

## ROCKY HORROR ETIQUETTE

# (OR HOW TO HAVE FUN AT ROCKY WITHOUT ANNOYING OTHERS)

The difference between a true RHPS fan and someone just out for a rowdy time can be seen in their manners and etiquette. Here are some guidelines that should be deemed necessary by anyone looking to perpetuate our experiences of "absolute pleasure":

The throwing of rice, toilet paper, water, etc. is part of the fun. It is not meant to harm people, ruin someone's make-up or costume, or cause damage to the theater.

Never make fun of someone for "dressing up" - especially if their costume or make-up is not exact. The point is that their heart is in it and this might discourage them or others from ever returning in costume and that's what this cult's all about, isn't it?

Respect the wishes of this theater and its management. Vandalism and the breaking of rules might not only lead to your ejection, but to the closing of the film. This would only be spoiling it for everyone.

Calling Brad an "asshole" and "neck lines" to the criminologist are funny in their proper place, but should not be yelled every time you see these characters' faces. It does get boring and monotonous.

#### TIPS FOR FIRST TIMERS

#### (OR WHAT WE LIKE TO CALL "VIRGINS")

**VIRGIN** - In the common world, this usually refers to a person who has not engaged in sexual relations. In the **ROCKY HORROR** world, this word refers to the many unfortunate people who have never experienced THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (RHPS) in a theater with an audience. Seeing it on video or DVD doesn't count! Neither does seeing it on TV!

Rocky Horror is the first and only true audience partici-(SAY IT!)-pation movie. People yell back lines at the screen during the extended pauses between dialogue, dress up in costume and act out the film, and throw props various times during the film. The audience participation phenomenon was observed as early as the film's first run in 1975 (when it bombed during limited engagements in 7 of 8 cities), and was later re-released as a midnight movie where the audience participation really began to flourish. And by the way, for the "gore sensitive", Rocky Horror is NOT a horror film. It is a rockmusical send-up of old science-fiction and horror films.

Enough history! You have bought a ticket, so here's what you really need to know.

First, the only thing you really need to bring your first time out in order to have fun is a sense of humor. Of course, being surrounded by 10-15 of your friends is also a good thing. You should dress in whatever makes YOU feel comfortable, but also does not violate any local standards (this usually means nudity is out.) If you decide you want to jump right in though, by all means, please come dressed in costume for the costume contest and greater fun.

But hey, what about the props and audience participation lines? Well, no one expects you to know much of anything your first time out. While audience participation is mandatory to keep the show alive, it is not mandatory that everyone participate, every time. Virgins are not expected to know a damn thing (just like in sex.)

If you really want to bring props, check the list included in this packet. The safest ones to bring are rice, toast (unbuttered), toilet paper and a deck of cards. Watch everyone else to figure out when to throw these items.

Oh, and if you need to know one AP line, there is one that is almost universal to every theater, that you can use multiple times. Whenever you hear the name "Brad Majors", yell "ASSHOLE", okay? An important note here: AP is NOT fixed from theater to theater and night to night. If you feel a new line coming on, YELL IT! A big part of keeping the show fresh is creating new lines with topical humor. (i.e. "Is Jessica Simpson a real dildo?" film: "YES!"

Hmmmm... sounds interesting. I am not going to be targeted for some humiliation because I am a virgin, right? Maybe. But REMEMBER: Rocky Horror is like sex, you can only have one first time, so make the most of it and "give yourself over to absolute pleasure".

#### ROCKY PROPLIST

# (A BASIC LIST OF PROPS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEIR USE IN PARTICIPATION TO RHPS.)

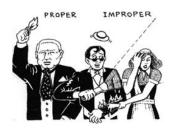
Rice: At the beginning of the film is the wedding of Ralph Hapschatt and Betty Munroe. As the newlyweds exit the church, you should throw the rice along with the on-screen wedding guests.



Newspapers: When Brad and Janet are caught in the storm, Janet covers her head with a newspaper The "Plain Dealer". At this point, you should likewise cover your head.



Flashlights, cellphones: During the "There's a light" verse of "Over at the Frankenstein Place, "you should light up the theater with flashlights, cellphones, etc.



**Rubber gloves:** During and after the creation speech, Frank snaps his rubber gloves three times. Later, Magenta pulls these gloves off his hands. You should snap your gloves in sync each time to create a fantastic sound effect.



Noisemakers: At the end of the creation speech, the Transylvanians respond with applause and noisemakers. You should do the same.



**Toilet paper:** When Dr. Scott enters the lab, Brad cries out "Great Scott!" At this point, you should hurl rolls of toilet paper into the air (preferably Scotts).



**Toast:** When Frank proposes a toast at dinner, members of the audience throw toast into the air (preferably unbuttered... things could get sticky).



Party hat: At the dinner table, when Frank puts on a party hat, you should do the same.



**Bell:** During the song "Planet Schmanet Janet," ring the bell when Frank sings "Did you hear a bell ring?"

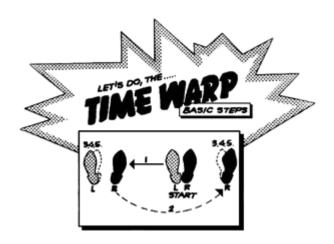


Cards: During the song "I'm Going Home," Frank sings "Cards for sorrow, cards for pain". At this point you should shower the theater with cards.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TIME WARP!

(A ROCKY MUST!)



- 1. (It's just a) JUMP TO THE LEFT, with hands UP.
- **2. A STEP TO THE RIGHT** (Time-Warper ANNETTE FUNICELLO suggests a very WIDE step.)
- **3.\*** (With your hands on your HIPS) **YOU BRING YOUR KNEES IN TIGHT**.
- **4.** (Then) **THE PELVIC THRUST** (if repeated FIVE times, it nearly drives you insa-a-ane)
- **5. HIPSWIVEL** (if not driven insa-a-ane by step four)
- 6. LET'S DO THE TIME WARP AGAIN!