

Please prepare to read from the one or more of the following sides from the show.

Youth (Ages 6-15) Audition Side

To be read as if you are performing in a show. Loud and excited!

You know, everybody has someone to thank for their success. Usually, it's their mother; and sometimes, it's their father. But tonight, I would like you all to join me in giving thanks to an uncle of mine -- and an uncle of yours. The greatest Uncle of Them All: OUR - UNCLE - SAM!

Young Man/Teen (Ages 15-25) Audition Side

Please read with movement if possible

- TULSA (Cont'd)

I start easy...Now I'm more - debonair...Break! And I sell it here...I start this step -- I build it and double it -- and she appears! All in white!

(He reaches out his hand to the invisible partner and LOUISE - who has gotten up - holds out her hand, tentatively- HE is unaware of her, unaware of her hopes, unaware SHE is following him about, visualizing herself as the partner for him)

I take her hand- kiss it - and lead her on the floor... This step is good for the costumes...Astaire bit. Now we waltz. Strings come in. And I lift her!...Again!...Once more!...Now the tempo changes; and all the lights come up; and I build!

(At last, he starts a step that LOUISE knows and clumsily, she starts to do it with him. At last, HE notices and shouts:)

That's it, Louise! But do it over here! Give me your hand! Faster! Again! Again! One more turn!

Young Woman/Teen (Ages 15-25) Audition Sides

Please pick one to read.

JUNE

(In control again, moves away)

Momma can do one thing: she can make herself believe anything she makes up. Like with that rhinestone finale dress you sewed for me. Momma wants publicity so she makes up a story that three nuns went blind sewing it! Now she believes it. She even believes the act is good.

(Cold anger)

It's a terrible act and I hate it! I've hated it from the beginning and I hate it more now! I hate pretending I'm two years old. I hate singing those same awful songs, doing those same awful dances, wearing those same awful costumes--I didn't mean it about the costumes.

LOUISE

I SAID TURN IT OFF! Nobody laughs at me - because I laugh first! At me! ME - from Seattle; me - with no education; me with no talent - as you've kept reminding me my whole life. Well, look at me now: a star! Look how I live. Look at my friends! Look where I'm going! I'm not staying in burlesque. I'm moving - maybe up, maybe down -- but wherever it is, I'm enjoying it! Mama, I'm having the time of my life because for the first time, it is my life! And I love it! I love every second of it and I'll be damned if you're going to take it away from me! I AM Gypsy Rose Lee! I love her - and if you don't, you can clear out right now!

(A moment: ROSE stares at her, stunned. Then a knocking on the door and RENEE enters)

Adult Woman (Age 25+) Audition Sides

Please pick one to read

ROSE

That's our whole life! What've we been working for ever since you were a baby?... That's a foolish remark from a foolish girl. I promised my girl she'd be a star and she will be... Maybe I've been on the wrong track with you and the material, but as the Good Lord says, you gotta take the rough with the smooth, baby. And like I always say, you're lucky because you don't have to take it alone. Right, Herbie?

You got Herbie for brains; we got you for talent; and you both got me -- to yell at.

ROSE

Sure I saw that sign! If I can read the fine print in our contracts, I can certainly read letters two feet high: "THE MOTHER OF MISS GYPSY ROSE LEE IS NOT ALLOWED BACKSTAGE AT THIS THEATRE." You know what I did with that sign?

(Puts a string of beads on the cow's horn)

I tore it right off the wall, spread it out on the floor, and set Chowsie III down on it. That dog's a trouper: she knew what to do!... It'll take more than signs to keep me out of a theatre!

CRATCHITT

Wait a minute. You can't disturb him when he's holding auditions.

Listen, friend. Strictly between uns, if I were you I'd sign that contract. There's only one item in that act of yours that the Boss likes: Dainty Little June. He thinks she can be an actress.

If she goes to school for a solid year and takes acting lessons. He's ready to pay for everything -- on one condition.

(TO ROSE)

You stay away.

Adult Man (Age 25 +) Audition Side

HERBIE

Rose... Honey, even if we... Honey, listen. I can go back in the candy business. It's steady: 52 weeks all year every year, I'll work my fingers to the bone; I'll do twice what I did before and that was pretty fair. See, I could be a district manager and we could stay in one place. Louise could go to school Rose? Rose, honey, you still got Herbie. You can marry me and I promise you, you won't have one single worry the rest of your life. Don't you want that?