

Mud Hogs - Sides for HARRY

(7 pages)



Character Description:

HARRY GLIDEWELL (Male, age 38)

Cloverdale High School football coach and health-ed teacher, HARRY GLIDEWELL, is a loving husband, father and the tortured owner of "The Mud Hog Curse." As the Cloverdale quarterback in the '91 state championship, Harry blew a 60-point lead after the Mud Hogs' pig mascot, Lucky, died in a freak half-time accident and he's been trying to get this pork albatross off his back ever since. Not having won a football game in 20 years as a coach, it's no wonder Harry is known for unsuccessfully trying to keep his temper tirades in check. Though his coaching record may not reflect it, Harry has no lack of confidence in his ability to motivate. With boosters, townspeople, and a new principal breathing down his neck for a win, Harry's insecurity stokes his competitive fire and he lives by the motto, "Life isn't lived, it's played." Rightfully paranoid, Harry's playbook, strategies, and life lessons are often doled out on his childhood security blanket-- the Etch-A-Sketch, at which his skills border on genius.

Casting Notes:

Focus on comedy and character. The ultimate underdog, "Give 'Em Hell Harry" is likeable, colorful and combustible but always trying to keep his frustration in check. Like most coaches, Harry speaks with authority even when he's being ridiculous. ****Continued on next page****

****Please name audio files with the following format: "Role-ActorName-Agency.mp3"**

Casting Notes continued:

Talent may feel free to do multiple takes under the following guidelines:

- o 1st take – Best voice and choice with NO Southern accent
- o 2nd take (optional) – Best choice with a SLIGHT Southern accent
- o 3rd take (optional) – A unique voice or character. Take risks on this choice keeping in mind that the voice should sound unique, characterly, and comedic without being annoying or grating.

(SCENE 1)***** (SCENE 1)

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - NIGHT

HARRY GLIDEWELL is sitting in a small seat in front of the desk of Cloverdale High's new Principal, DICK DUNCAN, 43.

HARRY

Great timing, Dick! Five minutes till kick-off of the first game of the season, and you decide to inform me that if I don't win at least one game this year, then you'll replace me.

DICK

Sounds cold when you say it like that, but since we're talking straight, I'll probably have to get rid of your wife, too. You know, the awkwardness in the teacher's lounge and all...

HARRY

This is crazy! Pure madness!

DICK

Look, Harry, it's nothing personal, it's just that maybe the team needs some fresh blood to get them rolling.

HARRY

And you think my half-witted assistant coach, Bob Binger, is fresh blood? The guy swallowed his own whistle.

(SCENE 2)***** (SCENE 2)

INT. MUD HOG FOOTBALL LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Coach Harry quickly steps up to his players as they sit on a bench suited up in their uniforms. Jinx stands behind him.

TEAMMATE (O.S.)
Hey, coach, the game starts in two minutes.

HARRY
Guess what? I own a watch, Johnson, and it has better hands than you do!

Jinx hands Harry his Etch-A-Sketch play book with his mouth. Suddenly, Harry's cute toddler daughter named LILY scoots up in a baby walker. She wears a Mud Hogs cheerleader outfit.

HARRY (CONT'D)
(SWEETLY) Hi, Lily, Daddy is busy right now with his motivation speech --

Lily shoots a jock strap on Harry's head. The team snickers then grows silent as Harry glares and removes the jock strap.

HARRY (CONT'D)
(TO TEAM) ALRIGHT, WHO ARE WE!?!...

BABES (O.S.)
WE'RE THE MUD HOGS!!!

Everyone turns as BABES, 38, Harry's wife and Cheerleader teacher, back-flips in wearing full cheerleader attire. She's followed by RONALD, 14, carrying a handful of pom poms.

HARRY
(THROUGH TEETH) Babes, why is Ronald carrying pom poms?

RONALD
(PROUD) Mom made me the cheerleader squad's pom pom coordinator.

The team snickers again. Harry holds out a school paper with the headlines: **"WILL THE MUD HOG'S 20 YEAR CURSE CONTINUE?"**

HARRY (CONT'D)
(YELLING) I'm glad you boys still
have a sense of humor when we hold
the worst losing streak in Arkansas
high school football history! (RE:
ETCH-A-SKETCH) Now, I've drawn up
some new plays on my playbook.

(SCENE 3)***** (SCENE 3)

INT. GLIDEWELL BEDROOM - NIGHT

Harry paces as Babes lies in bed tying a rope to her ankle which is attached to a pulley system mounted on the headboard. Throughout the scene, Jinx attempts to jump up on the bed.

HARRY
What were you thinking making
Ronald the pom pom coordinator?

BABES
I got your attention, didn't I?

HARRY
Oh, here we go, some kind of
parenting lesson. What have I done
now?

BABES
You've dedicated your entire life
to other people's kids trying to
win a damn football game. I can't
even remember the last time you did
something special with Ronald.

HARRY
I did not throw that sixty-two
point lead away! You know damn
well when Lucky missed that tub of
mud jumping from that platform at
half-time, a curse was plagued upon
our team.

BABES
Curse smursh. I know you loved
Lucky, but Ronald is your son, and
I don't care if he has the
Glidewell football gene or not,
it's time you make him a priority.

HARRY
Holy crap, like I don't have enough
on my plate right now with Dick
climbing up my backside.

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

The bell rings and the hallway is instantly filled with students. Harry looks and finds Ronald making his way through the crowd. He gets bumped and smacked and then finally a bigger kid knocks his books out of his hands. Harry sighs.

ANGLE ON: Ronald as he picks up his books. Harry appears, leans down and helps him.

RONALD

Hey, Dad, aren't you suppose to be at practice?

HARRY

Binger's running it. I wanted to spend some time with you for a minute and show you a few tricks to help you adapt to the high school play book. You see, high school is like football...

RONALD

Really? Football?

HARRY

Okay, let me put it another way. (THINKING) Ah, high school is like... (THEN) What the hell, it's like football, okay, darn it!

RONALD

Alright. Football it is.

HARRY

When you make your way through traffic, you need to keep your head up and tuck your books tight against your body with both hands. That way, no one can rip them from your grip.

RONALD

(GRIPS BOOKS) You mean like this?

HARRY

Exactly! Now run that play again.

Ronald jumps back into traffic clutching his books. Harry watches as Ronald makes his way through traffic. A couple of guys try to swipe his books, but Ronald avoids their attempts. He runs up to a proud Harry.

RONALD
I did it, Dad! I did it.

HARRY
You sure did, son. Just like a
pro.

(SCENE 5)***** (SCENE 5)

EXT. TROUGH - EVENING - ESTABLISHING

A small town tavern where everyone in town goes after the game. There is a neon sign of a pig sipping out of a trough.

INT. TROUGH - MOMENTS LATER

Harry sheepishly enters with Lily strapped to his chest. He quickly jumps out of sight behind a plastic tree next to a booth where three men sit. Harry, followed by Lily, parts the tree and scans the room. WE SEE Babes with her cheerleaders in another booth. Ronald sits with them and waves to Harry with a pom pom. Harry waves back, but is distracted by the men's conversation.

MACK
(TO GUYS) Look, I love Harry as much as the rest of you do. Hell, he was our quarterback who took us to the state championship, but as head of the booster club, I have to make some very tough decisions.

JOE
We did just lose our 200th game, Mack.

MACK
Thank you, Joe. (THEN) It's just clear that there is no way in hell we'll ever win a game as long as Lucky is buried at the fifty-yard line.

GUS
So you're saying we have to dig up Lucky and remove his dead bones?

MACK
In a dignified manner, of course, Gus. (THEN) Now, all in favor?...

Harry springs from behind the tree like a madman. Lily coos as Harry tears into the guys.

HARRY
(ADAMANT) That fifty yard line is
Lucky's final resting place! No
one is going to dig up anything!

The men lower their heads as Gus points the blame at
Mack.

JOE
(SINCERE) Hey, Harry,
congratulations on Ronald making
pom pom boy.

HARRY
(CURT) It's pom pom coordinator.

Harry notices something behind the plastic tree. He
reaches and retrieves three shovels hidden there.

HARRY (CONT'D)
(TO GUYS) Wow, really!? Shovels.

Gus surreptitiously motions towards Mack with his eyes.

HARRY (CONT'D)
(CALLING OUT) Ronald, come over
here!

Ronald runs over, takes the shovels then exits with
Harry.