

# Hometown

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A musical

By Dennis J Manning

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

## THE ADULT CAST

- · Tom - The Storyteller - WHITE
- · Patrick - The Stranger, has a British accent - GREEN
- · Cindy - The Hypocrite - RED
- · Celia - The Love - LAVENDER
- · Philip - The Mentor - BLUE
- · Lily - The Angel - YELLOW
- · Fred - The Rebel - BROWN
- · FATHER -BLACK
- · MOTHER - GREY

## THE YOUNG CAST

- Tom - The Storyteller - WHITE
- · Patrick - The Stranger, has a British accent - GREEN
- · Cindy - The Hypocrite - RED
- · Celia - The Love - LAVENDER
- · Philip - The Mentor - BLUE
- · Lily - The Angel - YELLOW
- · Fred - The Rebel - BROWN

## SETTINGS

Scene 1 - Funeral Parlor, Sunbury, PA, present day  
Scene 2 - Patrick's Story  
Scene 3 - Take A Chance  
Scene 4 - Regrets  
Scene 5 - Where is Superman?  
Scene 6 - What You See  
Scene 7 - Cindy's Lament  
Scene 8 - The Parents  
Scene 9 - The Conversation  
Scene 10 - Heading To The Ending

## SONGS

**Hometown** - Tom, Cast  
**Just West of Nowhere** - Cast  
**This Little Town** - Cast  
**A Little Sugar** - Patrick, Cast  
**The Unicorn** - Patrick, Fred, Lily, Cast  
**Looking Back** - Cast  
**Where Are You Superman?** - Fred, Cindy, Cast  
**Would You Rather** - Fred, Cast  
**Bonnie Flies On Planes Now** - Patrick, Fred, Cast  
**Peaceful Rain** - Cindy, Fred, Cast  
**Younger, Older** - The Parents  
**What If** - Celie, Tom, Cast  
**The Bridge** - Tom, The Women  
**In Just A Few** - Celia, The Men  
**Hometown** - Cast

INT: FUNERAL PARLOR, SUNBURY, PA, PRESENT-DAY 10 AM

SCENE 1 - THE OPENING

As the lights come up on stage we are in a funeral parlor. Stark and plain. No other suggestions for this space. There are 2 rows of 4 chairs facing front. In the first row: PATRICK, CINDY and CELIA. In the second row: PHILIP, LILY and FRED.

The room is quiet as the lights come up. All look intense, nervous, sad. No one wants to be there and all cannot wait to leave.

Patrick leans forward in front of CINDY, to talk with CELIA. We do not make out what he says but he finishes his sentence and looks desperate to be heard

CINDY

(Sharply to Patrick)

SHHHH. Have some respect.

PATRICK

All I am saying is that this makes no fucking (as ONLY the Brits can say that word and have it NOT be a swear word) sense.

CINDY

(Again SHARPLY):

SHHHHHH. Come on, Patrick keep it down.

PATRICK

I am just saying....

CELIA

(Cuts PATRICK off)

I agree.

She looks at Cindy as Cindy starts to protest, and Celia raises her hand

CELIA

Cindy, don't "Shhhhsh me. I will not be shooshed.

FRED

I just talked with Tom last month. I saw him at the Hotel EDISON. He said that he was feeling good about everything. Phil when did you talk with, Tom last?

PHILIP

It was 4 days ago. The night of that big rainstorm. He said he was going to talk with Celia.

Celia wipes tears from her eyes.

CELIA

Yes Phil, Tom and I talked we agreed that it would all be OK

FRED

(Slowly in a questioning tone)  
Well Celia, did you tell him?

CELIA

(Embarrassed)  
FRED! No, I did not tell Tom.

LILY

(She steps right on that line)  
Tell Tom what?

They all talk quietly now, muffled voice. They know what they are discussing, the “MYSTERY” that Celia and Fred were eluding to. The lights dim down on the crowd and we still can hear muffled voices.

The lights come up on the casket. It opens and Tom sits up. He looks back and shakes his head.

TOM

(in a “like dah” tone)  
Guys, I can hear you.....Fred, Cee, Phil,

He yells  
“Hey, Paddy ...Mate” Come on I am IN THE  
ROOM

## SONG - HOMETOWN

(We hear "HOMETOWN "start to vamp.)

TOM looks down. Looks at the CASKET.  
Looks at every one sitting there. In a  
"ohhhh I get it..Ohhhh they cannot hear  
me. I am dead..." He looks at himself and  
laughs

TOM

Oh I am dead. Well, this is NOT how I thought this would end up.

(The music continues to vamp)

Tom gets out of the casket. The others do not see him, they continue to  
have their conversations. He straightens out his white shirt. Looks back at  
the folks talking and smiles. He looks to the audience.

He pans back to them and again smile

TOM

You see, I LOVE my hometown. The others,  
well, not so much. We have been around  
together for a long time.

The Father appears Upstage right. He looks at Tom

FATHER

(Speaking in a plain voice)

A father should not out live his son, it's not  
right.

The music vamps up louder. He nods a  
humble apology. FATHER does not hear  
Tom's reply

TOM

I am sorry, Dad.

TOM SINGS

*FATHERS AND SONS.*

FATHER

I just wanted him to be better, to do better  
than I did.

TOM SINGS

*FATHERS AND SONS.*

The MOTHER appears Upstage left.

MOTHER

Celia?

She turns from the group. Speaking in an  
unfeeling voice.

CELIA

Yes, mother?

MOTHER

Are you going to be ok?

TOM SINGS

*MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS...*

CELIA

Of course. I have to be.

TOM SINGS

*MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS*

MOTHER

I worry for you

TOM SINGS

*MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS*

The music v amps

All others freeze. TOM, CELIA, FATHER and MOTHER, all stand where they are and all sing plainly to the audience.

TOM, CELIA, FATHER AND MOTHER SING

*FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS. THEY DO WHAT THEY DO. THEY LIVE WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED*

FATHER AND MOTHER SING

*THEY PASS DOWN REGRETS AND THEY PASS ALONG DREAMS*

TOM AND CELIA SING

*THEY REPEAT THEIR MISTAKES TRYING NOT TO GET BURNED*

Every one gets up and they clear the stage removing the chairs, Tom pushes his casket off the stage. All sing as the clear the space.

The music v amps

EXT: ON THE STREETS OF SUNBURY, PA

THE OLDER CAST SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY -GO - ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN?*

Fog now comes over the stage we are going back 25 years for all characters except FATHER and MOTHER who will remain the same. During this change all keep singing as the YOUNG CAST comes centerstage.

YOUNG CAST SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY GO ROUND.*



*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN?*

SHOULD I GET OUT OR SHOULD I STAY HERE WILL I  
HAVE OPPORTUNITIES THIS TIME NEXT YEAR. IN  
THIS HOMETOWN I'M SAFE IN THIS TOWN I AM  
TORN. WILL I BE THE PERSON WHO LIVES IN THE  
PLACE WHERE I WAS BORN?

As the fog is lifted, we have the actors (younger version) in front of their older selves. We know who they are by the color of their shirts. All other actors now have younger versions of them

THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY- GO -  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN?*

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY- GO-  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN?*

Tom comes center and he looks around

The CAST WILL SING THE CHORUS to "Hometown" underneath the introductions.

EXT: WALKING THE PARK IN SUNBURY, PA

People walking by, children playing, street activity.  
A warm, sunny, summer day.

TOM

(He breathes in.)

AHHHH HOMETOWN....My hometown. I never thought that I would be here, in this year, at this age (he laughs) in SUNBURY, PA. This is the county seat. We have "HOAGIES" here. Street fairs. A YMCA

He does the classic “YMCA” from the Village People then laughs to himself

EXT: MONTAGE OF OLD AND NEW SUNBURY

TOM

Such a great place to grow up. Such a quiet place to live. I remember we used to have An ice cream truck that would go around. You’re gonna meet some people, hear some stories, connect, disconnect, maybe see yourself a bit, maybe I may see more of myself a bit and learn a few things, too.

The pairs of each person enter as they are introduced. They each wear the same COLOR so we can get who is who. Enter YOUNG FRED and FRED

TOM

There is the Rebel, Fred. My best friend early on. He would get me in sooooo much trouble. Tough on the outside like SUPERMAN, but inside like all of us, fragile at times

YOUNG FRED AND FRED

Hey, I am not a pussy, I can take care of myself.

He nods to the Fred’s in an apology.

TOM

Ok! Then there is the HYPOCRITE, Cindy.

Enter YOUNG CINDY and CINDY

TOM

She looks harmless, but things may not always be what it seems. She can say one thing and do another, much like all of us can do at times. She keeps herself guarded.

YOUNG CINDY AND CINDY

(Using “AIR” quote)

Tom, you know I “got your back”

TOM

AH, sure,  
(He smiles)  
Thanks, Cindy.

Well, we all should have someone we look  
up to, someone who can guide us at times.  
Philip is our MENTOR

Enter YOUNG PHILIP and PHILIP

YOUNG PHILIP AND PHILIP

Well, I would not go that far. You see the future that you want to see.

TOM

Yep, see what I mean? That guy is  
brilliant. Then there is the Angel, Lily

Enter YOUNG Lily and Lily

TOM

I think she has her eye on someone.

Tom looks at Philip and he looks back. Tom Winks. Older Philip gives  
YOUNG Philip a little “elbow” nod and they look at the LILY’s and smile

TOM

She is beautiful, inside and out.

YOUNG LILY AND LILY

I don’t judge anyone. I love my life and my heart is ready to just open the  
door and fall in love.

TOM

Speaking of love, who would not love to  
love and be in love,

Enter YOUNG CELIA and CELIA

TOM

There is Celia, or as I call her, CEE

## YOUNG CELIA AND CELIA

If you want love, ask for love. I think it is important not to let your time slip by.

TOM

Wow, well said.

Tom nods to CELIA and the CELIA'S nod back

TOM

I hope I remember that. Then there is the STRANGER, Patrick.

Enter YOUNG PATRICK and PATRICK

TOM

Mysterious. From another land. You never quite get what he's thinking. One day he just showed up and we connected right away.

The Patrick's speak in the best Irish accent,  
a tough wise guy

YOUNG PATRICK AND PATRICK

Ohhhhhh for FOUK SAKE, get on with it, Mate!

Tom smiles and nods

TOM

Ok

TOM laughs. PATRICK comes up and puts his arm on TOM'S shoulder.  
This is his BEST Mate

TOM

We have our FATHER and MOTHER

Enter these two

TOM

And we forget that we live what they've learned. They tell us so much and so often we are just not ready to listen. I guess we hear things when it's time to hear them.

## FATHER AND MOTHER

You are there for your kid, you just hope that they stay a kid as long as they can.

We see YOUNG TOM, clearing his throat, like “I am here”

## TOM

Oh yea, the young me, sorry pal

They smile at each other. The cast all mingles and intertwines in a messy group “OHH and AHH” the verse to “HOMETOWN”

## THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY-GO-ROUND DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN.*

The cast exits and we here as they depart

*FATHERS AND SONS....MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS*

*FATHERS AND SONS....MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS*

Tom now introduces us to the HOMETOWN, Sunbury, PA

Tom moves center and takes a big bow

## TOM

So welcome to my HOMETOWN

He breathes in, smiles and looks around

EXT: WALKING DOWN A STREET

## TOM

Sunbury, PA.

He hums “Just West of Nowhere” and then sings like it is an old familiar song that we should all know but we don’t.

TOM

It is

He trails off and hums a but more

TOM

It is

He hums and finds something to lean on or sit down on

TOM SINGS

SONG - JUST WEST OF NOWHERE

*JUST WEST OF NOWHERE. JUST EAST OF NOTHING  
SPECIAL. JUST SOUTH OF WHO CAN REMEMBER*

Patrick and Fred come out

PATRICK & FRED SING

*JUST A BIT NORTH OF NEVER-COME-BACK*

The entire CAST comes on in the back of the stage, shadow-like lighting

CAST SINGS

*NOT HARD TO LEAVE NOT EASY TO RETURN*

Pause

TOM, PATRICK and CELIA step forward

TOM, PATRICK AND CELIA SING

And so you keep driving.

The cast will sing the verse again quietly in the background as Tom Speaks

## THE CAST EXCEPT TOM SING

*JUST WEST OF NOWHERE. JUST EAST OF NOTHING  
SPECIAL. JUST SOUTH OF WHO CAN REMEMBER.  
JUST A BIT NORTH OF NEVER-COME-BACK. NOT  
HARD TO LEAVE NOT EASY TO RETURN. AND SO  
YOU KEEP DRIVING.*

EXT: AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE TWO BRANCHES OF THE  
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

TOM

And so you KEEP Driving. Sunbury, PA. Not much happens here, so there is not much to tell. Oh but is there a LOT TO LEARN. Sunbury sits at the CONFLUENCE

He pauses and thinks of that word “CONFLUENCE” He speaks this again with pride

TOM

Sunbury sits at the CONFLUENCE of the two branches of the Susquehanna River. Founded in 1772.

PATRICK comes up laughing.

PATRICK

I always loved that name, mate, “SUS-QUEEEEEEE-HANNNNNA”

They laugh

TOM

The Susquehanna. It flows right on down to Harrisburg and then makes its way to Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay. We used to say we were gonna float a raft all that way one summer.

FRED comes out and joins them. Fred speaks with a bit of longing.

FRED

I always wanted to. Always s.

FRED looks at TOM and PATRICK

FRED

Why did we never go ahead and to that?

FRED is trying to remember. Then all 3 look at each other and nod.

TOM, PATRICK & FRED

Because our moms said, "no."

They all laugh

EXT: ON THE BRIDGE - WALKING ACROSS

TOM

There was this one bridge over a creek we used to go up on

CELIA comes up

CELIA

That bridge always scared me. Rickety, creaky, high up

All on stage look out like they are seeing a  
great view in the distance.

PHILIP comes up on stage

EXT: OUTSIDE THE HOTEL EDISON

PHILIP

Sunbury had the FIRST Hotel with a 3-wire light, The EDISON Hotel. The place is still open.

FRED

Sunday brunch there is the best. CHICKEN  
AND WAFFLES.

LILY and CINDY come out



EXT: WALKING MARKET STREET

LILY

We had the “five and dime” stores

Cindy with an “I told you so” attitude

CINDY

They left.

Lily with a wonderful, reminiscent tone

LILY

Woolworths...Newberry’s...a SEARS Catalog store

CINDY

AND...They left.

LILY looks at CINDY, rolls her eyes. She takes CINDY’S arm and they stroll to the side, talking quietly and laughing. Tom picks up the light story-telling pace again.

TOM

We had Market Street full of business. Thirty years later and the town of Sunbury, has not changed that much. People stay, many leave. It was just a small little town. Not much industry left around. Drugs came about 15 years ago and hit a lot of kids and adults hard, I guess it is that way in a lot of places.

Tom pauses and breathes in and then exhales. He smiles

TOM

I love this town.

TOM pauses and breathes in deep and then exhales

TOM

You can smell the easy life that a lot of us had here.

The cast is behind Tom and they sing in a swelling, somewhat mournful sound; not regret as much as it is haunting.

## CAST SINGS

*THEN I'M STOPPED AT THE LIGHT. SHOULD I GO LEFT, SHOULD GO RIGHT? LOOKING BACK WON'T HELP AT ALL. YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE RISE. YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE FALL. I SEE YOUR FACE JUST LIKE YOU WERE ALWAYS THERE. THEN IT ALL FADES.*

The music plays underneath the following dialogue

Lines are said in a memory-like state

TOM

Memories fade.

CELIA

Everything starts to fade after time

FRED

We used to get a LOT of snow

PHILIP

What was the name of that bakery on Market street, I can remember?

LILY

Lebo's

CELIA SINGS

*JUST WEST OF "NOWHERE" HALF A MILE FROM "MEMORIES."*

FRED AND PATRICK SING

*HALF A LIFETIME AGO I LET IT GO.*

PHILIP AND LILY SING

*JUST A SMALL PLACE THAT I USED TO CALL HOME*

## CINDY SINGS

*NOT HARD TO LEAVE, NOT EASY TO RETURN.*

## CINDY (SPEAKING)

My faith was born here in this town. I have strong beliefs. Right is never wrong. God does see everything. They say you should be accepting of everyone but I am not so sure that is the right answer. I left and never came back. Sometimes I drive by the exit and I mean to turn off but there is nothing here anymore. I moved on.

## ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*AND SO YOU KEEP DRIVING.*

## YOUNG CAST SINGS

*THEN I'M STOPPED AT THE LIGHT. SHOULD I GO LEFT, SHOULD GO RIGHT? LOOKING BACK WON'T HELP AT ALL.*

## OLD CAST JOINS IN HARMONY AND SINGS

*YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE RISE. YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE FALL.*

## TOM AND CELIA SING

*I SEE YOUR FACE JUST LIKE YOU WERE ALWAYS THERE.*

## TOM SINGS

*THEN IT ALL FADES.*

The ADULT CAST (except for TOM) drifts back and off stage the YOUNG CAST MOVES FORWARD

## CAST SINGS

*THEN IT ALL FADES. THEN IT ALL FADES. THEN IT  
FADES.*

The YOUNGER cast enters. FRED, CINDY and PHILIP cluster. LILY, CELIA, PATRICK and TOM, cluster. We hear levels of conversation. Talking about the movies to go see, the game, the restaurants.

YOUNG FRED

Do you want to go to the movies tonight?

YOUNG CINDY

What's playing?

YOUNG FRED

"Back to the Future"

YOUNG PHILIP

I really like that song by Huey Lewis,

He does an "AIR GUITAR" and sings "That's the POWER OF LOVE"

(They laugh)

YOUNG CINDY

I am in

TOM has been standing on the side watching. He gets a spotlight on the side of the stage and sings

SONG - THIS LITTLE TOWN

TOM

The things that you remember and things that you let go  
Come back to you so randomly, why I remember now I don't know

TOM SINGS

*IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN,*

YOUNG PATRICK JOINS IN WITH TOM  
AND SINGS

*NOT VERY GRAND*

YOUNG FRED SINGS

Use hand gestures to show the “Numbers” like “3-banks; 10-churches etc

*3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES*

YOUNG CINDY AND YOUNG LILY SING

*AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND*

YOUNG PHILIP AND YOUNG TOM SING

*IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS*

YOUNG CELIA SINGS

*AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED THEY DON'T LOCK  
THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS LITTLE TOWN.*

YOUNG FRED, YOUNG CINDY & YOUNG  
PHILIP SING

*FRIDAY NIGHTS IN THE FALL WE'D ALL GO TO THE  
GAME*

YOUNG FRED SINGS

*I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON BUT I  
LOVED IT JUST THE SAME*

TOM, YOUNG PHILIP, YOUNG CINDY &  
YOUNG FRED SING

*THE BAND. THE FOOD. THE LIGHTS. THE CROWD.  
WHEN THE HOMETOWN TEAM SCORED, WE ALL  
CHEERED OUT LOUD.*

## ALL THE YOUNG CAST &amp; TOM SING

*IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND. 3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND. IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS*

ENTER the ADULT CAST

## CAST SINGS

*AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS LITTLE TOWN.*

## YOUNG CELIA SINGS

*THE WAS THIS TIME ONE YEAR WHEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK. DADDY HAD THIS THING CALLED A HEART ATTACK. I WAS TEN. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW QUICKLY TIME GOES BY.*

## CELIA SINGS

*IT'S BEEN ALMOST 50 YEARS AND AT TIMES I STILL CRY.*

THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS in a RHYTHMIC STYLE

## THE CAST SINGS

*IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND. 3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND. IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS*

*(In harmony and echo)*

*AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS LITTLE TOWN.*

Those not speaking softly sing the chorus again and when not speaking the cast member joins in singing.

Spot on Tom as he speaks

TOM

On Market Street we had them all:  
Newberry's, Woolworth's, WT GRANTS, a  
SEARS Catalog store, 2 movie theatres

CINDY

And they left

Tom looks to her and smiles

PATRICK

I used to fouking LOVE the "HAM & CHEESE COSMO" from the SUNBURY  
SUB SHOP

FRED

And the "Squeeze In" it was this hot dog  
shop with like 5 seats at the counter.

PHILP SINGS

*THE STORES ON MARKET STREET ARE MOSTLY GONE*

CINDY SINGS

*THE 2 MOVIE THEATRES CLOSED.*

PATRICK SINGS

*MOST BUSINESSES MOVED ON.*

FRED SINGS

*MY SISTER LEFT. MY BROTHERS STAYED. ME? I  
COULD NOT WAIT TO RUN.*

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*LOOKING BACK I WONDER WHAT I WAS RUNNING  
FROM?*

CELIA SINGS

*THE BULLIES NOW ARE MOSTLY LOSERS.*

LILY SINGS

*AND THE PROM QUEEN HAS 4 KIDS*

OLDER CAST SINGS

*AND THE ONES WHO THOUGHT THEY MATTERED;  
NOW REALIZE THEY NEVER DID*

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

SLOWLY SING the first 3-words in harmony and then hold

*IT'S JUST A*

ACAPELLA START SLOW THEN BUILD

*SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND. 3 BANKS,  
10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL  
BAND. BACK WITH THE TEMPO AND THE MUSIC. IT  
HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS*

*In harmony and echo*

*AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED, THEY DON'T LOCK  
THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS LITTLE TOWN. IN  
THIS LITTLE TOWN*

The cast drift off stage and TOM moves to the center. He looks around

TOM SINGS

*IN THIS LITTLE TOWN*

We hear in the background in a haunting chant by the cast:



## CAST SINGS

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN*

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN.*

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN.*

“Do you get off” IN round-robin 3X “ or do you stay on” IN Round robin

## TOM SINGS

*IN THIS LITTLE TOWN.*

INT: LUNCH COUNTER AT WOOLWORTHS

Tom heads off stage and Patrick drifts to the side we hear

## PATRICK

“SUS – QUEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE- HANNNNNA

## SCENE 2 - PATRICK'S STORY

YOUNG LILY, YOUNG PHILIP, young TOM and YOUNG PATRICK at the lunch counter.

## YOUNG PATRICK

Tommy Boy, did you see her, I mean did you foucking see her?

## YOUNG TOM

Paddy, I saw her, but I hate to break it to you.

## YOUNG PHILIP

Aw come on, Tommy, don't tell him

## YOUNG LILY

Now guys don't pick on Patrick.

## YOUNG TOM

Ohhhhh believe me, Paddy can easily take care of himself

YOUNG PATRICK

Maggie is in love with me. You can see that right?

YOUNG PHILIP

Tommy, you better tell him.

YOUNG TOM

I don't think I should

YOUNG PATRICK

Tommy you are my best MATE, what do you got to tell me.

YOUNG TOM

Well, she really has it bad for me.

YOUNG LILY

No!

YOUNG PATRICK

What? Wait what do you mean she "has it bad for you."

Young Tom Puffing up like a rooster, really  
playing it big

YOUNG TOM

Yes Sir, she wants me.

YOUNG PHILIP

It's true! Maggie said it was a choice between you, Tommy and  
a...UNICORN. I am not sure how Tommy won that competition!

They all laugh. YOUNG Patrick is not sure what is going on then he "gets  
it"

YOUNG PATRICK

Mates that was not cool. You know how much I like MAGGIE; I mean she's  
gonna marry me.

YOUNG LILY

Really? You never said that.

YOUNG PATRICK

Well, I mean she doesn't know it yet, but she is the one

YOUNG PHILIP

Wait, have you even talked with her yet?

YOUNG PATRICK

Well, I ah...I mean who needs conversation when got all of this

He shows himself in a "Ta Dah" mode like this is more than enough

YOUNG PATRICK

I ask you, who could resist? Right, Lily?

YOUNG LILLY

Ah sure! Sure! You are all that and

YOUNG PHILIP

Sooooooooooooo much more

They all laugh

YOUNG PATRICK

I am telling you, one day Maggie will know what Patrick Sean O'Hare is all about.

EXT: OUTSIDE A CLOSED AND ABANDONED STORE FRONT - MIDDAY,  
PRESENT DAY.

No break in the dialogue moment

LILY

Patrick.

PATRICK

Yea, Lil?

LILY

It had been years but whatever happened to MAGGIE? I found a picture of you two

She hand Patrick a photo

LILLY

And I always wondered what happened.

TOM

Oh boy , this is gonna be messy

PHILIP

Yea I never heard the whole story .

PATRICK

The “whole story” well there is not much to tell. Very matter of fact. We dated. We got plans. We were going to get married and she kept putting me off. 5-years of this and THEN she dumps me. No not dumps me, she TRASHES me. BOOM. I am tossed out with the garbage.

TOM

Out! Talk about a bitter man. I TOLD you this was gonna be messy .

PATRICK

I am real good at hiding things. Two things helped me.

PHILIP

Two things? I would love to hear this.

LILLY

“Two things to mend a broken heart?” I’m ready . Tell us

PATRICK

Tommy said when I was at the bottom, which I did not know I was AT THE BOTTOM, Tommy said this to me: “The heart is just a place inside your head.” “The heart is just a place inside your head.” Mates! You understand right? Your Heart is “just a place” in your mind, it really can’t be broken so ...GET ON WITH IT

LILY

Well, that is very cool.

PATRICK

COOL? COOL? It is fouking brilliant.

He gives Tom a hug

PATRICK

Mate, that thought saved me. I say it to myself every day. "The heart is just a place inside my head"

PHILIP

Patrick that is a good one. What is the 2nd thing that helped you get over MAGGIE?

PATRICK

(He pauses then says very simply)

A little sugar in my tea.

LILY

WHAT? A little sugar

PATRICK

In my tea. After Maggie and I split, I was kind of low and kicked to the curb. I was bad, but I was making myself that way. I called me Mum, she moved back to Ireland, said she missed her.

In the background we hear the rest of the cast sing in a haunting voice, "do you get off or do you stay on in this HOMETOWN." This will repeat twice over the dialogue

CAST SINGS

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN,*

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN.*

PATRICK

I told her how I was done with love and relationships. Who needs it? She said, when Life is bittersweet, then try a little sugar in your tea.

Pause and looks at them and then shakes his head

PATRICK

Well, that did not make any sense. Women! You know how they are.

LILY

And what does that mean?

PATRICK

No offense, but telling me when “life is bittersweet”... Well I let that go and for another long while I just burned up inside. Negative. Angry. Well, my pain is my pain. We always kept things quiet in my family. Maybe too much so, we were not one to argue, but FOUCK would we HOLD ON TO THINGS...for EVER. When she left me I didn't know what to do. I was never for dumped like that before. I kept my rage in. I broke a lamp.

TOM

Seriously, a lamp?

PATRICK

Well, I threw out the window...Well, I threw it THROUGH the window.

LILY

Oh my.

PATRICK

In February. In the Winter. In Sunbury, PA. Not ....so smart.

PHILIP

Not smart.

PATRICK

Not helping, Phil. Not helping.

(They all laugh)

So I called, me Mum, talked to her and then called Tommy and we went for a few pints.

TOM

Well it was not a few

PHILIP

I NEVER get that phone call.

LILY

Phil...

PHILIP

Those two ALWAYS have the fun!

PATRICK

So we sat and drank

TOM

And Drank

PATRICK

And drank! And somewhere in the middle of this, Tommy says “The heart is just a place inside your head.” And then I remember what me mum said, “put a little sugar in your tea” annnnnnnnnnnnnndddd BINGO. It all made sense to me. So this is how I worked out the breakup with Maggie.

SONG - A LITTLE SUGAR IN MY TEA

PATRICK SINGS

As Patrick sings remember he is a fantastic storyteller. Keep us on the edge of our seats, revealing truths just at the last moment to take us by surprise. We LOVE to listen to him talk and sing. His eyes dance, he winks, he smiles

*I COULD NOT GET OVER YOU SO EASILY. I COULD NOT LET GO OF THE PAST. I HELD ON TO EVERY HURT THAT I FELT, AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.*

Patrick connects with each of them on different lines.

*MOMMA SAID, "TRY A LITTLE HONEY." DADDY SAID, "JUST LET IT BE." I TOLD MYSELF "I GOT TO LET IT GO." MOMMA SAID, "WHEN LIFE IS BITTERSWEET, THEN TRY A LITTLE SUGAR IN YOUR TEA."*

Lily moves over to Patrick and puts her arm around his arm and she smiles. Not so much a move to comfort Patrick, but a move to say "I got what you are saying."

PATRICK SINGS

*I FELT THE NEED TO TAKE CONTROL. THIS SEEMED TO HELP THE TIME GO BY FAST*

PATRICK & PHILLIP SING

*I POINTED OUT YOUR FAULTS FROM 5 YEARS AGO*

TOM AND PATRICK SING

*AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.*

LILY & PATRICK SING

Lily joins in on the chorus in harmony

*MOMMA SAID, "TRY A LITTLE HONEY."*

TOM, PHILLIP, LILY & PATRICK SING

*DADDY SAID, "JUST LET IT BE."*

PATRICK SINGS

*I TOLD MYSELF "I GOT TO LET IT GO."*



LILY & PATRICK SING

*MOMMA SAID, "WHEN LIFE IS BITTERSWEET,  
THEN TRY A LITTLE SUGAR IN YOUR TEA."*

PATRICK SINGS

*I SAW YOUR PICTURE AND WENT BACK IN TIME.  
AND I REMEMBERED ALL THE TIMES YOU LIED.  
AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.*

Lily Tom and Philip Ohhh and Ahh for the next two lines

PATRICK SINGS

*SITTING HERE, ALONE WITH THESE THOUGHTS  
.IS THAT THE PRICE I REALLY WANT TO PAY?*

PATRICK, TOM, LILY & PHILLIP SING

Now all join in stacked harmony for the  
next two lines

*THERE IS ALWAYS A COST WHEN IT COMES TO  
HEARTS.*

PATRICK & TOM SING

*DO YOU PAY IT NOW OR WAIT ANOTHER DAY?*

PATRICK SINGS

*I WAS SITTING IN A WINDOW SEAT IN A  
RESTAURANT THINKING OF WHAT WILL BECOME  
OF ME. THE WAITER ASKS,*

TOM SINGS

TOM BECOMES THE WAITER AND SINGS

*"CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING?"*

## PATRICK SINGS

*“MAY I HAVE A LITTLE SUGAR IN MY TEA?”*

EXT: SITTING ON A BENCH IN THE PARK, EARLY EVENING.

## SCENE 3 – TAKE A CHANCE

Patrick, Tom and Celia are together.

PATRICK

Tom and Cee, can I ask you guys a question?

CELIA

Sure, Patrick, anything

TOM

Fire away, Mate.

PATRICK

Well, it is none of my business and we three have been around for a long time in this little town together.

CELIA

Yea, I never thought I would have stayed.

TOM

I thought of going west.

CELIA

West? Really? You never told me that? How far West?

TOM

Pittsburgh.

CELIA

(She is floored)

PITTSBURGH? PITTSBURGH, OMG why there?

TOM

I got accepted to college there right out of high school. I thought It was far enough away but not too far. Duquesne University.

PATRICK

And why did you never go?

TOM

I don't know I thought if I left I might not ever come back, and I did not want that to happen.

CELIA

I REALLY wanted to get out. But, well, I didn't. Something in my heart told me I should stay.

PATRICK

Hmmmm, your "heart? Interesting

TOM

After a while, a year then 5 years pass then

CELIA

Then you stop taking chances.

TOM

Patrick you, came here as an outsider, made a place for yourself, traveled and yet you still come back here. Why?

PATRICK

FOUK! That is easy. The two of you!

CELIA

That is very kind of you.

PATRICK

KIND? Mary Mother of God, I am not a  
FOUKING SAINT.

(They all laugh)

TOM

I think I was always waiting for a sign

CELIA

Yes, me too. I was always waiting for a sign

SONG - THE UNICORN

(Patrick sings and this feels like a story he is telling)

PATRICK SINGS

*THE CALL THAT YOU WERE WAITING FOR NEVER  
COMES WHEN IT SHOULD. THE NEWS THAT YOU  
WERE HOPING FOR IS NEVER QUITE AS GOOD.  
AND YOU WISH YOU COULD START OVER A  
SECOND CHANCE, MAYBE GET REBORN. AND YOU  
GOT TO LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A  
HORSE AND A UNICORN.*

*TAKE A CHANCE TO RIDE ON DREAMS. OR TAKE A  
RIDE YOU KNOW IS REAL? IF YOU PASSED UNDER  
THE RAINBOW DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD  
FEEL THE MAGIC AND THE WONDER OR JUST THE  
SADDLE AND THE SPURS? THE UNICORN IS  
WAITING FOR A CHANCE OR STAY AS YOU WERE.*

Tom and Celia have not spoken of the ELEPHANT ON THE TABLE in such a long time, that is that their relationship is not moving forward.

PATRICK SINGS

*AND ALL THE MILES THAT YOU PUT BETWEEN YOU  
AND YOUR SORDID PAST AND YOU KNOW IT WILL  
COME BACK TO YOU, SOMETIMES SLOW,  
SOMETIMES FAST*

CELIA SINGS

*AND YOU TRY TO PIECE TOGETHER A BROKEN  
HEART THAT'S BEEN SLIGHTLY TORN IF YOU  
COULD ONLY KNOW WHICH ONE TO RIDE, THE  
HORSE OR THE UNICORN.*

PATRICK, CELIA & TOM CHORUS:

*TAKE A CHANCE TO RIDE ON DREAMS OR TAKE A  
RIDE YOU KNOW IS REAL? IF YOU PASSED UNDER  
THE RAINBOW DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD  
FEEL THE MAGIC AND THE WONDER OR JUST THE  
SADDLE AND THE SPURS? THE UNICORN IS  
WAITING FOR A CHANCE OR STAY AS YOU WERE.*

PATRICK AND CELIA SING

SING TO TOM

*AND IT'S PLAIN TO SEE TO EVERYONE THE THINGS  
THAT ARE IN YOUR WAY. THEY'VE TRIED TO SHOW  
YOU THE SIGNS TO HELP KEEP YOUR FEARS AT BAY*

TOM SINGS

*IF ONLY HINDSIGHT COULD BE USED RIGHT NOW  
TO WAKE YOU UP, BLOW THE HORN*

PATRICK SINGS

*BETTER LOVE THE RIDE YOU CHOOSE BE IT THE  
HORSE OR UNICORN. LOOKING BACK IS NEVER  
HALF AS GOOD AS LOOKING AT WHAT LIES AHEAD*

TOM SINGS

*REGRETTING ALL THINGS, YOU MISSED, BETTER  
TO TAKE ACTION INSTEAD*

CELIA SINGS

*OF WASTING TIME ON WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN,  
LET YOUR LIFE RUN ITS COURSE*

PATRICK SINGS

*YOU ONLY GET ONE CHANCE TO RIDE THE RIDE  
ON THE UNICORN OR THE HORSE.*

PATRICK, CELIA and TOM SING

*TAKE A CHANCE TO RIDE ON DREAMS OR TAKE A  
RIDE YOU KNOW IS REAL? IF YOU PASSED UNDER  
THE RAINBOW DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD  
FEEL THE MAGIC AND THE WONDER OR JUST THE  
SADDLE AND THE SPURS? THE UNICORN IS  
WAITING, TAKE A CHANCE OR STAY AS YOU WERE*

TOM

(In a questioning tone)

Patrick?

PATRICK

Yes, Mate?

TOM

Where do I find a unicorn?

CELIA

(She smiles then looks off in the  
distance)

They are ALL around.

EXT: HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM BLEACHERS

SCENE 4 - REGRETS

The cast will assemble. Striking a pose at different angles and heights.  
They say their “Regrets” and this will lead into the song “Looking back”

TOM  
I waited too long

YOUNG TOM  
I need to tell Cee that I love her.

PATRICK  
I can never let go and love.

YOUNG PATRICK  
Do you think she will love me back?

FRED  
For so long I have denied who I am.

YOUNG FRED  
I have a secret I cannot tell.

CINDY  
I judge people and I am a Christian.

YOUNG CINDY  
I do not feel connected and I will say anything to be liked.

CELIA  
I waited for Tom and now that time has past

YOUNG CELIA  
Does he know how I feel about him?

PHILIP  
I am weak without her.

YOUNG PHILIP  
I am such a shy man, why would she look at me?

LILY  
Love is everything.

YOUNG LILY  
Does he know that I would give him my heart?

TOM  
Looking Back

All freeze and they sing this song as an ANTHEM to themselves. DRUMS are beating in the distance.

SONG - LOOKING BACK

TOM SINGS

*LOOKING BACK NEVER DID MUCH GOOD AT ALL*

PATRICK SINGS

*LOOKING BACK NEVER MADE WHAT WAS WRONG  
NOW RIGHT AFTER LOOKING BACK*

CINDY, CELIA & LILY SING

*I SEE THAT IT'S JUST YOU AND ME*

FRED & PHILIP SING

*LOOKING BACK ON OUR MEMORIES*

YOUNG CAST SING

*LOOKING BACK. LOOKING BACK*

CAST SINGS

*ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT. YEAR AFTER  
YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE ALL  
CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOU AND FEEL  
CONNECTED.*

TOM, PATRICK, FRED AND PHILIP SING

*LOOKING BACK DID NOT TO CHANGE THINGS NOW*



CELIA, LILY AND CINDY SING

*LOOKING BACK DID NOTHING MORE THAN TAKE  
UP TIME AND AGAIN I SEE.*

YOUNG CAST SING

*IT'S ALWAYS ME AND YOU*

OLD CAST SING

*LOOKING BACK IS ALL WE DO*

YOUNG CAST SING

*LOOKING BACK. LOOKING BACK*

CAST SING

*ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT YEAR AFTER  
YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE ALL  
CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL  
CONNECTED. LOOKING BACK I SEE WHERE  
THINGS GOT OFF TRACK. LOOKING BACK I SEE I  
DIDN'T SEE THINGS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME*

MEN SING

*THERE IS YOU*

WOMEN SING

*THERE IS ME*

ENTIRE CAST SING

*TAKE MY HAND. LET IT BE.*

(The tempo slows as they sing. Think of "Les Mis" "One day more")

*ONE BY ONE*

(Tempo back up)

*MOMENT BY MOMENT YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT'S  
HOW WE GOT HERE ALL CONNECTED. I LOOK AT  
YOUR AND FEEL CONNECTED.*

(Now full voice and Harmony)

*ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT YEAR AFTER  
YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE ALL  
CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL  
CONNECTED.*

The cast holds the freeze. Then all disperse except for Fred and Cindy They begin talking like they always do. Easy Best Friends.

INT/EXT STARTING IN A COFFEE SHOP THEN MOVING TO THE STREET FOR  
A "FLASH MOB" OF SUPERMEN

SCENE 5 - WHERE IS SUPERMAN

CINDY

Freddie you know I have known you for a  
long time.

FRED

Geeze it has been years and

CINDY

Don't say it...age thing!

FRED

Cyn, you look great! I would not just say  
that.

CINDY

Well, that is what a BFF is for.  
You know, sometimes I think I don't really  
know you, like

FRED

His cell phone gets a text message

CYN, hold on one sec,

He looks at the message takes a moment  
and then blurts out . He talks out to the air  
and not really to CINDY

FRED

You are KIDDING ME! Really? In a text  
message?

CINDY

Fred, what is it?

FRED

(He is upset)

I just cannot believe it. In a text message.

CINDY

What are you talking about? Is everything  
OK?

FRED

No, everything is NOT OK.

(He groans)

I just got...

(He pauses and is aware that he  
must keep his defenses up as he  
got “dumped” by a guy and he  
has not talked about this with  
Cindy)

I just got “DUMPED” in a text message.  
Dropped. Kicked to the curb. Put out with  
the trash.

CINDY

Who would dump you? You are the perfect catch for any girl.

He looks at Cindy on the word “girl” then looks away

FRED

Yea, right? Where is SUPERMAN when you need him?

CINDY

(She laughs)

Superman? You don’t need him.

SONG - SUPERMAN

This is sung like “can’t a guy get a break...I need a little help here.” Fred is NOT a sissy; you would not take him for a gay man by his outward nature.

FRED SINGS

*WHERE ARE YOU, SUPERMAN? I NEED HELP IF YOU CAN. I’M FEELING KIND OF LOW. I’M JUST AN AVERAGE KIND OF, “JOE”*

*(Tempo picks up)*

*HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL. SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN. CAN YOU HELP ME? HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN. CAN YOU HELP ME?*

(PAUSE)

*Superman*

EXT: LEAVE COFFEE SHOP AND MOVE TO THE STREET

Cindy feels she is a part of this “cry for help. She is LOVING this collaboration. Fred smiles and encourages her.

CINDY

Oh Let me take this one

CINDY SINGS

*I HEARD YOU'RE REALLY FAST. I'M DROWNING IN THE PAST. I'M FEELING KIND OF BLUE*

CINDY AND FRED SING

(They laugh together)

*WISH I WAS KIND OF STRONG LIKE YOU*

Full orchestration now this is a BIG NUMBER

The entire cast does a FLASH MOB, all wearing raincoats to cover up their SUPER-MAN t-shirts that they are wearing underneath. The cast is big and bright and full of harmony

CAST SINGS

(Tempo picks up)

*HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL. SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN. CAN YOU HELP ME?*

*HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN. CAN YOU HELP ME, SUPERMAN?*

(Momentum Builds)

The cast now moves about in rhythms, more people join, making drum sounds, etc., this is very engaging music and singing.

*THEY SAY THAT YOU GOT POWERS THAT YOU ARE  
STRONG BEYOND COMPARE. IS THERE A PHONE SO  
I CAN CALL YOU? HEY, SUPERMAN, ARE YOU  
THERE?*

(Back to down strumming)

FRED SINGS

*WHERE ARE YOU, SUPERMAN? PLEASE HELP IF  
YOU CAN. I'M FEELING KIND OF LOST*

FRED & CINDY SING

*I NEED YOUR HELP AT ANY COST.*

CAST SINGS

LOOK UP IN THE AIR! IT'S A BIRD! IT'S A PLANE!

Jackets come off. They all now reveal their  
SUPERMAN T-Shirts

Tempo picks up and they do a dance of  
some kind to mimic the lyrics.

CAST SINGS

*HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS  
THAT ARE REAL SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND  
RAN. CAN YOU HELP ME HEY, MISTER MAN OF  
STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL  
SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN.*

ALL STOP and sing in FULL ANTHEM-LIKE VOICE,

HEY MISTER MAN OF STEEL I GOT PROBLEMS  
THAT ARE REAL

SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN. CAN YOU  
HELP ME? SUPERMAN

The crowd disperses. FRED and CINDY remain, joyous after their sharing of “Superman.”

Fred looks over and there is a very good looking man, well built in a SUPERMAN shirt. He gives FRED a nod and a smile.

Fred shakes his head in a double take.

FRED SINGS

WHERE ARE YOU, SUPERMAN? WHERE ARE YOU,  
SUPERMAN?

Fred smiles at SUPERMAN and he smiles back at FRED. Cindy sees this and looks back and forth like she is seeing something that she did not want to see. Fred is still grinning as SUPERMAN leaves.

CINDY

Fred. Fred.

(Now in a sharp tone to wake  
him up)

FREDDIE! Hey, is there.... Wait are you...  
Hold on. WHO broke up with you on the  
phone?

FRED

What? It doesn't matter.

CINDY

Well it does. Was it a girl or...a  
A man?

FRED

You really need to ask that?

CINDY

What? Did I miss something?

FRED

Cyn, there is no need to talk about this.

CINDY

Well there is. Fred... I just don't understand. How could you—how could you keep something like this from me for so long?

I love you. You are my best friend. And

FRED

“And...what?” Because I knew, Cindy. I knew how you'd react, how much it would hurt you... and me.

CINDY

So are you gay? How could you lie to me, live a lie all this time?

FRED

Am I gay? Does it matter? It wasn't a lie, Cindy. I never lied about who I am. I just... didn't share everything with you because I knew you weren't ready to hear it.

CINDY

Fred! I would have accepted you no matter what, but this

FRED

Would you have, Cindy? Because right now, it doesn't feel like acceptance. It feels like judgment. And it's tearing me apart



CINDY

You don't understand, Fred! My faith... it's everything to me. It's how I make sense of the world, how I find comfort and guidance. And this... this goes against everything I've been taught. This matters!

FRED

Cindy, I get that. I really do. But my existence, who I am—it doesn't change because of what you believe. I'm still the same person who's been by your side through everything. The same person who loves you unconditionally, despite everything. So, let's say that it is true, that I am....

(Pause)

“gay” what does that matter?

CINDY

It is wrong, Fred. It's a sin. I've been taught that it's a sin... How can I just turn my back on my faith, on everything I've believed in? Well, I think I have a problem with that.

FRED

WHAT? You think?

(Puzzled)

Wait you said you “loved” me that I am your BFF. I'm not asking you to turn your back on your faith, Cindy. I'm asking you to open your heart. To see me, really see me, as the person you've known all your life. I'm still that person. I'm just... being honest with you now.

CINDY

But I don't know how to reconcile this, Fred. How do I love you and still hold onto my beliefs? Well, if you are "Gay" I would not like that part of you.

FRED

Wait you can't pick and choose like that. Maybe the real question is, how do you let love guide you? Love isn't supposed to hurt or condemn. It's supposed to lift us up, help us understand each other, despite our differences.

CINDY

But... what if I can't? Well, if this is true, I could not love you, that lifestyle is not what I believe or accept. I never could.

FRED

So, are you saying...Wait. So, are you saying that because I am "Gay" then that is it – you leave? What kind of friend is that? What kind of love is that? Love endures. It doesn't judge or turn away. It stays, even when things are hard. But I need you to try. Try to see past the fear and the teachings that have made you feel this way, and just... love me as I am.

CINDY

Well yes or no? Are you gay or not?

FRED

Oh My GOD, this sounds so hypocritical? You and all of your  
("Air" quotes)  
"religion" Yes YES Cindy, I am gay. I have always been gay.

CINDY

So it is true, then, you are...like that?

FRED

Like “that” Like “THAT” what the hell is  
 (“AIR” quotes)

“That” You just can’t pick and chose parts  
 of me. Cyn, it’s still me.

He pauses and then pulls the memory  
 forward

You wrote in my yearbook, “You are my  
 best friend..BFF Cyn” what does that  
 mean? It’s still me. I am not a bad person.

CINDY

I know that, it’s just...

I cannot accept that part of you, that is not  
 what I believe. A marriage is between...

Cuts her right off. Now the MOOD has  
 changed. We now see Fred’s “Convictions.”

FRED

Do not say “Between a man and a woman”  
 DO NOT

CINDY

Well that’s what I feel.

FRED

Really? Like that is it. All or nothing.  
 Winner takes it all? Well then, I think it  
 best that you leave.

CINDY

I think it is too. I will pray for you.

She gets up to leave and then pauses and turns to look at FRED, who is  
 looking away.

FRED

(He cuts her off)

I do NOT want your prayers for me. I think you should “Pray” for yourself.

Cindy leaves. Fred is hurt. He sighs.

The cast enters like a mob from all sides singing, slowly then faster, and then faster, round robin style

CAST SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY-GO-ROUND (SLOW)*

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY-GO-ROUND (NORMAL)*

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY-GO-ROUND (FAST, FRENETIC)*

EXT: PARKING LOT, DUSK

SONG - WOULD YOU RATHER

Fred sings in a controlled, yet troubled voice as his best friend has just minimized him for being gay. Cindy could not see the person but only sees a limited view. Cindy professes love and religion yet expresses hypocrisy. Fred starts to pace as the music ramps. This is a dark song. It should feel like we are caught in a cold rain, nothing good about it. Yet Fred is plain and to the point. An Oboe playing here like “Send in the Clowns” would be perfect. It is THAT kind of feeling

FRED SINGS

*WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE FRIENDS WHO LEAVE YOU OR STRANGERS WHO STAY? WHY DO THE ONES THAT SAY “I GOT YOU” TURN AND WALK AWAY?*

*WHY IS THE "KINDNESS OF STRANGERS" FEEL  
JUST A LITTLE BIT WRONG*

*BETTER TO HAVE STRANGERS IN YOUR HOUSE  
THEN FRIENDS THAT DON'T BELONG.*

*AND THE TIDES WILL TURN AND FLOW THEY  
ALWAYS DO. THAT'S HOW IT GOES IT SEEMS FOR  
ME AND YOU.*

WOULD YOU RATHER KNOW THE ENDING OR  
TAKE THE JOURNEY AS IT GOES?

WHY DO YOUR FRIENDS THAT/WHO "HOLD YOU"  
SUDDENLY BECOME YOUR FOES?

I KNOW I'VE CHANGED. WE ALL DO. CHANGE IS  
WHAT WE DO.

SEEMS LIKE OLD FRIENDS THAT/WHO DON'T  
CHANGE ARE "DONE" WITH YOU.

Pause. The music holds one long note then builds with cello strings. Fred gets up and walks around. The cast comes out all holding a paper "FACE" of CINDY on a stick all running into and circling Fred. It should be like he is trying to get through a crowd. This is very dramatic.

THE CAST SINGS

*AND THE TIDES WILL TURN AND FLOW THEY  
ALWAYS DO. THAT'S HOW IT GOES IT SEEMS FOR  
ME AND YOU.*

(The cast OHHS and AHHS)

FRED SINGS

*IN RESTLESS DREAMS, I WANDER THROUGH OLD  
NEIGHBORHOODS*

*I PASS BY SIGNS AND PEOPLE AND I WISH I  
UNDERSTOOD.*

*Pushing though the mob of “CINDY FACES”*

*WHY DID YOU LEAVE THAT FACT IS NOT YET SO  
CLEAR*

The cast now stop and all look at their “CINDY FACE” and sing in dissonant harmony along with FRED

THE CAST SINGS AND FRED SINGS

*AND I WISH YOU ALL THE LOVE YOUR SHOW FOR  
TODAY AND THROUGH THE YEAR.*

The CINDY FACES are back on. Ev ery one faces front with Fred in the middle

*AND THE TIDES WILL TURN AND FLOW THEY  
ALWAYS DO.*

The cast now steps back and is lit by shadows as Fred moves one step closer to the front of the stage

*THAT’S HOW IT GOES IT SEEMS FOR ME AND YOU.*

PAUSE single string is heard

The Cast takes down their CINDY FACES and takes a step forward. Fred turns and looks at all of them. The cast OHHS and AHHS.

Fred PAUSES and this is from the bottom of his heart. He is fighting tears.

He sings as the cast is ohhing under his voice

FRED SINGS

I WOULD RATHER HAVE

(PAUSE)

FRIENDS THAT STAY THAN STRANGERS ANY DAY

PAUSE, FRED Turns to look at the cast and they each put up their “CINDY FACE” one by one going down the line, Fred watches this and as each one does this it cuts him deeper. After the last CINDY FACE is up he turns.

We see the “REAL” Cindy approaches and she and Fred look.

They all SING in FULL Dissonance

THE CAST SINGS & CINDY & FRED

*BUT IF MY FRIEND CANNOT SEE ME,*

(The cast goes black and we are now seeing only FRED sings)

FRED SINGS

*THEY SHOULD BE ON THEIR WAY.*

The “Real” Cindy leaves

Fred moves to stand center stage

FRED SINGS

*WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE FRIENDS WHO LEAVE  
OR STRANGERS WHO STAY?*

BLACKOUT. All depart.

We hear the single cello echo the melody “would you rather have friends who leave or strangers who stay

INT: LIVING ROOM, MID-AFTERNOON.

SCENE 6 – WHAT YOU SEE

TOM, PATRICK, FRED, PHILIP, CELIA & LILY are talking.

TOM

Fred, I can't imagine.

FRED

No, you can't, I mean she dropped me.  
What kind of a friend is that?

LILY

Come on, Freddie, I don't think she really  
meant it.

FRED

She did. You cannot pick and choose what  
you like and don't like about a person. I  
mean, yes if I was not a "Good" person but  
OK so I am gay. Big deal.

PATRICK

Just foucking forget about it, Mate

CELIA

Give yourself just a few days, let this settle.

TOM

Yea, Patrick is right, this will all be  
better...later

PHILIP

I am sure that Cindy will come around. I am speaking for all of us, Freddie,  
"we got you."

FRED

I just don't see it like that. I mean, Cindy,  
with all that religion and then she said she  
would "pray" for me. Oh my God. What a  
hypocrite. I can't let this go.

PATRICK

That's your problem, Mate



FRED

Oh, are you gonna start on me, too?

LILY

What's Freddie's problem

PATRICK

The way he sees things.

FRED

What? You have a way to change what I see? More "sugar in my tea?"

PATRICK

I foucking do! Let me tell you a little story. It's true.

FRED

Look my best friend just dropped me for who I am and I don't see what you have to say will change that. I mean how do I know that your guys won't do the same?

LILY

Freddie, you are gay. No surprise. No big deal

FRED

You knew I was gay?

TOM

Always knew. Never cared.

LILY

Since we were kids.

FRED

And no one said anything?

TOM

You never did, so we never did.

PATRICK

Ok so let me tell you my story

FRED

(Blandly. Going along with it)

OK, OK tell me the story.

All of them get seated. Celia has her arm  
around Fred. Tom is seated next to Patrick.  
Remember we LOVE Patrick's stories

PATRICK

(And the story begins)

Alrighty then. Back when I was a wee lad

FRED

Seriously, a "wee lad"

(They all laugh)

PATRICK

(Heavy sigh. He wants to get on  
with his story)

Well, that is how we fouking say it. Now  
can I go on?

(They all laugh and say yes)

Ok, back when I was

(He emphasizes this)

Just a WEE LAD

TOM

How old were you?

PATRICK

(Over dramatic)

JEEEEEE\_SUS Mate, I am never gonna get  
through this!

FRED

But how old were you?

PATRICK

(Exasperated. Really trying to  
get to the story)

I was 10. 10 is just 10. That's how "WE"  
say it is; that's how "YOU" say it?

(Patrick grins)

LILY

Yes, that's just how "we" say it. "10 is 10!"

PATRICK

Good.

FRED

(In a serious tone)

Can I ask one question?

PATRICK

Mary Mother of God will I ever get to tell/

FRED

Are there any of those "Little People" in  
this story?

PATRICK

Really, you are foucking gonna ask me if I  
am gonna tell you a story with....

(He pauses and then grins and  
his eyes flash.)

Which "Particular wee little ones did you  
have in mind?

FRED

Trolls

PATRICK

Trolls. Nope, no trolls.

FRED & PHILIP

Damn, I love trolls

LILY

Leprechaun? Ohh I just love Leprechauns

PATRICK

If it isn't my Feast Day, no way.

CELIA

Your "Feast Day?"

PATRICK

Sweet Mary Mother of the Four Leaf  
Clover....

TOM

Cee, Patrick means "St. Patrick's Day"

CELIA

Well, that is not today  
(They all roll their eyes)

PATRICK

(He jumps up)

BINGO! So no Leprechauns.

(He sighs and just wants to get  
on with this story)

Now for the love of the Holy Spirit of  
Guinness can we move on, please?

TOM

(With all honesty)

One more question?

PATRICK

(Patrick groans as he looks at  
Tom. Gritting through his  
teeth "you are killing me")

Mate, you are killing me, fouking killing  
me. I thought you had my back

TOM

I do! I do! It's just ..

PATRICK

Yes, Mate, Yes. What?

TOM

Are there any ...

(TOM looks around)

“Midgets” – they scare the crap out of me.

(They all laugh)

PATRICK

“Midgets?”

(He shakes his head)

Midgets are not Irish.

FRED

Wait, there are no midgets in Ireland?

PATRICK

(Big sigh, rolls his eyes)

Well, of course we have midgets. Every one has fouking midgets but

(He sighs)

Sweet Mother Mary of the Potato

(They all look around not quite getting that reference)

NO. NO. NO. There are no Midgets, Leprechauns, trolls, ferries, nymphs, talking woodland creatures and by the way, you people are very queer about talking animals. I mean really “BAMBI” paaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaalease.

(They all laugh).

And finally, just to be clear, there are absolutely NO DRAGONS!

(They all moan make a big deal )

FRED

No dragons,

## CAST

(They cast all talks up  
“dragons? I love dragons..”

## FRED

I love dragons this story is gonna suck

## PATRICK

(Patrick is like “ZIP IT”)  
NO DRAGONS. Now can I go on?

## FRED

What is the story about I forgot right after  
the “NO TROLLS” thing  
(They all laugh)

## PATRICK

(Sighs and is losing his patience)  
Sweet Holy Trinity...it is about HOW you  
see things

## LILY

Well I can see just

## PATRICK

(Cuts her off)  
Shhh. Manors  
(They all laugh again.  
Remember that listening to a  
PATRICK STORY is the best)  
OK soooooooooooooooooooooo, back when I  
was a “wee Lad,” my older brother Denis,  
he is 8 years older than me, would have his  
mates over. Our house was the best. Fun,  
laughs, it all happened there. He had one  
friend, Bonnie, she was always very nice  
but kind of on the outside. She was a larger  
girl and not quite the same “mold” as the  
others. She lived in this small little town.  
We all lived in small little towns.

I remember one night, he was talking with Bonnie, and I kind of overheard what they were saying. She was upset because kids in school said that she would never go anywhere or be anyone. Denis told her that one day things would be different. And what he told me made a lot of sense. It spoke to me and I think, Fred, it may speak to you. I love this story about Bonnie.

SONG - BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES

PATRICK SINGS

*BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES NOW. BONNIE TAKES TO THE SKIES. BONNIE DOES EVERYTHING AND BONNIE TRIES NOT TO REMEMBER THE VOICES IN HER HEAD THAT SAID, "BONNIE YOU ARE NO ONE FROM A SMALL NO PLACE TOWN." BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES NOW. BONNIE IS NEVER DOWN.*

*SHE SAID, "THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO SEE IT ALL. SEE IT ALL."*

PATRICK

It makes a lot of sense, The vision that you want.

FRED

Yea but, how does this relate to me,

PATRICK

Denis had a friend that I knew of, Alex, he was kind of a rebel, like someone I know.

LILY

What is up with Alex?

## PATRICK SINGS

*ALEX HAS A BIG JOB. ALEX HAS A LIE. ALEX HAS A FRIEND AND ALEX TRIES NOT TO REMEMBER THE VOICES IN HIS HEAD THAT SAID, "ALEX YOU ARE NO ONE FROM A SMALL NO PLACE TOWN ALEX LEFT THOSE SMALL MINDS. HE AND HIS FRIEND, RICK, ARE DOING FINE.*

*HE SAID, "THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO SEE IT ALL. SEE IT ALL."*

## PATRICK

Come on, you all join me:

## THEY ALL SING

*"THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO SEE IT ALL. SEE IT ALL."*

## PATRICK

So, what do you think, Fred?

## FRED SINGS

*I WOULD TO BE LIKE BONNIE AND HAVE DINNER SOME PLACE IN SPAIN. I WANT TO HAVE DRINKS WITH ALEX AND PICK HIS BRAIN. CAUSE I STILL REMEMBER THE VOICES IN MY HEAD THAT SAID, "YOU ARE NO ONE FROM A SMALL NO PLACE TOWN."*

## PATRICK

See you got it

## PATRICK &amp; FRED SING:

*BONNIE SAID, "THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO SEE IT ALL. SEE IT ALL."*



FRED SINGS

*AND THE VISION THAT I WANT, WILL BE THE  
VISION THAT I SEE, I'M GOING TO SEE IT ALL. SEE  
IT ALL.*

PATRICK SINGS

BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES NOW.

PATRICK

So you're Gay. None of us care. You go find  
Superman!

INT: CHURCH HALL

Cindy is setting up for an after-church gathering. Cindy paces as she sets up the room for the event. Unknowing to Cindy, Fred, Tom, Patrick and Celia came to the hall to meet with Cindy. They arrive as she starts and do not interrupt her.

SCENE 7 - CINDY'S LAMENT

CINDY

(Sounding anxious, angry it's  
not my fault)

It is not my fault. It is not right. Marriage is...ahhgggh ..damn. Why? Why Fred? Why are the good looking men, oh I hate this. I cannot be

(She gets angrier)

I will not be WHO and WHAT I am not. I am the 2nd daughter of 4 daughters. I have promise. I am gifted. In school, I was ...popular.

(She yells and starts to cry)

I was POPULAR. I brought Freddie along, God he was such a loser, so awkward.

Always there, always so ...

(She pauses then says in a  
sneering, mocking voice)

So, NICE! Always, offering rides,  
organizing things with all of my friends  
that then became his friends. I did HIM a  
favor, tagging along. I was in the SMART  
group, he was barely of that caliber.

She paces still controlling her anger which  
is due to her hypocrisy

I played guitar

(She pauses and then with more  
anger)

Then ...he played the guitar. Damn if he  
wasn't better at it, but people wanted to  
hear ME sing. ME. You know why? Cause I  
was good. And good looking. I was an  
officer in the Honor Society, he barely  
made it in. I have always been smarter,  
brighter. And JE-SUS I am sorry, But  
seriously, I should have known.

She groans again now and sneers  
Gay. Gay. GAY

She brushes herself off like trying to get rid  
of imaginary dirt

Disgusting.

(She groans again in anger)

My family has money, I was brought up to  
be different and better. Our house was on a  
hill, in the country He was so middle class,  
that house they lived in, 2nd class trash.  
I mean I KNEW all those years him not  
dating anyone. Oh God, that year he dated  
the fat girl, that was a laugh,

(She sarcastically laughs)

We all had such a laugh over that behind  
his back.

(Sounding just like a MEAN  
GIRL)

Every one teased him. AND he was like, it didn't matter, didn't phase him. How could it NOT phase him?

(She groans)

Freak.

(She whirls around remembering another moment)

I think one time in college, OH college, he went to college in a town near my college, he couldn't give me space

(She whirls around)

God..so suffocating. I remember writing in his yearbook "BFF" I didn't mean it, but it felt like the right thing to do. "Best Friends Forever."

(She laughs to herself)

What a laugh. If you are "Best Friends" then you share things. For the love of God, and he could not have the decency to tell me he was like

(She is disgusted really because Fred did not tell her)

...that...GAY... oh, that is what pisses me off, sorry, BUT the most important thing, that he couldn't tell me. I tell him everything. I tell him, everything.

We hear the thunder a light rain start

CINDY

What did I miss? I have my faith. I have my God. My God, cannot be HIS God, that's for sure. I will pray for him. But he was right in front of me all these years. Jesus how did I miss that.

SONG - PEACEFUL RAIN

## CINDY SINGS

*SO OFTEN I'VE FAILED TO SEE THE SIMPLE  
BEAUTY OF LIFE AROUND ME LIKE THE GRACEFUL  
DANCE OF FLOWERS IN THE WIND THE SERENITY  
YOU FEEL AS NIGHT FALLS DOWN.*

Lightening flashes and the rain starts, heavy. Cindy collects herself and wipes her eyes.

## CINDY

Gay. My God, a sinner!

Fred comes into the room. Cindy looks, startled.

## FRED SINGS

*AND THE PEACEFUL RAIN. AS IT WASHES THE  
EARTH. RAIN ON ME NOW. SURROUND ME WITH  
YOUR CARE. RAIN ON ME.*

Cindy is filling with emotion but staying locked in her position. Fred stays his distance

## CINDY SINGS

*SO OFTEN I'VE FAILED TO SEE THAT I AM HERE  
FOR YOU AND YOU FOR ME*

## FRED SINGS

He takes a step closer

*THAT TOGETHER WE ARE MEMBERS OF A COMMON  
BAND WE SING OF LIFE AND PLAY FOR PEACE IN  
THIS LAND.*

FRED now takes a step closer and CINDY REMAINS locked in place. She is looking at him and in awe of his ability to forgive

CINDY & FRED SINGS (IN HARMONY)

*AND THE PEACEFUL RAIN AS IT WASHED THE  
EARTH*

CINDY SINGS

*RAIN ON ME, SURROUND ME WITH YOUR CARE.*

CINDY AND FRED SING

*LET IT RAIN.*

Cindy now cries quietly yet holding on to  
all her religion and emotion

CINDY

Fred

FRED

Cyn, it's OK

CINDY

But Fred I am not sure

FRED

Cindy Ann, my dear and wonderful friend.  
I have known you since the First Grade. It  
is all ok.

CINDY

But I don't know if I can?

FRED

It is all good. It is still me, Freddie, look

He stand back and does a "TA DA"

FRED

See still me.

CINDY

Fred, I am sorry

FRED

Cindy, I am sorry too. I should have told you, long ago

CINDY

Well yes but, oh I don't know

FRED

Hey it may take you some time, and maybe you may never accept me and It's all ok. You have loved me all these years and I have loved you. I don't want you to be anyone you're not.

(He smiles)

I'll be around.

Fred exits and does not look back. Tom, Patrick, and Celia enter. Long awkward pause as look at each other and then at Cindy. Patrick sighs

PATRICK

(Sarcastically)

Well then, wasn't that a fouking great time?

CINDY

OH I feel awful and/

PATRICK

AND you should feel bad

CINDY

Then he/

CELIA

Just makes it like there's not a problem?

CINDY  
 (Gasps)  
 YES!

TOM  
 You know

PATRICK  
 Slaps the top of Tom's head like "Don't say  
 it"  
 Oh booooy

CINDY  
 What?

CELIA  
 Freddie heard most of what you were saying

CINDY  
 WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAT?

PATRICK  
 FOUK YES. We all did. When you said "we  
 all had such a laugh over that behind his  
 back"

Patrick shakes his head, embarrassed for  
 Cindy

PATRICK  
 I wanted to crawl under a rock. I am mean  
 Jeeeee sus

CINDY  
 What?

TOM  
 It was rough standing there with Freddie as  
 you were going on and on

PATRICK

Freddie leans into me and says, “She is so upset, I cannot let my best friend be upset like that”

(Flat out no holding back)

Not me. Nope If were Freddie I would have said

CELIA

Well none of us is our Freddie. He is a rebel with a heart.

CINDY

What do I do?

PATRICK

Oh, I'll tell you what you should do

TOM

I think you follow Freddie's lead and do what feels right for you.

CINDY

Do you guys hate me?

PATRICK

(Quick and sharp)

YEP.

CELIA

No, no we don't hate you.

TOM

I don't like what you did, and I do not like what you said. I guess you have to come to terms with that now that Fred knows how you felt all those years.

PATRICK

Yes his foucking BFF. Would you be my BFF, too. What have I got to lose?



CELIA

Patrick, that is not helping, but we can all work it out. Ok, we should go?

They nod in agreement and leave. Cindy thinks and puts her hand on her face and cries.

INT: TOM'S LIVING ROOM & CELIA'S LIVING ROOM SPLIT SCREEN

SCENE 8 - THE PARENTS

INT: TOM'S LIVING ROOM

FATHER

Tom, what is wrong?

TOM

Wrong? Nothing is wrong, Dad. Why do you ask?

FATHER

You seem alone, a lot, all these years and you haven't settled down.

TOM

Dad, I am fine, really. I am not alone. I have my friends, my work,

FATHER

Tom, that is good but

TOM

Dad, just...leave it alone, OK?

INT: CELIA'S LIVING ROOM

MOTHER

Celia, What is wrong?

CELIA

Wrong? Nothing is wrong, Mom. Why do you ask?

MOTHER

You seem alone, a lot, all these years and you haven't settled down

CELIA

Mom, I am fine, really I am not alone. I have my friends, my work.

MOTHER

Celia, that is good but

CELIA

Mom, just leave it alone, OK?

INT: SPLIT SCREEN BOTH LIVING ROOMS

SONG - YOUNGER, OLDER

FATHER SINGS

*DID I SHARE TOO MUCH?*

MOTHER SINGS

*DID I TRY TOO HARD?*

FATHER SINGS

*DID I STACK THE DECK?*

MOTHER SINGS

*DID I PLAY MY LAST CARD? I CAN BUILD A FIRE.*

FATHER SINGS

*IT JUST TAKES A SPARK.*

## MOTHER SINGS

*I TURNED ON THE LIGHT.*

## FATHER SINGS

*I DISPELLED THE DARK.*

## FATHER AND MOTHER SING (IN HARMONY)

*I MISS WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN. AND ALL  
THE GAMES THAT WE PLAYED. THEN CHILDREN  
GROW UP AND THE MAGIC NEVER STAYS*

*THEN ONE DAY THEY HAVE CHANGED.  
CHILDHOOD DAYS ARE NOW THROUGH THEY'VE  
GROWN UP AND THEY HAVE BECOME*

*A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.*

*A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.*

We hear in the background by the cast,  
very light, like a chant.

## CAST SINGS

*FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND  
DAUGHTERS..*

## FATHER

Tom, why did you not get married? It  
seemed like you and Celia were always  
heading in that direction.

## TOM

Dad, it just..I don't know. After Mom just  
left us and saw what that did to you, I just  
did not think that I wanted to go through  
that.

FATHER

Did I give you the impression that marriage was bad?

TOM

No, Dad, No, but I see how marriage changed you. It was just us and I was OK with that. You were busy a lot

FATHER

Did I fail you in some way?

TOM

Oh God no, Dad it is all good. It all good.

MOTHER

Cee, why did you not get married? It seemed like you and Tom were always heading in that direction.

CELIA

Mom, it just I don't know. After Dad passed away and saw what that did to you, I just did not think that I wanted to go through that.

MOTHER

Did I give you the impression that marriage was bad?

CELIA

No, Mom, No, but I see how marriage changed you. It was just us and I was OK with that. You were busy a lot

MOTHER

Did I fail you in some way?

CELIA

Oh God no, Mom it is all good. It all good.

## MOTHER &amp; FATHER SING

*I MISS WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN AND ALL  
THE GAMES THAT WE PLAYED THEN CHILDREN  
GROW UP AND THE MAGIC NEVER STAYS THEN  
ONE DAY THEY HAVE CHANGED CHILDHOOD  
DAYS ARE NOW THROUGH THEY'VE GROWN UP  
AND THEY HAVE BECOME*

*A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.*

*A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.*

## MOTHER

You should have left long ago; I think I held  
you back.

## CELIA

No. I stay ed because I wanted to stay .  
Stay ing was my choos ing. I love this town.  
This town is my home.

## CAST SINGS

FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND  
DAUGHTERS..

## FATHER

You should have left long ago, I think I held  
you back.

## TOM

No. I stay ed because I wanted to stay . I love  
this town. This town is my home.

## CAST SINGS

FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND  
DAUGHTERS..

## TOM

I stay ed because I wanted to.

CELIA

If there was choosing to do, and I am not saying that there always was, then I chose it

TOM

I always waited for the “right” time

CELIA

I thought the “right time” for all of this would come but

TOM & CELIA

It never did

#### SCENE 9 - THE CONVERSATION

FATHER AND MOTHER have left. Tom calls Celia. They are on the phone split screen.

TOM

Hey Cee.

CELIA

Hey Tom, what’s up.

TOM

Nothing much I was just having a talk with Dad and

CELIA

Funny, I was just talking with my mom. What did you talk about?

TOM

For some reason he was worried that I was not happy.

CELIA

INTERESTING, my mom asked me kind of the same thing.

TOM

Well, are you?

CELIA

Am I what?

TOM

Happy?

CELIA

Good enough. Sure, Tom, sure I am happy, nothing is wrong. How about you?

TOM

Me? Yes, I am always good.

CELIA

(She laughs a bit)

Yes, that is typical "TOM" always good. I do love that about you

TOM

So, Cee, ah, how do I say this...

CELIA

Say what, Tom, you can say anything to me.

TOM

Do you love me?

CELIA

Tom, of course I love you, I have always loved you.

SONG - WHAT IF

TOM SINGS

*WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?" WHAT IF I TOOK  
THE CHANCE? WHAT IF I STARTED BELIEVING?  
THAT THIS COULD BE THE ONE ROMANCE THAT I  
HAVE WAITED FOR?*

CELIA SINGS

*WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE? WHAT IF  
LOVE JUST COST A DIME? BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT  
EASY WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.  
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL. IT'S JUST SO HARD TO  
REMAIN IN LOVE. IT'S HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.*

TOM

But I think it is that simple. You and me,  
that simple, together.

CELIA

Tom, are you just thinking this up now?

TOM SINGS

*WHAT IF I SAID, "I'M SORRY?" WHAT IF I COULD  
DRY YOUR TEARS? WHAT IF I STARTED  
CHANGING? WHAT IF I COULD GET BACK ALL  
THOSE YEARS? WHAT IF? WHAT IF?*

CELIA & CAST SINGS:

*WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE? WHAT IF  
LOVE JUST COST A DIME? BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT  
EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.*

TOM SINGS

*IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL*

CELIA SINGS

*IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE*



ENTIRE CAST SINGS EXCEPT CELIA & TOM

*IT'S HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.*

TOM

Cee, I am sorry. You're a million miles away. What's going on?

CELIA

Just... a lot on my mind, Tom. I'm trying to figure things out.

TOM

We can figure them out together, you know. That's what I want—to be with you, to face whatever comes our way... together

CELIA

I know, Tom. And I want that too, but, sometimes life throws us curveballs, and we have to take a step back and think about what's best, not just for us, but for... every one involved.

TOM

What do you mean, Celia? Is there something you're not telling me?

CELIA

I've always been the one to think ahead, plan for every possibility. But right now... things feel so uncertain. (Pauses, touching her stomach briefly before catching herself) There's more at stake than just you and me, Tom.

TOM

More at stake? Celia, you're scaring me. If something's wrong, just tell me. We can handle it together, I promise.

CELIA

Tom, I've always loved you. But this isn't just about us anymore. There's something bigger, something that could change everything. And I need time to figure out how to deal with it, how to... move forward.

TOM

Celia, what are you trying to say?

CELIA

I'm saying that sometimes, life has a way of surprising us. It forces us to make choices we never thought we'd have to make. Choices that aren't just about what we want, but what we need to do for the future... for those we care about.

TOM

Are you... are you saying there's a future we haven't planned for yet? A future that might include... someone else? Is there someone else? Celia, if there is something more, if we're about to take on something new... I want to be there with you. No matter what. But I need to know, are we in this together? I am sorry.

CELIA

Tom, my dear and wonderful, Tom. There's nothing to be sorry for. Tom, I want to believe we are. But this is something I need to process on my own first. I need to be sure that what we're about to step into is right for both of us. Hey, I got to go, there are some things I need to do.

TOM

Oh, ahh, sure. I'll see you soon. Bye now.

He hangs up the phone

CELIA SINGS

*WHAT IF I JUST STAYED SILENT? WHAT IF I  
COULD HEAR YOUR HEART? WHAT IF I STARTED  
TO LISTEN? WHAT IF I COULD GO BACK TO START?  
WOULD THINGS HAVE CHANGED?*

CHORUS: A lone cello playing

CELIA AND CAST SING

*WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE? WHAT IF  
LOVE JUST COST A DIME? BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT  
EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.*

TOM SINGS

*IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL*

CELIA SINGS

*IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE. IT'S HARD TO REMAIN ...*

TOM writes a note and he puts it in an envelope. He calls Patrick.

TOM

Hey Patrick, Tom here, yeah all is good. Uh huh. Yea, just hanging...oh a well a pint? Hmm, maybe a raincheck on that...could you....no thanks, Mate, I'll pass on...hey could you do me a favor? Great. Can you bring a note to Cee for me now? I know...well, it's just, I know I could bring it to her, but Well, I'll tell you more. Can I drop it over? Great and I need you to bring it to her right now.

CELIA SINGS

*WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?" WHAT IF I TOOK THE CHANCE? YET, I STILL REMAIN*

EXT: AND THE INT CELIA'S HOUSE

SCENE 10 - HEADING TO THE ENDING

Patrick knocks at the place of CELIA, He has a note from Tom.

PATRICK

Hey Cee,

CELIA

Patrick, what's up?

PATRICK

Tom gave me this note to give to you, he said it was important.

He hands CELIA the note. She looks puzzled and takes the note. She reads it then shakes her head.

PATRICK

Is everything ok?

CELIA

Yes, yes, I guess. Tom said,

Celia, she reads it aloud, in a thoughtful and puzzled voice

CELIA

“ Cee. Come meet me at the old bridge, you know the one where we first met. I have something I want to ask you. I’ll be waiting there till Sunset. If you don’t come I understand. If you do come, then you will understand. Xo Tom”

Celia sighs. She smiles. She shakes her head  
What is Tom up to?

PATRICK

Cee, do you want me to come with you?

CELIA

No thanks, Patrick, Let me go see what is going on. I’ll catch up with you later.  
(They exit)

EXT: ON THE BRIDGE HEADING TO DUSK

The old wooden bridge Tom is there it is just heading to dusk. The bridge is old. Celia joins Tom.

CELIA

Tom? Tom, what are you up to? Why are we out here on this old bridge? Is it even safe? Did you hear the boards when I came toward you?

She puts her hand on the rails and it creaks. He smiles and gently takes Celia's hand. He looks at her, then looks out and smiles

TOM

Wonderful view. This is where we first met.

CELIA

Yes...I remember

TOM

Hey, Cee, how long have we known each other?

CELIA

All our lives, Tom

TOM

We never left this hometown, never.

CELIA

Oh God, I wanted to. Then after my Father died...I was so young, my Mom was so alone. It was just the two of us. Then when it did come time to leave I couldn't. She wanted me to go, but I..

TOM

(He takes Celia's hand)

I know that was the same time that my  
mom split. Just left a chicken in the oven  
and potatoes on the stove with a note left on  
the fridge,

(He says sarcastically)

"See Ya!

(he says it again and laughs a  
bit)

"See YA!" Two words. That's it. Just left.  
My father was a wreck, but he would not  
show it. He told me right afterward,

(In a deep voice sounding proud  
and invincible)

"Tom, never let them see you sweat.  
Never."

CELIA

I kind of lost track of you for a while.

TOM

(He laughs and grins)

Yea, 2-years and 10 months. I just faded  
away.

(He trails off)

"See YA!"

CELIA

Yes, I remember you again in 7th Grade.  
That when I became friends with Cindy  
and the whole crew of us kind just formed.  
What did your Dad say or what happened  
to all of a sudden bring you back in the  
picture?

TOM

He said "8-words."

CELIA

"8-words?"

TOM

“What’s the point of that point of view?”  
Pretty cool, “What’s the point of that point  
of view”

CELIA

You never told me that! Wow...deep  
“What’s the point of the point of view”

(She pauses and looks at Tom  
then looks out)

So,

(She points at the note)

What’s going on here. Why do you have me  
out on this old, bridge?

TOM

Celia, there's something I need to  
say—something I've kept in my heart for  
too long. We've known each other for so  
long, been through so much... I can't  
imagine my life without you in it. Cee,  
Marry Me.

CELIA

(She laughs tenderly)

Oh Tom, stop. I've known you my whole  
life. Tom, we've been here before, haven't  
we? So many times we've danced around  
this... but now?

TOM

And, marry me. I know, I know we've had  
our ups and downs, but doesn't that prove  
we're meant to be? No one knows me like  
you do. No one ever will. Remember the  
night we shared two months ago after the  
street fair. We watched the fireworks then  
come back to my place and made fireworks  
all night long.

CELIA

And the morning came so early!

TOM

Marry me.

CELIA

Tom, after all this time...now? Tom, we are oldish, I mean Tom, now you ask me? And no one knows me like you do, Tom. But that's why this is so hard. We've missed our chance... to ride the merry-go-round.

TOM

Why not now? Now is great. I mean, I should have asked you like 20-now-years ago! I should have asked you 2 months ago. We can still ride it, Celia. We can still make this work. It's not too late

CELIA

YES it is. Tom. It is. We were too scared, too stubborn, too wrapped up in our own lives. We let the moments slip away, one after another. Now... now I'm not the same girl who wanted to ride that merry-go-round with you. And you're not the same boy who would've jumped on without a second thought.

CAST SINGS

AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY-GO-ROUND (SLOW)

TOM

But I love you, Celia. I've always loved you. Isn't that enough? Will you marry me?

CELIA

I love you too, Tom. I always will. But love isn't always enough. We let too much time pass. We let the world change us, let ourselves drift apart and back again, never at the right time.



Now, I have choices I have to make. Now we're two people standing in front of a merry-go-round that's long since stopped turning. I mean I used to dream you would ask me Hell, I dreamed that I would ask you. I mean: "YES" you waited too long. And I told myself if he does ask me, I am gonna tell him, "Tom you come back in one year and you ask me again and if you feel the same, then I'll say yes."

TOM

Cee, wait a year? I don't want to wait another year. Cee, "Marry Me."

CELIA

We'll always have this—our friendship, our history. But we can't pretend that we can turn back the clock. We can't force something that's passed us by. Tom. Tom, I have known you for so long, you have always been there for me...and...

TOM

And, Marry me, Cee.

CELIA

Look I am not mad. I used to be mad. Then I was crazy, then I let it go...You'll never lose me, Tom. But we have to let go of the dream we had, the one that didn't come true. It's time to face the reality we have now, and find peace in that

TOM

Cee, MARRY ME.

CELIA

Tom, I love you. And I will always. And ...well...oh ,

(She pauses)  
JE-SUS, this is hard...

TOM  
So let's not make it hard. MARRY ME...

CELIA  
There is something I need to tell you.

TOM  
I've been lost in you for so long. Wait do you  
want to tell me?

CELIA  
There is but I need to work somethings out.

TOM  
Is there someone else?

CELIA  
No

TOM  
I love you. MARRY ME

CELIA  
Tom. My Tom, No. I cannot marry you. I  
think that dream...passed us by. I have  
some choices to make.

We hear a light rain starting

TOM  
I can help with your decision?

CELIA  
No, I have to decide this one on my own....oh the rain...I have to go. No,  
Tom. I am sorry.

TOM

I know. I know. Cee, I am sorry. For everything. I kept you waiting, didn't I?

CELIA

Yes, we waited too long. No. No, I cannot marry you. And I stayed and I have been glad that I did. And I think we both should ...I just don't know ..why now? Why?

TOM

This is the anniversary day we first met.

CELIA

Let's take a break for a little while.

She turns to go  
I'll call you soon. OK?

TOM

Sure, sure, you call when you want.  
Hey Celia Santana Russell, thanks for coming to our Bridge.

Celia leaves

Tom is left on the bridge and the rain now falls very gently. Tom says in a "I could kick myself tone

TOM

"See YA"

He takes out his cell phone and dials Patrick

PATRICK

Hey Mate, so how did it go? Am I getting my tux?

TOM

No. No...I blew it. She said "no"

PATRICK

FOUCK ME! No, come on you are kidding me.

TOM

No, I am not, she said "no." I never got to give her the ring.

PATRICK

FOUCK.

TOM

I waited too long. She said "that our time "passed"

PATRICK

Damn. Hey, buddy, you ok? Want to grab a pint?

TOM

No, Patrick, I am good. I'll take a raincheck. Tomorrow...or in an hour. Or

PATRICK

Hey, Tom, where are you, I'll come get you?

TOM

No, it's all good. I am up on the bridge. It just started to rain a little and I am gonna just soak all this in for a bit.

PATRICK

You sure, I'll come up and hang out.

TOM

No, Mate, I am good.

PATRICK

I don't know. I don't like the sound of this. You are not going to do something. Crazy, right?

TOM

Crazy? What do you mean? Like ..JUMP.

(Big exaggerated)

Oh COOOOOME OOOONNN. No, I am not going to jump. I am fine. I just got to think a bit. I'll call you later.

PATRICK

You promise? Hey?

TOM

Yes?

PATRICK

What are you going to do with the ring?

TOM

The ring? I don't know. Patrick, you want to marry me?

PATRICK

(Eager excitement)

FOUK YES! Tonight!

TOM

(He smiles)

Bastard! Ok I'll call you later.

Tom hangs up the phone and puts it back in his pocket. He takes out the ring in the box and looks at it. He smiles. He puts the ring on the ledge of the bridge.

SONG - THE BRIDGE

TOM SINGS

*IT WAS THE BRIDGE, IT WAS THE RAIN. IT WAS YOU THAT DROVE ME INSANE. NEVER ENOUGH FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW. NEVER A DREAM THAT WOULD COME TRUE. DAMN THE RAIN.*

THE WOMEN JOIN IN WITH TOM AND  
SING

*HOW DO YOU KNOW WHICH WAY TO TURN? HOW  
DO YOU KNOW THE LESSONS THAT YOU HAVE  
LEARNED? WHEN I HIT THE BOTTOM I DID NOT  
KNOW. WHEN YOU WALKED OUT THE DOOR, I  
JUST LET YOU GO.*

INT: CELIA'S LIVING ROOM

CELIA

Tom...no ...it's just been too long. I mean I  
had to "call it" he never would have. When  
it is over it is done. I just need a little time.

SONG - IN JUST A FEW"

CELIA SINGS

*IN JUST A FEW DAYS I'LL HAVE COFFEE AGAIN  
YOU SEE "COFFEE" WAS ALWAYS OUR TIME. TO  
TALK OF THE DAY AND WHAT PLANS WE HAD  
MADE IN JUST A FEW DAYS I'LL BE FINE.*

CELIA & MEN SING

*BUT TODAY I MIGHT TAKE A MOMENT OR TWO  
CAUSE TODAY IS THE DAY THAT I PARTED FROM  
YOU AND TODAY I MIGHT SCREAM, AND TODAY I  
MIGHT CRY AND TODAY I MAY STOP AND ASK  
MYSELF WHY? IN JUST A FEW...I NEED JUST A  
FEW. I NEED JUST A LITTLE TIME TO PASS BY.*

EXT: TOM ON THE BRIDGE

TOM SINGS

*BACK ON THE BRIDGE WHERE WE FIRST MET I  
WAS LOST IN YOU I HAVE NO REGRETS.*

*NEVER ENOUGH FROM MY POINT OF VIEW THE  
HEART IN ME STILL LOVES THE HEART IN YOU.  
DAMN THE RAIN.*

TOM & WOMEN SING

*HOW DO YOU KNOW WHICH WAY TO TURN? HOW  
DO YOU KNOW THE LESSONS THAT YOU HAVE  
LEARNED? WHEN I HIT THE BOTTOM I DID NOT  
KNOW. WHEN YOU WALKED OUT THE DOOR, I  
JUST LET YOU GO.*

INT: CELIA'S LIVING ROOM

CELIA SINGS: IN JUST A FEW

*IN JUST A FEW WEEKS MAYBE I'LL STOP BY THE  
BAR THAT WAS ALWAYS THE PLACE WHERE WE'D  
DANCED ALL OUR FRIENDS MUST HAVE  
WONDERED IF WE LEFT TOWN IN JUST A FEW  
WEEKS MAYBE I'LL GO TAKE THE CHANCE.*

CELIA & THE MEN

*BUT TODAY I MIGHT TAKE A MOMENT OR TWO  
CAUSE TODAY IS THE DAY THAT I PARTED FROM  
YOU AND TODAY I MIGHT SCREAM, AND TODAY I  
MIGHT CRY AND TODAY I MAY STOP AND ASK  
MYSELF WHY? IN JUST A FEW...I NEED JUST A  
FEW. I NEED JUST A LITTLE TIME TO PASS BY.*

CELIA SINGS

*AND THE THINGS THAT WE DO TO BELIEVE IT WAS  
TRUE*

CELIA & MEN SING

*LIKE LOOKING AT PICTURES AND OLD ROMANTIC  
CARDS TO LAUGH OF A TIME AND REMEMBER  
WHEN LOVE COULD HEAL THE DEEPEST OF SCARS.  
LOVE CAN HEAL THE DEEPEST OF SCARS.*

Celia takes out her phone and calls  
Patrick...he answers

PATRICK

What the FOUK?

CELIA

You know.

PATRICK

Yes I know

CELIA

Damn.

PATRICK

I know. It was his idea. He said

CELIA & PATRICK

(In unison)

WHY NOT NOW?

CELIA

Oh, my god...this is a mess.

PATRICK

Well, it doesn't have to be? I mean

CELIA

I know, I know. I just was taken off guard.  
Where is he?

PATRICK

He called me from the bridge

CELIA

So will you/

PATRICK

Yes, I'll pick you, up, hell...actually



There is a knock on the door and Patrick  
walks in  
I am right here.

CELIA  
I do love him. Yes. I want to marry him.

PATRICK  
Wait. I am going to marry him.

CELIA  
What?

PATRICK  
Well I did ask him what he was going to do  
with the ring, so I said "Yes" KIDDING!  
Come on let's go.

They leave to head to the bridge.

EXT: BRIDGE.

TOM SINGS

With each line Tom Gets More hopeful and  
positive and is ok with all that happened

*AND A TREE CAN JUST LEAVE. AND A STAR JUST  
CAN SHINE. AND A BIRD JUST CAN SING ALMOST  
ANYTIME.*

TOM & THE WOMEN SING

*AND A HEART IS JUST A PLACE INSIDE MY HEAD*

*AND A HEART IS JUST A PLACE INSIDE MY HEAD*

## TOM SINGS

*BETTER CHANGE MY FOCUS, GET ON WITH LIFE  
INSTEAD. SO....*

## TOM &amp; THE WOMEN SING

*BACK ON THE BRIDGE. BACK WITH THE RAIN. IT  
WAS YOU THAT KIND OF DROVE ME INSANE. BUT  
WHAT'S THE POINT OF THAT POINT OF VIEW?  
THERE ARE DREAMS I WILL HAVE LONG AFTER  
YOU. DAMN THE RAIN.*

*HOW DO YOU KNOW WHICH WAY TO TURN? HOW  
DO YOU KNOW THE LESSONS THAT YOU HAVE  
LEARNED? WHEN I HIT THE BOTTOM, I DID NOT  
KNOW. WHEN YOU WALKED OUT THE DOOR....IT  
WAS THE BRIDGE. IT WAS THE RAIN. IT WAS YOU  
THAT KIND OF DROVE ME INSANE. DAMN THE  
RAIN.*

Tom reflects. He smiles, shakes his head and sighs.

Tom leans back against the backstage side of the bridge. We hear a creak and then a SNAP.

The rail on the old wooden bridge snaps and Tom falls backward off the bridge. We hear a “What the F...”

Tom dies

Cello plays the lines “It was the bridge. It was the rain” underneath PATRICK and CELIA talking

Pause. No sound no light change.

Then a single white light shines down where Tom was on the bridge.

We hear in the distance and then see Celia and Patrick come on to the bridge

PATRICK

(Excited and nervous voice)

Tom!

CELIA

(in an excited voice)

Tom!

They come onto the bridge and call his name again.

CELIA & PATRICK

Tom! Tom!

They move to the center of the bridge and see the beam of white light. They look in awe. Then slowly, the white light starts to fade but does not go away yet. They see the broken rail. Patrick sees the ring

PATRICK

Well, where is he?

CELIA

I thought you said he was here.

PATRICK

He said he was. I mean here is the ring.

CELIA

Patrick. Look.

She is nervous and she looks around she sees the rail again and now the white light that is starting to fade. She grabs Patrick's arm and tugs on it and points to the light as it is fading

Patrick do you see that? Do you?

PATRICK

(A little shaken)

Yes I see it but what...

The light is fading more and Celia walks over to get under it. She looks up in it and says softly

CAST SINGS

FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS. REPEATING\_

CELIA

Tom...Tom...it's you isn't it. I waited too long. I waited just a little too long

Patrick has been watching this and moves over and puts his hand in the light that is very rapidly fading. He smiles and tears are coming down his face.

PATRICK

Hey mate, I'll guess I'll take a raincheck on that pint. One day in heaven we can grab a round.

THE CAST SINGS

DO YOU GET OFF OR DO YOU STAY ON (HOLD THAT NOTE)

The light now fades and goes, the evening sunrise hits and a light rain starts.

INT: BACK TO THE OPENING AT THE FUNERAL PARLOR.

The song JUST A FEW is playing in the background.

Celia enters. The rest of the adults are seated in their original positions. She has a single Red Rose and lays it on the casket. She stands with her right hand on the casket. She is controlled as much as she can be and will gently dissolve as she sings.

SINGLE CELLO PLAYS a long note to queue the verse

CELIA SINGS

*IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS THE ENDING WILL  
START IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS THEY ALL WILL  
ARRIVE AND IN UNDER AN HOUR, IT ALL WILL  
HAVE BEEN SAID THE THINGS I NEVER SAID  
WHEN YOU WERE ALIVE.*

THE OLDER CAST AT THE FUNERAL SINGS

*BUT TODAY I MIGHT TAKE A MOMENT OR TWO  
CAUSE TODAY IS THE DAY THAT I PARTED FROM  
YOU. AND TODAY I MIGHT SCREAM, AND TODAY I  
MIGHT CRY AND TODAY I MAY STOP AND ASK  
MYSELF WHY? IN JUST A FEW...I NEED JUST A  
FEW. I NEED JUST A LITTLE TIME...*

CELIA SINGS

SINGLE CELLO HOLDS THE NOTE and  
then PAUSE

TO PASS BY.

PATRICK

Patrick, In a quiet tone leans forward in  
front of CINDY, to talk with CELIA. We do  
not make out what he says but he finishes  
his sentence and looks desperate to be heard.

CINDY

(Sharply to Patrick)  
SHHHH. Have some respect.

PATRICK

All I am saying is that this makes no  
fucking sense.

CINDY

(Again SHARPLY)  
SHHHHHH. Come on, Patrick keep it down.

PATRICK

I am, I am just saying....

CELIA

(Cuts Patrick off)

I agree.

SONG - HOMETOWN

THE YOUNG CAST SINGS

*FATHERS AND SONS JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND  
DAUGHTERS, THEY DO WHAT THEY DO THEY LIVE  
WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED*

FATHER AND MOTHER SING

*THEY PASS DOWN REGRETS AND THEY PASS  
ALONG DREAMS. THEY REPEAT THEIR MISTAKES  
TRYING NOT TO GET BURNED*

Tom enters all in white – White shirt,  
white pants, no shoes.

TOM SINGS

*AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES LIKE A MERRY GO  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN?*

We hear a drum beating a rhythm as the cast assembles – this is  
percussive as we build to an ANTHEM

EXT: SWEEPING VIEWS OF SUNBURY, THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER, MARKET  
STREET

Tom leads the cast (he is in white, barefoot) and they walk through the  
town park, the football field, and other town scenes all singing. They sing  
now in FULL harmony

CAST SING

AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES, LIKE A MERRY GO  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN?

(NOW NO MUSIC, HANDS CLAPPING ACAPELLA)

AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES, LIKE A MERRY GO  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN?

(THEY NOW SING IN ROUND-ROBIN)

AND IT GOES LIKE IT GOES, LIKE A MERRY GO  
ROUND. DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS  
HOMETOWN? DO YOU GET OFF...

(BUILDING)

...OR STAY ON

IN THIS HOMETOWN

Patrick, Tom and Celia step forward

MUSIC COMES BACK IN

PATRICK SING

DO YOU GET OFF

CELIA SINGS

OR STAY ON

TOM SINGS

IN THIS HOMETOWN.

## CAST SINGS

GENTLE in Repeating during this look and  
in harmony

DO YOU GET OFF OR DO YOU STAY ON. DO YOU  
GET OFF OR DO YOU STAY ON

Tom turns to look at the cast. He smiles and nods and they all smile and nod for their love of TOM and of each other. Patrick and Celia hug. Fred and Cindy hold hands.

## ENTIRE CAST

The Lights cut to show just the silhouettes. FREEZE.

IN THIS HOMETOWN.

SINGLE CELLO Plays “Do you get off or do  
you stay on” then hold for the last line.

## TOM

(He says thoughtfully)

Sunbury, PA. Incorporated in 1772. My  
HOMETOWN.

Tom heads to the white light. Every one  
sings

## CAST SINGS

*DO YOU GET OFF OR STAY ON IN THIS HOMETOWN.*

**THE END**