

FUTURE, FUTURE, FUTURE, FUTURE

by MINDY SHEPHERD ANDERS

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: To open a discussion with youth about decision making, procrastination, trusting God for leadership and relying on the Word of God

DIRECTOR'S TIP: In the sketch, Kristin doesn't know where to go to college and she needs to decide soon or lose her chance at scholarships. In desperation, she turns to a psychic hotline. By the end of the sketch, she realizes that's not the best source of information. Very few teenagers sit still while talking on the phone. Add to that the fact that Kristin is stressed, and you'll have movement. Avoid the pitfall of simply having Kristin pace with a cordless phone. Her movements should echo the frustration we hear in her voice. For variety, you could have Sue sitting stage left with a telephone, reading Madame Ludini's copy. This plays up the idea that Madame Ludini is a big fake.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 3

TOPIC: Trust, Youth

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Psalm 16:7-11, John 1:1

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Christmas, Easter, Pentecost

CHARACTERS:

Kristin - A typical high school senior; she's putting off deciding where to go to college
Madame Ludini - (Voice-over) A smooth and sophisticated telephone psychic
Sue - (Voice-over) Played by the same actress as the voice of Madame Ludini; Sue is in direct contrast to the psychic. She is an overworked customer service representative at a two-bit psychic hotline.

PROPS: 1) Chair
2) Touchtone telephone
3) Newspaper

COSTUMES: Contemporary clothing, appropriate to character

SOUND: One wireless mic for Kristin; backstage mike for voice-overs; sound effects of phone dialing, and various touchtone buttons being pushed

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Kristin's home

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Lights up on KRISTIN, sitting, dialing a phone number as she reads it from a newspaper ad. SFX: TOUCHTONE PHONE DIALING.

Madame Ludini (Voice-over): *(Smoothly)* Hello, friend. Welcome to Madame Ludini's Psychic Friends Hotline. If you need answers, you've called the right place. We're your friends. How can we help you?

Kristin: Well, I need help deciding where-

Madame Ludini: *(Cutting her off)* If you have questions about your future, press one. If you have questions about past lives, press two. If you have a consumer complaint, please stay on the line and a customer service representative will be right with you. *(KRISTIN presses "1" on the phone. SFX: ONE TOUCHTONE SOUND)* Friend, are you wondering about your future?

Kristin: Yes, I need-

Madame Ludini: For information about love and romance in your future, press one. For information about when you will die, press two. For information about how you will die, press three. For information about where you will live, press four. For information about your career, press five. *(Indecisive, KRISTIN presses "5." SFX: ONE TOUCHTONE SOUND)* Hello.

Kristin: Hi. I'm trying to-

Madame Ludini: Please enter the eight-digit code for your birthdate, using four digits for the year, followed by the pound sign now. *(KRISTIN does so. SFX: EIGHT TOUCHTONE SOUNDS)* Hello.

Kristin: *(Tentatively)* Hi ... *(No answer)* Hello? Um, I'm trying to decide where to go to college next year, and I-

Madame Ludini: You are a Leo. You are cheerful, colorful and proud.

Kristin: Oh. Um-

Madame Ludini: You are like fire. You are the lion.

Kristin: Where should I go to college?

Madame Ludini: Friend, you will be a leader. You will be like a king-or queen-in your chosen profession. You will do great things.

Kristin: But Madame Ludini, where-