

Costume America
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Costume Plot "Arsenic and Old Lace"

Setting: 1940s, Brooklyn, NY

Plot: When Mortimer decides to tell his spinster aunts that he is marrying Elaine, the woman he loves, he discovers their nasty secret. The aunts have been taking in "strays" and murdering them with a clever concoction of Elderberry wine, laced with arsenic, strychnine, and cyanide. Their reasoning that no one will miss the men they kill nearly sends Mortimer over the edge and he begs them to stop. That night, as they are ready to bury a man in "the panama canal" (their basement), Jonathan arrives, disrupting the whole thing as he takes the house hostage. The police show up, only to aggravate the situation and the whole family barely makes it through the night with their heads.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: **January 15th – April 30th, costume orders of 20 costumes or less may incur a 10% upcharge per item. **We reserve the right to impose a \$200 surcharge on all 'Show' orders with less than 3 week-notice (deposit, actual costume needs circled on plot, & correct cast measurements)*

2 weeks flat rate pricing for all complete costumes including accessories, alterations, repairs & cleaning is \$75 unless noted otherwise or as part of a seasonal special. Ask about additional volume discounts

Mortimer Brewster (a drama critic):

2 or 3 piece suit, suspenders, shirt, tie, fedora

Aunt Abby Brewster

- 1) High neck Victoria style dress, apron
- 2) Black Victorian era "mourning" outfit, large hat with veil, black gloves – mid calf

Aunt Martha Brewster

- 1) Victorian style dress, apron
- 2) Black Victorian era "mourning" outfit, large hat with veil, black gloves – mid calf

Teddy Brewster (Mortimer's crazy brother):

- 1) Tan "Rough Rider" jacket, tan military pants, blue belt, black boot covers
- 2) Tan "Safari" shirt, tan shorts, tan belt, white leggings/knee socks, pith hat

Elaine Harper (Mortimer's girlfriend):

1940's style day dress, hat, gloves, purse

Jonathan Brewster (Mortimer's evil brother):

Dark 2or3 piece suit, suspenders, shirt, tie, fedora

Dr. Einstein (Jonathan's associate/plastic surgeon):

Dark 2or3 piece suit, suspenders, shirt tie, fedora

Officer Klein:

Navy or Black police officer's uniform, police hat, badge, nightstick

Officer Brophy:

Navy or Black police officer's uniform, police hat, badge, nightstick

Officer O'Hara (wannabe author):

Navy or Black police officer's uniform, police hat, badge, nightstick

Lieutenant Rooney:

2 or 3 piece suit, suspenders, shirt, tie, police badge, fedora

The Rev. Dr. Harper (Elaine's father):

Black priest shirt, white collar, black pants, black hat OR 2pc suit, dark shirt, priest collar, fedora

Mr. Witherspoon (A victim):

2 or3 pc suit, suspenders, shirt, tie, hat

Mr. Gibbs (A victim):

2 or3 pc suit, suspenders, shirt, tie, hat

We carry and recommend the use of Barrier Spray to keep makeup ON the actors and OFF our costumes. Sold in our online store - \$14.99 per bottle, or we can manually add it to your rental order.

Special Notes:

All costumes are based on our interpretation. At times, it may be necessary to send costumes that are not exactly what is described, due to sizing or availability but we guarantee that costumes will always suit the character.

For local shows, we offer 2 types of on-site visits by a costumer.

1) We can come and correctly measure your cast,

or

2) We can visit during costume first dress - critique by actor and make minor adjustments to costumes, or asses if an alternate costume is needed, along with any wardrobe help that can be addressed within 2 hours on site.

These visits each are available for \$200 for 2 hours (Nassau & Western Suffolk)
(\$350 if both are chosen)

\$250 for 2 hours (Eastern Suffolk and Queens). (\$450 if both are chosen)

For local shows, costumes may be delivered and picked up by store employees for an additional fee (\$50 for Nassau/Western Suffolk each way. \$85.00 each way Eastern Suffolk and Queens).

Prices quoted are for up to 2 weeks out of shop. Additional time is at pro-rated costs:
3rd week ½ rate, 4th week ¼ rate.

All shipping costs out & back are in addition to costume rates and will be added to the final bill before shipping (once order is bagged & boxed)