



**Craig Sodaro**

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## **The Real Housewives of Loony County**

**SPOOF/FARCE.** Socialite Snippy Whipshaw snags her own reality-TV series, “The Real Housewives of Loony County,” which causes sparks to fly as the housewives of Loony County unleash a flurry of shenanigans, feuds, and dirty dealings. As the season unfolds, there are mysteries, grudges, amnesia, confessions, plots, soirees, “big” announcements, accusations, love triangles, name smearing, backstabbing, and even swordplay. In the nail-biting finale, we finally find out whose ancestor was a *real* witch, who stole the town’s mascot, who will be the next mayor of Loonyton, and whether or not “The Real Housewives of Loony County” will be renewed for a second season. There are nonstop laughs in this over-the-top spoof of the popular reality-TV series “The Real Housewives.”

**Performance Time:** Approximately 75 minutes.

## **Characters**

(5 M, 12 F, 5 flexible)

(With doubling: 5 M, 12 F, 3 flexible)

**SNIPPY WHIPSHAW:** Loonyton socialite and star of the reality-TV show, "The Real Housewives of Loony County"; female.

**WENDELL WHIPSHAW:** Snippy's meek husband, an accountant; wears a suit and tie; male.

**MADISON WHIPSHAW:** Snippy's eldest daughter; female.

**BROOKLYN WHIPSHAW:** Snippy's youngest daughter; female.

**MONA DAMONA:** The Whipshaws' housekeeper; female.

**DARLA REESE:** Snippy's best friend and a "Real Housewives" cast member; female.

**ELIZA ALCOTT:** Snippy friend who can't choose between two boyfriends; a "Real Housewives" cast member; female.

**CLAY PIGEON:** Eliza's biker boyfriend; rough rugged and spontaneous; wears biker gear; male.

**PIERCE WORDSWORTH:** Eliza's other boyfriend; editor of the newspaper, *The Loony Times*; sweet, gentle, intelligent guy who loves to read books; male.

**HARRIET BAIN:** Snippy's friend who is prone to complaining; a "Real Housewives" cast member; female.

**BETTE TEETERBAUM:** A stage and screen "star"; a "Real Housewives" cast member; wears a caftan and a lot of bling; female.

**REX TEETERBAUM:** Bette's dramatic husband; male.

**OFFICER DAFUZZ:** Loonyton's befuddled cop; flexible.

**MARLENE:** Loonyton doctor; wears scrubs with a stethoscope around her neck; female.

**FLO:** Loonyton nurse; wears scrubs; female.

**BEVERLY:** Loonyton resident; female.

**LEON LYONS:** A friend of Madison and Brooklyn; male.

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**COLLETTE O'DAY:** Network liaison for "The Real Housewives of Loony County"; female.

**TECHNICIAN:** Cameraperson for "The Real Housewives of Loony County"; flexible.

**RADIO ANNOUNCER:** Loonyton radio announcer; voiceover; flexible.

**TEENAGER 1, 2:** Loonyton teenagers; flexible.

**EXTRAS (opt.):** As Loonyton Residents.

**Doubling Options**

**TEENAGER 1/TECHNICIAN** (flexible)

**TEENAGER 2/RADIO ANNOUNCER** (flexible)

## Setting

Loonyton County.

## Sets

**Whipshaw living room.** The décor is kitschy but comfortable and inviting. The room is decorated with souvenir pillows, velvet paintings, frilly lined shelves with cheesy porcelain figurines, a stuffed fish hanging on a wall and/or other items that look like they were purchased at a second-hand shop. There is a wing entrance SR that leads to the foyer, main door, and upstairs. A wing entrance SL leads to other rooms in the house. There is a window across the upstage wall with the curtains drawn. A couch with a coffee table is angled at SR. Several chairs are opposite the couch and angled UCS to DSL.

**Street in Loonyton.** In front of curtain. No set pieces required.

**Loonyton Hospital.** In front of curtain. No set pieces required.

## **Synopsis of Scenes**

### **ACT I**

**Episode 1:** The Whipshaw living room, evening.

**Episode 2:** A Loonyton sidewalk several days later, played before the curtain.

**Episode 3:** The Whipshaw living room, the following evening.

**Episode 4:** A Loonyton sidewalk the following day, played before the curtain.

**Episode 5:** The Whipshaw living room, several days later.

### **ACT II**

**Episode 6:** A Loonyton sidewalk, the following day played before the curtain.

**Episode 7:** The Whipshaw living room, immediately after.

**Episode 8:** A hospital corridor, played before the curtain, the following day.

**Episode 9:** The Whipshaw living room, several weeks later, evening.

## Props

Bag of pills	Thick manuscript
Large pill bottle	Several yard signs that read, "Rex is Next!"
Feather duster	Billy club
Cup of cocoa	Sign that reads, "Snippy for Mayor"
Several shopping bags	2 Clown masks, for Madison and Brooklyn
Hand-held mirror	2 Bags
Plate of cookies	Cane, for Harriet
Cake on a platter or plat	Coffee cup
Briefcase, for Wendell	Magazine
Ladder	Small tub of whipped topping
Light bulb	Spoon
Large bottle of aspirin	Large banner that reads, "Snippy Boom Boom Whipshaw Lies Like a Rug!"
Flyers	Tea tray
Cane, for Beverly	<i>Macbeth</i> costumes, for Rex and Bette
Umbrella	2 Large wooden swords
Card table	Drinking glass
Large corsage, for Snippy	Women's handkerchief
Apron, for Wendell	Bandage, for Harriet's foot
Tablecloth	Small notebook and pen
Earphones or earbuds	Stethoscope
Paper plates	Whistle, for DaFuzz
Plastic forks	Red, white, and blue streamers and balloons
Magazine	Couch throw
Poster with a large caricature of Snippy on it and reads, "Vote for Snippy – Snappy and Super!"	
Cream pie	
Shopping bags stuffed with new clothes	
Newspaper	
2 Swords (plastic, toy)	

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Nurse's uniform and cap,  
for Snippy

Tray

Suit and tie, for Clay

Copy of *Anna Karenina*

Biker leathers, sunglasses,  
piercings, for Pierce

Small gray feather

Shoe with a broken heel, for

Collette

Several tiny "video  
cameras"

## **Sound Effects**

Crash  
Scream  
Loud "thunk"  
Knock on the door  
Metallic "thunk"

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**II**

**“With all the loons around here,  
I know a loony feather  
when I see one.”**

**—DaFuzz**



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SNIPPY: (*Enthusiastically.*) We're The Real Housewives of Loony County!

MONA: You may be a housewife, but I'm "Available Mabel." And if we're on TV, how come I don't see any cameras?

(*Snippy looks into a hand-held mirror and checks her hair and makeup.*)

SNIPPY: That's the way they do reality TV these days. You don't see the cameras, so you act just natural, you know. (*Pointing with the mirror to various spots around the room.*) They're there...and there....and there. They're everywhere we are—even on street corners downtown, public buildings, stores—anywhere real housewives might go.

MONA: Pass me that mirror, Ms. Snippy.

SNIPPY: You look just fine, but ditch the pills.

MONA: Supplements for Harriet. She's been under the weather.

SNIPPY: Harriet's never been *above* the weather.

MONA: I just got some fish oil, krill oil, castor oil, garlic—

SNIPPY: Good! Maybe she'll make a salad. Now, the girls are coming in a few minutes, so make sure the refreshments are ready.

MONA: Those day-old doughnuts and Hawaiian Punch?

SNIPPY: (*Embarrassed.*) Off we go, Mona!

(*Snippy pushes Mona off SL. Darla enters SR, carrying a plate of cookies with one hand and holding a cake with the other.*)

DARLA: Knock, knock!

SNIPPY: (*Air-kiss.*) Darla, darling!

DARLA: Thought the girls might be hungry.

SNIPPY: I don't know how you do it. Cookies and a cake! You're just a regular Martha Crocker. (*Calls.*) Mona, get in here and get the good stuff!

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DARLA: Am I the first one here?

SNIPPY: You sure are.

DARLA: *(Looking around the room.)* And are we...on?

SNIPPY: Now don't let it bother you one little bit. You just be your same old, sweet self, honey.

DARLA: So what's the exciting announcement you sent that text about?

SNIPPY: *(Coyly.)* Wouldn't you like to know...

DARLA: C'mon! C'mon! C'mon! You can tell your oldest, dearest friend.

*(Mona enters SL.)*

MONA: Don't bother tryin' to get anything out of her. She's sealed up like a can of tuna past its "use by" date.

SNIPPY: Look at the delicious goodies Darla brought, Mona.

MONA: Thank goodness somebody's got some taste around here.

DARLA: Oh, Mona, Snippy's always had good taste.

MONA: For a flea market. *(Exits SL with the cookies and cake.)*

SNIPPY: *(To Darla.)* I don't know why I keep that woman around.

DARLA: Oh, Snippy, hon, she's grown on you, that's why.

SNIPPY: Yeah, like a wart. *(Knock is heard off SR. Calls.)*  
C'mon in! Door's open!

*(Eliza enters SR followed by Clay, who is wearing biker gear.)*

ELIZA: Goodnight, Clay!

CLAY: C'mon, baby, you promised we'd ride in the moonlight tonight.

ELIZA: *(To Snippy and Darla.)* Isn't he just a romantic?

SNIPPY: Can't imagine anything more romantic than a moonlight ride on a Harley.

CLAY: See? How 'bout it, Eliza?

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ELIZA: (*Wagging her finger.*) Now, you just scoot, Mr. Pigeon.  
We'll take that ride some other time.

CLAY: Aw, shucks, Eliza, I hate it when you pull that teacher  
bit on me.

ELIZA: Now, be a good boy 'n' git!

CLAY: Yes, ma'am. (*Exits SR.*)

DARLA: (*To Snippy.*) He's sure a sweet ol' teddy bear.

SNIPPY: Does he know how to growl?

ELIZA: (*Coyly.*) Wouldn't *you* like to know.

(*Harriet stumbles on SR.*)

HARRIET: (*Terrified.*) Oh, help me! Help!

DARLA: Harriet! What's wrong?

HARRIET: (*Trying to hide.*) Something big and mean came out  
of nowhere and stepped on my foot!

(*Clay enters SR.*)

CLAY: Gosh, I'm sure sorry, ma'am. Didn't see you coming.

HARRIET: (*Screams.*) Ahhhhh!

ELIZA: Oh, Clay, you gotta stop steppin' on people's toes.

CLAY: Well, what am I supposed to do when they stick 'em  
right in my path?

DARLA: You sit down here, Harriet, and put your foot up on  
the table. I don't think anything's broken.

ELIZA: Now, for the last time, Mr. Pigeon, goodnight!

CLAY: How about a little goodnight kiss?

ELIZA: After what you did to Harriet? Go on!

CLAY: You want me to write a hundred times, "I will not step  
on people's toes"?

ELIZA: Git!

(*Clay exits SR.*)

HARRIET: It really would help, Snippy, if you'd turn on the porch light.

SNIPPY: Bulb's out.

DARLA: I'll change it, Snippy.

SNIPPY: Oh, no. That's Wendell's job. *(Wendell enters SR, wearing a suit and tie and carrying a briefcase.)* Well, speak of the devil.

WENDELL: What'd I do now... *(Snippy points to the "cameras" around the room. As an afterthought.)* ...darling.

SNIPPY: You forgot to change the bulb in the porch light, sweetheart.

HARRIET: *(To Wendell.)* As a result, some big galoot didn't see me coming and stepped on my foot and broke a dozen bones.

WENDELL: Gee-whiz.

DARLA: I can change it for you, Wendell.

SNIPPY: Oh, no. Wendell always keeps up on his honey-do list, don't you, sweetie?

WENDELL: *(Sighs.)* Sure do, honey. *(Exits SL.)*

ELIZA: We sure do have a way with men, don't we, Snippy?

SNIPPY: They're just big kids, so you've got to be firm.

*(Wendell enters SL, carrying a ladder and a light bulb. He crosses and exits SR.)*

HARRIET: Snippy, I need some aspirin.

SNIPPY: Mona, Harriet needs some aspirin.

DARLA: *(To Harriet.)* How about putting some ice on that foot to keep it from swelling.

HARRIET: Ice is too cold. I'd rather have it swell up.

SNIPPY: *(Under her breath.)* So it's good for three or four day's sympathy.

*(Mona enters with bag of pills and a large bottle of aspirin.)*

MONA: Here I am to save the day!

DARLA: (*Indicating aspirin bottle.*) That's an institutional-sized jar!

SNIPPY: Yeah, well, with Harriet living next door, you've got to be prepared.

HARRIET: I can't help it if I'm accident-prone.

MONA: And here're your supplements, Hare...everything from cod liver oil to blue cohosh.

HARRIET: Thank you, Mona. I'm glad somebody in this house has some compassion.

*(A loud crash and a scream is heard off SR. Snippy heads to SR.)*

SNIPPY: Now what in tarnation?

MONA: I'm not cleanin' up whatever it is, no, ma'am!

*(Mona hustles off SL. Bette sweeps in SR, wearing a caftan and lots of bling.)*

BETTE: (*Melodramatically.*) I could have been killed!

SNIPPY: That's Harriet's line, Bette.

BETTE: It's true!

DARLA: What happened?

BETTE: (*Melodramatically.*) It was dark! Dark as pitch! I walked into something! It fell! I need to sit down!

*(Bette shoves Harriet's foot off the table and crosses in front of her to sit on the couch.)*

HARRIET: Ouch! My ankle's broken!

DARLA: Harriet, that's a bit of an exaggeration.

HARRIET: It hurts!

BETTE: And what about my nerves? I have no idea what I walked into, but if I get my hands on whatever it was—

*(Disheveled, Wendell enters SR, carrying the ladder.)*

SNIPPY: Get that light fixed, Wendell?

WENDELL: Yes, dear. *(Exits SL.)*

DARLA: On, poor Wendell. Bette must have—

BETTE: I couldn't see a thing, Darla. What was he doing out there, anyway?

SNIPPY: Putting in a new light bulb.

BETTE: Just like a man...a day late and a dollar short.

ELIZA: *(Coyly.)* Oh, not all men...

HARRIET: Well, you have the pick of the litter, Eliza, and don't go denying it.

DARLA: *(To Eliza.)* Is Clay still leader of the pack?

ELIZA: Well, there is someone waiting in the wings...

BETTE: *(Melodramatically.)* Speaking of wings, the Loonyton Little Theater is going to be mounting its most ambitious production in its history. It will be the capstone of my illustrious career!

SNIPPY: I didn't know you were illustrious.

HARRIET: *(To Bette.)* I didn't know you had a career.

BETTE: Darlings, need I remind you I am still getting residuals for my famous commercial?

SNIPPY: Oh, yeah... *(Mimicking an announcer.)* "It's clean, it's quilted, it's soft. Get to the bottom of comfort with Soft Quilt Bathroom Tissue."

DARLA: *(Changing the subject.)* What are you going to do, Bette?

SNIPPY: *(To Bette, snidely.)* Yeah, we're breathless with anticipation.

BETTE: One of the darkest stories ever imagined.

HARRIET: The disappearance of Lulu.

DARLA: What? Lulu's gone again?

ELIZA: Stolen from city hall last night.

SNIPPY: That loon just can't stand still, can she?

HARRIET: Don't make fun! Lulu's the symbol of Loonyton! She's our mascot, our guardian, our inspiration.

ELIZA: She might be your inspiration, but, personally, I'd pick something a bit higher on the food chain.

BETTE: Speaking of chains...our production will have knives, swords, and chains!

SNIPPY: You're not doing one of those reality-cooking shows, are you?

BETTE: We are doing "Macbeth"! Rex will star in the title role, and I will be a triumph as Lady Macbeth!

DARLA: "Macbeth"! *(Recites melodramatically.)*

"By the pricking of my thumbs,  
Something wicked this way comes!"

SNIPPY: That about sums it up.

ELIZA: Gosh, can the Loonyton Little Theater really do Shakespeare?

SNIPPY: She said they're doing "Macbeth," not Shakespeare.

DARLA: Snippy, hon, Shakespeare wrote "Macbeth."

SNIPPY: How am I supposed to remember every single thing we learned in high school? Anyway, that's cool as can be, Bette. But I've got an even bigger announcement.

BETTE: *(Annoyed.)* I don't see how.

*(Knock is heard off SR.)*

SNIPPY: *(Calls.)* C'mon in! Door's open!

*(DaFuzz enters SR, holding Madison and Brooklyn, who are struggling to get away.)*

DAFUZZ: *(Indicating Madison and Brooklyn.)* These two say they live here.

SNIPPY: Never seen 'em before in my life!

MADISON: *(Admonishingly.)* Mother!

SNIPPY: *(To DaFuzz.)* All right, all right, they live here. *(To Madison and Brooklyn.)* What'd you two do?

BROOKLYN: Nothing!

SNIPPY: Oh, so he gave you a lift from Taste Freez just 'cause he's a good cop?

DAFUZZ: No, ma'am, your daughters were caught shoplifting at Big Box Market.

SNIPPY: What? *(To Madison and Brooklyn.)* You know I told you never to get caught. *(Realizes.)* I mean...never to do any shoplifting.

DAFUZZ: Ah, is there someplace we can go to discuss this, ma'am.

SNIPPY: *(Calls.)* Wendell! *(To DaFuzz.)* My husband handles our problems. *(Louder.)* Now, Wendell!

*(Wendell enters SL.)*

WENDELL: *(To Madison and Brooklyn.)* Hi, girls. Hi, Officer DaFuzz.

MADISON: Hi, Daddy.

BROOKLYN: *(To Wendell, indicating DaFuzz.)* He's been mean to us!

SNIPPY: Take care of this for me, will you, Wendell? We're having a sort-of meeting.

WENDELL: Yes, dear. Cup of coffee, Officer DaFuzz?

DAFUZZ: Don't mind if I do.

*(Wendell leads DaFuzz off SL.)*

SNIPPY: *(To Madison and Brooklyn.)* Well, go on.

MADISON: Do we have to?

SNIPPY: Move it, or lose it!

BROOKLYN: You're so mean!

*(Brooklyn and Madison exit SL.)*

BETTE: *(Snidely.)* Oh my, and here I thought "Macbeth" was dark.

DARLA: Oh, Bette, they're just kids.

HARRIET: They tried to steal something!

SNIPPY: Oh, like the apples you pull from my tree every fall?

HARRIET: Why, I never!

SNIPPY: I got a video of somebody looking suspiciously like you wearing furry slippers –

HARRIET: Well, truth be told, those apples were so full of worms, I could have used them to go fishing.

ELIZA: Now let's not snipe at each other. After all, we're on TV.

DARLA: Oh, that's right! It's so easy to forget that somebody's watching.

BETTE: (*Twisting this way and that.*) The world is watching.

SNIPPY: You got a crick in your neck, Bette?

BETTE: I want the cameras to catch my best side.

SNIPPY: Forget it. There are cameras everywhere. And I didn't invite you over tonight just to see Madison and Brooklyn get picked up by the cops.

BETTE: That's right! You said you have some kind of an announcement...something bigger than "Macbeth"?

ELIZA: What is it, Darla? You know everything.

DARLA: Snippy hasn't told me a thing. (*To Snippy.*) Are you going on a trip or something, hon?

SNIPPY: Oh, sure. It'll be a cold day when Wendell takes off for a vacation.

HARRIET: (*Guessing.*) You're getting new carpeting!

SNIPPY: (*Offended.*) You think we need it?

HARRIET: Oh, well, no...not really.

BETTE: Hardwood floors are so much easier to keep clean, Snippy.

SNIPPY: We're not getting new carpet!

ELIZA: (*Guessing.*) A car! You're going to get a BMW!

SNIPPY: No. I'm not getting carpet or a BMW or a Shih Tzu puppy.

**[END OF FREEVIEW]**