Mini Loa Luau

A Comedy in Two Acts

By Burton Bumgarner

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DEDICATION

For the students of Charlotte Country Day Middle School Charlotte, North Carolina Michele Allen, Director

STORY OF THE PLAY

Set on the tiny Hawaiian island of Mini Loa (not to be confused with Mauna Loa), the village is preparing for its annual luau which draws much needed tourist dollars. The mayor and the local historian find out that the Mini Loa volcano needs a human sacrifice every five years and, much to their disgust, it's their job to find a suitable candidate. Tourists from across the lower 48 states flock to Mini Loa for a vacation of a lifetime, thanks to some advertisements in some unlikely magazines. Joining them are two reporters from a vacation TV network, one of whom is still recovering from their last assignment, a rattlesnake cook-off. Will one of these folks end up being the sacrifice? And what can the latest arrival, Dr. Spock, a volcanologist, do to help save a life and perhaps the whole island itself? Here's the perfect play if you're ready for a laughter explosion!

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(About. 23 characters; approx. 5 m, 4 w, 14 flexible, extras)

MAYOR ADAIR: (*m* or *f*) Mayor of Mini Loa.

UNCLE LOUIE: Mayor Adair's uncle, former mayor. (Could be changed to Aunt Louise.)

DAISY ORCHID: Village historian.

BOB BJORNSON: Dairy farmer from North Dakota.

BARB BJORNSON: Bob's wife.

EARL EARLANGER: Road construction worker from South Carolina.

EARLENE EARLANGER: Earl's wife.

WALTER WILSON: An actor from New York.

WENDY WILSON: Walter's wife, works for a greeting card company.

FRANKIE: (*m or f*) Reporter for Vacation Network.

PHYLLIS: Frankie's co-worker. (*Could be changed to Phil.*) **EDITOR:** (*m or f*) Boss of Frankie and Phyllis.

LUCY: Local innkeeper. (Could be changed to Leo.)

COWBOY: (*m* or *f*) A Texan at a chili cook-off.

RITA: Server in the local café. (*Could be changed to Ralph.*) **TOURIST MOM:** Tourist in Hawaii.

TOURIST DAD: Same.

TOURIST KID: (m or f) Same.

DR. ELIZABETH SPOCK: A volcanologist. (Could be changed to Dr. Edgar Spock.)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: (4 or more may be used.) Town council of Mini Loa.

A Note on Casting

Many of the roles are flexible and may be altered to fit the needs of directors. Some roles, such as Town Council members, Tourist Family, and Cowboy, may be doubled. Extras may be used for additional Town Council members and Tourists at the beach.

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

<u>ACT I</u>

Scene 1 – Town Council Adair, 4 Council Members, Louie, Daisy Scene 2 – North Dakota Barb and Bob Bjornson Scene 3 – South Carolina Earlene and Earl Earlanger Scene 4 – New York Wendy and Walter Wilson Scene 5 – Texas / New York Frankie, Phyllis, Editor, Cowboy Scene 6 – Tiki Bar Rita, Daisy, Adair Scene 7 – Mini Loa Hotel Lucy, Adair, Barb, Bob, Earlene, Earl, Phyllis, Frankie, Wendy, Walter Scene 8 – Tiki Bar / Beach / Hotel Room Adair, Daisy, Barb, Bob, Rita, Earlene, Earl, Wendy, Walter, Tourist Family, Frankie, Phyllis

<u>ACT II</u>

Scene 1 – Siberia Louie
Scene 2 – Town Council Adair, 4 Council Members, Daisy
Scene 3 – The Beach Barb, Bob, Wendy, Walter, Earlene, Earl, Adair, Spock
Scene 4 – New York / Tiki Bar Phyllis, Frankie, Editor, Rita
Scene 5 – The Volcano Spock, Adair, Earlene, Earl, Wendy, Walter, Barb, Bob, Phyllis, Frankie
Scene 6 – Tiki Bar Lucy, Daisy, Rita, Phyllis, Frankie, Barb, Bob, Wendy, Walter, Adair, Spock, Louie Mini Loa Luau - 5 -

SETTING

Mini Loa Luau is set on the tiny Hawaiian island of Mini Loa, not to be confused with Mauna Loa. Upstage are palm trees, bamboo, flowers and other Hawaiian-themed items. A banner upstage reads "Mini Loa Luau." A café table and two chairs are USR. A recliner, love seat or easy chair is USL. Next to the seat is a small end table with a telephone. A desk and chair are DSL facing the audience. A podium and gavel and chairs are brought on stage for the town council meeting.

COSTUMES

Costumes should reflect characters' backgrounds. Adair, Council, Daisy, Rita, and Lucy should wear Hawaiian attire: shirts, jams, sandals, muumuus, leis, sunglasses, etc. Uncle Louie is going to the Arctic. He wears a heavy coat, scarf, hat, ski goggles, etc. Barb and Bob are farmers: overalls, work clothes, straw hats, etc. Earlene can wear out-of-style dress or skirt, Earl a stained white t-shirt and jeans. Wendy and Walter wear preppy attire: polo shirts, khaki slacks, etc. Phyllis, Frankie and Editor wear professional attire. Dr. Spock wears a lab coat. Tourists can dress Hawaiian, and the Cowboy dresses as a cowboy.

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ACT I Scene 1 – Town Council

(AT RISE: MAYOR ADAIR stands behind the podium. TOWN COUNCIL enters right and they are seated in the chairs. All are dressed in Hawaiian attire. ADAIR pounds the gavel.)

ADAIR: I, Mayor Blair Adair, call this council meeting to order. Did everyone receive a copy of the minutes from the last meeting?

COUNCIL MEMBERS: NO!

- **ADAIR:** Raise your hand if you did not receive a copy of the minutes? (*ALL raise their hands.*) Okay. Do I hear a motion that the minutes be approved?
- **COUNCIL 1:** How can we approve them if we haven't read them?
- **ADAIR:** (*To COUNCIL 1.*) You're out of order. Since no one has read the minutes I will make a motion that they be approved. Is there a second?
- COUNCIL 2: You can't make a motion! You're the mayor!
- **ADAIR:** I second the motion. All in favor say "aye." All opposed say "nay." (*Pounds the gavel.*) It's a tie. I will break the tie with an "aye" vote. The minutes are approved. Is there any old business? (ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS raise their hands.) Since there's no old business we'll move on to the new business.

COUNCIL 3: We all raised our hands.

ADAIR: But the chair didn't recognize you.

COUNCIL 4: But we have issues to complain about.

ADAIR: Which is why the chair won't recognize you. You think the chair wants to hear a lot of complaining?

COUNCIL 3: Every time it rains the streets flood.

COUNCIL 4: The garbage hasn't been picked up in weeks.

ADAIR: We'll take that up at the next meeting.

COUNCIL 4: That's what you said at the last meeting.

ADAIR: If you don't mind I'd like to move on to new business. COUNCIL MEMBERS: WE DO MIND!

End of Freeview

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