



NOW & THEN

A new musical about one love, two men and four decades.

Music and Lyrics by Dennis Manning · Story and Book by Ronnie Larsen

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by

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*All-Male Version

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A New Musical

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Character List

Two characters played by 6 actors.

Daniel 1 - 20's

Greg 1 - 20's

Daniel 2 - Mid 30's

Greg 2 - Mid 30's

Daniel 3 - 50's and older

Greg 3 - 50's and older

World Premiere at the Wilton Theatre Factory, Wilton
Manors, FL September 6 - 30, 2018.

ORIGINAL CAST:

Daniel 1 - Cody Jenkins; Greg 1 - Conor Walton*;
Daniel 2 - Matt McClure; Greg 2 - Tim Evanicki;
Daniel 3 - Dennis Manning; Greg 3 - Ansel Robin
Thompson

*appears courtesy of Actor's Equity

Song List -

Solitary Man

Long Stemmed Red Rose

Look at Me

Good Morning

Don't Get Caught in the Rain

Now and Then

Captured

Look at Me Reprise

Castles

When I Get Through

Coming Home

Fall in Love Everyday

Castles Reprise

Say Them

I Remember Love

Solitary Man Reprise

Show Running Time: 120 Minutes.

There is one intermission.

SCENE: PROLOGUE - TUNE UP

Daniel 3, enters, sits in a spotlight tunes his guitar, plays a few notes then plays the instrumental intro to "Don't Get Caught in the Rain" as theater slowly goes dark.

In the blackout the music continues to play.

SCENE: "YOU'RE ON NEXT"

Lights up on a young man with a guitar case. He kneels down on the ground and removes his guitar and puts the strap around his neck. Closes the guitar case. He begins to tune it though we don't hear it cause the intro to "Don't Get Caught in the Rain" is still playing.

Greg 1 enters with a clipboard.

Intro music ends.

GREG 1
Daniel?

DANIEL 1
Yep?

GREG 1
You ready?

DANIEL 1
Yep.

GREG 1

Okay, you're on next. I'm gonna make a few jokes then I'm gonna say our final performer is Daniel Manning and you just come out and do your thing. Got it?

DANIEL 1

Yep.

GREG 1

Daniel, darling, do you know any words besides, "yep".

DANIEL 1

Nope.

GREG 1

(sarcastic)

Adorable.

(beat)

Okay, you're almost on. Don't suck.

The instrumental returns to cover the transition.

Daniel 1 exits, Daniel 3 exits.

SCENE: OPEN MIC

Greg 1 enters and walks into a spotlight downstage holding a clipboard.

GREG 1

(to audience)

You guys have been such a great audience. I just want to thank you again for coming out tonight to Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night, hosted by me, Greg. Okay, we have one

final performer.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

I save the worst for last so if you want to go home now you won't miss anything. Okay, let's make some noise for our next performer, he came all the way from a little town called Nowhere, Texas so let's give him a big old warm: "yeehaw."

(beat)

Oh come on, you can do better than that. Here we go, on the count of three, one, two, three, YEEHAW! Please put your hands together for the one and only, according to him, Daniel Manning!

Daniel 1 enters wearing a white t-shirt, jeans and an off-white cowboy hat. Smiles, nervous, sits center stage. He is both nervous and charismatic. Awkward but sexy. He has an instant rapport and connection with the audience. He should make eye contact with as many of the audience members as he can during his song.

DANIEL 1

I'm actually not from Texas. I just dress like it. So, I actually wrote this song the summer after I graduated high school...I felt free as a bird but also sort of lost and lonely...so, I hope you like it.

Song - Solitary Man

Slow at first and intense. Draw the audience in. Don't give them too much yet.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Wet leaves and misty days
Make up my longing ways
A bird flies to the east
Leaving me behind*

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

*Run to try and catch the wind
Stand apart let no one in
The wind sounds like laughter
As it moves away*

Builds musically as he stands up and quickly moves downstage.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know*

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 smile at each other. Greg 1 likes the song and nods his head to the music. Louder and faster.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(shared note)

Me

Daniel 2 & 3 enter in the foreground in the same outfit as Daniel 1 and they sing together but do not acknowledge each other.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Solitude my fortress strong
Loneliness is my song
The heart does not change
It tries to re-arrange*

(MORE)

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Harmony with just one voice
Sing alone
I've made the choice*

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

*No broken hearts
No tears to see
I sing my songs for me*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(singing)

*I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know
I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for me*

The Daniels go and sit in a line downstage.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)

*Solo plays and single days
The monologue's the same*

DANIEL 3

*No actors here
To play the parts*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

*Learn the rules from the start
No one to break the heart*

*No one to play the game
Solitaire's the name*

DANIEL 1

(singing)

*I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know*

They stand and spread along the edge of the stage.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

*I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)

*I play for no one
No one plays for me*

Daniel 2 & Daniel 3 drift behind Daniel 1 so they disappear behind him and become 1 person then they turn and exit leaving Daniel 1 alone again center stage.

DANIEL 1

(singing)

Solitary
(5 seconds)
All-together
(5 seconds)
Man

Song ends.

Greg 1 goes to center stage.

GREG 1

Wow, that was awesome, thank you so much, Daniel. I loved that song. It sort of sounded like John Denver...if John Denver had writers block.
(laughs at his joke)

I'm kidding. I thought he was great. I thought you were great, Daniel. I'm actually a solitary woman so we'd be a perfect couple. I'm just kidding, Daniel. Actually, I'm not kidding. I'm a sucker for a man in a cowboy hat. Oh, wait, that came out wrong...well you know what I meant. Okay, so that's our show. Go home. It's over. You were a horrible audience so don't come back next week even though we'll have much better performers.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

And remember to tell your friends they have to see Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night, hosted by me, Greg, right here, every Tuesday in the student union except during vacations and finals week. Have a great night everybody and remember, since most of you don't have cars, Don't Drink and Walk. It's not pretty. Thanks again for coming. See you next week!

Guitar underscoring for the scene transition.

Caught in the Rain reprise

SCENE: BACKSTAGE - POST SHOW

Daniel 1 is back on one knee putting his guitar in its case as Greg 1 approaches him, Greg 1 is still holding his clipboard. Greg 1 studies Daniel 1 for a

bit before he speaks.

GREG 1

So, are you really a solitary man?

Daniel, stops, looks up at him and chuckles.

DANIEL 1

Sure.

GREG 1

Perfect. Me, too. We could be great friends. Two solitary men.

DANIEL 1

You don't seem very solitary. Your "fabulously...fabulous" show was packed.

GREG 1

Well, it was free.

DANIEL 1

It was still packed.

GREG 1

They got their money's worth.

DANIEL 1

Seems like you have a "fabulous" following

GREG 1

Well you can be fabulous and solitary at the same time.

DANIEL 1

Did you pick the name?

GREG 1
You don't like it?

DANIEL 1
Sure, it's very... "fabulous."

GREG 1
Don't make fun of my show. I
didn't make fun of your song.

DANIEL 1
Actually, you did. You said I
sounded like John Denver if
John Denver had writers block.

GREG 1
I was gonna say you sound like
John Denver after the plane
went down but...

DANIEL 1
You're bad.

GREG 1
Oh relax. I make fun of
everyone. Don't be flattered.

DANIEL 1
Well thanks for me letting me
be in your show.

GREG 1
Daniel, I loved your song.
Seriously. I loved it. You're
very talented.

DANIEL 1
But...?

GREG 1
No buts. I loved it.

DANIEL 1

I can't tell when you're joking
or being serious.

GREG 1

I'm serious. I loved your
song. If you want to come back
next week I'll get you in
again.

DANIEL 1

Really?

GREG 1

Sure. You can do that song
again...or if...do you have
other songs?

DANIEL 1

I gotta bunch of songs.

GREG 1

Really? Wow. Awesome. I'd
love to hear 'em.

DANIEL 1

Okay, that'd be cool.

GREG 1

Great, it's a date. When?

DANIEL 1

When what?

GREG 1

When do I get to hear all your
other songs.

DANIEL 1

I don't know.

GREG 1
How 'bout right now?

DANIEL 1
Right here.

GREG 1
No silly, back in my dorm room.
I have my own room. I lucked
out. Want to see it? It's
really nice.

DANIEL 1
I know what a dorm room looks
like.

GREG 1
Not mine.

Long awkward silence.

DANIEL 1
Probably another night's
better.

GREG 1
Why whadda you have a date? I
thought you were a solitary
man. I hope you didn't just
sing a bunch of lies to my
audience.

Another long awkward silence.

DANIEL 1
Are you hitting on me?

GREG 1
Are you joking??? Of course
I'm hitting on you. I'm a
sucker for a guy in a cowboy
hat.

Daniel 1 takes off the hat. Greg 1 sees Daniel's whole face for the first time.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
(repulsed)
Oh, hell no. Maybe another time. Adios. See you around.

Greg 1 turns and quickly walks away.

DANIEL 1
(singing loudly, silly)
"You fill up my senses
Like a night in a forest".

Greg turns on a dime and goes back.

GREG 1
Now, that's a song! And I would fill up your senses...if you were a census taker.

DANIEL 1
That's not funny.

GREG 1
Well they can't all be winners. So what are we doing?

Daniel 1 is nervous.

DANIEL 1
What do you mean what are we doing?

GREG 1
I mean what are we doing? What do you wanna do?
(pause)
Hello?

DANIEL 1

You make me nervous.

GREG 1

I make everyone nervous. It's part of my charm.

DANIEL 1

You really want to hear more music tonight?

GREG 1

If it's good.

DANIEL 1

Well I'm sure you'll tell me.

GREG 1

I'm always honest. I never lie. It's too much work. What about you?

DANIEL 1

I just spent 2 years in a seminary studying to be a Priest so I try to be honest.

GREG 1

A Priest??? No way.

DANIEL 1

Yep.

GREG 1

Wow. That's crazy. I use to date a Priest.

DANIEL 1

Really?

GREG 1

Yeah, when I was 8. But it didn't work out. When I turned

10 he dumped me for a younger
guy.

DANIEL 1
You're sick, you know that.

GREG 1
You have no idea. You ready?

DANIEL 1
No.

GREG 1
Good, let's go.

Lights transition to a tight spotlight on Daniel 3
who has been on stage the whole time watching this
scene.

SCENE: SOLITARY MAN REPRISE

DANIEL 3 (SINGS)
Solitary
Altogether man

SCENE: DORM ROOM

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter the dorm room thru the door
as the Solitary Man reprise fades out.

DANIEL 1
Wow, this room is amazing. It
looks like every other single
dorm room I've ever seen. Your
decorating skills are
impressive.

GREG 1
Almost as impressive as your
Garth Brooks impersonation.

DANIEL 1
Wow, you're actually a funny

guy. I didn't realize that while watching your stand-up routine tonight.

GREG 1

You're hateful, get the hell out.

DANIEL 1

Nope. You're stuck with me now. You ready?

GREG 1

This better be good. Okay go.

DANIEL 1

Are you gonna talk the whole time?

GREG 1

Okay, go!

DANIEL 1

Okay, this is a new song I'm working on. It's not quite finished but...it's a love song but don't get all excited. I wrote it way before I met you.

GREG 1

Just play it.

DANIEL 1

Ok here we go.

He begins to play the intro.

GREG 1

Wait.

Daniel 1 stops playing.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

I think it will sound better if
you take your shirt off.

DANIEL 1

How much money you got?

Daniel 1 starts over.

GREG 1

No. Stop. It's horrible.
Horrible. What else do you
have?

Both laughing.

DANIEL 1

You're going to hell. And I
would know.

GREG 1

Can't I just confess my sins to
you.

DANIEL 1

I don't have that much time.
Now shut up.

He starts over again.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Maybe you could help me
To write a love song
Just maybe
If you tell me how you feel
When you look in my eyes
It's no surprise
I've fallen for you
I sing a tune
To the sound of your name
You are a long, stem, red rose
A glass of champagne*

*The tide
As it ebbs and flows
On the shoreline
Of my heart
You are a long, stem, red rose
And the fragrant autumn air
I long to lay beside you
I long to be right there*

GREG 1
(speaking)
I like it.

DANIEL 1
(speaking)
Really.

GREG 1
(speaking)
Yes.

DANIEL 1
(speaking)
Really?

GREG 1
(speaking)
Yes. I like it.

DANIEL 1
(speaking)
Don't lie.

GREG 1
(speaking)
I like it. I didn't say I
loved it. I said I liked it.
I'm not giving you a Grammy or
anything...yet. Keep singing.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Maybe you could tell me

Your favorite story

GREG 1
(speaking)
I could actually.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*Could I be the prince
On the white horse
That comes to carry you away*

GREG 1
(speaking)
Would that make me the
princess?

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*Make a wish
And count to three
There is magic in the air*

GREG 1
(speaking)
One, two, three...

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*Let's weave a tale of life
That goes on and on and on.*
(speaking)
You know this part, feel free
to sing along.

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1
(singing)
*You are a long
Stem, red rose
A glass of champagne.
The tide
As it ebbs and flows
On the shoreline of my heart*

DANIEL 1

(singing)

*You are a long, stem, red rose
And the fragrant autumn air
I long to lay beside you
I long to be right there*

GREG 1

(speaking)

Honestly, it's a little sappy.

DANIEL 1

(speaking)

Hey, hey, hey...

GREG 1

(speaking)

I'm not sure about the whole
Red Rose thing...it's a little
clichéd...how 'bout something
more practical instead...like
"You are an ATM debit card
Or A dog that never poops."

DANIEL 1

(singing)

*Isn't love just like the
Setting sun
Isn't love just like the wind
Isn't love just like the
Falling rain?
Rain on me
Rain on me*

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1

(singing)

*You are a long, stem, red rose
A glass of champagne.
The tide
As it ebbs and flows
On the shoreline of my heart
You are a long, stem, red rose
And the fragrant autumn air*

*I long to lay beside you
I long to be right there*

DANIEL 1

(singing)

*I long to lay beside you
I long to be right
There*

Song ends.

GREG 1

(speaking)

It's lovely. It sounds like what you'd get if Kenny Rogers and Neil Diamond had sex and gave birth to a really untalented love child.

DANIEL 1

Thank you. I'm taking that as a compliment. I actually wrote it in the seminary.

GREG 1

For a nun? Or for a Bishop?

DANIEL 1

Well, that's a good question.

GREG 1

And the answer is...?

DANIEL 1

Take a guess.

GREG 1

The Bishop.

DANIEL 1

No. Wishful thinking.

GREG 1
Straight?

DANIEL 1
Ummmm. No.

GREG 1
No? Hmmm. Interesting. Bi?

DANIEL 1
Maybe.

GREG 1
Celibate?

DANIEL 1
Sort of.

GREG 1
Confused?

DANIEL 1
Bingo!

GREG 1
Really?

DANIEL 1
Yeah.

GREG 1
What are you confused about?

Daniel 1 is silent.

He thinks.

Long silence.

Greg 1 slowly leans in and kisses him.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
Still confused?

DANIEL 1

Very.

Greg 1 leans in and kisses him a second time.

GREG 1

What about now?

DANIEL 1

Less confused.

Greg leans in and kisses him for a longer time.

GREG 1

And now?

DANIEL 1

Not confused at all.

They kiss again.

Daniel 3 plays a sweet instrumental as Daniel 1 and Greg slowly kiss and slowly lie down on the bed together. They remain fully clothed. The only light is on Daniel 3 who sings.

The song begins at the 1:20 minute mark in the song.

DANIEL 3

(singing)

*Maybe you could tell me
Your favorite story
Could I be the prince
On the white horse
That comes to carry you away
Make a wish
And count to three
There is magic in the air
Let's weave a tale of life
That goes on and on and on.*

Dim lights back up on dorm room. It is 4am and Daniel 1 and Greg 1 are now asleep.

Music begins

Song: Look at Me

Daniel 3 plays guitar.

Greg 1 sits up in bed. Daniel 1 remains asleep.

Greg 1 worries he might be falling in love too fast. He sings to himself not to the audience.

GREG 1

(singing)

*Sometimes I fall in love
Too hard
Too fast
For too long
For today
It never seems to last
Some days I say
"I'll never fall again"
For a while
But then I see your smile
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand*

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

*Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance*

Daniel wakes up suddenly.

DANIEL 1

Hey.

Music stops suddenly.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

You okay?

GREG 1

Yep.

DANIEL 1

What are you doing?

GREG 1

Just thinking

DANIEL 1

You should be sleeping...next
to me...right now.

Daniel 1 jumps out of bed.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

But first I gotta pee.

GREG 1

That's romantic.

DANIEL 1

Be right back

Daniel exits, shutting the door.

Music resumes.

GREG 1

(singing)

*When I saw you
I fell so hard*

Daniel suddenly swings the door back open and pops
his head in. Music and singing stop.

DANIEL 1

Hey!

They look at each other...Daniel 1 is very happy.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

Don't go anywhere.

Daniel 1 exits. Greg resumes singing.

GREG 1

(singing)

*When I saw you
I fell so hard*

Again, Daniel 1 suddenly swings the door back open and pops his head in. Music and singing stop.

DANIEL 1

Hey, I'm serious, don't go
anywhere.

Daniel 1 exits. Greg is about to sing again but right as he opens his mouth, he stops, stares at the door and waits for Daniel 1 to burst in again. Daniel 1, doesn't Greg resumes singing.

GREG 1

(singing)

*When I saw you
I fell so hard
So fast
So long to the past
And the other loves I've known
You said I'd never be
Alone again
I could rest
In the shelter of your arms
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand*

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

*Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
I will stand in the rain
I will walk through the fire
I have waited a lifetime
For your love
I will sing to you at night
Come and meet me in my dreams
Oh, talk to me
Stay with me
Look at me*

Greg builds that final note on "me" as the door suddenly flies open again and the music cuts out suddenly.

DANIEL 1

I'm back.

GREG 1

How was it?

DANIEL 1

All good.

GREG 1

I missed you.

DANIEL 1

I missed you, too.

They kiss.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

Aren't you tired?

GREG 1

I'm okay.

DANIEL 1

Come on lets go to sleep.

Greg sings to him now but its as if they're talking

GREG 1

(singing)

*Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while*

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1

(singing)

*Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
Look at me
Honey, give my heart a chance*

They kiss and the lights fade to black.

Song ends.

"Don't Get Caught In The Rain" intro vamp begins
played by Daniel 3

SCENE: GOOD MORNING - KITCHEN

Daniel 2 is off-stage.

Greg 2 enters, we are in a kitchen in the morning and
Greg 2 is rushing to make coffee and toast and get
out the door. Things are tense.

GREG 2

(speaking)

Daniel!?!?! Daniel?!?!?! Come
on, dude. I'm gonna be so
late. Daniel. Daniel???
Seriously.

Vamp ends.

DANIEL 2
(speaking, off-stage)
One second!!! I can't find my
keys.

GREG 2
I have them.

DANIEL 2
You have the keys?

GREG 2
Yes, I have the keys, let's go.

DANIEL 2
Do you have my wallet?

GREG 2
Yes, I have your wallet.

DANIEL 2
One second.

GREG 2
I don't have a second.

DANIEL 2
One second.

GREG 2
I'm just gonna go. I'll see
you later.

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
Hold on, I'm ready.

Daniel 2 enters, wearing a cowboy hat like the one
Daniel 1 was wearing.

The music vamp becomes "Good Morning"

Song - Good Morning

GREG 2
(speaking)
Seriously, dude? Every time.

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
Good morning to you, too,
handsome.

GREG 2
(speaking)
"Good morning to me."

DANIEL 2
(singing)
"Good morning"
I said
And you
Jumped out of bed
Its funny how things change
Or do dreams re-arrange
What you know to be true
In the night
They say
"Looks different
In the light of the day"

GREG 2
(singing)
We're on the
Wrong side of love, baby
Let's switch side
This fighting thing
It's just not our style
Let's stop
And start this again

DANIEL 2
(singing)
"Good morning" again

*And you tossed me a pen
You said*

GREG 2

(singing)

*"That I can't listen now
But could you write it down"*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*All the things that I need you
To hear from my heart
Some how I don't think
This is the way to start*

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2

(singing)

*We're on the wrong side
Of love, baby
Let's switch sides
This fighting thing
It's just not our style
Let's stop
And start this again*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*It's not "you" you say
"It's me"*

GREG 2

(singing)

*It's just a
Momentary compromise
In our otherwise
Picture-perfect
"white picket fence"
Of the dream that we live
Don't worry I'll be fine*

DANIEL 2
(singing)
You said "I'll be fine"
Don't worry
We'll be just fine

They get ready to leave by putting on jackets and grabbing umbrellas. Daniel 2 pours himself a cup of coffee.

GREG 2
(singing)
"Good morning"
You say

GREG 2 (CONT'D)
Hey
It's another day

DANIEL 2
(singing)
So, stop all this moaning

GREG 2
(singing)
I was just hormoning
So pass me the chocolate
And pass me the wine
Let's get on
With our prime-time love

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2
(singing)
"Good morning" I said
"Good morning" you say

Light back up on the dorm room.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 are now sitting up in bed smiling at each other. Daniel 1 is still wearing his cowboy hat.

DANIEL 1 & 2 AND GREG 1 & 2
(singing)
Good morning again
Hey
It's another day

Song ends.

SCENE: COLLEGE MORNING

GREG 1
You are so damn sexy in that
cowboy hat

Daniel 1 removes the cowboy hat.

DANIEL 1
And now.

GREG 1
Not so much. Don't ever take
it off.

SCENE: BACK TO THE KITCHEN

Daniel 2 is finishing a cup of coffee.

GREG 2
You're really gonna wear that
hat? Really?

DANIEL 2
Why not?

GREG 2
To the chiropractor?

DANIEL 2
So.

GREG 2

Daniel, it's a doctor's office,
not a rodeo.

DANIEL 2

It's raining?

GREG 2

Whatever, I don't have time for
this, let's just go.

Greg 2 opens his umbrella and exits.

SCENE: "WHAT'S THE PLAN STAN?"

GREG 1

So what's the plan Stan?

DANIEL 1

You tell me.

GREG 1

What do you want to do today?

DANIEL 1

Whatever you want to do.

GREG 1

What do you want to do?

DANIEL 1

I'm happy right here.

GREG 1

Me, too. It's raining pretty
hard. Maybe we should stay in
bed all day. Stay dry. Stay
warm.

DANIEL 1

Sounds good to me.

GREG 1
Play me another song.

Song - Don't Get Caught in the Rain

SCENE: CAUGHT IN THE RAIN

Daniel 3 plays the intro while Daniel 1 goes and gets his guitar.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*It's another early
Morning sunrise
The birds sing their song
The sunlight
Dances on the waves
And I recall
That certain look
In your eyes*

Daniel 2 and Greg 2 enter with umbrellas, rushing to their car, they quickly close their umbrellas and jump in the car. They begin to drive. Greg 2 begins to drive while Daniel 2 stares out the window.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
(singing and playing)
*Please do not leave me
In the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh the sky is red
So I guess you best take care
Don't get caught in the rain
Don't get caught in the rain*

Daniel 1 & 3 continue to play.

GREG 2

(singing)

*I pack my bags
And get into the car
Heading out west
To see the setting sun*

DANIEL 3

(singing)

*I am haunted
By the memory of your face
And the final words
I said to you
I said*

GREG 1 & 2 AND DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(singing)

*Please
Do not leave me in the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh, the sky is red
So I guess you best take care
Don't get caught
In the rain
Don't get caught
In the rain*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*My love for you
Is deeper than the sea*

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

*Let me fill your night
With song*

GREG 2

(singing)

*My love for you
Is deeper than the sea
Let me fill your night*

With song

GREG 1
(singing)
*Let me enlighten
Your days*

Music pauses.

SCENE: FIRST CAR CONVERSATION

GREG 2
(speaking)
We're here.

Daniel 2 puts back on his cowboy hat.

DANIEL 2
You ready?

GREG 2
My God, it's pouring.

DANIEL 2
You ready?

GREG 2
Are you really gonna wear that?

DANIEL 2
I remember a time when you
never wanted me to take it off.

GREG 2
That was a long time ago.

DANIEL 2
Yeah, that's when we were
actually in love.

A big long silence.

GREG 2
Don't say that.

DANIEL 2
I'm just saying...

GREG 2
I can't do this right now.
Just wear the hat. Let's go.

Music resumes where it left off.

SCENE: CAUGHT IN THE RAIN - PART 2

Daniel 1 and Daniel 3 resume playing. They should play a few seconds of instrumental intro to cover the exit of Daniel 2 and Greg 2 before singing the lyrics.

Greg 3 enters upstage with an umbrella.

Greg 2 exits the car, open his umbrella and leaves Daniel 2 behind. Daniel 2 exits the car wearing his cowboy hat, starts to exit, changes his mind, returns to the car, leaves his cowboy hat in the car. Daniel 2 exits.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*It's another early morning
Sunrise
I turn to you
And you smile*

GREG 1
(singing)
*There's a certain sadness
When I look into your eyes
I hope that you are
Here to stay*

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1
(singing)
Don't go away

GREG 1 & 3 AND DANIEL 1 & 3
Please
Do not leave me in the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh, the sky is red
I guess you best take care

Greg 3 enters in a raincoat with an umbrella.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Don't get caught in the rain

DANIEL 3 & GREG 3
(singing)
Don't get caught in the rain

Greg 3 sits and watches Daniel 3 play and sing.

DANIEL 3
(singing)
Oh don't get caught
In the

Song Ends.

SCENE: TIME TO SELL

Greg 3 and Daniel 3 sit in silence. Thinking.
Finally Greg 3 breaks the silence

GREG 3
(thinking)
HMMMMMMMMM.

DANIEL 3
(mirroring him)
"HMMMMMMMMM."

GREG 3

(beat)

So what's going on here?

DANIEL 3

Nothing much.

GREG 3

(thinking)

Hmmmm.

DANIEL 3

(mirroring him)

"Hmmmm."

GREG 3

The kids across the street
toilet papered Joe and Linda's
house and it's pouring now and
it's a mess and they'll never
get all that toilet that paper
out of the grass.

DANIEL 3

That's funny.

GREG 3

Not if you're Joe and Linda.

(beat)

So what's really going on here?

DANIEL 3

Nothing much.

GREG 3

No. I mean that.

(indicating guitar)

What's up with that, thing?

DANIEL 3

I don't know. I was bored. I
guess it's time again.

GREG 3

Really?

DANIEL 3

I guess. Maybe. I don't know.
I think so.

GREG 3

You think so or know so?

DANIEL 3

I know so.

GREG 3

That's wonderful.

DANIEL 3

Maybe. Hopefully.

GREG 3

I think the last time you
played was at your Mom's
funeral.

DANIEL 3

Yep. Two years ago in May.

GREG 3

You okay?

DANIEL 3

I'm fine. How are you?

GREG 3

I'm fine. Michael knows a guy
who knows a guy who knows a
great realtor. He's gonna get
me his number. He's gay.
Michael's heard great things
about him. And Michael thinks
if the house is staged right we
should have no problem selling
it.

DANIEL 3

Is that what Michael thinks.

GREG 3

It's what he said.

DANIEL 3

But Michael isn't a real estate agent.

GREG 3

That's true but when he sold his house he made some nice money.

DANIEL 3

I don't want to sell our house. I love this house. We've had a lot of great fights in this house. Greg, this is our home. I don't want someone else living in our home.

GREG 3

And what happens when I'm gone? This house is a lot of work.

DANIEL 3

You're not going anywhere.

GREG 3

Ok, if you say so.

DANIEL 3

I say so.

GREG 3

So other than the fact that you don't want to sell a house that is way too big for one person.

DANIEL 3

Two people.

GREG 3

For now.

DANIEL 3

Forever.

They sit in silence.

GREG 3

I could really use a kiss.

DANIEL 3

Really?

Greg 3 gets up and goes over to Daniel 3. They begin to kiss.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 also kiss.

The kiss is tender not "hot and heavy".

Daniel 3 begins to play the intro to Now and Then which underscores Greg's monologue.

SCENE: NOW & THEN INTRO

Song: Now And Then (underscore)

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 enter under the umbrella and get back in the car.

Spotlight only on Greg 2 and Daniel 2

GREG 2

(speaking)

Listen, I'm sorry I was such a jerk this morning. I'm sorry.

Now and Then music intro continues.

SCENE: CAR MONOLOGUE - GREG 2

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

It would just be really nice if we got somewhere on time once in a while. I just feel like I'm always 20 minutes behind. We've talked about this endlessly. It really stresses me out when I'm late but you don't seem to care.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Do you understand that it stresses me out? I don't like starting my day totally stressed out. It screws my whole day up. I feel like I can never catch my breath. We're just always running. Running. Running. But I'm sorry. I shouldn't yell at you. I'm sorry. I love you. But, Daniel, you make me crazy sometimes. And it's getting worse. I'm being honest. Some days I want to just...I just...I feel out of control...you focus on your music and I focus on everything else and it doesn't feel balanced. It's too much for me to work full time, manage the money, clean the house, and then when I ask you to just be ready to go somewhere, on time, you can't even do that. I'm not asking for a lot. Just respect that I'm a lot busier

(MORE)

than you. I would love to stay home all day and write music but then who would pay the bills? I love you. I love you like crazy. I love you more today than I did yesterday. And I don't just love you but I'm in love with you. So it really hurts me when you say, "Yeah, that's when we were actually in love." Like we aren't in love anymore?!?! That's a really crappy thing to say. Would I work 10 hours a day and support us if I didn't love you...if I didn't believe in you...if I didn't believe in us...Daniel, listen to me, I know you're gonna be big one day. I know it.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

There's no doubt in my mind. I know you're gonna get rich and famous and I'll quit working and we'll live happily ever after. I know that's gonna happen...but it hasn't happened yet...and it may not happen soon...so until it does...can you just work with me here? Can we just try to get somewhere on time...

Daniel 1 joins the vamp with his own delicate underscoring.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Just once? Is that possible? Are you gonna say anything? Do you hate me?

SCENE: NOW AND THEN SONG

Song - Now and Then

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Maybe you could tell me
Why it is
That I want you
When so many times
You cast me away
Maybe some night
You'll turn to find
I've gone away*

GREG 2

(singing)

*Now and then I fall again
A gentle touch from you
And I fall again
Now & then
I fall again
For you*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Maybe I could tell you
What it is
That you do for me
If only I knew why I fall
Now and then it seems that I
Fall deeper into your eyes*

Lights up on the other two couples.

This next paragraph should be a great contrast between Greg/Daniel 1, Greg/Daniel 2, Greg/Daniel 3. Greg/Daniel 1 are full of pure optimism and joy and puppy love and Greg/Daniel 2 are much more conflicted about their feelings and Greg/Daniel 3 are content and settled.

DANIEL 1 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(singing)

*Now and then I fall again
A gentle touch from you
(harmonizing)
And I fall again
Now and then
I fall again
For you*

GREG 2

(singing)

*As you turn to hold me
"I love you" you say*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*But you say "I love you"
A thousand times every day*

GREG 2

(singing)

*After the FALL you say
"Your time is through"
I'd take that fall again
If you'd fall, too*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Now and then it seems that I
Fall deeper
Into your eyes*

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3

(singing)

*Now & then I fall again
A gentle touch from you
And I fall again
Now and then I fall again
For you*

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1
(singing)
*Now and then I fall again
For you*

DANIEL 2 & GREG 2
(singing)
*Now and then I fall again
For you*

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
(singing)
*Now and then I fall again
For you
Now and then I fall again
For you
Now and then I fall again
For you*

Song ends.

SCENE: FINAL CAR SCENE

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
We need to have more fun.

GREG 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2
Less fighting, more laughing?

GREG 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2
More sex.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2

So we agree on everything. So
what's the problem?

GREG 2

I don't know.

DANIEL 2

Gimme a kiss.

Underscoring, upbeat, quiet and steady...slowly
building.

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

Let's go do something.
Something fun. What do you
want to do?

GREG 2

I don't know.

DANIEL 2

I do.

GREG 2

What?

DANIEL 2

It's a surprise.

GREG 2

I'm nervous.

DANIEL 2

Let me drive.

GREG 2

Where are we going?

DANIEL 2

Trust me. Come on.

They switch seats.

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

Ready?

GREG 2

I'm not sure.

DANIEL 2

You're gonna like it. Buckle
up.

The music gets louder. We are now in a bar. Neon
beer signs slide in. Dance floor lights are pulsing.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter, Daniel 1 is holding a
bottle of beer. Greg sits and changes shoes.

SCENE: COUNTRY WESTERN BAR

GREG 1

How come I've never been here.

DANIEL 1

Because you're boring.

GREG 1

I don't line dance.

DANIEL 1

You do tonight.

GREG 1

I don't know how.

DANIEL 1

I'll teach you. It's easy.

GREG 1

I hope you're a better teacher
than you are a singer.

DANIEL 1

There's a lot of other cowboys
in here that would love to have
me sing to them...

GREG 1

Oh yeah, a line around the
block.

Daniel 1 puts Greg 1 in a playful headlock.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

Uncle! Uncle!

DANIEL 1

I'm not your Uncle. I'm your
partner.

GREG 1

"Partner???" Is that official?
You've never used that word
before.

DANIEL 1

No. It was a mistake. I
didn't mean partner. I meant
fiancé.

Right before the word "fiancé" everything stops. No
music. A tight spotlight hits Greg 1 and Daniel 1.
Greg 1 is in shock and deeply moved..

GREG 1

What did you say?

DANIEL 1

You heard me.

GREG 1

I'm pretty sure I heard
"fiancé". Or was it Beyonce?

DANIEL 1

You have excellent hearing.

GREG 1

I swear I heard fiancé. Fiancé is actually a French word. Are you sure you know what it means.

DANIEL 1

I believe it means, a person Daniel would like to spend the rest of his life with.

Daniel 1 gets on his knee and takes out a ring box, opens it, puts a ring on Greg 1.

Greg 1 is trying not to fall apart emotionally.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(slow and quiet)

Take my hand
Walk with me
Leaves have fallen
So have we
Into a love
So deep
So rare

(tempo increases)

Captured in your eyes

Daniel 1 stands up and they begin to dance. Daniel 1 is teaching Greg 1 to line dance but taking it slow.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

And held there in your glance
The music of your voice
Gives my spirit
Strength to dance
Captured in your eyes
I swear it must be true
I have fallen in love

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

*I am captured
By you*

Instrumental underscoring, disco lights return.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 enter carrying hats and cowboy boots. They sit and change shoes, like in a bowling alley.

GREG 2

No way. I thought this place
was closed.

DANIEL 2

We don't get out enough.

GREG 2

That's where you proposed to
me, right over there.

Greg 2 indicates the spotlight where Greg 1 and Daniel 1 are now dancing.

DANIEL 2

I remember it well.

GREG 2

I loved this place.

DANIEL 2

Me, too.

GREG 2

Why did we stop coming?

DANIEL 2

I don't know.

GREG 2

I don't know either.

DANIEL 2

You think you remember
everything I taught you?

GREG 2
Honey, I taught you.

DANIEL 2
Then let's go. Less talking,
more dancing.

GREG 2
Bring it on, mother/

The music cuts him off.

Music - Look at Me

Music shifts and we are now in full line dancing music mode. The two younger couples do an intricate line dance sequence. Daniel 3 plays guitar while Greg 3 tries to keep up but can't.

ALL CAST
(singing)
*Sometimes I fall in love
Too hard
Too fast
For too long
For today
It never seems to last
Some days I say
"I'll never fall again"
For a while
But then I see your smile
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance*

Now all three couples are line dancing with each other as one group. They become aware of each other and start to function as one unit. The dance should build and become explosive. Interesting shapes and formations form and break apart and come together again.

At one point all the Daniels are one side and all the Gregs are on other and then they are all one unit again. It should be more than just a line dance. It should be a collision of time and memory. Joy, nostalgia and discovery all overlap...the number should be both entertaining and cathartic.

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

*When I saw you
I fell so hard
So fast
So long to the past
And the other love's I've known
You said I'd never be
Alone again
I could rest
In the shelter of your arms
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
Look at me
Honey, give my heart a chance.*

It builds to a crescendo of drunken hoots and hollers and we fade to black.

INTERMISSION

SCENE: BACK TO THE BAR

Song Begins - Look At Me

As intermission ends Daniel 3 enters playing a reprise of "Look at Me". He is alone at first but then one by one the rest of the cast enter.

DANIEL 3

(singing)

When I saw you

DANIEL 3 (CONT'D)

I fell so hard

So fast

DANIEL 3 AND GREG 3

(singing)

So long to the past

And the other love's I've known

DANIEL 1 & 3 AND GREG 1 & 3

(singing)

You said I'd never be

Alone again

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(singing)

I could rest

In the shelter of your arms

The whole cast are now back on stage and they do a brief reprise of the previous line dance.

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(CONT'D)

(singing)

Look at me

Give me just your smile

Talk to me

Honey for a while

Hold my hand

Let's try this romance

Look at me

Give my heart a chance

*Look at me
Honey, give my heart a chance.*

Song ends.

Finally the number ends. All the couples now sit side by side, facing out, sitting in one long row across the stage facing forward. Daniel 1 and 2 are drinking. Daniel 1 and 2 should drink in unison.

GREG 3
I'm exhausted.

DANIEL 1
You're not bad.

DANIEL 2
It all came back to you.

DANIEL 3
Like riding a bicycle.

GREG 1
Who taught you to dance?

DANIEL 3
I'm just naturally gifted.

GREG 2
No really.

GREG 3
Who taught you?

DANIEL 3
I honestly don't remember.

DANIEL 1
I think I just picked it up.

GREG 2

I'm not gonna be able to walk
in the morning?

GREG 3

I can't remember the last time
I wore cowboy boots.

GREG 2

I think it was in Nashville.

DANIEL 1

I want to get married in
Nashville.

GREG 1

Why?

DANIEL 1

Cause I want to be surrounded
by the my two loves on the
happiest day of my life.

GREG 1

You're two loves? Is there
someone you haven't told me
about?

GREG 3

"You and music, my two loves."
Do you remember saying that to
me? Right over there.

DANIEL 3

I was stupid. I love you way
more than music. Nothing else
even comes close.

GREG 1

We don't even know anyone in
Nashville.

DANIEL 1

So what? We'll meet people.
Maybe important people. We can
invite them to the wedding.

DANIEL 3

I dragged you to Nashville how
many times? 6? 7? 8 times
maybe...and nothing.

GREG 3

No regrets, Daniel.

DANIEL 3

Nothing.

GREG 3

We got married in Nashville.
That's not nothing.

DANIEL 3

I mean professionally.

GREG 3

No regrets.

GREG 2

We should go back. For a
honeymoon. For old times sake.

DANIEL 2

Nah, I think I'm done with
Nashville and I think
Nashville's done with me.

GREG 2

Stop that. Your time is
coming.

DANIEL 2

I don't think so.

GREG 1

We can get married. Invite a few locals. Then we can stay and work the town for contacts. Drop off your demos. We'll kill two birds with one trip. Get hitched and get famous in the same weekend.

DANIEL 1

I'm not gonna spend our wedding knocking on the doors of a bunch of music executives who don't know nothing about music. I only want good memories that weekend.

GREG 1

As long as were together it'll be good memories.

DANIEL 3

How much money did I give to Nashville. And how much did I get back?

GREG 3

We're not doing this tonight. No regrets. It's not over yet.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

You've still got a lot of great music in you. Your time will come, Daniel. I believe in you.

DANIEL 3

I'm 62, Greg.

GREG 2

And your time will come.

DANIEL 2

I don't know.

GREG 1

I believe in you.

DANIEL 2

I'm a mattress salesman now. I work in a fucking mattress store. I know I disappointed you. You fell in love with a rock star and wound up with a mattress seller.

GREG 2

You're a musician. That's what you are. So you work on something else during the day to pay the bills. That doesn't make you a failure it makes you mature. Don't beat yourself up.

DANIEL 1

I think we should have three homes. One in Nashville, one in New York City and one wherever you want.

GREG 1

Actually, I think we should have four homes.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

One by each of our parents, that's two and then one in Nashville and another one in New York City. How's that for a plan?

GREG 3

I talked to Michael last week...he think it's a good time to buy...we can get a condo on the water for about 150,000. It's not huge but it's on the water. He thinks we should get 220 for the house. I'm really ready to downsize. What do you think?

DANIEL 2

I'm just tired of paying rent. I want something for us. Something we own. We were supposed to own four homes by now and what do we have?

GREG 2

Four homes? That was stupid kid talk. We can barely keep a 1 bedroom apartment clean. 4 houses would be a nightmare. This is what you do, Daniel. You start focusing on everything you don't have and you go into a rabbit hole and everything goes black. We have a nice place, we have a nice landlord, we can afford it, when something breaks we don't have to fix it ourselves, we just call the landlord...it's a good situation.

DANIEL 2

I just want more for us. I want more for you.

GREG 2

Everybody wants more.

DANIEL 2

I don't want to be 60 years old
and selling mattresses.

GREG 2

You won't be.

GREG 3

After you retire in September
we can go anywhere. We can
afford a place on the water. I
think you'll be happy there,
after I'm gone. What do you
think?

Music intro begins

DANIEL 3

I think I don't want to live
anywhere if you're not there so
don't talk like that. You're
in remission, you're doing
great. Period.

Song - Castles

GREG 1

(singing)

*Can you build me a house
With a lovely garden
A lovely view
On a mountain
We'll watch the sunrise
Watch the night fall
Watch the day come again*

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

*Maybe we could sail away
Maybe we
Could dance on stars
I'd go with you anywhere
Can I live with you*

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
In your castle
In the air

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
The doctor said if you're in
remission for the first two
years...

GREG 3
(speaking)
I know what the doctor said
but...

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
He said if you're in remission
in the first two years the
chances are very good that it's
never going to come back.

GREG 3
(speaking)
No, that's not exactly what he
said.

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
It's basically what he said.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Can we not talk about this on
our date night?

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
You brought it up.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Well let's drop it, please.

(singing)
*Can you build me a house
To keep out the rain
I have no time for the pain*

DANIEL 1
(singing)
*Since I've known you
My life is wonderful*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
(singing)
My life is magical

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
(singing)
*A fairytale come true
Maybe we could sail away
Maybe we
Could dance on stars
I'd go with you anywhere
Can I live with you
In your castle
In the air*

Instrumental underscoring.

SCENE: NEW HOME

GREG 3
(speaking)
Oh my God. Look at this view.
I love it. It's so beautiful.
It's perfect. What do you
think?

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
I think the closing costs were
too high but I'm done talking
about that. And the HOA fees

are too high but I'm done
talking about that, too. If
you're happy, I'm happy.

GREG 3
(speaking)
I'm happy.

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
Then I'm happy.

GREG 3
(singing)
*Oh, walk with me
And talk with me
While there's time*

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3
(singing)
*Time can wash away
Like castles
In the sand
Oh, walk with me
And talk with me
While there's time*

GREG 3
(singing)
*Time can wash away
Like castles in the sand*

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3
*Can we live right here
In this castle
In the air*

Song Ends.

SCENE: CHRISTMAS PHONE-CALLS

DANIEL 1

Daniel, I can't believe you
can't pick up the phone. I've
been calling for like two
hours. This is ridiculous.
It's 2 in the morning. Where
are you? Call me back.

Greg hangs up the phone.

Song - When I Get Through

Greg 2 goes to the kitchen and gets wine glass and
pours himself a big glass of wine. He is in a rage.
He keeps checking his phone.

GREG 2

(singing)

*I've been calling
One more hour
One more try
To keep from falling
In to this spell
In to your eyes
But I keep calling
One more dial
One more chance
To keep from falling
In to this spell
In to romance
When I get through
Will it be all over
Will all my words
Just die down
When I hear your voice
When I get through
Will you hear
Hear I can't go on
Hanging on the phone
Calling
Waiting*

Calling

Greg 2's phone rings. Greg 2 picks it up right away.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Daniel, where are you? It's 4 o'clock in the morning. Are you drunk, again? Hello? I can barely hear you. You're ridiculous. Where are you? I said, where are you? Where are you? Are you coming home? Tomorrow's Christmas Eve and we're supposed to go to my parent's house but I'm not taking you if you're drunk again. This is ridiculous.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

I said, it's ridic/what? Where are you? I can't understand you. You know what, forget I'm going to bed. Don't come home, seriously...I said, don't come home. What is that noise in the background. What? I can't hear you! Just call me back. Or don't. I really don't care. Please don't come home! Merry Christmas.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter with a Christmas tree and begin to decorate the left side of the tree while Greg 3 and Daniel 3 decorate the right side. Daniel 1 & 3 and Greg 1 & 3 are all wearing different Santa hats.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(singing, angry)

*Do you remember
Your words
And all our plans
Was it December*

*That you said
We'd have a chance
When I get through
Will it be all over
Will all my words
Just die down
When I hear your voice
When I get through
Will you hear
I can't go on
Hanging on the phone
Calling, waiting*

During this next verse, Greg 2 looks at his phone but doesn't pick up. Daniel 2 appears wearing a Santa hat. Daniel 2 has a beer in one hand and a phone in the other.

DANIEL 2
(singing)
*Calling
Late at night*

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
*Are you alone
Is anyone there
Are you at home
When I call
Are you there
Answer me*

Daniel 2 exits.

SCENE: "MERRY CHRISTMAS, PARDNER"

DANIEL 1
Merry Christmas, pardner.

GREG 1
It's beautiful.

DANIEL 3

It is.

GREG 1

Our first tree.

DANIEL 1

But not our last.

GREG 3

Hopefully, not our last.

DANIEL 1

Merry Christmas, funny guy.

DANIEL 3

Merry Christmas, handsome.

GREG 1

To many more.

DANIEL 3

To many more.

GREG 3

Remember two Christmases ago we
thought it would be our last
and here we are.

DANIEL 3

Here we are.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 appear in a spotlights on
opposites of the stage. Daniel 2 is still wearing a
Santa hat, drunk, with his guitar and a beer bottle.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2

*Is there no chance now
To end my pain
To end this fight
Do you hear my voice now
A distant cry
On a darkened night
When I get through*

*Will it be all over
Will all my words
Just die down
When I hear your voice
When I get through
Will you hear I can't go on
Hanging on the phone
Calling waiting
When I get through
Will it be all over
Will I my words
Just die down
When I hear your voice
When I get through
Will you hear
I can't go on
Hanging on the phone*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Calling, waiting

They cross toward each other and are now in their home.

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2

(singing)

I've been calling

Song ends.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

Merry Christmas, funny guy. I won the open mic contest. Free drinks and 50 bucks. Merry Christmas, handsome.

Daniel 2 tries to hand him the money.

GREG 2

You keep it. You're gonna need

it for a down payment on your own apartment because I am done here.

DANIEL 2

What does that mean "you're done here?" Does that mean you're done here or you're done here.

GREG 2

You're pathetic.

Greg 2 exits. Daniel 2 is alone on stage. He sits. Thinks.

SCENE: SEARS CATALOGUE

GREG 1

When I was 12 I was obsessed with the Sears Catalogue and every Christmas I would go thru it and circle everything I wanted for Christmas and I'd make sure my parents knew exactly what I wanted. And I remember I was flipping thru the catalogue and I saw an ad for this crazy new thing called an EZ Bake Oven. It was a real oven but for kids. And it was pink. Bright pink. I was instantly obsessed. I was possessed. I had to have it.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

I talked about it constantly. I wrote letters to Santa telling him how good I'd been all year and how much I needed it. I remember promising my

family that I would do all the cooking if they got it for me. "You'll never have to cook again", I told them. I don't think they believed me. I had no idea about being gay or what it meant but in hindsight I guess I was pretty much announcing my sexuality...at 12 years old. I was the only boy I knew who wanted an EZ Bake Oven but I didn't care. The heart wants what the heart wants, right? I had to have it and I knew in my heart I was going to get it. So Christmas morning comes, I run downstairs...I can't wait to open my new oven and start cooking. I've never been as excited as I was that morning. So I come down and there it is...not the oven exactly, but a really big box...clearly it was my oven...it was the biggest present under the tree...well not under the tree but next to the tree cause it was so big...so there it is my beautiful oven all wrapped up with beautiful paper...and my heart is racing...I think I was shaking...did I mention I couldn't sleep the night before....I remember saying thank you, thank you, thank you...even before I opened it. Thank you, thank you, thank you...and who was I thanking?

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

No one specific just a general

thank you to everyone, the
Universe, to my family, to
Santa, to God...it was like a
weird chant...thank you, thank
you, thank you, thank you,
thank you...looking back I was
slightly deranged...no that's
not true...not
slightly...totally deranged...I
was unhinged...because I knew,
in my soul, I was about to
experience the happiest moment
of my young life. So I rip off
the paper and
it's...well...it's not an EZ
Bake Oven. I wasn't sure what
it was but I knew what it
wasn't. And it was heavy.
Really heavy. So I finally got
it open and I looked inside and
it was...are you ready for
this...it was weights. It was
weights for weightlifting.
Dumbbells. I was a very
scrawny kid. Maybe a little
effeminate...maybe everyone had
already figured out what I was
before I figured it out and
they knew that an EZ Bake Oven
was fuel for the
homosexuality...I guess they
thought...I don't know what
they thought...I guess they
thought I wanted to be
muscular...I guess they thought
I wanted to be strong...but I
didn't...I just wanted to
cook...I wanted to make things
that people liked...I didn't
care about muscles I cared
about cooking. I was
devastated...seriously.
Seriously devastated. But then

I tried really hard not to show it...I tried to act happy.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

"Thank you for the weights...I love them...I can't wait to be big and strong and not a pansy chef...thank you...thank you for keeping me on the righteous path of heterosexuality."

Later on my brother, Big Doug said, "we didn't know what to get you." And my Dad said, "..we did our best." And I believed him. But it was still devastating. I still haven't totally gotten over it. So that's the story of my worst Christmas. Okay, your turn.

SCENE: WORST CHRISTMAS

GREG 3

You know, what it is...you know which Christmas was the worst. Well actually, no you probably don't know cause you were too drunk off your ass to even remember. But my worst Christmas is you not coming home till 5am, the day before Christmas Eve. I decorated the tree by myself and then lying to my parents about why my alcoholic husband wouldn't be joining us for Christmas Eve.

DANIEL 2

I'm not an alcoholic. I just like being drunk.

GREG 2

(on phone)

"Yeah, Mom, he's not feeling well. He's sick. He's very sick."

DANIEL 3

I was.

GREG 3

You were.

GREG 2

You are.

DANIEL 2

I am.

DANIEL 3

I was. I'm sorry. That was a really rough time.

GREG 3

But we got thru it.

DANIEL 3

Barely.

GREG 3

We got thru it.

GREG 2

I'm gonna go.

DANIEL 3

Hold on, don't go anywhere.

Daniel 3 exits.

GREG 2

No. I'm going.

Greg 2 starts to exit.

DANIEL 2
Where are you going?

GREG 2
You know where I'm going.

DANIEL 2
I wanna go.

GREG 2
Not this time.

DANIEL 3
Just hold on.

Greg 2 exits.

DANIEL 2
You're not going anywhere.
Greg? Greg? Greg? I won 100
bucks. I'm a rock star. Greg,
come back here!

Daniel 3 returns with a present.

DANIEL 3
I got you a little something.

GREG 3
I thought we said no presents.

DANIEL 3
It's nothing.

GREG 3
It's something.

DANIEL 3
Oh, it's something.

GREG 3
No presents means no presents.

You never could stick to the rules. I don't need anything except you.

DANIEL 3

You need this. Trust me. Open it up.

GREG 3

You're crazy.

Greg 3 opens his present. It's an EZ Bake Oven. Greg is overwhelmed with emotion.

DANIEL 3

Merry Christmas, funny guy.

Greg 3 is speechless...trying not to ball but failing, Greg 3 becomes a blubbering mess. He's waited over 50 years for this present.

GREG 3

You knew this would destroy me. You're bad. I love you so much, you idiot. Look at me.

Daniel 2 begins to play.

SCENE: COMING HOME

Song - Coming Home

DANIEL 2

(singing, still drunk)

*He waited up most nights
For him to come home
Dinner was long since over
The dishes washed
And put away
It was gonna be another
Long ending*

*To another long day
Another night
He'd probably
Turn out the lights
And go to bed alone*

Greg 2 enters

GREG 2

(singing)

I'm not mad at you
Just tired, can't you see
I've waited up all night
For you to come home to me
Coming home
To me

Musical underscoring continues.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

I'm gonna go to my parents
house. I can't sleep. I'm
sorry. I thought maybe this
Christmas could be special
but...anyway...I can't keep
doing this...I think you need
help...or we need help...maybe
you should see a counselor...or
we should see a counselor
or...I don't know...you just
seem very unhappy...

Underscoring fades out.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

Oh no...not at all...I'm very
happy. I sold two king
mattresses yesterday. I'm a
big success. All of my dreams
have come true. Merry

Christmas to me.

GREG 2

(speaking)

And what am I supposed to say
to that..

DANIEL 2

Nothing...you don't have to say
anything...

GREG 2

But I'm the bad guy for finding
you a job...is that it?

DANIEL 2

I didn't say that.

GREG 2

But it's what you think?

DANIEL 2

Nope. Gotta have a real job.
Gotta pay the bills. Gotta
grow up. Gotta be an adult.
Gotta to sell those fucking
mattresses. Boom, boom, boom.
Make my bosses proud. Maybe
one day if I'm really lucky
I'll own my own fucking
mattress store. Then you'll
finally be proud of me, right?

GREG 2

I'm proud of you now.

DANIEL 2

Really?

GREG 2

Yes.

DANIEL 2

I'm not sure I believe that.

GREG 2

I am. I love your music...but it hasn't happened yet...and it might never happen...and I'm sorry...I had crazy dreams, too...I wanted to be a comedian...

SCENE: THE COMIC PLAN

DANIEL 1

So how would that work?

GREG 1

I start small working in small comedy clubs around the country but after a while I develop a following then I move to bigger clubs then my following grows and I get booked in bigger clubs and then then I'm playing huge theaters in major cities and then I either end up on Saturday Night Live or a sitcom on a major network and all this time you're writing songs and making records and the money's just flying in and suddenly we're America's most successful gay couple...rich, famous and sexy...everybody hates us...because they're jealous. Because you're a genius composer married to a hilarious comic. How does all that sound?

DANIEL 1

It sounds perfect.

(they kiss)

It sounds perfect and
crazy...just like you...

(kiss again)

...my funny guy.

SCENE: "I USED TO BE FUNNY."

GREG 2

I used to be funny...do you
remember when I was funny,
cause I sure as hell don't...I
was "fabulous" remember but
being fabulous didn't pay our
bills...you think I like
working in a bank now?

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

You think my life's ambition
was to spend 8 hours a day
saying, "Hi, would you like to
open a checking or a savings
account. I can help you with
both." All day long. "Have a
seat. Checking or savings?" 8
hours a day. Yeah, that's a
laugh riot. But I'd rather
work in a bank than live in my
parents basement or live on the
streets, or be poor. We've
been poor and we didn't like
it. Remember.

DANIEL 2

I feel like I'm dying, Greg.
When I walk in that mattress
store every morning and I see
all those mattresses...they
look like coffins to me...every

day a part of me dies in that store...then I pick up the guitar and I start to come back to life. You and this guitar are all I care about. Nothing else matters.

GREG 2

So quit. You don't have to keep working there...fine...quit...but you have to keep working....somewhere...

SCENE: CANCER JOKE

GREG 3

Marty just sent me this. It's pretty funny. You listening?

DANIEL 3

I'm listening.

GREG 3

No, you're not forget it.

DANIEL 3

I'm listening.

GREG 3

You're falling asleep.

DANIEL 3

I'm listening.

GREG 3

Ok, what did I say?

DANIEL 3

You said I wasn't listening.

GREG 3

No, just now, what did I say
just now?

DANIEL 3

You said, "just now, what did I
say just now."

GREG 3

Go back to sleep. You're
impossi...

DANIEL 3

I'm kidding. I heard
everything...Marty sent you a
joke. Read it to me.

GREG 3

You're a wise-ass you know
that?

DANIEL 3

Just read me the joke.

GREG 3

Okay..."Three friends with
terminal cancer"...get it, they
all have terminal cancer...

DANIEL 3

Hilarious.

GREG 3

Listen, it's funny.

(reading)

"Three friends with terminal
cancer were all sitting around
talking about their deaths and
dying and one friend asked, "At
your funeral, when you're in
your casket and your friends
and family are gathered around

you, what would you like to hear them say about you?"

The first guy says, "I would like to hear them say that I was a loving husband and a great father."

The second man says, "I would like to hear them say that I was a wonderful friend to lots of people."

And the last guy says, "I would like to hear them say...LOOK, HE'S MOVING!!!"

SCENE: "MAYBE YOU CAN TEACH MUSIC"

GREG 2

...maybe you can teach music...no one is forcing you to work in a mattress store...quit...but you have to make money...I don't make enough to pay all our bills...

Musical underscoring resumes.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

...if you're so miserable, quit...but then what are you gonna do? Take one more trip to Nashville?

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Keep praying that "this is the trip when everything changes"....just one more trip to Nashville...is that the plan?

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*When he comes through the door
It's ten past twelve*

GREG 2

(speaking)

Daniel, I asked you a question

DANIEL 2

(singing)

He has excuses ready

GREG 2

(speaking, sarcastic)

What a surprise.

DANIEL 2

*He has his stories
He has his alibis
He is sound asleep
With the late-night show
Playing on and on
As he woke him
He said
"What a surprise"
Then tears filled his eyes*

GREG 2

(singing)

*I'm not mad at you
Just tired
Can't you see
I've waited up all night
For you to come home to me
Coming home
To me*

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

Daniel. I'm gonna take off,
okay. Merry Christmas and all
that.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

I won 100 bucks tonight, isn't
that something?

GREG 2

(speaking)

It's something.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

But you don't congratulate me.

GREG 2

(speaking)

Congratulations.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*He gave him some flowers
He promised not to be
Coming home again so late
As the evening hours
Rolled on by
He heard the sound
Of his truck
In the drive
And when he stumbled in
He called out his name
But there was no reply
Just a note that said*

Greg enters with a suitcase.

GREG 2

(singing)

*I'm not mad at you
Just tired
Can't you see
I've waited half my life
(MORE)*

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

*For you to come home to me
I won't be coming home
"Goodbye"*

Song ends.

DANIEL 2

I wrote you a song. For Christmas. But I guess you don't want to hear it. Do you want hear it?

GREG 2

I have to go.

DANIEL 2

I wrote it for you. I wish I could buy you nice things. I'm sorry I'm a loser. You deserve better. You do. You deserve your EZ Bake Oven. You're a good person. I was gonna get you a new mattress but I wrote you this song instead.

Daniel 2 begins to play. Greg struggles with leaving and staying.

Song - Fall In Love Every Day

SCENE: FALL IN LOVE EVERY DAY

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Who's to say what is
And isn't real
With us
Who can judge
The things we really feel
Look in my eyes
I'll take your fears away*

DANIEL 1, 2, 3

And I fall in love

Everyday again

(MORE)

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 (CONT'D)

I fall in love

Every way

When I take your hand

All the loves I've known

Fade away

DANIEL 1

And I fall in love again

Day after day

GREG 3

What's gone is gone

But we can start again

Tonight

I am right here

We'll make it right

A brand-new plan

You're all I need

My pathway

How I love you

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3

And I fall in love

Everyday again

I fall in love every way

When I take your hand

All the loves I've known

Fade away

And I fall in love again

Day after day

GREG 1

I thought I died

When you said to me

"The search is done

You are the one"

I died once more

*You dried my eyes
And held me close
It's no surprise
That I love you
And I fall in love
Everyday again
I fall in love every way
When I take your hand*

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

*All the loves I've known
Fade away*

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1

*And I fall in love again
Day after day
And I fall in love again
Day after day
And I fall in love again
Day after day*

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3

*And I fall in love again
Day after day*

DANIEL 2

*And I fall in love again
Day after day*

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3

*And I fall in love again
Day after day
And I fall in love
Again
Day after
Day*

Song Ends

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3
(CONT'D)

Merry Christmas.

Daniel 1/Greg 1 & Daniel 3/Greg 3 kiss.

GREG 2

That's a lovely song. Thank
you.

DANIEL 2

Is it better than an EZ Bake
Oven?

GREG 2

I wouldn't go that far. I'll
call you tomorrow. Please
sober up. I love you.

All exit except Greg. Daniel 3 plays the exit
underscoring but Greg 2 plays the next song offstage.
Greg 2 stands center stage in a spotlight.

SCENE: GREG 2 ARIA - CASTLES REPRISÉ

GREG 2

(singing, tense)

*Can I buy a small house
A quiet resting place
One room will do
On a mountain
I'll rest in clover
I have a plan
My design is on you
Maybe I could sail away
Maybe I
Could dance on stars
I should just go anywhere
Can I live alone
In my castle
All alone
Can I live alone
In my castle
In the air*

Song ends

SCENE: THREE DANIELS TALKING

DANIEL 3

Daniel? Daniel? What's going on?

DANIEL 1

Yeah, what's going on. That's not me. I'm cool. That guys not cool. When did I stop being cool?

DANIEL 2

I'm funny.

DANIEL 1

No, you're not. You're a mess. You need to get it together.

DANIEL 3

It goes by really fast, man. Way too fast. First, you meet at open mic, then you buy your first home, then you retire and next thing you know you're playing Solitary Man at your husband's funeral. You're wasting time, Daniel.

DANIEL 2

Wait, wait, wait...Greg dies first?

DANIEL 1

I don't want to know that.

DANIEL 3

I'm just saying, time goes by crazy quick. Don't waste it.

You only get so many
Christmases.

DANIEL 1
How many Christmases do we get?

DANIEL 3
Not enough.

DANIEL 2
I like Jack Daniels. I like
rum and coke. I like whiskey.
I like it. I don't like
mattresses. I like open mic
night. We met at open mic
night. I like open mic night.
He doesn't want to go anymore.
He hates me. I like Bud Light
too, it's good.

DANIEL 3
(to Daniel 1)
Can you make some coffee,
please?

DANIEL 1
I don't even own a coffee pot,
yet.

DANIEL 3
I have to do everything don't
I.

Song begins

Song - And It's True

DANIEL 2
(A Capella)
The first snow in December
Took me by surprise
Then I remember
Daniel 3 goes and takes the guitar.

DANIEL 3

Nope, nope, nope...no more guitar. No more singing. Time for silence. Just think. Quiet. Just think. Just think. What's going on? Who do you want to be? Where do you want to end up? Think. You could lose this. You could lose him. I want you to become me. I grew up. It's tough but it's worth it. I got my own mattress store. Then I got two. We aren't rich but we have a nice place on the water. It's very peaceful. We cook great meals. We watch movies. We have friends over. It's a nice life. Don't mess it up. Don't mess up my life. Don't you dare mess up my life.

DANIEL 1

Don't mess up my life, either.

DANIEL 2

Can you both shut up, please. You're giving me a head ache. I'll take that coffee now.

DANIEL 3

You need help.

DANIEL 1

Listen to him.

DANIEL 2

I won tonight. 100 bucks. I won. I'm a winner...screw Nashville... they don't know a winner. I'm a winner.

Daniel 1 & 2 begin to play.

SCENE: COUPLES COUNSELING

Song - Say Them

Greg 2 enters goes to the chairs and sits.

We are now in a therapist's office.

Greg 3 plays the therapist with his back to the audience.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 sit next to each other. Greg 2 talks. Daniel 2 listens. Daniel 1 and Daniel 3 play the underscoring and the song.

GREG 2

(speaking)

I don't know when things went
officially off the rails.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

It just feels to me that we
went from being madly in love
to just being mad and I don't
know exactly how or when or why
that happened. All I know is
that when I first met him...

(looking at Daniel 1)

...he wore this cowboy hat and
he was so sexy and I never
wanted him to take it off and I
use to compliment him all the
time and tell him how handsome
he was and then one day the
cowboy hat

(looks at Daniel 2)

...wasn't really cute anymore,
it was silly, then it was
ridiculous, then it was

annoying and then it was embarrassing and finally he stopped wearing it and I thought I'd won but I didn't win. I just wore him down. That's not a win. I know that. I'm not stupid. And then he just sort of stopped talking. He'd write me songs but he wouldn't talk to me. He'd sing to me but he wouldn't really talk to me. And things have just become increasingly tense. And now he's drinking a lot. I think he's depressed. I think you're depressed. No. I know he's depressed. You're depressed. This is not where he thought be at this point in his life. Hell, it's not where I thought I'd be either...sitting here in this office, spending money we don't have, trying to save this marriage...

Stage goes red. Spotlight on Daniel 2

Greg 2 continues to talk to therapist but we don't hear him, it is only mimed. We hear Daniel 2 who is basically singing his thoughts to himself but out loud. No one else in the room can hear Daniel 2 when he sings.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

What do you feel
When I sing you songs
What is that look in your eyes
Am I dreaming
Or are you believing in me
What are your words

Greg 2 now sings to Daniel 2. Regular lights restore.

GREG 2

(singing)

*Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words
Say them*

Greg continues to talk but, again, once Daniel 2 starts to sing Greg 2 becomes inaudible.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

And I guess the thing that really makes me crazy is the whole punctuality thing, it's like it's not important when I have to be somewhere and we're always late and it's always his fault. I'm sorry, I know that sounds harsh, but it is, it's always his fault. Oh, and the drinking, don't get me started on the drinking, I'm really tired of the drinking...

Greg continues to mime talking to the therapist who is taking notes.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*What do you see
When I sing you songs
What do you see in my eyes
Just look closer*

*And look a little bit longer
At me
You inspire
All of my words*

GREG 2

(singing)

*Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I
Dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words
Say them*

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(talking)

Like he says he'll do things
and he doesn't do them. For
instance, it's late January and
the Christmas tree is still up.
Why the fuck is the Christmas
tree still up on January 20th?
I'll tell you why, because he
said he'd take it down and he
hasn't.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

He has no time to take down our
Christmas tree but he has
plenty of time to go to the bar
and hang out with his friends
till 2am and sleep and play
guitar and watch TV and yes, I
could take the tree down but he
said he'd take it down and I
feel like he should do what he
says he's gonna do but somehow
that makes me unreasonable,
that makes me the bad guy and I

don't think that's fair but if
I'm being unreasonable then
tell me but he doesn't want to
talk about anything except
music...music music, music, he
holds that guitar more than he
holds me...he'll sing to me but
he won't talk to me, that's
weird, right? He won't talk
about us, he just shrugs me off
or ignores me or heads to the
bar, he won't talk to me, why
can't he talk to me...

During this next scene Greg 2 and Daniel 2 begin
communicating thru song and by the end of the verse
we should feel that progress has been made.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(singing to Daniel 2)

*Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words*

Slowly Daniel 2 softens and begins to sing.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2

(singing to each other)

*Speak to me
Be true to me*

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

*Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I
Dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words*

They begin to become more playful.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night*

They move to center stage, holding hands.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*And I dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words*

They slowly line dance like they did in the past when they were happier.

Song - Look at Me (reprise)

GREG 2

(singing)

*Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
Look at me
Honey, give my heart
A chance.*

End of song.

SCENE: GROUP THERAPY

GREG 3

(speaking to group)

"A relationship is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the differences between two people." "Would you rather be right or would you rather be happy."

GREG 1

Why can't I be right and happy?

GREG 3

Shhhhhhhh. Listen..."The only way a relationship lasts is if you both see the relationship as a place that you go to give, and not a place that you go to take." That cost me 30,000 dollars to learn but it was worth every penny. And I just gave it to you for free.

He smiles at Daniel 3 who has been listening.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

(beat)

I want to be cremated.

A long awkward and painful silence.

DANIEL 3

I don't want to talk about this right now.

GREG 1

I really don't want to talk about this right now.

GREG 2

I don't want to be cremated.

GREG 1
I don't want to die.

GREG 3
(stern)
I want to be cremated...and I
want you to spread my ashes in
Nashville so I'll always be
near a guitar and a cowboy hat.
Can you do that for me?

DANIEL 3
I just need some air. I have
to take a walk.
(to Daniel 2)
I told you it goes by too
fast...you idiot.

Daniel 1 2 & 3 exit and Greg 1 and 2 go and sit on
either side of Greg 3.

SCENE: I REMEMBER

Greg 3 sings to them and to the audience. The three
Greg's hold hands.

GREG 3
I remember. I remember. I
remember. I remember dancing.
I remember kissing. I remember
fighting. I remember
Christmas. I remember
laughing. I remember music. I
remember Daniel. Daniel?
Daniel?

Song - I Remember Love

GREG 3 (CONT'D)
(singing)
There was a chain

*He used to wear
With a diamond
And a key
He was the one I dreamed of
He was all I'd ever need
He had the key
To my heart*

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

*Kept me safe
There in his hands
I found that chain today
By chance
Whatever happened
To the romance
I remember falling in love
And calling it "love"
Those summer nights
The autumn walks
And deep December talks*

GREG 1 & 2

When snow would fall

GREG 1

*I remember love
I found a note in my old jacket
From a time from long ago
It said,*

GREG 2

*"You are the one I dream of
you're the one I want to know"*

GREG 1 AND 2

*More and more
As life goes on*

GREG 1, 2 & 3

*I find I love him more
Each day
I wonder why we left that love*

*I wonder why
We ever walked away*

GREG 3
*I remember falling in love
And calling it "love"*

GREG 1 & 2
*Those summer nights
The autumn walks*

GREG 1, 2 & 3
*And deep December talks
When snow would fall*

GREG 3
I remember love

GREG 1, 2 & 3
*And the choices you make
And the chances you take
May be mistakes
When it all comes around
But when the choosing is done
And the choice is not the one
That you wanted
What can you do*

GREG 3
*What can you say
(speaking)
You ready?*

GREG 1
*(speaking)
No.*

GREG 3
*(speaking)
How bout you?*

GREG 2
(speaking)

Not really.

GREG 3
(speaking)
We had a good life.

GREG 1
(speaking)
I want more.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Me, too.

GREG 2
(speaking)
It's over too soon.

GREG 3
(speaking)
It is.

GREG 2
(speaking)
I made so many mistakes.

GREG 1
(speaking)
You did.

GREG 2
(speaking)
I wasted so much time.

GREG 1
(speaking)
You did.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Be nice. Don't beat yourself
up. No regrets. We had a good

life. We had a great life.
Time to let go.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Since I let love go
I am left to dwell
With the things
I did not choose
And I lose it all*

GREG 1, 2 & 3

*And at time I don't know
Where it starts
And where it ends again
And old lovers
Who become your friends
Are not the same*

The three Greg's remain on stage as three Daniels enter in a line and stand behind their Greg. Each Daniel has his guitar and the Daniels are now dressed identically in black with black cowboy hats for a funeral.

ENTIRE CAST

*I remember falling in love
And calling it "love"
Those summer nights
The autumn walks
And deep December talks
When snow would fall
I remember love
I remember love
I remember love
I remember love*

Song ends.

SCENE: GREG'S FUNERAL

DANIEL 3

(to audience)

Greg was convinced that no one would come to his funeral so thank you all for coming out today. He'd want me to tell jokes, to keep it light...he kept saying to me...

GREG 1

"I want my funeral to be fabulous."

GREG 3

Don't be all serious and depressing.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

Nobody wants to see that.

GREG 1

Tell some good cancer jokes.

DANIEL 3

I'm not a comedian, that was Greg's department. So I Googled a few cancer jokes.

DANIEL 1

And they're dumb but they might have made Greg laugh.

DANIEL 2

Or make him laugh now if he's watching this.

DANIEL 1

Ok, here goes..."What was the last movie that Greg watched? Finding Chemo."

GREG 3

That's funny.

GREG 1

Hilarious.

DANIEL 2

How do you get bubble gum out
of your hair? Cancer.

GREG 3

That's not funny.

GREG 2

It's sort of funny.

GREG 1

I really should have written
the jokes.

DANIEL 3

Ok, last one. The last time
Greg and I saw the doctor he
said, "I've got your test
results and it's really bad
news. I'm afraid you have
cancer AND Alzheimer's. Greg
said,

GREG 3

"Boy, am I lucky! I was afraid
I had cancer!" Now that's
funny!

GREG 1

None of this funny.

DANIEL 3

I never really had Greg's
wicked sense of humor or his
maturity...or his strength.

DANIEL 2

Or his ability to forgive and

move on when his dumb husband was screwing everything up. I'm sorry. I'm not really a public speaker. I'm more comfortable singing than talking. I learned that in therapy.

DANIEL 3

So before we go, I'd like to play you the first song that I ever played for Greg.

DANIEL 1

He always says he fell in love with me because of this song. We met in college at Greg's open mic night he hosted every Tuesday night and it was called:

GREG 1

"Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night. Hosted by me, Greg.

DANIEL 1

And I performed this song and afterwards we just sort of hit it off...I was a very confused kid right out of the seminary and Greg, well, he just sort of "straightened" me out.

DANIEL 3

And we've been together ever since. 43 years.

GREG 1, 2

(looking at Greg 3)
43 years?

GREG 3

43 years.

DANIEL 3

Until this week. But I feel
him here with me and I hope you
do, too. This is Solitary
Man...for Greg.

All three Daniel's play guitar.

DANIEL 1

(singing)

*Wet leaves and misty days
Make up my longing ways
A bird flies to the east
Leaving me behind*

DANIEL 2

(singing)

*Run to try and catch the wind
Stand apart let no one in
The wind sounds like laughter
As it moves away*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(singing)

*I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck*

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)

*And who's to really know
I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for*

ALL CAST

(singing)

*Me
Solitude my fortress strong
Loneliness is my song*

*The heart does not change
It tries to re-arrange
Harmony with just one voice
Sing alone
I've made the choice
No broken hearts
No tears to see
I sing my songs for me*

The cast fans out along the front of the stage.

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

*I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know
I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for
Me*

The music continues to play and one by one each leaves the stage watched by the remaining cast - First Greg 2, then Greg 1, then Daniel 2, then Greg 3. Finally, all that remain are Daniel 1 and Daniel 2 who look at each other, they play briefly for each other, it is both hopeful and sad. Daniel 1 tilts his hat at Daniel 3 and exits and Daniel 3 is now alone. Daniel 3 takes in the enormity of that realization as he plays his guitar, the lights dim to a tight, dark, spotlight as he sings the final words...

DANIEL 3

*Solitary
(5 seconds)
All-together
(5 seconds)
Man*

The last few notes of the guitar play as we slowly

fade to black.

Lights up.

Curtain call.

The whole cast come out for a group bow. Then they each get an individual bow. Daniel 3 plays the fast-paced opening of Don't Get Caught In the Rain until it is his time to bow. He should have the final bow. After his bow he continues to play as the actors exit the stage and the house lights come up.

The End

 NOW &  THEN