Single Wide
Book by George D. Nelson and Maclain Nelson
Music and Lyrics by Jordan Kamalu
Additional Lyrics by George D. Nelson

Copyright © 2011, 2013, 2014, and 2015

A full length, one act Musical

5 Women, 2 Men, and an eleven year old boy
Cast of Characters

Note: The cast is intended to be multi-racial. It is not essential that any of the characters be cast in any particular race. Katy, Amanda, and Sam need to appear related even though they can all be different in their racial mix.

Katy: A 27 year old, third generation single mom. She’s looking for a way out of her present life for herself and her son Sam. She works in an auto parts store and is taking night classes.

Amanda: Katy’s mother, a 43 year old second generation single mom. Still beautiful but aging fast. She has long ago given up ever getting out of her station in life. She works at home as a customer service representative for an on-line pet supply company.

Sam: Katy’s 11 year old son. Tired of living in a completely female world and desperately looking for a friend.

Guy: A 29 year old Afghan War veteran. He rents a trailer in Katy’s park in order to hide out from his normal life and the expectations of his parents as he tries to make a positive reentry into life after his 3rd tour of duty.

Flossie: A friend of Katy’s in her late twenties. She works with Katy in the auto parts story. She is trying to find Mr. Right to rescue her from her life. Her search takes her through short lived and shallow relationships with many different men.

Ali: A 30 something temporary resident of the park. She works as a waitress in a greasy spoon restaurant. She lives and works with her sister Freddi. She is hiding out in Freddi’s trailer from her abusive husband.

Freddi: A 30 something resident of the park. She works as a waitress in the same greasy spoon as Ali. Her husband’s in jail for the foreseeable future.

Bodie: Is the embodiment of every man Flossie dates. In each iteration of Bodie, he simply changes clothes and hair style revealing to the audience that even though Flossie thinks she’s finding a better man each time, she is actually repeating the same mistake.

The play takes place in an old rundown trailer park. The unit set reveals 4 old trailers with a cluttered yard between them. It is especially clutter around a trailer with a “For Rent” sign posted on it All the action needs to take place inside and outside of Amanda’s, Flossie’s, Guy’s trailers and Ali’s trailer. Flossie’s trailer and grounds are beautifully manicured and covered with well cared for flowers in pots and planters. Guy’s trailer needs access to the roof and Ali’s needs access to an large outside porch. At rise the women in the trailer park are getting ready to begin their day.
Musical #1: Pay Day

KATY
WHEN YOU GOT DOUBLE SHIFTS AND CLASS EVERY WEEK
YOU LEARN TO FUNCTION ON 3 HOURS OF SLEEP

AMANDA
1 MONTH AWAY FROM GETTING KICKED TO THE STREET
BUT as tough as it is, it’s the way we live

ALI
TWO DAYS WITH BLOOD SHOT EYES AND BRUISES FOR FEET

FREDDI
TABLE TO TABLE, TRYING HARD TO BE SWEET

ALI
WHEN THE ENDS DON’T MEET

FREDDI
YOU AIN’T GOT NOTHING LEFT

KATY
YOU START PAYING OFF YOUR VISA

AMANDA
WITH AMERICAN EXPRESS

ALL
WE BUST OUR BACKS AND TOW THE LINE
PUTTING IN HOURS OVERTIME
DIGGIN UP DEBT UNTIL WE DIE
STUCK INSIDE OF THIS SINGLE WIDE
ITS TOUGH GETTING BY
ON NICKELS AND DIMES
SO WORN OUT I COULD WASTE AWAY
BUT JUST ONE MORE WEEK TILL I MAKE IT TO PAYDAY

KATY
Ready for a new one Flossie.

FLOSSIE
You kid’n? This new guy’s real sweet. (Whispering) He’s got a double wide in Gainesville.

KATY
I meant a new day.
FLOSSIE
Every day’s a blessing with this dream boat!

AMANDA
Dreamboat, sure he’s not the Titanic!

FLOSSIE
HE’S GOOD AT SWEET TALKING AND PUTTING ON THE CHARM
TOO BAD HIS WALLET’S JUST AS THIN AS HIS ARMS
ON SUNDAYS WHEN HE’S SOBER, HE’S MY BETTER HALF
BUT I’D LOVE HIM EVEN MORE IF HE WAS SWIMMING IN CASH

ALL
WE BUST OUR BACKS AND TOW THE LINE
PUTTING IN HOURS OVERTIME
DIGGIN UP DEBT UNTIL WE DIE
STUCK INSIDE OF THIS SINGLE WIDE
IT’S TOUGH GETTING BY
ON NICKELS AND DIMES
SO WORN OUT I COULD WASTE AWAY
BUT JUST ONE MORE WEEK TILL I MAKE IT TO PAYDAY

AMANDA
(As she works in the kitchen) Sam! Hop up there young man.

SAM
(From his bed on the couch) Grandma!

AMANDA
Don’t Grandma me...(She puts a pop-tart in the toaster)

SAM
Just five more...

AMANDA
Want me to send your Mama in there after you?

SAM
I’m up, I’m up.(On his feet in his underwear) Whatcha making?

AMANDA
What’s it smell like?

SAM
(Sniffing the air) Heaven in a toaster.
AMANDA
Frosted cardboard if you ask me.

KATY
(Rushing out to work) Bout time you got up.

SAM
Grandma’s already been on my case.

KATY
She shouldn’t have to...you’re old...

SAM
...old enough to get up on my own, I know.

KATY
WITH A LITTLE LUCK

AMANDA
AND A LOT OF PERSPIRATION

KATY
YOU CAN MAKE A LITTLE MORE THAN WHAT YOU OWE

ALL WOMEN
HOW I WISH I HAD JUST A LITTLE PAID VACATION

KATY
AND MORE THAN JUST ONE BATHROOM IN OUR HOME

ALI AND FREDDI
THOUGH WE DON’T DESERVE THIS UNLUCKY SITUATION

FLOSSIE
WE GOT LOTS OF NERVE TO MAKE IT THROUGH

KATY
I SAY ALL MY PRAYERS THAT THE RISING GENERATION
HAS A LIFE A LITTLE EASIER WE ALL DO

ALL WOMEN AND SAM
WE BUST OUR BACK
PUTTING IN HOURS OVERTIME
DIGGIN UP DEBT UNTIL WE DIE
STUCK INSIDE OF THIS SINGLE WIDE