

EDDIE AND THE PALACEADES

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**  
**(8 Men, 4 Women)**

**Man 1**

EDDIE DOYLE: Age 50s, lead singer Eddie and The Palaceades

**Man 2**

VINNY MORIARTY: Age 50s, Eddie's best friend and band member

**Man 3**

RYAN MORIARTY: Age 20s, Vinny's son and band member

**Man 4**

BIGGIE WILLIAMS: Age 40s, Mayor of Brass City

**Man 5**

Owner/MC, Jailer, Newstand vendor, Radio announcer, TV host  
Campaign worker, Towns person, Protestor

**Man 6**

ALDERMAN DESOTO, 30s,  
Campaign worker, Towns person

**Man 7**

ALDERMAN SMITH, 30s,  
Campaign worker, Towns person, Police

**Man 8**

ALDERMAN PEREZ, 30s  
Campaign worker, Towns person, Police

**Woman 1**

GRACIE DOYLE: Age 50s, Eddie's wife and band member

**Woman 2**

MARY DOYLE: Age 20s, Eddie and Gracie's daughter

**Woman 3**

ROZ SHERWOOD 40s, Money Magazine Editor, Mary's boss  
Campaign worker, Towns Person, Protestor

**Woman 4**

MAMA CERELLI: Age 50s, Widow, restaurant owner  
Campaign worker, Towns person, Protestor

SETTING: 1994. With the exception of a few scenes in Manhattan, the action is set in Brass City, CT (pop. 105,000), far back in Connecticut's Naugatuck Valley.

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT I

- |          | (#)   |
|----------|---|
| Scene 1  | (1) Meet Me At The Palace: THE PALACEADES       |
|          | (2) Bangarang: THE PALACEADES                   |
| Scene 2  | (3) Spread My Wings: MARY                       |
| Scene 3  | (4) Bring Biggie Down: EDDIE                    |
| Scene 4  | (5) Pay to Play: MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS          |
| Scene 5  | (6) Write About That: MARY, EDDIE, GRACIE       |
|          | (7) I Want To Go Out and Sing: GRACIE           |
| Scene 6  | (8) High School Reunion: RYAN and MARY          |
| Scene 7  | (9) Subsection D: MAYOR, ALDERMEN, EDDIE, VINNY |
| Scene 8  | (10) Rip It Up: EDDIE                           |
| Scene 9  | (11) I'm Fed Up, I'm Leavin': MARY, GRACIE      |
| Scene 10 | (12) Running for Mayor: VINNY, EDDIE            |

### ACT II

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Scene 1 | (13) C'mon Eddie You Can Do It: CAMPAIGN WORKERS, VINNY |
| Scene 2 | (14) It Might Be Nice: MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS            |
| Scene 3 | (15) A Great Big Expose': ROZ and MARY                  |
| Scene 4 | (16) Stir the Ashes: GRACIE                             |
| Scene 5 | (17) The Heart of the Story: RYAN, MARY                 |
| Scene 6 | (18) I Miss My Wife: EDDIE and VINNY                    |
|         | (19) Mangia: MAMA CERELLI                               |
| Scene 7 | (20) Court Order: EDDIE, reprise (14),(17),(16)         |
| Scene 8 | (21) Give Me A Little Kiss: EDDIE and GRACIE            |
|         | (22) Back Together: PALACEADES                          |

**CD TRACK LISTING**

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6*	(6) Write About That: MARY, EDDIE, GRACIE .....	21
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16	(17) The Heart of the Story: RYAN, MARY.....	70
17	(18) I Miss My Wife: EDDIE and VINNY.....	79
18	(19) Mangia: MAMA CERELLI .....	81
19	(21) Give Me A Little Kiss: EDDIE and GRACIE .....	92
20	(22) Back Together: PALACEADES .....	95

\* Both songs same track

## SYNOPSIS

This is a story about aging baby boomers who refuse to give up on their dreams, their ideals, or their commitment to each other. Eddie and The Palaceades are a one hit wonder from the 60s. Eddie wants to save the Palace Theater where the band got its start. Gracie wants to go back on the road and sing. The band scrambles back from obscurity when Eddie runs for mayor and Gracie starts climbing the charts on a TV Reality show.

## AUTHOR'S NOTE

Since our show is in development it has changed over time as we react to feedback. The demos included on the CD may not always agree with the lyrics in the script. The script is the most up to date version of the show.

Some of the songs on the CD are studio recordings and some are composer demos. We are shooting for a classic rock sound tempered by musical theatricality, something we dubbed "comfort rock" along our way.

The band envisioned is 4 pieces, keyboard, guitar, bass and drums. In one concept of the show the band could actually play these same instruments. But as it is presented here we envision Eddie and The Palaceades singing only with any instruments being props.

**SCENE ONE****SETTING: Palace Theater stage.**

*The Palace Theater is a lavish and elegant venue built in 1922, but through the years it has deteriorated. Eddie and The Palaceades are opening a fundraising concert for restoration. As the MC introduces the band, the house audience should feel they are the concert audience*

**OWNER/MC**

Are you ready for some rock and roll? Let's get things rolling with local favorite Eddie and The Palaceades!

*(Lights up on the band)*

**Music #1 MEET ME AT THE PLACE Track #1****EDDIE**

IN NINETEEN-TWENTY-TWO  
SHE MADE HER GRAND DEBUT

**GRACIE**

POLI'S PALACE THEATER  
WAS A REGAL RENDEZVOUS

**VINNY**

THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED SEATS  
IMPRESSIVE MARBLE STAIRS

**RYAN**

GOLD-LEAF CEILINGS, MIRRORED WALLS  
CHRYSTAL CHANDELIERS

**THE PALACEADES**

EVERYBODY'S GOT A STORY  
ABOUT THE GOOD OLD DAYS  
ABOUT VAUDEVILLE SHOWS

**THE PALACEADES** *(Continued)*

OR ROCK AND ROLL  
OR SATURDAY MATINEES  
MEET ME AT THE PALACE  
MEET ME FOR THE SHOW  
STEP IN TO THE PALACE  
HELP US RAISE SOME DOUGH  
HELP RESTORE THE PALACE  
WE'D HATE TO SEE HER GO  
MEET ME AT THE PALACE  
MEET ME FOR THE SHOW

**EDDIE**

Welcome to the Palace! My name is Eddie Doyle. *(Pointing to members)* My gorgeous wife Gracie, best buddy Vinny Moriarty; and singing with us for the first time tonight, stepping in for Vinny's dear departed wife Isabel, their son Ryan. We are the Palaceades.

**GRACIE**

WE MET AT THE PALACE

**EDDIE**

BESIDE THE POPCORN STAND

**VINNY**

IT'S WHERE I FELL FOR ISABEL

**EDDIE**

WHERE WE BEGAN THE BAND

**THE PALACEADES**

TALENT SCOUTS ALL CAME OUT  
THEY CAME TO HEAR US SING  
WE OPENED FOR THE BEATLES TOUR  
GONNA BE THE NEXT BIG THING  
WE'VE GOT OUR OWN TRUE STORY  
ABOUT THE GOOD OLD DAYS  
THIS IS WHERE WE GOT OUR START  
AND BECAME THE PALACEADES

**EDDIE**

WE HAD A SHOT WE WERE HOT  
HEADED FOR RENOWN.

**GRACIE**

BABY COMIN' NO MORE RUNNING  
TIME TO SETTLE DOWN

**VINNY** (*Aside to Gracie*)

So, how's my god daughter doing?

**GRACIE** (*Back at Vinny*)

Still upset nobody's talking to her.

**EDDIE** (*Bringing the group back in focus*)

Hey! Let's keep it together.

**VINNY**

HOUDINI AND AMOS AND ANDY  
WILL RODGERS AND FRED ASTAIRE

**GRACIE**

ANN MILLER AND CHARLIE CHAPLIN  
AND TONY BENNETT WERE HERE

**EDDIE**

THE THRILLA IN MANILA  
SNOW WHITE AND BEN HUR

**RYAN**

AEROSMITH, THE GRATEFUL DEAD  
THE ROLLING THUNDER TOUR

**THE PALCEADES**

BIG ACTS PLAYED THE PALACE  
THEY BROUGHT SOME LIFE TO TOWN  
BUT THE CITY SAYS SHE'S ALL WORN OUT  
AND WANTS TO TEAR HER DOWN  
MEET ME AT THE PALACE  
MEET ME FOR THE SHOW



**THE PALCEADES** *(Continued)*

STEP IN TO THE PALACE  
 HELP US RAISE SOME DOUGH  
 HELP RESTORE THE PALACE  
 WE'D HATE TO SEE HER GO  
 MEET ME AT THE PALACE  
 MEET ME FOR THE SHOW  
 GONNA WRITE A BRAND NEW STORY  
 GONNA TAKE IT TO BROADWAY  
 HOW THE GRAY GHOST OF THE PALACE  
 GOT SAVED BY THE PALACEADES

(Button)

**EDDIE**

Now we're cruisin'. Thanks for coming out to support the show and raise some dough. With your help we can restore this old theater and make it a showplace again.

**RYAN**

Eddie, that's a nice opener for this fundraiser, but the blue hairs with the money want to hear something from your oldies album.

**EDDIE**

Ok. Ok. Wise acre. We never had an album we were a one hit wonder. Bangarang. That was it, and it was sweet.

**Music #2 BANGARANG                      Track #2**

SHE SANG BANGARANG TO THE ROOF-TOPS  
 SANG COCK-A-DOODLE-DO-DO  
 HER SMILE LIT UP THE ROOM  
 WHEN SHE KNOCKED OUT A TUNE AND SANG  
 BANGARANG

**RYAN**

Eddie, Gracie, Vinny...The Palaceades.

**THE PALACEADES**

WE WERE LITTLE LOST BOYS OUT MAKING SOME NOISE  
 SHE WAS OUR OWN TINKERBELLE  
 SHE SCATTERED HER DUST THAT SHATTERED THE RUST  
 FROM ADVENTURE WE USED TO KNOW WELL  
 SHE SANG SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL  
 SHE SANG AMERICAN PIE  
 SHE WOKE PETER PAN UP FROM NEVERLAND  
 WITH THE LITTLE LOST BOYS WAR CRY

*(RYAN motions audience to clap and sing along)*

SHE SANG BANGARANG TO THE ROOF-TOPS  
 SANG COCK-A-DOODLE-DO-DO  
 HER SMILE LIT UP THE ROOM  
 WHEN SHE KNOCKED OUT A TUNE AND SANG.....

*(Music stops. Amp buzz. Lights come up on MAYOR  
 BIGGIE WILLIAMS pulling plug on equipment and  
 entering with POLICE.)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

*(Looking out into theater, waving paper)*

Court order! Eminent Domain! No more theater, no more shows. Just stay in your seats till an officer shows you out. *(To police)* Find me the owner. Get me the keys! Let's go! Pack it up! This show is over.

*(POLICE round up OWNER with Keys. OWNER enters  
 passes keys to GRACIE)*

**EDDIE**

Whoa. Man we're still playing here. We haven't finished our song.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

I said pack it up! Get your gear and go home. Where are the keys?

*(GRACIE throws keys onto stage floor.)*

That is so weak. You guys are so over the hill.

*(MAYOR bends to pick up the keys. GRACIE bumps him and causes him to fall on the floor. VINNY motions to RYAN to sneak out)*

**GRACIE**

*(With feigned concern)*

Oops! Are you all right?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

*(Getting up angrily)*

*(Grabs Gracie by the arm). Don't mess with me. (Pointing a finger in her face) You could get hurt!*

**EDDIE**

*(Upset at seeing BIGGIE grab Gracie)*

Take your hands off Gracie!

*(Runs to Gracie, pulls Mayor away and punches him)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

*(Back on the ground, motioning to cops)*

Lock these people up!

*(Stage goes dark as cops drag the band away)*

**THE PALACEADES**

BANGARANG!

**SCENE TWO**

**SETTING:** **Money Magazine Office, New York City.** *Editor's office view to NYC skyline. ROZ SHERWOOD (Editor) stylishly dressed woman, MARY also in stylish business attire, seated waiting for Roz to get off phone.*

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

*(On telephone)*

Listen Buddy, don't be rude. Face facts. You live in a crummy city. I don't know why you don't move. Your economy's in the toilet. You could pack your library in a U-Haul and your best restaurant's a hot dog stand. Have a nice day!

*(hangs up)*

Everybody's a lobbyist! Everybody thinks *their* city is #1.

That was Mayor Whatzhisname from your old home town.

**MARY**

Biggie. Biggie Williams. Champion of economic development and arch-enemy of historic preservation. He wants to tear down our old Palace Theater and my dad wants to save it. But one thing they agree on - they're both mad about last year's last place rating story.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Well, wait till they see this year's issue. Brass City has just become Money Magazine's first ever two time last place loser!

**MARY**

For sure it's the bottom of the barrel, a backwater, blue collar valley town. I was so glad to escape. And after last year's story the only folks speaking to me are my parents and my old boyfriend. I am public enemy #1 in Brass City.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

It can't be that bad.

**MARY**

Roz, it is and I don't want to go back. They haven't forgotten last year.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Unfortunately, Mary...I need you to go back.

**MARY**

What? No!

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Mary! We need current photos and interviews. You're a reporter. That's what you do.

**MARY**

Really? Go back?

**Music #3 SPREAD MY WINGS Track #3**

I LEFT HOME TO SPREAD MY WINGS  
TO ESCAPE THE COMMONPLACE  
TO BREAK AWAY FROM MY HOMETOWN  
IT HAD BECOME A SAD DISGRACE

I LEFT MY HIGH SCHOOL BOYFRIEND  
HE WAS FUNNY KIND AND SWEET  
BUT IF I DIDN'T BREAK AWAY  
HE'D BE CEMENT AROUND MY FEET

I LEFT HOME  
TO SPREAD MY WINGS  
I LEFT HOME  
TO SPREAD MY WINGS  
SPREAD MY WINGS  
SPREAD MY WINGS  
SPREAD MY WINGS

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

BROADWAY LIGHTS CITY SIGHTS  
MODERN ART CENTRAL PARK  
DOORMAN HIGHRISE

**MARY**

I CUT  
 THE TIES  
 NO MORE MAMA'S LITTLE HELPER  
 NO MORE DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL  
 I'M STANDING ON MY OWN TWO FEET  
 OUT HERE IN THE WORLD

I LEFT HOME  
 TO SPREAD MY WINGS  
 I LEFT HOME  
 TO SPREAD MY WINGS  
 SPREAD MY WINGS  
 SPREAD MY WINGS  
 SPREAD MY WINGS

I CAME TO NEW YORK CITY  
 TO ESCAPE THAT VALLEY TOWN  
 NOW I'M A NEW YORK DENIZEN  
 AND I DON'T WANT TO TURN AROUND

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Mary, you're not going home. You're doing a story. Big difference. Big opportunity.

**MARY**

But I did the story last year. Give me something here in the City. Everybody's mad at me. My old boyfriend's a reporter with the local paper. To get any info I'll have to meet with him and then we'll probably start up again and then I'll move back home and then I'll be stuck there forever just like my parents.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

This is an important issue for the magazine. It gets more complaints than all the others. Circulation and publicity, Mary. Could be very good for your career.

**MARY**

Are we talking cover story?

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Deal! Cover story with a bold type by-line. Fax in the text and overnight the film. Then you can spend some time with your folks or your old boyfriend and show off your cover story when it hits the newsstand. You do remember how to get back there?

**MARY**

Sure; take the highway to the Cross on the Hill, or take the train to the end of the line.

WELL IF I HAVE TO GO BACK  
TO THAT HOME TOWN IN DECLINE  
I'LL WRITE THE BEST DAMN STORY  
I'LL MAKE MY BY-LINE SHINE  
I LEFT HOME  
I SPREAD MY WINGS  
I SET OUT ON MY CAREER  
I'LL GO BACK

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

JUST FOR THE STORY

**MARY and ROZ SHERWOOD**

AND THEN I'LL/YOU'LL COME BACK HERE

**SCENE THREE**

**SETTING:** Brass City Jail. EDDIE,  
VINNY, GRACIE.

**GRACIE**

*(Shouting through the cell bars)*

Whoohoo! Power to the people!

*(Searching on the cell wall)*

Look, look it's still here! "Eddie loves Gracie, 1965".

**EDDIE**

*(Gives Gracie a hug)*

And just like the old days, who gets us in trouble?

**EDDIE and VINNY**

*(They both point at Gracie)*

Girls!

**EDDIE**

Well, it ain't the good old days. So, how are we getting outta here. It's not like we can call our parents.

**VINNY**

I had Ryan sneak out in the confusion. He's gonna get Atty. McGill to arrange bail. We'll be fine.

**GRACIE**

Man, we were going great. I was having a ball. It really pissed me off to get shut down like that.

**VINNY**

Probably another economic development scam to line his pockets.

**EDDIE**

Ever since he became mayor he's been bulldozing city landmarks and selling the land off to the highest bidder.

**GRACIE**

Who cares about that idiot? Wasn't it a rush to be back on stage?



**VINNY**

We were rockin' it! Palaceades rule!

**EDDIE**

That son of a bitch shouldn't have laid a hand on Gracie. And why the hell couldn't he wait till our song was over? No reason for that!

**VINNY**

Biggie likes to show who's boss.

**EDDIE**

Well, he's gonna regret it. Where does he get off condemning the Palace. That's a fantastic old theater. Here we are trying to restore the Palace and Biggie Williams wants to knock it down. Not right!

Save the Palace!

**GRACIE and VINNY**

Save the Palace!

**EDDIE**

Yeah, we can get an old fashioned protest going. Signs, marches, chants.

Save the Palace do what's right. Don't let them set light dynamite. Save the palace do what's right.

**GRACIE**

Good one. I like that. Power to the people!

**VINNY**

People. Yeah. We the People. Public hearing. They have to hold a public hearing. We could take the protest to Planning and Zoning and stop it there.

**EDDIE**

That's right. Before they can knock it down they have to get P & Z approval. We can pack the meeting with protesters and shout this thing right down.

**VINNY**

Maybe not so much shouting.

**GRACIE**

Mr. Rockstar is not too good in the subtle department.

**EDDIE**

Man, you know I've never been an ass-kisser. The guy condemns the Palace, shuts down the band and then he grabs Gracie!

**Music #4 BRING BIGGIE DOWN      Track #4**

I'M NOT GOOD WITH SUBTLETY  
A RIGHT-CROSS WORKS FINE FOR ME  
BUT I'LL DO WHAT IT TAKES  
TO BRING BIGGIE DOWN  
HE SHOULDN'T MESS WITH MY GIRL  
HE SHOULDN'T MESS WITH MY TOWN

WE PLAYED AMERICAN BANDSTAND  
THAT WAS A GOOD SONG HE WRECKED  
WE WERE TOP OF THE CHARTS  
WE DESERVE SOME RESPECT

I'M JUST A ONE HIT WONDER  
WHO'S GONNA STEAL HIS THUNDER  
HE'S GONNA SING A NEW TUNE, NO MALICE  
HE SHOULDN'T MESS WITH MY BAND  
HE SHOULDN'T MESS WITH MY PALACE

WE WERE ROCKIN IT HARD  
GRACE WAS SINGING REAL SWEET  
IT JUST WASN'T RIGHT  
TO GET KICKED TO THE STREET

I'M NOT A GUY WHO'S GONNA MOVE OUT OF TOWN  
I'M GONNA DO WHAT IT TAKES TO BRING BIGGIE DOWN  
I AIN'T NO 90 POUND WEAKLING  
GETS SAND KICKED IN HIS FACE  
I'M GONNA SHOW BIGGIE  
I'M GONNA SHOW BIGGIE  
I'M GONNA SHOW BIGGIE  
WHO'S THE BOSS OF THIS PLACE

## SCENE FOUR

**SETTING:** **City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers.** *Building has grand architectural design but is neglected. Chamber has vaulted windows with city landmarks visible in the distance. Huge central brass chandelier, tarnished and some bulbs not working. BIGGIE WILLIAMS, rumpled but imposing with cigar. ALDERMEN PEREZ, SMITH, DESOTO. Sounds of protest outside.*

### PROTESTORS OUTSIDE CITY HALL

*(Muffled chanting off stage)*

Save the Palace do what's right. Don't let them light the dynamite.

### MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS

Listen up boys, I know how busy you are and I appreciate you taking time to meet. Perez, that was a very well thought out position you presented to keep the dogs from turning over the trash cans. And Smith, I was real sorry to hear about your brother's incarceration.

### ALDERMAN SMITH

He appreciated your letter to the judge, Mayor.

### MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS

Now, Desoto, you're my new chairman on P & Z. We gotta get this right. No slip ups.

### PROTESTORS OUTSIDE CITY HALL

*(Louder chanting, then fading)*

Save the Palace do what's right. Don't let them light the dynamite.

### MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS

*(Speaking over the protestors)*

Don't listen to that. My cops are moving 'em down the street. Theater's closed. Next step is Planning and Zoning project approval.

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

That's a lotta people out there, Mayor.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

People schmeep. You boys are my commissioners and I need to make sure you have the balls to stick this out. Especially, when it gets out what's going up on that block.

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

Is it worth enough to go against that protest? We still need to get re-elected.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Absolutely. Company outta New York City. Land Use Liabilities Unlimited, LLC.

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

Land Use Liabilities?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Unlimited. LooLoo for short.

Big deal and ready to do business. With their support I could be looking at the Governor's office. And if I'm Governor you guys will be swimming in the gravy.

**Music #5 PAY TO PLAY                      Track #5**

HUDDLE UP BOYS BRING IT IN TIGHT  
 IF WE ALL HANG TOGETHER WE'LL ALL DO ALL RIGHT  
 VOTES ON PERMITS AND APPROVALS  
 FROM THE P & Z  
 VOTES ON VENDORS AND CHANGE ORDERS  
 THAT'S OPPORTUNITY  
 A BRIBE IS JUST SO TACKY  
 REJECT THOSE INVITATIONS  
 ONLY ACCEPT FINDERS FEES  
 COMMISSIONS AND DONATIONS  
 OPPORTUNITY IN GOVERNMENT  
 COMES MY WAY EACH DAY  
 AND WHEN IT'S KNOCKING ON MY DOOR  
 THIS IS WHAT I SAAAAY

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS** *(Continued)*

MAKE ME A BID  
MAKE ME AN OFFER  
ANTE UP NOW DON'T DELAY  
FOR YOUR VOTE TO GO THROUGH  
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO  
YOU'VE GOT TO PAY TO PLAY

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

So how do we play this great opportunity?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Smoke and mirrors, boys. Smoke and mirrors.

WHEN LINING UP THE VOTE  
KEEP YOUR CARDS UP TO YOUR CHEST  
DON'T REVEAL OUR REAL REASON  
GIVE A REASON THAT WORKS BEST

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

Just what kind of project is it?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

This is inside information, boys. Confidential. Mixed use. Casino anchor.

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

I love roulette. What else?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

A disposal facility for medical waste.

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

Health care industry.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

And a dump for spent nuclear rods.

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

High tech.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Plus a couple of fast food joints and a sex video superstore.

**ALDERMEN SMITH, DESOTO, PEREZ**

Hospitality and entertainment.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

It'll be the biggest LooLoo project on the east coast! It's gonna be epic!

THERE MIGHT BE LOTS OF TRAFFIC  
 BUT WE HAVE AN ENGINEER  
 WITH HIS CHARTS AND GRAPHICS  
 HE MAKES TRAFFIC DISAPPEAR  
 THERE MIGHT BE HUGE EMISSIONS  
 AND CARCINOGENS TOO  
 BUT WE HAVE A PH. D.  
 WHO SAYS THEY'RE GOOD FOR YOU

**MAYOR and ALDERMEN**

OPPORTUNITY IN GOVERNMENT  
 COMES OUR WAY EACH DAY  
 AND WHEN IT'S KNOCKING ON OUR DOOR  
 THIS IS WHAT WE SAAAAY

MAKE ME A BID  
 MAKE ME AN OFFER  
 ANTE UP NOW DON'T DELAY  
 FOR YOUR VOTE TO GO THROUGH  
 YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO  
 YOU'VE GOT TO PAY TO PLAY

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

THEY'LL TRY TO STOP OUR DEAL  
 BLOCK THE SALE OF CITY LAND

**ALDERMEN**

WE'RE FOR GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY  
 DOING THINGS AS PLANNED

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

THEY'LL TRY TO SAVE THE PALACE  
TO BRING CULTURE INTO TOWN

**ALDERMEN**

WE'RE FOR LOWER TAXES  
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO TEAR IT DOWN

**MAYOR and ALDERMEN**

OPPORTUNITY IN GOVERNMENT  
COMES OUR WAY EACH DAY  
AND WHEN IT'S KNOCKING ON OUR DOOR  
THIS IS WHAT WE SAAAAY

MAKE ME A BID  
MAKE ME AN OFFER  
ANTE UP NOW DON'T DELAY  
FOR YOUR VOTE TO GO THROUGH  
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO  
YOU'VE GOT TO PAY TO PLAY

**SCENE FIVE**

**SETTING:** Eddie Doyle's porch night time after dinner. EDDIE and GRACIE with coffee, playing gin rummy, picking and discarding cards as they talk.

**EDDIE**

Tell her about the concert?

**GRACIE**

I told her all about the concert... and getting arrested...and going to jail...and starting the protest.

**EDDIE**

What'd she say?

**GRACIE**

She said it's time we got over the 60s.

**EDDIE**

The 60s were great.

**GRACIE**

Don't you ever wonder? What might have happened if we really made it big?

**EDDIE**

A hotel dresser drawer shouldn't be the baby's crib.

**GRACIE**

True enough.

**EDDIE**

We did OK. Mary turned out great. We got the hometown respect. Not going to the poorhouse or anything. Once in awhile we play a gig at the Palace.

**GRACIE**

Save the Palace!



**EDDIE**

Rock n Roll!

**GRACIE**

*(Laying down cards)*

Gin!

*(MARY in her business attire enters rolling carry-on suitcase)*

**MARY**

She got you again, dad! When was the last time you won?

**EDDIE**

1984. I am down about two million dollars.

**MARY**

You guys.

*(Gives each a hug and a kiss)*

**GRACIE**

What's the gossip on Places Rated?

**EDDIE**

How're we doin'? Middle of the pack? Top third? Number One?

**MARY**

The fact is...Brass City came in last...again.

**EDDIE**

Last! Again? That can't be. Not fair! Not right! Lots of famous people grew up here, did great things; astronauts, movie stars, scientists. *(Motioning to view of city)*. Look out there. Mckim, Mead and White, Cass Gilbert, Olmstead – they all had big projects right here!

**MARY**

Past! Past! Past! Time to look to the future, Dad. Nothing happens here. If I'm gonna land a big story, I have to be where the action is. New York City! This Places Rated stuff is just paying my dues. Get the story get back to the City.

**EDDIE**

So what are you gonna write about?

**MARY**

It's last place, dad. I'm gonna write about that.

**Music #6 and #7 WRITE ABOUT THAT/GO OUT AND SING      Track #6**

CITY BONDS ARE RATED TRIPLE C  
AND YOUR TAXES ARE SKY HIGH  
YOUR SCHOOL CURRICULUUM IS OBSOLETE  
AND THE TRAINS DON'T RUN PAST FIVE

I'M GONNA WRITE ABOUT THAT  
I'M GONNA WRITE ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

BRASS CITY HAS A LOVELY GREEN  
GRAND STREET BUILDINGS ARE A HISTORY SCENE

**GRACIE**

PEOPLE LOVE THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD  
OUR ITALIAN FOOD IS REALLYGOOD

**EDDIE and GRACIE**

YOU OUGHTA WRITE ABOUT THAT  
YOU OUGHTA WRITE ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

THE GRASS ON THE GREEN HAS ALL TURNED BROWN  
YOUR BUDGET IS IN THE RED  
YOUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS ARE FALLING DOWN  
YOUR RIVER IS NEARLY DEAD

I'M GONNA WRITE ABOUT THAT  
I'M GONNA WRITE ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

WHAT ABOUT CITY HISTORY  
IN THE MOVIES, SCIENCE, AND ARTISTRY

**GRACIE**

FAMOUS PEOPLE GREW UP HERE  
THEY ALL STOOD OUT ABOVE THEIR PEERS

**EDDIE and GRACIE**

YOU OUGHTA WRITE ABOUT THAT  
YOU OUGHTA WRITE ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

I KNOW IT ALL BY HEART  
THE LIST OF NAMES  
WHO GOT THEIR START  
IN BRASS CITY  
BUT DID YOU EVER THINK OF THIS  
WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING DOWN THAT LIST  
FROM ROSALIND RUSSEL, NOTRE DAME  
TO ROGER CONNOR, HALL OF FAME  
THE STORY'S ALL THE SAME  
THEY LEFT HOME  
TO MAKE THEIR NAME

AND THEY WERE RIGHT ABOUT THAT  
AND THEY WERE RIGHT ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

But they *started* here.

**GRACIE**

They got famous *when they left*. Just like us. Only our fame didn't last because we came back home.

OH THEY ALL LEFT HOME TO MAKE THEIR NAME  
WE HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO DO THE SAME  
BABY'S GROWN WE'RE ON OUR OWN  
WE CAN GO BACK ON THE ROAD

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT  
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

MMM, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT  
OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH  
YOU OPENED FOR THE BEATLES TOUR  
WAY BACK IN THE DAY  
YOU LEFT HOME TO MAKE IT BIG  
TO PLAY THAT GIG AT SHEA

**GRACIE**

SHE'S REALLY RIGHT ABOUT THAT  
SHE'S REALLY RIGHT ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

MMM, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT  
OH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT

**GRACIE**

But, Eddie, she really is. She has a point.

**EDDIE**

What are you dreamin'? A new tour?

**GRACIE**

Why not?

I KNOW YOU FELT A RUSH  
WHEN THE PALACE LIGHTS CAME ON  
WE COULD GET BACK ON THE TOUR BUS  
YOU COULD FORGET ABOUT THE LAWN  
LET'S GO SING THE OLD SONGS  
CAN'T WE JUMP THE PICKET FENCE  
AND HEAR THE FANS ALL SHOUTIN BACK  
SEE OUR REUNION TOUR COMMENCE

**GRACIE** *(Continued)*

I WANT TO BE ON STAGE  
BE ALL THE RAGE  
GRAB THE BIG BRASS RING  
I WANT TO GO OUT AND SING

I COULD CALL UP RINGO  
I KNOW HE WOULD LEND A HAND  
I'M SURE THAT HE REMEMBERS ME  
THEN WE COULD JOIN HIS ALL-STARR BAND

I WANT TO BE ON STAGE  
BE ALL THE RAGE  
GRAB THE BIG BRASS RING  
I WANT TO GO OUT AND SING

**MARY**

I COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**GRACIE**

YEA, YOU COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

I COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT

**GRACIE**

YEA, YOU COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**EDDIE**

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

I COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**GRACIE**

YEA, YOU COULD WRITE ABOUT THAT

**MARY**

But...until that happens...I need to get some photos and interviews. Having lunch with Ryan tomorrow. He's one of the few folks in town still speaking with me.

**GRACIE**

Ryan's so nice and he's editor at the paper now. I don't know why you kids broke up.

*(Mary exits)*

**EDDIE**

I better go in too. I gotta check with Vinny about the Planning and Zoning. But I promise, after we save the Palace, we'll talk about a tour.

*(Eddie exits)*

**GRACIE**

*(To Eddie as he leaves)*

Don't forget to mow the lawn tomorrow. It's been a week.

**EDDIE**

*(From off stage)*

Yeah, yeah

**GRACIE**

*(To herself)*

I WANT TO BE ON STAGE  
BE ALL THE RAGE  
GRAB THE BIG BRASS RING  
I WANT TO GO OUT AND SING

## SCENE SIX

**SETTING:** Lunch time at Mama Cerelli's restaurant RYAN at table, MAMA CERELLI brings set up for two.

## RYAN

Mama Cerelli, Mary's home again. Doing a story. How am I going to get her back?

## MAMA CERELLI

Maybe show her the house you got all fixed up. I don't know. Just be yourself, Ryan. That's all you can do.

## RYAN

**Music #8 HIGH SCHOOL REUNION Track #7**

JUST LIKE BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL  
MEETING UP RIGHT HERE  
I WONDER IF SHE KNOWS HOW MUCH  
HOW MUCH I STILL CARE

I REMEMBER JUNIOR PROM  
WHEN SHE WAS MY DATE  
SHE WORE THAT SEQUINED GOWN  
MAN DID SHE LOOK GREAT

*(MARY enters while RYAN is singing. Mama moves to other customers. RYAN looks at MARY and addresses last few lines to her))*

SHE HAD HER HAIR ALL DONE UP NICE  
IT WAS LONGER THEN  
AND WHEN WE PLAYED THE RATING GAME  
THE GUYS GAVE YOU A TEN

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU  
HOW'VE YOU BEEN  
YOU'RE LOOKING GREAT  
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

**MARY**

I REMEMBER SENIOR PROM  
PEOPLE SAID WE WOULDN'T LAST  
WE STAYED TOGETHER ALL THAT YEAR  
WE HAD THE LAST LAUGH  
IN YOUR TUX AND YOUR FUNNY VEST  
YOU WERE LOOKING FINE  
AND WHEN WE PLAYED THE RATING GAME  
THE GIRLS GAVE YOU A NINE

**RYAN**

Only nine?

**MARY**

Nine is good!

**RYAN**

THEN CAME GRADUATION DAY

**MARY**

WE EACH WENT OUR SEPARATE WAY

**RYAN**

WE SAID WE'D WRITE

**MARY**

WE SAID WE'D CALL

**MARY and RYAN**

BUT TIME JUST SLIPPED AWAY

**MARY**

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU  
HOW'VE YOU BEEN  
BUT THAT'S ENOUGH  
ABOUT WAY BACK WHEN

**RYAN**

WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU TO SCORE A TEN?



**MARY**

You were always a ten, Ryan. Still are. But I wanted to leave Brass City. And I knew you never would.

**RYAN**

Well, I'm glad you're back.

**MARY**

Just for the story. And I need a little help on what's been happening since last year's last place finish. Nobody else will talk to me.

**RYAN**

I'm happy to help with any questions you have. But the rating and ranking...it's all about places, not about home. You can't buy "quality of life" like it comes in a can.

**MARY**

Maybe you have an angle there.

*(MAMA CERELLI returns to take order)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

What have we here? A little high school reunion? *(To Mary)* Where have you been so long that you haven't sent Mama a post card or a picture?

**MARY**

Out of town, Mama Cerelli, looking for a life. But back for a visit and I need an interview, what do you say?

**MAMA CERELLI**

I don't know. I didn't like last year's story so much.

**RYAN**

C'mon, Mama. Cut her a break.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Ok. But I gotta speak up for Brass City. This last place business is all wrong.

**MARY**

Mama, it's gotten bad.

**MAMA CERELLI**

This used to be the best place. Used to be top of the list.

**MARY**

It's gone downhill.

**MAMA CERELLI**

We do got some bad apples. Maybe we put up with too much when we shoulda stand up. Maybe you got a little point. But still lottsa good people here.

**MARY**

I'll be sure to put that in my story.

**MAMA CERELLI**

My turn for a question. You gotta nice boyfriend like Ryan down in New York City?

**MARY**

*(Flustered, changing subject)*

Mama! What's good for lunch?

**MAMA CERELLI**

It's Cerelli's. Everything is good. But for you two, very special. I got a nice half sandwich; eggplant and bacon on toasted white with lite mayo and a little shredded lettuce.

**MARY**

Mama! That's the same sandwich you gave my cousin. Everybody knows that sandwich. You gave the one half to her and half to the next young man that came in.

**RYAN**

And told him to go find the lady with the other half.

**MAMA CERELLI**

*(Pretending offense)*

He was not the next man who came in. He was special. Mama knows special.

**MARY**

I guess you do. They've been married four years and they have two kids.  
(*Alarmed*) Oh jeez, Mama are you trying to get us back together?

**RYAN**

(*Nodding to MAMA CERELLI*)

Good plan!

**MARY**

Cute, but I won't be staying. I'm going to fax in the details on my story. I'll stick around long enough to pick up a newsstand copy to show off for my dad. Then back to New York.

I'M HERE FOR A STORY  
NOT TO MEND MY BREAK  
I'M HAPPY WITH THE WAY I WENT  
NO REGRETS AND NO HEARTACHE  
OUR PARENTS CHOSE TO COME BACK HOME  
I WON'T MAKE THAT SAME MISTAKE  
I WON'T MAKE THAT SAME MISTAKE

(*MARY exits*)

**MAMA CERELLI**

So, you want your regular ham and cheese through the garden?

**RYAN**

SHE REMEMBERS WAY BACK WHEN  
SHE STILL THINKS I'M A TEN  
I GOT A SHOT IF SHE COMES HOME AGAIN

**SCENE SEVEN**

**SETTING: Aldermanic Chambers prior to meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission.** *Aldermen are sitting on dais as Commission waiting for Mayor to present project.*

*(EDDIE and VINNY enter with troupe of protesters holding Save the Palace signs, chanting.)*

**EDDIE and PROTESTERS**

*(Chanting)*

Save the Palace do what's right. Don't let them light the dynamite. Save the Palace do what's right.

**EDDIE**

Ok. Let's settle down.

**VINNY**

The situation is way worse than we imagined.

**EDDIE**

They don't just want to knock down the Palace. They want to build a disposal facility for medical waste.

**PROTESTERS**

Uuuugh!

**VINNY**

And spent nuclear rods with a companion trash-to-energy plant.

**PROTESTERS**

Noooooo!

**EDDIE**

Plus a casino, half a dozen fast food outlets

**VINNY**

And a sex video super store.

**PROTESTERS**

Noooooo!

**EDDIE**

It'll be the biggest LooLoo project on the east coast.

**VINNY**

It'll be a doozy! With all those crazy parts they should call it Frankenstein!

**EDDIE**

It's gonna be toxic! So, we're gonna stand up and stop it. Right here!

**PROTESTERS**

Give a hoot, don't pollute.

**VINNY**

There's gonna be trucks and traffic and for sure there's wetlands on the property.

**EDDIE**

Vinny checked the City Charter. P & Z has to wait for wetlands. Any approval tonight would be out of order.

**VINNY**

So we lay it out facts and figures.

**EDDIE**

Fair and square. Playin' by the rules.

*(MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS enters with plans headed to front of room to make presentation. Pauses at EDDIE and VINNY)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

What is this? The local A-A-R-P chapter?

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

Let's get started. I don't want to miss happy hour.

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

Come to order! This meeting of the Brass City Planning and Zoning Commission is now in session. First item on the agenda is project approval for Land Use Liabilities Unlimited.

The applicant proposes a high-tech, bio-tech, multi-purpose, multi-tech processing and storage facility with accessory uses and lots of landscaping.

Will the applicant's representative please address the Commission?

**Music #9 SUB-SECTION D      Track #8****MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THIS HONORABLE BOARD  
I HAVE A PROPOSAL I WOULD LIKE TO MOVE FORWARD  
IT'S STATE OF THE ART ALL BELLS AND WHISTELS  
LANDSCAPE PLAN HAS NEW ENGLAND THISTLES

**EDDIE**

POINT OF ORDER POINT OF ORDER  
THE PLAN HE SHOWED IS PRETTY  
BUT IT'S NOT GOOD FOR OUR CITY  
THINK ABOUT THE TRUCKS  
TRAFFIC CONGESTION  
THINK OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
BEFORE YOU VOTE THE QUESTION

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

A REPORT RIGHT HERE  
FROM THEIR ENGINEER  
SAYS NO TRAFFIC

**ALDERMEN PEREZ**

NO TRAFFIC

**ALDERMEN SMITH**

NO TRAFFIC

**ALDERMEN DESOTO**

NO TRAFFIC

**ALDERMEN PEREZ, SMITH, DESOTO**

NO PROBLEM

**EDDIE**

POINT OF ORDER POINT OF ORDER  
 THE PLAN HE SHOWED IS PRETTY  
 BUT IT'S NOT GOOD FOR OUR CITY  
 THINK ABOUT THE WETLANDS  
 WATER POLLUTION  
 THINK OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
 BEFORE YOUR RESOLUTION

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

A REPORT RIGHT HERE  
 FROM THEIR ENGINEER  
 SAYS NO WETLANDS

**ALDERMEN PEREZ**

NO WETLANDS

**ALDERMEN SMITH**

NO WETLANDS

**ALDERMEN DESOTO**

NO WETLANDS

**ALBERMEN DESOTO, PEREZ and SMITH**

NO PROBLEM

**EDDIE**

That must be some made as instructed report for sure. By some engineer who never visited the Palace Theater.

I know every inch of that theater and under that old theater runs the Great Brook, a wetlands case if there ever was.

*(EDDIE snaps down a series of photos of the Great Brook)*

Photographic proof! Proper procedure requires the Wetlands Agency to clear a project before Planning and Zoning acts on it. Specifically

**EDDIE** *(Continued)*

CHAPTER TWO  
SECTION THREE  
SUB-PARAGRAPH A  
SUB-SECTION D  
SAYS  
WETLANDS MUST APPROVE  
BEFORE THE P & Z!

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

Son of a bitch! Sub-section D!

**VINNY**

Yessirree. Certainly going to miss happy hour.

*(EDDIE and VINNY and PROTESTORS looking pleased with themselves)*

*(MAYOR, temporarily frustrated then gives a series of baseball type signals to DESOTO and SMITH)*

**ALDERMEN DESOTO**

*(Acknowledges signals, bangs gavel)*

This meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission is temporarily adjourned.

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

*(Smiling, takes up gavel and bangs it)*

By emergency order of the mayor, the Brass City Wetlands Commission is now in session with members Desoto, Perez and myself as Chairman and forming a quorum. First and only order of business, the LooLoo project plan.

**ALDERMEN DESOTO**

Move to approve.

**ALDERMEN PEREZ**

Second.

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

All in favor? Voted and so ordered.



*(SMITH bangs gavel and passes it to DESOTO who bangs it again)*

**ALDERMEN DESOTO**

The Planning and Zoning Commission is hereby called back into session.  
Motions?

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

THE PLAN HE SHOWED IS PRETTY  
IT IS GOOD FOR OUR CITY

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

WE HAVE LISTENED AND TOOK NOTES

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

NOW IT'S TIME TO COUNT THE VOTES!

**EDDIE**

PLEASE, DON'T APPROVE THESE PROJECT PLANS  
OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE'S IN YOUR HANDS  
TRAFFIC'S SURE TO BE A JAM  
THOSE REPORTS ARE ALL A SHAM  
FUMES BEHIND THE SHRUBS AND TREES  
ARE SURE TO SPREAD DISEASE  
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE  
DON'T APPROVE THESE PROJECT PLANS

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

THE CHANCES ARE UNLIKELY

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

PUT THE QUESTION TO A VOTE

**ALDERMAN SMITH**

THE CITY NEEDS DEVELOPMENT

**ALDERMAN PEREZ**

AND THE PROGRESS IT CONNOTES

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

PLEASE, CALL THE QUESTION  
LET'S COUNT THE VOTES!

**ALDERMEN**

WHEN LINING UP A VOTE  
THIS IS WHAT WE LEARNED  
ALWAYS VOTE TOGETHER  
THAT'S HOW HONEST GRAFT IS EARNED  
MOVE TO APPROVE  
SECOND THE MOTION  
ALL IN FAVOR? *(They all raise hands, Desoto bangs gavel)*

**ALDERMEN PEREZ**

Hey, Vinny, I guess it is happy hour. But not so much for you and Eddie.

**BIGGIE**

MEETING ADJOURNED!

*(EDDIE and VINNY look they just got hit by a bus All  
exit leaving EDDIE and VINNY alone. Lights dim.)*

**SCENE EIGHT**

**SETTING:** *Bauby's Corner Newstand, across from the Green in Downtown Brass City Money Magazine Places Rated issue has just been released and people are milling about Bauby's Corner angry at the Brass City Rating.*

*(MARY and EDDIE enter)*

**MARY**

My first cover story! It will be so cool to see my name on the front cover. Aren't you proud of me, Dad?

**EDDIE**

I just wish it was a different story. I told you I don't agree with the way Money Magazine has treated Brass City. In fact I think something's fishy. I was pretty good in math you know and something doesn't add up.

**MARY**

Come on, let's get a couple of copies!

**VINNY**

*(Moving out from crowd, waving magazine, then handing it to Eddie)*

Mary, how can you treat your hometown like this?

**MARY**

You knew it was going to be last. I told dad. And I know he told you.

**EDDIE**

Last in the charts. First in our hearts.

**VINNY**

It just seems wrong. How do they come up with these numbers?

**MARY**

Scientific surveys. Honest and objective data. No playing favorites.

**EDDIE**

*(Thumbing through copy of magazine)*

This can't be right. They have us last for water. We have great water.

**VINNY**

They also have us last in culture and entertainment.

**EDDIE**

That one could be right if they knock down the Palace. But look at this. *(pointing to the story)* Hold the horses! This whole thing is bogus!

**VINNY**

What do you mean bogus?

*(Crowd starts to huddle around)*

**EDDIE**

The United States of America is *300 million* people. How many people did Money Magazine survey for their article?

**VINNY**

A million?

**EDDIE**

Not quite!

**PERSON IN CROWD**

A hundred thousand?

**EDDIE**

Not even close!

**PERSON IN CROWD**

A thousand?

**EDDIE**

Not even a measly little *(makes tiny sign with fingers)* one thousand people out of 300 *(makes expansive sign with arms)* million. *(Mockingly)* I am sure *somebody* here knows the answer.

**MARY**

*(Defensive)*

Five hundred and twelve.

**EDDIE**

We have a winner!

**MARY**

That is a statistically reliable sample!

**EDDIE**

Five hundred and twelve! Sweetie, I told you something was fishy! Statistical mumbo-jumbo to create controversy and sell magazines.

**MARY**

Daddy!

**Music #10 RIP IT UP**

**Track #9**

**EDDIE**

IT'S A BOGUS SURVEY THAT THEY TAKE  
THE STATS THEY USE ARE MADE UP FAKE  
THE CALLS THEY MAKE ARE WAY TOO FEW  
THEY DIDN'T CALL ME  
THEY DIDN'T CALL YOU

RIP-IT-UP....RIP IT UP  
RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP

**MARY**

Daddy! It's my first cover story.

**EDDIE**

IT'S ALL WRONG THE WAY THEY RATE  
BRASS CITY IS THE BETTER PLACE  
THEY GOT IT WRONG TO RATE US WORST  
THIS IS THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

**MARY**

Oh come on. You people are delusional

**EDDIE AND VINNY**

RIP-IT-UP....RIP IT UP  
 RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP

**EDDIE**

MONEY MAGAZINE IS PETTY CASH  
 MI'Z WELL THROW IT IN THE TRASH  
 MAGAZINE PLACE RATED ISSUE  
 OUGHTA GET TORN UP USED FOR TISSUE

**MARY**

It's a fine magazine and I'm proud to work there.

**EDDIE, VINNY AND CROWD**

RIP-IT-UP....RIP IT UP  
 RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP

**MARY**

You're impossible. I'm fed up. I'm leaving

*(Hurt and crying at the abuse, Mary leaves the scene running)*

**EDDIE**

CENTER OF THE STATE  
 BRASS CITY'S GREAT  
 TOP OF THE CHARTS  
 FIRST IN OUR HEARTS  
 SURVEY SAYS  
 WE'VE GOT NO CLASS  
 MONEY MAGAZINE  
 CAN KISS MY BRASS  
 KISS MY BRASS  
 KISS MY BRASS

**EDDIE, VINNY AND CROWD**

RIP-IT-UP....RIP IT UP  
 RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP....RIP IT UP  
 KISS MY BRASS

**SCENE NINE**

**SETTING: Doyle's house.** *GRACIE delightedly modeling old costumes; singing to herself and day-dreaming about going back on tour.*

**GRACIE**

Some bands like to shout hell yeah. Some rock it like a south bound train. This little girl gonna turn on the world when she sings bangarang...

*(MARY enters angry)*

**MARY**

This town *is* the worst.

**GRACIE**

What? What happened?

**MARY**

We went to pick up the magazine. My first cover story. I was so proud and happy! And the crowd just shouted at me. I should have expected that. I bet they can't even read! But daddy joined right in!

**GRACIE**

What! That's terrible. Even if he doesn't like the story, he should be proud of your success!

**MARY**

What's the matter with him?

**GRACIE**

Politics! Brings out the worst in people. All he talks about is save the Palace, beat Biggie Williams, do what's best for the City. I don't even get a goodnight kiss anymore.

**MARY**

How can he stand up for this city? They just re-nominated the Mayor who everybody knows is a crook.

**MARY (Continued)****Music #11 I'M FED UP. I'M LEAVING      Track #10**

I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 I'M OUTTA HERE  
 I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 GET ME OUTTA HERE

DADDY USED TO BE REAL PROUD  
 OF MY WRITING CAREER  
 WHERE WAS HIS SUPPORT  
 WHEN I NEEDED HIM BACK THERE  
 HE STOOD UP FOR BRASS CITY  
 HE BECAME CAVALIER  
 WHERE WAS HIS SUPPORT  
 WHEN I NEEDED HIM BACK THERE  
 HE STOOD UP FOR BRASS CITY  
 SO THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GONNA BE  
 WHY DIDN'T HE STAND UP FOR ME

I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 I'M OUTTA HERE  
 I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 GET ME OUTTA HERE

*(MARY exits to pack with hurt/angry look at EDDIE as he enters and GRACIE laces into him before he can speak)*

**GRACIE**

You should be ashamed of yourself!

**EDDIE**

What did I do?

**GRACIE**

Letting them beat up on Mary!

**EDDIE**

Come on! I just pointed out a big flaw in the rating.



**GRACIE**

Flaw? You're the only flaw around here. Apologize to your daughter!

**EDDIE**

I care about this city! I've got nothing to apologize for.

**GRACIE**

What about our tour? You said after the Palace, we could go on tour. You promised! Well the Palace is over. Biggie won. So, when are we gonna tour? It's my turn now.

**EDDIE**

No tour. I said "after we save the Palace". The tour's on hold.

**GRACIE**

Who appointed you "Mr. Hero-in-charge-of-saving the City"?

**EDDIE**

Somebody's got to do something. Besides I don't see people flocking to hear you sing, "These Boots Are Made For Walking".

**GRACIE**

*(With a very nasty look)*

YOU SHOULD HAVE STOOD UP FOR YOUR DAUGHTER  
 DONE WHAT WAS RIGHT  
 WHAT'S BEST FOR THE CITY  
 DON'T EXCUSE SUCH A SLIGHT  
 YOU DON'T PAY ME ATTENTION  
 DON'T KISS ME EVERY NIGHT  
 WHAT'S BEST FOR THE CITY  
 DON'T EXCUSE SUCH A SLIGHT  
 AND NOW YOU BREAK YOUR PROMISE  
 IS THAT THE END FOR HONESTY  
 WHY DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT ME

I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 I'M OUTTA HERE  
 I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
 GET ME OUTTA HERE

**GRACIE** *(Continued)*

I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
I'M OUTTA HERE  
I'M FED UP, I'M LEAVING  
GET ME OUTTA HERE

YOU'VE BECOME A POLITICIAN  
FORGOT YOUR FAMILY  
MAKING FUN OF SONGS I LIKE TO SING  
GOOD BYE CHIVALRY

I'M FED UP

*(MARY enters with suitcase)*

**MARY**

I'M LEAVING

**GRACIE and MARY**

*(At EDDIE)*

WE'RE OUTTA HERE  
WE'RE FED UP, WE'RE LEAVING  
WE'RE OUTTA HERE

*(As they exit)*

WE'RE FED UP, WE'RE LEAVING  
WE'RE OUTTA HERE

**SCENE TEN****SETTING: Doyle's house next day.***EDDIE moping about, VINNY enters with newspaper)***VINNY**

They left?

**EDDIE**

Gone.

**VINNY**

You know, we shouldn't give up.

**EDDIE**

That's exactly what I said! Ten minutes later they were on their way to Manhattan.

**VINNY**

Did you see the article? Frankenstein is bringing his family to town.

**EDDIE**

Yeah. Every obnoxious project that ever got rejected or shut down anywhere else is going to be coming right here.

**VINNY**

Can you get Gracie to understand?

**EDDIE**

She's not paying attention. She just wants to sing.

This was her birthday card. First time I remembered in three years. Why can't she see how important it is to stop this guy? This is no time to run away. (*Rips up card*). Damn it!

**Music #12 IF YOU WERE MAYOR      Track #11**

**VINNY**

THIS CITY NEEDS SOMEONE, SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS  
NOT EVERYTHING OLD MUST BE DISPOSED  
BIGGIE'S KNOCKING DOWN HIST'RY TOWN'S SINKING FAST  
AND SOMEBODY OUGHT TO STAND UP FOR OUR PAST  
IF YOU WERE MAYOR

**EDDIE**

IF I WAS MAYOR?

**VINNY**

IF YOU WERE MAYOR...IT WOULD BE GREAT  
WE'D SAVE THE PALACE WE'D CELEBRATE  
FIND A BUDGET SOLUTION SET A NEW PROTOCOL  
STOP THE POLLUTION, CLEAN UP CITY HALL

**EDDIE**

I don't know the first thing about primaries or campaigns.

**VINNY**

Man, it's just like rock n' roll - 90% attitude. You got plenty of attitude.

**EDDIE**

Sure, but Gracie wants to take that attitude on tour.

**VINNY**

But our Palace is the flagship of the line. Biggest and best. It's where we started the band. We can't let him knock it down. Run a primary. Take away his nomination.

**EDDIE**

HE'S TEARING DOWN HIST'RY FOR PROJECTS THAT STINK  
RUNNING THE CITY INTO RED INK  
AND SOMEBODY HAS TO STAND UP FOR SURE  
BUT RUNNING FOR MAYOR MEANS SKIPPING THE TOUR

IF I WERE MAYOR

**VINNY**

IF YOU WERE MAYOR

**EDDIE**

IF I WERE MAYOR I'D FIX THE GREEN  
RESTORE THE PALACE BACK TO PRISTINE  
THAT OLD THEATER IS FULL OF HISTORY GALORE  
BUT WHAT IF I'M JUST AN OLD DINOSAUR

**VINNY**

THEY'LL POISON THE WATER  
THEY'LL POISON THE AIR  
CARS WILL BACK UP  
YOU CAN'T GET ANYWHERE  
THE FRANKENSTEIN PROJECT  
WILL STOMP ON US ALL  
IF YOU DON'T RUN  
THE WHOLE CITY WILL FALL

**EDDIE**

Man, I really wish I could talk this over with Gracie.

**VINNY**

That train left the station last night.

**EDDIE**

BANDMATES AND FRIENDS WE MAKE A GREAT PAIR

**VINNY**

LET'S ROCK CITY HALL, SHOW 'EM WHO'S SQUARE

**VINNY and EDDIE**

WE'LL KICK THE CROOKS OUT OF OFFICE  
THEY DON'T HAVE A PRAYER

**EDDIE**

I HEREBY DECLARE  
I'M RUNNING FOR MAYOR  
RUNNING FOR MAYOR, NOT TURNING BACK  
GONNA GIVE BIGGIE A BIG CARDIAC

**EDDIE** *(Continued)*

MY BRASS CITY'S BEEN SINKING SINCE BIGGIE'S HARRASSED HER  
TIME TO STEP UP AND STOP THIS DISASTER  
I'M RUNNING FOR MAYOR  
I'M RUNNING FOR MAYOR  
I'M RUNNING FOR MAYOR

**ACT II**

**SCENE ONE**

**SETTING:** Primary campaign is underway. EDDIE and VINNY are on the campaign trail going door-to-door, ending up on election night at campaign headquarters. Doyle Campaign workers with signs sing encouragement.

*(Campaign workers enter from different directions)*

**Music #13 C'MON EDDIE YOU CAN DO IT Track #12**

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

OUR CITY LIKES A GOOD ELECTION  
 ESPECIALLY PRIMARY TYPE SELECTION  
 SEDATE CAMPAIGNS ARE NOT OUR STYLE  
 EDDIE'S GOT TO LEARN TO GO THE EXTRA MILE  
 HE REALLY BOMBS WHEN IT COMES TO SCHMOOZIN'  
 IF HE CAN'T LEARN HE'S SURELY LOSIN'

C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN GET THE VOTES

**VINNY**

Eddie you gotta get out there and schmooze like you mean it.

*(EDDIE dressed in jeans and t-shirt knocks on voter's door, knocks again, voter answers)*

**EDDIE**

*(Impatiently)*

What took you so long? I got a busy schedule. I'm Eddie Doyle. I'm running for Mayor. Would you like to support my campaign?

**VOTER**

No!

*(Slams door)*



**VINNY**

Geez, Eddie. This ain't rocket science. Just be nice

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

BIGGIE WILLIAMS IS ON ROW A  
 EDDIE DOYLE IS ON ROW B  
 BIGGIE IS THE FAVORITE  
 THE PARTY NOMINEE

IF EDDIE WINS THE WAY HE'S RUNNING  
 IT WOULD BE AN ACCIDENT  
 THE POLLS ALL SHOW HIM  
 COMIN' IN UNDER TWELVE PERCENT

C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN GET THE VOTES

**VINNY**

*(Signals worker who brings him a shirt. Gives EDDIE a collared shirt)*

Here, put on a decent shirt.

*(EDDIE knocks on voter's door, a sexy blonde in a robe answers)*

**BLONDE**

Hello, big boy. Is there something I can do for you?

**EDDIE**

*(Eyes wide, Stuttering)*

Hi..I'm.. I Eddie .. I'm... I'm running for mayor. I'm .. I'm running...

*(Eddie scoots away flustered as VOTER Slams door)*

**VINNY**

*(Wagging his head)*

Sheesh.

**EDDIE**

*(Blustery as if he were a big ladies man, which he is not)*

That was a tempting situation.

**VINNY**

Not for her. She didn't even take a flyer.

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

BIGGIE WILLIAMS IS WAY OUT FRONT  
 EDDIE HASN'T MADE THE GRADE  
 BUT EDDIE'S TRYING HARDER  
 HE'S STILL ON HIS CRUSADE  
 EDDIE CAN'T WIN UNLESS HE LEARNS  
 TO MODIFY HIS TEMPERMENT  
 THE POLLS NOW SHOW HIM  
 DROPPING DOWN UNDER TEN PERCENT

C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN GET THE VOTES

**VINNY**

*(Signals worker who brings him a jacket. Gives EDDIE the suit jacket with Doyle for Mayor pin.)*

Here, try it with a jacket...and a button

*(EDDIE knocks on voter's door, middle age couple answers. EDDIE smiles, motions to lovely garden.)*

**EDDIE**

Man, I love your garden. You must spend a lot of time on it. What do you use for fertilizer?

**WOMAN VOTER**

*(Sarcastic)*

I wish I could use the political bullshit going around. Things would really bloom.

**EDDIE**

I hear you there. I got some double strength in these flyers I'm passing out. Want to try some?

**VOTERS**

*(Friendly laugh)*

**EDDIE**

Look, I'm just trying to do something I believe in. I want to save the old Palace, I have a band that plays there. And I want to help make the city a better place.

**MALE VOTER**

The Palace, huh? Aren't you Eddie? Eddie and the Palaceades?

**EDDIE**

*(Deprecatingly)*

That's me. Bangarang! *(Eddie plays air guitar)* A legend in my own mind.

**WOMAN VOTER**

Gimme some of those flyers. And I'm not gonna use 'em for fertilizer. *(Nod of agreement between couple)* You got our vote and I'm gonna spread these around!

**EDDIE**

Thanks, thanks a lot. Maybe we'll see you at the Palace.

**VINNY**

Ok you got it locked. Keep it up. Keep it up.

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

BIGGIE WILLIAMS SHOULD BE WORRIED  
 EDDIE'S STEPPIN' ON THE GAS  
 HIS CAMPAIGN IS SPEEDING UP  
 STARTING TO SHOW HIS BRASS  
 A LITTLE DEPRACATING HUMOR  
 HELPS TO MAKE SOMEONE YOUR FRIEND  
 THE POLLS NOW SHOW HIM  
 MOVING OVER TWENTY-EIGHT PERCENT

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS** *(Continued)*

C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN GET THE VOTES

VOTE FOR EDDIE DOYLE, HE RAN A CLEAN CAMPAIGN  
 NO MUD-SLINGING, NO DIRTY NAMES  
 FORTY TWO PERCENT, FORTY FOUR PERCENT  
 IF YOU NEED A RIDE, YOU CAN CALL OUR VANS  
 GET OUT AND VOTE, EDDIE DOYLE FANS  
 FORTY SIX PERCENT, FORTY EIGHT PERCENT

C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN DO IT  
 C'MON EDDIE, YOU CAN GET THE VOTES

*Election Night with the voting results coming in.*

**EDDIE**

Whadaya think? We got a shot?

**VINNY**

Absolutely. You've been working hard. Door to door. Schmoozing at the rallies. You're gonna win this thing. The last poll shows you ahead!

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

THE DISTRICT VOTES ARE COMING IN  
 THE TOTAL IS A SHOCKER  
 BRASS CITY GAVE A GREAT BIG WIN  
 TO THE ONE HIT WONDER ROCKER

EDDIE'S GOT THE VOTES!  
 EDDIE'S GOT THE VOTES!  
 EDDIE'S GOT THE VOTES!  
 EDDIE'S GOT THE VOTES!

**RADIO ANNOUNCER**

*(Heard at Headquarters)*

Radio WATR with official results. After a tight back and forth battle Eddie Doyle has won the election with a 300 vote plurality.

*(Doyle Headquarters rejoices)*

**VINNY**

You did it! You did it! We won!

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

Way to go Eddie! Hip Hip Hooray!

**EDDIE**

Wow! What a rush! This is like being in the top 40 all over again.

**CAMPAIGN WORKERS**

Speech! Speech! Speech!

**EDDIE**

Thank you. Thank you everybody for all the hard work. I promise that once I get into office it's going to be a clean slate for this city. No more favors for out of town developers. No more shady deals.

**RADIO ANNOUNCER**

Wait. Wait. Wait a minute folks. The absentee ballots have just been totaled... and ... ..Biggie Williams has done it again! An overwhelming 600 to 6 advantage in absentee ballots. Biggie Williams will remain the party candidate for mayor.

*(Doyle Headquarters transforms to anger and dejection  
CAMPAIGN WORKERS exit)*

**EDDIE**

How can that happen?

**CAMPAIGN WORKER**

I know he had runners staked out at the convalescent homes

**CAMPAIGN WORKER**

And up at the State penitentiary

**VINNY**

I bet the cemetery vote went real big for Biggie.

**EDDIE**

Do I have to congratulate the cheat?

**VINNY**

Maybe you should cool off first. We don't need to get arrested again.

*(VINNY consoles EDDIE as they exit)*

**SCENE TWO**

**SETTING:** Mayor Biggie Williams  
Headquarters after the primary. *Biggie  
and supporters celebrating*

**BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

I'VE GOT VOTES FROM THE OLD AGE HOMES  
STATE PRISONERS VOTE FOR ME  
ST. JOE'S CEMETERY  
ALL VOTES ABSENTEE  
I'VE GOT THE VOTES  
I'VE GOT THE VOTES

Hey, Desoto, how about tomorrow we go celebrate our victory with a tour of the next redevelopment opportunities.

**ALDERMAN DESOTO**

Sorry, Mayor, have to pass. Got plans with my fiancée.

*(DESOTO and some CAMPAIGN WORKERS exit)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Perez, how about a drive-around tomorrow to check out the possibilities for some new projects?

**ALDERMEN PEREZ**

Sorry, Mayor but I promised the kids I'd take them to a movie.

*(PEREZ and some CAMPAIGN WORKERS exit)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Smitty, can I pick you up? I want to check out some new opportunities and I could use your input?

**ALDERMEN SMITH**

No can do, Mayor. Gotta spend some quality time with the wife. She was pretty patient through the primary.

*(SMITH and last of CAMPAIGN WORKERS exit)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS***(BIGGIE left alone in his headquarters)*

Screw them. I don't need company.

**Music #14 BUT IT MIGHT BE NICE    Track #13**

PEREZ LOVES HIS KIDS AND SMITH LOVES HIS WIFE  
 DESOTO'S ABOUT TO START MARRIED LIFE  
 AFTER THE VOTE THEY ALL FLY AWAY  
 DO I MAKE UP THESE DEALS HOPING MAYBE THEY'LL STAY?

NAH,

I'M MAYOR OF THIS CITY WHAT I SAY GOES  
 DON'T NEED ANY FRIENDS WHEN I GOT THE VOTES  
 WHAT DO I CARE IF I'M ALL ALONE  
 I'M MAYOR OF THE CITY I CAN STAND ON MY OWN

THEY'RE IN FOR THE DEAL JUST FOR A SPELL  
 BUT GOTTA GET HOME LIKE A BAT OUT OF HELL  
 I'M NOT IN A HURRY HEN-PECKED OR HARRIED  
 I LIKE DOIN' THINGS MY WAY, I'D HATE TO BE MARRIED

BUT IT MIGHT BE NICE  
 TO HAVE SOMEONE TO SHARE  
 THE SWEET TASTE OF VICTORY  
 A GLASS OF WINE OR A BEER  
 I'M NOT SAYING I'M LONELY  
 BUT IT MIGHT BE NICE

NAH,

WHAT DO I CARE IF I'M ALL ALONE  
 I'M MAYOR OF THE CITY I CAN STAND ON MY OWN  
 WHAT DO I CARE  
 BUT IT MIGHT BE NICE



**SCENE THREE**

**SETTING:** New York City. Money Magazine office. MARY and ROZ.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Welcome back. You did a great job. Got everything we needed. – Ta Da – (*hands Mary framed copy of magazine*) I framed a copy of your first cover story, congratulations!

**MARY**

Oh, Roz. It was a terrible visit.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

How bad could it be? You went. You're back.

**MARY**

But I had an awful fight with my dad. Then he and mom had a big fight. And now my mom is here in the city with me.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Well, that could be an issue. Is she going to get her own place?

**MARY**

That's not the issue. It's my dad. He was always there for me. He used to understand my ambition and my dreams. But when the story broke he just jumped all over the statistics and said the ratings were bogus! He ripped up my story!

**ROZ**

Oh dear. Well, he could be on to something.

**MARY**

What?

**ROZ**

Example. Our quality of life factor was: distance from the ocean... divided by average daily rainfall...times the number of local Starbucks outlets.

**MARY**

That doesn't make any sense.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Easy to calculate. Circulation and publicity, girl. This is business not political science. Give your dad a break.

**Music #15 PERFECT FOR A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'      Track #14**

YOU WROTE THE BEST DAMN STORY  
FACT FILLED AND REVEALING  
BUT YOU FORGOT TO THINK ABOUT  
WHAT YOUR DAD WAS FEELING  
HE WAS ONLY TRYING  
TO SAVE HIS CITY FROM DECAY  
TRY TO UNDERSTAND HIM  
AND TELL HIM IT'S OK

**MARY**

So, if Brass City had a just couple of Starbucks they could have been top of the list?

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Coulda been a contender.

**MARY**

Ok. I have some fence-mending to do.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

No problem. He's your dad. You'll see. So, you got your front cover byline. What's next?

**MARY**

Something big. Maybe something controversial. Any advice?

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

HERE'S MY BEST CAREER ADVICE  
MY AMBITIOUS PROTÉGÉ  
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS ALL LOVE AN EXPOSE'  
SOMETHING WITH CRIME AND SEX

**ROZ SHERWOOD** *(Continued)*

SOMETHING TRES RISQUE  
NOTHING SELLS MORE MAGAZINES  
THAN A JUICY EXPOSE'

EVERYBODY LOVES A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**MARY**

EVERYBODY LOVES A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

GET YOUR PICTURE ON THE COVER

**MARY**

AND A BONUS IN MY PAY

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

GO OUT AND WRITE A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**MARY**

I COULD WRITE A STORY  
ON BRASS CITY'S PAY TO PLAY

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

MAYBE ADD PULITZER PRIZE  
TO YOUR RESUME'

**MARY**

POLITICIANS ARE CROOKS  
THEY SCREW BRASS CITY EVERYDAY  
LOOLOO COMPANY IS EVIL  
THEY SHOULDN'T GET AWAY

**MARY and ROZ**

THEY'RE PERFECT FOR A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'  
THEY'RE PERFECT FOR A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**MARY**

LOOLOO PROJECTS MAKE YOU VOMIT  
CAUSE A RASH AND TURN YOU GRAY

**MARY and ROZ**

THEY'RE PERFECT FOR A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

I'LL TAKE IT TO THE PUBLISHER  
HE HAS THE LAST WORD  
I'M SURE HE'LL GIVE THE GREEN LIGHT  
AFTER EVERYTHING I'VE HEARD

**MARY and ROZ**

LOOLOO PROJECTS MAKE YOU VOMIT  
CAUSE A RASH AND TURN YOU GRAY  
THEY'RE PERFECT FOR A GREAT BIG EXPOSE'

**SCENE FOUR**

**SETTING: New York City TV Studio.**  
*GRACIE in dressing room upstage center preparing for show. AUDIENCE seated stage right. HOST and COMPETITION stage left. Lights on GRACIE.*

*(Mary enters)*

**GRACIE**

Quick. Tell me the news, before I have to go on.

**MARY**

Terrible. The publisher spiked my story! And if I try to publish it anyplace else he'll fire me!

**GRACIE**

That doesn't make any sense.

**MARY**

It's a whole other expose'! LooLoo Company is a major stockholder.

Besides the crappy projects they plan to dump on Brass City, LooLoo has a chain of upscale retirement villages. And here's the kicker they demand at least four of the top ten places are cities where they operate. Daddy was right. It's all rigged!

**GRACIE**

That story should get out.

**MARY**

But who's going to print it?

**GRACIE**

We'll figure it out. But that's my cue. Time to do my thing.

**MARY**

*(Helping Gracie arrange her dress)*

Here, let me help with that. I'm so proud of you, Mom.

**GRACIE**

I said I was gonna go out and sing. But it would be nice if Eddie was here. I feel a little funny doing a solo.

**MARY**

Don't you worry about Dad. This one's for you.

**GRACIE and MARY**

*(High five)*

Bangarang!

*(LIGHTS come up on TV HOST on stage and TRAY AMIGOS singing the last note of their song)*

**TV HOST**

Ladies and gentlemen, viewers at home, lets have a big round of applause for that last act the Tray Amigos. I am your host, Johnny Vandertrump and I want to remind you that tonight is the last round before "Can You Really Sing?" goes into its Final Four.

Coming on last, but not least, for tonight's round is Gracie Doyle, a housewife from Brass City. After a walk-on performance in our opening round, Gracie has shown the judges that she's got the talent to be a star. C'mon out here, Gracie.

*(GRACIE comes on stage)*

Tell us Gracie, did you ever think you'd be on national TV in New York City?

**GRACIE**

This is certainly a dream come true.

**TV HOST**

Gracie, you've made it through three rounds of our competition so far and tonight will be the last cut before the Final Four.

The pressure is on. What you are going to sing?

**GRACIE**

Something I wrote myself, Johnny. It's called "Stir the Ashes".

**TV HOST**

Ladies and gentlemen, judges...Gracie Doyle!  
(*HOST exits stage*)

**Music #16 STIR THE ASHES                      Track #15****GRACIE**

I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR REMNANTS  
OF TATTERED OLD DREAMS  
FRAYED AT THE EDGES  
BUT STRONG IN THE SEAMS  
DREAMS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
FOR A GOOD CAUSE  
DREAMS ABOUT SINGING  
TO STANDING APPLAUSE

OH THE FIRES OF SPRING  
CAN BURN DOWN LOW  
BUT THE EMBERS  
HOLD A GLOW  
DON'T GIVE UP  
ON YOUR DESIRE  
STIR THE ASHES  
IGNITE THE FIRE

REMEMBER THE HOPE  
THAT WE COULD CHANGE THE WORLD  
REMEMBER THE JOY  
FROM YOUR BABY GIRL  
REMEMBER THE ANGER  
AT INJUSTICE YOU'D SEEN  
REMEMBER HOW TRUE LOVE  
FELT AT FIFTEEN

OH THE FIRES OF SPRING  
CAN BURN DOWN LOW  
BUT THE EMBERS  
HOLD A GLOW  
DON'T GIVE UP  
ON YOUR DESIRE

**GRACIE** *(Continued)*

STIR THE ASHES  
IGNITE THE FIRE  
RAISE UP THOSE MEMORIES DON'T STORE THEM AWAY  
REKINDLE THOSE FEELINGS START A BONFIRE TODAY

OH THE FIRES OF SPRING  
CAN BURN DOWN LOW  
BUT THE EMBERS  
HOLD A GLOW  
DON'T GIVE UP  
ON YOUR DESIRE  
STIR THE ASHES  
IGNITE THE FIRE

*(Huge applause, GRACIE bows, gets congratulations from Hosts and moves to back stage)*

**TV HOST**

That's all for tonight folks. Tune in again next week to see the judges' results and find out who made it to the Final Four.

*(EDDIE and VINNY have been in the audience)*

**VINNY**

Don't you think you should let her know you're here?

**EDDIE**

No way man. For all I know she's still pissed.

**VINNY**

She did a hell of a job.

**EDDIE**

She's a hell of a lady. I've gotta get her back.

*(EDDIE and VINNY exit)*



**MARY**

Wow. Where'd that come from?

**GRACIE**

Just something I've been working on. What'd you think?

**MARY**

It was wonderful. What was going through your mind?

**GRACIE**

I was thinking about you, when you were a baby. And Eddie and *(tearing up)* how that son of a bitch is the most exciting thing that ever happened to me.

**MARY**

Well, that's no problem, Mom. You know where he lives.

**GRACIE**

You think I should go home? Maybe I should.

**MARY**

Absolutely not! You should wait. See how this contest comes out. You're gonna be a star!

**GRACIE**

And you are too! I figured out what you should do. You have to go home, sweetie. Take your expose' to the Bugle. This is right up Ryan's alley. He's been Dudley-do-right since he started writing. Give him a call. And when your expose' is published, we'll both be stars – front page and center stage!

*(GRACIE and MARY hug)*

**SCENE FIVE**

**SETTING: Brass City Train Station,**  
*RYAN waiting, pacing.*

**MARY**

*(Enters, anxious to hear what RYAN set up)*

Bet you didn't expect to see me again so soon.

**RYAN**

Maybe this time we could actually finish lunch at Mama Cerelli's before you run back to the city.

**MARY**

*(Focused on her story)*

Thanks for setting this up. Once I get this story out in the Bugle, they won't dare black-ball me.

**RYAN**

Well, I've got good news and bad news.

**MARY**

Uh Oh. What's the bad news?

**RYAN**

The Brass City Bugle is not going to run your expose'.

**MARY**

What? Mom was sure they'd run it. You're the editor. You've been picking fights with bad guys since you started writing. How am I going to get even with Biggie and LooLoo? Why won't you run my piece?

**RYAN**

Not my choice. Paper's landed a big new advertiser by the name of (*sarcastically extending name*) Land Use Liabilities Unlimited. The Bugle will be endorsing Biggie Williams in the upcoming election.

**MARY**

What's the good news?

**RYAN**

I quit the Bugle. I'm starting my own newspaper and with your OK I'll put your expose' front cover on the inaugural edition.

**MARY**

You can't do that! You don't just start a newspaper.

**RYAN**

Sure you can. I am. I checked with the bank. With the work I've done on my house, I can get a pretty good mortgage for working capital. I made a few calls and have some ads lined up. I have a core group of reporters to work with me.

**MARY**

You're starting a newspaper just to get my story out?

**RYAN**

Not just to get your story out. That's a big part of it. But I want to stand up for independent journalism. I don't want to work for a paper where an advertiser can tell you what to write. And I really don't want to work for a paper that plans to endorse Biggie Williams.

And you do have a terrific story.

**Music #17 THE HEART OF THE STORY**

**Track #16**

YOU HAVE A STORY THAT NEEDS TO BE TOLD  
ABOUT PROJECT APPROVALS BOUGHT AND SOLD  
'BOUT A MAGAZINE THAT BARTERED ITS SOUL  
A CORPORATION THAT'S KILLING US ALL

WHEN THE HEART OF THE STORY  
BEATS LOUD AND TRUE  
YOU CAN WRITE IT IN NEW YORK OR TIMBUKTU  
AND THE HEART OF THE STORY COMES THROUGH

**MARY**

It is a good story. My editor says it has a shot at a Pulitzer.

**RYAN**

It's interesting, sensational. But you should write for something bigger than a prize or a bold type byline. Your story can make a difference whether the good guys or the bad guys win.

A GOOD STORY'S NOT ABOUT WINNING A PRIZE  
IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES  
A GOOD STORY SHINES TRUTH LIKE A LIGHT  
PARRIES THE SWORD AND GIVES THE PEN MIGHT

WHEN THE HEART OF THE STORY  
BEATS LOUD AND TRUE  
YOU CAN WRITE IT IN NEW YORK OR TIMBUKTU  
AND THE HEART OF THE STORY COMES THROUGH

**MARY**

Ok. So you have writers and advertisers, but what about distribution, and readers? I'm not sure I want to give my story to some no name start up.

**RYAN**

This town is hungry for another paper. And it'll be free. I'll keep costs low. It will run on the advertising. This is going to work!

**MARY**

I can see that it will.

**RYAN**

We'll start small, but we'll still be connected. Once your story is out, it gets cycled into the Associated Press news wire. Maybe pick up some TV coverage.

Look, I know how much you love New York and you were pretty adamant about not coming home. But doesn't this episode show you that New York has its own problems.

**MARY**

There's nothing like you in Manhattan!

**RYAN**

What about our own story.

**RYAN** *(Continued)*

WE STARTED OUR STORY BACK IN THE DAY  
 WROTE A FEW CHAPTERS THEN PUT IT AWAY  
 STORY'S NOT OVER THERE'S LOTS MORE TO WRITE  
 WOULD YOU LIKE TO START WRITING TONIGHT  
 WHEN THE HEART OF THE STORY  
 BEATS LOUD AND TRUE  
 YOU CAN WRITE IT IN NEW YORK OR TIMBUKTU  
 AND THE HEART OF THE STORY COMES THROUGH

**MARY**

*(Overwhelmed by Ryan's commitment and looking at him  
 with Disney princess eyes)*

You really are a knight in shining armor.

I'VE SEEN THE GOOD ONE PERSON CAN DO  
 I'VE SEEN THAT GOOD IN YOU  
 MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS WHAT I WANT TOO  
 I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH YOU

**RYAN**

WORKING TOGETHER WE'LL TURN THINGS AROUND  
 WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE NOW

**MARY**

WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE NOW.

**MARY and RYAN**

WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE NOW.

**MARY and RYAN**

WORKING TOGETHER WE'LL TURN THINGS AROUND  
 WE'LL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS BEAT-UP OLD TOWN

WHEN THE HEART OF THE STORY  
 BEATS LOUD AND TRUE  
 YOU CAN WRITE IT IN NEW YORK OR TIMBUKTU  
 AND THE HEART OF THE STORY COMES THROUGH

**MARY**

What if the story isn't enough?

**RYAN**

Enough for what?

**MARY**

To make a real difference. I see it now. Just 'cause I don't like it, doesn't mean I have to accept it. I can make it better.

**RYAN**

Well, I'm gonna be busy running the paper, so you'd have to run for mayor.

**MARY**

Now you're delusional. My dad tried in the primary and he got creamed.

**RYAN**

He could have changed parties and run for the Republicans.

**MARY**

Whoa! He'd never do that!

**RYAN**

But you could. They're still stuck for a candidate. Nobody dares to run against Biggie.

IF YOU WERE MAYOR...IT WOULD BE GREAT  
WE'D SAVE THE PALACE WE'D CELEBRATE  
FIND A BUDGET SOLUTION SET A NEW PROTOCOL  
STOP THE POLLUTION, CLEAN UP CITY HALL

**MARY**

Are you still driving a white Mustang?

**RYAN**

Matches my shiny armor.

**MARY**

I think a "Doyle for Mayor" sign would look great on that car!

**SCENE SIX**

**SETTING:** Mama Cerelli's Deli.  
EDDIE and VINNY have finished lunch.  
MAMA is clearing their table. EDDIE is still steaming over the loss.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Sorry about the primary, boys. I guess that was your last chance.

**VINNY**

Thanks, Mama.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Mama?! The kids, call me Mama. And, Vinny, you ain't no kid, anymore!

**VINNY**

Sorry. Sorry. I meant Babe

**MAMA CERELLI**

That's right like high school. Like Sonny and Cher. You seen Cher lately! She's still hot.

**VINNY**

You ain't so bad yourself, Babe.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Hey, I know you're still hurtin'. But when you're ready...*(she gives him a smile and exits with the dishes)*

**EDDIE**

I'm not quitting! I am not a quitter.

**VINNY**

You've got no place to go. Biggie has the nomination. You lost the primary. He's on the ballot your not.

**EDDIE**

Technical detail.

**VINNY**

Pretty big detail, Eddie. If you are not on the ballot nobody can vote for you.

**EDDIE**

Write-in campaign.

**VINNY**

Write-in campaign? You gotta be kidding. Nobody does that.

**EDDIE**

It's a long shot. But we can still make a run at it.

**VINNY**

Your name is easy to spell.

**EDDIE**

I've already ordered Doyle for Mayor pencils, thousands of them. Thousands. We pass them out instead of palm cards as people go in to vote.

**VINNY**

This could work. Yeah.

**EDDIE and VINNY**

Friends and bandmates!

*(RYAN and MARY enter from doorway and join EDDIE and VINNY)*

**RYAN**

Hi dad, Eddie.

**MARY**

Hi dad, Mr. Moriarty

*(MAMA CERELLI enters from kitchen)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

And here is the couple I been trying to match up since forever. Every time I get you two together. Miss Mary runs away. You two finally wake up to each other?



**RYAN**

We have an important announcement to make.

**EDDIE**

About time. We've been waiting years for you two to get engaged

**RYAN**

We are joining forces.

**VINNY**

I'm a little lost. Just what does joining forces mean?

**RYAN**

I am starting a newspaper and publishing Mary's expose.

**MARY**

And I am running for Mayor!

*(EDDIE and VINNIE surprised, alarmed, MAMA disappointed)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

That's not the announcement I was hoping for.

**EDDIE**

What?! You can't run for Mayor. I'm running for Mayor. I'm not giving up just 'cause I lost the primary. Vinny and I have a big write-in campaign organized.

**RYAN**

Well, we're a step ahead of you. The other party couldn't find anybody who wasn't afraid to run against Biggie Williams, so they were happy to give Mary their nomination. We just wrapped up all the paperwork. She's going to be on the ballot.

**MARY**

I'm going to make it a race too. My story is gonna expose LooLoo and shake Biggies' foundation. And I got some dirt on the places rated rankings that will get me back in good with voters.

**EDDIE**

You mean you're going to run against me?

**MARY**

Jeez, Dad. We though you were out of the race.

**RYAN**

We didn't know you were going to do a write-in.

**VINNY**

I think it's a bad idea. Politics is tough we don't want to see you get hurt.

**MARY**

'Cause I'm a girl?

**EDDIE**

'Cause you're my girl. Vinny's right. It's a dirty business. Besides, we're rolling, picking up steam. We won the district vote in the primary. Just got beat out by Biggie's dirty tricks with the absentees.

**MARY**

*(Nudging and winking at RYAN)*

You're probably right, dad. You're on a roll and after you win, I know you'll like the long office hours and the 24/7 commitment in case of emergencies. I wouldn't want to take that away from you. And all the wakes and funerals to attend and graduation speeches and chicken dinners.

**EDDIE**

I hate chicken.

**VINNIE**

I hate wakes and funerals.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Saaay, why don't you join forces, too? Young Mary's on the ballot. She wants to save the Palace. Eddie, you could endorse her. You know she wants to beat Biggie and stop that Frankenstein project from happening.

**VINNY**

You know Eddie, stubborn only gets you so far. What would Gracie say?

**EDDIE**

Gracie? You know what she'd say. "Get out of the way, stupid, give our girl her chance."

**VINNY**

That's Gracie.

**EDDIE**

*(Hesitating, considering)*

You know maybe this could help mend things up with Gracie. If she heard how I was stepping aside for Mary.

Ok, Kids. We're in. Eddie Doyle is retired from the race and hereby endorses Mary Doyle for Mayor, with a great big hug and a kiss ...and 23 cartons of Doyle for Mayor pencils.

**VINNY**

But Mary, how do you think you can beat Biggie. He doesn't play fair?

**MARY**

That's easy! I'm gonna cheat!.

**MAMA, EDDIE, VINNIE and RYAN**

*(Shocked)*

You're gonna cheat?

**MARY**

Not a *real* cheat. But I got a plan. Step into the kitchen.

*(MARY signals MAMA to enlist her help and MARY, MAMA and RYAN exit to kitchen.)*

**EDDIE**

That does it. Campaign's over. I gotta thank you, man, for sticking with me through all this. I don't know how you made it through this past year. Gracie's just gone down to New York. I miss her, but you... your loss... well you know.

**VINNIE**

Yeah. It's been a tough year. Ryan's been great. The concert helped...and hurt at the same time.

**EDDIE**

Campaign was a distraction.

**VINNY and EDDIE**

Friends and bandmates.

**Music #18 I MISS MY WIFE Track #17**

**VINNY**

I MISS MY WIFE  
I MISS HER VOICE IN THE MORNING  
TO GET ME UP AND MOVING  
I MISS HER TOUCH ON THE DRUMS  
THAT KEPT US ALL GROOVING  
I MISS MY WIFE

**EDDIE**

I MISS MY WIFE  
I MISS HER ARMS AROUND MY WAIST  
RIDING DOWN THE ROAD  
I MISS HER REGULAR REMINDERS  
THE LAWN NEEDS TO BE MOWED  
I MISS MY WIFE

**VINNY**

I MISS MY WIFE  
I MISS HER BODY NEXT TO MINE  
IN BED LATE AT NIGHT

**EDDIE**

I MISS MY WIFE  
I MISS HER SNAPPY PUTDOWNS  
WHEN WE GET INTO A FIGHT

**VINNY and EDDIE**

FRIENDS AND BANDMATES TO THE END  
BUT I NEED MORE THAN A BEST FRIEND  
I MISS MY WIFE, I MISS MY WIFE

**VINNY**

You have to stop being so stubborn. Whether Gracie's still pissed or not. My wife is gone. She's not coming back. Get off your ass and do whatever it takes to make sure you don't lose Gracie for good.

**EDDIE**

You're right. I have to do something to show her she's special. *(Takes a moment to contemplate)* C'mon. I got a plan.

*(EDDIE and VINNY exit through door)*

*(MAMA enters from kitchen with MARY and RYAN following)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

I like this plan!

**MARY**

Biggie doesn't play fair and I know he has more dirty tricks that he hasn't used.

**RYAN**

How's it work again?

**MARY**

Distraction! Throw him off his game.

**MAMA CERELLI**

He's gonna fall in love.

**RYAN**

That can be distracting. I can vouch for that.

**MAMA CERELLI**

He's in every night for supper. He lives alone. Pay attention to Mama Cerelli.

**Music #19 MANGIA                      Track #18**

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL  
LEARNING HOW TO COOK  
MAMA TOOK ME TO THE PANTRY  
AND PULLED DOWN A LITTLE BOOK  
SHE SAID DAUGHTER DEAR  
GIVE ME YOUR ATTENTION  
THE RECIPES IN HERE  
YOU MUST NEVER EVER MENTION  
THIS BOOK WAS STOLEN LONG AGO  
FROM A WITCHES' COVEN  
THE RECIPES HAVE SPECIAL POWER  
WHEN IT COMES TO LOVIN'

MANGIA, MANGIA  
LOVE THE ITALIAN WAY  
MANGIA, MANGIA  
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY

*(MAMA brings RYAN and MARY into dance routine)*

WHEN YOUR HUBBIE GETS DISTRACTED  
AND YOU FEAR THAT LOVE IS LOST  
OPEN UP PAGE TWENTY THREE  
FOR MARINARA SAUCE  
IF YOUR MAN PAYS NO ATTENTION  
AND ROMANCE HAS LOST ITS GLORY  
TURN TO PAGE ELEVEN  
FOR CHICKEN CACCIATORE  
IF A HUSBAND WHO KNOWS BETTER  
IS BEHAVING LIKE A FOOL  
THE RECIPE FOR THIS  
IS PASTA FAGIOLI  
BE CERTAIN LITTLE DAUGHTER  
WHEN LIFE'S TROUBLES ARE UPON YA  
THE ANSWER'S IN THE RECIPE  
FOR THREE CHEESE BAKED LASAGNE

**MAMA CERELLI** *(Continued)*

MANGIA, MANGIA  
 LOVE THE ITALIAN WAY  
 MANGIA, MANGIA  
 THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY

**RYAN**

I'm still not getting it.

**MAMA CERELLI**

*(backslaps RYAN on the head)*

Stoonad.

*(BIGGIE WILLIAMS enters)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Good evening, Mama, Ryan. Mary girl, I don't know why you're taking up this campaign, but you don't have a chance. What's good tonight Mama?

**MAMA CERELLI**

*(Shows BIGGIE WILLIAMS to a table)*

It's all good, Mayor. It's all good every night. *(Hands him a menu)* Check out the specials.

*(MAMA Returns to MARY and RYAN)*

THE RECIPES WERE MAGIC  
 AND THEY SERVED MY MARRIAGE WELL  
 ONE WAS JUST SO SPECIAL  
 I COULDN'T KEEP IT TO MYSELF  
 LIGHTLY BATTERED EGGPLANT  
 IN A PROSCIUTE COVER  
 COULD TURN A TOTAL STRANGER  
 INTO A SMITTEN LOVER  
 YOU WON'T FIND IT ON MY MENU  
 YOU CAN'T GET IT BY REQUEST  
 I SERVE IT IN HALF SANDWICHES  
 AND CUPID DOES THE REST

**MAMA CERELLI** *(Continued)*

MANGIA, MANGIA  
 LOVE THE ITALIAN WAY  
 MANGIA, MANGIA  
 THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY

**RYAN**

Ok. Now I get it. Biggie gets one half. Who gets the other half?

*(ROZ SHERWOOD enters)*

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Mary! Mary!

**MARY**

Roz! I am *so* glad you agreed to visit.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Mary, I truly was devastated when they treated you the way they did. You had such a good story. I'm here to help. Any way I can. To try and make it up to you.

**MARY**

Mama Cerelli, Ryan, this is Roz Sherwood, my editor from New York. She's here to help *any* way she can.

**MAMA CERELLI**

Oh, such an honor to have somebody so important in my little restaurant. I fix you something very special. I'm sure you can help.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Well, I told them in New York I wanted to cover the story personally, Mary being a Money Magazine graduate as it were. I'll be in on the ground floor when this last place burgh takes its turn for the better.

*(MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS overhears from his table)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Excuse me ma'am. This isn't a last place anything. This is the Center of the Universe.



**MARY**

Roz Sherwood meet Mayor Biggie Williams. Mayor Williams is the man I am running against in the upcoming election.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

Oh, my goodness. What a small town. My pleasure to meet you Mister Biggie.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Mayor. Mayor. Mayor. Three times so far. Maybe Governor one day. I apologize. I forget my manners. It is my pleasure to meet you Miss Sherwood. Welcome to Brass City.

While it may sound presumptuous on my part, the fact of the matter is your young associate has no chance. I beat her daddy and, pardon my French, I'm gonna kick his daughter's ass too.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

*(Aside to Mary)*

He is quite the macho man, n'est ce pas.

**MAMA CERELLI**

*(Arriving with pair of half sandwiches)*

Oh, Biggie, don't be so nasty. You're just hungry. You need something good to eat. Here, you and the nice lady from New York can share a table.

*(MAMA CERELLI gets MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS and ROZ SHERWOOD together at a table and serves each a half sandwich)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

Sit down, eat. Half and Half. It's good

*(MAMA CERELLI leaves with a mischievous smile and a nod as she joins MARY and RYAN)*

**MAMA CERELLI, RYAN, MARY**

MANGIA, MANGIA  
 LOVE THE ITALIAN WAY  
 MANGIA, MANGIA  
 THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY

*(They try to listen in on ROZ and MAYOR BIGGIE, who motions them to move away and mind their own business. MAMA dances RYAN and MARY to a table of their own)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

*(In charming mode, biting into sandwich)*

I enjoy most of what I read in your magazine. It must be very satisfying to do such exciting work.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

*(Biting into sandwich and fascinated with Biggie)*

It is. But being mayor has to be very challenging. Taking care of everything... there is to take care of...

**MAMA CERELLI**

*(Bringing MARY and RYAN their own half sandwiches)*

MANGIA, MANGIA  
 LOVE THE ITALIAN WAY  
 MANGIA, MANGIA  
 THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY  
 MANGIA

*(At the end of the number ROZ and BIGGIE are together at their table "smitten" and RYAN and MARY are similarly in love and MAMA has a satisfied look on her face.)*

## SCENE SEVEN

*(This scene is a series of brief vignettes intended to show some passage of time from Mary's entry into the race.)*

*(Threatening underscore as ALDERMEN roll MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS in on demolition crane. Alternately they could be grouped around plunger for dynamite.)*

### MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS

Here we go. Say good by to the Palace and hello LooLoo. Count me down boys.

### ALDERMEN

Five, four, three

*(EDDIE enters running, waving paper, followed by police officer)*

### EDDIE

COURT ORDER, COURT ORDER  
STOP THE DEMOLITION  
COURT ORDER, COURT ORDER  
I'M HERE TO SAVE TRADITION

I FILED THE FORMS AND PHOTOS  
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
THE STATE HISTORIC OFFICER  
APPROVED THE NOMINATION  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
IS AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION  
THEY ISSUED MY ATTORNEY  
THIS IRON CLAD INJUNCTION

COURT ORDER, COURT ORDER  
STOP THE DEMOLITION

*(BIGGIE and ALDERMEN stunned and dejected, lights down)*

*(Lights remain down. VINNY on stage star-gazing.  
MAMA CERELLI enters)*

**MAMA CERELLI**

Hi, Vinny

**VINNY**

Hey, Babe. Nice night.

**MAMA CERELLI**

It is. I been takin' drum lessons.

*(VINNY and MAMA CERELLI exit)*

*(Lights up on BIGGIE and ROZ sight-seeing)*

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Here's our City Hall, designed by Cass Gilbert. Same fella who designed some of those big buildings down in New York City.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

I'm curious. Why the name Biggie?

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

Probably not what you think. My first name is actually Ethan. In grade school I had trouble with penmanship. Always forgot the capital letters. My teacher would say, "Remember Ethan, Big E." The other kids would tease me and call me "Big E". But I think I've grown into it.

**ROZ SHERWOOD**

That's actually cute. Say, Biggie why don't you come to New York for a visit and I can show you some of those other Cass Gilbert buildings.

**MAYOR BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

That's a great idea. I got the election in the bag, no sweat. No need to worry about the absentees. And I do enjoy your company.

YOU KNOW IT MIGHT BE NICE  
TO HAVE SOMEONE TO SHARE  
THE SWEET TASTE OF VICTORY  
A GLASS OF WINE OR A BEER

**ROZ and BIGGIE WILLIAMS**

I'M NOT SAYING I'M LONELY  
BUT IT MIGHT BE NICE

*(BIGGIE and ROZ stroll off-stage)*

**CITIZENS**

*(Same voters Eddie had met earlier going about their daily business)*

**RYAN**

*(Enters, waving newspaper)*

Get your free copy of the Watchdog! Get the latest news. LULU Corporation Indicted. Places Rated rankings are fixed. Expose' by Mary Doyle brings down the bad guys. Get your free copy!

**CITIZENS**

*(Pay attention and show gratitude that LULU has been stopped)*

**MARY**

*(Enters, soliciting support, passing out flyers)*

Hi, I'm Mary Doyle, Brass City's prodigal daughter. I'm home. I'm sorry. I'm running for Mayor. Please come out and vote.

**CITIZENS**

*(Smile, supportive, accept flyers, signal good luck you can do it etc.)*

**CITIZENS, MARY, RYAN**

WHEN THE HEART OF THE STORY  
BEATS LOUD AND TRUE  
YOU CAN WRITE IT IN NEW YORK OR TIMBUKTU  
AND THE HEART OF THE STORY COMES THROUGH

*(MARY, RYAN and CITIZEN, exit, lights down)*

*(Lights up on TV Reality Show, HOST, GRACIE, OTHER CONTESTANTS)*

**TV HOST** *(With Microphone)*

Boys and girls, this is the part of our show that I don't like so much. Someone has to go home. We have the votes from the judges, from our audience and fans. And sometimes I just don't get it. Because tonight I have to say good-bye to one of the classiest most talented ladies I have ever met. Gracie Doyle. Step out here Gracie.

*(GRACIE steps out from the contestants, disappointed but accepting)*

**TV HOST**

Gracie, you made it to our Final Four. And frankly, I thought you were going all the way. I don't know how it happened but you didn't get the votes to move on.

**GRACIE**

Johnny, I'd be lying if I said I wasn't disappointed. But this was great fun and I'm ready to head home. There's someone there I've been missing.

**TV HOST**

Do you think it was just 'cause these other contestants are all so young. I mean, I'm not old, but even I don't get some of the stuff they perform. What can you say about that?

**GRACIE**

Johnny, we're only young once, but the music lasts forever.

*(Taking microphone and addressing the young contestants)*

THE FIRES OF SPRING CAN BURN DOWN LOW  
 BUT THE EMBERS HOLD A GLOW  
 DON'T LET TIME DIM YOUR DESIRE  
 STIR THE ASHES IGNITE THE FIRE

*(CONTESTANTS hug GRACIE, lights down)*

**SCENE EIGHT**

**SETTING: Palace Theater. Backstage**  
MARY, RYAN, GRACIE, EDDIE.

*(Before scene opens, RYAN comes across stage hawking newspapers headlining MARY'S victory)*

**RYAN**

Extra! Extra! Read All about it! Mary Doyle upset victory. Mary Doyle elected mayor. Read all about it in the Brass City Watchdog. Mary Doyle elected mayor.

*(RYAN exits Lights come up on main scene with MARY and GRACIE entering)*

**GRACIE**

Thanks for picking me up.

**MARY**

That's OK. Sorry I couldn't be down for the final show, but I had a conflict with the election and all.

**GRACIE**

I know. I sent in my absentee ballot. I think it was the winning vote!

**MARY**

I'm sure it was. There were very few absentee ballots this election and I won them by one vote!

Close as it was, I don't think Biggie minded losing. Atty. McGill got him an immunity deal to testify against LooLoo and he and Roz are off on a honeymoon cruise.

And Dad told us all about the show.

**GRACIE**

What do you mean he told you?



**MARY**

Mom, he's been in the audience for every show. He thought you were still mad, but he wasn't going to miss the show.

**GRACIE**

The old hardhead. Maybe I should be mad. But I missed him too damn much. Where is he? Is that son of a bitch hiding out here?

*(EDDIE steps out to meet GRACIE, MARY exits).*

**EDDIE**

You got robbed, babe.

**GRACIE**

I should have seen it coming. Not one of them was over twenty three!

**EDDIE**

None of them could sing either.

**GRACIE**

Did you miss me?

**EDDIE**

Did I miss you?

**Music #21 GIVE ME A LITTLE KISS Track #19**

KISS ME, KISS ME  
EMBRACE ME WITH YOUR CHARMS

Did you miss me?

**GRACIE**

HUG ME HOLD ME  
WRAP ME IN YOUR LOVING ARMS

**EDDIE**

GIVE ME A LITTLE KISS TONIGHT

**GRACIE**

GIVE ME A LITTLE HUG HELLO

**EDDIE and GRACIE**

GIVE ME A LITTLE SQUEEZE  
 WHEN YOU'RE PASSING BY  
 JUST TO LET ME KNOW  
 AFTER ALL THE YEARS  
 THROUGH THE SMILES AND TEARS  
 YOU STILL LOVE ME SO

**GRACIE**

TOUCH ME, TOUCH ME  
 TOUCH ME WITH YOUR LOVING HAND

**EDDIE**

HOLD ME, HOLD ME  
 HOLD ME JUST AS CLOSE AS YOU CAN

**EDDIE and GRACIE**

GIVE ME A LITTLE KISS TONIGHT  
 GIVE ME A LITTLE HUG HELLO  
 GIVE ME A LITTLE SQUEEZE  
 WHEN YOU'RE PASSING BY  
 JUST TO LET ME KNOW  
 AFTER ALL THE YEARS  
 THROUGH THE SMILES AND TEARS  
 YOU STILL LOVE ME SO

**GRACIE**

I STILL LOVE YOU SO

**EDDIE**

I STILL LOVE YOU SO

**GRACIE**

Give me a little kiss.

*(EDDIE and GRACIE kiss then look over to MARY and RYAN who slip back on stage during song and are also kissing)*

**GRACIE**

This is a happy reunion and it's nice to see those two together again. Like the old days, everybody smooching it up backstage before we go on.

**EDDIE**

Got a show to do and I can't go on without you. C'mon. Ryan! Showtime.

*(EDDIE, GRACIE and RYAN exit. MARY also exits and returns directing STAGEHAND where to set up mic)*

**MARY**

Welcome, welcome everybody. C'mon out here Mom.

*(GRACIE enters)*

It's my honor as Brass City's newest, youngest and first female Mayor, to proudly proclaim this Gracie Doyle Day! To commemorate the day, I am pleased to present you with the key to the city.

I also want to announce this old theater will not be demolished. In fact we just got a huge grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to restore the Palace to its original grandeur. Dad, get out here and give her the special news.

*(EDDIE enters)*

**EDDIE**

Sweetheart, I know how much you got a lift out of seeing our names etched together in the Brass City Jail. So by special arrangement with the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, welcome to the "Eddie Loves Gracie" Auditorium! (*"Eddie Loves Gracie" lights up written across the back of the stage. Gracie gets all misty and hugs Eddie*)

**MARY**

And to celebrate...here they are...back together...Eddie and The Palaceades!

*(Mary exits as the rest of the band enters, hug Gracie)*

**EDDIE**

One-two-three.

**Music #22 BACK TOGETHER Track #20****THE PALACEADES**

WE OPENED FOR THE BEATLES TOUR  
BACK IN SIXTY SIX  
PLAYED IT LOUD AND ROCKED THE CROWD  
THEN WE CALLED IT QUILTS  
MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE NEXT BIG THING  
BIGGER THAN THE ROLLING STONES  
LET THAT CHANCE SLIP AWAY  
BUT WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL

WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
GOING OUT ON THE ROAD  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER

FORGET WHAT IF OR COULD HAVE BEEN  
FRIENDS AND BANDMATES TO THE END  
DIDN'T BURN OUT GO DOWN IN FLAMES  
WE'RE SIXTIES ROCK AND ROLL REMAINS

WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
GOING OUT ON THE ROAD  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER

WE GOT THE SONGS, WE GOT THE BAND  
OUR LEADING LADY IS IN DEMAND  
WE'RE STILL PLAYING HAVIN' FUN  
OUR OLDIES TOUR HAS JUST BEGUN

WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
GOING OUT ON THE ROAD

**THE PALACEADES** *(Continued)*

WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER

MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE NEXT BIG THING  
BIGGER THAN THE ROLLING STONES  
LET THAT CHANCE SLIP AWAY  
BUT WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
GOING OUT ON THE ROAD  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
WE STILL ROCK AND ROLL  
WE'RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER  
WE'RE BACK  
BACK TOGETHER!

**END OF PLAY**

*(ENCORE: BANGARANG)*

*(During the bow, MAMA CERELLI switches places with RYAN next to VINNY in the band line-up and moves RYAN beside MARY)*