

*BATBOY – the musical*

**Audition side 3: Maggie, Lorraine, Bud, Ned**

(Hope Falls Slaughterhouse)

MAGGIE: As the honorable Mayor of Hope Falls, West Virginia, I hereby call this meeting of the town council to order. First order of business. Lorraine, I believe you have a report for us from the Revival Committee.

LORRAINE: I am pleased to confirm that the Reverend Billy Hightower will be bringing his Tent Revival Meeting and Barbeque to Hope Falls come spring.

BUD: Hallelujah!

NED: Hope Falls is coming back!

BUD: It's just what we needed.

MAGGIE: Good work, Lorraine.

LORRAINE: And the Revival Committee has decided that we should put the Revival tent behind the VFW Hall with the back of it facing west so the afternoon sun illuminates the cross. You see, Reverend Hightower has put this translucent vinyl cross on the back of the tent – like stained glass but vinyl...

MAGGIE: That's just great. Lorraine, that is excellent work. Okey-doke. Agenda item Number Two. Now the reason I've called this Town Council meeting here in the slaughterhouse, is because we've got a crisis on our hands! I want you to take a look at these meat hooks. There's something peculiar about 'em isn't there? There's no meat on 'em! Now we got three ranchers in attendance. Bud, Roy, Ned – we've entrusted you with our fiscal future. It's been six months since we brought this slaughterhouse on line – let's have a report. How come this slaughterhouse ain't slaughterin'?

BUD: Well, Mayor Maggie, the state of West Virginia has rules about how heavy a heifer's got to be in order that you can bring it to slaughter.

MAGGIE: Are you saying are cows are too skinny to kill?

NED: Well, I think that overall they're a bit listless, but Gertie seems to be doing better --- she gained half pound last week, and her spirits are real good—

LORRAINE: Oh, you boys are in denial. I went out to that ranch of yours yesterday, and everyone of them bony cows was lying around like a welfare mother. And correct me if I'm wrong, it didn't seem like there was one hundred of them, neither.

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MAGGIE: Is that right, Bud? Did some of our cows run away?

BUD: No, Mayor Maggie. What's happened with the twenty- two dead cows is that—

MAGGIE & LORRAINE: TWENTY-TWO DEAD COWS!

BUD: It's not my fault! This town is cursed!

MAGGIE: You wanna be watchin' that kind of talk, let's not go there. Everybody, let's pull together on this.

BUD: I'm telling you this town is cursed! First the coal mine dried up on us, now all the cows are dropping like flies. I don't know what to do, I wasn't cut out to be a rancher! What I wouldn't give to be a coal miner again.