

THE CLOWNS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

by James H. Brock



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**THE CLOWNS'
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

By James H. Brock

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Lean & Look
Mr. Quiet
Mr. Honker
Miss Wiggle Waggle
Mr. Big
Mr. Little
The Doctor
The Patient
Run
Stumble
Fall
No-Name

PROPERTIES LIST

Mr. Quiet: *clown make-up for putting smiling mouth on No-Name*

Mr. Honker: *three horns (different pitch), large sack*

Miss Wiggle Waggle: *bustle, parasol*

Mr. Big: *very tall hat*

Mr. Little: *baby bonnet*

The Doctor: *doctor's bag, stethoscope, saw, ear muffs*

The Patient: *arrow through head*

Run: *baseball on a rubber band, basketball*

Stumble: *huge catcher's mitt, dinner plate with "H O M E" on back, feather duster full of powder*

Fall: *hat that falls off, three bats (one large, one medium, one small), wash rag with water in it, tin bucket*

COSTUME NOTES

Lean & Look should have a handle attached either to his costume or to a halter that can be worn under the costume. Handle must be strong enough so that he can be supported as he leans and looks.

Quiet should have an outside pocket on his costume large enough to hold the make-up materials he will need to paint the smile on No-Name.

1 **SETTING:** An area set up to simulate a circus tent with a center ring.
2 Upstage Center, just outside the center ring, is a large Christmas
3 tree, but there are no presents under the tree.

4 **TIME:** Christmas — the present.

5 **AT RISE:** The stage is empty. Music begins and the clowns enter at
6 a run, all doing their capers. There is mass confusion as everyone
7 is trying to perform at the same time. As the music comes down,
8 **LEAN & LOOK** comes forward and takes charge. He moves to
9 Stage Right and addresses both the clowns and the audience.

10 **LEAN & LOOK:** Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye! Ladies and gentlemen
11 ... (MR. QUIET taps **LEAN & LOOK** on the shoulder and points
12 to the children in the audience. **LEAN & LOOK** ignores this and
13 crosses to Stage Left.) Ladies and gentlemen ... (Repeat the
14 same business, but this time **LEAN & LOOK** looks out and sees
15 the children) and little people! Little people? Who are all
16 these little people? (MR. QUIET holds **LEAN & LOOK** by
17 the handle in the back of his costume so that he can lean out and
18 have a look at the children.) Who are they? (MR. QUIET pulls
19 **LEAN & LOOK** back up and whispers into his ear.) The audience?
20 You say they are the audience? They're awfully small,
21 aren't they? (**LEAN & LOOK** leans out for another look.) Oh
22 well, ladies and gentlemen ... and little people, welcome
23 to the Clowns' Christmas Party. I want you all to sit back,
24 relax and enjoy yourselves. Believe me, you have quite
25 a treat in store for you, because this is probably going
26 to be the most unusual Christmas party that any of you
27 has ever attended. You see ... (MR. QUIET taps **LEAN &**
28 **LOOK** on the shoulder and asks him a question) Mr. Quiet just
29 asked me why there are no presents under the tree! That's
30 an easy one. You see, there are no presents under the
31 tree because the best gift that a clown has to offer anyone
32 is the gift of laughter! And there is no way at all that you
33 can put laughter into a package, is there? Of course not!
34 So at the Clowns' Christmas Party, all the gifts are acted
35 out for you right here in center ring! Now get yourselves

ready . . . the big show is about to begin! To bring you the gift of laughter, we have assembled the greatest collection of clowns you have ever seen or heard of under one circus tent. Allow me to introduce them! (*Clowns fall back, forming a big semicircle. MR. HONKER comes center ring, honking his horn furiously. As he reaches center, he stops honking except on cues in LEAN & LOOK'S speech.*)

Presenting Mr. Honker! (*Honk*) **Mr. Honker is world-renowned for his marvelous sounds. He can honk high!** (*Honk*) **And he can honk low.** (*Honk*) **And quite often he can honk in a most amusing fashion!** (*MR. HONKER honks several times in funny pattern. MR. HONKER leaves center ring as MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE starts to enter. He circles behind her and honks, which causes her to jump and scream. MR. HONKER leaves and joins others outside the ring. MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE begins to walk around.*) **And this charming creature is called Miss Wiggle Waggle!**

WIGGLE: Hello! Hello! Hello . . . darlings! Hello, my dears! Hello, hello, hello! (*MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE starts to leave the center ring. LEAN & LOOK leans to audience.*)

LEAN & LOOK: Now, I wonder why she is called Miss Wiggle Waggle. (*LEAN & LOOK now leans in MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE'S direction.*) **Hey, lady! Your caboose is loose!**

WIGGLE: How dare you! How rude! I haven't the slightest idea what you are talking about! (*MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE gives LEAN & LOOK a dirty look and then she waggles her way back to the other clowns.*)

LEAN & LOOK: Next we have two fascinating clowns for you to meet. **Mr. Big and Mr. Little!** (*MR. BIG and MR. LITTLE come center ring, take a bow and then pose facing audience.*)

BIG: I am Big.

LITTLE: And I am Little.

BIG: I am huge,

LITTLE: And I am small!

BIG: When we sit down at the table,

- 1 **LITTLE:** **There's no room for me at all!**
2 **I am hardly ever hungry.**
3 **BIG:** **I am hungry all the time,**
4 **And no matter what I choose to say,**
5 **LITTLE:** **I end it with a rhyme!**
6 **BIG:** **I look down at little people.**
7 **LITTLE:** **I look up when they are tall.**
8 **BIG:** **It is dangerous to trip because . . .**
9 **LITTLE:** **He has so far to fall!**
10 **BIG:** **I am always looking over.**
11 **LITTLE:** **Looking under is no chore.**
12 **BIG:** **I am closest to the ceiling!**
13 **LITTLE:** **I am closest to the floor!**
14 *(MR. BIG and MR. LITTLE finish their bit with great pride and*
15 *deep bows. They return to their place among the clowns, patting*
16 *each other on the back.)*
17 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Delightful! Delightful! Now, who is next? (MR.**
18 *QUIET whispers in LEAN & LOOK'S ear.) Who? Not them!*
19 **Gracious! Well, I suppose we had better bring them out,**
20 **then. Ladies and gentlemen . . . (MR. QUIET nudges LEAN**
21 *& LOOK to remind him) oh, yes . . . and little people! Our*
22 **next clown act . . . The Doctor and The Patient! (THE PATIENT**
23 *runs into the center ring, chased by THE DOCTOR. THE PATIENT*
24 *has an arrow through his head. They make a big circle before*
25 *THE DOCTOR finally catches up, center ring.)*
26 **PATIENT:** **Help! Doctor! Help . . . oh, dear me! Where is the**
27 **Doctor? I'm in terrible pain! Oh . . . Doctor!**
28 **DOCTOR:** **Here, here! Stop your yelling. Calm down. I'm the**
29 **Doctor. Now, tell me . . . what seems to be the problem?**
30 **PATIENT:** **Oh, Doctor! I'm in terrible shape!**
31 **DOCTOR:** **You're telling me! Now . . . where does it hurt?**
32 **PATIENT:** **In my elbow!**
33 **DOCTOR:** **In your elbow? You have an arrow through your**
34 **head and you're telling me your elbow hurts?**
35 **PATIENT:** **Oh, yes! It hurts something terrible!**

- 1 **DOCTOR:** What's wrong with it?
- 2 **PATIENT:** It keeps doing this! (*THE PATIENT lets his right elbow*
3 *rise to shoulder height, while the hand dangles limply.*)
- 4 **DOCTOR:** That's terrible! That's awful! Here . . . let me have
5 a look. (*THE DOCTOR examines elbow with stethoscope . . . then*
6 *examines THE PATIENT'S head. Finally he tries pushing the*
7 *right elbow down. This works, but as the right one goes down, the*
8 *left one goes up.*) **There, I fixed it!**
- 9 **PATIENT:** (*Notices his left elbow is now up. He gets very excited and*
10 *screams into THE DOCTOR'S stethoscope.*) **Help! Help! Oh,**
11 **Doctor . . . help!**
- 12 **DOCTOR:** Quiet! Quiet! You're making my eardrums sick!
13 What is wrong with you now?
- 14 **PATIENT:** Look! Now I have the same thing wrong with my
15 left elbow!
- 16 **DOCTOR:** Gracious! This is terrible! It's an epidemic! As soon
17 as I cure his right elbow, he catches the same thing in the
18 left one! It must be contagious! (*THE DOCTOR now pushes*
19 *THE PATIENT'S left elbow down and the right one comes up.*
20 *THE PATIENT discovers this and calls it to THE DOCTOR'S*
21 *attention. This routine is repeated three times, with THE DOCTOR*
22 *and THE PATIENT getting more upset each time. THE DOCTOR*
23 *now crosses to his bag, turns and gives THE PATIENT a serious*
24 *look.*) **This is serious!**
- 25 **PATIENT:** Oh dear, oh dear! What can we do, Doctor?
- 26 **DOCTOR:** Ah ha! I have it . . . just the thing. (*THE DOCTOR*
27 *reaches in his medical bag and takes out a saw.*) **I'll operate!**
- 28 **PATIENT:** Help! Oh dear, help! Please help me, someone . . . !
29 (*THE PATIENT runs off with THE DOCTOR in hot pursuit.*)
- 30 **LEAN & LOOK:** That was a wonderful team of clowns . . . The
31 **Doctor and The Patient!** (*THE DOCTOR and THE PATIENT*
32 *step back into center ring for a bow and then move out to join*
33 *other clowns. MR. QUIET whispers in LEAN & LOOK'S ear.*)
34 **What?** (*MR. QUIET whispers again.*) **Oh, my! Mr. Quiet just**
35 **reminded me that I haven't introduced myself. Now what**

1 **do you suppose I am called? Who can guess?** (*LEAN &*
 2 *LOOK leans out and listens, then pretends he has heard the right*
 3 *name. He straightens up and quiets the audience.*) **That's right!**
 4 **Some very smart young boy right down here guessed my**
 5 **name. And I think that very clever little girl over there**
 6 **guessed it, too. My name is Mr. Lean & Look . . . because,**
 7 **you see, I always lean and look at everything that is happening.**
 8 (*LEAN & LOOK now leans and looks for the audience's benefit.*)

9 **And why do you suppose I call my friend here Mr.**
 10 **Quiet? Can anyone guess?** (*LEAN & LOOK listens for the*
 11 *answer. He pretends to hear it and quiets the audience.*) **Yes, yes,**
 12 **yes! You are all so clever. You figured that out, too. I call**
 13 **him Mr. Quiet . . . because he always whispers!** (*MR. QUIET*
 14 *whispers to LEAN & LOOK.*) **Mr. Quiet just asked me if this**
 15 **was all the clowns. No, no, no. We have lots and lots more**
 16 **clowns for you to meet today, and each one of them has**
 17 **a Christmas gift of laughter to bring to you. So let's get**
 18 **on with it! Bring on the clowns! Dear me, what a clever**
 19 **thing to say!** (*Enter three clowns, running in circle around the*
 20 *center ring. First clown stops, second clown trips over his feet*
 21 *and third clown runs into him and falls down, losing his hat.*
 22 *They all jump up like Keystone Cops and run around the circle*
 23 *again, ending up the same way.*)

24 **Now let me see . . . what can we call these three clowns?**
 25 (*Clowns go into exaggerated thinking poses as children start*
 26 *calling out their suggestions. LEAN & LOOK comes out of thinking*
 27 *pose to listen to children.*) **What a smart bunch of boys and**
 28 **girls. You have come up with so many clever names. I just**
 29 **don't know which one to use! But I did think I heard one**
 30 **set of names that might do rather nicely!**

31 **CLOWNS:** (*All breaking from thinking pose and calling out ad-*
 32 *libbed lines*) **What is it? Tell us what they said. What did the**
 33 **children name them? They were faster than we were!**

34 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Yes, someone out there hit the nail right on**
 35 **the head.** (*Looking to the clowns*) **Let's watch these three fine**

1 fellows do their act one more time and then I will tell you
 2 what the children suggested we name them. *(They repeat*
 3 *routine with great exaggeration.)* Yes . . . there you are. The
 4 children want to call them Run, Stumble and Fall!

5 CLOWNS: *(Ad-lib lines.)* Yes! Of course! Very good! Exactly
 6 right! What a clever set of names! That fits them to a T!

7 LEAN & LOOK: Well, boys and girls, that's the way we do it
 8 around here. We name the clowns names that go along
 9 with what they do. For instance, I call Mr. Quiet here Mr.
 10 Quiet because he always whispers. And he calls me Mr.
 11 Lean & Look because I always . . . *(LEAN & LOOK leans out*
 12 *and looks around at the children, encouraging them to call out his*
 13 *name. As LEAN & LOOK stands back up, MR. HONKER runs*
 14 *front, honking his horn furiously. MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE*
 15 *comes front also, watching MR. HONKER go through his antics.)*

16 WIGGLE: I see! That's the reason we call him Mr. Honker!
 17 Because he honks all the time!

18 LEAN & LOOK: Exactly! And that is the reason why we call
 19 you Miss Wiggle Waggle!

20 WIGGLE: I don't see what you mean by that! I don't understand
 21 it at all! *(MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE walks away with exaggerated*
 22 *wiggle. LEAN & LOOK, MR. QUIET and MR. HONKER all*
 23 *watch her go, laughing to themselves and sharing the joke with*
 24 *the children in audience. During this, THE DOCTOR and THE*
 25 *PATIENT come forward to Left of LEAN & LOOK while MR.*
 26 *BIG and MR. LITTLE come forward to Right.)*

27 DOCTOR: And that is why we call them Mr. Big and Mr.
 28 Little . . .

29 PATIENT: *(Pointing to MR. BIG and MR. LITTLE)* Because he
 30 is big . . . and he is little!

31 LEAN & LOOK: Right you are!

32 BIG: *(Pointing to THE DOCTOR and THE PATIENT)* And that
 33 is why you call them The Doctor and The Patient . . . because
 34 that is the act they do?

35 LITTLE: Anyone could have figured that out! Even a big clown

1 **like you!** (*MR. BIG pulls hand back as if to strike MR. LITTLE,*
2 *but MR. LITTLE ducks away.*)

3 **LEAN & LOOK:** (*Pointing to RUN, STUMBLE and FALL*) **And**
4 **we call them . . .**

5 **RUN:** Run . . .

6 **STUMBLE:** Stumble . . .

7 **FALL:** And Fall . . .

8 **LEAN & LOOK:** . . . **Because they . . .**

9 **RUN:** **Run!** (*RUN starts off, followed by STUMBLE and FALL.*
10 *RUN stops and trips STUMBLE, who catches his balance and*
11 *then turns to face the audience.*)

12 **STUMBLE:** **Stumble!** (*As soon as STUMBLE explains, FALL*
13 *bumps into him and falls to the floor, losing his hat. FALL sits*
14 *up and looks to audience.*)

15 **FALL:** **And fall!**

16 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Right you are.** (*MR. QUIET whispers to LEAN*
17 *& LOOK, who looks suddenly puzzled.*) **My, my, my . . . I don't**
18 **know, Mr. Quiet. I really couldn't tell you. Mr. Quiet asked**
19 **me if we have finished naming all the clowns and if all**
20 **the clowns have brought their gifts of laughter to the**
21 **Christmas party. Let's have a look.** (*By now all the clowns*
22 *have crowded down front around LEAN & LOOK. NO-NAME*
23 *has come down also and stands behind the group. LEAN & LOOK*
24 *leans out and looks all around the audience as if looking for*
25 *more clowns.*) **I guess everyone has brought their gift to**
26 **the Christmas party. At least I don't see any clowns who . . .**

27 **NO-NAME:** **Wait a minute!** (*NO-NAME has called out from*
28 *behind the group of clowns. The audience can hear him but should*
29 *not be able to see him very well.*)

30 **LEAN & LOOK:** **What? Who said that?** (*LEAN & LOOK leans*
31 *out to look at audience once again, not knowing where the voice*
32 *came from.*)

33 **NO-NAME:** **I did!** (*The crowd of clowns now separates, discovering*
34 *NO-NAME for the first time. He is dressed like a clown and has the*
35 *white clown make-up, but no specialized features like the others do.*)

- 1 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) **Who is he? I never saw him before.**
 2 **Where did he come from? Was he there all the time? What**
 3 **is his name?**
- 4 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Pardon me, my good fellow, but . . . what is**
 5 **your name?**
- 6 **NO-NAME:** **I don't have one!** (*All the clowns are horrified. LEAN &*
 7 *LOOK leans over and looks at one of the clowns, speaking confidentially.*)
- 8 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Did he say that he doesn't have a name?**
- 9 **CLOWNS:** (*All answering with ad-libbed lines*) **That's what he**
 10 **said! Can you imagine! Who ever heard of a clown who**
 11 **didn't have a name? Who let him come to our Christmas**
 12 **party, anyway? This is terrible!**
- 13 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Oh, dear. Well, we can't have that! We must**
 14 **find this fellow a name. After all, who ever heard of a clown**
 15 **with no name?**
- 16 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) **No one. Never! All clowns have names.**
 17 **It's traditional. Who is going to name him? Why hasn't**
 18 **he been given a name before this?**
- 19 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Quiet, quiet, everybody! Now, what shall we**
 20 **call him?**
- 21 **WIGGLE:** (*Coming forward to look NO-NAME over*) **Let me have**
 22 **a look at him, darlings. Step aside, my dears. I will tell**
 23 **you what to name him. All we have to do is have a look**
 24 **at him. We will name him what he looks like!**
- 25 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) **Good idea. Why didn't I think of that?**
 26 **It sounds reasonable to me. Well, what does he look like?**
 27 **Yes, what does he look like?** (*MISS WIGGLE WAGGLE*
 28 *studies him from all sides, but she can't make up her mind. Group*
 29 *in unison:*) **Well!**
- 30 **WIGGLE:** **This is terrible, darlings. Just shocking, my dears.**
 31 **I can't tell what he looks like. He looks neither happy nor**
 32 **sad, silly nor serious. He just looks like . . . like a plain**
 33 **clown!**
- 34 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) **Terrible! Horrible! We can't have that!**
 35 **Who ever heard of a plain clown? Never! Impossible!**

- 1 **WIGGLE:** Then have a look for yourselves! He looks neither
 2 happy nor sad!
- 3 **LEAN & LOOK:** I'm afraid Miss Wiggle Waggle is right. He
 4 looks neither happy nor sad, so we can't give him a name
 5 because of how he looks. We'll have to name him because
 6 of what he does. What do you do?
- 7 **NO-NAME:** I beg your pardon?
- 8 **LEAN & LOOK:** I said, "What do you do?" (*MR. HONKER sneaks*
 9 *up behind NO-NAME, honking his horn and making NO-NAME*
 10 *jump.*) You see, we call this splendid fellow Mr. Honker because
 11 that is what he does. As soon as we can find out what you
 12 do . . . that is, as soon as you let us know what the clown
 13 gift is that you have brought to the Clowns' Christmas
 14 Party, then we will be able to give you a name as well.
- 15 **NO-NAME:** Oh, I see. In that case it will be easy. You will
 16 have no trouble naming me, because the gift I brought to
 17 the Christmas party is singing. I have come to sing for the
 18 children.
- 19 **CLOWNS:** (*In unison*) You what?!
- 20 **NO-NAME:** I have come to sing!
- 21 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) Incredible! I never heard of such a
 22 thing. A clown who sings! Ha! That will never do! It's out
 23 of the question.
- 24 **LEAN & LOOK:** We don't mean that, my good fellow.
- 25 **NO-NAME:** You don't? Then what do you mean?
- 26 **LEAN & LOOK:** We mean, what do you do that is funny? What
 27 do you do to make the children laugh?
- 28 **NO-NAME:** Nothing.
- 29 **CLOWNS:** (*In unison*) Nothing!
- 30 **NO-NAME:** That's right. I don't try to make children laugh.
 31 I just like to sing for them!
- 32 **CLOWNS:** (*Ad-lib lines.*) Incredible! I never heard of such a
 33 thing! A clown who sings! Ha! That will never do. It's out
 34 of the question.
- 35 **NO-NAME:** But all I know how to do is sing. Won't that do?

- 1 **LEAN & LOOK:** Never, never, never, never, never!
- 2 **NO-NAME:** Why not?
- 3 **LEAN & LOOK:** You are a clown, are you not?
- 4 **NO-NAME:** Yes.
- 5 **LEAN & LOOK:** Then you must do something funny!
- 6 **NO-NAME:** Why? *(Clowns are shocked by this. They stare at NO-*
7 *NAME in horror. LEAN & LOOK leans to one of the clowns and*
8 *speaks confidentially.)*
- 9 **LEAN & LOOK:** Did he say, "Why?" *(All the clowns nod yes in*
10 *unison.)* Wait a minute! I have it! We have misjudged this
11 fine fellow. What he means is that he sings funny. That's it!
12 *(Turning to NO-NAME)* That is what you mean, isn't it?
- 13 **NO-NAME:** *(Puzzled)* Sings funny? I'm afraid I don't understand
14 what you mean by that.
- 15 **LEAN & LOOK:** You know . . . sings funny! *(LEAN & LOOK*
16 *gives the clowns the signal to perform and they all begin walking*
17 *about center ring, singing in a comic operatic manner with exaggerated*
18 *poses and tremolo. NO-NAME covers his ears. LEAN & LOOK*
19 *lets this go on for a few moments, then stops the clowns.)* There!
20 That's what you mean by singing, isn't it?
- 21 **NO-NAME:** No! Oh, no. Nothing like that! That was just awful!
- 22 **LEAN & LOOK:** Of course it was awful! It was supposed to be!
23 Otherwise it wouldn't have been funny!
- 24 **NO-NAME:** But I don't sing to be funny!
- 25 **CLOWNS:** *(Ad-lib lines.)* What did he say? That's terrible. Doesn't
26 sing to be funny? Who ever heard of a clown who doesn't
27 want to be funny? He's not a clown at all!
- 28 **LEAN & LOOK:** Hold it! *(MR. QUIET whispers in his ear.)* Oh,
29 that's a good idea, Mr. Quiet. We will just have to teach
30 him how to be funny! Then he will have a gift of laughter
31 for the Christmas party.
- 32 **NO-NAME:** But couldn't I just sing my song as my gift?
- 33 **LEAN & LOOK:** No! Definitely not! No one has ever heard of
34 a clown who just sings and doesn't try to make people
35 laugh.

- 1 **NO-NAME:** But all I know is . . .
- 2 **LEAN & LOOK:** Never mind that! Now, let me see. What can
3 we do to teach you how to be a proper clown? (*Clowns go*
4 *into exaggerated thinking pose. MR. BIG gets an idea and comes*
5 *forward with MR. LITTLE.*)
- 6 **BIG:** I know! Let's teach him the baseball routine!
- 7 **LITTLE:** That's a good idea. It's the best you've ever seen!
- 8 **BIG:** Then he'll learn how to be a clown.
- 9 **LITTLE:** Right! The best one in town.
- 10 **RUN:** Good! I'll be the pitcher.
- 11 **STUMBLE:** And I'll be the catcher.
- 12 **FALL:** And I'll be the umpire and call out the strikes.
- 13 **LEAN & LOOK:** Splendid! Splendid! Everyone take your places.
- 14 **NO-NAME:** But I don't want to . . . (*This is as far as NO-NAME*
15 *gets as he is swept along in the mad rush to set up the baseball*
16 *routine. RUN gets the baseball, STUMBLE gets an oversized*
17 *catcher's mitt, a plate and a duster. FALL gets three bats, one*
18 *large, one medium and one very small. LEAN & LOOK takes NO-*
19 *NAME by the arm and leads him to the batter's box. FALL hands*
20 *him the largest of the bats.*)
- 21 **FALL:** Here! Here is your bat. Now step up to the plate.
- 22 **NO-NAME:** (*Looking around*) I don't see any plate.
- 23 **FALL:** You don't? (*FALL crosses to STUMBLE, very upset.*) He
24 doesn't see the plate!
- 25 **STUMBLE:** He doesn't see the plate? Terrible! Awful! I thought
26 everyone could see the plate! (*STUMBLE takes the dinner*
27 *plate, which he has been hiding behind himself, and goes down*
28 *to face the audience. He shows the plate to the children.*) You
29 can see the plate, can't you? (*Children will react.*) Good! Of
30 course you can see the plate. Now tell me, what kind of a
31 plate is it? (*STUMBLE turns the plate around. On the back,*
32 *"HOME" is written in large block letters. Children will react.*)
33 That's right. How very clever of you to notice. It's a "home"
34 plate! (*STUMBLE laughs at his own joke, then runs back to his*
35 *place and puts the plate down in front of NO-NAME.*)

- 1 **FALL:** **Batter up!** (*NO-NAME gets ready to bat. RUN does an outlandish*
2 *windup, then throws the ball. But it is on a rubber band and it*
3 *snaps back before NO-NAME can swing at it.*) **Strike one!**
- 4 **NO-NAME:** **Wait! I didn't even get a chance to swing at it!**
- 5 **FALL:** **You didn't? Goodness gracious! Then perhaps you had**
6 **better move a little closer to the pitcher.** (*STUMBLE picks*
7 *up plate and moves it closer to pitcher.*)
- 8 **RUN:** **Not fair! Not fair! If he moves closer, then he'll have to**
9 **use a smaller bat!** (*FALL takes the large bat away from NO-NAME*
10 *and gives him the medium one.*)
- 11 **FALL:** **Batter up!** (*NO-NAME steps up to the plate, now closer to*
12 *RUN. RUN throws the ball again, with the same result.*) **Strike**
13 **two!**
- 14 **NO-NAME:** **Wait a minute! Wait a minute! The ball didn't**
15 **even get here. How am I supposed to swing at it if it doesn't**
16 **get here?**
- 17 **FALL:** **It didn't? Goodness gracious me! Well . . . maybe you**
18 **had better move closer.** (*STUMBLE moves the plate very close*
19 *to RUN.*)
- 20 **RUN:** **Not fair! Not fair! If he moves closer, then he'll have to**
21 **use a smaller bat!** (*FALL takes bat away from NO-NAME and*
22 *hands him a very tiny bat. NO-NAME steps up to plate and gets*
23 *ready to bat as RUN winds up to throw, but STUMBLE stops*
24 *them both.*)
- 25 **STUMBLE:** **Wait! Wait a minute! Hold on! I have to dust the**
26 **plate off!** (*FALL holds the plate up for STUMBLE to dust.*
27 *STUMBLE gets feather duster that is full of powder so that when*
28 *he dusts the plate, great clouds of dust rise up. STUMBLE now*
29 *shakes the duster in NO-NAME'S face so that dust gets in his*
30 *eyes. While this is going on, RUN exchanges his baseball for a*
31 *very large basketball.*)
- 32 **FALL:** **Batter up!** (*NO-NAME steps to plate. RUN throws the*
33 *basketball. NO-NAME swats, but the big ball breaks his tiny*
34 *bat and almost knocks him down.*) **Strike three! You're out!**
35 (*Clowns all laugh at the outcome. Everyone thinks this is very funny,*

- 1 *except NO-NAME.)*
- 2 **LEAN & LOOK:** Very nice! What a funny clown routine! That
- 3 was splendid. Now let's see if we can't find a name for you.
- 4 What do you say, clowns . . . should we call him Mr. Baseball?
- 5 **FALL:** No, that would never do. Run was the one who threw
- 6 the baseball and made it snap back. He was the funny one.
- 7 **LEAN & LOOK:** Well then, should we call him Mr. Batter?
- 8 **BIG:** But he never batted. He just stood there!
- 9 **LITTLE:** Right! If it hadn't been for Stumble and Fall, we
- 10 wouldn't have gotten any laughs at all!
- 11 **LEAN & LOOK:** I hadn't thought of it that way, but I suppose
- 12 you are right. We didn't see this fellow do anything in
- 13 that clown routine to give him a name, did we?
- 14 **NO-NAME:** I didn't know what to do! I don't know how to
- 15 make people laugh!
- 16 **CLOWNS** *(In unison) You don't? (Clowns quickly form a semicircle*
- 17 *around NO-NAME. One at a time, they point an accusing finger*
- 18 *at NO-NAME as they say:) Shame, shame, shame, shame,*
- 19 *shame, shame, shame, shame, shame . . . (MR. QUIET points*
- 20 *with LEAN & LOOK but doesn't speak. Last clown in semicircle*
- 21 *says:) Shame on you!*
- 22 **DOCTOR:** I have it! I have a grand idea! Let's teach him how
- 23 to play the balloon game!
- 24 **PATIENT:** Oh, that's a good game. I'll go get the balloons!
- 25 *(THE PATIENT leaves to get the balloons.)*
- 26 **LEAN & LOOK:** That's an excellent idea! Perhaps now we
- 27 will find something to call this clown.
- 28 **NO-NAME:** Couldn't I just sing a song instead?
- 29 **LEAN & LOOK:** Be quiet and come with me. *(THE PATIENT*
- 30 *comes back with three balloons on strings and stands to side of*
- 31 *stage. LEAN & LOOK takes NO-NAME to where THE PATIENT*
- 32 *is waiting.)*
- 33 **NO-NAME:** How do we play this game?
- 34 **LEAN & LOOK:** It's really quite simple. The Patient here will
- 35 give you a balloon. It will be your job to take the balloon

- 1 **over there to Mr. Honker and put it in that sack.** (*NO-NAME*
2 *looks to opposite side of center ring, where MR. HONKER has*
3 *set himself up with a big bag.*)
- 4 **NO-NAME:** **That's all there is to it?**
- 5 **LEAN & LOOK:** **That's all!**
- 6 **NO-NAME:** **I don't see anything hard or funny about that. It's**
7 **simple!**
- 8 **LEAN & LOOK:** **Just play the game and we shall see.**
- 9 **DOCTOR:** **Wait! Wait! I must first examine the contestant to**
10 **see if he is fit to play the game!** (*THE DOCTOR runs up to*
11 *NO-NAME and does an exaggerated examination, focusing on*
12 *his ears. The other clowns are in on the gag and secretly laugh*
13 *to themselves.*) **Terrible, terrible! I have examined the**
14 **contestant and found that he is very sick . . . very sick**
15 **indeed!**
- 16 **LEAN & LOOK:** **What seems to be the matter with him?**
- 17 **DOCTOR:** **He is suffering from Caranium Vacantitis!**
- 18 **LEAN & LOOK:** **It sounds just awful! How can you tell?**
- 19 **DOCTOR:** **It's easy to diagnose. You see, I look through this**
20 **ear here . . .** (*He does so*) **and I see what I can see. If I can**
21 **see my hand on the other side, it is a sure sign that he has**
22 **Vacantitis. . . . Watch! I can see three fingers on the other**
23 **side.** (*THE DOCTOR holds his hand up with three fingers, then*
24 *nods his head.*) **Just as I thought. Caranium Vacantitis!**
25 (*THE DOCTOR looks in his bag and takes out a pair of ear*
26 *muffs.*) **Exactly what the doctor ordered. To cure the**
27 **patient, we must close up those holes on either side of**
28 **his head.** (*THE DOCTOR puts ear muffs on NO-NAME.*) **Good!**
29 **Good! Now the game can continue.** (*With the ear muffs on,*
30 *NO-NAME cannot hear.*)
- 31 **NO-NAME:** **What?**
- 32 **DOCTOR:** **I said the game can continue!**
- 33 **NO-NAME:** **What? I can't hear what you are saying.** (*THE*
34 *DOCTOR crosses to NO-NAME, lifts the ear muffs and repeats*
35 *loudly.*)

- 1 **DOCTOR:** The game may continue.
- 2 **NO-NAME:** You don't have to shout! (*THE DOCTOR replaces*
3 *ear muffs. LEAN & LOOK crosses to THE PATIENT, gets a balloon*
4 *and hands it to NO-NAME.*)
- 5 **LEAN & LOOK:** Now, take this balloon across and put it in Mr.
6 Honker's bag and you will win the game.
- 7 **NO-NAME:** What? I can't hear you. (*LEAN & LOOK raises the*
8 *ear muffs and repeats the instructions.*)
- 9 **LEAN & LOOK:** I said, take the balloon across to Mr. Honker's
10 bag and put it in. That way you win the game.
- 11 **NO-NAME:** Oh, good! Then can I sing my song?
- 12 **LEAN & LOOK:** Of course!
- 13 **NO-NAME:** This will be easy! (*LEAN & LOOK replaces the ear*
14 *muffs so NO-NAME can no longer hear. THE PATIENT, who*
15 *has been hiding a long stick with a pin in it, pops NO-NAME'S*
16 *balloon as he walks away. NO-NAME cannot hear, so he doesn't*
17 *know the balloon is gone until he reaches MR. HONKER and*
18 *tries to put the balloon in the bag.*)
- 19 **HONKER:** No balloon! No balloon! (*Honks his horn.*)
- 20 **NO-NAME:** Wait! What happened? I had my balloon right
21 here in my hand . . . now it's gone! (*LEAN & LOOK crosses*
22 *to NO-NAME and raises the ear muffs.*)
- 23 **LEAN & LOOK:** You lose! See there, it wasn't as easy as you
24 thought it would be.
- 25 **NO-NAME:** But I had the balloon right here in my hand!
- 26 **LEAN & LOOK:** Would you like to try again?
- 27 **NO-NAME:** Yes . . . please!
- 28 **LEAN & LOOK:** Very well! (*LEAN & LOOK puts ear muffs back*
29 *on NO-NAME and leads him across stage to THE PATIENT and*
30 *gets another balloon. LEAN & LOOK points in MR. HONKER'S*
31 *direction, motioning NO-NAME to try again. As NO-NAME*
32 *walks off, THE PATIENT bursts the balloon again. When NO-*
33 *NAME gets to MR. HONKER, he discovers the balloon is gone,*
34 *same as before.*)
- 35 **HONKER:** No balloon! You lose! (*Honks his horn.*)



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