



HONKY TONK HISSY FIT

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HONKY TONK HISSY FIT was originally scheduled to receive its world premiere at Chamberlayne Actors Theatre, Richmond, Virginia, on September 18, 2020. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the premiere had to be cancelled. We dedicate this play to Kelly St. Clair and all the members of CAT Theatre who tirelessly sought to find a way to produce this comedy.

The original Jones Hope Wooten logo was designed by Joe Conner and Mike Stevens.

ON LICENSING *HONKY TONK HISSY FIT*

Under no circumstances should any female role in this comedy be played by a male or any male role in this comedy be played by a female.

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All of the characters portrayed in *Honky Tonk Hissy Fit* are fictional creations, and any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

AUTHORS' NOTES

We suggest up-tempo music be played pre- and post-show, at intermission, and especially during scene transitions.

We urge scene changes be made as quickly as possible to maintain a lively pace for the play.

We urge the costume change for Caprice in Act One, Scene 6 be made as quickly as possible.

The actor who plays Nash can also provide the voice of Harley.

The Person playing Unhappy Person in Act One, Scene 6, can be an audience member, a special surprise guest (*think local celebrity*) or a member of the crew and could be a different Unhappy Person each night of the run.

“Baby’s Sexy Music” should be a rhythmic disco song and should be the exact same music cue each time it plays.*

* See Note on Songs/Recordings at the back of this volume.

CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance)

BIG ETHEL SATTERWHITE, 60s

GEORGIA DEAN RUDD, 40s

NASH SLOGGETT, 40s

LARK BARKEN, 20s

CAPRICE CRUMPLER, 70s

HAYWOOD SLOGGETT, 70s

JOVEETA CRUMPLER, 40s

NORWAYNE “BABY” CRUMPLER, 40s

HARPER CHANNING, 30s

HARLEY DOBBS, 40s (Voiceover Only)

PLACE

In and around the living room of Joveeta’s mobile home in the trailer park community of Doublewide, Texas. Other locations are indicated only by pools of light.

TIME

The present. Eight days in late spring.

HONKY TONK HISSY FIT

ACT ONE

Scene 1

A spotlight comes up downstage center on a lectern. Big Ethel Satterwhite, brusque, down-to-earth, enters stage left in colorful nurse's scrubs, stethoscope around her neck, legal pad in hand, strides to the lectern, addresses the audience.

BIG ETHEL. So y'all *did* make it—I would've lost good money on that! To all you residents who hit the sangria in the rec room after last night's Johnny Cash sing-along and are strugglin' to remember *anything* this morning this is Stairway to Heaven Retirement Village—*where you live*—and I'm Big Ethel Satterwhite, your LVN. Now... (*Reads from the pad.*) as we all know, it's been a big week of goodbyes. Bodie Fussell, who never backed down from a dare, passed this week after that tragic skateboard accident. We'll never forget Bodie's last words: "Here, hold my beer and watch this." We also said adios to our dear friend Miss LaVeenia Skaggs, a life-long *single-tarian* whose final request was that she have no male pallbearers at her funeral. She said, "Men wouldn't take me out when I was alive, so they sure as hell ain't takin' me out when I'm *dead*." Okay, so much for the grim reaper report. Here's good news—all y'all are invited to the grand reopenin' of the renal facility over in Tugaloo. Yep, the Kidney Corral is back in business! And you'd never know that Lurleen's Pralines next door blew up and took out the entire renal center with it. Lurleen's donatin' free pralines for the openin' and swears she'll never store a gas can in the water heater closet again—lesson learned. Now

this is a big fundraiser for the Kidney Corral with a special theme: *Dialysis In Wonderland*. Cute, right? There'll be games, refreshments and a surprise competition between every town in McTwayne County, even my little hometown, Doublewide. Plus, y'all get to cast your vote for two lucky candidates you think should shoot to the top of the list for the next transplant, but only one kidney per winner. Now, my final announcement is a blockbuster—today's my last day at Stairway to Heaven. I know it's a shocker, but ever since I lost my husband, O.C., I've been thinkin' it's high time for a new adventure. It pains me to say goodbye and I want you to cut your new nurse, Iota Clopton, some slack—especially since she's only workin' with the one leg. As my parting gift, I leave you with the three words that lead to happiness—live, laugh, love... (*Beat.*) Oh, who am I kidding, y'all are *Texans*—you know the three words that lead to *real* happiness are Lime, Salt, Tequila. Give 'em hell, kids! (*Thumbs up. Blackout.*)

Scene 2

Later that afternoon. A spotlight comes up downstage right on "Bronco Betty's Buffeteria"—a table with two chairs. Georgia Dean Rudd, gregarious ball of fire, in a pink shirt, pink skirt, white apron, cowboy hat, big earrings, pink neck scarf and Western boots, sweeps the floor. Her phone rings, pulls it from her pocket.

GEORGIA DEAN. (*Into phone.*) Bronco Betty's Buffeteria, we heat it, you eat it. Georgia Dean speaking... Hey, Nanelle, thanks for getting back to me. Shug, your mama was here again for lunch and I did my best to serve her the diet platter like you asked me to but as soon as she laid eyes on the cottage cheese and melba toast, she pitched a conniption. And girl, once she sniffed those chili cheddar spuds on the buffet, she plowed past me like a country preacher scrambling for the collection plate. Now I know I promised to keep Mama Tidwell in check but, Nanelle, you just need to make your peace with the fact that there *will* be a Plus Size mama in your

HONKY TONK HISSY FIT

by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten

3 men, 6 women

In this rollicking, hilarious comedy, the Doublewide, Texas, gang is back and life in their tiny town has gotten crazier than ever! Just when things are looking up—the population has grown to seventeen mobile homes and a weekend farmers' market—the rug is pulled out from under the residents yet again. It seems their vacation rental trailer has drawn unwanted attention from a mega-corporation in Austin. Suddenly the corporation is interested in Doublewide. *Waaaay* too interested. Mayor Joveeta Crumpler is the only one suspicious enough to sound the alarm, but no one is listening. Her mother, Caprice, is too self-involved with her "career" as a local celebrity to sense the growing threat, or to even realize that grumpy old Haywood Sloggett is increasingly drawn to her—and Sloggett is fighting those romantic feelings tooth and nail. Caprice is also hell-bent on keeping her neighbor and rival, Big Ethel Satterwhite, from horning in on her domain—the Stagger Inn bar. Big Ethel has her hands full trying to teach the town's good-ol'-boy police chief, Baby Crumpler, how to dirty-dance for a countywide competition. But Baby's got as much chance of winning as Georgia Dean Rudd has of not jinxing her relationship with Nash Sloggett—she's twisting herself into knots trying to dodge his constant marriage proposals. And as the danger to the town grows, Joveeta can't even count on the usually reliable and sweet health fanatic Lark Barken—because she's currently under the spell of a demon she's only recently discovered: caffeine. But as the tentacles of the corporation envelop them all, can the citizens of this little Texas town put aside their problems and unite behind Joveeta to fight "the big guys" and turn the tide in Doublewide? A heap of hilarity with a whole lot of heart—and a stand-alone play in its own right—HONKY TONK HISSY FIT is the third comedy in the trilogy that begins with *Doublewide, Texas* and continues with *A Doublewide, Texas Christmas*. By the triumphant finale of this ferociously funny Jones Hope Wooten comedy (Could there be a double wedding in Doublewide?), you'll be throwing fits, alright—fits of laughter that'll make your sides ache!

Also by Jones, Hope, Wooten
A DOUBLEWIDE, TEXAS CHRISTMAS
THE RED VELVET CAKE WAR
SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY
and others

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