

Sealed in Spit

By Margaret Witt

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DEDICATION

To my husband, Thomas; my son, Chris; my sister, Mert; my favorite red-neck brother-in-law, Phil; and to the 2011 cast and crew of Sealed in Spit. Thank you all for your ideas, your talents, and your support!

STORY OF THE PLAY

The fun all begins when a rich businessman named Billy offers a considerable sum of money to a struggling matchmaking company providing its owners, three lovely sisters, can find his friend a perfect match within a week's time. Naturally, the sisters are extremely excited about this, especially since their company has suffered a host of problems from software issues to mismatched couples. But the generous offer doesn't look so rosy when they meet Billy's friend, Bubba, an illiterate Southern redneck who knows absolutely nothing about the intricacies of dating a woman. Now the sisters wonder if their days as independent entrepreneurs are officially over. How it will all turn out is anybody's guess, but be prepared to expect the unexpected as the plot unfolds with all of its twists and turns.

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

This show was originally produced at River Valley High School in Correctionville, IA, on March 25 & March 26, 2011.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(13 m, 13 w, doubling possible;
optional scene with children plus three flexible characters.)*

YOUNG BUBBA: Younger version of Bubba. *(Can double as older version of Bubba.)*

YOUNG BILLY: Younger version of Billy. *(Can double as older version of Billy.)*

SHERIFF: Confronts the young pair. *(Can double as one of the boyfriends, Nick or Joe.)*

DEPUTY: Assists Sheriff. *(Can double as one of the boyfriends, Nick or Joe.)*

LESLEY: The oldest sister. Part owner of the family-owned matchmaking company.

SARA: The middle sister, also part owner.

MADDI: The youngest sister, also part owner.

GARY: Helps run the business for the three sisters.

BILLY: Rich businessman. Owns Blake Security Systems.

AVA: Billy's girlfriend.

ANA: Billy's girlfriend.

SHARI: Billy's girlfriend.

KAT: Billy's girlfriend.

BUBBA: Computer genius disguised as an illiterate, red-neck hick.

NINA: Billy's girlfriend.

MARIA: Billy's girlfriend.

THOMAS: Disgruntled soldier. Judy's match.

JUDY: Anti-war activist. Thomas' match.

TY: Local cop. Missy's match.

MISSY: -Shoplifter. Chief of police in disguise. Ty's match.

NICK: Computer programmer at Blake Security.

SANDY: Likes to read. Wes' match.

WES: Sport's fanatic. Sandy's match.

JOE: Lesley's date.

TIFFANY: Airplane pilot. Taylor's match.

TAYLOR: "Aerophobic." Tiffany's match.

Optional Scene With Children

ABIGAIL – (*Flex.*) Naturalist. Nature camp leader.

GRACE – (*Flex.*) Naturalist. Nature camp leader.

ROSE – (*Flex.*) Naturalist. Nature camp leader.

CHILDREN - Speaking lines for 14 children. Lines can be combined for fewer children.

SETTING

The sisters' match-making company. A romantic parlor area. A couch sits diagonally just left side of center stage; a coffee table sits in front of it. Three chairs sit diagonally just right side of center stage. There are three entrances: the main entrance from outside is located upstage center; for the second entrance, stairs lead up and out of sight at upstage left; an open entryway is situated upstage right for third entrance. Various tables with flowers are scattered about, and an artificial 4 ft. tree is situated against the wall downstage right. Several pictures are hanging on the wall; one is of two naked little cupids holding their usual bows and arrows.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

Sc. 1: Some 15 years earlier, deep in the hills in the South. Billy and Bubba seal their friendship in spit.

Sc. 2: Present day, morning, New York. Taylor and Tiffany, clients matched by the sisters, break up. Lesley reveals the company is in financial trouble. Gary has talked to Billy, the very rich owner of Blake Security, who now appears with two dates. Billy wants the sisters to help his best friend Bubba clean up and find a match for him. Sara objects saying Billy messed with their computer program years ago and he is not trustworthy. Billy says if the sisters are successful, he will pay them \$100,000 each.

Sc. 3: That afternoon. Billy, along with two new dates, brings over a contract for the sisters to sign. He also brings Bubba, looking and acting like a wild man, who will stay with the sisters for his lessons.

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Sc. 4: Later that afternoon. Billy, with two new ladies on his arms, returns and raises the stakes for Sara. If she can find Bubba a match by the end of the week, he'll triple the payment. It'll be a challenge, especially when Bubba wants to keep his pet with him—a snake!

Sc. 5: The next day about lunch time. Billy arrives to take Bubba on his first arranged date. Thomas and Judy, two clients, break up. Ty and Missy, two other clients, almost break up. The sisters think their computer program might be malfunctioning. Bubba returns from his date cut short because he insulted her. He launches into a story of his and Billy's childhood which charms Ty and Missy.

ACT II

Sc. 1: The next day. Nick, employed by Blake Security, tries to fix the sisters' computer programming. Another client couple, Sandy and Wes, enter unhappy with their match. Bubba relays another hilarious story from his childhood and advises them to "make memories."

Sc. 2: Later that evening. Bubba returns from another disastrous date. He waits up for Lesley, and jumps to her defense when her date won't leave gracefully. Lesley realizes they both need a break and suggests that tomorrow they leave the city for the day.

Optional Sc. 3: Lesley and Bubba enjoy themselves in the country where they meet young campers.

Sc. 4: Sara and Mattie learn another couple wants their money back and the two sisters are fearful they may still lose the company. Bubba and Lesley return, relaxed from a day of fishing. Soon, all the troubled couples reappear, having made compromises to stay together including Thomas and Judy, Ty and Missy, Wes and Sandy, and Taylor and Tiffany.

Sc. 5: Several hours later. Lesley discovers Billy added to their pre-arranged plan when he asked Bubba to act like a hillbilly so Billy himself would look better in Sara's eyes. Sara discovers her sisters had arranged the whole charade with Billy so he could romance her again. But the ultimate trick is on all of them as Sara and Bubba reveal they executed their own plot. Love, even mismatched, can be a mysterious thing!

ACT I
Scene 1

(BEFORE CURTAIN: It is 15 years earlier than present day, somewhere deep in the hills in the South. As quiet music plays in the background, two young boys, YOUNG BUBBA, and YOUNG BILLY run in from the back of the auditorium. They're shoeless and wearing rolled-up coveralls and straw hats. They run up onto the front edge of the stage, breathless.)

YOUNG BUBBA: C'mon, Billy Bob. Hurry up! Do ya thanked they seen us?

YOUNG BILLY: I's a comin', Bubba. I cain't believed Jerry done gone and called the law on us again.

BUBBA: Me, neither. We we're jist havin' a little fun.

BILLY: Sure was, Bubba. Did ya seed his scare't face when he saw that thar' rocket on his roof that we done made?

BUBBA: Ya know, I cain't really says if'n I did, Billy Bob. I was a'laughin' so hard, I thought I'd done gone and wet myself.

BILLY: Well, he looked liked he was a'holdin' his heart to me.

BUBBA: *(Putting a finger to BILLY'S lips.)* Shhhh. Be quiet a minute. Did ya heard that? I thanked somebody's a'comin.

BILLY: What should we do?

BUBBA: Act liked we always do. Innocent.

BILLY: How we'd gonna do that this time?

BUBBA: Jist foller my lead. I've got this 'un.

(SHERIFF and DEPUTY TOM walk down auditorium aisle and up onto stage.)

SHERIFF: Howdy, boys. How y'all doin' today?

BUBBA: Howdy, Sheriff. Deputy Tom. We've been here a fishin' all mornin'. Ain't we, Billy Bob?

End of Freeview

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