

Characters:

Toni Tymn
Roberta Tymn
Nick Nack

[On one side of the stage, there is a desk with chair, and chair facing the desk. Coffee cup and ashtray, open files on desks. Perhaps coatrack with trenchcoat and fedora. Nick will be at this side, but not yet]

[Spotlight on one half, Toni is standing there, wearing a trenchcoat and fedora¹.]

1. Toni (voiceover): Private eyes have it rough. Always looking at the dark side of life, the seedy underbelly, the acrid scents of pollution and corruption. But hey, it's a job. One I never thought I'd choose. But this isn't about me ... at least not yet.

[Spotlight on other half, Nick seated in exact same manner.]

2. Nick (voiceover): Private eyes have it rough. Constantly pulled into the shadows of life, the seamy underworld of lies, greed, hate, and all the best sins. Sometimes it's hard to see and remember the bright everyday world that I can never be a part of. But hey, it's a job.

[Roberta enters the office.]

3. Nick (voiceover): Damn, it was her. It had been years since I'd last seen her, but some people you just don't forget. No matter how long it's been or how hard you try. Whatever brought her back to me, it wasn't good.

4. Nick (aloud): Roberta ...

¹ The beginning and end of the play should be mirrors of each other as much as possible

5. Roberta: Hello Nick. It's been a long time. You're still in the same office, I see.

6. Nick: Yep. Some things never change. But obviously you have. Not still in Kitchener. Moved up in the world?

7. Roberta: My husband. We live in Waterloo. Actually that's why I came. I need your help. Victor, my husband, is dead, and I need to find out who killed him.

8. Nick: Was it you?

9. Roberta: No, of course not.

10. Nick: So why not go to the cops?

11. Roberta: They're no help. They think it was the serial killer. Everything's a mess! My husband's dead, the funeral's this afternoon, his most prized possession is missing, and on top of everything, my daughter's getting married! There's so much stress!

12. Nick (voiceover): Damn, what was it about her? Every part of me was shouting no. But I just couldn't refuse.

13. Nick (aloud): Fine. But you'd better not be stringing me along like last time!

Opening Song

(to the tune of "Hey Hey" by The Elms)

K1: Hey Hey

K1: Hey Hey

W1: Hey Hey

W1: Hey Hey

K2: Yea, rich and poor

K2: To the core

K2: The folks here will enthrall you

K2: And appall you

W2: Yea, Waterloo

W2: Kitchener

W2: We don't mix

W2: Yet we prosper

K2: and we falter

K3: If we need it they got it

K3: they built it, they bought it

K3: and we always end up with nothing

K3: Cause we're poor!

K4: We don't drive cars

K4: drink at bars

K4: We just live, and make rumors

K1: We've got Tumors

W3: We get the cash

W3: never dash

W3: We just work, Drink some Guinness

W1: love that Guinness

W4: If we need it we got it

W4: and we're all hooked on it

W4: the Money the power clean laundry

WA: If we need it we got it

WA: and we're all hooked on it

WA: the Money the power clean laundry

WA: We are rich!

W5: Yet we're all equal

W5: every body's gotta expire sometime

W5: Yea we're all equal

W5: every body's gotta expire sometime

K5: Yea hey hey guys

K5: hey hey guys

K5: what's the price if we want it

KA: if we want it

WA: If we need it we got it

WA: and we're all hooked on it

WA: the Money the power clean laundry

KA: If we need it they got it

KA: they built it, they bought it

KA: and we always end up with nothing

WA: If we need it we got it

WA: and we're all hooked on it

WA: the Money the power clean laundry

WA: We are rich!

KA: If we need it they got it

KA: they built it, they bought it

KA: and we always end up with nothing

KA: We are Poor!

Characters:

Reginald
Coroner
Doctor Doctor
Art Project
Barney Door
Dora
Dick
Lou Tennant
Jessica Archer

[Waterloo Park, near the llama pen¹. At the end of the opening number, hold for applause, and then there is a piercing scream. The crowd that is onstage at the end of the song moves back just enough that the audience can see what caused the scream.

There is a corpse on the ground, and it has a highly recognizable pink tie around its neck.

Reginald Kincaid makes his way forward to the dead person. He wears a deerstalker hat and tweeds – this is a facsimile of the outfit that Sherlock Holmes was supposed to have worn. Kincaid also has a big magnifying glass. He uses the magnifying glass to take a look at the dead person, then looks to the crowd.]

[The first three lines need to be delivered rapid fire, so people will have to speak while moving through the crowd]

1. Reginald: This man is hurt. (crowd gasps) He needs a doctor!

[A Doctor makes their way through the crowd, takes a quick look at the body, and addresses Reginald and the crowd.]

2. Doctor: I'm a doctor. This man is dead. (crowd gasps) He needs a coroner.

¹ This is for reference. There shouldn't actually be a llama pen on stage. Perhaps a tasteful sign pointing towards the llama pen

[A Coroner makes her way through the crowd, takes a quick look at the body, and addresses the others.]

3. Coroner: I'm a coroner. This man has been murdered. (Crowd gasps) He needs a detective.

[Most of the people in the crowd begin to shuffle off uneasily, with the exception of Reginald, the Coroner, and the Doctor. Dick and Dora Ray are also there, as are Jessica Marple and Lou Tennant – these four characters remain unobtrusively in the background.]

4. Reginald: [Looks at the body again] This looks like the work of the serial killer. The Pink Tie Strangler has struck again.

5. Doctor: (To Reginald) You're a detective?

6. Coroner: Looks to me like he's going to a costume party.

7. Reginald: I am a detective. Or at least I will be some day.

[Dora Ray steps forward.² She is elegantly dressed, but she also has a bit of a drinking habit. A flask of alcohol is never very far from her lips. This description also applies to her husband.]

8. Dora: Good heavens! That outfit is horribly wrong!

[Reginald looks at his own clothes.]

9. Reginald: Don't you like it?

10. Dora: No, it's all wrong. That tie doesn't match that outfit. (To Dick) Darling, make a note of this. The killer here has no fashion sense. [indicating Reginald]

11. Reginald: But I'm not the killer.

² Nick and Nora Charles

12. Dora: Splendid. Another case solved.

13. Reginald: But I'm not the killer!

14. Dick: Oh. Then I suppose you want me to come out of retirement again and solve the murder?

15. Dora (excitedly): Yes! Just like old times. We'll invite all the suspects to a dinner party, where you'll get the killer to slip up and reveal his guilt.

16. Reginald: But the suspects are everyone in Kitchener and Waterloo.

17. Dick: Then we'll need to find a very big hall

18. Dora: The bar tab could get expensive.

19. Doctor: I hear that Crime Stoppers is offering a big reward.

20. Reginald: How much?

21. Coroner: Fifty thousand dollars.

22. Dick: Well, that will cover us, darling.

23. Reginald: But that's my money. Or at least it will be once I solve this case.

24. Doctor: Shouldn't somebody phone the police?

[Lou Tennant steps forward³. He wears a rumpled trenchcoat and carries an unlit cigar in one hand or another – it varies from time to time as to which hand, as Lou is ambidextrous.⁴]

25. Lou: There's no need to phone. I'm here.

26. Reginald: I know what happened, Lieutenant.

³ Columbo

⁴ Completely superfluous footnote.

27. Lou (to Reginald): Let's hear it, kid.

[In the background, Jessica⁵ takes out a small notebook and a pen and begins to take notes.]

28. Reginald: Note that there is a footprint on the tie. Perhaps this man committed suicide.

[Others stare at him.]

29. Reginald: A common practice among certain tribes of the Amazon. It's a spiritual quest. They use their ankles to tie strips of cloth around their throats to restrict their breathing, and induce a trance—

30. Jessica: But why is someone from the Amazon wearing Reeboks?

31. Dora: Ugh! How common!

32. Jessica: Might I suggest we check the footwear of the people standing here.

[Reginald checks the soles of his own feet – which are in Reeboks.]

33. Reginald (sheepishly): Oh.

34. Jessica: If you want to become a detective, you'll have to pay attention to the details.

35. Lou: (To Jessica) Speaking of little details, don't I know you? You're that lady that writes them murder books. Now me, I could never write a book. The missus keeps telling me...

36. Jessica: Which one did you like the most? The Microsoft Errors Murder? The Stagehand Struck at Midnight?

⁵ Jessica Fletcher. The single most successful serial killer ever on TV. Think about it...

37. Doctor: I love those books.

38. Coroner: Personally, I'm impressed by how you manage to get friends, relatives, and associates killed every week. Then you solve the murder. Then you write about it. What a nice racket you have going.

39. Jessica: Surely you don't think—

40. Coroner: There's a serial killer loose, your behaviour is highly suspect. And you're here, and there's a dead body here...

41. Jessica: I should sue you for definition of character.

42. Lou: And I could sue you, Jessica Archer, for doing police work without a license. Oh, just one more thing. I'm placing you under arrest.

[Lou takes out handcuffs and puts them on Jessica.]

43. Lou: (To Jessica) Oh, just one more one more thing. Could you sign this?

[Lou takes out a sheet of paper and gives it to Jessica, who looks at it.]

44. Jessica: But this paper is blank.

45. Lou: Your autograph is worth money. And the missus is a big fan.

[Lou leaves, escorting Jessica.]

46. Doctor: What just happened?

47. Coroner: I don't know.

48. Dora: Do you think there's room enough to hold the dinner party in the Grad House?

49. Dick: We could try. But hold on a moment. Pink ties. . . .

[He looks, perhaps gestures, in the direction of the llama pen.]

50. Dick: Pink ties. On what or whom would pink ties look good?

51. Dora: The side of the math building.

52. Dick: No, well yes, but what else? Pink elephants! There they are over there⁶! Dick Ray has once again come out of retirement.

[He rushes offstage to the llama pen area. Dora follows. They go out of sight.]

53. Coroner (To Reginald): You know, you're inept, and maybe a little slow. But you're young and you're single. And you don't seem put off by the fact that I work with dead bodies.

54. Reginald: Huh?

55. Coroner: I mean you're the liveliest man I've had the chance to meet in a while. Dinner and a movie, your treat. And be sure to wear a tie.

[Reginald goes to take the tie off the corpse.]

56. Doctor: Ahem! That's evidence, remember?

57. Coroner: Just dress casually. Meet me at the morgue at eight. You could be a good detective with my help.

[Reginald leaves]

58. Doctor: Why are you helping him? He couldn't detect the weather if he was standing outside.

59. Coroner: Why not? Besides, he might just get lucky. If you know what I mean.

⁶ Pink elephants are a well known hallucination of drunks. Or so I've been led to believe.

[The doctor and coroner exit. Almost as soon as they are gone, Art and Barney⁷ enter, bringing Dick and Dora with them. It is clear that the married couple has gotten into some sort of trouble.]

60. Art: I already told you. You're charged with being drunk and disorderly, public drunkenness, and vomiting on an officer.

61. Dora: I demand to speak to my lawyer! We were merely interrogating suspects.

62. Barney: You weren't interrogating, you were accosting.

63. Dick: They were still suspects.

64. Art: They were llamas.

65. Dick: I was gathering evidence.

66. Art: Does gathering evidence involve sharing your drinks with them?

[Art pulls out the flask that Dick had earlier, opens it and smells it.]

67. Art: That's good stuff. Barney, should we confiscate this now or later?

68. Dora: That's my flask!

69. Art: I don't think so. Barney here will swear that I've had this flask since I was a rookie. Haven't I Barney?

70. Barney: That's right, Art.

[Barney produces Dick's alcohol supply. The two cops then open their bottles, toast each other, and drain them.]

71. Dick: Hey, where's my wallet?

⁷ Two random **non-campus cops** cops

72. Barney: [pulls out a wallet] Well, Art here will swear that I've had this wallet since I was a rookie.

73. Art: Take 'em away Barney.

[Barney leads Dick and Dora off. Art looks at the dead body. Lou enters.]

74. Lou: So how did it go?

75. Art: Nothing to worry about. All these detectives are incompetent. I'm a bit worried about that Reginald though. Something tells me he could be trouble.

76. Lou: Have someone keep an eye on him. We don't want this to end too quickly. Having a serial killer on the loose is good for business.

77. Art: So who do you think the killer is?

78. Lou: My money says it's one of those detectives.

79. Art: So what? Practically half of this town is detectives.

80. Lou: No, think about it. They show up at the scene way too quickly.

81. Art: So did you.

82. Lou: Shut up. Just keep an eye on that idiot. I have a hunch he's up to something.

[At this moment, there is a noise from somewhere in the back. Art and Lou freeze, and then, a split second later, Barney drags Reginald's body on stage. He has a pink tie around his neck and is dead.]

83. Art: I see him, boss.

84. Barney: Look what I found over there.

85. Art: Isn't that evidence?

86. Barney: So?

87. Art: So shouldn't you leave it alone until forensics arrives.

88. Barney: Like he cares.

89. Lou: Well, at least he can still see his friend the coroner. He just won't have much to say.

[Art and Barney leave to go find a phone.]

[Lights down]

Characters:

Nick Nack
Roberta Tymn
Minister
Randolph Bastard
Toni Tymn
Sister Victoria Tymn
Gino Hands
Sy Lentnight
Sandy Klaus
Geoff Creamypeanutbutter
Wanda Singanddance
Mona Wails

[Setting, the backyard of the Tymn mansion.]

[Lights up on an empty stage]

[SFX: Thunder, tapering off to a light rain]

Enter Nick, Roberta, Minister, Victoria, Toni, Geoff, Wanda, and Mona (and any desired singers or extras) as mourners for a funeral procession. Along with the mourners are the techies who will be placing two pews and a pulpit. Being pushed with the crowd is a closed casket on a wheeled cart.]

Song: New Orleans funeral march (Original music)

Such a man was Victor Tymn we'll miss him
A good man and husband to his wife
None who felt his presence could dismiss him
Now we mark the passing of his life

Such a man who should not have died badly
Honest dealings never end in strife
But somebody wanted his blood madly
Now we mark the passing of his life

We all thought his corpse would be unmangled
No gunshot nor stab wound from a knife.

No-one dreamt that he would wind up strangled
Still we mark the passing of his life

Hope he has a pleasant afterlife
Now we mark the passing of his life

[As they reach the end of the song, the singers and mourners stop and bow their heads. On its own, the casket slowly wheels offstage. After a moment of two of silence, the crowd realizes what has happened and chases after the cart. Mona wails on her way out. The minister looks panicked, crosses himself, and joins the chase.][Exit all but Nick, Roberta, Toni, and Victoria]

1. Nick: [distracting Roberta from seeing all this] I don't think you've introduced me to your daughter.
 2. Roberta: Yes, yes, how rude of me. Nick, I'd like you to meet my daughter Toni, Nick is...an old friend.
 3. Toni: Pleased to meet you. And this is my aunt. She just flew in from B.C.
 4. Victoria (a nun): Hello. I'm Victor's sister Victoria. Sister Victoria of the Victorian Sisters of Victory in Victoria. My friends all call me Helen.
 5. Roberta: Helen has been helping me with the arrangements.
- [Casket crosses upstage. All help distract Roberta from seeing this. After a pause, the rest of the crowd crosses the stage in chase]
6. Victoria: Oh lord, not him again.
 7. Randolph [entering quickly, with a bouquet of cheap flowers. Randolph always has a purple carnation in his lapel]: Oh, there you are, I've been looking for you everywhere. [offers flowers] I brought you these.
 8. Roberta: Randolph, I don't know what to say.

9. Randolph: Is there somewhere we could speak in private? [Doesn't wait for answer, takes Roberta offstage with him.]

10. Nick [to Toni]: So, I understand congratulations are due.

11. Victoria: Oh yes, Catholicism is growing by leaps and bounds. We think it's something in the water.

12. Nick: I meant your niece's upcoming wedding.

13. Victoria: Oh, that. We think that's something in the water too.

[Enter Omnitech crowd (Gino, Sandy, and Sy) Very jovial and friendly with each other]

14. Victoria [under her breath]: In fact, there's the little suck-up now.

15. Sy [To Toni]: Darling, I was wondering where you wandered off to.

16. Toni: Nick, this is my fiancé, Sy. He works at my father's company.

17. Sy: I can't tell you how surprised I was when I found out the woman I was dating was the daughter of the Chairman of our board.

18. Toni [casually]: He practically proposed to me the next day.

19. Nick: So, all of you work together?

20. Gino: Yes, Victor and I run Omnitech. Or at least we used to. Sandy here is our VP-finance.

21. Sandy: I just hope they find out who did it. I've been thinking and I can't come up with any suspects.

22. Nick: You'd be surprised. It just takes means, motive, and opportunity. Now, means are easy. [pulls a pink tie out of his pocket and shows it around] Do you know how many of these things there are out there?

23. Toni: And anyone could have gotten into my father's workshop.
24. Nick: So we're left with motive. We just need to find out who had enough of a reason to want Victor dead.
25. Gino: Well, at least it couldn't have been one of us.
26. Nick: Couldn't it?
27. Sandy: Are you saying one of us killed Victor?
28. Nick: No, just that it's possible that one of you wanted Victor dead.
29. Gino: That's ridiculous.
30. Sy: You tell him, boss.
31. Gino: It's not like someone here kept a double set of books and Victor caught them.
32. Sandy [blanches]: No. No. Never. Not that. Or that someone didn't like Victor over-committing to research and development [indicating Gino]
33. Sy: [fawning] Ooh, good point.
34. Gino: Okay. Maybe some of us did have our grudges against Victor. But none of us are killers.
- [Uncomfortable pause]
35. Victoria: Maybe Victor didn't approve of a certain marriage to his daughter.
36. Sy: You seem quick to want to accuse people.
37. Victoria: I wasn't even in the province.

38. Sy: Good point. Well, maybe it was a person who owns a pink tie collection.

39. Sandy: I was in math! Besides, it was Gino who suggested we try to buy RIM.

40. Gino: We'll get that money back, I tell you!

[All Omnitech people take their seats, not taking their eyes off of each other]

41. Toni [to Nick]: Do you think they'll ever find out who killed my father?

42. Nick: Well, that's what your mother has asked me to do.

43. Toni: Is there any way I could help?

44. Victoria: Don't you have a wedding to get ready for?

45. Toni: That's mostly done, and I have a wedding planner to take care of the last minute stuff. Please? It would mean a lot to me.

46. Nick: This isn't easy work. It's a lot of tedium, interrupted by periods of acute boredom.

47. Victoria: Hogwash. Most detective work is exciting and stimulating, punctuated by bar fights.

48. Nick: How would you know that?

49. Victoria: We do get cable at the convent.

50. Toni: So, can I help?

51. Nick: I guess so. It might even be fun having a sidekick. We'll start tomorrow.

[Roberta enters, obviously upset, Randolph following shortly after]

52. Toni: Mom, what happened?

53. Roberta: I don't want to talk about it.

[The casket is finally wheeled back and into place. The rest of the mourners return with it.]

54. Minister: If everyone could be seated I'd ask for the deceased's sister to say a few words.

55. Mona: Wauuuuugh.

56. Victoria: When I think back to growing up with Victor, it's hard to believe he's dead. I mean obviously he's dead, because otherwise we wouldn't be here. But part of me expects him to just hop out of that casket, just to see what the fuss is all about. [Pause as all look at the casket, just in case] Of course that would be gross, wouldn't it, having a zombie for a brother. [mimes being a zombie] But even if he was a mindless undead flesh eater, I would still stand up and proudly call him my brother. Then I would run. Thank you.

57. Minister [reading from a script]: Thank you Sister Victoria for those loving words from the Book of Ecclesiastes¹. And now, Victor's childhood friend, Randolph.

58. Randolph: Victor was like a brother to me. We didn't always see eye to eye, but he was always there for me, and I'll always be there for him. And Victor, wherever you are, I want to say that I will do everything I can to make sure your family stays happy and comfortable. [sits]

¹ This would be the common "to every thing, there is a season" passage that Victoria didn't read.

59. Minister: Our last speaker is Victor's devoted confidant, and head of his household staff, Geoffrey.

60. Mona: Wauuuuuugh

61. Geoff [who is obviously very drunk]: Victor...was a cheap bastard. Couldn't even come up with a lousy five hundred bucks to help me move out of my stinking apartment and into a place that has heat. Well I hope you're warm enough now, mister moneybags, I hope you burn in Hell, you miserable bugger. [sits]

62. Minister: And now, I'd ask you to file past the casket, and pay your last respects to a dear friend, as I make the final traditional benediction. Ee-they orms-way awl-cray in-ay, ee-thay orms-way awl-cray out-ay, ee-they orms-way ay-play inochle-pay on-ay our-yay out-snay². Amen.

[As minister delivers benediction, all leave except Geoff, Mona, and Wanda. The last few off wheel the casket offstage]

63. Mona: Wauuuuuugh

64. Wanda: Cheer up Mona. life will go on.

65. Mona: Will it? I looked up to him, and now he's...wauuuuuugh.

66. Geoff: Good riddance, I say.

67. Wanda: By the way, I found this. Its addressed to you from Victor.
[hands an envelope to Geoff. Geoff opens it a bunch of cash]

68. Geoff: Jeez, now I feel bad.

69. Mona: Wauuuuuugh

70. Wanda: It's okay, you're still in grief, it's all very natural.

² Delivered in the ancient tongue, *latinus porcine*.

Song: “7 Steps to Deal With Anguish³” to Paul Simon’s “50 ways to leave your lover”

Wanda:

Now I’ve dealt with sorrow and I’ve learned this much is true
If you want to move right on there are some things to do
I’d like to help you by providing half a clue
You’ll foll-ow seven steps and deal with anguish

The first one is shock where you’re just too numb to know
Following that is denial where you say it isn’t so
But I’ll repeat myself, that is where we all shall go
We foll-ow seven steps and deal with anguish

You just know that it’s true, Lou
Make yourself grieve, Steve
You will need to be sad, Tad
Is what you’ll go through
Free free to cry, Di
You’ll feel good if to do try
See that’s what you do, Boo
The rests up to you

Mona:

I’ve gone through guilt and woe, I knew it was my fault
Then I got so angry and saw red, my guilt ground to a halt
I would give most anything if I could find a sweet gestalt
And follow seven steps.

³ Okay, so I could only find six steps, Shock, Denial, Guilt, Rage, Sorrow, and Acceptance. But “seven” scans better.

But now my sorrow fades, I have no need to wail
I think I breathe free once again, take air deep then I exhale

Geoff:

And now I see it, and those steps helped me prevail
There must be, seven steps to deal with anguish.

All:

Seven steps to deal with anguish.

You just go into shock, Doc.
Say it ain't so, Flo
You'll think you're to blame, Lane
And then you will see
Fly off the wall, Paul
You don't then your grief will stall
Just set that angst free, Bea
And you'll be hap-py

[Lights Down]

Characters:

Frank N. Beans
Curt Chief
Laura Kraft
Colin Blockage
Aura Lee
Hector
Hubert Heever

Setting: International House of Collectors

[Colin, Aura, and Hector (the collectors) are on stage. Various random artifacts (possibly including a piece of 70's (or older) FASS memorabilia and or a decent painting or two) may be strewn about in a manner indicative of their value.

1. Colin: Do you expect me to believe that the Basalt golem beanie baby was built by a Babylonian Priestess for the Pharaoh's ambassador as a token of Hannibal's supreme authority? [it is being passed around and examined during this exchange]
2. Hector: Well...yeah.
3. Aura: I think it was a mystic device for cleansing one's chakras
4. Colin: You think everything is a mystic device for cleansing one's chakras

[Enter Frank and Hubert]

5. Frank: Sorry we're late.
6. Aura: That's okay, we're still waiting for Victor.
7. Frank: But Victor was murdered.
8. Aura: He was?
9. Hubert: Yes, it was in all the papers.
10. Aura: I don't read the papers.

11. Colin: It was on TV.

12. Aura: I don't watch TV.

13. Hector: It was on your crystal ball

14. Aura: Why would I have a crystal ball? That's just nutty.

15. Frank: If Victor is dead, wouldn't his collection be available for "acquisition."

16. Colin: Victor's Collection? That man was a dotard! His interest in anything was never based on its value or history, but merely on his own twisted sense of aesthetics.

17. Hector: I think you are being unfair. Victor did have one of the biggest collections in Waterloo, despite his poor taste.

18. Frank: Size doesn't matter.

19. Aura: He did have some priceless and potent artifacts, such as the inexorable brassiere of perpetual clairvoyance.

20. Hector: And the Star Spangled Duck.

21. Hubert: Yes but he never gave them the respect their antiquity demanded.

22. Colin: Using medieval torture implements as tooth picks is just a waste.

23. Frank: Not to mention stupid.

24. Hubert: Okay, maybe some of his collection would be worth acquiring.

25. Hector: Well of course. Who wouldn't want the Star Spangled Duck?

26. Frank: What is so special about the Star Spangled Duck?

27. Hector: It is rumored to have many subtle but devastating powers.

28. Aura: It is so heavy that it takes ten men to lift it yet it makes anything that contains it as light as feather. I heard it was pulled from the ocean by a Chinese boy three thousand years ago.

29. Hector: It predates History and was used for generations to ordain the next leader of a society so secret that everybody in the world is a member.

30. Colin: Look. It's old, it's made out of gold, and it's really fucking valuable.

31. Frank: Wow that does have potential.

32. Hubert: That's why we already sent the Crypt Searcher, Laura Kraft, to retrieve it.

[Curt runs in with Laura chasing]

33. Curt: Don't let her kill me!

34. Laura: (in a random English accent) Come back here and die right! How dare you lose the Duck? (Aside to another character) I hate it when they hide like this.

35. Frank: Who's he?

36. Hubert: He is Curt, the curator of Victor's collection. A man with negotiable allegiances.

37. Curt: It wasn't my fault. I was putting Victor's collection in order and discovered that it was gone.

38. Laura: Someone must have stolen it.

39. Hubert: Before we could? That's disgraceful.

40. Aura: We've got to get it back, no matter what it takes.

41. Laura: Trekking through the burning desert, mortal combat with an undead

demon, avoiding elaborate traps and mosquito infested swamps.

Song: Ducky Hunting (to the tune of: Donkey Riding by Great Big Sea)

All:

Hey Hey Come on let's go
Ducky Hunting ducky hunting
Hey Hey Come on let's go
Hunting for a ducky

Laura:

We should search all Waterloo
maybe even Mel's Diner
Check to see if it crossed Erb
And find that spangled ducky

All:

Hey Hey Come on let's go
Ducky Hunting ducky hunting
Hey Hey Come on let's go
Hunting for a ducky

Laura:

Once we find it we will free
It to run with you and me
The spangled duck will stay with me
(to Frank)And you can make my dinner.

[Pause in the music. Spoken by all: Mmmm, Kraft Dinner. Music resumes]

All:

Hey Hey Come on let's go
Ducky Hunting ducky hunting
Hey Hey Come on let's go
Hunting for a ducky

Curt:

Don't forget the ducky's curse
Those who steal it need a hearse
You will find you can't reverse
The curse of that cute ducky

All:

Hey Hey You should go (pointing at each other)
Ducky Hunting ducky hunting
Hey Hey You should go
Hunting for that ducky

(Music interlude)

Laura:

Once we catch the thieving suck
and the sod is out of luck
will any body take the duck
right back to its owners

All:

No No We won't touch
even if it is worth much
No No We won't touch
That stupid cursed ducky

42. Colin: Nobody said anything about a curse. Isn't there something we could go after that wouldn't be so...

43. Hubert: Dangerous?

44. Colin: Yeah.

45. Aura: Goldfish?

46. Hector: Maybe a little more dangerous than that.

47. Aura: Barracudas?

48. Laura: Well I was going to seek the legendary Rigid Tool of the Engineers. Anyone care to join me? [exits]

[Hector and Hubert lustily exit.]

49. Aura: [spoken to herself]: I don't really want to go with her, do I? ... [looks around] It's better than staying here.

50. Frank: I can't believe those cowards. I'm still going to find the Star Spangled Duck.

51. Curt: What about the curse?

52. Frank: Curse the curse! I don't believe in curses. [looks at audience] Macbeth! Macbeth! Macbeth!

[There is a loud crash of ominous thunder. The lights dim for a second]

53. Frank: Maybe if I go quickly I can avoid it.

54. Curt: So how are you going to find it?

55. Frank: You're going to help me. Whoever took it will eventually return to the scene of the crime. I want you to get a job at the Tymn mansion, so you can

let me know when they return.

56. Curt: But I already work at the Tymn mansion

57. Frank: [ala Mr. Burns from the Simpsons]: Excellent.

[Lights down]

Characters:

Nick Nack
Toni Tymn
Joseph Cross
Joseph's fan club
Jim Nast
Delores, a drug dealer
Carlos, another drug dealer
Bert, an informant
Lucile, a drug addict
Brenda, Nick's secretary

Scene: Nick's bar. As seedy a dive bar as any there is in Kitchener. The lighting should be poor and dank, but still bright enough to see by. To help the set change, the actors who start out onstage (Bartender, Bert, and the drug crowd, should all bring set pieces on with them and place them.

1. Carlos [quietly]: So, do you have it?
2. Lucille [quietly]: No, but I can get it.
3. Delores [quietly]: You'd better. [Suddenly not so quietly] Or I'll gut you like a trout and sell your entrails in the back of a discount voodoo magazine!
4. Carlos: What she means is that we really want you to get the stuff.
5. Delores: I mean I'll smoke her spleen into jerky and pass it out for Hallowe'en.
6. Lucille: I swear, I'll get it.
7. Carlos: I believe you, but I can't control Delores here.
8. Lucille: Wait a minute! You're playing "good drug smuggler/bad drug smuggler" aren't you?
9. Delores [getting into the role of "bad drug smuggler"]: I'm gonna take a gallon of KY Jelly and...

10. Carlos: [interrupting Delores] That's enough Delores. You can stop now.

11. Lucille: Okay, I'll get it...(to Delores) Maybe you should work on your technique.

[Lucille exits. Nick and Toni enter, passing Lucille on her way out. Nick and Toni make their way to the bar during their dialogue. Toni is obviously way overdressed, and she is just coming to the realization that this is the worst place she has ever been in.]

12. Toni: Oh my god. I think I just stepped on a rat.

13. Nick: Nah, it was just a vole. A rat would have bitten through the sole of your shoe.

14. Toni: Why are we in this...

15. Nick: (faint sarcasm)...quaint purveyor of fine alcoholic distractions? Because that man over there is my informant. [indicating Bert]

16. Toni: You have an informant?

17. Nick: Sure, I pay his bar tab.

18. Toni: Doesn't that get expensive?

19. Nick: Nah, he's a teetotaler.

20. Jim: Hey Nick, one usual coming up. What can I get you, miss?

21. Toni: Can I have a white wine spritzer with a grape twist?

22. Jim: [in disbelief, as if this is the first time anyone has ever ordered a wine spritzer from him] No. Nick, what will she have?

23. Nick: Get her a gin. (to Toni) Gin is a PI's favorite drink.

24. Jim: So Nick, isn't this one a little young?

25. Nick: Lay off Jim, she's my client's daughter.

26. Jim: Sorry. I didn't know you were a babysitter now. [goes to pour two
gins]

27. Bert: Nick, glad to see you. I have a great idea, and this one can't fail. All
I need is twenty bucks to rent the elephant.

28. Nick: First tell us what you know about Victor Tymn's murder?

29. Bert: Just that somebody killed him.

[Nick pulls out a wad of bills and puts one on the bar. Bert picks it up]

30. Bert: Word is that he made some enemies.

31. Nick: What enemies?

32. Bert: Beats me.

[Nick puts another bill on the bar. Jim sets down the drinks and picks up the
bill]

33. Jim: Well, he'd angered most of his company, not to mention every
artifact collector in town.

34. Toni: I'm ashamed to say it, but he's right.

35. Bert: How did you know that?

36. Toni: How'd I know what?

[Bert puts a bill on the bar. Toni picks it up]

37. Toni: He was my father.

38. Bert: So one of his enemies killed him?

39. Nick: How would we know?

[Bert, Toni, and Jim all put bills on the bar. Nick picks them up]

40. Nick: (in a “well, duh” manner) That **is** what enemies do.

[Delores and Carlos have come over]

41. Carlos: I couldn't help but overhear that you are interested in Victor's murder.

42. Nick: Do you know something about it?

43. Delores: Why should we tell you?

44. Carlos: Yeah, we're drug smugglers, we don't have to give you any information.

45. Toni: You're drug smugglers?

46. Delores: Who told you that?

47. Carlos: That's what it says on our cards. [Hands business cards to Toni, Nick, and Bert]

48. Bert: It also says that you only smuggle sugar pills and other placebos.

49. Delores: You want to make something of it?

50. Bert: But that's legal.

51. Carlos: Maybe so, but that doesn't mean it isn't a crime.

[Joseph Cross enters with his entourage, signing autographs. Joseph is dressed very dashingly, and is all in white.]

52. Jim: Who in the name of Andrew Lloyd Webber are you?

53. Entourage: Don't you know who this man is?

Song: Joseph Cross, Superstar (to the tune of Jesus Christ, Superstar)

Lead groupie:

Joseph Cross is just the best detective today
When He catches bad guys He goes all of the way
Found the Maltese Falcon in a pi--le of hay.
His friends bought Him a Last Supper, so He would not pay.
If He's after you you'll suffer incarceration
You can tell He's simply ridding crime from all the nation
Don't you understand?...
'Cause you need to know...

Chorus: (starting with only piano accompaniment building to full band)

Joseph Cross, Joseph Cross
Handed Mike Harris his only loss.
Joseph Cross, Joseph Cross
Even the Pope says this guy is Boss
Joseph Cross, Private eye
Can't prove Him wrong, so don't even try.
Joseph Cross, Private eye
Ev'ryone loves Him, no wonder why.

Chorus repeat:

Joseph Cross, Joseph Cross
Knows which way's North without seeing moss
Joseph Cross, Joseph Cross
Teeth are so clean, thanks to dental floss.

Joseph Cross, Private eye

Doesn't need wings when He wants to fly.

Joseph Cross, Private eye

And He's a perfectly modest guy.

Joseph Cross, Private eye

Yes He's a perfectly modest guy.

Cross: I'm such a perfectly modest guy

Entourage exits after song

[Lucille re-enters with a big bag of jelly beans that is VERY WELL SEALED to avoid a repeat of last year's spill]

54. Lucille: I got the stuff. [bumps into Joseph accidentally]

55. Joseph: What have we here? Drugs and or drug paraphernalia.

56. Lucille: [looking at bag] Jelly beans.

57. Joseph: No they're not. They're crack cocaine. By the powers vested in me as a duly sworn Notary Public, I am placing you all under arrest as accessories. [Blows a police whistle] Except you [pointing at Toni]. You are obviously an innocent bystander caught against your will in this web of lies.

58. Toni: But what about Nick?

59. Joseph: Is he with you?

60. Nick: Me with her? She's with me!

61. Joseph: Well, as long as she'll vouch for you.

[A few cop extras come in and remove everyone except Joseph, Nick, and Toni. Joseph signs autographs for the cops.]

62. Nick: I was questioning those people.

63. Joseph: Well, you can question them after they make bail.

64. Nick: This is Kitchener. Nobody around here can afford bail.

65. Joseph: Then you can question them after they make parole.

66. Toni: But that could take years.

67. Joseph: Patience is a virtue.

68. Nick: [Under his breath] So is humility.

[Brenda enters with a medical style X-Ray envelope]

69. Brenda: Nick, I knew I'd find you here.

70. Toni: How did you know that?

71. Brenda: Show me a grizzled detective and I'll show you the bar that grizzled him. Nick practically has his mail forwarded here.

72. Nick: You know, some secretaries respect their bosses.

73. Brenda: And some bosses pay their secretaries. Maybe I shouldn't tell you what I found.

74. Nick: [Resigned to losing this argument] I'm sorry Brenda. What have you got?

75. Brenda: I took Victor's X-rays to the doctor, and you were right. He was choked to death.

76. Toni: So?

77. Brenda: So all of the Pink Tie Strangler's victims had their windpipes crushed.

78. Nick: Which proves that the serial killer didn't murder Victor Tymn.

79. Joseph: Yes he and or she did.

80. Brenda: What are you talking about?

81. Joseph: Obviously the serial killer killed Victor, otherwise the police wouldn't blame him and or her. The police couldn't make a mistake.

82. Brenda: But they did.

83. Joseph: No they didn't. The serial killed **did** crush the windpipe of Victor Tymn and I will prove it by catching the Pink Tie Strangler, or my name isn't Joseph Cross, Private Eye [Joseph exits triumphantly to an instrumental reprise of Superstar]

84. Nick: Is it just me, or does everyone else hate him too?

[Lights down]

Characters:

Sy Lentnight
Al Wazlate
Sandy Klaus
Billie Boards
Riley Flirt,
Buffy Slayers
Reva Ange Isweet
Kelvin Clean
Lisa Olve
Gino Hands
Aaron/Erin Runner
Cameo Speaker.

Setting: A room in Omni-tech HQ

Things on stage: a coffee maker, a doughnut box, sugar, a container of milk, all on a table. At the other side of the room, there is a row of chairs, a potted plant, and an easel with chart paper. The chart paper says “Love, Trust and Productivity in the Work Place”.

[Lights up]

[Sy is on stage, at the coffee maker. He takes the last of the coffee, the last doughnut, and the last of the sugar. He then drinks the last of the milk right out of the carton, and has a milk mustache. Enter Al Wazlate while Sy is drinking. Sy becomes startled and promptly puts down the milk carton.]

1. Al: YES!! It hasn't started yet!! [Al is carrying a can of Coke, is wearing a Nike sweatshirt, and is otherwise branded out the wazoo1.]

2. Sy: Al, you finally made it to a meeting on time.

3. Al: Thanks to my Palm brand personal organizer. [Al pauses, as if he is in a commercial]

4. Sy: That reminds me, congratulations on the new job.

1 Like most Nascar or Formula One cars and drivers

5. Al: Yep! You're looking at the new Assistant VP of gratuitous product placement. [sees camera] I see you're still videotaping meetings and transcribing them later.

6. Sy: That way I don't miss anything important.

7. Al: Speaking of missing something important, any coffee left?

8. Sy: Don't you have a Coke?

9. Al: I don't drink Coke, I just get paid to carry it around.

10. Sy: The meeting doesn't start for five minutes. We can brew a new pot.

11. Al: I'll just go to Tim Horton's.

12. Sy: Do you have time?

13. Al: I've always got time for Tim Horton's. [Al pauses a moment, as at the end of a commercial, and exits]

[Sy sets up his camera. Enter Billie Boards (VP of Marketing) and Sandy (VP Finance) They don't notice Sy. They head straight for the coffee table.]

14. Sandy: So Billie, this speaker is supposed to get things back to normal around here?

15. Billie: That's what Gino thinks. He's worried that we're spending too much time accusing each other of murder instead of working.

16. Billie: (said at the coffee table) Everyone's been a bit high strung lately.

17. Sandy: It's understandable, what with a serial killer on the loose and all. People are on edge all over town.

18. Billie: What happened to the coffee? When I find out who took the last

cup, I'm going to make him beg for a miserable and painful death in a cold dark alley!!

[Sy quickly pours his into the potted plant. He accidentally drops his cup on his toe and screams.]

19. Billie: IT'S THE STRANGLER!!!!

[Both are startled, pull out guns, but realize that it's him]

20. Billie: Oh. It's just Sy.

[They put their guns away.]

21. Sandy: Sy, what are you doing here? Aren't you supposed to be getting married tomorrow?

22. Sy: What!?! And miss this prime, uh... learning potential?

23. Sandy: Does Gino really think this seminar will get us to trust each other?

24. Billie: Well, don't tell anyone this, but I have proof that Gino murdered Victor.

[Sy hears this, and very nonchalantly turns on his camera. And he moves in as close as possible to them without getting in their way.]

25. Billie: Well, when Gino used to work in the circus he had a fight with the daredevil. When the daredevil's cannon broke down, Gino offered to fix it and later, the cannon blew up, with the daredevil inside.

26. Sandy: That wasn't Gino and Victor. That was an episode of Magnum P.I.²

[Enter Riley Flirt (Buffy's boyfriend). He should be blond, in shape, and wearing

army pants and a gray t-shirt. He should enter from the side facing Sandy.]

27. Billie: Who's that? FREEZE! (She pulls a gun on Riley)

[Enter Buffy Slayers (VP HR). She should be made to look like Buffy³.]

28. Buffy: Relax Billie. It's only Riley. I asked him to be my bodyguard until the Pink Tie Strangler is caught.

29. Riley: Just think of me as Buffy's guardian angel. [Smooches Buffy]

30. Sandy: Since when do you need a bodyguard?

31. Buffy: I don't. But look at him! Eye candy city!

32. Billie: Well, I hope you both enjoy the Productivity, Trust and Love in the Work Place seminar-

33. Buffy: I thought this was the Productivity, Trust and *Making* Love in the Work Place seminar!!

34. Riley: (innocently) Like last week in your office.

[Billie gets in between them and breaks them apart.]

35. Billie: Maybe you should take your seats... On opposite sides of the room.

[Enter Reva Ange Issweet (Victor's sexy Secretary) holding a crossbow⁴.]

36. Reva: Nobody try anything. I'm armed. None of you are going to get me! Not when I'm so close!!

37. Riley: So close to what?

2 No it wasn't. Or at least I hope it wasn't.

3 Buffy the Vampire Slayer, as opposed to one of the myriad of other literary Buffys

4 Secretary with a crossbow from Dilbert

38. Reva: So close to getting out of crummy Kitchener and into glorious Waterloo!

39. Sandy: (earnestly) You have to commute all that way? You poor thing.

40. Reva: When Bill Gates takes over Omni-tech, I'll be rich, I tell ya, rich!

41. Sandy: What makes you think he's going to do that?

42. Reva: I was Victor's secretary. He told me everything. Everybody told me everything. It'll be great. No more having to be nice to everyone! No more attending these stupid seminars! Finally, I'll be able to do less than 15 things at once!! (she laughs evilly)

43. Billie: But Reva, the takeover got cancelled.

44. Reva: Microsoft's not buying us?

45. Sandy: No.

46. Reva: Never mind⁵. [sits]

[Enter Kelvin Clean (wearing jeans), and Liz Olve (Janitors.) Liz has a Super-Soaker.]

47. Liz: Freeze, you pack of murderous jackals!

48. Reva: A super soaker? What are you going to do? Ruin our hair?

49. Kelvin: That super soaker is filled with the most powerful acid we could find! Water from Hamilton Harbor!

50. Buffy: A super soaker filled with acid? That is so three years ago!⁶

⁵ Emily Litello (Gilda Radner (R.I.P.)) An ongoing Saturday Night Live character from before most of you were born.

⁶See script from FASS 1999

[Liz points her super soaker at the potted plant and fires it. The potted plant wilts. Everybody puts their hands up.]

51. Buffy: Then again retro is in.

52. Kelvin: Alright Sy. We know all about it. You might as well come clean. Both of us know you were blackmailing Mr. Victor for millions of dollars, and when he refused to pay, you killed him!

53. Sy: Why would I want to blackmail Victor? I'm marrying his daughter.

54. Kelvin: Exactly! Mr. Victor wouldn't pay because you were marrying his daughter... (realizing he's losing his train of thought) ...So you killed him! And if Mr. and Mrs. Victor die, then all of the money goes to you and Toni.

55. Sy: That makes no sense. What would I blackmail Victor with? He's never done anything illegal. And the only thing he's done that would be even remotely scandalous would be marrying someone from Kitchener.

56. Liz: Oh. (She and Kelvin looks sheepish) Maybe Reva killed Victor. After all, she was sleeping with the mail clerk.

57. Buffy: But Riley is the mail clerk.

[Buffy Kung-fu kills Reva and Riley. Sy gets it all on tape.]

58. Liz: No, that couldn't have been her. **I'm** sleeping with the mail clerk.

[Buffy lunges at Liz, but is held back]

[Enter Aaron Runner and Gino, who is (and remains) totally oblivious to the dead bodies in the room]

59. Gino: Good for you. It's this kind of enthusiasm that's made Omnitech the great company that it is.

60. Sandy: Are you kidding? We're at each other's throats.

61. Gino: Exactly. That's the sort of healthy competition that drives the entrepreneurial spirit. Why do you think we have company Activity Day?

62. Liz: Company Activity Day! That's it.

63. Sy: What do you mean?

64. Liz: We've been too busy accusing each other of murder to realize that Victor was killed on Company Activity Day.

65. Billie: We all have alibis [to Buffy] You were at the barbeque cooking steaks.

66. Buffy: [to Kelvin and Liz] You two were playing tag with the label designers.

67. Sy: [to Sandy] I saw you and Billie playing nude volleyball. I mean I was with Toni.

68. Kelvin: [To Aaron] Wait a minute. I don't remember seeing you there.

69. Aaron/Erin: I was at work. [All become menacing, except Gino and Sy] I'm a co-op student. [Everyone relaxes.]

[Everyone begins to apologize for making accusations. Someone (possibly one of the corpses) calls out "GROUP HUG" and everyone gets into a group hug. Gino looks very confused. Enter Speaker]

70. Gino: Ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to introduce our guest speaker, _____ the _____.

[Everyone takes their seats.]

71. Speaker: [Reading from a prepared speech] Ahem. For a company to

become more productive, love and trust must be earned. These can be earned in three ways: by saving someone's life, by saving someone's place in line, or by saving enough Canadian Tire money.

[Everyone applauds him/her. (Possibly they all break into "For He's a jolly good fellow).]

72. Gino: That's what I want to see. [To speaker] Good job professor! [to everyone] Have a great weekend everyone!

[Exit Gino and Speaker.]

73. Buffy: I can't believe we thought one of us was capable of wanton, senseless murder!

[All but Buffy and Sy exit. Buffy is on her way, and gets stopped. Sy turns off his video camera and takes out the tape.]

74. Sy: One minute Buffy.

75. Buffy: What do you want Sy?

76. Sy: Well, certain people might be interested in your little pre-seminar activity. [nudges corpse] And look! I have this nice little videotape right here! [He shows her the tape]

77. Buffy: You wouldn't give that tape to my mother, would you?!

78. Sy: Actually I was thinking of the police.

79. Buffy: You wouldn't give that tape to the police, would you?!

80. Sy: I might be persuaded not to. If the price was right. You **are** in charge of promotions, right?

81. Buffy: That's blackmail!

82. Sy: No. It's extortion.

83. Buffy: But you're our chief ethics councilor!

84. Sy: So I would know the difference.

**Song: The Promotion Interview (Who Could Ask For Anything More.
(Sung by Ella Fitzgerald))**

Buffy:

I don't believe this. You've got it all. People would kill to be
you.

(You've) got a great girlfriend, a really good job, while life for
most people is blue.

You can not tell me you're not happy with your lot.

If I put it like this (then) what else do you want?

Sy:

I want money! I want power! I want it all, and after I want some
more

I'll use blackmail, and extortion (to) get what I want. Give me it
all! I want some more!

Corner office? Mmmm I'd like that. Get some sunlight on the
floor!

I take checks, and cash installments. And promotions.

Give them to me. I want some more

Both:

Scat Duet (and key change). (Or they possibly start swing dancing
with the corpses during an instrumental interlude/key change.)

Buffy:

Corner office?

Sy:

Yea! I'd like that! Basement rooms, they are a bore.

I want vote'n rights! I want prestige! I want it all. "CEO" will be on my door!!

I want money. I want power. A promotion. (I'll) use extortion. I've got the tape. And I'll sell it. So you'd better, get CEO on my door!!!

[Both Exit.]

[Enter Al with a tray of Tim Horton's coffee cups. Al is also now wearing a Tim Horton's staff visor]

85. Al: I'm sorry for being late, but I brought coffee. Oh. I guess the meeting hasn't started yet.

[Al sits down and waits.]

[Lights Down]

Characters:

Nick Nack
Roberta Tymn
Sy Lentnight
Toni Tymn
Victoria Tymn
Randolph Bastard
Young Nick
Young Roberta
Young Randolph
Lee – wedding planner
Jerry – caterer
Photographer

[Lights up]

[Interior is large indoor room. Toni and Sy are in wedding gear, having a photograph taken. All the guests are in wedding guest type clothes. Everyone starts out on stage except Jerry.¹]

1. Roberta: That was a lovely service. Thank you so much for all your help, Lee.
2. Lee: Please, why do you think I'm the most expensive wedding planner in all of Waterloo. Nothing but the best for my clients.
3. Photographer (to Sy and Toni): Okay, now I want you to give each other a big kiss (they do, he takes a picture) Now, dip her. (they do, picture) and show me some action, flaunt what you've brought (somewhat reluctantly they do, another picture) Okay, now lots of energy, poutier lips, poutier lips! (Photographer is in a frenzy, taking pictures like mad. Sy and Toni are pretty much confused) Oh yeah, work it, work it!
4. Randolph: He's a fashion photographer, isn't he?
5. Lee: Okay, **him** I got at the last minute, but everyone else is top notch.

¹ Sy was onstage at the end of the last scene and starts out onstage at the beginning of this scene. It might be a Good Thing TM if Sy's costume can easily be changed from woks clothes to tuxedo.

[Jerry enters]

6. Jerry: (loudly) Appetizers are served!

7. Roberta: Lovely we'll be there in a minute.

8. Jerry: You do realize I've spent the last six hours making pastry from scratch to make sure that the hors d'oeuvres are perfect. Which they are now but won't be "in a minute."

9. Lee (slightly panicked): Did I mention that the caterer recently had a nervous breakdown?

[Mass exodus, as everyone rushes to the dining room. Nick and Roberta stay behind]

10. Roberta: I can't believe my daughter is married.

11. Nick: It was a lovely ceremony. (pauses...sighs wistfully)

12. Roberta: Penny for your thoughts.

13. Nick: I was just thinking, if things had worked out differently, all those years ago, that could have been us.

14. Roberta: We were too young.

15. Nick: I was engaged.

16. Roberta: No, you were married...to your job.

17. Nick: That's what my fiancée said when she left me.

18. Roberta: Do you remember when we first met...

[flashback sound effect. Pool of light on a convenient spot, revealing young Roberta and young Nick]

19. Young Roberta (wearing a Miss Oktoberfest sash): Are you a detective?
20. Young Nick: That's what it says on the door.
21. Young Roberta: I need your help. The ceremonial first keg for Oktoberfest is missing, and they think I've stolen it.
22. Young Nick: Did you?
23. Young Roberta: (suddenly very defensive) No, no. Of course not. What makes you think that?
24. Young Nick: No reason. I'll take the case, but it will cost you. (to audience) I knew she was guilty. She had that look in her eyes that said "I did it, and I need some poor sap to keep me from the big house." And she thought I was that sap. The sad thing was, she was right.
25. Young Roberta: Excuse me.
26. Young Nick: Yes?
27. Young Roberta: Aren't you supposed to be doing that in your head, so that I can't hear you?
- [Flash forward music, back to main scene]
28. Nick: I knew you were guilty, but I couldn't turn you in.
29. Roberta: Why couldn't you?
30. Nick: It was my first case. How would it look, to get a reputation for turning in my own clients? Besides, part of me fell for you way back then, and I still haven't come up for air.
31. Roberta: Oh, Nick.... [they kiss, passionately and are interrupted by the re-entrance of the crowd]

[Everyone re-enters except Jerry]

32. Randolph: Time to open the wedding presents.

33. Toni: I thought we didn't do that until tomorrow.

34. Sy: Maybe we could open a few. Like this one from work. (Pulls out an envelope from his pocket and opens it) Look dear, Omnitech is giving me that promotion I was hoping for. What are the odds?

[Randolph hands a large box to Toni]

35. Toni: (Opening it, enthusiastically) Oh look, it's a...(enthusiasm fades) blender. How did you know we only had six blenders?

36. Victoria: Here Sy, this is from me. (hands an envelope to Sy)

37. Sy: (opening it): It's a gift certificate from a divorce lawyer.

38. Victoria: I hope you have a use for it.

39. Nick: From me. I hope it fits. [hands Toni a box]

[Toni opens it to pull out a fedora and trenchcoat²]

40. Nick: It seemed like your sort of thing.

41. Toni: What do you think? Is it me?

42. Sy: Take that off. It looks stupid.

[Reluctantly she does so]

43. Roberta: One more gift. (pulls out a large puzzle box) It's from your father. The police found it in his workshop after he was killed.

44. Toni: Shouldn't that be evidence?

45. Randolph: I wouldn't think so. After all, murderers are notorious for not leaving gift-wrapped clues to their identity at the scene of the crime.

46. Sy: It's my turn to open this one. (Sy attempts several times to open the box) It's some kind of puzzle box.

47. Toni: Ooh, I love puzzles. [trying to help] Push on that spot there.

48. Sy: I can get it.

49. Victoria: Yes dear, let the idiot have his pride.

[Sy tries a few more times, gets frustrated and quits]

50. Sy: (petulant) I'll work on it later.

51. Jerry (entering): Time for soup. It's crème de la dijonnaise tout la fleurette³.

52. Toni: Can't it wait? Please? (trying to avoid having to face the crème de la dijonnaise tout la fleurette.)

53. Jerry: One does not keep crème de la dijonnaise tout la fleurette waiting. One waits for crème de la dijonnaise tout la fleurette. : [brandishes a ladle] In fact, one had better get her tiny little ass into that dining room, or the crème de la dijonnaise tout la fleurette is going to start getting pissed off. Now move it! Or no soup for you⁴!

[All exit, except Randolph who keeps Roberta from exiting]

54. Randolph: Roberta, I've wanted to speak with you.

55. Roberta: Yes, Randolph?

56. Randolph: (stalling) Remember the first time we met?

² The same fedora and trenchcoat from 1-0 and 2-7.

[flashback music again. Pool of light on same spot as before.]

57. Young Roberta: Hello, I'm supposed to meet Victor here.

58. Young: Randolph: [has his back to Roberta. Young Randolph also has a purple carnation] He just stepped out. (turning around to shake hands) I'm his roommate, Rand...(goes into stupid male mode upon seeing Rroberta) ...dugh.

59. Young Roberta: Pleased to meet you, Rand-dugh. Rand-dugh? Is that Dutch?

60. Young Randolph: Hubblugh...Randolph...name...is...Randolph.

61. Young Roberta: When Victor gets back, can you tell him I got the keg?

62. Young Randolph: Keg...got...keg...sure.

63. Young Roberta: You're a dear, thanks [kisses him on the cheek and leaves]

[Flash forward music, back to main scene]

64. Randolph: Wasn't I suave back then?

65. Roberta: You were something.

66. Randolph: After all these years. I still can't believe that Victor wanted a priceless antique Bavarian beer keg for an end table.

67. Roberta: That was Victor all right.

68. Randolph: He could certainly be clueless. Even right up to the end.

[Roberta looks at Randolph quizzically]

³ Yes, the writers are painfully aware that this is really really bad, meaningless French. It sort of means cream of mayo/mustard soup with flowers. Ickie...

⁴ Delivered unlike the soup Nazi from Seinfeld.

69. Roberta: But I'm sure you didn't keep me away from cream of mustard violet soup just to reminisce. Not that I mind.

70. Randolph: I (pause) I meant all those things I said at Victor's funeral. I want to take care of you. Will you marry me?

71. Roberta: I can't. There's someone else.

72. Randolph: It's that detective, isn't it?

73. Nick: [who has entered unseen, holding a soup bowl and spoon and enjoying the soup] Is it?

74. Roberta: [crosses to Nick] I'm sorry Randolph. Please don't tell anyone. People wouldn't understand.

75. Randolph: Don't worry. Your secret is safe with me.

[Everyone re-enters (except for Jerry) holding stomachs and moaning]

76. Victoria: Look how late it is, we have to hurry if we're going to make it to the airport.

77. Sy: But we're staying in town for our honeymoon.

78. Victoria: I know. But I have to get back to B.C. and two have to drive me to the airport.

79. Toni: But, but...

80. Victoria: Oh, don't worry dear, I know you two lovebirds want your space. Sy, you drive so Toni and I can chat in back. Tah tah everyone. [herds a protesting Sy and Toni offstage with her] [as exiting] Now dear, let me give you some advice for the wedding night.

81. Lee: Before I forget, here's my bill. [pulls out a long itemized list and hands it to Roberta]

82. Roberta: (reading through list) \$6000 for a deranged caterer, \$12,000 for the wedding dress?

83. Lee: It was pure faux-Armenian silk. 100% naturally synthesized.

84. Roberta: You're charging me ninety five hundred for renting the hall?

85. Lee: I'm sure you'll find it's consistent with the going rates.

86. Roberta: Except it's **my** house!

87. Lee: Oh dear, look at the time, I must be off. [edges for exit]

88. Jerry: (entering, brandishing a large chef's knife, ala slasher flicks)
(screeching) I hope everyone saved room for cake!

[Much confusion as the lights go down]

Characters:

Nick Nack
Roberta Tymn
Toni Tymn
Sy Lentnight
Joseph Cross
Mayor McBrie
Lou Tennant
Lenny
Laverne
Squigmund
Shirley
Frank N. Beans
Hubert Heever

[Scene: Outside Kitchener City Hall for the start of Oktoberfest. There is a large bush onstage, big enough to hide a body.]

[Lights up. The Mayor and Lou are on stage, arguing]

1. Mayor: I still think having this Oktoberfest is a mistake.
2. Lou: What do you mean, Mayor?
3. Mayor: Well, there is a killer on the loose and everyone is carrying weapons and acting paranoid. The smallest incident might cause both cities to explode into violence.
4. Lou: The serial killer would be crazy to try anything here.
5. Mayor: Lou, serial killers **are** crazy.
6. Lou: (defensively) Sometimes they use mass murder as a legitimate way to vent their rage.
7. Mayor: You assured me your security team can handle this and your butt is on the line. One slip-up and you'll be looking for a new job. Capish? Wait here while I go get the grand marshal.

[Mayor exits. Lenny and Laverne (from Kitchener) enter from one side of stage. Squigmund and Shirley (from Waterloo) enter from the other. They eye each other suspiciously and circle each other. In a sudden motion Lenny reaches into his pocket and pulls out a switchblade...comb, opens it and combs his hair. Squigmund reaches into his jacket and pulls out a gun style lighter and goes to light a cigarette. Lenny knocks it out of his mouth and the two start threatening each other, ala West Side Story. Meanwhile more Kitchener and Waterloo extras enter]

8. Lou: All right, break it up.

9. Lenny & Squigmund: (simultaneously) He started it...Liar...Hey, cut that out...Quit it...She sells sea shells by the sea shore...Aargh.

[Mayor re-enters with cameo]

10. Mayor: Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the Grand Marshall for this year's Octoberfest celebration, <Cameo's name and title> who will tap the ceremonial first keg. [Aside to Lou] Boy were we scraping the bottom of the barrel this year or what?

11. Cameo: [Reading from an elaborate scroll] Octoberfest should be a time to reflect on the past, plan for the future, and drink like camels at an oasis. Let's hit the 'fest halls, first's rounds on me!

12. Mayor: So much for the speech about responsible consumption.

[Mayor exits with cameo and Lou. Lenny, Squigmund, Laverne, and Shirley leave, all the Kitchener and Waterloo extras follow, leaving Roberta and Nick onstage alone]

13. Roberta: Nick, I'm worried.

14. Nick: What do you mean?

15. Roberta: I have a feeling that something bad will happen if we keep looking for Victor's killer.

16. Nick: Nothing will happen.

17. Roberta: Nick...I love you, and I don't want to lose you the way I lost him.

[Roberta and Nick kiss. As they kiss, Joseph enters.]

[Joseph clears his throat. They keep kissing. Joseph clears his throat again. Reluctantly they break the kiss. A line starts forming leading offstage.]

18. Nick: Can we help you?

19. Joseph: I just wanted to let you know that I have solved the case. I know conclusively who killed Victor Tynn.

20. Roberta: Who?

21. Joseph: The serial killer, like I said it would be. And what's more, I know where and when the killer will strike next.

22. Roberta: How do you know this?

23. Joseph: This map shows the location all of the murders. [holds up a map of KW with a series of dots in the shape of a tie. Another dot is in Waterloo and far outside the pattern.]

24. Nick: I can't help but notice that Victor's death isn't part of the tie pattern.

25. Joseph: Tie pattern? What tie pattern? This is the ancient Norse rune meaning phlegm. [Holds up a card labeled "phlegm" with a symbols that very vaguely resembles a tie with a stray dot] Now, if we follow the pattern, the next death will happen in five minutes in the Princess Cinema

during a special screening of “Death of a Loogie.” [Begins dragging Nick offstage]

26. Roberta: I’d better go with you.

27. Joseph: No. It’s too dangerous. You should go hide in that dimly lit alley over there.

28. Roberta: Nick?

29. Nick: [Just before being pulled off] Don’t worry honey, Why don’t you wait in the beer line. Stay with other people and you’ll be okay.

[Roberta cautiously gets in beer line]

[Frank and Hubert enter]

30. Frank: You asked to meet me?

31. Hubert: Let me be frank.

32. Frank: Okay, and I’ll be Hubert.

33. Hubert: Pardon?

34. Frank: You said you wanted to be frank.

35. Hubert: And I will. We’re kicking you out of the society.

36. Frank: But why?

37. Hubert: You’re a lousy artifact hunter.

38. Frank: What do you mean?

39. Hubert: The last relic you recovered turned out to be an old Barry White 45 with a big scratch on the “B” side.¹

40. Frank: But I’m going to get the Star Spangled Duck.

41. Hubert: You’ll do no such thing. That Duck is cursed. Anyone who gains possession of it with evil in their heart will come to a disastrous ruin. Why do you think Victor died?

42. Frank: Victor was evil?

43. Hubert: He must have been. He died, didn’t he? A piece of advice, leave the Duck alone. [exits]

44. Frank: I’ll show them. I will find that Duck. And then I’ll be the greatest artifact hunter ever. [exits]

[Lenny and the Kitchener group come on stage. Squigmund and the Waterloo group enter from the other side. They get into a group fight, choreographed for about 10-15 seconds (which is an eternity in stage combat time). Nobody dies though.]

[Lou enters]

45. Lou: Cease this interminable racket! [Lou fires a shot in the air.]

46. All: Huh?

47. Lou: I said freeze. [Fighters all freeze.]

48. All: Oh.

[The mayor rushes in]

49. Mayor: I heard a shot. What happened? Who fired a gun?

¹ Please, please tell me that everyone still knows that a 45 was a type of vinyl record. Please?

50. Lou: I did, Mayor.

51. Mayor: What, and risk setting off a mass brawl between these groups. I told you, they're ready to go off at the slightest provocation. That kind of irresponsibility is unacceptable. You're fired.

52. Lou: But...but you can't do that.

53. Mayor: Yes, I can, I'm the mayor.

I am the Big Cheese (to the tune of "Roll out the Barrel" (or just about any other polka if so desired))

(in this song, it scans best is "mayor" is pronounced "mare"

Mayor:

I am the big cheese
You are no more than pond scum
You are the last straw
I am the "A" num-ber one
If you don't like it
Then you'd just better beware
I wield all K Dub-ya's power,
'Cause I'm Kitch-ner's mayor.

(during musical interlude, a little old lady is pushed in a wheelchair across the stage. The mayor stage punches out the man pushing the wheelchair, then tips the wheelchair over, spilling the woman. He blows a whistle, several police extras come in (including Art and Barney from 1-1 if they are available) who cart off the bodies and chair.)

Don't try to cross me
I will make sure that you fail

If you're my en'my,
Your life will be living hell
I am so powr'ful
I'll fi-re you if I care
No one dares to try to stop me,
'Cause I'm Kitch-ner's mayor.

[At the end of the song, everybody exits. In the confusion, the beer line either joins the production number, dissipates, or ends offstage. Roberta disappears.]

[Joseph and Nick re-enter. Joseph is looking sheepish]

54. Joseph: I could have sworn that the killer would be there.

55. Nick: Killer? If it hadn't been for the two of us, **nobody** would have been there.

56. Joseph: [looking at map] No wonder! I was reading my map upside down. The next killing will happen right here, I'm sure of it. [points to stage, looks at map and takes several large steps to the side] Right here, I'm sure of it. Let's hide behind that bush and we can surprise the serial killer. [Joseph moves to behind bush] Oh dear.

57. Nick: What is it, what did you find?

58. Joseph: Nothing, nothing at all. Don't come back here.

[Nick advances towards the bush, Joseph tries in vain to keep him away. When Nick makes it to behind the bush, he gasps in horror. Nick, pulls Roberta's body from behind the bush out on stage. Roberta has a pink tie wrapped around her neck.²]

² There are a couple good spots for Roberta to enter unseen. During the mob fight, or during the mayor's production number. Whichever is the most unobtrusive.

59. Joseph: That's evidence, you should probably leave it alone. [Nick glares at him] Never mind.

60. Nick: It's Roberta. She's dead. She's been ...strangled.

61. Joseph: That means that it couldn't have been the serial killer. But if not the killer, then who?

[Shirley enters and sees Nick kneeling over the body and holding the pink tie. She screams and runs off. Nick has gone into a catatonic state due to grief.]

62. Joseph: The same person who killed her husband? But that was the serial killer. Unless the police were...wrong?

[Shirley enters leading the rest of the Waterloo mob]

63. Shirley: There he is.

[The Kitchener mob enters from the opposite side]

64. Laverne: Look! It's the serial killer.

65. Squigmund: Get him.

66. Joseph: No, he's with me.

67. Lenny: Joseph's caught the serial killer.

68. Joseph: That's not it exactly...

69. Shirley: Somebody arrest him.

70. Laverne: [Holding up a hangman's noose] No, somebody lynch him.

71. Joseph: You really shouldn't do that.

72. Squigmund: Joseph's right. Lynching is too good. Let's stone him.

73. Joseph: No, that's not what I meant at all. [Moves to protect Nick] Nick, you really need to snap out of this. [Squigmund throws a rock³ that hits Joseph] OWWWW.

74. Lenny: The serial killer is attacking Joseph. Let's rush him.

[The crowd rushes Joseph and Nick. Joseph tries to stop them but in vain. Nick does nothing to defend himself. When the crowd breaks up, Nick is on the ground, dead. The mayor enters. Sy and Toni are with him.]

75. Mayor: What's going on?

76. Shirley: I saw that man strangling that woman.

77. Laverne: She tried to fight back, but the serial killer was too strong.

78. Lenny: Joseph here tried to save her, but couldn't.

79. Shirley: But he did keep the killer long enough for help to arrive.

80. Squigmund: And now the killer is dead, and we can go back to our happy, productive tax-paying lives.

81. Mayor: Joseph is this true?

82. Joseph: No, that's not it at all.

83. Lenny: He's just being humble.

84. All: [sung⁴] He's just a perfectly modest guy!

85. Mayor: That settles it, Nick was the serial killer, the reign of terror is over, and Joseph is a hero. And to make sure a dastardly crime like this can never happen again, I am going to make a law banning pink ties.

³ Perhaps throws a dead tennis ball wrapped in duct tape or paper mache' ...

⁴ For the tune, see Joseph Cross, Private Eye in Act 1, Scene 4.

[The mayor and both mobs carry Joseph off on their shoulders, chanting Joseph, Jo-seph. Sy and Toni are the only ones left onstage (well, with Nick and Roberta of course)]

86. Toni: But Nick couldn't have killed my mom and dad.

87. Sy: Joseph seemed pretty sure.

88. Toni: Nick loved my mom. [Toni picks up Nick's fedora]

89. Sy: Maybe he only thought he did. Unrequited love can be a pretty strong motive.

90. Toni: But it just doesn't make sense. And I can prove it, I know I can.

91. Sy: Honey, what can one woman do? Put the silly hat down. This chapter is over. Let's go live happily ever after.

[Toni sets the fedora down next to Nick, and walks off with Sy, looking back over her shoulder]

[Curtain down]

Characters:

Sy Lentnight
Toni Tymn¹
Anne (friend of Toni)
Rosie (friend of Toni)
Mitch (friend of Sy)
Harry (friend of Sy)
Curt Chief

[Curtain down, spotlight on Sy and Toni as they walk out from slot door, in front of the curtain towards the middle of the stage, talking.]

1. Sy: Wasn't that play great? I can't believe the butler did it. Never saw that coming.
2. Toni: Oh please, the wrench in the study? How could you not know?
3. Sy: But who keeps a wrench in the study? I was sure it was the best friend.
4. Toni: It's never the best friend. I'm surprised how much I actually enjoyed the play. I couldn't believe you were insensitive enough to suggest going to a murder mystery.
5. Sy: Insensitive? Me? Why would going to "The Horrific Death of My Parents" be insensitive? ... Oh yeah. Forgot.
6. Toni: I think this was a really good way to spend today.

Song: Fifth Time Lucky to Original Music

We've been together for so long,
We've had our troubles and our pain
We made it through together
We'd do it all again

It's been 5 years since our wedding

¹ Obviously, Toni has kept her maiden name.

5 years of love and fun
Despite all that was predicted
By my aunt the great nun

Dad was killed,
And so was Mom,
And poor Nick lost out too,
The murderer was who?

We had a rash of deadly deeds
All done with a pink tie
But ever since five years ago,
No one else has died.

I've lost my mom and dad,
What a year that was,
Since then it's been good
It hasn't been so bad.

We'll get through it all
All the hardship and the pain
We'll have our cake and eat it too
We'll always have each other.

7. Sy: Right. You and me babe.

[Enters curtain slit. Curtains rise, lights up. Family and friends on stage, not Randolph or Frank. Big banner across stage reading "Happy Anniversary".]

8. Everyone: Surprise!

[Sy and Toni completely shocked.]

9. Toni: Thank you everybody! Sy, look, everyone's here!

10. Sy: You remembered my birthday. Wait a minute, it's not my birthday.
Why is everyone here? Honey, is it your birthday?

11. Anne: You don't remember your wife's birthday?

12. Sy: Of course I do. Happy birthday honey!

13. Toni: Sy's just teasing. He knows it's our anniversary. He took me out to
a play tonight.

14. Sy (with deer in headlights look): Yeah ... right. ... That's exactly why we
went to the play.

15. Toni: This is such a surprise. Thanks guys.

[Guests mingle about, snatches of conversation overlap. Toni, Anne and
Rosie drift to one side of front of stage. Sy, Mitch and Harry drift to other
side of front of stage Spotlight on the women..]

16. Rosie: Anne, I couldn't believe it when I heard you were pregnant. It's
wonderful.

17. Anne: Yeah. Backaches, morning sickness, having to pee every five
minutes. Can't wait for labour pains!

18. Rosie: So Toni, any plans for a baby of your own?

19. Toni: We've been thinking about it. Just between us girls, I think tonight
might be the lucky night!

20. Anne: Toni, I don't know what you see in him!

21. Toni: You don't know him like I do. Since we got married, he's become
so sensitive to my needs.

[Spotlight on guys now.]

22. Harry: So Sy, any big plans for tonight?

23. Sy: Hell yeah! After you guys leave, I've got the Wrestling Pay Per View on tape!

[In unison guys say "PPV" and do RVD move².]

24. Mitch: So, how are you keeping yourself busy nowadays, Sy?

25. Sy: Oh, I'm brushing up on my golf game, playing a little tennis.

26. Harry: You should take up hunting. Chicks love that

27. Sy: Definitely. The bigger the gun, the better.

28. Mitch: Want to go hunting next weekend?

29. Harry: Sorry, I can't. I'm going ... skiing, yeah skiing.

30. Sy: But Harry, it's October.

31. Harry: Not in the mountains, it isn't.

32. Mitch: That sounds fun. Can I come?

33. Harry: Uuhh, Sorry Mitch. Not enough snow for two people.

[Sy looks confused. Spotlight on women again.]

34. Anne: So Rosie, when is Harry having his hemheroid surgery?

35. Rosie: He's going in next weekend. But he doesn't want anyone to know.

[Rosie looks over to Harry and waves. Harry waves back.]

36. Anne: I'm surprised your Dad's friend Randolph isn't here. He was always hanging around.

² If you don't know it, as Rob LeGood to demonstrate. He does it better than anyone.

37. Toni: We don't see much of Randolph anymore. He was really broken up when my mom passed away. We just lost contact. I think it was too difficult for him.

38. Rosie: He always gave me the creeps.

39. Anne: Rosie, Teletubbies give you the creeps.

[Spotlight back on guys.]

40. Harry: So Sy, still at Omnitech?

41. Sy: No, I left there a few years ago. I'm doing mostly freelance work right now. I'm thinking of going to work for Nulltech.

42. Mitch: So, what did you get Toni for your anniversary?

43. Sy: I got her ... um, I need to go find it, I mean get it.

[Sy goes offstage.]

44. Mitch: Left Omnitech? That's rich.

45. Harry: What do you mean?

46. Mitch: Didn't you hear? Omnitech went bankrupt a couple of years ago.

47. Harry: What happened? It was at the top of the industry.

48. Mitch: Well the general consensus is that the great thinker over there ran it into the ground! Damn idiot couldn't find his way out of a closet with a flashlight, map and compass.

49. Harry: If he's such an idiot, how did he get to the top of the company?

50. Mitch: No one knows. Maybe Sy's got a penchant for blackmail. [they laugh]

[Toni wanders over to the guys.]

51. Toni: Have you guys seen Sy?

52. Mitch: He said he'd be right back.

[Sy reappears all dusty, carrying puzzlebox covered in cobwebs. Crowd gathers around Toni and Sy, at front of stage. Toni brings out large gift, elaborately wrapped.]

53. Toni: Sy, my love, happy anniversary.

[Sy opens the gift – very expensive leather coat.]

54. Sy: Honey, it's that East Indian leather coat I wanted.

55. Toni: Well you really liked it, and it is our 5th anniversary. I know it's extravagant, but I saved up for it.

56. Everyone: Now Toni's gift!

[Sy presents the dusty, cobwebby puzzle box to Toni.]

57. Sy: Here honey, here's your gift. I had it hidden down in the basement

58. Toni: But this was our wedding gift from my father.

59. Sy: Was it? Oh, ... well, I know how anxious you were to open it, so now you can. Happy anniversary honey.

[Toni opens the puzzle box in one try, very easily. Inside is a wad of packing material, that Toni quickly digs under. Toni cries out in excitement, pulls out the duck.]

60. Toni: Oh, Sy, look what Daddy gave us! The Star Spangled Duck! He loved this so much, it was his favourite antiquity. I can't believe he gave it to us!

61. Sy: What the duck ...?

[The crowd oohs and aaahs, exclaiming in a confused babble of excitement and admiration over the duck. Sy standing to the side, looks disappointed and disgusted. Curt comes over to peer at the duck, then scurries over to side of stage, makes phone call to Frank]

62. Curt: Hey boss, it's Curt. ... You won't believe it. They found it. ... Yeah, I know it's been 5 years. Apparently it was a wedding present and his daughter just unwrapped it. ... Yeah, I saw it. It's fantastic. ... It's here at the house. I'll arrange to get it to you. [exits]

[Crowd finally stops oohing and aaahing. Duck placed on table where everyone can see.]

63. Rosie: Well, Mitch and I have to get going before his bowels start acting up.

64. Mitch: Anne and me too. Happy anniversary guys.

[Rosie, Mitch, Anne and Harry exit]

65. Toni: Coming to bed darling? I have something else you can unwrap [winks mischievously]

66. Sy: I'll be up in a minute.

[Toni exits, leaving Sy with the old puzzlebox. Sy picks up the duck and starts talking to it.]

67. Sy: A duck? He gave us a stupid duck? What kind of a present is that? Who the hell gives their daughter a duck? Why didn't he give us money. That would have been helpful. Toni doesn't know how broke we are. It's not my fault I ran up a tab at the races? (shakes duck) It's not! I have to keep busy somehow, and I HATE golf!

[Sy sets down buck and picks up puzzle box, riffles around impatiently through the paper, looking for anything else hidden in there.]

68. Sy: There's got to be something else. He wouldn't just give us a damn Duck! ... There is something else! It's a ... tie. (holds up pink tie) Wait a second ... [withdraws some small object hidden in his hand] Well. I wonder ... He's got a lot of money. And Sy's back in the game!

[Does victory dance, ala football. Picks up phone, dials, begins talking to unknown on other end.]

69. Sy: Hey, Sy here. ... Listen, I found a little something you left behind 5 years ago in Victor's workshop. ... Let's say a half a million or I go to the police. Of course I'll come alone. This is blackmail you idiot, you don't bring witnesses! [Hangs up] God, what a moron!

[Sy leaves to go get killed.³]

[Suddenly a huge crashing sound, room filled with Ninjas. Dance routine around the room. One ninja grabs duck, they dance out. The tie stays behind]

[Lights down]

³ Rule One of blackmail should be never confront a murder alone, and without telling anyone.

Characters:

Lou Tennant

Toni Tymn

In part of the set there is a desk with chair, and chair facing the desk. Coffee cup and ashtray, open files on desks. Perhaps coatrack with trenchcoat and fedora. See Act 1, Scene 0.

[Lights up]

1. Lou: (voiceover) Private eyes have it easy. They can set their own hours, all the cheap liquor they want, and there's never a shortage of beautiful women who need help.

[Toni enters]

2. Lou (aloud): See what I mean.
3. Toni: Pardon?
4. Lou: Nothing. Can I help you?
5. Toni: My husband, Sy, is dead, and I need to find out who killed him.
6. Lou: Was it you?
7. Toni: No, why would you ask that?
8. Lou: You'd be surprised how guilty some clients can be. Why not go to the cops?
9. Toni: I did. They told me to come to you.
10. Lou: Why me?
11. Toni: All the other detectives in town are dead or in jail. I didn't have much of a choice.
12. Lou: One benefit of setting up your own agency after being a cop. I don't get hassled. I'm arrest proof. So, do you have anything to go on?
13. Toni: I found this. [holds up pink tie.] But I thought that pink ties were outlawed five years ago.

14. Lou: They were. I'd better hold on to that. [grabs tie from her. Stares at it fascinated]

15. Toni: Oh, and the Star Spangled Duck has gone missing again. Will you help me?

16. Lou: Yeah, sure, whatever. See yourself out, will you?

17. Toni: Great, I'll meet you here tomorrow. [Exits]

18. Lou: (voiceover) Yeah, detectives have it easy. (monologue) Now serial killers, we have it tough. Trying to find the perfect victim. Bribing your fellow cops to dispose of evidence. And to top it off, I'm allergic to polyester. Do you know how tough it is to find silk ties that are pink? (to tie) But now I have you, and nothing can stop me. It makes me feel like singing. (band starts playing "Theme From Love Story") Nah....

[Lights down]

Characters:

Frank N. Beans
Curt Chief
Stefan
Alex
Pete
Rolf
Nigel
Alice
Holly

[Scene is the SLC, on a typical Friday afternoon. There are two chairs, and a table with a Tesla coil¹ on it. There are many extras upstage and off to the side]

[Lights up]

[Frank is on stage with a briefcase, looking at his watch. Curt enters wearing sunglasses, carrying a canvas bag with the Duck in it]

1. Curt: Frank, there you are! [removes Sunglasses] (conspiratorially) It's me, Curt. [puts sunglasses back on]
2. Frank: This is your idea of a quiet meeting place?
3. Curt: You like it huh?
4. Frank: It's the SLC at noon! Look at all the people.
5. Curt: Exactly, we'll blend into the crowd.
6. Frank: Do you have the Duck?
7. Curt: Right here. [pats bag]
8. Frank: Good. I want to make the swap before anybody notices us.

[Stefan comes over with a camera and takes their picture]

¹ Though, perhaps just a prop that looks like a Tesla coil. A real Tesla coil might be...umm...bad.

9. Stefan: Hi, I'm with Campus Question. What should be done with all the squirrels on campus?

10. Curt: I think they should pay FED fees like everyone else.

11. Frank: [pulls Curt to one side] What are you doing?

12. Curt: You have to give a clever answer or you don't get your picture in the paper.

13. Frank: We don't want our picture in the paper. Squirrels are the last things we should worry about.

14. Stefan: Perfect! It has a nice political ring to it. [Takes another picture. Moves away, possibly to a group of extras in the background]

15. Frank: Just give me the Duck, before anything else goes wrong.

[Curt hands the bag with the Duck to Frank. Frank hands Curt the briefcase. Frank pulls the Duck out of the bag to look at it.]

16. Curt: Glad that's over. I was getting worried about the curse.

17. Frank: I keep telling you, there's no such thing as a curse.

[Frank slaps Curt on the shoulder. Curt loses his balance, and falls over, grabbing the Tesla coil on the tale. An electricity SFX is heard, and Curt is electrocuted. Curt slumps into the chair]

[Alex enters]

18. Alex: That's what happened to my Tesla coil.

19. Frank: Tesla coil?

20. Alex: Yeah, I knew I forgot it somewhere. Good thing you were here. Somebody might have bumped it. A person could get killed doing that.

21. Frank: You don't say.

22. Alex: Oh yeah, they're very dangerous. At least nobody got hurt. Say, is your friend okay?

23. Frank: He's just...a little drunk and sleeping it off.

24. Alex: Oh right, I forgot the Bomber was having C₂H₅OH-fest². Well, thanks again. [Picks up Tesla coil and leaves]

[Frank looks around and starts to exit]

25. Stefan: [Grabbing Frank and dragging him back] There you are!

26. Frank: Pardon?

27. Stefan: You guys were great. I want to ask you some more questions. Are you students here?

28. Frank: Yes. I mean No. I mean he was...is. [Frank sits down next to Curt]

29. Frank/Curt³: I am.

30. Stefan: What do you think about all the protests on campus?

31. Frank/Curt: [Frank crosses Curt's legs] I'm for them, as long as they are violent and unrestrained.

32. Frank: I mean unrestrained and violent. He means non-violent and restrained.

[Pete and Rolf enter. Rolf has a bag of juggling props, and Pete has a protest placard reading "Down with jugglers!"]

33. Pete: Would you sign our petition?

² The chemical formula for alcohol

34. Stefan: What's it about?

35. Rolf: We want juggling banned from campus. [Frank signs petition]

36. Stefan: But aren't the two of you jugglers?

37. Pete: Exactly. And we want juggling to be an extreme sport for rebels like skateboarding is.

38. Frank: (aside) There really is a curse on the Duck, and I'm now in hell.

39. Rolf: Pardon?

40. Frank: I said "Fight the power!"

[Rolf pulls out three clubs and starts juggling. Frank/Curt sign the petition]

41. Stefan: But skateboarding is dangerous and can hurt innocent people.

[Rolf stops, and whacks Curt on the head with one of the clubs. Curt slumps over. Frank rights Curt. Rolf starts juggling again.]

42. Rolf: So is juggling.

43. Pete: Don't mess with us. [Pete starts juggling three balls] See these? These could go off at any minute.

44. Frank: They're just beanbags.

[Rolf tosses a club to Curt⁴. And keeps juggling with a "hole" in his pattern. Frank/Curt catches it, and when the hole is at the right spot, Frank/Curt tosses it back. They keep doing this until Rolf and Frank/Curt are continually juggling back and forth]

³ Frank/Curt represents Frank talking for Curt. In the remainder of the scene, Curt is dead, and Frank is using him like a marionette, ala "Weekend At Bernie's"

⁴ This bit is best done from the side. It will be a bit tricky to do. The easiest way to make it work is for Curt to do the juggling part, and for Frank to just keep one hand loose on Curt's hand, for the effect.

45. Pete: Just beanbags? Tell that to CTRL-A⁵. Or what's left of them.

46. Rolf: Don't make me get all vaudeville on your ass. [Rolf "steals" all the clubs and continues juggling himself.]

47. Stefan: Can I join your protest?

48. Pete: You want to be a juggler too?

49. Stefan: No, I want to be a rebel by getting rid of the Imprint.

50. Frank: Now there's a petition worth signing.

[Nigel, Alice, and Holly enter. Alice also carries a placard that reads "Down with us." Holly carries a pair of handcuffs.]

51. Alice: We demand an immediate end to all protests on campus.

52. Holly: And we'll keep protesting until after all the protests are over.

53. Nigel: Including ours.

[Frank/Curt signs the anti-protest petition.]

54. Stefan: But then you can never end your protests.

55. Nigel: We can if we eventually give up.

56. Holly: Which we'll never do.

57. Alice: And there's nothing we can do to make us, either.

58. Frank: Fight the power. [Frank makes Curt make the "fight the power" fist. Rolf and Pete stop juggling]

59. Pete: You guys aren't rebels.

⁵ The Club That Really Liked Anime

60. Rolf: Not like jugglers are. [Pete grabs Alice's placard. Alice, in return grabs Pete's placard]

61. Alice: You're not rebels either. You're a bunch of...meanines.

62. Pete: Maybe so, but the SLC is **our** turf.

Song: The SLC (to the tune of "America" from WestSide Story)

Pete and Rolf:

We'll take our cause to the SLC!
No need to pause at the SLC!
Protest the Laws in the SLC!
Get some applause in the SLC!

Alice:

Jugglers should have to pay a fine.

Pete:

I have a petition you should sign.

Nigel :

Throwing pins around in plain view.

Rolf:

We could start throwing pins at You!

Nigel, Alice and Holly:

No more protests in the SLC,
They're just such pests to the SLC,
Give us a rest at the SLC,

We're on a quest for the SLC!

Pete:

Juggling's just for the hard core!

Holly:

Sometimes you can be such a bore.

Rolf:

You cannot deny we have rights.

Alice:

You cannot deny you start fights!

Pete and Rolf:

Students all go to the SLC,
Movements can grow at the SLC,
Its "quid pro quo" in the SLC,
We'll crush our foe at the SLC!

Nigel:

I tell you, this madness must end.

Pete:

On this matter we will not bend

Holly:

I'm sick and tired of this debate.

Rolf:

Are you free Saturday for a date?

Nigel, Alice and Holly, Pete, and Rolf:

We must stand strong for the SLC
I watched King Kong at the SLC.
Nothing must wrong our dear SLC,
It's quite a song for the SLC!

[During the song, Frank alternately makes Curt dance, and tries (unsuccessfully) to escape. During the choreography, have lots of fun with the dead Curt theme]

63. Holly: Well that was pointless.

64. Pete: But fun.

65. Frank: I have an idea.

66. Stefan: What?

67. Frank: You want to end all the protests, right?

68. Nigel, Alice, and Holly: Right!

69. Frank: And you want to be rebels, right?

70. Stefan, Rolf, and Pete: Right!

71. Frank: What's the most rebellious thing you could do?

72. Nigel: Start a public debate?

73. Alice: Hold our breath until we turn blue?

74. Rolf: Order a pizza for someone else so they have to pay for it?

75. Frank: Close. I was thinking about a hunger strike.

76. Nigel: That's brilliant. Who among us will risk starvation itself?

[Lots of hemming and hawing. Finally everyone looks at Frank, expectantly.]

77. Frank: What's that, Curt? [Frank reaches over and raises Curt's arm]

78. Alice: You'd do that for us?

[Frank/Curt nods]

[Frank takes Holly's handcuffs and cuffs Curt to the chair. Frank grabs the bag with Duck and the briefcase and starts to leave.]

79. Frank: (Aside) There really is a curse. And I've got it. Or it's got me. I've got to find a way to get rid of it. But how? [exits]

80. Stefan: I think he's also taking a vow of silence.

81. Pete: And motionlessness.

82. Holly: [Kisses Curt on the cheek] Be strong Curt.

83. Rolf: There is the bravest man I know.

[Lights down]

Characters:

Prof. Sam Diamond
Prof. Martina Astin
Jeeves the butler
Toni Tynn
Lou Tennant
Prof Hakeen Slash
Lucky
Mark X Thespot
Amy

[Lights up, onstage are a table and several chairs, ala a comfy lounge. Any set dressing should be either opulent or non-existent]

[Martina and Sam are on stage]

1. Sam¹: Do you think the new math faculty comfy lounge is too opulent?
2. Martina: Not at all. We just have drinks, snacks and Dungeons and Dragons like the student comfy lounge.

[Jeeves enters, bearing a silver tray]

3. Jeeves: Your caviar, mum.
4. Martina: Thank you Jeeves. Put it down here, please.

[Jeeves sets the tray down on a table]

5. Jeeves: I should inform you that Professor Smith will not be in today.
6. Sam: Oh, what's wrong?
7. Jeeves: It would appear that he got his arm chopped off while "role playing," sir.
8. Sam: Dreadfully bad luck.
9. Jeeves: Indeed.

10. Martina: Yes. We were supposed to finish the Caverns of Carnage² this afternoon.

[A loud gong is heard]

11. Sam: Get that, will you Jeeves.

[Jeeves walks to the edge of stage]

12. Jeeves: It would appear to be riff-raff, sir. [Lou and Toni enter] You gonged?

13. Lou: Now this is a nice building.

14. Toni: I always thought “ivory tower” was just a figure of speech.

15. Sam: Actually it’s ivory and white gold.

16. Martina: Would you like something to drink? Scotch, cognac, Chateau Lafite 1952?

17. Lou: Got any gin?

18. Martina: Do we Jeeves?

19. Jeeves: I’ll see if the janitorial staff can spare some industrial solvent.
[exits]

20. Toni: I hope someone can help us. We need to find the owner of a pink tie.

21. Martina: Oh everyone’s got a pink tie.

22. Lou: They do?

23. Martina: Yes, I’m wearing one right now.

¹ Sam should have a British accent.

24. Toni: But that tie is blue.

25. Martina: No it's pink. And I can prove it. First, we assume pink is blue.

26. Lou: You can **do** that?

27. Sam: Oh yes, it's a standard practice.

“We’ll Show Pink’s Blue” to “We Will Rock You” (by Queen)

[Martina Sings, Martina and Sam sing first chorus, all sing remaining choruses.]

First you take a light make a big wave,
Doesn't matter what – don't you know it's the same you see,
Because light is a dot, a tiny spot,
Want to go faster well you know you can-not.
Singin'
That's how, that's how light is!
That's how, that's how light is!

If you take this white light all light
Pass it through a glass, gonna be a spectrum you'll see
Because light will diffract, it's not an act
Showin' the rainbow's a natural fact
Singin'
That's how, that's how light is!
That's how, that's how light is!

If the light has one source, white source
Moving at one speed so it can-not be split apart
If you use a new name, big shell game
Be-cause the colors are one and the same

² Random D&D module.

There-fore, There-fore pink's blue.

Sing it!

There-fore, There-fore pink's blue.

Everybody!

There-fore, There-fore pink's blue.

There-fore, There-fore pink's blue.

[For the next 15 lines of so, Sam stares doe-eyes at Toni]

[Combat noises are heard from offstage. Professor Slash enters, wearing chainmail and wielding a sword and dagger. Slash is fighting against Lucky, who is obviously a human who is very poorly dressed like an orc and wielding a club. Slash attacks and Lucky parries throughout the following exchange]

28. Slash: Take that, foul beast!

29. Lucky: Why are we doing this?

30. Slash: Hesitation will be your downfall, demon spawn?

31. Lucky: I just wanted some help on the calculus homework.

32. Toni (to Martina and Sam): Is that safe?

33. Martina: Sure it is. He has a sword, doesn't he?

34. Lucky: (panicky) You said this was your office hours. [Lucky lands a blow on the professors arm]

35. Slash: A palpable hit. Since you are a valiant foe, If you surrender, I'll end this combat.

36. Lucky: (eager) Okay. [drops club]

[Slash stabs Lucky who collapses on the floor]

37. Slash: (to corpse) Fool! Never trust a chaotic-evil fighter-mage. First year students are so gullible. [Slash sets his dagger down on the table as he re-sheathes his sword. Doesn't pick the dagger up.]

38. Toni: That can't possibly be legal.

39. Slash: Sure it is. You'd be surprised what's in the standard student waiver³. Off to conquer the Keep of Destruction! [exits]

[Jeeves enters with a tray with a glass of clear liquid and a bleach bottle with a big skull and crossbones. He sets down the tray and drags Lucky's body off the far side]

40. Martina: [looking at watch] I'm late for my advanced class on the statistics of fuzzy variables.

41. Lou: Should you be drinking before class?

42. Martina: Are you kidding, this stuff doesn't make any sense **without** alcohol. [exits]

43. Sam: (to Toni) Do you know all your measurements are prime numbers?

44. Toni: Excuse me?

45. Sam: Sorry. I'm not very good at flirting. So what brings a beautiful woman to the math department?

46. Toni: We're looking for my husband's murderer.

47. Sam: Okay, so I'm downright bad at flirting.

48. Toni: No, I'm serious. I think it was the serial killer.

49. Lou: No it wasn't.

³ Actually, it's in the student handbook.

50. Sam: Pardon?

51. Lou: I mean, the serial killer is dead, isn't he?

52. Toni: (uncertain) I've always thought that they got the wrong man. I have a theory that the serial killer used to be in the math department, which is why he used a pink tie.

53. Sam: It would be easy to check the department records.

54. Lou: Under what? M for Murderer or K for Killer?

55. Toni: Could we look?

56. Lou: Have fun wasting your time. I'll stay here and enjoy my drink.

[Sam and Toni exit. Lou examines Slash's dagger, and picks it up and conceals it.]

57. Lou: (looking offstage to Toni) I hope you never find out. You seem like a nice lady, and I'd hate to have to kill you too.

[Mark and Amy enter]

58. Amy: Why do you think Professor Slash asked to see us?

59. Mark: Who knows.

60. Amy: Let's see. Full professor, faculty lounge, grad students.

61. Mark: Maybe he wants to give us a raise. [They look at each other and start to laugh]

62. Lou: You're Math Grad students, aren't you?

63. Amy: (sarcastic) What gave us away, the obvious social grace or the impeccable fashion sense.

64. Mark: Of course we're Math grad students.

65. Lou: I hate math grad students. [Lou pulls out the pink tie and kills Amy with it. Lou removes the tie, and puts it in his pocket.]

66. Mark: I can't believe what I'm seeing! [Lou starts backing away, nervously] That's a pink tie!

67. Lou: No. Assume it's blue. [starts clapping with his hands to a beat] First you take a light...

68. Mark: No! I've taken that course.

[Slash re-enters]

69. Slash: There you are! Here. [Hands a shield to Mark] Come along, good cannon fodder is hard to find these days.

70. Mark: I don't wanna be the shield wall...

[Slash and Mark exit. Jeeves enters]

71. Jeeves: I do wish people would pick up after themselves. [drags Amy's body offstage]

[Toni and Sam re-enter]

72. Toni: What a waste of time.

73. Lou: did you find anything?

74. Toni: No, those records were in terrible shape.

75. Sam: Hey, we're the Math department, If you want administration, try Laurier. If you'd like, I can find the right files and bring them to you tomorrow.

76. Toni: You don't have to do that.

77. Sam: I know. But it's an excuse to see you again.

[Lights down]

Characters:

Rick Callihan
Joseph Cross
Dex X. Machina
Dog
Mary
Eleanor

[Nick's bar, Joseph's half empty glass is at the bar. Rick, the bartender is unobtrusively in the background]

[Lights up]

[Dex enters]

1. Dex: [goes to bar] I wonder if you could help me. I'm looking for Joseph Cross.
2. Rick: Nobody here by that name. Just me and old Joe. [points offstage to washroom]
3. Dex: But you know who he is?
4. Rick: Everybody knows about Joseph Cross. He single handedly captured the serial killer.
5. Dex: That's why I'm looking for him.
6. Rick: Who are you?
7. Dex: I'm Dex. I'm a reporter for the National Record.¹ We're doing a story about the fifth anniversary of the serial killings.
8. Rick: So what brings you to my bar?

¹ Formerly the Kitchener Record, until it took over the Globe and Mail

9. Dex: Part of the story is the disappearance of Joseph Cross. Nobody has seen him since that day, when a beam of light shone down, and he ascended into the heavens.
10. Rick: And you think he ended up here.
11. Dex: Well, no, but I'm tracing the days before he disappeared. They say that he confronted the serial killer in **this** bar, and vowed to stop him. They also say that he single handedly broke up a huge smuggling ring.
12. Rick: Wow, maybe I should get a plaque. [Joseph enters from the bathroom. Joesph is a much disheveled version of his act 1 costume] Hey Joe. This fellow is looking for information about Joseph Cross.
13. Joseph: Joseph Cross. Now there is a name I have not heard in a long time². [belches]
14. Dex: I don't suppose an old drunk like you knows anything.
15. Joseph: Nope. I used to think I knew things. But I didn't.
16. Dex: [holding up a picture] Say, you look a lot like Joseph Cross. You're not a relative, are you?
17. Joseph: 'Fraid not. I'm just a regular Joe.
18. Rick: Joe's been a regular here for as long as I can remember.
- [Mary and Eleanor enter. They are clearly from Waterloo]
19. Mary: Eleanor, let's have a drink.
20. Eleanor: I think I just stepped on a rat.³
21. Mary: Oh, where's your sense of adventure? [they sit at the table]

² Lifted shamelessly, of course, from "Star Wars"

³ Re-incorporation from Act 1, for the people who aren't in that scene.

22. Eleanor: I left it back in Waterloo. Why do you do this to me, Mary?

23. Mary: You need to get out more. You're too uptight. Bartender, two foofy little umbrella drinks. [Rick serves them two bottles of Labatt 50, each with a paper umbrella in it]

[Dog enters. Dog should be physically intimidating]

24. Eleanor: I think that man has a tattoo.

25. Mary: Good for him. It shows an appreciation for art.

26. Eleanor: It says 'cave canum'⁴

27. Mary: See, he's a scholar.

28. Eleanor: That means "Beware of the dog"⁵

29. Mary: It's probably a metaphor.

30. Dog: G'day. I'm Dog. You're at my table.

31. Eleanor: I was afraid of that.

32. Mary: Hello Mister Dog.

33. Dog: This is Dog's table. Didn't you see the sign?

34. Mary: There wasn't any sign.⁶

35. Dog: Are you calling me a liar?

36. Eleanor: That's okay, we were just leaving.

37. Dog: Too late. You have to pay the Dog tax.

⁴ Beware of the dog

⁵ See.

⁶ There wasn't, of course, ever any sign, and there should in fact, be a lack of ownership signs of any variety in the bar.

38. Eleanor: I bet it's not biscuits.

39. Dog: All of your money, (leering) and if you're lucky, I won't take anything more...personal.

40. Joseph: Leave them alone, Dog.

41. Dog: What if I don't? Who's going to stop me? You?

[In a one sided fight, Joseph subdues and kicks Dog out of the bar.]

42. Joseph: And stay out! Stay! Staaaaaaay.

43. Eleanor: Mary, we're leaving. I told you we should have gone for tea at the Doll House⁷

[Eleanor drags Mary off.]

44. Dex: Wait a minute, you are Joseph Cross.

45. Joseph: I used to be, but not anymore.

46. Dex: I get it. You've gone undercover to stop the new killings.

47. Joseph: No I haven't. New killings?

48. Dex: Sure. The new wave of serial killings. It's been in all the papers.

49. Joseph: I don't know what you're talking about.

50. Dex: Oh, I get it. You don't want me to blow your cover. Don't worry "Joe" [winks], your secret is safe with me. Can I have your autograph? [Waits for a second, then when he realizes no autograph is forthcoming, exits]

51. Rick: That man needs to get laid.

⁷ The Doll House, for those who are luckily unaware, is a strip club in Kitchener.

52. Joseph: Is it true what he said about the new killings?

53. Rick: It's gotta be a copycat. Real similar MO, though. Same crushed windpipes, but this guy doesn't leave his ties behind.

54. Joseph: No. It's the old killer. But nobody will believe me except...(pause)

55. Rick: Except?

56. Joseph: Toni! That girl from Waterloo who was with Nick. I've got to find her. Joseph Cross is back! [runs out to instrumental refrain of Superstar]

57. Rick: (shouting after) Hey! You've got a five-year tab running. Get back here and settle up!

[Lights down]

Characters:

Frank
Randolph
Bobbie
Lynn
Terry
Roberta (sort of)

[Randolph's mansion, coincidentally it just so happens to be the exact same set as the Tymn mansion¹.]

[Lynn, and Terry are on stage. For the set change, the techies clear the set. And any flies come in or out. Lights then come up, and Lynn and Terry "direct" the techies as they bring in the set pieces. The techies leave, and Lynn and Terry finish primping the set. Adding a throw cushion, etc.]

1. Randolph: Thank you for finishing on time. I have a visitor arriving this afternoon and everything must be perfect for her.
2. Lynn²: Oh darling, everything turned out so wonderful.
3. Terry: Especially the dried floral arrangement made out of purple carnations.
4. Randolph: Yes, about that. I can't help but notice that certain design changes were made.
5. Lynn: Only in the name of extravagance.
6. Terry: It's a good thing.
7. Lynn: Besides, we saved you a lot of money.
8. Randolph: Money is no object.
9. Terry: In that case our bill just doubled.

¹ Well, maybe it isn't that much of a coincidence.

² Lynn is supposed to be Zha Zha Gaboresque and Terry is Martha Stewart

10. Randolph: This room was supposed to be a perfect double of the Tynn mansion.

11. Lynn: And it is. Only better.

12. Randolph: What color are these cushions? [indicates some throw cushions on the couch³]

13. Terry: Green with blue stripes.

14. Randolph: Exactly! They should have been blue with green stripes.

15. Lynn: Like it makes a difference?

16. Randolph: Do you want to get paid?

17. Lynn: It makes a difference.

18. Randolph: And don't get me started on the floor.

19. Lynn: What's wrong with the floor?

20. Terry: I told you it was the wrong shade of black.

21. Randolph: [writing a check] (in a huff) It will have to do. But if my visitor is upset, I will hold you personally responsible.

22. Terry: so what else is new?

23. Lynn: I'll be sure to have my servants sleep with one eye open.

[Terry and Lynn exit]

[Bobbie enters. She is in an identical costume to the one Roberta wore in Act

1. Bobbie has a similar physical appearance to Roberta]

24. Bobbie: More changes I see?

25. Randolph: Things aren't perfect yet.

26. Bobbie: I forgot. You want perfection?

27. Randolph: I'm just a normal man.

28. Bobbie: Bullshit. You are not normal. The first thing normal men notice is a woman's tits⁴. They may say it's her eyes, but really, it's these. [grabs her breasts] But not you. What was the first thing you noticed about me?

29. Randolph: You had the right cheekbones.

30. Bobbie: Exactly! That's not normal. Granted, it's about the only part of me you haven't changed. Hair dye, nose job, tattoo removal.

31. Randolph: I wanted you to be perfect.

32. Bobbie: And I'm not?

33. Randolph: No. [Bobbie slaps Randolph]

[Frank enters. He has the duck with him in a large cloth bag.]

34. Frank: Excuse me. I hope I'm not interrupting anything.

35. Bobbie: Oh no, I was just leaving to go become perfect. [exits, flouncing]

36. Frank: Thank you for meeting me on short notice. I'll cut to the chase. I need to remove a curse.

37. Randolph: And you think I can help?

38. Frank: I've heard you've become a collector of artifacts.

³ They should be the same throw cushions from Victor's mansion, of course.

⁴ The CSW wishes it to be known that it was the female members of the editing crew that insisted the word in question be changed to 'tits.' Originally it was supposed to be 'hooters' or 'jugs' or something tasteful like that.

39. Randolph: Yes, but only when it suits my own unique sense of aesthetics.
Would you like to see my inexorable brassiere of perpetual clairvoyance?

40. Frank: That's okay. Keep your shirt on.

41. Randolph: So how did you become cursed?

42. Frank: It was this? [pulls Star Spangled Duck from bag]

43. Randolph: The Star Spangled Duck.

44. Frank: (pleading) Yes. How do I get rid of the curse.

45. Randolph: You could give the Duck away.

46. Frank: Never!

47. Randolph: Just a thought... I might have a talisman that could help. But I
could never part with it.

48. Frank: Please...I must have it.

49. Randolph: [pauses a moment] Perhaps ... If you were willing to do
something unpleasant.

50. Frank: Anything. [Randolph whispers in Frank's ear⁵] Are you sure?

51. Randolph: Yes.

52. Frank: And then you'll give me the talisman?

53. Randolph: I'll give you everything you deserve⁶.

54. Frank: Thank god. Then we have a deal?⁷ [Shakes Randolph's hand and
exits]

⁵ What he whispers is "I want you to kill Toni Tymn for me"

⁶ Why do villains always insist on convoluting the truth, when a lie would serve?

[Bobbie enters with a suitcase]

55. Bobbie: Who was that?

56. Randolph: Someone who's cursed.

57. Bobbie: You have the strangest friends.

[Roberta enters; her face is wrapped in gauze, as if she's just had major plastic surgery. She is also in her costume from Act 1]

58. Bobbie: Who's she?

59. Randolph: Someone who's perfect.

60. Bobbie: That's it. I'm out of here. (to Roberta) Look sister, I don't know how much he's paying you, but it ain't worth it. He's crazy. (to Randolph) I'm taking the money. And don't give me that "You'll get what you deserve" crap. I watch movies. I know what that means. [Bobbie storms out the front door]

61. Randolph: I'm sorry you had to hear that, my dear. It's my fault, really. I'll deal with her later.

[Roberta goes to say something but is stopped by Randolph]

62. Randolph: Don't say anything. Not yet. Let me have a look at you. [Unwraps bandages from Roberta's head] Perfect. Absolutely perfect.

[Lights down]

⁷ And why do opportunistic scoundrels believe them? Doesn't anybody watch movies?

Characters:

Toni Tymn
Lou Tennant
Frank N. Beans
Sam Diamond
Joseph Cross
Claire Asabell
Trixie Forkids
Edmund

[Interior Tymn mansion]

[Lights up. Toni, Trixie and Edmund are on stage. Edmund and Trixie are both from Kitchener, Edmund is a thug, Trixie is a hooker.]

1. Toni: I'm so glad you saw my ad.
2. Trixie: It was on my favorite lamppost.
3. Toni: You said that you saw my husband just before he got killed.
4. Edmund: [nods] I was gonna mug him, but he turned the corner before he got to me.
5. Trixie: That's the corner I work.
6. Toni: You have to work nights? That's terrible.
7. Edmund: Don't you know what Trixie does for a living?
8. Toni: Are you in sales?
9. Trixie: More like leasing. You should give it a try. A gal with your looks could make some good money.
10. Toni: Thank you. Would I have to take any classes?
11. Edmund: Just tell her about her husband.

12. Trixie: Well, this guy turns the corner. I flaunt my wares, but he ignores me, and goes straight for the NullTech building.

13. Edmund: Fifteen minutes later, some guy drags a body out of the building, and dumps it in the alley.

14. Toni: Did you see who it was?

15. Trixie: Yeah, your husband.

16. Edmund: She's right. I went through his wallet and everything. [pulls out Sy's wallet]

17. Toni: I meant who dumped his body.

18. Trixie: We didn't see that.

[Sam enters.]

19. Toni: (suddenly anxious to get Edmund and Trixie to leave) Please let me know if you remember anything else.

20. Trixie: [looking Sam up and down] (to Toni) A piece of professional advice, be sure to ask for payment up front.

[Edmund bumps into Sam, and lifts his wallet, and examines it on his way out]

[Trixie and Edmund exit, Claire enters carrying some file folders filled with yellowing newspaper articles.]

21. Sam: Toni, This is Claire. She's my grad student. She's helping me carry the files over here.

22. Claire: I thought you wanted me to help you get a date.

23. Sam: Where would you get an idea like that?

24. Claire: When you said. "I've met a woman, and I need your help."

25. Toni: He said that?

26. Claire: Oh yeah. If I can get you to go out on a date with him, he'll do my marking for the rest of the term. All year if you two go all the way.

27. Sam: (Trying in vain to change the subject) Wow, look at the time.

28. Claire: He even wanted me to sing you a song.

29. Toni: Oh, please do.

Song: "I'm here to say" To "I'm On My Way" by The Proclaimers.

Claire:

I'm here to say that you could do much worse than Sam today

(Sam: uhhuh uhuh uhuh uhuh)

I'm here to say that folks like him don't happen everyday

(Sam: uhhuh uhuh uhuh uhuh)

I want to say that you would be so happy

And years from now, your kids would dress real snappy

He'd treat you right, with kindness and respect, yet

It's all because, poor Sam is just so des'prate.

He dresses well, con-sid-er-ing deep down he's a nerd (Sam:

nuhhuh nuhhuh nuhhuh nuhhuh)

His socks both match, but boy those ties aren't they quite

absurd? (Sam: No, no, no, no,)

He's die-ing soon, I hear he has a tumor

It's in his brain

Sam:

I swear that's just a rumour

I'm healthy and you are the one I'd looked for

Claire:

So take a chance, you went with worse once be-fore

Sam:

And I, would do for you most anything. (Claire: ooooooooh)

I'd find your parent's kill-er even at the ends of the world

I'm here to say, that you could find a happy life with me

(Claire: hah-hah hah hah hah hah hah)

If you would say, "Sam come and fill my days and nights with glee"

Claire (to Sam):

Just ask her out, don't try to be too clev-er

Go have some fun, don't worry 'bout for-ev-er

Don't make things rough, just have fun and don't doubt it

Life's short enough, don't think too hard about it

Please go with Sam, relax and just enjoy it

(to Sam:) I've done my part, please try not to destroy it

And if some day, you wind up in his bed-dings

Sep-tem-ber is a pleasant month for weddings

Claire: (repeat and fade): Please go with Sam

30. Sam: So, will you to go out on a date with me?

31. Toni: Yes. [Sam looks encouraged. Sam and Toni kiss]
32. Claire: Yes! I'll leave you two alone to get me my year off. Oh, before I go, here are those newspaper articles. [gives articles to Sam. exits]
33. Sam: I thought that they could be important [reads] "...Prime Numberfest promises to be the most fun Math Soc has had in years." Okay, maybe not.
34. Toni: [looking at a faded newspaper clipping] Maybe so. Look at this one.
35. Sam: What about it?
36. Toni: [reading] "...the student, Larry Tennant, was released from hospital. His classmates are asked to please avoid making fun of his mangled genitalia" (getting excited) So the serial killer is Larry Tennant! It wasn't about math at all.
37. Sam: Of course. It's so obvious. What are you talking about?
38. Toni: The serial killer is mad because his penis is shaped like a long flat pink tie. That's why he kills people using a pink tie.
39. Sam: So he kills people with a phallic replacement for his... That's disgusting.
40. Toni: [shudders] I don't want to think about it. [Toni starts thumbing through the phone book. Lou enters] Lou, we've figured out who the serial killer is.
41. Lou: You have?
42. Sam: Yes, his name is Larry Tennant. He was a student who got into a horrible accident.
43. Toni: According to the phone book, there isn't any Larry Tennant. But there is a Lou...Tenn...Oh shit.

[Lou pulls out a pink tie]

44. Lou: That's right. Back when I was a student at Waterloo, I stupidly got into a game of "what can you put in the hydraulic press" [Sam cringes¹] [readying tie] I hoped it wouldn't have to come to this.

45. Sam: Wait! Before you kill us, I have a question.

46. Lou: What?

47. Sam: How do you pee in the morning?

[Lou punches out Sam. Toni tries to help Sam,]

48. Toni: So you killed my parents?

49. Lou: No that was someone else. A sloppy job too. The killer got in too close. It was a real amateur.

[Lou starts strangling Toni. Joseph enters.]

50. Joseph: Toni, you don't remember me, but I've got news that...Oh, I didn't know you were busy. I'll come back later. [Joseph turns to leave]

51. Toni: Help...

52. Joseph: Wait a minute. You're a damsel in distress and/or a distress like situation. Joseph Cross to the rescue! [poses, but doesn't take any action yet²]

53. Toni: Help...

54. Joseph: Oh yeah. [Joseph gets the tie away from Lou.] I've disarmed him.

¹ As, I suspect, do all the male members of the cast and audience.

² As if he's waiting for a reprise of his theme music which isn't going to happen.

[Lou pulls out the dagger from Act 2- Scene 4 and brandishes it. In a large motion, he grabs and stabs Joseph (i.e. in close quarters). Lou comes out of the clutch also holding his abdomen. Lou drops the knife and collapses dead. Joseph slumps as well. Sam starts to revive.]

55. Sam: What happened?

56. Toni: I think Joseph saved us. But how?

57. Joseph: (Dying) Got him with my lucky autograph pen. Am I a hero again?

58. Sam: You are in my book.

59. Joseph: Good. I'd hate to think that someone as great as me have a pathetic death. [dies]

60. Sam: So it's all over?

61. Toni: I think so. Except for my father's killer. But I know who it was now.

62. Sam: How do you know?

63. Toni: Something Lou said. He said the killer got too close. And something Sy said to me a long time ago too. That unrequited love is a strong motive. Randolph killed my parents. My husband too.

64. Sam: Great, I'll call the police.

65. Toni: No. I have to confront him myself. I owe my family that much.

66. Sam: This is one of those honor things, isn't it?

67. Toni: Exactly. I have to go get something I haven't seen since my wedding night. [Sam looks at Toni oddly] No, not that. I'll be right back. I love you.

68. Sam; I love you too. I don't understand you, but I love you.

[Toni exits]

[Frank enters]

69. Frank: Excuse me for interrupting. Are you Tony Tymn?

70. Sam: Who are you?

71. Frank: An old friend of your father's before he died.

72. Sam: My father is dead?

73. Frank: You are Tony, right?

74. Sam: But I just spoke to him last week.

75. Frank: (impatient) Answer the question.

76. Sam: Huh? Umm...sure.

77. Frank: Thank you. [Frank breaks Sam's neck³]

[Frank exits]

[Toni enters the instant Frank is off. Toni is wearing the trench-coat and fedora she got from Nick]

78. Toni: How do I look? Sy thought this looked stupid, but I like it. What do you think, Sam? Sam? Sam! No.....

[Toni clutches Sam's body and starts to cry]

[Lights down]

³ Or, something else for variety. Maybe a poisoning, or he hypnotizes him to death. Lethal injections are nice this time of year. No gunshot though. Too much noise.

Characters:

Randolph Bastard
Roberta Tymm
Frank N Beans.
Victor Tymm
Flashback (FB) Randolph
Young Victor
Young Randolph

[Half of the stage, spilling into the slot is set up as Victor's workshop. There's some sort of desk with the open puzzle box on it and knickknacks around the room. There are several cans of paint on the desk, visibly marked, with at least one labelled "pink." The rest of the stage is the Tymm/Randolph mansion set]

[Lights up on the mansion half]

[Roberta is onstage, Frank enters]

1. Frank: Is Randolph home?
2. Roberta: He'll be down in a minute.
3. Frank: You know, you remind me of someone.
4. Roberta: Roberta Tymm.
5. Frank: Yeah, her. Are you two sisters?
6. Roberta: Not exactly. I'm an actress. Randolph wanted me to pretend to be her. He paid me to get plastic surgery and to take voice lessons. (breaking down) I needed the money, but now I'm afraid.
7. Frank: What do you mean?
8. Roberta: He's crazy. If I say or do anything wrong, he says I'm not perfect and threatens to kill me... again. I'm afraid. Please help me.
9. Randolph: [offstage] Roberta! Back in the kitchen!

[Roberta looks pleadingly at Frank and exits. Randolph enters, scowls at her on her way out, then becomes friendly towards Frank. Randolph is wearing leather gloves]

10. Frank: Well, I did it. Tony is dead.

11. Randolph: Good. Here is the amulet I promised you. [Hands Frank a large medallion on a chain. Frank puts it on] You will soon be free of the curse.

12. Frank: He didn't put up as much of a fight as I would have thought.

13. Randolph: Good. ...He?

14. Frank: Yeah, Tony.

15. Randolph: Toni is a woman.

16. Frank: You should have been more specific. I've got the amulet. That's all I care about.

17. Randolph: Oh, there's more you should care about.

18. Frank: What, you're going to reveal your master plan to me, then try to kill me or something. [starts to choke]

19. Randolph: [taking off gloves] No, I'm going to kill you with a topical poison on the amulet, take the Duck from you [does so] and **then** tell you my master plan. The serial killer offered me the perfect cover to finally get rid of Victor...

[Cross fade to Victor's workshop; Victor is placing The Star Spangled Duck¹ into the box as Flashback (FB) Randolph enters.]

FB Randolph: Victor! We have to talk.

¹ To do this scene right, we will need to have two Ducks. One to go into the box, one to be had by Randolph at the end of the scene.

20. Victor: I'm wrapping my daughter's wedding gift. Can't it wait?

21. FB Randolph: No! I've waited too long already. It's time I put an end to this sham of a marriage!

22. Victor: Yeah, well, I don't like Sy either, but my daughter sees something in him.

23. FB Randolph: I'm talking about your marriage.

24. Victor: Er, but I'm not marrying Sy.

25. FB Randolph: I mean your marriage to Roberta!

26. Victor: Exactly, so she'd be upset if I got married again. Pass me that foam, will you?

[FB Randolph moves closer to pass Victor foam material lying on or near the desk without thinking about it, Victor fiddles with it and the box.]

27. FB Randolph: Okay Victor, pay attention - what I have to say is going to affect you for the rest of your life.

28. Victor: Of course, of course. Could I have that ribbon?

[FB Randolph passes Victor the ribbon.]

29. FB Randolph: See, it concerns that serial killer on the loose... are you listening to me?

30. Victor: Yes, and I'm not going to marry him either... Give me your flower, I need a splash of colour.

[FB Randolph absently hands over his carnation, it goes into the box.]

31. FB Randolph: Okay, how about I just say it straight out. Victor, I'm going to kill you, pin the murder on the serial killer, and then take my rightful place by Roberta's side.

32. Victor: Pardon?

33. FB Randolph: Don't act so confused, you know why this is happening.

[Randolph has pulled out a pink tie and is threatening Victor with it. Victor has his back turned and doesn't notice]

34. Victor: I do?

35. FB Randolph: Of course! Don't you remember...

[Flashback sound effect within the flashback. Young Victor and Young Randolph are seen in an available spot on stage, somewhat removed from the workshop. Young Randolph has the trademark purple carnation, young Victor is holding up a blue tie.]

36. Young Victor: What do you think?

37. Young Randolph: Something's not right. Hold on a minute.

[Young Randolph crosses the stage, and takes the pink tie out of FB Randolph's hand and gives it to Young Victor.

38. Young Randolph: There, that's better.

[Victor nods, dons pink tie.]

39. Young Randolph: So who's your date with tonight, anyway?

40. Young Victor: Miss Oktoberfest. The one who got me my new end table.

41. Young Randolph: You mean Roberta? But... but that's not possible! She wants me.

42. Young Victor: She does? Gee, I wish she'd mentioned that.

43. Young Randolph: Yes, well... okay, so I hadn't gotten around to telling her yet. But we hit it off right away!

44. Young Victor: I thought you introduced yourself as Rand-dugh?

45. Young Randolph: All part of my charm - she likes that about me.

SONG: She'll be my Wife [to the tune of "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)" by Green Day.]

Young Randolph:

As soon as I saw her
I fell into a trance.
I almost asked her out
To dinner and a dance.

I couldn't say it, but,
I know she read my mind.
You have to understand,
Our souls are intertwined.

Roberta thinks I'm wonderful,
And on the road of life
The day will come when she'll be my wife.

Young Victor:

Randolph, your ambition
Is way out of control.
You hardly know the one
Whose virtues you extol.

You don't know of Roberta's

Favourite clothes to wear.
Or of her birthmark which is,
Well, I can't say where.

I may not be as suave as you,
But one thing I've got right,
Is that Roberta won't be your wife.

(Musical interlude in original song, could do some soft shoe/other dancing or just replace it with some transition music.)

Young Randolph (vexed):

Now Victor, let's get one thing straight,
Before you leave tonight.
One day Roberta will be my wife.

Young Victor (bemused):

Oh Randolph, you exaggerate,
This talk is getting trite.
No way Roberta will be your wife.

(Young Randolph and Young Victor repeat last verses to each other at the same time.)

46. Young Randolph: Look, me and Roberta... it's destiny! You can't fight destiny!

47. Young Victor: (laughs) Okay, enough Randolph, you're killing me.

[Young Victor jovially slaps Young Randolph on the back and heads offstage.]

48. Young Randolph: (quietly, to Victor's back) I swear, I won't let you take her from me.

[Flash forward music.]

49. FB Randolph: So you see, you never should have interfered. [Tries to strangle Victor, but realises he no longer has a murder weapon. Is confused] Besides, you don't even love her. She was just another collection piece.

50. Victor: That was just a rumour for the tabloids. Roberta thought that way our wedding would be more “palatable.”

51. FB Randolph: (getting agitated) All right, enough! I've spent years waiting for the perfect opportunity to put things right. I think you know what this is for.

[FB Randolph dramatically pulls out a pink tie.]

52. Victor: You're right. The package does need more color. Thank you.

[Victor snatches the tie away from FB Randolph and packs it into the puzzle box, closes and locks it.]

[Randolph sighs, as if to say “Ever have one of those days.” He pulls out a third tie, only this one is blue. He stares at it for a second, lack jawed and shakes his head in disbelief. He puts the tie in the can of pink paint, and pulls out a pink tie.²

53. Victor: (sudden realization) Wait... you're SERIOUS, aren't you!

[FB Randolph lunges again and manages to get a choke hold on the astonished Victor. Victor struggles futilely (maybe they lurch back and forth across the stage briefly), and they finally end up back near the puzzle box. With his dying breaths, Victor pulls out a large bow, and places it on top of the box, after which he collapses on the ground, dead.]

54. FB Randolph: That was more trouble than I expected. If I even kill again, I have to remember to kill first, explain later.

[Fade back to Randolph talking with the dead Frank.]

55. Randolph: Sy must have found the carnation, because the fool tried to blackmail me. And once I kill Toni, nothing will stand between Roberta and I.

[Lights down]

² Two easy ways to do this. 1) Have a can with no paint and a pink tie inside it, and FB Randolph just does a switch of the two or 2) have a can full of pink paint. All depends on how much of a pain in the ass the actors involved have been to the tech crew, I suppose...

Characters:

Toni Tynn
Randolph Bastard
Nick Nack
Woody Branch
Flo Withhthego
Bernie Baby
Dex X. Machina

[Lights up, Nick's bar, one last time]

[Toni is at the bar, still in her trenchcoat and fedora. She is very drunk]

1. Toni: Bartender, gimmie another gin.
2. Woody: I think you've had enough.
3. Toni: I'm perfectly sober.
4. Woody: No, you aren't.
5. Toni: How do you know?
6. Woody: [looking at bottle] A sober person would realize that this is tequila. [pours another shot, which Toni downs]

[Flo and Bernie¹ come up to the bar]

7. Flo: Bartender, something to drown my sorrows.
8. Bernie: Make it two, bartender.
9. Woody: I got a name, you know. [goes to get drinks, from wherever bartenders go]
10. Flo: Men stink.
11. Toni: Yeah.

¹ Bernie is flaming gay. Ala Nathan Lane in "The Birdcage" But not in drag.

12. Bernie: Yeah.

13. Toni: You give them the best years of your life.

14. Flo: They treat you like crap.

15. Bernie: And then run off with a massage therapist named Jurg². [Flo and Toni look at Bernie. Pause and Bernie shrugs]

16. Flo: Like I said men stink.

[Woody returns]

17. Bernie: I mean, what kind of name is “Jurg” anyway?

18. Woody: I think it’s Dutch. So what brings the three of you in here?

19. Flo: I caught my boyfriend with the girl next door.

20. Woody: That’s terrible.

21. Flo: Yeah, picture this, they were both buck naked, banging on the bathroom floor.

22. Bernie: What? Didn’t he remember that he’d given you an extra key?

23. Woody: Hey, it wasn’t me.

24. Flo: What would you know?

25. Woody: My ex-wife once cheated on me with my best friend.

26. Toni: Ouch.

27. Woody: Yeah. I would have been upset if I wasn’t sleeping with his girlfriend.

² Pronounced “Yurg”

28. Flo: [to Toni] So what's your story. Girl meets boy, boy dumps girl, right?

29. Toni: More like girl meets boy, boy marries girl, boy gets murdered, girl meets new boy, new boy gets murdered too.

30. Flo: I've heard it a million times.

Song "One instead of two" to "Walking after midnight" by Patsy Cline

Flo:

An age old story
Full of disaster
Your life is tragic
But what else you gonna do?
Pick up the pieces
And go on living
As one instead of two

You first lose one man
And then another
Their lifespan shortened
With this killer on the loose
You've got no choice now
Just learn to live life
As one instead of two

So go out and join some classes
Maybe take up yoga
Try hard to make your life new
Then you get a new cat
Sit down and watch some Oprah
You've still got some living to do

So lift your glass up

And drown your sorrows
This life needs whiskey
I'll admit that much is true
But come tomorrow
Your head will thank you
For one instead of two

[All but Toni exit]

[Nick enters with a ghostly glow and sound effect]

31. Nick: So this is how it ends, you wallowing in self-pity?

32. Toni: Nick! But you're dead.

33. Nick: Which proves you aren't the only one with problems.

34. Toni: Randolph killed my parents.

35. Nick: I know.

36. Toni: He killed Sy too.

37. Nick: Good.

38. Toni: But I loved him.

39. Nick: Nobody's perfect.

40. Toni: So what do I do?

41. Nick: (As if he's stating the obvious) Stop Randolph?

42. Toni: I'm going to get him right now! [Toni tries to stand up and falls out of her chair]

43. Nick: Maybe you should sober up first. [Nick starts to exit] Good luck. I wish I could help but hey, I'm dead. [exits]

44. Toni: Nick is right. I can't let Randolph win. Why am I talking to ghosts?
[looks around] Why am I talking to myself?

[Randolph enters. Randolph has the duck with him]

45. Randolph: You aren't talking to yourself. And I've already won.

46. Toni: I can stop you.

47. Randolph: No you can't. I have Roberta.

48. Toni: But, my mother is dead.

49. Randolph: No, she's back at our mansion.

50. Toni: You're insane.

[Toni and Randolph struggle. Randolph has the upper hand. Toni is drunk]

[Randolph knocks Toni away, Toni gets the Duck]

51. Toni: This is the Star Spangled Duck.

52. Randolph: It won't help you now.

[More struggling, Randolph continues to have the upper hand]

53. Toni: Yes it will. I know what's special about the Duck.

54. Randolph: What's that?

[Toni whacks Randolph over the head with the Duck, knocking him out.]

55. Toni: It's dense.

[Toni hesitates over Randolph's body, as if she's going to kill him. She winds up for the killing blow, but pulls back at the last second, and doesn't.]

[Dex enters. He is carrying a letter. Two cops are with him. The cops go to Randolph and arrest him³]

56. Dex: Sorry I'm late.

57. Toni: Who are you?

58. Dex: I'm Dex. I got a note telling me to come here.

59. Toni: A note?

60. Dex: Yes, this letter appeared on my desk. [reading from letter] It says "bring the cops here, and be ready for a big story."

61. Toni: Who's it from?

62. Dex: [still reading] Someone named Nick.

[The note bursts into flames and disappears]

63. Toni: Did that just...? (trails off)

64. Dex: Yeah. I probably shouldn't have spilled naphtha on it. So can someone tell me what's going on here?

65. Toni: It's a long story.

66. Dex: I've got time. By the way. I like the trench-coat. It suits you. Are you seeing anyone?

[Lights down]

³ Okay, technically, the cops don't know that Randolph is the killer, but he did lose a bar fight, so he must be guilty of something, right?

67. Toni: (closing monologue in spotlight) Yeah, it's not easy being the only detective in this town. Trying to protect people, and sometimes bring them a little closer together. Like I said, it's a job. And every now and then, it all just works out.

[Closing number]

Closing Song

(to the tune of "Puttin' on the Ritz" by Irving Berlin)

Randolph's stopped, poor Vic's avenged
Toni has her sweet revenge
Spangled Duck is back with her
Lou's pink tie is here no more.
Lovers met then they got killed
Deaths gal-ore to keep you thrilled
That was the show
But now we have to go

Now Toni showed
She's a P.I.
Show won't be slowed
By some bad guy
Who's causing crimes
In these troubled times

Other people ended badly
'Specially those who acted madly
They all failed
Ended dead or jailed

What goes next will have no explanation
That's all up to your imagination
FASS-ination

There's the show, the mystery's finished
We hope your boredom's been diminished
By the play
Acted here today

--- Instrumental interlude ---

That's what FASS is like now its turned forty
A little King Street and a bit Bridgeport-y
Very sporty
We've had fun for generations
We're not done with celebrations
Showing class
Puttin' on a FASS
Kicking ass
Puttin' on a FASS

