

FUDDY MEERS CHARACTERS

(Fuddy Meers is a farcical dark comedy that features suggestions of domestic abuse and addiction.)



Claire: 30's-40's, working class, married to Richard. Claire suffers from psychogenic amnesia. Each morning, she wakes up with her memories wiped clean. Claire is thoughtful, kind, and a bit overly trusting, but is capable of surprising herself and others with moments of surprising strength and clarity.

Richard: 30's-40's, working class, married to Claire. Hospital worker, overly cheerful and somewhat clueless man with good intentions. Richard is a former addict who has gotten his life together, even if he has occasional bouts of poor judgement. He truly loves Claire and cares for her to the best of his abilities.

Limping Man: 30's 40's, working class. Recently escaped from prison, Limping Man is posing as Claire's dead brother, he is actually Claire's abusive ex-husband. He speaks with an exaggerated lisp, is blind in one eye dear in one ear, and has a pronounced limo. He seems very calm, reasonable and kind, but is capable of explosive and alarming bouts of temper and violence.

Millet: 30's 40's, working class. Crony to Limping Man. A very confused, very disturbed and very large man who wears a dirty sock puppet on his hand. Binky, the puppet, has become a bizarre aspect of Millet's personality, and Millet actually believes Binky is alive. Because of all of this, Millet is very easy to manipulate and control, which Limping Man does effectively. Despite all this, Millet has a very strong moral compass, and even though his thoughts are confused and surreal, he has a genuine sense of right and wrong.



Gertie: 50's-60's, working class. Claire's mother. Gertie suffered a serious stroke a few years ago and suffers from a kind of aphasia which makes her speech garbled and indecipherable. Despite this, she is incredibly clear-headed and even though others have terrible difficulty understanding her, her thoughts, intentions, objectives and actions are crystal clear and she is incredibly keen and strong-willed.

Kenny: 17. Claire's son. Kenny is a very large 17-year-old who is still in 8th grade. He is the son of Limping Man, and was witness to Limping Man's daily physical abuse of his mother, Claire. He has a budding drug problem, is angry at the world, and doesn't know how to express any of it very well.

Heidi: 30's, 40's. Prison lunch-lady posing as a cop. She is Limping Man's girlfriend and accomplice. She has been misled into participating in Claire's abduction by Limping Man.

The Clowns: Only seen by Claire, The Clowns are silent but persistent reflections of Claire's confused memories and the day she lost them. They spend most of the show moving the set around, lurking in shadows and being generally weird and unsettling,

ACT ONE

You *kybu*. I don't like bacon, Gertis (throws bacon out the window,

think you should apologizé. You scared Mama. (pause)

LIMPING MAN

I'm thorry, I don't. like . . . bacon.

GERTIE

jez godden haboo oh keeboo da-roun øda tie. I jez hava fidfty/oh da balcony cuz ya fogdeh lie dit so moç

CLAIRE

Hmmm That's a very good story/Mama

Yoy have a hack-thaw, Mom LIMPING MAN

GERTIE

Hack?

LIMPING MA

Yeah, I have thoraething to do.

Ena la

LIMPING MAN

GERT/E

What?

GERTIE

Las

LIMPING MA

CLAJAE

In the cellar, she said. Daddy's workbench is against the back

hack-saw with a red handle. wall And there are some saws hanging to the left. There's a

LIMPING MAN

(beat)

Thankth, Claire.

(exits into basement)

This house is so nice, Mama. I know things about it. It's good for me, right?

CLAIRE

CERTIE

Clay . . .

CLAIRE

a very rare thing. Did they tell you I lose my memory every day? That must be

(inhales deeply)

into the wallpaper. Oh I think I can still smell Daddy's cologne. It must've seeped

CERTIE

I doan tink toe, Clay.
(checks that LIMPING MAN'S out of earshot)

CLAIRE

(straining to remember

Yes, I think I can picture him. Did he wear a yellow cap?

CERTIE

Clay, lessco fo wah, kay?

CLAIRE

Hold on. There used to be cages out back, weren't there? With dogs in them. And Daddy would feed them in the morning.

GERTIE

Isso ny ow sigh, lessco fo wah.

CLAIRE

CLAIRE

I'd help him carry them out to the cages. You and Dad ran a He'd line up all those dog dishes and fill them with kibble, and

GERTIE

Ya, da kenny. Buh Clay, lissa toe-me, peas

CLAIRE

a time. All these leashes pulling in different directions. And he'd come over that hill looking like a map of the universe. How long ago was that, Mama? I must've been about ten. Pluto, because he was so far away from Daddy and so little Mrs. Paulson's terrier, Chippy. And Chippy was like the planet planets revolving around him. And on the longest leash was Yeah, Daddy's yellow hat was the sun and he had all these dog And Daddy would walk all the dogs at once. Seven or eight at

arms in little manacles, appears in the window.) (A homemade hand puppet, equipped with little

LEEEUE

(goofy voice)

your friend? Hellococo beautiful ladies. My name is Hinky Binky. Can I be

CLAIRE

(beat)

Well this is very strange, isn't it?

LEAADa

I've got an itch on the top of my head that I can't reach. It's driving me craaaaaazyyy!

CLAIRE

Who are you?

I'm Hinky Binky. Scratch my head LESSUS

Is this normal, Mama?

LEKKUK

Scratch my itch, bitch!

Excuse me, but you're not being very nice.

LEZZZOZ

Nice bites, right Millet? (MILLET'S normal voice)

Don't say my name.

(puppet voice)

Why can't I say your name, Millet? (normal

You're gonna get me in trouble! (puppet singing)

Miiiiillllleeeeettttttt . . . Millleeeetttttt

(A gristled man stands up, the puppet on his hand. He strangles the puppet.)

Cut it out! You gotta remember the rules! (realizes that he's been seen) MILLET

disappears again.) CLAIRE and GERTIE scream when he screams. He

CLAIRE

What a crazy puppet man. Do you know him, Mama?

CERTIE

No, Clay. Ida know no puppas!

(Environce News Plans In Asset fluctuscon.)

THE OWNER