



# THE “MISS OVERFLOWING TEACUP” PAGEANT

## **Production Notes**

A one-act skit, a teacup pageant where each contestant describes the “tea” she contains, and then is asked to “tip over” and we discover the true contents of her heart.

**SUMMARY:** Seven contestants (teacups) vie for the title of “Miss Overflowing Teacup, to be chosen by the Everlasting Teapot. The pageant winner will be filled with Living Water.

**THEME:** The retreat theme was “Tea for Two - Lessons from Mary and Martha” from Luke 10:38-42. However, this skit could easily be used with any theme centered around being filled by the Spirit (Eph. 5:18), or Living Water (John 4:10 and John 7:38). The visual theme was teapots and teacups.

## **CHARACTERS:**

Narrator  
Mr. Everlasting Teapot  
Ms. China Teacup (gold rim, bling)  
Ms. Boulder Colorado Teacup (bold colors, long flirty eyelashes)  
Ms. Tombstone Arizona Teacup (cracks and chips)  
Ms. Dixie Alabama Teacup (like a Dixie Cup)  
Ms. Plano Teacup (plain, white teacup)  
Ms. Las Vegas Teacup (shaped like a wine glass)  
Ms. Waterford Connecticut Teacup (as much like crystal as possible)

## **SETTING AND PROPS**

Seven teacups and one large teapot were cut from poster board. Each teacup was the same shape except for Dixie Cup (looked like a Dixie Cup) and Miss Las Vegas (shaped like a wine glass). Each was decorated according to the character who would be wearing it, and was worn around her neck. Also, they could wear their name on a banner, as they do in beauty pageants.

The Everlasting Teapot stood behind a podium, and the poster board teapot was taped to the podium. Beside the podium was a box or bucket, holding all of the various props. When each teacup comes up and “tips over,” the Everlasting Teapot reaches into this container to pull out what “He” sees when the teacup pour out her contents.

Props: fake money, fake moth, heavy chain, lacey black lingerie, lemon and bay leaves in a small Ziploc baggie, dirty rag, empty Ziploc baggie, Bible.

Prize: Crown or roses

**TIMING:** Approximately 15-20 minutes



Intro Music: "I've Got a River of Life"

## THE "MISS OVERFLOWING TEACUP" PAGEANT

Intro Music: "I've Got a River of Life"

**Narrator:** Welcome to the "The Everlasting Teapot Show" sponsor of "The Miss Overflowing Teacup Pageant." Today I am honored to introduce to you seven lovely teacups who have come from all parts of the world, each vying for the position of Miss Overflowing Teacup. Before the night is over, at least one of these teacups will be chosen, and will be filled up to overflowing with a lifetime supply of living water from the Everlasting Teapot. And here's the star of our show, the Bright and Morning Star, the Giver of Life, the Fair and Righteous Judge—Mr. Everlasting Teapot. (*entrance music "Hallelujah Chorus" optional*)

**Mr. Everlasting Teapot:** Our contestants will be judged not by their outer beauty, but more importantly--upon their contents—for I know their hearts and I can see them not only as they are now, but as they can become if they allow me to fill them.

**Narrator:** Without further ado, let's bring out our contestants one by one. (*Teacups enter one by one as their name is called, walking across the stage as if on a runway, with exaggerated expressions and actions*)

Our first teacup is **Miss China Teacup**. Our only international contestant, Miss China Teacup is special because of her English Bone heritage. Of all china teacups, English Bone is the most costly, made from bone ash, china stone and clay. Her ivory finish is one-of-a-kind. Her exquisite workmanship is of rare beauty. Notice the 18-carat gold gilded rim, and the delicate pattern adorned with tiny diamonds. Of course, she can only be gently hand-washed in soft water. However, this teacup rarely serves; instead, she spends much of her time on display. She was once the featured teacup on "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous". She belongs in a palace or a country club, or at least a very fine china cabinet. She prefers the elite company of the world's wealthy.

Next up, is **Miss Boulder Colorado Teacup**. This is a thoroughly modern teacup—a teacup of the '90's. Her bold and daring design reminds one of the Art Deco era. Her colors are bold and brassy. She has a tin glaze. She isn't particular about who handles her. This is no demure, innocent teacup to be used by your maiden aunt on a summer evening. She's got it and she flaunts it. Men seem to be drawn to this teacup. She is often seen on bed trays.

Next we have **Miss Tombstone Arizona Teacup**. Coming from a town that is now only a ghost town is appropriate, for Miss Tombstone Teacup has been abandoned, left in ruins and has a lot of ghosts in her past. Reminiscent of tea parties in days gone by, Miss Tombstone Teacup shows signs of age, cracks and chips which have rendered her virtually useless today. Her pattern was long ago retired, and there are not many like her around. She was used too much when she was new, and now she prefers to sit, forgotten, on a shelf with other antiques and forms of depression glass. People rarely touch her now. If she does serve tea, it is only a bitter variety.

Next, **Miss Dixie Alabama Teacup**, known by her friends as **Miss Dixie Cup**. She can be used as a teacup, but she is temporary and easily crushed. She is known to live for the day, because she is here today and gone tomorrow. Her nature makes her perfect for traveling, for all occasions from sports events to receptions. Her greatest desire is to please people, be happy and have fun.

Next, from the great state of Texas, **Miss Plano Teacup**. She is very plain from the outside, but that very simplicity is her strength. This is a very versatile and useful cup. In plain white, she can adorn any table and feel at home. She feels comfortable serving formal dinners as well as a neighborhood tea—and she is quite capable of doing anything that she sets her mind to.

Next, **Miss Las Vegas Teacup**. Tall and curvaceous, Miss Las Vegas has a shape unique to teacups. In fact, she could double as a wine glass. By daylight she may seem drab, but at night, she sparkles. She loves to party, but tea parties are not her cup of tea. She much prefers something a bit stronger. A tea-totaler she is not! Her motto is “eat, drink and be merry.” She prefers the jet-set, and she is always available to party.

Finally, **Miss Waterford Connecticut Teacup**. A teacup like this is rare and costly. A Waterford teacup is made of durable glass characterized by its brilliance, clarity and highly refractive quality. Her glass is uniquely cut to reflect the light from many angles. Therefore, she tends to bring light to dark places.

Let’s have another round of applause for our seven finalists. You may have chosen your favorites already. But the judging of their contents is yet to come.

Each contestant will have 30 seconds to describe their contents as best they can, and each will be judged on her own merits by the Everlasting Teapot, using His eternal perspective. *(Each teacup, as her name is called, comes to the podium and tips over as if pouring into the container by The Everlasting Teapot. The Everlasting Teapot speaks to each teacup after seeing her contents and the teacup responds with her exaggerated expression. Then she walks to the other side of the stage to wait for the winner to be selected)*

**Narrator:** Miss China Teacup:

**Miss China Teacup:**

If you tip me over, you will see  
Clothes and things in my treasury  
Making more money is priori-tea  
Shopping is a necessi-tea  
Granting all my desires indulgently  
And investing in an annui-tea  
Should prepare me for eternity.  
*(looks expectantly at the Everlasting Teapot)*

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup, I do see some of those things she mentioned. In fact, she is filled with “things” *(pulls out money...then moth)* But, moths and rust have corrupted much of it. Thieves can break through and steal her treasures. She is not as prepared for eternity as she thinks. That kind of treasure is not to be relied upon—certainly not as a preparation for eternity. Only treasures in heaven have eternal value, Miss China Teacup. You have no room for the Living Water I would pour into you. Perhaps the answer is for you to get rid of those “things” that you cling to so fervently. They don’t have eternal value.  
*(Miss China Teacup turns away sadly)*

**Narrator:** Miss Boulder Colorado Teacup:

**Miss Boulder Colorado Teacup:**

If you tip me over, you will see  
That I am lacking morally

At every opportunity I flirt recklessly  
I make no effort to preserve puri-tea  
I am filled with sensuali-tea  
My flattering words are spoken seductively  
I take no thought of eternity.

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup, (*pull out black lace undergarment*), I see the path to death and destruction, not only for her, but for those who have succumbed to what she has to offer. She has forgotten that she was bought with a price. Instead she is willing to sell herself for so little. She doesn't realize the great value I place on her, just as she is. Before I could fill her with Living Water, she would need to repent and turn from her evil ways.

**Narrator:** Next, Miss Tombstone Teacup:

**Miss Tombstone Teacup:**

If you tip me over, you will see  
The remaining bitter tea leaves from my misery  
Guilt and pain are my history  
Along with hurts and abuses and injury  
Unforgiveness and bitterness I cling to inwardly  
Are all a part of my identi-tea  
Yet I suffer silently  
I look with dread toward eterni-tea.

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup (*pulls out baggie of lemon and bay leaves*), I see a life soured by the old tea leaves of her past that flavor and corrupt everything else put into the teacup. When injustices occur, she chooses to keep each one on file, to review at a later date. That “chip” on her shoulder is still an open wound. In her condition, Living Water would not last long in her cup—because bitterness tends to drain a cup. She must make a decision to forget those things which are behind, and allow forgiveness and love to dissolve the hurts she contains.

**Narrator:** Next, Miss Dixie Cup:

**Miss Dixie Cup** (*very southern accent*)

If you tip me ovah you will see  
That I have no need for longevity

My goal in life is popularity  
Livin' for today is my priority  
I'll be whatever you want me to be  
So loosen up and let go of your anxiety  
Tomorrow I'll worry about eternity.

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup, I see that she is empty (*empty baggie*). She is a cup who longs for acceptance. But she is looking for love in all the wrong places. She is obsessed with people-pleasing, but that will never satisfy her. The happiness that she seeks is fleeting. Before I can fill this cup, and meet her deep need for love and acceptance, she needs to recognize her need to be filled.

**Narrator:** Next, Miss Plano Teacup:

### **Miss Plano Texas Teacup**

If you tip me over, you will see  
My cup is full of good works done faithfully  
I fulfill my obligations efficiently  
My shelf holds awards for my abili-tea  
I am known for my versatili-tea  
And I attend church religiously  
That should prepare me for eterni-tea!

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup (*pulls out filthy rag*), all I can see are filthy rags of her own righteousness. In the world's eyes, she accomplishes a lot, but it is all in her own strength, without seeking God's will. Those filthy rags of her own righteousness are always accompanied by a full cup of pride—and Living Water and pride will never mix. Before I can fill her with Living Water, she needs to pour her contents out on an altar.

**Narrator:** Next, Miss Las Vegas Teacup:

### **Miss Las Vegas Teacup:**

If you tip me over, you will see  
I thrive on spontanae-tea  
My life is centered on festivi-tea  
Bar-hopping, partying and revelry  
I often lack in sobrie-tea



Saying “No” to drugs is not my cup of tea  
My addictions have affected my sanity  
I’ll think later about eterni-tea.

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup, I see her chains (*pull out chains*). Sin and alcohol have enslaved her. She is deceived, and she is actually filled with drunkenness and sorrow. Before she can be filled with Living Water, she needs to be set free of those chains. And there is only One who can set her free—and when He sets her free, she will be free, indeed!

**Narrator:** Finally, Miss Waterford Connecticut Teacup:

**Miss Waterford Connecticut Teacup:**

If you tip me over, you will see  
A cup who strives for puri-tea  
And when I face adversi-tea  
I wait on God prayerfully  
I desire spiritual maturi-tea  
And yet fall short continually  
I rely on His grace regularly  
And Jesus is my sure eternity!

**Everlasting Teapot:** When I look in this teacup, I see a cup full of salvation (*pull out Bible*). She not full of herself, but she’s humble and recognizes that in herself she is nothing. Most importantly, she is coming to Jesus as the Author and Finisher of her faith, not relying on material things, outward beauty or good works, all of which have no eternal value.

*(Miss Waterford joins other teacups)*

Although I’d like to fill you all, and there is plenty of Living Water to go around, only one of you is ready at this point. There is one who can be filled with that Living Water, and with that filling, receive the abundant life that I desire for all to have. As she comes to me daily, I will fill her to overflowing with my Living Water, which will enable her to walk in the Spirit. And the winner is: Miss Waterford Connecticut Teacup!

*(Miss Waterford Teacup gasps! Covers face with her hands, receives crown/roses—goes and kneels at his feet. Teapot tips over to fill her while narrator is saying next lines)*

**Narrator:** So, we have our winner—and **Miss Waterford Connecticut** looks radiant as she acknowledges her win. To collect her prize, she will need to daily ask the Everlasting Teapot to fill her.

**The Everlasting Teapot:** *(addressing himself to the “losers”)* I want to say that those of you who did not win tonight don’t need to remain in your “lost” condition. There is hope for each of you. You can be restored to the purpose that your Creator intended for you. If you make that decision, choosing to allow the renovation, each one of you could hold the Living Water with which I long to fill you.

**Narrator:** Thank you for coming to “The Everlasting Teapot Show”.