



Character Descriptions –

*** Please note – Special Requirements for Actors auditioning for this production.

1. The actors auditioning for Abby, Marilyn, Colleen and Derek. The actors playing these roles will be required to ride a “tandem bike” like vehicle during the sky diving scene. (Two bicycle seats on a wheeled apparatus.)
2. The actors playing Abby, Marilyn, Colleen, Derek and Lewis will be required to wear Sky Diving suits and helmets during the sky diving scene.
3. There is foul language written in the show and the actors will be asked to do the scene “as written”. (Abby and Colleen)
4. The actor playing Zombie Butler and the Masked Man will be required to wear a mask for their respective scenes.
5. The actor playing Marilyn will be required to wear a “rigging suit” during a scene where she will be hanging on a door.
6. Readings will be taken from the script and will be available at auditions. They will also be posted on our website.

3 – Women

3- Men

Abby Binder – A Resident - 437 Speeches - *(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 65-75)*

Abby is a “short-spoken misanthrope with a low threshold for irritation, determined to live alone.” Abby makes a bet that she **never gets scared**. This actor needs to be able to exemplify being frightened, but never showing it. She will show hints of weakness throughout but will always be able to catch herself. Only at the end of the show do we see the warmth that she has been “afraid” to show, all along.

Marilyn Dunne – A Resident - 341 Speeches - *(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 65-75)*

Marilyn is a “garrulous and determinedly optimistic cut-up, who looks for the good in everyone. “ She is bound and determined to make the living arrangement with Abby work, no matter what the cost. Marilyn makes the bet that she **never gets angry**. No matter what Abby throws at her, she must be able to maintain composure throughout the story. By the end of the show, we find out why she is afraid to show any anger at all, as it was the one emotion that she couldn’t control when it involved a person that she loved.

Scotty – A Resident Aide - 172 Speeches – *(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 25-45.)*

Scotty plays a Residence Aide at the Senior Living Facility. Ever the professional, he works hard to not take sides in this hilarious confrontation, but sometimes his compassion for Marilyn shows through. His role is very pivotal to keep things from getting to far out of control between our two seniors. He has a couple of great scenes where his emotional range comes out.

Benjamin / Lewis / Haunted House Evil Clown – 84 Speeches –
(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 35-45.)

The actor playing this set of characters needs to be able to use a wide range of skills on stage. As **Benjamin**, he plays the son of Abby who she hasn't been in contact with for over 5 years. This character is terribly guilt ridden for everything that he put his mother through for the last 20 years and has not been able to make amends with her. The scene with Abby and Benjamin is very heavy and filled with angst from both sides. As **Lewis**, the actor needs to be more upbeat and comical. Lewis is in one scene as well and he has a very long speech as he gives instructions to the tandem sky diving team. As the **Evil Clown**, he has to show a little bit of his frightening skills as he does his best to scare the ladies at the Haunted House.

Colleen / Woman in White – Marilyn's Daughter and Haunted House Side show acts - 77 Speeches –
(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 35-45.)

The actor playing this role also needs to be able to display a wide range of emotions on stage. As Colleen, the daughter of Marilyn, she shows the love and compassion she has for her mother in each of her 3 scenes. She is very genuine and upbeat until she has to defend her mother. She has a very strong scene with Abby in the 2nd act. As the **Woman in White**, she gets to show the "ghoulish" side of her skill sets in the Haunted House scene.

Derek / Masked Man / Zombie Butler - 62 Speeches –
(Actor auditioning for this role needs to be able to play a character between the ages of 35-45.)

Derek is the husband of Colleen and Marilyn's son-in-law. This character is very loyal to both his wife and mother-in-law no matter how much he is against getting involved in this "bet". **The Masked Man** is basically Derek wearing; you guessed it, a mask. That scene is a "bungled" attempt to scare Abby that goes hilariously wrong. He does his best to please his wife. **The Zombie Butler** is another character in the Haunted House scene. A fun time for all.