

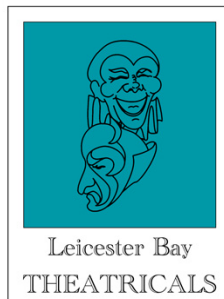
PERUSAL SCRIPT

# HAIL TO THEE, DEAR ALMA MURDER

By

**Jim Christian**

*A CHAMELEON'S MURDER MYSTERY*



Salt Lake City

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## CHARACTERS (4M 4W)

**LaDEANE FELLOWS DEAN** -- THEN: PRESIDENT OF THE F.H.A – STUDENT ASSISTANT IN THE MAIN OFFICE NOW: MOTHER OF 11 (COMPULSIVE ABOUT CLEANLINESS AND PERFECTION)

**KELLY KNUDSON** -- THEN: CHEERLEADER – ALL-AROUND PARTY GIRL  
NOW: COCKTAIL WAITRESS FROM RENO (SAVES ON GAS MONEY WHEN DIVORCING)

**CORKY REZAC** -- THEN: SCHOOL MASCOT – CLASS CLOWN  
NOW: DOES PROMOTIONALS (DRESSED AS RONALD McDONALD, THE NOID, ETC.)

**RHINO BLAKE** -- THEN: ALL-AROUND JOCK – LETTERED IN FOOTBALL, WRESTLING AND BASEBALL NOW: BODYGUARD FOR THE BUSH TWINS (OR SOMEBODY MORE TIMELY) (FLUNKED OUT OF THE REGULAR CIA)

**PORTIA BLEAZARD** -- THEN: EXTREMELY GIFTED CHILD PRODIGY – GRADUATED AT THE AGE OF 12 NOW: RESEARCHER FOR JERRY SPRINGER (OR SOMEBODY MORE TIMELY), FIRED FROM U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

**GEOFFREY PRESTON** -- THEN: EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM ENGLAND  
NOW: INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED HAIR DESIGNER (BAGGED ETON SCHOLARSHIP)

**LANCE BRACKEN** -- THEN: CLASS STUD AND CON ARTIST  
NOW: PRIEST (EXCESSIVE GUILT FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH HIM)

**JANICE (BLACK) WHITE** -- THEN: RESIDENT RADICAL AND FREE SPIRIT – INTO DRUGS, BOYS, AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE NOW: HOST OF A VERY MILD CHILDREN’S PROGRAM (CRISP AROUND THE EDGES)

**OCCASION** – 20-YEAR REUNION FOR THE SENIOR CLASS OF SUNNYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

**HAIL TO THEE, DEAR ALMA MURDER** *A CHAMELEON’S MURDER MYSTERY* by Jim Christian

**Characters: 4m 4w Synopsis:** A high school reunion proves to be filled with dirty deeds and shameful skeletons as past indiscretions provide the clues as to which of the characters killed the principal on graduation night many years ago. **(ORDER #3087)**

## 1 - COCKTAILS

*(WE SEE LaDEANE FELLOWS, ORGANIZER OF THE REUNION, BRACING HERSELF TO BEGIN BY TAKING A VALIUM WITH A GLASS OF WATER. SHE THEN QUIETS EVERYONE DOWN AND STARTS THE EVENING'S PROCEEDINGS.)*

## 2 - AFTER COCKTAILS

**LaDEANE:** THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

*(WITH A SUDDEN SHRIEK)*

THANK YOU!

*(EVERYONE STARES AT THE OUTBURST – SHE SMILES AND SMOOTHS HER HAIRDO)*

I WANT TO WELCOME EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU OUT TO THE 20-YEAR CLASS REUNION FOR SUNNYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL.

*(LEADS APPLAUSE)*

WON'T YOU ALL JOIN ME IN SINGING OUR "ALMA MATER?" JANICE?

**JANICE:** *(STEPPING UP TO CONDUCT)* ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY. LET'S USE OUR BEST VOICES.

*(ALL SING TO THE TUNE OF "AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL.")*

“OH, SUNNYSIDE, WE CANNOT HIDE  
THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR YOU  
WE'RE FORTIFIED AND STAND BESIDE  
THE GOLDENROD AND BLUE!

OH, SUNNYSIDE – OH SUNNYSIDE –  
SUCCESS IS ON THE WAY!  
WE'LL BE THE BEST  
AND PASS THE TEST  
THOUGH WE MAY FAIL TODAY.”

**LaDEANE:** THANK YOU, JANICE. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MAY NOT REMEMBER ME, I'M LaDEANE FELLOWS, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE FUTURE HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA.

*(WAITS FOR APPLAUSE)*

TONIGHT'S PARTY IS BEING HOSTED BY MEMBERS OF THE 19\_\_ [YEAR] SUNNYSIDE STUDENT COUNCIL. SO TO START THINGS OFF WITH A BIG BANG, HERE ARE HEAD CHEERLEADER KELLY KNUDSON AND SKIPPY, THE SUNNYSIDE SNOWMAN.

**KELLY:** *(WEARING A VERY "LET OUT" CHEERLEADER UNIFORM, SHE ENTERS WITH A MUCH DEGENERATED CHEERLEADER MOVE AND SKIPPY, THE SCHOOL MASCOT)* GO-O-O-O-O-O-O,

SNOWMEN!!!

*(SHE JUMPS AND SKIPPY SPINS AND FLAILS)*

OKAY! I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW TERRIFIC IT IS TO BE BACK HERE WITH ALL OF YOU. IT'S JUST LIKE WE NEVER LEFT. I MEAN, WE HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT, REALLY.

*(SKIPPY TUGS ON HER SKIRT)*

OKAY. BY REQUEST, SKIPPY AND I ARE GOING TO DO ONE OF THE OLD SUNNYSIDE CHEERS, SO WE NEED ALL OF YOU TO HELP, OKAY?

“READY – OKAY.

WE ARE THE SNOWMEN OF SUNNYSIDE HIGH –  
GONNA JAB AN ICICLE IN YOUR EYE.

WITH SNOW AND SLUSH AND SLEET AND HAIL  
WE'RE GONNA MAKE YOU FREEZE YOUR TAIL!!!

*(SHE AND SKIPPY FLAIL SOME MORE)*

OKAY! YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST!

**LaDEANE:** *(RETURNS APPLAUDING)* AND OF COURSE YOU ALL REMEMBER OUR FAITHFUL SCHOOL MASCOT – CORKY REZAC.

**CORKY:** *(HE REMOVES THE SNOWMAN HEAD AND HE IS WEARING ANOTHER RUBBER MASK UNDERNEATH)* HI, EVERYBODY!

**LaDEANE:** *(TO THE CROWD, WITH FORCED PATIENCE)* SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE.

**CORKY:** *(REMOVING THE RUBBER MASK)* AW, GET THE BURR OUT OF YOUR BLOOMERS, LaDEANE. HEY, HOW Y'ALL DOIN'? I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE REST OF YOU,  
*(SUDDENLY WACKY)*

BUT I'M LOOKIN' TO TEAR THIS PLACE UP TONIGHT! YEAH!

**LaDEANE:** THANK YOU, CORTLAND.

**CORKY:** HEY, IT'S “CORKY”.

**LaDEANE:** WHATEVER. NOW, IT HAS TAKEN A LOT OF LONG HOURS TO TRACK DOWN THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 19\_\_ [YEAR], BUT THANKS TO MY EXPERIENCE AS HEAD STUDENT ASSISTANT IN THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE, WE WERE ABLE TO SEND OUT INVITATIONS TO EVERY LAST MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CLASS.

*(STARTS APPLAUSE AGAIN)*

NOW, HERE WITH AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT IS ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL, OUR ALL-STATE REPRESENTATIVE FROM ATHLETICS, RHINO BLAKE.

**RHINO:** *(WALKS UP WITH AN ATTITUDE OF “BIG DEAL,” HE READS THE FOLLOWING)* “ALL MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY...

*(HE SNEERS AND ROLLS HIS EYES)*

...WILL MEET AT NINE O'CLOCK IN THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE FOR A DISCUSSION OF THE CURRENT STATE OF WORLD ECONOMICS.” WHOSE CRAPPY IDEA WAS THAT?

**PORTIA:** (*SPEAKING FROM THE CROWD*) MINE!

**RHINO:** FIGURES.

(*MOCKING*)

SO, EVERYONE FROM THE "GEEK PATROL" SHOULD MEET AT NINE O'CLOCK TO BORE EACH OTHER TO DEATH.

(*MAKE A RUDE NOISE AND STEPS DOWN*)

**PORTIA:** WELL, LaDEANE, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU GAVE MR. BLAKE AND I THE WRONG ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAKE.

**LaDEANE:** (*FORCING PATIENCE*) THANK YOU, PORTIA, I'M SURE YOU ALL REMEMBER PORTIA BLEAZARD, ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL.

**PORTIA:** LaDEANE, DON'T BE CONDESCENDING. YOU DON'T HANDLE IT WELL AND IT ONLY MAKES YOU LOOK BAD.

(*TO THE CROWD*)

AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO STILL REMEMBER ME AS THE 12 YEAR-OLD WHO GRADUATED AT THE TOP OF YOUR CLASS, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT WE ARE NOW PROPORTIONATELY MUCH CLOSER IN AGE AND I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TREATING ME AS A PEER RATHER THAN A "STUPID PET TRICK." THANK YOU.

(*SHE STEPS DOWN*)

**LaDEANE:** WHAT ABOUT YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT?

**PORTIA:** (*DRYLY*) "MEMBERS OF THE FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, BASEBALL, TRACK, SWIM, AND WRESTLING TEAMS WILL MEET AT NINE O'CLOCK IN THE BOYS' LOCKER ROOM TO SWAP PHOTOS AND STORIES ABOUT KELLY KNUDSON."

**KELLY:** YOU GUYS!

**LaDEANE:** (*COVERING*) OUR NEXT COUNCIL MEMBER WINS THE "I CAME THE FARTHEST TO BE HERE TONIGHT" AWARD. I'M DELIGHTED HE'S BACK WITH US THIS EVENING. SUNNYSIDE HIGH'S 19\_\_ [YEAR] FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM LONDON, ENGLAND...GEOFFREY PRESTON.

**GEOFFREY:** (*AT THE MIKE*) THANKS, LOVE. I'D FORGOTTEN WHAT A DUNGEON THIS PLACE WAS. BUT, I'LL NEVER FORGET YOUR WARM HOSPITALITY AND SADISTIC CLUB INITIATIONS. NOT TO MENTION THOSE QUICK TRIPS TO VEGAS, EH CORKY?

(*HE PECKS LaDEANE ON THE CHEEK WHO GIGGLES NERVOUSLY*)

CHEERS.

**LaDEANE:** ISN'T HE JUST GROOVY?

(*SHUDDERS WITH DELIGHT*)

AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF GROOVY, I'M SURE THE REST OF YOU GIRLS ARE LIKE ME AND COULD NEVER FORGET THIS NEXT MAN. HE WAS ELECTED HELLO DAY KING, WHITE CHRISTMAS BALL SNOW PRINCE, AND GIRLS' CHOICE DANCE DREAMBOAT...I'M

THRILLED TO INTRODUCE – FATHER LANCE BRACKEN.

**LANCE:** (*STEPPING FORWARD*) THANK YOU, LaDEANE. IT REALLY IS...

**GEOFFREY:** “FATHER?”

**KELLY:** LOOK...IT’S “STUDMUFFINS!”

**RHINO:** HEY , “HOT ROD!”

**LANCE:** HELLO, UH...

**CORKY:** HOW’S IT GOIN’ – “STALLION THIGHS?”

**LANCE:** PLEASE – NOW, I KNOW THAT IN HIGH SCHOOL I HAD A BIT OF A REPUTATION...

**GEOFFREY:** AND WELL-DESERVED!

**LANCE:** ...A REPUTATION FOR MY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES...

**CORKY:** OR “ANTI-SOCIAL”...

**LANCE:** ...BUT A LOT HAS CHANGED...

**KELLY:** DARN!

**LANCE:** ...FOR THE BETTER.

**KELLY:** YAY!

**LANCE:** ...MEANING THAT I HAVE FOUND A MORE PRODUCTIVE ROAD IN LIFE.

**KELLY:** THAT’S A MATTER OF OPINION!

**RHINO:** (*LEWDLY*) CAN I HAVE YOUR LITTLE BLACK BOOK?

**LANCE:** WELL, I RELY ON A DIFFERENT BLACK BOOK NOW.

**LaDEANE:** (*COMING TO HIS RESCUE*) PRECISELY, AND FATHER BRACKEN WILL BE IN CHARGE OF A SPECIAL FUND RAISING PROJECT WHICH THE ALUMNI BOARD WILL BE SPONSORING. ASSISTING HIM IN THIS EFFORT WILL BE JANICE WHITE...

(*LaDEANE PRESENTS JANICE WHO STARTS FORWARD*)

**CORKY:** WHO?

**LaDEANE:** EXCUSE ME. I MEAN TO SAY “JANICE BLACK” –

**KELLY:** THAT’S JANICE BLACK?

**RHINO:** THE POTHEAD?

**CORKY:** THE RADICAL?

**JANICE:** (*SWEETLY*) THAT’S ME. YOU SEE, FATHER BRACKEN ISN’T THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS UNDERGONE A LITTLE CHANGE OF LIFE.

**PORTIA:** I GUESS.

**JANICE:** I'LL ADMIT, I HAD MY "CREATIVE" YEARS BACK THEN – DRUGS, REBELLION, A FEW ARRESTS – BUT THAT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER NOW, DOES IT?

**LaDEANE:** OF COURSE NOT, DEAR.

**JANICE:** SEE? IT'S JUST LIKE MR. HALLORAN USED TO SAY IN HIS COUNSELING SESSIONS –  
*(DURING THE FOLLOWING LINE, OTHERS PICK UP ITS THREAD AND REPEAT IT VERBATIM)*

"YOU JERKS ARE HUMAN GARBAGE AND I'D BE BETTER OFF KILLING YOU NOW THAN LETTING YOU SCREW UP YOUR LIVES ANY MORE." WELL...I TOOK THAT ADVICE AND REALLY SET OUT TO MAKE SOMETHING OF MYSELF. THAT'S WHY FATHER BRACKEN AND I ARE RAISING MONEY TO BUILD A MEMORIAL TO OUR MENTOR AND GUIDING STAR – MR. LESTER HALLORAN – ON THIS, THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS UNTIMELY DEATH.

**LaDEANE:** AS MOST OF YOU WILL RECALL, MR. HALLORAN WAS THE VICTIM OF A HIT-AND-RUN ACCIDENT ON GRADUATION NIGHT BACK IN 19\_\_ [YEAR]. IN FACT, IT WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE IF WE WERE TO OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE AT THIS TIME ON HIS BEHALF. FATHER?

**LANCE:** OF COURSE. FELLOW STUDENTS...WON'T YOU JOIN ME?  
*(HE BOWS HIS HEAD)*

**RHINO:** *(BELCHES INTENTIONALLY)* OOPS.  
*(THEY RESUME)*

**KELLY:** *(YAWNS)* SORRY.

*(THEY RESUME. CORKY BEGINS WHISTLING OR HUMMING "CLOSE TO YOU")*

**LaDEANE:** MR. REZAC!

**CORKY:** *(WITH MOCK SERIOUSNESS)* IT WAS HIS FAVORITE SONG.

**LANCE:** LOOK, I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH.

**PORTIA:** I'LL SAY.

**LaDEANE:** FINE. SINCE WE DON'T SEEM TO BE CAPABLE OF A MOMENT OF DIGNITY, I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD JUST MOVE ON. NOW, I KNOW A LOT OF YOU ARE EAGER TO START CATCHING UP ON OLD TIMES, SO TO START THE BALL ROLLING, I THOUGHT THAT EACH OF US COUNCIL MEMBERS MIGHT TELL WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING FOR THE LAST TWO DECADES. NOW, I'LL GO FIRST. RIGHT AFTER GRADUATION, I GOT MARRIED TO ROGER DEAN...

**CORKY:** LaDEANE DEAN?  
*(HE LAUGHS)*

LaDEANE DEAN?  
*(TO THE TUNE OF DUELING BANJOS)*



LaDEANE DEAN-DEAN-DEAN-DEAN-DEAN...

**LaDEANE:** VERY FUNNY. HA-HA. THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD THAT...TODAY. ANYWAY, ROGER AND I HAVE ELEVEN BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN AND I AM VERY INVOLVED IN CHURCH, CIVIC, AND VOLUNTEER WORK.

**RHINO:** WHERE IS OLD ROGER?

**LaDEANE:** HE'S AT HOME.

**PORTIA:** YES, I'D IMAGINE IT'S RATHER DIFFICULT GETTING A BABYSITTER FOR "OVER-POPULATION CENTRAL."

**LaDEANE:** AS A MATTER OF FACT, HE'S WATCHING A SPECIAL PROGRAM ON TELEVISION THIS EVENING.

**CORKY:** HEY, THAT'S RIGHT! WE'RE MISSING THE "CHARLIE'S ANGELS" RETROSPECTIVE.

**LaDEANE:** *(HE HAS OBVIOUSLY HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD AND SHE SHOOTS HIM A "SO WHAT" LOOK)* WELL, MR. REZAC – WHY DON'T YOU TELL US ABOUT ALL OF YOUR LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS?

*(SHE REACHES INTO HER PURSE AND SLIPS ANOTHER VALIUM INTO HER MOUTH.)*

**CORKY:** SURE.

*(GOING INTO REMINISCENCE MODE)*

YOU KNOW, MY YEARS SPENT INSIDE SKIPPY THE SNOWMAN GAVE ME A REAL TASTE FOR PERFORMANCE AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, SO I'VE PURSUED A CAREER AS A PROMOTIONAL SPOKESMODEL.

**GEOFFREY:** YOU? A MODEL?

**CORKY:** YOU BET. WELL, TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, IT WAS SLOW GOING AT FIRST. AN OCCASIONAL GIG AT THE STATE FAIR OR A MALL OPENING, BUT THEN MY BIG CHANCE CAME – MY FIRST "RONALD McDONALD." WELL, WE'RE TALKING "BREAKTHROUGH CITY" HERE. AFTER THAT, I WAS WORKING ALL THE TIME..." SMOKEY THE BEAR," "CHARLIE THE TUNA," AND YOU SHOULD SEE MY "ELSIE, THE BORDEN COW."

**LaDEANE:** FASCINATING. KELLY?

**KELLY:** OH, ME? OKAY.

*(SHE STEPS UP)*

WELL, AFTER GRADUATION, I GOT MARRIED AND WORKED AS A COCKTAIL WAITRESS, BUT THEN I GOT DIVORCED AND MARRIED A DIFFERENT GUY, BUT THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT EITHER, SO I KEPT WORKING AS A COCKTAIL WAITRESS AND GOT MARRIED AGAIN SOME MORE.

**RHINO:** HOW MANY TIMES?

**KELLY:** SIX. I FINALLY SETTLED DOWN IN RENO BECAUSE I WAS SPENDING SO MUCH TIME

THERE ALREADY AND IT REALLY SAVES ON GAS MONEY DIVORCE-WISE. AND...THAT'S ABOUT IT. NEXT?

**LANCE:** I GUESS I'LL GET THIS OVER WITH. AS YOU CAN TELL, I JOINED THE SEMINARY RIGHT AFTER HIGH SCHOOL AND HAVE FOUND GREAT SATISFACTION IN MY CHOSEN CALLING.

**RHINO:** HEY, LANCE...ER, SORRY...POPS...DON'T YOU EVER MISS IT?

**LANCE:** WHAT?

**RHINO:** IT.

**LANCE:** UH...

**RHINO:** (*SUGGESTIVELY*) YOU KNOW...IT!

(*LANCE IS AT A LOSS*)

I MEAN YOU AND "IT" USED TO HAVE SUCH A STEADY..."RELATIONSHIP"...IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

**JANICE:** I REMEMBER WHAT YOU MEAN.

(*LANCE LOOKS AT HER DESPERATELY*)

THERE WAS THAT NIGHT IN MR. HALLORAN'S OFFICE WHEN YOU AND I WERE...

**LANCE:** JANICE! WHY DON'T YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT SITUATION?

**JANICE:** OH, THAT WOULD BE NICE. HELLO, BOYS AND GIRLS. I'M MISS JANICE. TODAY WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT...ME...AND A SPECIAL TELEVISION PROGRAM CALLED "TICKLE-PICKLE COTTAGE." AS THE HOSTESS OF "TICKLE-PICKLE COTTAGE," I TAKE CHILDREN ON A MAGICAL ADVENTURE OF MUSIC, STORIES, AND DO-AT-HOME CRAFTS SURE TO PLEASE AND DELIGHT ALL AGES. ALONG WITH MY FRIENDS MR. PUFFWEASEL AND BLINKY, THE TALKING RADIATOR, WE ENTER A WORLD OF SECRETS AND SURPRISES.

**PORTIA:** (*INCREDULOUSLY*) ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE JANICE BLACK?

**JANICE:** NOT REALLY. I'M JANICE WHITE NOW. THE STATION THOUGHT IT SOUNDED LESS THREATENING. AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

**PORTIA:** DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

**JANICE:** NOPE.

**PORTIA:** I'M PORTIA BLEAZARD.

**JANICE:** HELLO, PORTIA. AND WHAT DO YOU DO?

**PORTIA:** I'M A RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR JERRY SPRINGER.

**CORKY:** REALLY?

**PORTIA:** YES. AFTER BEING FIRED BY U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT FOR HAVING AN

INFLAMMATORY WRITING STYLE, I BASICALLY SOLD OUT TO THE WORLD OF TABLOID TELEVISION FOR A BIG, FAT PAYCHECK.

**LaDEANE:** I THINK WE'RE GETTING BOGGED DOWN HERE. JEFF?

**GEOFFREY:** PLEASE – CALL ME GEOFFREY. LET'S MAKE THIS BRIEF...NOW, WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT I HAVE BECOME AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED HAIR DESIGNER FOR THE RICH AND FAMOUS, I DOUBT IF ANYONE HERE COULD AFFORD ME, SO PLEASE DON'T ASK. BUT OCCASIONALLY I DO FIND AN INTRIGUING CHALLENGE AND TAKE THEM ON AS A CHARITY CASE, SO WHO KNOWS?

*(TO LaDEANE)*

THERE MAY BE HOPE FOR SOME OF YOU.

**LaDEANE:** (NOW SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT HER HAIR) WELL.

*(FIDGETY)*

THAT LEAVES YOU, RHINO.

*(SHE TAKES THE VALIUM BOTTLE OUT OF HER PURSE AND GULPS A FEW MORE)*

**RHINO:** YEAH. SO ANYWAY, MY HERNIA SCREWED ME OUT OF MY PRO CONTRACTS SO I THOUGHT MAYBE I COULD GET A JOB AS A BODYGUARD, BUT MY PARENTS WANTED ME TO HAVE A REAL CAREER SO THEY PAID FOR ME TO TRAIN WITH THE C.I.A., BUT I DIDN'T DO SO GREAT – SO I'M BACK TO MY ORIGINAL CHOICE. AND I'M WORKING AS A BODYGUARD...FOR THE BUSH TWINS (OR APPROPRIATE INEPT POLITICAL FIGURE).

**PORTIA:** SO YOU'RE SECRET SERVICE?

**RHINO:** NOT EXACTLY.

**PORTIA:** BUT DON'T THE TWINS HAVE SECRET SERVICE GUARDS?

**RHINO:** NOT EXACTLY.

**CORKY:** REALLY?

**RHINO:** LOOK, THEY'VE DONE SECURITY STUDIES AND, WITH BUDGET CUTS AND ALL, THEY JUST DON'T SEE THEM AS BEING WORTH THE EXTRA COST. AFTER ALL, WHAT REAL DIFFERENCE WOULD IT MAKE IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO THEM?

**PORTIA:** SO WHO'S WATCHING THEM TONIGHT?

**RHINO:** UH...SOME GUY NAMED...UHM...

**PORTIA:** YOU DON'T REMEMBER?

**RHINO:** LOOK, I JUST HIRED HIM TO TAKE MY SHIFT FOR ONE NIGHT.

*(SUDDENLY)*

I GOT IT...LEFTY .

**PORTIA:** LISTEN, MR. BLAKE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER MAKING AN APPEARANCE ON JERRY TO DISCUSS YOUR WORK?

**RHINO:** WELL, I DON'T KNOW...

**PORTIA:** IT PAYS.

**RHINO:** YOU GOT IT.

**PORTIA:** GREAT, AND MR. PRESTON, WE'RE DOING A SERIES SOON ABOUT "V.I.P VANITY" AND I WONDERED IF WE COULD BOOK YOU ONTO THE PANEL.

**GEOFFREY:** *(PRODUCING A CARD FOR HER)* HERE. CALL MY MANAGEMENT. SEE IF THEY CAN WORK IT OUT.

**PORTIA:** THANK YOU.

*(TURNING TO EACH OF THE OTHERS)*

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK I CAN SEE AT LEAST A WEEK'S WORTH OF PROGRAMS HERE--

*(TO LANCE)*

"FROM STUD TO CELIBATE" --

*(TO KELLY)*

"DIVORCE FACTORY ADDICT" --

*(TO JANICE)*

"CHILDREN'S TELEVISION HALLUCINATORY MIND CANDY" --

*(TO LaDEANE)*

"SUBURBAN BABY MACHINES" --

*(TO CORKY)*

"TRANVESTITE FARM ANIMALS."

**CORKY:** NOW HOLD ON...

**PORTIA:** OH, COME ON. THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW AND OPRAH WIPED OUR NOSES IN THE LAST SWEEPS.

**LaDEANE:** *(GETTING WOOZY FROM THE VALIUM)* CERTAINLY NOT. OUR PRIVATE LIVES ARE NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

**PORTIA:** DON'T YOU EVER WATCH THE SHOW?

**LaDEANE:** ALL THE TIME...

**JANICE:** ME, TOO.

**KELLY:** AMEN.

**LaDEANE:** BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT! ANY ONE OF US HAS THE RIGHT TO MAKE WHATEVER CHOICES WE WANT IN OUR LIVES AND NOT BE JUDGED FOR IT.

*(RAMBLING MORE AND MORE)*

NOW I MAY NOT APPROVE OF QUICKY DIVORCE OR DRUGS OR MURDER OR KINKY STUFF...

**GEOFFREY:** MURDER?

**PORTIA:** WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT MURDER?

**LaDEANE:** (*HORRIFIED, FIGHTING THE VALIUM*) I...I...I DIDN'T SAY "MURDER" – I SAID – I SAID "BURGER" – LET THE PEOPLE EAT WHAT THEY WANT!

**PORTIA:** WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT "MURDER?"

**LaDEANE:** NOTHING! I SAID "BURGER!" BURGER! HAMBURGER! CHILIBURGER!

**RHINO:** (*TRYING TO CALM HER*) SHUT UP!

**LaDEANE:** CHEESEBURGER! TACO BURGER! CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN BERGER!!!

**RHINO:** (*SHAKING HER*) WOULDJA STOP HOLLERIN'?

**LaDEANE:** HALLORAN?!!! I DIDN'T SAY "HALLORAN!"

**PORTIA:** WHAT ABOUT HALLORAN?

**CORKY:** WAS HALLORAN MURDERED?

**LaDEANE:** NO! NO!

**KELLY:** DO YOU KNOW WHO KILLED HALLORAN?

**LANCE:** THAT'S ENOUGH! CAN'T YOU SEE SHE'S HYSTERICAL?

**JANICE:** (*CALMLY*) DRUGS WILL DO THAT TO YOU.

**GEOFFREY:** HERE. LET ME LOOK AT HER. I SEE THIS ALL THE TIME.

**PORTIA:** REALLY?

**GEOFFREY:** YES. VALIUM AND PERMANENT WAVE SOLUTION CAN BE A DEADLY MIX. HAPPENS EVERY WEEK.

**CORKY:** TO YOU?

**GEOFFREY:** TO MY CLIENTS.  
(*CALMING HER*)

THERE, NOW, LaDEANE...EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.

**LaDEANE:** BUT...

**GEOFFREY:** SHH-SHH-SHH. UNCLE GEOFFREY'S HERE NOW. YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE.

**LANCE:** WHAT CAN WE DO?

**GEOFFREY:** SHE NEEDS SOMETHING TO DILUTE THE VALIUM...WATER...FOOD...

**ALL:** RIGHT!

(*RHINO, PORTIA, CORKY, LANCE, AND KELLY RUSH TO GET FOOD*)

**JANICE:** (TO GEOFFREY) LET ME HELP YOU WITH HER.

*(THEY BEGIN TO LEAD LaDEANE TO THE TABLE)*

**KELLY:** (STOPPING SHORT AND RETURNING) JEEZE, WHAT AM I THINKING? LaDEANE WOULD HAVE A HISSY FIT IF SHE ENDED UP EATING FIRST, SO WHY DON'T YOU ALL HELP YOURSELVES TO THE GOODIES AND WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HER.

*(AN ATTEMPT AT LIGHTENING THE MOOD)*

GO, SNOWMEN!

*(KNOWING IT'S HOPELESS)*

WHAT A BUMMER...

*(THEY ALL BUSY THEMSELVES TAKING CARE OF LaDEANE)*

## **2 - DINNER**

## **3 - AFTER DINNER**

## **4 - RAMBLES**

## **5 - RESOLUTION**

## **6 - CURTAIN CALL**

## **7 -- ANNOUNCEMENT OF MASTER SLEUTH**

**12 further pages make up this script**

## MASTER DETECTIVE SECRETS

SECRETS	CORKY	LaDEANE	GEOFFREY	KELLY	LANCE	JANICE	RHINO
<b>CORKY</b>	WAS HIT BY HALLORAN FOR PUTTING LAXATIVES IN FACULTY COFFEE	VANDALIZED HER HOME AFTER HIS SUSPENSION	GAVE HIM RIDES TO LAS VEGAS FOR WILD WEEKENDS	TAPED A MAKEOUT SESSION AND PLAYED IT ON THE SCHOOL P. A.	STOLE HIS UNDERWEAR DURING GYM AND SOLD IT TO PEP CLUB	REGISTERED HER AS A YOUNG REPUBLICAN	SMEARED HIS SUPPORTER WITH BEN GAY AT STATE TOURNEY
<b>LaDEANE</b>	TURNED HIM IN FOR HIS MASKED MOONING AND STREAKING	KNOWS THE IDENTITY OF THE KILLER OF MR. HALLORAN	BLACKMAILED FOR DATES OVER DRUG INCIDENT IN RESTROOM	SQUEALED TO HER PARENTS ABOUT EXAM RING – THEY OUSTED HER	GAVE ACCESS TO RECORDS – WITH HIM GRADUATION NIGHT	GOT HER SUSPENDED FOR USING DRUGS	BOUGHT PROTECTION FROM HIM
<b>GEOFFREY</b>	USED TO DISGUISE HIM AND SNEAK INTO BARS IN LAS VEGAS	TOOK HER TO HOMECOMING ALTHOUGH HE COULDN'T STAND HER	TOOK SAT TEST IN LANCE'S PLACE	USED TO CUT HER HAIR	USED TO CUT HER HAIR	INTRODUCED HER TO DESIGN DRUGS	HELPED HIM SHAVE HIS BODY FOR SWIM MEETS
<b>KELLY</b>	USED TO GET THE BUS DRIVER TO DITCH HIM AT AWAY GAMES	RIDICULED HER IN H.S. AND ENVIES HER LIFE AS HOMEMAKER	LINED HIM UP WITH THE HOTTEST CHICKS IN SCHOOL	HAD BEEN HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH HALLORAN	PROVIDED HIM WITH EXAMS BEFORE THEY WERE GIVEN	USED TO STEAL AND SELL EXAMS TOGETHER	BROKE OFF ENGAGEMENT WHEN HE WAS "BENCHED" BY HERNIA
<b>LANCE</b>	CORKY'S DATES ENDED UP GOING HOME WITH HIM - ALWAYS	GOT HER PREGNANT ON THE NIGHT OF GRADUATION	LINED HIM UP WITH THE HOTTEST CHICKS IN SCHOOL	DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A CHEERLEADER TO GO ON A RETREAT	KILLED MR. HALLORAN WHEN HE THREATENED HIS DIPLOMA	FOUND GRADE MEMO THE NIGHT THEY SPENT IN HALLORAN'S	TRIED TO GET RHINO TO BEAT UP HALLORAN
<b>JANICE</b>	SLIPPED HIM AN UPPER BEFORE A GAME & HE JOINED IN	GAVE BOYS PICTURES OF HER FROM THE GIRLS' SHOWERS	USED TO SMOKE POT WITH HIM IN GIRLS' RESTROOM	USED TO STEAL AND SELL EXAMS TOGETHER	ONCE SPENT THE NIGHT WITH HIM IN HALLORAN'S OFFICE	DRUGS HAVE BURNED OUT CERTAIN PORTIONS OF HER BRAIN	GOT HIM TO VIOLATE DRESS CODE EVERY DAY FOR A MONTH
<b>RHINO</b>	BEAT CORKY UP FOR LOOKING AT HIM FUNNY	USED TO WALK HER HOME FROM SCHOOL FOR MONEY	TOLD PEOPLE HE WAS TUTORING HIM IN ENGLISH	PROPOSED TO HER & STILL CARRIES A TORCH	NEVER LIKED HIM BECAUSE OF HIS "SUCCESS" WITH KELLY	GOT PRE-GAME DRUGS FROM HER – LED TO HERNIA	BEAT UP HALLORAN AFTER SEEING HIM WITH KELLY