

# **KATASTROPHE KATE**

**The Most Dangerous Woman in the West**

*Book, music and lyrics by Stephen Murray*

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**STORY OF THE PLAY**

Hold on to your tumbleweeds 'cause here comes the legendary Katastrophe Kate, the most dangerous woman in the West! Whaddaya mean you never heard of her!!? Didn't ya know that Texas has a panhandle on accounta she was such a great cook?! This 90-minute Tex-Mex musical tall tale begins when Katherine, a mild-mannered, Eastern born and bred protégée of world-famous chef, Madame Julia Enfant, must transform herself into Katastrophe Kate in order to conquer the Wild West with her chili recipe.

In a steamy cook-off at Miss Lillian's Saloon, Kate also has a little romance simmerin' on the back burner with her arch rival, Jose Habañero, who claims to have the hottest chili in the Southwest. Into the musical melting pot, throw some dancin' girls called the Fosse Posse, add a dash of international outlaws for spice, and pepper with a prying reporter named Penelope Penmore, and you have a recipe for one red-hot, toe-tappin' Texas chili party!

The rip-roarin' score has just the right country-western flavor, featuring songs like "Texas Rodeo Angel," "I Think She's Got It," "Hot Stuff," "I Feel Lousy," and "Showdown."

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**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(11 m, 18 w, 8 flexible. Extras and doubling possible.)*

KATASTROPHE KATE/KATHERINE

JOSE HABAÑERO

MISS LILLIAN

SNAKEBITE SALLY/SVETLANA

SHERIFF SAM

DEPUTY DAN

PENELOPE PENSMORE

\*IVORY TICKLER (can be show accompanist)

**JOSE'S SIDEKICKS**

\*JALAPENO

\*CAYENNE

\*CILANTRO

**THE CHEFS**

MADAME JULIA ENFANT

PIERRE FLAMBE

WENDY WELLINGTON

\*THE SINGING CHEF

\*CRUSTY CROISSANT

ALLY MODE, THE SLEEPY CHEF

NUNZIO SPUMONI

PATTY PATE

BRATWURST PARFAIT

SARA LEE SCHNITZEL

CATHY COLANDER

**THE OUTLAWS**

HAGGIS MCGRUNDY

CACTUS PETE

TORTILLA SAM

WALTZIN' MATILDA

CRAZY AL CAPULCO

NATASHA BADANOV

\*ABIERTO CERRADO

TUMBLEWEED TESS

HANS KAPUT

\*TRAIN CONDUCTOR

**THE DANCING GIRLS, THE FOSSE POSSE**

LUCILLE FOSSE

BOSSY FOSSE

SUE

GLOSSY FOSSE

SAUCY FOSSE

*\*Indicates male or female role.*

**Time:** The late 1800s.

**Place:** Madame Julia Enfant's Cooking School in New York City  
and Miss Lillian's Saloon in Buckshot, Texas.

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**SONGS**

**SONG #1 - KATASTROPHE KATE** - Ensemble.

**SONG #2 - MADAME JULIA** - Chefs, Madame Julia.

**SONG #3 - TAKIN' A TRAIN TO TEXAS** - Madame Julia,  
Katherine, Conductor, Passengers.

**SONG #4 - MISS LILLIAN'S SALOON** - Miss Lillian, Dancing  
Girls, Outlaws, Saloon Customers.

**SONG #5 - JOSE HABAÑERO** - Sheriff, Saloon Customers.

**SONG #6 - HOT STUFF** - Jose, Sidekicks, Saloon Customers.

**SONG #7 - I THINK SHE'S GOT IT** - Sally, Katherine, Chefs,  
Madame Julia, Jose, Saloon Customers.

**SONG #8 - TEXAS RODEO ANGEL** - Lucille, Fosse Posse,  
Outlaws.

**SONG #9 - DID YA HEAR?** - Sally, Katherine, Saloon  
Customers.

**SONG #10 - SHOWDOWN** - Jose, Katherine, Saloon  
Customers.

**SONG #11 - I FEEL LOUSY** - Jose and Katherine.

**SONG #12 - TEXAS CHILI PARTY** - Ensemble.

***ACCOMPANIMENT CD:** In addition to piano and vocal scores, Eldridge Publishing offers a special accompaniment CD for this musical. The CD has both rehearsal tracks (with professional singers singing every verse of every song), and performance tracks (music only). To order, call Eldridge Publishing at 1-800-HI-STAGE.*

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**SETTING**

There are two simple settings for this musical, Madame Julia Enfant's Cooking School and Miss Lillian's Saloon. The cooking school may be played in front of a curtain if you need to accommodate a single unit set for the saloon. The saloon only requires a serving bar, cooking area, piano, and tables and chairs. In addition to the sets, a "train" is needed. The engine and cars can be made from cardboard cutouts and held by the train passengers who can look through cutout windows.

**PROPS / COSTUMES**

CHEFS: Various cooking utensils, serving dishes, and food. All need white aprons and chef hats and later change into Western outfits. In addition, some will need mime costumes. PIERRE has a beret and mustache.

PENELOPE: Reporter's notepad and pencil; ties and gag.

MADAME JULIA: Paper and pencil.

PETE and SAM: Paper and pencils.

OUTLAWS: Western outfits. HAGGIS should wear a kilt and ABIERTO should have a black mask.

JOSE: Western clothes with sombrero and handkerchief. Recipe on a piece of paper.

KATHERINE: Chef and Western costumes, container of her chili.

SHERIFF: Two floral bouquets, one fresh, the other wilted.

PRESET IN SALOON: Playing cards; various cooking utensils and serving dishes.

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**Director's Notes**

## **End of Freeview**

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