

014 FRANK

How we looking, Marshall, er, Mr. Director?

015 MARSHALL

Looking good, Frank. Now where is the Bishop? He should be on set, we need to start rehearsals. The live show is only a few hours away!

016 CLARENCE

He's in hair and make up, sir. He tried to refuse, but-

017 FRANK

Refuse? This show is up against Frank Sinatra and Milton Berle, for Pete's sake!

018 MARSHALL

A Bishop vs. The two biggest shows on television? What could go wrong?
(sighing)
They're calling our time the obituary slot.

019 FRANK

Maybe we should ask the Bishop to rehearse last rites as well?

CREW LAUGHS AND SNICKER.

020 FRANK

Clarence, we're gonna need more coffee.

(then)

And go get that bishop on set for rehearsal!

MUSIC CRESCENDOS AND FADES INTO...

6 INT. HAIR AND MAKE UP - CONTINUOUS

Fulton J. Sheen sits in the chair, as ROSE does him up.

021 FULTON

I'll be honest, Rose, I've never had my hair and make up done.

022 ROSE

It's just a little something to make those eyes pop. Oh, and last thing, let me set your zu...ccini-

START >>

023 FULTON
(laughing)
Zucchetto.

024 ROSE
So sorry. Now are you sure you want
to wear all of this on camera?

025 FULTON
Oh I must wear my cassock and cape.
Let the country see me as I am!

026 ROSE
Okay. If you say so. This Bishop
stuff is all new to me.

027 FULTON
And this *TV stuff* is all new to me.

CLARENCE ENTERS.

028 CLARENCE
Pardon me, they're ready for you on
set, sir. Father, Er, Bishop Sheen.

029 FULTON
By all means, lead the way!

7

INT. STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

THE CHAOS SETTLES AS FULTON ARRIVES TO SET.

030 FRANK
Bishop Sheen, welcome to set. Here
is your first mark, and-

031 FULTON
Oh, actually-

032 MARSHALL
Is there a problem, Bishop?

033 FULTON
I intend to start and end the
broadcast in front of the statue of
the Blessed Virgin, right here.

034 MARSHALL
Well, sure, we can make that
change, can't we Frank?

035 FRANK
(gritted teeth)
Of course, we can.

CONT'D >>

036 FULTON

Oh, and maybe we bring these bookshelves closer to set? So the audience can feel like they're in my study. I am a Bishop, yes, but also a doctor of philosophy. Let them know I have studied immensely to be worthy of their time.

037 MARSHALL

I love that.

(then, yelling out)

You heard the man! Bring the bookcases forward!

(back to Fulton)

We haven't gotten your notes for the cue cards yet, Bishop. We'll need those as soon as possible.

038 FULTON

Oh, cue cards won't be necessary.

039 MARSHALL

Won't be necessary? You're planning to just speak? With no notes?

040 FULTON

That's right. All I need is a chalkboard and a camera. And perhaps a clock, somewhere I can see it from my position on stage.

041 MARSHALL

We can't just-

◀◀ END

PRODUCERS JIM AND MONSIGNOR BRODERICK ENTER.

042 JIM

Marshall, if the Bishop says he does not need cue cards, the man does not need cue cards!

043 FRANK

Ah, the producers are here.

(announcing)

Crew, please welcome the DuMont Network producers. You all know Jim, and this is Monsignor Broderick, from the, uh-

044 MONSIGNOR BRODERICK

The Catholic Apostolate for Radio, Television, and Advertising.