

# **REWIND**

**Book and Lyrics**

**by**

**Michael DiGaetano**

**Music and Lyrics**

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**Adam Shenk and Michael DiGaetano**

**Michaelwriterguy@aol.com**

**310-920-5015**

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ACT ONESCENE 1

EXT. PEPPER PIKE ACADEMIE' HIGH SCHOOL FRONT ENTRANCE (1994)

A banner reading "ORDER YOUR 1994 PEPPER PIKE ACADEMIE' YEARBOOK NOW!" hangs across the colonial pillars. In the parking lot, BMW, Mercedes, and Porsche grilles glimmer in the December sun. A school bell rings. We HEAR a cacophony of car alarms beeping as RICH KIDS exit the school and head to their expensive rides.

SONG: RICH KIDS

RICH KIDS

FROM THE MOMENT OF MY BIRTH  
FROM MY FIRST DAY HERE ON EARTH  
I HAVEN'T HAD A WORRY OR A CARE.  
GOT EVERYTHING I NEEDED  
AND BECAUSE OF THAT PROCEEDED  
TO DEMAND THAT I GET MORE THAN MY SHARE.

RICH KID #1

I THINK THAT I'M GONNA  
MAKE MY DAD BUILD ME A SAUNA  
SINCE WE'RE DOUBLING THE SIZE OF OUR POOL.

RICH KID #2 (BRENT)

MY S.A.T'S WERE SHIT.  
OHIO STATE SAID I DON'T FIT.  
SO MY DAD'LL GIVE A MILLION TO THE SCHOOL.

RICH KIDS

RICH KIDS NEVER HEAR THE WORD "NO".  
ANYTHING WE ASK FOR MOM AND DAD MAKE IS SO.  
HUNDRED DOLLAR SHOES OR FRONT ROW SEATS FOR A SHOW.  
WE ARE LAZY, PAMPERED SPOILED ROTTEN RICH KIDS.

DEREK BELL, 17, and his brother  
DANNY BELL, 16, exit the building.  
They head to their beat-up bikes.

DEREK

WE GO TO SCHOOL AT PEPPER PIKE  
A SITUATION WE DISLIKE.  
THE MOST EXCLUSIVE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE.

DANNY

SINCE OUR DAD'S A TEACHER HERE  
THEY LET US IN BUT LET'S BE CLEAR  
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE DAY I GRADUATE.

DEREK  
 I'M SO SICK OF SEEING  
 ALL THESE SPOILED BRATS GO SKIING  
 OR FLYING TO HAWAII FOR SOME SUN.

DANNY  
 WE'RE BROKE AND THAT JUST SUCKS.  
 MY SHOES COST ONLY SEVEN BUCKS.  
 WE ARE NOTHING BUT A JOKE TO EVERYONE.

DEREK, DANNY AND RICH KIDS  
 RICH KIDS

DEREK  
 THEY MAKE ME HEAVE  
 I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY THAT I GET TO LEAVE.

DEREK, DANNY AND RICH KIDS  
 RICH KIDS

DANNY  
 THEY MAKE ME SPUE  
 THEY GET TO DO THE FUN STUFF WE CAN'T DO.

RICH KID #3  
 I'M SO GLAD IT'S WINTER BREAK.

RICH KID #4  
 YOU STAYING HERE OR GONNA TAKE  
 A TRIP TO THE BAHAMAS OR CANCUN?

RICH KID #3  
 MOM'S THINKING DISNEYLAND  
 BUT I LOOK HOTTER WHEN I'M TANNED  
 I'LL JUST MAKE THEM CHANGE THAT TRIP TO MAY OR JUNE

RICH KIDS  
 (into cell phones)  
 DADDY I MUST TROUBLE YOU  
 FOR A BMW.  
 I'M TIRED OF MY PORSCHE 9-4-4.

RICH KID #5 (STACY)  
 (Into cell phone)  
 DON'T WANT TO GIVE A SCARE  
 BUT IF YOU SAY NO, YOUR AFFAIR  
 I CAN'T SWEAR I WON'T TELL MOM OF ANYMORE.

RICH KIDS  
 WHEN YOU'RE RICH YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMPETE.  
 MONEY BUYS YOU HAPPINESS AND THAT'S KINDA NEAT.  
 IT DOESN'T SUCK BEING IN THE ELITE.  
 I'M A LAZY, PAMPERED, SPOILED ROTTEN RICH KID.

STACY and BRENT approach DANNY and  
 DEREK.

STACY

Hey, Danny, you and Derek want to, like go to the WIXY radio concert tomorrow night?

BRENT

It's a benefit to save starving children from eating dolphins in the rain forest... Or something like that.

DANNY

Who's playing?

BRENT

Elton John. Sheryl Crow. Janet Jackson.

STACY

I made our housekeeper stand on line to buy tickets. I locked her kids in the wine cellar so she wouldn't, like, run off with the money.

DANNY

Sounds great. How much are tickets?

STACY

Tickets are like, only three hundred dollars.

DEREK

We don't have, like, only six hundred dollars.

DANNY

We've never had, like, only six hundred dollars.

DEREK

Hey, Stacy, I can't afford to go to the concert but maybe we can go to a movie some time.

STACY

You're cute and all, Derek, but my father won't let me go out with boys whose parents make less than he does and your dad makes, like, nothing.

BRENT

(To Derek and Danny)

I can't imagine being poor like you guys. I would've killed myself by now.

STACY and BRENT walk off.

DANNY

It's not too late.

DEREK

IF YOU'RE IN A LOWER INCOME GROUP  
THEY TREAT YOU LIKE SOME NINCOMPOOP.  
WE'RE THE POOREST KIDS IN OUR CLASS.

DANNY

DAD SAY STRUGGLE MAKES YOU STRONGER.  
I CAN'T TAKE THIS TOO MUCH LONGER.  
WE WEREN'T BORN WITH SILVER SPOONS UP OUR ASS.

DEREK

WE DON'T HAVE A POT TO PISS IN.  
LOOK AT ALL THE FUN WE'RE MISSIN'.  
I REALLY WISH WE'D GET SOME KINDA BREAK.

DANNY

I LOVE MY DAD AND MOTHER  
AND I TOLERATE MY BROTHER.  
DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH MORE LOSING I CAN TAKE.

DEREK

I hate how they all think they're better than  
us because they have money. I'll make something  
of myself some day and show them all.

DANNY

Me too. As soon as I turn eighteen, I'm going  
to start buying lottery tickets.

Pepper Pike Academie' principal  
HARLAND TANNER, mid-forties, a  
geeky man known as 'Principal  
Puke, approaches DANNY and DEREK.

MR. TANNER

Good night, boys.

DEREK AND DANNY

Good night, Principal Tanner.

DANNY

Oh, Principal Tanner, I ate lunch in the  
cafeteria today and found one of those ladies's  
fake finger nails in my apple sauce.

PRINCIPAL TANNER covers his mouth  
and runs behind a bush to hurl.

DEREK

Good one.

DANNY

Thanks.

DEREK

EVEN THOUGH I PRACTICE HARD  
I'LL NEVER GO TO JUILLIARD  
LEARNING MUSIC THERE WOULD BE SO NICE.

IT'S REALLY KIND OF SHITTY  
I CAN'T LIVE IN NEW YORK CITY.

DANNY  
THE PIZZA THERE COSTS SEVEN BUCKS A SLICE.

RAY BELL, mid-forties, Derek's and  
Danny's geeky father, approaches.

RAY  
Hey guys, stop making Principal Puke, I mean  
making Principal Tanner throw up.

DANNY  
Sorry, dad. We won't do it again. Today.

DEREK  
Hey dad, can we borrow six hundred dollars to  
go to a concert?

RAY  
I only teach music, guys. I didn't invent it.  
If you need money, go play the open mic night  
at Howie's.

DANNY  
You know I can't play in front of people  
because of what happened.

RAY  
You play in front of your mother and I.

DANNY  
You're not people. You're our parents.

DEREK  
It sucks being the poorest kids in this school.

RAY  
You boys look over there. That's being poor.

A homeless man in his mid-forties  
is rummaging through a dumpster.

RAY (CONT'D)  
He had such potential. Remember, boys, struggle  
makes you stronger. Don't throw your lives away  
like he did. Be home in time for dinner.

DANNY  
We'll try.

RAY  
Not throwing your lives away like he did or  
being home in time for dinner?

DEREK  
Both.

RAY goes to the dumpster, hands  
the homeless man a few bucks, then  
walks off.

RICH KIDS  
NEW YEAR'S EVE IS GONNA BE HOT.

RICH KID #5 (STACY)  
WE'RE GOING TO A PARTY ON SOME RUSSIAN GUY'S YACHT.

RICH KIDS  
I'D RATHER BE A HAVE...

DEREK AND DANNY  
THAN A HAVE-NOT.

RICH KIDS  
WE ARE LAZY, PAMPERED, SPOILED ROTTEN RICH KIDS.

DEREK AND DANNY  
LIFE'S NOT SUNNY WHEN YOU HAVEN'T GOT MONEY.  
WE WISH THAT WE WERE PAMPERED, LAZY...

RICH KIDS  
WE'RE SO RICH IT DRIVES THEM CRAZY.

The rich kids go to their cars.

DEREK AND DANNY AND RICH KIDS  
LAZY, PAMPERED, SPOILED, ROTTEN  
PAMPERED, SPOILED, LAZY, ROTTEN  
RICH KIDS. RICH KIDS. RICH KIDS.

RICH KIDS  
LA LA LA LA LA RICH

As the rich kids drive off, they  
blow their car horns, causing the  
homeless man, who has climbed a  
bit too deep into the dumpster, to  
fall in. The lid slams down on  
him.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 2

INT. THE BELL RESIDENCE, LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

DEREK is loudly playing the piano.  
DANNY is loudly playing guitar.  
RAY is reading a newspaper at the  
dining room table. KATE, Derek's  
and Danny's mother, mid-forties,  
exits from the kitchen carrying a  
serving tray with a ham on it.

RAY  
(Loud)  
Looks delicious, honey.

KATE  
(Loud)  
Thanks. Martha Stewart cooked it on her show  
this morning.

RAY  
(Louder)  
Oooh. She's good. Oh, hey, did you bring the  
minivan in for servicing?

KATE  
(Louder)  
What?

RAY  
(Even Louder)  
Did you bring the minivan in for servicing?

KATE  
(Even Louder)  
You want to bring your Uncle Dan to the circus?

RAY  
(Loudest)  
Hang on.

RAY walks over to DANNY and DEREK  
and unplugs the electric guitar.  
DANNY and DEREK stop playing.

RAY (CONT'D)  
Food. Hot. Eat. Now.

DANNY and DEREK follow RAY to the  
table. KATE starts serving.

RAY (CONT'D)  
So, Kate, did you bring the minivan in for  
servicing?



KATE

No. I was heading to the dealership when Ann Kowalski came running over all hysterical. She caught Charlie with another woman.

RAY

Poor Ann. That's three times.

KATE

Four. I wish she'd just leave him.

DEREK

I agree.

DANNY

Me too.

RAY

Eat your corn.

KATE

I never liked that guy.

RAY

I had my run-ins with him in school too.

KATE

She could have had any guy she wanted at Pepper Pike. Then she gets pregnant and thought being a father would make Charlie more responsible.

RAY

Let this be a lesson to you boys. Don't get a girl pregnant.

DANNY

Ever?

RAY

You know what I mean. Wait till the time is right, like your mom and I did.

DEREK

I thought you said I was an accident?

RAY

No. Your brother was the accident. You were a condom that got left in the sun too long.

DEREK

You don't have to worry. The girls at Pepper Pike won't go out with poor kids.

RAY

You're not poor. You're lower middle class.

KATE

Kids were so much nicer when your dad and I went there. The place sure has changed since they made it private and spelled academy the French way.

RAY

Don't worry. You boys will meet the right girls eventually and when it happens, you'll know it. And when you finally meet the right girl, just do like we taught you about sex and everything will be fine.

DANNY

You didn't teach us about sex.

KATE

You boys and your dad didn't have 'the talk'?

DEREK AND DANNY

No.

RAY

(To Kate)

I thought you were going to.

KATE

I thought you were going to.

RAY

Well, there's no time like the present.

SONG: LADY PARTS

RAY (CONT'D)

PENIS.

DEREK

What?

KATE

VAGINA.

DANNY

Mom, I'm eating.

RAY AND KATE

YOU CAN MASTURBATE TO HELP YOU LET OFF STEAM.

RAY

BUT WHEN THEY WORK TOGETHER

KATE

LIKE BIRDS OF A FEATHER  
THEY MAKE...

RAY AND KATE  
 ...ONE HELL OF A TEAM.

DEREK  
 Can I go to my room?

RAY AND KATE  
 No.

RAY  
 DID WE COME FROM THE APES OR PRIMORDIAL OOZE?

KATE  
 EVOLUTION?

RAY  
 CREATION?

RAY AND KATE  
 WHICHEVER YOU CHOOSE.

RAY  
 WHEN A MAN MEETS A WOMAN THERE'S NOTHING TO LOSE  
 IF IT ENDS IN THE MERGING OF TWO LONELY HEARTS.

KATE  
 SEX IS A WONDERFUL, BEAUTIFUL THING.  
 NOT SOMETHING CREATED TO PLEASURE YOUR DING.

RAYMOND AND KATE  
 YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE SEX YET, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE STING  
 RESPECT THE LADY PARTS.

RAY  
 I SAY WITHOUT SCORN THAT BOYS START WATCHING PORN  
 'CAUSE YOUR BODY IS CHANGING IN EVERY WAY.  
 SOMETIMES YOU GET DREAMS THAT END UP AS WET DREAMS.  
 THEY MESS UP YOUR SHEETS IF YOU'RE STRAIGHT OR YOU'RE GAY.

KATE  
 IT MAY SOUND SCARY BUT DO NOT BE WARY.  
 THE BLAME IS ON YOUR PITUITARY.  
 THAT GLANDS WHERE YOUR SEXUAL JOURNEY STARTS.

RAY AND KATE  
 RESPECT THE LADY PARTS.

RAY  
 LET'S SAY YOU MEET A GIRL.  
 YOUR HEART RATE STARTS TO QUICKEN.

KATE  
 YOU TAKE HER OUT TO LUNCH.

RAY  
 PIZZA.

KATE  
MAYBE CHICKEN.

RAY  
YOUR HORMONES START TO ROAR.  
YOU WANT TO TAKE HER TO BED.

KATE  
YOUR DATE IS NOT A WHORE.

RAY AND KATE  
TAKE A COLD SHOWER INSTEAD.

KATE  
THE GOAL OF YOUR MATING IS LOVE AND ROMANCE  
NOT TO SATISFY WHAT'S GROWING INSIDE YOU PANTS.

RAY  
AND YOU SURELY DO NOT WANT TO TAKE A BIG CHANCE  
BY POKING EACH GIRL AS IF YOU'RE THROWING DARTS.

KATE  
YOU'RE TOO YOUNG FOR SEX BUT UPON REFLECTION  
IF YOU LOOK DOWN AND YOU HAVE AN ERECTION

RAY AND KATE  
SAYING GOODBYE IS THE SAFEST PROTECTION.  
RESPECT THE LADY PARTS.

DANNY  
Who wants desert?

KATE grabs DEREK and RAY grabs  
DANNY from the table. They drag  
them into their waltz.

KATE  
(To DEREK)  
Herpes.

RAY  
(To DANNY)  
VD

KATE  
(To DEREK)  
Chlamydia

RAY  
(To DANNY)  
Crabs!

RAY AND KATE  
Switch!

RAY and KATE switch partners.

KATE  
(To DANNY)  
Gonorrhoea.

RAY  
(To DEREK)  
Syphilis.

KATE  
(To DANNY)  
Genital warts

RAY AND KATE  
(To DEREK and DANNY)  
Crabs!

RAY and KATE let go of DEREK and  
DANNY who spin back to their  
chairs.

KATE  
YOU'RE NOT WHO YOU WOULD BE  
IF IT WASN'T FOR PUBERTY.

RAY  
IT'S A NATURAL REFLEX.  
TO WANT TO HAVE A LOT OF SEX  
A BOY PRODUCES SPERM

KATE  
EACH LOOKS LIKE A LITTLE WORM.  
A WOMAN PRODUCES EGGS.  
BUT BEFORE SHE OPENS HER LEGS.

RAY AND KATE  
IF YOUR SPERM ENDS UP IN FALLOPIAN TUBES.  
YOU'LL FIND OUT YOUR FOLKS AREN'T DYSTOPIAN BOOBS.  
THINK OF WHAT YOU ARE DOING BEFORE YOU START SCREWING.  
IT COULD BE TOO LATE IF YOU PENETRATE.

AS MUCH AS IT HURTS US AS MUCH AS IT ACHES  
WE'RE NOT GOING TO BABY SIT FOR YOUR MISTAKES.  
WHEN YOU BOYS ARE OUT OF THE HOUSE  
I'M MOVING TO FLORIDA WITH MY SPOUSE.

KATE  
WE WON'T RAISE A KID  
'CAUSE WE ALREADY DID.

RAY AND KATE  
Twice.

RAY  
YOUR MOTHER SAID DIRECT TO ME.

KATE  
HAVE A HYSTERECTOMY.

RAY  
SO WE MUST INTERJECT.

KATE  
BEFORE OUR LIVES ARE WRECKED.

RAY  
THAT YOU MUST RESPECT

RAY AND KATE  
THE LADY PARTS!

RAY  
(To Derek)  
I have to grade some papers. If you have any questions, we can talk more on the drive up to Cuyahoga County Community College tomorrow.

DEREK  
Why are we going there?

RAY  
Check the place out. See if you like it.

DEREK  
I don't have to go there to know I won't like it.

KATE  
You have to start figuring out what you want to do with your life.

DEREK  
I already know what I want to do with my life. Write music. Miss Cullen gave me some college catalogs. She thinks I'd do great at Juilliard.

RAY  
I don't know if we can swing Juilliard, buddy. Their tuition is almost what I make in a year.

KATE  
And pizza in New York is ten dollars a slice.

DANNY  
More like seven unless you add toppings.

DEREK  
I can get a job. We can get loans. I still have a year and a half before I graduate.

RAY

Or you can do like I did. Go to Cuyahoga for two years, live at home, then transfer to a four year college. Save lots of money that way.

DEREK

Thanks for the vote of confidence.

RAY

It's not that we don't have confidence, kid. Writing music is a tough way to make a living. I wished I could've. But for every Paul Simon there are a thousand not Paul Simons.

KATE

You can be a music history teacher.

RAY

Yeah. You pretty much know every song from the last thirty years. Who sang it, the lyrics.

DEREK

Teaching is boring.

RAY

I'm never bored.

DEREK

But you don't make any money.

RAY

You've never missed a meal, have you?

DEREK

No.

RAY

I've spent a fortune on lessons for you two. The least you can do is consider a career teaching music.

DEREK

Whatever.

RAY

We'll drive up to Cuyahoga Community in the morning after you clean out grandma's garage.

DEREK

Why are we doing that?

RAY

Because she's seventy and can't lift shit. Eat your corn.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 3

EXT./INT. GRANDMA'S GARAGE - THE NEXT DAY

DEREK and DANNY approach the garage with GRANDMA, a perky woman in her seventies.

GRANDMA

Thanks for doing this, boys. It shouldn't take too long.

DEREK lifts the door revealing a garage that hasn't been cleaned out since Nixon resigned. Tools, Furniture. Boxes. Tires, Junk.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

I'll let you get started and mind my own beeswax. Would you like a Snapple?

DEREK AND DANNY

Yes, please.

GRANDMA

Snapple. Such a funny name. Snapple. Snapple.

GRANDMA toddles off.

DEREK

This is gonna take forever.

DANNY

Why does grandma keep all this shit?

DEREK

She has trouble parting with stuff. It took her two weeks to bury grandpa.

DEREK and DANNY pick up or point out items as they sing about them.

SONG: JUNK 'N STUFF

DEREK

A TENNIS RACKET WITHOUT STRINGS.  
A CLOWN NOSE, WATER WINGS  
WHY DOES SHE KEEP THIS CRAP?

DANNY

A MUG WITHOUT A HANDLE.  
BROKEN SCALE, A LEFT FOOT SANDAL.  
WHY DOES SHE KEEP THIS CRAP?



DEREK AND DANNY  
 JUNK N' STUFF COLLECTING DUST.  
 JUNK N' STUFF COLLECTING RUST.  
 YEAR AFTER YEAR AFTER YEAR.

DEREK  
 IT SHOULD BE TAKEN IN ONE LUMP.

DANNY  
 TO THE NEAREST CITY DUMP.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 INSTEAD IT'S DUMPED IN HERE.

DEREK  
 A WINDOW FAN WITHOUT A CORD.

DANNY  
 A LAVA LAMP, A OUIJA BOARD.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 A NEW YORK SUBWAY MAP.  
 WHY DO PEOPLE KEEP THIS CRAP?

DEREK  
 A LASER DISC OF JAWS  
 (Picking up a pamphlet)  
 "SURVIVING MENOPAUSE".

DANNY  
 What's that?

DEREK  
 WHY DOES SHE KEEP THIS CRAP?  
 You don't wanna know.

DANNY  
 A GROCERY COUPON ORGANIZER.

DEREK  
 SUZANNE SOMERS EXERCISER.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 WHY DOES SHE KEEP THIS CRAP?

JUNK N' STUFF IS HERE AND THERE.  
 JUNK N' STUFF IS EVERYWHERE.  
 STACKING UP HIGHER AN HIGHER.

SHE'S A HOARDER. SHE'S A SAVER.  
 WE SHOULD DO HER A BIG FAVOR.  
 AND SET IT ALL ON FIRE.

DANNY  
 THIS WREATH, A TV SET.

DEREK  
A VIC DAMONE CASSETTE.

DANNY  
Who?

DEREK  
A MOUSE TRAP THAT WON'T SNAP.

The mouse trap snaps on DEREK's  
finger.

DEREK (CONT'D)  
Owww!

DEREK AND DANNY  
WHY DO PEOPLE KEEP THIS CRAP?

DEREK  
SLIDE PROJECTOR, SEWING MACHINE.

DANNY  
POCKET PROTECTOR, ROWING MACHINE

DEREK  
WORLD'S FAIR COASTERS, TRAMPOLINE.

DANNY  
MOVIE POSTERS, SQUASHED CANTEEN.

DEREK  
DIAL PHONE, TOY FIRE TRUCK.

DANNY  
CHEAP COLOGNE, A RUBBER DUCK.

DEREK  
JANE FONDA WORKOUT, BROKEN SLED.

DANNY  
A TATTERED RUG...  
(unfurling the rug)  
...a cat that's dead.

DANNY picks up a cat skeleton by  
the collar.

DANNY (CONT'D)  
It's Gomer.

DEREK  
Then who did we bury in the back yard?

DANNY drops the skeleton.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 WHEN SHE WENT OUT TO THE STORE  
 (They both pick up hula hoops)  
 SHE HAD TO HAVE ONE.

DANNY  
 TWO...

DEREK AND DANNY  
 (They each pick up another hula hoop)  
 OR MORE.

DANNY  
 SPENDING THEIR HARD-EARNED BUCKS.

DEREK  
 WE'LL BE IN HERE ALL DAY LONG.

DANNY  
 WHERE WE REALLY DON'T BELONG.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 AND THAT JUST REALLY SUCKS.

THIS STUFF ONLY TAKES UP SPACE  
 NOTHING HERE YOU CAN'T REPLACE  
 GUESS TOSSING STUFF IS TOUGH.  
 BUT IT'S REALLY JUNK N' STUFF.

WHAT MATTERS ARE IMPORTANT THINGS YOU NEVER CAN REPLACE  
 LIKE PEOPLE, PETS AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

DANNY  
 AND MY HANDSOME FACE.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 THERE COMES A TIME ENOUGH'S ENOUGH.  
 BECAUSE IT'S ONLY JUNK N'...

DANNY  
 Trash!

DEREK  
 Rubbish!

DANNY  
 Garbage!

DEREK  
 Clutter!

DEREK AND DANNY  
 IF THE NEIGHBORHOOD GOT FLOODED  
 IT WOULD FLOAT OUT TO THE GUTTER  
 THEN THERE'D BE NO MORE JUNK N' STUFF.

DANNY

I can use that little table in my room.

DANNY picks up a small end table.  
The drawer opens, causing a dusty  
old PLAYBOY magazine to fall out.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Hey, look at this old Playboy. April 1968. I  
bet dad jerked off to it.

DEREK

You are such a perv.

DANNY opens to the centerfold. A  
Polaroid photo falls out of the  
magazine. DEREK picks it up.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Hey, check out this picture of dad.

DANNY

Look at his hair. And those clothes.

GRANDMA enters the garage carrying  
two bottles of Snapple.

GRANDMA

You boys find anything interesting in here?

DEREK and DANNY quickly take off  
their T-shirts and toss them on  
top of the cat skeleton.

DEREK

No.

DANNY

Not really.

GRANDMA hands the boys the  
Snapples. She takes the Polaroid  
from DEREK.

GRANDMA

I haven't seen this in years.

DEREK

Was that a Halloween costume?

GRANDMA

No. This was from when your father was about  
your age and wanted to be a rock and roll star.

DANNY

Our dad wanted to be a rock star?

GRANDMA

Did he ever. He saw the Rolling Stones on The Ed Sullivan Show and became obsessed. Thank God he got that out of his system. You boys are doing a nice job. I'll leave you be and mind my own beeswax.

GRANDMA hands the Polaroid back to DEREK and toddles off. DEREK and DANNY put their shirts back on.

DANNY

Dad a rock star. That would've been awesome. We'd be rich like all our idiot so-called friends.

DEREK

I could study at Juilliard and not care what a slice of pizza costs. Man, I wish dad had been a rock star instead of a stupid music teacher.

A blue glow comes from an old armoire in the corner of the garage. WE HEAR the cover version of a song like Jefferson Airplane's "Somebody to Love" coming from the armoire.

DEREK (CONT'D)

There must be a radio in there.

DEREK opens the armoire doors to reveal...

SCENE 4

INT. HOWIE'S ROCK AND ROLL CLUB (CIRCA 1967)

Full house. A song like "Somebody to Love" is being performed by The Psychedelic Dragons. CHAD is on drums. BARRY is on bass. JEREMY is on lead guitar. The lead singer is 18-year-old RAYMOND, DEREK's and DANNY's future father.

DANNY

It's Howie's.

DEREK

(looking at Polaroid)

And that's dad.

DANNY

This closet must be a time travel portal like the phone booth in 'Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure' and the car in 'Back To The Future'.

DEREK

Those were just movies.

DANNY

You said wished time travel was real.

DEREK

Just so mom wouldn't have you.

DANNY, still holding the Playboy, walks in. DEREK pulls him back.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

DANNY

1967.

DEREK

Mom grounded us when we hitched to Akron without telling her. Imagine how pissed she'll be if we go to 1967?

DANNY

Where's your sense of adventure? If we become music teachers, our lives are pretty much over. C'mon. Let's check it out.

DEREK

Okay. But only for a minute. But don't tell anybody about this or dad'll make us go to another Scared Straight lecture.

DANNY and DEREK enter "Howie's" as the armoire rolls off stage. They watch their future father and his band singing and playing their hearts out. They're really great!

DANNY

Dad rocks.

DEREK

Makes you wonder how he became such a tool.

The song ends. Customers applaud.

RAYMOND

Thank you! We're The Psychedelic Dragons and we want to thank all you boss guys and hot chicks for coming out this afternoon. We're gonna close with one of our own original songs.

The Psychedelic Dragons start a song called "IRMA" It's God-awful. As the song continues, customers begin to leave.

RAYMOND (CONT'D)

I LOOKED UP TO THE SKY,  
I SAW A SHOOTING STAR.  
IT LOOKED LIKE THE LETTER "I".  
I WATCHED THAT SHOOTING STAR  
IT TRAVELED VERY FAR.  
AND STOPPED BY A STAR THAT LOOKED LIKE "R".

DANNY

Wow. That song blows.

RAYMOND

I LOOKED UP AGAIN.  
ANOTHER STAR WAS NEXT TO THEM.  
IT LOOKED A LOT LIKE THE LETTER 'M'.  
BEFORE THE NIGHT TURNED INTO DAY,  
I,R,M MET BY A STAR THAT LOOKED LIKE THE LETTER "A"  
  
IRMA, THE STARS SPELLED IRMA  
I-R-M-A LIT THE SKY AND THERE IS JUST ONE REASON WHY.  
IRMA, THE STARS SPELLED IRMA.  
NOW ALL THE UNIVERSE KNOWS YOUR NAME  
We're The Psychedelic Dragons. Good night.

Crickets. The house is empty.  
Feedback comes from the speakers.  
DANNY and DEREK look at each other, then lightly applaud.  
HOWIE, a slovenly man smoking a cigar approaches the band.

RAYMOND (CONT'D)

How'd we do, Howie?

HOWIE

Fine until that last stinker. Did your dog write it?

RAYMOND

I don't have a dog.

HOWIE

Get one. He couldn't do any worse.

RAYMOND

Can we come back next week?

HOWIE

I don't need another cover band. Get some less painful original songs, then we'll talk.

HOWIE hands RAYMOND a few bills,  
then walks away.

CHAD

I told you Irma was a stupid name. We should have used Jane. More words rhyme with Jane.

RAYMOND

The girl's name isn't the problem. None of us are songwriters.

BARRY

We should find one.

RAYMOND

How? Take an ad out in the Penny Saver?

JEREMY pulls out a flask out of  
his guitar case and shakes it.

JEREMY

Let me have my cut. I'm empty here.

RAYMOND

I thought you quit drinking last night?

JEREMY

I did. I'm celebrating one day of sobriety.

RAYMOND

I'm not giving you money so you can buy booze.

JEREMY

It's my money. I'll do what I want with it.



RAYMOND

Know what? You're right. Here. Take it. Drink your guts out for all I care.

RAYMOND hands JEREMY a bill.

BARRY

We rehearsing Saturday?

RAYMOND

Can't. Me and my mom, I mean my mom and I are going to check out Cuyahoga County Community College.

CHAD

But what about the band?

RAYMOND

If we don't get better songs, I don't see any reason to keep the band going. Real bands don't make people run for the exits.

BARRY

Okay. Let us know.

JEREMY, CHAD and BARRY exit as RAYMOND continues to pack up.

DANNY

(To Derek)

Poor dad. Too bad he's not a pretty boy like Rick Springfield. Then he could sing the Sear's catalog and girls would throw underwear at him.

DEREK

We better get out of here before dad sees us.

DANNY

He won't know who we are. We weren't born yet.

DEREK

Whatever. Come on.

DEREK and DANNY turn to leave, but the armoire is gone.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Where's the door we came through?

DANNY

It's not a door. It's a portal.

DEREK

I don't care what it's called. I don't want to be in 1967.

(MORE)

DEREK (CONT'D)  
(Lightbulb)

Unless...

DANNY  
Unless what?

DEREK  
Bill and Ted and Marty McFly went back in time for a purpose. We got sent back to 1967 when I said I wish dad was a rock star. What if that's our purpose?

DANNY  
Even if you're right, how are we supposed to make dad a rock star?

DEREK  
Dad's original songs suck, right?

DANNY  
Duh.

DEREK  
So we just write him some hits.

DANNY  
We could write dad a million songs, but there's no guarantee one's gonna be a big hit.

DEREK  
Then we write hit songs from 1968 to 1994 that haven't been written yet. Boy George. George Michael. Michael Jackson. Jackson Browne.

DANNY  
But if we write them, then those guys can't.

DEREK  
Exactly.

DANNY  
That's stealing. What's that term? Ineffectual property.

DEREK  
Intellectual.

DANNY  
About time you noticed.

DEREK  
It's not stealing because you can't steal what doesn't exist yet.

## SONG: WRITE THEM FIRST

DEREK

LET ME TELL YOU LITTLE BROTHER  
THIS IDEA IS LIKE NO OTHER  
WE CAN WRITE THEM FIRST

IF WE DO IT WE'LL BE FAMOUS  
AND THERE'S NO WAY THEY CAN FRAME US  
WE CAN WRITE THEM FIRST

THERE'S A MILLION SONGS FROM WHICH WE CAN CHOOSE  
JUST NEED TO STEAL A FEW  
I TELL YOU BROTHER WE CAN'T LOSE  
ELTON WON'T MISS ONE OR TWO

IT WILL MAKE OUR DREAMS COME TRUE  
AND ALL WE HAVE TO DO  
TO QUENCH OUR THIRST  
IS TO WRITE THEM FIRST

DANNY

A THOUGHT HAS JUST ARISEN  
WE WILL BOTH END UP IN PRISON  
IF WE WRITE THEM FIRST

I'M THE ONE THEY'LL OVERPOWER  
NIGHTLY IN THE PRISON SHOWER  
IF WE WRITE THEM FIRST

I DON'T THINK THAT I WANT TO BE  
PART OF THIS EVIL SCHEME  
PLAGIARISM I GUARANTEE  
IS NOT PART OF MY DREAM

STEALING OTHER PEOPLES MUSIC  
ARE YOU CRAZY OR ARE YOU SICK  
DID YOUR BRAIN JUST BURST?  
WE CAN'T WRITE THEM FIRST

DEREK

IT'S NOT THEFT IF THEY HAVEN'T BEEN WRITTEN  
TRUST ME LITTLE BRO I AIN'T SHITTIN'  
IF WE DO THIS WE'LL BE SITTING ON ROCK'S THRONE

DANNY

IT'S ONE THING TO CHEAT ON A TEST  
MY CRIB SHEETS ARE ALWAYS THE BEST  
MY OPINION HAS BEEN EXPRESSED. BROTHER YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN

DEREK

FINE WE'LL GIVE UP WITHOUT TRYIN'  
ALL OUR HOPES AND DREAMS JUST DYIN'  
WE WON'T WRITE THEM FIRST

DEREK (CONT'D)  
 WE'LL BE LIFELONG MUSIC TEACHERS  
 AND WATCH LIFE PASS FROM THE BLEACHERS  
 THAT'LL BE THE WORST

DANNY  
 MAYBE IF WE CHANGED A FEW WORDS  
 OR MAYBE A NEW TITLE

DEREK  
 THEN THOSE SONG MIGHT NOT BE BIG HITS  
 EVERY ELEMENT PIECE IS VITAL

NO YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT WOULD BE WRONG  
 TO STEAL EVEN JUST ONE SONG  
 THIS IDEA IS CURSED...

Look at poor dad. Packing up his hopes and  
 dreams in a guitar case. Never knowing if him  
 and the Psychedelic Dragons will ever play  
 another note together. Then dad will just go on  
 with his life. Cuyahoga Community College. Used  
 cars. Never go to Europe or on a cruise. Just  
 the daily grind until he retires on a small  
 pension and withers away wondering what could  
 have been. And I guess that's us too. Poor dad.  
 Poor mom. Poor us.

DANNY  
 IF WE DON'T CAUSE ANY HARM  
 GO AHEAD AND TWIST MY ARM  
 WE CAN WRITE THEM FIRST

SOMEHOW THIS IDEA WILL SCREW US  
 CAN THE MUSIC BUSINESS SUE US  
 IF WE WRITE THEM FIRST?

DEREK  
 REST YOUR WEARY HEAD LITTLE BRO  
 THIS IDEA CAN'T MISS

DANNY  
 LAST TIME THAT YOU HAD AN IDEA  
 I NEEDED CATHETERS TO PISS

DEREK  
 ARE YOU WITH ME?

DANNY  
 YEAH I GUESS.  
 THIS IS GONNA BE A MESS  
 BUT I'VE HAVE BEEN COERCED.

DEREK AND DANNY  
 WE WILL WRITE THEM FIRST.

DEREK

Let me do the talking.

DEREK and DANNY approach RAYMOND.

DEREK (CONT'D)

(To Raymond)

Your band was real good.

RAYMOND

We stunk. But thanks anyway.

DEREK

The band didn't stink. Just the last song did.

DANNY

Yeah, if you guys had some good songs, you'd be rock stars. Rich rock stars.

RAYMOND

Well, you just can't go buy hit songs at Woolworth's, can you?

DEREK

No, but we know where you can get them. I'm Derek. This is my brother Danny. We're song writers.

RAYMOND

Song writers? It doesn't look like you even shave yet.

DANNY

We're child pedigrees.

DEREK

Prodigees. Shut up.

RAYMOND

Well, maybe you are, but I'm not going to be in the band much longer. I'm going to be a music teacher like my mom wants me to.

DANNY

No, don't. Your children deserve better.

RAYMOND

Children? I haven't even had sex yet.

DEREK

But some day you'll have sex and then you'll have children.

DANNY

I'm guessing two boys.

DEREK

Don't you want to give them everything you never had?

DANNY

Which is a lot?

RAYMOND

My dad says every father's dream is to see his children have a better life than they did. But the idea of trying to be a rock star is scary. What if I don't make it?

DEREK

All throughout history, people saw a wrong and tried to right it. Either in their own lives or the lives of others. You can do this, Raymond. All you need is a few hit songs and a big brass set of balls.

SONG: BALLS

DEREK

JOHN ADAMS HAD A VISION OF INDEPENDENCY  
FOR WHICH HE COULD BE HANGED WHICH WAS KING GEORGE'S TENDENCY  
SOMETHING BIGGER THAN HIMSELF WAS THE REASON HE FACED TREASON  
IF HE FAILED OR GOTTEN SKITTISH  
HE'D BE KILLED AND WE'D BE BRITISH.

HE HAD BALLS.  
HUGE SET OF BALLS.  
HE WAS SO HARD TO SCARE  
BECAUSE ADAMS HAD A PAIR.

THE EMPIRE NEEDED UNDOING  
WHEN THE COLONIES GOT A SCREWING  
THEY COULD HANG HIM BY THE NECK  
BUT ADAMS SAID 'WHAT THE HECK'

JOHN ADAMS SUCCEEDED  
BECAUSE A SET OF BALLS WAS NEEDED  
HE DIDN'T FOLLOW PROTOCOLS  
JOHN ADAMS HAD BALLS

HERE'S A STORY I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU HEAR.  
IN THE OLD WEST THOUSANDS CROSSED TO REACH THE NEW FRONTIER  
THE PIONEERS WERE TOLD CALIFORNIA HAD GOLD  
LOOKING FOR A BETTER LIFE  
COULD COST A KID, THEIR WIFE OR LIFE

BUT THEY HAD BALLS  
EXPLORER BALLS  
THEY FACED OUTLAW AND INDIAN ATTACKS  
THEY HAD NO FOOD NOT EVEN SNACKS

DEREK (CONT'D)

THE JOURNEY WASN'T PRETTY  
IN FACT IT WAS PRETTY GRITTY  
BUT BECAUSE OF THEM  
AMERICA GOES PAST KANSAS CITY.

THE PIONEERS SUCCEEDED  
AND THEY NEVER ONCE RETREATED  
THEY DIDN'T SEE IMAGINARY WALLS  
THE PIONEERS HAD BALLS

IT TAKES A CERTAIN KIND OF BALLS TO LOOK DEATH IN THE FACE  
TO TAKE A CHANCE OR RISK YOUR LIFE OR SAVE THE HUMAN RACE  
IT TAKES A LOT OF GUTS AND IT TAKES A LOT OF SASS  
AND A SET OF TESTICLES THAT ARE MADE OF BRASS

RAYMOND

AMELIA EARHART WOKE ONE DAY AND SAID SHE HAD A NOTION  
SHE'D BE THE FIRST WOMAN TO FLY ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.  
SHE DIDN'T MAKE THE CROSSING WHEN THE ENGINE STALLS.

DEREK

EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS A WOMAN

DEREK AND DANNY

AMELIA HAD BALLS.

DANNY

I got one. I got one!  
ABE LINCOLN'S ALWAYS MENTIONED AS OUR GREATEST PRESIDENT  
HE WAS BORN IN A LOG CABIN CAUSE HIS FOLKS COULD NOT PAY RENT  
AND THEN HE ENDED SLAVERY WHICH TOOK A LOT OF BRAVERY  
AT A PLAY SHOT IN THE HEAD, SHOULD HAVE SEEN A MOVIE INSTEAD  
HE ANSWERED DUTY'S CALLS  
ABE HAD BALLS

DEREK

You can do this Raymond. With our songs and  
your talent, raw nerve and a big set of balls,  
you can do this. You can be a rock star.

RAYMOND

You know what? You're absolutely right. I don't  
want to be a stupid music teacher. I want to be  
a rock star like Grace Slick. A Grace Slick  
with balls.

I GOT BALLS. REALLY BIG ONES.  
GONNA DO WHAT I WANT AND WHAT I WANT IS BE A ROCK STAR  
IF I BECAME A MUSIC TEACHER  
I'D BE ONE UNHAPPY CREATURE

IT'S MY LIFE AND I'LL DO WHAT I WANT CAUSE  
I GOT BALLS. ENORMOUS BALLS  
I'M GONNA BE A ROCK STAR IF ITS THE LAST THING I DO

RAYMOND (CONT'D)  
TEACHING MUSIC'S OFF THE TABLE  
I WILL DO WHAT I AM ABLE  
AND THAT IS BE A ROCK STAR

I'LL SHOUT UP AND DOWN THE HALLS  
AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS ROOM STALLS  
I'M RAYMOND BARTHOLOMEW BELL. FUTURE ROCK STAR  
AND YOU KNOW HOW I KNOW THAT?  
I...

DEREK  
YOU...

DANNY  
YOU...

DEREK, DANNY, RAYMOND  
HAVE BALLS.

RAYMOND  
Meet me at my house at nine. 47 Oakdale. Be  
there or be late.

BLACKOUT



SCENE 5

INT. WOOLWORTH'S - A SHORT TIME LATER

DEREK and DANNY enter.

DEREK

Let me grab a Billboard. Gotta make sure we don't write songs for dad that are already on the charts.

DEREK goes to a magazine rack. He grabs a Billboard magazine. Then DANNY and DEREK sit on stools at the counter. DEREK turns to the back of the Billboard. DANNY pulls The Playboy Magazine from his pocket.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Why did you bring that?

DANNY

I want to find the centerfold girl.

DEREK grabs the Playboy. He sticks it inside the Billboard.

DEREK

Don't let anybody see this. It has next April's date on the cover. You gotta be careful, Danny. A lot of things we have in 1994 like video games and MTV didn't exist in 1967.

DANNY

What the hell did people do all day?

DEREK

Read I guess.

DANNY

You don't have to worry about me, okay? I'm not an idiot.

DEREK

Don't give up. You're so close.

HARLAND, a pimply teen in a paper hat approaches.

HARLAND

Welcome to Woolworth's. We have a grilled cheese, fries and drink special for ninety-nine cents.

DEREK

We'll both have that.

HARLAND

And to drink?

DEREK

Coke.

DANNY

Kiwi Strawberry Snapple.

HARLAND

What's a kiwi? What's a Snapple?

DEREK

He'll have a Coke too.

HARLAND

Coming right up.

(turning to grill area)

Two specials, Cookie.

HARLAND heads to the soda pump.

DEREK

Snapple?

DANNY

Like I'm supposed to know when Snapple was invented.

HARLAND

Here you go.

HARLAND drops off the sodas, then walks away. DEREK looks through the Billboard.

DEREK

Damn it. The Monkees already wrote Daydream Believer. I wanted to write that.

DANNY

What about the band's name? Psychedelic Dragons is pretty lame.

DEREK

I know. But that's the kind of names bands had in the sixties. Strawberry Alarm Clock. Moby Grape.

DANNY

How about Aluminum Banana?

DEREK

The name doesn't have to have a fruit in it. But it has to be memorable. The Beatles might not have been famous if they kept their original name.

DANNY

What was it?

DEREK

The Quarrymen.

DANNY

That's a stupid name.

DEREK

But there's worse. The Bee Gees were the Rattlesnakes. And Van Halen was Rat Salad.

HARLAND drops off two plates in front of DEREK and DANNY.

HARLAND

That's an ugly rumor. Nobody's ever found a rat in one of our salads. Cockroach maybe, but that's it.

HARLAND walks off. DANNY squirts ketchup on his plate and starts eating as if he never had before.

DANNY

They can call the band The Cockroaches.

DEREK

Big fat no. Just start thinking.

From behind the counter (and never seen by DEREK and DANNY) waiters in paper hats start popping up one at a time like Whack-a-Moles. During this song, the dancers will pick up or make a reference to what they are singing about.

SONG: IT'S ALL IN THE NAME

WAITER #1

THE CRISPY FRIES

WAITER #2

THE PIZZA PIES.

WAITER #3

THE HAM AND EGGS.



WAITERS  
 IF YOU'RE SEEKING FORTUNE AND FAME  
 IT IS NOT A SECRET OTHER ROCK BANDS WANT THE SAME.  
 BUT ONE SURE WAY TO STAKE YOUR OWN CLAIM  
 IS REMEMBER THAT IT'S ALL IN THE NAME.

The WAITERS scatter off stage.

DANNY  
 Why don't we just call them Coldplay or  
 Nirvana?

DEREK  
 Those bands already exist.

DANNY  
 In the future. Most of the guys in those bands  
 haven't even been born yet.

DEREK  
 I'm not going to steal their songs and their  
 names. That's greedy. Keep thinking.

EMPLOYEES, wearing blue vests,  
 appear among the store aisles.

EMPLOYEE #1  
 THE EXTENSION CORDS, THE CHECKERBOARDS

EMPLOYEE #2  
 CLOCK RADIOS, THE PANTY HOSE

EMPLOYEE #3  
 THE PAPERWEIGHTS, THE PAPER PLATES

EMPLOYEE #4  
 THE COTTON BALLS, THE OVERALLS

EMPLOYEE #5  
 THE MODEL CARS, THE HERSHEY BARS.

EMPLOYEE #6  
 MANILLA FOLDERS, THE NAPKIN HOLDERS

EMPLOYEE #7  
 A BOOK OF PRAYER, THE UNDERWEAR

EMPLOYEE #8  
 THE PAPERBACKS, THE EMPTY RACKS

EMPLOYEES  
 IT WOULD BE AN ABSOLUTE SHAME  
 IF THE BAND WAS A FAILURE BECAUSE THEY BECAME  
 REMEMBERED AS TOO DULL OR TOO TAME.  
 YOU HAVE TO GET IT RIGHT BECAUSE IT'S ALL IN THE NAME.

The EMPLOYEES run off stage.

DANNY

This is hard. Maybe they should keep  
Psychedelic Dragons.

DEREK

How many times have you heard the word  
'psychedlic' in 1994?

DANNY

None.

DEREK

Exactly. We'll get it.

CUSTOMERS run up to the cashier  
aisles.

CUSTOMER #1

THE CARPET TACKS, THE YUMMY SNACKS.

CUSTOMER #2

THE MAGAZINES, THE JUMPING BEANS

CUSTOMER #3

THE BLUE JEAN PATCHES, BOOKS OF MATCHES

CUSTOMER #4

THE COFFEE CUPS, THE 7-UPS

CUSTOMER #5

THE BUBBLE GUMS, THE MINTS, THE TUMS

CUSTOMER #6

THE CHEAP SUNGLASSES, THE MOLASSES

CUSTOMER #7

THE CANDY CORN, GRANDPA'S PORN

CUSTOMER #8

THE SOUVENIRS, THE OLD CASHIERS

CUSTOMERS

PICK A NAME THAT STICKS IN PEOPLE'S HEAD.  
YOU'LL BE SELLING RECORDS LONG AFTER YOU ARE DEAD.  
INDUCTED IN THE ROCK HALL OF FAME  
IF YOU JUST REMEMBER IT'S ALL IN THE NAME.

The CUSTOMERS dance out the store.

DEREK

Let's get out of here. This place is giving me  
zero inspiration.

DANNY

We'll come back in 1994 when it's a Starbuck's.

HARLAND drops off the check.

HARLAND

Here ya go.

HARLAND walks off.

DEREK

(To Danny)

I think our waiter is Principal Puke.

DANNY

Principal Tanner? No way.

DEREK

Gotta be. He's from Pepper Pike. He looks like him. How many people in Pepper Pike could be named Harland?

DANNY

How many people anywhere can be named Harland?

DEREK grabs his wallet. Empty.

DEREK

I left my wallet in the future. You got money?

DANNY

My wallet's in the future too. And it was empty anyway. Want to make a run for it?

DEREK

I got a better idea.

DEREK reaches into his pants.

DANNY

What are you doing?

DEREK

If we find a pube in our food, they won't charge us. I saw it in a movie once.

DEREK places the newly-pulled pube in Danny's ketchup.

DANNY

Hey! I wasn't finished.

DEREK

Excuse me, Harland. There's a hair in the ketchup. Looks pubic.

HARLAND looks, covers his mouth  
and runs to the back.

DEREK (CONT'D)  
Told ya it was him.

COOK  
What's wrong with Harland?

DEREK  
There was a hair in the ketchup bottle.

DANNY  
Looks pubic.

COOK  
Damn hippies. Sorry about that. No charge.

DEREK  
(to Danny)  
That was too easy.

DEREK takes a french fry, runs it  
through the ketchup and eats it.

DANNY  
Guess what you just ate?

DEREK spits the food on the plate.  
HARLAND returns, sees that, covers  
his mouth, and runs off again.

DANNY (CONT'D)  
(Light bulb)  
That's it! That's the name!

BLACKOUT



SCENE 6

INT. GRANDMA'S GARAGE - THAT EVENING.

The same garage DANNY and DEREK were cleaning out in 1994. It's spotless and well-organized. RAYMOND, CHAD, BARRY and JEREMY semi-circle DEREK and DANNY.

RAYMOND, JEREMY, CHAD, BARRY  
The Pubes?

DANNY  
Yeah.

BARRY  
You mean like short hairs?

DANNY  
Yeah.

CHAD  
I don't know.

RAYMOND  
What's wrong with The Psychedelic Dragons?

DEREK  
It sounds like a Chinese take out place.

RAYMOND  
That's where I found it. In the yellow pages.

DANNY  
What's wrong with The Pubes? It's a memorable name. Everybody has pubes.

RAYMOND  
Even girls?

BARRY  
Radio stations aren't going to play records by a band called the Pubes.

CHAD  
Girls aren't gonna date a guy in a band called The Pubes.

JEREMY  
The girls I hang out with would.

BARRY  
Our parents won't like the name The Pubes.

DEREK

Rock and Roll isn't for our parents.

CHAD

How about the Dicks?

BARRY

The Balls.

JEREMY

The pussies.

CHAD

The Erections.

RAYMOND

My mother will not let me be in a band named after sex organs.

DEREK

Fine. No genitalia.

BARRY

The genitalia.

CHAD

Too hard to spell.

RAYMOND

You guys are a bunch of pervs.

JEREMY

The Pervs.

RAYMOND

Stop.

DEREK

This isn't getting us anywhere.

JEREMY

It's getting me hard.

RAYMOND

Ewww.

DEREK

Enough! We need a memorable name with an edge to it.

BARRY

How about 'The Edge'.

CHAD

The Brink.

JEREMY  
The Limit.

BARRY  
The Verge.

DANNY  
The Abyss.

DEREK, RAYMOND, CHAD, BARRY,  
JEREMY  
Oooooooooohhhh.

RAYMOND  
I like that. And alphabetically, the Abyss will  
be right up front in the record store.

BARRY  
Unless they put us under "T" for The Abyss.

JEREMY  
They don't put The Beatles in the "T" section.

CHAD  
Yeah, Barry. The Beatles are next to the Beach  
Boys in the "B's". Don't you know anything?

DEREK  
Why don't you guys make a record first and then  
worry about where the stores put it?

DANNY  
So is that the name?

DEREK  
Let's test it out.  
(Announcer-like)  
Ladies and gentleman, a big Madison Square  
Garden welcome for The Abyss.

The BOYS hoot and holler. JEREMY  
takes out a joint and lights up.

RAYMOND  
Jeremy, put that pot out.

JEREMY  
I'm celebrating the new name.

HELEN (O.S.)  
Raymond? It's a school night.

RAYMOND  
Okay, mom.  
(to Jeremy)  
If my mom smells that, she'll kill me.

JEREMY

I gotta go anyway. See ya at school.

JEREMY grabs his guitar and exits.

RAYMOND

You'd think a guy whose father was the police chief would know better than to smoke dope.

BARRY

He drove, so we gotta go too.

(To Derek and Danny)

Love that song you wrote guys.

CHAD

Yeah, Stairway To Heaven is really cool. What do the words mean?

DEREK

It's rock and roll. The words don't have to mean anything.

DANNY

Or even rhyme.

DEREK

We'll start tomorrow with Magic Carpet Ride, then if we have time, Bohemian Rhapsody.

BARRY

Cool. Hope Raymond can hit the high notes without grabbing himself.

BARRY and CHAD exit. RAYMOND sees something on the ground.

RAYMOND

Hey, Barry, your wallet.

RAYMOND picks up the wallet and runs out of the garage.

DANNY

Jeremy must be the homeless guy who hangs around school. His dad was the police chief.

DEREK

Yeah. I guess he never got off the stuff.

RAYMOND returns.

RAYMOND

Barry would forget his head if it wasn't attached. Thanks for the song, guys. Can you work tomorrow?

DANNY

Yeah, we don't have any big plans for the next twenty-five years or so.

HELEN, DANNY's and DEREK's future grandmother, now 40 and a total babe, enters.

HELEN

Raymond?

DANNY

Whoa, grandma.

DEREK elbows DANNY.

DEREK

These kids and their slang.

RAYMOND

Mom. This is Danny and Derek... Uh, I don't know your last names.

DANNY

Bell.

HELEN

What a coincidence. That's our last name.

DEREK

... bottom. That's our last name. Bellbottom.

RAYMOND

Bellbottom? That's a weird last name.

DANNY

Our great, great grandfather invented pants.

HELEN

(sniffing)

What's that smell?

DEREK

Mic cord overheated.

RAYMOND

These guys are writing songs for the Psychedelic Dragons... I mean The Abyss.

HELEN

Raymond, I wish you...

RAYMOND

Mom, not in front of my friends, okay?

HELEN

Fine. Do you go to Pepper Pike High School?

DEREK

No.

DANNY

Yes.

DEREK

What my brother means is we're new in town. Tomorrow's our first day.

HELEN

I teach English there so I can help you get settled in. It's after eleven. Where do you boys live?

DEREK

Ummmmmm... we don't know.

HELEN

What do you mean you don't know?

DEREK

They're travelling. They're not here yet.

DANNY

Right. But they sent us ahead so we wouldn't miss any school. And then what, Derek?

DEREK

Then the airline lost our bags with all our clothes and stuff and the address of the house and we don't have enough money for a motel.

RAYMOND

Can they stay here tonight, mom?

HELEN

Of course. You're registered for school, so they'll have your new address on file. Raymond, help me set up the guest room.

RAYMOND

Okay, mom.

RAYMOND and HELEN exit.

DANNY

How long do you think she'll let us stay?

DEREK

Who knows. She let uncle Steve stay more than a year after he became aunt Stephanie.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 7

INT. GUEST ROOM, LATER THAT NIGHT

DANNY and DEREK enter wearing pajamas. One pair has horsies. The other, fire engines.

DANNY

Dad even wore lame pajamas when he was our age.

DEREK

Some habits die hard.

RAYMOND runs in wearing cowboy pajamas. He pulls a suitcase from under the bed, opens it, shuffles through a stack of Playboys, grabs one, then rushes into the bathroom.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Including that one.

DANNY

Hey, look. It's the closet.

DEREK and DANNY go to the armoire that transported them to 1967. DEREK opens the doors. Just clothes. He closes the door.

DANNY (CONT'D)

The closet became our time travel portal when you said "I wish dad was a rock star". Maybe we can wish for other things too.

(To armoire)

I wish that girl in the centerfold was here.

DEREK opens the armoire doors. Just clothes. He closes the door.

DEREK

Even a piece of furniture knows you wouldn't have a chance with a Playboy centerfold. Maybe we shouldn't wish for stuff. We might break it. We have our purpose. To make dad a rock star.

DANNY

But we can help a lot of people. Keep mom's friend from marrying Charlie Kowalski. Jeremy won't become a homeless drug addict eating out of a dumpster.

DEREK

We can't change the whole world. Just ours.

DANNY

But if we change our world, it's gonna change other people's too, right?

DEREK

How should I know? I've never time traveled before. For now, let's just write dad a few hit songs, make him a rock star and do what Grandma always says to do.

DANNY

Don't stick Q-tips in our ears?

DEREK

No.

SONG: MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX

DEREK

REMEMBER WHEN YOU SAW THE NEIGHBOR'S DOG POOP ON THE LAWN OF THE GUY WHO LIVES ACROSS THE STREET BEFORE THE CRACK OF DAWN  
YOU TOLD HIM WHAT YOU SAW SO HE POOPED ON THE NEIGHBOR'S GRASS  
THEN HE BURST INTO THE NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE AND KICKED THE NEIGHBOR'S ASS.

Remember what grandma told you after that?

DANNY

No.

DEREK

SHE SAID MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
YOU REALLY REALLY SHOULDN'T INTERFERE  
MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
VEER YOUR EYES, ZIP YOUR LIP, TURN A DEAF EAR.  
MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
IT'S FOR THE BEST, YOU'LL SEE  
M.Y.O.B.

DANNY

So we're not supposed to help people?

DEREK

It's less about not helping others than not hurting yourself while doing it.

DEREK (CONT'D)

REMEMBER WHEN I CAUGHT STEVE HANLEY CHEATING ON A TEST.  
I TOLD THE TEACHER WHAT I SAW BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT BEST.  
WHEN STEVE FOUND OUT I SNITCHED ON HIM RIGHT AFTER PLAYING SOCCER  
HE CAME INTO THE HALLWAY AND HE STUFFED ME IN MY LOCKER

I SHOULDA MINDED MY OWN BEESWAX  
THERE'S PLACES THAT YOU SHOULDN'T STICK YOUR NOSE



DEREK (CONT'D)

MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
 DON'T BUTT IN, INTERRUPT OR STEP ON PEOPLE'S TOES  
 MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
 TAKE IT FROM ME  
 M.Y.O.B.

DANNY

WE COULD MAYBE END SOME WARS

DEREK

THERE'S BEEN WARS BY THE SCORES

DANNY

KEEP JIM MORRISON ALIVE

DEREK

THAT WOULD ONLY HELP THE DOORS

DANNY

SAVE THE DODO BIRD  
 MAYBE EVEN DINOSAURS...

DEREK

Are you forgetting about what happened in  
 Jurassic Park?

DANNY

Oh yeah, right. Screw the dinosaurs.  
 THERE'S SO MANY SITUATIONS IN THE FUTURE THAT NEED FIXIN'  
 IF WE COULD SAVE JFK WE MIGHT NOT HAVE NIXON  
 WARN PEOPLE ABOUT EARTHQUAKES COMING IN SAN FRANCISCO  
 HEY WITH ANY LUCK WE CAN EVEN STOP DISCO

JOHN WILKES BOOTH NOT SHOOTING LINCOLN

DEREK

I FIGURED THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE THINKIN'

DANNY

THE HINDENBERG NOT CATCHING FIRE  
 WE COULD TELL THEM TO FLY HIGHER.  
 WARN THE PEOPLE ON TITANIC

DEREK

THAT WOULD STILL CAUSE LOTS OF PANIC.

DANNY

SAVING MILLIONS FROM THE WORST

DEREK

LET'S SEE IF WE GET BACK HOME FIRST.

MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
 IF SOMETHING'S MEANT TO HAPPEN IT'S GOING TO OCCUR.  
 MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX

DEREK (CONT'D)

THERE'S LITTLE CHANCE TO CHANGE THINGS THAT ARE AND ALWAYS WERE.

MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX

FOR NOW LET'S AGREE

M.Y.O.B.

DANNY

SO YOU'RE SAYING IF I SEE A CAR RACING DOWN THE STREET ADOLPH HITLER IS BEHIND THE WHEEL ON HIS WAY TO MEET THE GUYS WITH WHO HE'S PLANNING TO INVADE POLAND AND FRANCE I SHOULDN'T TRY TO STOP THE CAR AND GIVE EUROPE A CHANCE

DEREK

That's an exception  
FOR THAT DON'T MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX  
STOPPING ADOLPH HITLER'S THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE  
DON'T MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX

DANNY

WITHOUT WORLD WAR TWO THERE'D BE LOTS LESS TO LEARN IN SCHOOL SO IF WE SEE HITLER, RACING DOWN THE STREET IN A CAR WE'LL SAVE THE WORLD FOR HUMANITY

DEREK

BUT FOR EVERYTHING ELSE  
M.Y.O.B.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Big day tomorrow. Let's get some sleep.

DEREK and DANNY climb into bed.

DANNY

What is beeswax anyway?

DEREK

What you polish bees with, I guess.

DANNY

Why would anyone want a shiny bee.

DEREK

Go to sleep.

DEREK turns off the light.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 8

INT. PEPPER PIKE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - THE NEXT AFTERNOON

DEREK, DANNY, RAYMOND, JEREMY,  
CHAD and BARRY are at a table  
looking at a notebook.

RAYMOND

(Reading)

Lay down the boogie and play that funky music  
till you die. Boogie like in The Boogie Man?

DEREK rips that page out of the  
notebook and crumples it.

DEREK

Try 'Another Brick in the Wall'.

RAYMOND

(reading)

We don't need no education.

(Stops reading)

Shouldn't it be 'we don't need any education'?

DEREK

That's what it should be. But rock and roll is  
rebellious.

RAYMOND

Yeah, but my mom's an English teacher.

DEREK

'Another Brick in the Wall' is a song about  
teen angst, being angry at the system.

DANNY

If you want to be a rock star, you have to be  
angry at the system.

RAYMOND

You mean the solar system?

DEREK tears that page out of the  
notebook. ANNIE, a pretty girl,  
approaches with her friend KITTY,  
a pretty, but unconventional girl.

ANNIE

Hi, Raymond. Hi, guys.

RAYMOND, JEREMY, CHAD, BARRY

Hey, Annie. Hey Kitty.

KITTY

Hey.

ANNIE

My uncle saw your band at Howie's last Friday night, Raymond. He said you were really good.

RAYMOND

Really?

ANNIE

Yeah. Except for some song called Irma.

RAYMOND

Well, that's gonna change soon. These are my new song writers. Danny and Derek Bellbottom.

BARRY

Their great great grandfather invented pants.

ANNIE

Nice to meet...

CHUCK, a hulk of a teenager,  
enters. He is the typical jock.

CHUCK

Annie, did you write me that paper?

RAYMOND

It's actually 'did you write that paper for me'.

CHUCK

Shut up.

RAYMOND

Yes, sir.

ANNIE

Of course, Chuck. Here.

ANNIE hands Chuck a term paper.

CHUCK

Where's the cover?

ANNIE

I didn't have time.

CHUCK

Next time, make time.

KITTY

Don't talk to her like that, you big blob.

CHUCK

Nobody asked you, kitty litter.

KITTY

So funny I forgot to laugh. I have home ec,  
Annie. I'll see you tonight. Bye, Raymond.

(To Derek and Danny)

Nice meeting you guys.

(To Derek)

Especially you.

KITTY walks off.

CHUCK

Let's go, Annie.

ANNIE

Maybe I'll see you guys at the dance tonight.  
I'm working refreshments.

CHUCK

Not if you don't finish my biology paper.

CHUCK walks off. ANNIE follows.

DANNY

Annie, you dropped something.

DANNY bends over. ANNIE does too.  
They stare into each others eyes.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Your eyes sparkle like the ocean when the sun  
in the deepest blue sky shines perfectly on a  
spring morning.

ANNIE

You must write the words.

DANNY

I'm gonna write a song for you.

ANNIE

I'd like that.

CHUCK

Annie!

DANNY and ANNIE stand. ANNIE  
scurries off.

DANNY

(To Raymond)

What's a great girl like Annie doing with a  
jerk off like Chuck?

RAYMOND

Beats me. But if Chuck sees you talking to her  
again, he'll beat you.

CHAD

We rehearsing tonight?

DEREK

Yeah. We'll work on Born to Run, Crocodile Rock and Thriller. We also gotta put some songs on tape so we can get radio stations to play them.

RAYMOND

I have a cassette recorder.

DEREK

We need to do it at a professional studio.

RAYMOND

There's one a few blocks from here.

DANNY

Great. How much money you guys got?

JEREMY

I know where my sister hides a big jar of change.

CHAD

I got five from my summer job.

DANNY

Five hundred should be more than enough.

CHAD

No, five dollars.

BARRY

I got a fifty dollar savings bond for my birthday. But I can't cash it in until I'm thirty five.

RAYMOND

Thirty five. I can't imagine being that old.

DANNY

Wait till you turn forty and lock yourself in the bathroom for three days.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 9

INT. ULTRAVOX RECORDING STUDIOS

DEREK and DANNY enter. CARL JACKSON, a forty-ish year old black man, is opening mail.

DEREK  
Are you Mr. Jackson?

CARL  
That's what the late notice on my phone bill says.

DEREK  
I'm Derek.

DANNY  
I'm Danny.

DEREK  
We write songs for The Abyss.

CARL  
You write songs for the who?

DANNY  
Not the Who. The Abyss. A hot new local band.

DEREK  
We need to cut a demo so we can get played on the radio.

DANNY  
Money's no object as long as it's not over fifty six dollars and two cents.

CARL  
I'd like to help you boys, and that would just about cover my phone bill, but I can't fit a band in my studio. I only do radio spots.

DANNY  
Oh, well. Thanks anyway.

CARL starts to walk off.

DEREK  
If we can't bring the band to you, what if we bring you to the band?

DEREK holds out a Sanka coffee can. He shakes it. There's a lot of change inside. CARL takes it.

SCENE 10

INT. PEPPER PIKE HIGH SCHOOL GYM, THAT NIGHT

The end-of-semester dance. Orange and black balloons and banners are everywhere. HARLAND is on stage spinning records. CARL is setting up mics while DEREK, DANNY, CHAD, BARRY and JEREMY are setting up. Some students dance. Others chat. ANNIE is working refreshments.

Dance (massive production number)

When the dance number ends, HARLAND accidentally hits the turntable, causing the record to screech.

HARLAND

Sorry.

The microphone gives a jolt of feedback, causing all the kids to scream and cover their ears.

HARLAND (CONT'D)

Sorry again.

HARLAND turns to fix the record. The mic cord gets tangled in his foot. He falls off the stage.

HARLAND (CONT'D)

Don't worry. I'm okay.

Suddenly a zap and a scream. DEREK approaches a microphone.

DEREK

Okay, boys and girls. While Harland's being revived, a bunch of your friends have a band that plays music so cool, it's like it's from the future. Put your hands together for The Abyss.

The confused students put their hands together as if in prayer.

DEREK (CONT'D)

That means clap.

Oh! The students clap as The Abyss make their way to the stage.



RAYMOND

Hello, Pepper Pike. We're The Psychedelic Dragons.

DANNY

No you're not!

RAYMOND

That's right. We were the Psychedelic Dragons but it sounded like a Chinese take-out place so now we're the Abyss. We're gonna start with a slow song so grab the one you love and if there isn't anyone you love or someone you want to love but they don't know it...

DEREK

Play, dammit!

The Abyss start to play a song like "Babe" from Styx. Students slow dance. DANNY and DEREK are watching. KITTY walks up to DEREK and without a word, pulls him onto the dance floor. DANNY sees ANNIE alone at the refreshment stand. He walks over.

DANNY

Wanna dance?

ANNIE

I'd like to but I'm working.

DANNY jumps over the table.

DANNY

Then we'll just dance in your office.

DANNY and ANNIE start off a bit distant but as the song continues, she leans against him and rests her head on his shoulder.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Can I ask you something?

ANNIE

Sure.

DANNY

Why do you go out with Chuck? You're so beautiful. You could have any guy you want.

ANNIE

You have to understand Chuck.

DANNY

Can't. I don't speak baboon.

ANNIE

He's under a lot of pressure. The only way he's getting into college is with a football scholarship and his grades stink. But once you get to know him, he's a real pussycat.

CHUCK shows up and pulls Danny away from ANNIE by his neck.

DANNY

Niiiiiiice kitty.

CHUCK

Why are you dancing with my girlfriend?

DANNY

Because you're not.

CHUCK

Punk.

CHUCK throws DANNY onto the refreshment table, making a mess. ANNIE screams. Students react. The band stops playing. DEREK runs over to DANNY.

CHUCK (CONT'D)

You want to dance with that loser, Annie, fine. I can have any girl in this school I want.

A COACH runs over to break things up.

COACH

That's enough, Kowalski. Get out of here before I bench your ass.

CHUCK

(To Danny)

I'll remember this.

CHUCK pulls ANNIE away.

DANNY

They say elephants never forget.

CHUCK lunges toward DANNY, but the coach drags him away. DEREK helps DANNY up. The crowd disperses.

ANNIE

I have to clean up.

KITTY

I'll help.

ANNIE

Sorry about Chuck, Danny. He didn't mean it.

ANNIE and KITTY go to the  
concession area.

DEREK

Did you hear that?

DANNY

My skull cracking? Yeah.

DEREK

Chuck is Charlie Kowalski. Annie is mom's  
friend.

DANNY

She married that jerk? I gotta stop her.

DEREK

No. We can only change our world.

RAYMOND, JEREMY, BARRY, CHAD and  
CARL approaches DEREK and DANNY.

CARL

You okay, Danny?

JEREMY hands DANNY a flask.

JEREMY

Here, take a shot. It always makes me feel  
better.

RAYMOND knocks the flask out of  
JEREMY's hands.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

Hey.

RAYMOND

You think maybe you can not drink while we're  
doing a show?

The students begin clapping and  
chanting. "More. More. More.

CARL

You guys better go on stage and get the crowd  
back.

The Abyss head to the stage.

## RAYMOND

We're The Abyss and we're gonna rock your world. One. Two. Three. Four.

The band starts performing Bowie's "Rebel, Rebel" (if it can be licensed or something similar if it can't). RAYMOND starts off kind of stiff, but as the song goes on and the student reaction gets more powerful, he becomes more of a rock band front man.

## RAYMOND (CONT'D)

DOO DOO DOO-DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO  
DOO DOO DOO-DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO  
DOO DOO DOO-DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO

YOU'VE GOT YOUR MOTHER IN A WHIRL  
SHE'S NOT SURE IF YOU'RE A BOY OR A GIRL  
HEY BABE, YOUR HAIR'S ALRIGHT  
HEY BABE, LET'S GO OUT TONIGHT  
YOU LIKE ME, AND I LIKE IT ALL  
WE LIKE DANCING AND WE LOOK DIVINE  
YOU LOVE BANDS WHEN THEY'RE PLAYING HARD  
YOU WANT MORE AND YOU WANT IT FAST  
THEY PUT YOU DOWN, THEY SAY I'M WRONG  
YOU TACKY THING, YOU PUT THEM ON

REBEL REBEL, YOU'VE TORN YOUR DRESS  
REBEL REBEL, YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
REBEL REBEL, HOW COULD THEY KNOW?  
HOT TRAMP, I LOVE YOU SO!  
DON'T YA?

As The Abyss goes instrumental, a radio broadcast booth of KCRF, Cleveland's Religious radio station, rolls out stage left. An ON AIR light is on. Behind the studio glass, ART JONES, an older man wearing a suit and a string tie is on the air. DEREK, DANNY and CARL, wearing white shirts and ties, are seated outside the glass booth. The ON AIR light goes off.

## DANNY

They're not going to play the song, Carl. They only play Jesusy music here.

## CARL

The big rock stations aren't going to play a song from an unknown band. Trust me. Nothing sells a record like a little controversy.

ART JONES exits the studio and approaches DEREK, DANNY and CARL.

ART JONES  
You gentlemen ready?

DANNY  
Yes, Mr. Jones, sir.

DEREK  
We prayed.

DANNY  
Twice. Just to make sure God heard us.

DEREK, DANNY, and CARL follow ART JONES into the studio. As they do, The Abyss keep playing live at the high school dance.

RAYMOND  
DOO DOO DOO-DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO  
YOU'VE GOT YOUR MOTHER IN A WHIRL CAUSE SHE'S  
NOT SURE IF YOU'RE A BOY OR A GIRL  
HEY BABE, YOUR HAIR'S ALRIGHT  
HEY BABE, LET'S STAY OUT TONIGHT  
YOU LIKE ME, AND I LIKE IT ALL

WE LIKE DANCING AND WE LOOK DIVINE  
YOU LOVE BANDS WHEN THEY'RE PLAYING HARD  
YOU WANT MORE AND YOU WANT IT FAST  
THEY PUT YOU DOWN, THEY SAY I'M WRONG  
YOU TACKY THING, YOU PUT THEM ON

REBEL REBEL, YOU'VE TORN YOUR DRESS  
REBEL REBEL, YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
REBEL REBEL, HOW COULD THEY KNOW?  
HOT TRAMP, I LOVE YOU SO!  
DON'T YA?

The Abyss goes instrumental again. Things are heating up. Some of the boys are taking off their shirts. Back at KCRF, the ON AIR light goes on.

ART JONES  
Art Jones back with two very fine, clean cut young men, Danny and Derek Bellbottom along with their friend Carl Jackson, who is black. Tell the audience why you're all here.

DEREK  
Rock and roll music is infecting the minds of America's youth, telling them it's okay to take drugs and have sex?

DANNY

At the same time.

ART JONES

My God.

DANNY

We brought a song called 'Rebel Rebel' from a local band called The Abyss.

ART JONES

The Abyss? You mean like the chasm that may lead to hell?

CARL

That's the one.

DEREK

It was recorded last night at a Pepper Pike high school dance. Reports are the normally fine, moral students went crazy.

DANNY

Close dancing.

CARL

Boys sweating and taking their shirts off.

DEREK

Some kids were even tongue kissing.

ART

That's not why God gave us tongues.

DEREK

Exactly.

CARL

We thought you might want to play it on the radio to warn your listeners what's really going on out there.

CARL hands ART JONES a reel to reel tape. He sets it up on a TEAC reel to reel tape player.

ART JONES

Yes. Let's give this devil music a listen.

ART JONES turns on the TEAC and listens as The Abyss continues playing live at the dance.

RAYMOND

REBEL REBEL, YOU'VE TORN YOUR DRESS  
 REBEL REBEL, YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
 REBEL REBEL, HOW COULD THEY KNOW?  
 HOT TRAMP, I LOVE YOU SO!

YOU'VE TORN YOUR DRESS, YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
 YOU CAN'T GET ENOUGH, BUT ENOUGH AIN'T THE TEST  
 YOU'VE GOT YOUR TRANSMISSION AND YOUR LIVE WIRE  
 YOU GOT YOUR CUE LINE AND A HANDFUL OF LUDS  
 YOU WANNA BE THERE WHEN THEY COUNT UP THE DUDES  
 AND I LOVE YOUR DRESS  
 YOU'RE A JUVENILE SUCCESS  
 BECAUSE YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
 SO HOW COULD THEY KNOW?

SO WHAT YOU WANNA KNOW  
 CALAMITY'S CHILD, CHI-CHI, CHI-CHI  
 WHERE'D YOU WANNA GO?  
 WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU? LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN THERE TOO  
 CAUSE YOU'VE TORN YOUR DRESS

CARL

It's like the Devil himself wrote those words.

ART JONES

Bless you all for bringing that heathenish  
 rubbish to our attention.

DEREK

We had no choice, sir. If we didn't, soon every  
 teenager in America might be listening to The  
 Abyss and buying their records.

ART JONES

Imagine what that would be like.

DEREK

That's exactly we're I'm doing.

DEREK and DANNY smile.

RAYMOND

I SAID, HOW COULD THEY KNOW?  
 AND YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
 OOO, YOUR FACE IS A MESS  
 OOO, OOO, SO HOW COULD THEY KNOW?  
 EH, EH, HOW COULD THEY KNOW?

ART JONES turns off the Teac as  
 The Abyss finishes the song.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 11

INT. GRANDMA'S GARAGE, LATER THAT NIGHT

DEREK and DANNY are showing CHAD and JEREMY their bass and guitar parts as CHAD improvises on drums. CARL is reading Billboard. RAYMOND enters dressed in a Paisley shirt, Bell bottoms and high-heeled boots. He is also wearing a long-haired wig.

RAYMOND

What do you guys think?

Stares and silence.

DANNY

It's like in the picture.

RAYMOND

What picture?

DANNY

Uh, how we picture a rock star should look.

RAYMOND

Cool. I figure if I'm gonna be a rock star I need to dress like one.

CHAD

Do we have to look like that too?

RAYMOND

No, only the lead singer needs to stand out. Like Mick Jagger. You guys are just background.

JEREMY

We're what?

DEREK

Backbone. He meant the backbone of the band. Let's get to work on the new songs.

RAYMOND

Take a picture first.

RAYMOND hands DEREK a Polaroid camera. The Abyss poses. DEREK takes a shot, hands the Polaroid to Danny and puts the camera down.

DEREK

Let's do Roxanne first.



The Abyss start to play Sting's  
"Roxanne".

RAYMOND  
ROXANNE...

DANNY  
Higher.

RAYMOND  
ROXANNE...

DEREK  
Higher, Raymond.

RAYMOND takes a deep breath. HELEN  
enters with DICK 'WILDE CHILDE"  
KEMP.

HELEN  
Raymond.

RAYMOND  
ROXXXXXXXX....

HELEN  
(Louder)  
Raymond!

The Abyss stop playing.

RAYMOND  
(in falsetto)  
What?  
(in regular voice)  
What?

HELEN  
What are you wearing?

RAYMOND  
My new look.

HELEN  
Where did you get the money for your new look?

RAYMOND  
My birthday money.

HELEN  
I thought you were saving that to buy a car to  
get to Cuyahoga County Community and back?

RAYMOND  
I've been thinking I should take a year or two  
off after high school and focus on the band.

HELEN

We'll talk about that later. Mr. Kemp here would like a word with you.

HELEN leaves.

RAYMOND

Were we playing too loud?

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

What? No.

CARL

You're Dick Kemp from WIXY.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

That's right. But you can call me Wilde Childe.

RAYMOND

Wow, Mr. Wilde Childe, I'm a huge fan. I listen to your show every day.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Shows you got taste. Except maybe that shirt. Listen, I heard your song on the radio. I really liked it. Who wrote it?

DEREK AND DANNY

We did.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

You two? I got pants older than you two.

DANNY

Maybe it's time you went clothes shopping.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Cute. Listen up. We're promoting a concert at Leo's Casino tomorrow night. Otis Redding is headlining.

CARL

Otis is in town?

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Yeah. You know him?

CARL

Did some recording sessions with him when I was living in Memphis.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Yeah. Great guy. He's got a record coming out in a few weeks. Gonna be huge. The opening act had to drop out. Would you guys be interested? Four songs. I can pay seven.

RAYMOND

We got twenty dollars for our last show.

CARL

I think he means seven hundred.

RAYMOND

Dollars?

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Yeah, dollars. So you want to do it?

DEREK

Let us talk to our manager.

DEREK, DANNY, RAYMOND, JEREMY,  
CHAD and BARRY stare at Carl. He  
finally gets it.

CARL

Oh. Right. I'm Carl. The manager. Hang on a  
sec.

CARL takes a pink piece of paper  
out of his pocket and looks at it.

CARL (CONT'D)

Make it seven hundred, plus forty six dollars  
and thirty two cents and you have a deal.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP

Fine. Whatever. Be at Leo's at seven tomorrow.

DICK KEMP exits. DEREK, DANNY,  
RAYMOND, JEREMY, CHAD, BARRY and  
CARL are excited. HELEN enters.

HELEN

What was that all about?

RAYMOND

He heard The Abyss on the radio and he's paying  
us seven hundred dollars to play a show  
tomorrow night.

HELEN

I heard that on the radio. That was The  
Psychedelic Dragons?

RAYMOND

Except we're The Abyss now. So whaddya think?

HELEN

I think you're going to tell Mr. Kemp you can't  
play the show tomorrow night.

RAYMOND

Mom...?

HELEN

It's your grandfather's birthday party.

RAYMOND

But, we're opening for Otis Redding. Even a square like you knows who he is.

HELEN

Raymond, your grandfather's eighty. How many more birthdays do you think he has left?

DANNY

Nine.

DEREK elbows DANNY.

RAYMOND

I'm sorry, mom. This is my dream coming true. I'll spend all day Sunday with grandpa. I'll even listen to his dumb old war stories. But I am playing that show tomorrow night.

HELEN

Fine. Play your show. I'll lie and tell them you're sick. We'll discuss this when your father gets back from his sales trip.

HELEN exits.

RAYMOND

She's never talked to me like that before.

DEREK

That was nothing. Wait'll you try sticking her in Sunny Shores Retirement Village.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 12

INT. LEO'S CASINO, BACKSTAGE - THE NEXT EVENING

RAYMOND, CHAD and BARRY are getting ready. DEREK, DANNY and CARL rushes in.

RAYMOND

Did you find him?

DEREK

We checked his house, usual hangouts. Nothing.

CHAD

We should call the police.

RAYMOND

His dad is the police and he hasn't seen him since last night.

BARRY

Great. Our big chance and Jeremy's messing it up for us.

JEREMY comes stumbling in. He falls to the ground.

JEREMY

Where've you guys been?

RAYMOND

Look at you. You're drunk as a skunk.

JEREMY

Don't be stupid. Skunks don't drink.

DANNY

Get up, Jeremy. You're on in two minutes.

JEREMY tries to get up, but falls.

RAYMOND

Dammit, Jeremy, how could you do this to us? We worked so hard to get here.

JEREMY

Stop. You sound like my father.

CARL

I'll get him some coffee.

JEREMY

Black. Two sugars. And a jelly donut.

RAYMOND

Don't bother, Jeremy. You're fired.

JEREMY

Who made you the boss?

RAYMOND

I'm lead singer. Without me, there is no band. And we rehearse in my garage. That makes me the boss.

JEREMY

Fine. I don't need you. I'll start a band that knows how to have fun.

JEREMY stumbles out.

RAYMOND

That does it. I am never speaking to him again.

DEREK

Sure you will.

BARRY

I guess we have to cancel, huh boss?

RAYMOND

No we don't. Danny can take over for Jeremy.

DANNY

No, I can't.

CHAD

Sure you can. You taught Jeremy all the guitar parts.

DEREK

He can't play in front of people.

RAYMOND

Why not?

DEREK

He's scared. When we had a school talent...

DANNY

I'll tell them. We had a talent show at school. I froze. People started laughing. I tried to play and a string broke. They laughed harder. I pissed my pants.

CARL

I understand if you can't do it, Danny. We don't want you to do anything you don't think you can do. I'll tell Dick we have to cancel.

CHAD

Shoot.

KITTY and ANNIE appear at the door.

DEREK

Hey, what are you guys doing here?

ANNIE

We heard about the show and came to see you.

KITTY

Don't tell anyone you saw us. My mother thinks we're at the library.

ANNIE

Good luck.

KITTY kisses DEREK on the cheek, as ANNIE does to DANNY. The girls leave the dressing room. DANNY picks up a guitar.

DANNY

Come on, boys. We got a show to do.

RAYMOND

Great.

DEREK

Hold on.

DEREK pulls DANNY aside.

DEREK (CONT'D)

You can't be in the band. It'll change history.

DANNY

Mind your own beeswax, big brother.

DEREK

Your beeswax is my beeswax. I mean business.

DANNY

I'll just play the show, then tell Raymond to find someone else. Then when we get back to 1994, dad'll be a rock star and we'll be rich. A man's gotta do what a man's gotta do.

DANNY strums the guitar hard. He hurts his finger.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Owww!

SCENE 13

INT. LEO'S CASINO STAGE, MOMENTS LATER

The lights go down. DICK "WILDE CHILDE" KEMP comes out on stage.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP  
Hello Cleveland!

The crowd cheers and applauds.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP (CONT'D)  
Before we bring out Otis Redding, a local band I discovered with a cool modern sound is gonna play a few songs. Ladies and Gentlemen, WIXY 1280 AM is proud to present The Abyss.

The audience claps politely. The band runs out on stage.

RAYMOND  
We're The Abyss and we're gonna turn you on.  
But first, our national anthem.

DANNY starts to play the Jimi Hendrix version of 'The Star Spangled Banner'. After the first few notes, he looks down to see if he has wet himself. Nope. He gives DEREK a thumbs up, then continues playing. He's great. The crowd goes wild. After he's finished, the Abyss segue into a montage of hits written by others in the future including songs like Prince's "1999", The Kinks "You Really Got Me" and Billy Joel's "Only The Good Die Young".

OTIS REDDING comes out from backstage and stands next to DICK KEMP to listen to the Abyss finish up with Electric Light Orchestras "Turn to Stone". The crowd goes nuts.

RAYMOND (CONT'D)  
We're The Abyss. Good night!

The Abyss runs off stage.

DICK 'WILDE CHILDE' KEMP  
The Abyss. Aren't they great? And now, a man who needs no introduction but I have a big mouth so I will anyway. Mr. Otis Redding.



OTIS REDDING

(to The Abyss and Carl)

I want you guys to open for me. Carl, let's talk. We leave for Wisconsin in the morning.

OTIS REDDING heads for the stage.

RAYMOND

Oh my God. Did you hear that?

CHAD

We're opening for Otis Redding.

BARRY

We're rock stars.

The Abyss goes wild with joy.  
Hugs, whoops, hollers, etc.

THE STAGE

OTIS REDDING's back up band, the Bar-Kays start to play.

OTIS REDDING

How you all doing, Cleveland?

The crowd cheers.

OTIS REDDING (CONT'D)

This is a song I recorded a couple of days ago.  
It'll be out in a few weeks. Hope you like it.

OTIS REDDING starts to sing  
"Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay".  
DEREK, DANNY and the rest of The  
Abyss watch Otis Redding.

DEREK

Boy he's good. So sad what happened to him?

DANNY

What happened?

DANNY and DEREK feel taps on their  
shoulders. They turn to see ANNIE  
and KITTY. The two couples kiss as  
OTIS REDDING finishes his song.

SCENE 13

EXT. GEAUGA LAKE - LATER THAT EVENING

The amusement park glimmers in the background. DANNY and ANNIE enter from stage left.

ANNIE

Then I told Chuck I didn't like the way he treated me and that I deserved better.

DANNY

What did he say?

ANNIE

He laughed in my face. So I slapped him in his, told him to stick a football up his ass and left.

DANNY

You go, girl.

ANNIE

I did go. After meeting you, I realized I do deserve better.

DANNY

My dad said when you meet the right one, you'll know it.

ANNIE

You think I'm the right one?

DANNY and ANNIE kiss.

DANNY

I wrote that song for you.

DANNY takes his guitar out of the case.

SONG: STOP THE CLOCK

During an instrumental part of the song, DEREK and KITTY enter from stage left and sit at a bus stop.

KITTY

I had fun tonight. I hope we can be friends.

DEREK

We're already friends.

KITTY

Then maybe we can be more.

DEREK

My dad once said when you meet the right one,  
you'll know it and I feel like I've known you  
my whole life.

DANNY resumes singing. As the song  
ends, DEREK and KITTY and DANNY  
and ANNIE each have the kiss of  
the century. DANNY and ANNIE walk  
off.

KITTY

I better go in. I told my mom I'd be home by  
eleven.

DEREK

Let me walk you.

KITTY

You already did. That's my house across the  
street.

DEREK

Weird. It looks just like the one my grandpa  
and grandma live in.

(Then, realizing)

Kitty's like a nick name, right?

KITTY

Yes. My name's Katherine. Katherine O'Reilly.

DEREK

Holy shit. You're my mother.

KITTY

What?

BLACKOUT

END ACT ONE

ACT TWOSCENE 1

INT. GRANDMAS HOUSE, CONTINUOUS

HELEN is at a desk grading papers.  
A coo-coo clock goes off as  
RAYMOND enters.

HELEN

I told your grandfather you weren't feeling well. He was disappointed but looking forward to Sunday.

RAYMOND

I won't be here Sunday.

HELEN

Oh? And exactly where will you be?

RAYMOND

Madison, Wisconsin. We played so good tonight...

HELEN

Well. You played so well tonight.

RAYMOND

We played so good tonight, we're going on tour with Otis Redding. We're making four-thousand a week for a three week gig.

HELEN

You're doing nothing of the sort.

RAYMOND

Why not?

HELEN

Midterms are next week. And what about Christmas?

RAYMOND

We have Christmas day off. Then we fly to...

HELEN

You are not doing this.

RAYMOND

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

HELEN

You don't know what's going to happen in the future.

RAYMOND

Nobody does. But I know what my future will be if I don't do this. A music teacher.

HELEN

Raymond, be realistic. One three week 'gig' does not make you a rock star.

RAYMOND

You're the one who's not being realistic. You don't think I'm good enough to make it, do you?

The front door opens. DEREK runs in and upstairs without a word.

HELEN

It's not a question of if you're good enough.

RAYMOND

Then why are you so against this?

HELEN

It's wrong. The music is wrong.

RAYMOND

Who are you to define what's right or wrong?

HELEN

The way you're dressed is right? The songs Danny and Derek wrote about sex and drugs are right? And the grammar. "We don't need no education"? I'm chairman of the English department. How's that going to make me look?

RAYMOND

You'll look like the mother of a famous rock star. Mom, this could make us rich.

HELEN

I don't want to be rich if it means being disgraced. Don't you want a respectable career like I have? Or your father?

RAYMOND

Yeah, I'm sure dad's thrilled with the choices he made.

HELEN

How dare you. That man has done nothing but sacrifice for his family.

RAYMOND

I don't want to look back in twenty years and think what could have been. This is what I want to do. Me and The Abyss are going to Wisconsin with Otis Redding whether you like it or not.

RAYMOND runs up the stairs.

SONG: WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO?

HELEN

YOU CARRY THEM FOR NINE MONTHS  
 CAN'T KEEP DOWN ANY FOOD  
 IT AFFECTS YOUR SLEEPING  
 IT AFFECTS YOUR MOOD  
 YOU DO YOUR BEST FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS BUT IF THINGS GO ASTRAY  
 NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS YOU'LL GET BLAMED ANYWAY

WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO  
 WHEN THEY THINK THEY KNOW IT ALL  
 STAY OUT TILL ALL HOURS  
 AND NEVER, EVER THINK TO CALL  
 REFUSING TO PICK UP THEIR ROOM  
 LOUD MUSIC LIKE A SONIC BOOM  
 DON'T WANT TO BE A SHREW  
 BUT WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO?

EVERY WAKING MOMENT  
 THEY ARE ON YOUR MIND  
 YOU TEACH THEM TO BE DECENT  
 YOU TEACH THEM TO BE KIND  
 YOU HAVE TO KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT WHEN THEY MAKE FRIENDS YOU  
 DON'T LIKE  
 YOUR HEARTS SKIPS A BEAT EVERY TIME THEY RIDE THEIR BIKE

WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO  
 YOU LAY OUT ALL THE DANGERS  
 LOOKS BOTH WAYS WHEN CROSSING STREETS  
 DON'T GO HOME WITH STRANGERS  
 YOU NEVER, EVER WANT TO BE  
 THEIR PUSHY MORTAL ENEMY  
 THIS PROBLEM ISN'T NEW  
 SO WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO?

BRUSH YOUR TEETH, COMB YOUR HAIR  
 PLEASE PUT ON CLEAN UNDERWEAR  
 USE YOUR BRAIN, THINK AHEAD  
 DO YOUR HOMEWORK, GO TO BED

YOU FORGOT TO FEED THE CAT  
 DON'T MAKE THAT FACE IT'LL STAY LIKE THAT  
 CUT YOUR HAIR, WEAR SOME SOCKS  
 EAT YOUR PEAS, WHAT'S IN THAT BOX?

WHERE'D YOU GET THAT MAGAZINE?  
 DON'T SAY THAT WORD. DON'T BE OBSCENE  
 TURN OFF THE LIGHTS, TURN DOWN THE HEAT  
 PLEASE PUT DOWN THE TOILET SEAT

YOU HOPE THEY'LL MEET A PERSON  
 TO MAKE YOUR FAMILY GROW  
 TO BRING THEM HAPPINESS AND JOY

HELEN (CONT'D)

AND NOT TEARS AND WOE  
 YOU'LL SCRATCH A PERSONS EYES OUT WHO MIGHT CAUSE THEM ANY  
 HARM  
 YOU TELL THEM THAT THEIR PET THAT DIED IS LIVING ON A FARM

WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO  
 EVEN IF YOU MIGHT BE WRONG  
 SOON THEY'RE ON THEIR OWN  
 THEY'RE NOT YOURS FOR VERY LONG  
 THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PART  
 THAT THEY'RE THE BEATING OF YOUR HEART

YOU DO YOUR BEST  
 YOU NEVER REST  
 YOU NEVER WANT TO BE A PEST

YOU'D TIE THEM TO YOUR APRON STRING  
 BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR EVERYTHING  
 BUT THEY'RE JUST PASSING THROUGH

DANNY enters.

DANNY

Hi, Mrs. Bell.

HELEN

Your brother just ran through here. I don't  
 think he's well.

DANNY

I'll go check on him.

DANNY runs up the stairs.

HELEN

WHAT'S A MOTHER TO DO?

BLACKOUT

SCENE 2

INT. GUESTROOM, CONTINUOUS

DANNY enters to see DEREK under the covers, holding the Playboy. DEREK runs into the bathroom with the magazine. He slams the door.

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

There's this new thing called knocking.

DANNY

I wanna stay.

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

What?

DANNY

I wanna stay in 1967. Dad said when I found the right one, I'd know it. Annie is the one. I can save her from marrying Chuck.

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

We can't stay.

DANNY

Why not?

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

Because Kitty's gonna be our mom.

DANNY

Your date is our mom? Like in Back To The Future?

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

Yeah. I'm ramming my tongue down her throat, then realize we're standing across the street from Grandpa's O'Reilly's.

DANNY

You frenched mom? Ewwwww.

DEREK (OFFSTAGE)

Yeah. You have to break up with Annie.

DANNY

But we had sex. She'll think I used her. Oh shit, do you think her kids look like me?

DEREK

Oh my God!

DEREK runs out of the bathroom with his pants half down.



DEREK (CONT'D)  
 (re: magazine cover)

Read that.

DANNY  
 (reading)

Ex-FCC head Newton Minnow on a fresh approach  
 to TV.

DEREK

Lower.

DANNY  
 (reading)

"Otis Redding. What could have been".

DANNY flips the magazine open.

DANNY (CONT'D)  
 (reading)

When Otis Redding's plane went down in Lake  
 Monoma, Wisconsin last December tenth, just  
 three days after recording "Sitting on the Dock  
 of the Bay", the world of music was denied the  
 next big thing.

(To Derek)

That's tomorrow. That's our plane. I thought  
 you knew everything about music history.

DEREK

I knew he died in a plane crash. I didn't know  
 we'd be on the plane with him.

DANNY

If we get on that plane, we're gonna die.

DEREK

If dad gets on that plane, we'll never be born.  
 We gotta get out of here.

DEREK pulls DANNY over to the  
 armoire.

DEREK (CONT'D)

We wish we were back in 1967.

DEREK whips the doors open. Just  
 clothes.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Dammit!

DANNY

Maybe we gotta say it three or four times to  
 get back.

DEREK

This isn't the Wizard of Oz. We have to keep that plane from taking off.

DANNY

You said we couldn't mess with history.

DEREK

If we get on that plane, we are history. We gotta talk dad out of this tour.

DANNY

You gonna tell him the real reason?

DEREK

He'll never believe it. I'll think of something.

DANNY

You take care of dad. I gotta stop Annie from marrying Chuck.

DEREK

Don't tell her the real reason.

DANNY

What am I supposed to tell her?

DEREK

Tell her you had a girlfriend and you made up. Tell her you have a heart condition. Tell her the mafias after you. You're a writer. Think of something.

DANNY

I write lyrics, not bullshit.

DEREK

I've heard some of your lyrics.

DANNY

Haha.

DANNY tosses the Playboy on the bed and rushes out, almost smashing into RAYMOND who is entering.

RAYMOND

You guys should get some sleep. Big day tomorrow.

DEREK

Life changing.

RAYMOND  
(RE: Playboy)  
You done with that?

DEREK  
(Picking up the Playboy)  
No.

RAYMOND  
Oh, okay. Bring it tomorrow. Good night.

DEREK  
Listen, we gotta talk about something.

RAYMOND  
What's up?

DEREK  
I don't think we should go on this tour.

RAYMOND  
Why not?

DEREK  
It's too soon. The songs aren't that good.

RAYMOND  
Are you kidding? 'Hotel California' is a masterpiece. And 'We Will Rock You' is the kind of song they'll play at stadiums some day.

DEREK  
I know but I'm worried if we go on tour with someone like Otis Redding as our first gig and screw it up, it could hurt us in the long run.

RAYMOND  
Did my mother put you up to this?

DEREK  
No.

RAYMOND  
If it's about more money because you and Danny wrote the songs...

DEREK  
I don't care about money.

RAYMOND  
When we first met, all you talked about was getting rich.

DEREK  
Some things are more important. You have to trust me on this.

RAYMOND

Not a chance. My whole life, my brother has been the hero of this house. The football star. The Valedictorian. Yale law school. Gets all the girls. I've always been the loser. You haven't met my father because he's on the road selling bowling supplies. He wanted to be a cartoonist. But he met my mom, had my brother and me and now he's on the road three weeks every month selling rosin bags and shoe disinfectant.

DEREK

I thought he liked what he did?

RAYMOND

Why would you say that? You don't even know him. He's got to be the unhappiest man in the world. I won't let that happen to me. This is my chance to show everybody I'm not a loser.

SONG: NICE GUYS FINISH LAST

RAYMOND

I'm going on that plane tomorrow with or without you.

(pondering)

Hey 'with or without you'. That's a great title for a song. See what you can do with that.

DEREK

I'll get right on it.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 3

INT. WOOLWORTH'S - A SHORT TIME LATER

DANNY is at a booth drinking a  
Coke. ANNIE rushes in.

ANNIE

I got here as fast as I could. What's wrong?

HARLAND comes over.

HARLAND

Hey, Annie. Can I get you anything?

ANNIE

No, thanks.

HARLAND

I heard about the tour, Danny. Good luck.

DANNY

Thanks, Principal Puke. Uh... Harland.

A confused HARLAND exits.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Annie, there's something I have to tell you in  
case you don't see me again.

ANNIE

I'll see you when you get back from the tour,  
right? Or do you already have a girlfriend?

DANNY

No. No. I've never had a girlfriend before. I  
mean, yes. My girlfriend... uh, Cindy. That's  
her name. We decided to get back together. No,  
that's not true. It's just that I'm new in town  
and I just... I just... I can't lie to you.  
What I'm going to tell you has to stay between  
us. Me and Derek are time travellers. We were  
sent here to 1967 from 1994 to make Raymond,  
who's going to be our father, a rock star  
because in about twenty years, Pepper Pike high  
is gonna become an exclusive school where only  
really rich kids get to go. We only get to go  
because Raymond teaches music there. He doesn't  
make a lot of money, so me and Derek don't get  
to have any fun like going skiing and Hawaii  
and stuff. We felt left out. And Derek can't go  
to really good music schools in New York  
because pizza is ten dollars a slice. So when  
we found a way to travel back in time using a  
closet that was in our Grandma's garage...

ANNIE stands to leave. DANNY stop her.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Wait, wait. I haven't even told you the worst part. Right now Derek is trying to talk Raymond out of going on the tour because the plane is going to crash in Wisconsin tomorrow. So if we get on it, we'll die and if Raymond dies, we'll never be born in the future. I wish it wasn't true. I really like you. I may even love you. But no matter what happens, please don't marry Chuck. Kitty O'Reilly is going to be our mom. The morning we left 1994, you were over the house crying because Chuck was cheating on you. Again.

ANNIE

Thanks for using me. And the song you wrote for me wasn't that good.

ANNIE storms off, then returns.

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. The song was really beautiful. It's you I don't like.

ANNIE picks up DANNY's Coke and flings it in his face. Then she storms out again.

DANNY

(calling after)

Don't marry Chuck. He'll ruin your life.

HARLAND returns.

HARLAND

Refills are a nickel.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 4

EXT. PRIVATE AIR STRIP, THE NEXT DAY

A twin engine Beachcraft H18 is preparing for take off. CARL is there with OTIS REDDING, CHAD and BARRY. Members of the BAR KAYS are about to board the plane.

OTIS REDDING

Where are they, Carl? We're gonna be late.

BARRY

I don't... Here they come.

DEREK, DANNY and RAYMOND run up to the plane.

RAYMOND

Sorry we're late. Danny wasn't feeling well.

DANNY

I've never flown before. I'm kinda nervous.

OTIS REDDING

I fly all the time. It's safer than driving.

DANNY

Maybe, but when you get in a car accident you don't slam into the ground from twenty thousand feet up. Why don't we take a train instead?

DEREK

Or even better, rent a bus. Buses are fun. We could sing, play the license plate game.

DANNY

Or even better, better. Cancel the show. Spend the holidays with our families. You never know when it'll be for the last time.

OTIS REDDING

What've you boys been smoking?

DEREK

Nothing. We don't think you should do a show until 'Dock Of The Bay' gets released. You can sing it tomorrow and people will like it. But when it's a hit on the radio in a few weeks, they'll go nuts for it.

OTIS REDDING

The show is sold out.

DEREK

Reschedule it.

OTIS REDDING

That's easy for people like you to say.

DEREK

What do you mean people like us?

OTIS REDDING

Do you know what the Green Book is?

DANNY

It's how my mom used to buy toasters and stuff.

OTIS REDDING

Not Green Stamps. Green Book.

CARL

It listed places Negroes could stay and eat while traveling.

RAYMOND

They needed a book for that?

OTIS REDDING

We couldn't just eat or sleep wherever we wanted. In some places we still can't.

CARL

Some of my friends got hired to play a fancy night club in Alabama, but they had to eat at some dive down the street.

DEREK

That sucks.

DANNY

We didn't know.

OTIS REDDING

That's why we fly and don't drive. Green Book went out of business this year but we could still be stuck in a snow storm and have to sleep in the car. I spent a lot of years on the road playing every joint I could to get to this point. Half the time I had to come in the back door because Negroes couldn't come in the front. I'm finally able to come in the front.

SONG: WALKING IN THE FRONT DOOR

OTIS REDDING

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT ITS LIKE  
SEE YOU NAME UP IN LIGHTS



## OTIS REDDING (CONT'D)

PEOPLE COME TO HEAR YO SING  
 YOUR REACHING NEW HEIGHTS  
 BUT THINGS ARE AS ROSY  
 AS THEY MAY SEEM  
 IT DAMPENS YOUR SPIRIT  
 KILLING YOUR DREAM

YOU HIT THE POINT  
 YOU CANT TAKE ANYMORE  
 BUT YOU KEEP ON KEEPING ON  
 CAUSE IT WORTH FIGHTING FOR  
 FROM LA TO CLEVELAND  
 DOWN TO BALTIMORE  
 I'M GONNA WALK IN THE FRONT DOOR.

YEAR AFTER YEAR  
 YOU PRAY THINGS WILL CHANGE  
 THEY LOOK AT YOU FUNNY  
 LOOK AT YOU STRANGE  
 EVERY PERSONS THE SAME  
 ON THE INSIDE  
 RAINBOW ARE BEAUTIFUL  
 THAT CANT BE DENIED

IT DOESN'T LAST LONG,  
 OUT TIME ERE ON EARTH  
 THE COLOR YOU ARE  
 SHOULDN'T MEASURE YOUR WORTH  
 I'LL SAY IT AGAIN  
 LIKE IS AID IT BEFORE  
 I'M GONNA WALK IN THAT FRONT DOOR.

I AM NOT NY DIFFERENT FROM THEM  
 FROM LONDON TO POLAND TO EGYPT AND BETHLEHEM  
 I EAT AND I SLEEP AND I SMILE AND I CRY AND I LOVE  
 I WASN'T CREATED SECOND CLASS BY THE LORD ABOVE

I HOPE I LOVE LONG ENOUGH  
 TO SEE THE DAY  
 WHEN I CAN HOLD MY HEAD UP HIGH  
 AND MY CHILDREN CAN PLAY  
 WHEREEVER THEY WANT TO  
 WE DON'T ASK FOR NO MORE  
 THAN TO WALK IN THE FRONT DOOR

DEREK

Things are gonna get better, Otis. I know it.

OTIS REDDING

I'd like to believe you, kid. Let's get moving.

OTIS REDDING starts to board the  
 plane.

DANNY

This plane's gonna crash.

OTIS REDDING

That's not funny, kid. I lost two friends on Richie Valens plane.

DANNY

Then don't get on this one. Look.

DEREK

We didn't want to show you this but now we have no choice.

DEREK shows OTIS REDDING the Playboy. He opens it to the page where the plane crash story is. OTIS reads it.

OTIS REDDING

Where'd you get this made up?

DEREK

It's not made up. It's real. My brother and I came here from the future to make Raymond a rock star because he's going to be our father.

RAYMOND

I'm going to be your what?

DANNY

Our father. We haven't been born yet.

DEREK

Raymond, that closet in your guest room is a time travel machine. We were sent here from 1994 to make you a rock star so we can have a better life in the future. But if we get on that plane, there won't be a future. At least for you and us.

CHAD

I saw something like this on the Twilight Zone.

RAYMOND

You guys are crazy. Out of my way.

RAYMOND starts to board the plane.

DANNY

Raymond, when you were ten, you fell off the roof helping grandpa put up Christmas lights and broke your leg, right?

RAYMOND

Yeah. So did you come from the future to help me hang them this year?

DEREK

You haven't told us that story since we got here. How would we know if we weren't going to be your kids and you warned us to be careful putting the lights up?

RAYMOND

I... don't know.

DANNY

I know it's hard to believe. But you have to. That planes going to crash in Wisconsin.

RAYMOND grabs the Playboy from OTIS and looks at it. Then he looks DEREK and DANNY in the eyes.

RAYMOND

You both have my eyes. I believe them.

BARRY

Now I'm scared. I ain't going.

CHAD

Me neither.

OTIS REDDING

Fine. Have a nice day. Have a nice life.

OTIS REDDING starts to get in the plane.

DEREK

Otis, please don't. Dock of The Bay is going to be a huge hit.

OTIS REDDING and the Bar-kays get into the plane. It taxis away.

BARRY

Now that were not going, I guess I have to study for that math final.

CHAD

I'll help you.

BARRY

I'm out of the band, Raymond. This is all too weird for me.

CHAD

Me too. See you in school.

CHAD puts his arm around BARRY's shoulder. They walk off.

CARL

Thanks for paying my phone bill.

CARL walks off.

RAYMOND

(To DEREK and DANNY)

Even if you are going to be my kids, you should be out of the house by the morning.

RAYMOND walks off, then flings his wig and guitar case across the runway.

DEREK

He'll thank us one day.

DANNY

Hope so because he sure hates us now.

BLACKOUT

SCENE 5

INT. GUESTROOM- LATER THAT MORNING

DEREK and DANNY enter.

DANNY

I'm sorry for making you time travel, Derek.

DEREK

I'm sorry about my stupid idea to steal songs.  
I just got greedy.

DANNY

If we don't get back, what's going to happen to us?

DEREK

Whatever happens, it's going to happen to us together.

SONG: MY OWN ROOM

DEREK

WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE  
IF I DIDN'T HAVE A BROTHER  
I ASSUME I'D HAVE MY OWN ROOM  
IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE MY MOTHER  
BUT THEN I THINK OF ALL THE GOOD TIMES YOU AND I HAVE HAD  
STEALING MY CLOTHES  
BREAKING THREE TOES  
DON'T SEEM QUITE SO BAD

DANNY

WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE  
IF YOU DIDN'T EXIST  
I ASSUME I'D HAVE MY OWN ROOM  
YOU WOULD NOT BE MISSED  
BUT THEN I THINK OF ALL THE FOOD TIMES YOU AND I HAVE HAD  
YOUR FEET THAT STINK  
YOUR HAIR IN THE SINK  
DON'T SEEM QUITE AS BAD.

DEREK

YOUR STUPID POSTERS ON THE WALLS

DANNY

A HOCKEY PUCK RIGHT AT MY BALLS

DEREK

BOOING ME IN MY SCHOOL PLAY

DANNY

YOU TOLD THAT GIRL I LIKE I'M GAY

DEREK AND DANNY  
 THESE ARE THINGS THAT BROTHERS DO  
 THINGS THEY PUT EACH OTHER THROUGH  
 I CANT IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT YOU

DEREK  
 WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE  
 IF YOU HADN'T HATCHED  
 I ASSUME I'D HAVE MY OWN ROOM  
 WE WOULDN'T BE ATTACHED  
 BUT THEN I THINK OF ALL THE FUN TIMES YOU AND I HAVE HAD  
 YOUR CHICKEN POX  
 WORMS IN MY SOCKS  
 DON'T SEEM QUITE AS BAD

DANNY  
 WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT LIFE WOULD BE LIKE  
 IF YOU WEREN'T CREATED  
 I ASSUME I'D HAVE MY OWN ROOM  
 WHICH I WOULDN'T HAVE HATED  
 BUT THEN I THINK ABOUT THE FUN TIMES YOU AND I HAVE HAD  
 DITCHING ME AT THE ZOO  
 PEE IN MY SHAMPOO  
 DON'T SEEM QUITE AS BAD

DEREK  
 YOU NEVER FLUSH. YOU ALWAYS SNORE

DANNY  
 USE MY TOOTH BRUSH. CLOTHES ON THE FLOOR

DEREK  
 IN WINTER YOU TURN UP THE HEAT

DANNY  
 YOU MOSTLY PEE ON THE SEAT

DEREK  
 COMPARED TO MOST WE'RE PRETTY STABLE

DANNY  
 WE'RE NOT AS BAD AS CAIN AND ABEL

DEREK AND DANNY  
 THESE ARE THINGS THAT BROTHERS DO  
 THINGS THEY PUT EACH OTHER THROUGH  
 I CAN IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT YOU

DANNY  
 LIFE'S NOT WORTH LIVING IF YOU'VE NO ONE TO CRY FOR

DEREK  
 LIFE'S NOT WORTH LIVING IF YOU'VE NO ONE TO DIE FOR

DANNY  
 I love you, big brother.

DEREK

I love you little brother.

DEREK AND DANNY

I CAN'T IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT YOU.

DEREK kisses DANNY on the forehead. RAYMOND knocks, then enters.

RAYMOND

Otis's plane crashed in Wisconsin. Just like you said. How did you know?

DEREK

You know how we know.

RAYMOND

You saved my life. And Chad and Barry and Carl. Is that why you were sent here?

DANNY

We thought we were sent here to make you a rock star instead of the music teacher you're going to be so we'd be rich. But maybe we were sent here to learn a lesson for ourselves.

DEREK

We didn't write any of those songs. We stole them from people who are going to have hits with them in the future, like Billy Joel and Sting.

DANNY

We're sorry we caused you and grandma to fight. We did all the wrong things for all the wrong reasons. But don't worry. You two are gonna be fine.

RAYMOND

Well, everybody can't be a rock star. Then there wouldn't be anyone left to buy records.

DANNY

Or CDs.

RAYMOND

CDs?

DEREK

You'll see.

RAYMOND

You guys really going to be my sons?

DEREK

Yep.

RAYMOND

Who's your mother?

DEREK

Kitty O'Reilly.

RAYMOND

I'm marrying Kitty O'Reilly? I've hardly ever spoken to her.

DANNY

Then maybe it's time you did.

DEREK

We kissed last night, but nothing happened. It's better you hear it from me.

RAYMOND

Tell me more about my life.

DEREK

No. We don't want to spoil it for you.

RAYMOND

I understand. Am I at least happy?

DANNY

Very. You and mom are crazy about each other and your boys love you very much.

RAYMOND

Good. That's all that matters then. I'm glad you're going to be my sons. Looks like me and Kitty did a good job.

DEREK AND DANNY

Kitty and I.

RAYMOND

Right.

RAYMOND kisses DANNY and DEREK on their foreheads, then turns to exit. He stops at the door.

RAYMOND (CONT'D)

There's really going to be a rock star called Sting?

DEREK

Yeah. But his real name is Gordon.



RAYMOND

Ah. Makes sense. Gordon's a weird name for a rock star.

RAYMOND exits.

DEREK

If we were sent here to learn a lesson, I think we've done that.

DANNY

Maybe that means we can go home now.

DEREK and DANNY walk to the armoire.

DEREK

We wish we were back in 1994.

DEREK opens the armoire doors.  
Clothes.

DEREK (CONT'D)

Dammit!

DANNY

We must be doing something wrong. I was holding the Playboy. Hang on.

DANNY goes back to the bed, takes the Playboy out from under the pillow and holds it. He joins DEREK the armoire.

DEREK

I wish we were back in 1994.

DANNY opens the armoire doors.  
Clothes. He tosses the magazine.

DANNY

We're never going to get back.

DEREK

The Polaroid.

DEREK and DANNY ransack the room looking for the Polaroid.

DANNY

It's not here.

DEREK

I hope we didn't lose it.

DANNY  
I want to go home.

DANNY goes to the bed and starts  
to cry face down on the pillow.  
DEREK notices something.

DEREK  
It's in your pocket.

DANNY pulls the Polaroid from his  
back pocket.

DANNY  
I wasn't crying.

DEREK  
Whatever. Come on.

DEREK and DANNY go to the armoire.  
They hold hands.

DANNY  
You're hands are all sweaty.

DEREK  
Shut up. We wish we were back in 1994. With our  
mom and dad and the life we have.

DANNY  
Which is a pretty damn good one.

DEREK opens the doors to reveal  
Grandma's garage, circa 1994.  
DEREK and DANNY enter the armoire  
together.

SCENE 6

INT./EXT. GRANDMAS GARAGE 1994

DEREK and DANNY exit the armoire and step into the garage.

DEREK  
We're back. We're back!

DEREK and DANNY hug. A minivan pulls up. RAY and KATE step out.

DEREK (CONT'D)  
Mom!

DANNY  
Dad!

DEREK rushes up to KATE. DANNY rushes up to RAY. They hug them tightly.

DEREK  
Dad!

DANNY  
Mom!

DEREK and DANNY switch parents and hug them tightly.

DANNY (CONT'D)  
We thought we'd never see you again.

RAY  
I told you we'd pick you up at four.  
(Noticing the Polaroid)  
Oh my God. I haven't seen this in year. Kate, look.

RAY takes the Polaroid from DANNY and hands it to KATE.

KATE  
The Psychedelic Dragons. Did you boys know your dad had a rock band?

DEREK AND DANNY  
Really?

RAY  
Yup. The Psychedelic Dragons. Got the name from the Chinese take-out place in the yellow pages.

DANNY

Were you any good?

RAY

We were okay. Played mostly covers. Jefferson  
Airplane. Strawberry Alarm Clock. Maybe if we  
had had some originals we could have broken out  
in something besides acne.

KATE

They had this one stinker called Irma.

RAY

I LOOKED UP TO THE SKY  
I SAW A SHOOTING STAR  
IT LOOKED LIKE THE LETTER 'I'  
I WATCHED A SHOOTING STAR  
IT TRAVELED VERY FAR  
AND STOPPED BY A STAR THAT LOOKED LIKE AN 'R'

KATE

Stinker's a compliment

RAY

It wasn't that bad. Probably should have used a  
different girls name. Jane. More things rhyme  
with Jane.

(Looking down and noticing something.)

Is that Gomer?

DANNY

Yeah.

RAY

Then who did we bury in the yard?

Grandma approaches the garage.

GRANDMA

Find anything interesting yet?

RAY, DEREK and DANNY take off  
their shirts and toss them on the  
cat skeleton.

RAY, DEREK AND DANNY

Nope.

RAY

(Re: Polaroid)

Except this.

GRANDMA

I'm so glad you got that out of your system. I  
got a frame at Woolworth's I don't need.

(MORE)

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

You can put that picture of your little band in it and hang it in the bathroom. Put on your shirts. It's winter. Like father like sons.

GRANDMA Exits. RAY, DEREK and DANNY grabs their shirts off the cat skeleton and puts them on.

DANNY

Sounds like grandma didn't like your band.

RAY

That's an understatement. I think she would have rather had me be a bank robber than a rock star.

KATE

The hours are better.

DEREK

What happened to the rest of the guys in the band?

RAY

Jeremy's the homeless guy who hangs around the school and Barry and Chad have been a couple since college. They own a dog grooming salon in LA.

DANNY

Do you wish things had turned out differently?

RAY

No, I couldn't be happier with my life.

DANNY

Us too.

RAY

Probably a good thing I didn't become a rock star. I might be on drugs and my third wife by now.

KATE

Unless I murdered you during the second wife.

RAY

Then there's that.

DANNY

We better finish up here. It's getting late.

RAY

No time now. We have a concert to get to.

DANNY

We do?

KATE

We haven't been doing anything fun as a family lately, so I took a little money out of savings and got us four tickets to that concert your dad said you wanted to go to.

DEREK

That's amazing.

DANNY

Whoa! Thanks, guys.

KATE

That's if you don't mind being seen with your old mom and dad.

DANNY

There's nobody else we'd rather be seen with.

DEREK

We're sorry we've been such jerks lately.

DANNY

Yeah. We can be a pain in the ass sometimes. Always asking them for things you can't afford just because our so-called friends get whatever they want.

RAY

Hey, you're angels compared to the kind of things I put my your grandma through. But you can't change the past. We'll come back here tomorrow and I'll help you finish.

DEREK

I thought we were going to Cuyahoga County Community College tomorrow.

RAY

I checked with my credit union. They offer student loans at a decent rate. You can go to Juilliard if that's what you want.

DEREK

Really?

RAY

Yeah. You guys deserve the best. Just don't go crazy with the ten dollar pizza slices.

KATE

Oh, look Ray. There's that coo-coo clock I was asking about.

RAY

Wonder if it still works.

RAY and KATE enter the garage.

SONG: RICH KIDS REPRISE

DEREK

ALTHOUGH WHAT WE DID WAS WRONG  
WE MADE IT BACK WHERE WE BELONG  
WE LEARNED THE HARD WAY WHAT WE HAVE TO LOSE

DANNY

WE GOT TAUGHT A LESSON  
WITH SOME THINGS WE SHOULD STOP MESSIN'  
SO WHAT IF WE WEAR SEVEN DOLLAR SHOES.

DEREK AND DANNY

RICH LIVES ARE WHAT WE GOT

DANNY

WE MAY NOT HAVE EVERYTHING

DEREK AND DANNY

BUT WE GOT A LOT.

DEREK

PARENTS THAT LOVE US. I GOT YOU.

DANNY

I GOT YOU.

DEREK

WE WON'T BE LAZY, SPOILED ROTTEN.

DANNY

THIS LESSON WON'T SOON BE FORGOTTEN

DEREK AND DANNY

WE WON'T BE LAZY, SPOILED ROTTEN RICH KIDS.

RAY and KATE exit the garage with  
the coo-coo clock.

RAY

It still works.

RAY demonstrates the coo-coo.

DANNY

Cute.

KATE

You know, Ray. We need extra storage space. We  
should come back tomorrow and bring that old  
armoire to the house.

DEREK and DANNY rush over to the  
armoire and block the doors.

DEREK AND DANNY

No!!!!

BLACKOUT

END OF SHOW