

Scene I

Benny Beagle:	<i>(speaking directly to the audience)</i> Welcome to Doggie Town, Where cats stay clear and dogs get down! We'll introduce ourselves to you. I'm Benny the Beagle through and through.
Connie Irish Setter:	<i>(with an Irish accent)</i> Ay' me mateys, if you are a better, Bet on me, I'm an Irish Setter.
Patty Pointer:	<i>(pointing all over the place)</i> Look there! Look there! Look here at me! Patty Pointer, can't you see?
Bailey Basset Hound:	Look down here, close to the ground. Bailey here, a Basset Hound.
Terry Terrier:	We've got boxers and huskies And oodles of poodles, Shepherds and Greyhounds As skinny as noodles.
Chi Chi Chihuahua:	Some of us are tiny
Alfie Afghan:	Some are very tall!
Bernie Saint Bernard:	But one thing for sure,
Rodney Rottweiler:	You're gonna love us all!
Polly Pomeranian:	Hey everybody, I have big news. If you don't listen up, you snooze, you lose! Someone left a message on the garden wall. I tried to get it down, but I'm just too small.
Patty Pointer:	<i>(pointing)</i> It's over there! It's over there, Hanging on the wall, high up in the air.
Rex Retriever:	I'll get it! <i>(runs to get a poster that is hung on the wall)</i>

Polly Pomeranian: That's Rex.

All: *(to the audience)*
He's a retriever.

(Rex runs back with the rolled up poster in his mouth.)

Poodle-aycious: Give it up, Rex, you'll soak it with drool.
I can read it; I've been to training school.

(Rex drops the poster at Poodle-aycious' feet)

Bernie Saint Bernard: I'll hold it for you, with no complaint.

Poodle-aycious: Thank you, Bernard. You are a Saint.

(Bernard holds the poster open so Poodle-aycious can read it.)

All: What does it say?

Poodle-aycious: *(reading to herself and then reacting very excitedly)*
Oh!!!

All: What?

Poodle-aycious: *(even more excited)*
OH!!!

All: What?!

Poodle-aycious: *(the most excited)*
OH!!!

All: What does it say?!

Poodle-aycious: It says...the judges of the world famous Wurstchester Dog Show are coming to Doggie Town. It says they are looking for new talent to star in their show at Madison Square Garden in New York City!!

Benny Beagle: Wurstchester Dog Show!

Alfie Afghan: New York City!!!

Poodle-aycious: *(striking a pose)*
Talent!!

Lady Labrador: This is news we just can't ignore.
The best news I've heard since I left Labrador.

Shar Pei: Oh, how exciting. I'd love to go!

Siberian Husky: We better get ready to put on a show.

Shar Pei: I'm sure they'll like me. I'm Shar Pei.
Let's show them our best and make their day.

Terry Terrier: The Germans are coming! They're ready to sing.

Tara Terrier: That Shepherd of theirs can howl anything!

Bernie Saint Bernard: *(shaking his head doubtfully)*
Oh, I don't know if this is a good idea.

Tara Terrier: Oh, but Poodle-aycious loves those "hund."
(to the audience) That's German for "dog."

All: *(pleading)* Let them sing!

Bernie Saint Bernard: Okay, let them sing. Let's hear from each one.
But I'm keeping my eye on that last Doberman!

General German Shepherd: Raus! Raus!
Mach schnell, get in line!
This is our chance to really shine!

Bernie Saint Bernard: Some of us seem way too big.

Polly Pomeranian: And some seem way too small!

Lady Labrador: But that's the way it has to be.
We're puppies, after all!

Chi Chi Chihuahua: Look Rover,
It's not your breed that will win this show,
You ought to take it from me.
It's what goes on inside of you
The judges want to see.

Rover: Really, Chi Chi Chihuahua?
Is that really true?
Do you think there is a place for me,
Like there is a place for you?

Chi Chi Chihuahua: Sure. Listen, here's a lesson I had to learn a long time ago.

(all are encouraging her)

Rover: *(shyly)*
Well, there is one thing,
But I can't show it to you.

All: *(ad libs)* What is it? What is it? What's your special trick?!

Rover: It's – Shakespeare!

All: What?

Rover: Shakespeare. I recite Shakespeare!

Poodle-aycious: You can't be serious.
I don't believe it.
Many dogs have tried,
But none could achieve it.

Bernie Saint Bernard: Give her a chance,
You never know,
A dog reading Shakespeare
Would certainly steal the show.

Rover: Well, I don't know...

(All the dogs drop to their knees and pant with their tongues out like they're begging. Some ad lib ... "Oh please! Oh please!" "Please recite something for us." "Please, we're begging you!" etc.)

Rover: *(stands and clears her throat)*
From Julius Caesar, Act 4 Scene 3. "I'd rather be a dog, and bay the moon, than such a Roman."

All: *(gasp, applaud, and then ad lib)*
Bravo! Bravo! Do another one! Do another one!

Rover: From The Merchant of Venice, Act 3 Scene 3. "Thou callest me a dog before thou hast cause. But since I am a dog, beware my fangs."

All: *(applaud and ad lib)* Bravo! Magnificent! Sheer poetry.

Poodle-aycious: Well, I've never heard anything quite like that.
If he doesn't win, I'm an old tomcat!

All: *(with disgust)* Ewwwww!

Shar Pei: Another letter has arrived from the judges!
It's a little wet and covered with smudges.

Patty Pointer: *(pointing)* It's over there!

(Nobody moves)

Patty Pointer: *(to Rex the Retriever)* It's over there!! *(pointing)*

(Still no one moves.)

All: *(to Rex)* Fetch!!!

Rex Retriever: *(He suddenly realizes that this is his job.)* I'll get it!

(He fetches it, and Poodle-aycious reads it.)

Poodle-aycious: It says:
The contest is about to start.
We're looking for dogs with very big hearts.
And if you know literature when you begin,
You'll be the dog that is certain to win!

Rex Retriever: It sounds to me like Rover
Is the guaranteed winner!

Benny Beagle: This contest is over!
Let's go have some dinner!

Chi Chi Chihuahua: Biscuits for everyone!

Bernie Saint Bernard: And a keg of root beer!

Rodney Rottweiler: And for our friend Rover,
Let's all give a cheer!
Hip Hip!