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*We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!*

**ArtAge Publications**

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SHENANIGANS AT THE BLUE PELICAN INN

By

Kathleen Crandall

CAST

SOPHIE: Owner and manager. Perky, chatty, busy-body, but means well. Wears casual clothes with a name tag.

GEORGE: Sophie's husband and co-owner/manager. Easy going, tries to keep his wife in check, wears coveralls.

BARBARA: Single woman, a bit on the dramatic side, casual clothes.

JIM: Single man, quite nerdy with button-down short sleeved shirts and khakis.

DR. LOUISE WINSLOW: A PhD professor of Philosophy, from New England. Single, very proper and snobbish. Proper business attire with hats. Becomes casual as days go by.

MARTHA WINSLOW: Louise's single sister. A well known attorney also from New England, and just as snobbish. Proper business attire. Becomes casual as days go by.

HENRY FULLER: On his second honeymoon with his wife, shows affection for Patsy. Casual clothes.

PATSY FULLER: Henry's wife. Giggly, happy and shows her love for her husband. Casual clothes.

PLACE

A small, cozy inn somewhere along the southern coast.

TIME

The present, over several days.

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ACT ONE

*Setting: The lobby of the Blue Pelican Inn. There is a small front desk counter with register book, pen, phone and other items found on a lobby desk. A small sign hangs on the front of the desk. It reads: Come for a rest in our cozy nest. There are a couple of chairs with a coffee table between them. There are two floor lamps, one upstage of each chair. Assorted magazines and travel brochures lie on the coffee table. Entrance to lobby on one side of stage, exit to rooms on other side. Another exit behind desk to owner's apartment.*

*At Rise: As the lights come up, SOUND CUE: the telephone rings. SOPHIE enters quickly with mail in her hand. Putting down the mail, she picks up the phone.*

SOPHIE: Hello. The Blue Pelican Inn. Come for a rest in our cozy nest. How may I help you? Let me check the reservation book. *(She holds the phone away buying time. Perhaps examining her manicure or flipping through the mail.)* Yes, we still have several rooms open for that week. *(listens)* All right, but you may want to put a deposit down. Our rooms go quickly this time of year. Deposits are \$200. Hello? Hello? *(She looks at the receiver).* Must be one of those bad cell phone connections. *(She hangs up phone.)* I can't believe I forgot the mail yesterday. *(She sorts the stack.)* Bill...bill...request for a brochure...bill...bill...junk...junk.

*(GEORGE enters from off stage. He wears coveralls and carries a small tool box.)*

SOPHIE: Oh, George, when you're done fixing our sink, could you check on room five? The Hendersons called and said they have a drippy bathtub faucet.

GEORGE: I just fixed that for them yesterday. *(SOPHIE shoots him a look.)* Oh, okay. Let me take care of our sink first.

*(He exits as JIM enters.)*

SOPHIE: Hello, Jim. Going out alone? Where's David?

JIM: My brother got a call late last night. Problem at work. He left early this morning.

SOPHIE: Oh, that's too bad. Will he be able to come back?

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JIM: Hope so. He's such a workaholic, ya know.

SOPHIE: He sure looked tired when you two arrived.

JIM: Yeah, that messy divorce really took it out of him.

SOPHIE: Well, I hope that won't stop you from having a good time.

JIM: Nope. I'm going to the pier, see what they're catching, and then stop by that little diner down the street for lunch.

SOPHIE: That's a nice place.

JIM: I had the best roast beef sandwich there yesterday. By the way, do you have a copy of today's newspaper? (*SOPHIE hands him a newspaper.*) Thanks. (*He turns to go. On his way out, he nearly bumps into BARBARA. Calling as he leaves*) See you later.

SOPHIE: Barbara, how good to see you. How was the drive over?

BARBARA: (*sadly; putting down her suitcase*) It was okay.

SOPHIE: Just okay? (*BARBARA nods.*) You know, I keep telling George that we've got to make a trip up the coast one of these days. That is if we can ever close down for a week or two. Ah, when you're in the Inn business, it's hard to get away. (*She laughs at her own joke. Then she notices.*) Where's your Mama? Didn't she make the trip with you?

BARBARA: (*holding back tears*) No. Mama didn't make the trip. She passed away this winter (*pulling out a hanky*).

SOPHIE: I'm so sorry. I didn't know.

BARBARA: She...just went to sleep one night. And when I went in to check on her...she was gone. (*The tears are flowing now*) She was only...one hundred...and ...four. (*She wails loudly.*)

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