

The Fabulous McGillicuddy Sisters



Winken, Blinken and Noddy, “the Fabulous McGillicuddy Sisters,” had just concluded a standing room only show at Omaha’s Dew Drop Inn Dinner Theater. True, it was standing room only *only* because all the Inn’s chairs had been sent out for re-upholstering, but the Sisters would take an SRO however they could get one. But basking in this dubious limelight was not the reason the three young women now stood nervously in front of the Inn’s manager. During their final synchronized “I Am Women” routine, they had been bombarded by an array of high-intensity strobe lights. Almost at once, a weird, flowery growth sprouted on each McGillicuddy: Winken’s and Noddy’s on their heads, Blinken’s on her bum. The three were convinced that the growths were deleterious, because ever since the lights ceased flashing, Winken and Noddy had suffered terrible migraines and Blinken could no longer sit down without piles-like discomfort. The manager, a Miss Fafner, produced her shows on the slimmest of profit margins. She had no interest in dealing with possible work-related injuries. With a “there’s nothing I can do” shrug, she handed Blinken a copy of the contract she had helpfully signed for them. Circled in red was Article XIV: “In cases where performance results in deleterious growth on the premises of the performer, Dew Drop Inn Dinner Theater shall be held harmless and under no circumstances, either written or implied, be liable for any and all consequences of said growth.” Something in the language – possibly repetition of the word *growth* – must have struck a chord in the normally docile sisters, because suddenly, Blinken reached across the desk, pulled Miss Fafner out of her chair, and – well, what happened next is simply too gruesome to recount here. However, at the trial, a reputable mountebank testified that the McGillicuddys were almost certainly under the growths’ control and should not be held accountable for their actions. The judge agreed and found each of them not guilty of ... well, of whatever.