

“And The Verdict Is.....”

Judge.....	Jordan Anderson
Bailiff.....	Alissa Tobin
Defense Lawyer.....	Katie Edwards
Offence Lawyer.....	Brandy Down
Sylvester Steele.....	Steven Wells
Earl Smith.....	Jonathan Brenton
Constable Pocko.....	Shane Ivany
Lieutenant Chicko.....	Adam Young
Bob Schwabb.....	Shane Morgan
Girlfriend.....	Melissa Jacobs
Jasmine.....	Alison Noel
Sasha.....	Samantha Baggs

**Directors..... Melissa Wells
Jonathan Clarke**

**Tech..... Jonathan Hefferman
Nicole Faulkner**

**Stage Manager..... Jonathan Clarke
Melissa Wells**

Set..... Jonathan Clarke

Costumes..... Melissa Wells

Teacher Advisor..... Mrs. R. Vigeant

“And the Verdict is...”

(The lawyers and witnesses enter down the aisle, everyone in conversation. They take their spots on stage. The defendants are brought in by the cops in handcuffs.)

Bailiff: All rise for the honorable Judge Anderson. *(Judge enters)*

Judge: Be seated. The defendants today are being faced with the charges of theft with a deadly weapon and first degree murder under act one of the criminal code. Offence, could we hear your opening statements.

Offence: They're like totally guilty and stuff...they like totally did it!

Judge: Um, defense, could we please hear your opening statements.

Defense: Certainly your honor, these men have been brought before your court today because they have been wrongfully accused of first degree murder. Rather than stretching this case out for four or five months, as most trials do, I will prove to you today, that these men are in fact innocent.

Judge: Is the offence ready to call upon her first witness?

Offence: Um....ok, yeah.....I'd like to call that crook guy.

Judge: Um, could you be a little bit more specific?

Offence: I don't care, send the good looking one. Hehehehehe.

(Sylvester immediately stands up and fixes his hair like a real slick guy. He walks over to the stand in which the Bailiff opens the gate and closes it for him. She holds up the Bible.)

Bailiff: Raise your right hand and lay your left hand on the Bible. *(Sylvester does so.)* Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you, God?

Sylvester: What will you pay me?

Judge: An extra five years in prison!

Sylvester: Oh well then, I do.

(Bailiff sits down)

Judge: Proceed.

Offence: Could you please tell me what happened?

Sylvester: Well let's see....it all started last week when my girlfriend died, my dog left and my house burned down.

Earl: *(From the bench)* Jasmine didn't die!

Sylvester: *(Glares at Earl)* Oh yeah, I meant my grandmother.

Judge: Mr. Smith, is it? One more outburst from you and I'll personally see to it that you're thrown into the slammer! Please hold your comments until it's your turn up to the stand.

Earl: Geesh! Ok sorry.

Sylvester: Errgg! Anyways, as I was saying.....

FLASH BACK

(Earl and Sylvester walk into the stranger's house)

Sylvester: *(Creeping along)* Shh, be quiet! OK Earl. We don't want anyone to hear us. *(Earl has headphones on and starts to sing a song.)* Hey, Earl, stop futhering! You're gonna get us caught you doof nut!!!

Earl: Well gee! I'm sorry Sylvester, but you don't need to call me names.

Sylvester: OK Sorry! But let's just do what we came to do and then get out of here.

Earl: What did we come to do, Sylvester?

Sylvester: We came here to water his flowers.

Earl: That's a dumb thing to do Earl. We don't even know the guy.

Sylvester: That's a good thing to do earl. We want to be good Samaritans.

Earl: Wow! Look at all these nice things. Let's take something!

Sylvester: Oh heavens no! I would never do such a thing. Me do a thing like that? It's immoral! It's wrong!

Earl: *(Hauls out a gun on Sylvester)* Mu-ha-ha-ha-ha! I'm taking that TV.

Sylvester: *(Running after him screaming)* Don't do it man! Don't do it!

Earl: Ahh, shove it! I'm out of here.

FLASH FORWARD

Sylvester: The next thing I knew a girl was coming into the room. Earl shot her in his rage. And she died!

Earl: That's not true!

Judge: Order in my court! One more outburst from you and I'll be charging you with contempt of court. *(Earl sits back down and shuts up.)* Do you have anything else to add?

Sylvester: No, that's all that happened. I only went over to water the flowers, but Earl insisted that we take the TV. I was held at gun point! I couldn't do anything to stop it!

Offence: Thank you sir. I'm finished.

Judge: OK Then. Defense, your cross-examination please.

Defense: *(smirking)* No questions your honor.

Judge: You may step down. Prosecutor, your next witness please.

(Bailiff opens gate and lets Sylvester out. Sylvester takes his seat then the Bailiff does.)

Offence: I'll have the other crook come up..

Defense: Objection, the defendant is not convicted therefore he is not a crook.

Judge: Sustained.

Offence: *(to the defense lawyer)* Why don't you shut or something.

Judge: Prosecutor!!

Offence: Sorry, your honor.

Judge: *(Annoyed)* Mr. Smith, would you please take the stand.

Bailiff: *(Opens the gate for him and closes it. Holds up the Bible.)* Raise your right hand and lay your left hand on the Bible. *(Earl does so.)* Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you, God?

Earl: What would happen if I don't?

Bailiff: Um..your honor???

Judge: I'd lock you up and give you the death sentence, that's what would happen!

Earl: Well, in that case, I'll do it for Canada.

Bailiff: *(mutters to herself as she sits down)* Stupid crooks.....

Judge: Prosecutor, your witness.

Offence: Can you like tell me your story?

Earl: Well, I'm kinda nervous because I never did tell the whole truth before.....

Judge: I'm sure you'll do just fine.

Offence: Yeah, spit it out already. I've like got an appointment to get my nails done in under three hours.

Defense: Objection, he should get as much time as it takes. *(Lawyers glare at each other)*

Judge: Order in the court! Both of you sit down, give the man a chance!

Earl: I never did have two chicks fighting over me before. Wow, this is a whole day of firsts!

Judge: The story please.

Earl: OK then, well, it all started last week when our television blew up.....

FLASH BACK

(Earl and Sylvester enter the house, Sylvester slowly and Earl singing and carrying on.)

Earl: *(Listening to his headphones)* La la la de de da da.....

Sylvester: If I hear you singing that song once more, I'll make you wish you had never learned how to speak! Get it?

Earl: Well, don't get your panties in a bunch, Sylvester! My singing isn't that bad!

Sylvester: *(Making a motion to hit Earl)* Ahhh, it's not worth it! Let's just get the goods and get out of here.

Earl: What goods? I thought we were coming here to visit your friend.

Sylvester: I lied alright! We needs a new TV and we ain't got no money. Let's just take this one and get out of here before the feller gets back!

Earl: I don't know if we should Syl.....

Girlfriend: Honey Pieeee.....Snicker Doodleeee....Tootsie Pop! Where's my little Booger Snot? I'm here and I'm waiting for you. Come to mama!

Earl: *(Stands up)* He's not home but I am.

Sylvester: Great Earl, you gave us away! Now we've got to get rid of her! *(Hauls out gun)* I'll shoot this at that couch over there and scare her away. Then we'll make a run for it! Bang!!!

Girlfriend: Ouchhhhhh! I'm bleeding! You hit me! Booger snot! Why?? Snicker Doodle!! Why. why.....why.....*(falls to the ground)*

Earl: Oh my God, you killed her!!!

Sylvester: I didn't try to, I....I...I..

FLASH FORWARD

Offence: So you like admit that you shot the gun? That's like wrong! Even I know that.

Earl: But I didn't. Sylvester did it!

Offence: Whatever, you guys were there together.

Judge: *(Says sarcastically)* Thanks for your incite. Defense would you care to cross-examine?

Defense: Yes, your honor. Mr. Smith, can a person lacking intelligence actually be able to make up something off the top of his head?

Earl: Uhhh, What? In English please?

Defense: Can a stupid person make up something off the top of their head?

Earl: I guess not.

Defense: Would you say a lie is the same as making up something off the top of your head?

Earl: This one I know.....the answer is Yes!

Defense: What si your IQ?

Earl: About twenty or so.

Defense: No further questions your honor.

Judge: Thanks, I'd like to ask you to step down.

Earl: Already? *(Bailiff opens the gate and both take their seats.)*

Judge: defense, I'd like to call upon you to bring forth your first witness.

Defense: Certainly your honor. I'd like to call upon Bob Schwabb to come to the stand.
(Bob walks up from the audience. The Bailiff opens the gate and closes it after Bob sits down)

Bailiff: *(Holds up the Bible.)* Raise your right hand and lay your left hand on the Bible.
(Bob does so.) Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you, God?

Bob: I don't know do I?

Judge: This isn't a trick question sir, just answer yes or no.

Bob: OK then, yes I do! *(Bailiff sits down.)*

Defense: Where were you on the evening of November 2nd, 2000?

Bob: At the bar with me buddies.

Defense: And what were you doing at the bar?

Bob: Having a drink, what do you usually do at a bar? Stunned!

Defense: I heard that! *(Slight pause)* When you came home what did you notice?

Bob: Oh, it was horrible! Just dreadful! I shudder just thinking about it!

Defense: Go on, we need the details.

Bob: *(Wipes a tear from his eye)* Well, I was walking in and I sat down to watch TV. I picked up the remote to turn it on and my TV was gone!

Defense: *(Gives a strange look)* Anything else sir?

Bob: *(A bit peppy)* Oh yeah, my woman was killed too!

Defense: Oh, for heaven's sake!

FLASH BACK

Bob: *(Enters the house stumbling in the dark and trips over his dead girlfriend.)* Oh hey, honey, I didn't know you were coming over! *(No answer)* I told you to answer me when I spoke to you woman! *(No answer. Turns to audience)* Women, nothing but trouble! I'm gonna watch TV. *(Sits on his couch, takes the remote and goes to turn on TV, notices it is not there and starts to flip out)* Oh my God! Oh my God! My Tv! Where is it? Honey where did you put it? *(Walks over to his girlfriend)* Honey, wake up. Now!! I want my TV! I'm missing...a good show! Honey? Honey! *(Notices she's been shot)* Oh my God! You've been shot! And you're dead! I gotta call the cops, I really need my TV back now! *(Picks up phone and calls the cops)*

Chicko: Pick up the phone!

Pocko: Whazzzaaaaa?

Bob: My TV's been stolen!! I don't know what else to do or who to turn to! Who could have done such a thing?

Pocko: OK then, anything else missing?

Bob: No, but my woman is dead!

Pocko: Oh my God! We'll be right over!

FLASH FORWARD

Judge: Offence, would you like to cross-examine the witness?

Offence: So like, what's more important to you, your girlfriend or your TV?

Bob: I love my Snuckum Wookums, but my Tv has given my TV has given me so much through the years. It's always been there when I needed it. I just can't bear to part with it.

Offence: Enough. Get away! Men like you make me sick! *(Sits down)*

Judge: You may step down. *(Bailiff opens the gate for Bob and she sits down. Bob sits back down in the audience.)* Alright, we'd like to ask the defense to bring up her next witness.

Defense: I bring forth Constable Pocko and Lieutenant Chicko. *(Cops enter from side. Bailiff opens gate and closes it behind them. She holds out the Bible)*

Bailiff: *(Says in a hurry)* Raise your right hand and put the left on the Bible. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Cops: We do. *(Bailiff sits down)*

Judge: Proceed.

Defense: Would you please tell the court what happened when you arrived on the scene?

Pocko: We showed up to the crime shortly after we received the call.

Chicko: Yeah, we were eating Boston Cream doughnuts.....Uhhhh Boston cream!!!

Pocko: They were jelly, you moron!

FLASH BACK

Chicko: *(Eating a doughnut)* What seems to be the problem here?

Pocko: Ooops! I didn't see her there. Hey, she's hot!

Pocko: Respect for the dead, you idiot!

Bob: Ummm, my TV's stolen too you know!

Chicko: A stolen TV's not a major crime, your girlfriend being killed is!

Bob: Well, fine then, I'm gonna find someone who cares! (*Runs off stage*)

Chicko: What a loser, more obsessed with his television love life than his actual love life!

Pocko: Ha ha, television love life, we all know what you mean there! (*Cha ching move*)

Chicko: Shut up Pocko!

Pocko: Sorry. Hey, what's that over there?

Chicko: Over where?

Pocko: Over there. It's a walkman. (*Walks over to it*) Look it's got a name and a phone number on it!

Chicko: Eureka! We found it!

FLASH FORWARD

Offence: So, like how did you know who's name was on the walkman?

Judge: (*annoyed*) God, sit down! Just sit down! You may step down officers. (*Bailiff opens the gate for them and she sits down. The officers go off stage*) Offence, I heard you have found some new information that is relevant to this case. I'd like you to present your next witness and fast!

Offence: Well, I'd like to call upon like the two girls, those two over there. Like hello girlies, come on down! Tell little old me and big bad judge all your little secrets. (*They come up on stage from the audience. Bailiff opens the gate and closes it behind them. She takes out the Bible again*)

Bailiff: Raise your right hand and lay the other on top of this Bible. (*They do*) Do you swear to tel the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

Chicks: We do. (*Bailiff sits down*)

Offence: OK then, like hurry up, come on with it! Judgie's getting impatient!

Sasha: I always knew my old man had a wild side, but I never thought for the life of me, that he'd actually kill someone! Actually, I don't think he did it. I know he didn't do it and that is what I'm coming here to say. When our men showed up to our place the other day, they were looking for a place to hide out. Jasmine just wouldn't have it! She felt it was wrong to hold fugitives, she wanted them to get what was coming to them. Then it hit me like a ton of bricks. I had to let the truth out!

FLASH BACK

Sylvester: Jasmine listen, we made a horrible mistake and we need somewhere to hide.

Jasmine: Don't come looking for any pity from me! You knew what you were doing was wrong and you did it anyway!

Earl: *(Crying like a baby.)* I want my mommy! I don't want to go to jail!!! No!!!

Sasha: Come on Jasmine, these are our men, we love them. We have to help them.

Jasmine: Feed them to the pigs, I say. I'm calling the cops.

Sasha: I can't let you do this. I can't let them go to jail.

Jasmine: Why not?

Sasha: Cause they didn't do it.

Jasmine: Oh sure, pick up for them, as usual.

Sasha: It's true!

Jasmine: Whatever! *(Runs off stage)*

Sasha: No Jasmine.....Jasmine come back. *(Runs after her)*

(Police enter after a short pause)

Earl: Oh no, coppers! You'll never take me alive.

Chicko: OK then, I guess I'll have to shoot you!

Earl: I don't wanna die!

Chicko: Well, you just might have to.

Earl: Just take me! Hey, don't I get a phone call or last wish or something?

Pocko: All you get is the right to remain silent. Anything you say can or will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to an attorney. If you cannot afford one, one will be provided for you. Do you understand these rights as they are read to you? *(Meanwhile Sylvester tries to sneak away)*

Earl: Mommy! *(Chicko take him off stage and Pocko runs after Sylvester. He catches him and takes him off stage)*

Sasha: And that's what happened. No one gave me a chance to tell the real truth.

Offence: I'm finished. *(Directed to the judge)* Happy now?

Judge: Great! You may step down girls. *(Bailiff opens the gate for them and she sits back down. The girls go off stage)* Could I have your opening statements please.

Offence: They like did it! Lock them up. Don't listen to that Sasha chick. She's got a couple of screws loose, if you know what I say..... *(judge cuts her off)*

Judge: Defense, could we please have yours.

Defense: As you can see today, the evidence we gathered proved to be of no significance to the crime. As for the walkman, it could have been placed there as a setup. These men are clearly innocent and deserve to have the murder charges dropped.

Judge: I will retire to my chambers until a verdict is reached. I will return after a short recess. *(Judge leaves the room. There is a short recess at which time the lights blink on and off to show the passage of time)*

Bailiff: *(The judge enters the room)* All rise. *Everyone rises and after the judge enters they are seated again)*

Judge: After minutes of consideration, I have finally reached a verdict. The two defendants, Sylvester Steele and Earl Smith are.....

Jasmine: Waaaiittt! Your honor these men did not do it!

Sasha: Wait Jasmine, let me tell them.

Jasmine: These men are innocent.

Sasha: She's telling the truth.

Judge: But all the evidence points to them. They dropped the walkman that had Earl's name and phone number on it and their finger prints were all over the apartment.

Jasmine: Sir, they didn't have a real gun.

Earl: Yeah, I did and it was a nice gun, too. *(Sylvester hits Earl in the back of the head)*

Jasmine: No Earl, Sasha always hated you having a real gun on you, but she knew it made you feel tough. So for safety she switched it with a real looking cap gun.

Sylvester & Earl: *(looking at each other)* We didn't do it! We didn't do it!

Jasmine: Sasha, tell them. Let the innocent go free.

Sasha: OK, I did it. Are you happy? I admit it! I killed her!

Sylvester: I knew it all along.

Sasha: Shut up Sylvester, I was just so sick of seeing Earl fooling around on me. When I saw him go into that house, I wanted revenge. The anger just boiled up inside me and before I knew it I was looking in the window seeing that girl and Earl unzipping his pants! I was so mad that I just shot her.

Earl: Honey pie! I'd never cheat on you. I love you. You're my life. *(Sasha and Earl reunite and the cops break them up)*

Judge: Order in my court! Based on recent evidence, I declare this a mistrial. Ms Sasha consider yourself jailed! Your court hearing will be determined in the future.

Sasha: I'm sorry Earl.

Earl: OK! *(Earl and Sylvester go to leave)*

Judge: Where do you think you're going?

Earl: Home, I'm innocent.

Judge: You still stole the TV.

Earl: Oh yeah!

Judge: I'd like you to apologize to Bon and return his TV. (*Bailiff brings out the TV*)

Bob: My TV! (*Bob hugs the TV. Kisses the screen. He goes to leave.*)

Earl: Ummm Bob.....

Bob: (*Turns around*) Yeah what?

Earl: Me and Sylvester are really sorry about stealing your TV.

Sylvester: Yeah ditto. Really sorry, uh hum.

Earl: Can we go now judge?

Judge: No, just one more thing.

Earl: What's that?

Judge: We'd like you and Sylvester to sing for your freedom. This case has been a joke many ways. Why not end with a joke?

Earl: You want me to sing for you? I'm honored!

Sylvester: Sing with him???? (*Earl hits Sylvester in the back of the head*)

Earl: Just shut up and do it.

Sylvester: Ohhhh, OK. (*Sylvester says regretfully. Earl and Sylvester go to the center of the stage and start singing "Keep on Rocking in the Free World", Next they are joined by the rest of the characters who join in.*)

LYRICS TO THE SONG

Earl & Sylvester: There are colours on the street red, white and blue
 People shuffling their feet
 Or people sleeping in their shoes
 Now there's a wanted sign in the road ahead
 There's a lot of people saying they're better off dead
 Don't feel like Satan, but I am to them
 So I try to forgive them
 Any way I can

All cast: Keep on rocking in the free world

Keep on rocking in the free world
Keep on rocking in the free world
Keep on rocking in the free world

(Real song fades in while the cast does their curtain call)