

Mind Over Murder

An Interactive Musical Comedy Murder Mystery

by Butch Maxwell & Bert Furioli

Mystery Theatre Unlimited

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At a Glance

Genre: Interactive Musical Comedy Murder Mystery

Running Time: Scripted elements: approximately 60–90 minutes. Entire experience with dinner/intermission and audience interaction: approximately 2½–3 hours.

Cast: 3M, 2W, plus designated audience participants.

Setting: The laboratory of an experimental brain-research institution in the present day.

Audience Participation: Extensive — designated guests play Hank’s mother, an audience heckler, and Sarah’s lawyer; the full audience questions the suspects and completes Detective Cards before the solution.

Music: Musical parody numbers performed by the cast with prerecorded accompaniment.

Technical Requirements: Recorded music and sound-effects playback, the Electronic Versa-Vice device, and hand props.

Ideal Venues

- Dinner theatres
- Community theatres
- Fundraisers
- Performing arts organizations
- Civic organizations
- Corporate and private events

The Mystery Theatre Experience

An evening with Mystery Theatre Unlimited begins before the first scene. Upon arrival, guests are seated and receive a program, Detective Card, pen, and one Character Fun Fact Card at their place setting. As the cast mingles in character, guests are encouraged to read their Fun Fact aloud, exchange cards with other tables, and meet the suspects before the mystery officially begins.

The Evening’s Format

A typical performance follows this sequence:

- 1. Guest Arrival & Character Mingling** — Characters circulate, meet the audience, and establish relationships before the scripted action begins.
- 2. Act One** — Professor Werner Van Braun prepares to rescue his terminally ill wife, Sarah, by switching her mind into Colette’s body and his own into Hank’s, while Lug’s interference sends the experiment off course.
- 3. Dinner / Intermission** — Characters may remain available for informal interaction as

appropriate.

4. Act Two — The characters attempt to reverse the transfers, identities become even more tangled, and a will, a taser, and the failing Versa-Vice converge in the Professor's death.

5. Question & Answer Period — Audience members question the suspects directly.

6. Guessing Break — Guests complete Detective Cards identifying the killer and explaining their deductions.

7. Act Three — The solution reveals who engineered the Professor's fatal final switch, followed by recognition of the evening's successful detectives.

Audience Participants

Mind Over Murder draws several guests into short scripted exchanges. Participants are selected and coached in the moment by the cast member running the scene. No advance preparation or theatrical experience is required.

The audience roles include:

- **Hank's Mom** — an audience member who answers Hank's telephone call and offers distinctly unhelpful maternal advice.
- **Act Two Audience Member** — a guest who responds when Sarah asks whether anyone has seen Lug and then asks for a recap of the scrambled identities.
- **Lawyer** — an audience participant who identifies Sarah's will, explains its value, and witnesses Lug's signature.
- **Admirer** — a male audience member briefly singled out by Colette during the solution.

The entire audience also participates throughout the evening — interacting with the characters, questioning the suspects after Act Two, and completing Detective Cards before the solution is revealed.

Characters

The cast consists of five principal characters.

Professor Werner Van Braun

An aging, self-important brain scientist whose unreliable experiments and distinctive speech have consumed his wife's fortune.

Sarah Bellum

The Professor's wealthy Southern-belle wife, left terminally ill by one of his experiments and determined to trade her failing body for a younger one.

Lug

The Professor's dim-witted, musclebound laboratory assistant and former experimental subject, whose unexpected choices make him far more dangerous than he appears.

Colette

A celebrated French fashion-magazine editor, vain enough to admire herself and furious when the Professor's machine leaves her in the wrong body.

Hank

A shallow-brained Midwesterner recruited as the Professor's prospective new body, amiable enough to be useful and confused enough to make everything worse.

Character Fun Facts

Before the performance begins, each guest table receives one Character Fun Fact Card. The cards introduce the suspects, encourage conversation among guests, and give performers natural material for the pre-show mingle.

- Professor Werner Van Braun has been botching experiments since his junior-high science fair, when he accidentally crash-landed his weather balloon in the desert. His odd looks and speech impediment later caused authorities to mistake him for an alien from Area 51.
- Sarah Bellum's family fortune has funded her husband's experiments, but she remains convinced there is no money like old money, even if it smells funny.
- Until the Professor switched his brain, Lug worked with Stephen Hawking — whom he now thinks is a bird.
- Hank killed his therapist by boring him to death.
- Colette lives by the philosophy, "Pour aimer les autres, l'amour vous en premier." She has certainly mastered the first part.
- The Electronic Versa-Vice Device reacts badly to power surges, small weapons, and too many wine coolers.

Musical Parodies and Performance Rights

This play contains musical parodies performed to the tunes of well-known songs. A license to produce this play does not include or grant permission to perform any copyrighted musical compositions. Responsibility for securing any required public performance rights rests with the producing organization and/or venue. If appropriate licensing is unavailable, the play may be performed without the musical numbers; dialogue may be substituted where necessary.

Key Props and Sound Needs

- Electronic Versa-Vice device with two headpieces, cables, and a large switch
- Cloth or sheet used to cover the device
- Photographs of Hank and Colette
- Hand mirror and telephone
- Sarah's will and a pen
- Colette's camera
- Taser gun
- Detective Cards
- Recorded musical accompaniment
- Doorbell and Electronic Versa-Vice sound effects

Act One

On a table is electronic equipment with a large switch on it and two cones, veiled by a cloth. Also on the table are two photos - one of Hank (Actor 5) and one of Colette (Actor 4), along with a hand mirror and a telephone.

THE PROFESSOR (ACTOR 1) and SARAH (ACTOR 2) enter. She is carrying a will in the pocket of her skirt, but this is unseen at first by the audience and the Professor.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

And hewe, my dea-aw, is the machine that is going to change ouw destiny! The Ewectwonic Vewsawice Mind-Switching Device.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh, Werner, I'm about to jump out-a my britches and have a cow. Are you sure this will work?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Of couwse, my deaw! I am the greatest wiving bwain scientist in the wowowd [world]!

SARAH (Actor 2)

But my little ole Mensa Man - every experiment y'all tried up until this one has failed. Remember when you put a rabbit's brain in Bill Clinton's body? Talk about overkill!

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

My new device has awready pwoven successfuw! - Much to my suwprize. - You saw how peufecwy it worked the wast time.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Yeah, honeybun, but you switched the minds of the Olsen twins. Who could tell?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

They switched, Belwieve me! I'd know my Mawy Kate from my Ashwey.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh, I declare, sugar plum, sometimes I'm not sure you'd know your Ashley from a hole in the ground.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

It doesn't matteou! This has to wowk. Youw vewy existence depends upon it.

SARAH (Actor 2)

But, my darling ole brainiac, it was your last experiment that did this to me.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I know! I know! When the nuqueaw weactow oveouheated, I neveou should have told you to put your fingew in the cwack.

[Aside.]

It wowked fowa the wittle Dutch boy.

[To Sarah.]

Now, you wiw souwy [will surely] succumb to wadiation poisoning at any moment. That's why thewe is no time to wose! We must switch youw mind into a healthy body at once.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Werner, if your machine can switch my mind with someone else's, why can't you just reverse the radiation poisoning?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wevewse the wadiation? Are you cwazy? Ha! What do you think this is - science fiction?

SARAH (Actor 2)

But isn't there some other way?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No, my daw-wing [darling], unwess you want to twy suogwy!

LUG (ACTOR 3) enters.

LUG (Actor 3)

You rang?

SARAH (Actor 2)

[Aside to audience.]

Case in point.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wug. Pwease pwepawe [prepare] the wabowatowy for the new patient!

Lug (Actor 3) goes over to a nearby table, where he awkwardly takes a cloth from the top of two cones, connected to an electronic device.

SARAH (Actor 2)

[Aside to audience.]

Lug was one of his first experiments.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug got new brain.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I knew when I weplaced his bwain I shouldn't have used a suwfah.
[surfer]

LUG (Actor 3)

Cowabunga, dude.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

But this time, I will do it wight! And I'm so suwe of it, my bewoved wife and I wiw be the guinea pigs.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug likes pigs. Soft.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

With this device - the Ewectronic Vewsas-Vice, I will twansfou my wife's bwain into another body.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug got transfers for bus.

SARAH (Actor 2)

[Aside to audience.]

The short bus.

SFX: A doorbell.

LUG (Actor 3)

Doorbell!

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh, that must be the girl! I'm just about as happy as a pig in a bowl of corn flakes.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug likes pigs.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wug, go answeu the doow.

LUG (Actor 3)

[Yelling at door.]

Hi, door. What you want?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No, no, you mowon!

[Miming each movement.]

Go to the doowa, open it, and bwing in whoever is thewa.

LUG (Actor 3)

[Imitating each mimed movement.]

Lug got it.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Let's hope it's not catching.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

If it is ouw guest, Miss Cowette, bwing heou [her] heow [here] to the wabowatowy.

LUG (Actor 3)

[Going to a table of women.]

Lug likes pretty girls, too.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wug!

[Pointing to door.]

Come on, Wug! Shake a weg!

Lug lifts one leg and shakes it.

LUG (Actor 3)

Later, dude-ettes.

[Exit.]

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I sweawa, I've got to get him a bettew bwain.

[Looking at the audience.]

Pwetty swim pickin's hewah.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Now, listen, honey bunch, after we switch bodies with these people – You are going to give them your amnesia drug, right?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

My what?

SARAH (Actor 2)

You told me you had a drug that will make them forget who they are for a little while. Long enough for us to get away and start a new life together.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Oh, that.

[Lying.]

Of couwse, my deaw.

[To audience.]

Insewt sinistew waugh here. Ah-ha-ha- ha-ha!

SARAH (Actor 2)

What's wrong, my little tomato?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Nothing, my deaw. Just a wittew tickew. [little tickle]

SARAH (Actor 2)

[Looking at the photo of Colette (Actor 4).]

This new body you've chosen for me – the woman at the door – she's a bad person?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Bewieve me, she's an eviw [evil] woman – Ptewie! No good! - She's a formew fashion modew – compwetewy sewf-possessed and awogant.

Sarah (Actor 2) looks unconvinced.

And she kicks puppies, too.

SARAH (Actor 2)

All right. As long as she's no good. Because if she has my body, she's going to die.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

And she desouves it, too! Now, once the twansformation has taken pwace - you wiw wook to awe the wowod [world] wike Miss Cowette. Which means you wiw not have access to youw fowtune - unwess you sign ovej awe of youw estate.

SARAH (Actor 2)

[Producing a copy of her will.]

I'll sign over my will – but not until I change bodies. It's not that I don't have faith in you. It's just that I know better. You're not selling me a pig in a poke.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wug wikes pigs. My deaw, you are about to become a bewiev-a! [believer] Because you awe about to staht wiving in a new vewy beawutifuw body.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh, I do hope so! I'd be so pretty, I could make a hound dog give up his bone. You'd like that, wouldn't you?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I will enjoy that vewy much.

[Picking up the photo of Hank (Actor 5).]

Especiawly when I switch minds with the man you picked out for me - and I become young and viwile!

SARAH (Actor 2)

[To audience.]

When we decided to do this, it wasn't like I went out shopping for a man. Of course, we did find him at Wal-Mart. Yeah, he's 'bout as cute as a bug's rear. But dumb as dirt.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

It doesn't mattou! Because my bwiwiant mind wiw be in his body! And his feebaw mind wiw be my feebaw body! And you and I wiw go on - wich - happy - and houwny again!

Lug (Actor 3) and COLETTE (ACTOR 4) enter. Lug is carrying her. She carries a camera with her.

LUG (Actor 3)

Miss Colette.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Monsieur Professor, your but-ler' is a bit - how you say? - ass-er-tive'.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wug, put the wady down immediatwy!

Lug puts her on her feet.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Mer-cee'.

LUG (Actor 3)

Boo-cooties.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Never you mind old Lug. He may be five beers short of a six pack, but he's as harmless as a rubber chain saw.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Under the right circumstances, I would not mind being manhandled by such a hunk.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug hunky.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

But zis one is so frightening! Like Fabio with ze crew cut.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Yeah, he looks like he done got beat with an ugly sock.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Monsieur Professor! Madame Professor! Thank you for inviting me to photograph your lovely home for my fashion magazine - Narcissist Prétentieux.

[Pronounce: "pray-ten - tee - ohn".]

Oh! Zis is such a quaint American home. All ze comforts of an industrial park.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Thank you. Did you know that my wife is an expewt in fashion? Most high fashion owiginates in the Amewican South.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

I did not know zis. In Paris, we thought American fashion came from ze snooty gay men in Greenwich Village.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Why, you nevah heard-a Southern culture, sweet pea?

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Oui. But ze outfit you are wearing now looks like ze Nightmare from ze Culture Club.

SARAH (Actor 2)

[To Professor (Actor 1).]

Didn't we just get in a couple of those new Southern bonnets?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Yes indeed! Wets wook at them! You could get the scoop on New Yowk and Pawis.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug wants two scoops.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Oiu! I can see it now! I shall call it nouvelles américaines.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Just pwomise me one thing - because you are so beautifoow - you must twy it on for me.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Merci, Monsieur. I am so pleased to try out your American modes - your fashions.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

This is the watest thing in the south.

He puts one of the cones on her head.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

[Disturbed.]

I shall call it the chapeau laid.

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh, bless your little quiche-eatin' heart! That sounds so - Frenchy! What does it mean?

Ugly hat.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

SARAH (Actor 2)

Now, don't y'all getting persnickity. I'll try one on, too, just so as you can see how cute they are.

Sarah (Actor 2) puts on the other cone.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

[Taking the cone off.]

How will zat help? I am much cuter than you.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No! Pwease! Don't take the hat off! Wug wants to take youw picturw!

Lug grabs the photo of Colette (Actor 4) and starts to exit.

Lug:

Lug got it.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No, Wug! Use heou camewa to get a pictuwe!

Lug grabs her camera.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

[Putting it back on.]

Oh, well, if it's a for a photo of mou, but of course!

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Now, hold it wight thewe!

Lug:

[Holding camera.]

Lug hold it right here.

COLETTE (Actor 4)

How do I look?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[About to throw the switch.]

Beawutifuw!

Lug:

[Reaching over to adjust the cone.]

Hat look crooked.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No! Wug! You must not touch either one of them!

LUG (Actor 3)

[Smacking his own hand.]

Bad Lug.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Confidentially, to Lug (Actor 3).]

If you touch one of them whiwe [while] the twqansfew is happening - you wiw be switched instead.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug sorry.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

You cewtainwy awe.

[To Sarah (Actor 2).]

Weady Fweedy?

SARAH (Actor 2)

[To Professor (Actor 1).]

Let 'er rip, tater chip.

The Professor (Actor 1) throws the switch.

SFX: Electronic-Versa-Vice machine

Colette (Actor 4) and Sarah (Actor 2) quiver as though being shocked.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Diabolically.]

It's awive! It's awive!

SARAH (Actor 2)

Oh! Wener! I feel so peculiar!

COLETTE (Actor 4)

Mon deu! What iz happening?

[Now, suddenly, speaking in Sarah's voice.]

Why, I declare! I feel as spry as a spring chicken.

[Looking at her old body, now occupied by Colette.]

And she looks like an old dog!

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Goodness gwacious! It wowked!

COLETTE (Actor 2)

[Now in Sarah's body.]

What has happened to me?

[Looking at herself.]

I am – hideous!

Colette (Actor 2) faints.

SARAH (Actor 4)

Then I must be - yeee doggies!

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Qwickwy, Wug, take Miss Cowette to the guest woom [room]
whiwe [while] she wecovews.

Lug goes to escort Sarah (Actor 4).

PROFESSOR (Actor 1) - continued

No, you idiot! Not hewa!

[Pointing to Colette (Actor 2), passed out.]

The othew one.

*Lug goes to Sarah's (Actor 4's) body, then to Colette's
(Actor 2's) body and back and forth.*

Lug:

Lug's brain hurts. Lug needs score card.

Lug takes Colette's (Actor 2's) body and carries her away.

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Looking at herself in the mirror.]

It worked, my little pumpkin! Now I'm a believer!

SFX: Song – "I'm a Believer"

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Singing.]

I thought this was only true in sci fi tales
Switching someone's
body wasn't true
Death was out to get to me – That's the way it seems

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Singing.]

Disappointment haunted aew my dweams

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Singing.]

And then I saw my face – now I'm a believer
Not a trace – of
Colette in my mind
Now I'm hot – I'm a believer

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Singing.]

I couldn't weave heou – If I twied

You thought switching bwains was just a fiction thing
Seems the

more I knew the wess you bought
What's the use in twying – All I got was gwief I just wanted faith
not – Disbewief

And then I saw heou face – Now I'm an achievew Not a twace – Of
Cowette in heou mind

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Singing.]

Now I'm hot – I'm a believer

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Singing.]

I'm an achievew

**SARAH (Actor 4) AND PROFESSOR (Actor 1) –
CONTINUED**

[Singing.]

Two of a kind!

Now I'm a believer - Yeah, yeah, yeah - Yeah, yeah, yeah (etc.)

SFX: Doorbell

LUG (Actor 3)

[Enter.]

Doorbell.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I know that, you foow! Go answeu it!

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug confused. Doorbell ask question?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Just bwing in whoevew is at the doow!

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug got it.

SARAH (Actor 4)

[To audience.]

He never had it.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Huwwy up, Wug! Hop to it!

Lug hops out the exit.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1) - continued

[Panicked.]

Oh, no! That must be ouw othew vict- ouw othew donow [donor]!

I'm not pwepawed!

SARAH (Actor 4)

Calm yourself, mah little buttercup. It will be fine. Now that I have this young voluptuous body, I'll show you how the boys will be callin' me the French tickler.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Ooo, wa-wa.

Lug (Actor 3) enters holding HANK (ACTOR 5) by the scruff of his collar.

LUG (Actor 3)

Avon lady.

HANK (Actor 5)

Oh, golly, gee, no. I'm Hank – not the Avon lady, don't cha know.

LUG (Actor 3)

Not Avon lady?

[Releasing Hank (Actor 5).]

Me need Skin-So-Soft.

SARAH (Actor 4)

He's got a Brain-So-Soft.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Wewcome to my home, Mistou Hank. This is my wovevy wife, Sawah.

HANK (Actor 5)

That's your wife? Wow-ee zow-ee. I thought that sweet little old lady I saw you with at Wal-Mart was your wife. I guess I'm stupider than I thought.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I doubt that. And that is my faithfuw serwwant, Wug.

HANK (Actor 5)

Wug? Like on the floor "wug?"

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No. Wike "wug nut."

LUG (Actor 3)

Sometimes Lug feels like a nut.

HANK (Actor 5)

Gee willikers, this place is spooky. It's scarier than a Senior Citizens' buffet when they run out of fish sticks. Well, maybe not

that scary. Those senior citizens can be rough, don't cha know. My Uncle Barry has been known to throw his false teeth at kids on his lawn.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

This buiwding used to be Doctow Demento's Home for the Cwiminawy Unsane. Wegend has it the ghosts of formew patients haunt the cowedows. [corridors]

HANK (Actor 5)

Oh! Yaa. I see them. And they're eating salads. Well, ghosts or no, thanks for inviting me to see your place, Mr. Professor.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Cewtainwy, woung man. You did tell me that you wanted to be smahtou?

HANK (Actor 5)

Oh, you betcha! I was always the slowest kid in my class. Well, not really the slowest kid. There was Donny - who sat in the back of my fourth grade class for three years. Turns out he was in a coma.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

My boy, when I entewed

[entered]

the stowah [store] and you said, "Welcome to Waw-Mawt," I knew you had the pewfect bwain for my pwoject.

HANK (Actor 5)

It's a tough job, don't ya know. When I greet people, sometimes they try to run me over with their shopping carts. Of course, that's only if I try to talk with them. If I stick to "Hello Welcome to Wal-Mart" I'm usually okee dokee. But they get grumpy if I tell them about my cousin and his spoon collection - or was that my nephew? - no, no, by golly, it was my neighbor -

SARAH (Actor 4)

Stop it! You had me at "Hello Welcome to Wal-Mart."

[Going to Hank (Actor 5).]

You sure do make a purtee greeter.

HANK (Actor 5)

I don't know about that, but I do know I really want to be smart!

[To Professor.]

Do you think you could help me? You know, I flunked out of night school because I couldn't read in the dark.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Oh, I can help! Aftah awe, I was a pwofessow of Bwain-iowogy at Wutgewes.

[Rutgers]

HANK (Actor 5)

Wowee! Rutgers University?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No, Wutgevs Schoow of Cosmetowogy. But my cowegues wewa jeawous. They waughed at my theowies of the powew of the mind. Using just my bwain, I could wift gweat weights - could fwy thwough the aiwa - could do a winse and a pewm [perm] in thiwty minutes for undew thiwty dowaws. They called me cwazy! Cwazy? Does that sound cwazy to you?

HANK (Actor 5)

You betcha. A perm for under thirty dollars does sound a little crazy.

SARAH (Actor 4)

[To Professor.]

You're not crazy, honey child. You can frost my tips anytime.

[Back to Hank (Actor 5).]

After you do a little switching, that is.

HANK (Actor 5)

[To Professor.]

Gee. You're really smart. And you've got a beautiful young wife. I'd give anything to be just like you, Professor.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

I think that could be awanged.

HANK (Actor 5)

I didn't do too good in science class, don't cha know. I thought that the theory of relativity was how you made babies. Have you been able to help others like me?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Oh, yes. Foh instance, Wug used to have the bwain of a small chinchiwa. Now he has the bwain of a slightly wawga [larger] chinchiwa.

LUG (Actor 3)

Lug smart now. Lug count to five.

Lug (Actor 3) stomps on the floor like a horse four times.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

One mowa, Wug.

LUG (Actor 3)

Oh.

[Stomping on the floor twice more.]

Lug genius.

SARAH (Actor 4)

Y'all are a goofus.

LUG (Actor 3)

Thank you.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Taking Hank (Actor 5) to the device.]

Wet me show you how this wouks.

[Demonstrating cables on the cones.]

This connects with the low-ah-most paht of the bwain – the meduwa obwongata.

HANK (Actor 5)

Medulla? Gee man-ee. Is that the lady with the snakes in her hair?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Pointing out another part.]

And this contwols the sensowry functions in the owfactowy wobe.

HANK (Actor 5)

I used to work in an ole factory, though we didn't make lobes.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

But this is the most impowtant paht –

[Putting the cone on Hank (Actor 5)'s head.]

– it twansfowms the neocouwtx.

HANK (Actor 5)

Oh, I saw that movie, don't you know - where Neo finds out he's living in the Cortex.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Now don't move!

[To Sarah (Actor 4).]

Are you weady?

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Going to the switch.]

I got what it takes, baby cakes.

HANK (Actor 5)

Jumping jeepers! Does this thing have electricity going through it?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Of couwse! How do you think I can make you smawt without a spawk?

HANK (Actor 5)

Well, that's oo-kay, ya know, because I'm from norderm Minnesoota, the land of snow and ice, and I'm just happy for a chance to warm up a little bit, don't cha know.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Putting the other cone on his head.]

And now – the moment of twuth! This is so exciting! But just a wittow bit scawy.

LUG (Actor 3)

[Going to the Professor.]

Don't be scared.

[Holding the Professor's hand.]

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Struggling to release his hand from Lug's.]

No, Wug! What did I tell you about touching people about to be switched?

SARAH (Actor 4)

[To Professor, oblivious of Lug's actions.]

Say when.

LUG (Actor 3)

[Obeying.]

"When."

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No!

Sarah (Actor 4) throws the switch.

SFX: Electronic-Versa-Vice machine

Hank, Lug and the Professor all quiver, as though being shocked.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[Taking off the cone.]

What happened? I don't feew any diffewent.

HANK (Actor 3)

Oooh, well, I feel a little different, by jiminy.

LUG (Actor 5)

[Taking off the cone.]

Lug feel funny, too.

SARAH (Actor 4)

Oh no! What in the blessed tarnation happened here?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

The switch went wrong!

[To Hank (Actor 3).]

Wug! I told you not to touch anyone!

Hank (Actor 3)

Aw, jeepers. I didn't do anything, for cripe's sake.

LUG (Actor 5)

Lug got new body!

[Tossing hair.]

Don't hate Lug 'cause he's beautiful!

[Exit.]

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

No! Wait!

[To Hank (Actor 3).]

Stop him!

SARAH (Actor 4)

[Rushing to Professor (Actor 1).]

Oh, sweetie pie, I was afraid you was gonna fry like a fritter!

HANK (Actor 3)

Golly, Professor. That guy looks like he could be my brother. Well, maybe not my brother, because I don't have one of those. But maybe my sister. Of course, only if she shaved her moustache --

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

An idiot in a mowon's body. You'wa usewess to me.

HANK (Actor 3)

Ya know, I don't really feel any smarter - but I sure seemed to have bulked up all of a sudden. Ooh, my goodness, where did I get these shoes? They look like army boots, don't cha know. Sorta like the ones my dad used to wear. No, no, wait, I think that was my mother -

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

[To Sarah (Actor 4).]

We've got to do the switch oveou.

SARAH (Actor 4)

Yes, but first we have to get -

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Yes! - What's his name!

[Pause.]

But whewe is he?

SARAH (Actor 4)

He can't be far. He's got Lug's brain now. So he's still one bulb short of a tulip patch.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

We'll spwit up. Whoevah finds him fauhst bwings him back heou.

SARAH (Actor 4)

What if he won't come?

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

We must find a way to twick him into it! Use youwa feminine wiwes [wiles].

SARAH (Actor 4)

Oh, yeah

[Looking at herself.]

I keep fer-getting that I have them now!

[Seductively.]

All righty then, I'll find a way of persuading him.

PROFESSOR (Actor 1)

Excewent! I wiw use my supewiow intewect and compwete the twansfowmation! And in a wittew whiwe, I wiw be enjoying youw wiwes. [wiles]

[Exits laughing.]

HANK (Actor 3)

Come to think of it - they look exactly like my grandmother's army boots, by golly!

SARAH (Actor 4)

[To audience.]

He may be speaking in complete sentences now - but he's still so dumb, he could throw himself on the ground and miss.

[Exit.]

HANK (Actor 3)

Wait a minute!

[Picking up the mirror.]

Augh! I'm Wug! I mean - Lug! But I'm Hank! At least, I think I am. Maybe I just think I'm Hank, but I'm really Lug thinking I'm Hank. I think I need help.

[Picking up the phone and dialing.]

Hello? Ma?

HANK'S MOM

[An audience member.]

Hankie, dear. Are you all right? You sound a little constipated. Have you been getting enough fiber?

HANK (Actor 3)

This bad man took my brain and put it in another body - and it's big and lumpy and smelly.

HANK'S MOM

Oh, Hankie. You're just having a nightmare. Like that time you watched "Snow White" and you thought you'd turned into a dwarf.

HANK (Actor 3)

Dad short-sheeted my bed! I want my blankie.

HANK'S MOM

Oh, sweetheart, it's in the wash. With that little Snuggle bear you like so much. Try sucking your thumb.

HANK (Actor 3)

[Putting thumb in mouth.]

Ptewie! It tastes like pig.

HANK'S MOM

I gotta go, Hankie. Your dad's been in the cider again. He's trying to milk the cows with my Dustbuster.