

How To Succeed in Business ... Audition Monologues- CHOOSE ONE – Memorized would be nice, but. If You do not memorize the passage, rehearse it enough that you read smoothly, expressively, and loudly. Show us that you know understand the character.

Mr. Biggley: Tell me, what are you heading for around here? What's your ambition in this outfit? Bright fellow like you must have it all planned out. Advertising? Son, I wouldn't want that for an old schoolmate of mine. It's too tough...too insecure. Why, this place has had fifteen new advertising managers in the past year alone. The poor devils disappear at the rate of about one a month. Ideas! That's what I look for. I keep hiring men who are supposed to have brilliant ideas and not one of them will ever do what I tell him. No, son, you stick to what you're doing. You'll do all right there. Damned good department.

Bud: I hope you aren't ambitious Finch and if you are it would be best for you to keep in mind that it is not a good idea to be so. See, you just remember who I am and who you are and we'll get along fine. You do know who I am don't you...if you need a little reminder I am Mr. Biggley's nephew...that's right his ONLY nephew...and because of this I have a certain place of importance. Now I am willing to be your friend and show you some of the ropes but keep in mind my level of importance and if you don't...well...since my Mother is Mrs. Biggley's sister. If I feel something's wrong, I phone my mother. She phones Mrs. Biggley, and Mrs. Biggley phones Mr. Biggley. That's the DEMOCRATIC way.

Finch: You know, J.B., I've always thought of you as a man of breadth and vision...open to new ideas. But now I don't know. I'm thrown. The way you just spoke to Bud about his idea for a treasure hunt. You dismissed it. The fact is, there are treasure hunts and there are treasure hunts. When Bud brought it to me, I thought it was a rotten idea too. But then I remembered something. You know an idea in itself is nothing. It's the development that counts. Leonardo DaVinci drew some sketches for a flying machine, but it took American know-how to develop them into the Boeing 707. A man named Gatling once invented a little machine gun, but it took a mighty brain to take this simple little machine gun and develop it into a great program like "The Untouchables." When I thought of that, Bud's silly little idea became a challenge to me, and I said, "I'm going to take this idea of Bud Frump's and de-frump it."

Rosemary: Hello, Ponty. You're first office. It's beautiful. I can only stay a minute. I just wanted to tell you that I had a good time the other night. But – just one thing Ponty...About what happened later. I mean, when we said goodnight. It was our first date and I don't want you to get the wrong impression of me, but...well, I guess it's natural for a fellow to try to get a little fresh with a girl and make a pass at her, but you didn't do anything!

Smitty: What's going on with you why this frantic urgent urgency. And where is this happy to keep his dinner warm stuff coming from Rosemary? Your Motherly instinct is a real drag...I mean let him make his own TV dinner. And what may I ask makes this creep any different from any creep out there working hard to do nothing but expecting to rise to the top and take over the business world. Just another executive where we have to praise his achievements, ignore his tantrums and resist the urge to sit him down and explain to him how his brain is not yet fully developed.

Hedy: I thought you were going to help me be a big businesswoman like Helena Rubenstein or Betty Crocker. So what happens? I'm stuck in the damn stenographic pool with no one to fish me the hell out. I gave up a wonderful job. Head cigarette girl at the Copa. It's no different around here in big business. At least at the Copa, when I got pinched, I got tipped. Around here a girl can't bend down to pick up a pencil with confidence. Look, you did not keep your part of my bargain.

Character Descriptions:

J.B. BIGGLEY - President of the World Wide Wicket Company.

(Age 40+) Biggley is the head of the company, and makes sure everyone knows it. However, he is completely brought to his knees by the women in his life, and finds solace in knitting. Great character part – will need to be able to sing and dance through ‘Grand Old Ivy’.

BUD FRUMP - Biggley’s nephew.

(Age 20 something) The boss’s nephew and Finch’s nemesis. An arrogant, obnoxious young man who makes numerous attempts to advance his career through devious schemes and by using his family connections. A very funny part.

J. PIERREPONT (Ponty) FINCH – Window cleaner.

(Age 20 something) Finch is young and driven to succeed in the business world with the aid of his trusty book. He is charming and self-assured, but occasionally un-nerved by the intensity and speed of his rise to power, and the rather underhand way he’s getting there. With quite an opportunistic, self-centred personality, the role requires an actor with natural charisma and charm to keep the audience on his side.

ROSEMARY PILKINGTON – Office Secretary

(Age 20 something) A secretary who is far more interested in finding a man to marry than advancing her career. After meeting Ponty, she immediately sets her sights on becoming Mrs. Finch. She supports him in his climb to succeed in the company. She is spurned and ignored several times throughout the show, but continues to return to Finch.

SMITTY - Office Secretary

(Age 25 ish) Smitty is friend and confidante of Rosemary. She is less idealistic (although also keen to find a man) than Rosemary and encourages her in her efforts to snag Finch. Good comedy role – quick-witted and cynical with a dry sense of humour. throughout the show, but continues to return to Finch.

HEDY LA RUE - The Other Woman

(Age 30 – 35) Hedy is the sexy bombshell who is having an affair with Biggley. She is not bright, but knows how to use her looks to succeed in the company. She later appears as the pirate mascot in the company “treasure hunt.”