

"MR. I.Q."

- DINK / MYRTLE

ACT THREE

4 pgs. (pg 27, 28)
37, 38
19

FADE IN:

19 INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Dink Bradley sits at the makeup table, pulling up his sagging jowels with surgical tape. MYRTLE GROGGINS, a diminutive woman with a high-pitched nasal voice (that can shatter glass when she's excited), stands on several phone books to gain enough height to iron Dink's pants. *(Ignore the reference to the*

DINK

Fire me, will they? Throw me out like an old wingtip -- because they want someone...

(sneers)

Younger.

He covers his bald spot with black spray.

MYRTLE

Are ya sure, Dink?

DINK

Sure? Am I sure? They gave me my pink slip -- and guess what, it was pink.

He begins applying several tons of makeup to hide his wrinkles.

DINK

As of Friday, I'm history.

(sighs)

No more supermarket openings. No more backstage passes to Barry Manilow. No more free oil changes at Dan's Lube 'N Lingerie.

(pounds table)

Well, Dink Bradley will not go gently into that unemployment line!

MYRTLE

After all these years, you gotta have a sock full.

DINK

Ha! After three divorces, the only thing I have left is socks with holes.

Slamming down the makeup brush, he turns to her with a maniacal glint in his eye.

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED:

19

DINK

That's why I chose that walking redwood as my final contestant. He's big and dumb and you can beat the pants off him.

MYRTLE

Why would I want to do that?

DINK

Do what?

MYRTLE

Take his pants off?

DINK

You two wouldn't be related, would you?

MYRTLE

No, dummy. We're related. I'm your sister.

DINK

Shhhhh! No one must ever know.

(leans toward her;

whispers)

With you as a contestant and me giving you the answers, you'll win the jackpot and we'll split the ten thousand dollars.

(then)

As for your opponent, I'm going to give him a few special surprises.

As he throws his head back with a triumphant CACKLE...

20 EXT. ACADEMY GROUNDS - DAY

20

the Cannon Master rolls a large boulder toward the cannon. Peering defiantly at his nemesis, he begins lashing himself to the rock with heavy rope. Satisfied he's securely fastened, he lights an extremely long taper and sets it to the cannon's fuse.

The fuse sparks and crackles. The Cannon Master waits smugly. The fuse sputters and dies. The Cannon Master frowns. Is this some foul trick? The seconds tick by.

Finally, he unties himself, steps cautiously to the cannon. As he's leaning down to inspect the fuse -- KABOOM!

CONTINUED

26 INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - QUIZ SHOW STAGE - DAY

26

Dink Bradley strolls on stage, the effervescent MC you've seen on countless game shows, all sparkling teeth, twinkling eyes and hollow soul.

DINK

And now ladies and gentlemen, let's meet our two contestants, Myrtle Groggins and Luke Kackley!

APPLAUSE as Luke and Myrtle take their places in the starting blocks at opposite ends of the stage.

DINK

You know how the game is played. First one to reach the top of the ramp and ring the fire bell gets to...

(dramatically)

Name that answer.

More mindless APPLAUSE.

DINK

Are you ready?

Casey gives Luke a thumbs up from the wings. Dink raises a giant gun and fires. A loud BANG fills the stage and the two contestants leave the starting blocks like Olympic sprinters.

Luke reaches his rope first, grabs the rings and swings out -- only to have the rope SNAP from its mooring. He comes CRASHING down on the trampoline and tears RIGHT THROUGH IT. Luke's head sticks out of the hole, the rest of his body lost beneath it.

Myrtle swings out, lands on Luke's head -- OOOOF! -- runs up the ramp and swats the bell.

DINK

Myrtle Groggins, you've made it to the top of the ramp first. Are you ready to...name that answer?

MYRTLE

Lay it on me, Dink.

DINK

(reads index card)

When the commander of the American Revolutionary Forces at Bunker Hill was told the British were approaching...name that answer.

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED:

25

TICK-TOCKY MUSIC. Myrtle furrows her brow. Licks her lips.
Swallows hard. Finally:

MYRTLE

'Don't fire until you see the whites
of their eyes'...?

DINK

Correct!

Myrtle's SQUEAL of delight SHATTERS an overhead light,
EXPLODES a water pitcher, CRACKS a cameraman's eyeglasses.

And, as Casey watches the debacle with sinking heart, we --

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE