

MYART



Musical Youth Artist Repertory Theatre

13

a new musical

NAME:

GROUP:

#1 — Thirteen

Limbo. EVAN GOLDMAN, a twelve-and-a-half-year-old Jewish boy from New York City, sits center stage, facing upstage. HE is surrounded by a semi-circle of RABBIS, dressed in long black coats, furry hats and peyes. One RABBI steps forward and speaks to EVAN.

RABBI

(chanting)

KOH-AMAR HA'EL ADOSHEM BORE HASHAMAYIM VENOTEYHEM ROKA
HA'ARETS...

The other RABBIS say: ..

RABBIS

(chanting)

AMEN.

RABBI

(with great drama and import)

In the Jewish faith, when a boy reaches the age of thirteen, he is said to become a Man. So it has been for generations. Once you are Bar Mitzvah, you assume all the responsibilities of being a mature adult. Whether you're ready or not.

RABBIS

(chanting, looking pointedly at EVAN)

AMEN.

RABBI

So no matter what challenges you may face, no matter what problems you may encounter, no matter what *mishegoss* comes your way, you have ten thousand years of Jewish history guiding you to your destiny, so you can say, with pride and confidence...

EVAN turns and addresses the audience.

EVAN

My name is Evan Goldman. I live at 224 West 92nd Street, in the heart of Manhattan, and my life just went to hell.

Music starts. The RABBIS all strip off their rabbinical garments to become a group of New York City TEENAGERS, all romping through the city on a summer afternoon.

PICTURE ME:

JUST ANOTHER COOL KID IN N.Y.C.,
NEAR THE PARK AND THE MET.

.....1
.....7
.....19
.....24
.....28
.....33
.....37
.....42
.....75
ork ...89
.....93

.....1
.....7
.....19
.....24
.....33
.....37
.....42
.....60
.....75
ork ...89
.....93

.....1
.....7
.....19
.....24
.....33
.....37
.....42
.....60
.....75
ork ...89
.....93

.....1
.....55

(EVAN)

LIFE IS SWEET:
 YANKEES IN THE BRONX, PRETZELS ON THE STREET -
 JUST HOW GOOD CAN IT GET?
 WHO'D HAVE GUESSED
 DAD WOULD MEET A STEWARDESS?
 MOM'S DEPRESSED,
 AND HER LAWYERS ARE MEAN.
 NOW I'M STRESSED -
 LIFE IS A DISASTER
 AND I'M CRACKING FROM THE STRAIN,
 GOING TOTALLY INSANE,
 AND I'M JUST ABOUT TO TURN,
 JUST ABOUT TO TURN,
 JUST ABOUT TO TURN...

EVAN & KIDS

THIRTEEN!

EVAN

EVERYTHING SWITCHES...

KIDS

THIRTEEN!

EVAN

KIDS

EVERYTHING TURNS AROUND.
 END UP IN STITCHES,
 HIDE AWAY UNDERGROUND.
 CAN I GET THROUGH IT?
 LIFE HAS CHANGED OVERNIGHT!
 HOW DO I DO IT?!
 NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT!

THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!

EVAN & KIDS

THE BEST AND THE WORST
 AND THE MOST AND THE LEAST
 AND THE CRAZY AND THE SCARY
 AND I'M STANDING ON THE EDGE!

EVAN steps forward to talk to the audience.

EVAN

Okay. You wanna talk about turning 13? It's a nightmare. I've got hair growing in

(EVAN)

places I didn't know were places. Plus, my parents are splitting up. Plus PLUS... I also have to have my Bar Mitzvah! The one event that defines you. The Jewish Super Bowl.

The BOYS surrounding him chime in. [Throughout this scene, the kids are referred to by the names of the characters they'll be playing later in the show, but they are not playing those characters yet! In this scene, the kids all play New York kids.]

BOY 1 (SIMON ACTOR)

Hey Evan, you've got to have a major party!

BOY 2 (RICHIE ACTOR)

I heard Zach Farber's dad is hiring Jay-Z to free style over his Haftorah. We iz totally gonna kick it Old Shul!

BOY 3 (EDDIE ACTOR)

My mom is having our invites printed on money.

BOY 4 (MALCOLM ACTOR)

For my Bar Mitzvah, my whole family come in from Ethiopia!

(if the actor playing MALCOLM is not African-American, this line should be cut.)

.. A REALLY CUTE GIRL steps forward.

GIRL (CHARLOTTE ACTOR)

Hey Evan. For your Bar Mitzvah I've got a very special present for you.

ALL BOYS

Dude!

EVAN

(to audience)

I don't care how much my parents hate each other. They'd better pull it together and make sure everything about this party is absolutely, positively, for once, please God, perfect!

TWELVE YEARS OLD -
EVERYTHING THAT USED TO BE GOOD AS GOLD
STARTS TO CRUMBLE AND CRACK.

EVAN & TWO BOYS (SIMON, RICHIE ACTORS)

PRESSURE MOUNTS:
ONCE IT WAS A JOKE, NOW IT REALLY COUNTS
AND THERE'S NO TURNING BACK.

ADD TWO GIRLS (CASSIE, CHARLOTTE ACTORS)

LIFE GOES WRONG.

ONE BOY (SIMON ACTOR)

SUDDENLY THEY'RE YELLING 'CAUSE YOUR HAIR'S TOO LONG

ONE GIRL (CASSIE ACTOR)

OR YOUR ROOM ISN'T CLEAN.

ALL FIVE

ROLL ALONG:

EVAN

EVERY CONVERSATION IS ANOTHER LOST CAUSE
OR A LIST OF MY FLAWS
AND I'M JUST ABOUT TO TURN,

MORE KIDS

(RICHIE, CHARLOTTE, SIMON, KENDRA, CASSIE ACTORS)

JUST ABOUT TO TURN,

ADD MORE KIDS (MALCOLM, ARCHIE, MOLLY ACTORS)

GOD, I'M GONNA TURN

ALL

THIRTEEN!

BOY (RICHIE ACTOR)

I WANT A DIRT BIKE!

KIDS

THIRTEEN!

GIRL (LUCY ACTOR)

I WANT TO KILL MY MA.

KIDS

THIRTEEN!

BOY (EDDIE ACTOR)

I WANT A MUSTACHE!

KIDS

THIRTEEN!

GIRL (CASSIE ACTOR)

I WANT A WONDERBRA!

LONG

KIDS

THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!
 THIRTEEN!

**SIMON, EDDIE, LUCY, CASSIE, RICHIE,
 PATRICE, MOLLY ACTORS**

WHEN DO I GET IT?
 ALL OF THE GROWN-UP STUFF?
 HOW WILL I MAKE IT?
 WHEN AM I OLD ENOUGH?

ALL

WHY IS THE WORLD FEELING SUDDENLY STRANGER?
 WHY ARE MY FRIENDS ACTING TOTALLY WEIRD?
 WHY DO I FEEL LIKE MY LIFE IS IN DANGER?
 WHY DO I FEEL LIKE MY BRAIN DISAPPEARED?

GIRL (MOLLY ACTOR)

HOW WILL I GET THROUGH A YEAR OF SPANISH?

BOY (RICHIE ACTOR)

HOW CAN I NOT LOOK DUMB IN TRACK?

BOY (BRETT ACTOR)

HOW CAN I GAIN TWENTY POUNDS BY FRIDAY?

BOY (MALCOLM ACTOR)

HOW CAN I MAKE MY VOICE NOT CRACK?

ALL

I WANNA FLY, WANNA RUN, WANNA DRIVE,

KENDRA, SIMON, RICHIE, CHARLOTTE ACTORS

WANNA GET RICH,

BRETT, LUCY, MALCOLM, MOLLY ACTORS

WANNA GET DRUNK,

CASSIE, EVAN, PATRICE, EDDIE, ARCHIE ACTORS

WANNA GET OUT!

KENDRA, SIMON, RICHIE, CHARLOTTE ACTORS

WANNA GET MY BRACES OFF,

BRETT, LUCY, MALCOLM, MOLLY ACTORS

WANNA GET MY NOSE PIERCED,

CASSIE, EVAN, PATRICE, EDDIE, ARCHIE ACTORS

WANNA GROW MY HAIR LONG,

s)

s)

ALL

BUT ALL I KEEP HEARING IS:

"NO, YOU'RE NOT READY!"

"NO, IT'S NOT TIME YET!"

"NO, IT'S NOT RIGHT NOW!"

"WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE OLDER!"

"NO, YOU'RE NOT READY!"

"NO, IT'S NOT TIME YET!"

"NO, IT'S NOT RIGHT NOW!"

"WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE OLDER!"

"NO, YOU'RE NOT READY!"

"NO, IT'S NOT TIME YET!"

"NO, IT'S NOT RIGHT NOW!"

"WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE OLDER!"

THREE KIDS (EVAN, BRETT, MOLLY ACTORS)

"HOMEWORK!"

THREE OTHER KIDS (EDDIE, PATRICE, CHARLOTTE ACTORS)

"LAUNDRY!"

THREE MORE KIDS (KENDRA, MALCOLM, KENDRA ACTORS)

"DISHES!"

THREE OTHER KIDS (LUCY, SIMON, RICHIE, ARCHIE ACTORS)

"COURSES!"

ALL

"JUST SETTLE DOWN AND HOLD YOUR HORSES!"

Guitar solo and dance. The KIDS' energy fills the stage. EVAN moves to center.

#1a - Becoming A Man

EVAN

I'M BECOMING A MAN.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT "A MAN" REALLY MEANS.

THE RULEBOOK GROWS,

BUT NO ONE KNOWS

WHAT ALL THE RULES ALLOW.

(EVAN)

I'M BECOMING A MAN.
NO ONE TELLS ALL US SCARED IN-BETWEENS
JUST HOW WE SHOULD
BE STRONG, BE GOOD,
WITH SO MUCH PRESSURE NOW!

ONE DAY IT GETS BETTER -
ONE DAY IT MAKES SENSE.
ONE DAY I'LL STOP TALKING IN THE FRIGGIN' FUTURE TENSE.
ONE DAY IN OCTOBER,
IT'LL ALL BE GREAT!
AND I CAN'T WAIT!
I CAN'T WAIT!
I CAN'T WAIT!

#1b - Thirteen - Coda

ORS)

GIRL (KENDRA ACTOR)

(to EVAN)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

ORS)

ANOTHER GIRL (LUCY ACTOR)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

ORS)

The KIDS begin overlapping.

TWO BOYS (SIMON, RICHIE ACTORS)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

r.

TWO KIDS (EDDIE, CHARLOTTE ACTORS)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

THREE KIDS (ARCHIE, MOLLY, MALCOLM ACTORS)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

THREE KIDS (BRETT, KENDRA, LUCY ACTORS)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY! PARTY!

THREE KIDS (RICHIE, CASSIE, PATRICE ACTORS)

...PARTY! I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

THREE KIDS (EDDIE, MOLLY, MALCOLM ACTORS)

I CAN'T WAIT, YOUR PARTY!

A drum solo. The KIDS turn to the audience.

ALL THE KIDS

I CAN'T WAIT! I CAN'T WAIT!
CAN'T WAIT,
CAN'T WAIT,
CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT FOR

ONE GROUP

**EVAN, BRETT, KENDRA, LUCY,
EDDIE, PATRICE ACTORS**

THIRTEEN!

SOMETHING IS COMIN'!

THIRTEEN

SOMETHING IS GOIN' UP!

THIRTEEN

SOMETHING IS HUMMIN'!

THIRTEEN

SOMEBODY'S GROWIN' UP

ALL

THIRTEEN!

CASSIE ACTOR does a scat solo.

THIRTEEN!

EDDIE ACTOR responds with a scat solo.

THIRTEEN!

MALCOLM ACTOR does a scat solo.

THIRTEEN!

CHARLOTTE ACTOR does a scat solo.

THE BEST AND THE WORST
AND THE MOST AND THE LEAST
AND THE CRAZY AND THE SCARY
AND WE'RE JUST ABOUT TO TURN
THIRTEEN!

BIG FINISH. All KIDS are around EVAN.

EVAN's phone rings. HE answers it.

EVAN

Hey mom, what's up? What? You never said anything about moving! Where? INDIANA? Nooooo!

#1c - Indiana Transition

As though a tornado were ripping through the theater, the entire set suddenly rips apart, and all the TEENAGERS disappear. When the chaos subsides, EVAN is alone on a windy plain with farmhouses in the distance; he has landed in the open, Indiana bleakness. He stands there in shock, takes a beat, turns to the audience, and says:

(EVAN)

Appleton, Indiana. No, seriously. My parents split up, my life falls apart, and now I'm in a town where UFO's go to refuel!

PATRICE, a somewhat eccentric and bookish girl, enters and joins EVAN.

PATRICE

Let me get this straight: your Mom decides to move to Appleton because her cousin Pam lives here?

EVAN

(to audience)

At least there's someone around here I can talk to. My next door neighbor, Patrice.

PATRICE

Wow. Sounds like the divorce got ugly.

EVAN

Ugly? My dad totally ruined our lives, and my mom's a mess. She went around the apartment cutting his head out of all the photos.

PATRICE

No!

EVAN

With her teeth!

PATRICE

No!

EVAN

She tells me we're leaving New York, but then she says, "It's your decision," which we all know is Jewish for "You're coming with me!" So she drags me away from my home and all my friends and now I have to have my Bar Mitzvah in Appleton, Indiana!

PATRICE

If it's so awful, just don't have it.

EVAN

Yeah, right. Try telling that to my Mom. For Jews, your Bar Mitzvah is the one day everything in your life is supposed to be happy and perfect.

NDRA, LUCY,
E ACTORS

W!

UP!

IN!

UP

PATRICE

See, Catholics don't have that day. It would go against everything we believe in.

EVAN

Besides, how hot your party is totally sets up how popular you'll be. So I need this one to be the best! The best DJ in the best ballroom at the best hotel...

PATRICE

...which is The Best Western.

#2 - *The Lamest Place In The World*

EVAN

Come on. There's got to be someplace in this town.

PATRICE

Sorry, but your choices are like my life here: limited.

EVAN

Limited to what?

PATRICE

Well, um, okay.

SHE sings:

DOWN THE ROAD, THERE'S A DAIRY QUEEN.
UP THE BLOCK, THERE'S A WALMART.
THERE'S A PLACE YOU CAN ACCESSORIZE YOUR PETS.
A SCHOOL, A TREE, A COUPLE OF CHURCHES,
AND NO MATTER HOW HARD ANYBODY SEARCHES,
THAT'S ABOUT AS THRILLING AS THIS DUMB-ASS VILLAGE GETS.
IT'S THE LAMEST PLACE IN THE WORLD,
BUT IT JUST GOT A LITTLE BIT BETTER,
SO DON'T DISAPPEAR.
IT'S THE LAMEST PLACE IN THE WORLD,
BUT I'M PRETTY SURE
IT'S NOT AS LAME AS IT WAS BEFORE
NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE.

EVAN

Patrice, that can't be everything. There's gotta be more to do around here.

PATRICE

The inbreeding takes up a lot of our time.

EVAN

And when that's done...?

PATRICE

FORTY MILES TO THE NEAREST RIVER,
SIXTY MILES TO THE AIRPORT,
WHEN WE PLAN OUR ESCAPE, THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO BE.
IT'S A SHAME, IT'S A SHAM, IT'S A TERRIBLE PITY
YOU GOT DRAGGED AWAY FROM NEW YORK CITY,
IT'S MAJOR SUCK FOR YOU, BUT IT'S AMAZING LUCK FOR ME!

IT'S THE LAMEST PLACE IN THE WORLD,
BUT IT JUST GOT A LITTLE BIT BETTER,
I'M HAPPY TO SAY:
IT'S THE LAMEST PLACE IN THE WORLD -

AND YOU'RE COMPLETELY EXOTIC,
INTELLECTUAL, NEUROTIC,
YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE A SHOT EX-
CEPT YOU FOUND THE PERFECT GUIDE!

AND THOUGH I DON'T REALLY KNOW YOU,
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SHOW YOU
EVERY FAKE AND FREAK, EVERY FOOL AND CLOWN,
SINCE THE CHIPPEWA SETTLED THIS STUPID TOWN,
LET 'EM LAUGH THEY WON'T KEEP ME DOWN
WITH YOU BY MY SIDE!

IT JUST GOT A LITTLE BIT BETTER!
AMAZING BUT TRUE!
YES, THE LAMEST PLACE IN THE WORLD
HAS LOTS OF FLAWS
BUT MAYBE IT'LL BE FINE BECAUSE
IT BROUGHT ME TO YOU!

EVAN

Wow, Patrice.

PATRICE

Come on. I'll show you the hillside where everyone waits for the Resurrection.

PATRICE smiles and walks off, EVAN turns to us. The scene transitions to a park near the school.

ve in.

eed this

GETS.

EVAN

It's all working out. I've got a new friend who is as great as my old ones, my mom's awake and weaning herself off the meds, and I'll be totally set up here, if I can just get all the coolest kids to come to my party...

Enter BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE in the midst of a conversation. BRETT is the prototypical junior high school football star, cool, handsome, and not quite as smart as a postage stamp. EDDIE and MALCOLM are his goons, two wannabes who flank him constantly.

BRETT

Okay, guys, listen up.

EVAN

...Like Brett Sampson! He's the star quarterback, he's got eight million friends, and he can beat the crap out of all of them. If he comes, everyone comes. I just need a way in with him...

BRETT

Kendra is going to be here any minute. We have to get this right. What have you got for me?

EDDIE

Check it out, yo, we on it. 1, 2, 3, here we go...

Music starts, classic bedroom-style soul. MALCOLM and EDDIE sing to an imaginary Kendra.

#3 - Hey Kendra

MALCOLM & EDDIE

HEY KENDRA...

BRETT

(spoken, to an imaginary Kendra)

Hey, Kendra.

MALCOLM & EDDIE

I BEEN THINKIN'...

BRETT

I've been thinking.

MALCOLM & EDDIE

I GOTTA, GOTTA, GOTTA, GOTTA GET WIT'CHOO.

BRETT

So true.

MALCOLM & EDDIE

I WANNA GET ALL UP IN YO' BIDNESS, GIRL.

BRETT

...bidness...

MALCOLM & EDDIE

AND MAKE YOU FEEL REAL FINE.

BRETT

Real fine, not fake fine.

EDDIE & MALCOLM

HEY KENDRA!

BRETT

Hey Kendra.

EDDIE & MALCOLM

COME CLOSER.

BRETT

Much closer.

EDDIE & MALCOLM

I GOT MYSELF A BRAND NEW ROCKING HORSE...

BRETT

...rocking horse.

(to EDDIE and MALCOLM)

Wait. What?

EDDIE & MALCOLM

WHY DON'T YOU CLIMB UP HERE, MAMA?

EDDIE

(spanking himself as HE sings)

AND ROCK IT, ROCK IT ALL NIGHT LONG!

BRETT

Okay, stop! Rocking horse? Yeah, not gonna work.

EDDIE

Yeah, so gonna work. It's double edge...

MALCOLM & EDDIE

...smoooooooooth.

ty mom's
can just

TT is the
smart as a
bank him

nds, and
need a

e you got

BRETT

Guys, Kendra's a "good girl." I do that, I'll never get the tongue!

EDDIE & MALCOLM

(with wonderment)

The tongue!

EDDIE

Where are you gonna do it, Brett?

MALCOLM

(elbowing EDDIE)

You said "Do it." Heh heh.

BRETT

You two didn't set something up? I'm very disappointed, Eddie. Malcolm.

(THEY hang their heads in shame.)

There's gotta be a place that sets the mood right! Come on, guys...

EVAN

(To audience)

Great! It's clear I can do something better than Brett.

BRETT

Think!!!

EVAN

(To audience)

Exactly!

(To Brett)

Hey, Brett. How about taking her to a scary movie? She'll get terrified, inch her way closer, open her mouth to scream, and your tongue will just get sucked in with the jet stream!

BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE all turn to look at Evan.

BRETT

Whoa!

MALCOLM & EDDIE

Whoa!

BRETT

A scary movie! Who is this guy?

BRETT

Kendra, there's something I wanna ask you...

LUCY

Oh God...

EDDIE & MALCOLM

HEY KENDRA!

BRETT

(suddenly he's Barry White)

Hey Kendra.

EDDIE & MALCOLM

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

BRETT

I've been thinking.

ALL THREE

I WANNA SPEND A LITTLE SPECIAL TIME WITH YOU.

KENDRA

Aw...

ALL THREE

I WANNA TAKE YOU TO A MOVIE, GIRL.

BRETT

Friday night.

EDDIE & MALCOLM

DOWN AT THE MALL.

KENDRA

It's perfect!

LUCY

(interrupting)

NO NO NO NO NO!

YOU CAN'T GO TO THE MOVIES ON FRIDAY NIGHT!

EDDIE & MALCOLM

NO, NO, SHE CAN'T DO IT.

LUCY

I SAID SHE CAN'T GO!

EVAN

I'm Evan Goldman. From New York.

BRETT

New York? Whoa! I'm gonna call you... Brain!

MALCOLM & EDDIE

Brain!

EVAN

Brain it is.

EDDIE sees LUCY and KENDRA approaching.

EDDIE

Incoming! Kendra, three o'clock...

BRETT

(cueing EDDIE to begin the song)

Eddie.

EDDIE

1, 2, 3, get shizzy...

The music starts as KENDRA enters. SHE's not only the prettiest and most popular girl in school, she's also the most oblivious.

BRETT

Hey Kendra.

LUCY, her best friend, comes running in and steps in front of KENDRA. Lucy, as a rule, is not to be trusted.

(deflated)

Oh, hi Lucy.

LUCY

Brett, wow, lucky us, running into you when I'm looking so hot.

BRETT

(pushing past Lucy)

Kendra, you look amazing.

KENDRA

I almost didn't wear this, but then I thought,

(as if having a life changing epiphany)

No. Wear it!

her way
with the

EDDIE & MALCOLM

UH-UH, NO WAY.

LUCY

'CAUSE YOU ALREADY COMMITTED TO DO THAT THING!

KENDRA

(mystified)

WHAT THING?

LUCY

THAT THING!

KENDRA

WHAT THING?

LUCY

THAT THING YOU SAID YOU WOULD DO ON FRIDAY!

KENDRA

THERE IS NO THING!

LUCY

YES, THERE IS, KENDRA!

KENDRA

I'M GOING TO THE MOVIES FRIDAY NIGHT WITH BRETT!

LUCY

NO YOU'RE NOT! DON'T CONTRADICT ME IN PUBLIC, KENDRA!

WE'LL TALK ABOUT THIS LATER!

KENDRA

FINE!

The GIRLS smile at the BOYS.

BRETT, MALCOLM & EDDIE

HEY KENDRA...

I'M BEGGING...

MALCOLM

PLEASE COME TO THE MOVIES ON FRIDAY...

BRETT executes a fancy move on the word "Please".

KENDRA

Sure I'll come!

LUCY

(grabbing her and dragging her offstage)

We so have to talk!

LUCY and KENDRA exit.

BRETT, MALCOLM & EDDIE

(high five)

OO, BABY, WE SO GOOOOOD.

EDDIE

YOU GONNA GET ALL UP IN HER BIDNESS, YO!

BRETT turns to EVAN.

BRETT

Nice work, Brain. I'll see you when school starts!

BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE exit, EVAN turns to us.

EVAN

(to audience)

"I'll see you when school starts!" I'm so in with Brett, which means everyone's gonna come to my party...

(PATRICE enters)

...which is going to be amazing, thanks to all your help. Let's get to school so I can pass out these invites.

PATRICE

Evan, wait. Before you pass these out... If those guys know I'm coming, there won't be a party. I've been trying to tell you for the last month, they hate me.

EVAN

Patrice, come on. What makes you think they hate you?

PATRICE

They write "we hate you" on my locker. Look, I don't read what they read, watch what they watch, shop where they shop or think like they think and neither do you. Trust me, you should stay away from those guys.

EVAN

They don't know you like I know you. But you're with me now. Come on. I have a good feeling about our first day at...

(to the audience, meaningfully)

Dan Quayle Junior High.

#3a - Invitations

Music. The SCHOOL drops in. Students arrive and break into cliques. EVAN and PATRICE arrive last. BRETT sees EVAN come in.

BRETT

Hey! It's the Brain!

EVAN passes out the invitations, first to BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE, then gradually to everyone else.

EVAN

(to audience)

I'VE GOT ONE DAY IN OCTOBER
WHEN THE PIECES ALL WILL FIT.
WHEN I'M FINALLY ACCEPTED
AND MY PARTY IS A HIT.
I'VE GOT ONE DAY IN OCTOBER, AND I KNOW IT'S GONNA BE...

BRETT

(trying to decipher the invitation)

A bra what?

EDDIE

Like, okay, so, what is a Barf Matzah anyway?

LUCY

It's this weird Jewish thing where they make you talk backwards and everyone gets circumcised.

ALL (EXCEPT EVAN & PATRICE)

Oh.

EVAN

No, no, no! It's a party. With a hot DJ, and wild dancing.

The KIDS all look to BRETT.

BRETT

That might be cool.

CASSIE

Count me in.

MOLLY

I'll be there.

one's

l so I can

here won't

l, watch
ier do you.

m. I have a

EVAN

(to audience)

I'VE GOT ONE DAY IN OCTOBER
AND IT'S GOTTA BE JUST RIGHT.

LUCY sees PATRICE holding an invitation.

LUCY

Hold on. Is the freak coming?

EVAN

Patrice?

MOLLY

Yeah. 'Cause if she comes, we're so snubbing.

CASSIE

Count me out.

EVAN

Come on. What's wrong with Patrice?

BRETT

She'll be there.

LUCY

And we won't.

MALCOLM

And if they don't go, we don't go.

EDDIE

Get it?

PATRICE

I told you. Come on, Evan...

EVAN

Guys, you got it wrong...

BRETT

Make up your mind, Brain. It's either us... or her.

BRETT takes the invitation from PATRICE and gives it back

to EVAN.

Up to you.

Everyone freezes. EVAN turns to us.

EVAN

I'VE GOT ONE DAY IN OCTOBER
 AND IF I DON'T GET IT DOWN,
 THEN IT'S ONE MORE HUGE DISASTER,
 LIKE MY PARENTS, LIKE THIS TOWN.
 I'VE GOT ONE DAY IN OCTOBER...
 I CAN MAKE IT TO OCTOBER...
 BUT IT'S REALLY GOTTA BE THE PERFECT PARTY.
 THE PERFECT PARTY!

EVAN makes a decision - HE hands the invitation to PATRICE. BRETT and the others turn disgustedly to walk away, but in a panic EVAN reaches, takes back Patrice's invitation, and rips it in half.

BRETT

(to everybody)

See what I told you? He is the Brain!

There is a group cheer. PATRICE walks away, humiliated and reeling from the betrayal.

(to EVAN)

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

LUCY

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

SIMON, RICHIE

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

EDDIE, CHARLOTTE

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

MOLLY, MALCOLM

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

BRETT, KENDRA, LUCY

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

SIMON, CASSIE

I CAN'T WAIT TO COME TO YOUR PARTY!

RICHIE, CHARLOTTE

PARTY!

During the preceding lines, ARCHIE has entered. His energy and look are unlike anything else on stage, and he walks on crutches as the result of muscular dystrophy.

ARCHIE

What party?

All the other KIDS ignore ARCHIE and go on about their business.

ALL KIDS

I CAN'T WAIT! I CAN'T WAIT!

CAN'T WAIT

CAN'T WAIT

CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT, CAN'T WAIT FOR THIRTEEN!

BRETT does a crazy dance move.

THIRTEEN!

Some KIDS take it up.

THIRTEEN!

The rest of the KIDS take it up as EVAN walks among them, trying to figure out the steps.

THIRTEEN!

THIRTEEN!

THIRTEEN!

The KIDS all dance offstage leaving EVAN looking for PATRICE. ARCHIE tries to get his attention.

ARCHIE

Oh, hi! You're the new kid, right?

EVAN

(looking around)

Oh yeah, hi. I'm Evan.

ARCHIE

I'm Archie. I pass by your house every morning when you're waiting for the bus. See, I'm on the special needs bus. 'Cause of my crutches.

EVAN

Bummer...

ARCHIE

It's okay, at least nobody makes fun of me on the special needs bus. That'd be ironic.

EVAN

So, it's been really great meeting you, Archie...

ARCHIE

Are you looking for Patrice?

EVAN

You know Patrice?

ARCHIE

Sure, she's like my best friend. Also my only friend.

EVAN

Do you know where she is?

ARCHIE

Why? You wanna do something else to publicly humiliate her and ruin her life?

EVAN

Oh. You know about that, huh?

ARCHIE

Yeah, it's already on YouTube. But I think I can help.

EVAN

Really? That would be amazing. I'd totally owe you.

ARCHIE

And then, you can do something for me? A deal, of sorts.

EVAN

(tentative)

Wait a second. What kind of a deal?

ARCHIE

A small deal. A no-big-deal deal. I need a date!

EVAN

Uh. Okay. And is there anyone specific you want a date with?

ARCHIE

Kendra.

EVAN

Kendra? Are you on crack?

ARCHIE

She wants me.

EVAN

Come on. There's no way I can get Kendra to go out with you.

OR

figure out the

HE tries to get

for the bus.

That'd be ironic.

ARCHIE

Fine then. I'll just sit next to her at your Bar Mitzvah, I'll rub my leg against hers, hope I feel it, and before long I'll be attending to *her* special needs.

EVAN

Okay, first of all, YUCK. And second of all, I don't remember inviting you to my Bar Mitzvah.

ARCHIE

Do I really need an invitation? You think your mother would throw Tiny Tim out on to the street? And so close to Christmas?

EVAN

Archie, I've really gotta go find Patrice.

EVAN heads off.

ARCHIE

I understand. Even though it's a sick boy's dying wish, I don't want you to feel any pressure...

EVAN stops cold. With enormous reluctance, he turns back to face ARCHIE.

EVAN

Dying?

ARCHIE

Oh, did that slip out?

EVAN

Really? You're dying?

ARCHIE

I have a degenerative neuromuscular disorder.

EVAN

Look, I feel terrible, really, but I can't get you a date with Kendra.

#4 - *Get Me What I Need*

I do one stupid thing, and suddenly I'm exiled to the loser table for the rest of my life. I'm on major probation here!

ARCHIE

There's exactly one person in this school who can help me, and that person is you!

THERE'S THE COOL KIDS -

THERE'S THE PREPS

(ARCHIE)

AND THERE'S THE SKATE PUNKS
AND THE JOCKS -
AND THEN THERE'S ME.

THERE'S THE LOSERS -
THERE'S THE NERDS
AND THERE'S THE STONERS
AND THE GOTHS -
AND THEN THERE'S ME.

BUT THEN THERE'S YOU!
'CAUSE YOU'RE THE NEW KID IN THE SCHOOL,
YOU'RE NOT DEFINED BY ONE SPECIFIC BREED,
AND SO YOU'RE FREE TO FLIT FROM GROUP TO GROUP,
FROM SCENE TO SCENE,
'CAUSE YOU'RE THE CONDUIT, THE MEDIUM, THE GO-BETWEEN,
WHICH MEANS YOU'RE PERFECTLY POSITIONED TO
GET ME WHAT I NEED!

*School Bell. BOYS cross. BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE, RICHIE and SIMON
toss a football.*

BRETT

(as HE crosses, pointing to ARCHIE)

Yo Brain! That guy? Not cool.

EVAN

(yelling to BRETT)

Okay, got it, thanks!

ARCHIE

THEY DON'T LIKE ME.
EVEN BACK BEFORE THE CRUTCHES,
IT WAS CLEAR,
I DON'T FIT HERE.
SO IT'S HOPELESS,
I CAN'T WALK RIGHT UP TO KENDRA AND SAY "HEY."
SHE'D RUN AWAY.
BUT LOOK AT YOU!
YOU'RE MAKING FRIENDS AND HAVING PARTIES
AND ADAPTING WITH IMPRESSIVE SPEED!

(ARCHIE)

JUST TWENTY MINUTES WHEN WE'RE SITTING
SO OUR KNEES COULD TOUCH -
YES, IT'S A TINY INCONVENIENCE BUT IT MEANS SO MUCH!
'CAUSE OUT OF ALL OF INDIANA, YOU CAN GET ME WHAT I NEED!

EVAN

It's impossible!

ARCHIE

AND WHAT I NEED IS KENDRA!

The gym doors open to reveal ARCHIE'S vision of KENDRA, the idealized fantasy cheerleader goddess, surrounded perhaps by a host of angels.

ARCHIE

BOYS

BEAUTIFUL KENDRA!

KENDRA! KENDRA!

WONDERFUL KENDRA!

KENDRA! KENDRA!

MAKE HER APPEAR!

AH AH AH

AH AH!

ARCHIE & BOYS

IF YOU WANT A GIRL,
THE GIRL YOU WANT IS

ARCHIE

GIRLS

KENDRA!

KENDRA! KENDRA!

VERY HOT KENDRA!

BOYS

VERY HOT, VERY HOT!

GO TELL KENDRA
I'M WAITING HERE!

#4a - Kendra Dream

The fantasy KENDRA disappears out the gym doors, with ARCHIE trying to catch up to her.

ARCHIE

(calling after her)

Kendra! Kendra!

But she is gone. ARCHIE is alone onstage with EVAN.

(ARCHIE)

HERE'S THE PROBLEM:

#4b - Get Me What I Need Coda

CH!
AT I NEED!

EVERY MINUTE, EVERY SECOND THAT I WAIT
MIGHT BE TOO LATE.
SO LET'S FACE IT:
IF I EVER HAD A CHANCE, THE TIME IS NOW.
SO WHO CARES HOW?

fantasy

JUST DO YOUR BEST,
I WON'T BOTHER YOU AGAIN,
AND THAT'S A PROMISE, GUARANTEED!
SO YOU CAN HELP ME OUT AND WE CAN BOTH DO VERY WELL,
OR I CAN TURN AROUND AND MAKE YOUR LIFE A LIVING HELL!
IT'S UP TO YOU, YOU'VE GOT A CHOICE, YOU'VE GOT INCENTIVE
TO SUCCEED!
YES, I KNOW IT SOUNDS INSANE.
JERRY LEWIS CAN EXPLAIN!
YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, EVAN,
HELP ME, EVAN,
HELP ME, EVAN,
HELP ME, EVAN!
GET ME WHAT I

LS

'S
Y!

HE takes a huge breath and proceeds to hold the next word for as long as possible:
NEED!

EVAN

(desperate to shut him up)

I'll try!

ARCHIE

I knew you would.

THEY exit. The School Bell rings. Transition to the school gymnasium. LUCY, KENDRA, CHARLOTTE, MOLLY and CASSIE enter in their cheerleader outfits. KENDRA is running rehearsal. LUCY is determinedly unenthusiastic.

KENDRA

Okay, this is it. I just made it up last night, so it's a little rough, but it's sooooo good!
SHE performs an elaborate, desperately over-choreographed cheer.

g to catch up

(KENDRA)

O-P-P, O-R-T, Unity,
You're never gonna break our unity.
O-P-P, O-R-T, Unity,
You're never gonna get the opportunity.
Gimme a B, gimme an R, gimme an E-T-T
What does it spell?
Victory!

SHE leaps into a split, expecting applause. The other GIRLS cheer, but LUCY stands with her arms folded. KENDRA turns to them.

LUCY

(dripping with disdain)

Whatever.

CASSIE

Kendra, it's awesome!

CHARLOTTE

Lucy's just jealous that Brett asked Kendra out instead of you.

LUCY

Charlotte! That's a total lie! Let's all learn the stupid cheer.

#5 - Opportunity

KENDRA

All right, let's do it!

(SHE demonstrates, slowly:)

O-P-P...

CHARLOTTE, CASSIE & MOLLY

O-P-P...

All the GIRLS begin learning the routine except for LUCY, who stands apart. We tunnel into LUCY's brain, and SHE sings the following:

LUCY

BRETT WANTS KENDRA TO BE HIS GIRLFRIEND.
BUT BRETT IS THE BOY THAT I WANT TO BE WITH.
I ONLY WANT WHAT'S BEST FOR MY BEST FRIEND...
SO DO I WAIT, ACTING FAKE, 'TIL SHE MAKES A MISTAKE
OR DO I TAKE THE REWARD THAT I REALLY WANT TO TAKE?
IF I PRAYED TO GOD AND CRIED A LITTLE,
MAYBE HE'D PROVIDE A LITTLE

(LUCY)

O-P-P, OPPORTUNITY!

O-P-P, OPPORTUNITY.

CHEERLEADERS

O-P-P, OPPORTUNITY,

O-P-P!

LUCY

OPPORTUNITY.

CHEERLEADERS

WHOA-OH, WHOA-OH-OH,

WHOA-OH, WHOA-OH-OH.

LUCY

GOD, WHAT A GOOD GIRL I COULD BE

IF I ONLY HAD AN ITTY-BITTY OPPORTUNITY.

LUCY

You know, Kendra, I'm just worried that maybe you're not ready. You need to work your way up to a "Brett." Besides, you can go out with lots of other boys.

KENDRA

I'm not hot like you, Lucy.

LUCY

Shut up. I'm fat.

KENDRA

Not everywhere.

LUCY

Okay, fine. As long as you know that Brett asked you to the movies for one reason only. He wants to do the "The Tongue!"

KENDRA

The tongue?

LUCY

The Tongue! And trust me, you won't like it.

KENDRA

But my mother says pretending you like it prepares you for marriage.

(to the GIRLS)

Come on, let's go!

The GIRLS do the cheer in slow motion (LUCY included) while we hear LUCY's thoughts.

LUCY stands

part. We

E
AKE?

LUCY

I CAN SEE BEING BRETT'S NEW GIRLFRIEND.
WE COULD BE KING AND QUEEN OF THIS SCHOOL.OMG, AND YOU
KNOW THAT HE WANTS ME.
BUT SINCE IT'S KENDRA HE ASKED, THEN THERE'S NOTHING TO SAY.
UNLESS I SCHEME AND I PLOT 'TIL SHE'S OUT OF THE WAY?
IF IT DIDN'T MAKE ME HATE MYSELF,
I BET I COULD CREATE MYSELF AN

CHEERLEADERS

O-P-P!

LUCY

OPPORTUNITY.

CHEERLEADERS

O-P-P!

LUCY

OPPORTUNITY.

CHEERLEADERS

HEY-O! O-P-P, OPPORTUNITY,
O-P-P!

LUCY

OPPORTUNITY.

CHEERLEADERS

WHOA-OH, WHOA-OH-OH,
WHOA-OH, WHOA-OH-OH.

LUCY

HOW WILL HE KNOW THAT HE REALLY WANTS ME
IF HE NEVER EVEN GETS A LITTLE OPPORTUNITY?

KENDRA

Okay, come on! We do the cheer, then the cascade!

(SHE puts the girls in order.)

Charlotte, you first; then Cassie. Molly, you next, and then Lucy, you catch me at the end!

LUCY

But that's not how we usually...

(an opportunity presents itself!)

Ooooooooookay!

KENDRA

Here we go!

And now the cascade begins, which consists of Kendra being flipped from one girl to the next. It's complicated and elaborate and depends on split-second timing. It also depends on LUCY catching KENDRA at the end.

CASSIE, CHARLOTTE & MOLLY

WHOA-OH! WHOA-OH-OH!

WHOA-OH! WHOA-OH-OH!

WHOA-OH! WHOA-OH-OH!

WHOA-OH! WHOA-OH-OH!

But just as it's LUCY's turn to catch, SHE steps forward to sing to us. In the process, KENDRA crashes noisily to the floor, just out of our sight.

LUCY

WHAT KIND OF BEST FRIEND WOULD I BE

IF I DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN OPPORTUNITY?

Blackout.

School bell rings. PATRICE is sitting in the library writing furiously in her diary. ARCHIE enters, PATRICE sees him and immediately jumps up and starts to leave.

ARCHIE

Hey Patrice... wait.

PATRICE

I don't want to talk now, Archie.

ARCHIE

It's about Evan.

PATRICE

Especially about Evan.

ARCHIE

What he did, he really didn't mean it.

PATRICE

Yeah, ripping up my invitation in front of everyone who hates me isn't what he meant.

ARCHIE

Come on. You know you really like him.

PATRICE

And why would you think that?

AND YOU
NG TO SAY.
Y?

me at the

ARCHIE

You said "I really like him." But maybe I read that one wrong.

PATRICE

Why are you sticking up for him?

ARCHIE

He's a nice guy. He's new. He made a mistake. And I think we're going to be friends.

PATRICE

Good luck with that.

ARCHIE

Come on. Give him another chance.

PATRICE

Another chance? No, sorry.

#6 - *What It Means To Be A Friend*

I've given "another chance" to every other jerk in this town. I thought there was something special about him. "Friend." Please...

(SHE sings)

A FRIEND'S NOT A CHEAP LITTLE PHONY CREEP
OR A JERK TRYING TO MAKE A DEAL.
A FRIEND IS A PERSON WHO, MOST OF ALL,
CARES ABOUT WHAT YOU FEEL;
AND NOTHING IS HARDER
THAN LEARNING A FRIEND ISN'T REAL.

A FRIEND SENDS NOTES BACK AND FORTH ALL DAY
AND DOESN'T CARE THAT YOU CAN'T SPELL.
A FRIEND KNOWS YOU'VE GOT A CRUSH ON YOUR TEACHER,
BUT A FRIEND WOULD NEVER TELL.
A FRIEND'S OUTSIDE WAITING
THE MINUTE YOU BOTH HEAR THE BELL...

AND IF YOUR HEART IS ALWAYS BREAKING
'CAUSE THE WORLD IS JUST NOT FAIR,
WHEN YOU'RE AT YOUR WORST,
YOUR FRIEND'S THE FIRST ONE THERE,
GIVING YOU SOMETHING TO LEAN ON -
AND THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FRIEND.

ARCHIE

You've got him all wrong, Patrice. You'll see.

HE exits.

PATRICE

A FRIEND WON'T SMOKE WHEN SHE'S IN YOUR ROOM
OR LAUGH AT THE POEMS YOU WRITE.
A FRIEND WON'T GO AND START KISSING YOUR BROTHER
THE MINUTE THAT YOU'RE OUT OF SIGHT.
A FRIEND IS THE PERSON
YOU CALL SIXTEEN TIMES EV'RY NIGHT...

AND IF YOUR HEART IS ALWAYS BREAKING,
AND YOU WANT TO RUN AND HIDE,
WHEN YOUR HOPE IS GONE,
YOUR FRIEND IS ON YOUR SIDE.

IF SOMEONE MOVES IN 'ROUND THE CORNER
AND YOU WANT TO SHOW HIM YOU CARE,
SO YOU GIVE HIM ALL YOUR LAST MONTH OF VACATION
AND ALL OF THE TIME YOU CAN SPARE,
AND THEN, ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES,
HE ACTS LIKE YOU'RE NOT EVEN THERE,
THEN HE DOESN'T KNOW...
HE DOESN'T KNOW!
HE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE
A FRIEND.

Lights fade on PATRICE.

#7 - All Hail The Brain

School bell rings. A classroom, in the middle of a math test. KIDS enter pushing on their school desks. BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE approach EVAN.

EDDIE

Yo, Brain.

BRETT

Brain, your idea of taking Kendra to the movies was great. Now, get your Mom to buy the tickets for "The Bloodmaster."

3 to be

here was

CHER,

EVAN

"The Bloodmaster"?

BRETT

Friday night.

EVAN

Wait. You want my mom to buy tickets for everyone?

BRETT, MALCOLM, EDDIE

Yes!

EVAN

There's no way my mother's gonna buy tickets to an R-rated movie.

BRETT

I'll make this easy. You want us all to come to your little Jewish party?

EVAN

Of course.

BRETT, MALCOLM, EDDIE

Friday night. 7:30.

BRETT

Or maybe you're not as useful as I thought...

BRETT and the GOONS walk away, leaving EVAN stymied. The KIDS are all whispering, passing the gossip as they take the test.

KIDS

(whispering, contrapuntally)

BRAIN'S GONNA DO IT!

BRAIN'S GONNA DO IT!

FRIDAY NIGHT, THE BRAIN'S GONNA DO IT!

FRIDAY NIGHT, WE GO TO THE MALL

AND BRAIN'S GONNA GET US INTO THE MOVIE!

GONNA GO SEE "THE BLOODMASTER"!

FRIDAY NIGHT, "THE BLOODMASTER"!

FRIDAY NIGHT, FRIDAY NIGHT!

BRAIN'S GONNA DO IT!

BRAIN'S GONNA DO IT!

EVAN

(a sudden inspiration)

I HAVE A PLAN.

I HAVE A PLAN.

(EVAN)

POSSIBLY, I THINK I HAVE A PLAN.
 IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF WORK,
 IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF LUCK,
 BUT WHEN IT ALL COMES THROUGH,
 THEY'LL SAY:
 "ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!
 HE DOES WHAT NO MERE MORTAL CAN!
 HE'S THE MAN!
 EVAN GOLDMAN!

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!
 HE DID WHAT NO ONE ELSE COULD DO,
 SAW US THROUGH,
 SAVED THE DAY!"
 AND ALL I HAVE TO DO IS

WAIT 'TIL MOM GOES TO SLEEP,
 THEN SNEAK THE LICENSE FROM THE WALLET IN HER PURSE,
 MAKE A COLOR XEROX, LAMINATE IT,
 THEN PUT THE LICENSE BACK IN THE WALLET IN HER PURSE,
 THEN FIND THE DRESS SHE WORE
 IN THE PICTURE ON THE LICENSE THAT I COPIED AND I LAMINATED.
 WEAR THE DRESS,
 GET A WIG,
 SHOW THE LICENSE,
 BUY THE TICKETS...
 WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

*As EVAN says, "What could go wrong?", HE realizes just what a stupid plan this is.
 In despair, HE listens to the KIDS passing more gossip along.*

KIDS

BRETT'S GONNA DO IT!
 BRETT'S GONNA DO IT!
 FRIDAY NIGHT, BRETT'S GONNA DO IT!
 FRIDAY NIGHT AT "THE BLOODMASTER,"
 BRETT'S GONNA DO THE TONGUE WITH KENDRA!
 FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIE AT THE MALL!
 AND BRAIN'S GONNA GET US IN!

EVAN

(at the last second, another inspiration)

I HAVE A PLAN!
A BETTER PLAN.
ACTUALLY, AN ALMOST-PERFECT PLAN.
IT SOUNDS ABSOLUTELY NUTS,
IT'LL TAKE A LOT OF GUTS,
BUT WHEN IT ALL COMES THROUGH,
THEY'LL SAY:

"ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!
GIVE THAT BAR MITZVAH BOY A HAND!
AIN'T HE GRAND?
AIN'T HE GREAT!
AND ALL I HAVE TO DO IS

GO THAT DAY TO THE MOVIE THEATER,
BREAK INTO THE PROJECTION ROOM,
STEAL THE REELS OF FILM FOR THE BLOODMASTER,
TAKE 'EM DOWN THE HALL WHERE THEY'RE SHOWING BAMBI,
SWITCH THE REELS,
LEAVE THE THEATER,
TELL THE GUYS WE'RE GONNA GO SEE BAMBI!

(again, the realization hits that this is a disastrous idea)

WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

BRETT

(to EVAN, surreptitiously)

Hey, Brain, did you set up my date for Friday?

EVAN

Date?

BRETT

With Kendra!

EVAN

(Eureka!)

Date! Date!

*Desks are pushed off by KIDS, ARCHIE is revealed. We are outside Evan's house.
EVAN runs up to ARCHIE.*

EVAN

Archie, I have major news.

ARCHIE

They're making a musical out of "Spider Man"?

[note: the authors look forward to changing this every year.]

EVAN

No. Well, yes. But no.

I HAVE A PLAN.

I HAVE A PLAN

SO YOU AND KENDRA CAN GO OUT ON FRIDAY NIGHT!

ARCHIE

Oh my God! Oh my God!

EVAN

I NEED YOUR HELP, THOUGH, SO STAY CALM.

YOU NEED TO GO TALK TO MY MOM,

AND IT'LL ALL COME TRUE

BECAUSE...

IG BAMBI,

#7a - Terminal Illness

NO ONE SAYS "NO" TO A BOY WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS.
 TAKE IT FROM ME, IT'S A SURE GUARANTEE OF SUCCESS.
 LISTEN, I'M NOT MAKING FUN OF YOUR TERMINAL ILLNESS,
 BUT YOU HOLD THE SECRET TO GETTING MY MOM TO SAY "YES."
 SO TALK TO MY MOM, AND GET HER TO BUY
 THE TICKETS WE NEED TO OBTAIN.
 BRETT GETS HIS MOVIE, I GET THE CREDIT,
 AND YOU GET YOUR DATE, SO WHO WOULD COMPLAIN?
 EXCEPT FOR YOU, BECAUSE YOU'RE DYING, BUT
 NO ONE SAYS NO TO A BOY WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS!
 WHO COULD REFUSE WHEN YOU SHUFFLE YOUR SHOES
 AND SAY "PLEASE!"
 USE ALL THE TRICKS THAT YOU LEARNED IN YOUR CRADLE:
 YOU DON'T NEED TO LAY IT ON THICK WITH A LADLE,
 'CAUSE NO ONE SAYS "NO" TO A KID WITH A FATAL DISEASE!

ARCHIE

I can do this!

an's house.

EVAN

I know you can.

EVAN rings the doorbell and hides, his mother answers, and ARCHIE goes to work. While ARCHIE talks, EVAN paces nervously. Occasionally, we hear a phrase in ARCHIE'S conversation pop through.

EVAN

LA LA...

ARCHIE

Mrs. Goldman, I hate to bother you but I was strolling through the neighborhood.....

EVAN

LA LA...

ARCHIE

...which wouldn't be so bad if it weren't my *birthday* on Friday, but the insurance...

EVAN

LA LA...

ARCHIE

...I can pay you for the tickets if I don't buy my medicine next month...

EVAN

LA LA!

ARCHIE

...and you know, I've always felt a kinship with the Jewish people.

EVAN

OUT OF THE BLUE, A THOUGHT COMES TO YOU
LIKE SUN COMING OUT FROM THE RAIN.

ARCHIE walks away from Evan's mother, his look giving nothing away.

AND AFTER THE STRESS, MY MOTHER SAYS...

ARCHIE

(ecstatic)

Yes!

EVAN

Yes!

EVAN & ARCHIE

WE'RE ALL SET FOR FRIDAY, SO WHO COULD COMPLAIN?

ARCHIE

EXCEPT FOR YOU, BECAUSE YOU'RE JEWISH AND YOU ALWAYS
COMPLAIN.

EVAN

IT'S TRUE, BUT

EVAN & ARCHIE

NO ONE SAYS NO TO A BOY WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS!
ASK FOR A DAY AT THE MALL OR A TRIP TO BELIZE!
NOTHING'S TOO HARD AND NO QUEST UNENDURABLE
LONG AS YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE COMPLETELY INCURABLE!
NO ONE SAYS NO TO A BOY
WITH A FATAL DISEASE!

BRETT enters followed by the KIDS. We are on the playground behind the school.

BRETT

(to Evan)

Well?

EVAN

It's done!

BRETT

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

KIDS

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

BRETT

I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D TAKE THE BAIT!
THIS IS GREAT!
EVAN GOLDMAN!

KIDS

EVAN GOLDMAN!
ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

EVAN

I DID WHAT NO ONE ELSE COULD DO!
TELL ME, WHO
COULD COMPLAIN?

BRETT

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

s to work.
rase in

borhood.....

nsurance...

N?

KIDS

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

EVAN

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

ALL

ALL HAIL THE BRAIN!

The KIDS run off. The School disappears.

EVAN sees PATRICE walking home through the playground.

EVAN

Patrice. Wait.

PATRICE

I'm not talking to you.

EVAN

Look, we're all going to the movies Friday night. Why don't you come? You can't stay mad at me forever.

PATRICE

Just because Archie asked me to forgive you doesn't mean I will. Honestly, why would I go anywhere with you ever?

EVAN

Because I messed up big time, and I want to make it up by asking you out.

PATRICE

(Taken off guard)

Asking me out?

EVAN

Out.

PATRICE

As in - "out" out?

EVAN

That would work.

PATRICE

I'll think about it. Don't get your hopes up. I doubt it. Probably not.

SHE walks off. EVAN watches her go and then turns to the audience, slyly.

EVAN

Oh yeah, she's coming. And sure, to the inexperienced eye, it may look like I just set Brett and Archie up to be on dates with the same girl, on the same night, in the same place. But what I really did was...

(HE knows.)

Crap!

EVAN runs to ARCHIE'S bedroom to do damage control.

EVAN

So, Archie, listen, I need to talk to you about Friday night...

ARCHIE

Finally. Me on a date with Kendra. See, Evan. Miracles can happen... with just the right combination of praying and stalking.

EVAN

Yeah. It's great, isn't it? But, maybe you're not up for it?

ARCHIE

Up for it? A Ritalin and a Red Bull, and I'm up for anything!

EVAN

Okay, but this is Brett's date with Kendra, and it's important for me that it works out. So, you're just going sit next to her, right? That's all.

ARCHIE

Would I do anything to jeopardize you, after what you've done for me, Evan Goldman?

#8 - *Getting Ready*

EVAN

So we're good?

ARCHIE

We're so good.

EVAN

Good.

ARCHIE

Good.

EVAN

Good.

EVAN leaves. ARCHIE turns to the audience.

ARCHIE

ONLY GOT ONE SHOT -
BETTER GET IT RIGHT.
I'M GETTING READY.
GOTTA LOOK REAL HOT
WHEN IT'S FRIDAY NIGHT.
I'M GETTING READY!

I'M GETTING READY TODAY.
I'M GETTING READY TO SAY
I'M NOT THAT WEIRD GEEK YOU THINK I MUST BE.
I'M GETTING READY TO MOVE.
I'M GETTING READY TO PROVE
KENDRA JUST NEEDS A SEX GOD LIKE ME.

EVAN reappears, now in his bedroom.

EVAN

(to audience)

ON FRIDAY NIGHT, I'LL BE THE HOMETOWN HERO.

ARCHIE

GOTTA CUT MY NAILS...

HE bites his nails to get them down.

EVAN

IF THIS GOES RIGHT, THEN I'LL BE FREE AND CLEAR.

ARCHIE

GOTTA SHAVE MY BEARD...

EVAN

AND IF IT GOES AS PLANNED,
PATRICE WILL UNDERSTAND
SOME PRICES ARE WORTH PAYING WHEN YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE...

ARCHIE

I'M GETTING READY FOR HER!
I'M GETTING READY, YES, SIR!
READY FOR PASSION, DELIGHT AND ROMANCE!

ARCHIE & EVAN

I'M GETTING READY TO GO!
I'M GETTING READY, AND KNOWING
I MAY ONLY GET THIS ONE CHANCE...

BRETT, in the park outside school, explains his plans to MALCOLM and EDDIE.

BRETT

THERE, IN THE DARK OF THE APPLETON CINEMA,
FREE FROM THE PUBLIC'S PRYING EYES,
THERE, WITH THE GIRL IN THE CHAIR BESIDE ME,
I CAN REVEAL MY BIG SURPRISE!
THERE, WHILE THE REST OF THE CROWD'S IMMERSSED IN
ALL OF THE BLOOD VESSELS ONSCREEN BURSTIN',
KENDRA WILL GET TO BE THE FIRST IN
LINE TO REALIZE:
HERE COMES THE TONGUE!

EDDIE & MALCOLM

HERE IT COMES, HERE IT COMES!

BRETT

HERE COMES THE TONGUE!

EDDIE & MALCOLM

HERE IT COMES, HERE IT COMES!

BRETT

HERE COMES THE

BRETT, EDDIE & MALCOLM

TOLUBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUBA
LUBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUNG!

They ride off. KENDRA and LUCY are in Kendra's bedroom.

KENDRA

Okay, just go through this with me one more time.

(SHE sings)

IF HE DOES IT AND I LET HIM...

LUCY

YOU'RE A SLUT.

KENDRA

Right.

AND IF HE WANTS TO, BUT I STOP HIM...

LUCY

YOU'RE A TEASE.

MS COME TRUE...

KENDRA

God.

AND IF I LET HIM AND I LIKE IT...

LUCY

YOU'RE A SKANK.

KENDRA

Wow.

LUCY

BUT HE COULD ALSO GET HIS TONGUE STUCK DOWN YOUR THROAT,
OR TRY TO KISS SO HARD, HE CHIPS ONE OF YOUR TEETH,
OR THERE'S A MILLION OTHER WAYS THAT IT COULD ALL GO WRONG.
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THE URGE TO KISS HIM BACK IS STRONG,
YOU'VE GOT TO HOLD THAT BOY AT BAY,
STEP BACK FROM THE EDGE AND SAY:
"I'M A GOOD GIRL, I DON'T DO THAT.
I'M A NICE GIRL, PUT THAT AWAY.
I'M A GOOD GIRL, KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF."
IF YOU TELL HIM THAT, THEN YOU'LL BE OKAY.

KENDRA

I think you're overreacting, Lucy. It's just a tongue.

LUCY

WHEN YOU GOT THAT SOLO IN CHOIR, IT'S 'CAUSE I TOLD YOU WHAT
TO SING.
WHEN YOU GOT THE LEAD IN THE FALL SCHOOL PLAY, IT'S 'CAUSE I
COACHED YOU ALL LAST SPRING.
WHEN YOU GOT TO BE THE HEAD OF THE CHEERLEADING SQUAD, IT'S
'CAUSE I TAUGHT YOU EVERYTHING.
THINK OF ALL THE THINGS I SHOULD HAVE HAD YOU GOT INSTEAD
BECAUSE YOU DID JUST WHAT I SAID!

(threateningly)

"I'M A GOOD GIRL!"

KENDRA

(obediently)

"I'M A GOOD GIRL!"

LUCY

"I DON'T DO THAT!"

KENDRA

BUT HE'S SOOOO CUTE.

LUCY

"I'M A GOOD GIRL!"

KENDRA

LISTEN, LUCY...

LUCY

DON'T QUESTION ME!

KENDRA

BUT I COULD BE HIS GIRLFRIEND!

LUCY

YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL!

KENDRA

(with resignation)

"I'M A GOOD GIRL..."

BOTH

"YOU / I DON'T DO THAT!"

EVAN enters, practicing his haftorah. Both bedrooms disappear, LUCY and KENDRA remain. We also see PATRICE getting ready. BRETT, MALCOLM and EDDIE reappear.

EVAN

KOH-AMAR

HA'EL ADOSHEM

BORAY HASHAMAYIM

VENOTAYHEM...

I'M GETTING READY TO DO
SOMETHING THAT MAKES THEM
ACCEPT ME AT LAST!

KENDRA & LUCY

I COULD BE HIS GIRLFRIEND!

LUCY

IF I COULD GET HER OUT OF THE WAY

KENDRA

BUT NOW I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!

KENDRA, LUCY & PATRICE

I'VE GOT TO GET READY FOR HIM!

ARCHIE

I'M GETTING READY, IT'S TRUE!

I'M GETTING READY TO DO

SOMETHING THAT MAKES HER

ACCEPT ME AT LAST!

YOUR THROAT,
TH,
ALL GO WRONG.
STRONG,

TOLD YOU WHAT

Y, IT'S 'CAUSE I

DING SQUAD, IT'S

U GOT INSTEAD

ARCHIE, EVAN, PATRICE, LUCY, KENDRA, MALCOLM & EDDIE

I'M GETTING READY, ALL RIGHT!
NOTHING CAN STOP ME TONIGHT!

BRETT

TONIBALBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUBALUBA!

ALL (EXCEPT ARCHIE)

I'M GETTING READY!
READY!
READY!

ARCHIE appears, dressed to the nines in some over-the-top crazy outfit.

ARCHIE

Check me out!

ALL

Now!

The movie theater. EVAN is next to KENDRA who is next to BRETT. EDDIE and MALCOLM are behind them with LUCY. PATRICE sits in the back row. RICHIE, SIMON, CASSIE, CHARLOTTE and MOLLY fill the seats. Gross sounds are heard.

#9 - Any Minute

ALL

AAAHHHH!

EVAN

(To the audience)

Friday night. "The Bloodmaster." I did it. Everyone got in, Brett and Kendra are together, even Patrice made it.

(a beat)

And this movie ... is disgusting.

A buzzsaw. A loud crunching noise. A splat. The KIDS react. Everyone is briefly united by their mutual disgust.

PATRICE

Evan, I thought you were going to sit with me.

EVAN

I will. I'm just saving this seat for Archie, in case he shows up.

PATRICE

Oh, he's here! I saw him in the arcade. He said he's "waiting for the perfect moment."