

ANYTHING FOR MY PUBLIC

A Humorous Reading

by
Francine Barry



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CHARACTER: A movie star: a woman who is usually wedded to her profession but divorced from her husbands.

The audience is given the rare opportunity to peek through the keyhole into the elegant boudoir of contemporary motion picture actress and “playgirl,” Madge Magenta. Madge, the aging screen idol who is fighting the battle of the bulge, appears in the most exquisite of negligees. Through her conversation with imaginary characters, “Madelyn,” “Louella,” and “Beverly,” her personality, a most vivid one, is presented to the audience. Throughout the action of the skit, Madge is being squeezed into an imaginary girdle.

Oh! Ohhhhhhh! Madelyn, take it easy with that ghastly contraption! I realize thoroughly that that trashy fan magazine stated that I never wear a--girdle, but people will begin to notice if I turn blue from lack of air!

My goodness, Louella, dahling, you columnists pick the darndest time to have interviews. But, anything for my public. You may quote me on that!--oh, yes, dear Frederick, my third husband. He gave me so much; happiness, fame, companionship, and plenty of money! Not that the money really mattered. I loved the dear boy so! That’s why I divorced him. Who ever heard of love in Hollywood? I just wasn’t getting any publicity!--My next picture? “The Call of the Wild Goose.” I play the part of a poor sheep herder’s daughter who has a nursery rhyme written about her. Everyone says I fit the part to a tee! Confidentially, I’m allergic to wool and despise sheep! But, anything for my public. You may quote me on that!

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