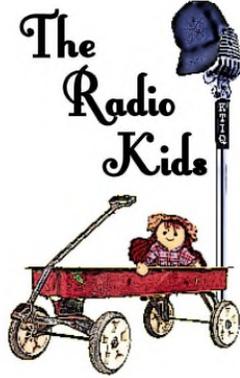


ACTOR'S COPY OF



in the Mystery of the Clump in the Night

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Microphone line-up:

Line up your cast on the stand-up mics however it works best for height, lines, personality, etc.

ON-AIR versus OFF-AIR: There should be a marked difference between the “on-air” and “off-air” attitude and demeanor of each actor. When they are “on,” they are ON! The difference emphasizes the performance aspect of radio as well as being just plain fun.

ONSTAGE: Margaret, Charlie, Nan, Kathleen, Sammy

Margaret sitting in chair in front of a mic, arms folded, looking somewhat grumpy. Charlie standing around, hands in pockets, rocking on his heels, looking bored. Nan and Kathleen each in chairs, reading a magazine, looking at each other’s magazine, then switching, turning a page or two, then switching again. Sammy sitting on chair in front of his mic, twirling his cap.

Joanie and Patricia walk on and stop, one on either side of Margaret. They look at Margaret, then at each other, then put their hands on their hips and look back at Margaret.

JOANIE: Margaret, why do you look so *grumpy*?

PATRICIA: Yes, Margaret. You have an unhappy face. (With her index fingers, takes her own smile to a frown.)

MARGARET: (Eyes each girl) My mother makes me eat my spinach, and I have a little brother. Do you really need to ask?

Girls look at one another and nod.

JOANIE: That’s understandable. (Girls go to their mics)

Suzie and Frannie come skipping on together and stop next to Joanie and Patricia.

FRANNIE: Hi Joanie. Hi Patricia. (Suzie and Frannie look at Margaret)

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SUZIE: (Shakes her head sympathetically) Oh, spinach and little brother again, eh? (The girls nod yes)

MARGARET: See, *they* didn't need to ask.

PATRICIA: (Studying Charlie, hands on hips) *Your* face isn't very happy tonight, Chucklin' Charlie.

CHARLIE: You know it's just my stage name. Too much work to chuckle. I save it *all* for the microphone, right Sam?

SAMMY: (Still looking bored and twirling hat) Yep, Charlie.

FRANNIE: We get paid *80 cents* for the show tonight!

SUZIE: (cutesy) We're *stars*!

JOANNIE: Hey, girls. We can go roller skating tomorrow!

PATRICIA: And have plenty left over to go to the soda fountain!

SUZIE: And get a Black Cow!

KATHLEEN: (Suddenly looks up from magazine) A Black Cow?! I mean, and how!

MARGARET: What's a Black Cow?

SUZIE: A root beer float, silly! Bong! (pointing to her head, to say "You should know that")

MARGARET: Sorry. I'm too busy eating spinach. And force feeding my piggy bank.

JOANNIE: I just *love* the soda jerk. I love the way he talks!

SAMMY: (suddenly mimics soda jerk lingo) You mean like this? Adam and Eve on a raft!

SUZIE: I know that one! Two poached eggs on toast!

SAM: Wreck 'em!

PAT: Two *scrambled* eggs on toast!

SAM: How about Bossy in a bowl?

JOAN & PAT: Beef stew!

CHARLIE: (joins in) Coney Island chicken!

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FRANNIE: Coney Island chicken! I love *hot dogs*!

NAN: House boat!

KATHLEEN: That's a banana split! (They both clap with delight)

SAMMY: (with silly emphasis on first word) *Nervous* pudding!

JOANIE: (Squeals) Jell-O!!

PATRICIA: The soda jerk is really fun! All the girls think he's just *aces*!

CHARLIE: I want to go hit a flick. And see the newsreel! Want to go, Sam?

SAMMY: Maybe. Will your momma let you go to the pictures?

CHARLIE: (Annoyed) Yes! (Looks over Nan's shoulder) Popular Mechanics?! What's a *girl* doing reading Popular Mechanics?

KATHLEEN: It's her dad's. And it's really swell.

NAN: There's an article in here about a new invention called the *Telly-vision*. Moving pictures in a box! Someday, you won't have to go to the movie theater. Look here. It's at the 1939 World's Fair in New York.

SAMMY: "Aah! (short "a" as in *at*, nasal, as in "naah" without the "n") It'll *never* replace *radio*. (Pause) So...what's the show tonight, anyway? Anybody know?

Debbie walks on with a smug, all-knowing expression.

DEBBIE: I think *I* know what the show's about. (With drama) I heard it's a mystery!

Kids "ooh" and "oh, goodie" with some excited interest.

CHARLIE: (Rubs his hands together) Great! I *love* scarin' people.

Laura runs on to center stage and screams, scaring everyone on stage. Girls toss up their magazines. Sammy and Margaret jump out of their chairs. Charlie ducks and covers his face.

LAURA: [Scream!!]

NAN: Laura! What on earth is going on?

KATHLEEN: You nearly scared us to death!

PATRICIA: (Looking at the cowering Charlie) So you like scarin' people, huh, Charlie?