

BORN YESTERDAY, by Garson Kanin

(SEE Theatre World, Vol. IV)

This play was originally produced in 1946, and the costumes were contemporary of that day. However, there is no particular reason why the action cannot be the present.

SCENE: WASHINGTON, D.C.

N.B. All the hotel help should be in the same color scheme and insignia on their breast or sleeve to designate the hotel coat of arms. The styles of the hotel help will, of course, change according to their work.

ACT I - the Sitting Room of a magnificent suite in the best hotel in
Washington, D.C. Early evening

HELEN: Hotel maid

PAUL VERRALL, a newspaperman in his middle 30's, on the Washington staff
of the New Reporter: Good looking suit and hat

3 or 4 BELLHOPS: All exactly the same

EDDIE BROCK, Harry's brother: Good looking suit and hat, and topcoat

HARRY BROCK (lead) (a) Flashy suit, but not the gangster type, felt hat
with wide prim. Suit can be double breasted, typical camel hair
wrap around Polo coat with belt
(b) Change to handsome double-breasted suit, possibly in blue
with small stripe

BILLIE DAWN (leading Lady) Beautiful, young and dumb.
(a) Ultra smart, rather sexy fitted afternoon dress, mink coat
(b) in contrast, changes to very dignified long-sleeved
afternoon dress for the meeting with the Senator & wife.
(c) Resplendent lacy décolletage negligee

ASSISTANT MANAGER Morning suit with striped trousers, etc.

ED DEVERY Early 40's, ex-secretary to a Judge: Good looking business
suit, hat.

BARBER: Hotel color scheme uniform. Can be basically white or off-white
with the contrasting trim and the insignia.

MANICURIST: Uniform can match the balance of the hotel help

BOOTBLACK: Overdone in a Bellhop type of uniform

EDDIE, Bar boy in the apartment - same idea as Bootblack

SENATOR NORVAL HEDGES, about 60, distinguished: Good looking blue double
breasted or single breasted suit, homburg and carries topcoat

MRS. HEDGES, about 55, typical distinguished looking Senator's wife
Smartly dressed with hat and furs.

ACT II - Same scene, two months later, Early evening

BILLIE A pair of tightly fitted black slacks, or can be a brilliant color, handsome blouse, house coat, eye glasses.

EDDIE Change of suit and tie

PAUL Change of suit and tie

HARRY Change of suit - light color, and hat

HELEN Repeat

ACT III - Same scene, later that evening About 2 A.M.

BILLIE Another ensemble or dress with furs, as she is leaving.
Or she might repeat her Act I costume

HARRY Pajama and dressing gown.