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MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL

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CHARACTERS

CAMPBELL

DANIELLE

NAUTICA

RANDALL

LA CIENEGA

STEVEN

KYLAR

EVA

TWIG

BRIDGET

SKYLAR

CAMERON

ENSEMBLE

MUSICAL NUMBERS

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ACT ONE
SCENE ONE#1 – *Overture*

Countdown.

Spotlight on Campbell.

CAMPBELL

God – ? And any other higher powers that might be listening? It's me. I mean, Campbell. You probably know that.

So today is the last day of school and then I'm a Senior. And tonight my squad is holding tryouts – to replace those old Seniors who are leaving our plane of existence. The tryouts are gonna be led by our new Captain, who gets elected at lunch.

And that's why I'm talking to you.

I know you have more pressing matters than who gets Captain – I watch the news – but I could use any extra luck you can toss my way.

#2 – *What I Was Born to Do*

'Cause I worked my whole life to lead Truman High to Nationals. It's all I wanted since I was a kid.

(sings:)

I WAS IN THE STANDS
ROOTING FOR OUR TEAM
WHEN I SAW THE BUCCANEERS CHEER FOR THE FIRST TIME –
STANDING ON THEIR HANDS,
EVERY MOVE EXTREME,
I LOOKED AROUND: DO THESE PEOPLE SEE WHAT I SEE?

THOSE TRUMAN GIRLS WERE
SUPERHUMAN GIRLS,
AND WHEN THEY STARTED TO FLY I KNEW
THAT I WOULD FIND A WAY
TO BE UP THERE ONE DAY,
'CUZ IN THAT MOMENT I FIN'LLY KNEW
WHAT I WAS BORN TO DO!

CHEERLEADERS

GO CAMPBELL! GO CAMPBELL! (ETC.)

CAMPBELL

YEAH!

MADE A VOW I WAS GONNA BE
A CHEERLEADER LIKE THE BUCCANEERS IN FRONT OF ME
SO I STUMBLED 'TIL I TUMBLED AND I MADE THE TEAM
NOW MY LIFE IS EVERY ADOLESCENT'S FAVORITE DREAM.

SLOW-MOTION DOWN THE HALL (HEY!)
AS KIDS ALL STOP AND STARE
I FEEL LIKE I'M A PART OF IT ALL FOR THE FIRST TIME

AND IF I EVER FALL (NO!)
I KNOW MY SQUAD IS THERE
CUZ I'VE GOT THE BUCCANEERS HERE BEHIND ME –

ENSEMBLE

THESE TRUMAN GIRLS ARE SUPERHUMAN GIRLS
AND THERE IS NOTHING THAT THEY CAN'T DO.
ENVY OF ALL THE SQUADS,
THEY'RE SEMI-DEMIGODS –

FEMALE CHEERLEADERS

AND WHEN OUR POWERS COMBINE,
WE DO WHAT WE WERE BORN TO DO.
HEY – READY? OKAY!

SKYLAR

MY NAME IS SKYLAR.
I REP THE BUCS WITH PRIDE.
I'M PROBABLY TOO COOL FOR YOU, SO FRIEND REQUEST DENIED!

KYLAR

I'M KYLAR – FROM TYLER – MY REAL NAME IS INEZ.
BUT SKYLAR SAID TO CHANGE IT AND I DO WHAT SKYLAR SAYS!

BRIDGET

MY NAME IS BRIDGET!
I ROCK THE PARROT HEAD!
IT'S HOT IN HERE AND KINDA SMELLS
LIKE SOMEONE WET THE BED. (GROSS!)

STEVEN

WHAT'S UP, MY NAME IS STEVEN
I'M SO

STEVEN & TRUMAN MEN

HANDSOME IT HURTS!

STEVEN

DON'T NEED AN UMB-AH-RELLA
I STAND UNDER MINISKIRTS! (WHUUUUT?)
YEAH, I'M A BOSS, I DON'T CARE WHAT THE HATERS SAY.

TRUMAN MEN

HOW MANY DUDES CAN SAY THEY PICK UP
GIRLS ALL DAY?

STEVEN

LOVE YOU!

CAMPBELL

LOVE YOU MORE!

Skylar holds a folded sheet of paper. Members of the Truman squad gather around.

SKYLAR

All right! The ballots are IN. To celebrate the beginning of summer, I choose myself to read the results. Campbell, you look a little nervous.

CAMPBELL

Just tell us already.

SKYLAR

Someone's whole lifetime of dreams could get shattered in a few short seconds.

CAMPBELL

Skylar! God!

SKYLAR

Ahem. So our new Captain is

Kylar makes a drumroll sound.

Stop it.

KYLAR

Sorry.

SKYLAR

It's Campbell.

CAMPBELL

Oh my God!

General celebration.

STEVEN

Baby, congratulations!

CAMPBELL

Thank you all for trusting me. I promise I'll bring us to Nationals, and we're taking the trophy this year!

(to Skylar)

Skylar, I'm sorry. I know you wanted to be Captain.

SKYLAR

(taking the high road)

On the bright side this proves this isn't a popularity contest. You'll do great, girl.

Two Goth kids enter.

GOTH GIRL

(dourly)

Oh yay. Cheerleader tryouts are tonight. Pick me.

GOTH GUY

No pick me. I'm dying to be that grievously plastic.

GOTH GIRL

Heinously weird.

GOTH GUY

Even mocking cheerleaders cannot hide the emptiness in my soul.

CAMPBELL

Hey!

YOU NEVER MET ME FACE TO FACE
IF YOU THINK CHEERLEADERS ARE A WASTE OF SPACE –
WE WORK AND WE FIGHT AND WE TRAIN AND HUSTLE,
WE GET MANI-PEDIS BUT WE'RE MADE OF MUSCLE.
WE GOT ONE SHOT THAT WE WORK ALL YEAR FOR.
WE GOT MORE BALLS THAN THE TEAM WE CHEER FOR.
NATIONALS IS GETTING CLOSER BY THE MINUTE –

CAMPBELL & TRUMAN SQUAD

LAST YEAR WE TOOK BRONZE, THIS YEAR WE'RE GONNA WIN IT!
BRING IT!

CAMPBELL

(WITH TRUMAN ECHOES)

COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS (HEY!)
MAKING NEW ROUTINES (HO!)
TRYING OUT A TUMBLING PASS FOR THE FIRST TIME –
CALLING ALL THE PLAYS (HEY!)
HERE BEHIND THE SCENES (HO!) –
I LOOK AROUND, DO THESE PEOPLE SEE WHAT I SEE? (I SEE)

TRUMAN SQUAD

THESE TRUMAN GIRLS
ARE SUPERHUMAN GIRLS
WE’VE GOT THE SPIRIT AND WE’LL SEE IT THROUGH.
WE GLADLY PAY OUR DUES
WITH EVERY SPRAIN AND BRUISE
BECAUSE WE’RE DOING WHAT WE’RE BORN TO DO –
(DOIN’ WHAT WE’RE BORN TO DO)

CAMPBELL

DOING WHAT WE’RE BORN TO DO.
THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO DO –
I CAN SEE IT IN MY MIND, THIS MOMENT’S MINE.
WHEN WE WIN FIRST PLACE, WE’LL KNOW HOW BRIGHT WE SHINE.
WHEN WE MOVE LIKE PARTS OF A FINELY TUNED DESIGN,
NOT A WASTED THROW, NOT A TOE ACROSS THE LINE

(WITH TRUMAN ECHOES)

(THIS MOMENT’S MINE, THIS MOMENT’S MINE ...)
WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FLOOR.
WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FLOOR.
WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL. LEAVE IT ALL.
CUZ THIS IS WHY WE WERE BORN! (GO! GO! GO! GO!)
OHHHHHHHHH!

Counterpoint between Truman squad and auditioners:

FEMALE ENSEMBLE

T-R-U!

MALE ENSEMBLE

M-A-N!

FULL ENSEMBLE

TRUMAN HIGH!

CAMPBELL

THERE IS NO SECOND PLACE YOU'RE EITHER FLYING OR FALLING!

FULL ENSEMBLE

GO, GO, LET'S GO!

CAMPBELL

OOHHHHHHHHHH!

FEMALE ENSEMBLE

T-R-U!

MALE ENSEMBLE

M-A-N!

FULL ENSEMBLE

TRUMAN HIGH!

CAMPBELL

C'MON PICK UP THE PACE! I HEAR DESTINY CALLING!

ENSEMBLE

GO, GO, LET'S GO!

CAMPBELL

OOHHHHHHHHHH!

YOU CANNOT BE AFRAID TO FALL DOWN AND WORK THROUGH IT!

OOHHHHHHHHHH!

SKYLAR, KYLAR, EVA, BRIDGET, NAUTICA

THESE TRUMAN GIRLS ARE SUPERHUMAN GIRLS—

OH, THESE TRUMAN GIRLS ARE SUPERHUMAN GIRLS

CAMPBELL

'CAUSE THIS IS WHAT WE'RE BORN TO DO, SO LET'S DO IT!

SCENE TWO
GYM — TRYOUT SEQUENCE

Bell. School's out!

STEVEN

(offering flowers)

Hey baby, I got you these. They're fake, so they'll last forever. Like my love.

(noticing her)

Baby, you there?

CAMPBELL

Oh. Sorry, I'm prepping for tryouts in my head. And for our routine for Cheer Camp. And designs for the new uniforms. And fundraising to get us to Regionals. And then Nationals —

STEVEN

(soothingly)

Hey, hey — stop trippin'.

#2b – Happy Kitties

I know what you need.

(nuzzling her)

HAPPY KITTIES.

CAMPBELL

(smiling, a bit)

SLEEPY PUPPIES.

STEVEN

BABY DUCKIES.

CAMPBELL

(nuzzling him)

SPARKLE PONIES.

Skylar stares at them.

SKYLAR

I'm sorry — what WAS that?

STEVEN

Oh — when Campbell or I feel bad, one of us says, "Happy kitties" —

CAMPBELL

– and the other one says

STEVEN & CAMPBELL

“Sleepy puppies”

STEVEN

– and the other one says “Baby duckies”

CAMPBELL

– and the other one says “Sparkle ponies” –

STEVEN

And then we feel better.

They smile lovingly.

SKYLAR

Well, it grosses me out.

BRIDGET

I think it’s sweet. It makes me all googly inside. I don’t know why.

SKYLAR

Bridget, meet Puberty. Puberty, this is Bridget.

(as though Puberty has run away)

Puberty? Puberty, don’t go. Bridget needs you.

CAMPBELL

All right, focus, everyone, tryouts are about to start. The applicants are filling out their cards, and they’ll hand them in to –

(noticing Skylar, who’s in a reverie)

Skylar, what are you doing?

#3 – Tryouts

SKYLAR

I’m savoring the moment. I’ll be with you in a sec.

(purely)

I REMEMBER MY FIRST TRYOUTS
AND MY SECOND AND THIRD, TOO,
ALL THE FEAR AND HOLY HELL
THE JUDGES PUT ME THROUGH.

(SKYLAR)

I FELT SO BELITTLED –
 MAN, THEY PUT ME ON THE RACK,
 AND NOW THAT I'M A SENIOR
 THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GIVE BACK!

I'LL UPHOLD THE GREAT TRADITION
 WITH THESE YOUNG LIVES ON MY WATCH.
 LET'S SET THE STAGE,
 I'VE COME OF AGE
 TO BE A RAGING CASTRATING
 BEE-YOTCH –
 BEEEE-YOOOOTCH!

Bridget is center stage, at the end of her tryout.

BRIDGET

So as you know I portrayed our mascot, Bucky the Parrot, for three years – and I would love to graduate to cheerleader.

(a sudden enthusiastic cheer)

S-P-I-R-T! What does that spell?

SKYLAR

(considering)

"Spirt." It spells "spirt."

CAMPBELL

Thank you, Bridget, that was a great tryout.

BRIDGET

(in one breath)

My Mom said if I don't get cheerleader, it'll be the first in a cascading series of disappointments that'll end with me as a bitter, chain-smoking divorcee living in an unfurnished condo in Fresno.

(breath)

No pressure.

CAMPBELL

Excuse us a sec.

BRIDGET

(in a robot voice)

Isolation – booth – "on."

Bridget turns as the group leans in to confer.

CAMPBELL

I wish we were only judging on school spirit, but I'm afraid she has to be Bucky the Parrot for the fourth year in a row. We need to let her down easy.

SKYLAR

(gravely)

Campbell – I got this.

CAMPBELL

Be. Nice.

SKYLAR

I don't like what you're suggesting. It says more about you than it does about me. Watch and learn, Campbell.

(to Bridget, over a ballady underscore:)

Honey, I have some bad news. We both know what it is, so there's no point in me saying it, is there?

BRIDGET

I guess not.

SKYLAR

Bridget, don't keep the pain inside. You're not alone. Share your feelings with someone you trust, someone who cares about you.

In a reverie, Bridget steps forward and takes the stage for her show-stopping ballad:

BRIDGET

(sings)

SOMEHOW I'LL FIND THE STRENGTH INSIDE ME,

SKYLAR

I'm sorry, that's all the time we have for today. Namaste.

Transit to Eva's audition. Campbell coaches her into a basket toss.

CAMPBELL

Okay Eva – remember, keep your weight through your arms, stand up fast, squeeze through your core and ride the basket to the top

STEVEN

And one, two...

Eva goes up into a simple basket toss, landing neatly.

CAMPBELL

There you go!

EVA

(rushing to Campbell)

Oh my gosh, I always dreamed about how that would feel.

CAMPBELL

You were flying, Eva.

EVA

Thank you – thank you, that was so neat.

(fretting suddenly)

But I totally screwed up –

CAMPBELL

No –

EVA

I landed a bit crooked maybe. I was nervous.

CAMPBELL

You did really well.

EVA

(blushing)

Thanks. You know I've watched you my whole life from my window. Practicing in your yard.

CAMPBELL

We're neighbors. I've known her since she was a little baby.

EVA

She's my inspiration. All of you are. I think you're all so amazing. God, does that sound dorky?

STEVEN

No –

KYLAR

No –

SKYLAR

Of course not, I think we're amazing, too.

EVA

Even if I don't make it on the squad, I'll never forget this. And if I do – I'll do anything to get Truman to Nationals. Thanks, everybody.

She exits, shyly.

KYLAR

(smitten with Eva)

I want to carry her in my purse like a Shih Tzu.

CAMPBELL

Well, she may lack cheersperience, but my gut tells me that Eva's our best shot in that position.

SKYLAR

But she's never cheered before. She wasn't even on J.V.

CAMPBELL

She'll fly the highest, she seems like a hard worker – did you see the devotion in her eyes?

SKYLAR

That's adorable but I don't know that she has "star quality."

CAMPBELL

Well, none of us did when we first started.

(a moment)

Okay, you did.

SKYLAR

I'll give in 'cause you're the boss. But don't forget that Cheer Camp starts in twenty days. If Truman doesn't win the Spirit Stick at the finale, you may never want to show your face in public for-like-ever.

CAMPBELL

God! The pressure's bad enough!

#4 – One Perfect Moment

SKYLAR

But look, our summer has begun – I think it's time to celebrate. C'mon, let's hit the food court.

A hubbub as Steven, Kylar and Skylar head off:

STEVEN

(overlap)

Curly fries! And Orange Julius! What heaven.

KYLAR

(overlap)

Can we make a stop at Skanky Couture? Pretty please?

SKYLAR

(overlap)

I'm sorta glad to NOT be Captain.

They're gone. Campbell is alone.

CAMPBELL

I'M NOT FREAKING OUT,
I'M REALLY OKAY –
I'M TOTALLY CHILL
OR I WILL BE SOMEDAY.
'CAUSE I'M SO NEAR THE TOP,
BUT THERE'S SO MANY MOUNTAINS TO CLIMB.

THERE ARE PLANS TO BE PLANNED,
DRILLS TO BE DRILLED,
CAUSE THIS DREAM THAT I DREAMED
IS BECOMING FULFILLED,
AND I PLAN TO ENJOY IT
BUT RIGHT NOW, I DON'T HAVE THE TIME.

FADE IN ON CAMPBELL
AN AVERAGE TEENAGER, ALMOST GROWN –
CLOSE UP ON AVERAGE GRADES
FROM THE AVERAGE LIFE SHE'S KNOWN.
NOW ZOOM IN THE LENS ON THE REST OF HER FRIENDS
AS SHE STAYS ALONE
DOING THE WORK. GETTING IT RIGHT.
CUZ I KNOW
WE'LL HAVE TO BE PRACTICALLY PERFECT
SO I'LL GO
ABOVE AND BEYOND AND PULL THROUGH.

(CAMPBELL)

THIS I CAN DO.
ALL THAT I'M ASKING IS ONE PERFECT MOMENT IN TIME.

I'M SEVENTEEN.
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS THAT I CAN'T CONTROL.
IF I START TO FREAK OR FEEL WEAK I FOCUS ON JUST ONE GOAL.
TURN DOWN THE PANIC, ATTACK THIS ROUTINE
LIKE IT OWNS MY SOUL!

TURN UP THE MUSIC
SO LOUD THAT IT SWALLOWS US WHOLE –
AND THEN THERE WE ARE,
WE BURN LIKE A STAR,
WE'RE SAFE INSIDE THE WORLD WE KNOW –
THEN SUDDENLY I'M
IN PREP FOR THE CLIMB AND HERE I GO!
HIGH IN THE AIR
THERE IS A MOMENT JUST BEFORE YOU START TO FALL –

LIVE IN THAT ONE MOMENT.
I KNOW
THAT IF I CAN JUST STICK THE LANDING,
THEN I'LL KNOW
THAT SOMEHOW, MY LIFE WILL BE FINE –
AND I'LL GO
THROUGH THE REST OF MY LIFE UNDERSTANDING
WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO SHINE.
THE FUTURE'S FULL OF MYSTERIES
SO PLEASE LET THIS BE MINE –
MY ONE PERFECT MOMENT IN TIME.

SCENE THREE
CHEER CAMP

The Truman squad is practicing.

#5 – *Cheer Camp*

TRUMAN SQUAD

TRU-MAN!
TRU-MAN!
TRU-MAN!
TRU-MAN!
T-R-U M-A-N!
T-R-U M-A-N!
WE'RE TRU! (SOUL-SHAKIN'!)
TRU! (PRIZE-TAKIN'!)
HISTORY IN THE MAKIN'!

TRUMAN'S WHAT? (SOUL-SHAKIN'!)
TRUMAN'S WHAT? (GROUND-BREAKIN'!)
THIS IS WHAT? (PRIZE-TAKIN'!)
HISTORY IN THE MAKIN'!
TRUMAN'S WHAT? (SOUL-SHAKIN'!)
TRUMAN'S WHAT? (GROUND-BREAKIN'!)

SKYLAR

C'mon Eva, hit it!

TRUMAN SQUAD

TRU (GROUND-BREAKIN')
LET'S GO,
TRU! (PRIZE-TAKIN'!)
HISTORY IN THE MAKIN'.)
SUPER HUMAN TRUMAN HIGH!

RECORDED VOICE

LEGENDARY!

Eva blows a stunt.

WHITT

You suck!

CAMPBELL

All right, Eva, you've gotta hit it next time.

Eva moves aside, upset. Skylar and Kylar march to Campbell.

KYLAR

If we were called "bummerleaders," Eva would be perfect for the squad.

SKYLAR

(still held up in the air in an extension)

That girl is a capital F-A-Y-L "fail."

(to the guys)

Down.

(they lower her to the ground)

We have fifteen minutes until the final presentation. Fif. Teen. This isn't some junior high pep assembly. This is life and death. This is Cheer Camp.

CAMPBELL

Skylar, I'll handle it, and hey, while I'm doing that, somebody needs to put Bitter Bitch Barbie back in her box.

(to all)

Take a quick break, everyone. We're on in – fourteen.

Bridget approaches.

BRIDGET

Just FYI, I know Eva's whole part in the routine, just in case.

CAMPBELL

Good to know, Bridget. Thank you.

Bridget exits as Campbell goes to Eva.

Hey – Eva. What's the story?

EVA

(tears of frustration)

I'm never gonna get that stunt right. I should just quit now.

CAMPBELL

Excuse me, but being a cheerleader is like being a Marine. You signed your life away.

EVA

But I'm letting everybody down.

CAMPBELL

You're only letting us down if you give up. I have faith in you, even if you don't. I was about to name you my Sophomore Spirit Leader.

EVA

What's that?

CAMPBELL

Well, that puts you in my line of succession. If I can't fulfil my duties, then Skylar becomes Captain. And if Skylar falls out, then Captain goes to Kylar. And after her, to my trusted Sophomore Spirit Leader – you.

EVA

Really? I'm just so scared all the time.

#6 – What I Was Born to Do (Reprise)

CAMPBELL

Look – I'm not your Captain so much as your friend. And we can help each other change beyond what we can even dream.

The song builds as we move to Truman's final Cheer Camp performance.

LET'S GO
WE BOTH HAVE WHAT IT TAKES,
TAKE A BREATH AND LET'S WIN IT –
OH!
THERE'S NO ROOM FOR MISTAKES,
LIFE OR DEATH – ARE YOU IN IT?
ARE YOU IN IT?

EVA

I'M IN IT!

ENSEMBLE

T-R-U-M-A-N, T-R-U-M-A-N, GO! GO! GO! GO! (ETC.)

**CAMPBELL, EVA, SKYLAR,
KYLAR, FEMALES 1, 2, 3**

OH!
THERE IS NO SECOND PLACE
YOU'RE EITHER FLYING OR FALLING!
OH!
C'MON PICK UP THE PACE
I HEAR DESTINY CALLING!
OH!
C'MON –

ALL

LET'S GIT IT!

CAMPBELL & EVA

WE KNOW TONIGHT IS OURS TO WIN

ENSEMBLE

SO LET'S HIT IT!

ENSEMBLE

T-R-U-M-A-N, T-R-U-M-A-N, TRUMAN GO!

TRUMAN SQUAD

THESE TRUMAN GIRLS ARE SUPERHUMAN GIRLS! GO!

#6a – In the Bag!

The routine ends. Fast forward to

ANNOUNCER

And the winner of that coveted honor, the Spirit Stick, is Truman High School!

BRIDGET

(removing her parrot head)

They did it! I feel like a proud Cheer Mom. Campbell sure pulled it off! The winner of the Spirit Stick has placed first at Nationals for the last six years. Now I don't wanna jinx anything, but I think that Campbell's got it in the bag!

Whistle! The Truman squad celebrates with a triumphant chant:

ENSEMBLE

T-R-U M-A-N!

T-R-U M-A-N!

T-R-U M-A-N!

STEVEN

SPIRIT STICK!!!

ENSEMBLE

T-R-U M-A-N!

T-R-U M-A-N!

RECORDED VOICE

LEGENDARY!

ENSEMBLE

T-R-U M-A-N!

SCENE FOUR
CAMPBELL'S ROOM

Campbell is with Eva, Kylar and Skylar. She holds a letter, shocked.

CAMPBELL

Omigod.

EVA

What's the matter?

CAMPBELL

This letter came for me – it can't be possible.

SKYLAR

What are you talking about?

(reading the letter:)

"Dear Campbell Davis, due to the redist – redist –" Sorry, that's a really big word.

CAMPBELL

"Redistricting –"

SKYLAR

Sometimes being pretty is enough.

CAMPBELL

(grabs the letter, hands it to Eva)

YOU read it!

EVA

"Due to the redistricting of school district lines in District Seven, we wish to inform you that based on your home address, you are hereby reassigned to Jackson High School for the upcoming school year."

They all look at each other, shocked.

KYLAR

Jackson High School?

CAMPBELL

Jackson High School. Of all the schools: THAT one. And classes start in two weeks! This can't be real.

EVA

What does this mean?

CAMPBELL

Well, Eva, you live right next door – so this means, if this is true, which it could not possibly be, but if it did happen to be true, which it is not, then that means – we’re going to Jackson next year. And Skylar’s the captain. But that’s not happening! It’s not!

EVA

(meekly)

I got a letter today that says I’m going back to Truman.

CAMPBELL

You did? Well, see? A mistake!

SKYLAR

Good thing. That Jackson school is scary as S-H on the I-T.

KYLAR

They don’t even have a squad.

SKYLAR

No cheerleading squad? What’s the point of having a SCHOOL?

KYLAR

The legends of old say that five years ago the Jackson cheerleaders were a rough group of girls. Like Hell’s Angels, but cheerleaders. At the Cornucopia dance they started a schoolwide riot and held a gaggle of cafeteria ladies in a three-day hostage stand-off. And so the Jackson cheerleading program was cancelled until the End of Days.

Campbell goes to her computer and types.

CAMPBELL

Well I know ONE way to find out what’s going on – We’ll just Google “redistricting” and “unfair” and “school district lines” and ...

#6b – Google

She hits a button. Projected behind her is a map of Campbell’s neighborhood, with a dotted line cutting the neighborhood in half – Eva and Campbell’s house on the same side of the line.

The line redraws itself, neatly cutting Campbell’s house into the new district.

A musical sting.

Time passes. Steven is with Campbell.

#6c – Perfect Moment (Reprise)

STEVEN

Baby? You okay?

CAMPBELL

(working very hard to stay positive)

Oh yeah. None of the petitions worked and neither did crying in front of the school board. And my parents refused to sell their house and move. But you know what I learned? When life hands you a lemon, you – you know – work really hard to convince yourself it's not a lemon.

A car horn beeps offstage.

STEVEN

I'm glad you're feeling so perky, baby.

CAMPBELL

I mean, lots of people would love a fresh start in their lives. Now that I'm not tied down to cheerleading, I can do anything I want.

STEVEN

You're awesome. Look – I gotta get to practice. Wait'll you see the new pyramid we're working on. You're gonna freak.

He kisses her and exits. Campbell is alone.

CAMPBELL

SMILING –

AS HE GOES TO PRACTICE WITHOUT ME.

I'M SMILING –

THEY'RE DOING JUST FINE ON THEIR OWN.

I'M PSYCHED FOR

THIS SUDDEN EXCITING NEW CHAPTER –

OKAY, THAT'S A LIE.

I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE,

I DON'T WANT TO CHANGE,

I DON'T UNDERSTAND,

I WANT MY OLD LIFE BACK –

I'LL NEVER GET TO FLY –

GOODBYE, PERFECT MOMENT, GOODBYE.

SCENE FIVE
JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

#7 – Do Your Own Thing

A metal detector onstage. Campbell arrives at school among a line of students passing through but she's the only one who sets it off.

CAMPBELL

Oh God, I didn't know – uh, hang on –

STUDENTS

MOVE!

MOVE!

TWIG

WELCOME TO JACKSON!

GIRLS

NO HE DIDN'T!

BOYS

MOVE!

TWIG & CAMERON

WELCOME TO JACKSON!

GIRLS

HE COULD GET IT!

BOYS

MOVE!

Campbell tries to hail passing students.

CAMPBELL

EXCUSE ME THEY TOLD ME I NEED A –

STUDENTS

MOVE!

CAMPBELL

HALLWAY PASS.

EXCUSE ME I'M TRYING TO FIND MY –

STUDENTS

MOVE!

CAMPBELL

HOMEROOM CLASS.

I'M LOOK IN FOR SOMEONE TO FOLLOW SO I KNOW MY WAY,
BUT EVERYONE'S GOING THEIR OWN WAY NOW.
CAN SOMEBODY ANYBODY SHOW ME AROUND?

STUDENTS

DON'T FOLLOW ME (HEY!)
WHY YOU ON TOP OF ME,
LEAVE ME ALONE, DO YOUR OWN THING! (HO!)
DO YOUR OWN THING! (HEY!)
COMIN THROUGH! (HEY!)
I AIN'T FOLLOWIN YOU DO
WHAT YOU GOTTA DO DO YOUR OWN THING! (HO!)
DO YOUR OWN THING! (HEY!)
CRAP IT'S TIME FOR CLASS.

A bell rings, and the students assemble.

TEACHER'S VOICE

Class, please welcome a new transfer student from Truman High. Please give a warm Jackson welcome to – uh, what's your name – Campbell?

CAMPBELL

Campbell.

CAMERON

Like the soup?

TWIG

Lookin' hot, Cream of Mushroom!

Bridget pops up and waves to Campbell.

BRIDGET

Campbell!

CAMPBELL

Bridget! Thank God!

BRIDGET

O-M-Goodness, you got redistricted too?

CAMPBELL

Can you believe this?

BRIDGET

I'm in heaven. I bet I've got until lunch at least before everyone sees I'm a spaz!

CAMPBELL

I wish Steven was here. I'm so not used to not fitting in.

BRIDGET

Oh, I've got lots of experience with not fitting in. Do you need some pointers?

CAMPBELL

I guess.

BRIDGET

Okay.

STEP ONE: TO BECOME INVISIBLE,
BOOKS UP, DE-ACCENTUATE THE PHYSICAL,
HEAD DOWN, USE ONLY YOUR PERIPHERAL,
STICK WITH ME – WE'LL BE INDIVISIBLE!

CAMPBELL

THEY'VE TAKEN A HATCHET AND HACKED MY TEAM APART.

STUDENTS

MOVE!

CAMPBELL

THEY'VE TAKEN MY HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND PRESSED RE-START.
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO FOLLOW SO I KNOW MY WAY –

BRIDGET

BUT HEY WE'RE FINDING OUR OWN WAY NOW!
AND ISN'T THAT WHAT BEING YOUNG'S ALL ABOUT?
CHECK IT OUT NOW!

STUDENTS

DON'T FOLLOW ME!

BRIDGET

DON'T FOLLOW ANYBODY!

STUDENTS

WHY YOU ON TOP OF ME,
LEAVE ME ALONE, DO YOUR OWN THING!
DO YOUR OWN THING!

BRIDGET

EVERYONE HERE DOES THEIR OWN THING!
WE'LL DO OUR OWN THING!

(BRIDGET)

C'MON, LET'S GO CRUNK IT IN THE PARKING LOT.

CAMPBELL

What?

Bridget demonstrates.

BRIDGET

YOU KNOW, CRUNKING, CRUNKING!

Twig passes by.

TWIG

(to Bridget)

Lookin' fine, baby.

BRIDGET

Sorry, what?

TWIG

I say you lookin' fine!

Bridget turns, delighted, to Campbell.

BRIDGET

Jinkies, no one has EVER SAID THAT to me before – with the exception of a hobo, once, and my youth pastor.

Randall enters and approaches Cameron.

RANDALL

WHAT'S UP MAN?

CAMERON

YO, WHAT IT DO, KID?

YOU GOT THE STUFF?

Randall slaps a small object in Cameron's hand.

RANDALL

CHOPPED AND SCREWED IT!

CAMERON

DAAAMN, I CAN'T WAIT TO USE IT!

RANDALL

I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S CRACK, SO DON'T LOSE IT!

CAMERON

CHECK IT OUT – IT'S THE CUTE CAMPBELL'S SOUP KID!

CAMPBELL

CAMPBELL.

RANDALL

I'M SORRY, WHO'S THIS?

CAMPBELL

ARE YOU GUYS SELLING CRACK?!

RANDALL

DON'T BE STUPID, DUDE, IT'S A MEMORY STICK FULL OF MUSIC!

CAMPBELL

UCHH, I'M SORRY I'M SUCH A DOOFUS –
I'M JUMPIN' TO CONCLUSIONS, I'M USELESS.

RANDALL

HEY, IT'S COOL, YOU'RE NEW, YOU'LL GET THROUGH THIS.

BRIDGET & CAMPBELL

RIGHT NOW, WE STICK OUT LIKE TWO TOOTHPICKS!

CAMPBELL

I'M SO CONFUSED AS TO WHO'S IN WHOSE CLIQUE!

BRIDGET & CAMPBELL

WHERE ARE THE SURFER DUDES? WHO ARE THE COOL KIDS?

RANDALL

WE DON'T TRAVEL IN GROUPS, BUT THE TRUTH IS –

CAMERON & TWIG

WE DO HAVE A DANCE CREW, AND THEY'RE RUTHLESS –

Nautica enters and poses.

RECORDED VOICE

NAUTICA –

La Cienega, MTF transgendered, enters and poses.

LA CIENEGA –

Danielle enters between them.

DANIELLE

DANIELLE!

ENSEMBLE

CHECK IT OUT NOW!

The girls break into an amazing impromptu dance.

STUDENTS

MOVE! MOVE!

TWIG

MAKE WAY FOR THE CREW!

LET EM THROUGH

THEY CAN REALLY

ENSEMBLE

MOOOOOOOOOOVE!

TWIG

BREAK 'EM OFF SOMETHIN' NEW!

BABY PROVE YOU CAN REALLY

ENSEMBLE

MOOOOOOOOOOVE!

STUDENTS

OH, SNAP, YOU DO YOUR THING!

GO DO YOUR THING!

DANIELLE

EV'RYBODY MOVE!

STUDENTS

OH, SNAP

YOU DO YOUR THING!

GO DO YOUR THING!

DANIELLE

EV'RYBODY MOVE!

STUDENTS

OH, SNAP!

YOU DO YOUR THING!

GO DO YOUR THING!

DANIELLE

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!

CAMPBELL

I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING – (SLAM SLAM SLAM)
EXCUSE ME I'M TRYING – (SLAM SLAM)
SOMEBODY ANYBODY SHOW ME AROUND –

DANIELLE

YO, I SAID MOVE!

CAMPBELL

OH, SORRY –

STUDENTS

DON'T FOLLOW ME!
DON'T FOLLOW ANYBODY!
WHY YOU ON TOP OF ME,
EV'RYONE HERE DOES THEIR/YOUR OWN THING!
YOUR OWN THING!
DO YOUR OWN THING!
DO YOUR OWN THING!
COMIN THROUGH!
I AIN'T FOLLOWIN YOU DO
WHAT YOU GOTTA DO DO YOUR OWN THING!
(OH, SNAP GO DO YOUR THING
GO DO YOUR THING!)
DO YOUR OWN THING!
(OH, SNAP GO DO YOUR THING,
GO DO YOUR THING –
DO YOUR OWN THING)
DO YOUR OWN THING!
OWN THING, OWN THING!

ENSEMBLE

Welcome to Jackson!

SCENE SIX
JACKSON HIGH PARKING LOT

#7a – The Day Goes By: Jackson

COMPANY

FIRST PERIOD SECOND PERIOD THIRD PERIOD –

CAMPBELL

LOOK AT THIS HIGH SCHOOL, EVERYONE'S FIGURED IT OUT –

COMPANY

FIFTH PERIOD, SIXTH, SEVENTH PERIOD –

CAMPBELL

NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

COMPANY

FIRST PERIOD SECOND PERIOD THIRD PERIOD –

CAMPBELL

CAMPBELL BE NICE, JUST TRY TO BLEND IN WITH THE CROWD –

COMPANY

FIFTH PERIOD, SIXTH, SEVENTH PERIOD –

CAMPBELL

WOW. READY SET GO –

Bridget enters.

BRIDGET

Maybe you can expand your horizons. The competitive robotics team needs members, and oh! there's a top-secret mad-libs club but keep it on the D.L.

(Campbell is desolate.)

C'mon, Campbell, if we want to meet people and get them to like us, all we need to do is talk to them.

(to a passing male student)

Hi!

CARTER

Whassup, ho?

He continues walking.

BRIDGET

(to a passing female student)

Hi!

BROOKLYN

(friendly)

Yo, what it doin', slut?

She rolls past. Bridget turns brightly to Campbell.

BRIDGET

See? Two friends!

Randall overhears.

RANDALL

I'll be part of your social circle until you find a permanent one.

CAMPBELL

Oh – thank you.

BRIDGET

(counting)

Three friends.

CAMPBELL

Don't you have a social circle of your own?

RANDALL

That was harsh.

BRIDGET

And three minus one is two friends.

RANDALL

I'm just messing with you.

(extending his hand)

I'm Randall. I run with everybody.

CAMPBELL

Campbell. I didn't mean to sound –

RANDALL

You didn't. Look, if you need help navigating, come find me.

Cameron and Twig join them.

CAMERON

Well if it ain't Chicken Noodle!

CAMPBELL*(good-humored)*

That's me – and this is my friend Bridget.

TWIG*(lusty)*

Buh-ridget!

*Bridget blushes.***CAMERON**

Well, if y'all are good with my boy Randall, you're good –

(he sees Danielle approach)

you're good with me, at least.

DANIELLE*(friendly)*

Hi Ladies. Welcome to the Thunderdome.

CAMPBELL

Hi, I'm Campbell. This is my friend Bridget.

DANIELLE

Danielle. And these're my girls Nautica and La Cienega.

LA CIENEGA

Hidey, hoe

NAUTICA

Pleased to meet your acquaintances.

*Danielle turns to Bridget.***DANIELLE**

So you're Bridget, huh?

BRIDGET

Though many days I wish it weren't so, yes.

NAUTICAWhat you talking about, girl? We were just *gagging* over you.**BRIDGET**

Is that a good thing?

LA CIENEGA

Mmm yes, Lady! We think your look is flawless. Where'd you get that top?

BRIDGET

Oh, gosh, it's my Mom's. Anything but a good poly blend tends to give me a rash.

DANIELLE

It's banging.

(to Campbell)

Don't you think?

CAMPBELL

Oh, yeah!

LA CIENEGA

Give us a 360.

Bridget turns in an awkward model pose.

Oooh, you are serving junk-in-the trunk REALNESS, honey.

TWIG

She ain't just got junk in the TRUNK – her whole car's messy from the rear bumper to the hood!

BRIDGET

I'm confused.

LA CIENEGA

Oh honey, I'd give anything for curves. I eat and eat and eat and I still look like a stick.

BRIDGET

Well, I eat and eat and eat and I get chubby!

LA CIENEGA

Word.

She tries to give Bridget a complicated handshake, which Bridget fails smilingly, accidentally slapping La Cienega instead. A moment.

I love her!

Campbell steps in:

CAMPBELL

Can I just say – your dancing – I thought it was amazing.

DANIELLE

Why thank you. We work hard at it.

CAMPBELL

If you need someone else on your squad, I've got a ton of experience.

DANIELLE

“Squad?” We’re a “crew” – a hip-hop crew.

CAMPBELL

Oh, sorry – my people call it a “squad” –

CAMERON

Oh!

TWIG

Oh!

Danielle winces and walks away.

NAUTICA

(to Campbell)

Ooh, girl, that was a BIG hors d’oeuvre.

LA CIENEGA

A what?

NAUTICA

(puffing up proudly)

It’s a word I learned in French class. It means “screw-up.”

LA CIENEGA

You mean “faux pas”?

NAUTICA

Oh, right.

She and La Cienega crack up hard, then stop and turn to Campbell, deadpan.

But yeah that was a BIG hors d’oeuvre.

(La Cienega whacks her arm.)

Eiffel Tower.

(La Cienega whacks her again.)

Faux pas.

CAMPBELL

What did I say?

LA CIENEGA

Here’s a clue: it started with “my” and continued with “people.”

CAMPBELL

(rushing to Danielle)

Oh God, I didn't mean it the way it sounded. When I said "my people" I meant *cheerleaders*, not, you know, my people. I mean, it wouldn't take much for you guys to be an amazing squad.

#8 – We Ain't No Cheerleaders

DANIELLE

"Wouldn't take much?" Princess, what we do is nothing like "easy."

(sings)

WE AIN'T NO CHEERLEADERS.
WE DON'T DO FAVORS FOR NO FOOTBALL TEAM.
DON'T GET IT TWISTED, THIS ISN'T YOUR SORORITY SISTERS
SINGIN, SWISHIN, "RAH RAH, SIS BOOM BAH." NUH UH!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

"RAH RAH, BLA BLA BLA."

DANIELLE

SING IT WIT' ME IF YA FEEL ME.
WE DON'T GET DOWN WITH NO POM-POMS

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

HELL TO THE NAW!

DANIELLE

(With NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

WE BUST OUR ASS ON EVERY NEW ROUTINE.
WHEN WE ROLL (THROUGH) WITH OUR (CREW)
NO ONE CAN (DO) WHAT WE (DO), IT'S TRUE –
BUT WE WOULD STILL DO IT IF NO ONE WAS WATCHING.

NAUTICA

AND LET'S BE REAL, WHO COULD BLAME THEM FOR WATCHING?

DANIELLE

WHEN THE D.J. PLAYS OUR SONG
AND IT ALL GOES DOWN AS PLANNED
WE'RE IN THE POCKET, WE'RE POPPIN' AND LOCKIN'
YOU PROB'LY GO SHOPPIN'
WITH YOUR DADDY'S CREDIT CARD IN YOUR HAND!

(DANIELLE)

(WITH NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

YOU CAN CALL US ARROGANT
 BUT WE WORK FOR WHAT WE HAVE
 CALL US WHAT (EVER) IS (CLEVER) FOR(EVER)
 PLEASE, BUT DON'T (YOU EVER CALL US)
 "RAH RAH SIS BOOM BAH."

DANIELLE

But what about you, Miss Bridget? Were you a "cheerleader" too?

BRIDGET

Oh my lands no, they never let me on the squad.

DANIELLE

Hm. "They" never let you on the squad.

LA CIENEGA

But you know some moves?

TWIG

Yeah, c'mon, girl, show us what you got.

BRIDGET

Oooohh, me? I got not very much –

TWIG

But you got the sweetest booty in this whole parking lot!

DANIELLE

Tell ya what. Come work with the crew and we'll show you how to really move.

BRIDGET

You'd do that?

DANIELLE

With pleasure. I'd rather work with a girl I can build up than one I gotta knock off her perch. So Miss Bridget, you're in the finest dance crew between these two here oceans!

YOU CAN CALL YOUR THERAPIST,
 AND COMPLAIN "THOSE GIRLS AIN'T RIGHT"

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

AIN'T RIGHT!

DANIELLE

(With NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

'CAUSE EVERY (DAY) WE GET (HA)TERS
WHO (SAY) THEY CAN TAKE US
OKAY BABY, IF THAT HELPS YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT.
(OKAY BABY!)

BUT DON'T PRETEND LIKE YOU KNOW ME (YOU DON'T KNOW ME!)
OR YOU'LL NEVER GET THE CHANCE.

DANIELLE, LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

TWIRL YOUR BATON IF YOU WANNA
ROND D'JAMBE AT YOU MOMMA'S

DANIELLE

WE AIN'T GONNA "RAH RAH, SIS BOOM BAH" –

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

"RAH RAH, BLA BLA BLA."

DANIELLE

NOW WOULD A CHEERLEADER DO THIS?

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

"RAH RAH, BLA BLA BLA."

DANIELLE

AND WOULD A CHEERLEADER DO THAT?

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

"RAH RAH, BLA BLA BLA."

DANIELLE

DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU, HONEY!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

"RAH RAH, SIS BOOM –"

DANIELLE, LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

HA!

SCENE SEVEN
PHONE CALLS

#8a – Phone Calls / To The Pagoda

A series of voice messages for Campbell. On Eva:

EVA

HEY CAMPBELL! GUESS WHO?
 HOPE YOU'RE DOING GREAT – ME TOO!
 GUESS WHAT? I GOT YOUR UNIFORM
 WITH YOUR NAME ON IT
 IT'S A PERFECT FIT
 ONCE I TOOK IT IN
 JUST A LITTLE BIT
 NOW I'M LIKE A YOUNGER YOU!

On Skylar and Kylar:

SKYLAR

HEY SNOT! WHAT'S HOT?
 I WISH YOU WERE CAPTAIN – NOT!
 GOT YOUR TEXTS AND ALL –

SKYLAR & KYLAR

AND WE MEANT TO CALL

KYLAR

CHANNEL TWO WAS HERE
 TO FILM US CHEER!

SKYLAR & KYLAR

KAY LOVE YOU!

SKYLAR

DON'T GET SHOT!

On Steven, who sings cloyingly:

STEVEN

HAPPY KITTIES –
 (SLEEPY PUPPIES) –
 BABY DUCKIES –

OPERATOR VOICE

If you are satisfied with your message, press three.

STEVEN

Argh!

SCENE EIGHT
BURGER PAGODA

At a fast-food burger joint with an incongruous Asian theme, Bridget enters with Campbell.

CAMPBELL

Everyone at Truman's doing just fine without me, and everyone at Jackson hates my guts. Especially Danielle.

BRIDGET

All you did was give her a negative first impression. But you still want to be on the dance crew?

CAMPBELL

So bad.

BRIDGET

Then talk to her again.

CAMPBELL

Maybe I'll talk to her during study hall. In 2047.

BRIDGET

No – talk to her *now*.

She points at the server behind the counter. It's Danielle. Shocked, Campbell hides behind Bridget.

CAMPBELL

Omigod, I didn't know she worked here.

BRIDGET

Why do you think I brought you?

Campbell starts toward Danielle, then turns back.

CAMPBELL

I can't. I don't have any self-esteem left.

BRIDGET

(sincerely)

Then take some of mine.

(beat)

Psyche! I don't have any either. C'mon.

Bridget leads Campbell to the counter. Two rich-looking girls enter and stand in line behind them.

DANIELLE

Welcome to Burger Pagoda.

CAMPBELL

Hi Danielle, listen – I got off to a bad start the other day.

DANIELLE

Here we go.

CAMPBELL

But I know you're looking for someone to be on your squad –

DANIELLE

Crew.

CAMPBELL

Crew, right, and I could definitely work hard and measure up and all that.

DANIELLE

So you say. I'll think about it. Now did you want to order?

CAMPBELL

I'm – not hungry.

RICH GIRL 1

(snidely)

Hey Burger Girl, hurry up. My blood sugar's getting low.

The two girls snicker to each other. Campbell turns, slowly.

CAMPBELL

I'm sorry, what did you call her?

RICH GIRL 1

Burger Girl.

CAMPBELL

But that's not her name.

RICH GIRL 2

What's it to you?

CAMPBELL

Listen here, little girl. You call my friend by her NAME –

She turns to Danielle, who points to her name badge. Campbell turns back to the girls.

— "Julio."

(turning back to Danielle)

"Julio?"

DANIELLE

You read it right. I found this nametag in the break room. He's my secret identity now.

CAMPBELL

(turning back to the girls)

All right, then you call her "Julio." Got it?

RICH GIRL 1

Oooh, I'm scared.

CAMPBELL

Yeah, you should be. I mean, I may look nice now, but just peeve my cheese one more time and press "play."

RICH GIRL 2

And then what?

CAMPBELL

And then you find out – what it is I do when I get, y'know, aggravated. Which doesn't happen a lot. If ever. But you're gonna be all like, "I can't believe that girl went all postal like that." So – in summation – watch your mouth around Julio. Got it?

RICH GIRL 1

Let's get some pizza.

The girls turn and exit. Danielle is laughing.

DANIELLE

That was the whitest beatdown I ever heard.

CAMPBELL

See you in class.

She turns to go.

DANIELLE

Hey. – Thanks.

CAMPBELL

I just hate it when people do that.

DANIELLE

Welcome to my world. Some people see me as the "burger girl" but when I put on this outfit I see myself representing at college some day. But you had my back – and I appreciate it.

CAMPBELL

Oh. Cool. I mean, sure. Yeah.

DANIELLE

You said you wanted to be on the crew. Why?

CAMPBELL

Without cheerleading, I feel like I'm not anybody.

DANIELLE

You're still standing.

CAMPBELL

Barely. I felt so lost until I saw what you do. I could be valuable. I'll do anything to prove myself.

Beat.

DANIELLE

Our crew's doin' a special number at the party after the Homecoming game.

CAMPBELL

Yeah?

DANIELLE

So I was thinking, what we need is a THEME. And I took a spin through the school basement and Miss Bridget, what do I see in the dusty-ass back of the room?

BRIDGET

What DO you see in the dusty-ass back of the room?

DANIELLE

A mascot outfit, a Leprechaun suit, from the old days when Jackson was an Irish neighborhood. And I think, "There's our theme, queen." And I snapped it up like it was Versace at a yard sale. But we need someone to wear it, if you get my drift.

BRIDGET

Please tell me that isn't my cue to volunteer.

DANIELLE

Not you, Miss Bridget. You're in the crew. What we need is someone: peppy!

She gazes smilingly at Campbell. A moment.

CAMPBELL

A leprechaun suit? I'm on board. I'm tougher than I look.

#9 – Friday Night, Jackson

(Underscore for "Friday Night, Jackson" begins.)

DANIELLE

We'll see. You sure you got the stuff?

CAMPBELL

Just wait.

DANIELLE

We'll see.

SCENE NINE
THE FRIDAY NIGHT PARTY

A group of Jackson guys assembles.

GUYS

HEY! HEY! HEY! HEY!

("Heys" continue under –)

CAMERON

HANG ON TIGHT.

WE'RE WAITING FOR THE LADIES ON FRIDAY NIGHT.

GUYS

WE'RE WAITING FOR THE LADIES ON FRIDAY NIGHT –

TWIG & CAMERON

THAT'S RIGHT.

ENSEMBLE 1&2

THAT'S RIGHT (THAT'S RIGHT)

CAMERON

WE'RE WAITING FOR THE LADIES

CAMERON & GUYS

ON FRIDAY NIGHT!

TWIG, RANDALL, GUYS

A' GET YOUR HANDS UP!

CAMERON & GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE LET'S GET LOUD!

THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

TWIG, RANDALL, GUYS

A' GET YOUR HANDS UP!

CAMERON, GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE LET'S GET LOUD!

THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

TWIG, RANDALL, GUYS

A' GET YOUR HANDS UP!

CAMERON & GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE LET'S GET LOUD!
 THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

TWIG, RANDALL, GUYS

A' GET YOUR HANDS UP!

CAMERON & GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE LET'S GET LOUD!
 THAT'S MY GIRL! WOOH!

CREW GIRLS

I KNOW YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME TONIGHT,
 SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

GUY

LET'S GET LOUD!
 THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

CREW GIRLS

I KNOW YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME TONIGHT, SO –

ALL

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

GUYS

THAT'S MY GIRL!

GIRLS

WOOH!

GUYS

GET YOUR HANDS UP!
 MOVE! MOVE! MOVE!

Girls dance break.

CAMERON

YO, HIP-HOP IS OUR NATIONAL PASTIME,
 TICK-TOCK, NOW IT'S "SHAKIN' THAT ASS" TIME.
 ALL A Y'ALL ARE WISHIN' THAT YA LADY WAS THAT FINE –
 THE LITTLE LADY IN THE MIDDLE, YEAH, THAT'S MINE!

TWIG

KEEP YA LIL' LADY, I AIN'T MESSIN' WITH HER,
 NO, SIR, C'MON LET'S GET A LITTLE CLOSER!

(TWIG)

I WANT THE ONE WITH THE HUGE CABOOSE!
BRIDGET IS GIGGLIN' AN' JIGGLIN' AN' TURNIN' IT LOOSE!

CAMERON

WHOA, YO, I DUNNO, TWIG, SHE'S SO BIG –

TWIG

SLOW YOUR ROLL, KID, YOU KNOW SHE STOLE THE WHOLE GIG!

CAMERON

IF Y'ALL GOT TOGETHER SHE WOULD CRUSH YOU!

TWIG

MAYBE SO. BUT DAG, WHAT A WAY TO GO!

Dance break for girls.

DANIELLE

Yo! Yo! Randall, lower the music! Citizens of Jackson, now it's time to introduce a very special guest making his first – and maybe last – appearance with our crew. Give it up for Jackson High School's very own Lucky McClover!

WELCOME TO JACKSON – MOVE.

Campbell enters awkwardly in the Leprechaun suit and joins the dance.

TWIG

WELCOME TO JACKSON!

NAUTICA

NO SHE DIDN'T!

GUYS

MOVE!

BRIDGET

SHE COULD GET IT!

GUYS

MOVE!

Impressed hubbub. Overlap:

GIRLS

GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO!
GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO! GO!

CAMERON (With Some MEN)

THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!
EV'RYBODY HERE BETTER GET LOUD
THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

ALL GIRLS

MOVE! GO LUCKY! GO, GO, GO LUCKY!

Cheers. Fierce Leprechaun dance break.

ALL

MOVE! MOVE! MOVE!

DANIELLE

(watching Campbell)

LOOK AT THIS LITTLE RICH WHITE GIRL TURNIN' IT OUT,
WOW, I CAN'T BE MAD AT THAT.
LOOK AT HER GO!
LOOK AT THIS LITTLE RICH WHITE GIRL MOVIN' THE CROWD,
WOW, SHE'S NOT HALF-BAD AT THAT,
LOOK AT HER GO!

GIRLS

I KNOW YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME TONIGHT,
SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

GUYS

EVERYBODY GET YOUR HANDS UP!
EVERYBODY GET YOUR HANDS UP! WHOA!

GIRLS

I KNOW YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME TONIGHT,
SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

GUY

WHAT ARE YOU –

GIRLS & GUYS

WAITING FOR? AAAH –

Time slows. Randall watches Campbell:

RANDALL

LOOK AT HER DANCING
WITH SKILL AND WITH JOY –

(RANDALL)

EVEN DRESSED LIKE A STRANGE
AND DERANGED IRISH BOY.

IT'S SO PLAIN TO SEE
THE SPIRIT IN HER –
SHE'S THE KIND OF BRAVE
THAT I WISH I WERE!

MORE THAN BEAUTIFUL,
SHE'S GOT CHARACTER!
I THOUGHT I KNEW HER
BUT MAN, I WAS WRONG.
THAT GIRL IS NO 3-MINUTE BUBBLE GUM SONG.
SHE'S DRIVEN, SHE'S GOT HEART
AND SHE'S A HOTTLE TO BOOT.
SHE CAN SMILE AND BRING IT ON
EVEN IN A LEPRECHAUN SUIT.

GUYS

ERIN GO BRA-LESS! ERIN GO SHAKE!

DANIELLE, NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA

LOOK AT HER GO!

GUYS

BREAK ME OFF A PIECE OF THAT CHOC'LATE CAKE!

CAMERON & TWIG

HANG ON TIGHT –

RANDALL

LEPRECHAUN SUIT!

ALL

LOOK AT THAT LITTLE RICH WHITE GIRL

GIRLS

TURNIN' IT OUT! WOW! LOOK AT HER –

GUYS

BREAK ME OFF A PIECE OF THAT CHOC'LATE CAKE!

GIRLS

–GO! GO! GO! GO!
GO! GO! GO!

GUYS

HEY! HEY! HEY! HEY!
HEY! HEY! HOO!

Mucho overlapping:

RANDALL

OH, EVEN IN A LEPRECHAUN SUIT!
OH, EVEN IN A LEPRECHAUN SUIT!

DANIELLE

OH! LOOK AT HER GO!
OH! LOOK AT HER GO!

GIRLS

A' GET YOUR HANDS UP! HOO!
THAT'S MY GIRL! (3X)

GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE BETTER GET LOUD!
THAT'S MY GIRL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD! (3X)

DANIELLE & RANDALL

LOOK AT HER GO! GO! GO!

GIRLS & GUYS

EV'RYBODY HERE, THAT'S MY GIRL!
EV'RYBODY HERE, THAT'S MY GIRL!
GET YOUR HANDS UP! HANDS UP! HANDS UP!

ALL

THAT'S MY GIRL!

#9a – Campbell's In

After the number, the girls assemble.

NAUTICA

(to Bridget)

Honey, you were SICKENING out there. That was toxic!

BRIDGET

(to La Cienega)

Can you translate?

LA CIENEGA

You did very good and we're proud of you.

BRIDGET

Werque!

Danielle approaches Campbell, who's gasping for breath in her Leprechaun suit.

DANIELLE

Yo, Lucky McClover.

CAMPBELL

Yeah?

DANIELLE

You missed a move.

CAMPBELL

I know, I'm so sorry – I tripped over these shoes. But—how'd I do otherwise?

DANIELLE

I'll admit: putting you in that smelly-ass suit wasn't the nicest thing I ever did. But you showed up, and then, dammit, you stole the whole show. Nobody was even looking at the rest of us.

CAMPBELL

Oh, God, I'm sorry.

DANIELLE

Put away the "sorry." Count me impressed.

CAMPBELL

Really?

DANIELLE

I don't put my faith in a lot of people but I'm putting my faith in you.

CAMPBELL

Wait – so I'm in? The "crew?"

The other girls gather.

DANIELLE

This crew is a family. So welcome to our family.

As they congratulate Campbell –

CAMPBELL

Omigod, thank you! You won't regret it!

They hug as the crew gathers around, congratulating her. We transition to Campbell's bedroom ...

(CAMPBELL)

(giddily to herself)

LOOK AT THIS LITTLE HOT WHITE GIRL TURNING IT OUT! WOW!
THIS LEPRECHAUN'S ON THE CREW!
LOOK AT HER GO!

I WAS SO GOOD AND EVERYONE WATCHED ME DANCE! WOW!
NOW WATCH ME BRUSH MY TEETH
IT'S THE CAMPBELL SHOW!
GO! GO! GO!

SCENE TEN
CAMPBELL'S BEDROOM

A series of video chats. Skylar appears, her mascara running.

SKYLAR

Campbell!

CAMPBELL

Hey Skylar! How's things at the old homestead?

Skylar sobs.

Skylar, what's wrong?

SKYLAR

I failed Home Ec!

CAMPBELL

How can anybody fail Home Ec?

SKYLAR

They found an error on my report card from last year – I thought I pulled a "D" but instead I got an "F"!

CAMPBELL

Skylar, it's only Home Ec! Just try something – easier, next semester –

SKYLAR

I don't care about my GRADES. The rules say the captain has to maintain a 1.2 GPA. I went to a lot of EFFORT to do the bare minimum. And now I have to resign as Captain!

CAMPBELL

What?

Another window "bloops" in. It's Kylar, who looks very drowsy.

KYLAR

Campbell.

CAMPBELL

Kylar?

SKYLAR

So the new Captain is Kylar!

CAMPBELL

Kylar?

KYLAR

I have mono.

CAMPBELL

What did you say?

SKYLAR

I said, the new Captain is Kylar!

KYLAR

I have mono.

CAMPBELL

You're sick?

SKYLAR

No, I failed Home Ec!

KYLAR

I have to leave the squad 'til I'm better. I was supposed to be Captain and I can't do it now.

#10 – Something Isn't Right Here

CAMPBELL

I'm so confused!

SKYLAR

Kylar, you're not Captain any more?

KYLAR

I'm not Captain any more.

CAMPBELL

Oh my God!

KYLAR & SKYLAR

So Eva's the Captain now.

CAMPBELL

Eva?

KYLAR & SKYLAR

A Sophomore.

CAMPBELL

That Sophomore is captain of the squad?

KYLAR & SKYLAR

Yes. I have to go.

KYLAR

I'm so sleepy.

SKYLAR

I'm so sad.

CAMPBELL

I'm so – Oh my God.

SKYLAR

Good night.

Kylar sneezes.

SKYLAR

I am so upset I'm actually going to go eat something.

Their windows vanish, leaving Campbell alone.

CAMPBELL

(sings)

I PUT HER ON THE TEAM
SHE WAS GREEN AS SHE COULD BE.
I DID IT TO BE NICE.
NO ONE WANTED HER BUT ME.

ALL MY DREAMS WERE COMING TRUE
I WAS CAPTAIN, IT WAS COOL
THEN I'M SUDDENLY REDIST – REDI–
SENT TO ANOTHER SCHOOL!

SO SKYLAR'S NEXT IN LINE
BUT SOMEHOW SKYLAR FLUNKS
SO KYLAR SHOULD BE CAPTAIN
BUT KYLAR'S BLOWING CHUNKS!

IS THIS ALL COINCIDENCE?
JUST UNRELATED INCIDENTS
THAT HAPPENED TO OCCUR?
MIRACULOUSLY MAKING WAY FOR HER?

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE –
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.
NONE OF THIS SHOULD BE HAPPENING,

(CAMPBELL)

BUT IT IS—OH, BUT IT IS!
IT'S LIKE HEARING A TICKING SOUND
COMING FROM UNMARKED PACKAGES!

Doorbell. We transit to Eva's house.

EVA

Hang on, I'll be right there.

Eva enters. Her hair color matches Campbell's.

Campbell!

CAMPBELL

Nice. Hair.

EVA

Thanks!

CAMPBELL

Eva, I love what you've done with your room.

EVA

You know you've always been my inspiration.

CAMPBELL

Clearly.

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE,
I GOT A SPIDEY SENSE.
TOO MUCH HAS BEEN GOING DOWN
TO CHALK IT UP
TO COINCIDENCE—

EVA

What coincidence?

CAMPBELL

That you, a Sophomore, suddenly became captain of the squad.

EVA

Campbell, that really hurts my feelings. You think I did all this on purpose? I'd never take anything away from you.

Steven enters, holding his shirt.

STEVEN

You're right! Club soda CAN get out a Yoo-Hoo stain.

CAMPBELL

Steven?

STEVEN

Baby! What are you doing?

CAMPBELL

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE.

STEVEN

Baby, it's no big.

CAMPBELL

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT HERE!

STEVEN

Eva's helping me with Trig!

CAMPBELL

Eva's helping you with Trig?! That's news to me.

EVA

Oh, Campbell, it's totally nothing. I just offered to help.

CAMPBELL

YOUR ALIBI'S PATHETIC
I'M HERE TO CALL YOUR BLUFF!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'VE STUDIED TRIG YET!
THERE'S NO WAY HE CARES ENOUGH!
MADE THE TEAM, THEN YOU MADE CAPTAIN –
NOW YOU'RE ALL UP IN HIS STUFF!

STEVEN

Baby, you're gonna make yourself crazy thinking like that.

EVA

Listen, Campbell, if I could trade back with you I would.

STEVEN

(consolingly, to Campbell)

Oh, c'mere. I know what you need.

Campbell shakes her head. Steven smiles.

STEVEN

HAPPY KITTIES.

A moment.

CAMPBELL

SLEEPY PUPPIES.

STEVEN

BABY DUCKIES.

EVA & CAMPBELL

SPARKLE PONIES.

Campbell's head snaps front.

CAMPBELL

What. Did you just say.

EVA

Oh, Steven told me that's how you guys make each other feel better, that's all.
Campbell – Campbell, I'm your *friend*.

CAMPBELL

I'm sorry –

(to Steven)

I don't think we should see each other for awhile. Like – forever-while.

STEVEN

Baby, what –

She exits Eva's house and rushes over to Skylar and a sickly Kylar.

CAMPBELL

SHE DID IT! SHE DID IT!
SHE CAME UP WITH A PLAN!
TO TAKE ALL THAT SHE TOOK,
MY TEAM, MY SCHOOL MY MAN!
NEXT SHE'LL WIN THE LOTTO!
OR CRAP A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER!
CAN IT JUST BE ME
WHO SEES HOW SHE SCREWED US OVER?

KYLAR

SO IT'S HER FAULT I GOT MONO?
AND FOR SKYLAR'S FAILING TOO?
AND SHE SOMEHOW GOT YOU TRANSFERRED
AND THIS WHOLE THING'S ABOUT YOU?

SKYLAR

YEAH OUR TEAM'S WITHOUT A CAPTAIN
AND OUR CHANCES ARE-N'T GREAT
BUT DON'T BLAME IT ON YOUR MINI-ME
SHE STEPPED UP TO THE PLATE.

KYLAR

SHE'S BARELY OUT OF DIAPERS!

SKYLAR

AND YET YOU'RE SURE IT'S TRUE

SKYLAR & KYLAR

SHE'S GETTING WITH YOUR MAN
WHO WE ALL KNOW WORSHIPS YOU?

SKYLAR

YEAH, I SEE WHAT'S WRONG
UNLESS YOU HAVE MORE TO TELL US!
YOU'RE PARANOID!

KYLAR

YOU'RE CRAZY!

SKYLAR & KYLAR

OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS!

Skylar and Kylar exit.

CAMPBELL

Jealous?! What – me? That's ridiculous!

They exit. Campbell is alone:

Maybe they're right. Maybe I am jealous. I don't know anymore.

(turning to Bridget, who is entering)

But I still have this *feeling*.

BRIDGET

Okay, then let's examine the evidence.

CAMPBELL

Her bedroom looks just like mine.

BRIDGET

She copied your crib, check.

CAMPBELL

Her hair looks just like mine.

BRIDGET

She stole your weave, check.

CAMPBELL

AND she's been macking on Steven this entire time.

BRIDGET

Shut the front door and slap my ass with the screen!

CAMPBELL

All that, AND she's *captain of the squad*.

BRIDGET

That, and Eva's mom's on the school board. But maybe that's not important.

CAMPBELL

Her mom – is what?

BRIDGET

On the school board. The school board that decided on the redistricting. You didn't know that?

Dramatic sting.

CAMPBELL

What?

BRIDGET

Look, bad things happen to people all the time. You just get used to it.

Campbell is alone.

#11 – *Bring It On*

CAMPBELL

(softly)

No.

(sings)

GONE

MY ONE CHANCE TO SHINE,

THE FRIENDS I CALLED MINE,

THE GIRL THE WORLD WILL NEVER SEE.

(CAMPBELL)

MORE THAN REPLACED,
IT'S LIKE SHE'S ERASED
THE BEST OF ME.

I HAVE NO CHOICE
I'VE GOT TO TAKE BACK WHAT SHE STOLE.
GET BACK MY ONE MOMENT!

MADE A VOW I WAS GONNA BE
A CHEERLEADER LIKE THE BUCCANEERS IN FRONT OF ME!
NOW IF ONLY I COULD FIND A WAY
TO GET BACK INTO THE NATIONALS AND MAKE HER PAY!

The ensemble begins to appear, as if conjured:

NAUTICA!
LA CIENEGA!
DANIELLE!

ENSEMBLE

JACKSON, JACKSON! GO JACKSON, GO JACKSON!
GO, GO, GO JACKSON GO!

**DANIELLE, NAUTICA,
LA CIENEGA, TWIG, CAMERON**

OOOOOOOOOH!
LET EVERYBODY KNOW
CAMPBELL'S BACK –

CAMPBELL

THIS IS MY TOWN!
OOOOOOOOOH!

ALL

AND EVA'S GOING DOWN!

"Dream Eva" enters as syrupy voices overlap:

VOICES

Eva is like the coolest, best, sweetest cheer captain ... I'm in love with Eva
Omigod!

ENSEMBLE

BRING IT ON! GO!
BRING IT ON! GO CAMPBELL!
BRING IT ON! GO CAMPBELL GO!

Fierce dance section.

CAMPBELL

I'LL TAKE FIRST PLACE
AND THROW IT IN YOUR FACE!

ENSEMBLE

RRRRRAH!

CAMPBELL

THINK YOU CAN BEAT ME? GO AHEAD, C'MON!
AND ONCE I HAVE MY SQUAD
YOU'LL FEEL THE WRATH OF GOD –

ENSEMBLE

SO LET THE DOUBTERS, AND THE HATERS
AND MY TEARS BE GONE!

CAMPBELL

I'M GONNA BRING IT ON!

ENSEMBLE

MY YEAR! MY TIME!

CAMPBELL

I'M GONNA BRING IT ON!

ENSEMBLE

MY DESTINY!
BRING IT ON –

CAMPBELL

GONNA BRING IT ON!

End of Act One.

ACT TWO

#12 – *Entr'acte*

Campbell stands center-stage in a reverie as Dream Eva skips in circles around her. Scenery moves in around Campbell and we're in the...

SCENE ONE

JACKSON LUNCH ROOM

Campbell turns and addresses a passing Danielle.

CAMPBELL

Danielle?

DANIELLE

Hm.

CAMPBELL

Listen, I had an idea.

DANIELLE

Shoot.

CAMPBELL

So – what we're doing is really athletic and dance-oriented and made, you know, to get audiences all fired up –

DANIELLE

Uh huh.

CAMPBELL

– so I was thinking, you know, we could make a squad.

A moment.

DANIELLE

Define “squad” –

CAMPBELL

Instead of a “crew,” we'd be a “squad.”

(very quietly)

A cheer leading squad.

Danielle laughs ruefully.

DANIELLE

You know what this reminds me of? Those movies, you know what I'm saying, where the white dude or white lady makes a trip to the scary "inner city" and, you know, fixes dem colored folks right up!

CAMPBELL

No no no, it's not that at all, it's that we're – you're way sick, I mean "sick" in the positive way, and with just a few wee changes, you could get a lot of exposure and credit –

DANIELLE

–and "rah rah" at the football games –

CAMPBELL

–and be on ESPN –

DANIELLE

– and have everyone thinking we're a bunch of stuck-up bitches –

NAUTICA

But we are stuck-up bitches.

BRIDGET

We so are.

DANIELLE

Not. Interested. Now may I –

Campbell jumps in, desperate:

CAMPBELL

And whoever wins at Nationals this year gets a 12-part reality series on MTV. They just announced it.

DANIELLE

Ugh.

CAMPBELL

And that could lead to, y'know, more success down the road.

DANIELLE

I would hardly define "success" as humiliating my ass on a reality show.

NAUTICA

Oh, I would.

LA CIENEGA

Oh, me too completely.

NAUTICA

Completely.

CAMPBELL

And each member of the winning squad gets a scholarship to the college of their choice.

Danielle hesitates, considering.

DANIELLE

Say we did make a – “squad.” Who says we’d have a shot at winning?

CAMPBELL

I know what it takes.

NAUTICA

Check it out: me – on national TV!

LA CIENEGA

Even more interesting – *ME* on national TV!

DANIELLE

(to Campbell)

‘Cause with a scholarship in the mix, now that’s a goal we could work towards. Am I right, ladies?

Music starts:

#13 – It’s All Happening

NAUTICA

Mmmm hmmm.

LA CIENEGA

Mmmm to the hmmm.

DANIELLE

All right, everybody – your attention please:

LISTEN UP, THIS IS HOW IT’S GON’ GO.
WE GONNA GATHER UP EVERY GOOD GIRL WE KNOW,
WE’LL GET VERTICAL ‘TIL WE GET VERTIGO,
LET’S SHOW THESE HOS HOW TO PUT ON A SHOW!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

WE NEED THE VERY BEST BOYS WE CAN FIND!

DANIELLE

THEY GOTTA BE STRONG AND THEY GOTTA BE FINE.
DO WHAT CHOO GOTTA DO, WINE AND DINE,
BUT KEEP THIS IN MIND:

(DANIELLE)

IMAGINE THE LIGHTS,
 IMAGINE THE PEOPLE,
 IMAGINE US IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!
 IMAGINE THE FAME! IMAGINE THE FORTUNE!

ALL

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE

IMAGINE YOUR LIFE,
 AND ALL OF THE CHANGES,
 IMAGINE MAKIN' THIS NEIGHBORHOOD PROUD!

NAUTICA

AND THEY'RE SCREAMING OUR NAMES OUT LOUD!

ALL

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE, NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA

LISTEN UP THIS IS HOW IT'S GON' BE:
 WE'LL QUALIFY IN FINALS, THEN SHINE ON TV.

**DANIELLE, NAUTICA,
 LA CIENEGA, ENSEMBLE GIRLS**

AND WE ARE GONNA NEED A NEW ROUTINE.
 WE NEED SOME NEW DUDES ON OUR NEW TEAM.

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

WE NEED THE VERY BEST BOYS WE CAN FIND!

DANIELLE

IT'S GONNA BE HARD AND IT'S GONNA TAKE TIME.

NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA, ENSEMBLE GIRLS

BUT IF WE STAY ON OUR GRIND –

DANIELLE

THE WORLD IS GONNA

**DANIELLE, NAUTICA,
 LA CIENEGA, ENSEMBLE GIRLS**

WATCH US SHINE!

The girls approach Cameron with his guys:

CAMERON

HELL NAW!

RANDALL

Look who you're asking.

TWIG

Cheerleading, you say?

OKAY, SO WOMEN WHO WOULDN'T GIVE ME THE TIME OF DAY
ARE STARTIN' THIS SQUAD AND THEY WANT ME TO PLAY?
AND IF I PLAY, I'LL BE FAMOUS?
GIMME A HARD ONE. THESE ARE NO BRAINERS!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THESE OTHER BROTHERS ARE THINKIN'
THEY MUST' A BEEN DRINKIN'
GET IT AND LET IT SINK IN!
WHAT ARE Y'ALL, SCARED?
YA THINK CHEERIN' IS FEMININE?
THEN I'M A FEMINIST SWIMMIN' -IN-WOMEN GENTLEMAN!
CONSIDER IT, IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT ISN'T IT?
YOUR THINKING IS LIMITED GIVE IT A MINUTE ENVISION IT –
DEAD IN THE MIDDLE OF SEVENTY WOMEN ON TELEVISION,
EVERY LITTLE BIT OF PRECISION IS MAGNIFICENT!

DANIELLE

IMAGINE THE GIRLS!

TWIG

WHAT?!

DANIELLE

IMAGINE THE ACTION!

TWIG

UH-HUH –

DANIELLE

THE ONLY BOY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CREW.

TWIG

YEEESSS!

NAUTICA

IMAGINE THE LOCKER ROOMS AFTER PRACTICES –

TWIG & GUYS

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

THE SPINS AND THE TWIRLS, THE WORLD'S REACTION

CAMPBELL

WHEN THEY SEE WHAT JACKSON CAN DO –

TWIG

FELLAS, ARE YA FEELIN' MY POINT OF VIEW?

EVERYONE (except CAMERON)

IT'S ALL HAPPENING.

DANIELLE

C'MON LET'S GOOOO –

CAMERON

No.

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

LET'S GOOOO –

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

DON'T SAY NOOO

ALL

WHOA!

TWIG & MALE ENSEMBLE

OH!

LA CIENEGA

OH YES!

NAUTICA

ME AND LA CIENEGA –

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

ACCEPT NO LESS!

NAUTICA

CRUISIN' LA CIENEGA

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

WITH NO STRESS!

NAUTICA

FELLAS YELLIN' "VEN ACA."

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

SPEAK INGLES!

NAUTICA

YOU TELL EM, AND YES I'M GONNA GET -

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

MUCH MORE!

NAUTICA

PAPARAZZI ALWAYS COMIN' ROUND

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

OUR DOOR!

NAUTICA

AND IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT WE'RE

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

FAMOUS FOR!

NAUTICA

EVERYTHING WE GET IS GONNA BE

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

TOP DRAWER!

DANIELLE

AND OUR AIM IS -

TWIG

F.D.R. WAS A CHEERLEADER!

DANIELLE

TO BE FAMOUS -

TWIG

PAULA ABDUL WAS A CHEERLEADER!

DANIELLE

SOON THE WORLD WILL KNOW WHAT OUR NAME IS!

RANDALL

SOON YOU'LL BE A CHEERLEADER!

DANIELLE

(joined by girls)

YES, OUR AIM IS

TWIG

YO, MADONNA WAS A CHEERLEADER!

GIRLS

TO BE FAMOUS –

CAMERON

I DON'T WANNA BE A CHEERLEADER!

GIRLS

SOON THE WORLD WILL KNOW OUR NAME!

CAMPBELL

(holding up her phone)

MICHAEL JORDAN WAS A CHEERLEADER!

CAMERON

Stop lying.

Campbell reads from her cell phone.

CAMPBELL

“Michael Jordan was a member of the Laney High School cheerleading squad for two years before joining the Junior Varsity Basketball team!” I’m reading this from Wikipedia.

LA CIENEGA

So it HAS to be true!

CAMERON & (GUY BACKUP)

PICTURE ME, WEARIN’ THE TWO-THREE
 LIKE JORDAN WORE WHEN HE DUNKED FROM THE FREE
 THROW LINE, A LEGEND IN HIS OWN TIME,
 BUT I’M JUST A LEGEND IN MY OWN MIND.
 (GIMME THE BALL), AND FALL BACK, I GOT THIS!
 DRIVIN’ THE LANE, I’M INSANE WITH THE HOTNESS.
 YES, (I) TAKE IT, (I) RIP IT, (I) FLIP IT (I’M WHIPPIN’
 IT AROUND, DOUBLE DRIBBLIN’ WITHOUT SCOTTIE PIPPEN,

AND NOW (RRRRAH!) FOR SOMETHIN’ DIFF’RENT,
 Y’ALL FOUND THIS COMPETITION,
 AND NOW (RRRRRAH!) Y’ALL WANNA GO BUCK WILD ON TELEVISION –
 WOW (RRRRRAH!) I’LL ADMIT IT’S NOT HOW I ENVISIONED IT
 BUT (RRRRRAH!) I’LL STICK (RRRRAH!) WITH IT IF (SIS BOOM!)
 Y’ALL STAY SIZZLIN’
 HOT, POP & LOCK TILL WE BOP TO THE TOP (RRRRAH!)

(CAMERON & GUY BACKUP)

(LADIES), BRING IT ON IF YA LOVE HIP HOP!
(AND ME), I'LL GRAB YA WHEN YA FLIP AND DROP!
TELL JORDAN I'M COMIN' FOR HIS SPOT!

DANIELLE

YEAH!

CAMERON

IMAGINE THE LIGHTS

ENSEMBLE

LIGHTS!

CAMERON

IMAGINE THE PEOPLE
IMAGINE US IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

ENSEMBLE

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD!

CAMERON

IMAGINE THE FAME! IMAGINE THE FORTUNE!

ALL

YEAH! IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

CAMPBELL & ENSEMBLE

IMAGINE YOUR LIFE, AND ALL OF THE CHANGES,

CAMPBELL

IMAGINE MAKIN' THIS NEIGHBORHOOD PROUD!

ENSEMBLE

GO JACKSON! GO JACKSON!

JACKSON MEMBERS

THEY ARE SCREAMING OUR NAMES OUT LOUD!

ENSEMBLE

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

AND THE TRUTH IS –
WE CAN DO THIS –

COMPANY

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

IF WE START RIGHT NOW AND PURSUE THIS.

COMPANY

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS –

COMPANY

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

AND WE KNOW THIS –

COMPANY

IT'S ALL HAPPENING! AH –

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

SO LET'S GO PUT THE WHOLE WORLD ON NOTICE!

DANIELLE

WHO'S IN?

COMPANY

I'M IN, I'M IN! (ETC.)

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

WE CAN LEAVE BEHIND THE WORLD WE KNOW –

COMPANY

LET'S GOOOOOOOOOOOO!

LET'S GOOOOOOOOOOOO!

LET'S GOOOOOOOOOOOO!

WE GOTTA GO (GET YOUR HANDS UP!) – WHOA-OH!

WE GOTTA GO (GET YOUR HANDS UP!) – WHOA-OH!

WE GOTTA GO (GET YOUR HANDS UP!) – WHOA-OH!

WE GOTTA GO (WE GOTTA GO)

LET'S GO, LET'S GO (LET'S GO!)

IT'S ALL HAPPENING!

SCENE TWO
JACKSON GYM / TRUMAN GYM

#13a – In Training

Eva enters, with Skylar and Kylar pacing behind her. She addresses the audience in a perky, friendly manner:

EVA

Attention Buccaneers! Eyes. Eyes on me, everybody. There we go.

(pointing to one audience member)

Chelsea, take your Ritalin. Eyes. Thank you.

(to the group)

All right, we need to keep focused. One fall can blow a whole year of work. Don't cross or even touch the lines around the performing area. Never fix your hair or outfit during a routine. We all have to work together and smile while we suffer. 'Cause why are we doing this? Is it for the glory? No. For the trophy? No. We're doing this...

(Satanic vocal distortion)

TO DESTROY CAMPBELL DAVIS AND SEND HER SOUL TO ROT IN HELL.

ENSEMBLE

CAMPBELL – BAK-TUK!

CAMPBELL – BASKE-TUS!

CAMPBELL! CAMPBELL! CAMPBELL!

Lights on Campbell, shaken, at practice. Randall stands next to her.

RANDALL

Hey – are you in there?

CAMPBELL

Sorry. I'm just – daydreaming. How's the music coming?

RANDALL

I added eight counts after "Get Ready For Jackson" so you can do your shopping cart throw.

CAMPBELL

"Basket toss," but close.

DANIELLE

Hey, check this out, we worked up a little section for the routine.

(DANIELLE)*(calling off)*

Miss Lady, get your perky ass over here. Hit it, Randall.

#13b – Miss Lady

Randall starts the music. La Cienega makes a grand entrance in a cheer leading outfit and the three girls demonstrate a saucy dance sequence. The other students get into it. It builds ...

CAMPBELL

Okay, stop! STOP! – I love it!

NAUTICA

Ooh, there's a "but" coming.

CAMPBELL

The judges'll deduct hella points if we do that. I'm sorry.

LA CIENEGA

I am so about to start pouting. Oh wait, it started.

DANIELLE

C'mon, now – sometimes you gotta break the rules if you want to fly.

CAMPBELL

Sure, but don't we want to win?

DANIELLE

And the girl has a point. Okay, we can save that section for the after-party.

LA CIENEGA*(completely recovered)*

Okay!

DANIELLE

So what's next in the master plan?

CAMPBELL

What's next, Bridget?

BRIDGET*(consulting a list)*

Cheer face.

CAMPBELL

Right. So we're doing back-breaking feats of athleticism, sure, but we cannot forget our "cheer face."

MILLS

Our hummina what?

CAMPBELL

This is very, very important. Bridget, can you show them “cheer face” please?

Bridget offers a series of rather horrifying “cheer faces.”

(continuing, over)

As we see, Bridget is demonstrating a variety of emotions that should conflict but live in an ideal harmony. Here we see, “I’m an accomplished athlete who is dedicated to my craft, but I just did something a little naughty and I shocked myself a whole lot.” Thank you, Bridget.

Bridget relaxes.

So “cheer faces” all around, please. On three –

CAMERON

Hold it. No – really? I mean, really?

CAMPBELL

Right, thank you, Cameron, it’s different for the guys. Men, keep those feelings bottled inside, covered by shades of “steely determination.” So hit your “cheer faces,” everybody!

The group makes a sorry assortment of “cheer faces” as Randall re-enters. He stops, shocked.

RANDALL

I leave the room for five seconds –

CAMPBELL

Quit undermining my authority.

RANDALL

But you’re so cute when I undermine you.

CAMPBELL

Ignore that man – who needs to shut the barn door, by the way, because his horse is busting out.

Embarrassed, Randall zips his fly.

So focus. We have to be perfect and play by their rules. In five weeks we’re gonna be waiting in that holding area at Regionals. And we want to be prepped when that voice comes over the loudspeaker –

SCENE THREE
REGIONALS QUALIFYING ROUND

#14 – *Better*

ANNOUNCER

Next on the mat at Regionals, put your hands together for Jackson High School!

The Truman squad is watching.

EVA

WOW!

THEY'RE REALLY NOT THAT BAD –

SKYLAR

BUT WE'RE BETTER.

KYLAR

THEY NAILED THAT BASKET TOSS –

SKYLAR

BUT WE'RE BETTER.

EVA & KYLAR

IT'S A MIRACLE THEY'RE HERE –

SKYLAR

STILL BETTER.

STEVEN

AND THAT FLIP WAS CRAZY SAUCE!

SKYLAR

BUT WE'RE –

KYLAR

LOOK! THEY'RE BLOWING UP ON TWITTER!

SKYLAR

THEY'RE ONLY GLUE AND GLITTER.

EVA

NOW SKYLAR, DON'T BE BITTER –

SKYLAR

BUT WE'RE BETTER!

ANNOUNCER

And our first runner-up, accumulating enough points to qualify for Nationals:
the Jackson Irish!

SKYLAR

They're going to Nationals – What about US – ?

ANNOUNCER

And today's winner is – Truman High School!

SKYLAR

SEE?

WE'RE BETTER BETTER BETTER BETTER
BETTER BETTER BETTER BETTER!
BETTER BETTER BETTER BETTER BETTER –

IT'S NICE THAT THEY COMPETE.
THEIR ENTHUSIASM'S SWEET.
I LOVE HOW THEY'RE SO 'STREET'
BUT DO I NEED TO REPEAT:

WE'RE HOTTER!
WE'RE RICHER!
OUR UNIFORM'S CUTER!
AND WE'RE SO MUCH BETTER THAN THEM!
OH, YE –

Campbell has entered and is standing by Skylar. Song ends abruptly.

SKYLAR

Oh hi Campbell.

CAMPBELL

Congratulations on your win.

Eva approaches.

EVA

Omigod you guys did so good!

CAMPBELL

Oh hello, Eva. I hear you're doing a *nifty* job as Captain.

EVA

We're all *freaking* over how well you guys did. I mean, we're *scared*, right?

#14a – *Douchenozzle in Hell***(EVA)***(Satanic vocal distortion)*

SCARED YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK LIKE A
DOUCHENOZZLE IN FRONT OF THE ENTIRE WORLD.

SKYLAR, KYLAR, STEVEN

MAJOR DOUCHE!

MAJOR DOUCHE!

MAJOR DOUCHE!

*Lights blink.***EVA***(continuing blithely)*

Scared you're gonna beat us! – Hey, you okay, hon?

CAMPBELL

Fine –

SKYLAR

I gotta give Eva props, she knocked us right into shape.

KYLAR

Right into shape.

SKYLAR

I'm serious.

KYLAR*(re: Skylar)*

She's serious.

EVA

Oh, you guys!

CAMPBELL

Steven, I expected you'd be happy under her attention.

STEVEN

Hey, Campbell.

CAMPBELL

Mmm-hmm.

EVA

Let's all hit the juice bar.

CAMPBELL

No thanks.

EVA

Well don't work TOO hard, now! I'm just teasing.

Truman squad exits, Jackson squad enters.

DANIELLE

Well, well! Who knew I'd be so happy to come in second?

CAMPBELL

We're going to Nationals!

DANIELLE

I never thought these words would come out of my mouth, but here we go: I'm actually proud to be a cheerleader.

CAMPBELL

See – ?

DANIELLE

If the me a couple months ago could see the me now – I won't even start. But I'll admit: I had *stupid* fun putting this together with you.

CAMPBELL

Me too.

DANIELLE

We squeaked by today, but Nationals is gonna get our Jackson A-game! See you at practice!

NAUTICA

Honey, you ain't no Cream of Mushroom to us no more.

LA CIENEGA

Girl, you're CHICKEN AND STARS!

#14b – *It's On, Eva*

The girls walk off, leaving Campbell alone. She is still, poised, determined:

CAMPBELL

It's on, Eva. Oh, it's on.

SCENE FOUR
HALLWAY

Bridget stands at a sign-up board. Twig approaches.

TWIG

Hey, sex kitten.

Bridget looks around her.

TWIG

I'm talking to you.

BRIDGET

Oh! I thought you said, "Hey, sex kitten."

TWIG

I did.

BRIDGET

Oh.

TWIG

So. What you doin' on Friday Night, baby?

BRIDGET

Me? Well, there's a "Doctor Who" marathon on, and –

TWIG

(moving in on her)

Uh huh.

BRIDGET

– and I was, um, planning to fire up some kettle corn and just, like, party, you know?

(A moment.)

Look, can I be honest?

TWIG

Shoot.

BRIDGET

I took a vow to protect my flower.

TWIG

I just wanna hang with you, is all. You know what I'm saying?

BRIDGET

I'm a bit new at this. Boys.

TWIG

We're fifty percent of the population. I think it's time you got some instruction.

BRIDGET

There's an app for that.

A moment.

TWIG

Whatever you say – sex kitten. Oooh!

He waits a moment, and strolls off. Nautica and La Cienega approach Bridget.

NAUTICA

Now why you throwing shade at him?

LA CIENEGA

Twig is fine.

BRIDGET

I didn't mean to provide shade. But I think he wants to French me!

NAUTICA

So what – you're gonna Taze him for it?

BRIDGET

No one thinks I'm sexy. Or even reasonably attractive.

LA CIENEGA

They do now, sexy.

BRIDGET

I have a mirror, you know?

NAUTICA

Now you wash that mouth out. That low self-esteem B.S. does not fly with us.

BRIDGET

I wasn't born the way other people are. You don't know what it's like not to fit in.

A moment. La Cienega moves Nautica aside.

LA CIENEGA

I mean, really?

BRIDGET

I'm confused, is all. Which makes me neurotic and weird, which could lead to my own very special episode of "Hoarders" by the time I'm 21.

NAUTICA

Naw, what you're feeling is power, honey. And power can be a scary thing. But it's all in the way you use it. So use it. Don't lose it.

#15 – It Ain't No Thing

(sings)

THERE'S A SAYING THAT I LEARNED
 PASSED DOWN THROUGH CENTURIES
 WHICH TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH MEANS
 'SISTA, PLEASE!
 GIRL, YOU'RE SPECIAL –
 YOU'RE ROUGH, YEAH, BUT YOU'RE A GEM.
 AND IF PEOPLE HAVEN'T SEEN IT,
 WELL, HEY! THAT'S ON THEM!

SO YOU GOT A LITTLE BABY FAT –
 IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH.
 LOOK AT TWIG! HE'S DOWN WITH THAT!
 IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!

WHY WALK AROUND
 LIKE YOU'RE MADE OF ASBESTOS?
 WHEN TWIG LOVES YOUR EYES,
 YOUR THIGHS AND YOUR BREASTS?
 SO SHAKE LIKE JELLO ON A SPRING
 IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!
 IT AIN'T NO THING!

LA CIENEGA

OH WHOA, SOME KIDS USED TO TEASE ME
 AND PUT ME THROUGH HELL –
 SOME PEOPLE ARE MEAN

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

BUT MOST PEOPLE MEAN WELL.
 IT'S JUST THEIR THINKIN' – IS STINKIN'

LA CIENEGA

AND A LITTLE OUTDATED,
 OR MAYBE THEY'RE MERELY
 UNEDUMECATED!

(LA CIENEGA)

GOT PRETTY EYES BUT THUNDER THIGHS
IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!
I'M DADDY'S LITTLE BIG SURPRISE!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!
LOVE WHO YOU ARE
AND THE WORLD WILL ADORE YOU –

LA CIENEGA

AND THE COUPLE THAT DON'T
AT LEAST THEY CAN'T IGNORE YOU!
NOW BOYS ALL WANT TO BUY ME BLING –
IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!
IT AIN'T NO THING! YEAH –

NAUTICA & HALLWAY MEN

NA NA NA! HEY, HEY! NA NA NA! HEY, HEY!
NA NA NA! HEY, HEY! NA NA NA! HEY, HEY!

LA CIENEGA

DON'T WALK AWAY AND LEAVE CASES UNOPENED
WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING 'DEAL OR NO DEAL' –

NAUTICA

NO DEAL!
AND DON'T YOU JUST TAKE LITTLE PIECES OF LIFE,

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE SEVEN COURSE MEAL!

BRIDGET

OH, OH! I'VE BEEN HATIN' ON MYSELF
UNNECESSARILY!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

NO NO NO!

BRIDGET

I'M HERE TO STATE I'M FEELING GREAT
CELEBRATIN' ME!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

YEAH, YEAH!

BRIDGET (NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

I'VE GOT A BIG BUTT (WORK!) – WELL, SO WHAT? (WORK!)
 IT'S GOOD AS ANY OTHER (WOO, WOO, WOO!)
 AND I THINK OF YOU AS SISTERS FROM ANOTHER MOTHER!
 YEAH I GOT SOME JUNK UP IN MY TRUNK! (BACK IT ON UP!)
 IT AIN'T NO THING, YEAH!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

IT AIN'T NO THING! NO IT AIN'T, NO

BRIDGET (NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

TWIG THINKS I'M SEXY – WHO'D A THUNK? (YOU BETTA THINK!)
 LET FREEDOM RING, YEAH!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

FREEDOM! FREEDOM! LET FREEDOM

BRIDGET

I'M THROUGH HESITATING
 TIME TO GET OFF THE POT!

ALL

YOU CAN GIVE LOVE
 YOU CAN GET LOVE
 LONG AS YOU LOVE WHAT YOU GOT!

BRIDGET (NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA)

GONNA FRENCH KISS WITH TONGUE
 LIKE I DREAMED I'D DO (HOOT, HOOT, HOO),
 AND NOT JUST WITH MY PILLOW
 BUT WITH YOU-KNOW-WHO!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

YOU, KNOW, WHOO!

NAUTICA

YOU GOT THE SPIRIT NOW GIRL, DANG!

LA CIENEGA

LOOK AT ALL THE JOY YOU BRANG!

BRIDGET

NOW I'M GONNA END IT WITH A BANG!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

WHOO!

BRIDGET

IT AIN'T NO THANG!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

NA NA NA NA, HEY HEY

NA NA NA NA, HEY HEY -

BRIDGET

I MEAN IT AIN'T NO THING!

OH NO, IT AIN'T NO THING!

LA CIENEGA & NAUTICA

NA NA NA! HEY HEY! NA NA NA! HEY HEY!

NO IT AIN'T!

BRIDGET, NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA

NO IT AIN'T!

BRIDGET

NO, IT AIN'T NO THING!

NAUTICA

Now you go find that boy and tell him you are free Friday night.

BRIDGET

Gosh darnit, I will!

LA CIENEGA

Language, honey child, please.

BRIDGET

(riffing mightily)

IT AIN'T NO THING!

Bridget moves confidently off after Twig.

SCENE FIVE
HALLWAY AT JACKSON

#15a – Bridget + Twig

Later that day, Campbell approaches Randall at his locker.

ENSEMBLE

NA NA NA! HEY HEY! NA NA NA! HEY HEY!
 NA NA NA! HEY HEY! NA NA NA! HEY HEY!
 NA NA NA! HEY HEY! NO IT AIN'T, NO IT AIN'T!

CAMPBELL

Hey.

RANDALL

But – this can't be possible!

CAMPBELL

What.

RANDALL

Is this a mirage I see before me? The new queen bee of Jackson High, deigning to address a mere peasant?

CAMPBELL

Oh buh-ruther.

RANDALL

Congrats on your triumph at regionals.

CAMPBELL

It was your music that did it, you know.

RANDALL

All you had to do was press “play.” So listen – are you going to that Prom thing by any chance?

CAMPBELL

Nobody asked me.

RANDALL

Cause I have zero interest in it –

CAMPBELL

Oh.

RANDALL

I mean, who looks back on those pictures and thinks, "I looked great then"?

(a moment)

Oh wait. You thought I was gonna ask you.

CAMPBELL

You brought it up, so

RANDALL

What *I* was thinking was that you and me could have a picnic on the cliff at Shore Acres.

CAMPBELL

Really? I've never been up there.

RANDALL

Then think about it.

CAMPBELL

I did.

(a moment)

When should I show up?

RANDALL

Seven.

CAMPBELL

'Kay.

RANDALL

No prom dress, no corsage, or you won't get past the bouncer.

Danielle, Nautica, Cameron, and La Cienega approach Campbell. Bridget trails behind.

DANIELLE

(to the others)

Hey, I got a question.

LA CIENEGA

What you need, girl?

DANIELLE

Am I wearing a sign on my chest that says "Pinocchio"?

LA CIENEGA

I don't see no sign.

NAUTICA

No sign, mmm hmm.

Danielle turns to Campbell.

DANIELLE

Do you see a sign on my chest that says “Pinocchio”?

CAMPBELL

Uh – no –

DANIELLE

Funny. ‘Cause somebody’s been treating me like a PUPPET.

CAMPBELL

Look –

LA CIENEGA

We ain’t getting no reality show!

DANIELLE

And no scholarships. All we get if we take Nationals is a damn hoodie and a tacky-ass trophy!

CAMERON

And don’t get me started on that Jordan lie!

CAMPBELL

How did – how do you know?

DANIELLE

I got Google, bitch.

A moment.

CAMPBELL

Look – it was – this girl Eva at the other school, she manipulated the system to get me out and become captain. And I wanted to get – revenge.

DANIELLE

Hold on. Back up.

CAMPBELL

What.

DANIELLE

You’re telling me – some girl came in on turf that wasn’t hers, and lied and cheated and manipulated until she was running the whole show?

CAMPBELL

Exactly.

DANIELLE

I wasn't talking about her. I was talking about YOU.

A moment. Campbell averts her eyes.

CAMPBELL

Oh.

DANIELLE

You look at me. I work night after night pushing burgers and then study 'til dawn to get my ass to college and fly the hell out of my circumstances. You KNEW that. And you hit me right where I'm vulnerable so you could get yourself ahead.

CAMPBELL

I'm so sorry.

DANIELLE

And you think that's enough. We're done. Funny about you. You're all about the rules when it means you can win, but you forgot: friendship has rules, too. I thought you respected that. Stupid me for being so damn naive.

She exits with La Cienega and Nautica. Bridget remains.

CAMPBELL

Oh God, what am I gonna do?

BRIDGET

(hesitantly)

Campbell, I'm your friend. I'll always try to be. But I don't know who you're becoming.

CAMPBELL

Bridget –

BRIDGET

I mean, you lied to me too.

Bridget exits. Campbell stands alone, stunned.

#16 – *What Was I Thinking*

CAMPBELL

I'M NOT FREAKING OUT,
I'M REALLY OKAY –
I'M NOT FREAKING OUT,
I'M REALLY OKAY –

(CAMPBELL)

WHAT WAS I THINKING? WHAT WAS I THINKING?
WHAT WAS I THINKING? WHAT WAS I THINKING?

ENSEMBLE

OH, OH –

ENSEMBLE (And CAMPBELL)

WHAT WAS I THINKING? (WHAT WAS I THINKING?)
WHAT WAS I THINKING? (WHAT WAS I THINKING?)
WHAT WAS I THINKING, THINKING, THINKING –
OH, OH, OH, OH –

SCENE SIX

CLIFF

Randall waits. Campbell enters, in despair.

RANDALL

Happy Prom.

CAMPBELL

I didn't think you were gonna show.

(A moment.)

Did you hear what happened?

RANDALL

I got a few Tweets. And texts. Facebook updates. Someone even told me in person. So how ya doin'?

CAMPBELL

Do you hate me?

RANDALL

Do I look like a hater? I hate what you *did*, but I don't hate you.

CAMPBELL

Well, everyone else does. And they should.

RANDALL

AW, c'mon. But that was, like, such an *inept* lie. Which sorta speaks well of you in the long run.

CAMPBELL

Randall, what if I feel this awful for the rest of my life?

RANDALL

The rest of your *life*?

CAMPBELL

I don't see how it could get any worse.

RANDALL

I imagine a few people could make some suggestions.

(takes a deep breath)

Do you want some advice from someone your age, but who's way sager and wiser than you?

CAMPBELL

Sure.

#17 – *Enjoy The Trip***RANDALL**

I'M A STUD NOW, IT'S CLEAR,
 SO IT'LL SHOCK YOU TO HEAR
 THAT I WAS A TOTAL DORK
 MY FRESHMAN YEAR –

CAMPBELL

You?

RANDALL

Right?

I WAS A LOSER, A MESS,
 A LONER, DEPRESSED
 THAT EVERY DAY I HAD TO BE ME
 WALKED AROUND HOPING NO ONE WOULD SEE ME.

I'D LOCK MYSELF IN THE GUYS ROOM
 AND LET THE TEARS FALL,
 TIL ONE DAY THIS CUSTODIAN
 KNOCKED ON MY STALL
 AND ASKED IF I'D HEARD
 OF THE BAND THE GRATEFUL DEAD
 AND I THOUGHT HE MIGHT NOT BE
 QUITE RIGHT IN THE HEAD,
 BUT HE CHANGED MY LIFE AROUND WHEN HE SAID:

“RIGHT NOW EVERYTHING SEEMS SO IMPORTANT
 BUT TIME RUSHES BY AT A CLIP.
 AND WHEN YOU LOOK BACK,
 THESE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS
 WILL BE NOTHING MORE THAN A BLIP,
 SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL – ENJOY THE TRIP.”

CAMPBELL

But it's such a long blip!

RANDALL

That's what I said! He said:

“TRUST ME ON THIS, WHEN YOU'RE OLDER
 AND WISER AND BALDER AND FATTER

(RANDALL)

AND YOU LOOK BACK ON THIS MOMENT IN TIME
THE ONLY THING THAT'S GONNA MATTER IS,
DID YOU ONLY DO
WHAT YOU THOUGHT YOU SHOULD DO?
DID YOU DANCE MONKEY DANCE
CAUSE THE MAN TOLD YOU TO?
OR DID YOU SPEND YOUR TIME DOING
WHAT BRINGS JOY TO YOU?

“ALL YOU SEE IS THIS OLD DUDE
WITH A BROOM IN HIS HAND,
BUT I'VE FOLLOWED MY DREAMS
AND MY FAVORITE BAND.
SO DON'T SIT ON YOUR ASS
WAITING FOR LIFE TO BEGIN
IF YOU DO WHAT YOU LOVE
WITH YOUR TIME, THEN YOU WIN!
WHAT A LONG, STRANGE, WONDERFUL
TRIP IT'S BEEN!

“RIGHT NOW EVERYTHING SEEMS SO IMPORTANT
BUT TIME RUSHES BY AT A CLIP.
AND WHEN YOU LOOK BACK,
THESE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS
WILL BE NOTHING MORE THAN A BLIP,
SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL – ENJOY THE TRIP.”

CAMPBELL

Why didn't someone tell me that seventeen years ago?

RANDALL

You had a lot on your plate. Babies usually do.

CAMPBELL

This may sound dumb: but my whole life I felt like I had this one shot. One lifetime as me. And I see so many people wasting all their potential. Just letting life go by. You know?

RANDALL

Sure.

CAMPBELL

– and I don't want to be them. I don't want to look back and feel sorry when I'm old. So I fought it, I worked so hard, but my life just crumbled anyway.

RANDALL

And then you got all crazy.

CAMPBELL

I so did.

RANDALL

You know, I think life is way longer than it may feel right now.

CAMPBELL

That's scary.

RANDALL

Be grateful.

CAMPBELL

I don't know how to fix all this. I screwed up so bad.

RANDALL

Maybe you'll figure it out tomorrow. And for now, just take a look at that view. Just – look. Take a breath. And –

He gestures at the vista.

CAMPBELL

(taking it in, realizing)

It's – spectacular.

RANDALL

Despite any evidence to the contrary: so are you. Know that.

CAMPBELL

And you.

RANDALL

(offering his hand)

Take a breath.

CAMPBELL

(taking it)

Take a breath.

They take a breath together.

RANDALL & CAMPBELL

(sing)

AND WHEN WE LOOK BACK,
THESE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS
WILL BE NOTHING MORE THAN A BLIP -
JUST A TALE TO TELL
THAT RINGS A BELL
SO WHAT THE HELL! WE MIGHT AS WELL ENJOY THE TRIP!

Campbell grabs Randall in a hug.

SCENE SEVEN
EVA'S BEDROOM

#17a – To Eva's Room

Eva I-chats with Skylar and Kylar.

SKYLAR

So THEN I heard that Campbell and Danielle got into this girls-gone-wild catfight in the hallway.

EVA

No!

SKYLAR

Hair extensions, acrylic nails scattered as far as the eye could see.

KYLAR

And then Danielle disbanded the squad.

EVA

What?

KYLAR

The Jackson cheerleading curse asserts itself once more.

SKYLAR

And by the way, Campbell's telling everyone that you destroyed her life.

KYLAR

Everyone. You. Her. Life. Destroyed.

EVA

She is? Well, of course she'd try to distract attention from her own crimes. The poor thing is desperate.

SKYLAR

She's not the girl I knew.

KYLAR

She's ruined.

EVA

It's so sad. You guys, I'm gonna sign off and pray for her.

SKYLAR

Oh good for you, honey. If I had a God I'd totally do the same thing.

EVA

Let's keep Campbell in our hearts. G'nite.

SKYLAR

Nite.

KYLAR

Nite.

EVA

G'nite.

Skylar and Kylar disappear. Eva kneels in prayer:

#18 – *Killer Instinct*

DEAR GOD UP IN HEAVEN,
A PRAYER FOR CAMPBELL:
ONCE SHE WAS MY HERO,
NOW SHE'S A DISGRACE.

I'M HERE ON TOP
AND SHE'S LESS THAN ZERO,
DRAGGING ME DOWN – TO SAVE FACE.

SHE ALWAYS WORKED HARD,
SHE WAS TRUSTING AND FAIR,
AND LORD, THAT'S THE CRUX
OF HER PROBLEM RIGHT THERE.

YOU NEED THAT KILLER INSTINCT
TO GIVE YOU THE NERVE
TO GRAB EVERYTHING YOU WANT IN LIFE
BUT MAY NOT DESERVE.
LIKE, IF SOME GIRL'S IN YOUR WAY
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO:

YOU BLACKMAIL YOUR MOTHER
WHO SITS ON THE SCHOOL BOARD
TO GET CAMPBELL TRANSFERRED
AND RIPPED FROM THE LIFE THAT SHE KNEW –
AND YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!

EVA (and BACKUPS)

YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
AND YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE-UE-UE!

IT TAKES THAT KILLER INSTINCT, THAT KILLER DESIRE –
ARE YOU THE LITTLE ANT OR DO YOU SET THE ANTS ON FIRE?
AND IF THERE'S TWO GIRLS IN LINE
TO LEAD THE TEAM BEFORE YOU –

THEN YOU HACK THE SCHOOL'S SYSTEM AND CHANGE SKYLAR'S GRADE
FROM A "D" TO AN "F"
THEN YOU HIRE SOME SICK GUY TO LICK KYLAR'S TOOTHBRUSH
SO SHE CONTRACTS MONO
NOW NO ONE IS LEFT TO BE CAPTAIN SO THEY TURN TO YOU!
AND YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!

BACKUP CHORUS

DREAMS COME TRUE –
THEY DO, YEAH YEEAH –

EVA

DO I SOUND AWFUL?
WHAT HAVE I BECOME?
WHO'S THAT GIRL IN THE MIRROR I SEE?
SOME BACK-STABBING WACK JOB
I'D RUN SCREAMING FROM
OH GOD! I JUST LOVE BEING ME!
WOULDN'T ALL OF YOU KILL TO BE ME?!

ENSEMBLE

AWWW, SHIT!

EVA

YOU NEED THAT KILLER INSTINCT
SINCE TIME FIRST BEGAN
FROM GENGHIS KAHN TO BRISTOL PALIN
YOU NEED A KILLER PLAN.
YOU NEED TO REACH THE TOP
IF IT'S THE LAST THING YOU DO!

(EVA)

I'M THE GIRL TO BEAT!
THE HIGH SCHOOL QUEEN!
SENIORS KISS MY ASS
AND I'M JUST FIFTEEN!

BACKUPS

AND SOON THE WORLD
WILL KNOW HER NAME!

EVA

I'M RAISIN HELL N'
I'M A FELON
IN A FOUR FOOT FRAME!

EVA (with BACKUPS)

I JUST USE MY KILLER INSTINCT
AND MY DREAMS COME TRUE!
I USE MY KILLER INSTINCT

ENSEMBLE

KILLER! INSTINCT!

EVA

(catches breath)

–UE! OH YEAH!

#18a – Killer Instinct (Playoff) / My Hickey!

ENSEMBLE

YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
AND YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
THEY DO, YEAH YEAH!

YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!
AND YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE,
JUST USE YOUR KILLER INSTINCT!

SCENE EIGHT
HALLWAY AT JACKSON

Bridget and Twig enter with Nautica and La Cienega.

BRIDGET

Okay. Why am I wearing this turtleneck, you all must be wondering.

NAUTICA

Wondering what?

LA CIENEGA

Turtleneck? What huh?

BRIDGET

Please don't mention this to anyone, but I'm really super embarrassed by –

(pulls her collar down, nonchalant)

– my hickey.

LA CIENEGA

Girl! That thing needs its own zip code!

TWIG

I'm like Jackson Pollock with suction.

Campbell enters and meekly tries to hail Danielle.

CAMPBELL

Danielle – can we talk?

DANIELLE

Oh, is this the part where you make yourself feel better and we hug? What a shame it ain't gonna happen.

CAMERON

Baby, come on now! You made your point –

DANIELLE

This is between me and that one.

(taking a step toward Campbell)

You know, it takes a lotta nerve

Bridget intervenes.

BRIDGET

Stop it! I think we've all hated on Campbell enough for this month. At the top of next month we can start back up.

DANIELLE

Don't tell me to stop it -

BRIDGET

Don't mess. If you're gonna go all scrappin' with my dawg, all up in her shizzle, you gots to go through me. And byatch, I can lay down. Throw down. I can throw it down? How do you put that. Anyway, watch it, hater.

La Cienega's been recording on her cell phone.

LA CIENEGA

We already got 40,000 hits!

CAMPBELL

Look, can we talk if I promise to never bug you again?

DANIELLE

And what good are your promises?

(relenting)

Okay, you get sixty seconds so Miss Bridget stays outta my grill.

CAMPBELL

Can we talk alone?

DANIELLE

Fine. Alone.

Everyone else remains. Danielle turns to them.

y'all have a five count. Five, four, three

The others scramble off.

CAMPBELL

Um. Danielle, there might be words to say how sorry I am, but I don't think they make them in English. If I ever make a friend again, I'll be so true to them because I know, now - I know better. But that lesson came at your expense. I crossed the line and took advantage and I'm so, so sorry. Forever.

(a moment)

I guess my time is up.

A moment. Campbell turns to go.

DANIELLE

You could have just come to me, y'know, before you lied. I'd've helped you. You ruined something really special.

CAMPBELL

I'm so sorry.

DANIELLE

We covered the sorry, okay? I get it. Look –

#19 – We're Not Done

IT'S EASY TO IGNORE YOU
 WHEN I SEE YOU DOWN THE HALL.
 IT'S EASY TO BE ANGRY.
 IT'S EASY NOT TO CALL.
 TO THROW AWAY THIS THING WE HAD
 AND BLAME IT ALL ON YOU
 IT'S HARDER TO ADMIT I MISS IT TOO.

IT'S HARD WHEN I COME UP WITH SOMETHING NEW
 AND I CAN'T SHOW YOU
 IT'S HARD TO SEE YOU SUFFERING
 IT'S HARD BECAUSE I KNOW YOU
 IT'S HARD TO FIND FORGIVENESS
 WE'VE SAID ALL THERE IS TO SAY.
 WHAT SUCKS IS I DON'T SEE ANOTHER WAY.

THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU'RE NOT TOO PROUD
 TO BEG OR ACT THE FOOL.
 THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU'RE SUCH A DORK,
 YOU KIND OF MAKE IT COOL.
 THE TRUTH IS THAT I LIKE YOU.
 THE TRUTH IS WE HAD FUN.
 WHAT'S HARD IS MISSING WHAT WE HAD
 AND KNOWING WE'RE NOT DONE –
 WE'RE NOT DONE.

CAMPBELL

I miss working together, all of us laughing at practice. I miss you. But I think about myself then, and it's like looking back at a whole other person. I kinda feel bad for her.

DANIELLE

What do you mean?

CAMPBELL

I woke up this morning and that *ambition* – it wasn't in me any more. For that trophy. I'm not sure I recognize myself now. And it's kind of okay. Scary. But okay.

A moment. Danielle puts out her hand.

DANIELLE

Hi. I'm Danielle. I don't think we've met.

CAMPBELL

Campbell. Hey.

A shy moment.

So what happens to us now?

DANIELLE

WE COULD JUST WAIT TO GRADUATE
AND LET THE YEAR GO BY
OR FINISH WHAT WE STARTED –
LET'S DO THIS, YOU

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

AND I.

CAMPBELL

Do you mean – ?

DANIELLE

WHEN THEY FINALLY PLAY OUR SONG –

CAMPBELL

IMAGINE THE LIGHTS

DANIELLE

AND WE MOVE IN PERFECT TIME –

CAMPBELL

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CROWD –

DANIELLE

WE'RE IN THE POCKET AND NO ONE CAN STOP IT,
WE'RE NOT GONNA DROP –

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

AND WHEN WE ROCK IT, NOBODY CAN TOP IT,
WE'RE NOT GONNA STOP 'TIL WE FLY!

CAMPBELL

WE'RE NOT DONE –

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

'TIL WE FLY –

CAMPBELL

WE'RE NOT DONE –

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

'TIL WE FLY –

WE'RE NOT DONE!

SCENE NINE
NATIONAL CHEERLEADING COMPETITION

#20 – *Legendary*

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and gentlemen! Next on the mat here at Nationals – you’ve been waiting all day to see them – give it up for Truman High School!!

We watch Truman’s entire routine. The squad is terrific.

SINGER

NOW IS OUR TIME,
THIS IS OUR MOMENT,
WE GOT HERE BY NOT KNOWING
WHAT THE WORD ‘NO’ MEANT.
YEARS FROM NOW WHEN THEY ASK YOU
HOW THE SHOW WENT –

YOU CAN SAY, HEY I WAS THERE!
PUMP YOUR FISTS UP IN THE AIR!
WE CAME OUT BLAZING!

TRUMAN SQUAD

HEY!

SINGER

WE CAME OUT ON FIRE!

TRUMAN SQUAD

HO!

SINGER

NOW WE’RE BURNING EVEN HOTTER
AND WE’RE FLYING EVEN HIGHER!

TRUMAN SQUAD

HERE WE GO, HERE WE GO –

SINGER

YOU’LL NEVER DO LIKE WE DO
SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL RETIRE –

(SINGER)

NO APPLAUSE IS NECESSARY
THIS ROUTINE IS

LEGENDARY!
(I CAN SEE YOU STARE AT ME)
LEGENDARY!
(I KNOW THAT YOU'RE OBSESSED)
LEGENDARY!
(KEEP YOUR EYES ON MY ROUTINE)
LEGENDARY!
I DON'T CHEER WITH MY CHEST!

TRUMAN SQUAD

WE'RE LOUD!
WE'RE TOUGH!
WE'RE RIGHT HERE IN YOUR FACE!
RING *RING* HELLO?
OH HOLD ON. IT'S FOR YOU:
IT'S SECOND PLACE!

SINGER

WE GOT THE SOUL –

TRUMAN SQUAD

HEY!

SINGER

DETERMINATION –

TRUMAN SQUAD

HO!

SINGER

TO BE THE LEADERS
OF THIS HERE CHEER NATION!

TRUMAN SQUAD

HERE WE GO! HERE WE GO! HERE WE GO!

SINGER

THINK OF THIS SPANKING
AS YOUR EDUCATION!
I THINK WE JUST POPPED OUR CHERRY –
THIS ROUTINE IS –

TRUMAN SQUAD

TRUMAN'S WHAT?

SINGER

SOUL-SHAKING!

TRUMAN SQUAD

TRUMAN'S WHAT?

SINGER

GROUNDBREAKING!

TRUMAN SQUAD

THIS IS WHAT?

SINGER

PRIZE-TAKING!

HISTORY IN THE MAKING! (4X)

LEGENDARY!

(I CAN SEE YOU STARE AT ME)

LEGENDARY!

(I KNOW THAT YOU'RE OBSESSED)

LEGENDARY!

(KEEP YOUR EYES ON MY ROUTINE)

LEGENDARY!

I DON'T CHEER WITH MY CHEST

LEGENDARY!

Truman exults as the scene transits to...

SCENE TEN
THE HOLDING AREA

#20a – Truman Rocks!

ANNOUNCER

(muffled, off)

And hailing from Coos Bay, Oregon, next up is Marshfield High School! Give it up, ladies and gentlemen!

EVA

You guys! I did so good!

KYLAR

Hello – ??

SKYLAR

We ALL “did so good”

EVA

But I get to hold the trophy. Don’t forget. And talk to the media. And –

ANNOUNCER

Jackson High School. Jackson, you’re on deck.

Campbell enters. Dramatic sting as Eva sees her.

EVA

You.

CAMPBELL

Me.

EVA

What are you doing here, dressed like that?

CAMPBELL

I’m trick-or-treating, Eva. Great work out there.

She goes to Skylar, Kylar, and the rest of the Truman squad.

You guys were amazeballs!

KYLAR

Hey Campbell!

SKYLAR

Thanks girl!

EVA

So your squad's gonna compete. Even after what you did.

CAMPBELL

Oh, we're in this.

EVA

(taking hold of Campbell's uniform)

Well, I hear you're telling people that I screwed you over. Maybe we should clear the air so you can compete without all that, y'know, negative stuff floating around.

Danielle approaches, listening.

CAMPBELL

Well if you didn't screw me over then I apologize.

EVA

Apology accepted.

CAMPBELL

I'm glad I went through all that whether we win or not.

EVA

So "it's not about the winning." Be careful 'cause only the losers say that. Maybe you should needlepoint that on a throw pillow and scoot your bottom over to the holding area. You're on deck.

DANIELLE

Campbell – this a friend of yours?

CAMPBELL

Oh Danielle you **MUST** meet Eva –

EVA

(to Danielle)

It's fun how you think your little team of ragamuffins can beat us. I can't quite believe you're here after what happened between you.

DANIELLE

I can't quite believe it's any of your business.

CAMPBELL

Eva, you know what I learned? You're right. Winning **IS** everything. The difference between you and me is how we define it.

EVA

You're, like, so quotable today. I'm glad you went through all that drama and came out wonderful. But I didn't knock you off the mat for your self-improvement.

KYLAR & SKYLAR

What?

CAMPBELL & DANIELLE

What?

EVA

Oh, yeah.

#20b – Eva’s Rant

WELL, WHOOP DE DOO YOU CAUGHT ME.
OKAY, EVERYTHING IS TRUE.
I’LL STILL WAKE UP A WINNER,
AND YOU’LL STILL WAKE UP – YOU.

GO ON, JUDGE ME ALL YOU WANT TO.
IGNORE ME IN THE HALLS.
I JUST DID WHAT YOU WISH YOU COULD
BUT YOU DON’T HAVE THE BALLS!

PAINT ME AS THE VILLAIN,
BUT BY THE TIME THIS ENDS
I’LL HAVE THE TROPHY IN MY HANDS
AND ALL YOU’LL HAVE IS FRIENDS!

YOU’RE ALL A BUNCH OF LOSERS!
I’M HERE TO REPRESENT!
I’M DAZZLING! MAGNIFICENT!
I AM THE ONE PERCENT!

(to the Jackson squad, who have gathered around)

The fact remains: there is no way you can win. In real life – people like you can’t.

She stalks off. Everyone else is stunned.

*#21 – Cross the Line***KYLAR**

GO JACKSON! WHOO!

SKYLAR

C’MON JACKSON! WIPE THE FLOOR WITH US!

Cheering, they exit.

CAMPBELL

All right. We're up, everybody. Let's move!

DANIELLE

Today we're gonna show them who we are, and not by their rules but by ours.

DANIELLE

THE TRUTH IS
WE CAN DO THIS
IF WE START RIGHT NOW AND PURSUE THIS.

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS
AND WE KNOW THIS

JACKSON SQUAD

SO LET'S GO PUT THE WHOLE WORLD ON NOTICE –

They move to position.

ANNOUNCER

(muffled in the distance)

And next on the mat, competing for the first time at Nationals, I give you the JACKSON IRISH!

Jackson takes the competition floor:

VOICE

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?
HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?
HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?
HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG AND UNAFRAID
WE'D CLIMB THE HIGHEST WALL WE COULD FIND,
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG AND UNAFRAID WE'D DRAW A LINE IN THE
SAND JUST TO CROSS IT –
WE'D FALL JUST TO FEEL ALIVE,
WE KNEW WE WOULD BE ALRIGHT,
I WANNA FALL JUST TO FEEL ALIVE,
I FEEL LIKE FOLLOWING ME TONIGHT –

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

COMPANY

JACKSON, HEY!
GO! GO! GO! LET'S GO!

VOICE

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?
HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

COMPANY

GO! GO! GO! LET'S GO!

VOICE

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

JACKSON SQUAD

WE REACH FOR WHAT WE LOVE,
AND WHEN WE FALL
WE KNOW FIRST PLACE DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL –
WE'RE REACHING HIGHER AND WHEN WE FIND THAT (WHAT?)
EVERYONE'S GONNA STAND UP AND SAY "REWIND THAT!"

DANIELLE

HEY MISS LADY!

JACKSON SQUAD

MOVE!
SHAKE A LITTLE BIT SHAKE A LITTLE BIT UH!
OW, AH AH AH OW, AH AH AH OW, AH AH AH –

GIRLS

NO THEY DIDN'T –

GUYS

YES WE DID!

JACKSON SQUAD

GO JACKSON!
SHAKE A LITTLE BIT SHAKE A LITTLE BIT UH!
I KNOW YOU CAME HERE JUST TO SEE ME TONIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
JACKSON! GO! GO! GET YOUR HANDS UP WHOA!
JACKSON! GO! GO! GET YOUR HANDS UP WHOA!
JACKSON! GO! GO! GET YOUR HANDS UP WHOA!
JACKSON! GET READY FOR JACKSON! GO! GO!
LET'S GO! LET'S GO! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!

DANIELLE

READY?

ENSEMBLE

READY!

DANIELLE & CAMPBELL

OKAY.

NOW AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE THIS MOMENT'S MINE.

JACKSON SQUAD

WE DON'T NEED FIRST PLACE, WE KNOW HOW BRIGHT WE SHINE.

ARENA CROWD

JACKSON ... JACKSON ...

JACKSON SQUAD

AND IF IT ALL GOES AWAY TOMORROW WE'LL BE FINE! (JACKSON)

WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FLOOR –

LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR AND REACH FOR MORE (JACKSON)

WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FLOOR –

LEAVE IT ON THE FLOOR AND REACH FOR MORE (JACKSON) –

WE WILL LEAVE IT ALL, LEAVE IT ALL, LEAVE IT ALL ON THE
FLOOR AND REACH FOR MORE, AND REACH,

AND REACH AS WE CROSS THE...

YEAH!

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE THIS MOMENT'S MINE –

HOW DO WE KNOW WHO WE ARE UNLESS WE CROSS THE LINE?

YOU CAN KEEP FIRST PLACE WE KNOW HOW BRIGHT WE SHINE –

AND IF IT ALL GOES AWAY TOMORROW WE'LL BE FINE, FINE, FINE –

GO JACKSON! GO JACKSON! GO JACKSON!

GO! GO! GO! GO!

#21a – Yes We Did

After the performance, Eva and Skylar are watching.

SKYLAR

Those are some Cheer Testicles.

EVA

Why is the crowd still cheering? Make them stop!

(screaming)

STOP!

She hits Skylar's boob.

SKYLAR

You hit my boob.

She exits.

EVA

It isn't fair! What about the rules! The crowd didn't cheer like that for us!

Eva follows. The Jackson squad enters, exulting, high-fiving.

NAUTICA

Okay, I'm no Miss Cleo, but I got a feeling we're gonna win this!

BRIDGET

I'd say our chances are very good – if the judges overlook that we went a full minute over, spent a good deal of time outside the boundaries, raised our voices in song – the outlook is otherwise promising.

NAUTICA

Oh right.

LA CIENEGA

Besides, did we come here to snatch a trophy, or did we come to say our piece and get that crowd fired up? Because we said our piece and got that crowd all ROWDY, honey!

The Jackson squad cheers. Skylar and Kylar enter.

SKYLAR

Omigod.

KYLAR

Omigod.

SKYLAR

You guys –

KYLAR

You guys –

SKYLAR

Were like, amazing!

KYLAR

Were like, a clarion call of inspiration for all assembled.

(Skylar looks at her.)

Sorry, hon, you're graduating. This bird's gotta fly.

BRIDGET

Hey, Skylar!

SKYLAR

Hi! I don't think we met. You killed it out there, girl.

BRIDGET

It's me! – Bridget!

SKYLAR

(correcting her)

No, you're not. You're like – all popular and with this hottie. You are not Bridget. Who are you?

BRIDGET

"S-P I-R-T – what does that spell?"

SKYLAR

Oh, Bridget! Hi hon! Sorry.

#21b – *And The Winner Is ...*

They hug. Skylar breaks the embrace and has a concerned, reflective moment to herself:

Omigod, everyone's gone through all this like, personal growth, but I'm exactly the same person I was a year ago.

(she considers, then smiles brightly)

Oh well! I like myself. Always did.

ANNOUNCER

Ladies and Gentlemen, please take your seats as we announce today's winners.

Campbell seizes Danielle, panicking.

CAMPBELL

Oh God, I waited for this moment my whole life.

DANIELLE

Keep it together, girl.

CAMPBELL

I'M NOT FREAKING OUT, I'M REALLY OKAY –

ANNOUNCER

In third place – Liberty High School!

CAMPBELL

I'M NOT FREAKING OUT, I'M REALLY OKAY –

ANNOUNCER

In second place, Marshfield High!

CAMPBELL

I'M NOT FREAKING OUT, I'M REALLY OKAY –

ANNOUNCER

And taking the trophy for first place at Nationals – it's the Truman High Buccaneers!

Eva takes hold of the giant trophy, frenzied.

EVA

SEE THIS? SEE? SEE? – SEE THIS? SEE ME – WITH THIS? SEE?

She exits, laughing maliciously. Beat.

LA CIENEGA

Ew.

#22 – I Got You

La Cienega spots someone entering, off.

Look who's here.

NAUTICA

(to Campbell)

Honey, it appears that you have a *celebrity* guest.

They fluff her hair, adjust her skirt as Randall enters. They run off.

RANDALL

Hey.

CAMPBELL

Oh my God, you came.

RANDALL

I brought you this. Congratulations.

He reveals a tiny trophy.

It's my Pinewood Derby trophy from Cub Scouts. I took third. But with a Sharpie – see? I made it for you.

CAMPBELL

“Campbell Davis, First Place for Everything That Matters.”

(holding the trophy close:)

But I didn't get anything for the guy who helped me so much.

RANDALL

Oh – you mean your boyfriend?

CAMPBELL

Um –

She kisses him.

(sings)

WE REACH FOR WHAT WE LOVE
AND WHEN WE FALL
WE KNOW FIRST PLACE DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL –

DANIELLE

WELL WE REACHED HIGHER
AND WE GOT MORE THAN WE BARGAINED FOR –

The Jackson squad members approach:

NAUTICA

HEY GIRL! WE KILLED IT AND WE KNOW IT,
DON'T NEED THE GOLD TO SHOW IT, WHEN YOU KNOW IT INSIDE!

NAUTICA & LA CIENEGA

HEY GIRL!

LA CIENEGA

WE GOT THE PEOPLE SCREAMING
JUST LIKE WE WERE DREAMING – I KNOW I'M SATISFIED.

CAMPBELL, NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA

HEY GIRL!

CAMPBELL

LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME NOW!
BEFORE YOU COULDN'T STAND ME
NOW YOU THINK I'M ALRIGHT. RIGHT?

DANIELLE

RIGHT.

DANIELLE, CAMPBELL, NAUTICA, LA CIENEGA

HEY GIRL!

DANIELLE

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A SPOILED RICH
UPTIGHT LITTLE WHITE BITCH
NOW I THINK YOU'RE JUST WHITE!

ALL

AND IN TWENTY YEARS IT'S NOT A
BIG OLD TROPHY THAT I'LL MISS –
BUT I'LL ALWAYS SMILE WHEN I REMEMBER THIS –

I GOT YOU, I GOT YOU,
TO HANG OUT WITH WHEN THE DAY IS THROUGH!
GOT NO CASH! GOT NO WHEELS!
BUT I KNOW HOW FEELING LUCKY FEELS –
GOT YOUR HAND IN MY HAND,
GOT YOUR BACK, I KNOW YOU GOT MINE TOO –
I GOT YOU!

BRIDGET

I GOTCHOO LIKE POKEMON AND PIKACHU, RON N HERMIONE,
BABY WE COULD FREAK IT!

TWIG

TRUE!

BRIDGET

I GOTCHOO LIKE BIGGIE AND PUFFY!

SKYLAR

LIKE OPRAH AND GAIL!

KYLAR

BIG BIRD AND SNUFFY!

STEVEN & CAMERON

TRUE!

BRIDGET

I GOTCHOO LIKE SAM AND FRODO!
LIKE DOROTHY AND TOTO!

RANDALL

NOTRE DAME AND QUASIMODO!

TWIG

LIKE LUCY AND RICKY!

NAUTICA

LIKE BRAD AND ANGELINA!

LA CIENEGA

WORD, WE BE HOLDIN, COURT LIKE VENUS AND SERENA!

ALL

TIME ROLLS ON – I DON'T KNOW HOW,
ALL WE HAVE IS HERE AND NOW –
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT HIGH SCHOOL'S IN THE PAST.

RANDALL

HIGH SCHOOL'S IN THE PAST –

ALL

RACING THROUGH OUR SENIOR YEAR –

DANIELLE

RACING THROUGH!

ALL

BUT WHILE WE'RE HERE LET'S MAKE THE MOMENT LAST
MAKE THE MOMENT LAST –
MAKE THE MOMENT LAST!

CAMPBELL

AND IN TWENTY YEARS IT'S NOT
A SHINY TROPHY THAT I'LL MISS,

ALL

BUT I'LL ALWAYS SMILE WHEN I REMEMBER THIS –
YEAH!
I GOT YOU! I GOT YOU!
TO HANG OUT WITH WHEN THE DAY IS THROUGH

(ALL)

GOT NO CASH, GOT NO WHEELS
BUT I KNOW HOW FEELING LUCKY FEELS
GOT YOUR HAND IN MY HAND
GOT YOUR BACK
I KNOW YOU GOT MINE TOO.

I GOT YOU, I GOT YOU,
TO HANG OUT WITH WHEN THE DAY IS THROUGH.
WE GOT YOU, YOU GOT ME –
ROLLING CLOSE LIKE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE!
I GOT JOY, I GOT LIFE
AND I KNOW NO MATTER WHAT I DO –
I GOT YOU (I GOT YOU I GOT YOU I GOT)
I GOT YOU (I GOT YOU I GOT YOU)
I GOT – YOU, YOU, YOU I GOT YOU!

Dismount.