

"THE FACTS OF LIFE"

REVISED

9-4-79

TENTATIVE REHEARSAL & TAPE SCHEDULE

#0104

MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 3, 1979

REHEARSAL HALL "A"

REHEARSAL
LUNCH SERVED
REHEARSAL

10:00AM - 1:00PM
1:00PM - 2:00PM
2:00PM

TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 4, 1979

REHEARSAL HALL "A"

REHEARSAL
LUNCH
REHEARSAL

10:00AM - 1:00PM
1:00PM - 2:00PM
2:00PM

WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 5, 1979

REHEARSAL HALL "A"

REHEARSAL W/PROPS
LUNCH
REHEARSAL
RUN THRU
NOTES W/CAST

10:00AM - 1:00PM
1:00PM - 2:00PM
2:00PM - 3:30PM
4:30PM - 5:00PM
5:00PM -

THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 6, 1979

STAGE #1

E.S.U.
FAX
LUNCH
FAX
RUN THRU W/WARDROBE
NOTES W/CAST

9:00AM - 10:00AM
10:00AM - 1:00PM
1:00PM - 2:00PM
2:00PM - 4:30PM
4:30PM - 5:00PM
5:00PM -

FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 7, 1979

STAGE #1

DIRECTOR'S NOTES
E.S.U.
FAX
RUN THRU
CAST NOTES, MAKEUP, WARDROBE
VTR/FAX (DRESS W/AUDIENCE)
MEAL BREAK AND NOTES
VT CHECK IN
VTR/FAX (AIR W/AUDIENCE)
PICKUPS

8:00AM - 9:00AM
8:00AM - 9:00AM
9:00AM - 10:15AM
10:15AM - 11:00PM
11:00AM - 12:00NN
12:00NN - 1:00PM
1:00PM - 2:30PM
2:00PM - 2:30PM
2:30PM - 3:30PM
3:30PM -

ACT ONE

SCENE ONE

FADE IN:

INT. COMMON ROOM- DAY

(THE HOUSE IS QUIET. NANCY,
BLAIR, CINDY AND MOLLY
ARE IN VARIED POSTURES, READING AND
STUDYING. MRS. GARRETT ENTERS FRONT DOOR
IN JACKET, CARRYING A BOOK



GARRETT

Boy, you can tell it's midterm time.

I've never seen it so quiet in this. . .

ALL GIRLS

(FINGERS TO MOUTHS)

Shhh!

GARRETT

(MOUTHS SILENTLY)

Right.

(SHE

SITS AND READS. SUDDENLY TOOTIE
SKATES IN, IN HER USUAL UP MOOD.
SHE IS CARRYING A DONNA SUMMER ALBUM.)

TOOTIE
(SINGING, MAKING DANCE MOVES)

BAD GIRLS. . . TALKIN' 'BOUT SAD GIRLS

SAD GIRLS. . .

GARRETT

Tootie! How come you're not studying
history?

TOOTIE

Who's not studying? Donna Summer is
making history.

(TOOTIE HOLDS UP DONNA SUMMER

ALBUM AND EXITS SINGING

TALKIN' 'BOUT THE BAD GIRLS. . . YEAH.

(BLAIR ENTERS FROM KITCHEN CARRYING A PLATE
OF SNACKS)

BLAIR

Now I can study for mid-terms. I've
got my energy food.

(THE GIRLS DESCEND ON BLAIR AD-LIBBING:
HEY I WANT SOME TOO
I'M STARVED
GIVE ME ONE OF THOSE DING-DONGS
HEY, COME BACK HERE.

SUE ANN GETS AN APPLE OFF THE TRAY AND WALKS TO THE
COUCH. BLAIR GRABS A PLATE OF DIP AND SOME CRACKERS.
(THE REST OF THE GIRLS RUN UPSTAIRS WITH FOOD.)

*All exit
except Sue Ann
Nancy
Blair*

GARRETT

(CALLING AFTER GIRLS)

That's it, girls, get upstairs and start cramming. And when you're finished cramming, put the food away and start studying.

(BLAIR SPREADS SOMETHING ON CRACKERS AS SHE STUDIES)

BLAIR

Mrs. Garrett, you want some avocado spread?

GARRETT

No, thanks, Blair. I've ^{have my own} already got an avocado spread.

(SHE PATS HER HIPS. SHE IS WEARING A GREEN SKIRT. NANCY COMES BACK DOWNSTAIRS)

NANCY

Sue Ann, aren't you coming up? I need your help for this history test.

BLAIR

Nancy, you've got to learn to handle things by yourself. On your ~~wedding~~ ^{when you get married} night you'll be ~~asking~~ ^{asking} Sue Ann for all the answers.

(SUE ANN DISMISSES BLAIR WITH A GESTURE)

SUE ANN

Sure, c'mon Nancy. We'll study together. ^{upstairs}

(NANCY SITS NEXT TO SUE ANN ON THE COUCH)

BRADLEY

Good morning, everybody. Where are the
rest of the girls?

GARRETT

gm They're upstairs studying.

BRADLEY

(LIGHTLY)

Darn, I won't be able to get on their cases.

(SEES HER BOOK)

What are you reading, Mrs. Garrett?

GARRETT

"How to Fly an Airplane."

BRADLEY

(SMILES)

Sure. What are you really reading?

(GARRETT HOLDS UP BOOK, HE READS:)

"How to Fly an Airplane." Why are you
learning to fly?

GARRETT

Because I'm scared of flying?

BRADLEY

Really? You're afraid of flying? Then
~~you've picked the perfect hobby --~~

(LIGHTLY)

~~--being a pilot.~~

GARRETT

~~Every time I get on an airplane I die a~~
thousand deaths. Then the plane takes
off...I'm so ashamed of myself.



BRADLEY

I used to have a fear of heights. I black
out when they crank me up in the dentists
chair.

GARRETT

I was totally fearless as a kid. Back on
farm I used to go galloping bareback on our
plowhorse. When I was 9 years old I won
a bet jumping off the top of the barn into
a pile of hay.

SUE ANN

You must have been a fun date. *mt*

GARRETT

Why am I learning to fly? I guess it's
to find out exactly what I'm so scared
of. You know me and getting to the bottom
of things.

BRADLEY

(BRADLEY MAKES DOWNWARD GESTURE WITH HANDS)

Gee, I hope not.

GARRETT

So I saved the money I was going to Hong
Kong with and signed up for flying
lessons and I'm having one heck of a time.

BRADLEY

I'll bet you are. Keep it up and you might
become a Junior Birdman.

(SINGS)

UP IN THE AIR JUNIOR BIRDMEN...

UP IN THE AIR UPSIDE DOWN.

GARRETT

Kid me all you want, but I've already
been 20
flown ~~ten~~ hours.

And tomorrow I solo.

(MAHONEY COMES IN CARRYING A STACK OF
PAPERS)

MAHONEY

Mr. Bradley, here's a copy of my
History exam for tomorrow.

(SEES GIRLS AND HUGS PAPERS SECRETIVELY)

SUE ANN

That's okay, Miss Mahoney. We were just
leaving anyway. When ~~three~~ adults get
together it's impossible to study.

(THE GIRLS EXIT UPSTAIRS)

(MAHONEY HANDS A PAPER TO BRADLEY)

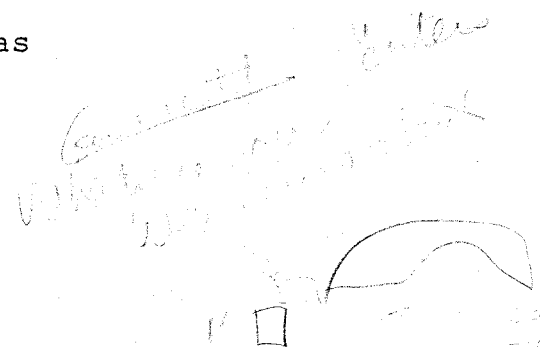
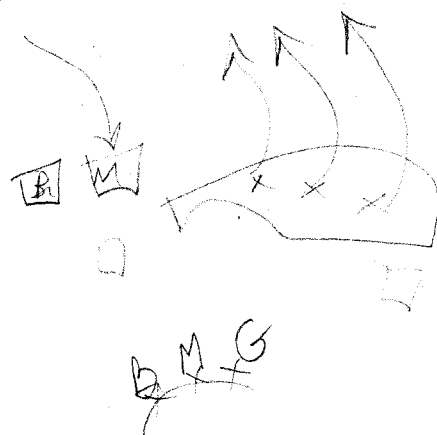
MAHONEY

Oh, I think this is yours. It was
delivered to me by mistake.

(SHE HANDS HIM A LARGE ENVELOPE,
WHICH HE OPENS AND READS THE CONTENTS)

BRADLEY

Thank you. It's the records of the girls'
I.Q. scores from their previous schools.
I am really proud. Our girls have the
highest I.Q. average of any prep school
in the state.



MAHONEY

I've never doubted it. That's why I
made the History test such a bear.

BRADLEY

(TO MRS. GARRETT, WHO IS READING)

And you can walk a little prouder, Mrs.
Garrett, being house mother to all those
terrific I.Q.'s.

GARRETT

Feather your prop, Mr. Bradley!

(SHE SEES HIS REACTION)

That's pilot lingo for...

(ALA THE LONE RANGER)

"Whoah, big fella."

BRADLEY

What?

GARRETT

How can you give so much importance to those
intelligence tests...especially since they
were given in grade school?

BRADLEY

(CHUCKLING)

If you were an educator, you'd understand.

(MAHONEY JOINS IN THE CHUCKLE.

GARRETT CHUCKLES, BUT SLIGHTLY
MOCKINGLY)

BRADLEY (CONT'D)

You see, by the fifth grade, people reach
the permanent level of their I.Q. Are
you staying with me?

GARRETT

(SHE NODS, SMILING)

. I may
even be tailgating.

BRADLEY

I ~~felt that~~ -- in other words, the girls'
test scores give us a fixed idea of what
their potential will be.

GARRETT

I don't think it's fair... ^{labeling} judging a child
for life on the basis of a single test taken at the
age of nine or ten. That's practically like
branding cattle.

MAHONEY

It's not that cold blooded, Mrs. Garrett.
You see, the child never sees her I.Q. score.
~~But we teachers can use it as a guideline~~
for realistic goals.

BRADLEY

(BRANDISHING I.Q. SHEET)

Exactly. You see, knowing these scores,
we can push our girls, I mean urge 'em. . .

(USING HANDS TO ILLUSTRATE)

(FINALLY)

Give 'em a swift kick.

(AT THIS POINT, TOOTIE COMES
SKATING IN, FAST AND SOMEWHAT
OFF BALANCE)

TOOTIE

Mr. Bradley... Whoops!

(TOOTIE TAKES A TUMBLE ONTO THE
SOFA OR SOME OTHER SOFT PLACE.
BRADLEY PUTS DOWN ALL HIS PAPERS
AND HELPS TOOTIE UP)

BRADLEY

Are you okay?

TOOTIE

(ON FLOOR, TYING SKATES TIGHTER)

I'm tough as nails. Miss Tracey is conducting
a history exam and she sent me to find you.
She has to go to the bathroom.

GARRETT

I didn't know we were on the buddy system.

MAHONEY

I'd like to help but I'm on my way to the ~~X~~ *UR*
Biology Lab. I've got eight rabbits in
labor.

B
X *G*
T *X*

(MAHONEY EXITS)

GARRETT

Would you like me to go, Mr. Bradley?

BRADLEY

Thanks, but you're too soft-hearted to be
a watchdog. I'll go. Could you hold down
the phones in my office?

fit

GARRETT

Be glad to.

fit

(BRADLEY AND GARRETT EXIT
TOGETHER. TOOTIE, READY TO
RISE, GRABS A TABLE TO PULL
HERSELF UP, PULLING BRADLEY'S
PAPERS OFF. AS SHE PICKS UP
THE PAPERS, SHE GETS TO HER FEET,
NOTICING THE I.Q. LIST)

TOOTIE

Hmmm?

(READS ALOUD)

Stanford-Binet I.Q. ~~test~~.

... for everybody in school. Sure
didn't know she was the smartest...

(REALLY SURPRISED)

... or she was the dumbest.

(SHE SCRIBBLES THE FIGURES ON
A PIECE OF PAPER, SHE SINGS:)

TOOTIE

BAD GIRLS. . . TALKIN' ABOUT THE

BAD GIRLS. . . . YEAH

ACT ONE

SCENE TWO

INT. GIRLS' ROOM

(ALL THE GIRLS EXCEPT TOOTIE
ARE IN THE ROOM)

NANCY

Sue Ann, can you fill me in on the
Louisiana Purchase?

SUE ANN

Sure. The Louisiana territory was
purchased April 30, 1803. It cost
us almost sixteen million dollars.

NATALIE

Was that ~~retail~~ or discount?

(TOOTIE ENTERS, SKATING TOO FAST.

SHE GRABS BLAIR'S ARM IN AN ATTEMPT
TO SLOW HERSELF DOWN, BUT BLAIR IS TAKEN
BY BURPRISE AND INSTINCTIVELY JERKS HER
ARM AWAY, SWINGING TOOTIE AROUND HER AND
BACK OUT THE DOOR AGAIN. AFTER A FEW SECONDS,
TOOTIE PEEKS HER HEAD BACK IN THE DOOR AND
WALKS DOGGEDLY TO THE BED)

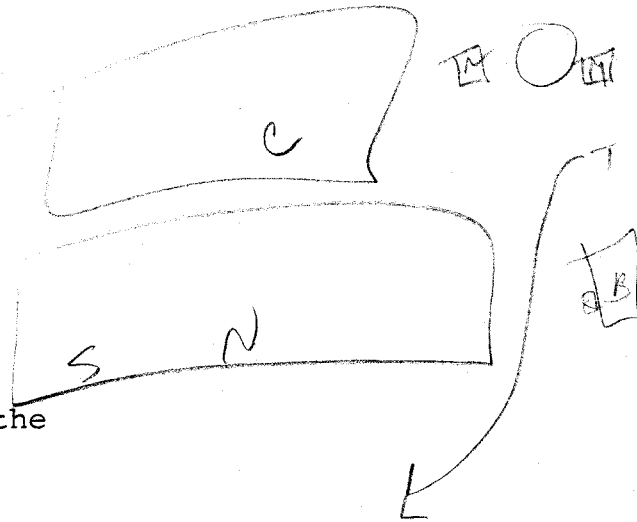
~~NATALIE~~

~~Are you okay, Tootie?~~

~~TOOTIE~~

~~Yeah, I'm all right.~~

(SHE GIGGLES NERVOUSLY)



NATALIE

Blair, don't you think you should say something to Tootie?

BLAIR

Yeah. You shouldn't skate faster than you can think.

TOOTIE

I know a secret that none of us is supposed to know.

CINDY

(EAGERLY)

What is it?

TOOTIE

Promise not to tell?

(ALL THE GIRLS SHOUT "YES"

AND CROWD AROUND TOOTIE)

Okay, I know who the smartest girl in the school is.

NANCY

That's no secret. Everybody knows it's Sue Ann.

SUE ANN

(MODESTLY)

No, not necessarily, Nancy.

TOOTIE

Sue Ann's right. It's not her.

SUE ANN

(HIDING DISAPPOINTMENT)

See, didn't I tell you -- Who is the
smartest?

BLAIR

It couldn't be me. I've got too many
other things going for me.

TOOTIE

Right. It's not you.

BLAIR

(DEFLATED)

Oh.

TOOTIE

It's Nancy.

(THE GIRLS STOP TALKING AND
STARE AT NANCY. SHE BECOMES
UNCOMFORTABLE)

NANCY

No... I'm not the smartest.

TOOTIE

Don't be stupid. I just told you.

MOLLY

How do you know all this?

TOOTIE

("TOOTIE TYPE SECRECY")

I found a list with all our I.Q.'s on it.

I wrote 'em all down.

(SHE PRODUCES THE LIST. GIRLS

AD-LIB THEIR DESIRE TO SEE IT)

Not so fast. I'll show you your scores
one at a time.

(TOOTIE MOVES TO A CORNER)

MOLLY

That's not fair. Why should you know all
our scores and not us?

TOOTIE

'Cause I can keep a secret.

(TOOTIE FOLDS THE LIST SO EACH

GIRL CAN SEE ONLY HER SCORE.

SHE GOES FROM GIRL TO GIRL,

REFOLDING THE LIST. THE THIRD

GIRL IS NANCY. THE OTHER GIRLS

TRY TO SEE HER SCORE)

NANCY

That's okay, Tootie. I don't want to
see mine.

(TOOTIE MOVES ON, NANCY STOPS HER)

But since you've already bothered.

(TOOTIE SHOWS NANCY. HER EYES WIDEN.

TOOTIE MOVES TO NATALIE, SHOWS HER)

TOOTIE

Here's yours, Natalie. You and me have
the same I.Q.

NATALIE

No kidding? I knew we were soul sisters.

(AT THIS POINT, THEY EXCHANGE A SOUL SLAP.

ALL THE GIRLS EXCEPT NANCY AND SUE ANN
GATHER AND PEEK)

CINDY

(SHOWS BLAIR THE PAPER)

Here, you want to see your I.Q., Blair?

BLAIR

Oh, oh. ~~I better diet.~~ My weights
higher than my I.Q.

MOLLY

I don't believe it. Sue Ann has the
lowest I.Q. on the list.

SUE ANN

(SHE REACTS UNBELIEVING, GRABS LIST)

May I see it?

(MORE)

SUE ANN (CONT'D)

(HER FACE FALLS SLIGHTLY. SHE
HANDS THE LIST BACK TO TOOTIE)

Congratulations, Nancy, on being
so smart.

(SHE MOVES TO BED AND SITS)



NANCY

Sue Ann, It's not that big a deal.

SUE ANN

That's easy for you to say.

MOLLY

Sue Ann, don't be upset because you're the dumbest girl on the list. I have a friend who's brother has an even lower I.Q. than you, and he got all the way through junior college and now he's the most successful Encyclopedia salesman in Paramus, New Jersey.

SUE ANN

Thanks. Maybe I can work my way up to being a test pilot for Tupperware.

MOLLY

Listen, burping Tupperware is no snap.

NATALIE

And you're built, too. That's better than being smart like me.

MOLLY

That's the most sexist thinking I've ever heard! I'd like to see you tell that to Jane Fonda.

NATALIE

Why not? She's built, too.

SUE ANN

Being built won't give me a future.

CINDY

That depends on the future you want.

It didn't hurt Suzanne Somers.

NANCY

Sue Ann, you're being ridiculous. You've always gotten good grades and this isn't gonna change anything.

NATALIE

If you need help, Tootie and I will be glad to tutor you.

TOOTIE

It'll cost you.

(MRS. GARRETT ENTERS, CARRYING
A COMPASS AND AERONAUTICAL INSTRUMENT)

GARRETT

Hi. Sue Ann, you're so good at math. You can probably help me with this problem on my flying test. Now this is a directional gyro.

SUE ANN

Boy, did you come to the wrong person for help. That's really funny, isn't it, girls?

(SUE ANN MAKES A QUICK,
DESPONDENT EXIT)

GARRETT

Sue Ann?

(TO THE OTHERS)

Will someone tell me what's going on here?

(ALL THE GIRLS CLAM UP. GARRETT

SEES TOOTIE STANDING WITH THE LIST

STANDING STRAIGHT UP IN HER HAND,

BENDS DOWN, READS LIST)

GARRETT (CONT'D)

What is this, Tootie?

TOOTIE

It feels like a piece of paper.

GARRETT

(TAKES LIST)

It sure does. *Girls!* Do you know what's on this
piece of paper, Molly?

MOLLY

(ALL AT ONCE)

How would I know? I was just reading about
Dolly Parton in this magazine and wondering
about my future.

(GARRETT ISN'T BUYING IT) *Garrett*
Molly

You can't expect me to know everything that
goes on in the world, cause after all, my
I.Q.'s not as high as Nancy's or as low as
Sue Ann's. Just ask Tootie.

GARRETT

All right, I will. Tootie, this couldn't possibly be a list of I.Q. scores, could it?

TOOTIE

No, MRs. Garrett, not possibly...definitely.

GARRETT

And could it definitely be ~~from inside Mr. Bradley's envelope that he left downstairs?~~

TOOTIE

Possibly.

GARRETT

Tootie, before I take you to Mr. Bradley's office, isn't there something you'd like to do?

TOOTIE

Yeah, make a break for it.

GARRETT

Since that won't work, is there anything else you'd like to do?

TOOTIE

Yeah. Disappear.

GARRETT

Come on, Tootie, I'll walk with you down that last mile.

(THEY START TO EXIT)

MOLLY

Tootie, let me know if Mr. Bradley pounds on you. There's a state law.

(GARRETT GIVES MOLLY A LOOK AS WE:)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE THREE

INT. GARRETT'S ROOM - THAT EVENING *ON BED*

(ON THE WALL WE SEE CHARTS OF PLANES
IN FLIGHT, ENLARGED COCKPIT DIAGRAMS, ETC.
GARRETT CHECKS A BOOK ON HER DRESSER)

GARRETT

Throttle control...Rudder control...

Trim tabs.

(SHE STICKS HER ARMS OUT AND "FLIES" MAKING
ENGINE NOISES, ACROSS THE ROOM. SUE ANN
ENTERS, ALMOST GETTING KNOCKED OVER BY
THE FLYING MRS. GARRETT)

GARRETT

Sorry, Sue Ann, the skies are getting
kinda crowded. Oh the heck with it.

Give her the gun.

SUE ANN

Am I disturbing you?

GARRETT

No, I almost stalled once, but I got
her out of it, didn't I?

SUE ANN

Sorry about the way I acted before. I
was kinda rude.

GARRETT

No you weren't.

SUE ANN

I heard Tootie got punished for peeking at the I.Q. scores.

GARRETT

She got off pretty easy. She'll have to write

"I will not be nosy" five hundred times on

the blackboard. That'll take care of her nose for
a while.

(GARRETT LAUGHS, SUE ANN DOES NOT)

What's wrong?

(PUTS ARMS AROUND SUE ANN)

You're worrying about that silly I.Q. thing,
aren't you?

SUE ANN

It's not silly, Mrs. Garrett. I was the
dumbest on the list, and everybody knows it.

GARRETT

Sue Ann, why are you worried? Just look
at your grades. You're a top student.

SUE ANN

I was a top student. I think I just went
into a ~~stall~~ myself.

(OFF GARRETT'S REACTION)

SUE ANN

Thanks for trying to cheer me up, but

I'm gonna have to re-think my goals.

(SUE ANN STARTS TO EXIT)

GARRETT

Now hold on young lady. You're gonna

listen to a few words from someone

who knows exactly how you feel. Me.

SUE ANN

Your I.Q. is in the pits too?

GARRETT

I don't know what my I.Q. is and I don't
care.

SUE ANN

I know what mine is and I don't like it.

GARRETT

~~I'm talking about my wings.~~ Y'know, when
I first went to the airfield to sign up
for lessons, a lot of people thought I'd
never get it off the ground...but I wanted
to fly so I studied hard. Now I know my
plane inside and out, and I know it's
completely safe.

(SHE QUICKLY PICKS UP A MODEL PIPER

CUB. AS SHE DOES, A WING FALLS OFF.)

SUE ANN

(SHE REACTS STARTLED)

Oooh.

GARRETT

(NERVOUSLY)

7-11-1960
This is just a model. Now, when I'm ~~asked~~
~~to~~ solo... and I'm up there flying, all by
myself, if Tootie all of a sudden handed me
a low I.Q. score, what do you think I'd say?

SUE ANN

You'd say, Tootie, what the heck are you
doing up here?

GARRETT

(SHE SMILES)

Maybe... but I wouldn't say, goodness, I'm
not smart enough to fly. I wouldn't flutter
my flaps and go into a stall. I'd keep on
flying, 'cause I know I know how. Just
like you know what you're capable of doing
and you just do it. Right.

SUE ANN

(NOT TOTALLY CONVINCED)

I don't think I can "just do it" anymore.

Those mid terms.

(SHE SHAKES HER HEAD)

I don't believe it. This is the reality
GARRETT
Nothing has changed. You're still
an excellent student who has always
done beautifully on exams. This I.Q.
thing has nothing to do with it.

SUE ANN

It doesn't if you're at the top of the
list. I don't hear Nancy complaining.

(SUE ANN EXITS, GARRETT STARES AT THE
DOOR, CONCERNED, AS WE:)

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

SCENE FOUR

INT. GIRL'S ROOM - NIGHT

(NANCY AND BLAIR IN PAJAMAS ARE STUDYING.

NANCY HAS A TROUBLED LOOK ON HER FACE)

BLAIR

Come on, Nancy. Don't be selfish.
Share your brain.

NANCY

Blair, I can't help you. I'll be
lucky if I pass this test myself.
Check with Sue Ann. She knows everything.

BLAIR

My mother always says, when you want
help go to the best. And that's you.

NANCY

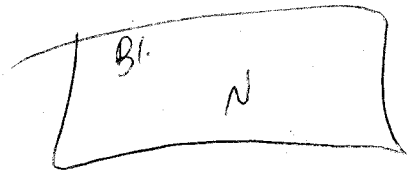
I don't care what my I.Q. is. I don't
wanna be the smartest girl in school.

BLAIR

But you oughtta be proud to be number one.

NANCY

I liked it better before when Sue Ann
was number one and everybody was asking
her for help. Now everyone's coming to
me and I don't like the pressure. Now Blair,
will you please leave, so I can study?



BLAIR

(INSULTED, STARTS OUT)

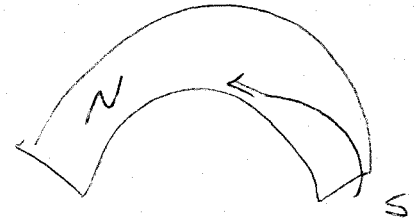
Well, you don't see me getting all
upset when people tell me how gorgeous
I am.

(SHE EXITS. NANCY OPENS A BOOK, TRIES TO STUDY,
THEN SLAMS THE BOOK SHUT IN DISGUST, AS WE:)

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. COMMONG ROOM - DAY

(IT'S THE NEXT DAY. NANCY IS LEAFING THROUGH
A MAGAZINE, THEN SHE TOSSES IT AWAY. SUE ANN
ENTERS. LOOKS TO EMPTY BULLETIN BOARD,
LISTLESSLY)



SUE ANN

Oh, didn't Mahoney post the exam scores yet?

NANCY

(IRRITABLY)

What are you asking me for? You've
got eyes.

SUE ANN

Can't you answer a simple question?
You're the smartest girl in school.

NANCY

Get off my case, will you?

(SUE ANN SITS ON SOFA NEXT TO NANCY)

SUE ANN

What are you so uptight about? A
girl with your IQ shouldn't have had
any trouble with that simple test.

NANCY

Are you kidding? It was horrendous.
I had a guess at half the answers.
I hope I guessed right.

SUE ANN

(IRRITATED)

Hey come off it, will you, Nancy.
We know you're a brain. I hate people
who act like a test is hard for them, just so
other people won't feel so dumb.

NANCY

(ALSO IRRITATED)

If you don't like it, tough, okay
Sue Ann? And I'm sick and tired of
hearing how smart I am. So just cut
it out!

(NANCY THROWS HER BOOK ACROSS THE ROOM.

THIS SOBERS SUE ANN)

SUE ANN

I'd give anything to have your problem.
You're on top. How would you like to
know you're gonna be stuck in the
basement for the rest of your life?
I'd trade with you in a minute.

NANCY

Show me how to do it and you've
got a deal. I liked it the way it
used to be.

SUE ANN

What do you mean?

NANCY

It was like we were climbing a mountain
together. You were above me, pulling on
the rope, and we both made it to the
top. It's awful being up there all by
myself. Oh Sue Ann, it was so much simpler before.
It's pretty miserable down here.

(NANCY HANGS HER HEAD SADLY. SUE ANN LOOKS OVER,
NODS, A KINDRED SPIRIT, AND SQUEEZES NANCY'S HAND.
THEY BOTH SIT THERE GLUMLY, AS
BLAIR ENTERS)

BLAIR

What are you two looking so intense
for? Exams come and go, but worry
lines stay with you forever.

(BLAIR SMILES AT HERSELF IN MIRROR)

I wasn't talking about you.

(BLAIR EXITS INTO KITCHEN.)

(GARRETT ENTERS FROM HER BEDROOM, DRESSED
IN JACKET, ON WAY TO AIRFIELD)

GARRETT

Hi, girls. Well, wish me luck. I'm
off to the airfield for my first solo.
And I've got a beautiful day for it.
Well, see you later.

(SHE BLITHELY EXITS. THEN POPS
RIGHT BACK IN)

What's the matter with you two?

SUE ANN

We took our mid-terms this morning.

GARRETT

That's right, I forgot. How'd you do?

NANCY

Miss Mahoney didn't post the scores yet.

GARRETT

Then what are you moping around for?

You're both good students. I'm sure
you passed with flying colors.

SUE ANN

Yeah, black and blue.

GARRETT

You two have always done great on tests.

What are you worried about?

(MISS MAHONEY ENTERS, CARRYING A SHEET
OF PAPER. THE REST OF THE GIRLS FOLLOW)

ADLIBBING THEIR EAGERNESS TO LEARN
THEIR GRADES)

MAHONEY

(PINNING GRADE PAPER UP)

Well, mid-terms are over. You can
all relax. You've got nothing to do
for the next three months but study
for finals.

(THE GIRLS GATHER AROUND THE PAPER)

GARRETT

Miss Mahoney, you're a welcome sight.
Will you tell these girls they did
okay on the test, so they can relax.

MAHONEY

(SOBERLY)

I wish I could. I even double checked
their papers.

NANCY

We didn't do so hot, huh?

(MAHONEY NODS SADLY)

MAHONEY

You flunked. I'm really sorry, girls.

(MAHONEY EXITS WITH MORE PAPERS

FOR MORE DORMS)

GARRETT

Don't worry girls, you'll do much
better next time. There won't be
near as much pressure on you.

SUE ANN

(RISING DECISIVELY)

You're right, Mrs. Garrett, because
I won't be at Eastland.

GARRETT

What?

SUE ANN

Who am I kidding? It's just gonna
get harder and I'm not up to it.

GARRETT

Sue Ann, are you still buying that
IQ bunk?

SUE ANN

It's not bunk.

GARRETT

Nancy, will you help me talk some
sense into her.

NANCY

I don't think I'd be very convincing,
Mrs. Garrett. I'm gonna leave Eastland,
too.

(MRS. GARRETT IS DEVASTATED, AS WE:)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

1781 Peggy
ACT TWO
Bobby Herbach

30.

SCENE ONE

FADE IN:

INT. MISS MAHONEY'S CLASSROOM - SHORTLY LATER

(CLOSE ON BRADLEY, AS HE ENTERS,
LOOKS AT BLACKBOARD, WHICH WE
DON'T SEE)

BRADLEY

(SHAKES HEAD "NO")

Sorry, Tootie, that will not be
satisfactory.

(A FULL SHOT, TO INCLUDE TOOTIE
AT THE BLACKBOARD. SHE HAS
WRITTEN ONE "I SHALL NOT BE
NOSY," AND MANY "DITTOS" IN A
ROW UNDER IT)

TOOTIE

"Dittos" don't slice it, huh?

BRADLEY

Start over.

TOOTIE

(ERASING THE "DITTOS")

I may be years ahead of my time.

(AT THIS POINT, GARRETT, ENTERS WITH
SUE ANN DRESSED AS IN LAST SCENE)

31/32

GARRETT

Mr. Bradley, I've been looking for you.

BRADLEY

Well, you've found me. What is it?

GARRETT

I've got two girls here, who are so
upset by your IQ foolishness that
they're packing to leave school.

BRADLEY

Sue Ann...Nancy...what's wrong?

SUE ANN

I'm not smart enough for this place.

NANCY

I'm too smart.

GARRETT

They just flunked their mid-terms,
thanks to you.

BRADLEY

What are you talking about?

GARRETT

Just yesterday, we had two very
intelligent girls here. Now we've
got two unhappy girls. I want you
to tell them to forget they ever had
IQ's, and IQ's don't mean a thing.

BRADLEY

Mrs. Garrett, I'm sorry the girls did
poorly on their test, but let's not go
overboard and blame their IQ's.

BRADLEY (CONT)

It would be dishonest to say their IQ's mean nothing. And I don't see any great harm in the girls finding out their scores.

TOOTIE

Does that mean I'm free to go?

BRADLEY

Stay, Tootie.

BRADLEY (CONT)

Obviously everyone's IQ isn't gonna be the same. If a person knows she has a lower IQ, it just means that she has to push a little harder to get the same results. Simple?

(TO SUE ANN)

I'm not going too fast for you, am I, Sue Ann?

SUE ANN

See? You're just like the rest of 'em, Mr. Bradley. I'm ashamed of my IQ and I hate that everybody in school knows what it is. That's why I'm leaving.

NANCY

Me too. All of a sudden, everyone expects too much of me.

SUE ANN

And too little of me. Nancy, did you hear what he said? "Am I going too fast for you?"

BRADLEY

I didn't really mean, fast, only for you. I meant fast for everyone. See, sometimes, when I'm deep into the jargon of academia, I even confuse myself. That's why I said that. Now, is that clear, Sue Ann?

SUE ANN

He did it again!

BRADLEY

No, I didn't. Nancy, you understand?

NANCY

Why should I? It's because you know

I have the highest I.Q., isn't it?

BRADLEY

It has nothing to do with your I.Q.

What's the difference if I know that

it's a hundred and...

NANCY

(INTERRUPTING)

Don't say it!

SUE ANN

Don't say mine either.

GARRETT

Y'know, Mr. Bradley, maybe the girls
would feel better if you'd tell them
your I.Q.

(MAHONEY ENTERS)

MAHONEY

Hello. What's going on here?

GARRETT

We're having a little discussion about
I.Q.'s.

BRADLEY

Yes, the girls are kind of upset. And
I guess it all started when everyone
found out their IQ's. I've been comforting
them.

MAHONEY

(LOOKING AT SULLEN GIRLS)

It looks like you're making great progress.

GARRETT

Y'know what I think would really be
comforting to the girls. If you'd share
your IQ score with them.

BRADLEY

Gladly. I'll send away to my old grade
school this morning.

GARRETT

You don't know your IQ?

BRADLEY

Not off hand.

GARRETT

Really? That makes us even.

BRADLEY

I doubt that. I mean, one of us is bound
to be higher than the other.

GARRETT

Or lower.

BRADLEY

Anything's possible.

GARRETT

Would it bother you, if my I.Q. were
higher than yours?

BRADLEY

Of course not.

GARRETT

Good. Why don't we both take an I.Q.
test right now?

BRADLEY

I'd love to... if it were only possible.
Unfortunately, we don't have any I.Q.
tests at the school.

MAHONEY

Yes we do, Mr. Bradley. They included a
sample I.Q. test with those scores you sent
away for.

(SHE PRODUCES TEST FROM HER DESK)

BRADLEY

(NOT MEANING IT)

Thank you, Miss Mahoney.

NANCY

Mrs. Garrett, you don't have time to
take the test.

SUE ANN

That's right. You're suppose to fly
solo this morning.

GARRETT

So, I'll fly this afternoon. The
sky isn't going anywhere.

BRADLEY

Maybe we should postpone the test till tomorrow. I wouldn't want you to be overly nervous.

GARRETT

Very thoughtful of you, Mr. Bradley.

(FLATLY)

Let's get started.

MAHONEY

Usually this is a written exam. It will be harder taking it orally.

GARRETT

It's alright with me, Mr. Bradley.

BRADLEY

Child's play.

MAHONEY

Very well. I'll administer the exam.

(SHE HAND EACH OF THEM PENCIL AND PAPER)

Take your seats.

(THEY SIT NEXT TO EACH OTHER)

No, Mr. Bradley. Here, please.

(SHE POINTS TO ANOTHER SEAT)

An open seat prevents temptation.

(BRADLEY GLARES AT HER , MOVES)

Now write you name in the upper right hand corner. Last name first, first name last.

BRADLEY

Miss Mahoney. Get on with it.

MAHONEY

Alright, I'm going to read a set of
five words. I want you to write down the
two that are most similar to each other.

Ready?

(BRADLEY AND GARRETT, PENCILS
POISED, EYE EACH OTHER COMPETITIVELY)

GARRETT/BRADLEY

Ready.

MAHONEY

Pen... chicken... gold... rifle...
paper...

(BRADLEY SMILES, WRITES)

BRADLEY

Mmm hmm.

GARRETT

(TOPPING BRADLEY'S MMM-HMM)

Mmm-hmm.

MAHONEY

Next set. Remember the two that are
most similar. Tearing... melting...
running... burning... canoeing.

(GARRETT QUICKLY SMILES)

GARRETT

Of course.

(BRADLEY SHOOTS GARRETT A GLANCE,
THEN AFTER A MOMENT OF INDECISION,
WRITES HIS ANSWER)

MAHONEY

Ready? Pick a pair. Singing... coughing...
marching... eating... sleeping.

(GARRETT QUICKLY WRITES)

GARRETT

They get easier, don't they?

BRADLEY

(IRRITATED)

Do you mind?

(TO MAHONEY)

What was that? Singing? Coughing?

Melting? Canoeing?

MAHONEY

No, Mr. Bradley. Melting and canoeing
were from the first set. Would you like
me to repeat it?

GARRETT

It's okay. I'll wait.

BRADLEY

No. It's alright, I've got it.

(HE WRITES SOMETHING DOWN,
NERVOUSLY, THEN GLANCES TOWARD
GARRETT'S DESK)

MAHONEY

Do we have wandering eyes, Mr. Bradley?

(HE JERKS EYES TO THE FRONT)

Now we'll begin the vocabulary section.

Write down the meaning of the following
words.

(GARRETT AND BRADLEY WRITE)

Sudorific.

GARRETT

Well, I never thought that word would
come in handy.

BRADLEY

Mrs. Garrett! I object to your little
murmurings. I'm trying to take a test,
here.

GARRETT

I understand, Mr. Bradley. I don't want
to build up any undue pressure for you.
I wouldn't want you to "choke" as they say
in the big leagues.

BRADLEY

You make me choke? Are you crazy? Talk
all you want.

(TO MAHONEY)

Now what was that last word?

GARRETT

Sudorific.

BRADLEY

Sudorific? What kind of word is that to
use on a test. . . or anywhere?

GARRETT

Sudorific is kinda like this test, Mr.
Bradley. It means "causing sweat."

(TO MAHONEY)

GARRETT (CONT'D)

I know the word 'cause I grew up on a farm. The vet used to use it when the hogs got all in a lather.

(BRADLEY IS WIPING HIS BROW WITH A HANDKERCHIEF. HE STOPS, PUTS IT AWAY.)

BRADLEY

How fascinating?

MAHONEY

The next word is "octillion."

BRADLEY

Now that's a word. Easy.

(HE WRITES SOMETHING DOWN)

GARRETT

I hope you didn't put down "a kind of dance,"

'cause that's a cotillion.

(BRADLEY STARTS TO ERASE HIS ANSWER.

THE PAPER RIPS. BRADLEY IS AT THE END OF THIS TETHER)

BRADLEY

That's it! That's all! This test is over. It's totally ridiculous. It doesn't mean a thing!

(SHE CRUMPLES UP HIS PAPER AND HERS)

GARRETT

That's an interesting theory. I think I've hear it beofre. Maybe it was this morning, when I said it.

BRADLEY

Come on, I was under pressure. These aren't normal conditions. Okay, so I choked. Anyone can choke... Even Muhammed Ali had his Leon Spinks... and he's the greatest.

GARRETT

Well, Muhammed, now you know it feels.

BRADLEY

Okay, maybe you're right. I can see where anyone can do poorly on an I.Q. test. Even someone with great ability.

GARRETT

See, girls, I hope you were listening. You can't live life by the numbers. And that's all an I.Q. really is. What's important is how well you use your natural abilities, and how hard you try. Isn't that right, Mr. Bradley?... Or am I going too fast for you?

BRADLEY

(MIND ELSEWHERE)

What? -- Of course not.

SUE ANN

Okay, Mrs. Garrett, you're finally getting through... even to me.

NANCY

Me too. Maybe I could take the IQ test
over and do as badly as Mr. Bradley.

MAHONEY

(LOOKING AT BRADLEY'S CRUMPLED TEST)

Don't expect to equal this, unless
you're willing to go without sleep
for weeks.

BRADLEY

(SMILES)

I did do pretty pitifully, didn't I?
Mrs. Garrett, if it would make anyone
feel better, you can post my IQ paper
on your bulletin board.

GARRETT

No one would believe it.

BRADLEY

I think I'd like to take that test again
sometime, under normal conditions.

GARRETT

Good idea. And I assume you won't
mind the girls taking their mid-terms
again, under normal conditions.

SUE ANN

NANCY

Yeah, could we?

Really.

BRADLEY

Wonderful. I'm glad we thought
of it. Miss Mahoney, you'll do the honors?

MAHONEY

My pleasure. Three o'clock, girls.

BRADLEY

Tootie, I guess you did us a service
by bringing this IQ problem out into
the open. You're free to go.

TOOTIE

Now he tells me, when I'm up to four
hundred and ninety three. Can you credit
these to my account for the next time
I'm nosey?

BRADLEY

Alright, I owe you. Well, I've gotta
fly.

(BRADLEY EXITS)

GARRETT

(REALIZING)

He's gotta fly? I forgot about my solo.
It's time to take off...

(APREHENSIVELY)

...all by myself. Girls, will you be
okay this time? ~~You won't be nervous.~~

SUE ANN

We'll make a deal with you Mrs. Garrett.
If you ~~won't be nervous~~, we won't be
nervous.

GARRETT

That's the spirit, girls. You've inspired
me. Watch out, Red Baron, here I come.

(MRS. GARRETT TURNS, WALKS RIGHT INTO
A BENTWOOD COATRACK FULL OF COATS)

GARRETT

Pardon me.

(SHE GIVES EVERYONE THUMBS UP,
AND EXITS, AS WE:)

DISSOLVE TO:

ACT TWO

SCENE TWO

INT. GIRLS' ROOM - LATER

(THE GIRLS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT MRS.
GARRETT)

SUE ANN

I'm really worried about Mrs. Garrett.
She should have been back by now.

BLAIR

Why did she have to take flying lessons,
anyway?

NATALIE

Yeah. If she wanted to fly, why didn't
she become a stewardess?

CINDY

(CROSSED FINGERS)

I'm sure she's okay.

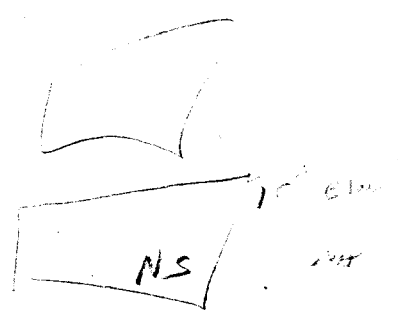
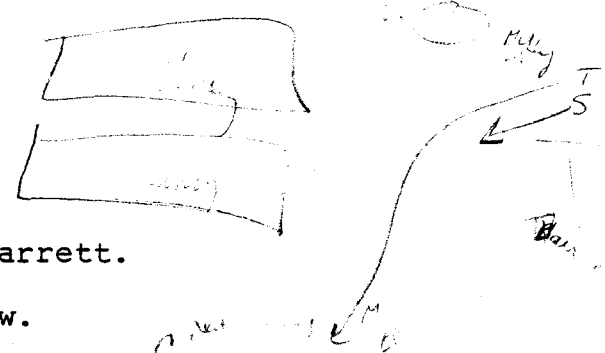
(TOOTIE COMES SKATING IN WITH
A PAPER)

TOOTIE

Hey, you guys, guess what....I just got
the results of Mahoney's history exam.

(SUE ANN AND NANCY SAY NOTHING)

Well, don't you care what you got? I'll
tell you. Nancy got a ninety-three.



ACT TWO

SCENE TWO

INT. GIRLS' ROOM - LATER

(THE GIRLS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT MRS. GARRETT)

SUE ANN

I'm really worried about Mrs. Garrett.

She should have been back by now.

BLAIR

(CROSSES TO SUE ANN)

Why did she have to take flying lessons,
anyway?

NATALIE

(CROSSES TO THEM)

Yeah. If she wanted to fly, why didn't
she become a stewardess?

CINDY

(CROSSES TO THEM, SHOWS CROSSED FINGERS)

I'm sure she's okay.

(TOOTIE COMES SKATING IN WITH A PAPER)

TOOTIE

Hey, Sue Ann, Nancy...I just got the
results of your makeup mid-term exam.

(SUE ANN AND NANCY SAY NOTHING)

Well, don't you care what you got?

I'll tell you. Nancy got a ninety-three.

(ALL THE GIRLS AD LIB CONGRATULATIONS
TO NANCY, "WHAT A GREAT SCORE," "NOBODY
GOT A 93 AROUND HERE BEFORE," "GREAT
GOING.")

SUE ANN

Congratulations, Nancy.

TOOTIE

(GOES TO SUE ANN)

Aren't you interested in yours?

SUE ANN

(SUE ANN SHAKES HEAD)

I don't put as much faith in test scores
as I used to.

TOOTIE

That's too bad...because you got a
ninety-eight.

(THE GIRLS CONGRATULATE SUE ANN)

SUE ANN

(SHOUTING)

All right!

(THEN CALMLY)

Really?

(THE GIRLS PLAYFULL HIT HER WITH
PILLOWS. THE DOOR OPENS AND
MRS. GARRETT COMES IN HUMMING,
"UP WE GO", IS WEARING FLIGHT HELMET AND GOGGLES)

CINDY

Mrs. Garrett, we were really worried
about you.

GARRETT

I was worried too.

(TO NANCY AND SUE ANN)

How'd you do on the test?

SUE ANN/NANCY

(POINTING AT EACH OTHER)

93....98.

GARRETT

(PULLS GOGGLES BACK)

Wonderful, I didn't do badly either. I
was sworn into the Lucky Lindy club
and they gave me these goggles as a souvenir.

MOLLY

We were worried, Mrs. Garrett. You too
so long

GARRETT

Well, I had a little problem. I ran out
of gas.

MOLLY

You ran out of gas while you were flying?

GARRETT

No, while I was driving home.

(THE GIRLS LAUGH)

MOLLY

Edna Garrett, full fledged pilot.

SUE ANN

Pilot Edna Garrett, the Junior Birdmen
of America salute you.

(THEY PUT THEIR HANDS AROUND THEIR EYES AND
FACE AS BRADLEY HAD DONE PREVIOUSLY WITH HIS
BIRDMAN SALUTE)

ALL

UP IN THE AIR JUNIOR BIRDMAN

UP IN THE AIR UPSIDE DOWN...

(AS THEY SING, SUE ANN AND NANCY SHOW
MRS. GARRETT THEIR TEST SCORES.)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO