

## Ophelia's Puzzle

Where: Big TV

Flipping the channels I discover an episode of Hollywood Squares where everyone acts finicky.

HOST: Hello, and welcome to Classic Hollywood Squares. Let's jump right in and say hello to our contestants, Xavier and Ophelia.

XAVIER, OPHELIA: Hello, Hi Tom.

HOST: Xavier, you won the coin toss.

XAVIER: I'll take Paul Lynde in the center.

HOST: Paul, how's it feel to be back from the dead?

PAUL: Great, but could you get the guy right above me to stop with the jumping jacks. They're driving me crazy!

HOST: I'll see what we can do. Paul, what guarantees Americans the right to bear arms?

PAUL: Charlton Heston beating up Michael Moore. (laughter). No seriously, I think that's the \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: I'll take Montel Williams.

HOST: Montel. How's the show doing?

MONTEL: Pretty good. I'm just glad I'm not sitting next to either of the other two talk show hosts.

HOST: What an odd thing to say. Montel, in what movie features

the immortal line "Houston, we have a problem."

MONTEL: "Whitney's Day At Rehab" (laughter). Actually, I love this movie. It's \_\_\_\_\_

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: How about Charo?

HOST: How about her? Charo, what famous painting can be seen on the walls of the Santa Maria delle Grazie convent in Milan?

CHARO: Nuns Playing Poker? (laughter) I think it's \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Richard Simmons to block.

HOST: Richard, what speech did Woodrow Wilson deliver on January 8, 1918, detailing how to establish peace after World War I?

RICHARD SIMMONS: Before I answer the question, can you please tell this puppet next to me to stop flinging "poop" over here. Anyway, that would be the \_\_\_\_\_ speech.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: Let's go with Tina Fey.

HOST: Tina, what non-profit organization offers alcohol-free festivities to help celebrate New Year's Eve in numerous cities around the country?

TINA FEY: Dick Cheney's Fun-busters. (laughter). Sorry, that's really \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Topher Grace to block.

HOST: Topher, what 1972 film gained notoriety for its sex scenes with Marlon Brando and Maria Schneider?

TOPHER GRACE: Marlon Brando had sex? In a movie? Ugh. (laughter). I think that was \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: Let's go with Triumph.

HOST: Triumph, the Insult Comic Dog. How are you?

TRIUMPH: Just lovely. Why don't I have a trap door here. I want to see down Tina Fey's blouse.

HOST: Okay, we'll have to edit that comment out. Triumph, what 1962 best-seller includes a character named Nurse Ratched?

TRIUMPH: The Joy of Poop. (no laughter). I kid, I kid. It was \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Ellen Degeneres to block.

HOST: Ellen, what song includes the lyrics "Fighters and sailors and bowlegged tailors can pay for their ticket and rent me!"

ELLEN DEGENERES: Popeye the Hooker Man? (laughter) That's gotta be \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: I guess that leaves Caroline Rhea.

HOST: Caroline, how's it going up there?

CAROLINE: Just great. I love being the only woman in this row.

HOST: Here's the question. What term is used to display the scores of players in a golf game?

CAROLINE: Tigertron. (mild laughter). Alright, that sucked eggs. It's a \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square and wins game 1. Congratulations. On to game 2, Ophelia, you'll start.

OPHELIA: Paul Lynde in the center.

HOST: Paul, if you went to a grocery store and bought what was once known as Bib-Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Soda, what did you just get?

PAUL LYNDE: A mouthful. Geesh, who named that drink, Tolstoy? (laughter). I guess that would be \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: Ellen Degeneres.

HOST: Hey Ellen, what band released an album titled "Pretty Hate Machine" in 1989?

ELLEN DEGENERES: That sounds like a Debbie Gibson or Tiffany album to me. (laughter) Actually, that's \_\_\_\_\_. I have a copy of it at home.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Tina Fey please.

HOST: Okay, going to the left side of the board. Tina, the infamous Dead Man's Hand in poker is what rank?

TINA FEY: Supreme Commander. (mild laughter). Speaking of rank, can you do something about Paul? Geesh. Do you want the specific cards?

HOST: No, just the rank.

TINA: Okay, that's \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: I'll go for the block.

HOST: Back over to Topher. What includes three running events, three throwing events, two jumps, a hurdles and a vault?

TOPHER GRACE: A fight at the Osbournes. (laughter). I'll say a \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Over to Caroline Rhea.

HOST: Caroline, what 1964 film by director John Frankenheimer involves a military plot to take over the US Government?

CAROLINE RHEA: 1964. I wasn't even born then. (raucous laughter). (glares left to the audience) Nice, nice, thanks. That's the film \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: Montel to block.

HOST: Montel, what snacks, usually frosted cakes cut into small pieces, literally means "small oven"?

MONTEL WILLIAMS: Easy-Bake Mud Pies. (laughter). My sister used to make them all the time. I think they are \_\_\_\_\_.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: Let's try Charo.

CHARO: Coochie-coo!

HOST: Coochie-coo Charo. Charo, where is the focus of an earthquake?

CHARO: In my bedroom, honey. (wild laughter). Everybody knows the focus of an earthquake is the \_\_\_\_\_.

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square.

XAVIER: Richard Simmons to block.

HOST: Staying fit up there Richard? Here's a question. What are green, purple and orange collectively?

RICHARD SIMMONS: Bad drink colors (laughter)! Those are \_\_\_\_\_, if I remember art school correctly.

XAVIER: I'll agree.

HOST: X gets the square.

OPHELIA: I guess that leaves Triumph.

TRIUMPH: Finally. I come on this show and get ignored for the entire time...

HOST: Triumph, who led England during the American Revolution?

TRIUMPH: Who the hell cares, heh? You know, I poop bigger

things than you, you overblown windbag. You give me these lame cards with these stupid jokes that were written by Murray the tailor back in 1950, and they weren't funny then. Hmmmph. Its \_\_\_\_\_. No, I don't have a joke. The card says I should say Margaret Thatcher because she's old. Very funny. About as funny as Topher banging Erika Chastain in Traffic.

(long pause)

OPHELIA: I'll agree.

HOST: Circle gets the square. Ophelia wins game 2! Let's go to the tiebreaker. Well, we actually don't have a tiebreaker. So congratulations to our contestants on their draw.