

COWGIRL COOKIE & THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF GRANDMA SUGAR



BY ALEXI ALFIERI

COWGIRL COOKIE AND THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF GRANDMA SUGAR

THE SECOND COWGIRL COOKIE WESTERN

MELODRAMA IN THE TRILOGY

WRITTEN BY ALEXI ALFIERI

CAST

LARGE ROLES

MAYOR MACAROON (M)	<i>Overly confident and schmoozing narrator</i>
MIZ SNAPPY (F)	<i>Constantly commenting member of the Granny Gallery</i>
MIZ STICKY (F)	<i>Constantly commenting member of the Granny Gallery</i>
MIZ CHEWY (F)	<i>Constantly commenting member of the Granny Gallery</i>
COWGIRL COOKIE (F)	<i>Heroine and mystery solver of the Cookie Girl Family</i>
SNICKERDOODLE (F)	<i>Cowgirl Cookie's friendly sidekick</i>

MEDIUM ROLES

SHERIFF THUMBPRINT (M)	<i>New Sheriff in town</i>
MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE (F)	<i>Library big-wig</i>
MISS BUTTERSCOTCH (F)	<i>Town Librarian</i>
BURNT (M)	<i>New leader of the Mustache Gang</i>

SMALL ROLES

OATMEAL RAISIN (F)	<i>Smarty-pants of the Cookie Girl Family</i>
MOLASSES SPICE (F)	<i>Tomboy of the Cookie Girl Family</i>
PEANUT (F)	<i>Mischievous twin of the Cookie Girl Family</i>
BUTTER (F)	<i>Mischievous twin of the Cookie Girl Family</i>
MUSHY (M/F)	<i>Clueless member of the Mustache Gang</i>
CRUMMY (M/F)	<i>Clueless member of the Mustache Gang</i>
SOGGY (M/F)	<i>Clueless member of the Mustache Gang</i>
YUCKY (M/F)	<i>Clueless member of the Mustache Gang</i>
BLAND (M/F)	<i>Newest member of the Mustache Gang</i>
THE ACCOUNTANT (M/F)	<i>Library accountant, strong and silent type</i>
VANILLA (M/F)	<i>Melodrama sign holder</i>

SYNOPSIS

Cowgirl Cookie and the Mysterious Disappearance of Grandma Sugar is an old-fashioned Western melodrama which continues the story of Cowgirl Cookie, a girl in love with her local library and solving a real mystery. Coincidentally, her Grandma Sugar has mysteriously disappeared without leaving any clues as to her whereabouts. But Cowgirl Cookie and her many sisters (Oatmeal Raisin, Molasses Spice, Peanut, and Butter) seem more concerned about who is now in charge of the family, all of them naturally hungry for the position. Cowgirl Cookie's sidekick, Snickerdoodle, is appalled that the Cookie Girls are not more focused on finding their Grandma Sugar and rallies them to begin a search. In the meantime, the members of the Mustache Gang (Mushy, Crummy, Soggy, Yucky, Bland, and Burnt) are also arguing about who is in charge now that Greasy, their previous leader, has left. They are also introduced to the new law in town, Sheriff Thumbprint, who believes them all to be too inept to be of much concern. Meanwhile, members of the Granny Gallery (Miz Snappy, Miz Sticky, and Miz Chewy) are suspicious of the flirtatious, politicking new narrator who calls himself "Mayor Macaroon" and considers himself the town's head honcho and hero. When they aren't interrogating the Mayor, the Grannies are shamelessly plugging the local library, having been asked to "up the ante" by the librarian, Miss Butterscotch, and the library's director, Madam Director Fudge. In the end, Cowgirl Cookie, in one insightful moment, discovers where Grandma Sugar has disappeared to, the Mustache Gang is marched off to jail for cookie crimes, and the library's accountant settles a debt with the Granny Gallery.

SETTING

A little town out in the middle of nowhere in the Wild West

CAST

21 performers, but flexible (see Production Notes)

11 Females, 3 Male, and 7 Female or Male

PLAYING TIME

Approximately 45 minutes without an intermission

SCENE 1

GRANNY GALLERY AND MAYOR MACAROON

(Miz Snappy, Miz Sticky, and Miz Chewy are all seated in chairs stage left. Miz Snappy is holding a small notebook and a pencil. Miz Sticky is holding a coffee mug and sipping out of it. Miz Chewy is knitting. There's a basket of props sitting within easy reach of all three.)

APPLAUSE sign

(Mayor Macaroon enters stage right.)

MAYOR MACAROON: Good evenin', folks. My name's Mayor Macaroon, and I'll be the one narratin' this nice little melodrama tonight...

MIZ SNAPPY: Pardon me, but what happened to last year's narrator?

MIZ STICKY: Ya, we liked that one.

MIZ CHEWY: Yup, we could boss 'em 'round real good.

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Seems surprised to see the Grannies sitting stage left, but then pours on the charm)* Well, howdy there. Aren't you ladies looking lovely this evening...how can I be of service?

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Sweetly)* Well, now, aren't ya sweet. *(Sternly)* Ya can start by tellin' us where the old narrator went.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, I believe last year's narrator left town. She said the job of narratin' was a bit too stressful for her.

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Pauses for a moment and looks at other Grannies)* Well, now, isn't that strange.

MIZ STICKY: Ya, what was so stressful about the narrator job?

MIZ CHEWY: It looked easy enough to me.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, they did mention something about three characters who were always interruptin' them any time they started to talk.

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Mystified)* Is that so?

MIZ STICKY: *(Thoughtful)* Now who do you s'pose they were talking about?

MIZ CHEWY: *(Shakes her head)* Beats me.

(Miz Snappy, Miz Sticky, and Miz Chewy all look at each other and shrug.)

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, in any case, I'm here now and ready to make sure this narratin' job gets done properly. *(Puffs up chest)* Ya see, ladies, I'll just let ya know right now I'm a "take charge" sort of fella. Ya don't have to worry your gray-headed little noggins for another moment.

(Grannies begin to scowl at Mayor Macaroon.)

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Suspiciously)* Is that right? And did ya say you're the mayor?

MAYOR MACAROON: Mayor Macaroon, that's right.

MIZ STICKY: I didn't know this town had a mayor.

MIZ CHEWY: Or needed one.

MAYOR MACAROON: Now, I beg your pardon! Every town needs a mayor!

MIZ SNAPPY: I wouldn't be so sure about that.

MIZ STICKY: Ya, folks around here just elect animals for mayors.

MIZ CHEWY: Yup, cats and dogs. Chickens and donkeys.

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Sputtering)* Well, that's preposterous! How could a donkey possibly hold office?

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Deadpan)* You'd be surprised.

MIZ STICKY: But hey there, don't blame us! We just read these things in the local paper.

MIZ CHEWY: Yup, which we mostly get for the crossword puzzle.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, may I ask who you three ladies are?

Cowgirl Cookie and the Mysterious Disappearance of Grandma Sugar by Alexi Alfieri

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Brightens)* Why, we're the Granny Gallery! I'm Miz Snappy. This here's Miz Sticky *(gestures to Miz Sticky who raises her coffee mug)*, and that there's Miz Chewy *(gestures to Miz Chewy who salutes with her knitting needle)*.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, I'm very pleased to meet you granny gals, but if you don't mind, I'd like to get on with my job of narratin' here.

MIZ SNAPPY: Well, don't forget to tell the audience about our heroine, Cowgirl Cookie, and how she loves to read and how she's always down at the *library*.

MAYOR MACAROON: Certainly I will.

MIZ STICKY: And they need to know about the Mustache Gang and how they're always roamin' about and up to no good, even around the *library*.

MAYOR MACAROON: Of course I'll mention that.

MIZ CHEWY: And then there's Grandma Sugar and how she's raisin' all her grandgirls by herself and always takin' 'em to the *library*.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well now, I'm afraid there's not an awful lot to tell about Grandma Sugar this year.

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Snappy)* And why is that?

MIZ STICKY: Ya, everyone's gonna remember Grandma Sugar from last year.

MIZ CHEWY: She was classy and sassy and brassy. She was my favorite character.

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Shaking head sadly)* I'm sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but haven't ya seen the title of this here melodrama?

MIZ SNAPPY: Was it in the local paper?

MIZ STICKY: Ya, was it on the front page?

MIZ CHEWY: Or was it back next to the comics? 'Cuz we might've gotten distracted.

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, I can't be sure what page it was on, but the title of tonight's melodrama is "Cowgirl Cookie and the Mysterious Disappearance of Grandma Sugar."

GASP sign

MIZ SNAPPY: Oh my word. Did you know that, girls?

MIZ STICKY: Definitely not.

MIZ CHEWY: Nope. I would have remembered that chillin' title. *(Gives a small shiver.)*

MAYOR MACAROON: Well, my darling dears, you're just darn lucky I'm here. *(Hitches up pants)* Ya see, a mayor can spot these sort of difficult problems and can step in and "save the day".

MIZ SNAPPY: But what happened to Grandma Sugar? Where'd she go?

MIZ STICKY: Ya, she was a main character! How could she have disappeared?

MIZ CHEWY: Yup, she was important alright. *(Pauses and then narrows her eyes and points her knitting needle in a threatening way at Mayor Macaroon.)* Did you do somethin' with her?

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Reassuring tone)* Now, now, keep your girdles on, grannies. Don't you see we have to build some suspense in this here melodrama from the beginning? *(Pauses)* 'Course now that I think about it, I realize these are things I would know but most ordinary folk might not understand.

(Granny Gallery crosses their arms and scowl.)

MIZ SNAPPY: Well, I have a question then.

MAYOR MACAROON: And what would that be?

MIZ SNAPPY: Were you officially elected to be mayor of this lil' town out in the middle of nowhere?

MIZ STICKY: Ya, 'cuz I don't remember fillin' out a ballot.

MIZ CHEWY: And I would've voted for the donkey.

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Clears throat nervously)* Oh, well, now, the election can be discussed at another time. Especially considerin' our heroine Cowgirl Cookie is set to arrive on stage any time now.

(Miz Snappy, Miz Sticky, and Miz Chewy all look at each other skeptically.)

MIZ SNAPPY: Well, Mr. Mayor Macaroon, if that *really* is your title...

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Speaking to offstage, a bit anxiously)* Cowgirl Cookie? Are ya ready, my dear?

COWGIRL COOKIE: *(Loudly, from off stage)* Yes, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR MACAROON: And how about your sidekick, Snickerdiddle?

SNICKERDOODLE: *(Loudly, from off stage)* Snickerdoodle!

MAYOR MACAROON: Oh, yes, of course. I knew that. Are you two comin' on stage now?

COWGIRL COOKIE: *(Loudly from off stage)* Yes, sir, Mr. Mayor. But you have to exit first.

MAYOR MACAROON: *(Gives an embarrassed chuckle)* Oh yes, of course. Well, I'll exit now and see you three charming gals very shortly. *(Winks at Grannies and begins to exit stage left.)*

MIZ SNAPPY: *(Narrowing eyes suspiciously)* We'll see ya later then.

MIZ STICKY: *(Sternly)* Ya, and we'll have a few more questions for ya, too.

MIZ CHEWY: *(Sarcastic)* Yup, and ya can fill us *ordinary* folks in on the facts.

(Mayor Macaroon looks about nervously and exits quickly stage left.)

APPLAUSE sign

SCENE 2

GRANNY GALLERY, COWGIRL COOKIE, SNICKERDOODLE, MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE, AND MISS BUTTERSCOTCH

(Cowgirl Cookie and Snickerdoodle enter stage right carrying tall stacks of books.)

COWGIRL COOKIE: Well, Snickerdoodle, I'm awfully glad the library was open because I needed to...

(Madam Director Fudge rushes in stage right with Miss Butterscotch right behind her. They pass Cowgirl Cookie and Snickerdoodle on stage.)

MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE: Pardon us, girls, pardon us!

GRANNY GALLERY: Madam Director Fudge!

(Grannies immediately stand up together and salute with their notebook, mug, and knitting needles respectively. Cowgirl Cookie and Snickerdoodle both pause with confused expressions.)

MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE: Grannies, Miss Butterscotch and I need a word with you. Would ya mind excusin' us for a moment, Cowgirl Cookie? Snickerdiddy?

SNICKERDOODLE: *(Exasperated)* Snickerdoodle.

MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE: Oh yes, I apologize.

COWGIRL COOKIE: *(Shrugs her shoulders)* Sure, we can come back.

SNICKERDOODLE: *(Sarcastic and gestures to the pile of books in her arms)* Ya, it's not like we're doing any heavy liftin' here or anything.

(Cowgirl Cookie and Snickerdoodle exit stage right. Grannies are still standing at attention.)

MADAM DIRECTOR FUDGE: At ease, Grannies, at ease. *(Grannies relax.)* We're sorry to interrupt.

MIZ SNAPPY: That's quite alright, Madam Director Fudge, ma'am.

To Be Continued...this is a 10-page sample of the playscript