

SHEEP SHOW



A new musical comedy in one act
By Aaron Emke

CAST OF CHARACTERS *(in order of appearance)*

1. **VIOLET**, a young shepherd girl.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 10
Lines: Approximately 75
Songs: 9 (with frequent solos and duets)

2. **CHARLOTTE**, another shepherdess, Violet's sister.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 10
Lines: Approximately 45
Songs: 7 (with frequent solos and duets).

3. **REBAAA**, a ewe.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 15
Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

4. **BAAARBARA**, another ewe.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 15
Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

5. **SHEBAAA**, another ewe.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 15
Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

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CAST OF CHARACTERS, continued

6. BAAARNIE, a ram.

Gender: Male

Scenes: 4

Lines: Approximately 15

Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

7. BAAAB, a nervous lamb.

Gender: Either

Scenes: 4

Lines: Approximately 15

Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

8. BAAANIE, a ewe and a dreamer.

Gender: Female

Scenes: 5

Lines: Approximately 30

Songs: 4 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

9. VARIOUS ADDITIONAL SHEEP

Gender: Various

Scenes: 4

Lines: None

Songs: 4 (Ensemble)



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CAST OF CHARACTERS, continued

10. MA, a sheep rancher, Violet and Charlotte's mother.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 45
Songs: 3 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

11. PA, another sheep rancher, Violet and Charlotte's father.

Gender: Male
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 45
Songs: 3 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

12. UNCLE HENRY, Pa's brother.

Gender: Male
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

13. AUNT EMILY, Uncle Henry's wife.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 4
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

14. ELECTRA VOLT, a fabulously rich and famous fashion mogul.

Gender: Female
Scenes: 2
Lines: Approximately 40
Songs: 2 (one solo and one ensemble)

15. TERI, Electra's assistant.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 2
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (backup and ensemble)

16. TONI, Electra's other assistant.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 2
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (backup and ensemble)



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CAST OF CHARACTERS, continued

17. HOEDOWN GUESTS, various people who visit the farm for the hoedown scene. (Can be played by the same actors who play the Coyotes.)

Gender: Various
Scenes: 1
Lines: None
Songs: 1 (Ensemble)

18. BOK, a coyote.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 3
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

19. JEX, another coyote.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 3
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

20. PETER, another coyote.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 3
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)

21. DAG, another coyote.

Gender: Either
Scenes: 3
Lines: Approximately 20
Songs: 2 (ensemble and a few solo moments)



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STORY OUTLINE

Scene 1: Sheep Ranch – A Day in Spring

Two shepherd girls, **Violet** and **Charlotte**, herd their flock of **Sheep** into their ranch, Shetland Valley Farm, in a beautiful dale at the foot of a mountain.

Song: “Shetland Valley Farm” (Violet, Charlotte, and sheep).

Ma and **Pa** enter and tell the girls to get the sheep ready for shearing. One of the sheep, a lamb named **Baaab**, has never been shorn before, and he’s very nervous about it. The other sheep reassure him that there’s nothing to worry about.

Violet notices that one of the sheep, **Baaanie**, has wandered off by herself, which is apparently a frequent problem. Violet finds Baaanie in the meadow and asks her what she’s daydreaming about. Baaanie says that she feels guilty for having such a comfortable life on the farm, while wild animals have to struggle to survive. She hopes someday to help those less fortunate than herself, perhaps by feeding the hungry. Violet reassures Baaanie that she is already making a contribution to the world by producing wool.

Violet and Charlotte line up the sheep to be shorn by Ma and Pa.

Song: “Shearing Day” (Sheep, Ma, Pa, Charlotte, Violet).

Immediately after the shearing, Uncle Henry and Aunt Emily arrive, and everyone begins preparing for ranch’s hoedown, a semi-annual celebration at which they sing, dance, and sell their wool products. Some of the sheep wish that they could join the hoedown also, but Ma and Pa are adamant that the hoedown is for humans only.



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Several guests arrive, and there is a spirited square dance.

Song: “Hoedown” (Ma, Pa, Uncle Henry, Aunt Emily, Violet, Charlotte, and guests).



Among the guests is **Electra Volt**, accompanied by her assistants **Teri** and **Toni**. Electra is a rich and famous figure in the fashion industry, and she is very impressed with the wool clothes that the ranch produces. She buys a large number of garments, and places an order for hundreds more. She hints that she might be able to sell the clothes in famous high-end stores. Ma, Pa, Aunt Emily, and Uncle Henry are very excited.

After the guests leave, Ma sends Violet and Charlotte up the mountain to gather berries for the next day’s breakfast.

Scene 2: En Route Up the Mountain – Later That Afternoon

Violet and Charlotte head up the mountain, singing happily as they go.

Song: “Up the Mountain” (Violet and Charlotte).

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Scene 3: Forest – Same Afternoon

In the forest on the slope of the mountain, Violet and Charlotte meet a group of four **Coyotes**. The Coyotes are suspicious of the girls at first, but soon realize that they are harmless. The Coyotes have been travelling for miles in search of a good food supply, and they're starving.



The Coyotes ask the girls where they're from, and Violet (despite Charlotte's objections) tells them all about Shetland Valley arm, and even how to find it.

Song: "Directions" (Violet).

The Coyotes are delighted by this news.

Scene 4: En Route Down the Mountain – Same Afternoon

Violet and Charlotte return to the farm. Charlotte scolds Violet for revealing too much information to strangers.

Song: "Down the Mountain" (Violet and Charlotte).

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Scene 5: Sheep Ranch – That Night

When the girls arrive home, Ma and Pa ask Violet to herd all the Sheep into their pen for the night. Violet is so exhausted that she falls asleep while she is counting the sheep.

Song: “Counting Sheep” (Violet).

The sheep don’t want to wake Violet, so they proceed into the pen without her. Nobody notices that Baaanie is missing.

Scene 6: Sheep Ranch – Next Morning

Violet is rudely awakened by a big commotion. The rest of the family is in a panic because one of the sheep is missing, and there have been coyotes sightings in the area. Pa and Uncle Henry are preparing to hunt down the coyotes and kill them.

Violet and Charlotte plead with their parents to let them try to find Baaanie, and to reason with the Coyotes. Ma is skeptical, but Pa, recognizing that the girls have a special gift for communicating with animals, persuades her.

Scene 7: En Route Up the Mountain – Same Morning

Violet and Charlotte once again head up the mountain, this time in a much more somber mood.

Song: “Up the Mountain Again” (Violet and Charlotte).

Scene 8: Forest – Same Day

When they reach the forest, Violet and Charlotte see that the Coyotes have captured Baaanie and have her tied up.



Baaanie begs the Coyotes to spare her life, pointing out that there are plenty of plants that they could eat instead of her, but the Coyotes insist that they are carnivores.

Song: “Carnivore Song” (coyotes).

The Coyotes get into an quarrel over how to cook and serve Baaanie. While they are arguing, Violet and Charlotte take advantage of the distraction to untie Baaanie and sneak her away.

By the time the Coyotes finish arguing, they realize that Baaanie is long gone. They resolve to return to Shetland Valley Farm again that night to grab another sheep.

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Scene 9: En Route Down the Mountain – Same Day

Once they are safely out of reach of the Coyotes, Baaanie thanks Violet and Charlotte for rescuing her. But they all know that the Coyotes will soon return to Shetland Valley Farm and take more sheep.

Charlotte points out that the Coyotes seem to be frightened of large groups of humans, and of loud noises, so a hoedown would be the ideal way to scare away the Coyotes.

Violet and Charlotte decide to convince their family to have another hoedown that night, for the express purpose of frightening the Coyotes.

Scene 10: Sheep Farm – That Afternoon

When Charlotte, Violet, and Baaanie get back to the ranch, they find that Electra Volt, Teri, and Toni have returned, and that she has the full attention of all of the adults in the family.

Baaanie is reunited with the other sheep, who are very relieved to see her alive.

Charlotte and Violet try to get the attention of Ma, Pa, Uncle Henry, and Aunt Emily to tell them about their hoedown idea, but the grown-ups no longer seem to care about the coyote problem.

They are far too busy listening to what Electra has to say.

Electra shows the family a large map of a new luxury vacation resort called “Wool World” that she wants to build on the family’s land. It will have hotels and restaurants, and an exhibit on wool production. But since Electra dislikes animals, the exhibit will not have live sheep but rather animatronic sheep figures.

The family are skeptical at first, but Electra, Teri, and Toni convince them that they will all get filthy rich if they sell out to her.

Song: “Wool World” (Electra, Toni, Teri).



The adults are very tempted by Electra’s offer to make them millionaires, so they all go excitedly into the house to work out the details of the deal.

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Violet and Charlotte realize that they aren't going to get any help from their family, so they'll have to organize the hoedown themselves. They decide that the sheep will have to disguise themselves as humans by wearing clothes — clothes that are made of their own wool.

There is much chaotic bickering amongst the sheep over who will wear which articles of clothing, but they get themselves organized just as the Coyotes arrive. The sheep unsteadily dance, and sing a song to convince the Coyotes that they are humans.

Song: “We Are Not Sheep” (sheep and coyotes).

The Coyotes are convinced that the sheep are humans and are frightened. Attempting to run away, they get caught up in the square dance.

Electra and the other adults return, all thrilled at having worked out a lucrative deal to build “Wool World.”

The Coyotes, running around in a blind panic, terrorize Electra, Toni, and Teri, knocking them to the ground. Electra is so upset that she immediately cancels the “Wool World” deal, and she and her assistants leave in a huff.

Ma, Pa, Uncle Henry, and Aunt Emily are disappointed that they aren't going to be millionaires after all. But, as Violet and Charlotte point out, at least they'll be able to keep their beautiful farm, and the Coyotes will no longer threaten their sheep.

Song: “Shetland Valley Farm Reprise” (Violet, Charlotte, and sheep).

