

Blocking Assignments

ACT THREE SCENE ONE

GENERAL:

The structure of the scene lies in the comic dialogue and the timing. Everything depends on movements and quick responses. The set is identical to all of the other scenes in the salon and won't be repeated here. There will be no Extras/Support people in this scene.

ACTION:

The image on the screen is same one as before with the Salon picture up until the end of the scene. Louise enters the stage area during the blackout along with Bev from entrance E. Louise sits in the waiting area and Bev moves over to the cashier counter. The stage lights come on and the dialogue begins. Louise moves from her chair in the waiting area over to sit in the styling chair. Bev crosses the stage to her usual position behind the styling chair.

Everything that Bev needs in the way of salon supplies must be on the trolley. There are no special directions regarding the script as it is printed. When Bev finishes with Louise she is wearing a full facial and her hair is covered by a large hair cap. Bev sets the timer for her hair and facial. Louise moves back to the waiting area and sits quietly. There is a newspaper on the chair right beside your.

Alex enters the stage by ramp A. He quickly glances around and sees that there is no one else waiting. Bev sees Alex and says his name deliberately and loudly enough so that Louise will hear it. Louise quickly grabs the newspaper and holds it upside down in front of her to hide herself even more and slouches down into our seat.

Alex takes a seat in the style chair and asks Bev to give him a trim and a shave. He then asks his leading question "When are you leaving to pickup Brian?" he follows up Bev's response by indicating that he won't be out late because he intends to drop Louise off and "see what's cookin' elsewhere"

Bev is shocked by what Alex is saying and catches Louise's attention as Louise peaks around the side of the newspaper that is closest to the audience. Without thinking Bev asks Alex "Why are you acting so strange? This ill fated question prompts a barrage of negative comments from Alex directed at Louise. At first Louise drops the paper so that she can hear better. Bev realizes what she is doing and quickly spins the chair away from Louise and facing the 4 o'clock position.

Alex continues his slandering Louise. Louise attempts to get out of her chair but Bev motions her to sit down. Each time Bev's attention is drawn away from Alex she loses track of what he is saying in her attempt to calm Louise. This comedy allows Alex to share even more boldly his scorn for Louise and her presumed lover. Bev recovers by giving Alex a shave and lathers up his whole face. In an effort to quiet him down, Bev goes over to the cashier counter where there is a stack of towels and a basin. She quickly drops one of the towels into the basin and pretends to the audience that it is very hot.

Alex continues and while Bev is getting the hot towel Louise sneaks over to the trolley and picks up the razor and holds it high in the air. Bev slaps the hot towel on Alex's face and takes the razor out of Louise's hand and tries in vain to give Alex his shave. Alex speaks up again but this time Bev shoves the

shaving brush into his mouth and apologizes. Bev has to keep Louise at bay using her body and the trolley as Brian arrives at ramp A. At first Brian recognizes Louise who acts like she doesn't recognize him, which prompts Brian to question "Say is that you Louise?" When Alex hears Brian say Louise's name he sits up straight in his chair covered in soap and looks back and forth at both of them.

Louise manages to get past Bev, grab a wet towel and throw it and Alex. Brian jokingly says "is that you Mr. Watson?" the dialogue continues to flow as Louise and Alex scold each other. Brian and Bev now get out of the way and stand over beside the cashier counter. Bev picks up the timer and she deliberately sets off the alarm while holding the timer in her hand to that it goes off momentarily. Bev follows up by trying in vain to get Louise's attention. Louise circles behind Alex trying to catch him off guard. As she does so Alex tries to keep up with her by spinning the chair around to follow her movements. Finally, Louise ends up on the left side of center stage beside the styling chair and Alex in frustration turns the chair away from her and faces Bev and Brian.

This all happens as Louise is crying and Alex who is now facing away from Louise says victoriously "Aha! There you see, what a loser" Louise fights through the tears with her explanation and when Alex realizes what is been happening he spins the chair back methodically in her direction and begins his apology. Alex gets out of the chair takes Louise by the hand and they both walk together toward the front of the stage at ramp A. They pause there and then put their faces together as if to kiss each other with both of them covered by the facial and shaving cream.

Alex suggests that they leave and go back to her place. Louise speaks to Alex once more before they both exit saying "This thing on my face is really starting to itch." Bev moves forward holding out the timer to Louise and gesturing for her to come back. Brian steps up beside her and they both look at each other. Bev speaks first and then Brian comments on the two lovebirds. Brian exits the stage by ramp A and waves goodbye to Bev as he leaves. Bev goes back over to the trolley picks up the bowl with the remaining facial product in it and is about to put some on her face but she quickly has second thoughts and immediately puts the bowl down again. The image on the screen goes to black and the stage lights go to black. Bev exits the stage at E.

PROPS LIST:

The list of props is the same as all of the other salon scenes plus the following:

Newspaper on the chair.

Hair cap

2 aprons (one for Louise and one for Alex)

Facial product.

Hair colour product

Mixing bowl for hair colour.

Wash basin sink

Pile of towels beside wash basin

Razor

Shaving bowl and brush with shaving soap.

Timer that can be set easily to go off and makes a good sound.

Window

The seasonal tree for Winter.

STAGE DIRECTOR NOTES:

The stage directions are focused on Louise making her movements according to the script and the blocking above in the Action section. She fights to get at Alex but allows Bev to block her. She stays to the left of the stage except to get the towel. When she does so her back is toward Bev who is at the cashier counter, therefore Bev cannot tell her that the alarm has gone off. She circles Alex in the chair and he spins himself in the chair to always keep her in sight and briefly facing away from the audience. When Louise stops at the 9 o'clock position she starts to cry. Alex turns away while she is crying and faces the 3 o'clock position. When he turns back to face her again he makes his apology. Brian and Bev stay close to each other. Alex and Louise take centre stage when all is mended. Bev tries to reach Louise one more time and moves to the front centre stage area. Brian joins her at her side as the two players take us out of the scene which ends up with Brian making his exit at A and Bev leaving the stage when the lights go black at E,

COSTUMING:

Nothing special needs to be costumed for this scene except that Louise is to be covered by a hairnet and an apron. When they both exit the stage they are still wearing their aprons. All of the Players are wearing normal attire and Bev wears her stylist apron.

IMAGE SCREEN OPERATOR:

The image on the screen is the same as in all of the other salon scenes.

MAKEUP:

The makeup is critical to handle the facial and the shaving cream on Alex. The consistency of the product used must last throughout the entire scene. Everyone else does not need special makeup.

LIGHTING:

The lighting follows the image on the screen and the entire stage is well lit. After Brian exits and Bev returns to the facial bowl on the trolley at the end of the scene the image goes to black and then the lights go black. Bev exits by the rear exit E.