

DASTARDLY DEEDS AT YOURSIN MINE

- or -

*Yukon Take It
With You*

***a Melodrama
of Magnificent Proportions!***

by Squire Fridell

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STORY OF THE PLAY

This great romantic melodrama of the Yukon Territory has it all! Come visit the world of Lester Lawless, Lotta Pidee, Looney Yoursin, and many others including miners who can't find stakes, trappers who can't find pelts, and Mounties who can't find anyone as they weave a story of Wild West intrigue. Narrators and Sign Gals help dictate active audience involvement as villains are thwarted, heroes and heroines are blissfully united, enemies become friends, widowed matrons are reunited with lost children, and orphans live happily ever after. In addition to a colorful cast, the stage crew, Gopher and Getit, and sound crew, Buttons and Crash, are on stage, hard at work. A full evening of fun!

Please remember: We encourage LAUGHTER, APPLAUSE, and HISSING (only at appropriate moments). Men and women in the audience will KINDLY REFRAIN from throwing vegetables and fruit. (Gentlemen and Ladies need NOT be thus cautioned!) Gold and Silver coins may be tossed gently at any time. No copper coins, please.

CAST SIZE

The script was originally written for 49 actors and a dog. The second production at the same school several years later had a cast of 56. Any number of roles can be eliminated depending on the number of actors available, with 16 as a minimal requirement. Obviously, the show can also be easily expanded with more Saloon Girls, Miners, Trappers, Townsladies and Mountahs.

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CAST (25 m, 21 w, 4 flexible)

BUTTONS: Sound Squad – electronics, et al.
CRASH: Sound Squad – percussion, et al.
BELLE STAR: Narrator.
BART STAR: Narrator.
BERTHA STAR: Narrator.
MOOKIE MUGGINS: Stage Manager.
GOPHER: Stage Crew.
GETIT: Stage Crew.
SCENE GAL SUE: Scene Announcer.
SINGAL SAL: Sign Gal.
MATTHEW BRADY: Photographer.
BIRDIE: His assistant.
LOONEY YOURSIN: Proprietor of Yoursin Mine, hard-of-hearing.
LOUELLA YOURSIN: Looney's wife and mother of Fanny.
FANNY YOURSIN: Their daughter; falls for Homer.
HOMER: Hero and adopted son of Sylvania Uppercrust.
UBIQUITUS: Hero and son of Sylvania Uppercrust.
DAINTY LUMPKIN: Friend of Fanny's; falls for Ubiquitus.
LOTTA PIDEE: Prior owner of the Chilcoot Saloon.
LESTER LAWLESS: The villain and new owner of the Chilcoot Saloon.
THE BARF BOYS: The villain's henchmen.
PIERRE LE DEAUXDEAUX: Leader of zee French-Canadian trappers.
PIERRE#1: A French-Canadian trapper.
PIERRE #2: Another.
PIERRE #3: Another.
BONE APPETITE: Zee cook for zee trappers.
BIG JAKE MCGONAHY: Leader of the miners.
O'DONNELL: Another.
O'DOUGAL: Another.
MCFRUGAL: Another.
GOMEZ: Another.
NARCOTIS BUMBLE: The Mayor of Chilcoot Pass.
MIZ BUMBLE: The Mayor's wife.
MIZ MYRTLE: A townslady.
MIZ MABEL: Another.
MIZ MILDRED: Another.
ORPHAN#1: Orphan twin.
ORPHAN #2: The other twin.
DOG: The orphans' dog.

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SHERIFF RIMSHOT: The Sheriff (female).
MOUNTAH#1: A Royal Canadian Mountie (female).
MOUNTAH#2: Another.
MOUNTAH#3: Another.
GAYE PAREE: A Chilcoot Saloon gal.
DIME-A-DANCE DORIS: Another.
WALTZIN' MATHILDA: Another.
LEFT-FOOT LUCY: Another.
WIPEUP: The Chilcoot Saloon bartender.
ASSAYER PASSWATER: The assayer.
SYLVANIUS UPPERCrust: Tycoon and father to Ubiquitus and Homer.

PRODUCTION NOTES

SETTING

The setting is the Chilcoot Saloon. SR is an interior door leading to Assayer Passwater's office with an additional interior office door leading to his offstage rest room. Double swinging doors are UC, and a bar dominates the left wall of the saloon. A round table with wooden crates as chairs is in the bar area.

Various painted drops, held in place by the stage crew, Gopher and Getit, are used as backdrops for additional scenes, such as "A Street," "The Storage Room," or "Yoursin Mine." The Yoursin Mine backdrop should have an opening in the center for entrances and exits.

The Sound Squad area is located DS either right or left, but visible to the audience.

SOUND SQUAD

Buttons and Crash are onstage during the entire production, providing recorded and live sound effects. Buttons supplies electronic effects. Crash is the percussionist – coconut shell halves for horses galloping, snare drum and cymbal for the rim shot, a duck call and so on.

SCENES

Scene breaks in the script do not represent breaks in the action, aside from one intermission. There are no blackouts, pauses or hesitations. In performance the action is continuous.

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ACT I
Opening Olio

(BUTTONS and CRASH, the Sound Squad, enter and take places. FANFARE SFX. MOOKIE MUGGINS enters, a whistle around his – or her – neck.)

MOOKIE MUGGINS: *(To audience.)* Howdy, folks! Name is Mookie Muggins and I'm whatcha call yer stage manager fer today's show. So how's about a big hand ... fer me!

(MOOKIE takes a bow to audience applause. BERTHA STARR pokes her head out from offstage.)

BERTHA STARR: Muggins!

MOOKIE MUGGINS: *(Hat in hand.)* Sorry, Miz Starr.

BERTHA STARR: Get on with it!

MOOKIE MUGGINS: Sorry, Miz Starr. *(BERTHA'S gone. MOOKIE calls offstage.)* Gopher! Getit!

(An eager GOPHER and GETIT rush on.)

MOOKIE MUGGINS: Folks, this here's Gopher. *(To GOPHER.)* Tell 'em why they call you Gopher, Gopher.

GOPHER: 'Cause I go fer stuff.

MOOKIE MUGGINS: *(To GETIT.)* And tell 'em why they call you Getit, Getit.

GETIT: 'Cause I get stuff. Get it?

MOOKIE MUGGINS: They're my helpers.

GOPHER AND GETIT: Yup.

MOOKIE MUGGINS: Now, part of our job description is to lead you folks in whatcha call yer opening olio. That's where we all get in the spirit of the mellerdrama. And to do that, we want you to join us in a song. Fer those of you that can read, the words are in yer program. *(MOOKIE blows the whistle and calls offstage.)* Everybody out for the opening olio number!

(The ENTIRE CAST rushes out to pre-assigned positions.)

MOOKIE MUGGINS: Now, sing out, folks! *(To BUTTONS and CRASH.)* "Daisy Bell" in E Flat! Hit it!

BUTTONS AND CRASH: You bet!

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("Daisy Bell" MUSIC intro. ALL sing, encouraging audience to join in.)

ALL: *(Singing.)*
DAISY, DAISY,
GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER, DO
I'M HALF CRAZY
ALL FOR THE LOVE OF YOU.
IT WON'T BE A STYLISH MARRIAGE,
I CAN'T AFFORD A CARRIAGE.
BUT YOU'LL LOOK SWEET
UPON THE SEAT
OF A BICYCLE BUILT FOR TWO.

(ALL applaud the audience.)

MOOKIE MUGGINS: Nice job, folks! I think we're ready! *(To GOPHER and GETIT.)* Now get 'em off.
GOPHER AND GETIT: Everybody off!

(GOPHER and GETIT usher ALL offstage and exit.)

MOOKIE MUGGINS: *(Calls offstage.)* Miz Starr, Mr. Starr, Miz Starr! We're ready for you!

(MOOKIE exits.)

**End of Opening Olio
Immediately followed by Scene 1**

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Scene 1

(AT RISE: DS of the Chilcoot Saloon. Sign reads: "THE CHILCOOT SALOON – MISS LOTTA PIDEE, PROP." A black "X" is crossed through the name "MISS LOTTA PIDEE" with the name "LESTER LAWLESS" replacing it. Another sign reads: "VOTE FOR SHERIFF RIMSHOT FOR SHERIFF." Attached with velcro over "SHERIFF RIMSHOT" is "LESTER LAWLESS." Over the bar, "NOW SERVING YOU – WIPEUP." BERTHA and BELLE STARR enter briskly followed by a slower moving BART.)

BELLE STARR: Howdy, folks. And welcome to the thee-a-tur. My name's Belle Starr. Me and my sister Bertha here are the owners and managers of this here traveling show.

BERTHA STARR: And this fella here is our brother, Bart. Bart, say hello to the audience.

BART STARR: 'Lo.

BERTHA STARR: Not a man of too many words.

BELLE STARR: Well, we want to tell you that we've got one humdinger of a show today. Right, Bart?

BART STARR: Yup.

BERTHA STARR: *(Annoyed with his lack of enthusiasm.)* Bart!

BELLE STARR: Anyways, we want to take a minute and introduce a player or two that you'll be meeting in today's show. *(To BERTHA.)* Help me out here, will you, Bertha.

(BERTHA walks to SR and gestures at BUTTONS and CRASH.)

BELLE STARR: *(Cont'd.)* These folks here are Buttons and Crash. They're what we call our Sound Squad.

BUTTONS AND CRASH: Hi, folks!

BERTHA STARR: They're called the Sound Squad 'cause they're responsible for all the sound effects today. We've got 'lectronic music ... *(“DAISY BELL” MUSIC SFX begins and abruptly halts. Horses galloping ... (HORSES GALLOPING SFX.) Gunshots ... (GUNSHOT SFX.) Rimshots ... (RIMSHOT SFX.) And general all around chaos. (MULTIPLE NOISEMAKING SFX.)* Thanks for all yer help, Bart.

BELLE STARR: And this year's traveling show would not be complete without our very own photographer, Matthew Brady, and his trusty assistant, Birdie. Now every time you hear Birdie tell you to say "Cheese!" you all say "Cheese!" as loud as you can. You got it?

End of Freeview

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