

DECONSTRUCTING HOPE a musical mash-up
REVISED DRAFT
PRODUCTION PROCESSES: MUSICAL THEATRE (PER012-2)

Devised By

2nd YEAR PERFORMING ARTS Students
led by johnmichael rossi
University of Bedfordshire

2015

CHARACTERS

HOPE, a runaway

MADAME NADIYA, a fortune teller, frustrated by her clientele

TARIRO, neighbor of Madame Nadiya, mourning her twin

DUSTIN, a young professor of philosophy, and a newlywed

DAISY, trying to move on from a long-term relationship that she ended

ROSE, promiscuous friend of Daisy, and a compulsive dater

MARC, ex-fiance' of Daisy

MISTER ENDBERG, West End producer anxiously looking for the next big thing, a pessimist

MISTER WEST, a West End producer anxiously looking for the next big thing, an optimist

MISS SPECTACOLO, West End producer anxiously looking for the next big thing, a pragmatist

WESLEY, elderly man suffering from the early stages of dementia

RUBY, wife of Wesley, trying to get the Doctor's clearance to bring Wesley on a flight to return home

NURSE, sympathetic yet straight forward

DOCTOR, struggling between telling patients what they expect to hear and what they want to hear

SARAH, young woman suffering with depression

DOMINIQUE, a young woman, searching for a homeless man that helped her when she was in danger

ZITA, a young girl looking for her lost cat, 'Hope'

SANDIE, a young widowed mother, overprotective of her son

TOMMY, really really really wants a pet, and is the son of Sandie

DANNY, a homeless man trying to quit smoking cigarettes

GLOCK, half of a musical writing duo, trying to meet a deadline, music

SPIEL, half of a musical writing duo, trying to meet a deadline, lyrics

MARIA, owner of the beauty salon, town gossip and advice-giver

FAYE, young hairdresser, recently discovered that she is pregnant with someone she recently started dating

NIKKI, a regular at the beauty salon

HARMONY, a schoolteacher, and wife to Dustin of Act I

YOUNG RUBY, the young version of Ruby in Act I, leaving home for a better life abroad

JEREMIAH HOPE, young politician, running for Mayor, ahead in the polls

NANCY SOMETHING, the underdog opponent of Jeremiah Hope

ACT ONEEPILOGUE

A gathering at a burial site.

HOPE ROUND A: BURIAL SITE

ALL

WHEN WILL I SEE

YOUR SHINING FACE AGAIN

I HOPE IT'S NOT LONG

NOT LONG NOW

Attendees at the funeral begin to peel off and face the audience, continuing to sing. The afternoon class melts into the audience (aisle seats) and some, into the band. The morning class scatters throughout the stage, and kneels; heads down.

HOPE remains standing in the center.

*A video projection: **The Missing Cat's Journey Part 1.***

PART 1

HOPE

Hi.

My name is Hope. But I hate my name.

It's got a lot of baggage. It's jam-packed with all sorts of expectations, and desires... and that's a lot to put on one girl.

When you've got a name like Hope, people project all sorts of things onto you. Like, I'm supposed to be cheery, and positive, and a big beaming bright light of joy... Hope. I hate my name.

I've never been much cheery and positive. Cranky, fussy, cynical. So, I dunno.

Hope is not what we've always thought it to be. When people say stuff like: 'I hope I get it.' They're actually saying something else... something like...

I don't know. It's all really hopeless, isn't it? This town. It's hopeless. So, I'm thinking about leaving it. I've got all my most important stuff here in this bag. And I'm ready to leave. I've already

(MORE)

HOPE (cont'd)
 left home. I've been living on the streets for days.
 I'm going to see if I can find the meaning of Hope.

The inside of MADAME NADIYA's crystal ball.

*RUBY sings to WESLEY who sits nearby in a
 wheelchair.*

AQUARIUS ('HAIR')

RUBY
 WHEN THE MOON IS IN THE SEVENTH HOUSE
 AND JUPITER ALIGNS WITH MARS
 THEN PEACE WILL GUIDE THE PLANETS
 AND HOPE WILL STEER THE STARS

ALL (MORNING)
 THIS IS THE ENDING OF THE DAYS OF THE HOPELESSNESS
 THE DAYS OF THE HOPELESSNESS
 THE HOPELESSNESS!
 THE HOPELESSNESS!

MEN
 HARMONY AND UNDERSTANDING

WOMEN
 SYMPATHY AND TRUST ABOUNDING

MEN
 NO MORE FALSEHOODS OR DERISIONS

WOMEN
 GOLDEN LIVING DREAMS OF VISIONS

MEN
 MYSTIC CRYSTAL REVELATION

WOMEN
 AND THE MIND'S TRUE LIBERATION

ALL
 THE HOPELESSNESS!
 THE HOPELESSNESS!

RUBY
 WHEN THE MOON IS IN THE SEVENTH HOUSE
 AND JUPITER ALIGNS WITH MARS
 THEN PEACE WILL GUIDE THE PLANETS

AND HOPE WILL STEER THE STARS

ALL

THIS IS THE ENDING OF THE DAYS OF THE HOPELESSNESS
THE DAYS OF THE HOPELESSNESS

THE HOPELESSNESS!
THE HOPELESSNESS!

MADAME NADIYA

Out! Out! Out of here!

pushing someone out of her home.

Oy! How many times do I have to tell these people?!

I'm. Not. That. Kind. Of Fortuneteller!

**All the people in this town. They all want something
I cannot give. Riches. Fame. Fairytale romance,
Eternal love!**

"I wanna be rich." "I want to have a handsome lover."
"I want this." "I want that."

Vladi, you there Vladi?

Are you watching this? Watching over me?

Why don't you give me a sign? Something, Vladi. I
miss you. This world is cold and dark without you.
The people in this town...

**Oh, to be misunderstood! Just once, once! I would
like a customer to come to me, and ask me something
meaningful. Just once.**

Everybody comes to fortune teller with their own
agenda. Too much want. Too many expectations of what
this cruel world owes them.

*Lights up on SARAH, in a hospital bed, alone. A
phone rings several times, but no answer.*

*SARAH curls into the fetal position trembling,
the phone starts to ring again, repeatedly; she
doesn't answer it...*

DUSTIN begins his lecture with Projection #1.

DUSTIN

"Hope in reality is the worst of all evils because it
prolongs the torments of man." Friedrich Nietzsche.

Something strange happened to me the other day. I was
at my wife's parents' house. Actually, I was in the
toilet.

Projection #2.

Contemplating life, as one does, in the toilet. And my fiancée's parents, they have this stack of books in there.

Projection #3.

And right there on the top of the pile is this book, *Gives Me Hope*.

Projection #4

I started to flip through the book, a scrapbook of little charming life stories, that I suppose, are supposed to give the reader Hope. I say 'supposed,' because as I flipped through, page by page, not one of these stories gave me hope. Not one. I rolled my eyes at some. I shook my head. Suddenly, I had this expectation that this book would give me some hope. Hell, it's in the title! Instead, I just became more and more hopeless. This book began to torment me. So I took it. I stole it from my fiancée's parents toilet. I don't know why.

Is that wrong?

HOPE

appears elsewhere, finds a book, Gives Me Hope. She flips through and reads a passage.

DUSTIN

"Hope in reality is the worst of all evils because it prolongs the torments of man."

HOPE ROUND B: PARK

ALL

ALL A-ROUND ME

FLOWERS BLOOM IN THE SUNSHINE

BIRDS WILL FLY IN THE SKY

SUM-MER TIME

A park bench. DAISY plucks petals from a flower. DAISY sings through her struggle in getting over MARC.

ADELAIDE'S LAMENT ('GUYS AND DOLLS')

DAISY

blows her nose

I WAS TOLD: THE AVERAGE UNMARRIED LADY BASICALLY INSECURE DUE TO SOME LONG FRUSTRATION MAY REACT WITH PSYCHOSOMATIC SYMPTOMS DIFFICULT TO ENDURE AFFECTING THE UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT.

IN OTHER WORDS, JUST FROM WAITING FOR THAT PERSON WITH WHOM TO GROW OLD A LADY CAN DEVELOP A COLD.

YOU CAN SPRAY HER WHEREVER YOU FIGURE THERE'S GERMS THAT LURK YOU CAN GIVE HER A SHOT FOR WHATEVER'S SHE'S GOT, BUT IT JUST WON'T WORK IF SHE'S TIRED OF GETTING A SUGGESTIVE LOOK FROM EV-ER-Y JERK

Male ensemble member walks by and says, 'Hey'
A LADY CAN DEVELOP A COLD.

I HEARD ONCE: THE FEMALE REMAINING SINGLE JUST IN THE LEGAL SENSE SHOWS A NEUROTIC TENDENCY, TO ACT: (WITH) CHRONIC ORGANIC SYMPTOMS TOXIC OR HYPER TENSE INVOLVING THE EYE, THE EAR, THE NOSE, AND THROAT.

IN OTHER WORDS, JUST FROM WORRYING IF LOVE IS ON OR OFF A LADY CAN DEVELOP A COUGH.

YOU CAN FEED HER ALL DAY WITH VITAMIN A AND CALM HER FROM HER TIZZ BUT THE MEDICINE NEVER GETS ANYWHERE NEAR WHERE THE TROUBLE IS. IF SHE'S GETTING A KIND OF NAME FOR HERSELF, AND THE NAME AIN'T HIS A LADY CAN DEVELOP A SNIFF.

AND FURTHERMORE, JUST FROM STALLING, AND STALLING, AND STALLING WITH EACH AND EV'RY STEP, A LADY CAN DEVELOP THE STREP

WHEN WE WENT ON OUR WEEKEND TO NORFOLK AND WE HEARD THE CHURCH BELLS CHIME THE COTTAGE WAS ON THE SEASIDE AND THE MOOD SUBLIME BUT ONCE HOME, THE DREAM STOPPED, TIME AFTER TIME.

I BEGAN TO DEVELOP THE FLU, THE FLU, THE FLU BECAUSE OF YOU. YOU GIVE ME WHEEZES AND SNEEZES AND I'M MESS ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!

FROM A LACK OF A STABLE LOVE LIFE AND A FEELING I'VE BEEN TOO BOLD, A LADY CAN DEVELOP A BAD, BAD COLD!

DAISY sneezes. ROSE rushes on looking for DAISY but distracted by the beautiful people in the park.

ROSE
Daisy. There you are!

DAISY
I told you, the bench.

ROSE
Yeah, I know. I was hoping you might have meant a different bench.

Oh my, you look... terrible. Sorry Daiz.

DAISY

I've got a cold.

ROSE

Again?

DAISY

I think it's the same one.

ROSE

I think it's in your head. Come on Daiz, I thought we were gonna go cruising today! The sun is out, and so, are-

noticing someone cute
Hiiiiiiiiii!

The- Men!

DAISY

I don't think today's the day Rose.

ROSE

It's never going to be the day, Daiz, if you don't step into it. It's been three months! Look around you! Beautiful, handsome, delicious men, all over this park.

noticing another guy
Oh, hiiii....

DAISY

Half of em are gay.

ROSE

So? Eye candy. Besides, the other half are ours for the choosing. Glass is always half full, Rose. Not empty.

DAISY

Not today Rose.

ROSE

Then when?

DAISY

I dunno- I'm just not ready.

ROSE

Not ready? You're the one that called off the engagement. That's ready. Besides, I've already set something up for us both-

DAISY

You what?!

ROSE sings about the boy she met, whose bringing his friend for a double date. [lyrics to be adapted]

FRANK MILLS ('HAIR')

I MET A BOY CALLED HANK BREW, IN THE BACK ROOM OF A BAR, UP THE STREET. HE GAVE ME HIS NUMBER, SEE. BUT UNFORTUNATELY I LOST MY I-PHONE.

HE WAS CHILLIN WITH HIS FRIEND,

AN ACTOR, AND A WRITER THEY'RE BOTH SO HOT IT GIVES ME SHIVERS

BUT I THINK THE WRITER AND YOU WOULD BE A PERFECT MATCH

HE WANTS ME BUT I'LL PLAY HARD-TO-GET AND MAKE HIM WORK HARD I'LL TEASE HIM

THEY LIVE UP THE STREET UP THERE AND THEY'RE COMING HERE TO MEET YOU

HE HAS GOLD CHAINS ON HIS LEATHER JACKET

AND IF YOU LIKE THE ACTOR MORE THAN WRITER

THEN WE CAN TRADE THATS WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR

I WOULD GRATEFULLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD SNAP OUT OF IT AND FORGET YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND

AND PLEASE

DO NOT MENTION MARC YOU

DON'T WANT TO SCARE THEM AWAY

JUST PLEASE!

Now let's get you quickly made up. He and his friend are meeting us here in five.

DAISY

What? Rose- No! I can't. Not today.

Two strange looking men appear, earlier than expected.

HOPE ROUND C: THEATRE PRODUCERS

ALL

LIGHTS ON THE STAGE,

CASTING, COSTUMES AND MAKEUP

SEARCHING FOR THE NEXT BIG HIT

BREAK A LEG

An office. Three West End producers desperately searching for their next hit.

MISTER ENDBERG

This entire theatre season: hopeless.

MISTER WEST

Come on now, it hasn't been that bad.

MISS SPECTACOLO

We did lose quite a bit of money on that last one.

MISTER ENDBERG

It's been one flop after flop after flop. People wouldn't know good musical theatre if it was beating them over the head.

MISTER WEST

It's the audiences that are hopeless. The work we are producing is quality. We're producing quality stuff here.

MISTER ENDBERG

What audiences? We're paying actors to perform to half-filled houses.

MISS SPECTACOLO

Paranormal Activity The Musical didn't do so bad in the box office.

MISTER WEST

The people came out for that one!

MISS SPECTACOLO

Well actually, the people came to see Will and Jaden Smith in their daddy and son musical theatre debut.

MISTER ENDBERG

And now the Smiths are gone, and we've got an empty house just eating up electricity, if we don't find something new and exciting to stick in there fast.

MISTER WEST

How about... The Interview The Musical?

MISS SPECTACOLO

Really?

MISTER ENDBERG

That's it! I've had it! No more movie musical adaptations. No more revivals rehashing the same old thing. No more twisted fairytales. We need something new.

MISTER WEST
Something fresh!

MISS SPECTACOLO
Something never before done.

The Producers brainstorm, searching for ideas.

THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS ('ANNIE GET YOUR GUN)

'the opening when your heart twerks like ya bum' 'everything about it is spectacular' 'everything madam nadia will allow' 'when you aren't stealing that weave track there's no people like show people' 'the twerkers, the gangsters, the viners, the clowns, the trolls, that move the show at dawn'

MISTER WEST
THE COSTUMES, THE SCENERY, THE MAKEUP, THE PROPS THE AUDIENCE THAT LIFTS YOU WHEN YOU'RE DOWN

MISTER ENDBERG
THE HEADACHES, THE HEARTACHES, THE BACKACHES, THE FLOPS THE PEOPLE WHO I CAN'T STAND IN THIS TOWN

MISTER WEST
THE OPENING WHEN YOUR HEART BEATS LIKE A DRUM

MISTER ENDBERG
THE CLOSING WHEN THE CUSTOMERS WON'T COME

ENDBERG, WEST & SPECTACOLO
THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS LIKE NO BUSINESS I KNOW

MISS SPECTACOLO
EVERYTHING ABOUT IT IS APPEALING

MISTER ENDBERG
EVERYTHING YOU YOU SAY IS SHALLOW

MISTER WEST
NO WHERE COULD YOU HAVE THAT HAPPY FEELING

MISS SPECTACOLO
GUYS WE AREN'T COMING UP WITH A SHOW

ENDBERG, WEST & SPECTACOLO
THERE'S NO PEOPLE LIKE SHOW PEOPLE THEY SMILE WHEN THEY ARE LOW

MISTER WEST
LAST TIME YOU TOLD US WE WOULD NOT GO FAR

MISS SPECTACOLO
AND THEN I CAME IN AND GOT A STAR

MISTER ENDBERG
NOTHING YOU YOU'RE THINKING WILL TAKE US THAT FAR

MISS SPECTACOLO
LET'S COME UP WITH A SHOW

MISS SPECTACOLO
**BOUT HOMEBOYS? BOUT TWERKERS? BOUT JUSTICE, THIS TOWN
AND HOWABOUT THE WAY LIFE'S UP AND DOWNS**

MISTER WEST
**THE MONEY, THE FAMOUS, THE PEOPLE, THIS TOWN WILL
LOVE ME IF THEY COULD JUST COME AROUND**

MISTER ENDBERG
YOUR IDEAS ARE JUST RUBBISH AND THEY SMELL

MISS SPECTACOLO
I'LL SHOW YOU MY IDEAS ARE BETTER TO SELL

CHORUS OF PRODUCERS
THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS AND I TELL YOU
IT'S SO

DANCING ON THE STAGE IT IS SO THRILLING

STANDING OUT IN FRONT ON OPENING NIGHTS

SMILING AS YOU WATCH THE THEATRE FILLING AND SEE YOUR
BILLING UP THERE IN LIGHTS

THERE'S NO PEOPLE LIKE SHOW PEOPLE WE SMILE WHEN WE
ARE LOW

EVEN WITH AN IDEA THAT YOU KNOW WILL FLOP YOU MAY BE
SURPRISED COME OUT ON TOP

ALL THIS FIGHTING BETWEEN YOU IT'S GOT TO STOP

LET'S COME UP WITH A SHOW LET'S COME UP WITH A SHOW!
A SHOW! A SHOW!

MISTER ENDBERG
That's it! I've had enough of this. I'm no fool to
you two. You're using me for my money. But what are
you giving me? We're going to split up and go out
there into the world, and find something, something
that the people in this stupid town want to see, and
we're going to- no, I'm going to make a musical out
of it. The two of you have 24 hours to come up with
something worth me and my money.

MISS SPECTACOLO

Miss Spectacolo is always up for a challenge. But be careful Endberg, I just may come up with the next great idea, and decide, you're money ain't worth me and my ideas.

exits

MISTER ENDBERG

Let her go West. Who cares about her hip connections. Stick with me. Spectacolo is dead weight.

MISTER WEST

I think I know where I can get an idea.

HOPE ROUND D: HOSPITAL

ALL

Underscored with a soundscape of sniffing, coughing, sighing, etc.

HOW LONG DO WE

HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE WE'RE SEEN

I HAVE HAD ENOUGH

IT'S NOT FAIR

The waiting room at a hospital. RUBY stands beside her husband, WESLEY, who is in a wheelchair. Elsewhere in the hospital, lights up softly on SARAH. A phone rings...

RUBY

Easy, easy, Wesley, eeeeeasssy, darling.

NURSE

Is there something I can do to help?

RUBY

No, he's just... anxious, about his, appointment. We both are.

NURSE

I see. The doctor will be with you both shortly. In the meantime, I'm just going to take his blood pressure-

RUBY

No, that's just going to-

WESLEY struggles.

NURSE

Sir. I'm just going to put this around your arm-

RUBY

Please, I can't have him more worked up before he goes in there. We just need the doctor to authorize his ability to fly.

NURSE

Yes, I realise that.

RUBY

I just need to get him back home, to Mauritius. We need to... I need to return.

RUBY sings of the distance between her and her husband due to illness, and the distance between them and home. The feeling of distance resonates in NURSE.

SO FAR AWAY (CAROLE KING, 'BEAUTIFUL')

RUBY

SO FAR AWAY DOESN'T ANYTHING JUST STAY WITHIN REACH
ANYMORE EVEN JUST TO SEE THAT SMALL GLIMPSE AT MY
DOOR WOULD REVIVE THE HOPE BUT IT'S SO FAR AWAY

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO IN OUR HAPPY PLACE HOLDING HANDS
AND TAKING SLOW LONG WALKS THROUGH THE PARK ARE
MEMORIES I'LL TREASURE BUT THAT'S TIME'S FAR AWAY

ONE MORE MOMENT LIKE HOW IT USED TO BE BECAUSE I
CAN'T BARE TO SEE YOU THIS WAY IF I COULD ONLY WORK
THIS LIFE OUT MY WAY I'D RATHER SPEND IT BEING CLOSE
TO YOU BUT YOU'RE SO FAR AWAY

NURSE

DOESN'T ANYTHING JUST STAY WITHIN REACH ANYMORE

RUBY

EVEN JUST TO SEE THAT SMALL GLIMPSE AT MY DOOR WOULD
REVIVE THE HOPE COZ

RUBY & NURSE

IT'S SO FAR AWAY

IT'S SO FAR AWAY

RUBY

PUSHING YOU AROUND SURE GETS ME DOWN AND LONELY

NURSE

NOTHING ELSE TO DO BUT CARRY ON

I SURE HOPE THIS JOB DON'T COME TO OWN ME

RUBY

THERE'S MEMORIES WE'VE YET TO MAKE

RUBY & NURSE

IT SEEMS SO FAR AWAY DOESN'T ANYTHING JUST STAY
WITHIN REACH ANYMORE

RUBY

I JUST HOPE I GET TO GET HIM HOME BEFORE TIME JUST
PASSES BY AND HOPE GETS FAR AWAY.

DUSTIN continues his lecture. Projection.

DUSTIN

Jean-Marie Guyau. 1895. *The Philopshopy of Hope.*

"When we hope for something grand, we draw from the beauty of the goal, the courage to brave all obstacles. If the chance of reaching it diminishes, the desire grows proportionally. The farther from reality lies the goal, the more desirable it is, and since desire is the supreme force it has the greatest amount of force at its service. The vulgar goods of life are so small a thing that in comparison the ideal conceived must appear immense: all of our petty joys are shattered before that of realizing an elevated idea. This idea, even if it amounts to almost nothing in the realm of nature and even of science can, in relation to us, be everything: it's the offering of the poor."

points to his lectern.

This book. I have it right over there. I haven't told my wife that I took it. I feel like maybe I should sneak back in to their house and put it back. I think a part of me kind of wants to get caught in the act... so I can, I don't know- ask them why they have this book? If it gives them home? Why they keep it in the bathroom? If I was what they imagined when they hoped their daughter would live a life happily ever after?

HOPE

appears elsewhere, opens the book, Gives Me Hope. She flips through and reads a passage.

MISTER WEST visits MADAME NADIYA.

MADAME NADIYA

So. You want a hit do you?

You know, sometimes, Mister-?

MISTER WEST

West. Mister West.

MADAME NADIYA

Mister West. Yes. Very nice.

Well, sometimes, Mister West, in order to get a hit, you must get hit. Are you ready to be hit?

MISTER WEST

Oh yes. Hit me! I'm ready. Anything!

MADAME NADIYA

Mister West, tell me, why do you want a hit so bad?

MISTER WEST

Why? It's only natural. A hit musical. All of the riches, the fame, the awards, the parties with high profile celebrities. The hit musical becomes a hollywood movie and then I become-

MADAME NADIYA

I see, I see... a glutton. Money makes your blood go round, huh?

intro to 'Money' from Cabaret begins.

No, no, wrong number doll. The other one.

MADAME NADIYA helps MISTER WEST to imagine the horrors of a life of riches. MISTER WEST doesn't quite get it.

IF (YOU) WERE A RICH MAN ('FIDDLER ON THE ROOF')

MADAME NADIYA

IF YOU WERE A RICH MAN, MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MUN. ALL DAY LONG YOU'D BE A MISERABLE MAN. IF YOU WERE A WEALTHY MAN.

MISTER WEST

I WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK HARD. YEAH I'D COUNT-MY, MONEY MY MONEY MONEY YUM. IF I WERE A BIDDY BIDDY RICH, IDLE-DIDDLE-DAIDLE-DAIDLE MAN.

I'D BE A BIG TALL MAN WITH FANS BY THE DOZEN, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS TOWN.

MADAME NADIYA

YOU'D BE ALONE WITH JUST MONEY IN YOUR BED.

MISTER WEST

THERE WOULD BE LOTS OF PEOPLE JUST LOOKING UP,

AND THERE I AM JUST LOOKING DOWN,

AND LOTS OF PEOPLE BUYING, MY GREAT SHOW.

MADAME NADIYA

YOU'D FILL YOUR HEART WITH GREED AND MONEY AND HATE AND LOTS IN THIS TOWN YOU THEY WILL FEAR.

SCREECHING JUST AT THE MERE SIGHT OF YOU.

WITH EACH LOUD "YELP" "SCREAM" "HELP" "SMACK" WOULD LAND LIKE A TRUMPET ON YOUR EAR, AS IF TO SAY "HATE THIS YOUNG WEALTHY MAN."

IF YOU WERE A RICH MAN, MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MUN. ALL DAY LONG YOU'D BE A MISERABLE MAN.

IF YOU WERE A WEALTHY MAN.

MISTER WEST

IT WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE BAD. MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MUN. IF I WERE A BIDDY BIDDY RICH, IDLE-DIDDLE-DAIDLE-DAIDLE MAN.

MADAME NADIYA

YOU'D HAVE NO WIFE, NO KIDS, JUST ARTIFICIAL FRIENDS, IS THIS THE LIFE, YOU REALLY WANNA LIVE?

BEING ON YOUR OWN ALL DAY AND NIGHT.

I SEE YOU DRINKING LOTS OF BEER AND STRUTTING LIKE A PEACOCK, OY, WHAT AN UNFORTUNATE LIFE, COUNTING YOUR MONEY, DAY AND NIGHT.

MISTER WEST

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEN IN TOWN WOULD COME TO LEAN ON ME!

THEY WOULD ASK ME FOR SOME GUIDANCE, LIKE GIANNANDREA THE WISE "IF YOU PLEASE MR WEST" "PARDON ME MR WEST" POSING PROBLEMS THAT WOULD MAKE THIS RICH MAN LAUGH!

MADAME NADIYA

AND IT WONT MAKE ONE BIT OF DIFFERENCE IF YOU'VE GOT ALL YOUR FAME, WHEN YOU'RE RICH YOU THINK YOU REALLY KNOW. IF YOU WERE RICH, YOU'D HAVE THE FAME AND YOU'D LACK A LIFE THAT IS HAPPY AND CARE FREE,

MISTER WEST

BUT MAYBE HAVE A STAR ON HOLLYWOOD FLOOR. AND I'D BEGIN TO PRODUCE SHOWS WITH GREAT MEANING, MAYBE EVEN CHANGE THE WORLD. THAT WOULD BE THE SWEETEST THING OF ALL.

MADAME NADIYA

IF YOU WERE A RICH MAN, MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MUN. ALL DAY LONG YOU'D BE A MISERABLE MAN.

IF YOU WERE A WEALTHY MAN.

MISTER WEST

IT WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE BAD. MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MONEY MUN. IF I WERE A BIDDY BIDDY RICH, IDLE-DIDDLE-DAIDLE-DAIDLE MAN.

MADAME NADIYA
Oy!

MISTER WEST
So... is there a hit in my future?

MADAME NADIYA shakes her head in frustration.

MADAME NADIYA
Out! Out! Go find your fame and riches elsewhere!

HOPE ROUND D: HOSPITAL

ALL

*Underscored with a soundscape of sniffing,
coughing, sighing, etc.*

HOW LONG DO WE

HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE WE'RE SEEN

I HAVE HAD ENOUGH

IT'S NOT FAIR

*SARAH alone, in a hospital bed. Phone ringing.
WESLEY alone, in a wheelchair.*

*They sing of their inner turmoil. Members of the
ensemble each appears isolated and trapped in
their own agony.*

AGONY ('INTO THE WOODS')

SARAH

I FEEL SO LONELY, ALONE IN THIS	
WORLD.	NOBODY CARES FOR
ME!	IF I SHOULD
LEAVE HERE AND NEVER RETURN,	WOULD ANYONE
NOTICE ME?	

WESLEY

AGONY!	BEYOND
POWER OF SPEECH,	WHEN
THE ONE THING YOU WANT IS THE ONLY THING OUT OF YOUR	
REACH.	

SARAH

**HERE IN MY TOWER, I SIT BY THE HOUR, HOSPITALS I
HATE. SICK AND UNWANTED AND FREQUENTLY FORGOTTEN
NOBODY CARES**

SARAH & WESLEY

AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH

WESLEY

AGONY!
MORE PAINFUL THAN YOURS

FAR

SARAH

WHEN YOU THINK YOU WOULD GO AND JUST IF YOU OPENED
THE DOORS

SARAH & WESLEY

AGONY! OH, THE TORTURE WE FEEL!

SARAH

I'M SO CONFUSED ALWAYS MISUSED HAS IT GONE TOO FAR?

WESLEY

I AM NOT STRONG ENOUGH, CLEVER, YOUNG, LIVELY,
PASSIONATE, CHARMING, AS HAPPY AS I USED TO BE IN THE
PAST

SARAH

I AM NOTHING THERE'S NOTHING I WISH FOR

WESLEY

I WANT NOT

SARAH

DO I GO?

THIS GIRL MUST BE MAD

WESLEY

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF MADNESS TILL YOU'RE FEELING MY
PAIN AND YOU SEE IT IN THERE AS YOU'RE NEARING ME,
ALL THE WHILE HEARING ME:

SARAH & WESLEY

AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH-AH

SARAH

AGONY

WESLEY

MISERY

BOTH

WOE THOUGH IT'S DIFFERENT FOR EACH

SARAH

ALWAYS TEN STEPS BEHIND

WESLEY

ALWAYS TEN FEET BELOW AND I'M SO OUT OF REACH.

SARAH

AGONY THAT CAN CUT LIKE A KNIFE

BOTH
I MUST HAVE BACK MY LIFE

DOMINIQUE rushes in and approaches NURSE.

DOMINIQUE
Hi- Um- Nurse? Nurse?

NURSE
Yes, how can I help.

DOMINIQUE
I was here- the other, well, two, no three nights ago? Four?

NURSE
Yes. I remember.

DOMINIQUE
Oh, I dunno, you see, I just figured- well, you deal with a lot of people, ya know? It's just- how do I say this?

NURSE
How can I help you hun?

DOMINIQUE
I'm looking for the man that brought me here that night.

He saved my life, and I have no idea who he was- is- I want to thank him, offer him some money, I dunno...

NURSE
I'm sorry to say that he didn't leave any information-

DOMINIQUE
Nothing? He didn't have to sign any papers or anything?

NURSE
I seem to remember that he was very specific in not wanting to leave any identification. In fact, to be honest, we were a bit suspicious that he might have been the, you know, the person that gave you those marks, considering- well, you know, how he, looked... I know that's terrible to say.

DOMINIQUE
It is terrible to say! Do you realise that man saved me.

DOMINIQUE sings the story of what happened to her that night...

MISS SPECTACOLO enters the waiting room searching for that hit.

FRANK MILLS ('HAIR')

I LEFT THE CLUB LATE THAT NIGHT AND WAS SO TIRED
TURNED RIGHT INSTEAD OF LEFT DOWN A BACK ALLEY AND
UNFORTUNATELY I THERE GOT ATTACKED

HE WAS REAL MEAN AND REAL
BIG I SCREAMED AND I YELLED
HELP ME SOMEBODY HELP AND THEN OUT OF DARKNESS CAME A
MAN WHO PUSHED HIM AS HE FOUGHT
RIGHT BACK

I'D THANK HIM BUT IT EMBARRASSES ME FOR HOW FOOLISH I
HAD BEEN TO WALK HOME ALONE THAT WAY AND GET
MYSELF IN DANGER

HE SAVED MY LIFE SO EFFORTLESSLY AND HAS ASKED FOR
NOTHING EVEN THE NURSES DON'T KNOW HIS NAME

I WOULD GRATEFULLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU SEE HIM TELL
HIM I'M OUT IN THE STREETS LOOKING, AND PLEASE

IF YOU SEE HIM TELL HIM I'M GRATEFUL AND, JUST WANT
TO MEET HIM AND JUST THANK HIM!

NURSE

Come to think of it, when he was leaving, he bumped
into a friend in the waiting room... His friend
called his name out- Donny? Denny? Danny? I think it
was Danny. Something with a D.

DOMINIQUE

Danny. Well, that's a starting point. A homeless guy,
named Danny.

NURSE

There's a shelter just up the road. Maybe you'll have
luck there.

DOMINIQUE

Already checked it... but now that I've got a name,
I'll try again.

DOCTOR

Ruby. May I have a word with you? Nurse, can you
please tend to Wesley while I speak to his wife.

MISS SPECTACOLO

Excuse me, Miss-

DOMINIQUE

Who? Me?

MISS SPECTACOLO

Yes, you. I'm sorry, but I couldn't help but overhear
your spectacular story, and well, you see, I'm
a producer, names Miss Spectacolo.

DOMINIQUE

Haven't heard of you.

MISS SPECTACOLO

Oh, you will. Listen. I think that your story just might have what it takes to be the next big hit musical.

DOMINIQUE

What? I think you heard the wrong story. I'm looking for a homeless man that saved me from being raped in the middle of the night and brought me to the hospital and disappeared.

Guess that could be a musical.

MISS SPECTACOLO

Homeless Hero, a new musical.

aside

I wonder if Will Smith would come back to play the homeless guy.

DOMINIQUE

Look sorry, I'm in a bit of a rush. Maybe we can talk about this at another time. I need to find this Danny guy, and thank him. You have a card or something?

MISS SPECTACOLO

Here's my card. But, don't miss this chance. I've got spectacular ideas breeding by the minute. I can't promise you I'll still be interested tomorrow.

DOMINIQUE

I'll take my chances.

exits

MISS SPECTACOLO

Homeless Hero...

*MISS SPECTACOLO exits in the direction of
DOMINIQUE*

RUBY

Give it to me straight Doctor. Will he be able to make the trip?

DOCTOR

Ruby, I wish I can tell you that I can give you the papers that you need- but...

RUBY

But there are rules, and guidelines, and paperwork. I know. You don't seem to understand that what my husband needs, in order to get better, is to be back home, on his own soil, to be away from this crazy crazy town. Life here, it's too busy, too...

DOCTOR

Ruby, I understand, I do... it's just that, his blood pressure it's just too high for him to be brought on a plane- not for a flight that long...

RUBY

It's not that long doctor.

DOCTOR

You need to find a way to bring his pressure down.

RUBY

I need to find a way? You're the doctor. You find a way. You're the doctor. I'm trying to find a way home.

DOCTOR

Ruby, come back in one week. We'll see how things fare.

RUBY

In a week's time, we'll have lost seven more days of peace.

returning to WESLEY

NURSE

Eaaaasy, eaaaasy Wesley. I'm going to turn on the radio for you, Wesley, how bout that?

She turns on the radio as Ruby re-enters the space.

They say music and memories of the past put patients at ease.

WONDERFUL WORLD (SAM & DAVE)

RUBY

Wesley loved this song. We used to dance to this song all the time.

RUBY helps WESLEY to his feet; they begin a slow dance. The patients and workers at the hospital step out of reality and join in.

HOPE ROUND B: PARK

ALL

ALL A-ROUND ME

FLOWERS BLOOM IN THE SUNSHINE

BIRDS WILL FLY IN THE SKY

SUM-MER TIME

DAISY sits on the park bench, haunted by memories of Marc. ROSE arrives.

ROSE

There- you- are- Boy o boy did you miss a night the other night.

DAISY makes a face.

Oh come on, those two weren't that bad. In fact, I feel a bit guilty that you left and I had them both to myself.

DAISY

You didn't.

ROSE

Of course I did.

DAISY

I tell ya Rose, I don't know how you do it. You just move on from one to the next. How did you get over Timothy? Everywhere I look, I see him.

ROSE has been distracted by the eye candy.

ROSE

Who?

DAISY

Marc!

ROSE

Still with Marc? Daiz, look around at all the fresh meat flailing about this park.

DAISY

And all I see is Marc. I swear, every time I blink my eye, I think I see him. *He* has the same jacket, *he* has the same kind of walk, *he* has his smile, his scent... everything is a trigger... and there I am, reliving our breakup, over and over again.

DAISY and MARC relive their break-up.

IT AIN'T ME BABE (BOB DYLAN)

DAISY

I ASKED YOU TO COME OVER TO COLLECT UP ALL YOUR STUFF ITS OVER FOR US BOTH BABE I'VE REALLY HAD ENOUGH I SAID I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO'S NEVER WEAK BUT ALWAYS STRONG TO PROTECT ME AN' DEFEND ME WHETHER I AM RIGHT OR WRONG SOMEONE TO WANT ME EVEN MORE BUT IT AIN'T YOU, BABE NO, NO, NO, IT AIN'T YOU BABE IT AIN'T YOU I'M LOOKIN' FOR, BABE.

MARC

YOU ASKED ME TO COME OVER, YOU HAD PACKED UP ALL MY STUFF, YOU TOLD ME WE WERE FINISHED BABE, IT THROUGH ME IN THE ROUGH YOU SAY YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR SOMEONE WHO WILL PROMISE NEVER TO PART SOMEONE TO CLOSE HIS

(MORE)

MARC (cont'd)

EYES FOR YOU SOMEONE TO CLOSE HIS HEART SOMEONE WHO
WILL DIE FOR YOU AN' MORE THAT SHOULD BE ME, BABE BUT
YOU SAY IT AIN'T ME BABE IT AIN'T ME YOU'RE LOOKIN'
FOR, BABE.

DAISY

I'M SORRY THAT ITS OVER, I DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT YOUR
PRIDE, I NEEDED TO FEEL WANTED, TO FEEL LOVE FROM
YOUR SIDE

MARC

YOU SAID YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO'LL PICK YOU
UP EACH TIME YOU FALL

DAISY

TO GATHER FLOWERS CONSTANTLY AN' TO COME EACH TIME I
CALL

DAISY & MARC

A LOVER FOR YOUR/MY LIFE AN' NOTHING MORE BUT IT
AIN'T ME/YOU, BABE NO, NO, NO, IT AIN'T ME/YOU, BABE
IT AIN'T ME/YOU YOU'RE/I'M LOOKIN' FOR, BABE.

HOPE ROUND D: HOSPITAL

ALL

*Underscored with a soundscape of sniffing,
coughing, sighing, etc.*

HOW LONG DO WE

HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE WE'RE SEEN

I HAVE HAD ENOUGH

IT'S NOT FAIR

RUBY and WESLEY wait.

NURSE discharges SARAH.

SARAH

That's it? Where do I go now?

NURSE

Home.

SARAH

Home. But-

NURSE

There's nothing more we can do sweetheart. Here, read
through these pamphlets. They might point you in the
right direction.

SARAH

Pamphlets? You people don't understand. Pamphlets.

She exits, and re-enters the world.

RUBY

Send the people home who don't want to go home, and hold back the ones that just want to get home*.

I remember coming here, to this country, for a better life. Now, 50 years later, and it's time to go back.

HOPE ROUND G: THE PAST

ALL

**softly underscoring RUBY's lines.*

TICK, TOCK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TICKITY, TICK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TOCK WENT THE CLOCK

BACK IN TIME

RUBY

That was one choppy boat ride. That's how Wesley and I met you know.

A romantic flashback; RUBY meeting WESLEY on her journey to England.

SIT DOWN YOU'RE ROCKIN' THE BOAT ('GUYS AND DOLLS')

RUBY

I STEPPED RIGHT UP AND GOT ON THAT BOAT TO ENGLAND

AND BY SOME CHANCE I WAS SITTING BY A MAN

AND THEN I STOOD AND I HOLLERED SOMEONE SAVE ME

FROM THIS BEAUTIFUL BLUE EYED MAN

FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID

PASSENGERS (MORNING)

COOL DOWN COOL DOWN YOU'RE ROCKING THE BOAT FOR THE
PEOPLE ALL SAID COOL DOWN COOL DOWN YOU'RE ROCKING
THE BOAT

RUBY

AND I SUDDENLY THEN TRIPPED OVER AND GRABBED ON TO
HIS

Pause, wink

CHECKERED COAT

PASSENGERS (MORNING)

SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN YOU'RE
ROCKING THE BOAT!

RUBY

WE SAILED AWAY ON THAT SHAKY BOAT TO ENGLAND

AND I BEGAN CONVERSATING WITH THE MAN

AND THEN HE Poured OUT A DRINK OR TWO TO GIVE ME

AND THEN SOON ENOUGH WE HIT IT OFF

PASSENGERS (MORNING)

FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID ENOUGH! BEFORE YOU FALL IN
THE SEA

FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID ENOUGH! BEFORE YOU FALL IN
THE SEA

RUBY

BUT WE CARRIED ON WITH THE DRINKING AND WE DANCED THE
WHOLE WAY TO ENGLAND

PASSENGERS (MORNING)

COOL DOWN STAND UP

SIT DOWN DRINK UP

RUBY

WHO CARES WE'RE ROCKING THE BOAT!

DUSTIN continues his lecture. Projection.

DUSTIN

Gabriel Marcel in his book, *Homo Viator*, states:

"hope is for the soul what breathing is for the
living organism. Where hope is lacking the soul dries
up and withers..."

Take the term, 'soulmate.' This is a term that gets
thrown around a lot. How many of you have ever
referred to your boyfriend or girlfriend as your soul
mate? That has a lot of weight to it. To call someone
your soul mate. What if you made a mistake? And the
person you're with isn't your soul mate? Can you
still be in love with someone that isn't your soul
mate?

HOPE

*appears elsewhere, finds a book, Gives Me Hope.
She flips through and reads a passage.*

MISTER ENDBERG

*enters and plops himself on then bench next to
DAISY.*

Hopeless. Absolutely hopeless. Those two kids have been wasting my time. They've got nothing. I've got nothing. There is absolutely nothing interesting in this world to create a show about. It's all been done before. Nobody cares. Nobody's going to the theatre. The theatre is dead.

DAISY exits

Maybe that's it. The last curtain has fallen. Nobody cares about anything.

HOPE ROUND E: POLITICAL RALLY

ALL

VOTE HOPE VOTE HOPE

VOTE FOR JEREMIAH HOPE

HE WILL MAKE THIS TOWN A BETTER PLACE

VOTE FOR HOPE

*HOPE supporters enter from the wings; and
JEREMIAH HOPE leads a group of supporters from
the audience onto the stage where they gather.*

JEREMIAH HOPE

Hope that I'll have your vote this election day.

MISTER ENDBERG

Right.

*JEREMIAH HOPE follows his crowd of supporters
off.*

Such passion those people. All for some politician, named...

picking up a leaflet

"Vote: Jeremiah Hope."

JEREMIAH HOPE

re-enters

Hope you can count on.

MISTER ENDBERG

Really?

JEREMIAH HOPE

You betcha!

exits

MISTER ENDBERG

Wait a minute-I've got it!

Takes out phone and calls MISTER WEST. A phone rings.

MISTER WEST

Please tell me you've got an idea.

MISTER ENDBERG

Do I ever!

A docu-musical chronicling the campaign of a rising young political star... Jeremiah Hope...

MISTER WEST

A musical about politics? Really?

Have you called Spectacolo?

MISTER ENDBERG

I don't think we need Miss Spectacolo any longer.

MISTER WEST

Oh, but I thought we were a trio.

MISTER ENDBERG

ENDBERG & WEST has a much better ring to it. Spectacolo has too many vowels. We don't have time for debates. Either you're in or you're out.

MISTER WEST

I'm in, I'm in!

MISTER ENDBERG

Meet me back at the office right away! And get Glock and Spiel on the phone. We've got a hit in the making!

hangs up

Hope You Can Count On, a musical campaign!

Mr. Hope, oh Mr. Hope wait up, I've got something that might help.

Runs off in the direction of JEREMIAH HOPE.

HOPE bumps into SARAH, pamphlets fly all over the place.

SARAH

Hey, watch where you're goin'!

HOPE

I'm terribly sorry, I-

helps pick up the pamphlets

SARAH

Don't- Give those to me! That's private stuff.

HOPE

Oh sorry, I was just-

SARAH

What's the big hurry, or do you just go around slamming into people. Ugggh people in this town-clumsy.

HOPE

I said I'm sorry. And nothing, nothing's the hurry.

SARAH

You look kind of familiar. Do I know you from somewhere?

HOPE

Me? I doubt it?

SARAH

What's your name.

HOPE

It's... Hope.

SARAH

I'm glad my name isn't Hope. People going to have all sorts of expectations of who you are.

HOPE

Tell me about it. What's your name?

SARAH

Sarah.

HOPE

Where are you headed?

SARAH

Me? Nowhere. I've got- nowhere.

HOPE

You searching for something?

SARAH

I don't know. Maybe. What's it to you?

HOPE

Nothing. Nothing.

I just... I found this flyer, for a fortune teller, Madame Nadiya... It was stuffed in the back of this book I found. Thought it might be a sign.

SARAH

A sign. You're not some crazy religious person are you?

HOPE

No, I just, I don't know, thought maybe you want to come join me.

SARAH

Sure. I've got nowhere to be.

Beats kick in, threads start to twist and tangle together and apart. Characters re-enter:

MADAME NADIYA, HOPE and SARAH look into the crystal ball

RUBY and WESLEY await the Doctor's decision

DOCTOR and NURSE review the file

DAISY tries to search for MARC

MARC moves on

ROSE awaits her next date

MISTER ENDBERG AND MISTER WEST meet up

MISS SPECTACOLO follows DOMINIQUE in search of 'Danny'

DUSTIN continues to lecture

JEREMIAH HOPE campaigns

DAISY

A child saw a butterfly poised on a blade of grass;

MISTER WEST

the butterfly had been made numb by the north wind.

MISS SPECTACOLO

The child plucked the blade of grass,

MISTER ENDBERG

and the living flower that was at its tip, still numb, remained attached.

RUBY

He returned home, holding his find in his hand.

WESLEY

A ray of sunlight broke through, striking the butterfly's wing, and suddenly, revived and light,

SARAH

the living flower flew away into the glare.

DUSTIN

All of us, scholars and workers, we are like the butterfly:

NURSE

our strength is made of a ray of light.

DOCTOR

Not even: of the hope of a ray.

JEREMIAH HOPE

One must thus know how to hope;

DOMINIQUE

hope is what carries us higher and farther.

MARC

"But it's an illusion!"

ROSE

Should we not take a step for fear that one day the earth will slide away from under our feet?

MADAME NADIYA

Looking far into the past or the future is not the only thing; one must look into oneself.

HOPE

One must see there the living forces that demand to be expended, and we must act.

Afternoon Class leads a New Orleans style funeral procession from the back of the house; the morning class joins in; the march segues into...

IT ONLY GETS BETTER (TALIB KWELI)

ALL

LORD KNOWS I HAD IT HARD TODAY, HAD IT HARD TODAY
STILL I GOTTA KEEP MY HEAD UP HIGH ALONG THE WAY.
CAUSE IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER IT ONLY GETS BETTER
FROM HERE. IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER, IT ONLY GETS
BETTER FROM HERE.

EVERY DAY I GOTTA WAKE UP EARLY, LET IT BREAK, THANK
THE LORD AT THE TAKE, GET THE TROOPS, HIT THE BOOTH,
SPIRITUAL, IT'S BEEN GREAT. PRACTICING MY GRATITUDE,
LIFE IS SO BEAUTIFUL, WORKING ON THAT ATTITUDE, JUST
BECAUSE

IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM
HERE. IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER, IT ONLY GETS
BETTER FROM HERE.

TBD

EVERY DAY I GOTTA TRUST THE GOD AND HUSTLE HARD, MY GRIND IS REAL, MY HUSTLE DOPE. I'M FINDING MEALS, I'M SIGNING DEALS, I'M THE GLADIATOR LIKE RUSSELL CROWE. YEAH, YOU KNOW IT'S REAL, BUT I'M FOCUSED STILL WHY YOU FOCUS SHAKE IT LIKE GOLD FIELD CAUSE YOU'RE NOT IN TUNE, NO, YOU'RE NOT IMMUNE NO ACCLAMATION, NO GOLDEN SEAL. YOU SICK SIDE, GOTTA FLUSH IT DOWN, WE TALK TO FOLKS, COVER YOUR MOUTH, AIN'T NOBODY GONNA COVER THAT SHIFTS SO YOU GO TO WORK, YOU TUFF IT DOWN. YOU BUST IT OUT TILL YOU'RE OUT FOR WORK, I KNOW YOUR BOSS A JERK, YOU'RE GONNA CUSS A MOUTH, HIT IT WITH A BUS DRIVER UPPER-CUT, THAT COCK ONLY THINK YOU PUNCH HIM OUT. I RELATE TO YOU, YOU GOTTA PAY YOUR DUES, WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT YOU GOTTA MAKE A MOVE. YOUR JOB IS WHAT YOU GET PAID TO DO, YOUR CALL IS WHAT YOU'RE MADE TO DO. I GOT FAITH IN YOU, YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT THROUGH, CAUSE YOU DON'T CHASE MONEY, MONEY CHASING YOU. KEEP LABORING LIKE YOU GOT A THING TO DO, WON'T TASTE NO FOODS LIKE THEY PUT YOU. NO MORE WAIT FOR YOU, YOU GONNA TAKE IT NOW, YOU GONNA MAKE A VAULT. AS LONG AS YOU WALK ON THE EARTH WITH THAT FIRST GOT TO MAKE ME PROUD. HEY, LET ME BREAK IT DOWN, OH, BLESS YOUR HEARTS, KEEP TALKING BOUT HOW STRESSED YOU ARE, BETTER TALK ABOUT HOW BLESSED YOU ARE.

ALL

LORD KNOWS I HAD IT HARD TODAY, HAD IT HARD TODAY STILL I GOTTA KEEP MY HEAD UP HIGH ALONG THE WAY. CAUSE IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE. IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER, IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE.

EVERY DAY I GOT TO GET UP EARLY, WAKE THE KIDS, GET ON RUNNING MADE AGAIN GO TO WORK WATCHING IN, EVERY DAY I'M HUSTLING. FIGHT THE TRAFFIC, LOSE MY COOL, GET THE KIDS RIGHT AFTER SCHOOL, THINK IT'S HARD, YEAH, THAT'S TRUE, THIS IS WHAT I HAVE TO DO

CAUSE IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE. IT ONLY GETS BETTER, BETTER, IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE.

The burial scene from the beginning reforms to close the first act.

HOPE ROUND A: BURIAL SITE

ALL

WHEN WILL I SEE
YOUR SHINING FACE AGAIN
I HOPE IT'S NOT LONG
NOT LONG NOW

ACT TWO

A gathering at a burial site, as we were at the start and end of Act One.

HOPE ROUND A: BURIAL SITE

ALL

WHEN WILL I SEE

YOUR SHINING FACE AGAIN

I HOPE IT'S NOT LONG

NOT LONG NOW

Attendees at the funeral begin to peel off and face the audience, continuing to sing. They are transitioning into their characters as they sing and take their places, some remain on stage, some join the audience, some into the wings.

A video montage: The Lost Cat's Journey Part 2.

ZITA, steps out looking for her cat.

ZITA

Psssstttt... Psssspsssspssss

Hope! C'mon girl, where are you? Hope? Hope!

Psssstttt... Psssspsssspssss

DUSTIN continues his lecture. Projection.

DUSTIN

"Hope is a good breakfast, but a bad supper."
-Francis Bacon

I've been really busy lately. And so has my wife. She's a school teacher. This morning, as we scrambled to get to work, skipping breakfast, she said she wanted to have a talk, and that we should do it over supper. Supper. Who says supper?

I HOPE I GET IT ('A CHORUS LINE')

Various threads:

GLOCK, SPIEL, WEST and ENDBERG conduct auditions. TOMMY interrupts SANDIE's audition to ask for a pet.

The girls in the Beauty Salon contemplate their next hairstyle.

DANNY busks for money.

JEREMIAH HOPE and NANCY SOMETHING campaign.

ZITA looks for her cat, Hope.

SPIEL

STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH...AGAIN! STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH...AGAIN! STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH...AGAIN! STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH...RIGHT! THAT CONNECTS WITH... TURN, TURN, OUT, IN, JUMP, STEP, STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH. GOT IT?... GOING ON. AND... TURN, TURN, TOUCH, DOWN, BACK, STEP, PIVOT, STEP, WALK, WALK, WALK.

GLOCK

Tragic. This whole situation is a mess. Auditioning for a musical that we haven't even finished writing.

MISTER WEST & MISTER ENDBERG

FIVE, SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT!

Auditionee dance break.

AUDITIONEES

GOD, I HOPE I GET IT. I HOPE I GET IT. HOW MANY PEOPLE DO THEY NEED?

HOW MANY PEOPLE DO THEY NEED?

GOD, I HOPE I GET IT.

I HOPE I GET IT. HOW MANY BOYS, HOW MANY GIRLS?

HOW MANY BOYS, HOW MANY...?

HAIR SALON GIRLS

LOOK AT ALL THE STYLES! AT ALL THE STYLES. HOW MANY STYLES HAVE I HAD? HOW MANY STYLES, HOW MANY STYLES? HOW MANY STYLES HAVE I...?

TOMMY

I REALLY WANT A CAT. PLEASE MOM, I NEED A CAT. I'VE GOT TO GET A CAT.

MISTER ENDBERG

What's wrong with that one on the left?

MISTER WEST

She's rubbish.

GLOCK

This whole show is rubbish.

SPIEL

Stay positive.

Salon Girls dance break.

SANDIE

GOD, I REALLY BLEW IT! I REALLY BLEW IT! HOW COULD YOU DO A THING LIKE THAT?

TOMMY

WHAT DID I do? I Want A CAAAAT

SANDIE

NOW I'LL NEVER MAKE IT! I'LL NEVER MAKE IT!

HAIR SALON GIRLS

HE DOESN'T LIKE THE WAY I LOOK. HE DOESN'T LIKE THE WAY I LOOK. HE DOESN'T LIKE THE WAY I...

TOMMY

I REALLY WANT A CAT.

SANDIE

NO YOU CAN'T HAVE A CAT.

TOMMY

PLEASE, MOM, I NEED A CAT.

SANDIE

I SAID YOU CAN'T HAVE A CAT

TOMMY

I'VE GOT TO GET A CAT.

DANNY dances a street dance, blocking SANDIE and TOMMY's pathway.

TOMMY

But Please mum! Please I want a pet?

SANDIE

No Tommy for the hundredth time, you cannot have a cat.

TOMMY

But why not?

SANDIE

We can't afford a cat.

DANNY

Hey lady.

SANDIE

C'mon Tommy, let's go.

DANNY

All do respect, but, why not get the kid a cat. You allergic or something?

SANDIE

With all do respect, sir. Mind your business.

DANNY

Alright then.

Got any change?

SANDIE

Look- sorry, it's just, pets... they get lost, they die, they're nothing but disappointment in the end.

DANNY

Lady, I ain't no therapist. I'z was just* saying maybe get the kid a pet-

TOMMY

Mum, can we get a parrot?

SANDIE

Come on Tommy, you're going to be late for school.

SANDIE exits with TOMMY in frustration.

DANNY continues dancing.

ZITA

Hey Mister.

DANNY

It's Danny. You see me every day. We neighbors.

ZITA

Sorry. Danny. Neighbor of mine. You seen this cat? She's got green eyes, fluffy.

stops dancing

DANNY

What's with the cats today?

ZITA

Her name is Hope. She's a kitten. She doesn't know the streets.

DANNY

Sorry doll, ain't seen no cat, well not that fluffy little thing. Hopefully those nasty street cats don't get to her before you do. Them cats are territorial.

ZITA

Thanks.

DANNY

Pleasure.

continues dancing

(MORE)

DANNY (cont'd)
You got any spare change?

ZITA
No, sorry. You want a cigarette?

DANNY

stops dancing
No no nono, I've quit.

ZITA
Really? Impressive. How long?

DANNY
I've been smoking since I was thirteen.

ZITA
No, how long since you've quit?

DANNY
Seven hours.

*DOMINIQUE appears elsewhere, just missing DANNY.
MISS SPECTACOLO follows behind.*

HOPE ROUND F: CLASSROOM

ALL
A, B, C, D

1 + 1 = 3

MAYBE MISS HARMONY

CAN HELP ME

*HARMONY with her class of school children,
drawing trees. TOMMY wants to draw a dog.*

HARMONY
Good morning class.

SCHOOL CHILDREN
Good morning Miss Harmony.

HARMONY
Missus Harmony. I'm married now.

SCHOOL CHILDREN
Missus Harmony.

HARMONY
Today, we're going to look at these pictures of trees. I want you to notice all the different types of trees. And then we're going to do some arts and crafts. You're going to get to draw your very own tree.

TOMMY announces to his classmates that he really wants a dog.

I HOPE I GET IT (REPRISE)

TOMMY

I REALLY WANT A DOG.

HARMONY

WE'RE NOT DRAWING DOGS

TOMMY

PLEASE, MISS, I NEED A DOG.

HARMONY

OKAY MAYBE JUST DRAW A DOG

TOMMY

I GET TO DRAW A DOG.

HARMONY

Now Tommy, maybe you want to draw a tree next to the dog?

HOPE ROUND C: THEATRE PRODUCERS

ALL

LIGHTS ON THE STAGE,

CASTING, COSTUMES AND MAKEUP

SEARCHING FOR THE NEXT BIG HIT

BREAK A LEG

SPIEL

I don't understand how we're supposed to be holding auditions for a musical that we have not even finished writing.

GLOCK

It's unheard of.

SPIEL

We've got nothing yet.

GLOCK

Tragic.

SPIEL

No real script. Hardly any songs. This guy, Jeremiah Hope, is an absolute bore.

GLOCK

Can't believe they want a whole musical about this guy.

SPIEL
Nice face. Charming.

GLOCK
But not a musical.

SPIEL
What have we got so far?

GLOCK
The opening number... and a potential closing number.

SPIEL
That's it?

GLOCK
Maybe we need a love interest? Or a scandal? This Hope guy have anything gritty and scandalous bout him?

SPIEL
Squeaky clean.

GLOCK
Ugggh... tragic.

GLOCK and SPIEL struggle to come up with the plot for the musical about 'Jeremiah Hope.'

THE 'PLOT' THAT GOES LIKE THIS (FROM 'SPAMALOT')

GLOCK
NOW IN ALL THE SHOWS, THERE HAS TO BE A DEATH.
EVERYBODY KNOWS THERE'S GOT TO BE A DEATH

OH WHERE IS THAT PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS!

Looks at picture of JEREMIAH HOPE
WHERE IS IT? WHERE WHERE WHERE?

SPIEL
A SILLY LITTLE PLOT THAT MAKES THE PEOPLE LAUGH THERE
SIDES WILL HURT A LOT

GLOCK
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE WRATH?

SPIEL
IS THIS THAT PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS!

Looks at Picture

GLOCK
NO

SPIEL
YES

GLOCK
NO

SPIEL
YES

GLOCK
THEN WHEN WE HIT THE REALLY GRITTY BIT,

SPIEL
A BIT THAT'S A LITTLE BIT TOO FUNNY SEE BECAUSE THE
PEOPLE WANT A FUNNY PLOT

GLOCK
THAT ENDS WITH A GUNSHOT?

BOTH
WILL WE EVER AGREEEEEEEEEE

SPIEL
YOUR IRRITATING ME WITH ALL YOUR TRAGEDY

GLOCK
AND ALL YOUR COMEDY IS NOT SITTING WELL WITH ME

BOTH
OH WHERE IS THE PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS

GLOCK
HOPE DIES BEFORE THE CROWD

SPIEL
YOU'RE SINGING FAR TOO LOUD

GLOCK
MY ANGER WITH YOU GROWS

SPIEL
YOUR STANDING ON MY TOES

BOTH
OH WHERE IS THE PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS

GLOCK
WE CANNOT CARRY ON

SPIEL
FIGHTING JUST SEEMS SO WRONG

GLOCK
WE NEED TO BE A TEAM

SPIEL
TO FINISH THIS DAMN SCENE

BOTH
OH WHERE IS THE PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS

SPIEL
WE'LL BE WRITING THIS TILL DAWN

GLOCK
THIS JEREMIAH HOPE'S A YAWN

SPIEL
LET'S STOP THIS DAMN REFRAIN

GLOCK
BEFORE WE GO INSANE

BOTH
WE'RE LOOING FOR A PLOT THAT GOES WITH THIS

A long pause of heavy thinking

SPIEL
Look- It says here, in the paper, that there's going to be mayoral debate at Town Hall later today.

GLOCK
Whose his opponent. He any good?

SPIEL
She. Nancy Something.

GLOCK
Huh?

SPIEL
That's her name. Nancy Something.

GLOCK
Maybe we'll find something there. Maybe something tragic will happen.

SPIEL
A musical about local politics. This has flop written all over it.

GLOCK
My career. Tragic.

HOPE ROUND G: THE PAST

ALL
TICK, TOCK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TICKITY, TICK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TOCK WENT THE CLOCK

BACK IN TIME

YOUNG RUBY at the docks getting ready to leave home for a better life.

SANDIE, elsewhere with TOMMY.

ANOTHER SUITCASE IN ANOTHER HALL ('EVITA')

YOUNG RUBY

I'M SAD TO LEAVE MY FAMILY, FOR FAR TOO LONG, NEVER FOOLED MYSELF, THAT THIS WAS EASY, ONE DAY I KNOW, THAT WILL MEET AGAIN, THIS PART OF LIFE HAS END, SEE YOU SOON.

SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

FAMILY/BOATERS

START YOUR JOURNEY, ON THE BOAT

YOUNG RUBY

SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

FAMILY/BOATERS

YOU'LL GET BUY, YOU HAVE TO HOPE

YOUNG RUBY

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

FAMILY/BOATERS

TAKE YOUR SUITCASE, MAKE A HOME

YOUNG RUBY

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

SANDIE

TIME AND TIME AGAIN I'VE SAID THAT I DON'T CARE THAT I'M IMMUNE TO GLOOM, THAT I'M HARD THROUGH AND THROUGH BUT EVERY TIME IT MATTERS ALL MY WORDS DESERT ME SO ANYONE CAN HURT ME, AND THEY DO. SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

FAMILY/BOATERS

ANOTHER CASTING ANOTHER CALL

SANDIE

SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

FAMILY/BOATERS

TAKE YOUR SON OFF TO SCHOOL

SANDIE

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

FAMILY/BOATERS

YOU'LL GET BY YOU ALWAYS HAVE BEFORE

YOUNG RUBY & SANDIE

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

YOUNG RUBY

STARTING A NEW LIFE, AND I'LL BE FINE, I KNOW

SANDIE

WELL MAYBE NOT THAT FINE, BUT I'LL SURVIVE ANYHOW.

YOUNG RUBY & SANDIE

I'M READY TO, TAKE THE CHANCE AND, START THE NEXT
CHAPTER, TO HAVE A BETTER FUTURE, FROM HERE ON.

FAMILY/BOATERS

START YOUR JOURNEY, ON YOU GO

YOUNG RUBY & SANDIE

SO WHAT'S HAPPENS NOW?

FAMILY/BOATERS

YOU'LL GET BUY, YOU HAVE TO HOPE

YOUNG RUBY & SANDIE

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

ALL

YOU'LL GET BY YOU ALWAYS HAVE BEFORE

YOUNG RUBY & SANDIE

WHERE AM I GOING TO?

TOMMY

Mommy, I really want a-

SANDIE

DON'T ASK ANYMORE!!

TOMMY

But...

I HOPE I GET IT (REPRISE)

TOMMY

I REALLY WANT A DUCK.

SANDIE

YOU CAN'T HAVE A DUCK

TOMMY

PLEASE, MUM, I WANT A DUCK.

SANDIE

TOMMY YOU CAN'T HAVE A DUCK

TOMMY

WHY CAN'T I HAVE A DUCK?

HOPE ROUND H: BEAUTY SALON

ALL

SNIP CHOP CHOP SNIP

PICK A COLOUR, HAVE A SEAT

I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU

TIPS WEL-COME

Just another day at the beauty salon.

NIKKI

I'm tellin' ya Marie- this guy *is* the one.

MARIA

Yeah, they're all the one with this one.

FAYE

Where'd you meet him.

NIKKI

The internet.

MARIA

Ha! The 'one.'

FAYE

What are we doin' today? The yooj?

HARMONY

I dunno, I'm thinking maybe something... a bit drastic.

MARIA

Drastic? Whats the matter? Troubles in newlywed land?

FAYE

Pay her no mind.

MARIA

What 'pay her no mind?' I know these things. A woman comes in here asking for some drastic change to her perfectly fine hairstyle, something is up, and not up in the good way. Something is up in the relationship.

FAYE

Look through these magazines.

FAYE's cell phone rings. She looks at it in anticipation, and answers. MARC appears, from band rehearsal.

Hiiiiii...

MARC

What was so urgent that I *had* to call you back?

FAYE

Well, it's not so urgent... just-

MARC

Great so you interrupted my badn rehearsal for nothing.

NIKKI

She hasn't told him yet?

MARIA

Nope.

FAYE

Marc, it's just I really need to talk to you about something.

MARC

Well get on with it- spit it out.

MARIA

Sleezebag, this future daddy of hers.

HARMONY

She's pregnant?

MARIA

Shhhhhh...

FAYE

No, not on the phone. Can you come here?

MARC

Where?

FAYE

To my work. The salon.

MARC

Are you serious. For something not so urgen I gotta go all the way across town?

FAYE

Well, it is kind of urgent-Please.

MARC

hangs up

FAYE

Hello?

MARIA sings about how horrible boys are nowadays.

KIDS ('BYE BYE BIRDIE')

MARIA

BOYS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH THESE BOYS
TODAY. BOYS, WHO CAN UNDERSTAND ANYTHING THEY SAY?
BOYS, THEY ARE DISOBEDIENT, DISRESPECTFUL OAFS NOISY,

NIKKI

CRAZY,

HARMONY

SLOPPY,

FAYE

LAZY, LOAFERS

MARIA

AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT

MEN, YOU CAN TALK AND TALK TILL YOUR FACE IS BLUE

HARMONY

MEN, BUT THEY STILL DO JUST WHAT THEY WANT TO DO

FAYE

WHY CAN'T THEY BE LIKE WE ARE,

NIKKI

PERFECT IN EVERY WAY?

MARIA, FAYE, NIKKI & HARMONY

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH MEN TODAY?

GUYS!

GUYS!

GUYS!

LAUGHING, SINGING, DANCING, GRINNING, MORONS AND
WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT

BOYS,

HARMONY

THEY ARE JUST IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL

MARIA, FAYE, NIKKI & HARMONY
BOYS, WE FOREVER FEEL LIKE WERE ON PATROL WHY CAN'T
THEY THINK LIKE WE DO

MARIA
WHAT'S WRONG WITH LETTING GO? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH
BOYS TODAY?

SANDIE looking for TOMMY.

SANDIE
Tommy! Tommy! Tommy, where are you? This is not
funny?

She finds a letter from TOMMY.

HOPE ROUND I: NIGHTMARE

ALL

underscoring SANDIE

000, 000, 000, 000

000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000

000, 000, 000, 000, 000

000, 000, 000

SANDIE
Dear Mommy

TOMMY
Since you won't let me have a pet I have decided to
run away from home and get my own pet. Don't come
looking for me._

SANDIE lets out a blood curdling scream.

A double nightmare.

*DANNY is haunted by his craving for cigarettes.
ZITA is haunted about the danger her cat might
be in*

SMOOTH CRIMINAL (MICHAEL JACKSON)

DANNY

AS I CAME OUT OF THE	
DARKNESS	IT WAS THE SMELL
FULL OF SMOKINESS	IT CAME INTO MY
PATHWAY	THEY LEFT THE
SMOKESTAINS ON MY JACKET	I RAN
UNDERNEATH THE TABLE	I
COULD SEE I WAS UNABLE	SO
I RAN INTO THE ALLEY	I
WAS STRUCK DOWN, IT WAS MY DOOM	

CIGARETTES

DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU OK,
DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY,, ARE YOU OK? ARE
YOU OK, DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU
OK? ARE YOU OK, DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY,
ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU OK, DANNY?

DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU OK,
DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY,, ARE YOU OK? ARE
YOU OK, DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU
OK? ARE YOU OK, DANNY? YOU'VE BEEN TEMPTED YOU'VE
BEEN CAUGHT BY A SMOOTH CIGARETTE.

ZITA

SO THEY SCRATCHED AND THEY BIT ME, AND THEY HIT ME,
WAS A BLACK CAT AND THERE WAS A GINGER, TABBY,
SCRATCHING HEARTBEATS INTIMIDATIONS

CATS

KITTY, ARE YOU LOST HERE? SO, KITTY, ARE YOU LOST
HERE? ARE YOU LOST HERE KITTY? KITTY, ARE YOU LOST
HERE? SO, KITTY, ARE YOU LOST HERE? ARE YOU LOSY HERE
KITTY? KITTY, ARE YOU LOST HERE? SO, KITTY, ARE YOU
LOST HERE? ARE YOU LOST HERE KITTY? KITTY, ARE YOU
LOST HERE? SO, KITTY, ARE YOU LOST HERE? ARE YOU LOST
HERE KITTY?

CIGARETTES

DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU OK,
DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY,, ARE YOU OK? ARE
YOU OK, DANNY? DANNY, ARE YOU OK? SO, DANNY, ARE YOU
OK? ARE YOU OK, DANNY? YOU'VE BEEN TEMPTED YOU'VE BEEN
CAUGHT BY A SMOOTH CIGARETTE.

*DOMINIQUE appears elsewhere, just missing DANNY.
MISS SPECTACOLO follows behind.*

HOPE ROUND E: POLITICAL RALLY

ALL

VOTE HOPE VOTE HOPE

VOTE FOR JEREMIAH HOPE

HE WILL MAKE THIS TOWN A BETTER PLACE

VOTE FOR HOPE

*The debate between JEREMIAH HOPE and NANCY
SOMETHING. GLOCK and SPIEL look for inspiration.*

DEBATE MODERATOR

Alright well here we are, the Town Hall Mayoral
Debate. We will start with Ms. Something. Ladies
first.

JEREMIAH HOPE
Save the best for last.

NANCY SOMETHING
Huh.

DEBATE MODERATOR
Shall we begin.

ANYTHING YOU CAN DO I CAN DO BETTER ('ANNIE GET YOUR GUN')

NANCY SOMETHING
ANYTHING YOU CAN DO I CAN DO BETTER

JEREMIAH HOPE
HA

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN DO ANYTHING BETTER THAN YOU.

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN, YES I CAN!

JEREMIAH HOPE
ANYTHING YOU CAN BE I CAN BE GREATER, SOONER OR LATER
I'M GREATER THAN YOU

NANCY SOMETHING
HA, NO YOU'RE NOT

JEREMIAH HOPE
YES I AM,

NANCY SOMETHING
NO YOU'RE NOT.

JEREMIAH HOPE
YES I AM

NANCY SOMETHING
NO YOU'RE NOT!

JEREMIAH HOPE
 YES I AM, YES I AM!

I CAN TAKE THIS CITY, MAKE IT REALLY PRETTY

NANCY SOMETHING
 SINCE YOU'VE BEEN IN THE CITY, ITS BEEN REALLY SHITTY.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 I CAN MAKE IT ALL BRAND NEW

NANCY SOMETHING
 YOU REALLY THINK THAT?

JEREMIAH HOPE
 YES

NANCY SOMETHING
 WELL, YOU'RE A PRAT

JEREMIAH HOPE
 ANY NOTE YOU CAN REACH I CAN REACH HIGHER.

NANCY SOMETHING
 I CAN REACH ANY NOTE HIGHER THAN YOU.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN,

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I, CAN! YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 Nancy Something, a politician that gets high.

NANCY SOMETHING
 That's a lie

JEREMIAH HOPE
 You said yourself, 'higher than me'
 ANYTHING YOU CAN BUY I CAN BUY CHEAPER,

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN BUY ANYTHING CHEAPER THAN YOU.

JEREMIAH HOPE
FIFTY QUID

NANCY SOMETHING
FORTY QUID

JEREMIAH HOPE
THIRTY QUID

NANCY SOMETHING
TWENTY QUID!

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN, YES I CAN!

JEREMIAH HOPE
ANYTHING YOU CAN SAY I CAY SOFTER

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN SAY ANYTHING SOFTER THAN YOU.

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CANT

*An odd moment; it appears as if they're about to
kiss.*

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN!

JEREMIAH HOPE
I CAN DRINK MY LIQUOR FASTER THAN A FLICKER

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN DRINK IT QUICKER AND YOU'LL BE MORE SICKER

JEREMIAH HOPE
I CAN MAKE THE PEOPLE SAFE

NANCY SOMETHING
WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT?

JEREMIAH HOPE
 SURE

NANCY SOMETHING
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT YOU CROOK.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 ANY NOTE YOU CAN HOLD I CAN HOLD LONGER

NANCY SOMETHING
 I CAN HOLD ANY NOTE LONGER THAN YOU.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CANT

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN!

She falls backwards off the stage. JEREMIAH catches her.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 YES YOU CAN

WOW YOU ARE A POLITICIAN, FULL OF HOT AIR.

ANYTHING YOU CAN WEAR I CAN WEAR BETTER

NANCY SOMETHING
 IN WHAT YOU WEAR I LOOK BETTER THAN YOU

JEREMIAH HOPE
 IN MY COAT?

NANCY SOMETHING
 IN YOUR VEST

JEREMIAH HOPE
 IN MY SHOES

NANCY SOMETHING
IN YOUR **HAT**

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CANT

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN! YES I CAN!

JEREMIAH HOPE
ANYTHING YOU CAN SAY I CAN SAY FASTER

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN SAY ANYTHING FASTER THAN YOU

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
YES I CAN!

JEREMIAH HOPE
I CAN JUMP A HURDLE

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN WEAR A GURDLE

JEREMIAH HOPE
I KNIT A SWEATER

NANCY SOMETHING
I CAN FILL IT BETTER

JEREMIAH HOPE
I CAN DO MOST ANYTHING

NANCY SOMETHING
CAN YOU BAKE A PIE?

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO

NANCY SOMETHING
 NEITHER CAN I.

JEREMIAH HOPE
 ANYTHING YOU CAN SAY I CAN SAY SWEETER

NANCY SOMETHING
 I CAN SAY ANYTHING SWEETER THAN YOU

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO YOU CAN'T CAN'T CAN'T

NANCY SOMETHING
 YES I CAN, CAN, CAN,

YES, I CAN

JEREMIAH HOPE
 NO, YOU CAN'T

SPIEL
 Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

GLOCK
 I'm thinking Something.

SPIEL
 I like her.

GLOCK

Me too. I think we may have a new protagonist.

SPIEL

I did a bit of digging, and it turns out...

HOPE ROUND G: THE PAST

ALL

TICK, TOCK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TICKITY, TICK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TOCK WENT THE CLOCK

BACK IN TIME

*RUBY on the boat to her new life, meets WESLEY.
(A re-staging of the number in Act 1, from a
comical perspective)*

SIT DOWN YOU'RE ROCKIN' THE BOAT ('GUYS AND DOLLS')

YOUNG RUBY

I STEPPED RIGHT UP AND GOT ON THAT BOAT TO ENGLAND
 AND BY SOME CHANCE I WAS SITTING BY A MAN
 AND THEN I STOOD AND I HOLLERED SOMEONE SAVE ME
 FROM THIS BEAUTIFUL BLUE EYED MAN
 FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID

PASSENGERS (AFTERNOON)

COOL DOWN COOL DOWN YOU'RE ROCKING THE BOAT FOR THE
 PEOPLE ALL SAID COOL DOWN COOL DOWN YOU'RE ROCKING
 THE BOAT

YOUNG RUBY

AND I SUDDENLY THEN TRIPPED OVER AND GRABBED ON TO
 HIS

Pause, wink
 CHECKERED COAT

PASSENGERS (AFTERNOON)

SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN SIT DOWN YOU'RE
 ROCKING THE BOAT!

YOUNG RUBY

WE SAILED AWAY ON THAT SHAKY BOAT TO ENGLAND
 AND I BEGAN CONVERSATING WITH THE MAN
 AND THEN HE Poured OUT A DRINK OR TWO TO GIVE ME
 AND THEN SOON ENOUGH WE HIT IT OFF

PASSENGERS (AFTERNOON)

FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID ENOUGH! BEFORE YOU FALL IN
 THE SEA

FOR THE PEOPLE ALL SAID ENOUGH! BEFORE YOU FALL IN
 THE SEA

YOUNG RUBY

BUT WE CARRIED ON WITH THE DRINKING AND WE DANCED THE
 WHOLE WAY TO ENGLAND

PASSENGERS (AFTERNOON)

COOL DOWN STAND UP

SIT DOWN DRINK UP

YOUNG RUBY

WHO CARES WE'RE ROCKING THE BOAT!

HOPE ROUND H: BEAUTY SALON

ALL
 SNIP CHOP CHOP SNIP
 PICK A COLOUR, HAVE A SEAT
 I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU
 TIPS WEL-COME

The beauty parlour. MARC barges in.

MARC
 I'm here. Now what the fuck was so urgent that I had to drive all the way across town. And come here.

NIKKI
 MARC-US?

FAYE
 You two know each other?

MARC
 Shit.

pause of acknowledgment

MARIA
 Let me guess! From the Internet.

NIKKI
 Sorry, Faye. I had no idea-

FAYE
 You've got some explaining to do, Marc-us.

MARC
 I can't deal with this right now. I've got a lot going on-

FAYE
 Yeah well deal with this. I'm pregnant.

MARC walks away in shock.

NIKKI and FAYE sing about loving the same man.

I KNOW HIM SO WELL FROM ('CHESS')

FAYE
 THOUGHT HE WAS SO GOOD, AND SO ETERNALLY PERFECT.
 BUT THEN HE GOES AND LETS ME DOWN SO HE IS NOT. BUT THIS DOESN'T CHANGE ANYTHING THAT I FEEL FOR HIM, WHY DO I LOVE HIM SO MUCH? LOOKING BACK I COULD HAVE PLAYED IT DIFFERENTLY. I COULD HAVE NOT GOT PREGNANT

NIKKI

I COULD HAVE NOT GONE ON THE INTERNET BUT NOW IT'S TIME TO FACE THESE CHALLENGES AND AT LEAST KNOW I KNOW HIM SO SO WELL, SO WELL. WASN'T HE GREAT OH SO GREAT WASN'T HE BAD OH SO BAD ISN'T IT JUST SO CONFUSING, THAT HE CAN'T BE MINE

FAYE

BUT IN THE END THIS MAN NEEDS TO CHOOSE, CHOOSE. ME ME

NIKKI

HE NEEDS TO CHOOSE ME BECAUSE I'M PREGNANT

FAYE

HE NEEDS TO CHOOSE ME BECAUSE I'M SO AMAZING I KNOW HIM SO WELL...

NIKKI

KNOWING THAT HE WAS WITH YOU IS DRIVING ME CRAZY I KNEW THAT I SHOULDNT OF GAVE HIM A TRY AND THOUGH HE WAS SEE US BOTH AT THE SAME TIME ON THE INTERNET HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY LOOKING BACK I SHOULD OF KNOWN THERE WAS SOMETHING FISHY HE TOLD ME HE WAS LOOKING FOR A FUN TIME BUT I WAS BLIND AND FOUND OUT THE WORSE WAY NOW ATLEAST WE KNOW HES LIKE THE REST

NIKKI & FAYE

WASNT IT GOOD OH SO GOOD WASN'T HE NICE OH SO NICE ISN'T IT MADNESS HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY IF I KNEW IT WAS GOING TO END JUST LIKE THIS FROM THE START WHYIS HE BREAKING MY HEART.

HOPE ROUND G: THE PAST

ALL

TICK, TOCK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TICKITY, TICK, TOCK, TICK

TICK, TOCK WENT THE CLOCK

BACK IN TIME

RUBY and WESLEY on a date. They slow dance, the ensemble joins in.

WONDERFUL WORLD (BY SAM COOKE

HOPE ROUND C: THEATRE PRODUCERS

ALL

LIGHTS ON THE STAGE,

CASTING, COSTUMES AND MAKEUP

SEARCHING FOR THE NEXT BIG HIT

BREAK A LEG

GLOCK

I think you're really going to like the new touches we've added to the original draft.

MISTER WEST

I cannot wait.

MISTER ENDBERG

Let's see a moneymaker.

SPIEL

Okay, so we need you to picture it like this.

GLOCK

I'm Hope.

SPIEL

And I'm Something.

GLOCK

And I'm talking to the people of this great town.

SUDDENLY SEYMOUR ('LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS')

The vision for the show comes to life as they play the song.

GLOCK

LIFT UP YOUR HEAD, TURN THAT FROWN UPSIDE DOWN HEY,
DO YOU HAVE PROBLEM, THEN TALK AWAY SHOW ME YOUR FACE
CLEAN AS THE MORNIN' I KNOW THINGS ARE BAD BUT CAN BE
OKAY

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING IS STANDING AGAINST ME SHE'LL
GIVE YOU ORDERS, I'LL LISTEN AWAY SUDDENLY, SOMETHING
ISN'T HERE TO PROVIDE YOU SWEET UNDERSTANDING, I AM
YOUR FRIEND

SPIEL

NOBODY EVER TREATED YOU KINDLY YOU WANT YOUR CAT
BACK, YOU WANT A HOME I'D BECOME MAYOR AND I'D CHANGE
ALL THESE PROBLEMS THESE PROBLEMS WILL BE NO MORE, I
AM YOUR FRIEND

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING IS STANDING BESIDE YOU I DON'T
GIVE OUT ORDERS, I TRY TO MAKE CHANGE SUDDENLY,
SOMETHING IS HERE TO PROVIDE YOU SWEET UNDERSTANDING,
NANCY'S YOUR FRIEND

GLOCK

And then, we have a flashback!

MISTER ENDBERG

A flashback?

SPIEL

A flashback!

MISTER WEST

Cool!

GLOCK

No. Tragic.

**TELL ME THAT I AM BEST AND
FOREVER TELL ME I'M BAD AND YOU'RE
CLEAN WASHED AWAY**

SPIEL

And then we switch back to the present.

MISTER ENDBERG

I don't know about this.

SPIEL

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT I WAS YOUNG AND INNOCENT FOR
LOSERS LIKE HE'S BEEN JUST DUMP HIM AND SAY**

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING (SUDDENLY, SOMETHING)

GLOCK

SHE PETRIFIES ME (SHE PETRIFIES YOU)

SPIEL

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING (SUDDENLY, SOMETHING)

I'LL SHOW YOU WE CAN (YES, WE CAN)

LEARN HOW TO BE MORE THE GIRL THAT'S INSIDE ME (THE
GIRL THAT'S INSIDE YOU)

WITHOUT JEREMIAH (WITHOUT JEREMIAH)

WITHOUT JEREMIAH (WITHOUT JEREMIAH)
WITHOUT JEREMIAH SOMETHING WE CAN

GLOCK

Well?

SPIEL

What do you think?

MISTER WEST

There's just one small problem.

JEREMIAH HOPE

What the hell was that? I've got an election in less
than a month, and this is what you wackos come up
with?!

MISTER ENDBERG

We have a little agreement with Jeremiah Hope.

JEREMIAH HOPE

The deal is off.

exits

SPIEL

I knew it.

HARMONY comes home to have supper with DUSTIN.

DUSTIN

I think I know what you wanted to discuss.

HARMONY

You do?

DUSTIN

And I'm feeling kind of guilty because, it started that day when we were at your parents house, and there I was on the toilet-

HARMONY

Dustin. No. Listen-

THERE'S A FINE FINE LINE ('AVENUE Q')

HARMONY

THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN A LOVER AND A FRIEND; THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN REALITY AND PRETEND; AND YOU NEVER KNOW 'TIL YOU REACH THE TOP IF IT WAS WORTH THE UPHILL CLIMB.

THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND A WASTE OF TIME.

DAISY & FAYE sing to MARC.

FAYE

THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN A FAIRY TALE AND A LIE;

DAISY

AND THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN "YOU'RE WONDERFUL" AND "GOODBYE."

FAYE & DAISY

I GUESS IF SOMEONE DOESN'T LOVE YOU BACK IT ISN'T SUCH A CRIME,

HARMONY

BUT THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND A WASTE OF YOUR TIME.

(MORE)

HARMONY (cont'd)

AND I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO WASTE ON YOU ANYMORE.

FAYE

I DON'T THINK THAT YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

DAISY

FOR MY OWN SANITY, I'VE GOT TO CLOSE THE DOOR AND WALK AWAY... OH...

FAYE

THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN TOGETHER AND NOT

DAISY

AND THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN WHAT YOU WANTED AND WHAT YOU GOT.

HARMONY

I'VE GOTTA GO AFTER THE THINGS YOU WANT WHILE I'M STILL IN MY PRIME...

FAYE, DAISY & HARMONY

THERE'S A FINE, FINE LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND A WASTE OF TIME.

TOMMY plays with his imaginary kangaroo. He bumps into Sarah.

SARAH

Hey kid, watch where you're going.

TOMMY

Sorry lady. It wasn't me, it was my pet kangaroo. Sandie.

HOPE

Kangaroo?

SARAH

Sandie? That's a weird name for a kangaroo.

TOMMY

It's my mom's name.

HOPE

Are you lost or something.

TOMMY

Who me? No. I'm just-

SARAH

Aren't you a bit young to be on the streets alone.

TOMMY

No! I'm, I'm looking for for a cat. My cat! It's lost. See?

Taking one of ZITA's flyers from the floor.

HOPE

Your cat's name is Hope.

TOMMY

What? Oh, yeah. Hope. My cat. Yup.

HOPE

Well, we're trying to find Madam Nadiya, for some advice.

TOMMY

Madame Nadiya? That's the lady with the funny accent that lives in my building.

HOPE

You know her?

TOMMY

Yeah, follow me.

They enter MADAME NADIYA'S home.

MADAME NADIYA

Let me guess, you want to know where you're going to meet your Prince Charming- Ot if you're going to be rich and famous...

Orrrrrr-

SARAH

Gosh, you'd think a fortune teller would already know why we're here.

Why are we here?

HOPE

Madame Nadiya, forgive us if it's a strange reason to come to you but... I'm- we're, looking for Hope.

MADAME NADIYA

You're looking for Hope.

MADAME NADIYA

Pet?

HOPE

No... well yes, but, two Hopes I guess. Hope. My name is Hope. And everyone seems to, I don't know project all sorts of stuff, expectations, on me, cause of my stupid name, and I realised, that I have no idea what Hope is and... I don't know, I was hoping you might have some ideas about hope, that we can talk about hope.

MADAME NADIYA kisses the kids each on their foreheads with great excitement.

MADAME NADIYA
Finally!

Come! Sit down.

A New Orleans funeral procession reforms.

APPARENTLY BY J. COLE

ALL

OH RIGHT, OH OH WHY NA-DA-DA-DA I KEEP MY HEAD HIGH I
GOT MY WINGS TO CARRY ME I DON'T KNOW FREEDOM I WANT
MY DREAMS TO RESCUE ME I KEEP MY FAITH STRONG I ASK
THE LORD TO FOLLOW ME I'VE BEEN UNFAITHFUL I DON'T
KNOW WHY YOU CALL ON ME

TBD

THIS IS MY CANVAS I'MA PAINT IT HOW I WANT IT BABY,
OH I THIS IS MY CANVAS I'MA PAINT IT, PAINT IT, PAINT
IT, HOW I WANT IT NIGGA FUCK YOU CAUSE THERE THERE IS
NO RIGHT OR WRONG ONLY A SONG I LIKE TO WRITE ALONE
BE IN MY ZONE THINK BACK TO FOREST HILLS, NO PERFECT
HOME BUT THE ONLY THING LIKE HOME I'VE EVER KNOWN
UNTIL THEY SNATCHED IT FROM MY MAMA AND FORECLOSED
HER ON THE LOAN I'M SO SORRY THAT I LEFT YOU THERE TO
DEAL WITH THAT ALONE I WAS UP IN NEW YORK CITY
CHASIN' PANTIES, GETTIN' DOME HAD NO CLUE WHAT YOU
WAS GOIN' THROUGH HOW COULD YOU BE SO STRONG? AND HOW
COULD I BE SO SELFISH, I KNOW I CAN BE SO SELFISH I
COULD TELL BY HOW I TREAT YOU WITH MY GIRL DAMN SHE
SO SELFLESS, BUT SHE PUT UP WITH MY WAY BECAUSE SHE
LOVES ME LIKE YOU DO AND THOUGH IT DON'T ALWAYS SHOW
I LOVE HER JUST LIKE I LOVE YOU AND I NEED TO TREAT
YOU BETTER WISH YOU COULD LIVE FOREVER, SO WE COULD
SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER (I LOVE YOU MAMA)

ALL

OH RIGHT, OH OH WHY NA-DA-DA-DA I KEEP MY HEAD HIGH I
GOT MY WINGS TO CARRY ME I DON'T KNOW FREEDOM I WANT
MY DREAMS TO RESCUE ME I KEEP MY FAITH STRONG I ASK
THE LORD TO FOLLOW ME I'VE BEEN UNFAITHFUL I DON'T
KNOW WHY YOU CALL ON ME

APPARENTLY, YOU BELIEVE IN ME, YOU BELIEVE IN ME
APPARENTLY, YOU BELIEVE IN ME AND I THANK YOU FOR IT

OH RIGHT, OH OH WHY NA-DA-DA-DA I KEEP MY HEAD HIGH I
GOT MY WINGS TO CARRY ME I DON'T KNOW FREEDOM I WANT
MY DREAMS TO RESCUE ME I KEEP MY FAITH STRONG I ASK
THE LORD TO FOLLOW ME I'VE BEEN UNFAITHFUL I DON'T
KNOW WHY YOU CALL ON ME

APPARENTLY, YOU BELIEVE IN ME, YOU BELIEVE IN ME
APPARENTLY, YOU BELIEVE IN ME AND I THANK YOU FOR IT

*The burial scene from the beginning reforms to
close the play.*

HOPE ROUND A: BURIAL SITE

ALL
WHEN WILL I SEE
YOUR SHINING FACE AGAIN
I HOPE IT'S NOT LONG
NOT LONG NOW