

COSTUME PLOT - THE GOODBYE GIRL

Note: This plot is based upon the 1998 national tour of this show starring Eddie Mekka of "Laverne & Shirley" television show fame. The dance numbers and specialty costumes allow for substitution and variety as based on the director's choice. This outline is merely a suggestion.

Specialty Costumes: Paula & 2 chorus girls: (each) "Sweets, Fats & Fries" costumes -
The music in this number suggests slinky & sexy, so this production featured the girls in one piece, hologram leotards as showgirls, each with a giant "headpiece": one of a cheeseburger, one of a heavily decorated cupcake and one of a packet of french fries. Also, they each had a banner proclaiming "Sweets" "Fats" or "Fries" a la the Miss America pageant.

Elliott as Richard III - The script calls for "a man playing a woman playing a man". The more outrageous this costume can be (within the limits of comfort and fast change for the actor), the better. This production featured the actor in a pageboy wig, one piece silver and pink quilted lame doublet w/skirt (a la Henry VIII), codpiece optional, fake "breasts" built into doublet, heavy with glitzy trim & rhinestones, rhinestone tiara, foppish, bow trimmed shoes, black cape with hot pink lining and polio crutches. At any rate, this costume should scream "overdone" drag queen in period costume.

"Jump" Number - This is an industrial production in the script and design for it may vary according to direction and the dictates of choreography. The original Broadway production featured sneakers and a "Hip Hop" look in terms of jackets, baggy pants & ball caps in strong primary colors. This national tour featured the scene done in blacklight with the actors in breakaway, neon colored beachwear worn over black turtleneck unitards and neon colored high top sneakers and neon props like sunglasses, hats, tank tops for "life guard" look, etc. The actors "stripped" during the number and when the lights came up at the end, they were dutifully covered in their black unitards.

Additional considerations: Both Paula and Elliott are in nearly every scene, so close attention must be paid to the need for underdressing, easy on-easy off costume pieces and use of velcro for breakaway pieces. Elliott will always need a dresser to assist him with his changes - especially into and out of Richard III.

Elliott in the "nude scene" - In this national tour, this scene was played with the actor wearing a nude dance belt and a wrestling belt with a Casio player attached to the latter. When the actor stood up, it gave the appearance that he really was nude and was using the Casio player for "coverage". The comfort of the actor must be taken into consideration in planning this "costume" - but the script specifically dictates (as in the movie) that the actor sleeps in the nude, so he cannot be put into pajamas without violating the script.

Additional considerations: If you are involved in providing footwear for this production and have Equity actors, be aware that union actors must have their dance footwear as soon as possible for maximum rehearsal use and usually must receive their footwear no later than one week before first dress rehearsal.

COSTUME PLOT - THE GOODBYE GIRL page 2

PAULA: age 35, lead actress, out of work and out of shape dancer who makes bad choices in boyfriends

Note: Actress is usually wigged throughout in realistic wig because of her fast changes.

Footwear needs include: dance boots/slippers/aerobic sneakers/clogs or slip on shoes/sneakers for "Jump" number

Act I 1a: Restaurant - (Underdress purple velvet leo), 1980's pink acrylic oversize sweater, black dance boots, black tights, prop sunglasses, black leg warmers, beret

Act I 1b: Apartment - Repeat above, lose coat, scarf, beret

Act I 2: Dance Studio - Lose oversize sweater, wear leo, tights & dance boots for scene

Act I 3: Stoop: (fast into): Underdress pajama top, Add coat & beret

Act I 4: Apartment: (fast into): Nix boots & outerwear, add wristwatch, pj bottoms, bunny slippers & flannel, rather masculine bathrobe

Act I 5: Apartment: Repeat pjs, robe and slippers as above

Act I 6 Not In this scene - Lose pjs, robe & slippers, Dress for next scene with leo, tights, slouch socks, aerobic sneakers & cutoff sweatshirt for next scene

Act I 7 Apartment: As above - leo, tights, socks, aerobic sneakers, sweatshirt

Act I 8 Not in this scene - Lose all of the above except tights, Dress for next scene with 1980's style jumpsuit & belt, dance boots, oversize jacket

Act I 9 Apartment (pm) - As above with jumpsuit, belt, jacket and dance boots

Act I 10a Off Broadway Theater- Lose jacket, Repeat jumpsuit, belt, change shoes if necessary, Add different jacket, Add winter coat & scarf

Act I 10b Off Broadway Theater - Repeat as above with winter coat & scarf and purse

Act I 10c Backstage at Off Broadway Theater - Repeat w/outerwear if necessary, note: purse should have shoulder strap so it can be won on shoulder

Act I 10d Walk Home - Repeat w/outerwear & purse on shoulder strap

Act II 1 Apartment - (Underdress "Fries" leo & suntan tights under overalls & henley shirt) with robe & slippers over the overalls & henley shirt; pant legs might need to be rolled up

Act II 2 Apartment - (very fast into): Lose robe & slippers, add clogs or slip on shoes, Repeat overalls & henley shirt

Act II 3 Set of "Jack LaVine" Show (very fast into): Lose overalls, henley shirt & slip on shoes, ADD "Fries" banner over "Fries" leo, add character shoes, add "Fries" hat & gauntlets

Act II 4 Apartment (pm) - Repeat overalls, henley shirt & slip on shoes; Add coat

Act II 5 Apartment/Street (continuous) - Repeat above

Act II 6 Roof - Repeat suntan tights, character shoes, Add cocktail dress

Act II 7 Apartment (next am) - Lose dress & shoes; Change into day wear jumpsuit

Act II 8 Not in this scene - Lose all of the above, change into black unitard & neon gear & high top sneakers for II 10

Act II 9 Not in this scene

Act II 10 A & E Industrial/Phone Booth: Black unitard, neon gear & high tops for "Jump"

Act II sc 11 Apartment - Lose high tops, add jeans over unitard, repeat dance boots, add spring coat

Act II sc. 12 Stoop - Lose coat, repeat black stretch belt, Add colorful jacket over unitard, repeat dance boots

ELLIOTT: leading man; 35-40 years old, aspiring actor

Act I 3 (1st Appearance) Street in Front of Apartment - Army coat w/pockets, tan scarf, shirt w/pockets, worn jeans, hiking boots, hat

Note: If shirt has button front, it must be rigged with velcro for fast change.

Act I 4 Apartment & Pay Phone - Repeat above

Act I 5 Apartment/Nude Scene - beige dance belt, weight lifting belt w/Casio player attached

Act I 6 Off Broadway Theater - Repeat jeans, add loafers & oatmeal color sweater

Act I 7 Apartment - Repeat above w/Army jacket & scarf

Act I 8 Not in scene (underdress tights for Richard III costume), chino pants, corduroy shirt for next scene

Note: If shirt has button front, it must be rigged with velcro for fast change.

Act I 9 Apartment (pm) - Repeat as above

Act I 10 a Off Broadway Theater - Outrageous Richard III costume, wig & tiara

Act I 10 b. Off Broadway Theater - as above

Act I 10 c. Backstage - Lose all pieces of Richard III costume; Add multi-print terrycloth bathrobe & towel on head

Note: Actor has 3-4 minutes to change out of Richard III costume.

Act I 10 d. Not in scene

Act II 1 Apartment (very late pm/early am) - Enters "drunk" in army coat, t-shirt, casual shirt buttoned askew, scarf, hat

Act II 2 Apartment (breakfast time) - Same clothes, even more disheveled

Act II 3 Not in scene Costume Change into chinos, sweater, army coat & black eye makeup

Act II 4 Repeat above

Act II 5 Apartment/Street (continuous) Repeat above

Act II 6 Roof - black dress pants or tux pants, white double breasted dinner jacket, white tux shirt (must be rigged with velcro for fast change), black bowtie, black fedora, tap shoes

Note: In this scene, actor slips off regular shoes and into tap shoes pre-set on stage underneath the table. Regular shoes must be loafer style that slip off and tap shoes must be rigged with elastic for slip on ease.

Act II 7 Apartment (next am) - Chinos & t-shirt

Act II 8 School Yard - Repeat chinos, add casual shirt, baseball style jacket, Chicago Cubs baseball cap (*script note: his character is from Chicago*)

Act II 9 Central Park - Repeat above

Act II 10 A & E/Phone Booth - Repeat above without change

Act II 11 Apartment - Lose jacket, repeat above

Act II 12 Stoop - add baseball jacket again

Note: Actor may choose to have a "hump" in either or both the Richard III rehearsal & performance scenes. Make allowances in performance costume, if necessary.

LUCY: Paula's outspoken and intelligent 10 year old daughter

Footwear: blue sneakers, blue slippers, dress flats

Act I 1a Stoop - winter jacket, hat, mittens, leggings or pants, prop sunglasses & prop UCLA t-shirt, colorful 1980's sweater

Act I 1b Apartment - Lose outerwear, repeat pants & sweater

Act I 2 Not in scene (underdress pj top under winter coat)

Act I 3 Stoop - Repeat as above

Act I 4 Apartment - Lose winter coat, add pj bottom & slippers

Act I 5 Apartment - Repeat above

Act I 6 Not in scene

Act I 7 Apartment - Repeat pants with turtleneck top & 1980's colorful cardigan

Act I 8 Not in scene

Act I 9 Apartment (pm) - Repeat pants or leggings with change of pullover sweater

Act I 10a Off Broadway Theater - Repeat turtleneck top, add jumper & dress shoes, winter coat

Act I 10b Off Broadway Theater - Repeat as above

Act I 10 c Backstage - Repeat as above

Act I 10 d Not in scene

Act II 1 Apartment (ready for school) - red leggings, turtleneck top, cardigan sweater

Act II 2 Not in scene

Act II 3 Not in scene

Act II 4 Apartment - Pjs & slippers

Act II 5 Apartment/Street - same

Act II 6 Not in scene Change for next scene: lighter color pants & stripe sweater

Act II 7 Apartment (next am) - Repeat as above

Act II 8 School Yard - Repeat above, Add spring jacket

Act II 9 Central Park - Repeat above

Act II 10 Not in scene Change for next scene: Lose jacket, repeat pants, add N.Y. tee shirt

Act II 11 Apartment (after school) - Repeat as above

Act II 12 Stoop - Repeat pants, change into blouse

MELANIE: Ten year old friend of Lucy

Act I 1a Stoop - Ski jacket, pants, red tassel cap

Act I 3 Stoop - turtleneck top, nylon zip front vest, leggings or pants

Act I 10 a & b Off Broadway Theater - Dress or jumper, dress flats

Act II 5 Apartment/Street - repeat leggings, add blouse & spring windbreaker

Act II 8 School yard - Repeat jacket with change of pants & top

Note: Her costumes can be colorful, like Lucy's. Since the play is set in the 1980's, all of the costumes should reflect the time period in both color and style.

MRS. CROSBY - the landlady/building supervisor and sometimes babysitter

Act I 3a Flowered housedress and head scarf, tweed overcoat

Act I 4 Lose overcoat, add comfy chenille bathrobe over dress

Act I 5a Lose bathrobe, add yellow rubber gloves (script reference)

Act I 8 Brown print top, black pants, head wrap, overcoat

Act I 10a Tunic top, long vest and pants

Act I 10 b Same as above

Act II 4 Top, pants, head wrap

Act II 5 Repeat above with trench coat, purse & scarf

Act II 7 Repeat

FEMALE CHORUS: Double as Cynthia - one of Lucy's friends

Double as Donna and Barbara - two of Paula's friends

Double as Rhonda/Lady Anne in Richard III

Double as other ladies in waiting in Richard III

Serve as other auditioning dancers & performers in both "Sweets,
Fats & Fries" number and "Jump"

Serve as crossover people in I. 3b

Suggested costumes would include 1980's style audition/workout wear, street clothes, outerwear, specialty dance number costumes and period garb for Richard III performances.

MALE CHORUS: Double as crossover people in I 3b

Double as Mark, the director of Richard III

Double as Jack LaVine

Double as cameraman and boom mic operator for Jack LaVine Show

Double as audience at performance of Richard III

Double as actors in Richard III - specifically Hastings, Ratcliffe, Lovell &
Buckingham

Serve as other auditioning dancers in Act I sc. 2

Serve as performers in "Jump" Act II sc. 10

Double as stage manager for Richard III

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