

## Side 1: Bob, Phil, Rhoda & Rita

**RITA**

Oh, Philly-dilly!

**RHODA**

Once we're in Florida, are we gonna work on that new quote-unquote "routine" unquote?

**PHIL**

Yeah, honey, yeah, I've got it all worked out.

**RITA**

That last routine did wonders for my sacroiliac.

**RHODA**

Hiya, Bobby! See ya in Florida!

**RITA**

And remember. Use Oxydol!

**RHODA & RITA:**

*(Bawdily.)*

For purity!

*(RITA and RHODA exit giggling.)*

**BOB**

"Philly-Dilly ... " Have you ever considered giving the female sex a breather?

**PHIL**

What, and give up show business?

**BOB**

I don't know what's getting older faster - me or your jokes.

**PHIL**

Hey, why don't we go for a drink before the train? I heard about this great little club downtown ...

**BOB**

Whoa. Whoa. Whoa. I smell an angle. Skip the scam, Phil; what do you actually want from me?

**PHIL**

Okay- you remember mess sergeant Frankie Haynes?

**BOB**

Freckle-faced Haynes? The dog-faced boy?

**PHIL**

Yeah. His sisters are doing a show in some joint. We're doing a new revue — and we said we wanted a sister act.

**BOB**

This isn't a plot to hook me up with another belly-dancing rocket scientist?

**PHIL**

It's a way to find a sister act! Of course, we could always take Rita and Rhoda along ...

**BOB**

Stop. Ever since we were in the army, you've been trying to fix me up with something female. Ten years now —

**PHIL**

You wanna know why, Bob?

**BOB**

— let me finish — big ones, little ones, dumpy ones, as long as it wears a skirt, and it's still breathing, you trot it out.

**PHIL**

I'm trying to put a little romance in your life, Bob! I want you to go out and have some fun. Remember fun? I want you to stop being Bob Wallace Incorporated and fall in love! I want you to get married and have nine children, so you can have a home, and I can go out and get a massage or something!

**BOB**

Okay. Okay. Maybe you've got a point there about home.

## Side 2: Bob, Phil, Betty & Judy

**BOB**

What do you mean, talk to her ... ?

**PHIL**

They'll be here in a second. I invited them for a drink.

**BOB**

You what!?

**PHIL**

You think I'm sitting here so I can see some more of you?

**BOB**

What am I supposed to do?

**PHIL**

I won't say be yourself, so why don't you try to be relaxed. Be natural.

**BOB**

Be natural.

**PHIL**

A couple of casual questions. And here they come. Natural, Bob.

**BOB**

Natural.

*(BETTY & JUDY enter at the other side of the stage, having changed their dresses.)*

**BETTY**

Am I lopsided?

**JUDY**

You're gorgeous. Now relax. Talk to them, Betty. Be natural.

**BOB**

That was a great number.

**PHIL**

A fantastic number.

**BETTY**

*(Stiff and formal.)*

How do you do.

**JUDY**

I'm Judy Haynes- and this is my sister, Betty.

**PHIL**

Wallace. Davis. Davis. Wallace.

**JUDY**

Oh, we know who you are.

**PHIL**

Sit down, sit down, have some champagne. Come on, Bob, don't be shy. *(“Aside, “ to the girls:)* The formal type.

**PHIL**

*(They all sit and PHIL picks up a champagne glass.)*

Well, here's lookin' at you!

**JUDY**

*(Lifting her glass and toasting.)*

Cheers!

**BOB**

Are you married, Miss Haynes?

*(BETTY chokes on her champagne at the abruptness of the question.)*

**PHIL**

You know, Bob and I are doing a new Revue. You two would fit right in if you could make a Wednesday rehearsal in Miami.

### Side 3: Martha & Sheldrake

**MARTHA**

Good morning, Columbia Inn. Weather? Yes, we have plenty of weather, come on up and see it.

*(Switchboard buzzes.)*

— Good morning, Columbia Inn. Do we have entertainment?

*(She bursts into song.)*

“And if my song can make you—!”

*(She’s been cut off)*

Hello? Hello?

*(Switchboard buzzes.)*

— Good morning, Columbia Inn.

**SHELDRAKE**

Morning, Captain Wallace!

**MARTHA**

This is not Captain Wallace; this is Martha Watson.

**SHELDRAKE**

Martha Washington?

**MARTHA**

Watson. Watson.

**SHELDRAKE**

Oh, Martha Watson. I didn’t think I was that old.

**MARTHA**

Neither did I.

**SHELDRAKE**

Martha, this is Ralph Sheldrake in New York.

**MARTHA**

Oh!

**SHELDRAKE**

Would you pass on a message to Bob Wallace for me? Just tell him our secret scheme is going great.

**MARTHA**

Secret scheme .... ?

**SHELDRAKE**

About this inn up there. The Columbia Inn. Here’s the deal: the company is ready to come up and take it over—Christmas Eve.

**MARTHA**

A company is taking over the Inn ... ?

**SHELDRAKE**

The whole division’s been alerted. The old man’ll never know what hit him. Say this to Bob, quote: this is a million-dollar proposition.

**MARTHA**

A million dollars? But Mr. Sheldrake, I don’t understand ...

**SHELDRAKE**

Don't worry, Bob'll know what I mean. And say, Martha, keep this on the q.t., will you?

**MARTHA**

Yes, but Mr. Sheldrake ...

**SHELDRAKE**

Great! You're a peach!

*(SHELDRAKE hangs up. The switchboard buzzes several times.)*

**MARTHA**

*(Trying to make sense of what she's just heard.)*

Bob's got a company ... ? Oh my gosh! He's trying to buy up the Inn!

## Side 4: Martha, Waverly & Ezekiel

### WAVERLY

This whole place seems to have gone insane ...  
Martha, where are all my suits?

### MARTHA

I sent them to the cleaners.

### WAVERLY

All of them? On Christmas Eve?

### MARTHA

Oh, don't worry about the show, you can wear your uniform tonight.

### WAVERLY

No, I will not wear my uniform.

### MARTHA

Then you'll wear your undershorts. And you'll make quite a picture. Folks won't be able to tell you from the Christmas tree stand.

### WAVERLY

I got along very well in the army without you.

### MARTHA

Yeah, but it took 17,000 men to take my place! And you are wearing your uniform tonight!

### WAVERLY

You know what you're acting like right now?  
You're acting like a wife.

### MARTHA

Well, I've had enough practice. We fight all the time, and we never have sex—people think we are married!  
*(EZEKIEL enters.)*

### EZEKIEL

Afternoon, General.

### WAVERLY

Ezekiel.

### EZEKIEL

Martha.

### MARTHA

Zeke.

### EZEKIEL

Merry Christmas.

### MARTHA

And God bless us blah blah blah.

### EZEKIEL

I been hearing that all day. Got a package for Mr. Wallace ...

**EZEKIEL**

*(Sets down a package.)*

... and a special delivery for you, sir, from  
Washington D.C.

**WAVERLY**

From Washington ... ?

**EZEKIEL**

Ay-yup. The White House. Says so right there in the  
corner. Don't see too many of those ...

*(WAVERLY grabs the letter.)*

Wind's comin' up; better light a fire tonight. Happy  
holidays!

**MARTHA**

Bah, humbug.

**EZEKIEL**

Been hearin' a lot of that too. See ya.

*(EZEKIEL exits.)*



## Side 5: Bob & Susan

### SUSAN

Dear God, please, please bless Grandpa this Christmas. And bless Mommy and Daddy and the state of California, especially Pasadena. But remember to bless Grandpa most of all. I'll even give up snow though frankly I'd rather not. Amen.

*(BOB enters.)*

### BOB

Say there, Miss Susan, what are you doing wandering around in the middle of the night? It's bedtime.

### SUSAN

It's all right, Mr. Wallace; I'm on Pacific time. I'm three hours behind.

### BOB

Your grandfather will put you on military time if you don't get some shut-eye. C'mon.

### SUSAN

I haven't been sleeping so well in Vermont anyway.

### BOB

Why is that? Are you homesick?

*(SUSAN shakes her head)*

Have you got something on your mind?

### SUSAN

No. Nothing. Just the usual day-to-day concerns and stuff.

### BOB

Those day-to-day concerns are killers, all right. *(BETTY steps into view on the opposite side of the stage and stands, unseen, in the shadows, watching and listening in.)*

### SUSAN

Mr. Wallace, is Grandpa really going back in the army?

### BOB

I don't know. He might sometime.

### SUSAN

Could I go into the army with him?

### BOB

You could volunteer, but you might be on the short side.

### SUSAN

Mr. Wallace, is Grandpa very unhappy?

### BOB

Yeah, Susan, I think he is.

### SUSAN

I wish I could find a way to help him. Oh, I love' him so much, Mr. Wallace.

### BOB

You just tell him. Maybe that's all the help he needs.

**SUSAN**

I want to tell him. I almost did today. But I'm-I'm kind of scared of him.

**BOB**

Don't feel bad. He used to scare 6,000 grown men at a time. Now you go on in and get to sleep.

## Side 7: Judy & Betty

**JUDY**

I told Jimmy to put them at a table right down front. I'm so excited. I hope I don't stare at them during the number.

*(BETTY HAYNES enters.)*

**BETTY**

Well, I still don't understand it...

**JUDY**

Oh, Betty, will you settle down? We've actually got Wallace and Davis coming to see us.

**BETTY**

Yes, but how did Wallace and Davis ever find out about Betty and Judy Haynes?

**JUDY**

I don't know. They were in the army with Frankie. Maybe through Frankie ...

**BETTY**

Frankie's in Alaska. How did he ever get to Wallace and Davis?

**JUDY**

I, uh ....

**BETTY**

I smell a rat here. Maybe the same rat who told this club owner we're his cousins.

**JUDY**

I didn't say cousins. I said we went to kindergarten together.

**BETTY**

Did you ever hear about honesty being the best policy?

**JUDY**

Yeah, and I never believed it for a second. Don't you want us to get someplace, Betty? Do you want to go on playing dives like this forever?

**BETTY**

Oh, honey, I do want you to succeed ...

**JUDY**

We're a twosome, remember? I don't succeed if you don't.

**BETTY**

But Judy, I don't want you to hold the act together just because of me. If you get an offer, or if you find a really great guy ...

**JUDY**

How can you be so beautiful and so insecure? You're the one who deserves the offer and the guy.

**BETTY**

I don't know about deserve him.