants to be a sandwich!

**JELLY:** Really? Do you think he and I would be good together?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** *(In thought.)* Yes...yes...yes it all makes sense! Of course you two would be perfect together. He is salty, you are sweet! This would be an unprecedented combination!!! It's right in our face!

**JELLY:** Well, why would Bread tell me those things?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** We're gonna go up there right now and find out!

*BUTTER KNIFE and JELLY go up to confront BREAD. BREAD is sitting alone triumphantly sipping garlic juice.*

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Bread, can we have a word with you?

**BREAD:** He's gone.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** What?

**BREAD:** You're too late. Peanut Butter is gone for good. I convinced him to leave. He needed to leave.

**JELLY:** But why?

**BREAD:** Because of you. Yes, because of you. Sooner or later you two would have combined. It would have made a flavor that would go down in history. Perfect for those that don't eat meat, perfect in its preservative, perfect for the small ones...and I had to make sure that would never happen.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** This makes no sense!

**BREAD:** It makes perfect sense! If those two flavors combine it will change the world! More flavors will combine! There will be infinite combinations! I cannot have that! I like things the way they are. I have my reasons, and my reasons satisfy me! You seem unable to understand them! You will continue with your one slice ways...

**JELLY:** ...but I thought...that I could be a sandwich too...

**BREAD:** Nonsense!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** You...you monster!

**BREAD:** Am I? Am I really this monster that you so want me to be?

Am I really this demon of taste that I hear whispered in the shadows? Perhaps I am. That is a burden that I will live with. What you need to understand is that all food stops and starts with me! I am BREAD!!! I am supreme!!! I was eaten by the GODS!!!! Did you possibly think...that I, who stand behind the plastic...would allow you...to combine?!?!?!?

**JELLY:** Why must progress stand still? What about the future?

**BREAD:** I may have just saved it for you.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** You've gone insane.

**BREAD:** Do you think my methods are unsound?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I don't see...any method at all. J, get behind me.

**JELLY:** But I need to know...

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Just do as I say and get behind me!

**BREAD:** How will she be put on a slice...without Bread?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** We'll just have to figure that out later...

**BREAD:** You cannot defeat me

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I have to try...

**BREAD:** Then...DIE!!!!

*BREAD and BUTTER KNIFE fight an epic battle for the ages. BREAD tries to smother BUTTER KNIFE, but she pushes him off. BREAD tries to get in repeated attacks until BUTTER KNIFE slices BREAD to within inches of his life. He falls as she stands over him.*

**BUTTER KNIFE:** It's over...I have the high ground.

**BREAD:** You underestimate my power!

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Don't try it...

*BREAD* tries to get up when *BUTTER KNIFE* finishes him off. *BREAD* lies lifeless.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I warned him. This pantry is no place for a madman. You must adapt. It's the way of the future. I...darn him...why did he make me do it? Is this what I am? Is this my calling? Am I to be the protector of all flavors? To evenly combine them so that the tastes may be perfect for all to behold? (*She holds up a small slice of BREAD.*) Alas, my poor Bread... I knew him well...

**JELLY:** Butter Knife...Butter Knife?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Sorry, I kinda zoned for a second.

**JELLY:** What happens now?

**BUTTER KNIFE:** I guess we try Wheat Bread...

**JELLY:** Sounds good to me.

**BUTTER KNIFE:** Let's go, it's almost time for mid-afternoon snack...

*JELLY and BUTTER KNIFE* exit. *Blackout.*

**END OF PLAY**

## WRAP AROUND #3

**AT RISE:** *Lights up. DR. SCIENTIST on stage.*

**DR. SCIENTIST:** I hope you're as horrified as I am at the thought of a peanut butter only sandwich. Disgusting. Thankfully, that story was just fiction. For our next experiment, we move on to the world of children's toys. Stuffed animals are appropriate for even the smallest of children. But what if those stuffed animals carried knives? Or swords? Or could kick your face off without even thinking about it? What would happen if... Winnie the Pooh were a ninja?

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**THE WAY OF THE BEAR****By Randy Wyatt****CAST OF CHARACTERS***(1 female, 1 male, 6 either; gender flexible)*

SMART ONE (m/f) .....	A chunky bird, talks using big words and enjoys the sound he makes. <i>(22 lines)</i>
WORRIER (m/f) .....	Long eared pal of Smart One, true to his name. <i>(17 lines)</i>
BEAR (m) .....	A warrior, a wandering traveler with a mysterious past, likes honey. <i>(21 lines)</i>
LITTLE BOAR (m/f) .....	Friend to Bear, falsetto voice. <i>(12 lines)</i>
LARGE NINJA (f) .....	A ninja, kangaroo-like. <i>(1 line)</i>
SMALL NINJA (m/f) .....	Also a ninja, not as tall. <i>(1 line)</i>
EMO DONKEY (m/f) .....	A donkey, depressed, talks slowly, has a removable tail, not fun at parties. <i>(6 lines)</i>
INTRUDER (m) .....	A jungle animal, orange with black stripes, bouncy, flouncy, also possibly horribly dangerous. <i>(5 lines)</i>

**SETTING:** A Samurai Training Camp in the Forrest of Hundred Measures.**PROPS**

- Pool Noodle Swords
- Medicine Bottles
- Nun Chucks
- Donkey's Tail

## COSTUMES

SMART ONE – Headscarf, owl wings, and a beak.

WORRIER – Headscarf, rabbit ears, and a cotton tail.

BEAR – Samurai armor, with a red t-shirt over it.

LITTLE BOAR – Silver helm, huge backpack, and a pig snout.

LARGE NINJA – Dressed in black, including black headscarf, and a big kangaroo tail.

SMALL NINJA – Dressed in black, including black headscarf, and a small kangaroo tail.

EMO DONKEY – Long grey ears, a long tail used as a fundoshi.

INTRUDER – Black and orange stripes, tail, and a headscarf.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The fights can be as choreographed or as silly as you like. Feel free to dress up your characters in samurai/ninja type clothing, but be careful not to cover their mouths!

◆ ◆ ◆

**AT RISE:** *Darkness. We hear a bamboo flute or ocarina. Also wood clicky noises. You know the ones.*

**WORRIER:** He is not ready.

**SMART ONE:** He will be as a stick carried by the stream.

*Lights slowly fade up on a stocky WARRIOR, back to us. Perhaps it is a sunrise.*

**WORRIER:** He is not ready.

**SMART ONE:** He will be as a little black raincloud, hovering over yon honey tree.

*Lights intensify. He is a silhouette. He is armored. He is doing Tai chi. These two things mix poorly.*

**WORRIER:** I tell you, he is not ready.

**SMART ONE:** This is why he comes to us. He must train.

*A tiny figure—LITTLE BOAR—waddles to the warrior, grunting, overburdened with a huge pack and many supplies, holding a sword-looking thing [a pool noodle would work well]. He almost falls over, but manages to hold the sword out in a ritualistic fashion to the warrior, who takes it solemnly from him. The warrior—BEAR—turns to face us, looking fierce, or perhaps hungry. LITTLE BOAR tries to look fierce too. It is adorable.*

**SMART ONE:** He must protect us.

*Flourish on the ocarina. Wood clicky noises. A tableau. SMART ONE enters SR as WORRIER enters SL. SMART ONE has wings and a head scarf that reads "WOL". WORRIER has a headscarf too, and long ears.*

**WORRIER:** *(To BEAR.)* From where do you travel?

**BEAR:** From the House of Robin.

**LITTLE BOAR:** Christopher!

**BEAR:** Shhh.

**SMART ONE:** Whom do you seek?

**BEAR:** I seek two sensei. Fables say they have knowledge and temperance to lend.

**LITTLE BOAR:** That's what Christopher—

**BEAR:** SHH!

**LITTLE BOAR:** That's what the Robin said.

**BEAR:** Yes. He said that. I think.

**SMART ONE:** I am the One with Knowledge that you seek. And this is the Worrier.

**LITTLE BOAR:** He doesn't look like a warrior.

**SMART ONE:** No, not a warrior. A Worrier.

**WORRIER:** *(To himself.)* Oh dear I knew I should have brought a sweater. It's so blustery today. *(He sees the others looking at him.)* What?

**SFX:** *There is a loud and distant NOISE, rumbly yet springy.*

*LITTLE BOAR instantly collapses.*

**LITTLE BOAR:** What--what was that?!

**SMART ONE:** The one called Robin is very wise to send you here. He knows of The Coming of the Intruder.

**LITTLE BOAR:** Oh dear. Oh my goodness. Oh my.

**BEAR:** Intruder?

**WORRIER:** The Intruder. A fearsome beast. Claws, fangs. Eats carrots.

*LITTLE BOAR shrieks and hides behind BEAR. BEAR doesn't much notice.*

**BEAR:** I seek your training. And honey. But mostly your training.

**SMART ONE:** The training will be arduous.

**BEAR:** I am ready, sensei.

**WORRIER:** He is not ready.

**SMART ONE:** *(Taking the sword-thing from BEAR.)* You must begin with only your wits and agility. That is the way of the warrior.

**BEAR:** Hey. I just got that.

**SMART ONE:** You must learn to fight and win without it. First! Combat exercises.

**BEAR:** Exercises! *(Reaches up then touches his toes.)* One. *(Reaches up then touches his toes.)* Two. *(Reaches up and bends to touch his toes more vigorously.)* Oh bother! Three.

*Snaps back up, and perhaps knocks LITTLE BOAR over.*

**SMART ONE:** Combat exercises! First, my trial. The sparring partners.

*We hear the bamboo flute and clicky sticks. A gong crash. LARGE NINJA and SMALL NINJA spring to either side of BEAR. LITTLE BOAR unhelpfully shrieks and runs behind WORRIER. LARGE NINJA stands like a wall of stone, while SMALL NINJA bounces with endless energy. They both make Ninja Noises™. They slowly circle BEAR, bounding as they go. Tension mounts. BEAR looks one way, then the other, taking them in. BOTH NINJAS give a battle cry and rush at BEAR, who hits the ground flat. The NINJAS both miss him and crash into each other. SMALL NINJA gets up and tries to run away from LARGE NINJA, but LARGE NINJA pins SMALL NINJA to the ground. LARGE NINJA produces two bottles of purple liquid marked EXTRACT OF MALT and holds them aloft.*

**LARGE NINJA:** YOU. WILL. TAKE. YOUR. MEDICINE.

**SMALL NINJA:** NEVERRRRRRRRRR!

*SMALL NINJA breaks free and runs away with LARGE NINJA bounding after, leaving the bottles behind. They both exit. BEAR gets up, dusts himself off.*

**BEAR:** That wasn't so bad.

*LITTLE BOAR runs in, unfurls a fan and fans BEAR, maybe mops his brow. LITTLE BOAR cleans up the bottles.*

**WORRIER:** What was the point of that?

**SMART ONE:** Surely you jest! I should think the lesson learned is self-evident. Every warrior must learn to take his medicine.

**WORRIER:** But he didn't—never mind. It is time for my challenge. And this will be a HARD challenge for you, bear. A challenge of WITS. You might as well GIVE UP NOW.

**SMART ONE:** Worrier. We want him to win.

**WORRIER:** Oh.

**SFX:** *There is another loud NOISE like the first, but closer.*

*LITTLE BOAR collapses again.*

Um, right. I bet you'll do fine. Piece of cake. Here he is!

*Bamboo flute, clicky sticks. Light change? Gong noise. EMO DONKEY enters, slowly, like a sumo wrestler. His tail is tied around his lower region like a fundoshi. BEAR squares off against him. They rear themselves up as if to attack.*

**EMO DONKEY:** Might as well give up. No use fighting it. We're all gonna die anyway.

**BEAR:** Your negative sha is no match for my natural tao, monster!

**EMO DONKEY:** You will just bring shame to your ancestors. I can hear them mocking your name.

**BEAR:** No! I must resist your dark energy!

**EMO DONKEY:** "Ha ha. Loser." That's what they're saying. I hear them.

**BEAR:** *(Weakening.)* No! I hold to my bushido and my honor!

**EMO DONKEY:** Your bushido in one hand, thistles in the other. What's the difference? I don't know.

**BEAR:** *(Falling to his knees.)* Arrrrgh!

*With a battle cry, LITTLE BOAR runs on and hops on top of EMO DONKEY, trying to pummel him. This has virtually no effect on EMO DONKEY. This goes on for a while, with EMO DONKEY and BEAR shrugging at each other while LITTLE BOAR tries to take him down. Finally, LITTLE BOAR succeeds in ripping off EMO DONKEY'S tail. A stunned silence.*

**EMO DONKEY:** Ouch.

**LITTLE BOAR:** I... I'm sorry, but...

**EMO DONKEY:** Go ahead, keep it. I've only had it since birth.  
*(Trudges off.)* Jerk. *(Exits.)*

**BEAR:** *(To LITTLE BOAR.)* That was very brave.

**LITTLE BOAR:** I'll never do it again.

**SMART ONE:** Now that. There was certainly no point to that.

**WORRIER:** Of course there was a point. He needed to experience the darkness. Overcome it.

**SMART ONE:** My dear boy, what do you know about darkness?

**WORRIER:** (*Getting in SMART ONE'S face.*) Oh, I know darkness. I've seen things. Demons no one should see. Heffalumps. Wozzles.

**SFX:** *The NOISE again, louder, closer.*

*LITTLE BOAR collapses, shaking. BEAR comes to take his sword-thing from SMART ONE.*

**SMART ONE:** The Intruder!

**BEAR:** I am ready.

**WORRIER:** You are not ready. You haven't actually passed a single test.

**SMART ONE:** It will have to do.

**LITTLE BOAR:** It must be! I feel his horrible presence throughout the Forest of A Hundred Measures.

**SMART ONE:** Tsubos.

**LITTLE BOAR:** What?

**SMART ONE:** Tsubos. The Japanese word for "acres" is tsubos.

*A pause. WORRIER looks at him.*

**WORRIER:** No one cares.

**SFX:** *The NOISE, the loudest and springiest it's ever been.*

*The ground shakes. Everyone falls. BEAR gets up before anyone else, ready to fight.*

**LITTLE BOAR:** The Intruder!

**SMART ONE:** His top, made out of rubber!

**WORRIER:** His bottom, made out of springs!

*INTRUDER bounds in, in all his orange and black striped glory.*

**INTRUDER:** Just call me "Bounding Tiger, Never Draggin'!"

*He gives a laugh. You know the one. It then turns into a war cry. BEAR joins in. They war cry Ninja-Style™ together. They freeze but keep war-crying. Lights change. Bamboo flute, clicky sticks. Stage hands in blacks rush in and pick up both BEAR and INTRUDER. They move them through the air in various attack poses, “Matrix”-style, or “Crouching Tiger”-style, or possibly “Rumble in the Bronx”-style. They fight epically as long as the audience can stand it. Finally, INTRUDER lands on top of BEAR in a mighty bound. He drops his sword-thing.*

**SMART ONE:** It’s all over!

**WORRIER:** I can’t look!

*LITTLE BOAR runs towards INTRUDER, brandishing a strange weapon—nun chucks he has made by tying EMO DONKEY’S tail around the two bottles the NINJAS left. LITTLE BOAR swings them making Ninja Noises™. INTRUDER watches him, bemused. LITTLE BOAR runs out of steam, then gulps nervously. A moment.*

**INTRUDER:** Is that Extract of Malt?

**LITTLE BOAR:** Um. Yes?

*INTRUDER gives his laugh and bounds towards LITTLE BOAR, who freaks out. But INTRUDER winds up guzzling from one of the bottles.*

**INTRUDER:** Scrum-dilly-icious!

**BEAR:** What does that taste like, anyway?

**INTRUDER:** (*Smacking his lips to see.*) I dunno, it kinda tastes like...  
honey.

**BEAR:** HONEY?

*BEAR starts drinking from the other one. LITTLE BOAR collapses from relief.*

**WORRIER:** (*To SMART ONE.*) I told you he wasn’t ready.

*BEAR and INTRUDER come up for air from their drinks.*

**BEAR:** On this day, fearsome bouncy warrior, I pledge my eternal loyalty to you. You are strong, you are courageous. But do you know the most amazing, the most glorious, the most wonderful thing about you?

**INTRUDER:** (*Thinks, then brightens.*) I'm the only one?

**BEAR:** Good. Just making sure.

*They go back to drinking. Blackout.*

**END OF PLAY**

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## WRAP AROUND #4

**AT RISE:** *Lights up. DR. SCIENTIST on stage.*

**DR. SCIENTIST:** Is there anything more terrifying than a stuffed bear with a pool noodle? I think not! For our next experiment, we explore everyone's best friend – the television. Today, the most powerful woman in television is a certain talk show host whose name rhymes with "Noprah Ginfrey." I actually don't know who it is – they just told me the rhyme before the show, and I can't quite put my finger on it. Although we go into the past for our next experiment, the subject of this segment and Ms. Ginfrey both have something in common – they can both have inferior employees put to death. What would happen if... Cleopatra hosted a talk show?

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## CLEOPATRA'S ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AWESOME TALK SHOW!

By Amy Seeley

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(4 female, 4 male, 1 extra)*

CLEOPATRA (f).....	Queen of the Nile and talk show host. <i>(67 lines)</i>
KING TUT (m).....	The boy king who happens to be Cleopatra's announcer. <i>(22 lines)</i>
MARK ANTONY (m).....	Cleopatra's beau after Julius Caesar. <i>(10 lines)</i>
JULIUS CAESAR (m).....	One of the greatest military commanders in history. <i>(9 lines)</i>
TINA SPHINX (f).....	Beauty expert. <i>(12 lines)</i>
DUSTY BREEZE (m).....	Smooth weatherman. <i>(5 lines)</i>
SHIRLEY DAVENPORT (f).....	98 year-old woman; offstage voice. <i>(8 lines)</i>
YOUNG WOMAN (f).....	Cleopatra's harried assistant. <i>(Non-Speaking)</i>
MISS JUPITER VENUS (f).....	A soothsayer. <i>(9 lines)</i>

**SETTING:** A talk show set with the sage serving as the set. The actors play to the audience as if they are in front of a live studio audience.

**SET PIECES:** The set can be very simple using three chairs, and one or two entrances. A small couch for the guests and one chair for Cleopatra would also work. King Tut can stand or sit with the talk show guests.

## PROPS

- Clipboard
- Headset
- Scroll
- Ace Bandage (2 feet length)
- Cup of Juice

## COSTUMES

CLEOPATRA – A long gown or robe in metallic fabrics; gold, bronze, silver. A black wig. Heavy black eyeliner, metallic eye make-up. Lots of gold bracelets, bold metallic earrings and necklaces. Sandals or flip flops.

KING TUT – Gold metallic tunic, gold bracelets, gold medallions, sandals or flip flops, and brown or gold pants. Heavy Black eyeliner.

TINA SPHINX – Similar outfit to Cleopatra’s but not as bold.

DUSTY BREEZE – Suit and tie like a typical weatherman. Heavy black eyeliner.

JULIUS CAESAR – Toga, crown of gold leaves, red or gold sash, and sandals or flip flops.

MARK ANTHONY – Toga, crown of green leaves, and sandals or flip flops.

MISS JUPITER VENUS – Long colorful robe or dress, headscarf, and lots of gaudy jewelry.

YOUNG WOMAN – Brown or olive tunic with skirt, and sandals or flip flops. Heavy black eyeliner.

## DIRECTOR’S NOTES

Cleopatra’s Ancient Egyptian Awesome Talk Show should be performed with the upbeat and overly sincere energy of an actual talk show like Oprah or Ellen. Cleopatra, King Tut, and the guests of the show should acknowledge the audience as if they’re on a studio set taping and actual contemporary talk show. It’s perfectly fine and funny for the cast to look to the audience periodically when sharing stories or opinions with Cleopatra. The actor playing Cleopatra can look to her “camera” as if it were placed on the back wall of the theater or behind the back row of the actual audience. Have fun playing with the costumes by mixing in contemporary fashions with Ancient Egyptian attire.



**AT RISE:** *Lights up. KING TUT stands stage left holding a clipboard and wearing a headset.*

**KING TUT:** *(Overly cheerful.)* Good morning, Ancient Egypt! It's time for the Cleopatra show with your hostess, our beloved and almighty queen, Cleopatra! Today's guests: Julius Caesar, Mark Antony, and beauty tips from fashion diva, Tina Sphinx! Plus lots of surprises! And now give it up for Cleeeee-OH-patraaaaaa!!

*CLEOPATRA enters the stage waving and smiling. She poses with her arms in a "Walk like an Egyptian" pose and laughs. She sits and adjusts her wig.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Good morning, everyone! Good morning, Ancient Egypt! And good morning to our viewers at home in their tombs and castles. Good morning, King Tut!

**KING TUT:** Good morning, Cleopatra! How's your day going so far?

**CLEOPATRA:** You know what? It's going pretty good, King Tut. I started my day with a milk bath made with the milk from one hundred goats, I enjoyed a breakfast of honey water and fresh figs, I did a little sun worshipping and then I hopped on a donkey and got myself to the studio.

**KING TUT:** I could *not* catch a donkey this morning. Traffic was crazy in the marketplace, let me tell you.

**CLEOPATRA:** You do not need to tell me, King Tut! Yesterday I was carried here on a bed-throne made of solid gold by a dozen of the strongest men in Ancient Egypt and it took *forever*. I thought a bed-throne would be faster but no such luck. People in the market place would not get outta my way. It's really hard to be so beloved!

*They laugh too loudly.*

**KING TUT:** You've got a great show today, Cleopatra.

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, I know! Right? Before I bring out my guests, I want to answer a papyrus scroll from one of our viewers.

*KING TUT hands a scroll to CLEOPATRA. She unfolds it.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Ooh! It's homemade papyrus scented with jasmine. My personal favorite. *(Reading.)* "Dear, Cleopatra--I'm a huge fan of your show. I live on the banks of the Nile River and the humid river air always ruins my hair! Help! Signed, Nelly on the Nile."

**KING TUT:** Ouch!

**CLEOPATRA:** I'm so glad you wrote your papyrus scroll, Nelly. Your hieroglyphics are lovely, by the way. And your timing is perfect! On today's show, fashion diva, Tina Sphinx will join us and share her totally organic beauty tips. Let's bring her out right now! Please welcome, Tina Sphinx!

*TINA SPHINX enters. She's super cheerful. KING TUT encourages the audience to clap for TINA. TINA and CLEOPATRA hug and then sit down.*

**TINA:** It's so fabulous to be here!

**CLEOPATRA:** Fabulous to see you, Tina Sphinx! Now, first of all, how can we help Nelly on the Nile? Got any tips?

**TINA:** Oh, yes! Nelly needs to get some figs and dates from her local fig and date store.

**CLEOPATRA:** *(Looks at the audience.)* Are you all writing this down?

**TINA:** Next, take the figs and dates, mash them into a paste and apply them to your hair. Do this indoors, ladies, or your goats will try to eat this off of your head. I speak from experience! *(Laughs.)*

**CLEOPATRA:** *(Laughs.)* Nelly should have very silky hair after all that. Right, Tina?

**TINA:** Oh, yes! She needs to reapply every day and just mold her hair into whatever style she wants.

**CLEOPATRA:** Wonderful. Talk to me about the latest in make-up trends. What's super popular right now?

**TINA:** Well, as you know, thick, black eyeliner is all the rage.

**CLEOPATRA:** *(Points to her own eyes.)* Guilty! *(Laughs.)*

**TINA:** (*Laughs.*) Shimmery green eye shadow is really trendy right now, too. (*Points to her own eyes.*)

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, I love that! How do you get that color?

**TINA:** Okay. This is gonna sound really weird but you know those big beetles that crawl around the tomb walls?

**CLEOPATRA:** Those gigantic green beetles?

**TINA:** Well, grab a handful of those green beetles, crush them into a powder and dust the powder on your eyelids. Instantly fabulous!

**CLEOPATRA:** I was going to say disgusting but it looks so amazing on you!

*They laugh and high five.*

Isn't beauty silly sometimes? Eye shadow from bugs? Who knew? Okay, Tina. Give us one last beauty trend for our viewers.

**TINA:** (*Holds up a long length of bandage.*) The mummy look!

**CLEOPATRA:** What?!

**TINA:** (*Looks to the audience as she laughs and waves the bandage.*)

Take an old length of bandage and wrap your hands, your neck, anywhere you want. It's affordable and easy.

**CLEOPATRA:** And it looks absolutely fabulous! Now, Tina--I understand you have some celebrity gossip for us.

**TINA:** I sure do! It seems a very famous ruler of a very famous kingdom is secretly dating another very famous ruler from a different very famous kingdom. I can't name any names but it's two famous people that we all know really well. Any guesses?

**CLEOPATRA:** Hmm. Two very famous people that we know really well? Is it Helen of Troy? She's super famous.

**TINA:** I can't say.

*They stare at each other for a few seconds.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, Tina! You always have the juiciest gossip! Thanks for sharing your beauty tips and your celebrity gossip. Tina Sphinx, ladies and gentlemen!

*CLEOPATRA and TINA stand and hug. TINA exits. CLEOPATRA sits.*

**KING TUT:** The mummy look? I like it.

**CLEOPATRA:** I know! Me too! Okay. What's up next, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** According to my over-sized sundial, it's time for Dusty Breeze with today's weather forecast!

*DUSTY BREEZE, smiling way too much, enters and stands near KING TUT. They shake hands.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Good morning, Dusty!

**DUSTY:** Good morning, Cleopatra! Good morning, King Tut.

**CLEOPATRA:** What's the weather going to be like for the big sun festival this weekend?

**DUSTY:** It's looking pretty good out there. Let's see those numbers on the map. *(Gestures to the wall next to him as if it were a TV news weather map. He gestures with his arms as he talks and his movements are very exaggerated. He clearly has a passion for weather.)* Temperatures this week will be in the mid one hundreds. We're looking at one hundred fifty or so for the early part of the week. Get your umbrellas ready because it's not ever going to rain but you might need them to block the harsh rays of the always burning sun. This could be the early signs of climate change or an indication that the Gods are really, really mad at us.

**KING TUT:** Ouch!

**DUSTY:** But those numbers will dip down to the low one hundreds for the weekend. If you live near the Nile river, wear a sweater because it's gonna be a chilly one hundred and three. We've got a warm front heading in from the coast that's gonna really get the temps up for that sun festival on Saturday. If you're at the sun festival, be sure to stop by the Cleopatra Show outdoor stadium and visit me, Dusty Breeze. We'll be passing out gold bricks and Frisbees. Plus--I'll be leading a hieroglyphic interpreting workshop. That should be really fun. And if you like history--

**CLEOPATRA:** I sure do!

**DUSTY:** Then you'll love knowing that on this day exactly one year ago it was a bone-chilling ninety-seven degrees.

**KING TUT:** Hot dog!

**DUSTY:** I know. I had to go out and buy a sweater because I didn't even own one. And I'm from Wisconsin! I should have known better! That's all from me. Back to you, Cleopatra!

*KING TUT encourages the audience to clap. DUSTY waves and exits.*

**CLEOPATRA:** I'm ready for a juice break, King Tut.

**KING TUT:** I bet you are! Let's bring some in!

*CLEOPATRA claps her hands. A YOUNG WOMAN enters carrying a cup of juice. She bows to CLEOPATRA and hands her the cup of juice. The YOUNG WOMAN exits.*

**CLEOPATRA:** What kind of juice do we have today, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** *(Reading.)* Our juice of the day is a delicious blend of pomegranate, dragon fruit, and papaya with a hint of fresh mint. Brought to you by the Juice Palace, the official juice makers of Ancient Egypt.

**CLEOPATRA:** *(Drinks the juice and smiles to the audience.)* Mmmmm! That's delicious juice! I like it better than the salamander juice from last week. Ugh. That was not good. Remember? My next guest is a very famous world leader. Please welcome, the emperor of Ancient Rome, Julius Caesar!

*KING TUT encourages the audience to clap. JULIUS CAESAR, wearing a toga and nerdy glasses, enters and hugs CLEOPATRA. They sit.*

Hello, Julius! So good to see you.

*JULIUS looks at the audience and then smiles at CLEOPATRA. He's obviously nervous to be on television.*

**JULIUS:** Good to be here, Cleopatra.

**CLEOPATRA:** You seem a little nervous.

**JULIUS:** *(Looks at the audience and then back at CLEOPATRA.)* I'm more comfortable reading scrolls or listening to lute music. This is all pretty crazy.

**CLEOPATRA:** Well, I appreciate you taking the time to visit us. I hope your boat trip was fun.

**JULIUS:** Yeah. We had to slay a few sea creatures... I mean, I had to single-handedly and *by myself* destroy a dozen sea creatures that were attacking my private ship. But I saved the day and the food was excellent.

*JULIUS is obviously lying and CLEOPATRA is not buying it.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh. Awesome. So, you're the emperor of Ancient Rome. What's that like?

**JULIUS:** I make speeches, and create laws. Plus, I get to wear a robe all day, which is cool. If you want to visit Ancient Rome sometime, I could show you the Colosseum. It's really awesome. They have the best kettle corn.

**CLEOPATRA:** Hmm. I don't know. I'm really busy with my talk show.

**JULIUS:** *(Sighs. He's disappointed but trying not to show it. Faking being cool.)* Oh, right. That's okay. I'm really busy, too. You know, *being emperor*.

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, yeah. I understand. Oh, I almost forgot! I have a little surprise for you, Julius Caesar.

**JULIUS:** What? Lute music?

**CLEOPATRA:** I have a surprise guest waiting backstage to see you. *(To the audience.)* Should I bring out the surprise guest?

*KING TUT gets the audience to cheer. JULIUS appears nervous.*

He's your BFF and he's always got your back, Julius Caesar! Come on out here, Mark Antony!

*MARK enters. He's very confident. He high fives KING TUT. He goes toward the audience and slaps hands with audience members. He hugs CLEOPATRA and high fives JULIUS. They sit.*

**MARK:** *(To audience.)* Yeah!!

**CLEOPATRA:** Hello, Mark Antony! So good to see you!

**MARK:** Thanks! So totally super cool to be here on your show. I watch you every morning. And thanks for saying my name correctly. It's "An-TONE-y" *not* "Anthony." You're so awesome.

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, that's so sweet. Thank you. Now, Mark--how long have you been best friends with Julius Caesar?

*MARK playfully messes up JULIUS' hair. JULIUS meticulously pushes his hair back in place.*

**MARK:** A few years, maybe. He's so awesome. He's really smart and he gives great speeches. He's like inspiring, right?

*CLEOPATRA looks surprised. JULIUS looks embarrassed.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Really? I never would have thought that.

**JULIUS:** Yeah. No biggie.

**CLEOPATRA:** Now, Mark, what's the future look like for you?

**MARK:** It's looking pretty awesome, Cleopatra. I'm going to hang out in the government, maybe get some new robes, party with Julius and maybe get married. You know, really cool stuff like that.

**CLEOPATRA:** That does sound cool. Are you dating anyone, Mark?

*KING TUT encourages the audience to shout "Ooooooh!" MARK looks embarrassed. He laughs.*

**MARK:** Well, I kind of have a crush on a really famous lady.

**CLEOPATRA:** Ooh! A crush! Who is it? You must tell me!

**MARK:** Well, she hosts her own talk show.

**CLEOPATRA:** Yes?

**MARK:** She's the ruler of an entire country.

*JULIUS rolls his eyes in disgust.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Hmm. Okay?

**MARK:** She's the most beautiful woman in the world.

**CLEOPATRA:** I'm so not getting it yet.

*JULIUS buries his face in his hands. He's mortified.*

**KING TUT:** I think Mark is talking about *you*, Cleopatra.

**CLEOPATRA:** Really? Me?

**MARK:** Really!

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, you are too cute right now!

**JULIUS:** Last week I gave a really good speech about a new calendar I invented that's based on me and all the things I like.

*There is an awkward pause. CLEOPATRA, KING TUT and MARK give each other confused looks.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Um. Great. Thanks, Julius. It's time for our commercial break. You'll stay with us, right guys?

*MARK and JULIUS nod.*

Fantastic! We'll be right back after a word from Pyramid Sparkling Water. It's the drink the Sphinx drinks!

*They all relax for a beat of five seconds. CLEOPATRA abruptly smiles, ending the pause, and looks at the audience.*

And we're back! I want to thank my guests, Mark Antony!

*The audience claps. MARK waves.*

And Julius Caesar!

*The audience claps. JULIUS nods awkwardly. They all stand. MARK and JULIUS exit while bickering.*

**MARK:** Not cool, dude! Talking about your *calendar*? Come on!

**JULIUS:** You were wrecking everything! I love Cleopatra!

**CLEOPATRA:** *(Sits and pretends to not hear them.)* Wow. Today's show is really great. Am I right, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** Absolutely! Put this one in a tomb and seal it up with clay until it hardens and forms an airtight vacuum that won't be broken for thousands of years.

**CLEOPATRA:** I was just thinking that!

**KING TUT:** Connection!

**CLEOPATRA:** Totally. Now it's time for a part of the show that I totally love. It's our viewer give-away!

*KING TUT gets the audience to clap.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Have you got the phone line ready, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** Yep! Mrs. Shirley Davenport of Cairo is holding. She's a retired sandal maker. And today she's ninety-eight years old.

**CLEOPATRA:** Shirley, are you there?

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) Hello? Yes? Who is this?

**CLEOPATRA:** It's Cleopatra from the Cleopatra show. Can you hear me, Shirley? By the way, is it strange that we have phone technology in Ancient Egypt, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** Nope!

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) Hello?

**CLEOPATRA:** Hello, Shirley. Happy birthday! How does it feel to be ninety-eight?

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) I don't need any more cats, thank you!

*CLEOPATRA and KING TUT try not to laugh.*

**CLEOPATRA:** No, Shirley. I'm not giving you any cats. How does it feel to be ninety-eight years old?

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) I ate a very large piece of cake and that was it for me.

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh? Really? That's wonderful, Shirley. Listen, Shirley--we'd love to have you on my show.

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) I don't like snow!

**CLEOPATRA:** No, Shirley! Not "snow." I want you to be a guest on my *show*. The Cleopatra Show.

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) Ooh. I like her!

**CLEOPATRA:** That's me, Shirley! I'm Cleopatra!

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) No! Really?

**CLEOPATRA:** Yes!

**SHIRLEY:** (*Offstage.*) Okay. I'll come and be on your show. Goodbye.

**KING TUT:** She hung up.

**CLEOPATRA:** She was adorable. And now for my favorite segment on the show. Please welcome, my personal soothsayer and the soothsayer to the stars--Miss Jupiter Venus!

*MISS JUPITER VENUS, wearing a long robe and an assortment of gaudy jewelry, enters. She hugs CLEOPATRA and they both sit.*

Greetings, Miss Jupiter Venus!

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** Greetings, Miss Cleopatra. Your aura looks very sparkly today. Have you been soaking in frankincense like I suggested?

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, yes!

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** How about you, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** I've been drinking a lot of sage and myrrh mixed with my tea. And I love that I finally know what myrrh is!

*They all laugh.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Miss Jupiter Venus, do you have any predictions for us today? Are you feeling any vibes from today's audience?

*MISS JUPITER VENUS closes her eyes and takes a deep, dramatic breath. She opens her eyes and slowly scans the audience. She does this in a very overly dramatic style. CLEOPATRA and KING TUT are mesmerized.*

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** Someone in this audience has the letter "E" in their first name!

*KING TUT encourages the audience to clap.*

**CLEOPATRA:** Wow. You are good.

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** Silence! I will now attempt to see into the future. I need everyone to hold hands. This will make the connection to the future strong.

*KING TUT joins CLEOPATRA and MISS JUPITER VENUS. He sits and they all hold hands.*

I can see a giant letter "M."

**KING TUT:** Ooh! More letters.

**CLEOPATRA:** Shh!

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** The letter "M" is bright yellow and it's sitting inside of a red square. I see billions of people lined up to get something from the giant yellow letter "M." The people are eating food items made of ground up animals between two delicious loaves of bread. Also, there's ketchup. That's all I can see.

**CLEOPATRA:** Sounds like that big yellow "M" is going to be really popular. I wonder what it means.

**KING TUT:** It's so mysterious.

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** Silence! I'm getting another message from the future. Hmmm. Interesting.

**CLEOPATRA:** What is it?

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** I see a box. I see a flat box filled with moving lights, sounds and colors. I see this flat box hanging on a wall in a living room.

**CLEOPATRA:** What's a living room?

**KING TUT:** Isn't that every room of your temple? I mean aren't we all alive and living in every room?

**CLEOPATRA:** You bring up a good point, King Tut.

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** Silence! This flat box of color and lights will bring entertainment to many. Some will look at the flat box while eating cereal in bowls, others will look at the flat box when it's convenient for them after a long day of work, for instance. That's all I can see.

**CLEOPATRA:** Wow! This is your best soothsaying ever. Truly. Can you give us one more teeny one?

**MISS JUPITER VENUS:** I shall try. *(Closes her eyes for a brief moment. She opens her eyes suddenly and gasps.)* YouTube!

*CLEOPATRA and KING TUT exchange confused looks. MISS JUPITER VENUS exhales. She is tired.*

That's all I can see.

**CLEOPATRA:** I have no idea what that means but it sounds fascinating. Don't you think, King Tut?

**KING TUT:** Oh, yeah. You tube could be something you wear on your head or a tasty new snack food. I hope it's a snack food. That would be great.

**CLEOPATRA:** Oh, we're almost out of time. I want to thank my guests. Let's bring them all out here!

*TINA, DUSTY, MARK, JULIUS, KING TUT, YOUNG WOMAN and MISS JUPITER VENUS stand together around CLEOPATRA.*

Thanks everyone and thanks to our audience here and at home. And now one final surprise for our live audience. If you reach under your chairs, you'll find a deadly and venomous snake known as the asp! Lucky you! See you next time, Ancient Egypt.

*The cast members all wave good bye. Blackout.*

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