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Win
Lose
or
DIE!

An Audience-Participation Mystery
by
Eileen Moushey

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

SPARKY DUKE - The host of LYRICAL PURSUIT. SPARKY is good-looking and knows it. Self-absorbed and vain, SPARKY is shallow, not particularly bright, with zero sense of humor about himself - though he exudes charm when he has to. Dressed in a white suit or tux. Trimmed in sequins, if possible.

JOE PLUM - The announcer of LYRICAL PURSUIT. JOE is a somewhat mysterious figure - he's not seen, just a disembodied "voice." Besides doing the "Don Pardo" thing, JOE also provides ongoing commentary on the action. He is also a hypochondriac, worrying constantly about "the voice."

DAISY DECARLO - The "Vanna White" of LYRICAL PURSUIT. DAISY is slightly over-the-hill for the beautiful assistant route but is clinging desperately to her job and glamour image. She changes costumes during every foray off stage - sparkly gowns, skimpy outfits, etc.

DEL SPIGGINS - The sponsor of LYRICAL PURSUIT, DEL is a sweet, sweet, sickeningly sweet lady. Her motherly image with her company Fruit City belies her iron will. DEL insists on being involved in every facet of the show to protect her investment. This includes using the champion and contestants for commercials (it beats paying anyone). DEL is dressed in a motherly fashion, including wire frame glasses.

DR. LES PARKER - The former champ of LYRICAL PURSUIT. LES can't believe he ever lost at the game and is determined to prove that the game is fixed. He has a PhD in musicology and is supremely egotistical about his genius. He's dressed like a college professor - tweedy sport coat with patches, etc., etc.

FURLONG SHEMP - The current champion of LYRICAL PURSUIT. FURLONG is elderly and seems to really be out of it. Especially when he's been drinking - which is most of the time. FURLONG wears a bow tie, baggy pants, and short-sleeved shirt. He also sports a crown and red fur-trimmed cape as The Lyric King.

JUDY DAWSON - An employee of the FCC. Even though the FCC is not

a law enforcement agency, JUDY has aspirations in that regard. She's watched one-too-many James Bond movies.

THE ACCOMPANIST - It is virtually impossible to do *WIN LOSE OR DIE* with taped music, because of the stop-start nature of the game. The accompanist should rehearse with the actors. Our accompanist, SARAH, is referred to in the script.

NOTE: We were lucky enough to have an extremely talented accompanist who not only was able to play for the game, but also composed a LYRICAL PURSUIT game show theme and a Fruit City tune. While these are not available, it adds a great deal to the show if you can add your own version.

While the script is written to be performed onstage as was originally presented, it could be moved to just about any location. You will need to create an offstage wing space for JOE, but this could be done with a screen.

Likewise, while the script refers to lights and spotlights, you can adapt this to what is available at your location.

THE HOSTESS - This is the person 'in charge' of the event that provides the directions for the clue hunt and does the wrap-up at the end.

PART ONE - PRELUDE TO MURDER

NOTE: The script is written for the location where we first performed *WIN LOSE OR DIE* - the Akron Civic Theatre. It can be adapted to be performed just about anywhere, by changing the name and other pertinent information.

As the audience arrives and registers, they are given premise sheets or programs which set up what will happen during the mystery. The following is the one we used at the Civic.

Welcome to the Akron Civic Theatre - home this week to the popular television game show, LYRICAL PURSUIT. The host of LP, Sparky Duke, and his lovely assistant, Daisy DeCarlo, will be searching for contestants to challenge the current champ, Furlong Shemp. If your knowledge of lyrics is vast and you can think quickly, you could be the next champ. You might even beat the all-time winning record of Dr. Lester Parker who won over \$1 MILLION before being defeated by Furlong. Furlong himself has already won over \$25,000!! Be sure to introduce yourself to Sparky and Daisy and try to get a spot on the challenger team.

LYRICAL PURSUIT is brought to you by Fruit City, that wonderful combination of fruit, foam, and fizz. Fruit City, the last words in thirst quencher!!.

During pre-show:

SPARKY and DAISY make a grand entrance, accompanied by a taped voiceover from JOE. Following this they will interview potential contestants. Besides LES and JUDY, you can choose as many contestants as you want, though 4-7 is optimal.

NOTE ABOUT LYRICS: For both the pre-show and the actual game, use categories and songs that are VERY easy. Gauge your audience and use songs that will be familiar to them. For pre-show, use “categories” (See Appendix) and lyrics just like the real show. Working with small groups at a time they will compete with each other to supply lyrics - just like the real show. When choosing contestants, pick people who are really knowledgeable. It will be boring for them (and the audience) if they get

onstage and can't get anything right. The script has the categories and song titles we used but does not include lyrics, beyond opening lines.

During pre-show, SPARKY and DAISY will also get pertinent information on the contestants from the audience, which will be given to JOE immediately before the show. Contestants will also be warned that their bios may be "tweaked" a bit, but to "play along." One will be chosen to participate in a "commercial" with DEL, who will rehearse with them.

FURLONG wanders around, wearing his crown, looking lost. He's seen taking "nips" from a flask. He also is looking for contestants, in his own befuddled way - only he's looking for people who don't know any lyrics. He'll bring these people to SPARKY and DAISY trying to get them chosen.

DEL is circulating, bearing a tray with small paper cups filled with Fruit City. The flavors are *Del's Dixie Dewberry*; *Mom's Mango Madness*; *Krazy Killer Kiwi*; *Spicy Icy Tea*; *Banana Rama Ding Dong*; *Hari Kari Berry* (and any others you would care to make up). DEL uses the company slogan a lot "I'm a Mom, too" and reminds tasters that there's "None of that sissy sugar substitute stuff." For our production we used different flavors/colors of a cheap, cheap fruit drink. You may even want to add additional sugar!

LES is causing a scene wherever possible. He has a placard which states that "Lyrical Pursuit is Fixed" or "Game Show Cheaters." He posts notices on the walls to that effect as well. Just before the play is about to begin, LES dons a disguise and is chosen to be a contestant on the show. We used goofy glasses and an obviously fake moustache.

JOE circulates with a scarf tied around his neck and a throat spray bottle. If he talks at all, it's in a whisper. He will communicate with notes. He carries a card which says, "Sorry I can't talk to you. I have to save my voice."

JUDY is at the door, helping with security. She'll check purses, "frisks" ("Hands on the wall, buddy, spread 'em!"). She explains she's not worried about weapons, but lyric cheat sheets. She is also "chosen" to be a contestant.

PART TWO - THE PLAY

The audience enters. The chosen contestants, plus LES and JUDY, are backstage, where they are given jester hats and nametags on strings to be worn around the neck. JOE is there with headset. DAISY and JOE will explain when to go out and emphasize that during the game they are NOT to ring their bells unless directed by SPARKY. Also prominently placed backstage is a huge goblet, filled with Fruit City (the empty bottle is next to it). This is for “the Lyric King.” Ostensibly, anyone who is backstage could have poisoned it.

Onstage, slightly center right, is a podium/lecturn for the current champion. Stage left is counter type arrangement, behind which the contestants will stand. At each place is a “call bell,” such as the kind used to summon service at hotels.

The stage is in darkness. Spotlights flash as the LYRICAL PURSUIT theme is heard, along with JOE’S voice. JOE’S lines with ‘VO’ indicate he is offstage doing these from a microphone.

One more note regarding the “game.” The rules to LYRICAL PURSUIT are flexible. SPARKY should be given great latitude to help, give hints, etc. As each song is done, he can sing and repeat what has already been given with a “take it” gesture to the contestant who is next. We had the actual lyrics on his category cards as “cheat sheets.” We also gave FURLONG a “cheat sheet” on his podium.

JOE VO: Ladies and gentlemen, this is Joe Plum, direct from Fruit City, where the fizzy, fruity drink that tickles your nose, quenches your thirst, and sends your blood sugar to the moon, brings you another round of America’s favorite game show, LYRICAL PURSUIT, starring the one, the only, the incredible, Sparky Duke and his beautiful assistant, Daisy DeCarlo!!

SPARKY absolutely bounds onstage, and goes center, joining in the applause and in fact, continuing it after the rest of the audience stops. DAISY enters from the opposite side, waving and blowing kisses. She has a “pose” which she strikes whenever she comes onstage.

SPARKY: Hello, lyric lovers, and welcome to the game show that proves that when the melody is gone, the words linger on.

LYRICAL PURSUIT - the very last word in quiz programs.

DAISY: Today we've got a feisty bunch of challengers who will take on the current Lyric King for the opportunity to win big, big, money by showing off their knowledge of the words that go with the tune.

SPARKY: We've got a great show for you today. But first, let's introduce Ms. Sarah on the keyboard. Couldn't do a show without the greatest organist in show business. Let's hear it for Sarah! Now, in the lobby, we picked a group of contestants who will try to unseat the King and claim his crown. Tell us all about 'em, Joe.

JOE VO: Hey, ho, Dukester! The challengers.

The following are the introductions, inserting real names and hometowns. You can mix and match. There are probably more than you will need, so just choose the ones you want. SPARKY can ad-lib additional comments, especially if they protest the "bios" they've been given. As each one is escorted onstage by DAISY, they go to the spotlight while their introduction is read. SPARKY joins them in it, and as each one is finished, directs them to the challenger area as DAISY brings out the next contestant. JUDY and LES are last. LES is now wearing a glasses and an obviously fake mustache.

JOE VO: Our first contestant, Sparky. . .

SPARKY: Our first contestant is Sparky? Now that's a coincidence, isn't it folks?

DAISY: I don't think so, Sparky.

JOE VO: *(Male #1)* Our first contestant is a construction worker from *(Hometown Male #1)*. *(Name Male #1)* enjoys scuba diving, parasailing and cross-dressing. His favorite Fruit City flavor is *CocoaNut Chicklet*.

SPARKY: *(Shaking hands with him.)* Ready to play, *(Name Male #1)*? Ok, hey-ho!!

JOE VO: *(Female #1)* Also joining the challenger team is *(Name Female #1)* from *(Hometown, Female #1)*. When not working as a software designer, *(Name, Female #1)* can frequently be found gardening and skeet-shooting. *(Name, Female #1)* also likes to take a "pull" from her favorite Fruit City, *Tomater Aide*.

SPARKY: (*Kissing her and pretending to shoot.*) Gardening and skeet-shooting, eh? Not at the same time, though, right, heh-heh?

JOE VO: (*Male #2*) Our next contestant is (*Name Male #2*) from (*Hometown Male #2*). (*Name, Male #2*) is currently unemployed and a stay-at-home Dad for 6 children, ages 3 to 26. Besides rearin' those youngins', (*Name, Male #2*) likes to make time for church choir, Rotary, and cider-making. It's no surprise that in one week he can put away a case of *Yapple-Dapple-Doo* by Fruit City.

SPARKY: (*Shaking hands and clapping him on the shoulder.*) Well, you'll be setting up a college fund for those kids if you win today, (*Name Male #2*).

JOE VO: (*Female #2*) Next, Sparky, give a warm LYRICAL PURSUIT welcome to (*Name Female #2*) of (*Hometown Female #2*). A high school guidance counselor by day, (*Name Female #2*) likes to relax by watching videos, chasing fire trucks, and working out with weights. And nothing gets rid of sweat from a tough workout quicker than a iced glass of *Blimey It's Limey* from Fruit City.

SPARKY: (*Kissing her*) (*Name Female #2*), how are you, darlin'? Ready to play the game? I have a goood feeling about you, sweetheart. Who's next, oh great announcer?

JOE VO: (*Male #3*) Next up is (*Name Male #3*) of (*Hometown Male #3*). (*Name Male #3*) is an avid checkers player, who also enjoys old movies, walks on the beach, and amateur proctology - when not working on his GED. (*Name Male #3*) lists *Grape A-Go-Go* as tops on his Fruit City list.

SPARKY: We're all gonna be praying for you on that high school thing. Hint: Chemistry is a bitch.

JOE VO: (*Female #3*) It sure is , Sparky. And, speaking of bitches, our next contestant is (*Name Female #3*) of (*Hometown Female #3*). Besides playing the home edition of LYRICAL Pursuit, (*Name Female #3*) likes to build dollhouses and surf Internet chat rooms. A quality control analyst, (*Name Female #3*) rates *Lemons and Cherries and Figs, Oh My!* as her favorite Fruit City Flavor.

SPARKY: The Internet, huh? I'm gonna have to find out about these chat rooms. You online, Joe?

JOE VO: You bet, Sparky. That's how I meet girls.

SPARKY: What - too cheap to go to bars like the rest of us? *(He laughs.)* Seriously, *(Name Female #3)* maybe you could give me some web lessons? I'm gonna hold you to that - Let's talk later, hon. Who's next, Joseph?

JOE VO: *(Male #4)* Say hello to *(Name Male #4)*. *(Name Male #4)* raises turkeys and buzzards at his farm in *(Hometown Male #4)*. With his wife, Trish, *(Name Male #4)* enjoys organizing block parties - especially at Thanksgiving. I'll bet there's lots of Fruit City flavors at those parties - especially *Strawberry Tinkle*.

SPARKY: You gonna invite me to the next one, *(Name Male #4)*. 'Cause I am THERE, if ya do. Hey, you oughtta invite us all. We could plan a reunion. What say, Joe?

JOE VO: Sure thing, Sparkster. Unless I have a date online that night. *(The next contestant is JUDY.)* Our next contestant, Judy Dawson, comes to us all the way from Washington D.C., where she serves as chairperson for the National Association of Postmenstrual Women. When not working for the estrogen lobby, Judy likes to water-color, kayak, and play with her miniature rottweiler, Schnapps. In fact, the only thing Judy likes more than Schnapps is Fruit City's *Plums R Us*.

(JUDY has been totally bewildered by her "bio" and attempts to interrupt to correct. SPARKY won't let her.)

JUDY: Wait a minute, that's no. . .

SPARKY: C'mere, Judy. You can't play the game without a good luck kiss from Sparky. *(He embraces her and we see him frantically whispering in her ear. Meaningfully.)* You DO want to play the game, don't you JUDY?

JUDY: Oh, yeah, yeah. Right.

SPARKY: You work on menopause, then, right, Judy? *(Nodding his head, in an attempt to get her to nod as well. She finally "gets it" and nods slowly with him.)* We aren't doing nearly enough to prevent that and I salute you and your efforts. But someday, God willing, thanks to people like you, we'll find a cure.

JUDY: Okay. Yeah. A cure.

SPARKY: And the only way we'll find a cure to empty pockets is

to play LYRICAL PURSUIT. So, who's the last challenger, Joe?

JOE VO: (*This is LES.*) Our final contestant is L.P. Arker of New Haven, Connecticut. L.P. is a former astronaut and is currently working as a part-time tae bo instructor. His beverage of choice would have to be *Brazen Raisin* by Fruit City.

SPARKY: L.P., . . . hey, you've got the same initials as the game. L.P. LYRICAL PURSUIT. L.P. Get it?

DAISY: We get it, Sparky. We all get it. (*She has recognized LES and is attempting to 'clue in' SPARKY.*) What's the L.P. stand for?

SPARKY: I'll bet it stands for Lucky. Am I right? Because you look like you could get lucky tonight. Think he'll get lucky tonight, Daisy?

DAISY: (*To SPARKY*) Why are you asking me? (*To LES, suspiciously*) What's the L stand for?

LES: Le. .. No. .. I mean, yes. . . you guessed it, Sparky.

SPARKY: Sparky? But that starts with S.????

LES: I mean, my first name is Lucky. Yeah, yeah, it's. . uh, Lucky.

SPARKY: Well, is that a "sign" or what, eh, Daisy?

DAISY: It certainly is. (*Slowly, with emphasis.*) Sparky, doesn't Lucky look familiar to you?

SPARKY: (*Looking closely and nods his head then. . .*) No, can't say as he does. And I think I'd remember a guy named Lucky.

DAISY: He looks real familiar to me. So, what's the "P" stand for, "Lucky"?

LES: The P? Oh, well, it stands for. . . It stands for . . . for. . . Pa. . Pi. . . Pu. . . Puck. Yeah, yeah. PUCK. Yeah, my mother was a real Shakespeare buff.

SPARKY: Hey, if we do any Shakespeare tunes tonight, you could do alright! Lucky Puck. Great name.

JOE VO: He looks REAL familiar, Sparky, don't you think so?

SPARKY: Probably from the space program, 'cause he used to be an astronaut. Well, Lucky Puck, one small step here on LYRICAL PURSUIT could be giant step for you. So, here they are, Joe, what do you think?

JOE VO: I think one of these could unseat the King, Sparky. Should we bring him out?

SPARKY: You bet. Are you ready, challengers? Let's get him out here, Joe!!! *(He and DAISY will "pump up" and lead the challengers in cheering, etc.)*

JOE VO: And now, meet the current champion of LYRICAL PURSUIT, here in his 2nd week, with winnings totaling over \$25,000, the Lyric King, the champ, the man, the big kahuna, Furlong Shemp!!!

(Much applause. FURLONG enters, with his crown, escorted by DAISY, looking bewildered, and not a little drunk. DAISY helps guide him to his place, where he stands, looking hopelessly lost.)

SPARKY: Steady, there, Furlong. Ready to play, King?

FURLONG: You betcha. Bring 'em on.

SPARKY: Ladies and gentlemen, we'll start the game in a moment. But first a word from our sponsor, Fruit City, the town where thirst is a dirty word.

(Lights go down. There is a spotlight or special stage right, where DEL will appear, with a small bottle of Fruit City. We hear the Fruit City jingle.)

DEL: Hello, I'm Del Spiggins, president and founder of Fruit City fizzy beverages, here to announce a breakthrough new flavor. Millions of people enjoy Fruit City because of its refreshing tang and overwhelming sweetness. But at Fruit City, we believe that health is as important as taste. That's why I've developed a new flavor that will satisfy your thirst and help maintain regularity. *(She holds up bottle.)* BranBerry Squirt, the newest in the Fruit City family, is a delicious blend of raspberry and blueberry juices, with the goodness of bran - and just a hint of honey and prunes. Nutritious fiber particles are suspended in a fruity, sparkling beverage that will have your taste buds - and your colon - saying "More please." So, to really get you moving in the morning, in more ways than one, start each day with a healthy breakfast and a large glass of BranBerry Squirt. I'm Del from Fruit City, the last

words in liquid refreshment. I know what's best for you, 'cuz I'm a Mom, too.

JOE VO: BranBerry Squirt from Fruit City. Shake well before opening.

(Lights dim, enabling DEL to exit. Lights back to full.)

SPARKY: We're back and all set to play Lyrical Pursuit. Tell the folks how it works, Joe.

JOE VO: *(This is given as rapidly as possible.)* Sparky will give the category, and the first contestant to ring their bell will start things off. Sparky will give the title and sing the first lyric, and that contestant will give the next, and so on down the line of challengers. If a contestant cannot give the next line, the song will pass to the Lyric King, and then back to the next challenger. Each time a contestant gives a line, he or she will be earn Lyric Loot - musical dollars that are worth \$1,000 each. The last contestant who correctly gives lyrics, whether or not a song is finished, will receive a bonus of 5 musical dollars, or \$5,000.

SPARKY: Got that, everyone? Daisy, what's the first category?

(DAISY enters, in a different costume with the envelope and poses.)

DAISY: The first category, Sparky... *(she gives him the envelope.)*

SPARKY: *(Reading from the outside of the envelope, before opening it.)* Hands up, contestants. *(He demonstrates, it's as if they were getting ready to be "sworn in.")* Ready? The first category is TELEVISION THEME SONGS.

(The contestants ring their bells. The one who is first starts things off. NOTE: LES and JUDY should always let other contestants win at this point of the game. FURLONG stands with his hand still up after all the others have rung theirs.)

SPARKY: _____ was first. And the song is..

(FURLONG rings his bell.)

FURLONG: Wha's the category again?

SPARKY: It's TELEVISION THEME SONGS, but Furlong, _____

beat you with the bell.

FURLONG: Oh, whoopsie.

SPARKY: And the song is. . .THE THEME SONG FROM ALL IN THE FAMILY.

(FURLONG rings his bell again.)

SPARKY: Furlong, it's not bell time.

FURLONG: I know, but I jus' wanna say something. *(He hiccups.)* Edith Bunker was hot.

SPARKY: Okaaay. Well, back to the game. *(He moves to the contestant who rang the bell first.)* The song is THE THEME FROM ALL IN FAMILY. Sarah. . .*(she gives the intro and accompanies him on the first line as he sings.)* "Boy, the way Glenn Miller played. . ."

(FURLONG rings his bell.)

SPARKY: Stop that!! Daisy, take his damn bell.

(DAISY does and exits to change.)

SPARKY: Sarah, once again. Now, remember, _____ give me just the next line. *(Sarah plays intro as before and accompanies him through the first line as he sings.)* "Boy, the way Glenn Miller played. . ."

The game proceeds beginning with the contestant who rang first, on to the next contestant in line, etc. If someone is not able to give a lyric, or gives it incorrectly, it will revert to FURLONG who will know it. This will happen at least once as JUDY will always miss. She'll butcher the line with something that's a close approximation but is wrong. FURLONG will give the next line correctly. Then it's back to the next challenger. SPARKY guides a lot of the game. For longer songs, he can cut it off at a certain stanza - so it doesn't go on forever. Also, he and SARAH can repeat what's been given. SARAH can play the next part, etc. SPARKY can also give hints. He can do anything to help the contestants get it right and keep the game moving.

As contestants give correct lines, SPARKY will give them Lyric Loot. At the end. . .

SPARKY: _____ was the last one to give a correct line. (OR if they finished the song), so they get 5 extra musical dollars. (SPARKY gives it to them, counting it out. The other contestants and audience are urged to count with him.) Well, now that we're all warmed up, let's go again. Daisy, can you give me the next category, please?

FURLONG: Hey, I need my bell.

(DAISY enters with FURLONG'S bell. She is in a new costume.)

DAISY: Here it is. You remember how to play?

FURLONG: Hey, I'm the champ. 'Course I know howta play!

(She gives him back his bell and turns away to go offstage to get the category. FURLONG waits a second and rings his bell. She stops and gives him a "look.")

SPARKY: Daisy, we need that category.

DAISY: (Hurrying off and then onstage again with the envelope. Does her "pose" quickly and hands envelope to SPARKY) Here it is, Sparky. (Exits.)

SPARKY: Contestants, get your hands up. (They do.) Ready? The next category is CLASSIC ROCK.

(As before, allow an audience member contestant to actually win. Again, FURLONG remains with his hand up.)

SPARKY: _____ was first. And the song is . . . DOWNTOWN, made immortal by Petula Clark. Sarah, let's do it. (SARAH plays the intro and SPARKY sings the first line) "When you're alone and life is making you lonely. . ."

CONTESTANT: "You can always go 'downtown'."

(FURLONG rings his bell.)

FURLONG: Downtown.

SPARKY: It's not your turn, Furlong, ol' Buddy. Daisy, get Furlong's bell!

(DAISY enters, grabs Furlong's bell, glares at him and exits.)

SPARKY sings as much of the song as has been given. The next contestant gets to give the "Downtown" that FURLONG just did. The game proceeds as before.

When the song is over, SPARKY acknowledges the last contestant to give a lyric, and awards them the 5 musical dollar bonus, counting it out as before.

SPARKY: You folks are terrific. I'd say it's time for a commercial break. We'll be back to the game in a moment. Don't go away. *(He guides the contestant who is doing the commercial to the spot.)*

(Lights go down. There is a spotlight or special stage right, where DEL and the previously chosen contestant will appear. DEL has given him/her a small bottle of Fruit City. Use cue cards. We hear the Fruit City jingle.)

DEL: Hello. This is Del Spiggins, founder and President of Fruit City. I'm standing here with _____ a contestant on LYRICAL PURSUIT.

CONTESTANT: Trying to remember lyrics is thirsty work, Del. Do you have a Fruit City for me?

DEL: How about trying try the latest of in our line of Chinese refreshers, *Sweet and Sour Splash*.

CONTESTANT: MMMM. Sounds wonderful. *(He/She takes a drink.)*

DEL: What do you think, _____.?

CONTESTANT: *(Reading from cue cards.)* Wow, Del, that is something! Besides being really refreshing and really tangy, I feel like I'm in Beijing! Is that a hint of water chestnuts I taste?

DEL: You, bet, _____. And, like all Fruit City drinks, we use only real ingredients in our Chinese refreshers. You could make a drink like this at home in a blender or food processor, if you had bean sprouts and bok choy on hand.

CONTESTANT: I'd rather just buy a Fruit City, Del, because they also know just the right amount of raw cane sugar and monosodium glutamate to add.

DEL: That's right _____. Go ahead and have some more.

CONTESTANT: Gee, thanks, Del - I was just gonna ask if I could.
(Takes drink.)

DEL: Fruit City Chinese Flavors - you know they're the real thing when you drink one and. . .

CONTESTANT: A few minutes later you want another one. She's Del, and she knows what's best for you.

DEL: 'Cause I'm a Mom, too.

JOE VO: Those on sodium restricted diets should consult a physician.

(Lights dim, enabling DEL to exit and the contestant to return to his spot. The lights return to full.)

SPARKY: And we're back for another round of LYRICAL PURSUIT. Are you ready, contestants? Daisy, the category. . .*(She enters, in yet another costume, slaps FURLONGS bell down, poses, and gives SPARKY the category.)* Hands up, contestants. . the category is. . . *(notices FURLONG who has placed his bell on his head, ready to hit it.)* Put the bell down, Furlong.

DAISY: I am gonna kill you, Furlong. *(She takes it from his head and puts it back on the podium.)*

SPARKY: And the category is. .. BEATLE SONGS.

(The game as before.)

SPARKY: And the song is YESTERDAY. Sarah? *(She plays the intro and SPARKY sings the first line.)* Yesterday. . .

(The game proceeds as before, only the first time it is LES' turn, there is a buzzer.)

JOE VO: And we know what that sound means, don't we, Sparky?

SPARKY: Yes, we do, but why don't you go over it for us, Joe?

JOE VO: It's time for "Dueling Lyrics", where Lucky Puck will have the opportunity to rack up Lyric Loot by going mano e mano against the Lyric King with another Beatles Song for a chance to make mucho musical dineros. But first, he must answer a lyrical trivia question.

FURLONG: I can do that.

SPARKY: Not you - Lucky Puck.

FURLONG: Oh, tha's good, cuz I don't know any Lucky Puck songs.

SPARKY: Daisy, what is the question?

(DAISY enters with a card, poses, then whispers something to SPARKY.)

SPARKY: Well, I never saw the guy before in my life. Just read the question.

DAISY: In the Beatles song, OB-LA-DI-OB-LA-DA, in the end, what does Desmond stay at home and do? *(She exits to change again.)*

(There is a musical interlude, ala "Jeopardy" while we wait for LES to answer.)

SPARKY: For a chance to play the King, Lucky Puck, what is your answer?

LES: *(Confidently)* "Desmond stays at home and does his pretty face."

SPARKY: That's absolutely correct!!! Come on out here. You too, Furlong. *(FURLONG and LES face each other center stage.)*

Note: This is one song where both LES and FURLONG will have to know the lyrics very well. They are written out on the card for SPARKY.

SPARKY: Luckster, we'll start with you. *(He takes another card out of the BEATLES envelope)* The song is the Beatles' COME TOGETHER. Hey, I'll tell you what. .. instead of me singing the first line, let's give one of the contestants a chance to pick up a lyric dollar.

FURLONG: Where's my bell?

SPARKY: Not you, Furlong. Let's let. .. Judy. .. ol' Judy isn't doing very well. Even the guy working on his GED is doing better than her. How 'bout it Judy? Do you know the first line of COME TOGETHER.

JUDY: Isn't it "something, something joo-joo toe jam"?

SPARKY: 'fraid not, Judy. Give us the intro, Sarah. (*She does and he sings the first line.*) "Here comes old flattop, he comes grooving up slowly." Furlong?

During the duel, each comes back quickly with the next line. SPARKY passes out Lyric Loot to each. L.P. will be the one to make a mistake and the buzzer will sound.

SPARKY: I AM sorry, L.P., you were really on a roll. That's (*he gives correct lyric.*)

FURLONG: 'Zat's a great song. Love that song.

SPARKY: Was that a volley or what!! And, since, Furlong was the last one to give a correct lyric, he wins additional Lyric Loot, worth 5,000 bucks. Alright, you two, back to your places. Time for another round. Daisy, can I have the next category, please?

(DAISY enters, poses, and gives SPARKY the next sealed envelope before exiting again.)

SPARKY: Hands up, contestants. Get ready. (*FURLONG is holding his bell in his armpit with one hand, and ringing it by bringing his arm down.*) Furlong, you can either play the game or play with the bell.. Do I have to get Daisy out here again?

FURLONG: Sshhh! No, no, no. I'll be good.

SPARKY: Ready, contestants. The category is. . . ONE HIT WONDERS. . . .

(The contestants ring their bells. Again, neither LES or JUDY will be first.)

SPARKY: I believe _____ was first.

FURLONG: He's (*She's*) jus' got a better bell. Mine's all worn out. I wanna new bell.

SPARKY: And the song, made famous by the ever-popular Astrud Gilberto, is THE GIRL FROM IPANEMA. Sarah? (*She plays the intro and accompanies Sparky as he sings.*) "Tall and tan and young and lovely," _____ (*name of contestant who rang first.*)

(The song proceeds as before, with contestant and FURLONG providing lyrics. SPARKY passes out Lyric Loot, and helps as needed.)

JOE VO: Well, that was exciting, Sparky. But all this singing is making me thirsty. I sure could use an ice cold Fruit City, couldn't you? Why don't we take a moment and hear from our sponsor?

SPARKY: Great idea, Joe. And when we come back, we're going to play Lyric Lollapalooza - an opportunity to double and even triple your money. Take it away, Del.

(DAISY leads FURLONG over to the commercial "spot" as the lights dim except for the commercial "special." DEL joins him there. They use cue cards.)

DEL: Hello. I'm Del Spiggins, founder and President of Fruit City. I'm standing here with the current champion of LYRICAL PURSUIT, Mr. Furlong Shemp. You've already won a lot of money, Furlong, what do you plan to do with it?

FURLONG: Wha?? *(DEL nudges him to read from the cue cards.)* Oh, yeah. *(Reading)* I'm gonna take a long vacation, Del. But wherever I go, you know what I'm gonna pack? *(Reading Del's lines.)* Let me guess, Furlong, you're gonna take along a drink. .

DEL: *(Nudging him again and hissing.)* That's my line, you boob.

FURLONG: That's my line, you boob. Oh, sorry. . .

DEL: Let me guess, Furlong, you're gonna take along a drink. .

FURLONG: Din't I jus' say that? You ain't listenin', honey. Anyway. . where was I??

DEL: On your vacation, you're gonna take along a drink. . .

FURLONG: You betcha, Toots. I always take along a li'l drink.

DEL: I'll bet you take Fruit City along with you, right, Furlong? In one of their convenient drink boxes? What's your favorite flavor, King?

FURLONG: Wild Turkey.

DEL: *(Hissing)* Read the damn cards.

FURLONG: Oh, yeah. *(Reading)* Hello. I'm Del Spiggins, founder and President of Fruit City.

DEL: Further down!

FURLONG: *(Crouching and deepening his voice.)* Hello. I'm Del Spiggins, founder and President of Fruit City. *(Standing and speaking normally.)* Oh, tha's funny. So is she.

DEL: *(She jabs him with her elbow. DAISY enters, in a French maid outfit, bearing a tray with the King's Cup.)* And here, in what is a LYRICAL PURSUIT tradition, is the King's Cup, filled to the brim with tasty, delicious, nutritious ice cold Fruit City. We've got your favorite flavor, Furlong, *Mocha Coca Cola*.

FURLONG: Ah, gee, not again.

DEL: JUST DRINK IT. *(He does, making a terrible face as he does.)* Isn't that refreshing, Furlong?

FURLONG: Could use a li'l kick.

DEL: So could you, Buster. *(Returning to the cue cards.)* So, if you're wondering what to serve at your next party, um, remember that a drink doesn't have to contain alcohol. . .

FURLONG: Sure would help this one. .

DEL: And. . . um. . . oh, hell. . .I'm Del Spiggins and I know what's best for you. . .*(she nudges FURLONG.)*

FURLONG: Oh, yeah. And she's a real mother, too.

(Lights dim, but we can see DEL shoving FURLONG back to his place, whispering angrily at him. Lights back to full.)

JOE VO: We're back, Sparky.

SPARKY: Righto, Joseph, and it's time to play Lyric Lollapalooza. Tell us how that works, Joe.

JOE VO: The contestant with the least number of points. .

SPARKY: Which would have to be our Judy here. She's really booted this one.

JOE VO: *(Rapidly)* Judy gets the chance to get even here. She

can pick the category and has first crack at the lyrics. She can continue until she misses, earning 10 Lyric Dollars, or \$10,000 for each line she knows. When she gives an incorrect lyric, or is unable to give a lyric, she must give the Champ a Lyric Dollar. Then, the other contestants, including the Champ, will have a crack at it. But be careful, in this round, if you miss, we take Lyric Dollars away from you and give them to Furlong.

SPARKY: Ok, Judy, got it? Do you want to play or pass? What do you think, audience?

(The audience yells their choice.)

JUDY: I'll pl. .. pa. .. I'll play, Sparky.

SPARKY: May I have the envelopes, please, Daisy. *(DAISY enters in a new costume, poses, presents three envelopes to SPARKY and exits.)* Judy, your categories are MOTOWN, MOVIES, or MANILOW. Which will it be, Judy?

JUDY: I. .. um. . .well, I don't go to movies much and I've never been to Motown, so I'll have to go with MANILOW, Sparky.

SPARKY: MANILOW, it is, Judy. *(He opens the envelope),* for a chance to win \$10,000 a lyric, finish this song. AT THE COPA. Sarah. *..(She plays the intro and SPARKY sings) "Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl. .. "*

JUDY: *(Singing) Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl. . .With. . with. ..*

SPARKY: Judy, I'm going to need an answer here. ..

JUDY: Just a second, don't rush me. *"Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl, with, with. . .*

SPARKY: Judy, darlin'

JUDY: Shut up! I just about had it. .. *"Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl. . .with. . .with. . .(brainstorm) With a dress cut like her hair and lots of feathers you know where."*

(The buzzer sounds.)

SPARKY: Wow, that would have to itch! Actually it's *"with yellow feathers in her hair and a dress cut down to there."* Sorry, Judy, you'll have to give some Lyric Loot to Furlong. Whoops, don't

have any? Looks like you will have some owsies for Furlong. (*He looks for FURLONG, who has disappeared behind the podium.*) Furlong? Furlong?

FURLONG: (*His head appearing above the podium.*) Owsey-doats and maresy doats and little lambsey ivy. Sorry, Sparky. Gonna play down here. Not feelin' all that good. (*He lays down again behind the podium.*)

SPARKY: What!! Oh, what the. .. you'll need the bell, Furlong. (*We see FURLONG'S hand come up for the bell.*)

SPARKY: At least come out where I can see you. (*FURLONG crawls in front of the podium and lies down with his bell.*) And, remember, if you fail to give at least the next line correctly, you are giving your money to Furlong. Alright, everyone, hands up. (*FURLONG is laying down, but raises his hand.*) Sarah, let's give them the song so far. . .(*She plays while SPARKY sings*) "Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl, with yellow feathers in her hair and a dress cut down to there. . ."

LES rings his bell and gives the next line. Just then, FURLONG suddenly rings his bell repeatedly and then is still. Without stopping singing and dancing, SPARKY yells for DAISY.)

SPARKY: What the. . . ah, come on, Shemp, we've put up with enough of this. Daisy, get out here and do something.

DAISY: (*Entering, halfway through her costume change.*) Like what? How can I change costumes, bring out categories, listen to Del bitch backstage and babysit that old booger. (*She kneels next to FURLONG.*)

SPARKY: Okay, where were we. ..Sarah, let's sing what we have so far.. (*He does and LES picks it up. They both really get 'into' it. LES comes from behind the counter. It becomes a mini-production number with LES and SPARKY, complete with choreography. DAISY attempts to interrupt but is ignored.*)

DAISY: Um, Sparky.

SPARKY: (*Finally SPARKY, frustrated, stops.*) What, what, what!!!

DAISY: It's Furlong.

SPARKY: What about him? We've got a game goin' here. C'mon Les. (*They start again.*) "Her name was Lola, she was a showgirl,

with yellow feathers in her hair"

DAISY: *(Interrupting)* Sparky, I think he might be dead.

SPARKY: *"And a dress cut down to there. She would marango and do the cha. .."* What?

DAISY: It's Furlong. I think he's dead.

SPARKY: He's what? .. *(He goes over to FURLONG and DAISY)* He can't be. . . Holy. . . Oh, man, oh, wow, oh, criminy, oh, damn, he is dead.

LES: So, he's disqualified, right?

SPARKY: Yes, no, oh, hell. .. Omigod, what do we do now?

LES: Let's play. I'm on a streak. I feel lucky. Let's play the game.

DAISY: Maybe we should call 911. . . though I don't know what they can do. The guy is gone.

JUDY: *(Moves from behind the contestant counter and goes to the body.)* Alright, move aside. *(She kneels and checks the body.)* He is dead. Damn.

DAISY: Are you a doctor, or nurse, or paramedic or something?

SPARKY: Do you think he died of. . . menopause?

JUDY: Stop right there, Sparky. That bio was strictly bull and you know it.

JOE VO: The real bios are just so boring. I have to spice 'em up somehow.

SPARKY: So you don't work for the estrogen lobby?

JUDY: No. *(Pulls out her card and shows it.)* I'm Agent Judy Dawson. FCC.

DAISY: Wow. The Federal Communication Something.

JUDY: Federal Communications Commission. *(Pulls a dictaphone out of her pocket and begins dictating.)* This is Dawson with the Game Show Fraud Unit.

JOE VO: Uh-oh.

DAISY: You mean you're a SPY??

JUDY: No, (*pointing to FURLONG*) He was. (*Into the dictaphone.*) Special Agent Shemp eliminated, Friday, October 30, 0900 hours. (*Or whatever your date/time is.*)

SPARKY: Furlong Shemp was a spy?? But why??

JUDY: We've gotten complaints that LYRICAL PURSUIT was fixed. (*Into the dictaphone*) Possible foul play. Body removal commencing ASAP. (*To the others*) Let's get the body out of here. Hey, can we get something to move this guy?

JOE VO: There's a stretcher back here. Must need it for stagehand parties.

JUDY: That'll do. (*She exits.*)

LES: So, where were we? (*He starts singing again. SPARKY joins him.*)

JUDY: (*Returning with stretcher.*) Okay, okay, look, the game is over. Oh, and I want that cup he drank from. Sparky, you and him (*pointing to LES*) get the body out of here. Just stow him back stage. (*They carry body offstage. LES then goes back into the audience.*) The rest of you (*the remaining contestants*) can go back to your seats. Even though the cup was in plain sight backstage and anyone could have poisoned it, I can't think that any of you would have a motive. (*DAISY herds them off.*)

DAISY: (*Collecting jester hats from them and sending them off stage.*) Let's give them a hand, they were a great team, weren't they, ladies and gentlemen? (*The audience applauds as they return to their seats.*)

JOE VO: Well, if that's it for today's show, I'm heading out of here. I need to rest my voice.

JUDY: Don't go anywhere, silver throat. I've got some questions for you. (*Into dictaphone*) Note: Announcer attempting flight. Request backup.

JOE VO: Me? What? I'm just the voice of LYRICAL PURSUIT. Though I am available for other announcing gigs. Contact my agent.

JUDY: Yeah, well, you're involved, whether you like it or not. Wherever you are. Where are you, anyway?

JOE VO: I move around a lot.

DEL: (*Entering with King's cup.*) Well, this is just awful. Just awful. Poor, dear, Furlong must have had a heart problem. (*JUDY takes the cup from her.*)

SPARKY: (*As he enters*) Well, all I can say is I'm glad it wasn't menopause.

DAISY: He didn't give a hint. I mean he just up and died. With one last ring of his bell. He would have wanted to go that way.

DEL: (*To JUDY who is sniffing the cup.*) Doesn't that smell yummy, dear? I'd be happy to get you a fresh glass. What's your favorite flavor? Don't tell me - let me guess. I'd say you're a. . .(*looking her up and down*) *Branberry Squirt* kind of girl.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone.*) Sponsor attempting bribe. (*To DEL*) My colon's fine, Del. No, if I drank this, I'd say I was a cyanide kind of girl.

SPARKY: Is that a new flavor, Dell?

DAISY: No, Spark, it's a poison. A deadly poison. It smells like bitter almonds.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Hostess identifies poison. How did she know?

DEL: Bitter almonds? Oh, but that's one of the ingredients in *Mocha Coca Cola*. I think. Wait a minute. .. surely you are not implying that my drink killed Furlong?

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Sponsor gets the picture. Could be act.

DEL: The old buzzard was loaded to the gills. He drank constantly.

DAISY: That's true. Sparky had to hide his Obsession.

SPARKY: Hey, those magazines are legal.

DAISY: I meant your Calvin Klein. Your after shave. Obsession.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Host wears perfume. Check sexual preference.

SPARKY: It isn't perfume, it's after shave. Furlong would drink anything, even that. Even that Fruit City crap.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Host admits lying about liking Fruit City beverages.

DEL: You'd better watch it, Sparky! I heard Wink Martindale is looking for a new show.

SPARKY: Oh, wow, Del, I'm sorry. Don't know what I was thinking. I love Fruit City.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Check Martindale, AKA Wink. Probably alias.

DAISY: Okay, Judy. What's going on? Put that damn thing down and tell us what you and Furlong were up to.

JUDY: Okay, here's the picture. The FCC has gotten several complaints about LYRICAL PURSUIT. One former contestant, Les Parker, was firmly convinced that the show was rigged. . .

DAISY: LES PARKER!!

DEL: Isn't that the former champ. . .

JOE VO: Yeah, he won a million on the show and then Furlong beat him.

SPARKY: What a sore loser. Talk about your sour grapes. He wins a million from the show and then says it was fixed. He just better hope I never run into him again.

JOE VO: Uh, Sparky.. .you already did.

DAISY: He was a contestant tonight. Lucky Puck, remember. Not L.P. Arker, but L. Parker. Les Parker.

SPARKY: That was Les Parker?? Lucky Puck was really Les Parker?? Why didn't someone tell me? He should have been disqualified. I'm pretty sure that's against the rules.

DEL: If Furlong WAS really murdered, it didn't have anything to do with the show. I'd find that Les Parker person.

SPARKY: Yeah, yeah!! Where is he? *(The actors ad-lib "Where is he, Stop him, etc. Bring him over here." During all this, LES is seen trying to stealthy climb throughout the audience. With the encouragement of the actors, someone should grab him and deliver him onstage.)*

JUDY: Get up here, you! *(To one of the people who catch LES)* Hey, you in the *(description)*! What's your name? *(He gives it.)* Good work. *(Into dictaphone)* Check (name) for priors.

LES: *(Strolling onstage, removing disguise).* Hey, how ya doin, Sparky? Daisy, you're looking peachy. Del, baby, how are things in Fruit City? Joe, hey, Joe. . .que pasa?

JOE VO: Nolo contendere, Les.

SPARKY: Well, you can just go ahead and arrest this guy, Judy. Cheez, I hate cheats.

LES: Cheats! Cheats?? CHEATS????? Why the whole bunch of you are crummy, rotten, slimy, dirty, filthy, scumbag CHEATS. How else can you explain that old boozehound beating me??? Somebody told him the songs that were going to be used. They had too.

ALL: *(Ad-libbing denial, etc.)*

LES: Wait a minute! I know that Furlong was given the songs because I was approached and offered the same deal. But, of course, I turned it down - I didn't need to cheat.

JUDY: Who was it?

LES: I don't know. I got an anonymous note, offering the list of songs that were going to be used, in exchange for half the prize money. It sounded like a scam that had been going on for awhile.

ALL: *(More ad-libbing, shock, etc.)*

JUDY: Who knows which songs are going to be used?

SPARKY: Not me.

DAISY: All I did was change clothes and bring the envelopes out and look totally glamorous. *(She strikes her "pose" again.)*

DEL: Well, certainly not me. That would mean that I was a total

control freak and had to have my fingers in every little pie. And I don't have time for that with Fruit City.

ALL: *(Resume ad-libbed denial.)*

JOE VO: Cut the crap. She'll find out anyway. All of us knew which songs were going to be used. If someone wanted to fix the game, it would have been easy.

LES: I knew it. I knew it. Of course, when I played the game, I didn't have to cheat. But it had to be fixed. There's your motive. A falling-out among thieves.

JOE VO: So, Judy, did Furlong find out anything or not? *(The others agree, ad-lib "What'd he find out?" etc., etc.)*

JUDY: Well, Furlong wasn't what you'd call a regular agent. He was more of a "special" agent.

LES: Yeah, he was special alright.

JUDY: Actually, he was my neighbor. *(Into dictaphone)* Remember to feed victim's cats.

DAISY: Your neighbor?

JUDY: Nobody at the Commission knew anything about lyrics. But Furlong spent entire days listening to music, so I recruited him to go underground on the show. And I had to vouch for him. I even had to sign a paper that gave him security clearance, and swore he was dependable, and that I was sure of him. *(Into dictaphone)* Memo: Start covering ass. *(To them)* He was doing pretty well, too, at least on the show. The old guy sure knew his lyrics. He was just supposed to keep his ear to the ground, his eye to the keyhole, and mitts off the liquor.

JOE VO: Two outta three ain't bad.

JUDY: Until tonight he hadn't been approached. He would just leave cryptic messages, like "The dog is on the porch, repeat, the dog is on the porch." Drove me nuts.

DEL: What happened tonight?

JUDY: He left a message taped to my door. *(Looks in pockets, pulls it out.)* "The Cheese is no longer standing alone."

ALL: (*Repeating*) The Cheese is no longer standing alone.

LES: The Cheese?

JUDY: His code name. "No longer standing alone" musta meant he was on to something, or maybe his cover was blown. But that's not all. He also wrote (*turning over paper*) , "If Cheese is grilled, look for last words."

ALL: If Cheese is grilled, look for last words.

JUDY: I gotta think he knew he was in danger.

SPARKY: Unless he was hungry or something.

DEL: Last words, last words. . .

DAISY: He really didn't have any.

SPARKY: Wait - I remember! He said, Maresy-Doats-And-Dosey-Doats.

LES: (*Sarcastically*) Ahh-HAH!! Now we're getting somewhere.

JUDY: It could be. . .I may be wrong. . .but, it could be. .. nah.

ALL: What?? What???

JUDY: It could be that Furlong left us clues around the Civic.

JOE VO: Yeah, but how the hell are we supposed to find them.

JUDY: (*Into dictaphone*) Memo: Find (*Hostess name*) to see if she can organize a clue hunt.

HOSTESS: (*Entering*) You don't need to take a memo, Judy. I'm here. . .

NOTE: I always introduce the clue hunt at my events. If you decide to produce a sample clue hunt with answer key will be provided. Using that, and the Production Manual, will enable you to adapt - or eliminate - your clue hunt.

What follows are the directions I gave for WIN LOSE OR DIE when we performed at the Civic. You will need to alter this speech for your event.

Tonight you will have the opportunity to solve the murder of Furlong Shemp. You will also be able to personally interrogate the suspects. During this interrogation, the characters will do their best not to lie. But, of course, one or more have things to hide and will do their best not to be trapped by your questions. It would be a short mystery indeed, if guilty parties just came right out and admitted their guilt upon being questioned.

In a moment, mystery helpers will distribute clue packets on clipboards. This will lead you to an important clue that Furlong left for Judy and it will explain how to offer your solution. The clue packets are pretty much self explanatory so it is of the utmost importance that you read it carefully and follow the directions on it. You will not save time by jumping right in and running off in all directions. Take a moment right after I am finished to go over the top page of your clue packet. It will tell you where to start - which clue to do first - and then you will do them in order after that. This prevents all of you from heading to one location. But besides reading the opening instructions carefully, read the directions for each clue. **THIS IS NOT A RACE.** Winners will be drawn at random from the correct solutions. Prizes will also be awarded for the most confused, most creative, and most outrageous solutions.

That's about it, Happy Detecting!

PART THREE - THE CLUE HUNT

The *Mysteries* by Moushey PRODUCTION MANUAL provides instructions for designing clue hunts. It also provides options for adapting the clue hunt, or even eliminating it altogether, although the clue hunt is always VERY popular with audiences!

Each team will receive a clue packet (we put ours on clipboards). This includes trivia, decoding, fill-in-the-blank, puzzles, etc. Putting them all together will lead the teams to the object of the clue hunt: the poem that Furlong wrote to Judy. Hidden within this poem are clues to the solution of WIN, LOSE, or DIE! See poem next page.

The last page of the clue packet is the solution sheet. Once each team has found the poem, interrogated the suspects, and reviewed the case, they are ready to complete this page and submit their solution.

If you order production materials for *WIN LOSE OR DIE* you will receive sample clue hunts and a flow chart. Production materials also include a “clean copy” of the poem, which you may photocopy. See the Appendix for what else is included in the Production Packet.

The actors circulate during the clue hunt, answering questions. They will try not to lie, except when necessary.

Furlong's Last Words - A Poem for Judy

*With lyrics I've found fame
As the champ I've made my name
But there's more than you see, than what's on tv
In this very unusual game*

*The people I've met are mixed
Their acting-up should surely be nixed
As a group they're all right, but no one's wrapped all that tight
Though with therapy most could be fixed.*

*Take Joe - now it's not that he's lazy
Just ask our hostess, little Miss Daisy
But what's with her clothes - not to mention the pose?
Or am I just being plum crazy?*

*The sponsor's a definite spook
One more drop of Fruit City, I'll puke.
But say that to Miz Dell, and she'll give ya hell
And you'll have to hide behind Duke.*

*Cuz Sparky, you see is the kid
Who knows how to keep his thoughts hid
But when he's throwing kisses to various misses
I wonder if that's all that he did.*

*That just leaves Les Parker, the twit
After losing he went off in a snit
I sent him walking, and now he is stalking.
Jealous? Could that be it?*

*The clues are all here for you, cop
Play it cool and the answer will drop
If I wind up dead, it's all on your head
Though at least you know it will stop.*

*By writing this I've gone out on a limb
I'm counting on you not to be dim
I'm up for this caper, like you swore on that paper,
"I think we can feel sure about him."*

**THE VERY BRIEF SOLUTION SCENE IS NOT INCLUDED IN
REVIEW SCRIPTS. IF YOU ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE THE
ENTIRE ACTING COPY BEFORE MAKING A DECISION ABOUT
PRODUCING, PLEASE CONTACT US: 330-678-3893
info@mysteriesbymoushey.com**

APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL LYRIC CATEGORIES: Show Tunes, Frank Sinatra, Country, Elvis, Patriotic Songs, Children's Songs, Songs from Movies, Disney Songs, Songs from different eras (50's, 60's, etc.)

PROPS

Crown & red cape (Furlong)
Disguise (Les)
Protest placard (Les)
Protest flyers (Les)
Microphone (Joe)
Headphones (Joe)
Envelopes & cards for Songs - with 'cheat sheet' for Sparky
Flask (Furlong)
Tray with samples of Fruit City (Del)
Various bottles of Fruit City (Del)
Jester hats (Contestants)
Blank Cards on strings- to be 'filled in' with Contestant names.
King's Cup
Lyric Loot
Bells
Buzzer sound effect
Cheat sheet for Furlong on podium
Lyric Loot
Cue Cards
Dictaphone
Gun
Stretcher (or something for body removal)
Poem

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN PRODUCTION PACKAGE

* Production Manual
Sample Clue Hunt: flow chart, prototype, answer key
Lyric Loot (1 sheet, suitable for photocopying and cutting)
Cue cards (on paper, suitable for 'blowing up')
Flyers for Les to post (suitable for photocopying)
Poem (suitable for photocopying)
An intro sheet for Joe, to 'fill in' names of contestants

OPTIONAL

* Production Manual replacement	\$10.00
Cue cards, sent electronically via email, in WordPerfect	\$3.00

** The Production Manual is the same for all Mysteries by Moushey. The Manual is sent with the first show only.*

ORDERING PRODUCTION MATERIALS

On the next page is an order form. If you decide to produce, print that page, fill it out, and mail/fax it to us. Or just give us a call.

Payment information must accompany all orders.

Repeat Customers may request an invoice.

All others must include a Purchase Order number or payment.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding payment.

RETURN/REFUND POLICY

There is no refund for scripts. However, credit will be given, minus a \$25 restocking/cancellation fee, for scripts returned in pristine condition.

If **SOME** performances are canceled, you are entitled to a full refund of paid royalties for those performances. You may also take this as a credit for future performances.

If **ALL** performances are canceled, you are entitled to a full refund of paid royalties, minus a \$10 cancellation fee.

Mysteries by Moushey

Eileen Moushey
PO Box 3593
Kent, OH 44240
(330) 678-3893
FAX (877) 216-5010
info@mysteriesbymoushey.com

DATE: _____

WIN, LOSE, or DIE
PRODUCTION ORDER FORM (Print this page, complete, then fax or mail)
Use this form if you are planning a production. For faster service, please call.

SHIPPING ADDRESS

Organization _____
Name _____
Street Address/Apt. _____
City State Zip: _____

Day Phone _____
Evening Phone _____
Fax _____
E-Mail _____
website _____

BILLING ADDRESS (if different than shipping)

Organization _____
Contact Person _____
Street Address/Apt. _____
City State Zip: _____

Performance date(s) _____
New Title(if re-titling) _____

Number of scripts _____ X \$6.00 = \$ _____
*First Performance Royalty & Production Package = \$100.00 \$ _____
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ADD SHIPPING/HANDLING (See box.) \$ _____

Mystery Shipping/Handling	
1 - 3 scripts plus production package	\$6
4 - 6 scripts plus production package	\$8
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21-25 scripts plus production package	\$16

Orders are sent UPS or USPS Priority Mail.

Costs listed are continental US only.
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OPTIONAL MATERIALS

Production Manual replacement copy \$10.00 \$ _____
Cue cards, sent electronically, in WordPerfect format \$ 3.00 \$ _____

TOTAL BALANCE DUE \$ _____

Check # _____ is enclosed for \$ _____ Please invoice using Purchase Order # _____

I am a REPEAT CUSTOMER in good standing. Please invoice me. _____

* **FIRST TIME PRODUCERS** pay a **FIRST PERFORMANCE ROYALTY** fee of \$100. This includes the royalty for the **FIRST** performance, a *Production Manual*, and the *Production Package* for that show. *Additional royalties for that show are \$75.00.*

REPEAT CUSTOMERS pay \$75/performance royalty for all performances. Includes the royalty and *Production Package*, but **NOT** the *Production Manual*. *Replacement copies of the Manual may be ordered for \$10.00*