

# **“The Three Little Pigs”**

## *A Modern Musical of Consumerism*

The musical comedy is narrated by **Old Pig**, who delights in telling stories of his youth to his less-than-patient Nurse. His story centers around a family of pigs he used to know; **Surly**, **Curly** and **Burly** and their **Pig Momma**. When **Pig Momma** is no longer able to provide for her pigs, she sends her brood off to make their own way in the world. **Curly** is the only one of the pigs that has prepared for such a venture, having saved money and planned for her future. **Burly Pig** muddles through, although his lack of initiative keeps him from moving forward and getting his own place to live. Instead, he chooses to live with his sister, **Surly**, who has become seriously in debt due to her purchases at a Rent Until You Own Store.

The proprietor of the *Rent Until You Own* business, **Shady Sadie**, has employed **Snarl Carl** (a.k.a. The Big, Bad Wolf), as her "delivery boy." **Snarl** and his **Wolf Gang** deliver **Surly's** order to her broken down house. En route, **Snarl** and the **Wolf Gang** discuss the type of customer that would choose to shop at **Shady Sadie's**. When the gang arrives at **Burly** and **Surly's** house, they are already in their pajamas.

Much of the musical takes place in the Market, where most of the buying, selling and finagling goes on. The **Piglettes**, a group of dancing pigs, are constantly shopping there. Once at the market, **Curly** meets a farmer, **Honest Ron** and his argumentative wife, **The Missus**. Despite the constant conflicts over the management of money in his household, **Honest Ron** hires **Curly** to build a barn for his cow, and gives her permission to keep the rest of the bricks for her own use. He even has a small plot of land he is willing to sell her, where she can build her own house. **Curly** weighs the situation and determines that accepting the job would prove to be a sound decision for her future. She is on her way to becoming a home-owner.

**Surly's** situation becomes more complicated when she quits her job at **Hog Dog's** and cannot make her payments for her **Pig Screen T.V.** and her monster C.D. player. When the Employment Officer informs her that no other jobs are available for a person of her "skills," **Surly** seeks a loan from **Piggy Wiggy** and the Junior Bankers at the Bank. When she is turned down, due to lack of collateral, she turns to **Kool Kitty's** Kwik Kash. **Kool Kitty** is most willing to provide a cash advance for **Surly's** final paycheck, for a 25% fee. Desperate for money, **Surly** agrees.

As per their contract with **Surly**, **Snarl Carl** goes to collect the merchandise when **Surly** can no longer make the payments. **Surly Pig** is afraid to answer the door because of **Snarl's** threats to "blow the house down." Disaster results when **Snarl** Climbs onto the roof and sneezes, falls through and sprains his neck, destroying the pig's house in the meantime.

**Surly Pig** is arrested and taken to jail for non-payment, where she meets **Goldilocks**, a shoplifter, **Little Red Hood** who has been arrested for loitering and **Tom**, the Piper's son, who is in jail for stealing a pig. The entire cast has a noisy reunion in **Judge Tootie's** Courtroom, where **Shady Sadie** is suing for breach of contract and destruction of merchandise. **Surly's** sister **Curly** has convinced her to counter-sue for the loss of her home. **Snarl** has decided to sue the pigs for the injuries he sustained on their property. He has retained lawyer, **Snakely Khan**, who's motto is "You Boo-Hoo; I Sue," to represent him.

**Judge Tootie** is promoting her new book on her T.V show, and it happens that this particular case involving the pigs is to be televised. As all good TV judges, **Judge Tootie** gives each character a "piece of her mind" before kicking them out of her courtroom. As the characters leave, they are accosted by the media, who demand to know if any of the individuals have changed. **Surly** leaves wiser, but **Shady Sadie** tells talk show host "**Takka Tumi**" that "it won't be long until another fool comes along." T.V. Interviewer "**Baa Baa Waters**" sums up the experience for the viewers at home, stating that "Working hard to save for purchases will keep you from having having a house fall on your head."

The show raps up with a rollicking country-western styled piece entitled "**Coulda Shoulda Woulda**," in which all the characters state in "hindsight" what they might have done differently. **Baney** wrote twelve original songs for the musical, including "**Disco Piggy**" a commentary on the Pig's spending habits, sung by the "**Piglettes**," (a girls chorus) and "**Toe the Company Line**" sung by the male, briefcase-twirling troop referred to as the Junior Bankers. The entire chorus joins together in the town for Latin-inspired "**Money Moves the Market**." **Snarl Carl**, a frustrated blues singer, will bring down the house with his blustery rendition of the "**Blow Your House Down Blues**" backed up by his **Wolf gang**.