

**The Necklace**

A one-act comedy

by

Keith Taylor

ISBN: 978-1-910028-32-2  
The Playwrights Publishing Co.

## THE NECKLACE

### Characters

- Harvey:** Older con man dressed in a cheap suit
- Lance:** Younger, not too bright, con man dressed in a cheap suit
- Mrs. Wellington:** A nicely dressed, elderly lady

### Place

A house in the suburbs, Queens, New York

### **Synopsis:**

Two con men are trying to cheat an elderly lady out of a valuable necklace she bought at a yard sale. The men practice their con first before actually trying to pull it off. Practice does not always make perfect.

**Estimated Run Time :15 Minutes**

## THE NECKLACE

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## THE NECKLACE

### Scene 1

Setting: A comfortable chair stage left with two other chairs across from it. A small table with a jewellery box on it. A door stage right.

At Rise: HARVEY and LANCE are standing stage right, behind a door with a light on them. MRS. WELLINGTON is sitting in the dark (stage left) on a comfortable chair with a small dog (fake) on her lap.

**HARVEY**

Ok, Lance. We are going to run through this because practice makes perfect.

**LANCE**

How do you know she has the necklace, Harvey?

**HARVEY**

She bought it at a yard sale.

**LANCE**

A yard sale?

**HARVEY**

Yes. Mrs. Johnson's stupid kids had no idea that it was valuable and they had a big yard sale to get rid of her stuff after she died.

**LANCE**

Unbelievable!

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**HARVEY**

Most of it was junk but this necklace used to belong to some rich relative and it is worth a lot.

**LANCE**

How do you know all this?

**HARVEY**

Remember Brenda? She works for the insurance company doing appraisals.

**LANCE**

She's hot.

**HARVEY**

If she sees something really valuable that the owner doesn't know is valuable, she lets me know so I can make a move on it.

**LANCE**

You mean steal it?

**HARVEY**

Please! I am no crook. I just purchase things when people don't know the true value. Nothing wrong with that.

**LANCE**

So why didn't you buy it off Mrs. Johnson?

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**HARVEY**

She croaked before I could set it up.

**LANCE**

What does it look like?

**HARVEY**

I don't know. I haven't seen it but it was the only necklace at the yard sale.

**LANCE**

Why didn't you buy it at the yard sale?

**HARVEY**

I was too late. This Mrs. Wellington had already bought it and was long gone when I got there. She must have been there as soon as they opened. I heard she only paid \$5 for it.

**LANCE**

So now we are making a move on this Mrs. Wellington.

**HARVEY**

Yes! And we are going to practice this so we get it right.

**LANCE**

O.K

**HARVEY**

Mrs. Wellington lives alone but she has a dog.

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**LANCE**

I hate dogs.

**HARVEY**

It's probably a lap dog, totally harmless.

**LANCE**

I don't like dogs because I got bit by one once.

**HARVEY**

Don't worry about the dog. Just follow my lead.

**LANCE**

Ok but it better just be a lap dog.

**HARVEY**

Ok so we knock on the door and she says "Come in".

*(HARVEY knock on a door 3 times. The left side of the stage lights up where MRS. WELLINGTON is sitting.)*

**MRS. WELLINGTON**

Come in.

**HARVEY**

She will probably be sitting in her chair with her dog on her lap.

*(HARVEY and LANCE walk toward MRS. WELLINGTON sitting in her chair with her lap dog.)*

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**HARVEY**

Good afternoon madame. My name is Harvey Billington the third and ...

**LANCE**

I thought your name was Smith.

**HARVEY**

It is. I am trying to sound important. You know distinguished. Lets try this again....

*(HARVEY and LANCE take a few steps back and then move toward MRS. WELLINGTON again.)*

**HARVEY**

Good afternoon madame. My name is Harvey Billington the third and this is my associate La...

**LANCE**

Lance Armstrong the second.

**HARVEY**

Lance Armstrong? Think about it. You don't want that name.

**LANCE**

Oh yeah. Well, I want to sound important too. How about.... Lance Schwarzenegger?

**HARVEY**

How about Lance Farnsworth?