

SCENE 6

SETTING: Wunderlian spaceship. It is furnished like a fifties game show. The ship has different marked areas: “Abductitron case area, “As Seen On TV” product area, earthling experiment area, etc. The Wunderlian HOST is wearing a suit and tie and holding cue cards (as if he considers this the way humans communicate, not that he needs them). HOST speaks out to an unseen television audience. The room becomes filled with dazzling light and an undercurrent of cheesy game show music plays underneath.

AT RISE: Transition from SCENE 5. SUZIE is standing at the center of the stage, holding her case. The HOST is standing next to her.

HOST

This is your lucky night! Welcome one and all to another episode of...

SUZIE

Where am I? What’s happening to me? Who are you?

HOST

Not quite, but close enough!

(Canned applause plays)

HOST

Please welcome our first abductee, I mean, guest, Mrs. Suzie Longstaff! Mrs. Longstaff comes to us from that quaint little seaside town, Pleasure Valley. She’s been a Pleasure Valleyian since being biologically incepted by two warm-blooded homosapiens in the backseat of a locally-made vehicular transport. She likes patterns, pocketbooks and the color pink. Give her a round of applause!

(Canned applause plays)

HOST

That’s enough! Let me take your case!

(HOST takes SUZIE’s dupperware case and sets it aside next to the alien case, which is clearly marked with some type of alien emblems)

SUZIE

Thank you. Oh. Wait. Where did you say I was?

HOST

Isn't she a doll?

(Hooting, a whistle, more applause)

HOST

Would you listen to that Mrs. Longstaff, Suzie, may I call you Suzie, of course I can. Why they love you!

SUZIE

Who?

HOST

Nevermind!

SUZIE

Oh, you're quite – you don't look like --

HOST

Enough about me. Let's learn more about you! We've done a little bit of research, and our sources tell us that you are a very important person here in Pleasure Valley. Why, you are the most important person of them all!

SUZIE

I don't know about that. Who told you that?

HOST

Nevermind!

(HOST places a metal strainer on SUZIE's head and SHE goes into a trance-like state)

SUZIE

Ok.

HOST

Tell us, how do you rule the world?

SUZIE

Could you please repeat the question?

HOST

I see.

(HOST makes some adjustments to the metal strainer, as if HE thinks it is not working properly. A jeopardy theme of countdown musical ticking begins)

HOST

As the most important person here, you must have a lot of power. Where or what is your source for this power?

SUZIE

Is this about my creamed egg casserole? That recipe's been in my family for years – there really is no secret –

HOST

Aha! A secret! Yes, what is your secret, Suzie?

(SUZIE becomes tense)

SUZIE

(very bright) Why, you, you, silly funny-looking... man, I don't have any secrets!

HOST

There must be something you are hiding!

SUZIE

(more tense) I'm an open book!

HOST

I think she's not telling us something! What do you think?

(Canned applause)

HOST

Come on, Suzie, tell us everything!

SUZIE

Have you heard about Dupperware? It's the latest in space age plastics; it's the miracle of melamine. It's perfect for all your needs –

(There is an upset sound from the audience, some "boos")

HOST

You don't rule the world, do you, Suzie Longstaff?

SUZIE

Me? Never!

HOST

And you don't have some hidden source of power, do you?

SUZIE

I'm a housewife. I'm very happy. I am.

HOST

Right! We hate to see you go, but we really don't want you to stay! So, we'll be sending you right on back home. If you happen to know who rules this planet, feel free to let us know.

SUZIE

I don't, I don't.

HOST

Of course, you don't. Why would anyone tell you? But we won't let you leave empty-handed. Bob, tell her what she's won.

(Disappointed, the HOST removes strainer from SUZIE's head as BOB makes his spiel. SUZIE seems to come to and becomes somewhat aware of her alien surroundings)

BOB

We'll be giving you a handful of these lightweight yet durable metal eating implements. They complement any meal, preferably those found in concave serving dishes! Enjoy all thirty-eight.

(HOST hands SUZIE a silver orb which has 38 spoons lodged into it)

SUZIE

What is this? Who -

HOST

Thank you for joining us! Sorry you don't have any control over your world! All the best. Really. Don't forget your bag, and watch the sliding door on your way out! Buh-bye.

(HOST hurries SUZIE off-stage. SUZIE grabs the alien case in her haste to make an exit)

HOST

Thanks for tuning in! And remember, don't remember a thing when you get back home!

(BLACKOUT)

END OF SCENE 6