

Audition Sides

Edward

Option 1: The Wedding

Yes, good evenin'! My name is Edward Bloom. On behalf of me and my wife Sandra -- she's the gorgeous one right there -- it is a pleasure to welcome y'all to Alabama! Will told me I'm not allowed to give a toast. You'll notice there is no glass in my hand.

Will thinks I talk too much -- but I would have loved to have a talkative father. My own daddy, he was a farmer. Lucky to get four words outta him. But one day -- one day I heard him out in the field, just blathering at length. Said he couldn't get a work in between me and my mother, but the corn -- the corn was all ears.

Option 2:

I talk about myself all the time! I tell stories. (beat) You got me. My secret identity. (dramatically) Superman. You want to talk about Ashton? I grew up there. You know that. (a shift) Nothing to see there. It would kill you to go through life with doubts, huh? Let's hear it, then. (sitting up) What are you accusing me of, Will? Handle 'em as you will. I think we're done talking. GET OUT! (to SANDRA) He attacked me. Came after me like I was a villain. He's got it wrong. I'm not the bad guy.

Sandra

Option 1: About his Father

I wanted to tell you right away, but your father didn't want anyone to know he was sick. How dare anyone think Edward Bloom is mortal. The treatment was a longshot. But your father was convinced it would work. Dr. Bennett says comforting things, but we all know where this is headed. I'm just glad you know. Family shouldn't have secrets. I'm not worried about the house. I'm not worried about me -- I'm worried about you. (beat) Oh, "I'm fine." You sound like your father. You are the two most stubborn men on Earth, and it is my curse that I love you both.

Option 2: The Nightmare

Edward? Honey? You're okay! Let's calm down. Tell me what happened. It's okay honey. It was just a nightmare. You're right here with me.

Young Edward

Option 1: Meeting Karl

Hello? Hello! My name is Edward Bloom and I want to talk to you! I will not go away! Not until you show yourself. Come on out here and face me like a man! - Fine! I'm coming in. Just like I thought. Only kinda giant you are is a giant coward.

Bullcrap. You are alone so you're only pretendin' it's what you want. Under those dead animals and death threats, I see a guy who might need a friend.

Option 2: After Seeing Sandra

Karl, I just saw the woman I am going to marry, I know it. But then I lost her. (grabs AMOS) Who is she? Where does she live? Look, I may not have much, but I have more determination than any man you're ever going to meet. I'm gonna find that woman and marry her and spend the rest of my life with her.

Option 3: Introducing himself to Sandra

Sandra! Sandra Temple - sorry, I thought you were -- wait, Sandra, hi ... oh. Apologies. There are a lot of red-heads at this school. Oh -- "Auburn" -- yeah, makes sense. Sandra! Sandra Templeton! You don't know me, but my name is Edward Bloom and I am in love with you. I've spent the last three years working to find out who you are but it's all worth it to see you here, now, and to finally get to talk to you.

Young Sandra

That's us! We're the Alabama Lambs! (beat) Daddy knows I'm with my two best friends. Wait, Mr. Calloway, I am supposed to be here, I know it. Haven't you ever had a dream, a hope, a wish! Please Mr. Calloway! Just let us try!

Young Will

Option 1: In his bedroom

Where were you? You missed my game. (beat) We were playing soccer Dad, not baseball. Will you read me "The Iliad"? Oh. You just want to tell another story about you. Dad -- can you even read? (beat) This book is about the Trojan War. No, they're actually Greek.

Option 2:

In my dad's stories, the most beautiful woman is always my mom.

Will

Option 1: Father's Deathbed

WILL

I know about Ashton, Dad. I know what you did. You saved a town and broke a girl's heart. I get why you didn't want Mom to know. I do. But what you did was...heroic.

(re: notebook)

I made a list of your stories. There are thirty-six basic tales, with a lot of variations of course. Some are just jokes. Awful jokes, mostly. But you take the rest and it's like a myth. An epic tale about a farmer's son from Alabama who wanted to see the world. You never did, though. I did. And I think that's because of you.

(takes EDWARD's hand)

All this time, I thought you were trying to impress me. You were trying to inspire me.

Option 2: Arguing at the Wedding

You always get carried away. I'm sick of it. You weren't there. You were never there. You were running away from reality. All I got from you is a bunch of crazy stories about how awesome you are and I'm sorry Dad, but that's not the man I see. I'm done.

Option 3: The Mortgage

Why would my father have a mortgage on a house I've never heard about? And what's the deal with Jenny Hill? Maybe she's more than a friend. My father was a traveling salesman. He could have easily had a second life. A second family! What is real with my father? What if all those crazy stories are just a smokescreen so I don't bother looking for the truth? (re:folder) My father bought a secret house in Ashton. I can't pretend we didn't find this.

Josephine

Will! Look what I found. It's the Key to the City! From when he was a teenager. He left Ashton in search of adventure. Do you know how your mother and father met? It was romantic.

Does it really matter what was true? Your father is telling these stories for a reason. If you understand the stories you'll understand the man. (beat) How many stories are there? You should make a list.

Witch

Boys, you have broken a sacred circle. You better have a good reason. I can tell you the future with uncanny accuracy. Your loves, your lives, your deaths. Dollar apiece. (re: crystal ball. To DON) Oh. Yes. The future is quite clear. You lead an unexceptional life, filled with minor triumphs and major disappointments. (beat) And then you die. That's all the spirits see for you. (to Edward) Now, as for you...

Don't you want your fortune? Everyone dies Edward Bloom. But your death is glorious. Let me show you.

Karl

(EDWARD looks up to see KARL towering over him) I will smash your bones and eat you for dinner! (EDWARD offers his hand and KARL knocks it away) Get out of my cave! I don't want to talk! I just want to be left alone. Just go.

There's nothing for me out there. I don't fit in! I've never even been in a car. I can't fit in a house. (sheepish) I'll never find a girl.

Amos

Option 1: Introduces self

Amos Calloway. What's your name, Giant? You got a name? Doesn't matter. More exotic if you don't. (KARL says his name) That works. Say Karl, have you ever considered a career in the world of entertainment? More importantly, have you ever heard of this term -- wait, what is it? -- um -- "unconscionable contract?"

Option 2: Gives Edward Advice

Kid -- don't waste your time. I know her daddy. She's out of your league. Lemme guess, you were the hero of Hickville, a big fish in a small pond. This here is the ocean, and you're drowning. Take my advice and go back to Puddleville. You'll be happy there.

Jenny

Can I ask you a question? Why did you come here today? If you found this, why didn't you just ask Eddie? (finds out EDWARD is dying. JENNY is taken aback by the suddenness of it. She's a tangle of conflicting emotions) Look, I don't know how much you want to know about all of this. You have one image of your father and it would be wrong of me to go and change it.

You do know what happened to the town, right? Oh honey. That's the only reason your father came back. The state was building a new reservoir -- the whole valley was gonna be flooded. In just a few hours, the town of Ashton would be thirty feet underwater. (making space on the porch) Edward Bloom came back to take one last look at the town he left so long ago.

Don

Shh! Quiet, Zacky! Not that way! C'mon, let's find that witch. (getting in EDWARD's face) You wanna lead, go ahead Bloom. I don't think there even is a witch. (the WITCH appears) We wanted our fortunes read. (DON hands over a dollar) C'mon. Tell me my future. What do you see? Do I get quarterback?(beat) What? That's it?! (beat) I want my money back! (grabbing the crystal ball) how 'bout I smash it? (to the WITCH) How you gonna do fortunes without your crystal ball?

Zacky

I got a bug in my drawers! (tries to shake it out) Help me, Don! Oh, oh, oh, it's on the move! (he grabs his seat, like a dog chasing its tail. ZACKY sits on the ground, shoving the flashlight up his pant leg.) It's working! (wriggling) It's out! (ZACKY picks up the carcass of the insect then throws it in the river.) Wait for me!

Dr. Bennett

Option 1: Talking with Will

Will. How long have I known your father? (checking EDWARD's chart) How old are you? Add a couple years to that. (re: chart) He's fifty-nine. One-sixty. Regulated hypertension. (beat. Looking at EDWARD) Hard to say what anyone hears. Harder still to know if they're listenin'.

Option 2: The Diagnosis

It's not what we want to see. No, the tumor spread beyond where we thought. There's a conversation to have about what's next. Will doesn't know about this?

Red Fang

Die, General Patterson! No one to save you now!

Ashton Mayor

Now, calm down. Calm down! I won't have mob violence in this town. Not without a permit.

Edward Bloom, first son of Ashton, take with you this Key to the City, and know that our doors will always be open to you. (MAYOR gives EDWARD a giant key)

Fisherman

You gotta help me! If I don't catsh a fish, my family's gonna starve!

Will's Son

Grandma! Grandma! We just saw the biggest fish in the whole world! It was as big as a car! And we're gonna catch it!

Ensemble

Choose 3 lines from below.

SCHOOLTEACHER

Mayor, there is a giant living in them hills.

SHARECROPPER

I seen him! He's ten feet tall, with crazy eyes of fire!

LITTLE GIRL WITH ORANGE CAT

He might eat my cat!

HOT-BLOODED SHOTGUN Toter

If you ain't gonna stop him Mayor, we will!

BARBER

You can't reason with 'im!

SHEPHERD

He's a monster!

TV NARRATOR

Eden River. The story of the great frontier and one man determined to make his mark on it - a hero, a champion, a brave pioneer.