

HOMETOWN

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HOMETOWN

The Funeral of Tom. We are in Sunbury, PA. 2020.

The ADULTS gathered sitting in the room, center stage in two rows.

Tom's casket is downstage to the right, closed.

All cast members are currently 45 – 50. We are in present time at the funeral of Tom, and we will go back in time to the same cast 35 years earlier. (1985)

We will be able to identify who is who by the COLOR of the shirt/blouse that they have on.

THE ADULT CAST

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

THE YOUNG CAST

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HOMETOWN

SCENES & SONGS

Contents

ACT 1 - SCENE 1 – Welcome to HOMETOWN.....	5
<i>SONG - HOMETOWN</i>	6
<i>SONG - JUST WEST OF NOWHERE</i>	12
<i>SONG - THIS LITTLE TOWN</i>	16
ACT 1 - SCENE 2 - Patrick’s Story	20
SONG - A LITTLE SUGAR IN MY TEA.....	26
ACT 1 - SCENE 3 – Take a Chance.....	29
<i>SONG - THE UNICORN</i>	30
ACT 1 - SCENE 4 - Regrets	33
<i>SONG - LOOKING BACK</i>	33
ACT 1 - SCENE 5 - Where is Superman	36
<i>SONG - SUPERMAN</i>	37
<i>SONG - WOULD YOU RATHER</i>	42
ACT 2 - SCENE 1 – What You See	45
<i>SONG - BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES</i>	50
ACT 2 - SCENE 2 - Cindy’s Lament	52
<i>SONG - PEACEFUL RAIN</i>	53
ACT 2 - SCENE 3 - The Lasting Relationship	58
<i>SONG - DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY</i>	59
ACT 2 - SCENE 4 - The Parents	62
<i>SONG - YOUNGER, OLDER</i>	62
ACT 2- SCENE 5 - The Conversation.....	68
<i>SONG - WHAT IF</i>	69
ACT 2- SCENE 6 - Heading to the ending.....	72
<i>SONG - THE BRIDGE</i>	79
<i>SONG - IN JUST A FEW”</i>	79
<i>SONG - HOMETOWN</i>	85

HOMETOWN

LYRICS	87
HOMETOWN.....	87
Just West of Nowhere	88
In This Little Town	89
A Little Sugar in My Tea	91
The Unicorn	93
Looking Back.....	95
Superman	96
WouldYou Rather?	97
Bonnie flies on planes now	98
Peaceful Rain	99
Does your heart have a key?	100
Younger...older	102
What If	104
The Bridge/Just a Few	106

HOMETOWN

ACT 1 - SCENE 1 – Welcome to HOMETOWN

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

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

PARTICK

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

CINDY

(Sharply to Patrick)

SHHHH. Have some respect.

PATRICK

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

CINDY

(Again SHARPLY):

SHHHHHH. Come on, Patrick keep it down.

PATRICK

I am just saying....

CELIA

(Cuts PATRICK off)

I agree.

*She looks at Cindy as Cindy starts to protest, and Celia raises her hand
(CELIA says in a firm and Quiet tone),*

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

FRED

(In a matter-of-fact tone)

I just talked with Tom last month. We had not caught up in a long time and I saw him at the Hotel EDISON He said that he was feeling good about everything. Phil when did you talk with, Tom last?

PHILIP

He shakes his head and needs to collect his thoughts

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

CELIA

She wipes gentle tears from her eyes

Yes Phil, Tom and I talked

She pauses and reflects

we agreed that it would all be OK

FRED

(Slowly in a questioning tone)

HOMETOWN

Well Celia, did you tell him?

CELIA
(Embarrassed)

FRED! No, I did not tell Tom.

LILY
(She steps right on that line)

Tell Tom what?

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

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

TOM
(In a “like dah” tone)
Guys, I can TOTALLY hear you.... Fred, Cee, Phil,
(He yells)

“Hey, Paddy...Mate” come on I am IN THE ROOM

SONG - HOMETOWN

(We hear “HOMETOWN “start to vamp.)

TOM
TOM looks down. Looks at the CASKET. Looks at everyone sitting there. In a “ohhhh I get it

Ohhhh they cannot hear me. I am dead.

He looks at himself and laughs

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

(The music continues to vamp)

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

TOM
You see, I LOVE my hometown. The others,
He pans back to them and again smile
well, not so much. We have been around together for a long time.

The Father appears up on Backstage right. He looks at Tom

FATHER
(Speaking in a plain voice)

HOMETOWN

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

(The music vamps up louder)

TOM

He nods a humble apology. FATHER does not hear Tom's reply

I am sorry, Dad.

TOM SINGS

Looking out to the audience

Fathers and Sons.

FATHER

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

TOM SINGS

Fathers and Sons.

MOTHER

Appears Backstage Left

Celia?

CELIA

She turns from the group. Speaking in an unfeeling voice, still shocked at the entire funeral event

Yes, mother?

MOTHER

(In a worried tone)

Are you going to be, ok?

(The music vamps back up)

TOM SINGS

Mothers and Daughters...

CELIA

Of course. I have to be.

TOM SINGS

Mothers and Daughters

MOTHER

I worry for you

TOM SINGS

Mothers and Daughters

(The music vamps)

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

HOMETOWN

TOM, CELIA, FATHER, and MOTHER SING

*Fathers and sons
Just like mothers and daughter
They do what they do
They live what they've learned*

FATHER and MOTHER SING

They Pass down regrets

TOM and CELIA SING

They pass down their mistakes trying not to get burned

Everyone gets up and they clear the stage removing the chairs, Tom pushes his casket off the stage

(The music vamps)

The actors all group in the middle NEED a COMMON pose here ...think of the Charlie's Angels pose as we will come back to this often

THE OLDER CAST SINGS

*And it goes like it goes
Like a merry go round.
Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?*

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

*And it goes like it goes
Like a merry go round.
Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?*

As the fog is lifted, we see the actors (younger version) in the same pose. The ADULTS are in the back of the stage in dim lighting. We know who they are by the color of their shirts. All other actors now have younger versions of them

THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*And it goes like it goes
Like a merry go round.
Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?
And it goes like it goes
Like a merry go round.
Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?*

HOMETOWN

THE YOUNG CAST and TOM (SINGS):

*Winners and losers like local bartenders
They all know the stories of fortune and fame*

The LADIES (SING)

They all have their moments their place in the sun

The MEN (SING)

But when the dust settles, they all turn to run

THE MEN THE WOMEN

*And it goes and it goes
Like it goes Like it goes
Like a merry go round Like a merry go round
Do you get off or stay on Do you get off or stay on?*

THE ENTIRE CAST (SINGS):

In this Hometown

*Tom comes centerstage and he looks around
The CAST WILL SING THE CHORUS to “Hometown” underneath the introductions.*

TOM

(He breathes in.)

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

He does the classic “YMCA” from the Village People then laughs to himself
Such a great place to grow up. Such a quiet place to live. I remember we used to have

He trails off for a moment and looks around
An ice cream truck that would go around
He smiles

You’re gonna meet some people, hear some stories, connect, disconnect, maybe see yourself a bit, maybe I may see more of myself a bit and learn a few things, too.

*The pairs of each person come to light as they are introduced. They each wear the same
COLOR so we can get who is who*

There is the Rebel, Fred.

Enter YOUNG FRED and FRED

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

YOUNG FRED and FRED

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

HOMETOWN

TOM

Ok

He nods to the Fred's in an apology.

Then there is the HYPOCRITE, Cindy.

Enter YOUNG CINDY and CINDY

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

YOUNG CINDY and CINDY

(Using "AIR" quote)

Tom, you know I "got your back" (

TOM

AH, sure,

(He smiles)

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

Enter YOUNG PHILIP and PHILIP

YOUNG PHILIP and PHILIP

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

TOM

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

Enter YOUNG Lily and Lily

She has her eye on someone.

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

She is beautiful

Lily smiles in a bashful way

inside and out.

YOUNG LILY and LILY

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

TOM

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

Enter YOUNG CELIA and CELIA

there is Celia, or as I call her, CEE

YOUNG CELIA and CELIA

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

TOM

Wow well said.

Tom nods to CELIA and the CELIA'S nod back

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

Enter YOUNG PATRICK and PATRICK

HOMETOWN

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

YOUNG PATRICK and PATRICK

In the best whining Irish accent, a tough wise guy

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

TOM

He smiles at the PATRICK and nods

Ok

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

We have our FATHER and MOTHER

Enter these two

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

FATHER and MOTHER

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

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

TOM

Oh yes, the young me sorry pal

They smile at each other

The cast all mingles and intertwines in a messy group on the stage as they "Ohh and AHH" the verse to "HOMETOWN" they split the stage in exact mirror images of the YOUNG and ADULT group the stage

THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS

And it goes like it goes like a merry-go-round

Do you get off (echo "do you get off")?

Of stay on (echo "or stay on")

In this hometown.

The cast exits and we here as they depart

Fathers and sons.... mothers and daughters

Fathers and sons.... mothers and daughters

Tom now introduces us to the HOMETOWN, and we will go backward and forward in time. The "Town is just a "suggestion" of minor props.

TOM

So welcome

Tom moves center stages and does a big bow
to my HOMETOWN

HOMETOWN

*He breathes in, smiles, and looks around
Sunbury, PA.*

*He hums “Just West of Nowhere” and then sings like it is an old familiar song that we
should all know but we don’t. He makes it sound so easy we think we must know that song from
somewhere in the past*

It is

He trails off and hums a bit more

It is

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

TOM (SINGS)

(Not singing sad, just very plainly)

SONG - JUST WEST OF NOWHERE

Just west of nowhere

Just east of nothing special

Just south of who can remember

Patrick and Fred come out

PATRICK & FRED (SING)

Just a bit north of never-come-back

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

CAST SINGS

Not hard to leave not easy to return

Pause

TOM, PATRICK, and CELIA step forward

TOM, PATRICK, and CELIA SING

And so, you keep driving.

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

Just west of nowhere

Just east of nothing special

Just south of who can remember

Just a bit north of never-come-back

Not hard to leave not easy to return

And so, you keep driving.

HOMETOWN

TOM

Speaks with confidence and looking back in his heart

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

(He smiles)

Sunbury sits at the *CONFLUENCE*

He pauses and thinks of that word "CONFLUENCE"

He speaks this again with pride

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

PATRICK comes up

PATRICK

Laughing

I always loved that name, mate, "SUS-QUEEEEEEE-HANNNNNA"

They laugh

TOM

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

FRED comes out and joins them

FRED

He says this with a bit of longing

I always wanted to. Always.

FRED looks at TOM and PATRICK

Why did we never go ahead and to that?

FRED is trying to remember

TOM, PATRICK & FRED in unison

They then look at each other and nod and smile as they remember

Because our moms said, "no."

They all laugh

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

CELIA comes up

CELIA

She says with a little longing and past concern in her voice

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

TOM

Longing and looking out

HOMETOWN

With a great view.

They all look out and remember

PHILIP comes up on stage

PHILIP

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

FRED

Sunday brunch there is the best. CHICKEN AND WAFFLES.

LILY and CINDY come out

LILY

We had the “five and dime” stores

CINDY

In a little “told you so” attitude)
they left.

LILY

In a wonderful remembering tone
Woolworths...Newberry’s...a SEARS Catalog store

CINDY

Even more of “I told you so” voice
AND...They left.

LILY looks at CINDY, rolls her eyes. She takes CINDY’S arm, and they stroll to the side, talking quietly and laughing

TOM

Picking the light pace back up

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

Tom pauses and breathes in and then exhales. He smiles
I love this town.

TOM pauses and breathes in deep and then exhales
You can smell the easy life that a lot of us had here.

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

CAST SINGS

Then I’m stopped at the light.

HOMETOWN

Should I go left, should go right?

Looking back won't help at all.

You just can't see the rise.

You just can't see the fall.

I see your face just like you were always there.

Then it all fades.

The music plays underneath the following dialogue

Lines are said in a memory-like state

TOM

Memories fade.

CELIA

Everything starts to fade after time

FRED

We used to get a LOT of snow

PHILIP

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

LILY

Lebo's

CELIA SINGS

Just west of "nowhere"

Half a mile from "memories."

FRED AND PATRICK SING

Half a lifetime ago I let it go.

PHILIP AND LILY SING

Just a small place that I used to call home

CINDY SINGS

Not hard to leave, not easy to return.

CINDY (Speaking)

Sometimes I drive by the exit, and I mean to turn off but there is nothing here anymore. I moved on.

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

And so, you keep driving.

The YOUNG CAST now moves forward

YOUNG CAST SINGS

Then I'm stopped at the light.

Should I go left, should go right?

Looking back won't help at all.

OLD CAST JOINS IN HARMONY AND SINGS

You just can't see the rise.

HOMETOWN

You just can't see the fall.

TOM AND CELIA SING

I see your face just like you were always there.

TOM SINGS

Then it all fades.

CAST SINGS

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

CAST SINGS

Then it all fades. Then it all fades. Then it fades.

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

YOUNG FRED

To CINDY and PHILIP

Do you want to go to the movies tonight?

YOUNG CINDY

What's playing?

YOUNG FRED

"Back to the Future"

YOUNG PHILIP

I really like that song by Huey Lewis,

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

(They laugh)

YOUNG CINDY

I am in

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

SONG - THIS LITTLE TOWN

TOM

He speaks easy and full of remembering his HOMETOWN

The things that you remember and things that you let go

Come back to you so randomly, why I remember now I don't know

TOM SINGS

The music vamps right up. The song is easy and moves along as we tell the story

HOMETOWN

It's just a small little town,

YOUNG PATRICK JOINS IN WITH TOM and SINGS

not very grand

YOUNG FRED SINGS

*Use hand gestures to show the "Numbers" like "3-banks; 10-churches etc.
Three banks, ten churches*

YOUNG CINDY AND YOUNG LILY SING

and a winning high school band

YOUNG PHILIP AND YOUNG TOM

It has four seasons, eight traffic lights

YOUNG CELIA

And when they go to bed, they don't lock the doors at night in this little town.

YOUNG FRED, YOUNG CINDY & YOUNG PHILIP SING

Friday nights in the fall we'd all go to the game

YOUNG FRED SINGS

I didn't know what was going on, but I loved it just the same

TOM, YOUNG PHILIP, YOUNG CINDY & YOUNG FRED SING:

The band. The food. The lights. The crowd.

When the hometown team scored, we all cheered aloud.

ALL THE YOUNG CAST & TOM SING

It's just a small little town, not very grand

Three banks, ten churches and a winning high school band

It has four seasons, eight traffic lights

ENTER the ADULT CAST and they move to the CENTER. They join in and sing the next line

CAST SINGS

And when they go to bed, they don't lock the doors at night in this little town.

YOUNG CELIA SINGS

The was this time one year when everything went black

Daddy had this thing called a heart attack

HOMETOWN

I was ten. I didn't know How quickly time goes by.

CELIA SINGS

It's been almost 50 years and at times I still cry.

THE ENTIRE CAST SINGS in a RHYTHMIC STYLE, Enjoying the SMALL TOWN we are NOT minimizing the humble place of SUNBURY, PA

THE CAST

It's just a small little town, not very grand

Three banks, ten churches and a winning high school band

It has four seasons, eight traffic lights

(In harmony and echo)

And when they go to bed, they don't lock the doors at night in this little town.

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

Spot on Tom as he speaks

TOM

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

CINDY

And they left

Tom looks to her and smiles

PATRICK

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

FRED

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

We pick up the song again

PHILP SINGS

The stores on Market Street are mostly gone

CINDY SINGS

The two movie theatres closed.

PATRICK SINGS

Most businesses moved on.

FRED SINGS

My sister left. My brothers stayed. Me? I could not wait to run.

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

Looking back, I wonder what I was running from?

HOMETOWN

CELIA SINGS

The bullies now are mostly losers.

LILY SINGS

And the Prom Queen has four kids

OLDER CAST SINGS

And the ones who thought they mattered; Now realize they never did

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

*SLOWLY SING the first 3-words in harmony and then hold
It's just a*

ACAPELLA START SLOW THEN BUILD

small little town, not very grand

Three banks, ten churches and a winning high school band

BACK WITH THE TEMPO AND THE MUSIC

It has four seasons, eight traffic lights

In harmony and echo

And when they go to bed, they don't lock the doors at night in this little town.

In this little town

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

TOM SINGS

In this little town

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

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

TOM SINGS

In this little town.

*Tom heads off stage and Patrick drifts to the side we hear Patrick "SUS –
QUEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE- HANNNNNA laughter by all.*

HOMETOWN

ACT 1 - SCENE 2 - Patrick's Story

LILY, PHILIP, and PATRICK are sitting together stage right. YOUNG LILY, YOUNG PHILIP and YOUNG PATRICK are in the same position on stage left. Both groups are talking easily among each other. YOUNG TOM enters and joins his group. TOM joins his group.

We will hear the love YOUNG PATRICK has for MAGGIE; we then hear the lesson he learned in "A Little Sugar for My Tea."

YOUNG PATRICK

Tommy Boy, did you see her, I mean did you *fouking* see her?

YOUNG TOM

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

YOUNG PHILIP

Aw come on, Tommy, don't tell him

YOUNG LILY

Now guys don't pick up Patrick he

YOUNG TOM

Stepping right on the line

Ohhhhh believe me, Paddy can easily take care of himself

YOUNG PATRICK

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

YOUNG PHILIP

Teasing along with YOUNG TOM

Tommy, you better tell him.

YOUNG TOM

I don't think I should

YOUNG PATRICK

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

YOUNG TOM

Dead serious, really playing this out

Well, she really has it bad for me.

YOUNG LILY

No!

HOMETOWN

YOUNG PATRICK

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

YOUNG TOM

Puffing up like a rooster, really playing it big

Yes Sir, she wants me.

YOUNG PHILIP

Playing right along and not missing a beat

It’s true

YOUNG PATRICK is floored by this

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

They all laugh. YOUNG Patrick is not sure what is going on than he “gets it”

YOUNG PATRICK

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

YOUNG LILY

Really? You never said that.

YOUNG PATRICK

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

YOUNG PHILIP

Wait, have you even *talked* with her yet?

YOUNG PATRICK

Well, I ah...

He is struggling to save his pride

I mean who needs conversation when got all of this

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

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

YOUNG LILLY

Startled

HOMETOWN

Ah sure! Sure! You are all that and

YOUNG PHILIP

Sooooooooooooo much more

They all laugh

YOUNG PATRICK

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

The light comes up on the adult group. No break in the dialogue moment

LILY

Patrick?

PATRICK

Yea, Lil?

LILY

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

She hands Patrick a photo

And I always wondered what happened?

TOM

Oh boy, this is gonna be messy

PHILIP

Yes, I never heard the whole story.

PATRICK

The “whole story” well there is not much to tell.

Very matter of fac

We dated. We got plans. We were going to get married and she kept putting me off. 5-years of this and *THEN* she dumps me. No not dumps me, she *TRASHES* me. BOOM. I am tossed out with the garbage.

TOM

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

LILY

Well, I never saw that.

PATRICK

I am really good at hiding things. My heart was broken.

He lightens up as only the Irish can do! Mood change

But. Two things helped me.

HOMETOWN

He looks to TOM and winks and gives a wry Irish smile

PHILIP

Two things? I would love to hear this.

LILY

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

PATRICK

Well, Tommy, tell them what you told me.

Again, he looks to TOM and winks and smiles

TOM

He is a bit shy on this, did not want to put this out there

Oh well it was, I don’t know. What was it I said?

PATRICK

Tommy, my mate, this saved me.

Patrick moves next to TOM easily puts his arm on Tom’s shoulder, like the best of friends

Should I tell them what you told me?

He looks to Tom and Tom shakes his head yes.

Tommy said when I was at the bottom, which I did not know I was *AT THE BOTTOM*, Tommy said this to me: “*The heart is just a place inside your head.*”

LILY and PHILIP look at Patrick, then to Tom but they are missing the point. PATRICK looks at them and they do not get it. He repeats slower

“The heart is just a place inside your head.”

Mates! You understand right? Your Heart is “just a place” in your mind, it really can’t be broken so ...GET ON WITH IT

LILY

In a plain voice

Well, that is very cool.

PATRICK

HOMETOWN

COOL? COOL? It is fouking brilliant.

He gives Tom a hug

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

PHILIP

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

PATRICK

He pauses then says very simply

A little sugar in my tea.

LILY

WHAT? A little sugar

PATRICK

Simple and with no hesitation, like this is a basic LIFE LESSON.

In my tea.

Patrick looks at the others and checks in for understanding. He continues plainly

After Maggie and I split I was kind of low, well not low, kicked to the curb. I was bad, but I was making myself that way. I called me Mum, she moved back to Ireland, said she missed her

CAST SINGS

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

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

Pause and looks at them and then shakes his head

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

LILY

And what does that mean?

She is teasing Patrick

PATRICK

No offense, but telling me when “life is bittersweet” ...

(He pauses. We forget that Patrick is such a great storyteller. Maybe his accent, maybe his heart. Either way, we love to hear Patrick tell us a story. His timing changes, he catches us by surprise)

HOMETOWN

well, I let that go and for another long while I just burned up inside. Negative. Angry.

(He pauses and thinks for a minute then he looks at Lily)

Well, my pain is my pain. We always kept things quiet in my family. Maybe too much so, we were not one to argue, but *FOUCK* would we HOLD ON TO THINGS...for EVER.

When she left me, I didn't know what to do? I was never for dumped like that before. I kept my rage in. I broke a lamp.

TOM

Seriously, a lamp?

PATRICK

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

LILY

Oh my.

PATRICK

In February. In the Winter. In Sunbury, PA. Notso smart.

PHILIP

Not smart.

PATRICK

(Quickly jumping on that)

Not helping, Phil. Not helping.

(They all laugh)

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

TOM

Well, it was not. A few

PHILIP

I NEVER get that phone call.

LILY

Phil...

PHILIP

Those two ALWAYS have the fun!

PATRICK

So, we sat and drank

TOM

And Drank

PATRICK

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

(The music starts for "A Little Sugar in My Tea")

HOMETOWN

SONG - A LITTLE SUGAR IN MY TEA

PATRICK SINGS

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

I could not get over you so easily

I could not let go of the

I held on to every hurt that I felt

And every wrong you did I made it last.

(Patrick connects with each of them on different lines)

Momma said, "try a little honey."

Daddy said, "just let it be."

I told myself "I got to let it go."

Momma said, "when life is bittersweet, then try a little sugar in your tea."

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

PATRICK SINGS

I felt the need to take control.

This seemed to help the time go by fast

PATRICK & PHILLIP SING

I pointed out your faults from 5 years ago

TOM AND PATRICK SING

And every wrong you did I made it last.

LILY & PATRICK SING

(Lily joins in on the chorus in harmony)

Momma said, "try a little honey."

TOM, PHILLIP, LILY & PATRICK SING

(Tom and Philip join in on this line along with Lily and Patrick)

Daddy said, "just let it be."

PATRICK SINGS

I told myself "I got to let it go."

LILY & PATRICK

Momma said, "when life is bittersweet, then try a little sugar in your tea."

PATRICK SINGS

I saw your picture and went back in time

TOM, LILY, PATRICK, and PHILIP SING

I could not let go of the past

PATRICK SINGS

And I remembered all the times you lied

TOM, LILY, PATRICK, and PHILIP SING

HOMETOWN

(Singing this line like it is Age old Wisdom)

And every wrong you did I made it last.

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

PARTICK SINGS

Sitting here, alone with these thoughts

Is that the price I really want to pay?

PATRICK, TOM, LILY & PHILLIP SING

(Now all join in stacked harmony for the next two lines)

There is always a cost

When it comes to hearts.

PATRICK & TOM SING

(Patrick and Tom sing together they are BEST MATES, and this is full of love and emotion. Tom puts his arm over Patrick's shoulder, and they sing thoughtfully)

Do you pay it now or wait another day?

PATRICK

(Thoughtfully, again telling us a wonderful story)

I was sitting in a window seat in a restaurant

Thinking of what will become of me.

The waiter asks,

TOM SINGS

(TOM BECOMES THE WAITER AND SINGS)

"Can I get you anything?"

PATRICK SINGS

(PATRICK, pause and little smile, he finally gets the magic of "A little Sugar"

"May I have a little sugar in my tea?"

(The entire cast now comes on stage, joining their respective AGE groups. They sit in a mirrored image of each other. They sing in a full-on harmony.

WOMEN SING

Momma said, "try a little honey."

MEN SING

Daddy said, "just let it be."

PATRICK SINGS

I told myself "I got to let it go."

CAST SING

Momma said, "when life is bittersweet, then try a little sugar in your tea."

(NOW ACAPELLA)

Momma said, "try a little honey."

Daddy said, "just let it be."

I told myself "I got to let it go."

Momma said, "when life is bittersweet, then try a little sugar in your tea."

HOMETOWN

When life is bittersweet

Then Try a little sugar in your tea.

Then Try

A little Sugar

In my Tea

Then Try a little sugar in your tea

(All leave Celia joins Tom and Patrick)

PATRICK & TOM SING

ENTIRE CAST SING

TOM SINGS

LILY SINGS

PATRICK

ENTIRE CAST SINGS

HOMETOWN

ACT 1 - SCENE 3 – Take a Chance

Patrick Tom and Celia are together. These three are very easy with each other. Conversation flows and they usually deal with things head on. Patrick thinks that Tom and Celia are avoiding the obvious point about their relationship.

PATRICK

(To Tom and Celia)

Tom and Cee, can I ask you a question?

CELIA

Sure, Patrick, anything

TOM

Fire away, Mate.

PATRICK

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

CELIA

Yea, I never thought I would have stayed.

TOM

I thought of going west.

CELIA

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

TOM

Pittsburgh.

CELIA

(She is floored)

PITTSBURGH? PITTSBURGH, OMG why there?

TOM

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

PATRICK

(Starting to “dig” now for the answer to why Tom stayed. Patrick knows it is because of Celia)

And why did you never go?

TOM

(He looks at CELIA, then looks down)

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

CELIA

I *REALLY* wanted to get out.

(She looks at Tom, then at Patrick, then looks down for a moment, collecting her thoughts)

But, well, I didn't. Something in my heart told me I should stay.

PATRICK

HOMETOWN

(Now getting to what he was trying to get to, why they both stayed, because of each other)

Hamm, your “heart? Interesting

TOM

After a while, a year then 5 years pass then

(Picking right up on the same word “then”)

CELIA

Then you stop taking chances.

(They all look at each other and nod in agreement)

TOM

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

PATRICK

(Patrick looks at the two of them and smiles)

FOUK! That is easy. The two of you!

(They all look at each other and smile)

CELIA

That is very kind of you.

PATRICK

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

(They all laugh)

TOM

I was always waiting for a sign

CELIA

(She looks at TOM, then to PATRICK)

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

SONG - THE UNICORN

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

PATRICK SINGS

The call that you were waiting for never comes when it should

The news that you were hoping for is never quite as good

And you wish you could start over a second chance, maybe get reborn

And you got to learn the difference between a horse and a unicorn.

Take a chance to ride on dreams

Or take a ride you know is real?

If you passed under the rainbow

Do you think that you would feel?

The magic and the wonder or just the saddle and the spurs

The unicorn is waiting for a chance or stay as you were.

HOMETOWN

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

PATRICK SINGS

*And all the miles that you put between you and your sordid past
And you know it will come back to you, sometimes slow, sometimes fast*

CELIA SINGS

*And you try to piece together a broken heart that's been slightly torn
If you could only know which one to ride, the horse or the unicorn.*

PATRICK, CELIA & TOM CHORUS:

*Take a chance to ride on dreams
Or take a ride you know is real?
If you passed under the rainbow
Do you think that you would feel?
The magic and the wonder or just the saddle and the spurs
The unicorn is waiting for a chance or stay as you were.*

PATRICK AND CELIA
(SING TO TOM)

*And it's plain to see to everyone the things that are in your way
They've tried to show you the signs to help keep your fears at bay*

TOM SINGS

If only hindsight could be used right now to wake you up, blow the horn

PATRICK SINGS

*Better love the ride you choose be it the horse or unicorn.
Looking back is never half as good as looking at what lies ahead*

TOM SINGS

Regretting all things, you missed, better to take action instead

CELIA SINGS

*Of wasting time on what might have been, let your life run *its* course*

PATRICK SINGS

You only get one chance to ride the ride on the unicorn or the horse.

PATRICK, CELIA, and TOM SING

*Take a chance to ride on dreams
Or take a ride you know is real?
If you passed under the rainbow
Do you think that you would feel?*

*The magic and the wonder or just the saddle and the spurs
The Unicorn is waiting, take a chance or stay as you were*

PATRICK SINGS

The call that you were waiting for never comes when it should.

HOMETOWN

(Pause as they all sit in the thought of “choosing” the UNICORN instead of the HORSE)

TOM

(In a questioning tone)

Patrick?

PATRICK

Yes, Mate?

TOM

Where do I find a unicorn?

CELIA

(She smiles then looks off in the distance)

They are ALL around.

HOMETOWN

ACT 1 - SCENE 4 - Regrets

(The cast will assemble on stage. Striking a pose at different angles and heights. They say their "Regrets," and this will lead into the song "Looking back")

I waited too long	TOM
I need to tell Cee that I love her.	YOUNG TOM
I can never let go and love.	PATRICK
Do you think she will love me back?	YOUNG PATRICK
For so long I have denied who I am.	FRED
I have a secret I cannot tell.	YOUNG FRED
I judge people and I am a Christian.	CINDY
I do not feel connected, and I will say anything to be liked	YOUNG CINDY
I waited for Tom and now that time has past	CELIA
Does he know how I feel about him?	YOUNG CELIA
I am weak without her.	PHILIP
I am such a shy man, why would she look at me?	YOUNG PHILIP
Love is everything.	LILY
Does he know that I would give him my heart?	YOUNG LILY
Looking Back	TOM

(All freeze and they sing this song as an ANTHEM to themselves)

SONG - LOOKING BACK

<i>Looking back never did much good at all</i>	TOM SINGS
<i>Looking back never made what was wrong now right after looking back</i>	PATRICK SINGS
	CINDY, CELIA & LILY SING

HOMETOWN

I see that it's just you and me

FRED & PHILIP SING

Looking back on our memories

YOUNG CAST SING

Looking Back. Looking Back

CAST SINGS

One by one, moment by moment

Year after year that's how we got here

All Connected. I look at your and feel connected.

TOM, PATRICK, FRED, and PHILIP SING

Looking back did not to change things now

CELIA, LILY, and CINDY SING

Looking back did nothing more than take up time and again I see.

YOUNG CAST SING

It's always me and you

OLD CAST SING

Looking back is all we do

YOUNG CAST SING

Looking back. Looking back

CAST SING

One by one, moment by moment

Year after year that's how we got here

All Connected. I look at your and feel connected.

Looking back, I see where things got off track.

Looking back, I see I didn't see things right in front of me

MEN SING

There is you

WOMEN SING

There is me

ENTIRE CAST SING

Take my hand. Let it be.

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

One by one

(Tempo back up)

moment by moment

Year after year that's how we got here

All Connected. I look at your and feel connected.

(Now full voice and Harmony)

One by one, moment by moment

Year after year that's how we got here

HOMETOWN

All Connected. I look at you and feel connected.

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

HOMETOWN

ACT 1 - SCENE 5 - Where is Superman

CINDY

(Cindy is trying now to get to the “fact” that Fred is gay and has been, but he has yet to tell Cindy this. They are best friends.)

(Cindy says this line very sweet, trying to ease into the conversation that she needs to have)

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

FRED

(Easy and Casual he has NO IDEA where this scene is going to go)

Geeze it has been years and

CINDY

(Cuts him off and smiles)

Don't say it...age thing!

FRED

(Teasing her)

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

CINDY

(They both laugh)

Well, that is what a BFF is for.

(She laughs, then changes the mood as she wants to get to something)

You know, sometimes I think I don't really know you, like

FRED

(His cell phone gets a text message)

CYN, hold on one sec,

(He looks at the message takes a moment and then blurts out)

(He talks out to the air and not really to CINDY)

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

CINDY

Fred, what is it?

FRED

(He is upset)

I just cannot believe it. In a text message.

CINDY

What are you talking about? Is everything OK?

FRED

No, everything is NOT OK.

(He groans)

I just got...

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

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

HOMETOWN

CINDY

(Sounding concerned but she is still “driving to her point about Fred being gay.)
Who would dump you? You are the perfect catch for any girl.

FRED

(He looks at Cindy on the word “girl” then looks away)
Yes, right? Where is SUPERMAN when you need him?

CINDY

(She laughs)
Superman? You don’t need him.

SONG - SUPERMAN

FRED SINGS

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

Where are you, Superman?

I need help if you can.

I’m feeling kind of low

I’m just an average kind of, “Joe”

(Tempo picks up)

Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real

Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me?

Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real

Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me?

(PAUSE)

Superman

(Back to down strumming)

CINDY

(Excited as she feels she is a part of this “cry for help. She is LOVING this collaboration)
Oh, let me take this one

CINDY SINGS

I heard you’re really fast

(Fred smiles and encourages her. This is helping to heal his pain. It won’t last...)

I’m drowning in the past

I’m feeling kind of blue

CINDY and FRED SING

(They laugh together)

Wish I was kind of strong like you

(Full orchestration now this is a BIG NUMBER)

HOMETOWN

(The entire cast comes out all wearing raincoats to cover up their SUPER-MAN t-shirts that they are wearing underneath. The cast is big and bright and full of harmony)

CAST SINGS

(Tempo picks up)

*Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real
Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me?
Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real
Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me, Superman?*

(Momentum Builds)

(The cast now moves about in rhythms on the stage making drum sounds, etc., this is very engaging music and singing, the cast splits this and echoes each other as they sing the next section)

(Hammer and block the chords)

*They say that you got powers
That you are strong Beyond compare.
Is there a phone so I can call you?
Hey, Superman, are you there*

(Back to down strumming)

FRED SINGS

*Where are you, Superman?
Please help if you can. I'm feeling kind of lost*

FRED & CINDY SING

I need your help at any cost.

CAST SINGS

Look up in the air! It's a bird! It's a plane!

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

(Tempo picks up and they do a dance of some kind to mimic the lyrics. The dance should be cool and slick and go right with the lyrics)

*Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real
Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me
Hey, Mister Man of Steel, I got problems that are real
Someone took my heart and ran.*

(ALL STOP and sing in FULL ANTHEM-LIKE VOICE, could be some great echoing of the lines TBD)

*Hey Mister Man of Steel I got problems that are real
Someone took my heart and ran. Can you help me? Superman*

(The cast now fades off stage FRED and CINDY)

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

HOMETOWN

FRED

(He shakes his head and looks around as if “is he looking at me?”)

FRED SINGS

Where are you, Superman? Where are you, Superman?

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

CINDY

Fred. Fred.

(Now in a sharp tone to wake him up)

FREDDIE! Hey, is there.... wait are you...

(Cindy is now getting right to the fact that she knows but she wants Fred to say it. She is acting like she is surprised but she ALWAYS knew. The joyous mood of “SUPERMAN” is fading very quickly, and this will spiral and change the entire mood and scene.)

Hold on. WHO broke up with you on the phone?

FRED

(Trying to avoid this. Knowing that the mood has just changed. He speaks with a little irritation)

What? It doesn't matter.

CINDY

(Now driving the stake in Fred's heart)

Well, it does. Was it a girl or...a?

(She does not want to say this. Mood changes to a Detective's voice. This is the second stake she drives in Fred's heart)

A man?

FRED

(Feeling like this has been obvious for so long but never talked about)

Do you really need to ask that?

CINDY

(Detective voice and now she will be the “victime” for not knowing. She feigns hurt due to her religious beliefs. The TRUE Hypocrite)

What? Did I

(She pauses and then says in a sarcastic tone. Again, she is hurt that Fred never told her)

(Cindy looks dead on at Fred. Stake # 3 in his heart)

Miss something?

FRED

(Fred now trying to lighten the mood and get Cindy back to an easy place. This is NOT going to work)

Cyn, there is no need to talk about this.

HOMETOWN

CINDY

(Determined now to get to this)

Well, there is.

(She pauses and says the word "love" but it sure does not feel like love.)

I love you. You are my best friend. And

FRED

(Fred is not liking this and losing his patience. He would just like to get this "out" and then move on. Be happy again. No big deal. I am gay, so what?)

"And...what?"

CINDY

Well. I mean

(She is fumbling)

so, are you...gay?

FRED

(The air of "SUPERMAN" is gone, now Fred is quickly losing his patience)

Am I gay? Does it matter?

CINDY

Well, yes...it does

FRED

(Fred is not believing that after all of these years that THIS would come to light now and be a big deal.)

It does?

CINDY

(Sadly, and if you can believe it this does hurt Cindy to feel this way)

It does matter

FRED

(Now getting very cool to protect his own hurt)

So, let's say that it is true, that I am....

(Pause)

"gay" what does that matter?

CINDY

(Very long pause, she looks down then looks at Fred. Her hypocritical beliefs have won. Religion triumphs over love and friendship)

Well

(This hurts to say it, but she DOES say it with plain conviction, just like "2 + 2 = 4")

Well, I have a problem with that.

FRED

WHAT? Do you think?

HOMETOWN

(Puzzled)

Wait you said you “loved” me that I am your BFF.

CINDY

Well, I do, it’s just that...

(Pause then full on)

Well, if you are “Gay” I would not like that part of you.

FRED

(Hurt but believes that you cannot just pick one part of a person)

Wait you can’t pick and choose like that. You can’t love ...

CINDY

(Matter of fact. Now getting clinical to cover up her struggle with her religion and love for Fred colliding)

Well, if this is true, I could not love you, that lifestyle is not what I believe or accept or could...

FRED

(He gets up and moves away to gain some distance and regains his power)

So, are you saying...?

(Slowly now wanting to be sure of the facts as they are happening. He is so hurt by this.)

Wait. So, are you saying that if I was “Gay” then that is it – you leave? What kind of friend is that? What kind of love is that?

CINDY

(She disregards his question)

Well, yes, or no? Are you gay or not?

FRED

Oh My GOD, this sounds so hypocritical? *You and all of your*

(“Air” quotes)

“religion” Yes YES Cindy, I am gay. I have always been gay.

CINDY

(Getting up to leave and very firm in her voice)

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

FRED

Like “that” Like “THAT” what the hell is

(“AIR” quotes)

“That”

(Mood changing, He is trying to get them back to where they should be.

He is not begging at all. He is working from a reasonable state of mind)

You just can’t pick and choose parts of me. Cyn, it’s still me.

(He pauses and then pulls the memory forward)

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

CINDY

HOMETOWN

(She knows this, and it is sad, but we almost feel bad for Cindy who is constricted by all of her religion)

I know that it's just...

(She struggles but is also VERY clearly based on her beliefs)

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

FRED

(Cuts her right off. Now the MOOD has changed. We now see Fred's "Convictions.")

Do not say "Between a man and a woman" DO NOT

CINDY

Well, that's what I feel.

FRED

(Hurt and pushing this)

Really? Like that is it. All or nothing. Winner takes it all.

(He pauses. The mood is gone. No fight left. Kind of like "Whatever")

Well then, I think it best that you leave.

CINDY

(Very to the point. Again, she is trying to deal with the hypocrite inside that could let Fred go, but Religion wins this round)

I think it is too.

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

I Pray

FRED

(He cuts her off)

I do NOT want your prayers for me. I think you should

("AIR" quotes)

"Pray" for yourself.

Cindy leaves. Fred is hurt. He sighs.

SONG - WOULD YOU RATHER

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

FRED SINGS

Would you rather have friends who leave you or strangers who stay?

Why do the ones that say "I got you" turn and walk away?

Why is the "kindness of strangers" feel just a little bit wrong

Better to have strangers in your house than friends that don't belong.

HOMETOWN

*And the tides will turn and flow they always do.
That's how it goes it seems for me and you.*

*Would you rather know the ending or take the journey as it goes?
Why do your friends that/who "hold you" suddenly become your foes?
I know I've changed. We all do. Change is what we do.
Seems like old friends that/who don't change are "done" with you.*

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

THE CAST SINGS

*And the tides will turn and flow they always do.
That's how it goes it seems for me and you.*

(The cast OHHS and AHHS)

FRED SINGS

*In restless dreams, I wander through old neighborhoods
I pass by signs and people, and I wish I understood.*

(Pushing though the mob of "CINDY FACES")

Why did you leave that fact is not yet so clear?

*(The cast now stop and **all look** at their "CINDY FACE" and sing in dissonant harmony along with FRED)*

THE CAST SINGS and FRED SINGS

And I wish you all the love your show for today and through the year.

(The CINDY FACES are back on. Everyone faces front with Fred in the middle)

And the tides will turn and flow they always do.

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

That's how it goes it seems for me and you.

(PAUSE single string is heard)

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

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

(He sings as the cast is oohing under his voice)

FRED SINGS

HOMETOWN

I would rather have

(PAUSE)

friends that stay than strangers any day

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

(We see the “REAL” Cindy come on the stage and she and Fred look.)

(They all SING in FULL Dissonance)

THE CAST SINGS & CINDY & FRED

But if my friend cannot see me,

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

FRED SINGS

they should be on their way.

(The “Real” Cindy leaves)

(Fred moves to stand center stage)

Would you rather have friends who leave or strangers who stay?

BLACKOUT (

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

HOMETOWN

ACT 2 - SCENE 1 – What You See

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

TOM

Fred, I can't imagine.

FRED

(Just spent and heartbroken but not crying and not bitter)

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

LILY

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

FRED

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

PATRICK

(Walks over and puts his arm around Fred's shoulder like old drinking friends would do)

Just fouking forget about it, Mate

CELIA

Give yourself just a few days, let this settle.

TOM

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

PHILIP

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

(All nod and show signs of acceptance)

FRED

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

PATRICK

That's your problem, Mate

FRED

Oh, are you gonna start on me, too?

LILY

What's Freddie's problem

PATRICK

(Patrick still has his arm over FRED'S shoulder and now he pulls him in tighter. He says in a kind and loving Irish kind of way. No Nonsense)

The way he sees things.

FRED

(FRED punches Patrick playfully in the gut and takes step back. Now becoming the "Tough" guy again)

What, do you have a way to change what I see?

PATRICK

HOMETOWN

(Ahh here comes the storyteller. Time for Patrick to give us something to think about)
I fouking do! Let me tell you a little story. It's true.

FRED

(Not buying this and not wanting any advice)

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

LILY

Freddie, we are not like that

TOM

NO way are we gonna drop you like Cindy did

FRED

Well, she did. Dropped me.

LILY

I am sure she will come around.

(PATRICK is trying to change the mood)

PATRICK

Ok so let me tell you my story

FRED

(Blandly. Going along with it)

OK, OK tell me the story.

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

PATRICK

(And the story begins)

Alrighty then. Back when I was a wee lad

FRED

Seriously, a "wee lad"

(They all laugh)

PATRICK

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

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

(They all laugh and say yes)

Ok, back when I was

(He emphasizes this)

just a WEE LAD

TOM

How old were you?

PATRICK

(Over dramatic)

JEEEEEE_SUS Mate, I am never gonna get through this!

HOMETOWN

FRED

But how old were you?

PATRICK

(Exasperated. Really trying to get to the story)

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

(Patrick grins)

LILY

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

PATRICK

Good.

(He settles in. Patrick is a FANTASTIC Storyteller. Maybe it is partly the sound of his voice and that Irish accent and everyone LOVES his stories.

You are never quite sure if these are real or made up.)

FRED

(In a serious tone)

Can I ask one question?

PATRICK

(He rolls his eyes)

Mary Mother of God will I ever get to tell

FRED

(Fred steps over his line)

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

PATRICK

(Patrick does not know at first that they are all teasing him and as we move through this introduction to the story, they all play along, always trying to be serious, yet they know that are all teasing. This all is also helping FRED ease the pain of Cindy and her hypocritical point of view.)

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

(He pauses and then grins and his eyes flash. Now he becomes like a card dealer, thinking to bargain with what "type of little people)

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

(As they respond Patrick just goes with it and plays along)

FRED

Trolls

PATRICK

Trolls.

(He pauses and thinks, figuring it out in his mind for a moment. Then plainly he says)

Nope, no trolls.

FRED & PHILIP

HOMETOWN

Damn, I love trolls

LILY

Leprechaun? Ohh I just love Leprechauns

PATRICK

(He pauses for a brief moment)

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

CELIA

Your "Fest Day?"

PATRICK

(Bog roll of the eyes and a big Irish frustration)

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

TOM

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

CELIA

(Plainly)

Well, that is not today

(They all roll their eyes)

PATRICK

(He jumps up)

BINGO! SO no Leprechauns.

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

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

TOM

(With all honesty)

One more question?

PATRICK

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

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

TOM

I do! I do! It's just.

PATRICK

(Calming down finding his "cool" space again)

Yes, Mate, yes. What?

TOM

Are there any...

(TOM looks around)

"Midgets" – they scare the crap out of me.

(They all laugh)

PATRICK

"Midgets?"

HOMETOWN

(He shakes his head)

Midgets are not Irish.

FRED

Wait, there are no midgets in Ireland?

PATRICK

(Big sigh, rolls his eyes)

Well, of course we have midgets. Everyone has midgets but

(He sighs)

Sweet Mother Mary of the Potato

(They all look around not quite getting that reference)

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

(They all laugh).

And finally, just to be clear,

(He looks around and gets everyone’s eyes)

There are absolutely NO DRAGONS!

(They all moan make a big deal)

FRED

No dragons,

CAST

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

FRED

I love dragons this story is gonna suck

PATRICK

(Patrick is like “ZIP IT”)

NO DRAGONS. Now can I go on?

FRED

What is the story about I forgot right after the “NO TROLLS” thing?

(They all laugh)

PATRICK

(Sighs and is losing his patience)

Sweet Holy Trinity...it is about HOW you see things

LILY

Well, I can see just

PATRICK

(Cuts her off)

Shhh. Manors

(They all laugh again. Remember that listening to a PATRICK STORY is the best)

HOMETOWN

OK sooooooooooooooooooooo, back when I was a “wee Lad,” my older brother Denis, he is 8 years older than me, would have his mates over. Our house was the best. Fun, laughs, it all happened there. He had one friend, Bonnie, she was always very nice but kind of on the outside. She was a larger girl and not quite the same “mold” as the others. She lived in this small little town. We all lived in small little towns. I remember one night, he was talking with Bonnie, and I kind of overheard what they were saying. She was upset because kids in school said that she would never go anywhere or be anyone. Denis told her that one day things would be different. Anyway, last year I was talking with Denis and

(Patrick looks at Fred)

Fred? So, I was ten and now I am fifty are you getting this?

FRED

(Rolls his eyes)

(Speaking this line with an IRISH BROGUE to imitate

PATRICK)

Yes. Yes. You were a Weeeee Lad, no trolls, no dragons. Now you are old, and what happened t’ Bonnie. Did I get it right?

PATRICK

(He smiles and winks at Fred)

Yes, you are right on queue. So, I ask my brother, whatever happened to Bonnie? And what he told me made a lot of sense. It spoke to me, and I think, Fred, it may speak to you. I love this story about Bonnie.

SONG - BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES

PATRICK SINGS

Bonnie flies on planes now. Bonnie takes to the skies.

Bonnie does everything and Bonnie tries

Not to remember the voices in her head

That said, “Bonnie you are no one from a small no place town.”

Bonnie flies on planes now. Bonnie is never down.

She said, “The vision that you want. Is the vision that you see. So, see it all. See it all.”

PATRICK

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

FRED

Yes but, how does this relate to me,

PATRICK

(He nods in approval and keeps the story going)

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

(PATRICK gives a wink to FRED)

LILY

What is up with Alex?

PATRICK SINGS

Alex has a big job. Alex has a lie.

(Patrick looks at Fred and nods)

HOMETOWN

*Alex has a friend and Alex tries
Not to remember the voices in his head
That said, "Alex you are no one from a small no place town
Alex left those small minds. he and his friend, Rick, are doing fine.*

He said, "The vision that you want. Is the vision that you see. So, see it all. See it all."

PATRICK

(He invites everyone to join in)

Come on, you all join me:

THEY ALL SING

"The vision that you want. Is the vision that you see. So, see it all. See it all."

PATRICK SINGS

*They said, "I cannot see you with tears in my eyes.
I may not be what you want, And I may find that I am standing apart.
I must be true to my heart. I must be true to my heart.*

PATRICK

So, what do you think, Fred?

FRED SINGS

(He is thinking about this as he sings)

*I would to be like Bonnie and have dinner some place in Spain.
I want to have drinks with Alex and pick his brain.
Cause I still remember the voices in my head
That said, "You are no one from a small no place town."*

PATRICK

See you got it

PATRICK & FRED SING:

Bonnie said, "The vision that you want. Is the vision that you see. So, see it all. See it all."

FRED SINGS

And the vision that I want, will be the vision that I see, I'm going to see it all. See it all.

CAST SINGS

The vision that you want. Is the vision that you see. So, see it all. See it all."

PATRICK SINGS

Bonnie flies on planes now.

PATRICK

Who knows maybe one day Cindy might come around?

FRED

Well, if she does, she does.

(All exit the stage; we hear the Oboe in the back echoing the song.

"The vision that you want is the vision that you see.")

(Cindy comes on stage)

HOMETOWN

ACT 2 - SCENE 2 - Cindy's Lament

(We find Cindy pacing. She feels bad about what she just did to Fred, her lifelong best friend, she is struggling with her faith and beliefs)

CINDY

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

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

(She gets angrier)

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

(She yells and starts to cry)

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

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

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

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

I played guitar

(She pauses and then with more anger)

then ...he played the guitar. Damn if he wasn't better at it, but people wanted to hear ME sing.

(She pauses and emphasizes this)

ME. You know why? Cause I was good. And good looking. I was an officer in the Honor Society, he barely made it in. I have always been smarter, brighter. And JE-SUS

(Frustrated)

I am sorry, But seriously,

(She groans)

God looking back now I should have known.

(She groans again now and sneers)

Gay. Gay. GAY

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

Disgusting.

(She groans again in anger)

My family has money, I was brought up to be a different caliber. Our house was on a hill, in the country He was so middle class, that house they lived in, was second class trash.

(She starts to get angry and cry)

I mean I *KNEW*

(She paces more and gets angrier)

all those years him not dating anyone. Oh God, that year he dated the fat girl, which was a laugh,

(She sarcastically laughs)

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

(Sounding just like a MEAN GIRL)

Everyone teased him. AND he was like, it didn't matter, didn't faze him. How could it NOT faze him?

(She groans)

Freak.

HOMETOWN

(She whirls around remembering another moment)

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

(She whirls around)

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

(She laughs to herself)

What a laugh.

(She pauses and now in a hurt tone as this is the real reason, FRED never just told her he was Gay)

If you are "Best Friends" then you share things. For the love of God, we are in our 50's and he could not have the decency to tell me he was like

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

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

(She pauses and reflects)

I tell him, everything.

(We hear the thunder a light rain starts)

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

SONG - PEACEFUL RAIN

CINDY SINGS

(As she sings and speaks these lines, she is admitting to herself and realizing her limited and narrow view. Fred will help her, but the forgiveness will be what Cindy has to do for herself. That is Forgive herself)

So often I've failed to see

The simple beauty of life around me

Like the graceful dance of flowers in the wind

The serenity you feel as night falls down.

(We hear the rain start. Then off stage and then getting closer we Hear FRED coming on stage to console and help his best friend get over her bias and small-minded views)

(There is a pause as CINDY looks to collect herself)

FRED SINGS

(This line is off stage. Cindy in startled, a bit confused)

And the peaceful rain

(Pause. Fred comes on stage. Cindy looks at him and then looks down. She is hurt and embarrassed. Fred is gentle he stands still and gives a slight smile)

As it washes the earth. Rain on me now. Surround me with your care. Rain on me.

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

CINDY SINGS

(Cindy is filled with emotion and in this verse, she struggles with her faith and her love of Fred as these are at opposite points of view for Cindy)

So often I've failed to see That I am here for you and you for me

FRED SINGS

(He takes a step closer)

HOMETOWN

*That together we are members of a common band
We sing of life and play for peace in this land.*

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

CINDY & FRED SINGS (in Harmony)

*(Fred sings from forgiveness and Cindy trying to find acceptance from her "God")
And the peaceful rain as it washed the earth*

CINDY SINGS

Rain on me, surround me with your care.

CINDY AND FRED SING

(Easy and gently)

let it rain.

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

CINDY

(Voice cracks)

Fred

FRED

(So easy, no judging as he takes another step closer)

Cyn, it's OK

CINDY

(Internal struggle with her religious GOD and her friend):

But Fred I am not sure

FRED

(Again, with so much ease and he now moves two feet from CINDY and looks eye to eye)

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

CINDY

(She is struggling)

But I don't know if I can.

FRED

(Calm and he holds out his hand... CINDY LOOK and are frozen so he takes her hand)

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

(He stands back and does a "TA DA")

see still me.

(We hear Ohhhhh and ahhs as the entire cast now comes to the stage and surround CINDY AND FRED with love)

CAST SINGS (Except Cindy and Fred)

So, rain on me my gentle friend

And in turn, I'll rain on you

CINDY AND FRED SING

We can share our thunder and lose our pride

THE ENTIRE CAST SING IN HARMONY

And awaken our lives and start anew

(The cast oohhs and Ahhs under this brief dialogue)

CINDY

Fred, I am sorry

FRED

HOMETOWN

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

CINDY

Well yes but, oh I don't know

CAST SINGS (Except Cindy and Fred)

And the peaceful rain as it washed the earth

CAST & CINDY & FRED SING

Rain on me, surround me with your care. Rain on me.

(Fred hugs CINDY, she doesn't know what to do so he hugs longer and harder. Cindy sobs. FRED HOLDS her. Then he steps back)

(The cast leaves and sing "Rain on me" over and over as they exit. Tom, Patrick, and Celia remain along with Fred and CINDY)

FRED

Hey, it may take you some time

(He smiles. Cindy is still softly crying, and he looks to catch her eye)

Hey Cindy

(She looks at Fred)

and maybe you may never accept me and

(gently)

It's all ok. You have loved me all these years and I have loved you. Whatever you need for you, then you do that. OK? I don't want you to be anyone you're not.

(He smiles)

I'll be around.

(Fred exits and does not look back)

(Everyone else leaves except Tom, Patrick, Celia, and Cindy)

(Long awkward pause as Tom, Patrick and Celia look at each other and then at Cindy)

(Patrick sighs)

PATRICK

(Sarcastically)

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

CINDY

OH, I feel awful and

PATRICK

(Steps on the word "and" and says with some remaining sarcasm)

AND you should feel bad

CINDY

Then he

CELIA

(Finishes the sentence without missing a beat)

Just makes it like there's not a problem.

CINDY

(Gasps)

YES!

TOM

You know

HOMETOWN

PATRICK

(Slaps the top of Tom's head like "Don't say it")

Oh booooy

CINDY

(Still drained)

What?

CELIA

(In a non-judging tone)

Freddie heard most of what you were saying

CINDY

WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAT?

PATRICK

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

(Patrick shakes his head, embarrassed for Cindy)

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

CINDY

(Embarrassed and ashamed)

What?

TOM

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

PATRICK

(Patrick is defending his friend Fred)

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

(Flat out no holding back)

Not me. Nope If were Freddie I would have said

CELIA

(Trying to bring everyone back around)

Well, none of us is our FREDDIE. He is a REBEL with a heart.

CINDY

(Looking at them)

What do I do?

PATRICK

(He starts back at her)

Oh, I'll tell you what you should do

TOM

(Calming his Mate down) (Then to Cindy)

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

CINDY

(Still emotional)

Do you hate me?

PATRICK

(Quick and sharp)

YEP.

CELIA

(Ribs Patrick)

No, no we don't hate you.

HOMETOWN

TOM

I don't like what you did, and I do not like what you said.

(Tom pauses and looks down)

You have to come to terms with that now that Fred knows how you felt all those years.

PATRICK

(A little bitter)

Yes, his *fouking* BFF

CELIA

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

(She looks at Tom and Patrick)

Right?

(They nod in agreement and leave)

CINDY

(PAUSE and she watches them go)

(We hear an oboe playing the "And the Peaceful Rain")

(She thinks and puts her hand on her face and cries)

HOMETOWN

ACT 2 - SCENE 3 - The Lasting Relationship

The Young Cast is sitting around. We hear laughter and easy conversation. There is some joke told and they all laugh. Young Tom speaks to the group

YOUNG TOM

OK so here is my question. Philip, how did you EVER land Lily? I mean look at you
(He shakes his hand like “mezza mezza” mediocre)

AND look at Lily

(He does the “Pin up Girl VAVOOM” Lily stands up and smiles and laughs and goes along with it. The YOUNG cast all cheers)

YOUNG PHILIP

Well,

(He stands up, going with the moment)

It wasn't easy.... for her!

(They all laugh)

I mean she HAD to have me

(They all WHOA)

And she finally broke down and said “YES”

YOUNG PATRICK

Really, Mate? That is FOUKING how it happened?

(Patrick and All laughs)

YOUNG CELIA

I know Lily, and I

(She pauses)

YOUNG FRED & YOUNG CINDY

No WAAAAAY.

YOUNG TOM

Well, Lily, Tell us.

(Lily is blushing a little embarrassed)

YOUNG LILY

Well, it is ...true

(They all NOOOOO and Lily smiles looking directly at YOUNG PHILIP)

I did HAVE TO HAVE him. You KNOW how he is.

(They all answer in rapid fire)

YOUNG PATRICK

STUBBORN

YOUNG CINDY

SELF CENTERED

YOUNG FRED

TROUBLEMAKER

YOUNG TOM

SHY

YOUNG CELIA

BIG HEART

YOUNG LILY

Cee, you go it. HEART

HOMETOWN

(They all have fun with this. Come on, no, not Philip)

Go on tell them, Phil

YOUNG PHILLIP

Well, OK. Tommy hand me my guitar

(The YOUNG CAST OHHH and applaud, Phil takes the guitar and moves into the center...move over...give me some room he says. They laugh and follow cause they all LOVE when PHIL sings. YOUNG PHIL starts strumming and this is gonna be like the "BEST FRIENDS AROUND A CAMPFIRE-EVER" moment - quotes for emphasis)

YOUNG PHILLIP

Well,

(He pauses)

I tried and tried to get to her. She was tough

(They all nod in agreement, Lily looks shy but smiles)

And so, I picked up my guitar went to her house

YOUNG LILY

(She interjects adding emotion)

ON A SATURDAY at 7 AM

YOUNG PHIL

(Not missing a beat)

AND I started singing

YOUNG LILY

OUTSIDE MY WINDOW. My Father said "WHAT is THAT"

YOUNG PHIL

AND.... I started singing. I wrote this down and I was gonna let her hear it.

YOUNG LILY

My Father said, "WHAT is he doing? So, I opened the front door and.

(They all hoot and applaud and settle in and ready to join in and clap)

SONG - DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY

YOUNG PHILLIP SINGS

I wanted a love song that nobody sang before

I want words that would open up the door

To your heart that you keep hidden

To your heart you never show

(He looks at Young Lily)

If your heart has a key, could you let me know?

If your heart has a key, can I get one for me?

If your heart has a door, please stop, and tell me more.

Knock, knock I am asking.

(They all join in on "Knock Knock")

Knock, knock, hey it's me.

Knock, knock can you hear me?

Does your heart, does your heart have a key?

The Young WOMEN – Celia, Lily, and Cindy & Phillip

(Echo this first line after Young Philip)

I wanted a love song like a sonnet from Shakespeare.

HOMETOWN

The Young MEN – Tom, Fred, and Patrick & Phillip
(Echo this second line after Philip)

I wanted words so it would finally be clear

ALL YOUNG MEN SING

That to your heart I am no warrior,

ALL YOUNG WOMEN SING

come to break your heart in two.

YOUNG PHILLIP SINGS

I found a key here in my pocket, this might fit you.

ALL YOUNG SING

(IN HARMONY AND ECHO this is that ultimate “Campfire Sing along”)

If your heart has a key, can I get one for me?

If your heart has a door, please stop, and tell me more.

Knock, knock I am asking.

(They all join in on “Knock Knock”)

Knock, knock, hey it’s me.

(They all join in on “Knock Knock”)

Knock, knock can you hear me?

Does your heart, does your heart have a key?

YOUNG PHILLIP & YOUNG LILY SING IN HARMONY

Maybe this time I should listen

To the silence of your heart.

Let me listen to the quiet of your heart.

YOUNG PHILIP SINGS

I wanted a love song to say what is in my head.

Cause the words that I’ve been using, have closed the door instead

(The YOUNG Cast “ohhs and ahhhhs”)

But then I saw a window, opened just for me.

I climbed on through, I guess your heart doesn’t need a key.

ALL YOUNG CAST

(A “fog “ comes over the stage we are going to morph into the adults all sitting in the same position as the YOUNG Cast)

If your heart has a key, can I get one for me?

If your heart has a door, please stop, and tell me more.

(The light changes and the YOUNG CAST FADE out and the ADULT CAST picks up with not as much energy but with loving remembering)

OLD CAST SINGS

Knock, knock I am asking.

Knock, knock, hey it’s me.

Knock, knock can you hear me?

ADULT PHILIP SINGS

Does your heart, does your heart have a key?

All CAST sing in echoes “Does your heart have a key...does your heart have a key”

(The lights dim on the Adults, and we are back to the YOUNG Cast. ADULT

CAST exits. YOUNG Philip plays out the final chords and he and YOUNG LILY one more time in Harmony)

HOMETOWN

YOUNG PHILLIP & YOUNG LILY SINGS

DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

(PAUSE)

YOUNG LILY

And that is WHY I could not resist him. My parents shook their heads, thought I was crazy but just look at that man.

YOUNG Philip

(In a big way kind of bashful but not)

Oh stop. Stooooooooopppp. Well, go on

(They all laugh)

YOUNG PHILLIP

OK One more time

(He gives the YOUNG cast a nod)

YOUNG CAST SINGS IN ROUND ROBIN STYLE

Does your heart have a key...? Does your heart have a key?

(The YOUNG cast exits as they sing)

(The stage dims and as the lights come up TOM & FATHER are on the Left side of the stage; CELIA & MOTHER are on the right side of the stage. Each pair has a chair that TOM & CELIA are sitting in. These pairs are unique and separate, neither pair is aware of the other unless notated.)

HOMETOWN

ACT 2 - SCENE 4 - The Parents

FATHER

(In an easy tone and he is trying to figure out what went wrong)

Tom, what is wrong?

TOM

(Easy tone back, occupied with whatever he is doing/thinking)

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

FATHER

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

TOM

(Tom cuts off his father, not angry, it is just that they have had this conversation so many times)

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

FATHER

Tom, that is good but

TOM

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

(Their light dims just a nit and the lights come up on MOTHER and CELIA)

MOTHER

(In an easy tone and he is trying to figure out what went wrong)

Celia, what is wrong?

CELIA

(Easy tone back, occupied with whatever he is doing/thinking)

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

MOTHER

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

CELIA

(CELIA cuts off her MOTHER, not angry, it is just that they have had this conversation so many times)

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

MOTHER

Celia, that is good but

CELIA

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

(Lights come back up on FATHER and TOM. Celia and Tom and left thinking in their space. FATHER and MOTHER stand up and seem to be looking out somewhere distant, looking back to their past and wondering what the future will be like for their children in the future. Neither pair is aware of each other and as Father and Mother sing, Tom and Celia are not aware of their singing. Father and Mother lament to themselves and share with the audience.)

SONG - YOUNGER, OLDER

FATHER SINGS

Did I share too much?

MOTHER SINGS

Did I try too hard?

FATHER SINGS

HOMETOWN

Did I stack the deck?

MOTHER SINGS

*Did I play my last card?
I can build a fire.*

FATHER SINGS

It just takes a spark.

MOTHER SINGS

I turned on the light.

FATHER SINGS

I dispelled the dark.

FATHER AND MOTHER SING *(in Harmony)*

*I miss when they were children
And all the games that we played
Then children grow up*

(Feeling increases, this is hard for them)

And the magic never stays

(Now lamenting)

*Then one day they have changed
Childhood days are now through
They've grown up and they have become*

(Now bittersweet)

A younger, older, version of you.

A younger, older, version of you.

FATHER (Speaking)

(Turning back to Tom and speaking in an easy tone)

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

TOM

Dad, it just

(He struggles)

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

FATHER

Did I give you the impression that marriage was bad?

TOM

(Very plainly)

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

FATHER

(What the FATHER is struggling with is, did he not do his job, was he a bad parent)

Did I fail you in some way?

TOM

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

(Their lights dim, and we move to Mother and Celia)

MOTHER

HOMETOWN

(Turning back to Celia and speaking in an easy tone)

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

CELIA

Mom, it just

(She struggles)

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

CAST SINGS

(We hear in the background by the cast, very light, like a chant; "Fathers and Sons just like mothers and daughters.... over and over")

MOTHER

Did I give you the impression that marriage was bad?

CELIA

(Very plainly)

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

MOTHER

Did I fail you in some way?

CELIA

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

(Chanting of "Father and Sons..." fades)

(Father and Mother sing again. It is not sad as much as it just "is" they each did their best)

MOTHER SINGS

I had to work two jobs

FATHER SINGS

I made him do his fair share

MOTHER SINGS

I had to raise her

FATHER SINGS

I tried so hard to be there

MOTHER & FATHER SING

To read stories at night

And summer days in the park

I was Father and Mother

Looking back, I missed the mark.

MOTHER & FATHER SING

I miss when they were children

And all the games that we played

Then children grow up

And the magic never stays

Then one day they have changed

Childhood days are now through

They've grown up and they have become

A younger, older, version of you.

HOMETOWN

A younger, older, version of you.

MOTHER

(She talks with Celia, as MOTHER is worried that her daughter is not enjoying her life.)
Cee, are you happy? I worry now that you may not be happy.

CELIA

(She is happy but maybe not the happiest)

Mom, come on, don't even think about my life like that. I am fine. I cannot change my life

MOTHER

(Now worried)

But if you could?

CELIA

Ma, but...

(In a very real and resigned voice, no guilt to anyone)

You cannot go back. I cannot change what has happened. It's all water under a bridge

MOTHER

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

CELIA

No. I stayed because I wanted to stay.

(She pauses and she owns her decisions)

Staying was my choosing. I love this town. This town is my home.

MOTHER

(Reflecting now)

You seem...sad.

(The lights dim on MOTHER and CELIA. The lights brighten on FATHER and TOM)

CAST SINGS

*(Under this dialogue we hear the light chant from "Hometown"
"Fathers and sons just like mothers and daughters" Repeating this
through the dialogue. This chant starts right after "Tom are you
happy")*

FATHER

(He talks with Tom, as FATHER is worried that his son is not enjoying his life.)

Tom, are you happy? I worry now that you may not be happy.

TOM

(He is happy but maybe not the happiest)

Dad, come on, don't even think about my life like that. I am fine. I cannot change my life

FATHER

(Now worried)

But if you could?

TOM

Dad, but...

(In a very real and resigned voice, no guilt to anyone)

...I cannot change what has happened. It is all water under a bridge

FATHER

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

TOM

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

HOMETOWN

FATHER
(Reflecting now)

You seem...sad.

(The chanting now stops)
(FATHER and MOTHER sing the BRIDGE)
MOTHER SINGS

I remember that day that it happened.

FATHER SINGS

I remember that look in his eyes.

MOTHER & FATHER SING in Harmony

*I could see it all changing
The child inside suddenly dies*

(FATHER & MOTHER look off into the past)
ENTIRE CAST EXCEPT THOSE ON-STAGE SING
*(We are here the cast hauntingly singing acapella, and this is repeated through
TOM and CELIA's dialogue. TOM and CELIA do not speak to each other. They
are speaking out to the air)*

"Do you get off or do you stay on this this Hometown"

TOM

(Speaking aloud to himself)

I stayed because I wanted to.

CELIA

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

TOM

I always waited for the "right" time

CELIA

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

TOM & CELIA

It never did

(“Do you get off or stay on”) The chanting stops

TOM

(Sounding longing, knowing that the past cannot be undone)

Hey Dad

CELIA

(Sounding longing, knowing that the past cannot be undone)

Mom

FATHER, MOTHER, TOM & CELIA (SING)

*I miss when they/we were children
And all the games that we played*

FATHER & MOTHER SING in Harmony

Then children grow up

FATHER, MOTHER, TOM & CELIA SING

And the magic never stays

FATHER & MOTHER SING

Then one day they have changed

HOMETOWN

FATHER, MOTHER, TOM & CELIA SING

Childhood days are now through

FATHER & MOTHER SING

They've grown up and they have become

A younger, older, version of you.

FATHER, MOTHER, TOM & CELIA SING

(Sad, longing tones)

A younger, older, version of you.

FATHER & MOTHER SING

A younger, older version of you.

HOMETOWN

ACT 2- SCENE 5 - The Conversation

(FATHER AND MOTHER have left, there are the two areas of the stage lit for Tom and Celia. They are on the phone and do not break the imaginary wall between them. Tom calls Celia)

TOM

*(The phone rings and Celia picks up)
(Tom speaks in an easy tone)*

Hey Cee.

CELIA

(In an easy tone as well)

Hey Tom, what's up.

TOM

Nothing much I was just having a talk with Dad and

CELIA

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

TOM

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

CELIA

(She pauses)

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

TOM

Well, are you?

CELIA

Am I what?

TOM

Happy?

CELIA

(She pauses again for a moment)

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

TOM

Me?

(He pauses, always trying to put on the best face)

yes, I am always good.

CELIA

(She laughs a bit)

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

TOM

(Hesitant but with drive)

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

CELIA

(intrigue)

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

TOM

Do you love me?

CELIA

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

HOMETOWN

SONG - WHAT IF

TOM SINGS

(He sighs)

(This is as close as TOM will get to admitting his love and his fear of not being loved by Celia as it will ever get)

What if I said, "I love you?"

What if I took the chance?

What if I started believing?

That this could be the one romance

That I have waited for?

CELIA

(She sighs, and in a realistic tone)

Tom

CELIA SINGS

What if love was just that simple?

What if love just cost a dime?

But if love came that easy, we would all be in love all the time.

It's just so easy to fall

It's just so hard to remain in love

It's hard to remain in love.

TOM

(Trying to make this seem like no big deal, just let go and be together)

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

CELIA

(She loves Tom. She shakes her head and sighs. It may be too late)

Tom, are you just thinking this up now?

CAST ECHOES

(In the background)

TOM SINGS

What if I said, "I'm sorry?" *(The cast in the background echo this line)*

What if I could dry your tears? *(The cast in the background echo this line)*

What if I started changing? *(The cast in the background echo this line)*

What if I could get back all those years? *(The cast in the background echo this line)*

What if? What if? *(The cast in the background echo this line "What if...what if...what if and the music builds)*

(CELIA SHAKES HER HEAD. She PAUSES and the pain is felt from all these years of waiting)

CELIA SINGS:

THE CAST SINGS SWELLING BEHIND CELIA IN HARMONIES

What if love was just that simple?

What if love just cost a dime?

But if love came that easy, we would all be in love all the time.

TOM SINGS ALONE – NO CAST

It's just so easy to fall

CELIA SINGS ALONE – NO CAST

HOMETOWN

It's just so hard to remain in love

ENTIRE CAST SINGS EXCEPT CELIA & TOM

It's hard to remain in love.

TOM SINGS

(He sings with hope)

I will love you till forever changes

CELIA SINGS

(Sings with reality in mind)

I will love you till all we know fades away

TOM SINGS

Throw a pebble in the water, Let the ripples go

CELIA & THE CAST SINGS

Just like love, let it go and go

CELIA SINGS

(She sings sadly)

Let it go.

TOM

(He pauses. From the bottom of his heart, he knows he kept Celia waiting too long)

Cee, I am sorry

CELIA

Tom, my dear and wonderful, Tom. There's nothing to be sorry for. Hey,

(She pauses as she needs to collect herself)

I got to go, there are some things I need to do.

TOM

Oh, ahh, sure

(Feeling like he did not get across what he wanted to say)

I'll see you soon. Bye now.

(He hangs up the phone)

CELIA

(She hangs up the phone and thinks)

TOM

(Tom takes out a piece of paper and begins to write. He will write through the singing)

"Dear Cee..."

(Celia is thinking and as she thinks she cries for a moment. Soft tears of sadness for a time missed.)

CELIA SINGS

(Reflective, realistic, not bitter, but she knows the time has passed for the love of "Tom & Celia")

What if I just stayed silent?

What if I could hear your heart?

What if I started to listen?

What if I could go back to start?

Would things have changed?

CHORUS: (we hear a lone cello playing)

THE CAST VERY GENTLY ALONG WITH CELIA

What if love was just that simple?

HOMETOWN

*What if love just cost a dime?
But if love came that easy, we would all be in love all the time.*

TOM SINGS

It's just so easy to fall

CELIA SINGS

*It's just so hard to remain in love
It's hard to remain ...*

(TOM has finished writing his note and he puts it in an envelope. He calls Patrick.

TOM

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

CELIA SINGS

(Now very thoughtful)

*What if I said, "I love you?"
What if I took the chance?
Yet, I still remain*

HOMETOWN

ACT 2- SCENE 6 - Heading to the ending

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

PATRICK

Hey Cee,

(They give a friendly warm hug)

CELIA

Patrick, what's up?

PATRICK

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

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

PATRICK

Is everything ok?

CELIA

Yes, yes, I guess. Tom said,

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

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

(Celia sighs. She smiles. She shakes her head)

Celia

What is Tom up to?

PATRICK

(gently)

Cee, do you want me to come with you?

CELIA

No thanks, Patrick, let me see what is going on. I'll catch up with you later.

(They exit)

The old wooden bridge Tom is there it is just heading to dusk. The bridge is old. Weathered. Rickety. This has been around for the lives, most likely for their parent's lives as well. Tom is looking peacefully out well beyond the audience. The bridge is high, not a bridge over a little stream. It has a view. As Celia approaches and comes on the bridge, it creaks. She Approaches Tom. She smiles and in a warm voice.

CELIA

Tom?

(She is shaking her head and looking at Tom, she has the note in her hand)

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

(She puts her hand on the rails and it creaks)

TOM

(He smiles and gently takes Celia's hand. He looks at her, then looks out and he smiles)
Ahhhh, wonderful view.

CELIA

(She smiles and in the same easy tone)

Yes, it always was. How high is this anyway, about?

TOM

HOMETOWN

(Finishing her sentence)

about seventy feet up.

(They both speak together at the same time)

TOM & CELIA

Remember that time....

(They pause, look at each other and have a gentle laugh)

It was

(They pause and smile)

TOM

(Gentle and with easy feeling)

This is where we first met.

CELIA

Yes...I remember

TOM

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

CELIA

(She pauses and thinks and looks out)

All our lives, Tom

TOM

We never left this hometown, never.

CELIA

(In a firm but not regretful voice)

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

TOM

(He takes Celia's hand)

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

(He says sarcastically)

"See Yaa!

(He says it again and laughs a bit)

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

(In a deep voice sounding proud and invincible)

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

CELIA

I kind of lost track of you for a while.

TOM

(He laughs and grins)

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

(He trails off)

"See YA!"

CELIA

Yes, I remember you again in 7th Grade. That when I became friends with Cindy and the whole crew of us kind just formed.

(She pauses to reflect then asks in an easy tone)

HOMETOWN

What did your dad say or what happened to all of a sudden bring you back in the picture?

TOM

He said “8-words.”

CELIA

(Puzzled)

“8-words?”

TOM

(Plain and to the point)

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

CELIA

You never told me that! Wow...deep

(She smiles. She says in an easy tone)

“What’s the point of the point of view”

(She pauses and looks at Tom then looks out)

So,

(She points at the note)

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

TOM

(He pauses for a moment, then looks out in the distance and he speaks very plain and peaceful)

Cee, Marry Me.

CELIA

(She laughs tenderly)

Oh Tom, stop. I’ve known you my whole life.

TOM

And marry me’

CELIA

(Still in a soft and easy tone)

Tom, after all this time...now? Tom, we are oldish, I mean

(She looks at him and in a matter-of-fact tone)

Tom, now you ask me.

TOM

Why not now? Now is great. I mean, I should have asked you like 20-now-years ago!

CELIA

(She pauses, takes Tom’s hand, and looks out)

YES.

TOM

YES? You will marry me?

CELIA

Wait, ah no, I mean I used to dream you would ask me Hell, I dreamed that I would ask you. I mean:” YES” you waited too long. And I told myself if he does ask me, I am gonna tell him, “Tom you come back in one year and you ask me again and if you feel the same, then I’ll say yes.”

TOM

Cee, wait a year? I don’t want to wait another

(Tom fumbles a bit and pulls out of his pocket a little box with a ring. He drops to his knee, opens the box, and says with warmth and honesty)

HOMETOWN

Cee, "Marry Me."

CELIA

(She looks at Tom, pauses and starts to cry gently. She is in control of her emotions)

Tom. Tom, I have known you for so long, you have always been there for me...and...

TOM

(Still on one knee and he breaks in)

And marry me, Cee.

CELIA

(Not missing a beat from her last thought)

Well, that time past. Look I am not mad. I used to be mad. Then I was crazy, then I let it go...

TOM

(He gets up and moves in and kisses Celia for a moment. He pulls back and whispers and smiles)

Cee, MARRY ME.

CELIA

(She pulls back, blushes, smiles, cries a little, wipes the tears and in a plain voice)

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

(She pauses)

JE-SUS, this is hard...

TOM

(Again, simple, and easy)

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

CELIA

(Holding back her emotions)

And why now. Now why now, Tom? Tell me that?

TOM

Why not now. I've been lost in you for so long

CELIA

Well, you could have told me that.

TOM

I know and I thought you knew.

CELIA

(She says this in light frustration, still in shock a bit and disbelief by the proposal)

Tom, sometimes you just have to say it aloud. I mean over coffee, or at the bar or on Tuesday at 8:36 PM or

TOM

(Gently)

And I know and MARRY ME

CELIA

(She pulls away gentle. She pauses and looks out and then kisses Tom on the check. She says with great hesitation)

Tom. My Tom, No. I cannot marry you. I think that dream...passed us by. I

(We hear a light rain starting)

...oh, the rain...I have to go. No, Tom. I am sorry. No, that time came and then lingered and then left.

TOM

(Gentle as he knows he waited too long in life for this moment)

HOMETOWN

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

CELIA

(With a firm but not mean or bitter response, more thoughtful)

Yes

TOM

Yes?!

CELIA

(Getting confused)

No. What? Wait? Stop. We just did this. I am getting confused. Please.

(Tom smiles, Cee smiles and takes a step back, now gaining her control again, but never frustrated or angry)

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

TOM

This is the day we first met.

(We see in front of the Bridge young Celia with young Fred they are talking, and young Tom is looking)

YOUNG CELIA

Freddie, I like you too

(Young Tom walks over to the two of them)

YOUNG FRED

Yep, I know

(He smiles a big smile)

So?

YOUNG TOM

Hey guys.

YOUNG CELIA & YOUNG FRED

(Easy voices)

Hey Tom

YOUNG FRED

Hey, I got to go. Cee, I'll call you later.

(He kisses her quick on the cheek, A little embarrassed. Celia smiles and also embarrassed.)

YOUNG TOM

Cool. You and Freddie?

YOUNG CELIA

No. Well, no. Tom, we are kids

YOUNG TOM

(Change in mood, Tom is trying to win over CELIA)

Hey, you want to see something cool.

CELIA

Cool? Ah sure what it is?

YOUNG TOM

Follow me.

(They exit off stage and then in a moment come on to the bridge)

YOUNG CELIA

HOMETOWN

Wow looks at the view

(She smiles. Tom smiles)

YOUNG TOM

Can I ask you something?

(Pause)

Did you ever want to get married?

YOUNG CELIA AND CELIA

I don't know,

(The lights fade on the young couple, and they exit we are back with the couple on the bridge)

CELIA

(Her tone is now firmer and setting the pace to move on)

Tom, we should find that love while we still have life within us. Right?

TOM

(A little embarrassed and trying to save his own pride)

Is there someone else?

CELIA

No, Tom, there is no one else but we never gave each other room for anyone else. And now

TOM

Yes, I am sorry. Not sorry that I asked you...20 years too late, but sorry for my...heart for letting you....go. It's ok. Go

(Lovingly)

GO. I'll be here. See you for coffee tomorrow?

CELIA

Let's

(She pauses)

let's take a break for a little while.

(She turns to go)

I'll call you soon. OK?

TOM

(Now trying to brush off this moment as quick as he can and save some remaining dignity)

Sure, sure, you call when you want.

(Celia turns to leave. The bridge creaks. As she walks away Tom calls her in a very thought-filled tone of voice)

Hey Celia Santana Russell,

(She turns to look at him)

Thanks for coming to our Bridge

(She is crying softly, and she nods her head. Celia leaves the bridge)

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

"See YA"

(He takes out his cell phone and dials Patrick)

PATRICK

(In his easy British accent)

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

TOM

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

HOMETOWN

PATRICK

(As only the Brits can say it and get away with it)
FOUCK ME! No, come on you are kidding me.

TOM

(Plain and easy)

No, I am not, she said “no.”

PATRICK

FOUCK.

(Sounding incredulous)

WHY?

TOM

(Sounding sad but OK)

I waited too long. She said “that our time “passed”

PATRICK

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

TOM

(Smiles and laughs easy)

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

PATRICK

(He is the best friend, and he is concerned)

Hey, Tom, where are you, I’ll get you?

TOM

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

PATRICK

You are sure, I’ll come up and hang out.

TOM

(Reassuring)

No, Mate, I am good.

PATRICK

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

TOM

Crazy? What do you mean? Like. JUMP.

(Big exaggerated)

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

PATRICK

(Not so sure)

Do you promise? Hey?

TOM

Yes?

PATRICK

What are you going to do with the ring?

TOM

(Tom smiles and laughs a little laugh, he is ok with all of this)

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

HOMETOWN

PATRICK
(Eager excitement)

FOUK YES! Tonight!

TOM
(He smiles)

¡Bastad! Ok I'll call you later.

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

(The cast joins on the side of the stage. Women sitting together. Men sitting together. They are not watching the action and Tom and Celia are not aware that they are there. The MEN will sing behind Celia in harmony. The WOMEN will sing behind Tom in Harmony)

SONG - THE BRIDGE

TOM SINGS

(Thoughtful, longing a bit and this song is about Tom coming to terms that this time has passed and that he will move on)

It was the bridge, it was the rain

It was you that drove me insane

Never enough from your point of view (sings this line a little sarcastic)

Never a dream that would come true. Damn the rain.

(The WOMEN JOIN IN with TOM)

How do you know which way to turn?

How do you know the lessons that you have learned?

When I hit the bottom, I did not know.

When you walked out the door, I just let you go.

(The lights fade a bit on Tom and the lights come up down stage on Celia. She is sitting in a chair in her apartment. She is gently wiping her eyes as she has been crying a little)

CELIA

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

CELIA SINGS

(As Celia sings, she is trying to convince herself and the audience that she will be OK with this breakup. This song is used to heal her)

SONG - IN JUST A FEW"

In just a few days I'll have coffee again

You see "Coffee" was always our time.

To talk of the day and what plans we had made

In just a few days I'll be fine.

CELIA & (The MEN JOIN IN)

But today I might take a moment or two

Cause today is the day that I parted from you

And today I might scream, and today I might cry

And today I may stop and ask myself why?

HOMETOWN

In just a few...I need just a few. I need just a little time to pass by.

(The lights dim a bit on Celia and back up on Tom)

TOM SINGS

Back on the bridge where we first met (The women echo behind him in song)

I was lost in you I have no regrets.

Never enough from my point of view

The heart in me still loves the heart in you. Damn the rain.

WOMEN, *Lush and full voices join Tom*

How do you know which way to turn?

How do you know the lessons that you have learned?

When I hit the bottom, I did not know.

When you walked out the door, I just let you go.

(The lights dim on Tom and come back up on Celia)

CELIA SINGS: IN JUST A FEW

(MEN SING BEHIND)

In just a few weeks maybe I'll stop by the bar

That was always the place where we'd danced

All our friends must have wondered if we left town

In just a few weeks maybe I'll go take the chance.

CHORUS: (MEN LUSH FULL VOICES BEHIND CELIA)

But today I might take a moment or two

Cause today is the day that I parted from you

And today I might scream, and today I might cry

And today I may stop and ask myself why?

In just a few...I need just a few. I need just a little time to pass by.

CELIA SINGS

And the things that we do to believe it was true (JUST CELIA)

CELA & MEN SING

Like looking at pictures and old romantic cards (ADD IN MEN)

To laugh of a time and remember when

Love could heal the deepest of scars. Love can heal the deepest of scars. (MEN ECHO)

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

PATRICK

What the FOUK?

CELIA

(She is not surprised)

You know.

PATRICK

(Plain and like dah I know)

Yes, I know

CELIA

(Frustrated)

Damn. Why now? I mean

PATRICK

HOMETOWN

(Calming)

I know. It was his idea. He spoke

CELIA & PATRICK

(In unison)

WHY NOT NOW?

CELIA

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

PATRICK

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

CELIA

I know, I know. I just was taken off guard.

(She pauses, she is thinking)

PATRICK

(Pause)

Hey, Cee?

CELIA

I know.

PATRICK

So?

CELIA

Where is he?

PATRICK

He called me from the bridge

CELIA

(Anxious)

So will you.

PATRICK

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

(There is a knock on the door and Patrick walks in)

I am right here.

(He smiles, they give a warm friendly hug. Celia cries a few tears)

I know. I know.

CELIA

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

PATRICK

Wait. I AM GOING TO MARRY HIM.

CELIA

What?

(She looks confused)

PATRICK

(Sheepishly)

Well, I did ask him what he was going to do with the ring, so I said "Yes"

(He Grins. Pauses..."gotcha ya")

KIDDING! Come on let's go.

(Lights come back up on the bridge)

TOM SINGS

HOMETOWN

*(With each line Tom Gets More hopeful and positive and is ok with all that happened)
And a tree can just leave. And a star just can shine.
And a bird just can sing almost anytime.*

TOM & THE WOMEN SING

And a heart is just a place inside my head (THE WOMEN JOIN IN FULL VOICE)

*(Pause and then sing the line again slowly and remembering that
this is the line he told Patrick)*

And a heart is just a place inside my head

(PAUSE, then a smile starts as TOM comes to a new way of thinking)

TOM SINGS

Better change my focus, get on with life instead. SO....

(Now with more life and spirit, things are gonna be better)

TOM & THE WOMEN SING

Back on the bridge. Back with the rain. (THE WOMEN ECHO)

It was you that kind of drove me insane.

But what's the point of that point of view?

There are dreams I will have long after you. Damn the rain.

How do you know which way to turn?

How do you know the lessons that you have learned?

When I hit the bottom, I did not know.

When you walked out the door

It was the bridge. It was the rain.

It was you that kind of drove me insane. Damn the rain.

*(Tom is OK through this song he has made a plan to move on, he is not at
all mad and he understands.)*

*(The song finishes. Tom leans back against the backstage side of the bridge. We
hear a creak and then a SNAP. The rail on the old wooden bridge snaps and Tom
falls backward off the bridge. We hear a "What the F...")*

(Tom dies)

*(Cello plays the lines "It was the bridge. It was the rain" underneath PATRICK and CELIA talk-
ing)*

*(Pause. No sound no light change. Then a single white light shines down where Tom was on the
bridge. We hear in the distance and then see Celia and Patrick come on to the bridge)*

PATRICK

(Excited and nervous voice)

Tom!

CELIA

(In an excited voice)

Tom!

*(They come onto the bridge and call his name again) Tom! Tom!
They move to the center of the bridge and the white light starts to*

HOMETOWN

fade but does not go away yet. They see the broken rail. Patrick sees the ring)

PATRICK

Well, where is he?

CELIA

I thought you said he was here.

PATRICK

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

CELIA

Patrick. Look.

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

Patrick, do you see that? Do you?

PATRICK

(A little shaken)

Yes, I see it but what...

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

CAST SINGS

(The cast softly sings, "Fathers and Sons just like mothers and daughters. Repeating_

CELIA

Tom...Tom...it's you aren't it. I waited too long

(She starts to cry softly)

I waited just a little too long

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

PATRICK

Hey mate...I'll guess I'll take a rain check on that pint.

THE CAST SINGS

Do you get off or do you stay on (HOLD that note)?

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

(As they exit the bridge, the bridge slides off stage or goes up. A casket is brought back downstage right. The stage is blank at this point except for the casket. We are returning to the opening.)

The song JUST A FEW is playing in the background.

Celia enters. She has a single Red Rose and lays it on the casket. She stands with her right hand on the casket. She is controlled as much as she can be and will gently dissolve as she sings.

HOMETOWN

SINGLE CELLO PLAYS a long note to queue the verse
CELIA SINGS

*In just a few moments the ending will start
In just a few moments they all will arrive
And in under an hour, it all will have been said
The things I never said when you were alive.*

(The older cast assembles back on stage bringing in their chairs as they enter, returning to the exact same space as when the play started. Celia is the last to take her seat

*But today I might take a moment or two
Cause today is the day that I parted from you
And today I might scream, and today I might cry
And today I may stop and ask myself why?
In just a few...I need just a few. I need just a little time...*

(PAUSE)

(CELIA takes her original place at the funeral)

THE CAST SINGS

*But today I might take a moment or two
Cause today is the day that I parted from you
And today I might scream, and today I might cry
And today I may stop and ask myself why?
In just a few...I need just a few. I need just a little time*

CELIA SINGS

SINGLE CELLO HOLDS THE NOTE and then PAUSE

to pass by.

(All take their seats)

PATRICK

(In a quiet tone as we see him lean forward in front of Cindy, to talk with Celia. We do not make out what he says but he finishes his sentence and looks desperate to be heard)

CINDY

(Sharply to Patrick)

SHHHH. Have some respect.

PATRICK

All I am saying is that this makes no fucking

(As ONLY the Brits can say that word and have it NOT be a swear word)

sense.

CINDY

(Again SHARPLY)

SHHHHHH. Come on, Patrick keep it down.

PATRICK

I am, I am just saying....

CELIA

(Cuts Patrick off)

I agree.

HOMETOWN

(She looks at Cindy as Cindy starts to protest, and Celia raises her hand)
(In the background we hear HOMETOWN sung by the YOUNG CAST who are lined up in the back, shadows, like distant memories. We see their outlines. They sing in a mystical, magical tone. The older cast is not moving, frozen for a moment.

SONG - HOMETOWN

THE YOUNG CAST SINGS

*Fathers and sons
Just like mothers and daughter
They do what they do
They live what they've learned*

FATHER and MOTHER SING

*They pass down regrets
They pass down their mistakes trying not to get burned*

*(Tom enters all in white – White shirt, white pants, no shoes Moves to
CENTER STAGE)*

TOM SINGS

(He sings to the distance, easy,)

*And it goes like it goes
Like a merry go round.
Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?*

*(We hear a drum beating a rhythm as the cast assembles – this is percus-
sive as we build to an ANTHEM)*

*(The entire cast now takes forms a line on the stage, the younger versions
paired with the older. They sing now in FULL harmony)*

CAST SING

*And it goes like it goes, like a merry go round. Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?
(Now no music, hands clapping ACAPELLA)*

*And it goes like it goes, like a merry go round. Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?
(They now sing in round-robin)*

*And it goes like it goes, like a merry go round. Do you get off or stay on in this hometown?
Do you get off...*

(Building)

.... or stay on

(Hold the note) ...

(Now in unison)

in this hometown

(Patrick, Tom, and Celia step forward)

MUSIC COMES BACK IN

PATRICK SING

Do you get off

CELIA SINGS

Or stay on

TOM SINGS

In this....

CAST SINGS

GENTLE in Repeating during this look and in harmony)

HOMETOWN

Do you get off or do you stay on? Do you get off or do you stay on?

(Pause he turns a look at the cast. He smiles and nods and they all smile and nod for their love of TOM and of each other. Patrick puts his arm on Tom's shoulder. Celia leans in to take Tom's arm.)

The CAST stops singing.

TOM, CELIA, and PATRICK SING

Do you get off

Or do you stay on in this

ENTIRE CAST

FULL VOICE AND LET THE NOTE SAIL

The Lights cut to show just the silhouettes. FREEZE.

HOMETOWN.

(The cast drifts off and sings the first verse "Fathers and Sons....")

(Tom, Celia, and Patrick are left center)

TOM, CELIA, AND PATRICK SING

Fathers and sons

Mothers and daughters

(Patrick and Celia exit)

(Tom looks around)

TOM

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

(He says thoughtfully)

Sunbury, PA. Incorporated in 1772. My HOMETOWN.

(TOM Winks and gives a grin, gives a nod, then turns to exit)

(As he departs, we hear him sing lightly over and over)

"Do you get off or stay on in this HOMETOWN"

BLACKOUT.

END

HOMETOWN

LYRICS

HOMETOWN

FATHERS AND SONS.
FATHERS AND SONS.
MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS...
MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS
FATHERS AND SONS
JUST LIKE MOTHERS AND DAUGHTER
THEY DO WHAT THEY DO
THEY LIVE WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED
THEY PASS DOWN REGRETS
THEY PASS DOWN THEIR MISTAKES TRYING NOT TO GET BURNED

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

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

WINNERS AND LOSERS LIKE LOCAL BARTENDERS
THEY ALL KNOW THE STORIES OF FORTUNE AND FAME
THEY ALL HAVE THEIR MOMENTS THEIR PLACE IN THE SUN
BUT WHEN THE DUST SETTLES, THEY ALL TURN TO RUN

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

HOMETOWN

Just West of Nowhere

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

THEN I'M STOPPED AT THE LIGHT.
SHOULD I GO LEFT, SHOULD GO RIGHT?
LOOKING BACK WON'T HELP AT ALL.
YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE RISE.
YOU JUST CAN'T SEE THE FALL.
I SEE YOUR FACE JUST LIKE YOU WERE ALWAYS THERE.
THEN IT ALL FADES.
JUST WEST OF "NOWHERE"
HALF A MILE FROM "MEMORIES."
HALF A LIFETIME AGO I LET IT GO.
JUST A SMALL PLACE THAT I USED TO CALL HOME
NOT HARD TO LEAVE, NOT EASY TO RETURN.

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

HOMETOWN

In THis Little Town

IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN,
NOT VERY GRAND
AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND
IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED, THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS
LITTLE TOWN.

FRIDAY NIGHTS IN THE FALL WE'D ALL GO TO THE GAME
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON BUT I LOVED IT JUST THE SAME
THE BAND. THE FOOD. THE LIGHTS. THE CROWD.
WHEN THE HOMETOWN TEAM SCORED, WE ALL CHEERED OUT LOUD.

IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND
3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND
IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED, THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS
LITTLE TOWN.

THE WAS THIS TIME ONE YEAR WHEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK
DADDY HAD THIS THING CALLED A HEART ATTACK
I WAS TEN. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW QUICKLY TIME GOES BY.
IT'S BEEN ALMOST 50 YEARS AND AT TIMES I STILL CRY.

IT'S JUST A SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND
3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND
IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
(IN HARMONY AND ECHO)
AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED, THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS
LITTLE TOWN.

PHILP SINGS
THE STORES ON MARKET STREET ARE MOSTLY GONE
THE 2 MOVIE THEATRES CLOSED.
MOST BUSINESSES MOVED ON.
MY SISTER LEFT. MY BROTHERS STAYED. ME? I COULD NOT WAIT TO RUN.
LOOKING BACK, I WONDER WHAT I WAS RUNNING FROM?
THE BULLIES NOW ARE MOSTLY LOSERS.
AND THE PROM QUEEN HAS 4 KIDS
AND THE ONES WHO THOUGHT THEY MATTERED; NOW REALIZE THEY NEVER
DID

HOMETOWN

IT'S JUST A
ACAPELLA START SLOW THEN BUILD
SMALL LITTLE TOWN, NOT VERY GRAND
3 BANKS, 10 CHURCHES AND A WINNING HIGH SCHOOL BAND
IT HAS 4 SEASONS, 8 TRAFFIC LIGHTS
AND WHEN THEY GO TO BED, THEY DON'T LOCK THE DOORS AT NIGHT IN THIS
LITTLE TOWN.
IN THIS LITTLE TOWN
IN THIS LITTLE TOWN

HOMETOWN

A Little Sugar in My Tea

I COULD NOT GET OVER YOU SO EASILY
I COULD NOT LET GO OF THE
I HELD ON TO EVERY HURT THAT I FELT
AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.
MOMMA SAID, “TRY A LITTLE HONEY.”
DADDY SAID, “JUST LET IT BE.”
I TOLD MYSELF “I GOT TO LET IT GO.”
MOMMA SAID, “WHEN LIFE IS BITTERSWEET, THEN TRY A LITTLE SUGAR IN
YOUR TEA.”

I FELT THE NEED TO TAKE CONTROL.
THIS SEEMED TO HELP THE TIME GO BY FAST
I POINTED OUT YOUR FAULTS FROM 5 YEARS AGO
AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.

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

I SAW YOUR PICTURE AND WENT BACK IN TIME
I COULD NOT LET GO OF THE PAST
AND I REMEMBERED ALL THE TIMES YOU LIED
AND EVERY WRONG YOU DID I MADE IT LAST.
(
SITTING HERE, ALONE WITH THESE THOUGHTS
IS THAT THE PRICE I REALLY WANT TO PAY?
THERE IS ALWAYS A COST
WHEN IT COMES TO HEARTS.
DO YOU PAY IT NOW OR WAIT ANOTHER DAY?

I WAS SITTING IN A WINDOW SEAT IN A RESTAURANT
THINKING OF WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME.
THE WAITER ASKS,
“CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING?”
“MAY I HAVE A LITTLE SUGAR IN MY TEA?”
MOMMA SAID, “TRY A LITTLE HONEY.”
DADDY SAID, “JUST LET IT BE.”
I TOLD MYSELF “I GOT TO LET IT GO.”

HOMETOWN

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

(NOW ACAPELLA)

MOMMA SAID, "TRY A LITTLE HONEY."

DADDY SAID, "JUST LET IT BE."

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

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

WHEN LIFE IS BITTERSWEET

THEN TRY A LITTLE SUGAR IN YOUR TEA.

THEN TRY

A LITTLE SUGAR

IN MY TEA

THEN TRY A LITTLE SUGAR IN YOUR TEA

HOMETOWN

The Unicorn

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

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

AND ALL THE MILES THAT YOU PUT BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR SORDID PAST
AND YOU KNOW IT WILL COME BACK TO YOU, SOMETIMES SLOW, SOMETIMES
FAST
AND YOU TRY TO PIECE TOGETHER A BROKEN HEART THAT'S BEEN SLIGHTLY
TORN
IF YOU COULD ONLY KNOW WHICH ONE TO RIDE, THE HORSE OR THE UNICORN.

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

AND IT'S PLAIN TO SEE TO EVERYONE THE THINGS THAT ARE IN YOUR WAY
THEY'VE TRIED TO SHOW YOU THE SIGNS TO HELP KEEP YOUR FEARS AT BAY
IF ONLY HINDSIGHT COULD BE USED RIGHT NOW TO WAKE YOU UP, BLOW THE
HORN
BETTER LOVE THE RIDE YOU CHOOSE BE IT THE HORSE OR UNICORN.

LOOKING BACK IS NEVER HALF AS GOOD AS LOOKING AT WHAT LIES AHEAD
REGRETTING ALL THINGS, YOU MISSED, BETTER TO TAKE ACTION INSTEAD
OF WASTING TIME ON WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, LET YOUR LIFE RUN ITS
COURSE
YOU ONLY GET ONE CHANCE TO RIDE THE RIDE ON THE UNICORN OR THE
HORSE.

HOMETOWN

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

THE CALL THAT YOU WERE WAITING FOR NEVER COMES WHEN IT SHOULD.

HOMETOWN

Looking Back

LOOKING BACK NEVER DID MUCH GOOD AT ALL
LOOKING BACK NEVER MADE WHAT WAS WRONG NOW RIGHT AFTER LOOKING
BACK

I SEE THAT IT'S JUST YOU AND ME
LOOKING BACK ON OUR MEMORIES
LOOKING BACK. LOOKING BACK

ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT
YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE
ALL CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL CONNECTED.
LOOKING BACK DID NOT TO CHANGE THINGS NOW
LOOKING BACK DID NOTHING MORE THAN TAKE UP TIME AND AGAIN I SEE.
IT'S ALWAYS ME AND YOU
LOOKING BACK IS ALL WE DO
LOOKING BACK. LOOKING BACK

ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT
YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE
ALL CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL CONNECTED.
LOOKING BACK, I SEE WHERE THINGS GOT OFF TRACK.
LOOKING BACK, I SEE I DIDN'T SEE THINGS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME
THERE IS YOU
THERE IS ME
TAKE MY HAND. LET IT BE.

BIG BOLD SOUND)

ONE BY ONE

(TEMPO BACK UP)

MOMENT BY MOMENT
YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE
ALL CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL CONNECTED.
(NOW FULL VOICE AND HARMONY)
ONE BY ONE, MOMENT BY MOMENT
YEAR AFTER YEAR THAT'S HOW WE GOT HERE
ALL CONNECTED. I LOOK AT YOUR AND FEEL CONNECTED.

HOMETOWN

Superman

WHERE ARE YOU, SUPERMAN?

I NEED HELP IF YOU CAN.

I'M FEELING KIND OF LOW

I'M JUST AN AVERAGE KIND OF, "JOE"

(TEMPO PICKS UP)

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

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

(PAUSE)

SUPERMAN

(BACK TO DOWN STRUMMING)

I HEARD YOU'RE REALLY FAST

I'M DROWNING IN THE PAST

I'M FEELING KIND OF BLUE

WISH I WAS KIND OF STRONG LIKE YOU

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

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

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

HEY, SUPERMAN, ARE YOU THERE

WHERE ARE YOU, SUPERMAN?

PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN. I'M FEELING KIND OF LOST

I NEED YOUR HELP AT ANY COST.

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

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

HEY, MISTER MAN OF STEEL, I GOT PROBLEMS THAT ARE REAL
SOMEONE TOOK MY HEART AND RAN.

(ALL STOP AND SING IN FULL ANTHEM-LIKE VOICE, COULD BE SOME GREAT
ECHOING OF THE LINES TBD)

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

HOMETOWN

WouldYou Rather?

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

WHY DO THE ONES THAT SAY, "I GOT YOU" TURN AND WALK AWAY?

WHY IS THE "KINDNESS OF STRANGERS" FEEL JUST A LITTLE BIT WRONG
BETTER TO HAVE STRANGERS IN YOUR HOUSE THEN FRIENDS THAT DON'T BELONG.

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

WOULD YOU RATHER KNOW THE ENDING OR TAKE THE JOURNEY AS IT GOES?
WHY DO YOUR FRIENDS THAT/WHO "HOLD YOU" SUDDENLY BECOME YOUR FOES?

I KNOW I'VE CHANGED. WE ALL DO. CHANGE IS WHAT WE DO.
SEEMS LIKE OLD FRIENDS THAT/WHO DON'T CHANGE ARE "DONE" WITH YOU.

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

IN RESTLESS DREAMS, I WANDER THROUGH OLD NEIGHBORHOODS
I PASS BY SIGNS AND PEOPLE AND I WISH I UNDERSTOOD.
WHY DID YOU LEAVE THAT FACT IS NOT YET SO CLEAR?
AND I WISH YOU ALL THE LOVE YOUR SHOW FOR TODAY AND THROUGH THE YEAR.

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

I WOULD RATHER HAVE
FRIENDS THAT STAY THAN STRANGERS ANY DAY
BUT IF MY FRIEND CANNOT SEE ME,
THEY SHOULD BE ON THEIR WAY.
WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE FRIENDS WHO LEAVE OR STRANGERS WHO STAY?

HOMETOWN

Bonnie flies on planes now

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

SHE SAID, “THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO, SEE
IT ALL. SEE IT ALL.”

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

HE SAID, “THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO, SEE IT
ALL. SEE IT ALL.”

“THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO, SEE IT ALL. SEE
IT ALL.”

THEY SAID, “I CANNOT SEE YOU WITH TEARS IN MY EYES.
I MAY NOT BE WHAT YOU WANT, AND I MAY FIND THAT I AM STANDING APART.
I MUST BE TRUE TO MY HEART. I MUST BE TRUE TO MY HEART.

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

BONNIE SAID, “THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO,
SEE IT ALL. SEE IT ALL.”

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

THE VISION THAT YOU WANT. IS THE VISION THAT YOU SEE. SO, SEE IT ALL. SEE
IT ALL.”

BONNIE FLIES ON PLANES NOW.

HOMETOWN

Peaceful Rain

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

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

SO OFTEN I'VE FAILED TO SEE THAT I AM HERE FOR YOU AND YOU FOR ME
THAT TOGETHER WE ARE MEMBERS OF A COMMON BAND
WE SING OF LIFE AND PLAY FOR PEACE IN THIS LAND.

AND THE PEACEFUL RAIN AS IT WASHED THE EARTH
RAIN ON ME, SURROUND ME WITH YOUR CARE.
LET IT RAIN.

SO, RAIN ON ME MY GENTLE FRIEND
AND IN TURN, I'LL RAIN ON YOU
WE CAN SHARE OUR THUNDER AND LOSE OUR PRIDE
AND AWAKEN OUR LIVES AND START ANEW

AND THE PEACEFUL RAIN AS IT WASHED THE EARTH
RAIN ON ME, SURROUND ME WITH YOUR CARE. RAIN ON ME.

HOMETOWN

Does your heart have a key?

I WANTED A LOVE SONG THAT NOBODY SANG BEFORE
I WANT WORDS THAT WOULD OPEN UP THE DOOR
TO YOUR HEART THAT YOU KEEP HIDDEN
TO YOUR HEART YOU NEVER SHOW
(HE LOOKS AT YOUNG LILY)
IF YOUR HEART HAS A KEY, COULD YOU LET ME KNOW?

IF YOUR HEART HAS A KEY, CAN I GET ONE FOR ME?
IF YOUR HEART HAS A DOOR, PLEASE STOP AND TELL ME MORE.
KNOCK, KNOCK I AM ASKING.
KNOCK, KNOCK, HEY IT'S ME.
KNOCK, KNOCK CAN YOU HEAR ME?
DOES YOUR HEART, DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

I WANTED A LOVE SONG LIKE A SONNET FROM SHAKESPEARE.
I WANTED WORDS SO IT WOULD FINALLY BE CLEAR
THAT TO YOUR HEART I AM NO WARRIOR,
COME TO BREAK YOUR HEART IN TWO.
I FOUND A KEY HERE IN MY POCKET, THIS MIGHT FIT YOU.

IF YOUR HEART HAS A KEY, CAN I GET ONE FOR ME?
IF YOUR HEART HAS A DOOR, PLEASE STOP AND TELL ME MORE.
KNOCK, KNOCK I AM ASKING.
KNOCK, KNOCK, HEY IT'S ME.
KNOCK, KNOCK CAN YOU HEAR ME?
DOES YOUR HEART, DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

MAYBE THIS TIME I SHOULD LISTEN
TO THE SILENCE OF YOUR HEART.
LET ME LISTEN TO THE QUIET OF YOUR HEART.

I WANTED A LOVE SONG TO SAY WHAT IS IN MY HEAD.
CAUSE THE WORDS THAT I'VE BEEN USING, HAVE CLOSED THE DOOR INSTEAD
BUT THEN I SAW A WINDOW, OPENED JUST FOR ME.
I CLIMBED ON THROUGH, I GUESS YOUR HEART DOESN'T NEED A KEY.

IF YOUR HEART HAS A KEY, CAN I GET ONE FOR ME?
IF YOUR HEART HAS A DOOR, PLEASE STOP AND TELL ME MORE.
KNOCK, KNOCK I AM ASKING.
KNOCK, KNOCK, HEY IT'S ME.

HOMETOWN

KNOCK, KNOCK CAN YOU HEAR ME?

DOES YOUR HEART, DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY...? DOES YOUR HEART HAVE A KEY?

HOMETOWN

Younger...older

DID I SHARE TOO MUCH?
DID I TRY TOO HARD?
DID I STACK THE DECK?
DID I PLAY MY LAST CARD?
I CAN BUILD A FIRE.
IT JUST TAKES A SPARK.
I TURNED ON THE LIGHT.
I DISPELLED THE DARK.

I MISS WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN
AND ALL THE GAMES THAT WE PLAYED
THEN CHILDREN GROW UP
AND THE MAGIC NEVER STAYS
THEN ONE DAY THEY HAVE CHANGED
CHILDHOOD DAYS ARE NOW THROUGH
THEY'VE GROWN UP AND THEY HAVE BECOME
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.

I HAD TO WORK TWO JOBS
I MADE HIM DO HIS FAIR SHARE
I HAD TO RAISE HER
I TRIED SO HARD TO BE THERE
TO READ STORIES AT NIGHT
AND SUMMER DAYS IN THE PARK
I WAS FATHER AND MOTHER
LOOKING BACK, I MISSED THE MARK.

I MISS WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN
AND ALL THE GAMES THAT WE PLAYED
THEN CHILDREN GROW UP
AND THE MAGIC NEVER STAYS
THEN ONE DAY THEY HAVE CHANGED
CHILDHOOD DAYS ARE NOW THROUGH
THEY'VE GROWN UP AND THEY HAVE BECOME
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.

HOMETOWN

I REMEMBER THAT DAY THAT IT HAPPENED.
I REMEMBER THAT LOOK IN HIS EYES.
I COULD SEE IT ALL CHANGING
THE CHILD INSIDE SUDDENLY DIES

I MISS WHEN THEY/WE WERE CHILDREN
AND ALL THE GAMES THAT WE PLAYED
THEN CHILDREN GROW UP
AND THE MAGIC NEVER STAYS
THEN ONE DAY THEY HAVE CHANGED
CHILDHOOD DAYS ARE NOW THROUGH
THEY'VE GROWN UP AND THEY HAVE BECOME
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.
A YOUNGER, OLDER, VERSION OF YOU.
A YOUNGER, OLDER VERSION OF YOU.

HOMETOWN

WHAT IF

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

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?
WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?
BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL
IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE
IT'S HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE.
WHAT IF I SAID, "I'M SORRY?" (THE CAST IN THE BACKGROUND ECHO THIS LINE)
WHAT IF I COULD DRY YOUR TEARS? (THE CAST IN THE BACKGROUND ECHO
THIS LINE)
WHAT IF I STARTED CHANGING? (THE CAST IN THE BACKGROUND ECHO THIS
LINE)
WHAT IF I COULD GET BACK ALL THOSE YEARS? (THE CAST IN THE BACK-
GROUND ECHO THIS LINE)
WHAT IF? WHAT IF? (ECHO THIS LINE "WHAT IF...WHAT IF...WHAT IF AND THE
MUSIC BUILDS)

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

I WILL LOVE YOU TILL FOREVER CHANGES
I WILL LOVE YOU TILL ALL WE KNOW FADES AWAY
THROW A PEBBLE IN THE WATER, LET THE RIPPLES GO
JUST LIKE LOVE, LET IT GO AND GO
LET IT GO.
WHAT IF I JUST STAYED SILENT?
WHAT IF I COULD HEAR YOUR HEART?
WHAT IF I STARTED TO LISTEN?
WHAT IF I COULD GO BACK TO START?
WOULD THINGS HAVE CHANGED?

HOMETOWN

WHAT IF LOVE WAS JUST THAT SIMPLE?
WHAT IF LOVE JUST COST A DIME?
BUT IF LOVE CAME THAT EASY, WE WOULD ALL BE IN LOVE ALL THE TIME.
IT'S JUST SO EASY TO FALL
IT'S JUST SO HARD TO REMAIN IN LOVE
IT'S HARD TO REMAIN ...
WHAT IF I SAID, "I LOVE YOU?"
WHAT IF I TOOK THE CHANCE?
YET, I STILL REMAIN

HOMETOWN

The Bridge/Just a Few

THE BRIDGE

IT WAS THE BRIDGE, IT WAS THE RAIN
IT WAS YOU THAT DROVE ME INSANE
NEVER ENOUGH FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW (SINGS THIS LINE A LITTLE SAR-
CASTIC)
NEVER A DREAM THAT WOULD COME TRUE. DAMN THE RAIN.

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

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

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

THE BRIDGE

BACK ON THE BRIDGE WHERE WE FIRST MET (THE WOMEN ECHO BEHIND HIM IN
SONG)

I WAS LOST IN YOU I HAVE NO REGRETS.
NEVER ENOUGH FROM MY POINT OF VIEW
THE HEART IN ME STILL LOVES THE HEART IN YOU. DAMN THE RAIN.

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

IN JUST A FEW”

IN JUST A FEW WEEKS MAYBE I’LL STOP BY THE BAR
THAT WAS ALWAYS THE PLACE WHERE WE’D DANCED

HOMETOWN

ALL OUR FRIENDS MUST HAVE WONDERED IF WE LEFT TOWN
IN JUST A FEW WEEKS MAYBE I'LL GO TAKE THE CHANCE.

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

AND THE THINGS THAT WE DO TO BELIEVE IT WAS TRUE (JUST CELIA)
LIKE LOOKING AT PICTURES AND OLD ROMANTIC CARDS (ADD IN MEN)
TO LAUGH OF A TIME AND REMEMBER WHEN
LOVE COULD HEAL THE DEEPEST OF SCARS. LOVE CAN HEAL THE DEEPEST OF
SCARS. (MEN ECHO)

THE BRIDGE

AND A TREE CAN JUST LEAVE. AND A STAR JUST CAN SHINE.
AND A BIRD JUST CAN SING ALMOST ANYTIME.
AND A HEART IS JUST A PLACE INSIDE MY HEAD (THE WOMEN JOIN IN FULL
VOICE)
AND A HEART IS JUST A PLACE INSIDE MY HEAD
(PAUSE, THEN A SMILE STARTS AS TOM COMES TO A NEW WAY OF THINKING)
BETTER CHANGE MY FOCUS, GET ON WITH LIFE INSTEAD. SO....

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

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

SINGLE CELLO PLAYS A LONG NOTE TO QUEUE THE VERSE
IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS THE ENDING WILL START

HOMETOWN

IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS THEY ALL WILL ARRIVE
AND IN UNDER AN HOUR, IT ALL WILL HAVE BEEN SAID
THE THINGS I NEVER SAID WHEN YOU WERE ALIVE.
BUT TODAY I MIGHT TAKE A MOMENT OR TWO
CAUSE TODAY IS THE DAY THAT I PARTED FROM YOU
AND TODAY I MIGHT SCREAM, AND TODAY I MIGHT CRY
AND TODAY I MAY STOP AND ASK MYSELF WHY?
IN JUST A FEW...I NEED JUST A FEW. I NEED JUST A LITTLE TIME...

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