

Yard Sale

A Horde Style LARP

2 Hours

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Table of Contents

Yard Sale, Welcome and Rules	3
The Town	4
Who's in Town?	5
Meet the Robinsons	7
Mr. Arthur T. Robinson, Father	8
Mrs. Barbara S. Robinson, Mother	11
Ms. Edna M. Robinson, Grandmother	14
Samantha Robinson, Daughter	17
Stephen Robinson, Son	19
Edward K. Robinson, Son	21
The Neiborhorde	23
Wendel Smith	24
George Sherman-Sinclair	25
Philip Greenburg	26
Martin Stuartson	27
Todd "Weasley" Beasley	28
John Cordova	29
Tony Biggs	30
Jode Terry	31
Trey McDonald	32
Matt Dickson	33
Mike Young	34
Mr. Tennyson	35

Allister Daniels	36
Henry Daniels	37
Dr. Levi Rosenthal	38
Micah Rosenthal	39
Jose Fernando	40
Stan Albright	41
Charlene "Chuck" Mattingly	42
Leon Vicindi	43
Herb Washington	44
Lakota River Darkbear	45
Brother Steve	46
Brother Joshua	47
Riley Simmons	48
Bernard Collins	49
Adrien Gatteau	50
Issac Ott	51
Tyler Christianson	52
Blake Adams	53
Lowell Haggerty	54
Ralphie Sampson	55
Geoffry Pinkton	56
Maxwell Stark	58
Timothy Dudders	59



Yard Sale, Welcome and Rules

Welcome to the Robinson Family yard sale. This is a really rather simple game about honesty, deceit, family togetherness, and household junk.

Some characters in the family have goals of earning certain dollar amounts. Other family members have goals about certain types of objects. No one wants to see their favorite treasures go up for sale, and everyone would love to see the disliked junk leave with someone else. People shopping at yard sale also have likes and dislikes too. They will not buy something they hate and they will try to make deals on the stuff that they do like. Items that are sort of neutral could go either way. Creativity and salesmanship on the part of either party will determine which way these items go.

All of the characters in the game at least one *"I Love It"* icon, likewise all characters in the game have at least one *"I Hate It"* icon. All items in the game will be marked with at least one icon. Someone might love an item for its use as an X, but someone else might love it because it reminds them of Y. There will be conflict and disagreement. That's okay, in fact it's better than okay, it's perfect because it's more like a normal family and neighborhood that way.

And the categories are:

Fashion/Skin Care:



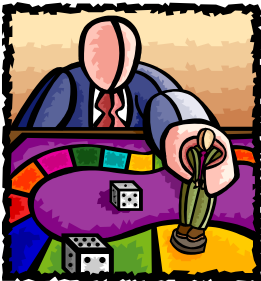
Sports/Fitness & Health



Art/Sculpture



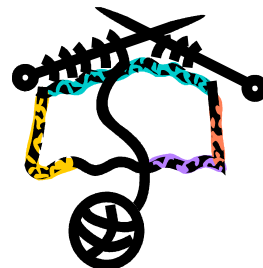
Family Games/Activities



Music/Pop Culture



Heirlooms/Antiques



The Town

Welcome to the Atlanta, Georgia suburb of Suwanee. More specifically, welcome to Hillside Trace, an upscale housing community dedicated to luxury living at astronomical prices. Your average 3 bedroom single family home costs about \$350,000, but really, no one wants to live in one of those shacks. Your more standard home, complete with custom floors and custom cabinets goes for about \$500,000.

Hillside Trace has three shopping centers, its own shopping mall with stores like Lord and Taylor, Nordstrom, Gucci, Coach, and plenty of other designer labels as well. There are 5 different elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school. The community also boasts four swimming pools and two rather large recreation centers that are open to the community for special events like birthday parties and crafting classes.

Just a few blocks away, Georgia Tech is building a small auxiliary campus that is going to offer a variety of night classes in co-operation with the area community college as well. Rumor has it that the governors pulled some strings, so his niece could take night classes and actually learn how to cook some quality southern food instead of those crazy things that aren't really edible.

Most of the folks in the sub development work about 20 minutes away from their homes. There are a few stop signs, but there is never any traffic. The newspaper delivery boy has perfect aim. All the mailboxes are painted black and have red flags. All front yard flower beds are dressed seasonally and no holiday decorations may be put up before November 10th and they must all be taken down again by Jan 5th. The lawns all look exquisite and the Hillside Trace Homeowners Association wouldn't have it any other way.

Who's in Town?

It's a close knit neighborhood so many of the characters already have a bit of a reputation.

Blake Adams: One of the high school boys in Samantha's classes. Best friends with Tyler Christianson. His family has a better than average looking lawn.

Stan Albright: Used to live a few blocks away from the Robinsons. His family sold their house and moved out about six months ago without really saying much. Works with John Cordova and Arthur Robinson. They had an average looking yard.

Todd Beasley: National Merit Scholarship Finalist, captain of the golf team, avid tennis player, only child, Father works for the Government. Mormon. One of the large houses in the neighborhood. The Beasley's have a lawn service company that does all of their yard work.

Joey Bell: The Bell's live across the street from the Robinsons. Joey just got his driver's license and a car with a sound system that is way too loud. He's very popular and very 'cool' but adults can't make heads or tails out of his jargon most of the time. Their lawn is professionally maintained.

Tony Biggs: A local sports celebrity. Teaches fitness classes at the community college. Renowned world traveler. Single and has a rather unimpressive lawn.

Tyler Christianson: One of Samantha's friends from high school. Athletic. Best friends with Blake Adams. His family has an average looking lawn.

Bernard Collins: Barbara's brother.

John Cordova: Successful business man from P.J. Mitchell investment firm, 3.5 kids, large lawn, his kids occasionally leave toys in the front yard, avid golfer, one of Arthur Robinson's closest friends.

Allister Daniels: Member of the Homeowners Association, stickler for rules. His wife is a math teacher at the high school. He's an accountant. Superb lawn.

Henry Daniels: Allister Daniel's son.

Lakota Darkbear- He doesn't actually live in Hillside Trace. His family lives at a nearby wildlife refuge but he's gone to school with the Hillside Trace kids, so his face is known. He's 19 and in college now. He's a bit of an earth child.

Timothy Dudders: Son of Patrick Dudders, the new management consultant at P.J. Mitchell investment firm. No one in the neighborhood likes the Dudders or includes them at parties or social functions. Goes to high school. He's in the same grade as Samantha. They have a beautiful lawn with no crab grass.

Jose Fernando: Owner operator of the #1 lawn care business in Hillside Trace.

Adrien Gatteau: Chef at the Hillside Trace Country Club restaurant, "On the Greens"

Lowell Haggerty: Who? Oh...that guy.

Charlene Mattingly: One of Arthur Robinson's ex-girlfriends from high school.

Trey McDonald: Went to high school with Barbara and Arthur. Lives with his mom. They have an awful looking lawn. No one blames Trey's mom.

Issac Ott: Adventurous older gentleman refuses to let anyone take care of his lawn. He does a good job taking care of it on his own. Known flirt, but he's harmless.

Geoffry Pinkton: The high school bully. His family has a moderately nice lawn though it tends to have dandelion issues.

Dr. Levi Rosenthal: Popular family psychiatrist. Great Listener. Jewish. One of the largest houses in the neighborhood. Each year in the Christmas decoration competition Dr. Rosenthal decorates his home with beautiful blue and white lights and puts some snowflake sculptures on his lawn. He's very much a joiner and is well liked in the community.

Micah Rosenthal: Models his father very closely and wants to follow in his footsteps. Polite and well mannered. Great grades in school.

Ralphie Sampson: Lives with his sweet old grandma who is friends with Edna Robinson. Incurrable. Very incurrable.

Riley Simmons: High school football coach. He operates a family law practice in Atlanta. His lawn is professionally maintained and looks fabulous.

Wendel Smith: President of the Home Owners association, community activist, amateur gardener

Maxwell Stark: Son of a CIA agent. He wants to grow up and be an inventor or a spy. Often rummages through trash looking for parts for his inventions. Best friends with Edward Robinson.

Martin Stuartson: History teacher at Suwanee High School. Local Philanthropist. Nice guy. Doesn't live in Hillside trace. Unmarried.

Mr. Tennyson: No one knows Mr. Tennyson's first name, but everyone always seems to confide in him and seek him out for advice on difficult situations. Widower, impeccable lawn, member of the Home Owners Association.

Jode Terry: Classmate of Samantha Robinson. Rather average boy. Good manners. His parents keep their lawn nice, but it could use a touch of work.

Leon Vidinci: Works for the area art gallery, teaches art classes at the community college, art collector and restoration specialist. His hedges are pruned to look like famous sculptures.

Herb Wasington: Owns the biggest house in Hillside Trace. His lawn is terribly mismanaged. He's a known eccentric and get rich quick schemer, but judging by the size of his house, it's worked out well for him.

Mike Young: Moderately eccentric, keeps his lawn very neat, married, no kids, small dog, smart, a bit odd, is bad with names.

Meet the Robinsons

The characters who are members of the family should be played by a single person through the duration of the game. Family members should be given their character sheet, a town information sheet, and a who's who sheet.

Mr. Arthur T. Robinson, Father

Brokers at P.J. Mitchell investment firm make a lot of money. They drive fancy cars, wear expensive suits, have trophy wives, and they are leaders when it comes to setting the example of the American Dream into motion in suburbia.

About a year ago now, the economy started to slide. P.J. Mitchell hired a consultant to help with the downsizing. **Patrick Dudders** went through two rounds of fires and layoffs and your name didn't come up. You thought you were safe. Your co-worker **Stan Albright** wasn't so lucky. It's taken him ages to find a new job. You're not even sure; he might still be out of work. About eight months ago, in your paycheck you got your round of bad news. You were being let go.

What were you going to tell your wife, **Barbara Robinson**? Barbara has always been kind and sweet. She's an excellent mother and you'll never find fault with anything she does, but telling her she'll have to give up her spa treatments and night classes? You can't do that to her. Your wife has never had a job, not even something part time, if you could get her to get a job of some sort, anything really, to help cover her salon bills; that would be a huge help. So you did what any great husband would do, you lied and hid the truth from her and your three children, **Samantha Robinson, Stephen Robinson** and **Edward Robinson**.

The last eight months have been anything but easy. Thank goodness you are an excellent investor. You managed to cash in some stocks and bonds and you've been making the minimum payments on credit cards and such just trying to get by. You wake up every morning dressed and ready for work. You leave the house by 8:40 to go job hunting and come home every night just after 5:25. You are sure that no one in the house knows. You've made sure of it.

Pressure is starting to mount though. **Joey Bell**, who lives across the street, just turned 16 and his father bought him a brand new "tricked out" Honda Civic. Your son, **Stephen Robinson**, has been bugging you for money to go to football camp. Barbara is still taking aerobics classes three times a week with that globetrotting womanizer, **Tony Biggs**, and now she's talking about taking some of chef, **Adrien Gatteau's**, cooking classes! Your youngest son **Edward Robinson** wants to build a robot to enter into some sort of science fair but he needs \$40 for some sort of transistor thing. And your daughter, Samantha, might be the neediest and exasperating source of financial drain. She's 17, gorgeous, and popular, a father's worst nightmare. She needs money for gas, for a party dress, to get her hair and fingernails painted, for new cheerleading tennis shoes, and who knows what else, the list goes on and on and on and it's added to daily. Did we mention it's November and Christmas is coming up? The family will once again be expecting their lion's share of expensive presents and gifts and what will you tell them? You need a plan... a great plan.

A couple weeks ago you came up with the best plan ever to help get through this disaster. It's fool proof and fail safe and it has to work. It has to. You really don't want to face the embarrassment of failing your family. Your mother, Edna Robinson, has been living at the

Shady Pine Springs Retirement Community. Your mother has been living there ever since your father passed away some years ago. Every time you see her she complains about how tiny the rooms are, how rude the nurses are, how lonesome she is. Her list of complaints gets longer every time you see her or she calls.

This is where the plan comes in... you lie to Barbara telling her that you got a call from the nursing home and that there were signs of abuse. One of Edna's nurses has been mistreating her. Barbara would have to agree to let Edna move in with the family. You'd tell your mother that Barbara and you did some talking and thought it would be best for her to move in with the family so she wasn't cramped into her small room or so lonesome anymore. Great plan, huh? Barbara has been, not thrilled, about this idea. Your mother doesn't seem overjoyed about it either.

You've still get a few other problems though. Your house is already full. You don't have a spare bedroom, so two of the kids need to share a room. Obviously, it's the boys that have to share. Sadly, evaluating space, things still aren't going to fit because your mother is insisting on bringing all of her things with her. What's the best solution for getting rid of all of this extra stuff? Having a yard sale! There isn't enough time to file all of the paperwork for a yard sale with the Homeowners Association. You'll just have to deal with **Wendel Smith** and/or **Allister Daniels** if they show up to give you a hard time.

You also need to keep your fingers crossed that your best friend **John Cordova** doesn't come by and spill the beans about your lost job to Barbara or your mom. It will ruin your entire Yard Sale scheme. There is also that kind of nutty guy, **Herb Washington**; he might know a few ways to make some fast cash too, if the yard sale fails.

So, it's possible that if you can get Barbara to take a part time job of some sort, save some money on nursing home bills by moving your mother in, and making at least a hundred dollars at the yard sale that you can get by for another few months when the economy is bound to turn around and you can get working again.

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- you

Barbara S. Robinson- your lovely wife

Edna M. Robinson- your mother

Samantha E. Robinson- your oldest daughter, 17

Stephen P. Robinson- middle child, oldest son, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- youngest child, also 15* (Oct. 22)

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goals for the Yard Sale:

1. \$112.07
2. Don't let your wife and mother find out about your fib
3. Get Barbara to take a part time job doing....anything.
4. Get your kids to earn enough money for their own wants and more greedy wants.
5. Don't let your family find out they are on the verge of losing their home and way of life.

Arthur Loves:



Arthur Likes:



Arthur Hates:



Mrs. Barbara S. Robinson, Mother

You are a housewife and a darn good one. In fact, you are one of the best you've ever known or could even compare yourself to in Hillside Trace. You love to cook, garden, read, write, exercise, paint. There isn't much you don't like to do. You are constantly taking community college classes, but you've never had any other job than being the best darn housewife there is. Now that the kids are getting bigger and are all in high school, you'd kind of like a job, but you have no idea how to get one. But you know you don't want to be a nurse or a teacher, what else is there?

About a month ago, your fabulous and hard working husband, **Arthur**, gave you some despairing news. His mother **Edna** was being abused at her nursing home and that he didn't want her living there anymore. That's an understandable crisis. She'll be moving in with the family before Thanksgiving. What terrible timing, but if it's necessary, you'll find a way. Arthur has also told you that Edna is very sensitive about talking about the nursing home right now, so he's asked you not to bring it up because he doesn't want his "dear sweet mother" to be upset anymore than she already is.

"Dear, sweet mother?!" Have you been introduced to the right woman all of those Christmases and Easters? You can think of a few appropriate adjectives for Edna Robinson, but dear and sweet were honestly the last two words that come to mind. Old, demanding, crotchety, and self centered all seem to be much more appropriate in your opinion. All of a sudden a doctor allegedly abuses her and you have to turn your home upside down to accommodate her? Why can't you and Arthur just select a new nursing home to send her to? They can't all be so awful. There has to be another solution. She moves in Monday so time is running out, you better think fast.

You haven't told the children: **Samantha, Stephen, and Edward**, why their grandmother is moving in. You've just told them about some of the changes that will need made around the house for grandma to feel at home. None of the children, except perhaps Edward, seems thrilled that Edna is moving in. Edna is insisting on taking Samantha's large bedroom. The boys have to roommate together in Stephen's already too small bedroom, and Samantha is getting moved into Edward's very small bedroom. The house is a mess and the kids won't stop fighting about their belongings and the space. To pull this off, you really need a bigger house, or a miracle.

Let's talk about Stephen and Edward for a moment. They are very close in age. So close in fact that many people mistake them for twins. You go out of your way to make sure that each has a sense of identity and independence, but it's still a struggle. The three of you go to counseling sessions with **Dr. Levi Rosenthal**. The boys behave fairly well when they go see him, but you have your doubts about if the therapy is really working. They still fight all the time. Stephen is a big sports fan and an athlete. Edward is creative and artistic. They are just very different and you are petrified that forcing them to share a bedroom will ruin the little good that has come from their time with Dr. Rosenthal.

Samantha on the other hand is an entirely different situation. She's just like you! It's wonderful! She's beautiful, she's popular. She's a cheerleader and has boys falling over themselves to ask her to the upcoming Winter Ball at school! Samantha wants to go to the mall to go shopping for her dress. Arthur is being completely unsympathetic about his daughters needs to stay fashionable to maintain her popularity at school. It's almost embarrassing how miserly he's being about Samantha lately.

To deal with stress you like to take aerobics classes with **Tony Biggs**. He's an alluring globetrotting fitness guru and he makes exercise exciting and enjoyable. The relationship is completely platonic, but Arthur gets occasionally jealous. You also take evening gardening classes at the community college. **Wendel Smith** is in your classes and he seems quite nice despite the fact that he's the president of the Home Owners Association.

From time to time you bump into **Trey McDonald** around town. Wow. He's gross. You dated him in high school. What were you thinking? Ew. Your brother, **Bernard Collins**, is also poking his nose in around Hillside Trace. He's out of the military and he's moved across the country from Las Vegas to live closer to you. Really, he's here to mooch whatever he can get. You try to give him a few bucks here and there, but with Edna moving in, things are a bit too hectic to really want to deal with him right now. Think of something clever?

Your husband did come up with a rather clever idea to help deal with all the extra stuff in the house. A yard sale! Wait... a yard sale? Then everyone in the neighborhood would know exactly what sort of designer imposters you owned and everything else. Yikes! This won't go well. But, how else will you make room in the house for Edna? All of this sorting and going through your personal possessions and memories has made you extremely emotional. You really don't want to part with all of these memories, but with Edna moving in with all of her things and with Arthur refusing to get rid of her gaudy knick-knacks, you don't seem to have much of a choice in the matter. She'll be upset if those things go, you'll be upset if they stay. It's an awful situation and you really wish there was a way to change it. But, when everything is out on the lawn, you have to maintain your happy face so the neighbors don't see how upset this stupid yard sale is making you.

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- your loving husband

Barbara S. Robinson- you

Edna M. Robinson- your mother-in-law

Samantha E. Robinson- your oldest daughter, 17

Stephen P. Robinson- middle child, oldest son, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- youngest child, also 15* (Oct. 22)

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goals for the Yard Sale:

1. Sell as many of Edna's knick knacks as possible
2. Help Samantha earn enough money to buy her Winter Ball gown
3. Try to figure out a better solution for the "Edna is moving in Monday" problem
4. Try to keep Edward and Stephen from arguing too much in front of the neighbors
5. Deal with Trey and Bernard... politely.
6. Find a part time job, maybe, only if it's interesting and still gives you plenty of time to be a mother.

Barbara Loves:



Barbara Likes:



Barbara Hates:



Ms. Edna M. Robinson, Grandmother

You really stuck your foot in your mouth this time. You've been complaining to your son **Arthur** about your nursing home for years. You've been living in the Shady Pine Springs Luxury Retirement Community. You've always complained about the food, the space, the atmosphere, the everything. You're real goal was to get Arthur to move you into an apartment of your own so you didn't have to have someone watching you like a hawk twenty four hours a day.

Matt Dickson is a super sweet nurse from the retirement center. He used to be in the military and he was raised by his grandma. You always liked him, he taught you how to knit some really nifty patterns too. One night over dinner you mentioned his name at the dinner table and Barbara gave you a rather sour look. You changed the subject, but you aren't sure why she dislikes Matt.

Your son has decided to be oh so charitable and have you move in with his family including his wife **Barbara** and their three children: **Samantha, Stephen, and Edward**. Barbara is a real piece of work. Well, she's never worked a day in her life outside of the house. She's a decent mother, you were better, but it really bothers you that she's never had a real job. You make it a point to harass her about how you were able to work as a nurse in the Army and raise children. Why can't Barbara contribute to the household financially? Why is Arthur the one who is expected to pay for all of Barbara's cooking, gardening, and aerobics classes? You've tried really hard over the years to get along with Barbara, well, no you haven't really, but you've been locked up in that awful nursing home remember?

So, you've intentionally been making things difficult for Arthur and Barbara regarding your relocation into their home at Hillside Trace. You've demanded to live in the largest of the kid's bedrooms even though you don't have that much stuff anymore. You're taking Samantha's room. Samantha has to move into Stephen's room and Stephen and Edward are being made to share a bedroom. Heh! There is nothing like stirring up some sibling rivalry to drive mom and dad nuts. You're hoping that the children might be able to whine and complain with you enough to convince Arthur to let you live on your own. So far it hasn't worked and Arthur and Barbara are having a ridiculous yard sale to make room for all of your stuff.

Speaking of your stuff, who does Barbara think she is? She keeps trying to put your knick knacks and hand knitted items in the boxes for the yard sale. You have to stop this nonsense. You know Arthur is a good boy. He won't let his wife sell your beautifully made things.

Barbara had Edward too soon. Stephen was only about a month old when Barbara got pregnant again. Now, both boys are the same age, and they fight like cats and dogs because everyone thinks they are twins. You do your best to treat all of your grand children fairly because it's their mother's fault that they are spoiled rotten and don't understand the value of hard work. If they want nice things in life, they should earn them. You think that Sam should earn half of the money that she's been whining about for her ball gown. If she gets half, you'll

give her the other half if she takes you to the mall with her to pick it out. (You don't want her dressing like a trollup.) If Stephen wants to go to some football thing, that's great too, but he should have to earn at least \$50 of the \$200. You'll give him the other \$100 and you will talk to Arthur about giving him the last \$50. And Edward, well, he's the only grandchild that behaves at all. You're willing to make a special deal with him. If he helps his brother and sister meet their goals, you'll buy him his robot part. It's only going to cost about \$40. Where does Edna get this kind of money? Craft fairs of course! Those knitted toilet seat covers are actually really popular.

Moving to Hillside Trace won't be completely rotten though. There are a number of nice elderly gentlemen that you've got quite a fancy for. Perhaps they'd like to take you out for a night on the town? You might be old, but your not dead yet. **Mr. Tennyson** is nice, but he's really rather mysterious. **Herb Washington** doesn't even know who you are, but from the way Arthur talks, he's got to be filthy rich. That's never a bad catch. Let's not forget **Mr. Issac Ott** either. He's about as spunky as you are and that's a really rare find. How has he managed to fend off his family trying to stuff him into a nursing home?

Your hobbies are pretty typical for an old lady. You like to play cards; knit sweater, socks and toilet seat covers; go bird watching, and you love to watch late night television. When you found out about Barbara and Arthur's yard sale, you made a phone call to the show "Valuables!" and guess what?!! Heart throb, **George-Sherman Sinclair**, and a camera crew are coming to Hillside Trace to look at the items and they will tell you if there is any secret treasure amongst them! You have got to be George's #1 fan and you aren't too shy to tell him so. No one in the family knows that a TV crew is going to show up. Don't spoil the surprise.

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- your son

Barbara S. Robinson- you ungrateful materialistic daughter-in-law

Edna M. Robinson- you

Samantha E. Robinson- your granddaughter, 17, she's a lot like her mother

Stephen P. Robinson- grandson, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- grandson, also 15* (Oct. 22)

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goals for the Yard Sale:

1. Don't let your knick-knacks and gifts you'd given to the family get sold.
2. Don't let the family talk you out of the biggest bedroom.
3. Help the children learn a sense of work and responsibility
 - You'll give Samantha 50% of the money she needs for a ball gown if she raises the other half on her own
 - You'll give Stephen \$100 of his football camp money if he raises \$50. You'll twist Arthur's arm on the other \$100.

- If Edward helps Samantha and Stephen meet their goals, you'll buy him the robot part he needs for his science fair project.

4. Get a date, or two
5. Heck, get a roommate who isn't your son and his lazy wife
6. Talk Barbara into getting some kind of a job... anything...

Edna Loves:



Edna Likes:



Edna Hates:



Samantha Robinson, Daughter

Oh my god! Like, life is so totally harsh right now and like you're never going to believe why?

So, for starters, you came home one day from school and cheerleading practice and over dinner your dad had some "good news." Your grandmother **Edna** is moving in. What?! No way! There are five of you living in a four bedroom house already. Do the math. This is no good at all. Just wait, it gets better. She's taking your room. You have to move into **Stephen's** room that smells like cleats and tennis balls. Gross. Stephen has to bunk up with **Edward** and wow... those two do NOT get along.

Let's add some more fuel to this fire.... Your mom, Barbara, is totally awesome and she's on your side. She understands the pressure of being an icon in a high school setting and the pressure it takes to maintain a good and solid reputation. Sure, your grades are only average, but that's just an excuse to have boys tutor you! Duh. Well no, it's not, you tried really hard on your English paper, and like, the teacher like, totally gave you a "C". Harsh. So dad is coming down like a tyrant lately going on and on about growing up, maturity, and responsibility.... Blah, blah, blah. You're trying to be responsible. You need a ride to the mall and you need to pick out a dress for the upcoming Winter Ball. It would be very irresponsible for you to wait until the last minute to plan and prepare for this pivotal teen social event.

Dad says he doesn't have time to take you to the mall this weekend, what with grandma moving in. Even mom is too busy to shop. She must be seriously stressed! Go figure. Are you ready for the best news out of it all? On Saturday morning you are being deprived of beauty sleep. Why? Because you need to help sell things at the family yard sale! UGH! Isn't that what Goodwill is for? Just give them a call and they take away extra crap that you don't want anymore? You've woken up before noon on a Saturday about two times in the last six months. One of those times was for a car wash fundraiser for cheerleading. But even then, you got to wear your awesome bikini and some of the really cute football players saw you in it! But it's NOVEMBER! Has your dad lost his mind?!

You are really dreading this Yard Sale thing and you are mad that your dad wont just give you \$100 dollars and take you to the mall to get your dress. Standing in the lawn trying to peddle old sweaters is lame? What if people from school see you? Surely, that weird weasley **Todd Beasley** will come by. He has a weird twitch but he's got great grades. If you get a tutor and promise to do better in English maybe mom and dad will give you the money for your dress?

But, OMG!! What if **Jode Terry** comes by the yard sale?! You'll be mortified! He's nice, he's got a great family, he's got good grades, and heck, he even puts up with your two younger whining brothers! Can you bring college boys to a high school dance? If you do some extra chores or something maybe your mom and dad would let **Lakota** take you? He's kind of exotic.

You're giving this yard sale and your parents about two hours to come to their senses. If they don't come around to see things your way... or something, then you're going to do something drastic... like join a crazy religion of some variety. The **Rosenthals** have nice holiday decorations, but **Micah** is a little...dweeby. There is that Mormon Beasley boy again... or maybe some of those Hari Krishnas?

Okay, so parents never fall for truly idle threats. You have a backup plan. Your best friend Tyler and his friend Blake are going to come over and pick you up and take you to the mall around noon or 1. So maybe your parents will give you the money for the dress if they don't have to drive you to the mall? Maybe? It's worth a shot.

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- Dad, successful business man

Barbara S. Robinson- Mom, greatest housewife and mom ever!

Edna M. Robinson- Grandma, old and smells a little weird

Samantha E. Robinson- you, 17

Stephen P. Robinson- brother, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- brother, also 15* (Oct. 22)

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goals for the Yard Sale:

1. -Negotiate yourself back into your own bedroom somehow, anyhow
2. -Get \$100 to buy yourself a dress for the Winter Ball
3. -Get a ride to the mall
4. -Stop your family from doing anything un-cool or embarrassing on the front lawn!

Samantha Loves:



Samantha Likes:



Samantha Hates:



Stephen Robinson, Son

A few weeks ago, your mom and dad sat you, your older sister, and your younger sissy brother all down at the dinner table for “a talk.” That’s never good news. This time was really no exception. You were going to be homeless! Well, no, not really. But yes... really.

Your grandma, **Edna**, is moving out of the nursing home and in with your family. There aren’t any extra bedrooms, so you are getting kicked out of your shrine to sporting arenas and you’re being made to live with that little runt of a brother, **Edward**, in his artsy sissy freak lab. Your older sister, **Samantha**, is getting your room and she’s been whining about the smell. Whatever. She doesn’t understand sweat and cheerleading is NOT a sport.

You just spent your second year on the Hillside Trace junior varsity football team. The season went really well, though. Your coach, **Riley Simmons**, has told you and your parents about a football training camp that would help you out a lot. It takes place over winter break and all the other kids who will be on varsity next year are going. You’re dad wont let you go. He says it’s too expensive and it’s not fair to your brother and sister. What?!

You’re dad has never been the type to say no to giving you money for school or sports things before? What’s up now and why the change in heart? Okay, so despite your selfish nature, you understand the fair thing. If he gives you \$200 dollars for something cool you want, then sure he can give Sam money from something cool she wants and he can even give Edward some money for some stupid art invention thing. Fair makes sense, that’s dad. Even mom is that way so bugging her alone wont help. So what’s up with the cheap skating?

Hold on a minute!

Mom and dad said that you had to clean out your room and get ready for this family yard sale thing. Great! If you sell off enough of Edward’s artsy fartsy junk and Sam’s girl crap, then you will have enough money for football camp! Maybe that was dad’s plan? To teach you entrepreneurial spirit! Hey you might not be a straight A student, but you understand that if something cost you zero bucks and you sell it for five, your five bucks closer to football camp!

Mom and Sam seem really bummed out about Grandma moving in. You don’t know why? Grandma Edna is actually pretty cool for an old chic. She likes cards and traveling and stuff? Maybe she’s like Samantha and just needs a boyfriend or something? Okay, so guys aren’t generally matchmakers, but for grandma? Sure, why not? Plus, if you get her hooked up, maybe she’ll want to live somewhere else and you can keep your bedroom. **Issac Ott** used to be in the Olympics or something, he’d be a cool grandpa.

You know mom works out a lot with that **Tony Biggs** guy. He’s like some kind of famous athlete too. Maybe he’s got some fitness pointers? Does he work with teenagers or just housewives? Maybe if your parents won’t spring for football camp working out with Tony might be an okay consolation prize?

It's pretty obvious to you and to everyone else that you and Edward don't get along. Since you guys have both hit high school things have gotten worse. You take a lot of flack for him being such an oddball. He gets teased because folks think you're a stupid jock. Whatever. It doesn't really bother you all that much, but what does bother you is that your mom is upset about all the fighting. She got so frustrated with you and Edward a few months ago that she made both you and Edward go see a therapist, **Mr. Rosenthal**. He's nice and you can tell he's listening, but the therapy isn't helping a lot. Your brother was dropped on his head or something and that is why he's so weird. Mr. Rosenthal's son **Micah** is a queer or something and Mr. Rosenthal can't seem to fix that so is he really the right guy to fix you and your brother?

There are very few people who are more annoying and more obnoxious than your little brother. **Henry Daniels** is probably on the top of that list. Someone really should teach him some manners. **Joey Bell** lives across the street. He just turned 16 and his dad gave him a pimped out Honda Civic. He's pretty cool, maybe he can give you a ride in his new car sometime? **Maxwell Stark** is your nerdy brothers even nerdier best friend. Really, that says it all. Nerds. **Timothy Dudders** is the new kid at Hillside Trace. No one seems to like him. You don't know why. He's in the same grade as Samantha, but you see him around a lot. You've never really talked to him though. Maybe he likes sports? That would be cool. You need some help fighting off the nerd squad.

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- Dad.

Barbara S. Robinson- Mom, you hate seeing her upset

Edna M. Robinson- Grandma, pretty cool for a granny

Samantha E. Robinson- older sister, stuck up snob, 17

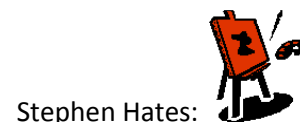
Stephen P. Robinson- you, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- younger brother, also 15* (Oct. 22), inferior to you in every possible way

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goal for the Yard Sale:

1. Negotiate yourself back into your own bedroom.
2. Earn \$200 for football camp
-Preferably by selling Edwards nerdy crap
3. Find Grandma a boyfriend
4. Make a few new friends who aren't total nerds



Edward K. Robinson, Son

A few weeks ago, your mom and dad sat you, your older sister, and your older jerk face brother all down at the dinner table for “a talk.” That’s never good news. This time was really no exception. You were going to be homeless! Well, no, not really. But yes... really.

Your grandma, **Edna**, is moving out of the nursing home and in with your family. There aren’t any extra bedrooms! Your sister **Samantha** has to give up her room and give it to Grandma Edna. Samantha is moving into Stephen’s room (it stinks like gym socks). And Stephen is moving into your room. Ugh! He’s bound to mess up and destroy some of your very important scientific and artistic experimenting! This is absolutely not good.

At school, you get outstanding grades and you are the youngest member on your schools Engineering Robotics team. A lot of robot designers focus only on the function of their robots, you are determined that a robot needs to not only work, but it needs to look cool too. You’ve spent a lot of time lately going through peoples garbage (of course no one knows this) trying to find just the right components to make a super cool robot for this years inter high school robotics engineering challenge. You’re almost done and you just need one last part. The transistor you have is too big to fit in the space compartment you have for it. You’d like to buy a better, smaller transistor, but it costs close to \$50.

You’ve never been the child in the family who bugs mom and dad for money. You’ve done pretty well saving your allowances and doing odds and ends chores for some of the elderly neighbors in the community that you haven’t really needed to, but time is running out. The robots need to be finished on Monday and you don’t have the money you need or the time to build a part. Ugh. However, this Saturday your family is having a yard sale. Everyone is sort of purging their belonging to help make room for Grandma Edna and all of her stuff.

Stephen has pretty much already declared open warfare on your belongings. He wants to go to some stupid football camp. You really don’t want to get rid of any of your precious art and engineering supplies. Hmm... there has to be away around this predicament? You’re a straight A student, you’ll think of something.

You called your best friend **Maxwell Stark** to come over and help you out. You hope he shows up. He might be able to help you come up with a plan to either get the money, or get another transistor some other way. His dad is a spy, heck Maxwell might even have a transistor in some super fancy radio at home.

There is this other guy in town, **Mike Young**, he’s always got weird collections of stuff too. Maybe he has a part you need? Or maybe you can sell him enough weird junk to get the money for your part?

Luckily, this family yard sale has gotten you off the hook from one of **Dr. Rosenthal’s** Family Therapy sessions. His son **Micah** is pretty cool and you get along fabulously with him. The therapy really bothers you to be looked at and observed like some sort of specimen in a human

sized jar. It's degrading. You and your brother Stephen will continue to quarrel until he recognizes your right to be a unique and creative thinker. You can't help that he has some deep seeded desire to have someone else do all of his thinking. There are very few people who are more annoying and more obnoxious than your little brother. **Henry Daniels** is probably on the top of that list. If anyone needs some time with Dr. Rosenthal. It's that kid and his parents. Not you and yours.

Timothy Dudders is the new kid at Hillside Trace. No one seems to like him. You don't know why. He's in the same grade as Samantha, but you see him around a lot. You've never really talked to him though. Maybe he likes engineering or art? That would be cool. You'd be happy to welcome some additional culture into town.

There is this crazy artist guy who lives a few streets over in a huge house, **Leon** something or other. He works at an art museum, but you've heard that he really likes modern art. Maybe he could check out some of your inventions. Inventions are art... Leonardo DiVinci made it so!

The Family:

Arthur T. Robinson- Dad

Barbara S. Robinson- Mom, greatest mom ever!

Edna M. Robinson- Grandma, old and smells a little weird

Samantha E. Robinson- Older sister, boy crazy, 17

Stephen P. Robinson- Older brother, jerk, 15* (Jan. 11)

Edward K. Robinson- You, 15, reasonable and understanding

*Both boys are 15, but are not twins, they were born nine months and eleven days apart from one another.

Goal for the Yard Sale:

1. Negotiate yourself back into your own bedroom, somehow, anyhow. Your art depends on it. If all else fails....Sell as much of Stephen's stuff as possible so you can keep more of your stuff.
2. Acquire \$50 to buy a transistor to finish your robot for the engineering competition
3. Try to get your brother to be more sympathetic to your feelings (this is sort of a lost cause but you are noble enough to try)
4. Make some new friends
5. Try to bond with mom, dad, and/or grandma.

If all else fails....Sell as much of Stephen's stuff as possible so you can keep more of your stuff.



The Neiborhorde

Once you know how many people will be playing in the game, you can divide up the horde characters into packets to be given to each player. There is no set order for when characters come into game. There are some characters that **MUST** enter with another specific horde character. These characters have all been identified with text on the individual character sheet.

Wendel Smith

Wendel is the epitome of upstanding, rule abiding citizen. Wendel has been the president of the Hillside Trace Homeowners Association for four years now. In his time as president he has instituted a number of rules. Yard sales must only occur on the fourth Saturday of each month. They may only operate from 8 a.m until noon. Yard Sale signs are to no larger than 8X10 and they may only be posted on every third light pole and they must all be promptly removed by 3p.m on the day of the yard sale.

Wendel and Barbara both attend home gardening classes at the Hillside Trace community center. Wendel has a number of complains about the Robinsons and their yard sale, but he will always compliment their lawn and especially their flowers. Wendel knows that Barbara and Arthur are happily married, and he would never want to intrude upon that union, it's against the law you know, but he still likes to admire the 'flower in the garden'.

Note: Please feel free to take liberty with being the Home Owners Assoc President. Threaten nasty letters and fines and nit pick about anything you can think of. Also, feel free to try to enlist the Robinsons for the Association.



George Sherman-Sinclair

RESTRICTION: This character must show up at the same time as Philip Greenburg

Everyone who is everyone knows who you are! You are the host of the Antique Channel's award winning antique appraisal show, "Valuables!" Well, no. Not really. Actually, "Valuables!" was the only job you could find after you spent 8 years studying classical art and art history at Ivy League Universities in New England. You've got a terrible 2 a.m. time slot against quick earn a buck infomercials and yet, you still can't get decent ratings.

You are a bit down on your luck and you'd go out of your way to dissuade someone from choosing art as a career path because it's really just futile in a capitalist society that values quantity of crap over true aesthetic quality. You are definitely an artiste and a connoisseur.

You do know good art and valuable antiques when you see them. You keep hoping that one day you might find a Rembrandt at a Yard Sale and make a quick enough fortune that you can take over the Antique Channel, or buy an auction house... or well... anything but continue to host the show "Valuables!"

Philip Greenburg is your camera man. He's a film student who tries to turn your shows in to art. He likes to capture the true essence of humanity on film. Really, he's a bit over the top; sometimes you just wish he'd stop trying to be Julie Taymor and just film the appraisals, but you deal with him because he's all the station can afford. Ugh.



Philip Greenburg

RESTRICTION: This character must show up at the same time as George Sherman-Sinclair

Philip studies film at the University of Georgia. He's got a "vision" and that vision is to capture the essence of the human spirit on film. Oi. It's so been tried and done, but this 19 year old has new and fresh perspective. He's determined to film quality events that will inspire generations to come.

He's not Ron Howard, Clint Eastwood, Alfred Hitchcock, or Julie Taymor, but one day he will be. So is the story according to him.

Philip came from a small town near the bayous of Louisiana. He's from a town that has been destroyed by storms three times in his life and he really doesn't understand the decadence and extravagance that he encounters while traveling with George Sherman- Sinclair.

Philip has been working as an intern at the Antiques Channel not too far from campus. He's the camera man for the awful late night antique appraisal show called "Valuables!" It's absolutely rotten in almost every way, but Philip claims that he's trying to bring new directorial vision to the show and that the show suffers because of the lack of energy from the show's host, George Sherman-Sinclair.



Martin Stuartson

Mr. Martin Stuartson works for the nearby Goodwill. He's more than happy to take anything that doesn't sell at the Robinson's Yard Sale for Goodwill. He's rather pushy and thinks that people who can afford to live in Hillside Trace should be more generous and giving to the less fortunate.

Mr. Stuartson is also the History teacher where the children go to school. Sadly, none of the Robinson children are wonderful students in his class, but they aren't horrible either. At least they tend towards behaving- if they could only be more like the Cordova boy.

Despite his love of all things historical, Martin is also a music buff and prides himself on knowing random band trivia facts. He has a CD and record collection that some CD shops would envy.



Todd “Weasley” Beasley

Todd Beasley is in most all of Samantha’s classes and has been ever since they were in third grade. Todd gets straight A’s, wears faded clothes, and has a peculiar nervous tick. He knows she exists and thinks she’s the prettiest girl in the entire school. He’s a little bit shy, but he’s no fool. He works in the principal’s office and suck a peek at Samantha’s pretty average and ordinary grades. He knows he could help her get better grades, but well; she’s got to go to the Winter Ball as his date.

Todd isn’t a total nerd. He plays some sports. He’s actually quite good at tennis and golf, but those just aren’t very popular amongst the high school crowd.

Todd’s mother is a stay at home mom; no one has ever seen her. Todd’s dad runs a pretty strict mormon household which explains away a fair amount of the social differences. Todd is forward thinking though and respects everyone’s right to choose their own religion and religious practices. Todd’s dad does something top secret for the government. It has something to do with planes but Todd doesn’t really know, but they have a huge house so it must be important. Todd’s grandmother died recently, so he’s a bit sensitive around handmade things, they make him a little bit.... sensitive.

Todd Loves: 

Todd Likes: 

Todd Hates: 

John Cordova

RESTRICTION: This character will unfold some LARGE plot elements. Please wait until about halfway through the game to enter this character.

Times have been hard lately, and Hillside Trace hasn't been immune to all of the slides in the economy. You and Arthur Robinson used to share neighboring offices at P.J. Mitchell investment firm. You would occasionally carpool together to do your part for the environment. You would go play a few holes of golf at lunch. You were close. Your wives would exchange cookie recipes, things were great. Really.

About ten months ago, that's when things first began to slide downhill. A new Executive VP at the firm set up some quotas. Everyone knew what was coming, the downsizing. A few weeks later, the first group of guys from the office had been fired or laid off. Two weeks later even more cuts. Both you and Arthur made it through these initial turns and were feeling pretty secure. A month later, a third group of men lost their jobs. You weren't in this group; Arthur was.

He must have found a new job right away? He didn't have to sell his house or either of his cars. His wife still goes out shopping with your wife and they haven't cancelled a salon appointment...ever? You've no idea how Arthur has done so well in the transition. Last week, three houses in Hillside Trace went up for sale. Times are getting tighter.

Maybe Arthur got some new golf clubs and is getting rid of his old ones? John has enough cash he can toss some around. His kids have great grades and are well liked at school and his son is on the football team at the high school. John's wife is expecting their fourth baby this spring.



Tony Biggs

Tony is Mr. Competitive Athlete. He's traveled to Brazil to learn boxing, he's spent time traveling Asia to learn Judo, Tai Chi, and Karate. He's been to Sweden and Norway to practice up on his skiing and speed skating. There isn't a single sport Tony can't play and best someone in.

Tony has been filming Fitness DVDs, with assorted titles like "Get Big with Biggs," and "No Goal is too Bigg." Tony is self absorbed, but yes, he really is good at what he does! He's got most all of the women of Hillside Trace entranced with his dashing smile and ability to make them sweat and feel great afterwards.

Nearly all of the husbands in Hillside Trace will be polite, but they really don't like you. It's a jealousy thing, but you're used to it. What they don't understand is that when you were younger, you had a growth disorder. You were destined to be about 5 foot tall if you were lucky. No guy wants that. You were put on a steroid regime early in life and had to stay on it. You could never become a professional athlete, but you managed to get the best consolation prize there was. But sadly, you couldn't seduce any of the wives in town even if you wanted to. Why else would adrenaline be so addicting?

You heard that Mrs. Robinson is a rather good cook. You've had some ideas for a healthy living/ lifestyle cook book and you were hoping that she might be interested in helping. You aren't sure if you can sell the idea to a publisher, but Tony Biggs in the kitchen? Its not exactly macho, so try to keep the idea quiet.



Jode Terry

Jode is an average ordinary high schooler. He gets better than average grades, but not straight A's. He's not a star athlete, but he's not a klutz either. He's polite to adults, and has a lot of friends at school. He gets along with the band kids, the theatre group, the chess club, and well everyone. What is Jode missing? Passion.

Jode hasn't really been struck by any sort of life altering, awe inspiring event or person that is helping him shape his life. But he knows this and that's what he's looking for. While most other kids are in bed sleeping until noon, he's out about in the neighborhood watching other people in their lives so he might be able to decide what to do with his.

Jode is inquisitive and introspective. He's thought about asking Samantha Robinson to the Winter Ball, but he's convinced himself she already has a date. Occasionally Jode will hang out at the mall with the two Robinson boys, but they rarely get along and picking favorites is something Jode really doesn't like to do.



Trey McDonald

Trey went to High School with Barbara and Arthur. He and Barbara dated (for about a week, she probably doesn't even remember) but that week meant the world to Trey. Trey is "that guy" who tells stories about the past a lot. He likes to dominate conversations, interrupt other people constantly, and well, he's just pushy. Trey has also failed to let go of the good times that were high school and actually grow up.

In high school Trey worked at the hottest spot in town, *Dominic's Pizza Slab*. Trey tried to go off to college and get a job, but well, after three years he came home, moved into his mom's basement and hasn't tried to leave since. He's spent all this time simply pining over Barbara Collins, now Barbara Robinson and knows she was the one who got away.

Trey isn't a sports fan anymore. He's been turned down for a little league coaching job three times. After he broke how many records in high school? Unbelievable. He's never going to forgive that quarterback for stealing his sports scholarship. Now, Trey doesn't even practice the fine art of arm chair quarterbacking. He'd rather play Warcraft, but at least then he can get some time on the field (of battle).

Trey has managed to get a job, it's not great, but it allows him to buy all the video game she could want and he built a shed in the backyard for him mom, but really, he needed some extra storage space for all of his collectible action figures. Trey's job, by the way, is a shift manager at *Dominic's Pizza Slab*. If he works hard, he might make assistant manager by January 2010.



Matt Dickson

RESTRICTION: This character will unfold some LARGE plot elements. Please wait until about halfway through the game to enter this character.

Matt works at Shady Pine Springs Luxury Retirement Community as a nurse. He's a sweet and jolly man with a cheery disposition who is always able to help folks see the sunny side of life.

Matt used to be an Eagle Scout, before joining the military and getting his nursing degree while he was enlisted. He grew up in a very rough neighborhood. His father was killed in a drive-by automobile incident and his mother was put in jail for felony drug possession charges. Matt was raised by his grandmother and grandfather and when they passed away, leaving the military to work in a retirement community seemed like a great way to stay connected and give back to the community that he was so grateful to have found.

Having worked so many years at the retirement center now, Matt can knit and crochet with the best of the ladies and he's confident enough in his masculinity that mocking from other men doesn't even bother him.

You were overjoyed to hear that Arthur Robinson was coming to Shady Pine Springs Luxury Retirement Community to invite his mother to come live with him and his family. But, why the change all of a sudden? Edna is really rather sweet and you'd hate to see her go, plus, she pays on time and is in good health. You just want to stop by the house to make sure things are okay and that she's adjusting and settling in okay.

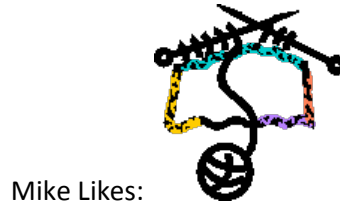


Mike Young

Mike Young is an ambitious and rather well known LARP writer and organizer. His latest project, *Singing in the Streets*, has guided him to hit the streets in his community to look for props at various yard sales and interact with different people along the way so he can capture their essence and parody them in games that he writes. Mike is clever and witty. He has a peculiar habit of picking things up and fidgeting with them while conversing with people. Mike is operating on a very strict budget and no matter how awesome something might be, he's never going to want to pay too much for it.

Aside from looking for LARP props, Mike has an ever growing collection of games. Even though he won't fork out the big bucks for props, he might be a bit more generous if a game he doesn't own turns up somewhere.

Mike has probably met the Robinson's at a variety of community functions, but he is AWFUL at remembering names. About 30% of the time he will screw up names.



Mr. Tennyson

Mr. Tennyson doesn't have a first name. Well sure he does, but no one ever uses it. Everyone just knows him as Mr. Tennyson. His personal life is a bit mysterious. It's assumed he's a widower, but he's never visited by his children or grandchildren. He probably didn't have any. He's taken a bit of a fancy to Edna Robinson and is rather glad to hear she's moving in with her son.

Mr. Tennyson is a member of the Home Owners Association. His lawn and holiday decoration often win awards and are envied throughout the town. What is he planning for this upcoming holiday season? Maybe there will be some hidden treasure at the neighbor's yard sale?

Because Mr. Tennyson has seemingly been around and has had diverse experiences that relate to everything, he's often sought out for a level head and an impartial opinion. Even though folks may seek advice, he simply gives out more than a simple proverbial statement that tends to ring true.



Allister Daniels

RESTRICTION: This character must enter game with Henry Daniels.

Allister Daniels is a bit of a busy body in the neighborhood. He takes long walks and looks at driveways for oil leaks so he can report them to the Homeowners Association as eye sores. He's also the type of guy to carry a ruler and stick it in the grass of someone's lawn to verify that they are cutting it to Association regulation length.

Allister is often one of the referees at the kids sporting events and if someone is hosting any sort of party where judging is involved, Allister better be one of the judges or he'll make their life hell for months afterwards.

Mrs. Daniels is a school teacher at the local high school. She teaches math. It's a very careful and orderly subject and he appreciates her wife for helping him to instill order in the world.

Despite all of the order and rules in the world, your son Henry is just an unruly child. He's constantly getting sent to the principal's office at school and causing fights with other children. Other families are suggesting taking him to therapy, but you're still unsure. You don't want your son to be branded and outcast because of what some therapist will say.

Barbara and Arthur's children are always behaved and respectable. Maybe getting some advice from them isn't a bad idea. Arthur's lawn is generally tidy and doesn't offend the standards of the Home owners association.



Henry Daniels

RESTRICTION: This character must enter game with Allister Daniels.

Henry is a problem child. He doesn't like to follow rules and his mom and dad are FULL of them. She's a math teacher and he's an accountant. They have got to be the dullest and boring parents in Hillside Trace.

Dad woke you up before noon and you're angry as hell about it. He's dragging you over to the geeky Robinson place and he won't tell you why. Biggest drag ever. At least Samantha Robinson is hot! But her two little brothers, man if you could find some way to get under their skin, you'd do it in a second.

You aren't really a bully, but you are a generic trouble maker.



Dr. Levi Rosenthal

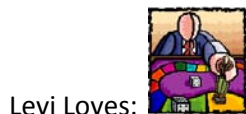
RESTRICTION: This character must enter game with Micah Rosenthal.

Dr. Rosenthal owns one of the largest homes in the community. He operates his psychiatry practice from his home and occasionally the neighbors get cranky about so many comers and goers, but they are quick to overlook it because of how kind and polite Dr. Rosenthal is.

Dr. Rosenthal was the first religious minority to move into Hillside Trace and at first he was treated very oddly. He and his wife volunteered to teach some classes on Judaism at the community center. Dr. Rosenthal shocked everyone though when the Christmas decorating contest was announced. He entered! He framed his house with lovely blue and white lights and decorated with snowmen and snowflakes. It was stunning. Even though it was traditional Christmas, it was definitely spirited and wintery!

The Robinsons have been struggling for some time with their two sons. They are very close in age and Barbara Robinson has expressed concern a number of times about the two boys not having enough room to expand and develop into their own persons. You've been working with the family to communicate and develop steps to help them adapt and grow, but they are new patients and need a great deal of help and fostering before their problems will go away.

Some of the things you've talked about with Mrs. Robinson include making sure both boys have individual hobbies at home and school. Also making sure each boy has enough personal space and self identity in the home. You haven't had a chance to get to know Arthur Robinson. Sadly, he doesn't seem to be an active participant in the boy's life. That seems to be common here. Many of the dads are just, busy. That's sad really.



Micah Rosenthal

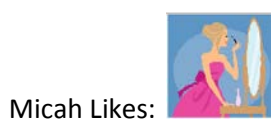
RESTRICTION: This character must enter game with Levi Rosenthal.

A lot of young developing teen children would be rather angered and perturbed to be roused so early on a precious Saturday morning; not Micah Rosenthal. He's a bit of a high striver and an over achiever. He listens intently when his father speaks and is convinced that he's going to follow in his father's footsteps, get into Yale or Harvard, and then move back to Hillside Trace to take over his father's esteemed and established family psychiatry practice.

Micah gets outstanding grades in school. He's not terribly distracted by girls like some of the boys. In fact, Micah doesn't feel interested in girls at all. He listens to the other kids at school talk about the beautiful and alluring Samantha Robinson, but Micah just doesn't get it. There have been times when Micah has tried to talk to Samantha, but it just feels awkward. Micah feels much more comfortable talking with Edward. He seems to have a more calm and pleasant disposition and a more alluring personality.

Micah's been teased at school for being queer and gay, but he denies it still. Just to prove everyone wrong, he's going to ask Samantha Robinson to the Winter Ball, just to prove he's not gay. Plus, she's pretty it might help his popularity? Micah's dad might be disappointed though, her grades aren't that great. Micah's never talked to his father about his feelings towards girls and boys. He thinks his dad is a bit too busy for him. He works a lot, too much at times.

The Rosenthal's are also the only Jewish family in Hillside Trace. It gets tiring trying to explain the differences to people. It's really not a big deal, its just different and that's okay.



Jose Fernando

Jose and his family moved to Georgia after living in Florida for four years. They were often stereotyped and were easy victims of hate crimes against Hispanic families. Jose Fernando is from Puerto Rico and he came to the United States over fifteen years ago with his father and uncle. They have all become citizens and Jose is a successful business owner.

Jose owns and operates the lawn care company that services most all of the homes in Hillside Trace. He speaks fluent English and often gets frustrated with people who believe that he thinks with an accent just because he speaks with one.

Jose visits Hillside Trace at least once a month to inspect the lawns that his company tends and to try to solicit for new business. Having lawn care provided for you free up time for family and fun!



Stan Albright

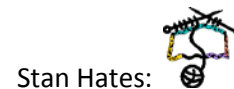
RESTRICTION: This character will unfold some LARGE plot elements. Please wait until about halfway through the game to enter this character.

The economy starting taking a slide in the area a little over a year ago. You used to work with John Cordova and Arthur Robinson until about 8 months ago. You and Arthur both skated through the first two rounds of layoffs at the P.J. Mitchell investment firm, but during round three you were both goners.

Somehow, Arthur has managed to keep his house, both of his cars and avoid financial disaster. How did he do it? You haven't seen Arthur much or even talked to him after the layoffs, but you spotted one of his yard sale signs and thought to drop by.

You had to move your family to another community. Your wife and children miss their friends in Hillside Trace, but the mortgage and the car payments were killing you. You're just happy enough to have sold your house before that market collapsed on you as well.

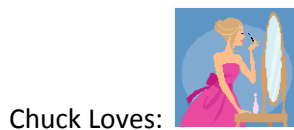
Perhaps Arthur got a new job and could put in a good word for you? You really could use the work and the money. The contract job you've been working on was only temporary work and it's due to end at the end of the year.



Charlene “Chuck” Mattingly

Charlene, well, that’s how Arthur Robinson knew you waaaaay back in high school. He had dated you before he dated Barbara. Things just didn’t work out between the two of you. There are no hard feelings. You were driving through the neighborhood and just decided to stop by and re-introduce yourself. Who knows how Arthur will react to the new you?

After spending some time in Colorado getting to know yourself and going to a few feminist retreats, you were tired of living as a lesbian in a woman’s body. So now, you’re much more comfortable with your skin. You’ve gotten married and are filing paperwork to adopt. You’ve got a great job managing a few sporting goods stores. Life is now. How is Arthur doing?



Leon Vicindi

Leon studies the classics and holds two PhDs, one in Art History and one in Oriental History. He's the head curator at the state gallery of art. Before he was appointed head curator he worked as a restorative artist and he has won many awards at his craft. He considers himself a true student of the masters!

Leon has one of the large houses in Hillside Trace and it's full of interesting works of art. Despite his love of the classics, he is surrounded by them at work. He prefers to escape at home to a post modernist view of the world with a most eclectic collection of what... many would consider to be total and absolute garbage.

Leon has heard that the youngest Robinson boy has some artistic skill. Perhaps the family would be interested in hiring you to give him private art lessons? However, you are the best, so top dollar is the price limit.



Herb Washington

Herb used to live in a one bedroom studio apartment in a not so nice part of town. He was pretty down on his luck and miserable, but he scraped together enough money to attend a conference where they teach folks how to own and operate their own “work from home” business. Herb took great notes and followed the directions of the seminar host exactly and poof.... Mega bucks in two years.

Herb is the proud owner is an E-bay store. He likes to buy peoples crap at Yard Sales. He takes it home fixes it up, photographs it and sells it! He’s also into real estate speculation and enjoys flipping houses. Well, he hires people for that now. He’s been a bit bummed at the huge downturns in the market and he’s been losing money left and right.

Herb and the Robinsons have never been close, but with the economy in a downturn and a yard full of potential profit, Herb isn’t the type of guy to pass it up at all.



Lakota River Darkbear

Lakota is a Seminole Indian descendent. He attends the state university and is studying Environmental Science and Public Communications there. He is very might an environmental and animal rights activist.

Lakota has decided to hit the streets and raise awareness one person at a time. He wants to spread the news about harmful chemicals that are being used in fancy lawn fertilizers that run off into the Everglades along the water tributary paths killing thousands of rare plants and endangered animals. Lakota is passionate about his causes if not a bit militant.

Despite himself though, Lakota is still your average American 19 year old college boy. Hot girls are still hot girls and good times are still good times and wow.... Barbara Robinson is a total MILF and her daughter Samantha has got to be the hottest thing on two legs.



Brother Steve

Restriction: This character must enter game with Brother Joshua!

The apocalypse is coming and the world is about to be annihilated. Only the chosen children of God will be permitted to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. The ignorant masses, the selfish evil doers, the unrighteous haters can all be saved. They just have to accept your God into their lives. All children should be taught the ways of peace and salvation so that they might survive beyond the revelation of the coming apocalypse.

Meta Note- *If you'd like to change your religious order/grouping/occult like mannerisms to something you and the other Brother know. Feel free.



Brother Joshua

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Riley Simmons

Sure Tony Biggs might be the big shot aerobics instructor who gets all the ladies in town to goo-goo ga-ga at him, but you're Riley Simmons! You were the star quarterback for Georgia Tech while you were there. You weren't the typical dumb jock that they like to show in the movies. You made it a point to have a brain as outstanding as your biceps.

You pursued a degree in political science and after graduation you turned down the NFL to go to law school. As nice as it would have been to have experienced that type of fame, having a family and being able to give back to the community too meant a lot more to you.

You're nearing 50 now. You've never gotten married or had any children. You are the coach of high school football team. You also coach a youth pigskin touch football team too. You organize and run a pool league as well as maintaining a very respectable family practice law firm in Atlanta.

Barbara's oldest son Stephen has shown some strides in his abilities and you have some information on a football camp that would great for him to attend over the summer so he can train up before stepping up to join the varsity team next fall.

Riley Loves: 

Riley Likes: 

Riley Hates: 

Bernard Collins

You're picture perfect sister with her picture perfect husband and her picture perfect kids, and her picture perfect house and her picture perfect everything... yes... everything. She's living in the lap of luxury and she's totally forgotten where she came from, a little town just north of Las Vegas, Nevada.

You always thought that Barbara would grow up to be a prostitute. She was pretty enough and had great teeth. You were kind of hoping she would have too. She would have had more girlfriends that she could introduce you around to. Bitch.

You went off and joined the Army. The family moved to the east coast and she ended up dating some fancy pants southerner. Great. What a schmuck he's turned out to be. You can't stand Arthur Robinson, he's not good enough for your baby sister, well, no one would be really.

When you finished your tour of duty with the military, you came home, not to Georgia, but to Vegas for a while. You got a job working security in a casino, but after a few months you were pretty bad off. You'd started drinking a lot, gambling away all your rent money. It was a poor state of affairs. So, you've up and hauled to the east with the rest of your family. Your parents have gotten sick and tired of your mooching and drunken bum like ways, but there is still hope...

Maybe you can freeload on your little sister Barbara for a while? Or perhaps at the very least she can give her war Veteran brother some cash to help him get back on his feet?



Adrien Gatteau

Bonjour and Bon Appetite! Adrien Gatteau is the head chef at the Hillside Crest Golf and Country Club five star restaurant, “On the Greens” that features only the best and freshest cuisine. The name of the restaurant is a bit of a misnomer... it’s not a salad shop or a vegetarian eatery. It’s simply fresh and gourmet.

Adrien came to the United States about three years ago, quite illegally, and has been working off the books at the Country Club for ages. He’s managed to get some help by playing the part of the naive foreigner. Even the dean of the community college fell for it and has been allowing Adrien to work at the community college teaching some basic cooking classes to the residence of Hillside Trace. Adrien has filed for his Visa, he has a passport, but the paperwork hasn’t completed. He’s in a bit of a hang spot waiting as he tries to legitimize his right to work in the country.

Adrien believes that it would help a great deal if he got some letters of recommendation from his cooking students and people who frequent the restaurant. If the immigration bureau knew how needed he was, perhaps they would grant his visa and allow him to stay? However, a bad letter or a call to the board that was negative would almost assure his deportation and a vacancy for a head chef at “On the Greens.”



Issac Ott

Issac Ott is a rather interesting fellow. He's not really a traditional southerner. In fact he's not really a traditional anything. He's just a couple years older than Ms. Edna Robinson and he's just tickled yellow that she's moving in to Hillside Trace. There aren't too many old timers around to talk to and well, new faces are always great on Issac's eyes.

Issac claims that he used to be an Olympic athlete. He was a runner. He never won any medals, but he always enjoyed the thrill of a competition. He also says he compete once in the high and long jumps, but concluded that the movies are right, white guys really can't jump.

Issac has been on a number of world cruises and loves to travel. He's in great shape, but his eyesight is going. Unlike other old folks who would complain about all of their creaks and pains, Issac really is as fit as a fiddle.

Issac likes to pretend that he's a confirmed old bachelor, but really, he's a bit lonesome and is glad to have any company or conversation he can get.



Tyler Christianson

Restriction: This character must enter game with Blake Adams!

Samantha Robinson is one of your best friends. She's a cheerleader and you're a football player and your group of friends owns the school. You get the best choice of lunch tables, you get the best parking space, and wow it's great to be popular!

Samantha told you that her parents were totally flipping out and not letting her borrow the car to get to the mall to meet you. You and Blake decided to get together and show up at Samantha's place to help her out with chores or whatever to bust her out for the day and head to the movies, the mall, or whatever. You aren't averse to helping wash a few dishes or even help rake up some grass clippings if need be. But man it's early, but bailing out a friend is definitely worth it.

You also know that Blake has a bit of a thing for Samantha and you don't really wanna' get in his way and block him out of a chance of going on a date with her, but man, he's been too chicken to ask her out. You refuse to ask her to the Winter Ball for him.

Samantha's kid brother plays on the Junior Varsity football team. If Samantha is trapped doing something, you could always hang out with him. He's a couple years younger than you, but he's still cool. Cool must run in the Robinson family.



Blake Adams

Restriction: This character must enter game with Tyler Christianson!

Samantha called Tyler and you and begged for you to come over and save her from her parents today. She's being subjected to some sort of familial torture she didn't want to explain on the phone.

How in the world did a guy like you manage to become best friends with Samantha Robinson and Tyler Christianson? Who knows? You used to be really geeky and you hate with folks pick on Todd Beasley. You sympathize, but well, you are more than happy you aren't him.

The Winter Ball is coming up at school and you'd really like to ask Samantha, but you're too nervous. Maybe Tyler will ask her for you? You've been taking dance lessons ever since you were seven. Though, that's something you really don't like to mention, but man, girls always swoon over guys in movies who can dance.

Tyler is on the football team and occasionally likes to hang out with Samantha's little brother Stephen. You? Not so much. You're on the team, but you rarely see any field time. You just don't care about it much and you don't understand the obsession with winning. You've also been considering trying out for a school play. You've seen Samantha's other brother Edward in a couple of those, maybe he can tell you what those are like and how to prepare for try outs for something like that?

But well, what is Samantha doesn't like actors? What if she only likes football players? Ugh!



Lowell Haggerty

Hillside Trace is a great place to live. It's got nice soft squishy grass. A lot of folks leave their sheds unlocked. There are some parking garages to stay in when it's raining. The weather in Georgia is just much more accommodating for the homeless than say...Philadelphia.

A lot of homeless people live in Atlanta, but well, that really cuts down on "business" and its more competition to win the hearts of the empathic and generous. These suburbs are FULL of people who rather give you a dollar than stand around looking at you.

You fought in Desert Storm and in Afghanistan. People keep making claims that the VA hospitals are going to get fixed up and that the VA administration is going to stop stealing money from the vets, but well, you haven't seen any signs of this.

So, there is a yard sale going on in the community that you've taken up 'residence' in. Maybe they could extend their hearts to give a little to a man who put his life on the line for their freedom and one of their many wars on "-isms"

Lowell Loves: 

Lowell Likes: 

Lowell Hates: 

Ralphie Sampson

Restriction! This character needs to enter game with Geoffry Pinkton.

“I dare you to, no, better yet, I Double dare you to. No no wait, I TRIPLE dog dare you to go up and try to steal something.”

So Ralphie is a bit gullible and he'd do pretty much anything to seem like one of the cool kids or even just to fit in. Ralphie's dad left when he was little and his mom had him when she was only 15 so Ralphie was raised by his grandmother. She's a sweet old lady who knows Edna Robinson, but Ralphie would just rather get along with boys his own age (about 13) instead of having so much in common with little old ladies.

The Robinson boys are both older than you, but maybe you can find some common ground? Maybe they will be your friend so you can ditch Geoffry because he really is kind of a jerk.

Ralphie Loves:



Ralphie Likes:



Ralphie Hates:



Geoffry Pinkton

Restriction! This character needs to enter game with Ralphie Sampson.

Geoffry is a big jerk and that might be putting things mildly. He's got no self esteem and he's a bully. He hangs out with ralphie because no one else will and he can force Ralphie to do things. Geoffry finds this to be funny. He likes to dare Ralphie to do dumb things and threatens Ralphie if he doesn't do them.

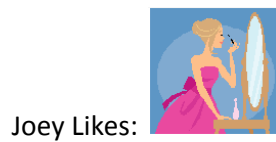
Geoffry will try to boss around any kids, but if an adult really tries to put Geoffry in his place, he'd hang his head and give in. He's not a total heathen, just pretty darn close.



Joey Bell

Joey lives across the street from the Robinsons and goes to school with the Robinson children. He just got his driver's license and would love to take the Robinson kids for a ride in his totally tricked out Honda Civic. It's got an awesome sound system, a hydraulics package, and all sorts of other bells and whistles that only seem to make sense to teenagers and those fluent in internet jargon.

Joey is tres cool and has outstanding grades. If Samantha doesn't already have a date for the Winter Ball you'd like to ask her. Though, she might not go for a guy who is a year younger than her and she might already have a date, but it doesn't hurt to ask.



Maxwell Stark

Maxwell Stark's dad works for the CIA. Maxwell wants to grow up to be just like his father, a top notch spy, or something along those lines. He lives and breathes James Bond movies and loves all of the parodies like Austin Powers and Inspector Gadget and such. In fact Maxwell is proud to boast that he was named after the famous television detective Maxwell Smart from Get Smart.

Maxwell and Edward Robinson are best friends. Edward is fantastic at drawing blueprints and designs and Maxwell is quite skilled at finding parts to actually create their wacky inventions.

After Maxwell made it to high school, he happily joined the Engineering and Robotics club and he is at the yard sale looking for some neat parts for the robot they are working on this year.



Timothy Dudders

RESTRICTION: This character will unfold some LARGE plot elements. Please wait until about halfway through the game to enter this character.

Timothy Dudders is new to Hillside Trace. His father got a job about eight months ago at P.J. Mitchell's investment firm as a management consultant. Sadly, Timothy's dad has had to fire and lay off a number of people in the area due to "economical setbacks." This hasn't made Mr. Dudders or Timothy very popular people. Mrs. Dudders has tried to be hospitable and invite other mothers over for craft nights and cookie baking parties, but no one wants to spend time with her either. The entire family feels lonesome and depressed in Hillside Trace.

Before they lived in Hillside Trace, the Dudders lived in New York City. Timothy is used to a busy fast paced life style. Some of the slower paced and more routine days are out of the ordinary and a little bit dull for Timothy.

Unlike his mother and father who are at home sulking most of the time Timothy has been struck with a noble idea of going over to the Robinsons to make friends on his own. He feels really bad that his dad had to lay off Arthur Robinson, but there is no reason why he can't try to make friends with the Robinson boys and their daughter.

Timothy is 17 and is just a few weeks older than Samantha. He's got great grades, he's not dweeby. He's just a big hearted nice guy type of teenager trying to get out of his social rut.

