# **Ye-Ha!** Junior Script by Craig Hawes



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# CAST LIST

# N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (\*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

#### **Principal Characters**

* Billie-Jo Brisket	(55)
Lightnin' The Horse	<b>(0)</b>
* Wilbur Hubbard	<b>(58)</b>
Ma Annie Hubbard	<b>(42)</b>
Chip Checker	(31)
Mayor Tex Truman	<b>(75)</b>
Dwayne Dimples	<b>(25)</b>
* Dr. Cornelius Spooner	<b>(22)</b>
Rooster	(10)

#### The No-Good Outlaws

Howling Mad Dog McNut
Bronco Bill (19)
Buzz
Buck
Bud(4)
Brad(4)
Bret(4)
Butch
Blake
Bart
Beau
Bruce
Bronx

#### The Children

Sunny	(3)
Sandy	(2)
Rocky	(2)
Dusty	(2)
Blaze	<b>(2)</b>

#### The Townsfolk

Philius Snuffitt	(13)
Festus Rott	(11)
Old Seth	(13)
Old Amos	(15)
Smith Ironside	(6)
Levi Vandergelder	(6)
Dolly Vandergelder	(6)
Claude the Barber	(4)
Clyde the Barber	(4)
Clifford the Barber	(4)
Clint the Barber	(4)
Miss Bracegirdle	(7)

#### The Aldiolive Tribe

Chief Walking Weasel	. (18)
Squatting Squirrel	(6)
Leaping Leopard	(5)
Jumping Jaguar	(4)
Towering Wild Bear	(6)

#### The Saloon Gang

Nebraska	<b>(2)</b>
Kansas	(2)
Idaho	(2)
Mississippi	(2)
Colorado	(2)
Arizona	(0)
Montana	(0)
Indiana	(0)

Any lyrics referring to 'All' should be sung by the whole company.

#### SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

# N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (\*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Mayor Tex Truman	75
* Wilbur Hubbard	58
* Billie-Jo Brisket	55
Ma Annie Hubbard	42
Chip Checker	31
Howling Mad Dog McNut	25
Dwayne Dimples	25
* Dr. Cornelius Spooner	22
Bronco Bill	19
Chief Walking Weasel	18
Old Amos	15
Old Seth	13
Philius Snuffitt	13
Festus Rott	11
Rooster	10
Buzz	8
Miss Bracegirdle	7
Buck	6
Levi Vandergelder	6
Towering Wild Bear	6
Butch	6
Dolly Vandergelder	6
Smith Ironside	6
Squatting Squirrel	6
Leaping Leopard	5
Jumping Jaguar	4
Brad	4
Bret	4
Bud	4
Claude the Barber	4
Clifford the Barber	4
Clint the Barber	4
Clyde the Barber	4

Sunny	3
Nebraska	2
Idaho	2
Colorado	2
Mississippi	2
Kansas	2
Sandy	2
Rocky	2
Dusty	2
Blaze	2
Blake	2
Bart	2
Beau	2
Bruce	2
Bronx	2
Arizona	0
Montana	0
Indiana	0
Lightnin' The Horse.	0

# **REDUCED CAST LIST FOR 28 ACTORS**

	75
	58
	55
	42
	31
	25
	25
Also Plays Chief Walking Weasel	24
	22
Also Plays Towering Wild Bear	21
	19
Also Plays Squatting Squirrel	19
. Also Plays Jumping Jaguar	17
. Also Plays Leaping Leopard	16
	10
	10
. Also Plays Nebraska	8
. Also Plays Kansas	8
	7
	6
	6
. Also Plays Idaho	6
. Also Plays Mississippi	6
. Also Plays Colorado	6
. Also Plays Arizona	4
	3
	2
	0
	Also Plays Chief Walking Weasel Also Plays Towering Wild Bear Also Plays Squatting Squirrel Also Plays Jumping Jaguar Also Plays Leaping Leopard Also Plays Nebraska Also Plays Nebraska Also Plays Kansas

#### CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE

Sce	ne	One

**Chip Checker** Claude the Barber Clifford the Barber Clint the Barber Clyde the Barber **Dolly Vandergelder Dwayne Dimples** Festus Rott Levi Vandergelder Ma Annie Hubbard Mayor Tex Truman **Miss Bracegirdle** Old Amos Old Seth **Philius Snuffitt** Smith Ironside Wilbur Hubbard

#### Scene Two

Arizona Chip Checker Claude the Barber Clifford the Barber Clint the Barber Clyde the Barber Colorado **Dolly Vandergelder Dwayne Dimples** Festus Rott Idaho Indiana Kansas Levi Vandergelder Ma Annie Hubbard Mayor Tex Truman Miss Bracegirdle Mississippi Montana Nebraska Old Amos Old Seth **Philius Snuffitt** Smith Ironside Wilbur Hubbard

# Scene Three All Scene Four Bart Beau **Billie-Jo Brisket** Blake Brad Bret **Bronco Bill** Bronx Bruce Buck Bud Butch Buzz

Chief Walking Weasel Howling Mad Dog McNut Jumping Jaguar Leaping Leopard Lightnin' The Horse Mayor Tex Truman Squatting Squirrel Towering Wild Bear

#### **Scene Five**

Billie-Jo Brisket Dwayne Dimples ..Lightnin' The Horse Ma Annie Hubbard Wilbur Hubbard

#### Scene Six

All

# LIST OF PROPERTIES

# Scene One

Town sign, with population count displayed	Scene Prop
Sheriff badge	Dimples
Handbell	Dimples
Bag of lottery balls, with numbers drawn or painted on	Dimples

# Scene Two

Bar and tables	Scene Prop
Glasses of drinks	Seth, Amos and the Townsfolk
Glasses and cloth	Chip
Notebook and pencil	Festus
Tape measure	Festus
Business card	Philius
Tablecloths	The Saloon Gang
Two bowls of nibbles, on a tray	Wilbur

#### Scene Three

Town sign (as used previously)	Scene Prop
Suitcase	Rooster
Whisk	Wilbur
Sheriff badge (as used previously)	Wilbur
Tape measure (as used previously)	Festus
Brightly coloured underwear (costume)	The No-Good Baddies

# Scene Four

Bag of money	Tex
Set of bongo drums	Towering Wild Bear
Lone Ranger mask	Billie-Jo

# Scene Five

Prison bars	Scene Prop
Lone Ranger mask (as used previously)	Billie-Jo
Bag of money (as used previously)	Billie-Jo

# Scene Six

Town sign (as used previously)	Scene Prop
Soapbox	Rooster
Medicine bottle of tonic and glasses	Rooster
Set of barbells	Rooster
Dunce's hat	Rooster
Mortarboard	Rooster
Bottles of tonic	Spooner
Lone Ranger mask (as used previously)	Billie-Jo
Whisk (as used previously)	Wilbur
Sheriff badge (as used previously)	Wilbur
Black oil (face paint)	Seth & Amos

# **PRODUCTION NOTES**

Welcome to **Ye-Ha!** I am sure you will enjoy rehearsing and performing this musical comedy, but to aid you in your production it may be helpful to consider the following production notes.

# CASTING

The script is written for 48 speaking characters, as listed previously. Lightnin' The Horse is a non-speaking role. These roles range from principal parts to small supporting roles. For productions with fewer cast members, condensing and doubling of characters is possible. This can be done in numerous ways, but the following example reduces the cast number to 28:

- Remove Bud, Brad, Bret, Blake, Bart, Beau, Bruce & Bronx (reallocating lines) to leave just 3 of the Baddies gang
- Remove Montana & Indiana (reallocating lines) & double up the remaining Saloon Gang with The Barbers and The Vandergelders into just 1 part each
- Combine The Splodge Kids into just 2 parts
- Double up 5 Townsfolk as The Aldiolive Tribe.

To expand the cast, unlimited chorus parts may be used as additional Townsfolk, Saloon Gang, Splodge Kids and an off-stage choir for backing on other songs. All characters work well if portrayed with American accents, but of course, this is not essential. The outlaws should sound rough and tough apart from Butch, who has a squeaky, high voice.

# COSTUMES

This show is quite easy to costume as it is full of traditional Wild West characters, and there are countless films and cartoons to draw upon. One idea to keep in mind is that the baddies work well all in black, allowing the audience to easily identify them and differentiate between them and the other townsfolk. This will also help when they reveal their bright, contrasting underwear. Lightnin' (the horse) is traditionally played by two performers in a pantomime horse costume which can be hired or made as appropriate. These performers may wish to also play townsfolk when they are not saddled up! Billie-Jo requires a brown 'Calamity Jane' style costume as well as a traditional white 'Lone Ranger' costume or disguise. Remember, plenty of gingham, Stetsons and neckerchiefs and you can't go far wrong!

#### STAGING

This production can be staged effectively with just simple scenery to suggest a Wild West Town. Saloon doors, tables and chairs can be brought on for the Saloon Scene, and Chip can bring on his own 'portable' bar on wheels, with wood effect front and different bottles and glasses on top. Some small flats with rocks and a cactus or two, can be brought on for Critter Creek, and a simple, barred, window frame for Wilbur to hold, and look through, could be used in the Jail scene. Effective use of lighting can also help to differentiate between other scenes. In the town, a large sign with 'Splodge City' is required, with a population count beneath it that can be changed. This is usually done with hole-punched squares of paper, printed with descending numbers, suspended from the sign and ripped off as required at the beginning of the show. The use of a small blackboard and chalk might work just as effectively.

# MUSIC

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects, is found on the Backing Track CD. A vocal recording is provided as a guide and to enable the swift learning of songs. The backing tracks without vocals are ideal to use in rehearsals and performances, and the two scores provide additional flexibility if you have the luxury of a live pianist. Directors may, if they wish, allow a choir or separate character to accompany or replace a soloist in a song or section intended for a soloist. This is sometimes necessary if certain cast members are unable to perform the solo themselves fully, or if a larger chorus, or choir, is required to be employed more fully throughout the show.

# AND FINALLY...

This is a fun show to rehearse and perform, so remember to enjoy yourselves and your audience will, too! My best wishes for a successful and enjoyable production.

# Craig Hawes