

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SUPPER



Eddie McPherson

Story by Eddie McPherson and Stephanie McFall

BIG DOG PUBLISHING

Copyright © 2013, Eddie McPherson

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Guess Who's Coming to Supper is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, and all of the countries covered by the Universal Copyright Convention and countries with which the United States has bilateral copyright relations including Canada, Mexico, Australia, and all nations of the United Kingdom.

Copying or reproducing all or any part of this book in any manner is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this book may be stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means including mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording, or videotaping without written permission from the publisher.

A royalty is due for every performance of this play whether admission is charged or not. A “performance” is any presentation in which an audience of any size is admitted.

The name of the author must appear on all programs, printing, and advertising for the play. The program must also contain the following notice: “Produced by special arrangement with Big Dog/Norman Maine Publishing LLC, Rapid City, SD.”

All rights including professional, amateur, radio broadcasting, television, motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, and the rights of translation into foreign languages are strictly reserved by Big Dog/Norman Maine Publishing LLC, www.BigDogPlays.com, to whom all inquiries should be addressed.

Big Dog Publishing
P.O. Box 1401
Rapid City, SD 57709

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SUPPER

COMEDY. Ally is afraid to introduce her boyfriend, Kevin, to her parents. Even though Kevin is good looking, a law school graduate, and has a wonderful job, he has one major flaw and Ally is terrified to tell her parents what it is. After mistaking an elderly, married air-conditioner repairman and a redneck neighbor for Kevin, Ally's parents finally get to meet her mysterious boyfriend and uncover the vile, ugly truth: Not only is Kevin *not* a fan of their beloved sports team, he roots for the rival team! Then when Kevin proposes to Ally, all heck breaks loose as more family secrets and even a family curse are revealed.

Performance time: Approximately 90-100 minutes.

Characters

(6 M, 5 F, 1 flexible, opt. extras)

ALLY WALTERS: Has fallen in love with Kevin Rigley, who has just graduated from law school and roots for a rival sports team; female.

MR. WALTERS: Ally's father, a diehard sports fan; wears sports clothing representing his team male.

MRS. WALTERS: Ally's mother, a diehard sports fan; wears sports clothing representing her team; female.

KEVIN RIGLEY: Ally's handsome boyfriend who has just graduated from law school and roots for a rival team; male.

MR. RIGLEY: Kevin's father who is a die-hard sports fan; wears sports clothing representing his team; male.

MRS. RIGLEY: Kevin's mother, a die-hard sports fan who roots for a rival team; wears sports clothing representing her team and a coat; female.

MR. COOPER: An air-conditioning repair man who the Walters think is Ally's boyfriend; wears a uniform with a name tag and has a long white beard; male.

MR. GODFREY ELIZABETH JITTER: The Walters' annoying new neighbor who is named after Fred Sanford's dead wife Elizabeth; wears an outlandish biker-type outfit; male.

SNAGGS JITTER: Godfrey Elizabeth's brother who lives with him and can't get a date; wears a flannel shirt, suspenders, and jeans that are too short for him; male.

COOKIE: The Walters' cook who has a crush on Godfrey Elizabeth; female.

TORI: A friend of the Walters who is an avid sports fan; female.

SPARTAN: Voice only; flexible.

EXTRAS (Opt.): As fans.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Directors may insert their own local sports rivals in place of the fictional Jacksonville Spartans and Fairview Tigers teams. Directors may change the script accordingly including jokes, costumes, props, references, etc. regarding the opposing teams. Directors may choose to use high school, college, or professional football, baseball, basketball, or other sports team rivals.

Setting

The Walters' living room.

Set

The Walters' living room. A sofa sits CS with a chair to its left. There's a coffee table in front of the sofa (opt.). The front door is SR and there is a coat rack near it. French doors USR lead to the patio. Left of the patio doors is a fireplace or bookcase with a portrait of Ally hanging above it. The kitchen door is USL and the bedroom door is extreme SL. There is a stereo system somewhere in the room.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

Scene 1: The Walters' living room.

Scene 2: The Walters' living room, moments later.

Intermission

ACT II: The Walters' living room, game day.

Props

- Phone
- Sofa pillows
- Watch, for Ally
- Bouquet of Goldenrods (or other flowers)
- Cap, for Mr. Cooper
- Newspaper
- Portrait wrapped in brown paper and tied with a string
- Clipboard
- Scissors
- Portrait of a sports mascot (real or fictional)
- Portrait of Ally
- Paper for a "bill"
- Box of chocolates
- Tray of cookies
- Tray of appetizers
- Shoulder bag, for Elizabeth Godfrey
- Dress, for Ally
- Frozen chicken
- Walkie-talkie
- Money
- Bottle of sparkling grape juice
- Card table
- 4 Folding chairs
- Small TV tray
- Boxes or tub of KFC (or another type of fried chicken)
- Salt shaker
- Small megaphone
- Strainer with ribbon attached
- Money
- Cell phone, for Ally
- Pajamas, for Godfrey Elizabeth and Snaggs
- Apron, for Cookie
- Business card, for Cookie
- Spray water bottle
- Small yellow flag
- Piece of paper, for the Rigley's phone number
- Balloons (in whatever colors that represent the Walters' team)
- Gadget, for Godfrey Elizabeth
- South of Spain dress, for Cookie
- 2 Heaping bags of groceries
- Bag of carrots
- Balloons (in whatever colors that represent the Rigeleys' team)
- Hand pump for balloons
- Coat, for Mrs. Rigley
- Team sweatshirt, for Kevin (representing Rigeleys' team)
- Large purse, for Mrs. Rigley
- TV remote control

Guess Who's Coming to Supper

8

Cell phone, for Mr. Rigley	Baby's outfit (representing Rigley's team)
Small bottle of "stomach pills"	Pink tutu, for Godfrey Elizabeth
Tissue or handkerchief, for Mrs. Rigley	Fairy wings, for Godfrey Elizabeth
Tape measure	Magic wand
Chef's hat	Long list or scroll of paper
2 Identical ring boxes	Glass of water
Engagement ring	Dog mascot shirt, for Godfrey Elizabeth
Small "crystal" tiger	Dog mascot cap, for Godfrey Elizabeth
Pocket dictionary	
Small locket	
Doll wrapped in a blanket (color of Ripleys' team)	

SOUND EFFECTS

Knock at the door
Doorbell
Loud music
Soft music
Strange lullaby
Sound of baby crying

"ALLY,
WHAT KIND OF FREAK
ARE WE GOING TO MEET
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF THAT DOOR?"

—MR. WALTERS

ACT I
SCENE 1

(AT RISE: *The Walters' living room. Ally is sitting on the edge of the sofa cushion, talking on the phone to Kevin. We can tell by her tone that she's very much in love but quite nervous.*)

ALLY: (*Into phone.*) Are you sure you're ready for this?...What do you mean, how should you act? Just be yourself. What's not to love about you? In time, they will fall in love with you the same as I did, I promise. (*Looks at her watch.*) It's almost 6:30, are you about to leave?...Kevin, if you're nervous, I'm going to be nervous, so stop. (*Knock at the front door.*) Hold on, someone's at the door. (*Answers the door.*)

MR. COOPER: I'm Mr. Cooper. Just checking your AC unit. Wanted you to know I was here.

ALLY: Dad told me you were coming. It's around back. Oh, could you do me a favor while you're out there? (*Puts the phone against her shoulder.*) Would you be kind enough to bring in a bouquet of Mom's [Goldenrods] from the back yard? [*Or some other type of flower.*]

MR. COOPER: Sure thing.

ALLY: They're growing just on the other side of the AC unit. Tonight's a special night, and...well, you don't want to hear the details.

MR. COOPER: (*Remembering.*) Goldenrods, back of AC unit, don't want to hear details...got it. (*Tips his cap and exits.*)

ALLY: (*Shouts.*) Thank you! (*Into phone.*) Kevin?...Sorry, it was either the AC man or Santa Claus. (*Mrs. Walters enters and overhears the rest of the conversation.*) Where were we?...Stop saying that...Okay, okay, so you're...different, and, yes, they'll be shocked at first, but in time... (*Mrs. Walters reacts to this.*) What do you mean I keep saying, "in time"? You don't know my parents. Sometimes, it takes awhile for them to warm up to things. Believe me, in time —

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SUPPER

11

(Realizes, correcting herself.) Eventually, they will look past the outside and look at what really matters...Okay. I'll see you at seven. I love you. You hang up first...No, you. *(Mrs. Walters mocks Ally behind her.)* I'm hanging uuuuup... *(Giggles.)* Byeeeeeeee.

(Mrs. Walters clears her throat and pretends to be straightening up the room.)

ALLY: *(Surprised, stands.)* Mom, I didn't see you.

MRS. WALTERS: I see that.

ALLY: I was just talking to—

MRS. WALTERS: *(Nonchalantly.)* I know who you were talking to.

ALLY: *(Nervous.)* How much did you hear?

MRS. WALTERS: Why? Is there something you didn't want me to hear?

ALLY: Of course not.

MRS. WALTERS: *(Suspicious.)* Uh-huh. Ally, I think it's long overdue that we meet this mysterious man of your dreams — the one we've never seen a picture of or spoken to on the phone, or —

(Ally approaches Mrs. Walters.)

ALLY: Oh, Mom, you're going to love him. He's everything I've always dreamed of in a husband... *(Shocked. Realizes what she just said.)* ...boyfriend.

(Mrs. Walters sits on the sofa, making Ally sit down with her.)

MRS. WALTERS: So, tell me about Prince Charming. *(Ally describes actor playing Kevin physically.)* What else?

ALLY: He just finished law school.

MRS. WALTERS: What else?

ALLY: He's very close to his family.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SUPPER

12

MRS. WALTERS: What else?

ALLY: That's about it.

MRS. WALTERS: Bologna.

ALLY: [Ma'am]? [Or "Mom"]

MRS. WALTERS: That's what I forgot to put on the grocery list.

ALLY: He's on his way. Are you sure all this is okay?

MRS. WALTERS: It's a little late to be asking me that, isn't it?

I just hope your father gets back before the mystery date.

ALLY: That's right. Dad will want to be here, won't he?

MRS. WALTERS: (*Scolding.*) Ally.

ALLY: I didn't mean it like that. It's just that Dad can be very...opinionated.

MRS. WALTERS: At least you know where you stand with a man like that.

ALLY: Do you think he will like him?

MRS. WALTERS: Everyone loves your father.

ALLY: You know what I mean.

(*Mrs. Walters stands.*)

MRS. WALTERS: (*Hinting.*) Is there a reason why your father *shouldn't* like him?

[END OF FREEVIEW]