

**SCENE 3A – WINGER AND REGGIE AT THE RIVER**

*REGGIE on his sleeping bag. WINGER holds his guitar.*

WINGER  
Corporal.

REGGIE  
*(sleepy)*  
Whaaaaat?

WINGER  
I seem to remember you telling me we didn't have to go enlist.

REGGIE  
Noooooo.

WINGER  
Then why am I wearing this uniform? And why are you the Corporal?

REGGIE  
Because that's how it is. It fits you, right? The uniform, I mean.

WINGER  
It fits fine, Corporal. Like it was made for me.

REGGIE  
It's time to go to sleep, sir.

WINGER  
You think we're safe here?

REGGIE  
We are safer than we've ever been, Captain. There's no one out there but friends.

WINGER  
Can we trust 'em?

REGGIE  
Yes, sir. I think we can.

*Enter GINNY.*

GINNY  
Reggie? Winger? What are you guys doing out here?

REGGIE

Oh. Hi, Ginny.

WINGER

Corporal! Don't talk to the locals. It might be a trap.

GINNY

I have homemade cornbread and chili on the stove.

REGGIE

*(to WINGER)*

Well?

WINGER

Only for ten minutes. Then we return.

GINNY

Ten minutes sounds fine.

REGGIE

Let's go, Captain.

WINGER

Who is she? Do you think she's got a place to lay down? I'm tired, Corporal.

*REGGIE picks up his sleeping bag.*

REGGIE

We can ask, sir.

*Exit all.*

**SCENE 4 – RADIO STATION**

*BALIN is in the broadcast booth. JINGLE GIRLS are set.*

**RADIO JINGLE 8: THE WHOLE FAMILY**

JINGLE GIRLS

WHUZ  
MUSIC FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY...

BALIN

Playing the smooth sounds of America's favorite band leader, Lawrence Welk! It's me, your favorite host, Dr. George Balin on WHUZ, "family radio."

*Lawrence Welk music starts...*

*Enter RICK with a suitcase, JOLEEN in traveling clothes.*

RICK

Well, Joleen, this was a failure. A total failure. I can't believe you brought me out for this.

NORA

I can't believe *anybody* came for this!

DORA

It's like a bad sitcom!

FLORA

It should have been canceled in the first season!

JOLEEN

Rick, you got on that Lear Jet yourself. *Then* you bought this dump. *Then* you sold this dump! *Then* you decided to buy a horse. *Then* the horse lost! *What* do you want from me?

RICK

What do I want? *(Takes a knee...)* I want *you*, Joleen. I want you to marry me and then – let's buy an island in Hawaii! Just one of the small ones.

JOLEEN

Oh Rick! This is the *worst* proposal I've ever gotten. *Yes!*

RICK

She said yes!

JINGLE GIRLS

*Seriously?*

*Exit RICK and JOLEEN, skipping off.*

BALIN

Wunnerful, wunnerful, wunnerful. Love is in the air, everyone. And here's one for the happy couple. Doris Day, on WHUZ, "Music for the whole family!"

*Music: "Tea for Two" by Doris Day. About 15 seconds.*

*Enter MIRANDA...*

MIRANDA

Mr. Balin!

BALIN

Miranda! What?

*MIRANDA scrapes the needle across the record in the broadcast booth.*

BALIN

Hey! What are you doing?

MIRANDA

You can't play that crap on The Hooz! It's unnatural!

BALIN

Miranda! I own the radio station now – so I make the decisions. And you can just apologize, young lady!

MIRANDA

*Never! I own the radio station now!*

*MIRANDA drags BALIN out of the broadcast booth, and hurls him on the floor. Then she pulls out the mic and holds it over BALIN while stepping on him.*

BALIN

No! Apologize!

MIRANDA

*(into the mic)*

Here's your apology, Mr. Balin! I apologize for how The Hooz has failed you all. I apologize that *anyone* should have to listen to Lawrence Welk and Doris Day on the rock 'n roll heart of Hoosier Falls!

BALIN

You're pure evil! People don't like you, you know!

*Enter PICKLES.*

PICKLES

Miranda! What are you doing? Get off of him!

BALIN

Yeah, get off of me!

MIRANDA

I'm *not* going to watch the Hooz go down like the Titanic, Pickles!

PICKLES

You called me 'Pickles.'

MIRANDA

Rick and Joleen are gone and I'm sending this old relic to a retirement home!

BALIN

A retirement home?!

PICKLES

Miranda, stop that! Look at him, he's crying!

BALIN

Well, I'm not *actually* crying.

PICKLES

*Crying!* I said, "*he's crying!*"

BALIN

Ohhhh. (*Starts crying...*)

*Enter ROMEO and EDDIE with arms full of swords.*

ROMEO

We got here as fast as we could!

EDDIE

Pickles, take a sword!

PICKLES

Thanks, Eddie!

MIRANDA

Foam swords? *Seriously*, are we going to use these in every single musical?

PICKLES

*Maybe – we – are!*

**SONG 13: FOAM SWORD BATTLE**

*MIRANDA fetches a sword. BALIN gets up and tries to stay away.  
ALL OTHER CAST enter, get swords and begin a choreographed  
sword fight.*

MIRANDA  
En garde!

EDDIE  
I can't believe Rick Rockenshire left before this amazing final battle, Romeo.

ROMEO  
And it looks to be a doozy!

EDDIE  
Pickles is out in the lead despite having *no* fencing skills!

*MIRANDA hits PICKLES with a left hook.*

PICKLES  
Ow!

ROMEO  
Miranda lays a solid left hook!

*PICKLES falls to the ground, then gets up.*

EDDIE  
But wait, she's back up! Watch this!

ROMEO  
Pickles is coming back with voltage like we've never seen!

EDDIE  
But wait, Miranda is – no, she's – oh, wait!

*BRENDA lays a sword hit on MIRANDA.*

BRENDA  
Hah!

MIRANDA  
Ohhhh!!!

EDDIE  
She's just been knocked down by Brenda from the soda shop!

BRENDA

Take that, mean girl!

*BALIN jumps on top of MIRANDA, a role reversal.*

ROMEO

And now *Mr. Balin* is standing on *her*!

EDDIE

He's taking her sword and raising it up high –

ROMEO

Oooh, this looks real bad for Miranda!

PICKLES

Wait! Stop!

*Music stops.*

PICKLES

Mr. Balin – don't hurt her!

BALIN

*(a crazed look on his face)*

I've got you now, bad doctor!

ALL OTHERS

Bad doctor?

*BALIN steps away from MIRANDA.*

BALIN

She looks like this bad doctor I had when I was a kid. He always hated me. Gave me extra shots at Christmas time and poked the throaty stick down until I gagged. And no one ever cared. Not even my mom.

EDDIE

Mr. Balin! It's okay. That doctor can't hurt you anymore.

BALIN

No? Okay. You wanna watch Bonanza, Eddie?

EDDIE

Come on, Mr. Balin. We'll go watch Bonanza.

*EDDIE escorts BALIN offstage. MIRANDA lays on the ground.*

SHARLA  
Now what do we do?

NORA  
Clean this place up, for one!

DORA  
I hate when they leave their swords everywhere.

FLORA  
Knock, knock!

ALL OTHERS  
Nooooooooo!

TAMMY  
*(To SHARLA & BRENDA...)* Well, girls, we have a lot of packing to do back at the shop. *(To ALL...)* Anyone who wants to help, come on by.

BRENDA  
I hate packing.

*Exit TAMMY, SHARLA, BRENDA.*

ROMEO  
Well, Pickles, I guess you won. She looks totally defeated.

MIRANDA  
I'm just resting my eyes.

PICKLES  
Right. And when you wake up, the station will have padlocks on the door. Good luck, dork!

KAYCEE  
Mr. Freeman's on his way over right now. There is no more Hooz after this. Move along, everyone! The party's over.

TRIBUTE  
Come on, guys. Let's go. The van's fixed and we've got to be in Toledo tonight.

STASIA  
Thanks, Kaycee.

KAYCEE  
My pleasure.



INCA

But wait. I'm starting to like it here.

KENYA

Me too. But I don't know why. I wonder how Poppy's doing?

*ALL CAST exit except MIRANDA, KAYCEE and PICKLES.*

PICKLES

It doesn't have to be this way, you know.

MIRANDA

Yes. It. Does.

PICKLES

Goodbye, Miranda. You're all done hurting me.

*Exit PICKLES. KAYCEE stares at MIRANDA.*

*Scene.*

**SCENE 5 – SODA SHOP**

*There are boxes stacked near the bar. SHARLA and BRENDA are bringing more boxes from the back. EDDIE is helping pack.*

TAMMY  
Just set that there, sweetie.

BRENDA  
Where's all this stuff gonna go?

TAMMY  
For now, my apartment. My cat's gonna love the company.

*Enter PICKLES.*

PICKLES  
Hey.

SHARLA  
Hey, Pickles. You came down.

PICKLES  
What else was I gonna do?

TAMMY  
Well, grab a box, honey. Boxes are my life, they might as well be yours.

PICKLES  
We didn't get there, did we?

TAMMY  
Didn't get where?

PICKLES  
We were reaching for something big and – I don't know.

**SONG 14: BOXES**

TAMMY  
Instead we got boxes.

PICKLES  
Not exactly the same as the brass ring.

TAMMY  
Well, hey. It's something, right?

BOXES  
 CARDBOARD CONTAINERS OF A DREAM GONE BAD  
 ALL THE LITTLE PROMISES I MADE MY DAD  
 OH, OH, NOW IN BOXES

PICKLES

BOXES  
 PACKAGES OF MEM'RIES UP ON MY SHELF  
 I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I'LL DO WITH MYSELF  
 OH, OH, WHEN I'M IN BOXES

TAMMY & PICKLES

I SHOULDN'T BE SO EMOTIONAL  
 I SHOULDN'T ACT SO IMPAIRED  
 MAYBE MY LIFE IS DISPOSABLE  
 MAYBE I'M JUST NOT PREPARED  
 FOR THE BOXES

*Enter POPPY.*

PICKLES

Poppy! I heard you left town.

POPPY

I did. Actually – I didn't.

BOXES  
 TOLD MY BAND I WAS NEVER GONNA COME BACK  
 NEVER EVEN MADE IT TO THE RAILROAD TRACKS  
 OH, OH, 'CAUSE THE BOXES

PICKLES & POPPY

BOXES  
 THE ONES YOU THINK OF AFTER YEARS GO BY  
 AND WORRY 'BOUT LOVE THAT YOU LEFT BEHIND  
 OH, OH, NOW IN BOXES

POPPY

THIS SHOULDN'T BE UNBELIEVABLE  
 I SHOULDN'T FEEL SO BETRAYED  
 SOME DREAMS IN LIFE AREN'T ACHIEVABLE  
 I GUESS THEY'LL JUST HAVE TO STAY  
 IN BOXES

*Enter ROMEO and KAYCEE.*

ROMEO

Hey-o! Romeo and Kaycee are takin' a soda break!

SHARLA

Great timing.

KAYCEE

I might be the only one in town not getting evicted.

EDDIE

Yeah, well, I just saw Mr. Freeman and he was asking where you live.

KAYCEE

Me? I don't live anywhere!

POPPY

*(to PICKLES)*

I WONDER IF THEY'LL TAKE ME BACK

PICKLES

They will.

POPPY

I THINK I WALKED OUT TOO SOON

PICKLES

But maybe not.

POPPY

SOMETIMES I GET SO EMOTIONAL  
AND I FEEL SO SCARED  
OF BOXES

*Enter HIPPIES.*

KENYA

Poppy.

TRIBUTE

Poppy!

INCA

You're back!

POPPY

I'm gonna to need a lift to Toledo, do you know anyone who's going?

STASIA

Um – yeah! I am!

*Add WINGER, REGGIE. Disco beat dance and sing.*

ALL

OOH — OOH  
CAN'T LIVE YOUR LIFE IN BOXES!OOH — OOH  
CAN'T LIVE YOUR LIFE IN BOXES!OOH — OOH  
CAN'T LIVE YOUR LIFE IN BOXES!OOH — OOH  
CAN'T LIVE YOUR LIFE IN BOXES!*Song ends.**Enter MIRANDA. Everyone freezes.***14A. BOXES, REPRISE**

PICKLES

Miranda.

MIRANDA

I'VE NEVER CARED ABOUT ANYONE OR ANYTHING  
THAT WAS A MISTAKE

TAMMY

You sure haven't.

MIRANDA

You all have each other. I only have me...and I'm a fake.

PICKLES

Miranda?

MIRANDA

Pickles. You think we could start over?

PICKLES

Everyone in this room is starting over. Join the crowd.

MIRANDA

I've never been part of a crowd.

ROMEO

Well, time to get started. We're packing Tammy up, grab something and pack it!

KAYCEE

Get a box!

MIRANDA

Yeah. Okay. That's what I'll do. I'll help. How 'bout this?

*MIRANDA takes the picture of Tammy's father off the wall, turns and runs into KAYCEE. The picture falls to the floor, the frame breaks. It's a mess.*

TAMMY

Miranda! Oh no! It's my dad's picture!

MIRANDA

Oh my god! I'm so sorry! Here, let me –

ROMEO

No, no...let me get it! Oh, boy, it's a mess.

MIRANDA

Tammy – I'm so –

*As ROMEO picks up the picture frame an envelope falls to the floor. TAMMY picks it up.*

TAMMY

What's this? It's an envelope. Where did it come from?

ROMEO

I don't know – it was in the frame I guess. Behind the picture, behind the –

TAMMY

It has my name on it. It's my dad's handwriting!

ROMEO

It was *behind the glass*.

PICKLES

Open it!

*TAMMY opens the envelope; there is a sheet of folded paper inside.*

TAMMY

It's from Dad? Oh god, my eyes are tearing up. I can't even read it, Sharla, help me!

*SHARLA takes the paper.*

SHARLA

Alright. Oh, boy. Oh, wow!

PICKLES

Sharla! What is it?

SHARLA

It's the Last Will and Testament of –

PICKLES

Tremaine Preston! Tammy, your dad left a will!

TAMMY

No! He didn't leave a will. That was the thing, *he didn't leave a will!*

PICKLES

Apparently he did.

TAMMY

Behind the glass. It was right there, behind the glass – the whole time.

SHARLA

"I hereby leave my full estate, the 'TP Family Trust,' to my daughter, Tammy Preston."

TAMMY

That's...me.

ROMEO

Your dad's the toilet paper guy!

REGGIE

Tammy Preston, told ya!

SHARLA

And title to all properties on file in Hoosier Falls, Indiana, shall transfer immediately to her.

PICKLES

All properties? This place? Romeo's shop? The radio station???

EDDIE

Looks like Tammy's got a new job.

TAMMY

This can't be possible. No, this is *not* possible! Stop it, everyone!

ROMEO

Oh, no, Tammy. It's real. And this sounds like an awfully good time to propose!  
(*He takes a knee...*) Tammy Preston, heiress and landlord, will you marry me?

TAMMY

Oh, stop that!

PICKLES

(*takes a knee, too*)

Nuh-uh! I'm gonna marry Tammy!

TAMMY

No, not without a ring, neither of you! But – oh, this is crazy! *I'm* the owner we could never find. It was me all along.

*Enter GINNY.*

GINNY

Your daddy was as rich as the hills, Tammy. I knew the minute we talked about him, you just had *no* idea.

TAMMY

Ginny. You knew?

GINNY

Well, kind of. I just couldn't prove it.

TAMMY

Guys, I own my soda shop. And the diner down the road, and – oh, heck, I probably own those McDonald's, too! And a radio station?

KAYCEE

And you own Mr. Freeman!

TAMMY

Oh, he is so fired!

EDDIE

If you're looking for someone to run that radio station, Tammy, I'd like to make a recommendation.



TAMMY

Oh, Eddie! Of course. You just let me know how you want to run it.

EDDIE

Me? I want no part of management. I recommend Pickles. She's the only one in town who can bring The Hooz back to glory.

PICKLES

Me? But – I'm still going to Los Angeles.

SHARLA

Oh, no you're not! You're staying right here, kid. Los Angeles is gross, and full of people like that Rick Rockenshire guy. This is your home, Pickles, and you can launch hits from this place.

PICKLES

I can launch hits? Number ones? Eddie?

EDDIE

Pickles, number ones aren't the same thing as hits. They're just songs that someone decided were popular this week. No one needs to tell you what a hit is. You've always known.

PICKLES

Yeah. I guess it's something that doesn't exist – until it does. Like a unicorn. Like how Mick Jagger really *is* a portabello mushroom. It's impossible – but when it's true, you just know it. That's what a hit is.

EDDIE

I couldn't have said it better. Hey, Pickles, can I have my job back?

PICKLES

Oh, Eddie! Yes! But I still want to be on the radio.

*PICKLES and EDDIE share a big hug.*

### **SONG 15: HITSVILLE**

SOLO 1

WE DON'T HAVE ALL NIGHT  
WE MIGHT NOT HAVE TOMORROW  
WE JUST NEED TO TURN ON THE LIGHT  
AND BE A STAR TO FOLLOW

DO IT NOW, JUST BEGIN  
BEFORE WE'RE ALL DUST IN THE WIND  
LET'S START A LITTLE SPARK RIGHT HERE IN OUR HANDS

AND SPREAD IT ALL OVER THE LAND

ENSEMBLE

SO GRAB ON TO A SONG  
 'CAUSE THE RHYTHM IS WARM AND THE MELODY'S STRONG  
 WE'RE WHERE WE BELONG IN HITSVILLE  
 AT THE END OF THE DAY  
 THEY AIN'T NOBODY NEVER GONNA TAKE IT AWAY  
 YEAH WE ALL CAME TO PLAY  
 IN HITSVILLE

PICKLES

SPIN THOSE FORTY-FIVES  
 TEN THOUSAND WATTS OF POWER  
 PLAY ME SOME HITS THAT I WANNA HEAR  
 THEN LET ME HEAR IT LOUDER

ADD HIPPIES

AND YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A FAN  
 WHEN YOU'RE HANGIN' WITH THE KIDS IN THE BAND  
 WE START A LITTLE SPARK RIGHT HERE IN OUR HANDS  
 AND SPREAD IT ALL OVER THE LAND

ENSEMBLE

SO GRAB ON TO A SONG  
 'CAUSE THE RHYTHM IS WARM AND THE MELODY'S STRONG  
 WE'RE WHERE WE BELONG IN HITSVILLE  
 AT THE END OF THE DAY  
 THEY AIN'T NOBODY NEVER GONNA TAKE IT AWAY  
 YEAH WE ALL CAME TO PLAY  
 IN HITSVILLE

OH, WHOA...

AND YOU'LL KNOW YOU BELONG  
 WHERE WE ALL GET ALONG  
 AND SING THE SAME SONG  
 WE ALL CAME TO PLAY  
 YEAH WE'RE ALL HERE TODAY  
 YEAH WE ALL CAME TO STAY IN HITSVILLE  
 (DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL)  
 IN HITSVILLE  
 (DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!)  
 IN HITSVILLE!  
 DON'T YOU TOUCH THAT DIAL!

*End of Play.*