

Part II

Sitcom: story or spectacle?

Don't expect the idea for your first sitcom series to just pop into your head. It might, but it's more likely to come slowly, in bits and pieces. You'll get a vague notion, perhaps prompted by a piece in a newspaper or magazine. With a little thought this may firm up into a half idea. Work on that. Polish it. Make notes. Perhaps the thought of a particular performer playing the main character will get you excited. 'Or suppose I made it a *woman!* Aha!' (Brian Cooke, *Writing Comedy for Television*, Methuen, 1983)