An Embarrassing Moment



It was Dexter Dinklaker's most embarrassing moment ever: one minute, he was wowing the cruise ship audience with his spot-on impersonation of Fred Astaire doing the ceiling dance from "Royal Wedding;" the next, he was crumpled in a heap on the floor in front of the stage. Those intricate cables and pulleys that allowed Astaire to pooh-pooh the law of gravity on the movie set just weren't designed for a guy who weighed two hundred and thirty-two pounds. Ironically, Dexter landed mere inches away from a startled Mrs. McGillicuddy, the show's choreographer, who didn't want him to reprise Astaire's role in the first place. She deemed it a sacrilege. Oh, if *only* he'd twisted to the left a bit when he fell, he could have silenced her ever carping voice once and for all! Well, too late now. Dexter winced as he tried to get up. His sacroiliac had gone out again. And this ship's owners refused to provide its employees workers' compensation. Still, as any performer knows, the show must go on. So he staggered to his feet and, still dazed, continued with his "It's a Small World" routine to negligible audience interest.