

**THE GREAT
AMERICAN
TRAILER PARK
CHRISTMAS
MUSICAL**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
DAVID NEHLS

BOOK BY
BETSY KELSO



DRAMATISTS
PLAY SERVICE
INC.

THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL
Copyright © 2014, David Nehls and Betsy Kelso

All Rights Reserved

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that performance of THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL is subject to payment of a royalty. It is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, and of all countries covered by the International Copyright Union (including the Dominion of Canada and the rest of the British Commonwealth), and of all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention, the Berne Convention, and of all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations. All rights, including without limitation professional/amateur stage rights, motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all other forms of mechanical, electronic and digital reproduction, transmission and distribution, such as CD, DVD, the Internet, private and file-sharing networks, information storage and retrieval systems, photocopying, and the rights of translation into foreign languages are strictly reserved. Particular emphasis is placed upon the matter of readings, permission for which must be secured from the Author's agent in writing.

The English language stock and amateur stage performance rights in the United States, its territories, possessions and Canada for THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL are controlled exclusively by DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC., 440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. No professional or nonprofessional performance of the Play may be given without obtaining in advance the written permission of DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC., and paying the requisite fee.

Inquiries concerning all other rights should be addressed to Creative Artists Agency, 405 Lexington Avenue, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10174 Attn: Chris Till.

SPECIAL NOTE

Anyone receiving permission to produce THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL is required to give credit to the Author(s) as sole and exclusive Author(s) of the Play on the title page of all programs distributed in connection with performances of the Play and in all instances in which the title of the Play appears, including printed or digital materials for advertising, publicizing or otherwise exploiting the Play and/or a production thereof. Please see your production license for font size and typeface requirements.

Be advised that there may be additional credits required in all programs and promotional material. Such language will be listed under the "Additional Billing" section of production licenses. It is the licensee's responsibility to ensure any and all required billing is included in the requisite places, per the terms of the license.

SPECIAL NOTE ON SONGS AND RECORDINGS

For performances of copyrighted songs, arrangements or recordings mentioned in this Play, the permission of the copyright owner(s) must be obtained. Other songs, arrangements or recordings may be substituted provided permission from the copyright owner(s) of such songs, arrangements or recordings is obtained; or songs, arrangements or recordings in the public domain may be substituted.

THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL was originally produced by Stages Repertory Theatre (Kenn McLaughlin, Producing Artistic Director) in Houston, Texas, opening on November 13, 2013. It was directed by Kenn McLaughlin; the musical director was Steven Jones; the set design was by Jodi Bobrovsky; the costume design was by Nara Lesser; the lighting design was by Michael Clark; the sound design was by Yezminne Zepeda; the choreography was by Betsy Kelso; and the production stage manager was Sara Hodgins Brossman. The cast was as follows:

BETTYSusan Koozin
LINOLEUMCarolyn Johnson
PICKLES Ivy Castle
RUFUS JETER.....Corby Sullivan
DARLENE SEWARDChelsea Ryan McCurdy
JACKSON BOUDREAUXJosh Morrison

CHARACTERS

DARLENE SEWARD, late 20s to late 30s. Darlene is a year-round “Scrooge.” She hates everybody and everything all the time and isn’t afraid to show it. But underneath her hard exterior is a wounded girl who once believed in true love and Christmas magic. That ended when a terrible accident happened one icy Christmas Eve in another place, another time. But Darlene won’t even have to leave the trailer park to get jolted out of her anger and start believing in things again, because Armadillo Acres’ heavy-handed use of Christmas lights brings extra-special excess voltage.

RUFUS JETER, late 20s to late 30s. Rufus is best described as a redneck with a heart of gold. Well-liked around the trailer park, he spends most of his downtime fashioning “art” out of found objects. He’ll finish off a six-pack as fast as the next guy, but the next guy won’t see the artistic potential in the empties that Rufus can. It will take him by surprise when this unique ability extends to his grumpy neighbor Darlene — a woman he usually refers to in words that would land most people on Santa’s “other” list.

JACKSON “JACKIE” BOUDREAUX, 40 to 50-something. Jackie is a self-made man and an all-American success story. He took a simple idea and turned it into a thriving local breastaurant chain. Unapologetically capitalistic, Jackie doesn’t discriminate — money is money no matter whose pockets it’s comin’ out of. But Jackie plays to win and he has a possessive side. This comes out when he returns from a business trip to find his girlfriend acting like a completely different person altogether.

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES are also known as “The Girls.” Unlike the rest of the cast, they occasionally break the fourth wall to bond with the audience and help tell the story.

BETTY, 38 to 50-something. Betty has lived at Armadillo Acres for at least 20 years. Part hard-ass, part mother hen, she’s the leasing manager at the trailer park and she makes it her business to know everything about everybody who passes through. Betty is rumored to have buried her husband at Armadillo Acres after whacking him a little too hard on the head with a frying pan, so she feels connected to the trailer park in a deep and special way. Of all the Girls, Betty is the most grounded, earthy, and dry-witted.

LINOLEUM, 30s to early 40s. Mostly known as just “Lin,” she was formerly a death row wife until the State of Florida flipped the switch on her husband Earl and made her a death row widow. Lin is rumored to have spent time on several

tour buses with famed (and not-so-famed) rockers of the 1980s. That said, her love for her late husband was passionate and steadfast, so she is having some difficulty moving on. Generally speaking, Lin is the fieriest of all the Girls.

DONNA a.k.a. “PICKLES,” late teens to early 20s. Donna got the nickname “Pickles” when she became afflicted with a hysterical pregnancy that turned out to be a real pregnancy that resulted in her giving birth to a baby with an entirely different complexion from her husband’s. She is now single. New to motherhood, Pickles is often tired, but she still finds energy to embrace the joy of the holiday season. Pickles is a devout believer in Santa Claus and of all the Girls, she is the most airy and wide-eyed.

SETTING

Most of the action in *THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL* takes place at Armadillo Acres, a trailer park in a North Florida town called Starke. There are also excursions to Jackie’s breastaurant and the local 99-Cent Store.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Christmas in My Mobile Home	The Girls/Rufus
Christmas is For Dummies.....	The Girls/Rufus/Darlene
It's My Favorite Time of Year	The Girls/Rufus/Darlene
Twelve Days of Amnesia.....	The Girls/Darlene/Rufus
Christmas Memories	Rufus/Darlene
Baby I'll Be Your Santa Claus*	Jackie/"Waitresses"
My Christmas Tin Toy Boy	Darlene
Christmas Leather Love.....	Darlene/The Girls/"Skanks"
Fuck It, It's Christmas	Company

ACT TWO

Christmas in My Mobile Home (Reprise)	The Girls
There Will Always Be Christmas Next Year.....	The Girls
Black and Blue Christmas Eve.....	Rufus
Heart Full of Christmas.....	Company
Trailer Park Christmastime (Epilogue).....	Company

* This version of the script has Darlene present for (but not singing in) "Baby I'll Be Your Santa Claus." Another option is for Darlene to use the number to change into her work uniform (same as the other Waitresses' breastaurant uniforms) and enter right after the number ends. In this case, the number would take on a less narrative form, and more of a vaudeville or promo-for-the-breastaurant feel.

THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

ACT ONE

Armadillo Acres is mid-holiday-decorating. A Christmas tree divides two properties — one trailer is on its way to holiday sparkle, the other trailer is bare like the tree itself — one half decorated, the other side bare.

Betty, Lin, and Pickles take a break amidst boxes of tinsel, ornaments, etc., soaking up the sun, drinks in hand.

BETTY.

THE WEATHERMAN SAYS IT'S A HUNDRED AND TWO
BUT THE HUMIDITY DON'T MAKE ME BLUE

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES. (*Ad lib.*) That is nice / Beautiful day / Gorgeous (etc.)
PICKLES.

THOUGH IT'S ONLY THE TWELFTH OF DECEMBER
LIN.

WE'RE ON THE LAWN THROWIN' BACK SOME BOOZE
BETTY.

THE HEAT AIN'T GONNA KEEP OL' SANTA AWAY
LIN.

NO MATTER HOW HIGH THE MERCURY ON CHRISTMAS DAY
PICKLES.

PUT OUT YOUR MACARONI MARY AND SPRAY YOUR FAKE
SNOW

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

THIS TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS IS READY TO GO!
BELLS GONNA JINGLE, LIGHT UP KRIS KRINGLE

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE HOME
SET THE HOLIDAY SPAM AND GRANDMA'S BOURBON JAM
PUT UP YOUR FEET, YOU'LL HAVE NO REASON TO ROAM
WE GOT SOME WHITE CASTLE SLIDERS, SPIKE UP THE CIDER
ALL THEM PRESENTS ON CREDIT MAKE MY DOUBLE-WIDE
WIDER

PLUG IN THE FIRE, IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE HOME

BETTY. (*Addressing the audience.*) Happy holidays and welcome to Armadillo Acres — Starke, Florida's most festive trailer park! Rumor has it, come December, you can see Armadillo Acres from space.

LIN and PICKLES. (*Ad lib.*) It's true, I saw it on Nova / It's super-sparkle-y (etc.)

BETTY. Oh, it's such a magical time! Even the meth lab in Unit 23 is cookin' ham instead of crystal. My name is Betty and I'm the manager around here. Some of you already knew that because it ain't your first time at the trailer park. No use denyin' — I can smell the Boone's Farm from here. But if you are brand new, do not worry — it won't be long before it feels like you're celebratin' Christmas in your own backyard. (*Lin comes forward, holding an urn. She also wears a special locket around her neck.*)

LIN. Yeah, I'm Lin, but my full name is Linoleum because my mama gave birth to me on the kitchen floor. I'm also a death row widow. Last year, the state fried my husband Earl on account o' his transgressions, so I honor his memory by wearing some of his ashes around my neck. This way he stays close to my ... (*Getting emotional.*) To my ... To my ...

PICKLES. Tits?

LIN. (*Breaks down crying.*) Yeah! (*As Betty consoles Lin, Pickles comes forward.*)

PICKLES. I'm Donna but everybody started callin' me "Pickles" on account o' my cravings when I was hysterically pregnant, which turned out to be a real pregnancy that ended with me givin' birth to a baby with a much darker ... complexion than my former husband's. So now I'm not just a new mom ... I'm also a single mom. (*Feigns enthusiasm ...*) Yay! (*... But starts to cry.*) I'm tired. Oh ... so ... tired.

BETTY. (*Music slows ... Pickles nods off while standing; lets out a snore.*) This happens from time to time. (*Nudging her awake.*) Pickles —

PICKLES. Baby's first Christmas! (*Lin tosses a spray of ashes.*) Look, y'all — it's snowin'!

BETTY. I think we just lost the back row. (*Sings.*)

OUR TRAILER PARK FAMILY AIN'T THE TYPICAL KIND

LIN.

LIKE ANY MIX BAG OF TRASH, YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT
YOU'LL FIND

PICKLES.

DON'T NEED NO FACEBOOK INVITATION OR A FANCY
E-VITE

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

ALL ARE WELCOME, LET'S MAKE THIS HOLIDAY A DELIGHT
BELLS GONNA JINGLE, LIGHT UP KRIS KRINGLE
IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE HOME
GO ON A SHOPPIN' SPREE, PULL OUT THE TIN FOIL TREE
PUT UP YOUR FEET, YOU'LL HAVE NO REASON TO ROAM
WE GOT YOUR THREE WISE STRANGERS, SNOW GLOBE
CHANGERS

LIN.

DON'T BE OFFENDED BY MY *STAR WARS* MANGER

BETTY.

THAT OUTLET'S IN DANGER

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE HOME

BETTY. (*To audience.*) Now, I gotta be up-front with y'all. Much as we love the holidays around here, somethin' always seems to go wrong. Everyone'll be all happy and decorating and the next thing you know, the place is crawlin' with psychics and divorce lawyers.

PICKLES. It's the Armadillo Acres Christmas Curse!

BETTY. (*Dramatic chord; everything stops, allowing the weight of the "curse" to land.*) Be that as it may, I got a feelin' our luck is about to change, because after writing letters and sending photos for fifteen straight years, *Mobile Homes & Gardens* is finally comin' to Armadillo Acres on Christmas Day! And if we're selected as the best-decorated trailer park in North Florida ...

LIN and PICKLES. Whoa / That's some serious competition (etc.)

BETTY. We can win a \$10,000 cash prize!

LIN. Omygod!

PICKLES. We're rich!!!

BETTY. I swear the whole thing is enough to make me believe Santa Claus might actually exist! (*They all share a chuckle.*)

PICKLES. Wait. (*Music out.*) Whaddaya mean *might* actually exist?

BETTY.

WE'RE GONNA DECK THEM HALLS

LIN.

JUST LIKE THE NEAREST MALL

PICKLES.

MORE TWINKLIN' LIGHTS THAN THEY GOT AT SEARS

BETTY and LIN.

THAN THEY GOT AT SEARS!

PICKLES.

WE'LL CELEBRATE THE YULE

LIN.

AT THE CHRISTMAS EVE TRACTOR PULL

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

THAT'S A HOLIDAY FAVORITE EVERY YEAR

(Rufus Jeter comes out of one of the almost-decorated trailers. He is best described as a redneck-with-a-heart-of-gold.)

RUFUS.

DECK THE HALLS WITH PLASTIC HOLLY

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

RUFUS.

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

RUFUS.

DON WE NOW OUR POLYESTER APPAREL

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

RUFUS.

AND CAROL BRADY SINGS MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROL

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

RUFUS. Hey, y'all!

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES. Hey, Rufus! *(Rufus works on decorations.)*

BETTY. That's Rufus Jeter. He holds down a variety of jobs to make ends meet. For example, gas station attendant.

LIN. Pet stylist.

PICKLES. Understudy joustier at Medieval Times.

LIN. Hand model for Stigmata.

BETTY. But he always finds time to help out with the decorating. See, with all these jobs Rufus works, he looks forward to Christmas bein' his one day off. Come to think of it, I think Rufus reflects the spirit and warmth this season brings out in all our hearts. *(Music out.)*

RUFUS. Christmas, fuck yeah! *(Sings.)*

DECK THE LAWN WITH LIGHT-UP FLAMINGOS

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

RUFUS.

MIRROR BALLS IN EVERY WINDOW

BETTY, LIN, PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA

(Rufus busts out a keg.)

RUFUS.

TAP THE KEG NOG AND THE FUN BEGINS

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

LIN.

OOPS BABY JESUS NEEDS PLUGGED IN

BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

FA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA

ALL.

WHOA YEAH!

BELLS GONNA JINGLE, LIGHT UP KRIS KRINGLE

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE HOME

WE'LL CELEBRATE YOUR WAY

RUFUS.

WE'LL BOX ON BOXING DAY

RUFUS, BETTY, LIN, and PICKLES.

PUT UP YOUR FEET, YOU'LL HAVE NO REASON TO ROAM

PICKLES.

MY BABY WILL SCORE A KWANZAA AURA

BETTY.

I FINALLY GET A CHANCE TO LIGHT THAT BEER CAN

MENORAH

LIN.

LET'S ALL DANCE THE HORA, IT'S

(They dance the hora.)

ALL.

CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE

CHRISTMAS IN MY MOBILE —

(Darlene Seward — the trailer park “Scrooge” — bursts out of the bare trailer, hair a mess, cigarette in mouth, robe/slippers — maybe an anti-Christmas t-shirt. Hag-like.)

DARLENE.

STOP RIGHT NOW! TELL ME WHO IS TO BLAME

THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by David Nehls

Book by Betsy Kelso

2M, 4W

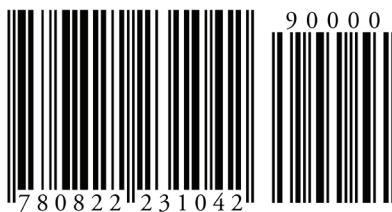
It's holiday time down in Armadillo Acres (North Florida's premier mobile-living community), and everyone's filled with warmth and beer. But when a freak bout of amnesia strikes the trailer park Scrooge, neighborly love is put to the test. Be on hand as Betty, Lin, and Pickles jingle all the way with some new neighbors in an all-new, all-trailer-park musical! This companion to the original GREAT AMERICAN TRAILER PARK MUSICAL is just as much of a cat-fightin', sun-worshippin', chair-throwin' good time — but with tinsel and Keg Nog.

“Being a fan of the original musical, I knew what I was getting myself into with this production. Yet, the most pleasant surprise was Betsy Kelso’s heartwarming and riotously hilarious book ... the writing [delivers] clever one-liners, puns, and zingers that leave the audience absolutely breathless with hearty laughter. [David Nehls’] spunky melodies are catchy and the lyrics so gut busting that you’ll need to see the show more than once to catch all the jokes because of how much you’ll be laughing.”

—**BroadwayWorld.com**

Also by David Nehls and Betsy Kelso
THE GREAT AMERICAN
TRAILER PARK MUSICAL

ISBN 978-0-8222-3104-2



DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC.

9 780822 231042