

Mary, Mary Plot Synopsis and Audition Sides

Synopsis:

Mary, Mary is a 1961 comedy which ran on Broadway for nearly 4 years. The comedy's humor is derived from discussions about income taxes, marriage, alimony, divorce, remarriage, extramarital affairs, weight-loss programs, exercise, and sex.

Mary appears at the apartment of her former husband, Bob, because his lawyer, Oscar, has summoned her to help with Bob's sticky tax returns. Their marriage, it seems, foundered on the rocks of Mary's unrelenting sense of humor. It takes Dirk Winston, a handsome film hero whose star is in decline, to understand Mary. Dirk makes her face up to her secret. He also kisses her and offers her the kind of adoration her practical and obtuse husband has been unable to manage. Just in time, Bob, who has been on the verge of marrying a rich, young health nut named Tiffany Richards, realizes that he still needs Mary. It will not be killing any suspense to reveal that true love triumphs.

Character Descriptions:

Mary – Bob's former wife, divorced within the last year. Having undergone a personal make-over she is working now and proud of her newfound confidence and independence. Never got over Bob. Sharp wit and tongue.

* Will require stage kissing, smoking, and acting intoxicated.

Bob – An independent publisher. Mary's former husband who is about to remarry. High strung and very sensitive. An intellectual snob. Never got over Mary.

* Will require stage kissing and acting as if you are under the heavy influence of sleeping pills.

Tiffany – Bob's present fiancé, very young and independently wealthy. Extremely pragmatic and gracious. A health nut.

* Will require stage kissing.

Oscar – A tax lawyer and friend of both Mary and Bob. Witty and well read. Doesn't take sides.

Dirk – A Hollywood film actor with a NY apartment in Bob's building. A lady's man. Takes an immediate liking to Mary. Charming and sincere. He has an autobiography he would like Bob to publish.

* Will require stage kissing and smoking.

Sides:

For **Initial Auditions**, each actor has 5 minutes to perform whichever character and sides they choose. You will be auditioning opposite a reader narrating the other character's lines.

For **Callbacks**, please be very familiar with all sides your character is listed as being in. Actors will be mixed and matched with one another in different combinations of characters.

Mary and Bob, Side 1 and 2

Mary/Bob, p. 20-21 from Mary's "Hello," through Mary's "Have a dried apricot."

Mary/Bob, p. 50-52 from Bob's "You've been drinking," through Mary's "Now I'm cold sober and everything is spoiled!"

Dirk, Side 1 and 2

Dirk/Bob, p. 56-57 from Dirk's "All right. Let's have it," through Dirk's "But it wasn't a line."

Dirk/Mary, p. 41-42 from Dirk's "Why do you do that?" through Dirk's "See how easy it is?"

Tiffany, Side 1

Tiffany/Bob, p. 15-17 from Tiffany's "I'm delighted," through Tiffany's "That is the most unromantic story I ever heard."

Oscar, Side 1

Oscar/ Mary, p. 18-19 from Mary's "Oscar!" through Mary's "I shouldn't have come."