

## THE CHORUS LINE LADIES

by Kathryn M. Graves

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** Three elderly former chorus line dancers decide to go to church but are afraid of how they might be received.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** There is a lot of comic potential here with the ladies' "car." Take the time to work out some physical gags as MARGE veers wildly on the street. This comedy will reinforce the idea that the Ladies used to be entertainers, and that they are somewhat wild at heart.

**TIME:** Under 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 3

**TOPIC:** Church Life

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Luke 6:31-35

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** Any

**SUGGESTED USE:** Worship Service

**CHARACTERS:**

MARGE—age 75+

MAYBELLE—age 75+

MERLINE—age 75+

**PROPS:** Four chairs, table, poster depicting the front grille and headlights of a car

**COSTUMES:**

MARGE— housedress, large purse, two teeth blacked out, oversized glasses

MAYBELLE—housedress, mismatched purse and shoes

MERLINE—housedress, large purse, fake-looking blond wig, cane

**SOUND:** Three wireless mics

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** A car driving by a church, and the church parking lot

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*MARGE, MAYBELLE AND MERLINE enter stage right, and begin walking toward four chairs set center stage behind the table. The chairs are set up to represent seats in a car, with two in front, facing the audience, and two behind. The table is the dashboard, and the poster is taped to the front of the table so it hangs in front of it.*

**MARGE:** Would you two hurry up? We'll be late.

**MERLINE:** Marge, I want to sit in front.

**MARGE:** Merline, you always want to sit in front.

**MAYBELLE:** *(Nodding knowingly to the audience)* She always wants to sit in front.

**MARGE:** *(Guiding MAYBELLE by the elbow)* Maybelle, I guess you can sit in back again.

**MERLINE:** It's on account of my cane, you know. It gets in the way and I have more room in the front.

**MARGE:** Okay, okay, just get in.

*All three ladies "get into" the car. MARGE sits in the driver's seat, MERLINE in the passenger seat and MAYBELLE in the back. MARGE "drives" for a while.*

**MARGE:** There it is! That's the church she told me about.

*She points out the window to her left.*

**MAYBELLE:** *(Leaning to look to her right, speaking in awe)* It's awfully big.

**MERLINE:** No, Maybelle, that's the bank! Look out the other side.

**MAYBELLE:** *(Leaning to look to her left)* It's still awfully big.

**MERLINE:** Are you sure they'll let us in?

**MARGE:** Merline, I'm not sure if anybody'd let you in! No, really, it'll be okay.

**MAYBELLE:** It's awfully big.

**MARGE:** Since when have you been afraid of big places with lots of people? We're performers.

**MERLINE:** Since we stopped singing at nightclubs. They'll think we're just trashy old women.

**MARGE:** No they won't. I've met some of them and they're really nice.