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Calcie, Put Your Shoes On!

CHILDREN'S COMEDY. In the town of Loaferville, people really like to wear loafers. This is a big problem for Calcie, since she hates wearing shoes (especially loafers) but loves wearing pink furry slippers. One day, Calcie hides her pink furry slippers in her backpack and takes them to school. At school, she secretly slips off her shoes and puts her slippers on. Calcie's teacher discovers Calcie's slippers and reports the incident to the principal. The principal informs the police chief, who then calls the mayor. When the residents of Loaferville hear of Calcie's preference for wearing slippers instead of shoes, the town erupts into chaos until some shocking secrets are revealed at a town council meeting! With a flexible cast, there's a part for everyone in the class. The set is simple and can be composed with classroom furniture including desks, chairs, and small tables.

Performance Time: Approximately 20 minutes.

Characters

(1 m, 5 f, 17 flexible, optional extras)

CALCIE: Loves to wear pink furry slippers instead of shoes. MOTHER: Calcie's mother. MR./MRS. CRUMP: Calcie's teacher; flexible. HOPPELBOCH: School principal; flexible. **OOSTERHOFF:** Loaferville mayor; male. CHIEF STUBBINS: Loaferville police chief; flexible. OGELSBY: Town council president; flexible. **REPORTER:** TV reporter; flexible. HOSS: Mechanic; flexible. **RESIDENT 1:** Flexible. **RESIDENT 2:** Flexible. **RESIDENT 3:** Female, wears high heels. FIREFIGHTER: Non-speaking; flexible. CAMERA PERSON: Non-speaking; flexible. **BRIDE:** Non-speaking. **COWBOY:** Non-speaking; flexible. SOLDIER: Non-speaking; flexible. ASTRONAUT: Non-speaking; flexible. **DIVER:** Non-speaking; flexible. PARROT: Non-speaking; flexible. TARANTULA: Non-speaking; flexible. ALLIGATOR: Non-speaking; flexible. **PRESIDENT:** Non-speaking; female. EXTRAS (OPTIONAL): As Students, Loaferville townspeople, and members of the Loaferville town council.

NOTE: All residents wear loafers or high heels.

Setting

Town of Loaferville, where everyone wears either loafers or high heels. The sets are simple and can be composed with classroom furniture including desks, chairs, and small tables.

Synopsis of Scenes

- SCENE 1: Calcie's bedroom, morning.
- **SCENE 2:** Calcie's classroom. There are student desks and a teacher's desk.
- **SCENE 3:** Principal Hoppelboch's office. There is a desk and two chairs.
- **SCENE 4:** The offices of Principal Hoppelboch, Mayor Oosterhoff, President Ogelsby, and Chief Stubbins. There are four desks.
- **SCENE 5:** Loaferville town council room. There are chairs for residents and four small tables/desks for the mayor and council members.

Props

- Pink furry slippers, for Calcie Backpack, for Calcie Desks 4 Desk telephones Small tables/desks Chairs Assortment of novelty slippers for cast
- Posters that read, "Special Slipper Session" Banner that reads, "WTOE Special Report: "Hiding Our Heels – A Slipper-y Issue" Scroll

Sound Effects

Telephone Ceremonial music "Slippers more comfortable than shoes? How absurd!"

(AT RISE: Calcie's bedroom. Calcie is getting ready to go to school. Her Mother enters.)

MOTHER: Calcie, put your shoes on. CALCIE: No. MOTHER: You're going to be late for school. Put your shoes on!

(Calcie takes a pair of pink furry slippers out of the closet and puts them on.)

MOTHER: You can't wear slippers to school. CALCIE: But slippers are more comfortable than shoes. MOTHER: Calcie, when I was little, Grandma told me, "Don't slurp your soup and never ever wear your slippers in public." CALCIE: But, Mom, you always slurp your soup.

MOTHER: Calcie, put...your...shoes...on!

(Calcie goes to the closet, removes her slippers, and puts on a pair of loafers. When her Mother isn't looking, Calcie sticks her pink furry slippers into her backpack. Blackout.)

(AT RISE: At school. Calcie is seated at her desk. She reaches into her backpack and pulls out her slippers, puts them on, and puts her shoes into her backpack.)

CALCIE: (Sighs.) Ahh. (Wiggles her toes with glee.)

(Enter Mrs. Crump. As she walks by Calcie, she looks down and spies Calcie's slippers.)

MRS. CRUMP: Calcie, where are your shoes?

CALCIE: Slippers are more comfortable than shoes, don't you think?

MRS. CRUMP: Calcie, put your shoes on.

CALCIE: No.

MRS. CRUMP: What do you mean "no"? We don't wear slippers at school.

CALCIE: Why not?

MRS. CRUMP: Because we wear loafers at school.

CALCIE: But why? Slippers are soooo comfortable.

- MRS. CRUMP: Well, they may be comfortable, but we don't wear them at school.
- CALCIE: But only slippers make a swish-swish sound when you walk in them. (*She gets up from her desk and demonstrates.*) See?
- MRS. CRUMP: I don't think I like your attitude, young lady. It's time you go to the principal's office. Come with me.

(Calcie gets up and makes a swish-swish sound as she exits with Mrs. Crump. Blackout.)

(AT RISE: Principal Hoppelbach's office. Calcie enters with a swish-swish sound as she shuffles into the room.)

HOPPELBACH: Calcie, put your shoes on.CALCIE: But slippers are more comfortable than shoes.HOPPELBACH: No student has ever worn slippers to school before. This is an outrage!CALCIE: Why? Is it against the law?

(Pause.)

HOPPELBACH: (*Puzzled.*) Hmmm, I'm not sure. I'll have to get back to you on that.

(Blackout.)

(AT RISE: There are four desks with chairs on stage. Principal Hoppelboch, Police Chief Stubbins, Mayor Oosterhoff, and Town Council President Ogelsby are all sitting at desks. All desks have telephones. Principal Hoppelboch picks up her phone and dials a number. Telephone rings and Chief Stubbins answers.)

- STUBBINS: Hello. Loaferville Police Department. Police Chief Stubbins speaking.
- HOPPELBOCH: (*Upset.*) Oh, hello, Chief Stubbins. This is Principal Hoppelboch. A most alarming thing has happened at the school.
- STUBBINS: My goodness, I hope it isn't too alarming.
- HOPPELBOCH: Oh, it is...a student wore slippers to school today!
- STUBBINS: (*Flabbergasted.*) What? A student is wearing slippers to school? This could lead to chaos in the streets. I must call Mayor Oosterhoff at once!

(Stubbins picks up his telephone and dials. Telephone rings at Mayor Oosterhoff's desk. Mayor Oosterhoff answers the phone.)

OOSTERHOFF: Hello, Mayor Oosterhoff here.

STUBBINS: Oh, Mayor, I'm so glad I reached you. I have received a most alarming call from Principal Hoppelboch!

OOSTERHOFF: Has there been an accident at the school?

STUBBINS: Oh, no, worse than that!

OOSTERHOFF: Hot lunch food poisoning?

STUBBINS: Oh, don't be silly...that happens every day! No, you won't believe this but a student wore...wore...

OOSTERHOFF: A tank top to school?

STUBBINS: Oh, no! Worse than that! (Pause.) Slippers!

OOSTERHOFF: This is worse than I thought! I'll get right back to you!

(Mayor Oosterhoff calls Town Council President Ogelsby. Telephone rings at Ogelsby's desk. He picks up the phone.)

OGELSBY: Hello, Town Council President Ogelsby here.

OOSTERHOFF: Oh, Town Council President Ogelsby, I regret to say I must report to you some most alarming news!

OGELSBY: Did Farmer Frankenberger's cows get out again? OOSTERHOFF: Oh, no! Much worse than that!

- OGELSBY: Oh, my gosh...is the ice-cream machine down at the [Dairy Queen] again? [Or insert name of local ice-cream store.] (*Upset, twists his hair into a squiggle.*)
- OOSTERHOFF: No, you won't believe this...but a student wore...slippers to school today!

OGELSBY: (*To himself.*) Oh, thank goodness! I sure love those [Blizzards]! (*To Oosterhoff.*) Well! This warrants an emergency meeting of the town council!

(Ogelsby twists his hair into a squiggle. Blackout.)

(AT RISE: Residents are putting up posters announcing the town council's "Special Slipper Session." There is a large banner that reads, "WTOE Special Report: Hiding Our Heels – A Slipper-y Issue." Desks and chairs are lined up for the town council meeting. There is a podium off to one side. Reporter enters with Camera Person.)

REPORTER: Hello, viewers. Sorry to interrupt your after school cartoons. I'm here inside city hall with a live WTOE three-part, in-depth special report entitled... (*Dramatic*, *points to banner*.) ... "Hiding our Heels: A Slipper-y Issue."

(The Reporter is interrupted and pushed aside by a horde of Loaferville Residents who charge into the room. The crowd of Residents take their seats before the Town Council Members and mumble to each other. Suddenly, the room falls silent as Calcie enters. Wearing loafers, she walks to the podium and stands before the Council. Residents gasp and point at her and mutter, "She's the one," etc.)

CALCIE: Mayor and members of the council... (*Everyone goes silent. Pause.*) ...slippers are more comfortable than shoes. Thank you.

(Shocked, the Loaferville Residents gasp with horror. Calcie takes a seat in the front row.)

- RESIDENT 1: (*Shouts.*) Slippers more comfortable than shoes? How absurd!
- RESIDENT 2: (Shouts.) Wearing slippers in public? How disgusting!"

(Hoss, a mechanic at Swifty's Auto Repair, approaches the podium.)

HOSS: Mayor and council members, um, well, whenever I fix cars in my garage—when nobody is around, of course—I often slip off my shoes and wear my... (*Pause. Looks embarrassed.*) ...white bunny slippers.

(The audience gasps.)

HOSS: I can't explain it! (*Hoss looks at his feet.*) It must be those cute floppy ears...

(Hoss slinks off and sits down. Chief Stubbins approaches the podium.)

STUBBINS: (Mutters with head down.) Mayor and council members...

OGELSBY: Yes, Chief Stubbins. Speak up.

STUBBINS: Um...well...I'm ashamed to say that sometimes when I'm cruising around in my patrol car...I like to wear my...black and white...panda bear slippers! (*Residents gasp.*) I can't help it! They match my uniform really well!

(Chief Stubbins slinks back to his seat. Mayor Oosterhoff stands up.)

[End of Freeview]