

A Park in Pennsylvania
Book by: Krystle Henninger
Music and Lyrics by: Kevin Duggan

CHARACTERS

DAVID: TYLER'S best friend
STEPHANIE: MEGHAN'S best friend
TYLER: DAVID'S best friend
MEGHAN: STEPHANIE'S best friend

All are (pre)college students.

SCENES

ACT ONE:

SCENE ONE: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA: STEPHANIE, MEGHAN, TYLER, DAVID

SCENE TWO: THE NEXT DAY: MEGHAN, TYLER, STEPHANIE, DAVID

SCENE THREE: BEFORE THE DATE: DAVID, TYLER, MEGHAN

SCENE FOUR: STEPHANIE'S HOUSE: DAVID, STEPHANIE

SCENE FIVE: THE NEXT DAY: DAVID, TYLER, STEPHANIE, MEGHAN

SCENE SIX: FRIDAY NIGHT: DAVID, STEPHANIE

SCENE SEVEN: AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT: DAVID, STEPHANIE, TYLER, MEGHAN

SCENE EIGHT: THE NEXT DAY: MEGHAN, STEPHANIE, TYLER, DAVID

All scenes in the first act with the exception of scene 4 and 7 are set in a park in Pennsylvania

ACT TWO:

SCENE ONE: COLLEGE: STEPHANIE, MEGHAN, TYLER, DAVID

SCENE TWO: THE LOUNGE: STEPHANIE, DAVID, MEGHAN, TYLER

SCENE THREE: THE HALLWAY: MEGHAN, TYLER, STEPHANIE, DAVID

SCENE FOUR: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA: STEPHANIE, DAVID, TYLER, MEGHAN

ACT 1

SCENE ONE: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA

AT RISE: STEPHANIE and MEGHAN enter SR, DAVID and TYLER enter SL. Both groups pass each other at Center Stage, and cross downstage on the opposite sides from where they entered. They don't take any notice of each other. ALL are wearing summer apparel. MEGHAN has blue hair. DAVID and TYLER freeze once they get in position and the lights dim on them.

STEPHANIE:

**God, this summer's been so fun!
But one more week until we're done.
What comes next?
It feels like summer's only just begun**

DAVID:

**How did time go by so fast?
Each minute faster than the last.
High school sucked.
(spoken) And for all those people out there that said I couldn't, guess what?
I passed.
So much left to do before college starts.**

BOTH:

Someone save me 'cuz I'm falling apart.

STEPHANIE (DAVID):

**Life is getting harder and there's nothing I can do.
(What am I to do?)
Future's getting darker and I'm looking for the grace to make it through.
It's right in view.
Keep my eyes tight on the goal.
(Life will carry on no matter if it's good or bad.)
Look for what will make me whole.
(Only thing I could control is making due with everything I had.)
Wait and see.**

BOTH:

There must be something great out there for me.

STEPHANIE: Meghan, I can't believe you dyed your hair blue.

MEGHAN: Why? What's wrong with it?

STEPHANIE: It's just...so blue.

MEGHAN: That was kinda the point when I dyed it.

STEPHANIE: But why?

MEGHAN: Because I wanted it blue. There's nothing wrong with it. You just don't like it. And I don't care.

STEPHANIE: I never said I didn't like it.

MEGHAN: No, but you never said you did either.

STEPHANIE: I. I do like it...it'll just take a while to get used to it.

MEGHAN: Uh-huh. Whatever.

STEPHANIE: Meghan, really. It looks good. I like it.

MEGHAN: So are you ready for college? We move in, in a week you know.

STEPHANIE: I know. I'm mostly packed. I just have a few more things to do and then I'll be ready. It kind of seems pointless when we're living like...20 minutes away from home though.

MEGHAN: Yeah, but you'll get freedom from your parents, you'll have to make your own decisions...

STEPHANIE: Whoa! Hold it. We still have a week. Please don't ruin it with all the stuff I'm gonna have to do. This is not the time for that.

MEGHAN: Okay, okay. Just thought I'd let you know what you're in for.

STEPHANIE: Because you have such a good idea?

MEGHAN: I've lived in dorms before.

STEPHANIE: A week at summer camp is different from a year at college.

MEGHAN: Maybe. We'll see.

(STEPHANIE and MEGHAN freeze. Lights dim on them and come up on DAVID and TYLER, who unfreeze.)

TYLER: I can't believe that summer's almost over, ya know?

DAVID: Yeah. We should've done something huge to commemorate our last summer before college. Maybe blow shit up or rob a bank or something.

TYLER: You're an idiot. Besides, we still have a week. I'm sure we can come up with something.

DAVID: Like what?

TYLER: I dunno. We could go on a road trip?

DAVID: For like...a day? I don't think so.

TYLER: Well, we have a week. It'd be longer than a day.

DAVID: Have you forgotten that we still have to pack?

TYLER: I'm already done. I was ready to move out a week ago.

DAVID: Well...I'm not. Not at all, actually.

TYLER: You should probably get on that.

DAVID: I should, but I can do it later.

TYLER: You're never gonna get through college, are you?

DAVID: I'm gonna try. But I think that my procrastination has caught up with me. We can't go on a road trip.

TYLER: Okay. What if we did something else?

DAVID: I believe that doing something else at this point was implied.

TYLER: **(sighs and shakes his head)** You think of something then.

DAVID: Don't give me that job. I hate choosing things. I'm really bad at it.

TYLER: I noticed. **(catches sight of STEPHANIE and MEGHAN)** Hey, look over there. **(points to STEPHANIE and MEGHAN)**

DAVID: Do you know them?

TYLER: We went to high school with them. Of course I know them. I pretty sure they're going to the University of Lorke, too.

DAVID: How would you know?

TYLER: Apparently you don't read the school newspaper.
DAVID: Nope. They always give me one, but I've never read it. What does that have to do with anything, anyway?
TYLER: They always do a "Senior Tribute" section...plans after graduation, field of study, blah, blah, blah... We should go talk to them.
DAVID: Whoa. She has blue hair. **(points to MEGHAN)**
TYLER: How observant. Thanks for your world-changing brilliance.
DAVID: You're welcome.
TYLER: Shut up.
DAVID: It's just weird, you don't normally see people with blue hair.
TYLER: So you're pointing it out...'cause it's weird?
DAVID: Yeah. Don't you think so?
TYLER: Maybe. It's just hair though. I wrote a paper in AP English last year about prejudice in America—how it's shifting from tattoos and piercings to hair color and body modification.
DAVID: I'm so glad I didn't have that class.
TYLER: That's because you're a slacker.
DAVID: Why take an honor's class when I can take regular?
TYLER: Because then you wouldn't be *able* to be a procrastinator.
DAVID: It was a rhetorical question. I thought you knew about those, genius.
TYLER: Shut up.

(STEPHANIE and MEGHAN unfreeze. TYLER and DAVID cross to them.)

TYLER: Hey, I'm Tyler. Don't you go to our school?
STEPHANIE: Which one? High school or U of L?
TYLER: I think both. Did you go to Wahlstead last year? I think we're going to the same college, too—U of L?
MEGHAN: Yeah. I've never seen you guys, though.
DAVID: We skipped class a lot.
TYLER: **(smacks DAVID)** No, we didn't. It was a big school though, so not seeing us isn't out of the realm of possibilities.
STEPHANIE: Wait, I think I remember you. You were in my English class. Right?
TYLER: Didn't you write that paper about how stupid writing papers, was?
STEPHANIE: Yup. That was me.
DAVID: **(to MEGHAN)** Why do you have blue hair?
MEGHAN: **(rolls eyes)** Because I wanted it blue.
DAVID: **(quietly)** Did God make you that way?
MEGHAN: **(pause, look of disgust)** I don't even know what to say to that.
DAVID: **(dumbfounded)** Is it natural?
MEGHAN: Yes. **(pause)** I use all organic dye.
DAVID: Cool.
STEPHANIE: **(to TYLER, quietly)** What's up with him?
TYLER: He's...well...David. I know that's not really helpful, but it is who he is.
STEPHANIE: Oh. **(STEPHANIE starts to get fidgety)** Okay...
MEGHAN: Steph, we better get going if we want to get to the movies on time.
STEPHANIE: **(answering quickly)** Yeah. Right. So I guess we'll see you guys around then?
DAVID: Definitely.

STEPHANIE: **(answers quickly again)** Great.
TYLER: **(pause)** See ya.

(STEPHANIE and MEGHAN start to exit SL, DAVID and TYLER start to exit SR. Both stop before completely exiting. Lights dim on STEPHANIE and MEGHAN.)

TYLER: What was that?
DAVID: What was what?
TYLER: You just made yourself look like a total idiot.
DAVID: Shut up, I got a little nervous. You know how I act when I'm nervous.
TYLER: Why in the world were you nervous?
DAVID: Just something about Stephanie I guess.
TYLER: What? Stephanie? You didn't even talk to her. You were talking to Meghan. Ya know, the one with the blue hair. That girl. That's who you were talking too. **(long pause)** Hellooo?
DAVID: I know that. I just...there's something about her...
TYLER: What? Come on! You gotta give me more than that.
DAVID: It's complicated.
TYLER: We have time.

DAVID:
Something happened when I saw her,
Something I just can't explain.
When I saw her, my heart exploded,
Something inside me went insane.

Endless days of voided spaces,
And endless nights of never feeling right.
She could fill that hole of darkness with light.

TYLER:
Stop right there,
Get a grip,
Stephanie is not for you.
Are you sick?
Are you nuts?
You don't need her.

DAVID:
Then why does night seem so unending?
Why do days drag on so long?

TYLER:
Life is hard for everything living,
Working and breathing and nothing's wrong.

MEGHAN: Steph, are you all right?
STEPHANIE: *(still fidgety)* Yeah. I'm fine. Why do you ask?
MEGHAN: Because you're acting weird.
STEPHANIE: I'm acting weird? You're the one that dyed your hair blue.
MEGHAN: Hey, when did this become a battle?
Oh. Sorry. Movie?
MEGHAN: Don't avoid the question. We still have time. What's wrong?
STEPHANIE: Nothing's wrong.
MEGHAN: You're lying. What's wrong. Come on, I'm your best friend.
STEPHANIE: What do you think about David?
MEGHAN: He's a moron.
STEPHANIE: Really? I don't think he is.
MEGHAN: You've got to be kidding me.
STEPHANIE: No, I'm not. He may seem like a moron...but I don't think he really is. I pretty sure we had a class together last year.
MEGHAN: Which one?
STEPHANIE: Government. He got into a huge debate with the teacher about socialism in America. It was actually one of the only times I stayed awake during class.
MEGHAN: So just because he kept you awake in one class...you don't think he's the moron that he perceived himself to be just a few minutes ago?

STEPHANIE:
Something happened when I saw him,
Something I just can't explain.
When I saw him, me heart was racing,
Something inside me went insane.

He seems sweet, and cute and funny,
Not the brightest, but he's still got brains (I think).
I need someone to hold me tight when it rains.

MEGHAN:
Stop right there.
Get a grip.
David's not the one for you.
Take a breath.
Ask yourself: Is he worth it?

STEPHANIE:
Sometimes questions don't have answers.
God works in some unknown ways.

MEGHAN:
Feelings blur the lines of your sanity,
Dumbstruck and stuck in blazing gaze.

ALL:
Something happened when I (you) saw her (him),
Something so unknown to me.
Blood is surging through all my (your) veins now,
Telling me loudly, "He's (She's) right for me."
(Telling me loudly, "Just watch and see.")

DAVID: Okay. I have to go pack now.
TYLER: Now you want to be productive?
DAVID: Yes. I'll talk to you later.

(DAVID exits. TYLER exits a few seconds after DAVID shaking his head and rubbing his forehead. Lights come up on STEPHANIE and MEGHAN.)

STEPHANIE: He's not a moron.

(STEPHANIE exits. MEGHAN exits a few seconds after STEPHANIE shaking her head and rubbing her forehead. Blackout.)

SCENE TWO: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA

AT RISE: MEGHAN is sitting on a park bench. TYLER enters SR, sees MEGHAN. Pauses. And continues to walk. MEGHAN sees TYLER, gets up and stops him.

MEGHAN:

**This park in Pennsylvania Square;
There's something special in the air.
Not quite sure,
But something feels awfully new and rare.**

TYLER:

What a place to just be and think and sit.

BOTH:

Such a great place just by looking at it.

**This park in Pennsylvania Square;
There's something special in the air.
Not quite sure,
But something feels awfully new and rare.**

MEGHAN: Whatcha doin'?

TYLER: Hey, what's up?

MEGHAN: Not much. You?

TYLER: Same. So what's up with Stephanie?

MEGHAN: Why? What's wrong with her?

TYLER: Did I say anything was wrong with her?

MEGHAN: You made an implication.

TYLER: So. That's not saying that I think anything's wrong with her.

MEGHAN: Do you think something's wrong with her?

TYLER: Whoa! Hold on. I was merely making an observation that she wasn't acting normal the other day. I'm not saying that there's anything wrong with her.

MEGHAN: You'd like to think that...wouldn't you?

TYLER: Are you okay?

MEGHAN: Why wouldn't I be okay? Is something wrong with me?

TYLER: Why are you badgering me about this? I just asked a simple question.

MEGHAN: Why do you keep answering my questions with more questions?

TYLER: What are we even arguing about?

MEGHAN: If you don't know then I'm not going to tell you.

TYLER: **(pause)** Look. I'm sorry if I said something that made you upset. I was just wondering if Stephanie was acting weird yesterday.

MEGHAN: Of course she was! How could you not notice?

TYLER: I did notice! That's why I was pointing it out.

MEGHAN: Why are you pointing it out? You don't even know her.

TYLER: **(to himself)** I'm never going to get an answer, am I?

MEGHAN: If you have something to say, just say it.

TYLER: I don't. Really. It's fine. I'm gonna go now. **(starts to exit)**

MEGHAN: If you're leaving, then why did you ask questions you didn't want the answer to?

TYLER: I did want the answer, but I figured that I'd never get it...so I'll just leave and maybe I'll get the answer later. **(before MEGHAN can say anything else, TYLER exits)**

MEGHAN: **(goes back to the park bench. STEPHANIE enters)** Hey Steph.

STEPHANIE: Hey Meg. How's it going?

MEGHAN: What's wrong with you?

STEPHANIE: What?

MEGHAN: You heard me. What's wrong with you? You've been acting strange for the past couple days. What's going on?

STEPHANIE: Meghan, I'm fine. Really. It's nothing.

MEGHAN: You're lying. What's wrong?

STEPHANIE: I think I like a guy.

MEGHAN: Wait. What?

STEPHANIE: I think I like...David.

MEGHAN: David. That one guy who made a valiant effort in pointing out my blue hair?

STEPHANIE: Yeah...

MEGHAN: Why?

STEPHANIE: Honestly, I really don't know.

MEGHAN: Then why have you been acting funny?

STEPHANIE: Everyone can have their moments.

MEGHAN: So yours is just whenever you see him?

STEPHANIE: Or think about him...

MEGHAN: Steph! No! You're getting sucked into the black hole that I've been trying to warn you about! If you like a guy, you're gonna get sucked into the relationship, I'll never see you again, and then you'll get pregnant and die.

STEPHANIE: **(trying not to laugh)** Wow. Good to know. Thanks.

MEGHAN: Seriously. Don't do it.

STEPHANIE: Do what exactly? There are many assumptions that could be made with that statement.

MEGHAN: Don't fall in the black hole.

STEPHANIE: I think you're overreacting. I thought you were more rational than this.

It's probably the hair dye.

MEGHAN: Stop that!

STEPHANIE: Stop what?

MEGHAN: You're just as bad as everyone else.

STEPHANIE: Meghan. Calm down. It's okay. I'm just joking.

MEGHAN: But why would you do that?

STEPHANIE: People joke around all the time. It's a natural part of conversation. **(looks offstage and sees DAVID)** Hey Meg?

MEGHAN: Yeah?

STEPHANIE: Can we talk later? I need to go work on final stuff before next week.

MEGHAN: **(sighs)** Sure. I guess I'll see you later then.

STEPHANIE: Okay. Great. See you later. **(MEGHAN exits. STEPHANIE sits on the park bench and messes with her hair. DAVID enters but stops about 2 or 3 steps in, realizing that STEPHANIE is there both freeze when music starts)**

DAVID:

There she is, sitting all alone
Cosmos lined up for me, the stars begin to glow.
Take a chance, trust the sky.
Worse things happen to those who refuse to ever try.

STEPHANIE:

There he is, right in front of me.
What if he comes over? Should I pretend I didn't see?
Here he comes walking near,
Fortune comes to those who go on face-to-face with fear.

DAVID: You're Stephanie, right?

STEPHANIE: Yup. We had government together.

DAVID: *(Excited)* YEAH, WE DID! *(Excitement fades, clearing throat)* Uh, I mean...yeah, I...we did.

STEPHANIE: Uh-huh.

DAVID: So, I was thinking...

STEPHANIE: Thinking is always good. *(DAVID kisses STEPHANIE)*

DAVID: *(Almost frightened)*!...I'm sorry.

STEPHANIE: Is that what you were thinking?

DAVID: Well, not word for word...I'm...really sorry. That was...

STEPHANIE: *(Smiling)* Well...you know that since you kissed me, you have to ask me out.

DAVID: What is that an unwritten rule or something?

STEPHANIE: *(Smile fades)* If you're trying to offend me, you're succeeding.

DAVID: No! That's not what I meant. I mean, I'm gonna ask you out, but you said that since I kissed you, I have to ask you out.

STEPHANIE: So then just ask me out!

DAVID: I'm getting to it!

DAVID (STEPHANIE):

Stars aligned (Fear's been faced.)
Karma's on my side (Courage trumps it all.)
Taking risks and winning has opened up my eyes.

BOTH:

Still, I hope and I pray,
Fate is kind, and innocence is known not to betray.

STEPHANIE: Okay.

DAVID: Well, as I said earlier, I was thinking that maybe you would want to have dinner with me later.

STEPHANIE: I think that would be a great idea.

DAVID: So, how about I pick you up at around 7?

STEPHANIE: 7 works.

DAVID: Great! See you then.

STEPHANIE: Okay.

DAVID:

Jesus H, I asked her out, I start'd to realize
Follow senses closer, don't think, always close your eyes.
The fool become the king,
The joker, ruler over all what he once despised,
Now the stupid guy in college speaks words of the wise.

Oh, feelin' great 'bout bein' young and puttin' trust in fate.
Oh, growin' up and growin' old are gunna have to wait.

STEPHANIE (DAVID):

He could be the one that one day I can't live without. (Live without.)
One day I (she) will bear his (my) children *(spoken text)*
Then we'll grow old and ev'rything ends happily for all.

BOTH:

Oh, feelin' great 'bout bein' young and puttin' trust in fate.

STEPHANIE:

Oh, I cannot believe he asked to take me on a date!

SCENE THREE: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA

AT RISE: DAVID is sitting on the park bench when TYLER enters. DAVID is dressed up for his date.

TYLER: What are you doing here? You have like ten minutes to pick Stephanie up.

DAVID: I know.

TYLER: Then why are you still here?

DAVID: I'm nervous.

TYLER: Well, duh. Don't be.

DAVID: Easy for you to say.

TYLER: Look. It may not be easy for you, but you're going to have to get over the nerves.

What's going to happen when you get married? Are you going to be nervous around your wife every time you see her?

DAVID: Who said I was gonna marry a woman?

TYLER: Dave. Cut the crap.

DAVID: I just wanted to see your reaction. And I don't know. I don't know where I'm going in life.

TYLER: Well you're not going anywhere if you don't pick Stephanie up.

DAVID: Just get off of my back. I've got this under control. I know what I'm doing.

TYLER: Really now?

DAVID: I'll be fine. She doesn't live too far away. I just wanted to relax for a minute.

TYLER: So you come here?

DAVID: Yeah. It's generally quiet. *(shoots TYLER a mean look)*

TYLER: Oh I see how it is.

DAVID: Well you should. Not. Cause I didn't show you.

TYLER: What the hell does *that* mean?

DAVID: I have no clue.

TYLER: Ooooookay. So I'm gonna go now. Don't be late!

DAVID: I won't.

(TYLER exits. MEGHAN enters)

MEGHAN: What are you still doing here?

DAVID: What do you mean?

MEGHAN: You're supposed to be picking up my best friend like...right now.

DAVID: I know. I'm getting there. Just chill all right?

MEGHAN: You're not getting anywhere. You're sitting on a park bench not doing anything.

DAVID: I'm thinking.

MEGHAN: About what?

DAVID: About stuff. Why do you care?

MEGHAN: Because you don't need to be late when picking up my best friend.

DAVID: She may be your best friend, but you're not going on a date with her. So lay off.

(DAVID gets off of the park bench)

MEGHAN: Where are you going?

DAVID: Where the hell do you think I'm going? To pick up your best friend. I have a date with her and I'm not going to be late.

MEGHAN: Good.

(DAVID and MEGHAN exit. Blackout.)

SCENE FOUR: STEPHANIE'S HOUSE

AT RISE: DAVID is standing outside of STEPHANIE'S house. DAVID is pacing and attempts to knock on the door a few times, but chicken's out.

DAVID: It's a door. There's no reason to be scared of a door. Just knock on it. I already have the date. Just go up and knock on the door. Not hard. I can do this. *(goes up to the door.)* No I can't.

DAVID:

Why am I so afraid of this?

What exactly is there to lose?

But what is there to gain?

A sense of pride, or something else?

Just knock.

Raise my hand.

It's such a simple task and yet so hard.

Just make a fist, and knock.

I feel so stupid, nothing's changed so far.

What could be hiding behind that door?

Perhaps a monster or a killer or a witch or Adolf Hitler.

I like her.

I'm pretty sure that she likes me as well.

She's always on my mind.

She is the heaven to this living hell.

I'm gunna walk right up and knock.

'Cuz now I'm ready, here I...

(HE turns around so his back is facing the door, STEPHANIE opens the door. DAVID doesn't realize that the door is open. HE takes a deep breath, turns around quickly, and accidentally hits STEPHANIE in the face while attempting to knock on the door.)

STEPHANIE: What the hell was that?

DAVID: I'm so sorry! Are you okay?

STEPHANIE: No! You just punched me in the face!

DAVID: I didn't mean too!

STEPHANIE: I think my nose is bleeding.

DAVID: Oh shit. Let me help you.

STEPHANIE: No, I think you've done enough. I'm gonna go and clean this up. You stay here.

DAVID: I'm so sorry.

STEPHANIE: I'll be right back. *(STEPHANIE exits. DAVID sits down and buries his head in his hands.)*

DAVID: Just perfect. I'm such a genius. *(STEPHANIE returns a moment later with a bandage on her nose.)*

STEPHANIE: All better. Don't worry about it. I'm fine now.

DAVID: I'm so sorry.

STEPHANIE: Please stop apologizing. It's not helping.

DAVID: Right. So where do you want to go?

STEPHANIE: I thought you were the one that was deciding. You asked me remember?

DAVID: Yes I did. But I'm really bad at choosing places to go. Just ask Tyler.

STEPHANIE: You shouldn't have asked me out if you didn't have an idea of what we were going to do.

DAVID: But you told me that I had to ask you out. And I did. Where do you want to go?

STEPHANIE: I want to go to the pizza place down the road.

DAVID: See, was that so hard?

STEPHANIE: No it wasn't. But I never said it was.

DAVID: Right. Do you want to walk there?

STEPHANIE: We can. It's up to you.

DAVID: Well it's only a few blocks.

STEPHANIE: It's fine with me.

DAVID: Okay.

(DAVID and STEPHANIE walk for a few moments in silence)

DAVID: So.

STEPHANIE: So.

DAVID: How was your day.

STEPHANIE: Are you really asking me how my day was?

DAVID: Yeah. I am.

STEPHANIE: It was boring. Yours?

DAVID: Yeah. Maybe we should talk about something else.

STEPHANIE: Okay. What do you want to talk about?

DAVID: Don't ask me that. I told you I don't decide things.

STEPHANIE: Okay. What kind of socks do you like?

DAVID: Socks?

STEPHANIE: Yes. Socks. Ya know, the things you wear on your feet.

DAVID: Oh yeah, those kind of socks.

STEPHANIE: So?

DAVID: Socks are socks, they go on your feet.

STEPHANIE: Yes. I know that. But I mean, what kind of socks do you like?

DAVID: I like the ones that cover my feet so I don't get blisters. *(STEPHANIE stops walking)* What?

STEPHANIE: Okay. We're on a date. Talking about blisters isn't exactly a turn on.

DAVID: Neither is talking about socks, but I'm doing it anyway.

STEPHANIE: Alrighty then. You pick a topic to talk about.

DAVID: I don't know. How about movies? There's always things to talk about that involve movies.

STEPHANIE: I don't like movies.

DAVID: You don't like movies?

STEPHANIE: Nope. I'm not allowed to watch them. I don't watch T.V. either.

DAVID: Please tell me you listen to music.

STEPHANIE: Of course I listen to music! Who doesn't?

DAVID: Great! What kind of music do you like?

STEPHANIE: I like country.

DAVID: Oh.

STEPHANIE: What kind do you like?

DAVID: Everything but country.

STEPHANIE: Oh.

DAVID: Hey, we're here. *(to himself)* Finally.

STEPHANIE: So what kind of pizza do you want?

DAVID: I like pepperoni.

STEPHANIE: I'm a vegetarian.

DAVID: Cheese works.

STEPHANIE: Great. *(exits)*

How in the world did I get into this?

How did I find such a loser like her?

No movies, to TV, there's been a mistake here.

I hate her music.

She keeps on talking about her socks.

Tube socks and knee highs and ankle-length too.

Red socks and yellow, and purple and blue.

This night will suck, but what can I do?

Make it through dinner, and then it's adieu.

STEPHANIE: *(enters)* Are you coming?

DAVID: Yeah. Just a sock...I mean, second. *(STEPHANIE exits)*

DAVID:

Make it through dinner, and then we are through.

(Blackout.)

SCENE FIVE: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA

AT RISE: DAVID and TYLER are standing SR. STEPHANIE and MEGHAN are standing SL, frozen. They can't see each other.

TYLER: How was it?

DAVID: How was what?

TYLER: Your vacation. **(DAVID looks at TYLER confused)** Your date.

DAVID: Oh. Yeah. That. **(laughs)**

TYLER: What's so funny?

DAVID: We have nothing in common. She's a vegetarian, doesn't like movies, only listens to country music, and is obsessed with socks.

TYLER: That can't be true. I mean, who in their right mind would be obsessed with socks?

DAVID: Apparently her. There was this awkward silence and we couldn't figure out what to talk about, so we talked about socks.

TYLER: Dude. You need to break up with her.

DAVID: I know. But how? I don't want to hurt her feelings. Man, I've never been like that.

TYLER: If it's going to end badly anyway, why prolong it?

DAVID: Because I don't want to hurt her.

(DAVID and TYLER freeze)

STEPHANIE: I don't want to hurt him.

MEGHAN: If it was as bad as it sounds, then maybe you need to just do it.

STEPHANIE: I mean, if we had something in common, maybe it would work. But I don't think we can go anywhere with what we've got. I talked about socks for crying out loud. He probably thinks I'm crazy or something.

MEGHAN: You talked about socks? You're such a moron.

STEPHANIE: I know, I know. But we were walking and it's the first thing that came to mind. It's not my fault that I couldn't think of anything else. It was the pressure. It got to me.

MEGHAN: If you can't comfortably talk to him, why the hell are you going out with him?

STEPHANIE: Because he's a great kisser.

MEGHAN: So it's all for show? You're just using him?

STEPHANIE: No, not like that.

MEGHAN: Well it's something. You don't just go out with someone because you like how they kiss.

STEPHANIE: I don't know what to do.

(DAVID and TYLER unfreeze)

MEGHAN and TYLER: It's simple. Break up.

DAVID and STEPHANIE: But you don't get it. I can't hurt her/him.

MEGHAN: You're a lost cause then.

TYLER: You've gotta do what's best for you.

MEGHAN: Think about yourself.

DAVID: I wish I could.

TYLER: There's nothing stopping you.

MEGHAN: Why is this so hard?

STEPHANIE: I've never had to do this.

MEGHAN: There's a first time for everything.

DAVID: It's easier said than done.

STEPHANIE: You're right.

MEGHAN and TYLER: You can do this.

STEPHANIE and DAVID: I can do this.

MEGHAN and TYLER: Then what are you waiting for?

(Suddenly they can all see each other. STEPHANIE and DAVID cross towards each other.)

DAVID:

Hey, we need to talk, Steph, there's been something on my mind now for a while.

STEPHANIE:

I've got things to say to you as well, but you go first this stuff can wait.

DAVID (STEPHANIE):

I think we should...go on another date.

What do you say? (What do I say?)

'No' is okay (Sure, that's okay.)

Damn, I mean what day? (Friday)

See you then this Friday.

DAVID: Great. What did you want to say?

STEPHANIE: It was nothing. I'll see you Friday.

DAVID: Fantastic.

(Both groups go back to their original positions.)

TYLER: What the hell was that?

MEGHAN: Are you kidding me?

DAVID: I thought I could do it.

STEPHANIE: I couldn't do it.

MEGHAN: Obviously.

TYLER: What are you going to do now?

DAVID: Go on another date with her.

MEGHAN: So what are you going to do?

STEPHANIE: Go on the date. I really don't have any other options do I?

MEGHAN: Hello! Break up with him!

TYLER: And what if it flops...again?

DAVID: I highly think that it's going to go terribly and horribly wrong and maybe we'll break up on Friday.

MEGHAN: You could break up with him on Friday.

STEPHANIE: I don't want to think about this anymore.

TYLER: You better. Otherwise you'll end up marrying her.

DAVID: What are you talking about? Just because I go out on a date with her doesn't mean that I'm going to marry her.

TYLER: It could. Think about it. If you're too scared to get out of the relationship with her now, you'll be too afraid to do it later and you'll end up proposing to her instead of breaking up with her.

DAVID: That's ridiculous.

TYLER: But it's true.

MEGHAN: Please at least think about breaking up with him.

STEPHANIE: Meg, it'll all work out in the end and that's all that matters.

MEGHAN: Don't get all philosophical on me now.

DAVID: I'm leaving. **(DAVID starts to exit)**

TYLER: You should be leaving her.

DAVID: Stop it. **(exits)**

STEPHANIE: I'm done with this. **(exits)**

(MEGHAN and TYLER are still onstage. They cross to each other.)

MEGHAN and TYLER: This is all your fault.

MEGHAN: What are you talking about?

TYLER: What are *you* talking about?

MEGHAN: She was getting ready to break up with him.

TYLER: He was getting ready to break up with her.

MEGHAN: So he doesn't want to go out with her either?

TYLER: No. And she doesn't want to go out with him.

MEGHAN: I just said that.

TYLER: So if we just tell them that they don't want to go out with each other, then they'll break up.

MEGHAN: That might work.

MEGHAN (TYLER):

Could it really be that easy?

(I mean, I guess it's worth a shot.)

Could that be the best solution?

(If we never try we won't find out.)

(We know that they just aren't right for each other.)

Then we aren't really doing any harm.

(Always trust your instinct in a blinding light.)

But love is blind and this now feels so wrong.

(But nothing feels as wrong as trapping them in something that's not right.)

What if we mess up?

What if we don't let things happen as they should,

And make the mistake of playing God?

(Misery, misery, such emotions they now know.

Visibly, it is seen new from not long ago.)

Yes it's true, Something new. Sweeping change brought on by this.

Time to go, let them know that they can be through.

(Now you see that we must be the messengers.)

Yes, we must go and tell them all this news.

(Better off this way I think for our sake.)

I guess you're right, there's nothing else to lose.

MEGHAN: Why did he ask her out if he was going to break up with her?

TYLER: He's got this thing where he doesn't want to hurt her.

MEGHAN: So they don't want to hurt each other, so they'd go out with each other instead?

TYLER: That's what it seems to be.

MEGHAN: So we can get them out of this if we just tell them that neither of them wants to be together.

TYLER: I believe we've been on that subject for the past couple minutes.

TYLER: God, this is such a shitty situation.

MEGHAN: Why are you cursing at me?

TYLER: It's a word. Get over it. Besides I'm sure you cuss too.

MEGHAN: Only every now and then. But I don't use the more offensive words.

TYLER: You really are insane. Aren't you?

MEGHAN: What?

TYLER: It's just a word. You use words all the time. Think about it. What makes that word offensive to you?

MEGHAN: The fact that you used it towards me.

TYLER: So? I bet you use words towards other people.

MEGHAN: Do not!

TYLER: Have you ever called someone something?

MEGHAN: NO! Maybe...yeah. Today actually. I called Steph a moron.

TYLER: So why is it a big deal that I said 'shitty?'

MEGHAN: Because you should watch what you say around people.

TYLER: Why? Why does it matter? It's just a word.

MEGHAN: Do you want little kids to hear it?

TYLER: What's the point of censoring? Really, they probably hear worse on a school bus from other children than they do their parents. So why should their parents be worried about watching what they say in front of their kids when they already hear worse things?

MEGHAN: You make no sense.

TYLER: No. I make perfect sense. You just don't want to believe me.

MEGHAN: Maybe. Maybe not. Why does it matter?

TYLER: That's exactly the mentality of the government.

MEGHAN: Oh no. Not a government argument.

TYLER: Why not? Scared?

MEGHAN: I'm not scared of an argument.

TYLER: I would beg to differ.

MEGHAN: Then get on your hands and knees, cause I'm not listening to this.

TYLER: Think about it. In history, government was so simple. There was no rules, no problems with saying 'shit.'

MEGHAN: That's because they grunted stuff. 'Shit' probably wasn't even a word.

TYLER: Exactly! Back then, if a caveman entered your house and said, "Is that your T.V." and you said yes, he could say "Well it's my T.V. now," and no one could do anything about it. Although, there would probably be a huge argument and someone would end up with a couple broken bones, but that was how government worked. There was none.

MEGHAN: Yeah, because cavemen had T.V.s. In *prehistory*. Study a lot, don't you?

TYLER: Either way, there were no problems with what was said back then. It was a simple time when yelling and screaming at each other solved problems. They didn't have courts. It wouldn't have mattered if someone said 'shit' in front of a small child because there was no censorship.

MEGHAN: You're still losing me. This is really boring. I'm leaving now.

TYLER: But don't you see that you're making a big deal out of nothing?

MEGHAN: You've got to be shitting me. *(exits)*

(Blackout.)

SCENE SIX: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA, FRIDAY NIGHT

AT RISE: STEPHANIE stands center stage wearing a dress and waits for DAVID. DAVID enters wearing jeans and a t-shirt.

DAVID: Hey.

STEPHANIE: Hi.

DAVID: Where do you want to go tonight?

STEPHANIE: I was thinking that we could just talk.

DAVID: You got dressed up just to talk?

STEPHANIE: I had to go to this thing earlier and I didn't have time to change.

DAVID: Oh. So what did you want to talk about?

STEPHANIE: David, I'm just going to come right out and say it. I think that we should...

DAVID: We should what? **(STEPHANIE kisses DAVID.)** That was definitely doing something.

STEPHANIE: That's not what I meant.

DAVID: Okay. What did you mean?

STEPHANIE: I don't know.

DAVID: Maybe we should talk about something else?

STEPHANIE: Great idea. You pick the topic. I know you hate doing that, but I'm sure you'll be fine.

DAVID: Do you want to stay away from clothing items?

STEPHANIE: Preferably. Thanks.

DAVID: No problem. We could talk about books.

STEPHANIE: I like books.

DAVID: Me too. That's a start. What kind of books do you like? **(to himself)** Please don't say girly fiction. Please don't say girly fiction.

STEPHANIE: Mystery and suspense.

DAVID: Really? Me too. Who's your favorite author?

STEPHANIE: Brian Haig.

DAVID: I love his stuff.

STEPHANIE: So wait. We actually have something in common?

DAVID: I think so. When did that happen?

STEPHANIE: I have no idea. Which one's your favorite?

DAVID: Personally, "The President's Assassin" was one of my favorites, but it's so hard to choose.

STEPHANIE: I know. I love that one, but I really liked "The Kingmaker."

DAVID: That one's good too.

STEPHANIE: Do you think that they'll ever make a movie out of them?

DAVID: I'm not sure, but how cool would that be?

STEPHANIE: I know, right?

DAVID: There's gotta be something else that we have in common.

STEPHANIE: Hmmm. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

DAVID: I really want to go to Europe. I'd say Australia, but they have poisonous things there, and I hate snakes and bugs.

STEPHANIE: Yeah I know. I can't stand creepy crawly things.

DAVID: Then why do you spend most of your time in a park where they live?

STEPHANIE: Thanks. You just ruined the park for me.

DAVID: Sorry. Where would you want to go?

STEPHANIE: Probably Canada. I love snow.

DAVID: Don't you get enough of it here?

STEPHANIE: Yeah, but it snows year-round there.

DAVID: True. Do you like to ski?

STEPHANIE: No. It terrifies me. I tried once and I fell down about 8 times in an hour.

DAVID: Ouch.

STEPHANIE: Yeah.

DAVID: I think if I tried, I wouldn't even be able to stand up for more than a minute.

STEPHANIE: Have you ever made a snow cave?

DAVID: No I haven't. I'm guessing you have?

STEPHANIE: Yeah. It's one of the coolest things. It was actually warmer inside the cave than it was outside.

DAVID: Huh. I guess it makes sense though.

STEPHANIE: It does?

DAVID: Yeah. Igloos are warm. Eskimos live in them.

STEPHANIE: That's so true. I never even thought about that.

DAVID: You could totally move to Canada and live in an igloo.

STEPHANIE: Yeah I could...but I don't know anyone who would want to join me.

DAVID: If you ever move to Canada and lived in an igloo, I would totally visit you.

STEPHANIE: I'll have to remember that.

DAVID: Yeah.

STEPHANIE: So what are you going to college for?

DAVID: I was thinking about teaching English.

STEPHANIE: Interesting. Any particular reason why?

DAVID: One of my cousins went for English and said it was really easy and didn't mind teaching.

STEPHANIE: So you only want to teach English, because it's easy?

DAVID: Yeah...I'm currently rethinking that though. I'm not sure that I could handle working with smaller children. I might scare them.

STEPHANIE: Why?

DAVID: Because I'd probably be one of the worst teachers ever. And I'd assign stupid and pointless essays that they were never going to use for anything because my English teachers all did that.

STEPHANIE: To each his own.

DAVID: What about you?

STEPHANIE: I'm not sure yet. I've never really had something stand out to me that I know that I want to pursue. I figure I'll get some of my gen-ed classes out of the way and then actually pick something down the road.

DAVID: Maybe I should do that.

STEPHANIE: Yeah. It's a good idea.

DAVID: **(long pause)** Huh.

STEPHANIE: What?

DAVID: I just saw a shooting star.

STEPHANIE: Really? Cause if you didn't, that's totally cheesy.

DAVID: No, really.

STEPHANIE: Did you wish for something?

DAVID: Yeah.
STEPHANIE: What?
DAVID: I can't tell you that!
STEPHANIE: Why?
DAVID: Because that would ruin it!
STEPHANIE: You wished on a shooting star. You really think it's going to be ruined?
DAVID: Well it's not like I wished on birthday candles.
STEPHANIE: Yeah, your wish definitely wouldn't come true then.
DAVID: Anyway. Was there something else you wanted to talk about?
STEPHANIE: Like what?
DAVID: Like what you wanted to say the other day.
STEPHANIE: Oh. Right. That. No. It's nothing. Really.
DAVID: Are you sure? I don't mind.
STEPHANIE: Yeah. Positive. *(sits on the park bench. DAVID sits next to her)*
DAVID: If you don't mind me asking, why did you agree to go out with me?
STEPHANIE: Oh, look! Another shooting star!
DAVID: Where?
STEPHANIE: Too late. It's gone. So I think your friend Tyler would be a great lawyer.
DAVID: Wait a minute. You didn't answer my question.
STEPHANIE: Oh. Right. That. *(starts to fidget)* Because I wanted to go out with you.
DAVID: Stephanie, you're fidgeting.
STEPHANIE: Am not!
DAVID: Yes you are.
STEPHANIE: Why does it have to be something other than "I wanted to go out with you?" Isn't that a good enough answer?
DAVID: I mean, I guess so.
STEPHANIE: All right. Why don't you answer the question?
DAVID: I wanted to go out with you because you told me that I had too.
STEPHANIE: No, no, no. You can't use that.
DAVID: Why not? You told me I had to, and I did, and now we're going out again.
STEPHANIE: When are we going out again? I think I missed that.
DAVID: Tomorrow night I'm taking you to the library. Apparently books are the only thing we have in common.
STEPHANIE: The library? For a date? You've got to be kidding me.
DAVID: Okay, where do you want to go?
STEPHANIE: We can go out to eat. Italian is always good.

STEPHANIE:
Could it be? You and me?
We have found some common ground.

DAVID:
Strange enough, it was tough, but
Nothing is all that profound.

STEPHANIE:
Karma gods, beat the odds,

One more chance was all it took.

DAVID:
Ying and yang, spoke or sang,
Brought together by a book.

STEPHANIE (DAVID):
Hope that it all works out.
(Nothing to stop us now.)
Nothing will be driving us apart.

STEPHANIE:
Could it be? You and me?
We have found a common place.

DAVID:
Yes it's true, what to do,
But hope for the best anyway.

STEPHANIE:
Karma gods, beat the odds,
One more chance was all it took.

DAVID:
Ying and yang, spoke or sang,
Brought together by a book.

STEPHANIE (DAVID):
Some guys would just give up.
(Some girls would run and cry.)
But not us, not now, not you and not I.

DAVID: All right then. Italian tomorrow night it is.

STEPHANIE: Great. But you never answered my question.

DAVID: Oh, look at the time. I have to get going. We'll talk tomorrow. *(exits quickly)*

STEPHANIE: Wait. Damn.

(Blackout.)

SCENE SEVEN: D'ABRAZZOMARIELLA, AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT

AT RISE: A table and 2 chairs are set up. Underscore music plays in the background. DAVID and STEPHANIE enter both dressed nicely.

STEPHANIE: I've never been here before.

DAVID: I have. They have really good spaghetti.

STEPHANIE: Great! **(DAVID pulls out STEPHANIE'S chair for her)** Thank you.

DAVID: No problem.

(TYLER enters wearing a waiter's outfit and a ridiculous fake moustache carrying menu's and speaking in a French accent.)

TYLER: Welcome to D...D'ab...ze restaurant. I will be your waiter tonight.

DAVID: **(recognizes TYLER)** Waiter, I have a question to ask you, but not here. Steph, will you excuse me?

STEPHANIE: Oh. Okay.

DAVID: **(gets up and crosses downstage with TYLER)** What the hell are you doing here?

TYLER: I'm helping you out.

DAVID: No. You're not. You're going to screw something up. Let it go.

TYLER: Then you let it go.

DAVID: No. I'm fine. There's nothing wrong.

TYLER: That's what she wants you to think.

DAVID: What are you talking about?

TYLER: Not now. I have to go

DAVID: What do you have to do?

TYLER: I'm dressed as a waiter, so I kinda have to go with it for now. I'll be back though.

DAVID: No. You won't. Get someone else to wait our table or we're leaving.

TYLER: Fine.

(DAVID goes back and sits at the table)

STEPHANIE: What was that about?

DAVID: Something about the specials for tonight. But most of them have meat in them, so you wouldn't be interested.

STEPHANIE: Oh. So what are you going to have?

DAVID: I think I'm going to have the Chicken Parmesan. You?

STEPHANIE: Probably just a salad.

DAVID: Great. Here comes our waiter now.

(MEGHAN enters wearing a waiter's outfit with brown hair and speaks higher pitched and peppier than normal.)

MEGHAN: Hi, I'll be your waiter tonight. What can I get for you?

STEPHANIE: **(recognizing her)** I need to talk to you for a moment, please.

MEGHAN: Can I get you started with some drinks first?

STEPHANIE: No, this is urgent.

MEGHAN: Anything for you, sir?

DAVID: Just some water, please.

MEGHAN: Coming right up. **(STEPHANIE and MEGHAN cross downstage)**

STEPHANIE: What the hell are you doing here?

MEGHAN: **(in her normal tone)** Watch your mouth.

STEPHANIE: Don't even get me started. What is wrong with you?

MEGHAN: Well after you told me that you hadn't broken up with him, I thought I'd help out.

STEPHANIE: No! Don't get involved. Let things happen on their own.

MEGHAN: Are you really sure you want me to do that?

STEPHANIE: Yes! I don't want you to be here. What did you do to your hair?

MEGHAN: Don't worry; it's just a wig.

STEPHANIE: I'm not worried about that. I'm worried about how I'm going to pay your hospital bills after I ring your neck.

MEGHAN: Fine! I'll get someone else to wait on you.

STEPHANIE: Thank you. **(STEPHANIE goes back to the table and sits.)**

DAVID: Anything wrong?

STEPHANIE: Nope. All good now.

(TYLER enters with 2 glasses of water, sets one of them down on the table and accidentally drops one on STEPHANIE. DAVID jumps up to help clean up the water.)

TYLER: I'm so sorry miss.

STEPHANIE: It's okay.

DAVID: No it's not.

STEPHANIE: I'm fine.

DAVID: **(to TYLER)** You can go now. **(TYLER exits)** So, uh, how was your day?

STEPHANIE: Pretty boring actually. I can't wait to leave for school.

DAVID: Yeah. It's so weird that we're only going about 20 minutes away from home. Perfect distance to be close enough to go home and get free food and laundry service..

STEPHANIE: **(laughs)** Definitely.

(MEGHAN enters with a basket of bread and sets it on the table as STEPHANIE stares angrily at her and shakes her head. MEGHAN makes a face back at her and exits.)

DAVID: So I guess we have two waiters...

STEPHANIE: It would appear so.

DAVID: We aren't leaving double.

STEPHANIE: No.

DAVID: So have you gotten any farther with your Canadian plans?

STEPHANIE: Not quite. I'm just trying to get through the weekend.

DAVID: Yeah. Are you all packed and ready to go?

STEPHANIE: Almost. Move-in is Monday, so I figured that most of what I need to pack will be done tomorrow.

DAVID: Same here. I feel like if I pack something too early, I'm going to need it.

STEPHANIE: The only thing that I really have to pack is clothes.

(TYLER enters)

TYLER: May I take your order?

DAVID: *(smugly)* I'll have the Chicken Parmesan.
TYLER: I'm sorry sir, I can't hear you very well. Why don't you follow me to somewhere not within ear shot of the miss?
DAVID: Why don't you follow my foot right up your...
TYLER: And for you miss?
STEPHANIE: *(confused)* I'll just have a house salad.
TYLER: Coming right up.
STEPHANIE: Thanks.

(MEGHAN enters)

MEGHAN: May I take your order?
DAVID: It's already been taken, actually.
MEGHAN: *(surprised)* Oh. Sorry.
DAVID: No problem. *(MEGHAN exits. STEPHANIE tries not to give MEGHAN a death glare, but fails.)* Stephanie, it's okay. You don't have to stare down our waiters.
STEPHANIE: Sorry.

(TYLER enters with STEPHANIE'S salad.)

TYLER: Here you go Madame.
STEPHANIE: Thank you. *(looks at the salad. TYLER starts to exit)* Um, excuse me.
TYLER: Yes?
STEPHANIE: I ordered the house salad. This is a chef salad and I don't eat meat.
TYLER: Oh. My apologies, senorita. I will fix this in un Segundo.
DAVID: So, where are you from again?
TYLER: France.
DAVID: Hmm, I didn't know that they spoke Spanish in France.
TYLER: I must fix this order, sir!

(DAVID stares at TYLER. TYLER takes the salad and exits.)

STEPHANIE: David, if I'm not allowed to stare down the waiters, then neither are you.
DAVID: I'm sorry. It was just a simple order. He must have gotten lost in translation...for whatever language that "Frenchman" speaks.
STEPHANIE: It's not a big deal, really.

(MEGHAN enters with DAVID'S food.)

MEGHAN: Here you go, sir.
DAVID: Thanks, but this isn't what I ordered.
MEGHAN: What do you mean?
DAVID: I didn't order linguini. I ordered Chicken Parmesan.
MEGHAN: So sorry. I'll get that fixed right away.
DAVID: Thanks.

(STEPHANIE stares at MEGHAN. MEGHAN takes the food and exits.)

STEPHANIE: This is absolutely ridiculous.
DAVID: It's not a problem.
STEPHANIE: Yes it is.
DAVID: If you want to leave, we can.
STEPHANIE: That might be a good idea.
DAVID: All right. We'll get the check and leave.
STEPHANIE: Thanks. *(they sit around for a short while waiting for the waiters to come back.)* So the one time that we want them to come, they completely ignore us.
DAVID: That's how it usually goes.

(MEGHAN and TYLER enter from opposite sides, cross behind the table, and exit again. STEPHANIE and DAVID try to get their attention, but are ignored.)

STEPHANIE: This is absolutely ridiculous.
DAVID: You said that.
STEPHANIE: I know.
DAVID: Well we don't have to wait around. I mean, we didn't even eat anything.

(DAVID stands up, takes out his wallet, throws a couple bucks on the table, takes STEPHANIE'S hand, and starts to exit. MEGHAN and TYLER enter together.)

TYLER: Where are you going?
DAVID: We're leaving. Is there something wrong with that?
MEGHAN: No, not at all. *(notices DAVID holding STEPHANIE'S hand)* But are you sure you don't want to stay for dessert?
STEPHANIE: Dessert? We didn't even get our entrées.
TYLER: We can fix that!
DAVID: I think you've done enough. We're leaving now.

(DAVID and STEPHANIE push through MEGHAN and TYLER and exit.)

TYLER: Do you think it worked?
MEGHAN: I don't think so.
TYLER: Why? They seemed pretty upset.
MEGHAN: Yeah, with us.
TYLER: So what do we do now?
MEGHAN: We can either wait for it to end on its own, or try to break them up again.
TYLER: That is, supposing that they aren't going to break up tonight.
MEGHAN: I doubt that they'll break up tonight. They'll probably just talk about something else they have in common.
TYLER: What would that be?
MEGHAN: How much they hate us.
TYLER: Oh.
MEGHAN: Maybe this wasn't such a good idea after all.
TYLER: No. It wasn't. But if we find out when they're going out again, I'll think of a better plan.
I mean, I am gonna be a lawyer after all, I should be able to figure something out.

MEGHAN: You're also full of yourself.
TYLER: That's not true.
MEGHAN: If you say so... *(starts to exit)*
TYLER: What?

MEGHAN:
Look here, little lawyer man,
If you're so smart than make a plan,
And make it one that works and can
Be executed properly with
No disguise or hidden prize that
Sets us up to fall to our demise.

TYLER:
Listen here you blue-haired freak,
If you're so strong and I'm so weak,
Then I suggest that you invest some
Time in making a successful
Plan that will go flawlessly and
Break them up all by your lonesome self.

BOTH:
Self-absorbed maniac,
Horrible attack.
I can't stand you and your
Self-centered, self-righteous act.

MEGHAN:
Maybe it went off the tracks but
You're the one to turn your back and
Now you plan your next attack,
So maybe you should just relax and
Settle down before you turn into a maniac.

TYLER:
Now you put the blame on me,
You can't get of that scot-free,
Remember when we were a "we,"
And you weren't you and I not me,
Instead we were an awesome team,
But I suppose that you feel no remorse.

BOTH:
Self-absorbed maniac,
Horrible attack.
I can't stand you and your

Self-centered, self-righteous act.

(Blackout.)

SCENE EIGHT: A PARK IN PENNSYLVANIA

AT RISE: DAVID and TYLER are standing SR frozen. STEPHANIE is standing SL. They can't see each other. MEGHAN enters SL.

MEGHAN: There you are.
STEPHANIE: Yeah. Here I am.
MEGHAN: So how was the rest of the date last night?
STEPHANIE: Fine.
MEGHAN: Really? So you haven't broken up with him yet?
STEPHANIE: No. We're still together. I don't think we're going to break up any time soon.
MEGHAN: But what about all the differences that you guys have?
STEPHANIE: It's all about making it work.
MEGHAN: Meaning what?
STEPHANIE: Meaning I think we can work everything out.
MEGHAN: But how are you going to do that?
STEPHANIE: Simple really. I like him. He likes me. We can put aside some of our differences to make this work.
MEGHAN: But he doesn't like you.

(DAVID and TYLER unfreeze)

STEPHANIE and DAVID: What?
TYLER: She doesn't like you.
DAVID: But last night, and the other night. I thought we really had something.
STEPHANIE: I don't understand.
STEPHANIE and DAVID: Who told you?
TYLER: Meghan.
MEGHAN: Tyler.
STEPHANIE: So you didn't ask David yourself?
MEGHAN: Why would I do that? He'd probably ask me why I wear clothes.
STEPHANIE: He's not stupid, he just...I don't know. But what if Tyler was lying?
DAVID: What if Meghan was lying?
TYLER: I don't think she was. She was pretty set on the fact that Stephanie told her that she's just not into you.
DAVID and STEPHANIE: It doesn't make any sense.
DAVID: We actually started connecting.
STEPHANIE: We finally started to find things in common.
TYLER: Looks can be deceptive.
MEGHAN: Steph, it's okay. I mean, maybe this is for the best. You always said that you didn't want a boyfriend going into college cause you might meet someone.
STEPHANIE: I did meet someone. I met David, who happens to go to the same college as us in case you forgot.
DAVID: I didn't forget that I said I didn't want a girlfriend now, but that doesn't mean that I can't make exceptions.
TYLER: But is she worth it?
DAVID: I think so.

TYLER: Why is she worth it?
DAVID: She makes me laugh.
TYLER: So? So does a squirrel. I make you laugh too. That doesn't mean that you should date me or a squirrel.
DAVID: I would totally pick the squirrel if I had to choose.
TYLER: Thanks.
DAVID: You're welcome. This still doesn't solve my problem though.
TYLER and MEGHAN: It's simple. Break up.
STEPHANIE and DAVID: I'm not sure if I can.
MEGHAN: It's simple. Repeat after me. David, I want to break up with you.
TYLER: Stephanie, I want to break up with you.
DAVID and STEPHANIE: I can't.
TYLER and MEGHAN: The only reason you can't is because you haven't tried.
DAVID: Fine. I'll call her now.
STEPHANIE: Fine. I'll text him and set something up.

(STEPHANIE and DAVID pull out their phones. DAVID calls STEPHANIE before she texts him.)

MEGHAN: Who is it?
STEPHANIE: Guess. ***(answers phone)*** Hey. What's up?
DAVID: We need to talk.
STEPHANIE: Yeah. I was getting ready to ask if you wanted to meet later.
DAVID: Really? Oh. Okay. Um. When do you want to meet?
STEPHANIE: Whenever.
DAVID: All right. The usual place in about 10 minutes?
STEPHANIE: Sure.
DAVID: Fine. See you then.
STEPHANIE: Yeah. See you then.

(STEPHANIE and DAVID hang up.)

DAVID:
So unreal, makes me feel the way Judas felt when he kissed his Lord,
Head hung in shame.

STEPHANIE:
Final test, not to rest again like a guilty criminal.
Fallen from fame.

DAVID:
All is fair in love and war has new meaning than before,
And I know there's nothing more,
Not this time.

STEPHANIE:
Help me fight this pain and hide these ugly scars, soon in store.

DAVID:
Empty words pouring out my soul,
Reassure my aching mind.
Same as before.
Nothing left but time;
Time to heal the hardest part.
Back to the start.

BOTH:
Is it true that through the pain,
There is something I can gain,
And I will find it soon again?
Life goes on.

DAVID:
Do I have the strength to stand?
I'm falling to my knees,
Bending to your will.

STEPHANIE:
I'm still waiting for the sign,
Yes, I'm waiting still.

DAVID:
State of mind, hard to find the place just to be at peace again.
Back to the start.

STEPHANIE:
Gone a-miss, life's been pissed away,
Useless trails and nothingness,
Back to the start.

BOTH:
Is it true that through the pain,
There is something I can gain,
And I will find it soon again?
Life goes on.
Back to the start.
Back to the start.
The start.

STEPHANIE: I can't believe I'm doing this.

MEGHAN: You'll be fine. Besides, you can do better at college.

DAVID: It just feels wrong.

TYLER: But you're doing the right thing. You weren't meant to be together.

DAVID: I don't want to talk about it anymore. *(exits. TYLER follows.)*

MEGHAN: Where are you meeting?

STEPHANIE: Here.

MEGHAN: When?

STEPHANIE: In about 10 minutes.

MEGHAN: Do you want me here?

STEPHANIE: No. I don't.

MEGHAN: Okay. Call me later then. *(exits.)*

STEPHANIE: Yeah.

(David enters.)

DAVID: Hey.

STEPHANIE: Hi.

DAVID: How are you doing?

STEPHANIE: Not too good.

DAVID: Really? Any particular reason why?

STEPHANIE: Yeah. It's just...we need to talk.

DAVID: Yeah. We do.

STEPHANIE: I really enjoyed last night, apart from the incidents at the restaurant, but I'm not sure that we're going anywhere.

DAVID: Oh?

STEPHANIE: David, I'm sorry, but I think we should...

DAVID: We should end this.

STEPHANIE: Yeah. I'm really sorry.

DAVID: No, it's okay. I mean, I'm actually kind of relieved.

STEPHANIE: *(a little hurt)* What?

DAVID: I was going to break up with you.

STEPHANIE: Oh. Maybe it's a good thing then.

DAVID: Yeah. There's nothing like getting in too deep before you're ready.

STEPHANIE: Yeah. Totally.

DAVID: So, no hard feelings?

STEPHANIE: I guess not.

DAVID: Okay. So I'll see you around?

STEPHANIE: I guess so.

DAVID: Are you okay?

STEPHANIE: Yeah. I'm fine.

DAVID: Okay. I didn't want to hurt you.

STEPHANIE: You didn't. I mean, I didn't want this either, so it's fine. Besides, we've only been going out for about a week. It's not like we've been in a relationship for a long time.

DAVID: Yeah.

STEPHANIE: Yeah.

STEPHANIE:

I guess we're through for good,

One less mistake.

And no sense to cry over little things.

I see in your eyes there is no big surprise.

Lost and confused, but don't mind.

It's like bruises that heal over time.

DAVID:

**I try to get by each and every day,
And some days are harder than other ones.
It's like Autumn to Winter or Winter to Spring.
Things always change, but I know,
The bird will recall how to sing.**

ALL:

**Time to go,
Glad we had this talk.
All we have to do now
Is turn around and walk.
Nothing else,
Left to say,
Now I guess there isn't any
Reason left to stay.**

DAVID: Um. I'd better go.

STEPHANIE: Sure. Yeah. I'll see you around.

DAVID: Yeah. See ya.

(DAVID exits.)

(Blackout. End of ACT ONE.)