Auditions: Take place at Spotlight Studios, 66 N. Main Street in Fairport. No appointments necessary. You only need to attend one night.

Monday April 4 at 6pm. Wednesday April 6 at 7:30pm. Saturday April 9 at 10am.

Prepare: Please prepare one of the monologues on the next page; scenes will be read from the script at the audition.

This show will be double cast. One cast will be teens, one will be adults. Each cast will have three performances.

We are looking for strong, passionate actors, all ages and ethnicities encouraged to audition. Please do not type yourself out, do not role type against the movie.

Keep in mind that all the characters are Southern, so feel free to attempt a Southern accent!

Characters:

Truvy: 40-year-old owner of a small town beauty shop. She knows everyone’s business and shares it with anyone who will listen. Southern Belle. She always has advice for you, and they often come in the form of country sayings.

Annelle: very shy twenty-year-old hair-dresser. She goes from a very soft-spoken person to a bible-loving Christian with her heart on her sleeve.

Clairee: 60-year-old widow of the former mayor of Chinquapin. She is wealthy and also knows everyone’s business. She is the sarcastic member of the group. She loves to laugh and poke fun at the little things that others cry over. She is very close with Ouiser.

Shelby: Roughly 25-year-old diabetic young lady. Prettiest girl in town, and loved by all. She has a weird relationship with her mother, and often rebels just for the sake of rebellion.

M'Lynn: 50-year-old mother of Shelby. She is over-protective at times and finds the need to have a firm grasp on the world at all times. She is a busy woman who worries too much for her age.

Ouiser (pronounced Weezer): She is the same age as Clairee. She is a wealthy old bitty. She is a loveably miserable lady, though. Her unique personality and sense of humor is a great relief in the serious scenes. She is very close to Clairee.

The action is set in Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done. Helped by her eager new assistant, Annelle (who is not sure whether or not she is still married), the outspoken, wise-cracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser, ("I'm not crazy, I've just been in a bad mood for forty years"); an eccentric millionaire, Miss Clairee, who has a raging sweet tooth; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby (the prettiest girl in town), is about to marry a "good ole boy." Filled with hilarious repartee and not a few acerbic but humorously revealing verbal collisions, the play moves toward tragedy when, in the second act, the spunky Shelby (who is a diabetic) risks pregnancy and forfeits her life. The sudden realization of their mortality affects the others, but also draws on the underlying strength—and love—which give the play, and its characters, the special quality to make them truly touching, funny and marvelously amiable company in good times and bad.
Steel Magnolias Audition Packet

**Truvy** (talking to Annelle about the local gossip. She obviously knows it all)

I have a strict philosophy that I have stuck to for fifteen years... “There’s no such thing as natural beauty”. Remember that, or we’re out of a job. You must live close by. Within walking distance, I mean. I didn’t see a car. You live over at Robeline’s, right? Ruth Robeline, now there’s a story. She’s a twisted, troubled soul. Her life’s been an experiment in terror. Husband killed in Vietnam. I have to tell you, when it comes to suffering, she’s right up there with Elizabeth Taylor.

**Annette** (talking to M’lyn about Shelby’s death)

I think in Shelby’s case, she wanted to take care of that baby, of you, of everybody she knew... and her poor body was just worn out. It wouldn’t let her do everything she wanted to do. So she went to on to a place where she could be a guardian angel. She will always be young. She will always be beautiful. And I personally feel much safer knowing she’s up there on my side. I know some people might think that sounds real simple and stupid... and maybe I am. But that’s how I get through things like this.

**Clairee** (while telling everyone about her gay nephew)

I’m such a nosy old thing. I asked him how he...met people. ‘Cause in my day you could tell by a man’s carriage and demeanor by which side his bread was buttered on. But today? In this day and age? Who knows? I asked Marshall, “How can you tell?” and he says “All gay men have track lightin. And all gay men are named Mark, Rick, or Steve.” (laughs) He is such a nut...track lightin (laughs).

**Shelby** (talking to her mom about her pregnancy and her possible health problems)

Mama. I don’t know why you have to make everything so difficult. I look at having this baby as the opportunity of a lifetime. Sure, there may be some risk involved. That's true for anybody. But you get through it and life goes on. And when it’s all said and done there’ll be a piece of immortality with Jackson’s looks and my sense of style...I hope. Mama, please. I need your support. I would rather have thirty minutes of wonderful than a lifetime of nothing special.

**M'Lynn** (talking, through tears, about the last minutes with Shelby)

I stayed there. I kept on pushing...just like I always have where Shelby was concerned...hoping she’d sit up and argue with me. But finally we all realized there was no hope. At that point I panicked. I was afraid that I wouldn’t survive the next few minutes while they turned off the machines. Drum couldn’t take it. He left. Jackson couldn’t take it. He left. It struck me as amusing. Men are supposed to be made of steel or something. But I couldn’t leave. I just sat there holding Shelby’s hand while the sounds got softer and the beeps got farther apart until all was quiet. There was no noise, no tremble. Just peace. I realized as a woman how lucky I was. I was there when this wonderful person drifted into this world, and I was there when she drifted out. It was the most precious moment of my life so far.

**Ouiser** (arguing with Clairee over going out to get cultured in New York)

Let’s get one thing straight. I don’t see plays because I can nap at home for free. I don’t see movies because they’re all trash and full of naked people. And I don’t read books because if they’re any good, they’ll be made into a mini-series. And as far as Owen is concerned, Clairee, a dirty mind is a terrible thing to waste. We are friends. He would like more. I’m dealing with that. But I am old and set in my ways. Besides, I can’t help that men find me desirable.