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**LUCKY HUDSON STAR OF DELHI**

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# Lucky, Lucky Hudson and the Star of Delhi

A gangster comedy in two acts  
by Craig Sodaro



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**Contemporary Drama Service**

PO Box 7710 • Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7710

# Lucky, Lucky Hudson and the Star of Delhi

A gangster comedy in two acts

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## *CAST OF CHARACTERS*

**STEVE JENKINS**, a teenage writer  
**MRS. JENKINS**, his mother  
**\*MIKE**, a friend  
**\*JENNY**, another friend  
**\*MARIE ANTOINETTE**, the Queen of France  
**\*LOUIS XVI**, the King of France  
**\*GUARD**  
**\*BARONESS VON SCHNITZEL**  
**\*BARON VON SCHNITZEL**, her husband  
**\*HILDEGARDE**, the Von Schnitzel's maid  
**\*MADAME SWANSUNG**, an antiques dealer  
**LUCKY HUDSON**, ace crime fighter  
**MILLIE MILLS**, a secretary  
**OLYMPIA SWANSUNG**, her boss, a wealthy matron  
**VICKY VIDEO**, television news reporter  
**\*CUSTOMER**, at a coffee shop  
**TAMMI TWIZTED**, a jewel thief  
**TERRI TWIZTED**, her sister and partner in crime  
**BILLY JOE**, a thief  
**BOBBY JOE**, his brother  
**JOSEY JOE**, another brother  
**TOM KATT**, a sophisticated cat burglar  
**FIFI KATT**, his wife  
**MYSTERIOUS WOMAN**, in a black hat and veil  
**\*BABS**, a dinner guest  
**\*BART**, her husband  
**\*HOST**, of Club LaBamba  
**\*BAMBA GIRLS**, a small chorus of singing and dancing girls

\*Indicates parts which can be doubled with other parts.

## **SETTING**

Steve Jenkins' bedroom Down Right. A bed sits against the far right wall. A desk and chair face the audience to the left of the bed. A laptop computer sits on the desk along with a notebook, pencil, and so on. The rest of the stage is an empty space, but will host Steve's imagination as he writes his story. Actors can enter and exit Down Left and Right and Up Left and Right.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Lucky Hudson is back! Grounded for ruining his mom's garden, teenage pulp fiction writer Steve Jenkins cooks up a new adventure for crime fighter Lucky. This time around, the winsome secretary of a wealthy matron hires Lucky to safeguard her boss's famed diamond, the Star of Delhi, which is to be displayed at a fundraiser. With the help of TV news personality, Vicky Video, Lucky ferrets out three gangs of jewel thieves who just might attempt

to swipe the priceless bauble — the Twizted sisters Tammi and Terri; the hillbilly Joe family of Billy Joe, Bobby Joe, and Josey Joe; and the ultra-sophisticated burglars, Tom and Fifi Katt. Even though Lucky's on his toes at the fundraiser, somebody steals the Star of Delhi right under everybody's nose! Following all the twists and turns — not to mention laughs — that Steve's imagination can whip up, Lucky goes undercover to investigate, but only at the last minute does he realize who's got the diamond and where it's hidden. A simple set, lots of hilarious characters, and fast-paced action make this a jewel of a comedy!

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

### **SETTING NOTES**

From the standpoint of set, the play is very simple. The following set pieces are needed to stage Lucky:

1 small bed with covers and a pillow

1 desk with a laptop and chair

3 small tables (round or café style are best)

6 chairs

1 streetlamp (practical or not)

1 store counter with a small cash register on top (best if on rollers)

1 quilt on a self-standing frame bearing sign: Quilt and Crochet Festival

1 curtain (flashy-colored fabric is best) on frame with sign: Club LaBamba  
(The curtain can be on the other side of the quilt)

*NOTE: The tables serve in many scenes. Use various fabric covers for the different scenes.*

Here is a breakdown of how the furnishings are used in each scene:

**BEDROOM** — This scene is permanent in the Down Right corner of the stage. The bed is against the right wall. Desk and chair sit Down Left a bit, facing the audience.

**PALACE** — Small table covered with fancy piece of fabric. Mirror frame sits on top along with powder puff, makeup, and three crowns. Chair sits behind table.

**SWANSUNG ANTIQUE SHOP** — Small table set with teacups and saucers. Two chairs flank the table.

**STREET** — Streetlamp.

**COFFEE SHOP** — Two small tables each set with two chairs. Checkered tablecloths on each.

**SPORTING GOODS SHOP** — Counter with sign reading “Robber's Roost” on front. Small cash register and small fishing or hunting display(s) on top.

**KATT HOME** — Table covered with pretty cloth, set with dishes, napkins, candles, and so on. Two chairs on either side of table.

**QUILT FESTIVAL** — Quilt on frame bearing sign reading “Quilt and Crochet Festival”. Small table Downstage covered with black cloth. Black display box on top ready to hold the Star of Delhi.

**TWIZTED APARTMENT** — Small table and one chair.

**KATT HOME** — Table, as before, but now set with four chairs.

**CLUB LABAMBA** — Two or three small tables, each set with two chairs and covered with tropical tablecloths along with flowers or candles on top. Curtain Upstage reading “Club LaBamba.”

**SWANSUNG HOME** — Small table with vase of flowers on top and pre-set newspaper.

## **COSTUME NOTES**

**STEVE** — pajamas

**MRS. JENKINS, MIKE, JENNY** — everyday, modern clothes

**MARIE ANTOINETTE** — fancy long dress, high wig

**LOUIS XVI** — knickers, over-the-calf socks, vest, ruffled white shirt

**GUARD** — same as Louis

**BARON** — suit with old-fashioned tie

**BARONESS, HILDEGARDE, MADAME** — long dresses

**MILLIE** — everyday, modern dress, a raincoat and hat for the first scene.

**OLYMPIA** — flashy, modern dress, perhaps loud-colored pantsuit

**TAMMI, TERRI** — modern, everyday dress

**BILLY, BOBBY, JOSEY** — flannel shirts and overalls or jeans

**TOM, FIFI** — black pants and black turtlenecks

**MYSTERIOUS WOMAN** — trench coat, black hat and veil

**DANCERS and HOST** — Hawaiian shirts, shorts, leis

**CUSTOMER** — everyday, modern clothes

**BART, BABS** — everyday, modern clothes along with plenty of jewelry

**LUCKY** — trench coat, dark pants, and fedora is his basic costume

Disguises: Chef's hat, chef's white coat, mustache

Lumberjack or flannel shirt, beard, mustache, fur hat

Black or dark jacket with bowtie

Funny checkered or striped sport coat, bowtie

Butler T-shirt (tuxedo T-shirt)

**VICKY** — Everyday, modern dress is her basic costume

Disguises: Apron and maid's cap

## **PROPERTIES**

Although this is a long list, in almost every case, the items are readily available anywhere.

Note cards (**STEVE**)

Bag containing hamburger and soft drink (**MIKE, JENNY**)

Ice cube from drink (**STEVE**)

Makeup and powder puff (**MARIE**)

3 different crowns (**MARIE**)

Star of Delhi, a large diamond at the base of a beautiful necklace (**LOUIS XVI**)

Paper with paw print on it (**BARON**)

Teacups and saucers (**MADAME**)

Piece of paper (**MILLIE**)

Bejeweled walking stick (OLYMPIA)  
Notebook and pencil (STEVE)  
Video camera (VICKY)  
Note (LUCKY)  
Newspaper (CUSTOMER)  
Broom (LUCKY)  
Tray with 2 paper cups on it (VICKY)  
Dollar bills (TAMMI, TERRI)  
Plastic rifle (BILLY)  
Oversized plastic axe (BOBBY)  
Large, plastic knife (JOSEY)  
Small notepad (LUCKY)  
Debit card (BILLY)  
Champagne bucket on stand with bottle of vegetable juice (LUCKY)  
Plate with crackers (LUCKY)  
2 covered dishes (LUCKY)  
Handkerchief (FIFI)  
Small jewelry box (OLYMPIA)  
Cymbals (LUCKY)  
Small paper bag (MRS. JENKINS)  
Newspaper (MYSTERIOUS LADY)  
Cloth and plastic knife (TERRI)  
Rope (TAMMI)  
Several encyclopedia volumes (LUCKY)  
Carafe of liquid (FIFI)  
Silverware (VICKY)  
2 soup bowls (VICKY)  
Newspaper (TAMMI)  
Newspaper (JOSEY)  
Tootsie Pop (LUCKY)  
Warrant (LUCKY)  
Two suitcases (MILLIE)  
Large clay necklace with the Star of Delhi hidden inside (OLYMPIA)  
Gun from purse (OLYMPIA)  
2 fire extinguishers (OLYMPIA, MILLIE)

## **SOUND EFFECTS**

Use as indicated in the script:

Crowd rioting, shouting

Rainstorm

Foghorn

Elegant piano music

Gunfire

Club LaBamba song

Car horn

ACT I

**The bedroom of Steve Jenkins, a Sunday afternoon.**

*AT RISE: STEVE is lying on his bed, his head facing Upstage. His arms are extended above him holding a series of note cards. He reads one.*

**STEVE:** Lucky Hudson whipped out his six-shooter and aimed a little higher than Mangy Manny's belt buckle. *(STEVE sits up ramrod straight. He crosses words out, then lies down as before and reads.)* Lucky Hudson whipped out his Saturday night special and aimed right between Mangy Manny's eyes. *(STEVE takes another card and reads.)* "Take another step towards me, and I'm going to shoot your heart out a hole in your back as big as a barn door," Lucky said. *(STEVE sits up, crosses words out, rewrites, then lies back down, as before and reads.)* "Take one more step, and I'm going to leave a crater where your brain used to be," Lucky growled. *(STEVE takes another card and reads)* "Oh, yeah?" Mangy Manny sneered. "Yeah!" Lucky Hudson shouted. Suddenly gunfire erupted. Bang! *(STEVE sits up, crosses out words, writes in others, then lies back down and reads.)* "Oh, yeah?" Mangy Manny sneered. "Yeah!" Lucky Hudson leered. Suddenly gunfire erupted. Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! *(Steve scribbles in another word.)* Bang! *(A knock is heard Off Right.)*

**MRS. JENKINS:** *(Off right.)* Steve? It's Mom. May I come in?

**STEVE:** Sure! *(MRS. JENKINS enters Down Right.)*

**MRS. JENKINS:** Who were you talking to, Steve?

**STEVE:** Nobody.

**MRS. JENKINS:** *(Noticing the cards)* Writing another story?

**STEVE:** I gotta do something since I'm grounded on a beautiful Sunday afternoon!

**MRS. JENKINS:** Only until Grandma's birthday party at five.

**STEVE:** *(With little enthusiasm)* Whoopee.

**MRS. JENKINS:** *(An edge of anger in her voice)* And why have you been grounded, young man?

**STEVE:** *(Tiredly)* It was an accident! It could have happened to anybody!

**MRS. JENKINS:** You weren't paying attention to what you were supposed to be doing.

**STEVE:** I was multitasking. You and Dad do it all the time!

**MRS. JENKINS:** Not on a lawnmower! You drove right through my flower beds.

**STEVE:** I told you I was sorry.

**MRS. JENKINS:** All my begonias, petunias, and dahlias shredded like confetti.

**STEVE:** You gotta admit the lawn looked pretty colorful!



1 MRS. JENKINS: Steve, I love that you write stories. It may end up  
2 being a great career for you. But sitting on a riding  
3 lawnmower isn't the time to write.

4 STEVE: Mom, I've gotta write when the mood strikes me!

5 MRS. JENKINS: Well, you'll have a lot of time to write today.

6 STEVE: I know. Do I still have to pay for all the flowers and that  
7 other thing?

8 MRS. JENKINS: Don't you think it's only fair? The flowers need to  
9 be replaced, and I don't know if I'll ever be able to find another  
10 garden gnome as cute as the one you ... massacred.

11 STEVE: I told you I'd glue him back together.

12 MRS. JENKINS: He's in a thousand little pieces! No, your  
13 punishment is you're grounded for today, and you'll pay your  
14 father and me twenty-five dollars. Now, I'm going to the store.  
15 Do you need anything? Toothpaste? Soap? Pencils? Paper?

16 STEVE: A reprieve?

17 MRS. JENKINS: Denied! Anything else?

18 STEVE: I guess not.

19 MRS. JENKINS: Well, get back to Lucky Houston.

20 STEVE: Hudson!

21 MRS. JENKINS: And give him my best! *(MRS. JENKINS moves Down*  
22 *Right to exit.)*

23 STEVE: *(Sincerely)* Mom? I really am sorry. It won't happen again.

24 MRS. JENKINS: That's all I ask! *(MRS. JENKINS exits Down Right.*  
25 *STEVE lies back on his bed, takes another card and reads.)*

26 STEVE: As the smoke from the guns cleared, only one man was left  
27 standing. His thin mouth curled up in a smile, and he breathed  
28 a sigh of relief. "Wow! I'm sure glad I'm alive," he said to  
29 himself. That man was —

30 MIKE: *(Calling from Up Right)* Steve?

31 JENNY: You in your room?

32 STEVE: *(Stands and moves Up Right)* Yeah! C'mon in! *(MIKE and*  
33 *JENNY enter carrying a bag of fast food — a hamburger and a Coke.)*

34 MIKE: How's Shakespeare doing?

35 STEVE: You mean Micky Spillane!

36 JENNY: Who's he?

37 STEVE: Only the greatest hard-boiled detective fiction writer who  
38 ever wrote.

39 MIKE: Speaking of hard-boiled, we brought you some lunch.

40 STEVE: I hate eggs!

41 JENNY: But how about a juicy hamburger and an ice-cold Coke?

42 STEVE: Now you're talking! Thanks! *(STEVE opens bag, pulls out*  
43 *burger and drink.)* My mom know you're here?

44 MIKE: She drove off a minute ago.

45 JENNY: How's being grounded?

1 MIKE: I'll bet it's boring!  
2 STEVE: Not with Lucky Hudson around.  
3 JENNY: Oh, that's right! He's your imaginary friend.  
4 STEVE: (*Incredulously*) Imaginary!  
5 MIKE: Hey, Jenny, don't tell a writer that his hero is imaginary.  
6 This Hudson guy will probably pop out of the laptop and bean  
7 you one!  
8 JENNY: What's Lucky been up to?  
9 STEVE: He just got rid of Mangy Manny who bumped off the head  
10 of Lucky's bank during a robbery.  
11 MIKE: I didn't think Lucky bumped off anybody.  
12 STEVE: (*With mock seriousness*) Only when his back's up against the  
13 wall.  
14 JENNY: So what's next for Lucky?  
15 STEVE: I dunno. (*STEVE takes lid off drink and takes a swig. He then  
16 begins to stare at his drink.*)  
17 MIKE: How about he sails off to Skull Island and finds a giant  
18 monkey who kidnaps his girlfriend?  
19 JENNY: I didn't know monkeys have girlfriends!  
20 MIKE: I mean Lucky's girlfriend!  
21 STEVE: I think that story's been done before.  
22 MIKE: You could put a new spin on it. Instead of the monkey  
23 climbing the Empire State Building, have him ... have  
24 him ...  
25 JENNY: Dance a jig on Brooklyn Bridge?  
26 MIKE: Yeah! You could call it *Kong — the Musical!*  
27 JENNY: Mike, did anybody tell you to keep your ideas to yourself?  
28 (*JENNY notices STEVE is mesmerized by his drink.*) Steve? Is there  
29 a fly in your drink?  
30 MIKE: Shhhh! If anybody hears you they'll want one, too!  
31 JENNY: Your jokes are stale as day-old bread.  
32 MIKE: So are your similes.  
33 JENNY: Gosh, I'm impressed! You remember what a simile is!  
34 MIKE: What do you think I am, a dope? Don't answer that!  
35 JENNY: What's wrong, Steve? (*STEVE pulls an ice cube from his drink.*)  
36 STEVE: Guys, what is this?  
37 MIKE: An ice cube?  
38 STEVE: No, it's not! It's ... it's ... the Star of Delhi! (*STEVE sits at his  
39 desk, still staring at the ice cube.*)  
40 JENNY: Mike?  
41 MIKE: What?  
42 JENNY: I think we'd better go.  
43 MIKE: Steve? You going to be OK?  
44 STEVE: (*Beginning to type*) *Lucky, Lucky Hudson and the Star of  
45 Delhi. Deep in the jungles of southern India, a maharaja*

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