

# BODENS --- ONLINE

A CHORUS LINE MONOLOGUES

# LAST WEEK – VOCAL SKILLS

- Pace
- Pitch
- Power
- Pause
- Pronunciation

# VAL – A Chorus Line

So, the day after I turned 18, I kissed the folks goodbye, got on a Trailways bus – and headed for the big bad apple. Cause I wanted to be a Rockette. Oh, yeah, let's get one thing straight. See, I never heard about the Red Shoes, I never saw the Red Shoes, I didn't give a damn about the Red Shoes. I decided to be a Rockette because this girl in my home town -Louella Heiner - had actually gotten out and made it New York. And she was a Rockette. We'll, she came home one Christmas to visit, and they gave her a parade. A goddamn parade! I twirled a friggin' baton for 2 hours in the rain. Unfortunately though, she got knocked up over Christmas. Merry Christmas - and never made it back to Radio City.

# ZAK – A Chorus Line

Before we do any more dancing – and we will be dancing some more – let me explain something. I'm looking for a strong dancing chorus. I need people that look terrific together – and that can work together as a group. But there are some small parts that have to be played by the dancers I hire. Now, I have your pictures and resumes, I know what shows you've been in – but that's not gonna help me. And I don't want to give you just a few lines to read. I think it would be better if I knew something about you – about your personalities. So, I'm going to ask you some questions. I want to hear you talk. Treat it like an interview. I don't want you to think you have to perform. I just want to hear you talk and be ourselves. And everybody just relax – as much as you can.

# Connie – A Chorus Line

Four foot ten, that's the story of my life. I remember when everybody was my size. Boy, that was great. But then everyone started moving up and – there I was, stuck at four foot ten. But I kept hoping and praying, I used to hang from a parallel bar by the hour, hoping I'd stretch just an inch more. 'Cause I was into dancing then, and I was good. And I wanted so much to grow up to be a prima ballerina. Then I went out for ...

CHEERLEADER! And they told me: "No dice, you'll get lost on the football field. The pompoms are bigger than you." I spent my whole childhood waiting to grow. But you see, the only thing about me that grew was my desire. I was never gonna be Maria Tallchief, I was just this peanut on pointe! That was my whole trip – my size. It still is. God, my last show I was thirty-two and I played a fourteen-year-old brat. Yeah, and I'm thirty-two... But I don't look it. And I shouldn't knock it 'cause I've always been able to work.

# Cassie – A Chorus Line

Oh, sure ... A rotten part in a so-so film – part ended up getting cut, thank God – I was a go-go dancer in a TV movie of the week. Let's see – Oh, yeah – commercials, I almost got to squeeze a roll of toilet paper but I lost out in the finals. Isn't that something? Seventeen years in the business and I end up flunking toilet paper squeezing? And I was a dancing Band-Aid – that was fun ... We had an earthquake ... And I got a terrific tan – Well, when you're a woman of leisure, what else is there to do but get a bit wild and run around? Not to mention getting fat – and going crazy – Which is why I came back to New York and which is why I am here today, Zach, old dear ... Little pussy cat. I need a job.

# Shelia – A Chorus Line

My parents? My mother ... My mother was raised like a little nun. She couldn't go out – she couldn't even babysit. But she wanted to be a dancer and she had all these scholarships and all that. And when she got married my father made her give it up. Isn't this exciting? And then she had this daughter – me – and she made her what she wanted to be. And she was fabulous the way she did it ... Do you want to know how she did it? Oh, how she did it ... Well, first, she took me to see all the ballets. And then, she gave me her old toe shoes – which I used to run down the sidewalk in – on my toes – at five. And then I saw The Red Shoes –(The girls on line respond) – and I wanted to be that lady, that redhead. And then, when she saw I really had to dance, she said: “You can't do it until you're eight.” Well by then, I was only six and I said “BUT I'VE GOT TO DANCE.” (To the group) I mean, anything to get out of the house. Well ... Let's face it ... My family scene was – ah ... not good!

# Kristine – A Chorus Line

Oh, no – me? Well, ah ... Oh. God – I don't know where to begin. Oh – Ah, well, everybody says that when I was little every time they put on the radio, I'd just get up and start dancing. And, ah ... Oh, this man came around to my house – selling ... ah, lessons. Oh, and he was a terrific salesman – I'll never forget it – he put me up against this television set – it was one of those great big square things – and then he turned me around, picked up my foot and touched it to the back of my head and said: "This little girl could be a star." Well, I don't know if it was the look on my face – or the fact that I wouldn't let go of his leg But my mother saw how much it meant to me. I mean, I watched everything on television that had dancing on it – Especially - oh, God – every Sunday, it was, ah ... ah ... Ed Sullivan – every Sunday – like church. And, ah ... oh, dear, what was I talking about? It was – oh, right – Ed Sullivan. (Steps back downstage) I'm sorry. It's just – I'm really nervous. But anyway, I knew what I wanted to do. I wanted to, like, be all those people in the movies. Only it's funny, I never wanted to be Ann Miller ... I wanted to be – Doris Day. Except I had this little ah ... problem.



# THIS WEEK

## Monologues – VOCAL SKILLS

- Space
- Levels
- Facial Expression
- Body Language