



# Arsenic & Old Lace

(1944)

## Synopsis

A drama critic learns on his wedding day that his beloved maiden aunts are homicidal maniacs, and that insanity runs in his family. Leonard Maltin says, "Hilarious adaptation ... [f]rantic cast is excellent, especially Lorre and Massey..."

## Cast

<u>Actor</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Actor</u>	<u>Character</u>
Cary Grant .....	Mortimer Brewster	Josephine Hull.....	Abby Brewster
Priscilla Lane.....	Elaine Harper	Jean Adair .....	Martha Brewster
Raymond Massey .....	Jonathan Brewster	John Alexander ..	'Teddy Roosevelt' Brewster
Jack Carson.....	O'Hara	Grant Mitchell.....	Reverend Harper
Edward Everett Horton .....	Mr. Witherspoon	Edward McNamara .....	Brophy
Peter Lorre .....	Dr. Einstein	Garry Owen.....	Taxi Cab Driver
James Gleason.....	Lt. Rooney	John Ridgely .....	Saunders

## Trivia & Quotes

Although filmed in 1941 the movie wasn't released until 1944 as the stage play had prior performance rights until closing in June 1944.

Cary Grant was uncomfortable with his over-the-top performance as directed by Frank Capra. Capra promised to re-shoot the broadest scenes, but was called to duty in WWII before reshoots could be done.

Mortimer Brewster: "I probably should have told you this before but, you see, well... insanity runs in my family." [He hears Abby and Martha singing] "It practically gallops!"