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At the end of each script is a list of what is included in the Production Packet for that show.

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REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH

an audience-participation
murder-mystery by

Eileen Moushey

CONTAINS TWO VERSIONS
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THE FULL VERSION

is the one we did at the Akron Civic Theatre and most other performances. For this version, the audience is usually divided into teams/tables. It is comprised of the following sections:

1. Pre-show. This is the segment during which the characters circulate, introducing themselves, relationships, and lay the groundwork for what is going to be unfolding.
2. The Play. Running time for this scripted segment is about an hour.
3. The Clue Hunt. This can be as long or as short as you want and can even be eliminated. The Production Manual and the REUNION Production Packet provide directions for designing your clue hunt. We send you our clue hunt, answer key, and flow chart to assist you. The object of the clue hunt is to find a yearbook page, which is described within the script and included as an insert with this script. A master copy of this is provided as part of the Production Packet. At the end of the Clue Hunt,

tables/teams turn in the last page of the clue hunt - the solution sheet. Again, all this is explained and samples are included with the Production Packet.

4. The Solution Scene. Running time for this segment is about 7 minutes.

THE MINI-VERSION

of REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH is very condensed. This version came about as a result of doing shows on the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad. We had limited time to do the play before boarding the train. While the Mini-Version is usually done as an individual/couple event, it can also be done as a table/team activity, ala the Full Version.

1. Pre-Show. As with the Full Version, the characters circulate and set things up.
2. The Play. Running time on this scripted section is about 15 minutes.
3. Circulating and Improv. This can be as long or as short as you want. Basically, this segment is used to impart information that is left out of the shortened script. We gave the audience members a copy of the yearbook page, a sheet to on which to take notes, and a ballot.. Rather than a solution sheet, the audience casts ballots for who they think “dunit.” Samples and/or master copies of all these materials will be sent as part of the REUNION Production Packet..
4. Solution Scene running time is about 7 minutes.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO COMBINE ELEMENTS FROM EACH VERSION. It is certainly possible to use the Mini-Version script with the Clue Hunt from the Full Version, for example.

Should you decide to produce REUNION, production materials will be sent for BOTH VERSIONS of the script. This includes supplemental printed materials that can be used for both or are specific to one version.

Finally, there ARE some plot point differences between the versions. But, rather than describing the differences here, we suggest you read both and treat each as a standalone.

INTRODUCTION

As the title implies, REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH takes place at a class reunion. Which class reunion - 20th, 21st, etc., is your determination. The important thing is that the class graduated between 1965 and 1972, as the theme is hippies, flower children, and the turmoil associated with the 60's. Ages of the actors used will be determined by the graduation year, although certainly there's room for flexibility. If young actors are used, this becomes a moot point as they can be aged. Indeed, there is the usual “suspension of belief” involved as in standard plays. Since the original production was staged in 1996, in the script the event is described as the 25th reunion of the class of 1971. In keeping with that, participants should be encouraged to dress a la the period.

The Full Version of the script uses “Tiretown High” and the Mini-Version refers to “Cuyahoga Valley High” which are the names we used for those productions. Likewise, you will see references to nearby towns and the Cuyahoga River. Make your own substitutions for the fictional high school, towns, and the body of water where PHIB supposedly drowned. I would suggest that you keep the mascot an insect. (Our audiences really got a kick out of it.)

This script gives a complete description of the action, dialogue, characterization, improvisations, etc. that occur at the event. Feel free to ADD anything you want - particularly the improvisational sections. You may even add additional characters as long as they remain peripheral to the plot, in order to “play fair.” All of this, however, is contingent on informing us prior to production. When you decide to produce, the Production Manual will lead you step-by-step toward adapting your event - how to make it dinner theatre, how to design (or eliminate) the clue hunt, the timeframe, logistics, and much, much more.

CAST OF CHARACTERS - BOTH VERSIONS

Leonard “Bondo” Templeton - Bondo spent high school trying to fit in and tagging after the In Crowd - the Freaks. He was embittered by what he saw as their rejection. He turned it around senior year when he was elected class President. Now he's a highly successful divorce lawyer and is married to Boonie - the best and brightest of the Freaks. Bondo is wearing a three piece suit and has glasses. (NOTE: In the Mini-Version, the actor playing Bondo plays, in drag, his mother, Nadine. This gives you one more actor to circulate.)

Linda “Boonie” Tackett - Boonie was the free spirit and game-for-anything member of the Freaks. But she changed abruptly senior year, cut her hair and became a cheerleader. And she married Bondo. She is a very “fifties” style housewife. She is wearing a conservative and expensive dress and heels.

Lorraine “Rainy” Thomas - Rainy was never a real Freak. But Bondo hung out with them (or tried to) so she did, too. Those two grew up together, went to Homecoming and all the other dances together, etc., and it was assumed (at least by Rainy) that they'd eventually get married. But senior year Bondo dumped her for Boonie. And then Rainy was caught cheating on a French test and removed from the cheerleading squad - replaced by Boonie. Rainy developed severe mental disorders as a result of this and other indignities. In fact, she's developed another personality - Fifi. It almost goes without saying that Rainy is nuts.

Gloria "Sky" Torrance - In a lot of ways, Sky never really left the sixties. She was then, and remains, far out and exceedingly groovy. She's operated a series of small ventures - natural food store, herb farm, yoga studio - all of which failed. Yet she always has money and has no trouble starting new businesses. She is the mother of Oak. Dressed in a granny gown or something of the period. Only for her it's not a costume - this is how she dresses all the time.

Oak Leaf Torrance - Sky's son. He was born in May of year of graduation (and so is the exact age of whatever year reunion this is.) Oak is definitely stuck in the Sixties. He is wearing a fringed vest (no shirt), headband and no shoes.

Cherie - Oak's girlfriend. Also serves as the HOSTESS of the event, introduces the clue hunt, etc. Cherie supports Oak and believes in his "causes" too. Similar age, also dressed in Sixties style clothes.

George "Che" Terkowski - Che was the true revolutionary of the Freaks. His anger at the establishment led him to perform acts of increasing violence. Through the first three years of high school Boonie and he had a passionate (and stormy) relationship. When she changed senior year, he did too - becoming more and more daring. Following graduation, he tried to blow up an Army-Navy store. He was named to the "ten most-wanted" list and has been underground ever since. He comes to the reunion as "Chirpie," the school mascot. This is a costume with a large head that is separate and can be removed.

John "Phib" Trenton/Father Moses - Phib was the clown of the Freaks. It was Phib who always instigated practical jokes and elaborate tricks. He is dressed as a priest at the reunion - since that's what he is now. He's suffered from amnesia ever since "the accident." Perplexed and vague, he has only the foggiest memory of who he was before being pulled from the Cuyahoga River by cloistered nuns from a convent in Twinsburg.

NOTE: The dialogue uses nicknames to identify the speakers.

FULL VERSION PART ONE - PRELUDE TO MURDER

As the participants enter and find their teams, (see PRODUCTION MANUAL) the characters circulate among them. There will be BONDO'S campaign flyers displayed. It lists his accomplishments, including "Attorney, 19 years; President of the NADL (National Association of Divorce Lawyers)"

BONDO is working the crowd and handing out flyers about his upcoming judicial race. He's also gathering (from participants) former members of the Tiretown High Men's Glee Club - The Tire Irons. They will be performing a song from their senior show. (Any song from any show of the Sixties - or before will work. We used "There is Nothing Like A Dame" from SouthPacific.)

BOONIE is also working the crowd and trying to find the rest of her varsity cheerleading squad. She'll remind (teach) them one of the most popular cheers, also to be performed. She is helped by RAINY. (The cheer is something you will need to make up, depending on the school name. We used the cheerleaders on Saturday Night Live as a model and got a real cheerleader to compose one for us.) Very Important: She is also establishing how much she wanted children. She'll ask if audience members have children and (for those young enough) will ask to see baby pictures over which she will "ooh" and "ahhhh."

SKY is alternately looking for OAK - he has a tendency to get in trouble - she also corners BONDO and asks for her money. He gives her a wad of bills. She discovers later during this section that he has simply put a \$20 bill around a stack of \$1 and confronts him with it.

OAK is circulating a petition to have the reunion moved. He is protesting the fact that it is being held at the Civic. Tiretown High has long since been torn down and the property now holds a parking lot, a Blockbuster Video and a Taco Bell. Which is where OAK feels the reunion should be staged. He will heckle BONDO as much as possible. (Our OAK had a sign that read "Down With The Reunion" on one side and "No Way Will We Stay.") CHERIE is with him.

RAINY is looking for everyone who ever slighted her in any way. She accosts participants and accuses them of everything from toilet papering her locker to finking on her about the French test.

CHE is there in full "Chirpie" costume. He mimes his way through the crowd, getting people to scratch his back, etc. He mocks the cheerleaders, Rainy and the gun, etc. Basically, he's one of those mute mascots that we all want to kill.

FATHER MOSES/PHIB is there greeting and blessing people and asking if they know him, etc. attempting to discover his real identity. He is now the Chaplain for the Little Sisters of Perpetual Isolation, but was drawn to this reunion. He thinks somehow Tiretown High - in particular, this class - is a part of his past. (NOTE: It's important that none of the other characters come face to face with Phib, although he can spot them and mumble something about how they look familiar.)

FULL VERSION PART TWO - THE PLAY

REUNION can be played anywhere there is a stage or playing area. A banner "Welcome Class of _____" can be hung. Bleacher/risers can provide a set. Or just chairs can be used. Preshow music can be Sixties tunes. The play begins as BONDO goes onstage. Also onstage is CHE in the Chirpie costume. He will mime whatever is going on and make himself a general nuisance.

BONDO: Good evening, Class of _____. As your senior class president, I am happy to welcome you, my fellow graduates, to the _____th reunion of Tiretown High. Like you, I have fond memories of the four years we spent in the hallowed halls of our alma mater. . .

OAK:(Yelling from the audience) YEAH, RIGHT, MAN! THE HALLOWED HALLS THAT WERE TORN DOWN BY CORPORATE GREED!

BONDO: (Glares into the audience before continuing uncertainly) Tonight we will walk down memory lane, as it were, and remember. We'll remember our football team, the Tiretown Crickets, who came within five games of making the All-City playoffs. We'll remember the basketball team, the Tiretown Trotters. (To CHIRPIE who is unrelentingly trying for attention.) And, yes, we remember C hirpie the Cricket, our school mascot. That's wonderful, Chirpie. Now why don't you sit down? (CHIRPIE will not.) We'll remember our beautiful Senior Prom. We'll remember the

OAK:(Again from the audience) WE'LL REMEMBER THE WRECKING BALL AND THE DYNAMITE!

BONDO: Now see here, young man. We will have no more outbursts or I will speak with security. I do not know who you are or what you are doing here, but you will not, I repeat, will not, disrupt our celebration. (He is now flustered and fumbles his speech cards, and drops them. CHIRPIE attempts to help him.) Now look at you've made me do. (To CHIRPIE who tries to help) Get away from me! Linda!

BOONIE:(Entering from the wings.) Calm down, Leonard. Give them to me, Chirpie. (She starts to straighten cards.) Be daring. Leonard. Wing it.

BONDO: I do not "wing" anything. I don't believe in "winging it." (Notices the audience) I'm sure you all remember Linda Smith, who is now my lovely wife. (He puts his arm around her.) My little helpmate. The one who helped get me elected as your class president and who is providing me with the love and support I'll need as I run for judge next year. Because, in a way, being a judge is a lot like being a senior class president. . .

BOONIE: Can it, Leonard, no campaign speeches. (She has arranged his index cards, given him one and she and CHIRPIE are ripping up the rest.) It's called editing, dear. (She starts to exit, but BONDO has now realized he has no speech and no imagination, so he grabs her.)

BONDO: We've been a team for _____ years, let's (an attempt at "spirit") be a team tonight. Yes, indeed, my little Linda. When I saw her, senior year, leading the cheerleaders (There is an anguished howl from RAINY in the audience) . . . When her little skirt did that flip-flop. . .

BOONIE: Give it a rest, will you, Leonard?

BONDO: (Momentarily nonplussed.) Ahem. Okay, at this time, I want to bring up the men's glee club, the Tire Irons, to entertain you with one of our favorite numbers. And, in case you've forgotten who you are (He reads names taken from participants' "auditions" in the lobby prior to the show.)

BONDO conducts them - and CHIRPIE - as they sing _____. BONDO has assigned solos and leads them in choreography a la show choirs. When they are finished, he guides them offstage. As he does, OAK yells again from the audience.)

OAK: DOWN WITH THE REUNION! IMPEACH THE PRESIDENT!

BONDO: Linda! Why don't you get the girls up here to. . .

BOONIE:. . .to do some cheers. Sure. Come on, (she names them and they come onstage, as does RAINY. The two of them lead the girls in a Tiretown High Cheer along with CHIRPIE, of course.. The girls are exiting. . .except for RAINY.)

BONDO: Well, you've got a nerve, Rainy. Coming up here with the other cheerleaders.

BOONIE: It's no big deal, Leonard. She was a cheerleader.

BONDO: Until she was cut. For cheating on a French test..

RAINY: I did it for you, Bondo!

BONDO: Don't call me that! And, how pathetic! To blame your disgrace on me!

BOONIE: This is really ancient history. . .

RAINY: It's not, Boonie. It's like it happened yesterday. One day, I was doing cartwheels, the next day they took my pom poms. I'll remember it for the rest of my life.

BOONIE: Geez, Rainy, get a life. Forget the damn cheerleaders. Here, take my pom poms. (She gives them to her.) BONDO:

(Grabbing them back.) Give me those! You don't deserve them!

RAINY: But I did it for you, Bondo! You know you'd have flunked French if I hadn't stolen the answers.

BONDO: I never asked you to do it.

BOONIE: Rainy, I'm really sorry. The only reason I was a cheerleader was because you got kicked off the squad. I didn't even go to the games my first three years. . .

RAINY: I don't blame you, Boonie. . .

BONDO: LINDA. Her name is LINDA.

RAINY/FIFI: I blame whoever finked on me to Monsieur D'Avignon. (At the name, RAINY undergoes a transformation into. . .FIFI.) Oh ho ho, zat man, he wass a brute, n'est pas? All ze time, he - how you say - peeck on ze Rainy (She pronounces the name Ray-nay. Needless to say, BONDO and BOONIE are amazed and puzzled. As is CHIRPIE.) BOONIE: Rainy??

RAINY/FIFI: No-no. C'est moi - Fifi. I am ze Rainy's bon ami. We share ze body, and yet, we are different. Comprenez?

BONDO: Oh, great, she's even loonier than she used to be. Now, you just stop this at once, Rainy, and go to your seat. (He attempts to lead her off the stage.)

RAINY/FIFI:(She struggles with him. CHIRPIE attempts to pull him off.) No. . .no. . .Take your filthy 'ands off of Fifi. I warn you, m'sieur, do not treat le Fifi as you treat le Rainy.

SKY:(from the audience) Let go of her, Bondo. I'm coming, Fifi. (SKY comes onstage and takes RAINY to a chair.) There, there, dear, it's alright. (She looks up at BOONIE and BONDO.) Boonie.

BOONIE: Sky. (They embrace.)

SKY: Boonie?? (They squeal and giggle.)

BONDO: Those stupid nicknames. Gloria, this is Linda. Linda, this is Gloria.

BOONIE: So what's with Rainy?

SKY: She's had some. . .mental problems. This happens a lot. One minute she's Rainy, the next she's Fifi. It's like Rainy goes away and Fifi moves in. It's really kinda cool. She's living two lives. And Fifi, is a totally beautiful person. Very. . .real.

BOONIE: You guys are good friends now?

SKY: Yes, all three of us. Remember how we all felt sorry for Rainy in high school? Never very “together”? Well, after high school and her breakdown, I kinda took her-them-whatever, under my wing.

BOONIE: You were always the mother, Sky.

SKY: And you were the good kid - the one who never lied, or broke promises. Always kept your word. I admired that so much.

BOONIE: I wasn't that good. And look at you, a regular business woman.

SKY: Now, Boonie, not really.

BOONIE: The health food store. The yoga school. The herb farm.

RAINY/FIFI: Oh, zat place. Eet was full of ze bugs. And it make Fifi a-choo.

SKY: But they all went under so I guess I'm not that much of a businesswoman. Luckily, my investor. . .investors kept giving me capital. Now I've got this all-natural, vegetarian, holistic restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls. It's called the Garlic Press. Fifi waits table and Rainy does the books.

RAINY/FIFI: Zat Rainy, she knows where ze francs are buried. Is a whiz at ze numbers. But, Fifi, oo-la-la, she gets ze tips.

BONDO: Ladies, ladies that's enough. Sit over there with whoever that is and let me get on with the reunion. (SKY and BOONIE give the Nazi salute and goose step to seats.) Next on my agenda is a reenactment of a scene from our senior class play, Romeo and

OAK: I DON'T BELIEVE IT. ROMEO AND FREAKIN' JULIET. TIRETOWN HIGH SCHOOL IS GONE, MAN! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU! STOP THE REUNION! POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

BONDO: Now, listen here, young man. I have had just about enough of your uncontrollable behavior. You are obviously not a graduate and ergo have no business being here so I will ask you to leave immediately.

OAK: You can't do that, man. I'm here with my mom.

BONDO: Who has obviously not taught you a thing about manners. See, Linda, this is what comes from having children. And to think you actually wanted one. See, they don't stay cute little babies forever. Well, thank God that discussion ended years ago. It's too late now. Young man, I said GO!

SKY: Oh, Bondo.

BONDO: That's not my name! My name is. . .(attempting to put on a pleasant face to the audience) Look, Bondo was my OLD nickname. My new nickname - from the lawyers at my firm - is “Killer.” RAINY/FIFI: Oh, that is tres jolie! You! Killer! Hah-hah!

BOONIE: You oughta catch him in court. It's appropriate.

OAK: You want a nickname, how about “Dud,” man? For putting together this lame reunion.

BONDO: Young man, I believe I asked you to leave. See, Linda, SEE? I was right about the whole children thing. . .

BOONIE: How does that make you right, mein Fuhrer? Just because YOU didn't want. . .

RAINY/FIFI: He ees le Fuhrer?

SKY: No, you were right before, he's a Killer.

RAINY/FIFI: Oh, oh, I know zat boy! (As she spots OAK coming toward the stage) It ees my leetle boy, ma petite Oak. Uh-oh, he is making the protest, no?

OAK: I am making the protest, yes, Fifi!

BONDO: I'm calling security.

OAK: Just do that, man, call the pigs. (CHIRPIE, exhausted and bored lays down on the bleachers. He takes intermittent interest in the goings on. Mostly he bothers BONDO.) They can't stop the people! Graduates of Tiretown High! The Civic Theatre isn't your high school. Your high school was torn down by the military industrial complex!

BONDO: Our old building was condemned. Even when we were there it wasn't much. The Civic is a beautiful building. Look around. It's an historic theatre. Why, they still use huge sandbags as counterweights to the curtains and . . .

OAK: But it isn't Tiretown High. Tiretown High was torn down. Destroyed. So they could put up a Taco Bell, T.J. Max, and a Blockbuster. Come on, you guys! Let's all get in our cars and drive over there. I've got signs and gas masks in case they use tear gas. Oh, yeah, and don't worry if they turn on the fire hoses, 'cause I got lots of towels.

SKY: Oak, dear, it isn't worth it. Remember, I told you - choose your battle. As Gandhi said. . .

BONDO: This is your son???? I should have known!

BOONIE: Sky - your son? I remember when you were pregnant senior year. I was half jealous of you - you had such a glow.

BONDO: (snorts) Puhleeze.

BOONIE: And his name is. . .Oak?

SKY: I was going to name him "Free" but back then everybody named their babies "Free." And since he was born May 1st, I considered "Mayday" but then. . .

OAK:(Coming onstage) I was born outside. In a field. Tell 'em, Sky. It was so cool.

SKY:(Very much into remembering.) I felt my time was near so I went to Virginia Kendall (a nearby park). I took blankets and some water and some sterilized twine and. . .

BONDO:(interrupting) That's enough! We don't need to hear this. Why is it every woman in the world feels obligated to give every tiny detail of their labor and delivery?

OAK: Finish, Sky. (Sitting down cross legged on floor. To audience) I love this story.

SKY: Well, to keep Bondo happy, I'll skip to the end. I felt the head and then gave a tremendous push and heard the cries. And then I took the twine and. . .

BONDO: Go now further - and from that little acorn grew. What a sweet story. Hey, here's a notion, let's get back to the reunion.

OAK:(Threatening) She isn't done yet, Bondo. Go on, Sky. So I was born under this big tree and just then. . .

SKY: Just then this oak leaf drifted down and landed on his dear little head. So, of course, I had to name him Oak. Oak Leaf.

RAINY: Horseshit. Look, Oak, your mother had you at Robinson Memorial in Ravenna after screaming for three straight hours and begging for drugs, a shot, or to be hit on the head with a hammer. I know. I was a Candy Striper.

SKY: Shut up, Rainy. Fifi, where are you?

OAK: Mom? I mean, Sky? You been lyin' to me all these years? Man, this is a drag.

BONDO: Some things never change, eh, Sky? Pathological liar.

OAK: Man, you can't trust anyone over forty. Sky, man. I mean, man.

SKY: Now, Oak, I have explained all this before.. It's called poetic license. The truth can be ugly. Poets have an obligation to beautify it. Cheer up. Please, Oak. I'm sorry. See, you're here at the reunion. You've really been looking forward to meeting my old gang. And this is Boonie.

OAK:(Coming out of his funk) Oh, wow, Boonie. You got that nickname cause you could put away like gallons of Boone's Farm Wine.

BOONIE: That's right, Oak. Lord, I was a drinker back then.

OAK: And you had this VW bus painted all psychedelic and stuff 'and you would drive like a bat out of hell.

BONDO: She still does. I never let her touch the Caddy.

OAK: And you were really in love with Che. Is he here? A real revolutionary! Why didn't you stick with him? (Gesturing to BONDO) Why'd ya marry him?

BOONIE: I seriously doubt if Che will show up here. Last I heard he went underground. He was the number one suspect in the bombing of an Army Navy store and he's been in hiding ever since.

BONDO: You didn't answer the young man's question, Linda. Why did you marry me instead of him?

BOONIE: Well, he didn't even believe in marriage. Said it was an institution invented by florists.

OAK: Geez, I was really hoping to meet Che. But ya know who I really wish was here? Phib.

BOONIE: You aren't the only one, Oak. Good ol' Phib.

SKY: He was too beautiful to be on this earth for very long.

RAINY: Phib. (To Oak) You know how he got his nickname? (Oak shakes his head.) Well, it was short for "amphibian" 'cause that guy could swim! He was as at home in the water as he was on land.

BONDO: Which made it especially ironic. . .the way he died. Drowned.

OAK: Wow. What happened? Mom. . . Sky won't talk about it.

SKY: It was very painful, Oak...

BOONIE: It was the last night before school started our senior year. The gang decided to have a last fling at the Gorge - you know - in Metropolitan Park.

OAK: Who was there?

BOONIE: Me and Che, Phib, Sky.

RAINY: I was there. Look, I don't like talking about that night either. . .(She does her transformation.) But, Fifi, she will talk about everything, no? Bonjour again, mon ami.

OAK: Yo, Fifi. Hey, I thought Rainy wasn't one of the freaks.

RAINY/FIFI: Oh, no, no, no, it ees true - she was not. But she was, how you say, tagging along after Monsieur Bondo. She was his amour.

BONDO: She was not my amour! Well, alright, so we did kind of hang out together. You - she was handy. And, yes, I would try to hang out with the freaks. God knows why. They tortured me.

SKY: Oh, now, Bondo, we teased you a little that's all.

BONDO: Like the time Phib put Ben-Gay in my jock strap. Very funny. Or when Che pantsed me in study hall. Or, Sky, when you plastered the inside of my locker with pinups of guys. How long did it take to squelch THOSE rumors? Oh, you were all great fun.

OAK:(Impatiently.) The story, tell me the story.

SKY: Well, you have to understand, Oak, we just went for a good time. Skinny dipping, getting high. . .

BOONIE: Not me - I had my trusty Boone's Farm.

OAK: So were you all trashed?

BONDO: Yes, they were. Totally blotto. It was disgusting.

RAINY/FIFI: Poor Rainy. She took off her clothes to go swimming and "poof" they were gone. Someone played ze petite trick on Rainy. Took her clothes from ze bank of ze river.

SKY: We did not! At least I don't think I did. I was in the woods attempting to reach my astral self. And I did. Because the entire night became a blur. I truly do not remember most of it.

BONDO: With the help of a funny brownie or two. You were stoned.

SKY: Yeah, I sure was. Had the munchies something fierce.

BOONIE: I didn't take your clothes, Rainy. Fifi. At least I don't think I did. About the only thing I remember was getting in a huge fight with Che...

SKY: You were always having fights with Che.

BOONIE: I was really pissed. Angry and drunk. I went back to the bus and passed out. You know, Rainy, I mean Fifi, I'll bet you anything it was Phib.

SKY: Yes, that kind of trick was very Phibesque. And he was pretty high too.

OAK: So like everyone was drunk and/or wasted. . .

BONDO: Except me.

OAK: Yeah, yeah, and you all kind of wandered off. What happened then?

RAINY/FIFI: What happened zen, you say? Le Rainy she wandered all night without a stitch. Mon Dieu, it was almost ze Morte de Rainy.

SKY: Now, she didn't almost die, Fifi. You know how she exaggerates. The police found her when they were searching for Phib.

BONDO: His clothes and wallet were on the riverbank, right by the parking lot, but there was no sign of him. The police theorized that he hit his head on a rock, drowned, and his body carried up river.

SKY: They never found the body.

BOONIE: I really hate talking about this.

RAINY/FIFI: And le poor Rainy. Did M'sieur Bondo search for her? Mais non! He leaves with le Boonie. Who he has carried ze torch for.

BOONIE: I always felt so bad for leaving. Maybe if I hadn't gotten pissed at Che, maybe if I'd stuck around longer. . .

BONDO: Maybe, maybe, maybe. Maybe you were saving my skin, Linda. Did you ever think of that?

BOONIE: Your skin? What are you talking about?

BONDO: I had a really tough curfew. If you hadn't gotten me home on time, I coulda gotten grounded!

SKY: After Phib was gone, everything changed. Everyone changed senior year. And, of course, I got pregnant.

BOONIE: And you never told anyone who the father is.

BONDO: It's your business, Sky, nobody else's.

OAK: Tell them about my father, Sky. I'll bet they'll be surprised.

SKY: Oak, I don't want to talk about it.

RAINY: Oh, Sky, go on, tell us.

BONDO: She doesn't want to talk about it. So, let's get back to the reunion...

OAK: It's okay, Sky, tell 'em. She never made any secret about my Dad. It's cool. Tell 'em the story, Sky.

SKY: Now, Oak, that story was private. Between you and me.

BONDO: Don't believe her, any of you. She lies, remember.

SKY:(Reluctantly) Oak, I may have used poetic license about. . .

OAK: Oh, great. You mean it didn't happen at an old farm-house? (She shakes her head.) And he wasn't a traveling photographer from Life magazine that you spent one night with and never saw again?

RAINY/FIFI: Fifi thinks she knows this story.

OAK:(“Getting” it.) That's it, Mom or Sky or whatever your name is! I'm sick of this, man. The lyin'. You had like the coolest time to live. The sixties. And you like blow it all by being such a freakin' liar.

SKY: Oak. . .

OAK: Maybe that's not really my name. Maybe it's really like Bob or something. Geez, it's tough enough already. I mean, you had like Nixon - we had (insert name of current politician.) You had the Beatles. We have (insert name of current band.) You had Woodstock. We have (insert name of current rock concert.) We have safe sex. You had free love. You had all the cool stuff.

RAINY/FIFI: Eet was not so very cool, my cherie.

OAK: You had Patty Hearst. We have (insert name of current notorious court case.) Man, oh, man. Back then it was cool to toke up. Now you can practically get arrested for smokin' Camels. . . It sucks, Sky. And the only cause I have is your dopey reunion. But if that's all I've got (He pulls a pistol out of his jeans.) I'll take it. (They react in shock. “Put it down! He's got a gun!”) Okay, I am now taking over this reunion. I hereby declare this reunion to belong to the people. Power to the people. Right on! (He calls offstage.)
CHERIE! (CHERIE enters with scissors and duct tape.)

BONDO: What the hell do you think you're doing! This isn't your reunion! It's my reunion! (OAK and CHERIE are pulling a huge strip of duct tape.)

SKY: Oak, dear, put the tape down.

BONDO: Put the tape down! How about putting the gun down!

CHERIE: And I claim this reunion for all those who missed the sixties!

OAK: Right on! You. (He gestures to BONDO and a nearby chair.) Sit.

BONDO: What! I will do no such thing! This is outrageous. Sky, control your son!

SKY: It's too late for that, Bondo. When he gets duct tape in his hands he becomes a different kid. (BONDO reluctantly sits. OAK and CHERIE tape his body to the chair by circling in opposite directions. OAK, at one point, stops and sniffs the duct tape.)

OAK: I love the smell of duct tape in the evening.

BONDO: Let me go! Stop this at once. Linda, DO something.

CHERIE: You gotta relax, man. Go with the flow. You gotta be true to the sixties. (As she is saying this, they are loosening BONDO'S tie and wrapping it around his head, headband style. CHERIE uses scissors to cut it off in the back.)

BONDO: That's a fifty dollar tie! (CHERIE and OAK also remove his shoes and socks and throw them to the audience.) Those are Italian!

CHERIE: You gotta feel the earth move, under your feet.

OAK:(Inspecting his handiwork.) Guess there's nothin we can do about the hair.

BOONIE: If the Hair Club for Men couldn't help, I don't think you can do much.

BONDO: Linda! Somebody! Release me this minute. (Suddenly stricken) I have a heart condition. Get me a doctor.

BOONIE: You don't need a doctor, Leonard. Your heart is fine. (To the others.) He's a bit of a hypochondriac.

RAINY/FIFI: I can call le Rainy. She was once, how you say, the Candy Stripper. And, I think she still loves le Bondo.

BONDO: Don't let her near me! Forget the doctor. I'm dying! A priest! I want a priest! I'm slipping fast!

SKY:(To BOONIE) I didn't know you were Catholic.

BOONIE: We're not unless he's dying. (PHIB is moving to the stage.)

CHERIE: You know he doesn't look real good. His color.

OAK: Yeah. He's kinda a whiter shade of pale. (The group clusters around him as PHIB reaches the stage.)

PHIB: Did someone call for a priest? (No one looks up as they answer him.)

RAINY: I think he's okay. He was always kinda pasty.

SKY: Breathe deeply, Bondo. Picture clouds. Imagine the words of Rod McKuen. "Clouds are not the cheeks of angels, you know. . ."

BOONIE: Come on, Leonard, quit holding your breath.

PHIB: If I can be of assistance. . . (He joins the group. RAINY turns to him to answer and screams. Everyone turns and reacts in shock and amazement. "Phib! It's Phib! Oh, my God, Phib!" They grab and embrace him and all talk at once. PHIB is more than a little taken aback.) Wait a minute! Stop! (They do.) I'm Phib? My name is Phib?

SKY: Well, of course you are! You're our dearest, darlingest Phib!

OAK: This is far out.

CHERIE: Definitely.

BOONIE: Phib! Where have you been? What happened?

BONDO: Where have all the flowers gone? Who cares! Somebody, cut me loose!

BOONIE: I've tried to do that for years, Leonard. Phib! What happened?

PHIB: I. . . I have to sit down.

BONDO: You can have this chair.

PHIB: See, I haven't known who I was. . . Outside of bits and pieces of a former life. My memory begins as the sisters were pulling me out of that big river. The Cuya-something.

SKY: The sisters? How'd you know they were feminists?

PHIB: Nun-type sisters. It's a cloistered order in Twinsburg. The Little Sisters of Perpetual Isolation. They dragged me from the river and nursed me back to health. They said I had bruises all over and a big lump on my head and I was unconscious for about a week.

And when I woke up, I couldn't remember who I was or where I came from or anything.

OAK: Cool.

BOONIE: You can't remember anything?

RAINY: Amnesia!

PHIB: Vague, kinda cloudy things. You all seem familiar somehow, but the name "Phib" doesn't mean anything. I don't have any long term memories. And. . . I have trouble with short term memory. The medium-term memory is alright..

SKY: After the reunion, I'll make you some of my rose hip tea and it will all come back to you.

PHIB:(doubtfully) I don't know.

BONDO: This is great. Wonderful. Super. And, the whole class will want to celebrate. So, let's get me out of this chair.

OAK: No way, man. You stand for everything we hate. Right, Cherie?

CHERIE: Right. Everything we hate. (To OAK) He does?

OAK: Yeah, I think so. Anyway, he's a lawyer.

CHERIE: Good enough for me.

RAINY: Phib, so what have you been doing all these years?

PHIB: Well, not knowing who I was, I was kinda at a loss what to do. So I just stayed on at the convent - first as kind of a gardner-hand yman. Then Sister What's Her Face taught me how to cook. And Sister. . .Sister. . .the one with the thick ankles - helped me get a driver's license - they called me Henry Moses. Henry for Sister Mary Henry who spotted me in the river and Moses for some big book they were all crazy about. . .Well, so then after that I used to drive them around - which was real good 'cause their Sister driver - Sister . . . Whosit - had bad eyes and a lead foot. Not a good combination.

BONDO: I hate to interrupt, Phib, but since you seem to be the man of the hour - could you get them to cut me free?

PHIB: I don't think so. They're all back at the convent.

BONDO: NOT THE NUNS. THEM.

PHIB: Oh, them. Pleased to meet you. My name is Father Moses.

SKY: We know, Father, you were telling us. . .

PHIB: Oh, right. Well, I'd been at the convent about ___ years and the sisters were all kinda used to me. Well, all except for Sister Michael Something who's on a real power trip, but, well, never mind. So then they decided to sponsor me at the seminary so I could come back and be their chaplain. Seein' as how old Father Somebody was really hitting the bottle and got arrested for skimming the Bingo money and oh-mi-god I wasn't supposed to tell anyone. Geez, promise me you won't tell.

BONDO: Word of honor, Phib, if you'll just get me out. . .

BOONIE: Leonard, we will get you out in a minute. Go on, Phib.

PHIB: There isn't too much more to tell. I was ordained last week, I think. And then I came home to the convent. And today. Today. What was I doing today? See, the short term memory. I think I'm supposed to pick up bingo supplies or something. That's why I've got the mini-van. If I can remember where it's parked. I remember picking up some tacos for dinner and then, for some reason, I came here.

OAK: He must have picked up the vibes at Taco Bell!

PHIB: No, I just had the Burrito El Grande.

SKY: Oh Phib, I can't tell you how much it means to have you back! There have been many times that I've felt you very close.

OAK: Yeah! She did, man. Wow, Sky, remember that song you made up for Phib? About how he'd always be your friend. . .

SKY: That was between you and me, Oak. . .

OAK: It was really cool. She used to sing it to me. . .something about the seasons.

SKY: Oak. . .

OAK: Yeah, it went (he sings) "Winter, spring, summer or fall, all you gotta do is call, and I'll be there, yes I will, you've got a friend.. "

BONDO: Well, well, well, you certainly are a talent, Sky. A song writer, too?

SKY: Shut up, Bondo.

OAK: Yeah, she really is. Though my favorite is the one. . .(he sings) "The night they drove old Dixie down. . ."

ALL BUT OAK ANDSKY: " And all the people were singing, they said Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na .. "

OAK: Wha...a...a

RAINY: Oh, poor Oak.

BOONIE: Sky, you shouldn't have. . .

OAK: Wait a minute! You mean you didn't write that song, Sky?

SKY: Well, not exactly. . .

OAK: Ah, gee, Sky. How about the one about the bridge over troubled waters.?

ALL BUT OAK ANDSKY:(Sing) "Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down. . ."

OAK:(Really upset by now!) Man, oh, man!! This explains how come she never wanted me listenin' to the radio.

CHERIE: You couldn't listen to the radio? Now, that's sick.

OAK: Okay, Mom, Sky. . . I've had it with your lying! You're like. . .you're like. . . you're like. . .Nixon!

SKY: Oak, Oak, don't say that! Oak, don't. You're takin' another little piece of my heart. ALL

BUT OAK ANDSKY:(Sing) "Take it!! Take another little piece of her heart now, baby. . ."

SKY: Would you all please stop!! Oak, oak, darling, please, please, listen to me!!

RAINY/FIFI:(Who is FIFI again) Ooh, Sky, let Fifi try. Oak, cherie. . .

BONDO: Oh, great. Just what we need. The return of Pepe Le Pew.

OAK: Listen to you? So you can lie to me some more? No way. I'm outta here. It was nice meeting all of you, but I'm freakin', man!
(He runs offstage.)

CHERIE: Oh, now look what you've done! Oak, Oak, wait for me! (She exits after him.)

BOONIE: Oak! Cherie!

RAINY/FIFI: Fifi is afraid le petite Oak will do something despere. Thees ees not good.

SKY:(crying) I didn't mean to lie. But if he knew the truth. . .

BONDO: If he knew the truth, he'd cut me free and never speak to you again!

BOONIE: What truth?

BONDO: Nothing. Nothing. But I believe that, if I were cut loose, I could lead an expedition to find him.

SKY: He's right! We must find him! He still has the gun!

BOONIE: Will he listen to reason?

RAINY/FIFI: Ze Oak is not le mal garcon. He weel listen.

BONDO: So, let's find a knife and . . .

SKY: Quick. . .let's separate and search.

BONDO: Wonderful. I'll take the downstairs and. . .

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PLACES CAN BE ADAPTED TO YOUR LOCALE.

BOONIE:(To RAINY) You take the lobby. (To PHIB) You take the parking lot. You can look for the mini-van while you're at it. (To SKY) You take the balcony. (She looks around. BONDO is still taped to the chair so she turns to CHIRPIE) You take the arcade. I'll take the rest rooms and mezzanine. Got it?

PHIB:(As all are exiting.) Yeah. I got it. I'll take the parking lot. Right. No problem. All except. Who'm I looking for again? (He exits.)

BONDO: What about me? Linda!!

BOONIE: Right. You. . .um. Look, I don't have time for you now. You. . .you, watch the stage, Leonard. (They all exit in different directions.)

BONDO: LINDA!! SOMEBODY!! Ah, hell! (He looks at the audience.) Is this typical or what? I should have known. They all used to pick on me. But if they think they're going to get away with it this time, they are dead wrong. Dead wrong. (OAK and CHERIE enter from below the stage. OAK no longer has the gun.) I'm not the same old Bondo I used to be. I am someone to be reckoned with! (Yells) I'm in charge, Linda, all of you! Me, Leonard Templeton, Attorney at Law!

OAK:(To audience) Are they gone? (To CHERIE) Come on. (They emerge.)

BONDO: Yessiree. They won't have old Bondo to kick around any more. (He spots OAK and CHERIE.) You there! Come here!

OAK: Why should we, man?

BONDO: 'Cause I can tell you the truth about your mother.

OAK: What truth? What do you mean? (To CHERIE) Come on. Let's hear what the old fart has to say. (They go next to BONDO.) So, what do you know?

BONDO: Cut me loose, and I'll tell you anything you want to know.

OAK: No way, man. Besides I don't think you know jack.

BONDO: Who? Oh, Jack. Yes, I do know Jack. And Tom. And Dick. And Harry. Your mother's former boyfriends. And. . .

OAK: I don't wanna know about that, man. She's my mom! I wanna know if she really wrote that poem about miles to go before I sleep. .

BONDO: You aren't the tiniest bit curious about your mother's love life?

OAK: Geez, no. Who wants to know about their parents' love life? Yuck.

CHERIE: He's a sick puppy, Oak. I think maybe we should, shut him up.

OAK: Yeah, shut him up. (Meaningfully.) Yeah, I think we should. (He advances threateningly.)

BONDO: OH, God, I'll shut up. Your mother was-is a saint. She wrote Beethoven's Fifth and Desiderata and she got a Pulitzer and . . .(OAK and CHERIE have taken his tie from around his head and stuffed it in his mouth. They then go to the edge of the stage and sit and ignore him after that..)

OAK: I can't believe it, Cherie. Here I was, looking forward to this reunion and meeting all of Sky's gang and the whole thing has sucked. Really sucked.

CHERIE: Yeah.

OAK: Especially the part about my father. My dad. I mean, if he wasn't a wandering photographer, who was he?

CHERIE: What else did your mother say?

OAK: Well, she said something about the moon being in the seventh house and Jupiter aligning with Mars. . .

CHERIE: And peace will guide the planets, and love will rule the stars?

OAK: Yeah. How did you know?

CHERIE: Lucky guess.

(A shot is heard and BONDO slumps in the chair, head down. It doesn't have to come from a particular direction, but it's probably easiest to fire from backstage. CHERIE and OAK hear it, but don't seem to realize what it was.) OAK: Hey, didya hear something, Cherie?

CHERIE: Yeah, like a bang?

OAK: Probably just a car backfirin' or something. . .

CHERIE: Yeah. Hey, y'know, it's kind of a coincidence, Oak.

OAK: What is?

CHERIE: Well, if you were born in the beginning of May, you must have been conceived. . .

OAK: Wow, the beginning of September! Right about the time that the gang went to the gorge. Do you think. . .???

CHERIE: That night.. One of them could be your father.

OAK: Wow. That could be seriously, totally groovy. Who'd ya think? I hope it's Che! It'd be way cool to have a revolutionary father and all. (At this point, everyone returns, sees BONDO dead in his chair and reacts with horror, etc.)

BOONIE: Leonard! Leonard, wake up! Sky, he won't wake up!

RAINY/FIFI: Sacre Bleu! Eet appears that le Bondo has been snuffed.

SKY: Oak, Bondo is dead! You didn't. . .

OAK: Geez, Sky, no. He was okay a minute ago. Cherie and I were sitting right over there.

BOONIE: It must have been a horrible accident. He's been shot! The gun! Where's the gun, Oak, what'd you do with the gun?

OAK:Um, I put it down somewhere. . .

SKY: Oak, darling, what have I said about taking care of your things?

BOONIE:(To BONDO) . . .Oh, Leonard, I'm sorry if I wasn't the best wife. (To the others) . . .You. . .didn't know him. . .he had another side.

RAINY:(Becoming herself again.) Fifi said. . .Oh, my God, it's not true! Say it isn't true. Bondo, my Bondo. . .

BOONIE: We'd better call an ambulance or something. . .

RAINY:(Who is embracing him, in the chair.) NO-o-o-o. Let me just hold him for a while.

CHERIE: I think maybe we better call the police. (She exits. CHIRPIE starts to edge off the stage.)

OAK: (Calling after her.) You just lost points with me, Cherie. Never call the cops.

BOONIE: Do we need to? I mean it was just an accident.

CHERIE:(Running back onstage with gun.) I found the gun, Oak. You musta left it (name of location wherever you want.). . geez. He's really dead? Bummer.

RAINY: Oh my God, he's dead, he's dead!!!

PHIB: Who's dead?

RAINY: Bondo.

PHIB: Bondo's dead?

SKY: Yes, Bondo's dead.

PHIB: Oh, my God, Bondo's dead. Bondo. Dead. Oh, no!! (Pause) Who's Bondo?

BOONIE: Oh, Leonard. (She starts to cry.)

PHIB: Someone oughta get a priest.

OAK: Wow! You know what this means, don't you? One of you guys killed ol' Bondo. (They react with denial, etc.) Yeah, it could have been any one of you.

SKY: Oak, please! None of us is capable of murder.

OAK: I don't know anything, Sky. Let's face it, all of you were out searching for me when the shot was fired.

CHERIE: Hey, Oak, someone's missing. The bug.

RAINY: Chirpie. (She uses the name of some one in the audience) that's who always played Chirpie. Wait a minute! I saw (another audience member) in the lobby. He can't be Chirpie! Where are you (another name). As the last one stands and the others are reacting to the fact that he/she is not playing CHIRPIE, OAK drags the costumed CHIRPIE back onstage. CHERIE exits.

OAK: Caught him trying to sneak out the back!

CHE: Let me go! Let me go!

SKY: I know that voice. (CHIRPIE shakes his head.)

RAINY/FIFI: Fifi theenks that zis bug, zis bug squash Bondo. That make sense, no?

CHE: No, that does not make sense.

BOONIE: Oh, my God, I know that voice, too. You can't hide in there forever.

CHE: Yes, I can.

OAK: I've got a gun. Off with the head, man.

CHE: Ohmigod. Don't shoot. Please don't shoot. (He removes the head. All stare in stunned silence for a moment. Finally, BOONIE speaks.)

BOONIE: . . .Che? (Silence, then all start talking at once saying "Che, Che.") CHE:

Ssshh. Quit calling me that. The feds are probably here.

OAK: THIS IS CHE?? THIS IS THE REVOLUTIONARY???

CHE: Hey, kid, learn something right now. People change. I've got myself a cozy little life in Minnesota, selling insurance and I am not about to blow it now. Geez, nobody called the cops, did they? I gotta get out of here.

OAK:(To SKY) Your revolutionary sells insurance?

RAINY/FIFI: Sky, you should write a song about this, n'est pas..

CHE: I shouldn't have come. But I wanted to see all of you. (To PHIB) You were an added bonus, old pal. It's great to see you.

PHIB: Me too. (They embrace. PHIB is mouthing "Who is he?") CHE: (To BOONIE) And I wanted to tell you - I'm sorry.

OAK: Man, Sky always says that love means never having (CHERIE stops him.)

CHE: And I didn't have anything to do with bumping off Bondo. Even though, let's face it, he was a mother - sorry, Boonie. You musta loved him to marry him. But, I gotta get outta here before the cops show up. C'mon, you guys. Cover for me. (They all start talking at once.)

OAK: If we can figure out who bumped off Bondo, they'll be no need to call the cops and you can get out of here (he starts to laugh) Che. Man, you look about as much like Che Guevara as my old chemistry teacher. (CHERIE says something to him.) Oh, man, that's right! You happen to know your blood type?

CHERIE:(Returning with a yearbook.) Hey, guys. Look what I found. It's Bondo's yearbook. . .except the page with your senior pictures - is torn out.

OAK: That could be important. Hey, Cherie - y'know how you run those mystery game things? Why don't you organize a clue hunt?

PHIB: And while you're at it, keep an eye out for the mini-van? Those nuns are gonna kill me if I lose another one.

CHERIE: OH, yeah, I can do that. Why don't you guys like, let me do that? But don't take off 'cause I'm guessing these folks might have some questions for you. (They exit.) Welcome to REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH. Tonight you will have the opportunity to find out who is behind the crime you have witnessed.

In a minute clue helpers will be passing out clipboards with the clue hunt. The clues will help you to discover HOW to get an important clue - the YEARBOOK PAGE.

The clue packets are self explanatory, but be sure to read the directions on first page. It will tell you which clue you should start with. Also read the directions for each clue. During the clue hunt you will also have the opportunity to interrogate the suspects. They will do their best not to lie, but remember that one or more have something to hide.

The last page of the clue packet is a solution sheet. After you've found the YEARBOOK PAGE and questioned the suspects, come back to your table to review what you have learned. Enjoy dessert while you complete your deliberations and write your solution. Give your solution page and your clipboard to the mystery helper at the front of the stage.

THIS IS NOT A RACE. You will have plenty of time to find the clues and offer your solution. Happy detecting

FULL VERSION PART THREE - THE CLUE HUNT

The Production Manual gives complete instructions for designing and staging a clue hunt, if one is being used. The physical evidence in this case the page from BONDO'S yearbook - can simply be distributed. In our clue hunt, the page was torn in eight pieces which could then be put together, jigsaw-puzzle style. The Production Manual describes other methods you might use.

The yearbook page itself has real senior portraits from the cast. Ours is included at the back of this script, to give you an idea what it looks like. If you decide to produce, we will provide instructions for creating your own yearbook page, and will include a master page for you to adapt. Besides the standard yearbook pictures with credits and mottos there are messages written by BONDO'S fellow student ala autographs. The reverse side has sponsors' ads.

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:

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REUNION AT

HIPPIE HIGH

MINI-MYSTERY VERSION

An Audience-Participation Murder-Mystery

by

Eileen Moushey

NOTE: Even if your group chooses to perform the Mini-Version of REUNION the Full Version is full of fun lines and "bits" you can use.

THE MINI-VERSION

PART ONE - PRELUDE TO MURDER

As the participants enter and find their teams, the characters circulate among them. There will be BONDO'S campaign flyers displayed. It lists his accomplishments, including "Attorney, 19 years; President of the NADL (National Association of Divorce Lawyers)." As with the Full Version, you'll need to substitute our fictional high school (Cuyahoga Valley High School) with one of your own. Likewise, the towns and river (or body of water) will need to be changed.

BONDO is working the crowd and handing out flyers about his upcoming judicial race. He is wearing a sign taped to his back "Ask me about my prostate."

BOONIE is also working the crowd. She'll ask if audience members have children and (for those young enough) will ask to see baby pictures which she will "ooh" and "ahhhh" over.

SKY is alternately looking for OAK - he has a tendency to get in trouble - she also corners BONDO and asks for her money.

OAK is carrying a sign and circulating a petition to have the reunion moved. He is protesting the fact that it is being held on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The REAL Cuyahoga Valley High School has long since been torn down and the property now holds (insert local fast food joint here). Which is where OAK feels the reunion should be staged. He will heckle BONDO as much as possible. CHERIE is with him.

RAINY is looking for everyone who ever slighted her in any way. She has pom poms and is trying to find the other cheerleaders.

CHE is there in full Chirpie costume. He mimes his way through the crowd, getting people to scratch his back, etc. Basically, he's

one of those mute mascots that we all want to kill.

FATHER MOSES/PHIB is there greeting and blessing people and asking if they know him, etc., attempting to discover his real identity. He is now the Chaplain for the Little Sisters of Perpetual Isolation, but was drawn to this reunion. He thinks somehow Cuyahoga Valley High this class - is a part of his past. (NOTE: It's important that none of the other characters come face to face with Phib, although he can see them.)

THE MINI-VERSION

PART TWO - THE PLAY

Onstage is one chair, SR. CHE is there in the Chirpie costume as BONDO and BOONIE come onstage. He will mime whatever is going on and make himself a general nuisance.

BONDO: Good evening, and welcome, Cuyahoga Valley Class of 1969, to our reunion. We would have had a reunion last year, but unfortunately, I was recovering from prostate surgery. I know that all of us have fond memories of the four years we spent in the hallowed halls of our alma mater. . .

OAK:(Yelling from the audience) YEAH, RIGHT, MAN! THE HALLOWED HALLS THAT WERE TORN DOWN!

BONDO: (Glares into the audience before continuing uncertainly) Tonight we will walk down memory lane, as it were, and remember.

OAK:(Again from the audience) WE'LL REMEMBER THE WRECKING BALL AND THE DYNAMITE!

BONDO: Now stop that, right now, young man. I do not know who you are but you have no business. . .(He is now flustered and fumbles his speech cards, and drops them. CHIRPIE attempts to help him.) Now look at you've made me do. (To CHIRPIE) Get away from me!

BOONIE:Calm down, Leonard. Give them to me, Chirpie (She starts to straighten cards.) Be daring. Leonard. Wing it.

BONDO: I do not "wing" anything. I don't believe in "winging it." (Notices the audience) And here on stage with me is my lovely wife, Linda Smith Templeton. (He puts his arm around her.) My little helpmate. She who ran my campaign for senior class president and now is right behind me as I run for Judge. Because, in a way, being a judge is a lot like being a senior class president.

OAK: DOWN WITH THE REUNION! IMPEACH THE PRESIDENT!

BONDO: Stop that this instant, young man. Go away. Um, um. . .Linda! Why don't you get the cheerleaders up here to um. . . do a few

RAINY:(from audience, comes on stage) Oh, yes, yes, some cheers!

OAK: I'LL DO SOME CHEERS, MAN! WE GOT THE POWER, WE GOT THE CLASS, BONDO IS A HORSE'S. . .

BONDO: Where is security? I'm warning you one last time. (By this time, RAINY is onstage.) Well, you've got a nerve, Rainy, pretending to be a cheerleader.

BOONIE: It's no big deal, Leonard. She was a cheerleader.

BONDO: Until she was cut. For cheating in French class.

RAINY: I did it for you, Bondo! You would have flunked French if I hadn't stolen the test!

BONDO: How pathetic! To blame your disgrace on me!

BOONIE: This is really ancient history. . .Rainy, I'm really sorry. The only reason I was a cheerleader was because you got kicked off the squad. I didn't even go to the games my first three years. . .

RAINY: I don't blame you, Boonie. . .I blame whoever finked on me to Monsieur D'Avignon. (At the name, RAINY undergoes a transformation into. . .FIFI.) Ohho ho, zat man, he wass a brute, n'est pas? All ze time, he - how you say - peeck on ze Rainy.

(She pronounces the name Ray-nay. Needless to say, BONDO and BOONIE are amazed and puzzled. As is CHIRPIE.) BOONIE:
Rainy??

RAINY/FIFI: I am Fifi. Rainy and I, we share ze body, and yet, we are different. Comprenez?

BONDO: Oh, great, she's even loonier than she used to be. Now, get off the stage, Rainy, and give me those pom poms. . .(He attempts to lead her off the stage and wrestles with her for the pom poms.. A brief struggle as Rainy says things like No. . .no. . .Take your filthy 'ands off of Fifi. I warn you, m'sieur, do not treat le Fifi as you treat le Rainy.)

SKY:(coming on stage) Let go of her, Bondo. There, there, dear, it's alright. (She looks up at BOONIE) Boonie.

BOONIE: Sky. (They embrace.)

SKY: Boonie?? (They squeal and giggle.) BOONIE:

So what's with Rainy?

SKY: She's had some. . .mental problems. This happens a lot. One minute she's Rainy, the next she's Fifi. We've become good friends - all, um, three of us.

BONDO: Ladies, ladies that's enough. I have an agenda here. Next is a reenactment of a scene from our senior class play, Romeo and

OAK: I DON'T BELIEVE IT. ROMEO AND FREAKIN' JULIET. CUYAHOGA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL IS GONE, MAN! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU! STOP THE REUNION! POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

BONDO: Now, listen here, young man. I want you gone. Out, out. . .!

OAK: You can't kick me out, man. I'm here with my mom.

BONDO: Who has obviously not taught you a thing about manners. See, Linda, this is what comes from having children. And to think you actually wanted one. See, they don't stay cute little babies forever. Well, thank God that discussion ended years ago. It's too late now. Young man, I said GO!

RAINY/FIFI: Oh, stop zat, Monsieur Bondo. It ees just le petite Oak. Uh-oh, he is making the protest, no?

OAK: I am making the protest, yes, Fifi!

BONDO: I'm calling security.

OAK:(As he comes onstage.) Just do that, man, call the cops. They can't stop the people! Graduates of Cuyahoga Valley High - this isn't your high school. Your high school was torn down by the military industrial complex! Destroyed. So they could put up a (insert name of fast food joint here).

SKY: Oak, dear, son. . .

BONDO: SON!! This is your son???? I should have known!

BOONIE: Sky - your son? I remember when you were pregnant senior year. I was soo jealous of you - you had such a glow. And his name is. . .Oak?

OAK:(Coming onstage) That's cuz I was born outside. By a tree. Tell 'im, Sky. It was so cool.

BONDO: That's enough! We don't need to hear disgusting labor and delivery stories. Linda, you haven't missed a thing.

RAINY: Outside? In a field? Oak, your mother had you at Green Cross after screaming for three straight hours and begging for drugs, a shot, or to be hit on the head with a hammer.

OAK: Mom? I mean, Sky? You been lyin' to me all these years? Man, this is a drag.

BONDO: Some things never change, eh, Sky? Pathological liar.

OAK: Man, you can't trust anyone over forty. Sky, man. I mean, man.

SKY: Now, Oak, I have explained all this before.. It's called poetic license. C'mon, Oak, don't pout. You really wanted to meet my old gang, remember. This is Boonie.

OAK:(Coming out of his funk) Oh, wow, Boonie. You still putting away like gallons of Boone's Farm Wine and getting totally wasted? (She shakes her head "no." Emphatically.) And you still got the painted VW bus?? (Again, she shakes head "no.") That you drove like a bat outta hell? (Again, she shakes head "no.") Hey, I thought you were in love with Che? How'd you wind up with (gesturing to B ondo) him.

BOONIE: Well, Che and I . . . well, he disappeared after graduation. Supposedly he went underground.

OAK: Geez, I was really hoping to meet Che. A real revolutionary. But ya know who I really wish was here? Phib. (Except for BOND0, they all sigh and say, "Phib.")

RAINY: Phib. (To OAK) You know how he got his nickname? (Oak shakes his head.) Well, it was short for "amphibian" 'cause that guy could swim!

BOND0: Which made it especially ironic. . .the way he died. Drowned. On Halloween night. Here in the park.

SKY: His clothes and wallet were on the riverbank, right by the parking lot, but there was no sign of him. The police thought he must have dove in, hit his head on a rock, and drowned. They never found the body. After Phib was gone, everything changed. Everyone changed after Halloween senior year.

OAK: And you got pregnant, with me, right, Sky? By that traveling photographer from Life magazine that you spent one night with and never saw again?

SKY: Um, Oak darling, I may have used just a teensy bit of poetic license. .

OAK: You mean? WHAT! That's it, Mom or Sky or whatever your name is! I'm sick of this, man. The lyin'. You had like the coolest time to live. The sixties. And you like blow it all by being such a freakin' liar.

SKY: Oak. . .

OAK: Maybe that's not really my name. Maybe it's really like Gerard or something. You had all the cool stuff. Like CAUSES and stuff. And the only cause I have is your dopey reunion. But if that's all I've got (He pulls a pistol out of his jeans.) I'll take it. (They react in shock. "Put it down! He's got a gun!") Okay, I am now taking over this reunion. I hereby declare this reunion to belong to the people. Power to the people. (He calls offstage.) CHERIE! (CHERIE enters with scissors and duct tape.) You (to Bondo), sit!

BOND0: (As OAK and CHERIE drag him to a chair and start taping him to it. .) What the hell do you think you're doing? This isn't your reunion! It's my reunion! (OAK and CHERIE are pulling a huge strip of duct tape.) SKY: Oak, dear, put the tape down.

BOND0: Put the tape down! How about putting the gun down! (OAK at one point stops and sniffs the duct tape.)

OAK: I love the smell of duct tape in the evening.

BOND0: Let me go! Stop this at once. Linda, DO something. Release me this minute. (Suddenly stricken) I have a heart condition. Get me a doctor. Or wait, it's too late for that! Forget the doctor. I'm dying! A priest! I want a priest! I'm slipping fast!

PHIB: Did someone call for a priest? (No one looks up, their attention focused on BOND0. SKY ad-libs, "Breathe deeply, Bondo. Picture clouds. Imagine the words of Rod McKuen. "Clouds are not the cheeks of angels, you know. . .")

PHIB: Ahem, If I can be of assistance. . . (He is now onstage. RAINY turns to him to answer and screams. Everyone turns and reacts in shock and amazement. "Phib! It's Phib! Oh, my God, Phib!") They grab and embrace him and all talk at once. PHIB is more than a little taken aback.) Wait a minute! Stop! (They do.) I'm Phib? My name is Phib?

SKY: Well, of course you are! You're our dearest, darlingest Phib! Where have you been? What happened?

PHIB: I'm Phib? My name is Phib? Gee, I haven't known who I was. My first memory is the nuns pulling me out of that big river.

The Cuya-something.

SKY: Nuns?

PHIB: It's a cloistered order in Peninsula. The Little Sisters of Perpetual Isolation. They dragged me from the river and nursed me back to health.

BONDO: This is great. Wonderful. Super. And, the whole class will want to celebrate. Phib, Phib. . . you seem to be the man of the hour - could you get them to cut me free?

PHIB: I don't think so. They're all back at the convent.

BONDO: NOT THE NUNS. THEM.

OAK: Hey, hey, Phib. Didya know my mom, Sky, made up a song about you and how she'd always be your friend. . .

SKY: That was between you and me, Oak. . .

OAK: It was really cool. She used to sing it to me. . .something about the seasons. . .(he sings) "Winter, spring, summer or fall, all you gotta do is call, and I'll be there, yes I will, you've got a friend.. "

BONDO: Well, well, well, you certainly are a talent, Sky. A song writer, too?

OAK: Yeah, she really is. Though my favorite is the one. . .(he sings) "The night they drove old Dixie down. . ."

ALL BUT OAK ANDSKY: " And all the people were singing, they said Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na, Na .. "

OAK: Wha...a...a Wait a minute! You mean you didn't write that song, Sky? Okay, Mom, Sky. . . I've had it with your lying! You're like. . .you're like. . . you're like. . .Nixon! I'm outta here. It was nice meeting all of you, but I'm freakin', man! (He runs offstage, followed by CHERIE.)

SKY:(crying) I didn't mean to lie. But if he knew the truth. . .

BONDO: If he knew the truth, he'd cut me free and never speak to you again!

SKY: We must find him! He still has the gun!

ALL: Good idea. I'll look back here. (General ad-libbing as they exit off the stage.)

BONDO: What about me? Linda!! LINDA!! SOMEBODY!! Ah, hell! (He looks at the audience.) Is this typical or what? I should have known. They all used to pick on me. But if they think they're going to get away with it this time, they are dead wrong. Dead wrong. (OAK and CHERIE sneak back on stage. OAK does NOT have the gun.) I'm in charge, Linda, all of you! Me, Leonard Templeton, Attorney at Law!

OAK:(To audience) Are they gone? (To CHERIE) Come on. (They emerge.)

BONDO: Yessiree. They won't have old Bondo to kick around any more. (He spots OAK and CHERIE.) You there! Come here! (OAK goes over to him.) Um, wait a minute, where's the gun?

OAK: I put it down somewhere. Um, can't remember where.

BONDO: Ohferpete's. . . Look, how about cutting me loose? And I'll. . .I'll. . . I'll tell you about your mother's love life.

OAK: EWW. I don't want to know about that, man. She's my mom! I wanna know if she really wrote that poem about miles to go before I sleep. Her love life. . .you are a real sicko. (OAK and CHERIE move downstage.)

BONDO: Uh, come back here! (OAK and CHERIE will ignore him.)

OAK: I can't believe it. Here I was, looking forward to this reunion and meeting all of Sky's gang and the whole thing has sucked. Really sucked. Especially the part about my dad. I mean, if he wasn't a wandering photographer, who was he? I'm trying to remember what she said. Let's see, the moon was in the second house, and Jupiter was aligned with Mars and. . . Hey, wait a minute! My birthday is July 31. If you count backwards. . . (They both do. A gunshot is heard, but they are oblivious. BONDO slumps in the chair, his head falls forward.)

CHERIE: Hey, didya hear something, Oak?

OAK: Probably just a car backfirin' or something. Hey, ya know if ya count back. . . Wow, I was started right around Halloween. Right about the time . . .that night. Do you think. . .??? Oh, wow. That could be seriously, totally groovy. Who'd ya think? I hope it's Che! It'd be way cool to have a revolutionary father and all. (During this last part, everyone except CHIRPIE returns. They see that BONDO is dead, and react with horror, etc.)

RAINY/FIFI: Sacre Bleu! Eet appears that le Bondo has been snuffed.

SKY: Oak, Bondo is dead! You didn't. . .

OAK: Geez, Sky, no. I kinda left the gun. . .um, somewhere and. . .Cherie? (Cherie exits to look for it.) BOONIE:

We'd better call an ambulance or something. . .

RAINY: Or the cops.

OAK: Wow! You know what this means, don't you? One of you guys killed ol' Bondo. (They react with denial, etc.) Yeah, it could have been any one of you. Let's face it, none of you were onstage when the shot went off. Hey, what happened to the bug?

RAINY: Chirpie. (They call for CHIRPIE. CHERIE drags him in. He is carrying the gun in his mittened paw. CHERIE has yearbook.

CHE: Let me go! Let me go!

RAINY/FIFI: Fifi theenks that zis bug, zis bug squash Bondo. That make sense, no?

OAK: Wow, and he's got the gun, man. And cuz of those paw things, there won't be any fingerprints. (CHIRPIE tosses it to one of them and it winds up with OAK.)

BOONIE: You can't hide in there forever.

CHE: Yes, I can.

OAK:(Holding gun on CHIRPIE.) Dumb move, man, giving me the gun. Off with the head.

CHE: Ohmigod. Don't shoot. Please don't shoot. (He removes the head. All stare in stunned silence for a moment. Finally, BOONIE speaks.)

BOONIE: . . .Che? (Silence, then all start talking at once saying "Che, Che.") CHE:

Ssshh. Quit calling me that. The feds are probably here.

OAK: THIS IS CHE?? THIS IS THE REVOLUTIONARY???

CHE: Hey, kid, learn something right now. People change. I've got myself a cozy little life in Minnesota, selling insurance and I am not about to blow it now. Geez, nobody called the cops, did they? I gotta get out of here.

OAK:(To SKY) Your revolutionary sells insurance?

CHE: I shouldn't have come. But I wanted to see all of you. (To PHIB) You were an added bonus, old pal. It's great to see you.

PHIB: Me too. (They embrace. PHIB is mouthing "Who is he?") CHE: (To BOONIE) And I wanted to tell you - I'm sorry.

OAK: Man, Sky always says that love means never having (the others stare at him) Damn it, Mom!

CHE: And I didn't have anything to do with bumping off Bondo. I found that gun (name location - "in the lobby" etc. Can be wherever you want.) Look, everyone, I gotta get outta here before the cops show up. C'mon, you guys. Cover for me. (They all start talking at once.)

OAK: If we can figure out who bumped off Bondo, there'll be no need to call the cops and you can get out of here (he starts to laugh) Che. Man, you look about as much like Che Guevara as my old chemistry teacher.

CHERIE:(Returning with a yearbook.) Hey, guys. Look what I found. Looks like a page that was torn out of Bondo's yearbook.

OAK: That could be important. Hey, Cherie - y'know how you run those mystery game things? Why don't you organize everybody here to be like a detective?

PHIB: And while you're at it, keep an eye out for the mini-van? Those nuns are gonna kill me if I lose another one.

CHERIE: OH, yeah, I can do that. Why don't you guys like, let me do that? But don't take off 'cause I'm guessing these folks might have some questions for you. (They exit.) Welcome to REUNION AT HIPPIE HIGH. Tonight you will have the opportunity to find out who is behind the crime you have witnessed. In a few moments we will be boarding the train. At your seats you will find a clipboard. Attached to the clipboard are several things:

- a copy of the page torn from Bondo's yearbook. In order to discover who killed Bondo, you will need to examine this clue.

- page to use to take notes while interrogating the suspects. Keep in mind, 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.

- Finally, on your clipboard is a ballot. All you need to write on the ballot is your name - and your email address if you'd like to be notified about future Mysteries by Moushey. Remember, you write YOUR name on the ballot. After the train trip is over, and you disembark, the suspects will be lined up, each holding ballot bags.

Cast your ballot for the suspect you think is guilty. Prize winners will be drawn from the correct solutions. That's about it - Happy Detecting and ALL ABOARD!

THE MINI-VERSION

PART THREE - CIRCULATING/IMPROV

There is no clue hunt. Instead, audience members are given clipboards with:

1. The yearbook page (see insert)
2. A sheet with the characters' names, with room to take notes.
3. Ballots.

Copies of all of these will be sent with the REUNION Production Package.

At the end of this section, audience members will cast their ballots for the suspect they think is guilty. Directions for voting are included with the Production Packet. Talking Points While Circulating

NOTE: In order to have more characters circulating, we used the actor who played BONDO in playing his own mother, NADINE. In other words, he's in drag. Very, very, very bad drag. Use information and lines from the Full Version to flesh out answers, provide more "color" and impart the back story of the plot.

OAK

- Sky wasn't much of a business woman but she had this investor that always bailed her out.
- She told Oak that she wrote all these songs (sing bits of them and any others from that era). Did she? Rant on the 60's vs now.
- Sky really doesn't like to talk about that Halloween night. But Oak is pretty sure that's the night he got "started." Which one could it be?
- Sky always talked about how wild Boonie was, until after that Halloween night when she reformed. Like what a drinker (of wine) she was.
- Oak is really disappointed in Che - what a weenie.

RAINY

- She loved Bondo in school but he had a huge crush on Boonie.
- Sky was high on funny brownies that night and kept disappearing.

- She wasn't really one of the freaks, always on the outskirts. But after high school, Sky was great to her and she always worked in Sky's businesses. Current one is The Garlic Press. (Can use to flip into Fifi - Rainy would do the books, Fifi would wait tables, "oo-la-la, the tips!") Sky always had an influx of cash when she needed it.

FIFI

- Only reason Rainy was there that night was because of Bondo. Wasn't even invited exactly.
- Morte de Rainy story, telling what she was doing that night (from Full Version.) Suspected Phib 'cause he was such a jokester.

- Always suspected that Bondo was the one who finked about RAINY cheating on the French test which got her kicked off the cheerleading squad and created an opening for Boonie.

CHE

- Desperate to get out of there. Feds still after him as suspect in attempted bombing of an Army/Navy store.
- Has a new life but not married.
- That night: drove to park with Boonie, got in a big fight, partly over her reckless driving of the VW bus. He was a revolutionary, but also a very nervous passenger. They fought some more and then split up in the park. Talked to Sky for awhile, she was always sympathetic ear.
- After that night, Boonie dumped him completely for Bondo, without a thought.

BOONIE

- Upset over Bondo's death - after all they had been married for __ years. Wished she had a child, that would have helped. But Bondo never wanted them.
- Doesn't remember too much about that night. Got really drunk, fought with Che. Wound up giving Bondo a ride home because of his curfew. Phib's supposed death had a huge impact on her - mortality and all that. If only she had stayed, maybe she could have helped. That's why she turned from Che to Bondo because he was more stable. No one knew him like she did.
- Sky was pregnant during the latter part of senior year. Never told who the father was. Although she was a bit of a fibber, so you probably couldn't count on her to tell the truth anyway.

PHIB

- Short/long term memory problem.
- What he remembers (or doesn't) about that night. Fills in what happened after that (See Full Version). Including thinking he maybe was ordained.

SKY

- Everyone thinks she's a liar, but really it's just poetic license (life can be ugly, etc.) Ask the audience to "play along" if Oak asks if she wrote "Bridge Over Troubled Water."
- Oak's birth story (from Full Version.)
- Boonie WAS wild in high school, but she was also the one who was honest and trustworthy and always, always, always kept her promises. And she cared about all of them - was a real "mom."
- Since high school, has had various businesses. The health food store. The yoga school. The herb farm.
- That night she got high on some funny brownies. Most of it was a blur. (astral self) She did remember bumping into Phib and he didn't say anything about going swimming - it was October and cold.
- Oooh, and she thinks maybe she even spent some time talking to Bondo, who was looking for Boonie because he needed a ride home.

MOTHER TEMPLETON (NADINE) When "she" circulates, she brings up the tricks that each played on her sweet boy in high school. (Che - pantsing in study hall, etc.)

- Leonard was a good, good boy in high school. Never below a "C-" and a hard worker - every day after school he'd help his no-good father (Tito) at the garage. Only reason she stayed with husband was for Leonard's sake. They were devoted to each other.
- Boonie wasn't really good enough for him and was always nagging him to have a baby, but her boy had a bright future, was going to be a judge, and no time for kids. And Nadine didn't need a grandbaby - Leonard was her baby and that's all she needed.
- Leonard made good money as an attorney but Boonie must have gone through it like water, because he was always getting loans from her (Nadine).

AGAIN, THE SOLUTION SCENE IS NOT INCLUDED IN REVIEW SCRIPTS.

APPENDIX - PROPS

Notecards, Judge flyers for Bondo

Sign, protest sign-up sheet for Oak

Duct Tape

Scissors

Gun for Oak

Gun to fire (doesn't necessarily have to be the same one that Oak carries.)

Scissors

Pom-poms for cheerleaders

Song sheets for men's glee club

plane ticket, passport, envelope with 'money'

Something for body removal - We've used a stretcher, a hotel luggage rolling rack, a wheelchair, a furniture dollie, and we've simply dragged offstage - which is tough if you're just using a playing area without wings. If you can get local paramedics to come in with a real gurney, etc., it's a nice realistic touch.

SENT WITH PRODUCTION PACKET (all sent electronically)

Sample clue packets, with answer key and flow chart (Full Version)

Blank flow chart so you can design your own.

The torn page from Bondo's yearbook. We send our actual page as a sample and each side separately so you can insert your photos.

Judge flyers to insert your picture Programs setting up the event.

Ballots (if using this method).

A page for taking notes, if not doing the clue hunt. with suggested questions. (Mini Version)

Sample Press Release

The Chirpie Cheer

Sample Flyer promoting the event

A template of the yearbook page, to insert your pictures and adapt as needed.

Production Manual (the same for all shows.)

OPTIONAL

We can send printed copies of everything in the Production Packet, including the Production Manual, for a small fee.