

LEAD role monologues for RETURNING Musical Veterans ONLY

Choose ONE of the 3

Harold Hill: Please folks. May I have your attention please? Attention please! I can deal with this trouble, friends, with a wave of my hand, this very hand! Please observe me if you will. I'm Professor Harold Hill, and I'm here to organize the River City Boys' Band! Prrrrr! Oh, think my friends, how could any pool table ever hope to compete with a gold trombone? Raaaa-raaaa-ra-da-da-da-raa-raa! Remember, my friends, what a handful of trumpet players did to the famous, fabled walls of Jericho! Oh, billiard parlor walls come a-tumb'lin' down! Oh, a band'll do it, my friends, oh, yes! I say a boys' band, do you hear me? I say, River City's gotta have a boys' band, and I mean she needs it today. Well, Professor Harold Hill's on hand and River City's gonna have her boys' band! As sure as the Lord made little green apples, and that band's gonna be in uniform! Johnny, Willy, Teddy, Fred! And you'll see the glitter of crashing cymbals. And you'll hear the thunder of rolling drums; the shimmer of trumpets – Ta-rah-tara! And you'll feel something akin to the electric thrill I once enjoyed when Gilmore, Liberatti, Pat Conway, The Great Creatore, W.C. Handy and John Philip Sousa all came to town on the very same historic day.

Well, you got trouble my friend. Right here, I say.

Mothers of River City. Heed that warning before it's too late! Watch for the telltale signs of corruption. The minute your son leaves the house, does he rebuckle his knickerbockers below the knee? Is there a nicotine stain on his index finger? A dime-novel hidden in the corncrib? Is he starting to memorize jokes from Cap'n Billy's Whiz-Bang? Are certain wooods creeping into his conversation? Words like "swell". A-ha! and "so's your old man". If so my friends. . .ya got trouble!

Marion Paroo: Now mama. Surely a girl's future doesn't depend on encouraging every fast-talking, self-centered, woman – chasing travelling man who comes to town. And the fact that he claims him commodity is music does not, in this particular case impress me. Even should that happen to be true that does not give the right for him to follow me around everywhere I go. I am not as easily mesmerized, or hood winked as some people in this town. I have a shelf of reference books that I may very well use to give me some interesting facts!

Winthrop! Winthrop! I know you are there. Please go to the library and ask Miss Grubb to give you the book I set aside. Its, the Indiana State Educational Journal 1890 to 1910. I have a feeling the Indiana Journal may help me poke so large holes in the Professor's claims. At my age, I'm not waiting for Luther Greiner who backs me into the Ancient History shelf every time he comes into the library. OR, old man Ed Gammidge and that buggy of his with the removable back seat. But I'm not waiting for a man in shining white armour either.

SHINN: How do you get any right around here? Aiding and abetting the swindling activities of this spellbinding cymbal salesman? You know what I see? You watch your frazology! I'll handle Zanetta and by the way, thanks for nothin'. I've read that book you gave me from cover to cover for a whole week now and didn't find a thing! By the time this band plays its first concert the individual member's will have to foregather in wheel chairs on account of the broken legs they'll get from tripping over their beards. Get his paper or get him in jail! I couldn't make myself clearer if I had seen a button hook in the well-water. I want this man's reverences and I wan't them tonight.

ENSEMBLE AUDITION Monologue for ALL underclassmen or first-time actors

Well I should think there out to be some of you who could forget our everlasting IOWA stubborn chip on the shoulder arrogance long enough to remember River City before Harold Hill arrived! Do you remember? Well, do you? Surely some of you ought to be grateful to him for what he's brought you River city and if so, I should thin you'd want to admit it. Have you people forgotten how you bought expensive uniforms, technical instruction books and high-priced band instruments? Have you forgotten the clear understand and warrantee that your children would be taught to play in a band? Well, Where's the Band? Where's the Band?