

Flambé Dreams

A musical comedy in two acts.

Characters: *Flambé Dreams* is designed to be performed by five actors 2M 3F

Actor 1: Male late 20s Bari-Tenor Ab2-G4 Caucasian

JOE CHRISTIANSEN Having led a sheltered life in Preston Utah he now dreams of moving to a larger metropolitan city where he hopes to become a Maitre' d like his father once was. Joe takes medication to control his anxious nature. He is obsessive compulsive and a little manic.

Actor 2: Female 50s Alto - A3-Eb5 Caucasian

ELAINE CHRISTIANSEN A widow who's husband passed away leaving her to raise their child Joe on her own. She is a strong opinionated woman who works as a child psychiatrist in the small town of Preston Idaho. She is an overprotective mother with a dark secret.

Actor 3: Female Late 20s Soprano C4-A5 Any Ethnicity.

GLORIA a beautiful Duane Reade Pharmacist

JULIE ANDREWS from The Sound of Music
Waiter, Shopgirl

Actor 4: Male 40-50. Bari-Tenor A2-A4 Any Ethnicity.

JOE'S FATHER a great Maitre d'

JACK the elderly Maitre d' of The Curly Potato

RIVER the owner of a holistic tearoom

MR. YASHINOYA the owner of the Speedy Happy Noodle Shop and Internet Cafe

ÉMILE the Maitre d' of Le Cirque

Cab Driver, Motel Clerk, Restaurant Managers, Cop

Actor 5: Female 20s-30s Mezzo up to E5 Any Ethnicity.

DESIREE a prostitute

GLADYS another Duane Reade pharmacist, Gloria's best friend

TOULOUSE the head waiter at Le Cirque

D.D. aka DELICIOUS DISH a beautiful statuesque fetishist with a thing for Maitre d's
Waiter, Shopgirl

(In the Prologue Actors 1,3 & 5 play waiters and patrons.)

Synopsis

Joe Christiansen dreams of becoming a great Maitre d' like his father, who was tragically killed twenty years earlier in a freak flaming Bananas Foster accident. But Joe lives in Preston, a tiny town in Idaho, with only one fancy restaurant and only one Maitre d' position. After seven years of waitering and preparing to assume the position of Maitre d', Joe learns that the restaurant will be torn down to make way for a new shopping mall...and malls don't have fancy restaurants--they have food courts.

Joe decides that he must move to a bigger city with fancier restaurants, like New York City, home of Le Cirque--the greatest restaurant on earth! But Joe's Mother, Preston's premiere child psychiatrist, worries that her son will not be able to handle the stresses of a big city. Having diagnosed her son with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder at a young age, she has provided him with a constant stream of medications that help him cope with the disorder and function in society.

A trial period is agreed upon, and Joe heads off to try his luck in New York City. But nothing is easy in New York and Joe is faced with one challenge after another that try his faculties to handle life in the big city and make it in the dog-eat-dog world of fancy restaurateuring.

Having grown up without a father figure in his life, Joe is quick to make mentors of his employers and follows their advice to less-than-stellar results. There is River, the owner of a holistic tearoom who extols the wonders of the adult toy industry; Mr. Yashinoya, the owner of a cyber café who turns Joe onto internet dating; and Emile, the Maitre d' of Le Cirque, who takes Joe on as his protégé and teaches him the secrets of becoming a successful Maitre d'. Joe must also navigate romantic entanglements with Gloria, his off-kilter pharmacist, and Didi, a self-serving temptress with a fetish for Maitre d's.

After much perseverance, Joe sees his goal in sight. He has achieved the position of head waiter at the famed Le Cirque Restaurant and is on the fast-track to becoming a Maitre d'. But Joe's mother, fearing that she may lose her son forever, reveals a dark secret that causes Joe to suffer a complete breakdown. In a fit of distraught bravado, Joe accidentally burns down Le Cirque, loses the girl he thought he loved and winds up destitute in the streets begging for hand sanitizer.

But just when things seem the darkest, Joe's long suffering pharmacist Gloria, comes to Joe's aid. Gloria helps Joe to find his connection with his father, forgive his mother, and claim ownership of his dreams...and everything ends happily -- in New Jersey.