

ARNIE'S GYM

## **CHARACTERS**

**ARNIE SUTTON** (50) - Gym owner. Lovable rogue with a secret, shady past. Over protective father to Michelle. His goal is to save his gym and accept Michelle and Harry's relationship.

**MICHELLE SUTTON** (18) - Arnie's daughter and Harry's girlfriend. At a pivotal point in her life where she discovers what she really wants. Caring, tries to please everyone. Her goal is to persuade Arnie to allow her and Harry to be together.

**HARRY FORBES** (22) - Michelle's boyfriend, bar tender. Fiercely in love with Michelle, Geeky, but deceptively strong. His goal is to convince Michelle he is the right guy for her and to convince Arnie he and Michelle must be together.

**SOPHIE McALISTER** (43) - Undercover cop, wannabe performer, Suffers from stage fright. Her goal is to organise the arrest of the gang members, while overcoming her fears and performing upfront on stage.

**LEONARDO DAGASTINI** (58) - Gang boss, elegantly dressed, quietly spoken, but intimidating. His goal is to blackmail Arnie by threatening to reveal his shady past if he doesn't pay up.

**SCAR FACE** (48) - Leonardo's henchman. Big build, a scar on his face. His goal is to be loyal to Leonardo.

**JIMMY** (43) - Big build, tattoos, womaniser, Leonardo's henchman. His goal is to be loyal to Leonardo and take Michelle for himself.

**SWISH** (34) - One half of comic duo, gym cleaner.

**SWOSH** (34) - Second half of comic duo, gym cleaner. Their goal is to keep the gym clean with subtext that some of the other characters are not 'clean' at all.

**CHORUS OF EIGHT SINGERS AND DANCERS/to double as audience members for the final show.**

**FOUR ASSOCIATES OF LEONARDO for audience at the final show.**

**SIX POLICE OFFICERS to arrest Leonardo, Scar Face, Jimmy and associates.**

**THE SONGS****ACT 1**

1. OVERTURE
2. THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE (Arnie and Chorus)
3. IT ALL COMES FROM LOVING YOU (Harry and Michelle)
4. STAR OF A MEGA SHOW (Sophie)
5. LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM (whole cast)
6. IS IT CLEAN (Swish and Swosh)
7. THE HUSH MONEY SONG (Leonardo, Scar Face, Jimmy and Chorus)
8. I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS ANYMORE (Arnie)

**ACT 2**

9. IS IT CLEAN (REPRISE) (Swish and Swosh)
10. THE CHILD IN ME (Michelle)
11. TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT (Arnie)
12. ARNIE'S NIGHTMARE (instrumental with cast)
13. YOU ARE EVERYTHING TO ME (Harry)
14. JUST ONE STEP (Sophie)
15. LUCY LASTIC (Arnie)
16. IS HE CLEAN (REPRISE) (Swish and Swosh)
17. RISE ABOVE THE WORLD (Whole Cast)
18. THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE (REPRISE) (Whole Cast)

**STAGING****SET 1**

A big sign with 'Arnie's Gym' logo.

Various gym equipment (see 'props').

A reception area, bar area and office area.

**SET 2**

A performance stage.

PA system.

Lighting.

Some chairs and tables to accommodate 15 audience members.

**PROPS****FOR THE GYM**

2 Gym walking machines (or made up suggestion of them).

1 Gym exercise bike (or made up suggestion of it).

1 Rowing machine (or made up suggestion of it).

3 Floor mats.

Some weights.

Cleaning equipment and Hoover for Swish and Swosh.

A menacing looking knife for Scar Face.

Mobile phone and warrant card for Sophie.

Box with old music cassettes, papers.

Wallet and money for chorus member.

**FOR THE BAR**

A plethora of soft drinks, half a dozen bottles of beer, glasses.

A secret door in the wall of the bar near the floor that holds the bottles of beer.

**FOR THE RECEPTION**

Desk with a chair behind it, on the desk a computer, stationery, a cup with pens in it.

Membership forms.

**FOR THE OFFICE**

A desk with a chair behind it, on the desk a computer, papers.

**FOR ARNIE'S PERFORMANCE**

A full length mirror.

Rail and hangers for dresses.

Microphones.

Stage lighting.

Shiny tinsel and decorations, party lights.

Talkie radio for Sophie.

Handcuffs for the police.

A jewelry box with an engagement ring inside for Harry.

**SPECIAL COSTUMES**

Suit and fedora hat for Leonardo.

Oversized dresses for Arnie's Nightmare scene.

Superhero outfit for Sophie in Nightmare scene.

Drag artist attire, wig, make up, dresses (one for Arnie to wear, some for the rail), foam pads for bra, bra, shoes.

Dressing gown for Arnie.

Police uniforms.

**ACT 1****SCENE 1****OVERTURE**

VOICE FROM OFF STAGE  
 DREAMS ARE ONLY DREAMS IF YOU LET  
 THEM SLIP AWAY, TAKE A CHANCE,  
 START THE DANCE, TODAY.

**CURTAIN UP**

The chorus are on the gym equipment, they work out, make it look like really hard work, they huff and puff and struggle, Arnie enters, goes around to watch them all as he sings.

**SONG... THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE - performed by Arnie and Chorus.**

ARNIE  
 COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 FOR ADRENALIN JUNKIES IT'S THE  
 PLACE TO BE  
 AND IF IT'S BREATHLESS FUN YOU SEEK  
 I RECOMMEND AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS  
 EVERY WEEK

COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 THE BLOOD AND THE SWEAT AND THE  
 TEARS ALL COME FOR FREE  
 WELL WITHOUT THE PAIN THERE IS NO  
 GAIN  
 SO COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT  
 BOOGIE WITH ME

While singing next verse, a chorus member mimes taking out his wallet, opens it, hands Arnie money, Arnie looks really pleased.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 LOSING WEIGHT IS EASY  
 DIG DEEP INTO YOUR POCKET  
 AND WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW  
 TO TAKE INCHES OFF YOUR WALLET  
 WITH A LITTLE WORK WE'LL HELP YOU  
 SHED THOSE POUNDS.

While singing next verse, Arnie holds up a bank note checks it.

Sings aside to the audience.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 BELIEVE ME IT'S MUCH EASIER THAN IT  
 SOUNDS.

While singing next part, Arnie takes a chorus member to the bar. While he sings, Arnie bends down, opens a secret door on the wall of the bar, pulls out a bottle of beer, gives it to the chorus member, moves the chorus member quickly away before Harry sees.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 THE BAR IS ALWAYS OPEN  
 YOU CAN GET WHAT YOU NEED HERE  
 REPLACE THE SWEAT AND TEARS YOU  
 LOST  
 WITH A COLD REFRESHING BEER.

Chorus rock and roll to instrumental, including Arnie who dances terribly.

Arnie turns to a chorus member, puts his hand on their shoulder, pushes them gently to the floor, the chorus member kneels, looks up at Arnie.

ARNIE  
 YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE  
 SO GET ON YOUR KNEES AND PRAY  
 COS CHOCOLATE CAKE AND FAGS  
 ARE THE DEVILS OF TODAY

CHORUS  
 HALLELUYAH

ARNIE  
 VERY SOON YOUR BAD ADDICTIONS WILL  
 SOON PASS  
 SO YOUR FIRST MOVE IS GET UP OFF  
 YOUR ...

(Arnie mimes 'arse' as trumpet sounds over him).

Another chorus member puts their hands over another chorus member's ears.

The kneeling chorus member gets up, goes back to working out.

ARNIE  
 SO LETS WORK THOSE ABS AND PECS  
 WATCH YOUR STAMINA IMPROVE  
 I SAID PUMP THAT IRON AND WORK THAT  
 FRAME  
 YEAH MAKE THOSE MUSCLES MOVE

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 EXERCISE AND A SAUNA THAT IS WHAT  
 YOU NEED  
 WHEN YOU'RE EXHAUSTED ON THE FLOOR  
 I RECOMMEND YOU KEEP COMING BACK  
 FOR MORE

Arnie and the chorus sing and dance to final chorus

ARNIE AND CHORUS (CONT'D)  
 COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 THE BLOOD AND THE SWEAT AND THE  
 TEARS ALL COME FOR FREE  
 WELL WITHOUT THE PAIN THERE IS NO  
 GAIN  
 SO COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT  
 BOOGIE WITH ME  
 COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 YEAH

Arnie is completely puffed out, he pants and heaves.

The chorus go back to the gym equipment, they all work out.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 (Wheezes)  
 Bloody hell... Can't breathe...

Michelle enters.

MICHELLE  
 Dad... You okay?

ARNIE  
 (Breathless)  
 I... Will be... need... to sit.

Arnie exits, Harry enters.

Harry takes Michelle by the hands, looks into her eyes.

The chorus exit.

HARRY  
 I'm gonna tell Arnie, today.

MICHELLE  
 What? Tell him what?



HARRY

About us.

MICHELLE

No you can't, he'll go crazy, he'll kill you. You could be the richest person on the planet, as far as he is concerned, no one is good enough for me.

HARRY

No it's alright, he knows me, he knows I'm honest, I have never once betrayed him or given him any cause to doubt me, he's got to listen to me.

MICHELLE

(Scared)

I don't know, maybe he's right, maybe we're both too young...

HARRY

No... We're not...

**SONG... IT ALL COMES FROM LOVING YOU - performed by Harry and Michelle.**

HARRY (CONT'D)

WE DON'T ALWAYS CHOOSE THE ONE WE  
FALL IN LOVE WITH  
WE CAN'T HELP IT HOW WE FEEL ABOUT  
SOMEONE  
AND I KNOW WITH ALL MY HEART AND  
SOUL  
THAT MY SOMEONE IS YOU

MICHELLE

WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS LIFE HAS  
GOT IN STORE FOR US  
WE DON'T KNOW IF LIFE WILL ALWAYS  
TREAT US RIGHT  
BUT I KNOW WITH ALL MY HEART AND  
SOUL  
THAT LIFE IS WONDERFUL WITH YOU

MICHELLE AND HARRY (CONT'D)

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY CONFIDENT AND  
FRIEND  
SOMEONE CLOSE I CAN RELY ON  
AND DEPEND UPON  
AND I'VE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES JUST  
HOW I FEEL  
THIS HONESTY AND TRUTH

(MORE)

MICHELLE AND HARRY (CONT'D)  
IT ALL COMES FROM LOVING YOU

HARRY  
PROMISE ME THAT YOU UNDERSTAND MY  
WORDS  
TELL ME THAT I'VE NOT GONE UNHEARD  
IN THIS WORLD WE ONLY HAVE ONE  
CHANCE  
AND MY DESTINY TELLS ME IT'S WITH  
YOU

MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
YOU'RE THE STRENGTH I NEED TO FIGHT  
ANOTHER DAY  
AND WHEN THE WORLD'S NOT RIGHT  
AND NOTHING GOES MY WAY  
I KNOW YOUR LOVE IS ALWAYS THERE  
TO SEE ME THROUGH

MICHELLE AND HARRY (CONT'D)  
AND ALL I WANT TO DO  
IS LIVE MY WHOLE LIFE WITH YOU

Harry and Michelle dance through musical interlude.

HARRY AND MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY CONFIDENT AND  
FRIEND  
SOMEONE CLOSE I CAN RELY ON  
AND DEPEND UPON  
AND I'VE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES  
JUST HOW I FEEL  
THIS HONESTY AND TRUTH  
IT ALL COMES FROM LOVING YOU  
THIS HONESTY AND TRUTH  
IT ALL COMES FROM LOVING YOU

Michelle and Harry hug tightly.

Michelle goes back behind the reception desk, Harry goes back behind the bar.

Sophie enters, looks around, goes to Michelle at the reception desk.

SOPHIE  
Hello, I'd like to join the gym.

MICHELLE  
But of course, I'll need you to fill in this form. Just your name, address, phone and email address and so on, you'll see.

Sophie takes the form and a pen from the cup on the desk, writes out the form.

Arnie enters.

ARNIE

Hey there, I'm Arnie, owner of the gym.

SOPHIE

Hello, I'm Sophie.

ARNIE

Ah, good, once the form is completed the fee is payable in advance.

Arnie points to the form. Clears his throat.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Ummmm, the prices on there are wrong I'm afraid... Ummmm, we've recently had to put up our prices, inflation catches up with all of us in the end. Just haven't had a chance to fix all the ads yet.

Sophie smiles, continues writing.

Without Sophie noticing, Arnie holds three fingers up to Michelle, to indicate three pounds more. Michelle gives him a prolonged look.

Arnie raises his shoulders, holds his hands out and mouths the word 'what?' to Michelle. Michelle shakes her head in disdain.

Sophie finishes writing out the form, looks up. Arnie quickly goes back to his normal demeanour.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

So, So what do you do for a living?

SOPHIE

Well, at the moment I'm between jobs. I used to be a dancer and backing singer. I did a couple of shows on the West End, just in the chorus. I was never good enough to be out front on a stage. I still do a little when I can, but to pay the rent I do just a few hours each week in a call centre.

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 Coming here will help keep me  
 supple, I'm hoping.

Sophie gives the form to Michelle.

MICHELLE  
 How did you get into performing?

SOPHIE  
 Well...

**SONG... STAR OF A MEGA SHOW - performed by Sophie.**

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 I WAS ON MY OWN ONE MORNING  
 TWIDDLING MY FINGERS WITH NOTHING  
 TO DO  
 SO I PUT ON A LITTLE MUSIC  
 LOST MYSELF IN A SONG OR TWO  
 I COULD FEEL THE LOVE OF MILLIONS  
 RISING UP FROM THE CROWD BELOW  
 AND I SWAM IN THEIR ADULATION  
 I WAS THE STAR OF A MEGA SHOW

Sophie holds the pen like a microphone.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 AND I WAS SINGING WITH MCCARTNEY  
 ON STAGE WITH STATUS QUO  
 I'M GIVING IT UP FOR ELTON  
 I WAS ON TOP OF THE WORLD AND SO  
 I SWAYED WITH QUEEN AND MADONNA  
 AND NEVER ONCE DID THE RHYTHM SLOW  
 I TOOK A CHANCE WHEN I SAW KYLIE  
 DANCE  
 I WAS THE STAR OF A MEGA SHOW

THEN I CAME DOWN TO TERRA FIRMA  
 I WAS STARING OUT AT THE FALLING  
 RAIN  
 BUT I KNEW I'D BEEN SOMEWHERE  
 SPECIAL  
 AND I'LL SOON BE GOING BACK AGAIN

COS I WAS SINGING WITH MACARTNEY  
 ON STAGE WITH MANILOW  
 I'M GIVING IT UP FOR ROBBIE  
 I WAS ON TOP OF THE WORLD AND SO  
 I SWAYED WITH QUEEN AND MADONNA  
 AND NEVER ONCE DID THE RHYTHM SLOW  
 I TOOK A CHANCE WHEN I SAW GAGA  
 DANCE  
 I WAS THE STAR OF A MEGA SHOW

(MORE)

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 YEAH, I WAS SINGING WITH MACARTNEY  
 ON STAGE WITH STATUS QUO  
 I'M GIVING IT UP FOR ELTON  
 I WAS ON TOP OF THE WORLD AND SO  
 I SWAYED WITH QUEEN AND MADONNA  
 AND NEVER ONCE DID THE RHYTHM SLOW  
 I TOOK A CHANCE WHEN I SAW KYLIE  
 DANCE  
 I WAS THE STAR OF A MEGA SHOW

AND YOU CAN BE A STAR  
 IF YOU PLAY AIR GUITAR  
 STAR OF A MEGA SHOW

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 I can do that on my own at home,  
 put me in front of a real audience  
 and I go to pieces.

MICHELLE  
 You're amazing.

SOPHIE  
 Not really.

Sophie moves towards the equipment.

ARNIE  
 Ok, if you need any help ask me or  
 Harry over there.

SOPHIE  
 Thank you, I'll see you soon.

Arnie and Michelle watch after her as she exits.

Arnie goes to the bar, talks to Harry.

ARNIE  
 Wheelin' and dealin' but never  
 stealing!

HARRY  
 Yea! And kidding yourself ain't  
 good for your health!

Arnie chuckles loudly.

ARNIE  
 Just tryin' to make a buck, I like  
 to call it a well earned service  
 charge, so I can add to the coffers  
 so to speak.

HARRY

Sorry, Arnie, honesty's the best policy.

ARNIE

I know, I know... but sometimes, you have to go the extra mile to make it in this life.

SONG... LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM - performed by Arnie, Harry, Michelle, Sophie and chorus.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

NO ONE GOT TO WHERE THEY ARE  
BY SITTING AND THINKING  
AND THE ALAN SUGARS OF THIS WORLD  
WELL THEY ARE STINKING

HARRY

HAA HAAA RICH THAT IS

ARNIE

LENON AND MACARTNEY WROTE A FEW  
GOOD TUNES  
AND BRANSON TOOK OFF  
WHEN HE WENT UP IN THOSE BALLOONS

SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
WE'LL SHOW THEM HOW IT'S DONE  
REACH FOR NUMBER ONE  
STAND BACK AND WATCH HOW WE PERFORM

CHORUS

SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
I KNOW THAT WE'LL BE FINE  
JUST NEVER TOW THE LINE  
WHEN WE TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

ARNIE

NOW PASTEUR DID IT WITH MEDICINE

Chorus member switches a light on and off.

CHORUS MEMBER 1

AND EDISON SAW THE LIGHT

Swish and Swosh run on from stage left, sing the next line as they run across the stage with a Hoover, then, they exit stage right.

SWISH AND SWOSH

AND DYSON SUCKED UP TO A VACUUM

HARRY  
SHAW'S CATS EYES LIT UP THE NIGHT

CHORUS MEMBER 2  
STEPHENSEN'S IDEAS ROCKETED

ARNIE  
WHILE FAGIN POCKETED THE CASH HAAA  
HAAAA

MICHELLE  
HILARY HAD A MOUNTAIN TO CLIMB

CHORUS MEMBER 3  
AND CYNTHIA PAIN, SHE REIGNED, WITH  
A LASH

SOPHIE  
MISS EMELINE PANKURST  
A WOMAN OF NOTE  
FOUGHT REAL HARD FOR THE WOMEN'S  
VOTE

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE, CHORUS  
YOU'LL FIND YOUR LIFE JUST ENHANCES  
AND WHEN YOU GRAB ALL YOUR CHANCES

As-a-round

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE,  
CHORUS (CONT'D)  
SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LETS TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

ARNIE  
WE'LL BE UNSTOPABLE  
AIMING FOR THE TOPPABLE

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE, CHORUS  
THE WORLD WILL BE WEATHERWORN  
SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

As-a-round

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE,  
CHORUS (CONT'D)  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

ARNIE  
 NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE  
 EVERYTHING IS PROBABLE WHEN WE

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE, CHORUS  
 TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

ARNIE  
 OPPORTUNITY IS THERE TO BE TAKEN  
 YOU MUSTN'T EVER BE SHAKEN  
 VERY SOON ALL YOUR DREAMS WILL  
 AWAKEN  
 AND YOU'LL KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME  
 COME ON AND PUT IT ON THE LINE

As-a-round.

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE, CHORUS  
 SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 WE'LL BE UNSTOPPABLE  
 AIMING FOR THE TOPABLE  
 THE WORLD WILL BE WEATHERWORN  
 SO LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 LET'S TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM  
 NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE  
 EVERYTHING IS PROBABLE WHEN WE  
 TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

ARNIE  
 DID YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID  
 COME ON, NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE  
 EVERYTHING IS PROBABLE WHEN WE

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE, CHORUS  
 TAKE THE WORLD BY STORM

The chorus, Michelle and Sophie exit.

Harry approaches Arnie.

HARRY  
 (Awkward, tries to summon  
 up the courage)  
 Arnie. I... I need to have a word  
 with you later, privately... Can we  
 meet up just after we close?

ARNIE  
 Yeah, sure, everything okay?



HARRY  
 (Mumbles)  
 Yeah... No... Sort of.

ARNIE  
 Okay, talk to you later.

Arnie exits.

HARRY  
 Oh God.

Harry exits.

Swish and Swosh enter.

They carry mops, buckets and other cleaning items.

They clean, spray and wipe down equipment.

SONG... IS IT CLEAN - performed by Swish and Swosh.

SWISH  
 IS IT CLEAN? IS IT CLEAN?

SWOSH  
 YES IT'S CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 IT'S THE CLEANEST GYM  
 YOU'VE EVER SEEN, SEEN, SEEN

SWISH (CONT'D)  
 IT WOULD BE A SIN

SWOSH  
 A PROPER SIN, SIN, SIN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 IF YOU EVER FOUND A CLEANER GYM,  
 GYM, GYM

SWISH (CONT'D)  
 NOW SOME OF THE GYMS ARE DIRTY

SWOSH  
 YOU COULD END UP WITH THE LURGY

SWISH  
 AND YOU KNOW THINGS MUST BE MOULDY  
 IF

SWOSH  
 YOU END UP WITH A COLDY

SWISH  
AND WE'LL NEVER HEAR THE LAST OF IT

SWOSH  
IF THERE WAS ANY DUST UPON IT

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
SO WE MAKE SURE IT'S SPARKLYFIED  
KILL BUGS  
AND GERMS  
THEY SQUIRM  
GET FRIED

SWISH (CONT'D)  
YES IT'S CLEAN, YES IT'S CLEAN

SWOSH  
IT'S SO CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
IT'S THE CLEANEST GYM YOU'VE EVER  
SEEN, SEEN, SEEN

SWISH (CONT'D)  
IT WOULD BE A SIN

SWOSH  
A PROPER SIN, SIN, SIN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
IF YOU EVER FOUND A CLEANER GYM,  
GYM GYM

SWISH (CONT'D)  
AND WE WASH AND CLEAN THE SHOWERS

SWOSH  
WE ARE UP UNTIL ALL HOURS

SWISH  
TO CHECK THERE'S NO BACTERIA

SWOSH  
WHICH WE KNOW WOULD CAUSE HYSTERIA

SWISH  
AND THE SCRUBBING KEEPS US OH SO  
BUSY

SWOSH  
DOES THE BRIGHTNESS MAKE YOU DIZZY

SWISH  
 THAT'S WHY THIS PLACE IS WHAT IT IS  
 THE TOPS

SWOSH  
 A ONE

SWISH  
 BAR NONE

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 THE BIZ

SWISH (CONT'D)  
 IS IT CLEAN? IS IT CLEAN?

SWOSH  
 YES IT'S CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 IT'S THE CLEANEST GYM YOU'VE EVER  
 SEEN, SEEN, SEEN

SWISH (CONT'D)  
 IT WOULD BE A SIN

SWOSH  
 A PROPER SIN, SIN, SIN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 IF YOU EVER FOUND A CLEANER GYM,  
 GYM, GYM

Swish and Swosh dance to music interlude.

**SWISH** (CONT'D)  
 AND THE SCRUBBING KEEPS US OH SO  
 BUSY

**SWOSH**  
 DOES THE BRIGHTNESS MAKE YOU DIZZY

**SWISH**  
 THAT MAKES THIS PLACE JUST WHAT IT  
 IS

**SWOSH**  
 THE TOPS

**SWISH**  
 A ONE

**SWOSH**  
 BAR NONE

**SWISH**

THE BIZ

**SWISH (CONT'D)**

IS IT CLEAN, IS IT CLEAN?

**SWOSH**

YES IT'S CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

**SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)**

IT'S THE CLEANEST GYM  
YOU'VE EVER SEEN, SEEN, SEEN

**SWISH (CONT'D)**

IT WOULD BE A SIN

**SWOSH**

A PROPER SIN, SIN, SIN

**SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)**

IF YOU EVER FOUND A CLEANER GYM,  
GYM, GYM  
YES IT WOULD BE A SIN  
A PROPER SIN, SIN, SIN  
IF YOU EVER FOUND A CLEANER GYM

Swish and Swosh exit.

Arnie is in the office, Harry enters.

**HARRY**

Thanks for this, Arnie.

**ARNIE**

So, what is your problem Harry?

**HARRY**

Ummmm, well... Ummmmmm.

**ARNIE**

Come on man, spit it out, I won't eat you.

**HARRY**

It's about Michelle.

**ARNIE**

What about her? Is she alright?

**HARRY**

Yes, yes, she's fine, it's just that... Well.

Arnie shuffles impatiently, rolls his eyes.

ARNIE  
 (Shouts)  
 Harry!!!!

HARRY  
 Okay, okay.. Ummmm... Michelle and  
 I have been seeing each other... I  
 love her.

ARNIE  
 (Shouts)  
 WHAT????!!!!

HARRY  
 Please don't be upset.

ARNIE  
 Upset? Upset? I'm not upset, I'm  
 fuming!

HARRY  
 She feels the same... Please listen  
 to me, we want to be together.

ARNIE  
 Over my dead body, she's only 18,  
 she's too young and you're not  
 exactly rolling in it are you? What  
 would you be able to offer her?

HARRY  
 Ummmm... Me... Just me...

ARNIE  
 NO! And if I get a whiff that  
 you've been seeing her, I'll have  
 you out on your ear, you leave her  
 alone, you understand?

Harry suddenly thinks of something. Pulls himself up, stands  
 tall, finds courage.

HARRY  
 Well... Over your dead body it  
 might be.

ARNIE  
 What?

HARRY

I wasn't sure till today, but...  
Yeah, some dodgy looking geezers  
have been hanging around the gym  
the last week, I'm surprised you  
never noticed. You're being  
watched.

Harry exits quickly before Arnie can say anything. Arnie  
looks puzzled.

ARNIE

Who on earth?

Arnie closes up the gym as he leaves.

## SCENE 2

Arnie is in the office, Michelle is behind the reception  
desk.

Harry enters, he goes to Michelle, whispers to her.

HARRY

I'm so sorry, I tried. He shouted  
at me.

MICHELLE

I'm sorry.

HARRY

I'm going to talk to him again,  
I've got make him see reason.

MICHELLE

No. I'll talk to him later, it  
should come from me anyway.

HARRY

I don't know if that's a good idea.

MICHELLE

Anything is worth a try.

HARRY

Okay.

Harry goes back behind the bar.

Scar Face and Jimmy enter. Scar face has a scar down his  
cheek, Jimmy has tattoos. They look menacing.

Arnie recognises them, freezes for a moment, then comes out  
of the office.

ARNIE

Can I help you gentlemen?

Jimmy looks over at Michelle adoringly, Michelle doesn't notice, then turns back to Arnie and Scar Face.

SCAR FACE

Hello Arnie, you are Arnie aren't you? It's more a question of... Can we help you? You see it's like this, we are here to check the place out, before the boss arrives.

ARNIE

What do you mean? Are you not wanting to join the gym then?

Scar face and Jimmy laugh.

SCAR FACE

No, I told you, The boss is on his way here to see you. He wants to have a quiet little word in your shell like.

Leonardo enters, elegantly dressed, with a fedora hat, suave.

Arnie looks at Leonardo in shocked recognition.

ARNIE

What??? What are you doing here?

SONG... THE HUSH MONEY SONG - performed by Leonardo, Scar Face, Jimmy, chorus.

LEONARDO

YOU'RE A WELL VERSED BUSINESS MAN  
LIKE THOSE AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE  
AND SOMETIMES IT TAKES BRAIN AND  
BRAUN  
BUT NOBODY THINKS IT'S STRANGE

WHEN YOU RIP OFF YOUR PUNTERS  
SQUEEZE THEM ALL FOR EVERY PENNY  
I'VE GOT A BOSS WHO GETS SO VERY  
CROSS  
BECAUSE HE AIN'T GETTING ANY

SCAR FACE

HMMMM MONEY THAT IS

LEONARDO  
 ALL THE THINGS YOU DID BEFORE  
 YOU OPENED THIS GAFF OF YOURS  
 NO ONE HAS A CLUE  
 IT'S OUR SECRET BEHIND GYM DOORS

NOW I DON'T WANT TO BULLY  
 AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO BRAG  
 DIDN'T YOU DRESS AS SOME OLD HAG  
 WAS YOUR LIFE A BIT OF A DRAG

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY  
 YOU'RE GONNA GIVE US HUSH MONEY

CHORUS  
 HUSH, HUSH HUSH, HUSH MONEY

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY  
 IT'S ONLY MONEY  
 HUSH MONEY  
 AND YOU CAN NOT REFUSE

WE'RE GONNA TAKE YOUR HUSH MONEY

CHORUS  
 HUSH, HUSH, HUSH, HUSH MONEY

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY  
 IT'S ONLY MONEY  
 AND WE'RE HERE TO MAKE SURE  
 YOU PAY YOUR DUES

LEONARDO  
 YOUR SHADY PAST OF CRIME, ROCK N  
 ROLL, DRUGS AND ALCOHOL  
 WILL NO LONGER BE A SECRET  
 THAT'S IF YOU DON'T PAY THE TOLL  
 AND OUR PROPOSITION IS  
 THREE THOUSAND QUID EVERY THIRTY  
 DAYS  
 OR YOUR OH SO PRECIOUS GYM WILL GO  
 UP IN AN ALMIGHTY BLAZE

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE, JIMMY  
 SO YOU'RE GONNA GIVE US HUSH MONEY

CHORUS  
 HUSH, HUSH HUSH, HUSH MONEY

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY  
 IT'S ONLY MONEY  
 HUSH MONEY  
 AND YOU CANNOT REFUSE  
 WE'RE GONNA TAKE YOUR HUSH MONEY



CHORUS  
HUSH, HUSH, HUSH, HUSH MONEY

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY  
IT'S ONLY MONEY  
HUSH MONEY  
I'M HERE TO MAKE SURE YOU PAY YOUR  
DUES

Leonardo tips his hat to Arnie mockingly.

LEONARDO  
It's good to see you again, Arnie,  
Specially after you took off  
without a word.

Scar face and Jimmy chuckle.

ARNIE  
Leonardo Dagastini!

LEONARDO  
Hello Arnie, yes it's me, your old  
pal Leo! So glad you remember me  
and you remember my boys? Jimmy and  
Scar face too?

Arnie opens his mouth to speak, Leonardo puts his arm up to  
Arnie's face, which stops him.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)  
Now that's an interesting name,  
Arnie's Gym, isn't that what you  
call this place? And who is Arnie  
anyway? You know, I always knew you  
as Cyril!

Harry and Michelle make their way over, push their way  
through.

Jimmy takes Michelle by the arm, he smirks at her. Michelle  
shakes him off. Jimmy laughs.

Harry looks at Arnie. Arnie shakes his head at Harry as if to  
say 'don't do anything'.

ARNIE  
You get off home now and I'll see  
you in the morning OK, take care,  
on your way now!

Arnie leans to Harry to talk privately with him.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

You just remember what I said.

Arnie indicates Jimmy and Scar Face with a nod of his head.

Harry looks at Arnie indignantly.

Harry and Michelle exit.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy move closer to Arnie.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

I'm Arnie now, Arnie Sutton, OK?

LEONARDO

Oh but Arnie, I mean Cyril, weren't you once called Cyril Sidebottom in your younger days?

ARNIE

No it's Arnie now. That was a long time ago, in a previous life! Arnie Sutton now.

Leonardo smiles, circles around Arnie.

LEONARDO

Now there's a stupid name, Sidebottom. What woman would want to go to bed with a man called Sidebottom?

Leonardo sniggers.

Arnie looks at the floor.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

So tell me, why did you choose the name Arnie, and why the name Sutton? Do tell.

Arnie looks up, wistful, reluctant to answer, then...

ARNIE

I always admired Arnold Schwarzenegger, came from Austria, got himself a great body, went to the States and then he won Mr Universe way back, then he became a film star. He must have made his money there and then did politics. You've just got to admire a man like that.

(MORE)

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Someone who goes from one lifestyle to something completely different. That's very praiseworthy. Knowing I was moving into the fitness business, which was a bit by accident, it seemed the obvious choice.

LEONARDO

Yes, that sounds a bit like you. Why did you get this place? And where did the Sutton name come from?

ARNIE

I did manage to get some money together and bought this place from a guy who was emigrating to Australia, Don't ask me why, It wasn't a plan, I just needed to get a legit life for a change.

Arnie pauses, looks at Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Oh and as for a last name, we just stuck a pin in a page of the phone book. Sutton sounded OK, so Sutton it was.

LEONARDO

So you did have a previous life didn't you? What was it now? Drug running and supplying, stealing a few cars, than you even tried to knock over an all night launderette. How stupid was that? How long were you in the Scrubs? Three years wasn't it?

Leonardo grins cruelly.

ARNIE

That's all in the past now, I try to forget it, I've moved on.

LEONARDO

You mean that no one here knows of your youthful misdemeanours? Wouldn't that be a shame if they found out? Hmmm?

ARNIE

(Irritated)

OK! OK! So what do you want from me?

LEONARDO

Well it's a more a case of what you want to give me. You have a nice little earner here don't you? That's a very regular income from your clientele. I'm always happy to see someone getting on so well and making a good living. Wouldn't you like to share some of all that money you're making?

ARNIE

Oh, its protection money that you want is it?

LEONARDO

No, No, let's call it insurance. Everybody needs insurance don't they? And you wouldn't want any pins stuck in you, would you? Especially any very large pins. That would be terribly painful, molto doloroso, capire? That's very unpleasant.

Scar face makes his hand into a gun shape, waves it in Arnie's direction, then sticks his hand inside his coat pocket, takes out a knife, pretends to clean under his fingernails with the tip of it, looks menacingly at Arnie.

Arnie watches him.

ARNIE

OK. So tell me what you want, what's on your mind? How much do you want?

LEONARDO

That's a good boy Arnie, Che bravo ragazzo, now you are seeing sense, a little two way co-operation and it will all be over quite painlessly, for you.

ARNIE

So come on, name your game, what's your price?

LEONARDO

Now that's an interesting thought,  
name my game. Or better still, you  
name your game Arnie.

ARNIE

(Flustered)

What? What are you on about?

LEONARDO

Well, we know about your drag  
act...

Arnie looks at Leonardo in shock.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

Lucy Lastic was it?

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy laugh.

ARNIE

No!

LEONARDO

Come on Arnie, don't be coy, don't  
deny it.

ARNIE

I started that when I was banged  
up. When you're locked up you meet  
some very nasty types. I didn't  
want any of that and our vicar  
wanted us to do a pantomime for  
Christmas...

Arnie stops talking, bites his lip.

LEONARDO

Yes... And...

ARNIE

You seem to already know all this,  
why are you making me say it?

LEONARDO

Because I want to be sure you  
understand what's at stake here.

ARNIE

Cinderella was renamed  
S.I.N.derella

(Arnie spells out S.I.N)

... They needed two ugly sisters.

(MORE)

ARNIE (CONT'D)

I wrote a few lewd and suggestive parodies to some pop songs and the cons loved it.

SCAR FACE

What songs?

ARNIE

'Secret Love' changed to 'Once I had a secret shove!' And 'Step inside love' to 'Get inside love,' and so on... and I always had great fun singing My Ding a Ling!

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy laugh.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Life in the Scrubs was sweet from then on. I got respect. When I first got out, I needed money and that seemed the best and easiest way to get some.

LEONARDO

You know I never did see your drag act, that's such a shame. I always thought that drag acts were a bit weird, but I have heard you were good at it!

ARNIE

No, I packed all that in and I said I wouldn't do it ever again. How do you know all this anyway?

LEONARDO

Oh I have my contacts and that's a shame, why did you stop, when you had such a good reputation?

ARNIE

That was the trouble, I was getting a reputation, at some of those clubs and pubs, the Vauxhall Tavern was one of them, you were lucky to get out with your clothes on.

LEONARDO

All very strange, but at the same time very clever. I think you should start again, there was good money in it wasn't there?

ARNIE

No, I'm not going to!

LEONARDO

I'd like to see your act, will you do a show for me? And my boys?

ARNIE

No way.

Leonardo thinks a moment.

LEONARDO

Soooooo, if you were to reignite your old career, you know Lucy lives again, dig her up from her grave as it were. I just might leave you be.

ARNIE

You what?

LEONARDO

Yes, treat me nice and I'll be nice to you.

ARNIE

But it just wouldn't be possible, I have no dresses, or make up and I've forgotten all the old routines and songs and I'm not as trim as I used to be.

LEONARDO

You could do it here, move some of this equipment and these machines out of the way and there would be plenty of room.

ARNIE

And what's more we'd need lights, and microphones, amplifiers and some kind of decent staging.

LEONARDO

That can all be arranged.

Arnie sighs.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

OK Arnie, I still can't get used to calling you that, but OK.

(MORE)

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

Think over my suggestion, give it some serious thought, a great deal of very serious thought, and we'll be back in a few days just to check you're still in good health, know what I mean? Ciao for now Arnie.

Leonardo nods to Scar Face and Jimmy.

As they leave, Jimmy whispers to Arnie.

JIMMY

And remember something else... that girl of yours... Very tasty.

Arnie opens his mouth to say something, Jimmy puts his arm up to stop Arnie saying anything.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Do as Leonardo says, or else.

Arnie is silent, glued to the spot, shocked.

SONG... I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS ANYMORE - performed by Arnie.

ARNIE

I HAVE LED A SHADY LIFE  
SEEN IT ALL BEFORE  
DONE IT, WORE THE T SHIRT  
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ALL FOR  
THE AGENTS WERE MONEY GRABBERS  
AND THE REST WERE ALL BACKSTABBERS  
AND I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE

ARNIE (CONT'D)

SO THE LIFE I'VE LED  
HAS BEEN PUT TO BED  
MY DAYS OF DRAG AND DEBAUCHERY ARE  
OVER  
I RODE THE WAVES  
TOOK CHANCES WITHOUT THINKING  
AND THEN LIFE WOULD ALWAYS SOCK ME  
IN THE JAW

I HAVE HAD ENOUGH  
OF ALL THAT TACKY STUFF  
MAYBE NOW I'VE FOUND A CARPET OF  
CLOVER  
THE TIDE HAS TURNED  
AND I'M NO LONGER SINKING  
AND SO THIS WAY I CAN STAY WITHIN  
THE LAW

(MORE)



## ARNIE (CONT'D)

BUT I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE  
AT MY TIME OF LIFE I DON'T NEED TO  
FIGHT A WAR  
THE HOUSE OF FAME EXCLUDED ME  
SUCCESS SOMEHOW ELUDED ME  
SO I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE

NAKED IN THE LIGHT  
ALMOST EVERY NIGHT  
ALL FOR NOTHING  
BUT A PITTANCE AND SOME STALE BEERS  
I IGNORED THE DRUNKS  
I TOOK THE LOW LIFE'S HECKLING  
IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MUCH WORSE  
IF I HAD TRIED

SO I TURNED AWAY  
FROM ALL THE SLEEZE THAT DAY  
TOOK A FINAL BOW  
WIPED AWAY ALL OF MY TEARS  
I DID NOT CARE  
I KNEW WHERE I WAS HEADING  
THOUGHT I'D FOUND A PLACE  
TO CRAWL AWAY AND HIDE

AND I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE  
AT MY TIME OF LIFE I AM KNACKERED  
TO THE CORE  
THE HOUSE OF FAME EXCLUDED ME  
SUCCESS SOMEHOW ELUDED ME  
SO I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE

AND SO HERE I AM AGAIN  
ON A TREADMILL TO NOWHERE  
RUNNING MUCH TOO FAST  
WITH NO THOUGHT OF SPEED  
AND STEP AFTER STEP  
OH I'M GASPING FOR BREATH  
AND THAT'S BOUND TO BE  
THE DEATH OF ME

AND I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE  
OH NO, AT MY TIME OF LIFE I DON'T  
NEED GREASE PAINT TO ROAR  
THE HOUSE OF FAME EXCLUDED ME  
SUCCESS ALWAYS ELUDED ME  
AND I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
ANYMORE

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 AND I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
 ANYMORE  
 (NOT AGAIN)  
 AT MY TIME OF LIFE I DON'T HAVE TO  
 KEEP THE SCORE  
 THE HOUSE OF FAME EXCLUDED ME  
 SUCCESS ALWAYS ELUDED ME  
 SO I SAID I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
 ANYMORE

AND SOON THERE I'LL BE  
 PLAYING THAT PART AGAIN  
 AND IT'S A ONCE IN A LIFETIME EVENT  
 THE ANSWER IS FORGET  
 ALL THAT'S GONE BEFORE  
 DID I SAY I WOULDN'T DO THIS  
 ANYMORE?

**END OF ACT 1**

**ACT 2**

**SCENE 3**

Swish and Swosh enter, start work.

SONG... IS HE CLEAN (REPRISE 1)

SWISH  
 IS HE CLEAN? IS HE CLEAN?

SWOSH  
 HE'S NOT CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 HE'S THE DIRTIEST ROGUE EVER SEEN,  
 SEEN SEEN

SWISH (CONT'D)  
 AND HE WOULD BE A HAG

SWOSH  
 A PROPER HAG, HAG, HAG

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
 IF HE EVER BROUGHT BACK AGAIN THE  
 DRAG, DRAG, DRAG

Swish and Swosh exit.

Michelle and Arnie enter.

MICHELLE  
Dad?

ARNIE  
Yes.

MICHELLE  
Can I talk to you?

ARNIE  
If it's about what I think it's  
about then, no and if I find out  
you've been seeing him, he won't be  
working here any more. Got it? I  
can't have that.

MICHELLE  
What about what I want? Doesn't  
that matter at all? Why can't you  
trust me?

ARNIE  
It's not you I don't trust.

MICHELLE  
But I love him.

ARNIE  
No you don't, you're infatuated,  
there's a difference, you have no  
idea what love is.

MICHELLE  
Right and that's why Mum left.

Arnie takes a step forward towards Michelle, rethinks his words.

ARNIE  
I'm only trying to protect you.

MICHELLE  
From what? Harry has never done  
anything to make you think he's  
anything but loyal and trustworthy,  
what have you got against him?

ARNIE  
Nothing... Nothing... It's just...

## MICHELLE

Just what? Dad, you can't even think of a reason, it's because I'm your daughter and you would be the same with anyone I was with. If he was a Prince you'd feel the same, but you've got to stop, you've got let me live my life and you've got to trust me.

Arnie bites his lip, shakes his head, waves the moment away, exits.

SONG... THE CHILD IN ME - performed by Michelle.

## MICHELLE (CONT'D)

NOW I FEEL I'M AT A CROSSROADS  
 BUT WHICH WAY DO I GO?  
 ON ONE HAND I'M STILL A CHILD  
 ON THE OTHER I'M ALL GROWN  
 BEING PULLED IN ALL DIRECTIONS  
 I JUST DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START  
 MUST I FOLLOW WITH MY HEAD?  
 OR SHOULD I FOLLOW WITH MY HEART?

I YEARN TO BE WITH HIM  
 MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THIS WORLD  
 BUT HOW DO I TELL MY FATHER  
 I'M NO LONGER HIS LITTLE GIRL  
 I'M BURNING TO BRING OUT THE WOMAN  
 THAT I KNOW I'M MEANT TO BE  
 BUT HOW DO I LET GO  
 OF THE CHILD IN ME

I HAVE COME TO THAT MOMENT  
 AND CHOICES MUST BE MADE  
 EVEN IF I MUST HURT SOMEONE  
 EVEN IF THEY ARE MISTAKES  
 BEING PULLED IN ALL DIRECTIONS  
 I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT WORDS TO SAY  
 OH I REALLY WANT TO LEAVE  
 BUT THEN I ALSO NEED TO STAY

I YEARN TO BE WITH HIM  
 MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THIS WORLD  
 BUT HOW DO I TELL MY FATHER  
 I'M NO LONGER HIS LITTLE GIRL  
 I'M BURNING TO BRING OUT THE WOMAN  
 THAT I KNOW I'M MEANT TO BE  
 BUT HOW DO I LET GO  
 OF THE CHILD IN ME

During the musical interlude, Harry and Arnie enter in shadow from stage right and stage left respectively. They stand still. Michelle does not notice them.

As the interlude concludes, Harry and Arnie exit.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
I'M BURNING TO BRING OUT THE WOMAN  
THAT I KNOW I'M MEANT TO BE  
BUT HOW DO I LET GO  
TELL ME HOW DO I LET GOOOO  
OOOOOH HOW DO I LET GO  
OF THE CHILD IN ME

Michelle exits.

#### **SCENE 4**

The chorus enter, work on the apparatus, Arnie is in the office, Michelle is at the reception desk and Harry is behind the bar.

Sophie enters dressed for a workout, she does some gentle stretching exercises, then steps on a running machine, does a slow jog.

Arnie exits his office.

ARNIE  
All OK?

Sophie replies without stopping and with a smile.

SOPHIE  
Yep, fine with me.

Arnie speaks with other people working out, then goes back to the office.

There is a buzzing sound.

Sophie takes a phone out of her belt. She turns off the machine.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
(Into her phone)  
Yes, I'm in. All OK here at the moment, in fact maybe a little too quiet. He's been and gone, but he's coming back again, so stand by Chief. I'll brief Arnie shortly.

She puts the phone back in her belt, goes to the office.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Can I have a word?

ARNIE

Yeah, sit yourself down.

SOPHIE

You've had a visitor lately haven't you?

ARNIE

Oh yes we get lots of people in here, business is good at this time.

SOPHIE

No, I mean a particular visitor?

ARNIE

What do you mean? Are you looking for someone?

SOPHIE

No, it's more about someone looking for you, by the name of Dagastini.

Arnie looks at her shocked.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Yes I can see you know that name. He's been here hasn't he?

Arnie sighs.

ARNIE

Yes, he was here last night. How do you know about...?

Sophie pulls out her warrant card, shows it to Arnie.

SOPHIE

I'm DS Sophie McAllister, We've been watching Daggers for days.

ARNIE

Is that what you call him?

SOPHIE

Yep. He's wrapped up in so many bent dealings we have to take him out!

ARNIE

Take him out? You mean kill him?

SOPHIE

Oh no, I mean take him off the scene, lock him up for a very long time.

ARNIE

Oh I see. DS, that's Detective Sergeant isn't it? So it must be serious!

SOPHIE

Yes, he has some nasty habits and we need to put him away.

ARNIE

So what's that got to do with me?

SOPHIE

What was he here for? Did he want money? Or offer protection? Did he have his muscle boys with him?

ARNIE

Yes those gorillas were with him. At first he wanted money, but then changed his mind. He wants me to rehash my drag act.

SOPHIE

A drag act? You? Really?

Sophie is puzzled.

ARNIE

Long story...

SOPHIE

Right... Sorry. We need to grab him when he's a not expecting it, when he's off guard. If he was here we could take him and his low life's out.

ARNIE

He tried to persuade me, but I said no.

SOPHIE

Oh that's a shame.

A moment's silence.

ARNIE

I suppose it wouldn't be so terrible... Just once, you know, one night only kind of thing. Maybe I could... But I got rid of all my clobber, so, no it's not on.

SOPHIE

I'm sure we can get you what you need.

ARNIE

Really? In that case, it could be a bit of fun to dig her up again.

SOPHIE

What? Dig up who?

ARNIE

No.

Arnie laughs.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

No, I mean dig up the old character I used to be, she was called Lucy.

SOPHIE

Lucy?

ARNIE

Yeah, Lucy Lastic.

They both giggle.

SOPHIE

Of course, we know about your past including the problems you had, its all well documented. That was when you were much younger, but that's all history now, this is something we need to deal with now and you are our best hope.

Arnie smiles.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

OK, you mull it over and let me know, I'll be here most days early for some loosening up, In fact I'm looking forward to it. Do remember if we can put him away, that will take him off your back!



ARNIE

Okay.

Arnie and Sophie exit the office. The chorus are on the gym equipment.

SOPHIE

By the way, I keep meaning to ask you. How come we never see you in the gym busting your chops.

Arnie laughs, you'll never see me on the equipment...

SONG... TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT - performed by Arnie.

ARNIE

I TRIED KEEP FIT AT HOME  
 BUT I WASN'T MOTIVATED  
 I WENT JOGGING THROUGH THE STREETS  
 BUT THAT'S SO OVER RATED  
 I JUST GOT TO GET FIT  
 I CAN'T ALWAYS JUST SIT  
 SO I TRIED IN A GYM  
 IN THE HOPES OF GETTING SLIM

I TRIED A ROWING MACHINE  
 BUT I WASN'T VERY KEEN  
 AND I FELT JUST LIKE A JELLY  
 COS THE WEIGHTS WERE TOO HEAVY  
 MY BODY'S SUCH A MESS  
 I DROPPED THEM DOWN WITH A BANG  
 THEN MY ARMS WERE SO STRETCHED  
 LIKE AN ORANG A U TANG

I HAD ROWED WITH ALL OF MY MIGHT  
 BUT THEN I RECKONED  
 AFTER THIRTY SECONDS  
 IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT

CHORUS

BUT THEN I RECKONED  
 AFTER THIRTY SECONDS  
 IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT

ARNIE

I TRIED SWIMMING BUT I DROWNED  
 SO THAT'S NEVER AGAIN  
 TEN PIN BOWLING WAS GOOD  
 BUT THE BALL THREW ME DOWN THE LANE  
 I TRIED RIDING A HORSE  
 BUT THAT THREW ME OF COURSE  
 SO I TRIED IN A GYM  
 IN THE HOPES OF GETTING SLIM

(MORE)

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 AND THE BIKES WERE TOO FAST  
 I KNEW THAT WOULDN'T LAST  
 THEN SOMETHING UNFORESEEN  
 I JAMMED THE RUNNING MACHINE  
 PEDDLED MY LIFE INTO THE GROUND  
 AND WAS SO OUT OF BREATH  
 COULDN'T UTTER A SOUND  
 THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MY DEATH

I RAN WITH ALL OF MY MIGHT  
 BUT CHOCOLATE BECKONED  
 AND SO I RECKONED  
 IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT

ARNIE AND CHORUS (CONT'D)  
 BUT CHOCOLATE BECKONED  
 AND SO I RECKONED  
 IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT

IT'S TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT,  
 TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT  
 BUT WHEN CHOCOLATE BECKONED  
 THEN I RECKONED  
 IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT

Arnie looks frazzled, Sophie laughs as she exits.

Arnie goes to the office.

The chorus exit.

Arnie sits at his desk, stares into space, looks very worried, puts his hand to his face in despair.

The lights dim to replicate night drawing in.

Arnie puts his head in his arms on the desk, goes to sleep, snores a bit to show audience he's asleep.

**DREAM SEQUENCE.**

The chorus enter the gym. They wear oversized dresses (a little bit like the dress sequence in Billy Elliot).

They dance to some uplifting music and parade around like models as they dance.

Gradually the music becomes sinister sounding.

The lighting becomes eerie and dreamlike.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy enter, they are stoic, Scar face makes his hand into a gun shape, points at all the dresses, who make their way to the office, where Arnie is asleep at his desk.

The dresses, Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy surround Arnie, they bare over him as though taking him to hell.

Sophie enters dressed as a superhero, she takes out a flashlight, beams it at all the dresses.

The dresses flee in dread, they exit.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy surround Sophie, she takes out a microphone, screams into it.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy run away, they exit.

Sophie exits.

#### **END OF DREAM SEQUENCE**

Arnie wakes with a fright, breathes deeply. Looks around wide eyed.

Sophie enters.

Arnie exits the office, looks around him nervously.

SOPHIE

Arnie! Are you alright?

ARNIE

Where's your flashlight?

SOPHIE

What?

Arnie looks confused.

ARNIE

Dresses, I was attacked by dresses.  
Nightmare. Bad dream...

SOPHIE

Few late nights?

ARNIE

I haven't been sleeping too well.  
I've had lots on my mind.

SOPHIE

Have you had anymore thoughts about  
my suggestion?

ARNIE

What? Oh ummm, yes. I can't get this whole business off my mind. I think I'm going to have to do it.

SOPHIE

Thank you, you're very brave.

ARNIE

Not brave at all, Sophie, just doing what's right.

Sophie and Arnie exit.

Michelle and Harry enter.

MICHELLE

It's never going to happen is it?

HARRY

He'll come round in time, I think we need to wait until all this mob stuff is over, let things settle down and take it from there.

MICHELLE

You know what I'm really scared of?

HARRY

What?

MICHELLE

You won't want to be with me any more, all the problems with my Dad... It's not fair on you and it might be better for you if you...

HARRY

Hey! Hey! Listen... I'm still here aren't I?

SONG... YOU ARE EVERYTHING TO ME - performed by Harry

HARRY (CONT'D)

COMING HOME TO YOU IS ALL THAT  
MATTERS  
WHEN THE DAY HAS BEEN TOO LONG  
LAYING IN YOUR ARMS IS ALL I WANT  
TO DO  
IT'S YOUR LOVE THAT KEEPS ME STRONG

AND WHEN CONVERSATION WAVERS  
THEN THE SILENCE SAYS SO MUCH  
HOW I TREASURE EVERY MOMENT

(MORE)

HARRY (CONT'D)  
 EVERY SMILE AND EVERY TOUCH

ALL THE TIMES THAT I'M WITHOUT YOU  
 I JUST WISH YOU COULD BE CLOSE  
 AND THE THOUGHT OF EVER LOSING YOU  
 IS WHAT I FEAR THE MOST

IF YOU EVER NEED TO QUESTION  
 WHAT I KNOW IS MEANT TO BE  
 JUST REMEMBER HOW I LOVE YOU  
 YOU ARE EVERYTHING TO ME

Harry takes Michelle in his arms, they slow dance through the musical interlude.

HARRY (CONT'D)  
 AND WHEN CONVERSATION WAVERS  
 THEN THE SILENCE SAYS IT ALL  
 I ONLY LIVE TO SHOW THE WHOLE WORLD  
 YOU AND I ARE STANDING TALL

ALL THE TIMES THAT I'M WITHOUT YOU  
 I JUST WISH YOU COULD BE CLOSE  
 AND THE THOUGHT OF EVER LOSING YOU  
 IS WHAT I FEAR THE MOST

IF YOU EVER NEED TO QUESTION  
 WHAT I KNOW IS MEANT TO BE  
 JUST REMEMBER HOW I LOVE YOU  
 YOU ARE EVERYTHING TO ME

JUST REMEMBER HOW I LOVE YOU  
 YOU ARE EVERYTHING TO ME

They kiss passionately, then part.

Michelle goes to the reception desk, Harry goes behind the bar.

## **SCENE 5**

Arnie enters, he goes to the office.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy enter menacingly.

Michelle looks worried, Arnie comes out the office, gives Michelle a thumb's up sign.

Jimmy goes over to chat to her.

Harry looks suspiciously at everyone, keeps an eye on Michelle and Jimmy.

LEONARDO

So then, tell me Arnie, have you given my idea any thought, come to any kind of decision yet?

ARNIE

Yeah... I'll do it.

LEONARDO

There you go, that wasn't too difficult now, was it?

Scar Face smiles and chuckles to himself.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

So this is what we will do. I will arrange all the technical side. I have a few contacts and I'm sure there won't be any problem and then, I'll send you the bill for it all.

ARNIE

What?!

LEONARDO

What you will have to do is get your act together and just be ready on the night. OK mio amico, my friend?

ARNIE

Oh no, you are certainly not my friend!

Leonardo smiles.

LEONARDO

Tell all your customers to spread the word among their friends and family. I will bring in some willing punters along to fill the place. We will charge them all twenty five pounds each!

ARNIE

What? No you can't do that, that's ridiculous. Wait.. Did I just say that?

LEONARDO

We can say the money is needed for work on this building, your refurbishment and modernisation.

Arnie nods his head.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

But all that money comes to me at the end of the night, yes? You know, call it insurance! It won't be a big sum but it will buy me a few tasty dinners at the Ritz. So now all we have to do is pick a date.

ARNIE

I'm going to need time. Where did I put my cassettes? Now that's another thing. Cassettes, that's old technology. Assuming I can find them, where can you get a cassette player these days?

LEONARDO

You give me the cassettes and I'll get them transferred into a modern system, you'll have no worries and the date?

ARNIE

How about February the 31st?

Leonardo ponders a moment.

LEONARDO

February was last month. Oh now I see, did you hear that lads?

Jimmy looks over.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)

Arnie's having a little joke with us. Now that's not very funny is it? So I suggest... The 1st of next month.

ARNIE

But that's only three weeks away. Some hopes.

Leonardo gives Arnie a sickly smile.

LEONARDO

Ciao for now Arnie.

At that moment, Jimmy tries to kiss Michelle, she slaps Jimmy hard across the face.

Harry rushes out from behind the bar, he punches Jimmy in the face hard, which sends him flying.

Harry looks at Arnie, shrugs his shoulders and holds his arms out in a 'did I just do that' way.

Arnie is frozen to the spot.

Scar Face moves towards Michelle and Harry, Leonardo stops him.

Jimmy gets up, moves towards Harry.

Michelle runs in front of Harry to protect him, braces herself.

ARNIE

Oh my God.

Jimmy makes to punch Michelle, but doesn't.

LEONARDO

Come on boys, let's get out of here.

Leonardo, Scar Face and Jimmy exit.

ARNIE

I don't believe what I just saw, Harry are you okay? Michelle?

HARRY

I'm okay.

MICHELLE

Yes, I'm alright.

Arnie goes to the office, Sophie follows him in.

SOPHIE

Are you okay?

ARNIE

Ummm, yes, yes, I think I am.

SOPHIE

I'm just glad it didn't escalate, I wouldn't have been able to do anything to help.

ARNIE

I know. That was all too close for comfort.

SOPHIE

But, at least we have a plan now, it's all lined up.

(MORE)



SOPHIE (CONT'D)

April the 1st it is. The perfect date for the set up.

ARNIE

Let's hope we're not all April fools then!

SOPHIE

I'm off, see you tomorrow.

Sophie exits.

Arnie comes out the office, goes to Harry and Michelle.

ARNIE

Are you two okay?

SOPHIE

Yes, we're fine.

HARRY

Why are you giving in to these thugs Arnie? Why don't you stand up for yourself with them.

ARNIE

I would, but there's a higher cause now, if I'm going to save the gym, if I'm ever going to be proud of myself and do something for the greater good, it's now. I have to do this.

HARRY

Well, you know we have your back, we're with you all the way.

ARNIE

I know... Something else. What you did Harry, to protect Michelle, thank you.

HARRY

I didn't even think, I just reacted.

ARNIE

And Michelle, I can't believe you did that.

MICHELLE

I just had to.

ARNIE

(Relents)

Okay... Okay, I understand now...  
You have my blessing, it's all  
okay.

Michelle and Harry gasp. Michelle throws her arms around Arnie.

MICHELLE

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

They part.

Harry puts his arm out to shake Arnie's hand. Arnie takes it, they shake hands.

HARRY

Thank you. I promise I will take  
care of her.

ARNIE

I know you will. Come on. Time to  
go home.

They all exit.

## SCENE 6

Sophie is on the running machine.

Arnie enters, rushes to her, excited, carries a cardboard box.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

I've found them.

SOPHIE

What have you found?

ARNIE

All my old scores and tapes and  
everything. I was sure they were  
all thrown away, but I found them  
in a cupboard at home.

He shows her the box, which contains a stack of papers and half a dozen cassettes in plastic cases.

SOPHIE

You're acting as though all your  
Christmases have come at once.

Arnie looks through the cassettes.

Leonardo enters.

LEONARDO

It's all organised. The equipment will arrive on the morning of your show and be set up for you and then you have the afternoon to rehearse and the show will start about 9pm.

ARNIE

Oh. You seem to have it all sorted out?

LEONARDO

Yes, well it's not rocket science, it's just a question of getting things organised. Of course, you'll have to close the gym down on that day.

ARNIE

Yes, I had thought about that. Here are the cassettes for you to transfer to digital.

Arnie gives Leonardo the cassettes.

LEONARDO

Right then. See you on the night. You'd better be on form. Mess up and it could get very uncomfortable for you. Ciao for now Arnie.

Leonardo exits.

ARNIE

Sophie, can I have a quick word?

SOPHIE

Sure.

ARNIE

I was wondering if I could ask a favour? My old act would last about thirty minutes, not sure if I can last that long these days. Could you help out? It would be great if you would be able to sing a couple of songs before me on the night, as a warm up sort of thing.

SOPHIE

Oh gosh, I've never performed up front before, I've always sung back up with others, I don't think I can do it.

ARNIE

I understand, I do, don't worry, it was just a thought.

SOPHIE

I'm sorry.

Sophie lowers her head, shyly.

Then she goes back to being a cop. Sits up straight, looks at Arnie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

When you have finished your last number, we will rush him and his heavies before he can realise what's happening and have them away very quickly.

ARNIE

That sounds good, hopefully no one will get hurt?

SOPHIE

Don't worry, it's all in hand, you can trust the Met.

ARNIE

I'll be glad when it's all over!

## **SET CHANGE**

### **SCENE 7**

While the set is being changed and while Arnie gets changed, Michelle, Sophie, Harry and a few of the chorus, decorate the set with shiny tinsel and decorative lights.

Swish and Swosh enter, dust everything. They both dust the same thing, get into a scuffle, they push and shove each other comically.

In the office is a rail with several dresses hanging up.

On the desk are a few different wigs, undergarments, make up.

Arnie is in the office, now almost ready, Michelle enters.

MICHELLE  
How's it going Dad?

ARNIE  
Good, good, if I make any mistakes  
I can always adlib to cover up any  
boobs...

Arnie gasps.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
BOOOBS.

Arnie picks up two plastic domes, looks at them.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
Can't do without me Charlies now  
can I?

Michelle laughs, exits, goes back to the reception desk.

Arnie slips the domes into his bra, then picks up a wig.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
You'll be fine, they will love you.

Arnie looks at himself in the mirror.

He positions the wig on his head. In a deep South American  
accent, he tries to sound like Clarke Gable in Gone With the  
Wind.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
Well bless my soul, Miss Lucy, you  
are a fine lookin' woman. I could  
almost fancy you myself.

The chorus as the audience and four associates of Leonardo  
enter. One of them goes to the bar, the rest sit at the  
tables.

CHORUS MEMBER AT THE BAR  
(To Harry)  
What do you mean there's no  
alcoholol?

HARRY  
We only serve soft drinks here,  
it's a gym.

The chorus member grunts.

Scarface and Jimmy enter.

They look around, take their seats on the front row.

Harry walks into the office, where Arnie preens himself in front of the mirror.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Opps! Sorry miss I didn't think there was.... Arnie? Is that you?

ARNIE

Yes it's me, although really it's Lucy right now.

HARRY

Wow you do look good, I mean, you do look the part... You look very err... Female, that's it, yes female, excellent. We're just about to start the show.

ARNIE

Is Leonardo here yet?

HARRY

Oh yes. He very definitely is here with his heavies. They all look as though they are ready for a fight. Rough looking lot they are too! Sophie's going on in a moment.

ARNIE

Sophie's going to sing?

HARRY

Yes, didn't she tell you?

ARNIE

No... She didn't...

HARRY

Anyway, I'll see you out there.

ARNIE

Thanks Harry.

Harry exits.

Harry goes to the stage, grabs the microphone.

HARRY

Ladies and Gentlemen, please take your seats and make yourselves very comfortable. It's now time to start our show.

(MORE)

HARRY (CONT'D)

Please give a big round of applause  
for one of our club members. So-  
phie Mc-Al-is-ter.

Sophie takes the stage. The audience give polite applause.

Sophie looks extremely nervous, takes some deep breaths,  
shakes a bit as she holds onto the microphone.

SOPHIE

Thank you Harry.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh gosh.

Sophie takes a breath, blows it out slowly.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Okay... This is a song I wrote that  
I hope will encourage you all to  
follow your dreams and never give  
up.

The audience applaud.

Sophie takes another breath, blows it out slowly.

SONG... JUST ONE STEP - performed by Sophie.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

JUST ONE STEP  
IS ALL IT TAKES TO START THE DANCE  
JUST ONE NOTE OF MUSIC  
FILLS YOUR SOUL  
WITH THE WILL TO TAKE A CHANCE  
LET THE MELODIES FLOW THROUGH YOU  
FEEL THE MUSIC IN YOUR HEART  
JUST ONE STEP IS ALL IT TAKES  
TO START A DANCE

FOLLOW YOUR DREAM  
AS YOU FOLLOW THE SONG  
IT'S WAITING THERE  
TOUCH THE STAR YOU CAN'T GO WRONG  
DREAMS ARE ONLY DREAMS  
IF YOU LET THEM SLIP AWAY  
TAKE A CHANCE, START THE DANCE  
TODAY

Music interlude. Lights dim on Sophie, light up the office  
where Arnie paces, rehearses his lines, he mimes under the  
music.

When music interlude ends, lights fade on Arnie, light up Sophie again.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

LET THE MELODIES FLOW THROUGH YOU  
FEEL THE MUSIC IN YOUR HEART  
JUST ONE STEP IS ALL IT TAKES  
TO DANCE

JUST ONE STEP  
IS ALL IT TAKES TO START THE DANCE  
JUST ONE NOTE OF MUSIC  
FILLS YOUR SOUL  
WITH THE WILL TO TAKE A CHANCE

LET THE MELODIES FLOW THROUGH YOU  
FEEL THE MUSIC IN YOUR HEART  
JUST ONE STEP IS ALL IT TAKES  
TO START A DANCE  
ALL YOU REALLY NEED  
IS JUST ONE STEP

From the office, Arnie watches Sophie with admiration.

Sophie finishes the song, the audience give Sophie rousing applause, some whoops and whistles.

Sophie leaves the stage, her knees buckle, she hangs on to Harry.

HARRY

Are you okay?

SOPHIE

I am... Yes, it's just that I never  
thought I would ever be able to do  
that, I can't believe I did it.

HARRY

That was incredible Sophie and I'm  
not just saying that, you did it,  
you conquered your fear.

SOPHIE

I did didn't I. Thank you Harry.

Harry takes the stage.

HARRY

Thank you Sophie, you did great,  
that was a lovely surprise.

(MORE)



HARRY (CONT'D)

And now Ladies and Gentlemen, it's time for the star of our show this evening and the star you are all here to see. Please put your hands together and welcome onto our stage, The lovely, the delicious, the very sexy Lu-cy Las-tic.

The music starts, the audience applaud and cheer.

ARNIE

OK folks. It's Showtime, just let me get at 'em.

Arnie is a bit nervous as he climbs onto the stage, as he starts to talk, he stumbles slightly over his words, but catches himself, pulls himself together.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Good evening... Ladies and... whatever the rest of you are.

The audience laugh.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

Welcome to this pitiful, poor excuse for a gin palace! Thank you, thank you so much. I know what you're all thinking... She's way past her time... you're right, I should have been in bed three hours ago.

The audience laugh.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

I was in a hotel lobby by the front desk last week. This man bumps into me, his elbow hits my breast. He said.. Ma'am, if your heart is as soft as your breast I know you'll forgive me. I replied, if your penis is as hard as your elbow, I'm in room 243.

The audience laugh and applaud.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

(Out to audience)

Tell me. How is virginity like a soap bubble?

Arnie waits a moment.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
One prick and it's gone.

The audience laugh and applaude.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
Someone asked me the other day how  
to spell scrotum. I said, you  
should have asked me last night, it  
was on the tip of my tongue.

The audience laugh harder and applaud with great enthusiasm.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
Okay, okay, that's enough for now,  
don't want to get you too excited.  
For my first number.. I'm going to  
give you a little insight into what  
it can be like to do this...

Starting at his shoulder, Arnie waves his arm downward in a flourish that indicates how he is dressed.

SONG... LUCY LASTIC - performed by Arnie.

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
THOSE WERE THE BAD OL' DAYS  
THEY WERE MY SADDER DAYS  
THEY WENT BY IN A TROUBLED HAZE  
AND IT BECAME A REAL NECESSITY  
TRIED TO EMBRACE THAT OLD IDENTITY  
I NEVER KNEW WHEN IT WOULD EVER END

LUCY, LUCY LASTIC  
I SURVIVED IN A BODY OF PLASTIC  
LASHES TOO LONG AND HAIR SO OBSCENE  
IT WAS SUCH A CRAZY SCENE  
LUCY, LUCY LASTIC  
STUCK TOGETHER  
IN WHAT FELT LIKE MASTIC  
WITH HEELS TOO HIGH  
DRESSES FAR TOO TIGHT  
I WAS ALL THERE, BUT OUT OF SIGHT  
I WAS ALL THERE, BUT OUT OF SIGHT

I WOULD SING MY HEART OUT  
I'D ALWAYS HANG MY HEART OUT  
TRAPPED IN A LIFE  
SO FULL OF SELF DOUBT  
I ADORNED THE CROWD  
WITH CONDESCENSION  
I PERFORMED MY ACT  
WITH APPREHENSION  
OH BUT I COULDN'T TAKE IT

(MORE)

ARNIE (CONT'D)  
 I HAD TO FAKE IT

LUCY, LUCY LASTIC  
 I SURVIVED IN A BODY OF PLASTIC  
 LASHES TOO LONG AND HAIR SO OBSCENE  
 IT WAS SUCH A CRAZY SCENE  
 LUCY, LUCY LASTIC  
 STUCK TOGETHER  
 IN WHAT FELT LIKE MASTIC  
 WITH HEELS TOO HIGH  
 DRESSES FAR TOO TIGHT  
 I WAS ALL THERE, BUT OUT OF SIGHT  
 I WAS ALL THERE, BUT OUT OF SIGHT

The audience applaud. Arnie takes his bows.

Arnie gives Sophie a prolonged look as she speaks discreetly into her radio at the back of the room.

Leonardo, looks behind him to see what Arnie is looking at, he notices Sophie, suddenly realises. He looks at Arnie with shock.

Leonardo stands up, Sophie notices.

SOPHIE  
 (Into her radio)  
 It's a go, go, go.

Suddenly, chaos as the police burst in. The audience react, some get up from their chairs, some scream, some crouch on the floor in fear.

Leonardo's men are confused, they get up from their seats, but the police grab them, knock them to the floor and handcuff them.

Sophie joins Arnie on the stage.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)  
 Everyone sit down just where you  
 are and stay calm, please stay calm  
 it's alright.

Two policemen have hold of a handcuffed Leonardo, they lead him out.

LEONARDO  
 Ciao for now Arnie.

Leonardo tries to mimick Arnold Schwarzenegger.

LEONARDO (CONT'D)  
 I'll be back!

The police with Leonardo, Scar Face, Jimmy and the other baddies exit.

The audience exit.

Arnie exits, changes into a dressing gown, takes the wig off and as much make up as he can in the time before he next appears on stage.

Swish and Swosh enter.

SONG... IS IT CLEAN (REPRISE 2) - performed by Swish and Swosh.

Aside to the audience.

SWISH  
IS HE CLEAN? IS HE CLEAN?

SWOSH  
HE'S NOT CLEAN, CLEAN, CLEAN

SWISH AND SWOSH (CONT'D)  
HE'S A DIRTY CROOK  
YOU'VE EVER SEEN, SEEN, SEEN

SWISH (CONT'D)  
TABLES NOW ARE TURNED

SWOSH  
AND LEO'S BURNED, BURNED, BURNED

SWISH AND SWOSH  
JUST DON'T BE OBSCENE AND KEEP IT  
CLEAN

SWISH  
TABLES NOW ARE TURNED

SWOSH  
AND LEO'S BURNED, BURNED, BURNED

SWISH AND SWOSH  
JUST DON'T BE OBSCENE AND KEEP IT  
CLEAN

## SCENE 8

Arnie, Harry, Michelle and Sophie are in the office.

HARRY

You would make a terrible  
undercover Arnie, why did you look  
at Sophie?

ARNIE

I don't know, scared I guess.

MICHELLE

I'm sorry you weren't able to  
finish your set.

ARNIE

I know, I'm disappointed in myself,  
I really messed up, I'm so sorry  
Sophie.

SOPHIE

Don't worry, it was probably for  
the best.

ARNIE

You were amazing Sophie. What made  
you decide to sing?

SOPHIE

I don't know, I think it was you  
really, having the courage to do  
this... Knowing what it all means  
to you, I felt like I was letting  
you down. I gave myself a good  
talking to and just made myself do  
it, I was terrified, but I'm so  
glad I did it now.

ARNIE

You should keep the song writing  
going, you're good.

SOPHIE

Thank you, I think I will.

Arnie and Sophie hug, then Harry hugs and kisses Michelle,  
then they all hug together.

ARNIE

I feel better now, I think we all  
need a drink, my round.

They all go to the bar, Harry goes behind the bar, Arnie goes  
to the little door at the bottom of the bar, takes out a  
bottle of beer.

As Arnie stands back up and takes a few steps away from the bar, Harry looks at him with a cheeky grin.

HARRY

Did you really think I didn't know,  
Arnie?

Arnie cringes because he's been caught.

ARNIE

I did, yeah.

HARRY

Not much you can get past me.

ARNIE

I think all this has given me quite  
a scare, but it will all be okay  
now.

Harry goes to Michelle, takes her hand, pulls her to downstage center. He takes a small box out of his pocket and gets down on one knee.

Michelle gasps.

Arnie looks from Harry to Michelle in surprise, relaxes, smiles broadly.

Harry opens the box to reveal a ring.

HARRY

Michelle. I love you so much and I  
just know we make such a great  
team. Would you do me the honour of  
becoming my wife... One day... When  
I can afford it.

Harry suddenly looks at Arnie.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Oh... Ummmmmm...

ARNIE

Don't look at me, I'm not marrying  
you.

Michelle looks shocked.

Sophie goes to Michelle.

SOPHIE

You have to give him an answer you  
know.

MICHELLE

Oh... Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

Harry gets up, puts the ring on Michelle's finger, they embrace tightly.

The chorus enter, Michelle shows them all the ring, they all cheer and celebrate for a few moments.

SONG... RISE ABOVE THE WORLD - performed by Arnie, Harry, Michelle, Sophie and chorus.

ARNIE

A TASTE OF FAME  
FOR A FLEETING MOMENT  
HAS TAKEN ME  
COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE  
AND THE LESSONS LEARNED  
HAVE BECOME THE GLORY  
ALTHOUGH MY STORY  
HAS NOT ENDED WITH THE PRIZE  
FOR I STILL NEED TO KNOW  
THAT I CAN MAKE IT SO

NEXT TIME, I WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD  
AND SHOW THEM ALL JUST WHAT I CAN  
BE  
WITH EACH STEP THAT I TAKE  
I WILL LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES  
SO NEXT TIME, I WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD

HARRY AND MICHELLE

A LASTING DREAM  
MOVING ON FOREVER  
COMPELLING YOU  
TO FOLLOW ON AND ON  
BUT THE YEARS WILL SHOW  
THERE IS NO CONCEDING  
SO KEEP BELIEVING  
THAT YOUR FEARS WILL SOON BE GONE

SOPHIE

WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND SOUL  
AIM HIGH AND REACH YOUR GOAL

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE

NEXT TIME YOU WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD  
AND SHOW THEM ALL JUST WHAT YOU CAN  
BE  
WITH EACH STEP THAT YOU TAKE  
YOU WILL LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES

(MORE)

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE,  
SO NEXT TIME YOU WILL RISE ABOVE  
THE WORLD

ARNIE  
IT'S NOT TOO LATE

HARRY, MICHELLE AND SOPHIE  
FIND ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN

ARNIE  
TO START AGAIN

HARRY, MICHELLE AND SOPHIE  
TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND BEGIN

ARNIE  
SO IF IT SHOULD GO WRONG

HARRY, MICHELLE AND SOPHIE  
THEN THE WORLD WILL NOT BE LOST

ARNIE  
DON'T THINK THAT IT'S THE END

HARRY, MICHELLE AND SOPHIE  
DON'T YOU COUNT THE COST

ARNIE  
NEXT TIME I WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD  
AND SHOW THEM ALL JUST WHAT I CAN  
BE  
WITH EACH STEP THAT I TAKE  
I WILL LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES  
SO NEXT TIME I WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD

Arnie, Harry, Michelle, Sophie line up front of stage and  
sing out to the audience.

ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE, SOPHIE  
NEXT TIME YOU WILL RISE ABOVE THE  
WORLD  
AND SHOW THEM ALL JUST WHAT YOU CAN  
BE  
WITH EACH STEP THAT YOU TAKE  
YOU WILL LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES  
SO NEXT TIME YOU WILL RISE ABOVE  
THE WORLD  
SO NEXT TIME  
YEAH NEXT TIME  
NEXT TIME  
YOU WILL RISE ABOVE THE WORLD



ARNIE, HARRY, MICHELLE AND SOPHIE, TAKE SOME STEPS BACK

THE CHORUS ENTER, TAKE THEIR BOWS, THEN STEP BACK.

POLICE AND AUDIENCE ENTER. TAKE THEIR BOWS, STEP BACK.

SWISH AND SWOSH ENTER, TAKE THEIR BOWS, STEP BACK.

LEONARDO, SCAR FACE AND JIMMY ENTER, TAKE THEIR BOWS, STEP BACK.

SOPHIE STEPS FORWARD, TAKES HER BOWS, STEPS BACK.

MICHELLE AND HARRY STEP FORWARD, TAKE THEIR BOWS, STEP BACK.

ARNIE STEPS FORWARD, TAKES HIS BOWS.

HARRY

Right folks, onwards and upwards...  
Time for more music.

Harry addresses the audience.

HARRY (CONT'D)

What do you say? Come on, everybody  
up on your feet, join in, let's  
have a party.

SONG - THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE (REPRISE) - performed by the whole cast and chorus.

Over the main intro to the song, Arnie speaks.

ARNIE

This one again? Really? Oh God,  
okay then, you might have to call  
the paramedics after this.

WHOLE CAST AND CHORUS

COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
WITH ME  
FOR ADRENALIN JUNKIES IT'S THE  
PLACE TO BE  
AND IF IT'S BREATHLESS FUN YOU SEEK  
I RECOMMEND AT LEAST EIGHT DAYS  
EVERY WEEK  
COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
WITH ME  
THE BLOOD AND THE SWEAT AND THE  
TEARS ALL COME FOR FREE  
WELL WITHOUT THE PAIN THERE IS NO  
GAIN  
SO COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT  
BOOGIE WITH ME

ARNIE

LOSING WEIGHT IS EASY  
 DIG DEEP INTO YOUR POCKET  
 AND WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW  
 TO TAKE INCHES OFF YOUR WALLET  
 WITH A LITTLE WORK WE'LL HELP YOU  
 SHED THOSE POUNDS.  
 BELIEVE ME IT'S MUCH EASIER THAN IT  
 SOUNDS.  
 THE BAR IS ALWAYS OPEN  
 YOU CAN GET WHAT YOU NEED HERE  
 REPLACE THE SWEAT AND TEARS YOU  
 LOST  
 WITH A COLD REFRESHING BEER.

Whole cast rock and roll to instrumental.

ARNIE (CONT'D)

YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE  
 SO GET ON YOUR KNEES AND PRAY  
 COS CHOCOLATE CAKE AND FAGS  
 ARE THE DEVILS OF TODAY

WHOLE CAST AND CHORUS

HALLELUYAH

ARNIE

VERY SOON YOUR BAD ADDICTIONS WILL  
 SOON PASS  
 SO YOUR FIRST MOVE IS GET UP OFF  
 YOUR

WHOLE CAST AND CHORUS

ARSE

ARNIE

SO LETS WORK THOSE ABS AND PECS  
 WATCH YOUR STAMINA IMPROVE  
 I SAID PUMP THAT IRON AND WORK THAT  
 FRAME  
 YEAH MAKE THOSE MUSCLES MOVE

WHOLE CAST AND CHORUS

COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME  
 EXERCISE AND A SAUNA THAT IS WHAT  
 YOU NEED  
 WHEN YOU'RE EXHAUSTED ON THE FLOOR  
 I RECOMMEND YOU KEEP COMING BACK  
 FOR MORE

COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
 WITH ME

(MORE)

WHOLE CAST AND CHORUS (CONT'D)  
THE BLOOD AND THE SWEAT AND THE  
TEARS ALL COME FOR FREE  
WELL WITHOUT THE PAIN THERE IS NO  
GAIN  
SO COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT  
BOOGIE WITH ME  
COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
WITH ME  
COME ON AND DO THE KEEP FIT BOOGIE  
WITH ME  
YEAH

Whole cast take their final bows.

**CURTAIN DOWN**