**SCENE I. In Front of JEDEDIAH'S house.**

*Enter JEDEDIAH, ALVIN, DAISY, VIOLET, and others*

**JEDEDIAH**

Tweren’t Cap’n Jethro’s brother Butch here at supper?

**ALVIN**

I aint seed nary a sight nor sound of ‘em, brother.

**VIOLET**

Somethin’ about that guy, just gives me the heevy jeevies.

**DAISY**

He does go ‘round all the time like someone done went an shot his fav-o-rite coon dog.

**VIOLET**

He’s about the onliest man around these parts that makes Bubba Washburn look good.

**JEDEDIAH**

Come on Violet, Bubba’s not all that bad. What git’s yer goat ever time Bubba walks by?

**VIOLET**

The onliest good quality in any man is his money, and that includes yer good ol’ boy, Bubba Washburn.

**JEDEDIAH**

What in the world are weun’s goin’ to do with you. We aint never gonna catch you a husband with a mouth like yorn.

**ALVIN**

She’s too ornery! That’s fer danged sure!

**VIOLET**

I am too ornery for any man and I don’t want any of these here men fer nothin’ in the world.

If’n I catch one with a beard, then I won’t kiss ‘em. And I catch one without a beard, then I won’t know whut to do with ‘em. One that’s got a beard is more than a boy, and one that ain’t got one is less than a man; and him what’s more than a boy ain’t fer me, and him what’s less than a man, I ain’t fer him.

**ALVIN**

[To DAISY] Well, niece, I trust **you’ll** do as yer pappy tells ya’ tonight.

**VIOLET** (TO DAISY)

Now Daisy, when it comes to gittin’ hitched, you marry the one that you want, not the one your pa fixes you up with. Are you a hearin’ me girl?

**JEDEDIAH** (TO VIOLET)

Well, niece, I’m a hankerin’ to see you hitched yerself one day.

**VIOLET**

Not till God makes man out of somethin’ othern dirt. When He does that, then maybe I’ll pay more attention!

**JEDEDIAH** (LOOKS TO DAISY)

Daughter, remember what I done told you: if the Cap’n woos you like I thank he will, you know what to say? Right?

**VIOLET**

Daisy, you make fer certain ever thangs the way you want it before you say “Yessum” to any o these misfits! Are you a hearin’ me girl?

**JEDEDIAH**

Niece, yer about as sharp as a good huntin’ knife, ain’tcha?

**VIOLET**

Yep, an I got a good eye too, Uncle; I can see a church by daylight.

**JEDEDIAH**

Best make room fer ever body, brother.  I can hear ‘em comin’ cross the crick a whoopin’ an a hollerin’.

*All put on their masks*. *Enter JETHRO, ABNER, BUBBA, ELVIS, BUTCH, OTIS, BEULAH, SALLY ANN and others, masked*

**JETHRO** (to Daisy)

Hey, thar, would you be of a mind ta take a walk with me?

*Drawing her aside* *(NOTE: During the dance, as each couple speaks, they dance to the front of the stage for their part)*

**ELVIS**

I’m a hopin’ that you’d be a likin’ me.

**BEULAH**

You’d be skeedaddlin’ if’n I don’t cause I got me a whole passel o’ faults.

**ELVIS**

Name just one.

**BEULAH**

Well, I say my prayers out loud.

**ELVIS**

That’s haint no fault; that thar’s a good thang.

**BEULAH**

I need a good dancer or I can’t dance atoll.

**ELVIS**

At least, give me a try.

**BEULAH**

Well, I’m a guessin’ onc’t can’t hurt nuthin’

**ELVIS**

YeeHahhhhhhhhhhhhh……..

**SALLY ANN**

I know that’s yuin’s under that mask, ALVIN.

**ALVIN**

Taint neither!

**SALLY ANN**

I know’d you by that thar giant head on them little bitty shoulders.

**ALVIN**

I ain’t a lyin’- I ain’t Alvin!

**SALLY ANN**

I know your him, cause I’m a sittin’ down wind o you!

**ALVIN**

Fer the last time, I ain’t neither!

**SALLY ANN**

I hoped to do better, but fer this dance, you’ll do.

**VIOLET**

Won’tcha be a tellin’ me who told you so?

**BUBBA**

No, I won’t. You’ll just have ta be a forgivin’ me.

**VIOLET**

Well, by thunder, at least tell me who you are.

**BUBBA**

Not now.

**VIOLET**

Yer about as bad as that thar Bubba Washburn.

**BUBBA**

Who's he?

**VIOLET**

I am sure you know him well enough.

**BUBBA**

I reckon I don’t!

**VIOLET**

Did he never make you laugh?

**BUBBA**

I done tole you, I don’t know the man.

**VIOLET**

Why, he is the village fool: a very dull fool;   
the only thing he’s good at is bad mouthin’ others; he ain’t even funny; he’s just mean;   
all men and women can barely tolerate the man, as soon as he walks away from ‘em, they just make fun of ‘em.

**BUBBA**

Well, I guess when I meet this man, I’ll be a tellin’ him what you said.

**VIOLET**

You jes do that.  He'll have some spitefull thangs to say about me, and then he’ll up and bore you to tears with one a his paint dryin’ stories he so likes to tell; and on top o that, hain’t none o them stories near ta bein’ true.

*Music*

Great, now we gotta play foller the leader.

**BUBBA**

I thank they’re a hollerin’ at me over thata way.

*Dance. Then exit all except BUTCH, OTIS, and ABNER*

**BUTCH**

It’s a truth fer shore. My brother is head over heals for Jedediah’s daughter Daisy and he’s a gonna pop the question tonight.  He’s done already gone an got permission to marry her from Jedediah himself. She’ll be a makin’ me a fine sister and a good wife fer my brother, Jethro, I’m a thankin’.

**OTIS**

He tol’e me the same thang, Butch. Congradulations!

**BUTCH**

You there, ain’t you Mr. Bubba?

**ABNER**

You shore must know me well to be a catchin me so soon! I be Bubba Washburn alright.

**BUTCH**

Bubba, I know you and my brother are close as a seed tick on a hound dog. Do you thank you could ask him fer me if’n I could walk Daisy down the aisle?

**ABNER**

Air you shore he loves her?

**BUTCH**

I heard him double dog swear it this afternoon.

**OTIS**

So did I too; and he swore he would marry her to-night.

**BUTCH**

Anyway, come on, let’s git back to the dancin’.

*Exit BUTCH and OTIS*

**ABNER** (TALKING TO HIMSELF)

I had to pretend I was Bubba, so’s I could hear the truth from the Cap’ns brother,   
They wuz a thankin’ I was Bubba and didn’t know I was really ABNER.

Now, my ears is afire with this most horrible news.   
Shore nuf, Cap’n Jethro wooes for himself.   
Friendship is a sure thang except when it comes to love an such.

Well, I hope yer happy together Cap’n an Miss Daisy.

Good riddance! Goodbye forever, Daisy.  I’m glad to be shed o’ both o’ yuins.

*Re-enter BUBBA*

**BUBBA**

Abner, is ‘at you?

**ABNER**

None t’other.

**BUBBA**

Come over here with me.

**ABNER**

Whar?

**BUBBA**

To see if the Cap’n hast got your Daisy.

**ABNER**

I hope they’ll be a livin’ happily ever after.

**BUBBA**

What? You gone crazy? Do you thank Cap’n Jethro would do you that way, after all weuns been through together?

**ABNER**

Leave me alone, Bubba. I got two eyes, don’t I?

*Exit*

**BUBBA**

He’s actin’ mighty strange tonight. I don’t know what’s got inta him.   
But that Violet should know me, and not know me! The Village Idiot! Ha? I can’t help it if’n Im just a funny guy. Violet should be a knowin’ that **ever body** don’t make fun o me. They don’t.  Do they?

*Re-enter JETHRO*

**JETHRO**

You seen Abner?

**BUBBA**

I just spoke at the lovesick mule headed thata way and I thank I told him the truth in sayin’ that you had got a “Yes” from Daisy and a OK and a daury from Jedediah and that all thangs was hunky dory. But after I told him, he said some might pe-culiar stuff..

**JETHRO**

Well, I’ll be.

**BUBBA**

It’s just a strange night all the way around.

**JETHRO**

By the way, that Violet is madder’n a wet hen at you. She said you had greatly wronged her tonight.

**BUBBA**

By thunder, it was her that was a wrongin’ me.   
She told me, not thinking it were me, that I was Capn’ Jethro's jester, that I was   
more borin’ than watchin’ grass grow; she was a sayin’ that nobody likes me an’ that everbody makes fun o me behind my back. Ever word that heiffer says stabs like a knife. If her breath wuz as terrible as her words, there’d be no living with her! I would hope that some ole witch zaps her from the face o this earth as mean spiritedness follows her ever move.

**JETHRO**

Woe, now!  Speak o the devil and hyar she comes!

*Enter ABNER, VIOLET, DAISY, and JEDEDIAH*

**BUBBA**

Cap’n, will you command me to vamos to any corner of the world? Missouri or Tennessee, I don’t much keer; Send me anywhar; even New York City; Anywhar but chere! Aintcha got no whar to send me?

**JETHRO**

No whar other than right cheer.

**BUBBA**

No tBubbas, Capn’. I can’t stand that womern’s mouth!

*Exit*

**JETHRO**

Come, Miss Violet, come; you seem to have lost the heart o Bubba.

**VIOLET**

I thank yer right, Cap’n Jethro. It shore seems thata way.

**JETHRO**

You have put him down, Missy, you have put him down.

**VIOLET**

Well, all I kin say, is he’s been a askin’ fer it, and I’m the one what give it to him.

**JETHRO**

Abner, whar you been, boy and what’s the sad look fer?

**ABNER**

Not sad, sir.

**JETHRO**

What then? sick?

**ABNER**

Neither, Cap’n.

**VIOLET**

Abner ain’t  sad, or sick, or happy, or well.  I don’t know what’s got inta him.  He don’t hardly speak atall.  He ain’t rude, mind ya, he jes don’t say hardly nuthin’.

**JETHRO**

I thank yer right, Violet; I may have a remedy that’ll be a fixin’ this mess. Here, ABNER, I have wooed in yer name, and fair DAISY is yorn: I have spoke with her father,   
and got his say so and Daisy is happier n a old sow at the slop trough. You just name the hitchin’ day.

**JEDEDIAH**

Abner, you go marry up with my daughter. I’ll be right proud to be a callin’ you, son.

**VIOLET**

Cat got yer tongue, Abner?  Say somethin’!

**ABNER**

Daisy, yore a mine and I’m a yorn fer ever ‘n’ ever, ifn you’ll have me.

**VIOLET**

Well, Daisy, either answer him or kiss him, one o the two.

**JETHRO**

Well Violet, it appears you have a heart after all, in spite o what everbody else thanks.

**VIOLET**

Well, don’t tell nobody. I don’t bring it out too often.

**ABNER**

She sure nuff does, Capn’.

**VIOLET** Ya’ll are about to ware me out with all this romantic love talk; I’ll not be a sittin’ in a corner and cryin’ heigh-ho for no husband!

**JETHRO**

Miss Violet, I will get you one.

**VIOLET**

Thanks, but no thanks, Jethro. That thar’s the last dad blamed thang on my mind.

**JETHRO**

Will you marry **me**, Violet?

**VIOLET**

Thanks fer the offer, Jethro, but I don’t wanna be married to no Cap’n. That ain’t fer me. Sorry, but I grew up a sayin’ what’s on my mind. Nothin’ personal. It ain’t you, It’s me.

**JETHRO**

That’s OK, I was afeared fer a minute, you might say yes!

**JEDEDIAH**

Niece, can you be a takin’ keer o them thangs I was a talkin’ to you about?

**VIOLET**

Yessum’, Uncle Jed, Night, Cap’n Jethro.

*Exit*

**JETHRO**

You know, Jedediah, that Violet is really sumthin’, ain’t she?

**JEDEDIAH**

She is a tangle, that’s fer sure an’ certain, Jethro. She’s the onliest girl I know that can be sad all day, go to bed sad, dream about bein’ sad, and wake up a laughin’.

**JETHRO**

She jes can’t stand the idie of a husband.

**JEDEDIAH**

She would chew up and spit out a gentleman caller like a used up dip o Copenhagen.

**JETHRO**

She were a perfect wife fer Bubba Washburn.

**JEDEDIAH**

Haw! Haw! They’d be done drove each other crazy side of a week’s time! Don’t know which’n would a kilt the other first!

**JETHRO**

 ABNER, when’s the big day fer you and Daisy?

**ABNER**

To-morry, Jethro if that’d be alright with you Jedediah.

**JEDEDIAH**

Slow down, boy!  Y’all gotta wait ‘til Mundy ‘cause we’ll be a needin’ some time to get thangs ready.

**JETHRO**

Don’t be a worryin’ Abner, I got me an idie that will make the time go by quickern a Texas jack rabbit.  With the hep of all y’all, I plan to undertake a job that’d make Paul Bunyan proud. We’re  a gonna hep Bubba and Violet up into a mountain of love that will make the Ozarks look like a dog tick on ol’ Blue’s nose.

**JEDEDIAH**

I’m in, even if it costs me three days o work.

**ABNER**

Count me in too, Jethro.

**JETHRO**

How ‘bout you, DAISY?

**DAISY**

Anything to help my cousin ketch a good husband.

**JETHRO**

Let’s face it. Bubba and Violet are two fine people.  They jes need some direction in this here life. They both be too proud to be honest with themselves. They’ll be a thankin’ us when this is over, if’n they don’t kill us first. Ifn we can do this, that thar Cupid ain’t gonna have no job no more! C’mon in and I will tell you my idie.

*Exit*