

# Hi Tech

## Wes Wetzel





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***We help older performers fulfill their theatrical dreams!***

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# HI TECH

by Wes Wetzel

## CAST

MAN

WIFE

VOICES: (Can be played by one actor or several actors) RECORDED VOICE, GLORIA, SERVICE, MISS DOOLITTLE, CUSTOMER AFFAIRS, DELILAH, MORGAN LIKELEE

*Setting: Can be a blank stage, or the original stage setting, which consisted of an overstuffed chair, a small stand with a brochure of Tomorrow' Electronics in the drawer, and on top sits a TV remote. On the other side of the stage is a long narrow table with a roll-around chair behind it for the phone operator who plays seven different voices, RECORDED VOICE, GLORIA, SERVICE, MISS DOOLITTLE, CUSTOMER AFFAIRS, DELILAH, and MORGAN LIKELEE. Her clothes for each station are available on the table behind a short sign indicating the name of that character. At Service, in which she is a man, she throws off her skirt (wearing appropriate underclothing) and slips into obviously oversized men's pants and sticks on a fake mustache. The rolling chair allows the operator to roll from one costume to another as she frantically changes clothes, with wigs and clothes flying in all directions, before she answers each call in her new persona.*

*At Rise: The MAN walks on stage with a drink in his hand. His eyeglasses are on his forehead. He slowly moves around to the overstuffed chair. Sitting down, relaxing, he takes a sip of his drink, sets down his glass, and picks up his remote control for the TV and looks out over the audience where his imaginary TV is.*

MAN: Honey, do you know where the new TV paperwork is? The T.V. is stuck.

WIFE: *(offstage voice)* I think there's a brochure to the Tomorrow's Electronics Company in that drawer in the little table by you.

MAN: *(opens the drawer and takes out the brochure)* I found it. I'm going to give them a call to see if they can help. *(Picks up the brochure to read)* Honey, do you know where my glasses are?

WIFE: *(offstage voice)* I don't see them in here. Are they on your forehead, dear?

MAN: *(reaches up, finds his glasses & puts them on)* Thanks, honey. It's a good thing my nose is attached. *(reading from the brochure)* Oh, here it is. The number is 1-800-Hiitech. *(With great to-do, searching for the letters on the phone spelling aloud and dialing.)* 1-8-0-0-H-I-I-T-E-C-H. *(Offstage, several rings until the recorded voice answers)*

RECORDED VOICE: *(holding her nose when she talks)* Thank you for calling Tomorrow's Electronics. If you want to pay a bill, press 1 now. If you want Tomorrow's catalog of equipment, press 2 now. If you want the locations of our retail outlets, press 3 now. If you want service, press 4 now. If you want our price list in British currency, press pound now. If you know your party's extension, you may dial it now. If you want to talk to a real person, please hold. *(offstage phone music until GLORIA answers)*

GLORIA: *(changing in front of audience into heavy glasses, putting on lipstick, and a pencil behind the ear before answering)* Hello, this is Gloria. How may I direct your call?

MAN: An actual person? Thank you, Gloria *(he writes down her name)* I've got a problem with my new TV. My grandson played with the remote yesterday and all I can get is an advertisement that says, "Order Tomorrow's movies today, just \$9.99 if you order before April Fool's Day." No matter what I do, I can't get any programs.

GLORIA: Let me connect you to Service. *(rings until SERVICE answers)*

SERVICE: *(she puts on a baseball cap, a stick-on mustache, and as she takes off her skirt and puts on a pair of obviously oversize men's pants, she says)* What is this? These must be Jack's, these aren't mine. Hello, this is Service. We are all away from our desks right now. Please leave your name and number and we will return your call as soon as possible. *(offstage music)*

MAN: *(frustrated)* Operator, operator, operator!

## **END OF FREEVIEW**

**You'll want to read and perform this show!**