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***We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!***

**ArtAge Publications**

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**MATZO BALLS**

By

Jordan R. Young

**CAST**

SHIRLEY HOLMES: An inquisitive 65-year-old retired homemaker.  
DOTTIE WATSON: A slightly befuddled 70-year-old grandmother.  
LAINIE MOSKOWITZ: A sharp-tongued cook at Sunny Acres retirement home.  
MAXINE LESTRADE: A no-nonsense police inspector.  
PATRICK MORIARTY: AN 60-year-old Irish Protestant clergyman.  
RADIO ANNOUNCER: A smooth resonant voice, heard but not seen. May be spoken by the actor playing Moriarty.

Place

The living room of Sunny Acres, a New Jersey retirement home.

Time

The present.

Setting: *The living room of Sunny Acres.*

*At Rise: SHIRLEY HOLMES and DOTTIE WATSON are sitting at a card table, engrossed in Casino, a game of cards. LAINIE MOSKOWITZ is curled up in an easy chair with a novel. They are plainly dressed. HOLMES shuffles a deck of playing cards; WATSON cuts the deck and HOLMES deals them out: four cards each of them, and four cards face up. WATSON studies her hand and makes a face.*

WATSON: You call this a hand?

HOLMES: A hand is a hand.

WATSON: What kind of cards are these?

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HOLMES: Playing cards.

WATSON: Smarty pants.

HOLMES: We'd better hurry up if we're going to get in another game before the show, Dottie.

WATSON: Hurry schmurry, with cards like this, what's the difference?

MOSKOWITZ: Shush!

WATSON: This isn't a library, Moskowitz.

MOSKOWITZ: People are trying to read.

WATSON: So what?

MOSKOWITZ: Some of us are trying to expand our minds.

WATSON: Some of us have a high opinion of ourselves.

HOLMES: Never mind already, let's play.

WATSON: What's the rush, Shirley? You got an ace up your sleeve?

HOLMES: Wouldn't you like to know?

*(WATSON plays a second card. HOLMES reaches out with a card from her hand, and scoops all the cards off the table.)*

WATSON: Big shot.

HOLMES: At my age, I haven't got time to mess around. *(She checks her watch and hurries to turn on the radio.)*

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