

## MONOLOGUE PREP TIPS

**Choosing your monologue is an important part of the audition preparation.** A polished monologue gives you the opportunity to showcase your acting skills and demonstrate your connection to specific characters. Here are some suggestions to get you started.

- 1) Familiarize yourself with the show (Googling “Guys and Dolls musical” will give you good info). Read the script, listen to the music (available on Spotify and YouTube), watch samples of performances on YouTube and read all of the audition information that is provided.
- 2) Think through it: Which role(s) do I see myself in? Which role(s) do I think the directors will see me in? Consider all the possibilities - and don't limit yourself! Be open to discovery and trying something new.
- 3) Choose a monologue that captures the essence of the characters that you would like to be considered for. (But understand that the audition team will consider you for all roles unless you state you are not interested in specific parts.)
- 4) Rehearse, rehearse, and rehearse some more! Get comfortable with the character and your piece. Memorization is preferred, but not required. Bring your script if it will allow you to better show the character.

## FEMALE MONOLOGUE OPTIONS

### **ADELAIDE** (Female Presenting – 30s-40s)

Hello Nathan, dear. You go ahead, girls. Order me a tuna fish on rye and a chocolate sundae with tomato ketchup and mayonnaise. We gotta get back to the Hot Box and continue rehearsing. That slave driver Charlie - He's been working us all day. Finally I says “Look, Charlie, I'm starving! I gotta get outa here and get something to eat.” And he says, “You don't want to eat. You just want to sneak out and meet that cheap bum, Nathan Detroit.” I told him. I says, “I'll meet whoever I want!” (*Sneeze*)

(*Nathan - how is your cold?*)

My cold is the same. I went to the doctor and he asked me how long I had had it, and I told him a long time. I thought it was on account of my dancing with hardly any clothes on, which is what I usually wear, and he gave me this book to read, because my cold might be due to psychology. It is very interesting and tells you why girls do certain things.

### **MIMI – HOT BOX DANCERS** (Female Presenting – 16+)

Anybody see an earring out here?

(*Seeing Nathan Detroit*)

You! I'm all dated up tomorrow with Society Max and he breaks it on account of your dopey crap game.

Honest, Adelaide, I pity you!

(*seeing her earring on the floor*)

Oh, here it is. Thank goodness. I spent a whole two bits on these last week. They match my shoes, you know.

Goodbye Adelaide and good riddens to you, you two bit gambler! Humph!

## MALE MONOLOGUE OPTIONS

### **ARVIDE** (Male Presenting – 50s+)

Not so fast, Sarah, not so fast. Look, suppose we don't have a big meeting tonight - suppose nobody is there at all. We'll explain it to the General. Remember, sinners are not respectful and well behaved - as we saw last night when they gambled in our mission. But some day they'll be praying there. Even a man like Sky Masterson. He came here to seek refuge, but now he is seeking you. I knew it the minute he started picking on you. What I didn't know was that you were going to get stuck on him! And don't try to get over it - it's not pneumonia you know! I've always taken care of you, Sarah. All I want is for you to be happy.

### **NICELY NICE JOHNSON** (Male Presenting – 20s-40s)

Poor Miss Sarah! I wonder why a refined doll like her is mixed up in the Mission dodge. It's too bad that such a doll wastes all her time being good. How can she make any money at that?

Hey! Benny! Sky was just following Miss Sarah, and you should have seen her. She give him a look that would have cooled off a moose at mating time. No way is he taking her to Havana. He couldn't take this doll to New Rochelle! Hey, where's Nathan? He ought to start lining up the game. I suppose he is trying to see Adelaide. She's mad at him again. That Mis Adelaide. She is always taking his mind off honest work.

### **BENNY SOUTHSTREET** (Male Presenting – 20s-40s)

Hey! Nicely! Sky was just following Miss Sarah, and you should have seen her. She give him a look that would have cooled off a moose at mating time. No way is he taking her to Havana. He couldn't take this doll to New Rochelle! Hey, where's Nathan? He ought to start lining up the game. I suppose he is trying to see Adelaide. She's mad at him again. That Mis Adelaide. She is always taking his mind off honest work.

### **HARRY THE HORSE** (Male Presenting – 30s-60s)

Hey Benny Southstreet! Tell me, what about Nathan Detroit? Is he got a place for his crap game? I'm loaded and looking for some action. I just collected five thousand dollars - on account of I collected the reward on my father.

*(to Nathan Detroit)* Where's the game Detroit? If you do not have no place for your game, tell us, and we will seek elsewhere for our entertainment. I hope, Detroit, you will not spoil our evening, inasmuch as I happen to be entertaining a very prominent guest tonight. I think you might have heard of him. I want you to meet Big Jule (*Julie*) from Chicago. What do you say Big Jule, should we stick around or shall we blow?

### **LIEUTENANT BRANNIGAN** (Male Presenting – 40s-50s)

Any you guys seen Nathan Detroit? The Nathan Detroit who's been running a floating crap game around here, and getting away with it by moving it to a different spot every night.

You can tell him for me: I know that right now he's running around trying to find a spot. Well, nobody's gonna give him a spot, because they all know that Brannigan is breathing down their neck!

### **NATHAN DETROIT** (Male Presenting – 40s-50s)

What do you mean? A marker ain't just a piece of paper that says I.O.U. One thousand dollars signed Nathan Detroit. A marker is a pledge which a guy can't welch on it. It's like not saluting the flag. My marker is as good as gold, only Joey Biltmore don't think so - It don't seem possible. Me without a livelihood. Why, I have been running the crap game ever since I was a juvenile delinquent. I'm broke! I couldn't even buy Adelaide a present today, and you know what day today is? It is mine and Adelaide's fourteenth anniversary. Yeah. We have been engaged fourteen years.

*(After being threatened by Big Jule)* Go ahead - shoot me! Put me in cement. At least I know where I am. Here I risk my neck to set up a crap game. I even promise to get married on account of it. So look how I end up. Broke in a sewer. Believe me, my tough friend from Chicago, there is nothing you can do to me that would not cheer me up.

**GENERAL CARTWRIGHT** (Male presenting – 40+)

Good morning Sarah, Arvide. I got in early this morning. I've spent the last hour trying to find you. There is something I want to talk to you about.

*(Sarah - Will you come in and have lunch?)*

No, I don't have time, dear. I have several other calls I need to make. Sarah, we at headquarters have come to a definite conclusion. We have decided to close this branch of the Mission. Sarah, there are so many calls on us - so many other places where our work is needed.

If I thought the mission had a chance -

*(Sky - I promise a dozen genuine sinners at the next meeting.)*

Hallelujah!

**BIG JULE** (Male presenting – 30s-40s)

Wait a minute. Where are you all going? I came here to shoot crap and I don't care who is tired. I am out twenty-five G's so nobody leaves. Give me the dice I am shooting a thousand! Detroit, I am going to roll you willy nilly. If I lose, I will give you my marker and if I win you will give me cash. And to change my luck, I will use my own dice. I had them made for me especially in Chicago. I had the spots taken off for good luck. But don't worry, I remember where the spots formerly were.

**SKY MASTERSON** (Male Presenting – 20s-40s)

When I was a young man about to go out into the world. My father says to me a very valuable thing. He says to me like this: "Son," the old guy says, "I am sorry that I am not able to bankroll you to a very large start, but not having any potatoes to give you I am now going to stake you to some very valuable advice. One of these days in your travels a guy is going to come to you and show you a nice brand-new deck of cards on which the seal is not yet broken. This guy is going to offer to bet you that he can make the Jack of Spades jump out of the deck and squirt cider in your ear. But son, do not bet this man, for as sure as you can stand there you are going to wind up with an ear full of cider." Now, Nathan, I do not claim that you have been clocking Mindy's cheesecake. However if you're really looking for some action, I will bet you the same thousand that you do not know the color of the necktie you have on.