

*Needs:*

- *Someone to video tape/ photograph this whole charade –Patty Gehring, Mei-Hwa Neil*
- *Someone to stand with a microphone behind the chalkboard – Ellen Rice*
- *Someone to setup chairs at the beginning, or through out as guests are ready to sit down – Carole Pappas*
- *One microphone for behind the chalkboard*
- *One microphone for Leslie & Louise (use microphone Bill Vernon has been using)*

*Color-coding –*

- Black is spoken text*
- Blue is general notes and directions*
- Plum is Leslie as Ralph Edwards*
- Green is Jim & Susan*
- Orange is Lorraine*
- Pink is Bette*
- Aqua is John*
- Gold is Joanne*
- Red is Ed A*

*Let Louise begin whatever she has planned for Honor Couple (who she thinks is Eddie & Leslie) and then Leslie interrupts her, and goes into the “This is Your Life” routine. Except that everything is made up and has little to do with her actual life.*

*The cast:*

*Leslie – Ralph Edwards (Ralph Edwards was the host of the old TV show “This is Your Life”.)*

*Jim & Susan – Jochi & Borti Khan, Louise’s real parents, descended from Genghis Khan.*

*Lorraine – Vilma Von Vliet, Louise’s Prussian step-mother.*

*Bette – Buffy Body, a sorority girl from Louise’s scandalous college years, speaks like a valley girl.*

*John - Bozo the Clown, Louise’s deadbeat college boyfriend, now dead.*

*Joanne - Sen. Mumbles, who now speaks only Polish.*

*Ed A - Billy Bob Thornton, Louise’s cowboy country-western dance partner.*

*Leslie gets up and starts talking over whatever Louise is doing.*

*Leslie -* Ladies and Gentlemen, we are sorry to interrupt your regularly scheduled presentation. Louise is here because she thinks she is honoring someone in the club. But actually we have lured her here for something else.

My name is Ralph Edwards. Louise Von Vliet, THIS IS YOUR LIFE!

*Bring stool over for Louise to sit on, set up several chairs next to the stool for guests. Move chalk board into position as a curtain, Ellen positioned next to it with a microphone for hidden guests. Guests should line up behind the board.*

*Cue intro music, announcer says:*

Louise Von Vliet  
This is Your Life  
With Ralph Edwards

*Leslie (as Ralph Edwards) -*

Louise, you thought were born in xxx, xxx  
but actually you were born to a Mongolian Hoard couple.  
Do you recognize this voice?

*Susan, from behind the chalkboard, in Chinese –*

Louise, you ungrateful child, you never even send us Christmas cards.

*Leslie -* Yes, Louise, those are your long lost parents, Jochi and Borti Khan,  
Great, great, great, great, great, grandchildren to Genghis Khan.

*(Jim & Susan come in, need something that would make them look like Mongolian raiders, Susan swoons over Louise, Jim stomps past Louise, unhappy that he must be seen with her. He is very stern.)*

*Leslie –* So, Mr. & Mrs. Khan, tell us about your daughter.

*Susan -* Louise thought she was born from a Prussian family, but she was really ours. I loved her so much, and wanted to keep her.

*Jim –* We were so embarrassed. Here we were, Mongolian Royalty, and we have this child. Well, we certainly couldn't keep her AND show our faces in Mongolian Society. So we ran a quick raid to Prussia and left her on a doorstep.

*Susan –* She is so ungrateful, she never even sends us Christmas cards.

*Leslie –* Well, that is an amazing story. Mr. & Mrs. Khan, won't you have a seat over here, please.  
Don't worry Louise, we're not going to let them get away, but we need to move on.

*Leslie* – Louise, now you were in Prussia, a babe on a doorstep. Do you recognize this voice?

*Lorraine, in German, from behind the chalkboard (as her Prussian step-mother, hair up in a bun) –*

Ein schreckliches, schreiendes Bündel wurde an meiner Tür gelassen. Es roch nicht gut. (An obnoxious, crying bundle was left on my doorstep. She didn't smell right either.)

*Leslie* – Yes, Louise, that is your Prussian step-mother, Vilma Von Vliet. Come on in Vilma.

*Lorraine walks out and over to Louise, between Leslie & Louise.*

Vilma, tell us about Louise's childhood.

*Lorraine* – An obnoxious, crying bundle was left on meine doorstep. She smelt nicht so gut. I was going to kick her away from the doorstep, aber meine husband wouldn't let me. We could not afford another mouth to feed. So we finally moved to the US to make our fortune as sanitary engineers. Of course, Louise had other ideas. Nothing was good enough for her. She was ashamed of our Prussian accent and our Prussian heritage. She changed her name to from "Von" to "Van" (she thought *dutch* was so much better). She took our fortune and ran away to become a college student, and then a speech pathologist. We would have preferred she become a clown and join a circus, but no, she had to be a Doctor. We were so embarrassed.

*Leslie* – (*incredulously*) Ok, thank you Vilma. Why don't you have a seat over here, please.

*Lorraine goes and sits next to Jim & Susan. They all give each other disgusting or dirty looks.*

*Leslie* - Wow, Louise, it seems you had a rough childhood, disappointing everyone who loved you.  
But now you've made it to college and this lays the foundation for your future success as a speech pathologist.  
Do you remember this voice?

*Bette, from behind the chalkboard (as a sorority girl from her scandalous college years. Needs the right clothes, a blond wig, a wad of chewing gum in her mouth, speaks like a valley girl. She does not really like Louise, but she had to put up with her for the sorority's sake. )*

I'll never forget the first time I saw Louise at college, dressed in that, like, CLOWN outfit. Like, she was so naïve about the world.

*Leslie* - Yes, Louise, that is one of the sorority girls who took you under their wing and helped you make it through college. It's Buffy Body.  
*Bette comes out and joins Louise – maybe with a superficial kissy kissy without ever hugging, she wants to keep her distance.*  
Buffy, how did you and your sorority overcome Louise's harsh childhood?

*Bette* - Like, she obviously had a vivid imagination because she would, like, tell other students she was descended from Genghis Khan, but, like, that Prussian accent gave her away. Like, my sorority loved to kick her around, but then, like, the college threatened to like, shut down our house. So, she, like, became our sorority project. We, like, got rid of the clown outfit, like signed her up for speech classes to get rid of that, like, accent, and the rest is history. Like, ok, there were some bumps along the way, like when she fell in love with a deadbeat and wanted to run off to the circus. But we, like, didn't want to lose our sorority charter, so we, like, killed her boyfriend and, like, dragged her back to school.

*Leslie* - Incredible!  
*Leslie leads Bette over to a chair to get rid of her, then comes back to continue with Louise. Leslie needs to regain her composure before continuing.*

*Leslie* - So we've learned that college was a defining force in your life. But do you recognize this voice?

*John, from behind the chalkboard (as her DEAD, deadbeat college boyfriend, Bozo the Clown. Need to look dead and like a clown, maybe a clown wig would be enough. Also needs a horn to honk.)*  
(honk honk) Yeah, Louise was the love of my life. (honk honk)

*Leslie* - Yes, Louise, that is the love of your life, your long dead, clown of a boyfriend, Bozo.  
*John comes out and saunters slowly over to Louise.*  
Bozo, we are pleased you could join us today. Tell us how you fell in love with Louise.

*John* - Welllll, we found we had this common interest in the circus. We started to run away to the circus together, but I don't seem to remember anything after that.  
*John then looks lost and wanders off to a chair.*

*Leslie* - *Just watches John wander off, and shakes her head.*

*Leslie* - Well, Louise, I'm sure that was a difficult time of your life. But you stayed in college and threw yourself into your studies, and you eventually earned your doctorate in speech pathology and found yourself a job. You've overcome your own problems, so now you throw yourself into helping other people realize success in their lives. Do you recognize this voice?

*Joanne* - *Joanne says something in Polish.*

*Leslie* - Louise, that is the biggest success of your life, Sen. Mumbles from Hawaii.

Sen. Mumbles won't you join us please.

*Joanne hesitates coming out, because she does not understand English anymore. So Ellen has to guide her from behind the board and give her a little nudge. At that point she recognizes Louise and very animatedly runs over to her, babbling in Polish.*

Louise, maybe you can get the Senator to quiet down.

As you know, the Senator became Aphasic after a freak surfing accident. With much diligence, you helped her regain speech – but only in Polish. Fortunately, no one on the Senate floor noticed the difference. Louise perhaps you can tell us just a little about how you helped this person overcome aphasia.

Louise - *will say something or nothing*

*Leslie* - Leslie will butt in and continue with the show.  
Ok, isn't that nice. Let's move on.

*Bette* - *Bette will come over and lead Joanne to a chair, because Joanne should be looking lost since she doesn't understand any English.*

*Leslie -* Louise, you have had a successful career. But your adult life has been more than just work. You enjoy many activities outside of work. These include *(these are things she is not really into, I hope)*: mountain climbing, miniature trains, mud wrestling, bareback horseback riding, and country western dancing. Louise, you should recognize this voice.

*Ed A - (in his best southern accent & wearing a western hat)*

Ah jes love to lead Louise in a two-step 'round the dance floor each week.

*Leslie -* Yes, Louise, that is you favorite two-stepping partner, Billy Bob Thornton. Come on out, Billy Bob!

*Ed Anderson saunters out like a big cowboy to stand on the far side of Louise with his arm around her.*

Billy Boob, er Bob, is Louise a good dancer?

*Ed -* Wah, no, Ralph, she ain't.

*(pause for a couple of seconds, then with too much enthusiasm, speak)*

But ah don't care, cause she's jes the cutest little gal around.

*(Ed gives her a big squeeze and a peck on the cheek.)*

*Leslie -* That's great Billy Bob. Just have a seat there, you'll be able to smooch her more in a moment.

Louise, you've had a great life. On behalf of the "This is Your Life" show and staff, we'd like to thank you for being such a good sport today.

We have this wonderful "This is Your Life" locket, especially made for you, including pictures of you and your parents, well someone's parents, anyway.

And we also have for you this wonderful memory book. All your friends can write messages in it after the show.

Your memory book also includes a handsome certificate and the letter nominating you for our show, read now by Mr. Bill Vernon.

*.... Bill reads the nomination letter.*

*If she has come, introduce Jean Aills, President of the Miami Valley Dance Council.*

