



Harvey

Character Breakdown

Elwood P. Dowd: The central character of the play, a friendly eccentric who spends his days and nights in the taverns of his unnamed town. Elwood's best friend is Harvey, an invisible six and a half-foot-tall rabbit.

Veta Louise Simmons: Elwood's sister who is becoming undone by her brother's relationship with the invisible Harvey. She decides to have Elwood committed to a sanitarium to spare the family any further embarrassment. However, the easily flustered Veta ends up being committed herself when she confesses that she too feels that she sometimes "sees" Harvey.

Myrtle Mae Simmons: Myrtle lives with her widowed mother Veta in her Uncle Elwood's home. Unmarried and eager to meet eligible men but believes her uncle's peculiar behavior is ruining her chances.

Ethel Chauvenet: An old friend of the family. She is a member of the town's social circle, which Veta wants her daughter Myrtle Mae to break into.

Betty Chumley: More concerned with socializing than with science: told that her husband has to examine a patient, she tells him, "Give a little quick diagnosis, Willie - we don't want to be late to the party." Dr. Chumley's Wife.

Dr. William B. Chumley: An esteemed psychiatrist and the head of the sanitarium, Chumley's Rest, to which Veta has Elwood taken. He is a difficult, exacting man, feared by his subordinates, unwilling to tolerate his mistakes.

Judge Omar Gaffney: An old family friend of the Dowd's, a representative of the people in town who are accustomed to seeing Elwood talking to Harvey and who do not think anything of it.

Nurse Ruth Kelly: An attractive young nurse with a crush on the handsome but obtuse psychiatrist Dr. Sanderson. She is charmed by Elwood's courtly ways.

Dr. Lyman Sanderson: Young, but very qualified psychiatrist - Dr. Chumley has picked him out of the twelve possible assistants that he tried. He is just as infatuated with Nurse Kelly as she is with him, but he only reveals his concern indirectly.

Wilson: The muscle of Chumley's Rest, a devoted orderly responsible for handling the patients who will not cooperate voluntarily.

E. J. Lofgren: Cab driver who regularly takes patients to and from Chumley's Rest - and sees the negative results.

Cateress/Maid: Works for the Simmons household.