JUST THE TEN OF US

"<u>Hail To The Chief</u>"

written by

James Larry Sanders Jr.

JUST THE TEN OF US

"Hail To The Chief"

CAST

ii.
JUST THE TEN OF US
" <u>Hail To The Chief</u> "
CAST
GRAHAM LUBBOCKBILL KIRCHENBAUER
ELIZABETH LUBBOCKDEBORAH HARMON
MARIE LUBBOCK
CINDY LUBBOCKJAMIE LUNER
WENDY LUBBOCKBROOKE THEISS
CONNIE LUBBOCKJO ANN WILLETTE
J.R. LUBBOCK
SHERRY LUBBOCK
GUEST CAST

GUEST CAST

MAYOR	ED	LOMB	ARDO	 	•••••	 ••••••	PETER BO	OYLE	
BLITZ	•••		•••••	 • • • • • • •		 BR	YAN GENI	ESSE	
MR. P	RUII	ГТ 		 ••••		 •••••	.BILL E	RWIN	

COLD OPEN

EXT. SECOND STREET - DAY

CINDY, CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY ARE WALKING DOWN THE SIDEWALK ALONG SECOND STREET

CONNIE

Ugh! Boys!

MARIE

What about them?

CONNIE

Why are they the way they are ?! What

even are they?!

WENDY

Gee, I don't know. Perfectly chiseled hunks of flesh?

CONNIE

Easy for you to say, Wendy. Your phone book is an encyclopedia of the Chippendale dancers of the future.

WENDY

Hey, it's not my fault they all gave me their number.

CONNIE

Well, no boy ever gives me their number; and it's not like I can just look through your phone book and just call them myself.

MARIE

Why not? That's what I do.

THE GIRLS STOP AND STARE AT MARIE

MARIE (CONT'D) (defensive)

I mean, I don't actually call them, I

just like to browse ...

THEY CONTINUE WALKING

CINDY

You want to know what I want in a boy?

CONNIE, MARIE, WENDY (collectively)

No.

CINDY (gradually more delirious) Okay. I want someone who will excite me, not just physically, but emotionally. Someone who will touch my soul, even when he's not around. Someone who can come up to the door in a broken-down old truck, and he'll still look to me like he's riding a white stallion. I don't just want to lust. I want to yearn! I want unquenchable desire! I want to fall...

CINDY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Whee!

CINDY LANDS WITH A THUD AT THE BOTTOM OF A SINKHOLE. CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY LOOK DOWN QUICKLY TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED.

CUT TO:

INT. SINKHOLE

CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY LOOK DOWN AT CINDY FROM THE SURFACE

MARIE (highly concerned)

Cindy! Are you okay?!

WENDY

When you say you want to fall, Cindy,

<u>ACT I</u>

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY ENTER THE HOUSE. GRAHAM AND ELIZABETH ARE WAITING FOR THEM ON THE COUCH.

ELIZABETH

Hey, girls. How was downtown?

CONNIE

(exhausted)

A decent into madness.

GRAHAM

Let me guess. Did you go see Ghost

Dad?

ELIZABETH

Hey, wait a minute. Where's Cindy?

CINDY ENTERS THE HOUSE, COVERED IN DIRT, SCRAPES, AND BRUISES

CINDY

Hi!

ELIZABETH RUSHES TO THE FOYER TO TEND TO CINDY

ELIZABETH

(alarmed)

Oh, dear lord! Cindy! What happened to

you?!

CINDY (still a bit shocked)

I...I fell.

ELIZABETH

You like you had more than just a fall.

CINDY

Well, we were walking down Second Street.

ELIZABETH

Yeah.

CINDY

And then I started imagining the man of my dreams! And then the next thing I knew, I was at the bottom of a sinkhole.

ELIZABETH

A sinkhole?!

GRAHAM

See, girls. That's what happens when you start thinking about boys. God starts messing with you.

MARIE (very alarmed)

He does?!?! Oh no!

MARIE DASHES UPSTAIRS

ELIZABETH

Stop it, Graham. We have an injured daughter to tend to. Cindy, go upstairs, change clothes, and I'll meet you up there with some peroxide.

CINDY GOES UPSTAIRS

WENDY

We'll see you up there, too.

ELIZABETH

Oh, I'm so glad to see you showing

concern for your sister Cindy.

CONNIE AND WENDY START UP THE STAIRS AND STOP AT THE FIFTH STEP OR SO

CONNIE

Actually, we're going up to see Marie.

WENDY

Yeah! I think she's finally about to

crack.

ELIZABETH LOOKS AT THEM, ANNOYED

FADE TO:

INT. LUBBOCK GIRLS' ROOM - NIGHT

ZOOM OUT ON MARIE PRAYING A ROSARY IN THE CORNER NEAR HER BED, NAMING A DIFFERENT MAN WITH EACH BEAD

MARIE

Kevin Costner. Tom Cruise. Bob Costas.

Eddie Van Halen. Bob Costas.

CINDY, CONNIE, ELIZABETH, AND WENDY ARE SITTING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM.

ELIZABETH

Okay, Cindy. This might hurt a little,

but it will help your wounds heal.

ELIZABETH APPLIES SOME HYDROGEN PEROXIDE TO CINDY'S SKIN, CAUSING HER TO WINCE.

CINDY

Ow!

CONNIE

Does it really hurt?

WENDY

Can't hurt any more than what Marie's doing. Geez, how many times have you had dirty thoughts about Bob Costas?!

MARIE

(guilty)

About as often as I have impure thoughts about Alex Trebek.

ELIZABETH

I just can't believe the town could just leave a sinkhole in the middle of Second Street without so much as a warning sign.

CONNIE

If only there was someone in charge around here.

CINDY

Yeah, but it would take Dad weeks to

fill that sinkhole!

ELIZABETH GETS AN IDEA

ELIZABETH

I know, Cindy! You can tell Mayor

Lombardo about it!

CINDY

Oh, he'd never listen to me.

ELIZABETH

Yes, he will! He's famous for his open door policy. People come to his office to tell him about their problems all the time.

WENDY

Yeah! I heard that Doosler went to the mayor to try to get the other boys to stop picking on him.

CINDY

Did it work?

WENDY

No, but the Mayor listened to Doosler for a full hour. By the end, he knew every possible way someone can be stuffed into a locker.

ELIZABETH

You can go after school, and you can tell him about the sinkhole. He'll probably send a crew out the same day.

CINDY

Wow! Do you think he could also help get me a better grade in English class...

CONNIE, WENDY (interrupting)

Don't push your luck!

8.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

CINDY ENTERS THE LOBBY AND SPEAKS WITH THE RECEPTIONIST

CINDY

Hi.

RECEPTIONIST

Can I help you, young lady?

CINDY

Yeah, I'm Cindy Lubbock. I'd like to speak to the mayor.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh, you're in luck. There's only one person ahead of you, and they should be done soon. It's usually a lot busier around here.

CINDY

Oh, great!

RECEPTIONIST

Just have a seat, the mayor will be

right with you.

CINDY BEGINS TO LOOK AROUND HER IN AN OBLIVIOUS SEARCH FOR A CHAIR

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

Oh, the seats are right behind you.

CINDY

Oh! Thanks.

CINDY SITS DOWN. MAYOR LOMBARDO AND BLITZ EXIT THE OFFICE AND INTO THE LOBBY. THEY SHAKE HANDS.

MAYOR LOMBARDO (enthusiastic)

Well, it was a pleasure meeting you, Mister...

BLITZ

Blitz!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Oh, mazel tov. I will talk to the city council, and I'll do everything I can to get them to build that mosh pit on the bayfront.

BLITZ GIVES A THUMBS UP

BLITZ

Ha! Cool!

BLITZ WALKS AWAY

MAYOR LOMBARDO

And don't forget to stop by the front

desk to get your parking validated!

Ok, who's next?

CINDY STANDS UP

CINDY

(cheery)

Me, Mr. Mayor!

MAYOR LOMBARDO'S DEMEANOR TURNS JUST A BIT LESS ENTHUSED

MAYOR LOMBARDO

(reserved)

Oh. Yes, come in.

THE MAYOR AND CINDY WALKS INTO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

CUT TO:

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE

THE MAYOR CONTINUES TO WALK TOWARDS HIS DESK. CINDY STANDS AT A DISTANCE.

MAYOR LOMBARDO

What can I do for you, young lady?

CINDY

Well, I have a problem with something

on Second Street.

MAYOR LOMBARDO SITS DOWN AT HIS DESK AND LOOKS DOWN

MAYOR LOMBARDO

What's your problem with it?

CINDY

Well, yesterday I was walking down Second Street with my sisters. And then, out of nowhere, I fell into this sinkhole.

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Yeah. So?

CINDY (taken aback)

Well, I just thought it's kind of

unsafe for a sinkhole to be lying in

the middle of a sidewalk.

MAYOR LOMBARDO LOOKS UP AT CINDY

MAYOR LOMBARDO (slightly miffed)

Are you accusing me of incompetence?!

CINDY

Oh, no sir. I'm sure you can make it

to the bathroom just fine!

MAYOR LOMBARDO (getting angrier)

What's that supposed to mean ?!

CINDY

(confused and a bit scared)

Well, I thought that ...

THE MAYOR GETS UP FROM HIS DESK AND WALKS UP TO CONFRONT CINDY

MAYOR LOMBARDO (interrupting)

Thought?! Thinking doesn't seem to be your strong suit, you little punk! You come in here and accuse me of abdicating my duties! I don't think the people of this town would elect me to five straight terms if they thought

I was a dummy!

CINDY (conciliatory)

I just wanted someone to fix the hole on Second Street.

THE MAYOR LOOKS STRAIGHT INTO CINDY'S FACE

MAYOR LOMBARDO (interrupting and still angry)

I'm a mayor! A busy mayor! And I have better things to do than fix a stinkin' hole! CINDY (frustrated)

Yeah, well...you're a hole!

MAYOR LOMBARDO (menacing)

Oh yeah?! What kind?

CUT TO:

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE LOBBY

THE DOOR TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE QUICKLY OPENS, AND CINDY IS PUSHED OUT FORCEFULLY, ENOUGH THAT SHE LOSES HER BALANCE AND FALLS. CINDY SITS ON THE FLOOR IN DEFEAT.

FADE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DUSK

CINDY SITS BETWEEN HER PARENTS AT THE KITCHEN TABLE

GRAHAM

He kicked you out of his office ?!

ELIZABETH

Why would he do something like that?!

CINDY

Well, I walked into his office. He sat

down, and I explained how I fell into

that sinkhole.

ELIZABETH

Okay, then what happened?

CINDY

Then he told me "yeah, so?".

GRAHAM (incredulous)

"Yeah, so?!" There's a sinkhole on Second Street and he just says "Yeah, so?!"

CINDY

And then he yelled at me, and then I called him a 'hole'.

GRAHAM (confused)

You called him a 'hole'?!

GRAHAM TURNS FROM CONFUSED TO SLIGHTLY CONCERNED

GRAHAM (CONT'D) (slightly concerned)

Wait. What kind of hole?

CINDY

You know. The kind donkeys sleep in.

GRAHAM BECOMES EVEN MORE CONFUSED

GRAHAM (to Elizabeth)

Next time you're pregnant, Elizabeth,

I'm watching the liquor cabinet like a

hawk.

J.R. AND SHERRY ENTER THE KITCHEN

J.R.

Hey, mom; when's dinner?

SHERRY

Yeah, we're starving.

ELIZABETH

In just a little bit, we're just going over some things with Cindy.

SHERRY

What's to go over? So she tripped and

fell. For her, that's just Wednesday.

CINDY

No, Sherry. I fell in the sinkhole on Sunday.

J.R.

Sinkhole ?! What was in there? Bones?

An ancient, cursed burial ground?

CINDY

No, just mud.

J.R.

Ancient, cursed mud?

GRAHAM

(annoyed)

Just mud, J.R.

CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY ENTER THROUGH THE BACK DOOR

ELIZABETH

Hi, girls.

CONNIE

Hi, mom. How did Cindy's meeting with

the head honcho go?

CINDY

Awful! I told him everything, and he

just blew me off.

WENDY

I know what you mean. That's usually how I end my dates.

MARIE

Wait! How could he just dismiss you?

We all saw you fall in!

CINDY

He said he had better things to do than fix a stinkin' hole.

CONNIE

But his job is to fix holes! What else

is a mayor good for ?! To kiss babies ?!

MARIE

Well, we'll all just have to go back there, tomorrow; together!

CINDY

You think that'll work?

MARIE

Absolutely! Together, we'll remind that mayor that his job is not just kissing babies. And by the time we're done, he'll be kissing something completely different!

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE LOBBY

CINDY, CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY ARE SITTING AND WAITING FOR THE MAYOR

MARIE

All right, Cindy; just try to let us

do the talking.

CINDY

But I'm the one who fell in the hole.

CONNIE

That's true, but you know how much we care about you, Cindy. Which is exactly why you need us to speak for you, and for you to keep your mouth shut.

> CINDY (realizing Connie is right)

Yeah. Good point.

MAYOR LOMBARDO EXITS HIS OFFICE WITH MR. PRUITT

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Always nice to have another productive meeting with you, Mr. Pruitt. I'm sure I can get the council to approve the easement for the Burger Barn's new neon cow sign.

MR. PRUITT

It'll be like a bovine sun in the night sky.

MAYOR LOMBARDO

A landmark worthy of our fine city.

MR. PRUITT WALKS AWAY. THE MAYOR NOTICES THE GIRLS.

MAYOR LOMBARDO (CONT'D) (annoyed)

Oh, it's you! You got a lot of nerve

showing your face around here. And you

brought reinforcements?!

MARIE STANDS UP

MARIE

Yeah, well, we have a bone to pick with you about how you treated our sister.

WENDY STANDS UP

WENDY

Yeah! She might be a little ditzy, dumb, uncoordinated; but that doesn't give you the right to insult her. That's our job!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Hey! It's not my problem your sister can't watch where she's going.

CONNIE JUMPS OUT OF HER CHAIR

CONNIE

She could have broken her neck falling down that hole! How dare you talk about my sister like that. Who do you think you are, Richard Nixon?!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Hey, I've worked with Richard Nixon. I know Richard Nixon. Richard Nixon is a friend of mine. You, kid, are no Richard Nixon; though, come to think of it, you do kind of look like him.

CONNIE (furious)

You son of a ...

CONNIE LUNGES HALFWAY TOWARDS THE MAYOR IN A FURIOUS RAGE BEFORE MARIE AND WENDY HOLD HER BACK. THEY STRUGGLE FOR A MOMENT TO RESTRAIN HER UNTIL SHE ULTIMATELY CALMS DOWN. CINDY IS STILL SITTING DOWN.

MAYOR LOMBARDO (confrontational)

I never want to see you young broads

in my office ever again! What kind of

school is teaching you crazy kids,

anyway?!

CINDY

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(ignorant)
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Oh, we go to St. Augie's!

CONNIE, MARIE, WENDY

(yelling)

Cindy!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Well, St. Augie's can forget about

that tax exemption, now!

MARIE (outraged)

You can't do that! It's a religious

institution!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Not anymore it ain't! I'm going to

rezone your school as a gambling hall.

CONNIE

Nobody is going to stand for this!

MAYOR LOMBARDO

Oh yeah? What are they going to do?

Throw communion wafers at me? Ha ha

ha! I'm funny!

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

THE FOUR GIRLS ARE SITTING IN THE LIVING ROOM WITH GRAHAM

GRAHAM

(a little angry)

He threw all of you out?! What did you

stinkin' kids do?!

WENDY

(defensive)

What did we do?! He insulted all of

us...

CINDY

...he didn't care about my injuries ...

MARIE

...he threatened to end St. Augie's tax

exemption ...

CONNIE

...and he said I look like Richard

Nixon.

GRAHAM STANDS UP IN RAGE

GRAHAM

(angry)

What?! He can't do that! That's

completely outrageous!

CONNIE (feeling sorry for herself)

I know! I might have his eyebrows, but that's it ...

GRAHAM

No, not that! The tax thing! What makes him think he can do something like that?!

MARIE

He says he going to reclassify the school as a gambling hall!

GRAHAM

What?! So we have a bingo game every week...which reminds me, Wendy, you have number calling duty Saturday.

WENDY

But I have a date with Enzo Saturday!

GRAHAM

Yeah, well, now you have a date with N-forty-five.

MARIE

Dad! The mayor is threatening to tax

the school into oblivion!

GRAHAM

All right, I'll talk to him. I'm sure

it's all just a big misunderstanding.

A KNOCK IS HEARD AT THE DOOR. GRAHAM WALKS UP TO THE DOOR.

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

Now who can that be?!

GRAHAM OPENS THE DOOR

BLITZ

Hey! Is this the bayfront mosh pit?

GRAHAM

(annoyed)

Does this look like the bayfront?

BLITZ

(confused)

I can hear the ocean...

WENDY (O.S.)

Is that Blitz?!

GRAHAM

No, it's just a lost sea urchin.

GRAHAM STARTS PUSHING BLITZ OFF THE PORCH

BLITZ

(excited)

A lost sea urchin, where?!

FADE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DUSK

CAPTION: "THE NEXT DAY ... "

THE WHOLE FAMILY, MINUS GRAHAM, IS AT THE KITCHEN TABLE 50.

SHERRY

Come on, Mom. Why can't we eat dinner,

now?

ELIZABETH

Because your father hasn't gotten back from the mayor's office, yet.

SHERRY

If we eat now, maybe we can actually have some food before Dad eats everything.

ELIZABETH

Sherry, that's not very nice. There's

plenty for everyone.

GRAHAM ENTERS THROUGH THE BACK DOOR

GRAHAM

Hey, everybody.

MARIE

Dad! How did the Mayor treat you?

GRAHAM

He treated me great.

CINDY, CONNIE, MARIE, WENDY (incredulous)

What?!

CINDY, CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY GET UP FROM THEIR CHAIRS IN ANGER AND RUSH TO TALK TO GRAHAM

GRAHAM

Yeah. He said he'd leave the school's

tax exemption in place; that'd he'd

send a crew to fix that sinkhole; and

look, and he even gave me this neat

button, see.

GRAHAM SHOWS OFF A BUTTON WITH MAYOR LOMBARDO ON IT, WITH THE WORDS "THE FAIR MAYOR" CIRCLED AROUND HIM

MARIE (incredulous)

The fair mayor?!

CONNIE

(furious)

That son of a...

CONNIE RIPS THE BUTTON OFF GRAHAM'S JACKET, TAKING A PIECE OF HIS JACKET WITH IT

GRAHAM

Hey, I know you girls had a bad

experience with him. But he said he'd

fix our problems when I talked to him.

So what's the big deal?

ELIZABETH WALKS UP TO GRAHAM

ELIZABETH (coming to a realization)

Graham, don't you see?! He listened to you, but he completely ignored and disrespected our daughters. Oh my god, our mayor is a misogynist!

GRAHAM

Eww! Who would want a massage from him?!

ELIZABETH (slightly annoyed and a little concerned)

No, Graham. It means he hates women.

WENDY

Now we know where Cindy gets it from. GRAHAM WALKS TO THE TABLE AND SITS DOWN

GRAHAM

The mayor hates women? So that means he's probably been treating other ladies the same way he treated you girls, and has been for years.

CONNIE

That's pretty depressing.

ELIZABETH

You know, maybe if someone called the newspaper about this; the town could find out what a bad man the Mayor is, then maybe we could force him to at least issue an apology.

GRAHAM

Yeah! I'll call the paper in the morning.

ELIZABETH

Actually, I think the girls should call. They should get the story from the source.

CONNIE (excited)

All right! He says I look like Nixon,

well now we'll expose him like Nixon!

CINDY

We'll be just like Joanne Woodward and

Leonard Bernstein!

CONNIE PATS CINDY ON THE BACK

CONNIE (sarcastic)

Very good, Cindy. Very good.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

CINDY, ELIZABETH, AND GRAHAM ARE WATCHING TV ON THE COUCH

NEWSLADY (0.S.)

(on TV)

Mayor Ed Lombardo responded today about recent allegations that he gives preferential treatment to male citizens of Eureka, while ignoring the concerns of female citizens. When asked about his alleged misogyny, Mayor Lombardo responded with this statement: MAYOR LOMBARDO IS INTERVIEWED ON TV

MAYOR LOMBARDO (on TV) Misogynist? I never gave nobody no massage! Whatever crazy broad told you that is crazy. Now, who wants cannolis?

CUT TO:

GRAHAM, CINDY, AND ELIZABETH REMAIN ON THE COUCH LOOKING DISAPPOINTED

NEWSLADY (O.S.) (on TV)

Upon the press conference, his approval ratings went up 10 percentage points, and the local press widely approved of his cannoli.

GRAHAM

(annoyed)

Enough already!

GRAHAM GRABS THE REMOTE AND TURNS THE TV OFF

CINDY

Mom? Is democracy a joke?

ELIZABETH

Oh, of course not, honey. Just because this mayor is a woman-hating kook, doesn't mean there aren't plenty of other civil servants who care and listen to all of their constituents.

CINDY

Yeah? Like who?

ELIZABETH (hesitating)

Well...um...there's...

GRAHAM

You see, Cindy. The world out there is full of stinkin' lugnuts. Mayors. Used car salesmen. The executives at A-B-C. But there's plenty of people out there who still care about others, and there are still plenty of people who care about you. Like me, your mother, your sisters, your brother ...

ELIZABETH

And don't forget about the big quy upstairs. Our greatest champion. Our savior...

CINDY (interrupting) Brandon Tartikoff?

ELIZABETH

No. God.

CINDY

Oh, yeah.

GRAHAM GETS UP

GRAHAM

Well, I think it's time to hit the hay. You coming up, too, Elizabeth?

ELIZABETH

Yeah, I'll be right up.

CINDY

I think I'll stay down here a little

longer.

ELIZABETH

Okay, honey. Just don't stay up too

late.

ELIZABETH GETS UP

CINDY

Alright, mom.

ELIZABETH WALKS AWAY AND TURNS THE LIGHTS OFF. CINDY PRESSES THE REMOTE AND SETS IT DOWN.

SINGER (O.S.)

(on TV)

Thank you for being a friend. Traveled

down the road and back again ...

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II