

Nettie and Betty



Nettie and Betty Dinklaker were identical twins with a remarkable identical talent: they could remove their heads as easily as you or I might doff a hat. They usually re-attached without a hitch, too. The twins learned to do this in kindergarten, which spooked Miss Beezer, their teacher, out of her wits. During the grade school years, they developed more sophisticated head-removal routines, including trading heads with each other. (They didn't quite fit – the sisters weren't *that* identical.) In high school, their music teacher devised an intricate marching band routine that featured Nettie and Betty juggling a handful of heads – two of which, of course, were real, making for an amusing finale. But otherwise, the noggin-on/noggin-off shtick didn't open doors for them in the entertainment industry as they'd hoped. Well, what could you expect in a small Midwestern town whose culture revolved around sock hops, the high school yearbook, and the local protactinium factory? So when one day an agent from the Flederer Family Circus showed up with an offer of *limited* fame and fortune, the two girls didn't hesitate. They signed a contract that put them in front of dozens of aficionados of the off-kilter in the circus' Sideshow of Abnormalation for two shows a day, six days a week. Oh sure, at first they dreamt of taking the act to Las Vegas. But their telegrams to casino moguls there went unanswered. And besides, the Flederers were such a *nice* family. Twenty-one years later, Nettie and Betty agree: they're *still* a nice family!