

AUDITION MONOLOGUES All those who are auditioning will read 3 monologues.

EVERYONE must read

DR EMMETT: Jeffrey sees only what he wants to see—an excuse for not facing the future. Does Florence see that her child was taken from her? Does Fairy see what the mirror should tell her? No. They've found refuge in an egg-shell world where you don't belong. For you see yourself clearly, I'm sure. You belong in the world you can best serve. The impulse to live your life with courage was right. Go ahead with your Memorial. And don't be betrayed by the illusion of contentment. The door is open for you. Make your peace with loneliness.

EVERYONE must read TITUS/LILY BELLE/SAMUEL: She planned on using this Memorial fund to give away the entire Savage estate. The newspapers called it her happiness fund. She's always given money to foolish causes. There was an Italian farmer who wanted a box of soil from Italy. Just dirt! Mother spent two hundred dollars to get it for her. And there was a flower peddler who asked for a tombstone for his horse. He got it. After Father died, this obsession got progressively worse. Last summer she chartered a ship to send a thousand children around the world. She said they ought to go around the world while there was still a world around.

Everyone must pick one additional monologue from below:

HANNIBAL: Fairy knows that I used to be a statistician. My last position was with the government, charting trends. I was supposed to keep my finger on the pulse of the public and my ear to the ground. It was a very vulnerable position. I was fired and replaced by an electronic calculator. I don't hate electricity like Mrs. Paddy—but I did want to make money with my brains. So, I spent the next two years trying to think of something that could be made for a dime—sold for a dollar—and was habit-forming. I'm afraid my education was wasted.

JEFF: Can you keep a secret? Dr. Emmett is not a doctor at all. He's a patient -- just like Ms. Paddy. For five years now he's promised to give me a new face. Do you believe a man is what he claims to be? It's best to believe the worst of people. If you believe the worst, then the worst is only half bad at best. And the best is no worst than expected. So it's best to believe the worst. It's simple. When a man says he is wise, you say he is a fool. But if he's a fool, you believe him. Dr. Emmett is a fool. He claims he's a doctor. The war was over five years ago – and where's his miracle?

MRS. SAVAGE: Oh, I've never had a better time in my life. The Times said my play set the theatre back fifty years. It couldn't possibly— because I stole the plot from "Madame X," and that's only forty years old. But the Wall Street Journal was wonderful. It said I brought something new to the theatre. It said I had a "tenacious mediocrity unhampered by taste." It was perfect. In our ads we simply said "Tenacious" and "Unhampered." We'd have been running yet if my daughter hadn't come home and stopped me. Oh, I know I was bad and audiences only came to laugh at me. But we both had a good time. What more can you ask? I do miss it. Oh, well. My turn is coming.

FAIRY MAY: I'm sorry, Florence. I was watching the fireflies. What did you say? I wish I'd been born a cat so I could see in the dark. I wonder what she's like? Miss Willie says they are one of the wealthiest families in America. Please don't play gypsy music, Hannibal it frightens me. Terrifies me. I was stolen by gypsies when I was a child and rescued just as they were about to dye my skin with walnut juice. Well, I was. I hope she likes music. Maybe she plays some instrument herself. The harp! Oh - I hope she plays the harp! I was raised on a harp. My father (raises hands harpist-fashion) like an angel!

MISS WILLIE: I have something to give you too. It's your bonds. Except for the corner of one that I had to burn with the newspapers to look convincing. I stole them when the lights went out. What bothers me is that after I took them, I toyed with the idea of keeping them. But I stopped because of what Jeff might think. But, you knew Jeff was my husband, didn't you? Well, he is. I want to be here when he recovers. And do you know why I wouldn't keep any of that money? Pure selfishness. I want to do everything for him myself. Surely you understand that?

FLORENCE: Oh, Fairy, don't peek. It's so degrading to get on your knees. This is the last time I'm going to be a party to peeking, Fairy. Kneeling simply ruins my nylons. Perhaps we should introduce ourselves. You must be Mrs. Savage. I'm Florence Williams. We've been expecting you all afternoon. We're so glad to have you with us. May I introduce Fairy May? And this is Hannibal. And this is our Mrs. Paddy. And, well he was here a few moments ago. John Thomas! John Thomas! Oh, look! Asleep on the floor. My husband warned me I'd be a bad mother. Mrs. Savage, this is my son.

MonoMRS. PADDY: I hate everything in the world, but most of all I hate cold cream, hot dogs, codfish, crawfish, catnip, sheepdip, sawdust, subways, skewers, buttermilk, caterpillars, frictions, fractions, pins, puns, pens, policemen, and electricity.