**LEADING PLAYER & PLAYERS**

LEADING PLAYER

Ladies and Gentlemen! This evening, for your entertainment pleasure, we present our most mysterious

and miraculous tale. A stunning example of...

PLAYER 1

Magic!

PLAYER 2

Merriment!

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You will witness acts of

PLAYER 3

Lust!

PLAYER 1

Murder!

PLAYER 2

Holy war!

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And a climax…a climax you will remember for the rest of your lives.

LEADING PLAYER (CONT’D)

Our tale today concerns the firstborn son of Charlemagne…and is entitled... Pippin, his Life and Times!

But before we begin, there have been many misconceptions about Pippin. One that he was…

PLAYER 1

A hunchback.

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That he was…

PLAYER 2

Enormously tall.

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That he was…

PLAYER 3

Extremely short.

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That he was…

PLAYER 1

Completely bald at the age of fourteen.

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But I beg you, cast all previous misconceptions aside. Our story begins as Pippin’s childhood ends…

PLAYER 2

His last day at the University of Padua, where his father had sent him…

PLAYER 3

… so that he might embark upon his life with a maximum of choices...

PLAYER 1

...and possibilities.

PLAYER 2

Pippin so distinguished himself at University that the faculty bestowed upon him

the special title of --

ALL

“Scholar of the House.”

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And Pippin responded in his own deeply moving words …

*(All of the PLAYERS look toward PIPPIN. Awkward silence).*

He may be a little nervous. This is his first time playing the role.