

Hi, auditionees! A few notes about the document below-

- Below is a list of seven monologues you may wish to prepare for your audition. *Preparation* for this audition is *not at all mandatory*. You may prepare as much or as little as you please; we will not look down upon you if you choose not to prepare. These pieces are just here for your own benefit, if you feel you would be more comfortable looking them over ahead of time. Given that, you certainly *do not have to memorize*, and we recommend using a paper regardless of preparation, even if you think you have memorized your piece in its entirety.
- *All seven monologues will be printed and available* for use when you arrive at the actual audition.
- While the monologues are from the show, reading a monologue for a certain character does not mean that you will only be considered for that role. (i.e. reading for Essie, does *not* mean that you will only be considered for that part).

Any further questions about auditions can be emailed to the director,

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Monologue #1:

(GRANDPA (Martin Vanderhof), the patriarch of the family, has just witnessed TONY, the love interest of his granddaughter, reveal his feelings to his father, MR. KIRBY about how he plans to spend his life. Tony's father is not pleased, so GRANDPA gives the following response.)

GRANDPA: Ask him to wait a minute, Ed. Do you mind, Alice? You know, Mr. Kirby, Tony is going through just what you and I did when we were his age. I think if you listen hard enough, you can hear yourself saying the same things to *your* father twenty-five years ago. We all did it. And we were right. How many of us would be willing to settle when we're young for what we eventually get? All those plans we make...what happens to them? It's only a handful of the lucky ones that can look back and say that they even came close. I used to get all worked up about the world, too. But who cares now? What I'm trying to say, Mr. Kirby, is that I've had thirty-five years that nobody can take away from me, no matter what they do to the world. See? So...before they clean out that closet, Mr. Kirby, I think I'd get in a few good hours on that saxophone.

Monologue #2:

(After a series of absurd events that had caused most of the family and their guests to end up in prison the night before, DONALD, the boyfriend of the Sycamore family's servant, RHEBA, reads the newspaper aloud to the both of them, and reflects on the previous night.)

DONALD: "After spending all night in jail, the defendants, thirteen in all, were brought before Judge Callahan and given suspended sentences for manufacturing fireworks without a permit." I was in the cell with Mr. Kirby. My, he was mad! Whole lot about Mr. Kirby in here, too. "Anthony W. Kirby, head of Kirby & Co., 62 Wall Street, who was among those apprehended, declared he was in no way interested in the manufacture of fireworks, but refused to state why he was on the premises at the time of the raid. Mr. Kirby is a member of the Union Club, the Racquet Club, the Harvard Club, and the National Geographic Society." My, he certainly is a joiner. All them rich men are Elks, or something. I suppose, after all this, Mr. Tony ain't ever going to marry Alice, huh? And it's too bad, too. She sure *loves* that boy. Ever notice how those folks are always getting themselves into trouble?

Monologue #3:

(In the face of GRANDPA MARTIN VANDERHOF's stubbornness over not paying his income taxes, HENDERSON, a tax collector for the IRS, lectures him on its importance.)

HENDERSON: If you please! Now, Mr. Vanderhof, you know there's quite a penalty for not filing an income tax return. Why, the Government gives you everything. It protects you. From, well- invasion. Foreigners that might come over here and take everything you've got. If you didn't pay an income tax, they would. How do you think the Government keeps up the Army and Navy? All those battleships...What about Congress, and the Supreme Court, and the President? We've got to pay *them*, don't we? Now wait a minute! I'm not here to argue with you. All I know is that you haven't paid an income tax and you've got to pay it! We *don't* have to show you! I've just told you! All those buildings down in Washington, and the Interstate Commerce, and the Constitution! There are forty-eight states- see? And if there weren't Interstate Commerce, nothing could go from one state to another. See? They've got *laws*! My God, I never came across anything like *this* before!

Monologue #4:

(MR. KOLENKHOV, the Russian ballet teacher who has tutored ESSIE for eight years, comes before the family to ask them a favor.)

KOLENKHOV: Good evening, everybody! Forgive me. The door was open. You will excuse my coming today. I realize you are- upset. But now, I wonder if I know you well enough to ask of you a great favor. You have heard me talk about my friend, the Grand Duchess Olga Katrina. She is a great woman, the Grand Duchess. Her cousin was the Czar of Russia, and today she is a waitress in Childs' Resturant, Times Square. You cannot relax with Stalin in Russia. The Czar relaxed, and look what happened? If he had not relaxed, the Grand Duchess Olga Katrina would not be selling baked beans today. I tell you. The Grand Duchess Olga Katrina has not had a good mean since before the Revolution. And today the Grand Duchess not only has her day off -Thursday- but it is also the anniversary of Peter the Great. A remarkable man! She may stay? In the name of the Grand Duchess, I thank you. She is outside in the street, waiting. I bring her in.

Monologue #5:

(ALICE, the “normal” daughter of the Sycamore family, laments to her lover, TONY, about the differences between their two families, and how, because of these differences, their engagement could never really work out.)

ALICE: I love them, Tony...I love them deeply. Some people could break away, but I couldn't. I know they do rather strange things...But they're gay and they're fun and...I don't know...there's a kind of nobility about them. But it goes deeper, Tony. Your mother believes in spiritualism because it's fashionable, and your father raises orchids because he can afford to. My mother writes plays because eight years ago a typewriter was delivered here by mistake. And- and look at Grandpa. Thirty-five years ago he just quit business one day. He started up to his office in the elevator and came right down again. He just stopped. He could have been a rich man, but he said it took too much time. So for thirty-five years, he's just collected snakes, and gone to circuses and commencements. It never occurs to any of them...Now! Now do you see what I mean? Could you explain Donald to your father! Could you explain Grandpa? You couldn't, Tony, you couldn't! I love you, Tony, but I love them too! And it's no use, Tony. It's no use!

Monologue #6:

(ESSIE, another one of the Sycamore daughters -ALICE's sister; ED's wife- talks with her mother, PENNY, about balancing her two passions in life- ballet dancing, and candy making.)

ESSIE: I say, the kitchen's awful hot. That new candy I'm making- it just won't ever get cool. But, I got all those new orders. Ed went out and got a bunch of new orders. He was saying last night that we should open a store! But I said No, I want to be a dancer. I've been studying such a long time. Eight years. And Mother, you've been writing plays for eight years. We started about the same time, didn't we? You know, Mr. Kolenkhov says I'm his most promising pupil. *(she hands Penny a piece of candy)* Mother, I want you to try it! They'll be better when they're harder, Mother, but try one- I want to know what you think. I think I'll call 'em Love Dreams.

Monologue #7:

(After TONY (ALICE's fiance) and his parents, MR. and MRS. KIRBY, show up to dinner on the wrong night, PENNY, ALICE's mother, works desperately to throw together what she deems a nice dinner party, as quickly as possible.)

PENNY: Oh, now anybody can get mixed up, Mr. Kirby. But it's not a bit of bother. Ed! Ed, tell Donald to run down to the A. and P. and get half a dozen bottles of beer, and - ah -some canned salmon. Do you like canned salmon, Mr. Kirby? How about you, Mrs. Kirby? Do you like canned salmon? You can have frankfurters if you'd rather. Actually, we'll make it frankfurters, and some canned corn, and Campbell's Soup. Got that, Ed? And tell him to hurry!! *(back to the Kirbys)* The A. and P. is just at the corner, and frankfurters don't take *any* time to boil. And I hope you'll forgive his appearance. This is Mr. Sycamore's busiest time of the year, just before the Fourth of July. Look! Why don't we all play a game of some sort while we're waiting. I'm sure Mr. and Mrs. Kirby would love this game! Oh, *any* old fool could play it. You'll love it!