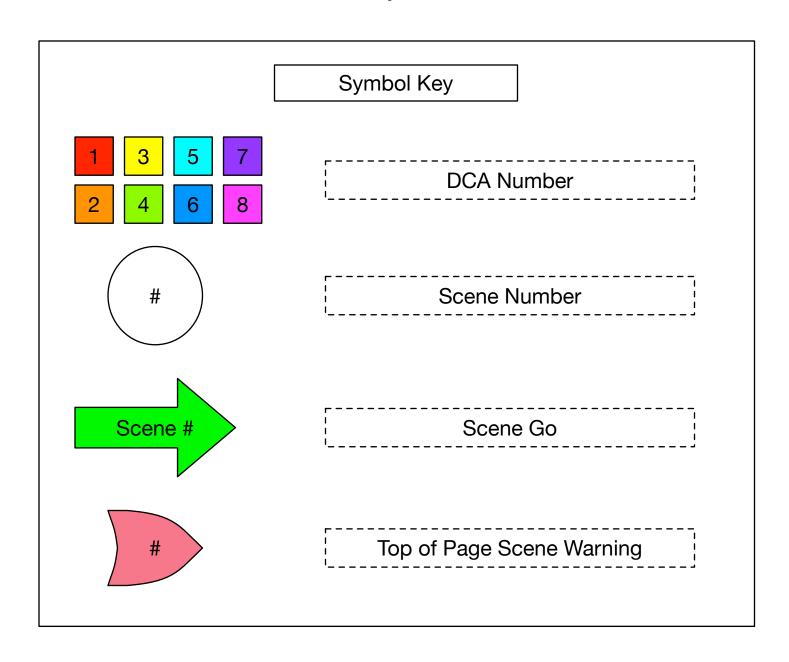


Mix Script Compiled by: Tanner Elker Weston Playhouse 2017



# Preshow

#1 I'll Tell Me Ma/The Hawk

Verse 1: Eamon

Verse 2: Svec

Verse 3: Reza

V	-5
В	-15

#2 Rocky Road to Dublin

Verse 1: Eamon

Verse 2: Bank Manager

Verse 3: Eamon

Verse 4: Bank Manager

Verse 5: Eamon/Bank Manager



#3 Isiel Mace Do Malacek

Vocals: Svec/Andrej

#4 Red Haired Mary

Vocals: Ex GF/MC

V	-5
В	-15

#5 Este Si Ja

Vocals: Ex GF/ Baruska/Reza

Curtain Speech

#6 Chandler's Wife

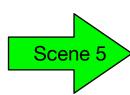
Vocals: Billy

#7 Raglan Road

Vocals: Da

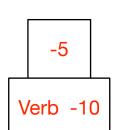
Band Down for Vocals

V	-5
В	-10



## The First Half.

#1 - Leave





I CAN'T WAIT FOREVER IS ALL THAT YOU SAID
BEFORE YOU STOOD UP
AND YOU WON'T DISAPPOINT ME
I CAN DO THAT MYSELF
BUT I'M GLAD THAT YOU'VE COME
NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND

LEAVE, LEAVE,
AND FREE YOURSELF AT THE SAME TIME
LEAVE, LEAVE,
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, YOU'VE ALREADY GONE

I HOPE YOU FEEL BETTER
NOW THAT IT'S OUT
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG
AND THE TRUTH HAS A HABIT
OF FALLING OUTTA YOUR MOUTH
WELL NOW THAT IT'S COME
IF YOU DON'T MIND

LEAVE, LEAVE,
AND PLEASE YOURSELF AT THE SAME TIME
LEAVE, LEAVE,
LET GO OF MY HAND
YOU SAID WHAT YOU CAME TO NOW
LEAVE, LEAVE,
LET GO OF MY HAND
YOU SAID WHAT YOU HAD TO NOW

ONCE - 2 -



LEAVE, LEAVE,
LEAVE,
LET GO OF MY HAND
YOU SAID WHAT YOU HAD TO NOW
LEAVE, LEAVE...

Scene 10

Hes finished.

HE quietly takes the strap off the guitar and slowly lowers the guitar to the ground.

HE turns to leave the stage.

Then from the shadows,

6 GIRL

That song you playis it yours?

HE stops and looks into the darkness but cant see her just yet.

I know you can talk I just heard you singunless you cannot talk and only sing. If you want you can sing me your answer to my question...

5 GUY

(hes leaving)

No thanks.

6 GIRL

I made you talk just now.

5 GUY

I could talk already...

6 GIRL

So you write this song?

5 GUY

Yeah.

6 GIRL

Its very good.

5 GUY

Thanks.

6 GIRL

Your welcome. Hello.

5 GUY

Hey.

O N C E - 3 -

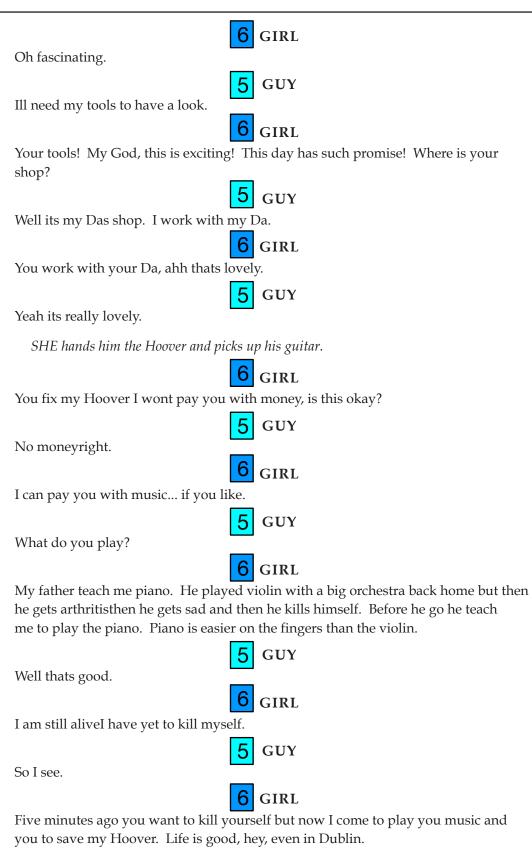
## $A\ slight\ pause.$

6 GIRL
Is it always me who has to start the conversation?
Well you seem more up for it than I do.
6 GIRL
Its not even my language this English.
You speak it well.
6 GIRL I have an accent.
We all have accents.
6 GIRL
We are people of the world.  5 GUY
Right.
6 GIRL Do you enjoy being Irish?
Seriously?
6 GIRL
Im always seriousIm Czech. Are you enjoying your life right now?
Sorry what?!
6 GIRL
Why do you leave your guitar on the ground?
I dont want it anymore.
6 GIRL Is it too heavy?
No.
6 GIRL
You should pick it upguitars cost money.

- 4 - ONCE

T 1 T1 00	5 GUY
Look I better go	6 GIRL
Where?	
To work.	5 GUY
What is your work please?	6 GIRL
	5 GUY
I fix Hoovers.	6 GIRL
What is Hoovers!?	
You know vacuum cleaners.	5 GUY
You fix vacuum cleaners?! My Go vacuum cleaner that needs fixing.	<b>6 GIRL</b> d, really?!! This is incredible! I have here a
Somehow a vacuum cleaner has ap	opeared right beside her.
It was my destiny to meet you tod your fabulous fixing.	ayto listen to your beautiful songto hear of
Your destiny?	5 GUY
It must be, right!?	6 GIRL
So whats wrong with it?	5 GUY
	6 GIRL
It doesnt suck. Its a Hoover witho	ut a suck. What could it be?
The motor or fan maybe	5 GUY
Thats interesting.	6 GIRL
Time interesting.	5 GUY
Normal blockage in your pipes.	

O N C E - 5 -



- 6 - ONCE

5 GUY
I wasnt thinking of killing myself.  6 GIRL
Sureonly your guitar. But now I saved your guitar too. We are saviours you and me, hah? So you fix my Hoover and I pay you with music, yes?
Do I have a choice?
6 GIRL
No.
SHE holds out her hand. They shake on it.
5 GUY
So youve got a piano?
6 GIRL
Oh a piano in Ireland is too expensive! I have nothing!
5 GUY
So where do you play?
A piano is wheeled into the space by BILLY.
6 GIRL
A big man lets me play in his small shop. This is the small shop and this is the big man. His name is Billy.
4 BILLY
Youre still talking to me, right? Not having you talk to me would kill me! Now about yesterday
6 GIRL
Were grand.  4 BILLY
I just spoke out of turn. When youre a man of passion passion can get the better of youwords spill out, you hear me?
6 GIRL
Yes.
Youre a beautiful girla womanIm a hot blooded man.
6 GIRL
Youre half Spanish.

O N C E - 7 -

# 4 BILLY You remembered that! I didnt mean to come onto you so heavy, is what I mean. 6 GIRL Youre grand... 4 BILLY

All I ever see is musosgrungy teenagersrock star wannabes, who cant afford nothinbut you! Look Im sorry I said you had beautiful lips....

6 GIRL

This is a friend of mine.

BILLYturns quickly and suddenly sees the guy for the first time.

SHEgoes to the pianoBILLYgoes to the guy.

All right?

5 GUY

Yeah.

4 BILLY

BILLY

Dubliner?

5 GUY

Yeah.

4 BILLY

Whereabouts?

5 GUY

Off the North Strand there.

4 BILLY

Northsider?

5 GUY

Yeah.

4 BILLY

Respect. Friend of hers then?

5 GUY

Just met her two minutes ago.

4 BILLY

Fucking lucky man! Fucking lucky!!

- 8 - ONCE

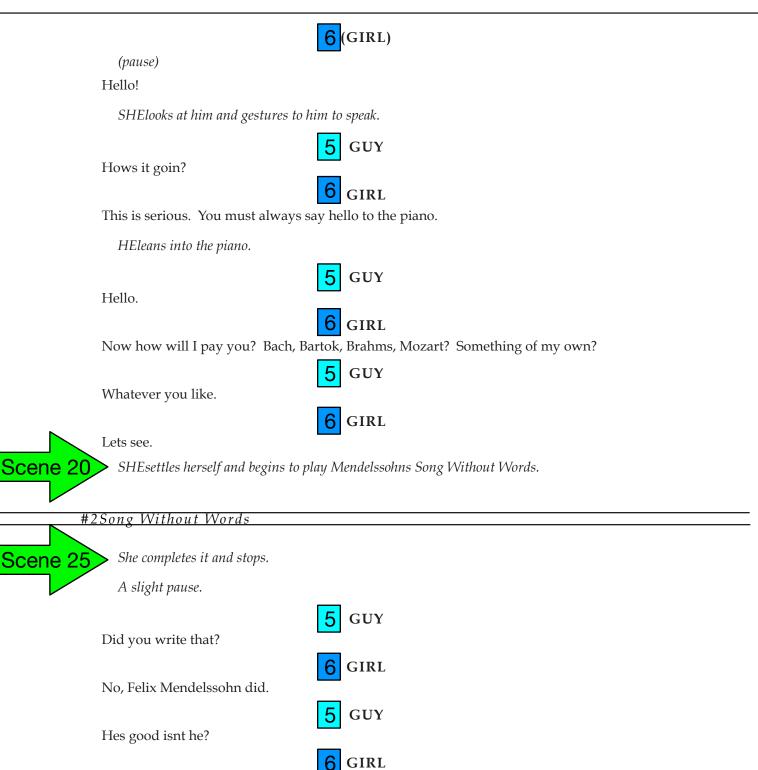


SHEhugs the piano.

Hes harmlesshe just needs a sale.

This is a beautiful piano. When I win the Lotto I will buy this piano and sleep with it every night. So first we say hello to it.

O N C E - 9 -



GUY

Hes a romantic.

But dead right?

-10-

6 GIRL
Hes a completely dead romantic. Now play me another song!
5 GUY
I dont want to sing anymore.
6 GIRL
Oh please! I pay you with money!
SHEslaps a coin on the piano.
·
5 GUY
Ten cent!?  6 GIRL
The size of the coin doesnt matter. You play or not play.
5 GUY
I wouldnt play if you handed me twenty Euro.
6 GIRL
I dont have ten Euro.
5 GUY
Well good cause I dont want to play anyway. Lets go!
6 GIRL
Lets go? We are in a music shop all alone and you sing very good songswhy
are you giving up on your music?
5 GUY
Theres no point to it anymore! Its got me nowhere!
6 GIRL
Because you are not Bono?
5 GUY
I dont want to be Bono!
6 GIRL
It has made you no moneyyou want to be famous?
5 GUY
You want to play your songs to people who want to listen!
6 GIRL
I am people! I want to listen! Play me a song!
5 GUY
Come on.

O N C E - 11 -

HEgoes to leave. SHEgrabs his bag. It falls onto the floor and sheet music spills out.

SHESdown quick and picking it up.



You write notes too! You are like Mendelssohnonly aliveand Irish!



**GUY** 

Can I have them back?!



**GIRL** 

Music is dead to you! This is rubbish, right?!



GUY

Actually, yeah! Fuck itkeep it! Nice to have met ya!



**GIRL** 

The transaction is not complete until you have made the Hoover suck!

HEturns back and looks at her.

HEwalks over and picks up the Hoover.

SHEstarts to read and play the opening chords to Falling Slowly.

#### #3Falling Slowly

HElistens. SHEstops.

Breathe. Are you breathing?



**GUY** 

Yes I am.

A slight pause.



GIRI

You will not die if you play this song with me.



(pause)





Again SHEplays the opening to Falling Slowly and this time HEaccompanies her on his guitar and sings.



**GUY** 

I DONT KNOW YOU
BUT I WANT YOU
ALL THE MORE FOR THAT

-12- ONCE

SHE begins to sing with him.



WORDS FALL THROUGH ME
AND ALWAYS FOOL ME
AND I CANT REACT
AND GAMES THAT NEVER AMOUNT
TO MORE THAN THEYRE MEANT
WILL PLAY THEMSELVES OUT

TAKE THIS SINKING BOAT AND POINT IT HOME
WEVE STILL GOT TIME
RAISE YOUR HOPEFUL VOICE YOU HAVE A CHOICE
YOULL MAKE IT NOW

FALLING SLOWLY, EYES THAT KNOW ME
AND I CANT GO BACK
MOODS THAT TAKE ME AND ERASE ME
AND IM PAINTED BLACK
YOU HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH
AND WARRED WITH YOURSELF
ITS TIME THAT YOU WON

The ENSEMBLE join in, the song builds.



TAKE THIS SINKING BOAT AND POINT IT HOME
WEVE STILL GOT TIME
RAISE YOUR HOPEFUL VOICE YOU HAD THE CHOICE
YOUVE MADE IT NOW
FALLING SLOWLY SING YOUR MELODY
ILL SING IT LOUD.

TAKE IT ALL
I PLAYED THE CARDS TOO LATE
NOW ITS GONE

Scene 35 THEY finish.

GIRL

So where is she?

O N C E - 13 -

Wheres who?	5 GUY
wheres who:	6 GIRL
The girl in this songis she dead?	
No shes not deadJesus!	5 GUY
Carray at 11 Jana hay 2	6 GIRL
So you still love her?	
No were finished.	5 GUY
	GIRL
No one who writes this song is finis	hed.
Well its an old song.	5 GUY
	6 GIRL
	in your voice. You sing this song to her and
you will get her back.	
Maybe I dont want her back.	5 GUY
	6 GIRL
Maybe you are frightened to sing wi	ith such a big love?
Maybe Im not bothered anymore.	5 GUY
	6 GIRL
But maybe you should be bothered.	
Right	5 GUY
Tugiti	
(slight pause)	
we should go.	
SHEsmiles.	
To the North Strand.	6 GIRL
The North Strand, yeah.	5 GUY

-14- ONCE

6 GIRL

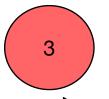


I will take the guitar. Come on!

THEYboth leave.

4 Da sings during transition.

#4North Strand



Scene 45

North Strand is played and movement from the ENSEMBLE.



The GUYis seen working on the broken Hoover as a clock slowly ticks.

The GIRLand DAsit together in silence. Finally,

6 GIRL

Its a fine shop youve got.

4 DA

Oh yeah?

A slight pause.

6 GIRL

Do you live above it?

4 DA

We do yeah. Its a little small up there but its fine actually.

A slight pause.

6 GIRL

And just the two of you?

4 DA

Yeah. My wife died a year ago...

6 GIRL

Oh Im sorry.

4 DA

Nah dont its...!

(slight pause)

I couldnt live in the house after so. Sold upmoved upstairs here. I think it sort of suits me now.

O N C E - 15 -

6 GIRL And youre doin okay?
A slight pause.
4 DA
Yeah. Thank you.
The DAlooks over at his son working.
Dyou think hes all right?
6 GIRL I dont know.
(slight pause)
He is maybe a little stopped?
4 DA
Right.
A slight pause.
4 (DA)
Hes a nice fella, mind you.
6 GIRL
Yes he is.  5 GUY
Well here ya go! I replaced the motor with something a little stronger.
6 GIRL
Great!
<b>4</b> DA
Good, lad.
6 GIRL
So what do I owe you?
<b>5</b> GUY
Ya paid me with Mendelssohn, dont worry about it.
With what?
5 GUY
Felix Mendelssohn, Da.

-16-

And whats that?	
Ill pay you with money!	
Just give us five Euro, love.	
Ah Da	
6 GIRL No its grand.	
Friends rate. For friends.	
(to himself)	
Jesus.	
6 GIRL	
Thank you, Sir.	
SHEhands the Da five Euro in loose change and takes the Hoover.	
An uncomfortable pause.	
Well very nice to meet you.	
Youre off then?	
6 GIRL	
(looks to the guy)	
Yeah I think our business is done	
Maybe a bit of tea? A bite to eat?	
6 GIRL Nah I think I better	
Do you want to see my room?	
A pause.	

O N C E 17

What?

Just, you know, if you have a little time.

GIRL
Your bedroom?

If you want?

(slight pause)

A cup of tea. Have a chat.

Scene 50

The DAis suddenly gone.

The GIRLturns back to the guy.

The Moon is sung.

#### #5The Moon

4 ENSEMBLE

IF YOU DONT SLOW DOWN, SLOW DOWN IF YOU DONT SLOW DOWN, SLOW...

6 GIRL

Your room.

5 GUY

Yeah... pretty sad, isnt it?

6 GIRL

Yes.

THEYsit as the song is being played.

4 ENSEMBLE

CUT THE BONDS WITH THE MOON AND WATCH THE DOGS GATHER.

6 GIRL

So you record all your music here?

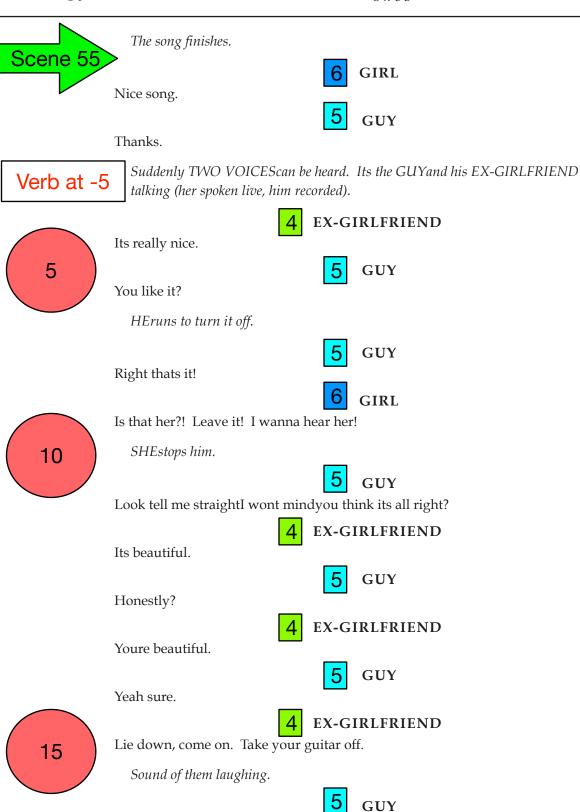
5 GUY

YeahI got an old four track and some other stuff, you know but... I reckon Im going to sell em now.

Andrej and Verb at -5



-18- ONCE



Fuck I think were still recording this.

O N C E - 19 -

# 4 EX-GIRLFRIEND

Leave it on! Lets make our own single!

5 GUY

Single my arse! Lets make a whole fucking album!

*The EX-GIRLFRIEND laughs.* 

**Scene 60** *The recording stops itself.* 

(relieved)

Oh thank Christ.

A slight pause.

6 GIRL

So when did she leave?

5 GUY

Six months ago.

6 GIRI

And where?

5 GUY

To New York. Nothin really for her here. No job, no prospects...

6 GIRL

Just you?

5 GUY

Yeah.

6 GIRL

And your music.

5 GUY

I speak to her on the phone sometimes.

6 GIRL

And how is she?

5 GUY

Oh she was lonely at the start, I thinkbut shes met someone new now so...

6 GIRL

Why dont you kill him?

5 GUY

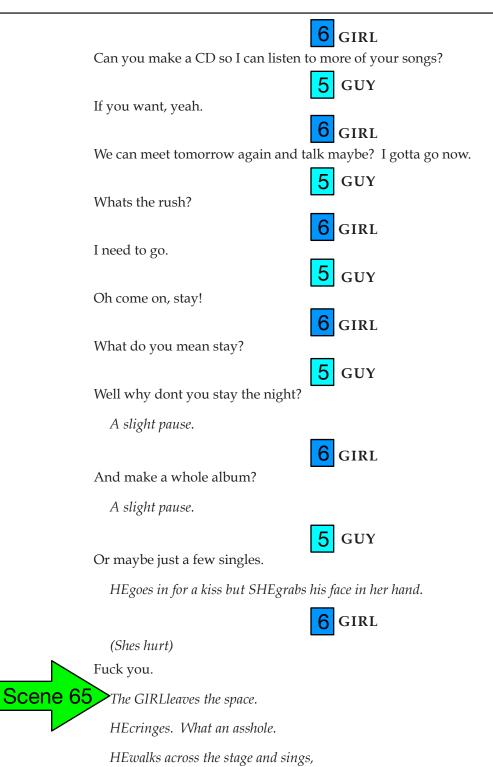
(smiling)

Kill him, of course.

- 20 - ONCE

6 GIRL
I can help you. I can get a gun from this man.
5 GUY
What seriously?
6 GIRL
Yeah. Im always seriousIm Czech.
5 GUY
(laughing)
Oh fuck!
GIRL
Hes just a passing guy for herI can tell. You should go to New Yorkyoure
living in a little boys room.
5 GUY
My Da needs the help.
6 GIRL
You are going to stay here, fixing Hoovers and living over a shop forever?!
5 GUY
Well not forever
6 GIRL
Go to New York, find your woman, sing your songs to people!
Just like that?!
6 GIRL
Why not?
5 GUY
I could barely afford the ticket even if I wanted to go all that way and stalk a woman
whos getting on fine without me! And the music?! No one wants to hear it! Its easier to walk away from it!
6 GIRL
I wont allow you do that!
A slight pause.
5 GUY
Why wont you allow me?
A pause.
provider

O N C E - 21 -



#6The Moon (Reprise)

- 2 2 - O N C E

Verb at -5



IF YOU DONT SLOW DOWN, SLOW DOWN IF YOU DONT SLOW DOWN, SLOW...

Scene 70

HEwalks into Billys shop and puts on the Hoover.

BILLYand the GIRLlook up at him. The GUYturns it off.

Can I have a moment, Billy?

4 BILLY

Yeah-sure-a-moment-absolutely-for-what!?

5 GUY

Just a quiet word...

6 GIRL

Say it.

4 BILLY

Yeah say it! No secrets between me and her, right love?

6 GIRL

Right pal.

BILLYand the GIRLdo some elaborate handshake. THEYstop and face the guy.

5 GUY

Right.

(slight pause)

Look Im sorry I made a pass at ya yesterday.

4 BILLY

You did what?!

5 GUY

Im a bit lonely...

4 BILLY

Were all a bit lonely! Lonelys a big part of the world these days! But you learn restraint, dyou hear me!

5 GUY

Yeah of course...

4 BILLY

Youd have to be a corpse not to feel some attraction for this angel of divinity...

O<sub>NCE</sub> - 23-



BILLYpulls the guy aside and has a final quiet word.

- 2 4 - ONCE

## 4 BILLY

You have to learn a little more reserve, yeah? A rush of blood to your head, you count to ten and take a shower, all right?

5 GUY

A shower, okay.



If a showers not available at the time listen to some Josh Groban. That usually takes the edge off me anyways. Buddies?

5 GUY

Cool-Billy-yeah.

BILLY gives him a friendly punch on the shoulder.

The GUYturns back to her and theyre suddenly in a different lighting state.

6 GIRL

Thank you for walking me home.



I reckon if I didnt Billy would have sliced me to pieces so just lookin after myself really.

SHEsmiles.

Oh look I burnt you some songs!

(HEhands her a CD)

6 GIRL

Oh great!

5 GUY

The qualitys not all that but... well if you ever fancy listening...

6 GIRL

I willI want to.

5 GUY

Thanks for being interested by the way.

6 GIRL

Sure.

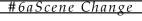
A long pause. HEreally doesn't want to say goodbye. Then,

Do you want to come in for a cup of tea?

O N C E - 25 -



Yeah. Id love to!



Scene 75

A new lighting state and the GIRLand GUYenter a whirlwind of a scene.

Her flat mates, two men, ANDREJ, SVEC (Andrej in a fast food uniform) and a young heavily make-uped woman, REZA are discussing passionately the Irish television soap Fair City.

The girls formidable looking mother, BARUSKA, files her nails and looks on.

THEYspeak in English but Czech is shown on surtitles behind them.

Scene 76

#### Transition Music End

4 ANDREJ

She's a liar, the woman is evil!



These are my flat mates.

5 GUY

You all live here?

6 GIRL

Yes its very cozy.

3 reza

Shes not evil! Youre an idiot!

4 ANDREJ

How can Damian lie in the same bed as that witch!?

5 GUY

Is everything all right?

4 ANDREJ

The deceit! My God!!

6 GIRL

Theyre talking about Fair City.

5 GUY

The soap opera?

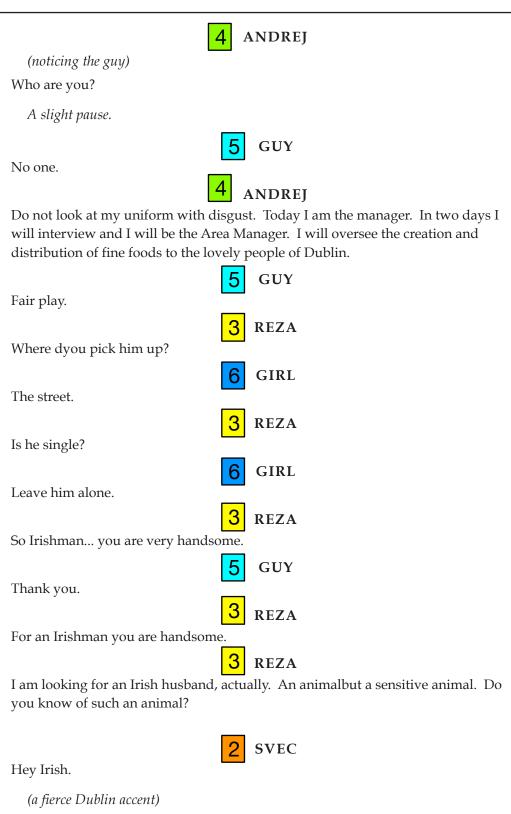
3 REZA

You understand, nothing! Dont you live in the world?! This is the real world, Andrej!

- 2 6 - ONCE

**SVEC** But Suzanne is changing. They learn their English from the soaps on television. Fair City is their passion. **SVEC** Can you see what theyre doing with Suzannes looks? ANDREJ Suzanne promised, Reza! She swore on her life! Shes the devil! **GIRL** Speak English! The surtitles disappear as they speak English. **ANDREJ** She beats her own husband and then she promised that she would see a counselor! Suzanne lied that she was seeing this counselor! **REZA** Damian is a worm! **ANDREJ** Damian is a man who watched his own father kill his own mother! And now to be suffering abuse at the hands of his own fucking wife! **SVEC** But theyre making her more attractive the more violent she gets. Have you noticed that? Its very clever. ANDREJ You think shes more attractive, Svec? **SVEC** Definitely! **ANDREJ** Her domestic abuse is turning you on!? **SVEC** Suzanne is a ride. ANDREJ You are a pervert! Oh yes.

O N C E - 27 -

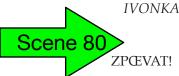


Fancy a pint in McCoys later, yeah bud? What dyou mean youre pregnant!? Jaysus dats awful news! Im keepin da baby! I want ta keep da baby!

-28-

A slight pause.
5 GUY
Very good.  2 SVEC
Tank you.
Great accent.
Doadly, icnt it?!
Deadly, isnt it?!
This is my mother, Baruska.
BARUSKAwalks towards him, grabs the guy and kisses him full on the lips. The kiss breaks and SHEstares at him.
1 BARUSKA
Jist?!
A slight pause.
What does Jist mean?
6 GIRL
Eat.
5 GUY She wants to eat me?
1 BARUSKA
(in English)
You eat my food, yes?!
5 GUY
Eat your food? Excellent!
A little 5 year old girl dressed in her pyjamas, IVONKA, has walked on stage and stands behind the guy. SHEtugs at his jumper. HEturns and looks down at her.
6 GIRL This is my daughter Ivonka.
5 GUY
Hey there.

- 29 -ONCE



IVONKA holds out her hand. THEY shake hands.



### #<u>7Ej Pada Pada</u>

## Verb at -5



EH PA DA PA DA ROW SICH KA EH PA DA PA DA ROW SICH KA EH PA DA PA DA ROW SICH KA

SPA LEE BI MOH YEH OH CHEECH KAH SPA LEE BI MOH YEH SPA LEE BEE YE TVOH YEH SPA LEE BI OH NEE OH BOW YEH HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY

EYE PUR SHI PUR SHI NA POH ZJARD SKASH TEH POZ DRA VIT NA PO ZJRAD SKASH THE POZ DRAU E NEE ME MOO POH TYE SHEN DEE

ZJEH OOZH HO MOO SEEM ZAH NECH AT EYE PUR SHI PUR SHI NA POH ZJRAD

SKASH TEH POZ DRA VIT NA PO ZJRAD SKASH TEH POZ DRAU E NEE ME MOO POH TYE SHEN DEE

ZJEH OOZH HO MOO SEEM ZAH NECH AT

#### HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY HEY

ANDREJand REZAdance on the table throughout. The flat is going wild. The GUY is standing back smiling.

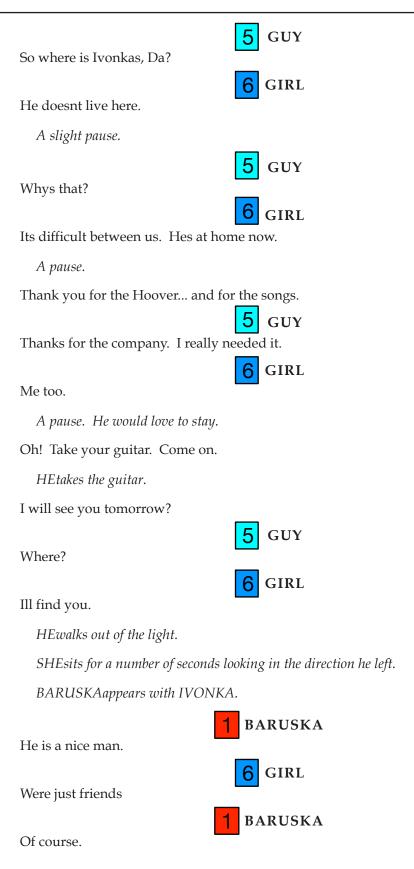
Scene 85 The song, dancing and dinner come to an end.

A new lighting state with only the GUYand GIRLsitting in it. Shes wearing large headphones and listening to his CD.

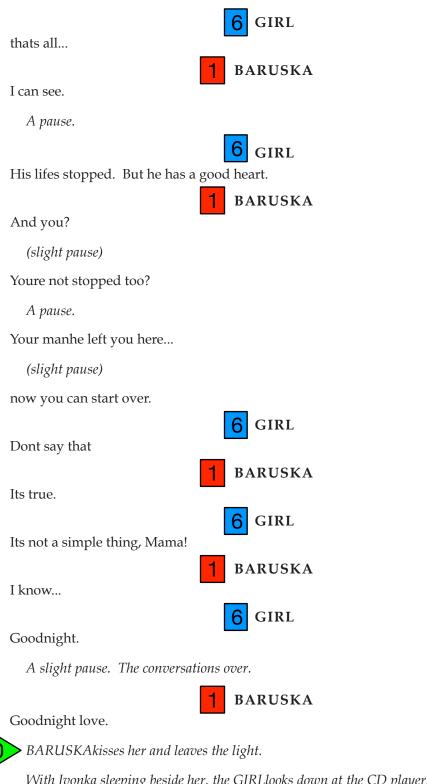
- 3 0 - ONCE

6 GIRL	
(shouting)	
This is just music! Wheres the words?	
There are none.	
There are none.	
6 GIRL	
(shouting)	
Its great! Youve no words for this?!	
5 GUY	
Got a few ideas	
5 GUY Got a few ideas  6 GIRL	
(shouting)	
Hah?	
HElifts the headphones off her ears.	
5 GUY	
I couldnt settle on the lyrics. You can try some if you fancy it.	
6 GIRL	
Really?	
5 GUY	
Yeah if you want.	
6 GIRL	
Okay.	
(slight pause)	
This is romantic. You have a romantic streak.	
5 GUY	
I used to.	
6 GIRL	
When?	
5 GUY	
When I was younger.	
6 GIRL	
But now you are an old man.	
HEsmiles.	

O N C E - 31 -



- 32 -ONCE



Scene 90

With Ivonka sleeping beside her, the GIRLlooks down at the CD player. SHEpresses the play button and the ensemble play If You Want Me as SHEsings.

O N C E - 33 -

Guy and Girl at 0

Ensemble at -5

#### #8If You Want Me

# orb of E

6

**GIRL** 

Verb at -5

ARE YOU REALLY HERE OR AM I DREAMING

I CANT TELL DREAMS FROM TRUTH

FOR ITS BEEN SO LONG SINCE I HAVE SEEN YOU

I CAN HARDLY REMEMBER YOUR FACE ANYMORE

WHEN I GET REALLY LONELY AND THE DISTANCE CAUSES ONLY SILENCE

I THINK OF YOU SMILING WITH PRIDE IN YOUR EYES A LOVER THAT SIGHS

Add Guy

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME

ARE YOU REALLY SURE THAT YOU BELIEVE ME

WHEN OTHERS SAY I LIE

I WONDER IF YOU COULD EVER DESPISE ME!

WHEN YOU KNOW I REALLY TRIED

TO BE A BETTER ONE TO SATISFY YOU FOR YOURE EVERYTHING TO ME

AND ILL DO WHAT YOU ASK ME

IF YOU LET ME BE FREE

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME

Ex/Reza/Ensemble

Sing After

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME

IF YOU WANT ME SATISFY ME.

The music continues



The GIRLpicks up Ivonka and carries her out of the light.

The music ends.

New state.

The GUY is facing a mirror. Hes singing and strumming an improvised biographical song. The girl remains unseen by him.

#### #9Broken Hearted Hoover Fixer Sucker Guy



**GUY** 

Verb at -5

TEN YEARS AGO
I FELL IN LOVE WITH AN IRISH GIRL
SHE TOOK MY HEART

- 3 4 - ONCE



BUT SHE WENT AND SCREWED SOME GUY THAT SHE KNEW AND NOW IM IN DUBLIN WITH A BROKEN HEART

OH BROKEN HEARTED HOOVER FIXER SUCKER GUY
OH BROKEN HEARTED HOOVER FIXER SUCKER, SUCKER GUY

ONE DAY ILL GO THERE AND WIN HER ONCE AGAIN BUT UNTIL THEN IM JUST A SUCKER OF A GUY.

Scene 100 HEturns and sees her and visibly blushes.

Hey.

6 GIRI

Hey. I listen to all your songs and I have made a big decision. Do you want to hear it?

5 GUY

Would love ta.

6 GIRI

You write these songs for your girl and now she is gone these songs have made you depressed. But they have heart and soul and you have heart and soul. These songs they need to be sung for you, for me, for anyone who has lost a love. Dont be sad you must sing.

5 GUY

Youre right.

6 GIRL

I am going to hug you right now.

5 GUY

Fair enough.

The GIRLhugs him. She stops and holds him back.

6 GIRI

So we are going to make a demonstration tape of these songsme and youwith good musicians and we send this tape around the world and a fat man with a fat cigar will pick you up for his record company and you will go to New York and you make something of yourself, okay?!

5 GUY

Okay...

O N C E - 35 -

### 6 GIRL

So I speak to a man today in a recording studio and I bash him down in price and we can have his studio for 24 hours. One daytwo grand!

5 GUY

Where would I find two grand?!

6 GIRL

My mother borrow money from the small loans man in the bank and this man is a nice and a good man. My mother pay this man back so we are in the good books.

5 GUY

Alright.

6 GIRL

Now you dress like a tramp

SHEwhips a grey shiny suit out of the plastic bag.

Take your clothes off!

HEstarts taking off his trousers.

5 GUY

Did you buy that?!

6 GIRL

It is a suit from Andrej. It is a great suit. His lucky interview suit. A suit to impress the bank man.

5 GUY

Well I better get these trousers on I dont want to drive ya wild!

6 GIRL

Noyour naked legs would make me explode.

5 GUY

Where do you get your energy from?

6 GIRL

I am a young mother. We are a special breed.

HEgets the trousers on.

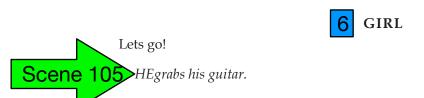
5 GUY

Done.

SHEturns and looks at him in the suit.

A quiet moment as SHEstraightens and buttons his jacket. Then,

- 3 6 - ONCE



#### #10Trying To Pull Myself Away (Part 1)

Music is played as the ENSEMBLEarrive on stage with seats. They sit in rows and suddenly were in the open-plan office of the bank.

At the front of the stage the BANK MANAGER is waiting.

The GUYand the GIRLenter the space. Suddenly hes nervous.

►BARUSKAstops them.

1 BARUSKA

(to the guy)

She will translate.

5 GUY

Okay.

Scene 110

-1

Band

-20

BARUSKAspeaks in English, her words appearing in Czech surtitles.

#### <u>#11Baruskas Story</u>

### 1 BARUSKA

Once upon a time there was a little man who lived in a little house in a little city and he had a little job in a little officeand nothing ever happened to this little man. In truth he was a miserable little man. And one night he lay awake in his bed and for the first time in his life he imagined great adventures. He imagined other countries and fantastic encounters with unstable individuals. He imagined love affairs of various varieties. He slept deeply and what great dreams he had! The morning came and he dressedbut not in the clothes he would usually wearthis morning he would be brand new! But then... as he faced his front door to the world outside he closed his eyes and that same mind began to imagine the most terrible things. Instead where before he only saw life and successnow he only saw death and failure. The world outside was there to torture and crush him! Love was there to tease and break him! FUCK IT! He stripped out of his new clothes, returned to his bed and promised never to dream of anything ever again. He remained in that bed for eternity, emaciated and rotting, lying in his own shit, his one expression he gave to the world crawled from his mouth...

BARUSKAdoes the tortured choking sound of the emaciated failure. SHEstops.

O N C E - 37 -



(to the guy. In Czech)

Those who live in fear... die miserably in their graves.

The GUYis shook to his core. HEturns to the girl.

5 GUY

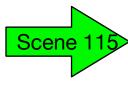
So what did she say?

A slight pause.



Good luck.

#### #12Trying To Pull Myself Away (Part 2)



The GUYand the GIRLleave Baruska and enter the bank and walk through the secretaries.

They are met by the BANK MANAGER. The THREEsit as the bank manager looks at their written application.

The bank managers a prim man from County Cork.



I cant say I see many applications like this onea bit out of the norm for me. So you've never held an account in this bank?

5 GUY

No.

4 BANK MANAGER

In any bank?

5 GUY

Ive got a post office account.

4 BANK MANAGER

Oh terrific.

5 GUY

My Da says postmen are a lot more honest than bankers.

4 BANK MANAGER

Does he now?

5 GUY

He does yeah.

- 38 - ONCE



He is a very good song writer, Sir.

4 BANK MANAGER

Lovely...

6 GIRL

We will pay you back with interest when we get the deal.

## 4 BANK MANAGER

Well thats how it works, you see! I give you the loan and you repay me with interest which wont be a problem because youre going to be snapped up and handed a ferociously large record contract by a major record company.



(a little nervous)

Can I ask you a question?

4 BANK MANAGER

Yeah why not!

6 GIRL

Are you proud to be Irish?

4 BANK MANAGER

Well thats a very personal question.

6 GIRL

Are you proud or not proud? It is not difficult.

4 BANK MANAGER

Fundamentally I am proud, I suppose.

6 GIRL

And what makes you the most proud? The first thing.

4 BANK MANAGER

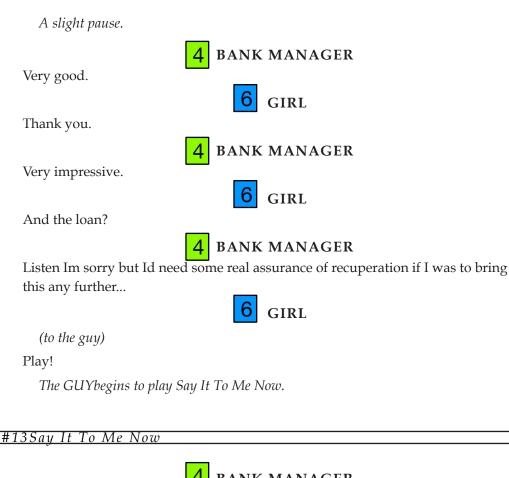
(immediately)

Our culture.

6 GIRL

For an island this tiny to make all these writers and poets and musicians! This is insane. And yet on this little rock in the middle of the ocean you make men and women who for centuries can speak and sing of what it is to be a person. Yeats, Swift, Wilde, Beckett, Joyce, Van Morrison, Enya, the fantastic people who gave the world River Dance! But it is people like you! People who invest in Irish culture who also make the culture, Sir! You are responsible for showing the world that Ireland is still here! Ireland is open for business!

- 39 -O N C E



### BANK MANAGER

Its true there are countless people in Ireland that need financial assistance right now...

Scene 120

GIRL

Keep playing!

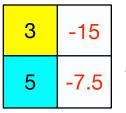
### **BANK MANAGER**

... and Im sure youre talented and everything... you can certainly memorise musical chords and play them in a melodic sequence... but really...

GIRL

Sing!

The GUYsings.



**GUY** 

IM SCRATCHING AT THE SURFACE NOW

The BANK MANAGERdoesnt know what to do... but listen.

AND IM TRYING HARD TO WORK IT OUT SO MUCH HAS GONE MISUNDERSTOOD

Verb at -7.5

-40-



THIS MYSTERY ONLY LEADS TO DOUBT.

AND IM LOOKING FOR A SIGN
ITS A DARK UNEASY TIME
SO IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY
YOUD BETTER SAY IT NOW

CAUSE THIS IS WHAT YOUVE WAITED FOR YOUR CHANCE TO EVEN UP THE SCORE AND AS THESE SHADOWS FALL ON ME NOW I WILL SOMEHOW

CAUSE IM PICKING UP A MESSAGE LORD AND IM CLOSER THAN IVE EVER BEEN BEFORE

SO IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY SAY IT TO ME NOW SAY IT TO ME NOW

Scene 125 A pause.

The BANK MANAGERis blown away.

4 BANK MANAGER

Do you have many more like that?

6 GIRL

Very many.

4 BANK MANAGER

Great voice. Really good.

5 GUY

Thanks.

4 BANK MANAGER

Raw.

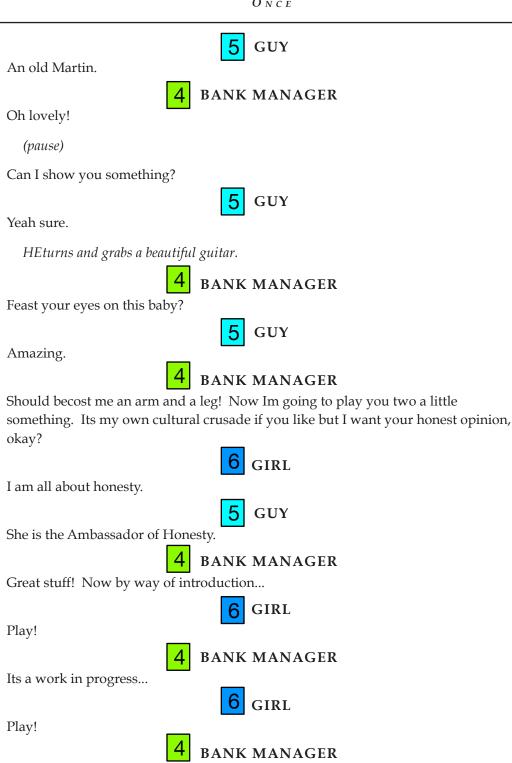
5 GUY

I suppose, yeah.

4 BANK MANAGER

What sort of guitar is that?

O N C E-41-



Some important biographical decisions to make...

Play!

Scene 130

GIRL

- 42 - ONCE

The BANK MANAGERlaunches into his own composition.

Its a country western song called Abandoned In Bandon.

#### #14Abandoned In Bandon





IN COUNTY CORK IN THE COUNTRY GREEN,
IN A LONESOME TOWN CALLED BANDON.
A BOY LIVES THERE AND HE DREAMS OF COUNTY CLARE
THE HOLIDAY THAT HE JUST HAD DONE.

AND HE WALKED OVER HILLS AND SKIPPED OVER RIVERS, ALL THE TIME HIS HAND IN HIS LOVE.
BUT HIS LOVES NOT HERE AND NEVER CLOSE AT HAND HIS HEARTS ABANDONED IN BANDON.

TWO COUNTIES. ONE LOVE.
TOO MANY COMPLICATIONS
AND NOT ENOUGH HAND IN GLOVE.

NOT ENOUGH HAND IN GLOVE.

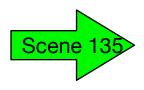
The GUYand GIRLsit frozen with strained smiles on their faces.

TOOK A DRIVE OUTTA TOWN AN KEPT ON DRIVIN,
HIS WESTERN LOVE — HIS NAVIGATION.
BUT THE CAR BROKE DOWN OUTSIDE OF CASTLETOWN,
HE PULLED INTO THE GAS STATION.

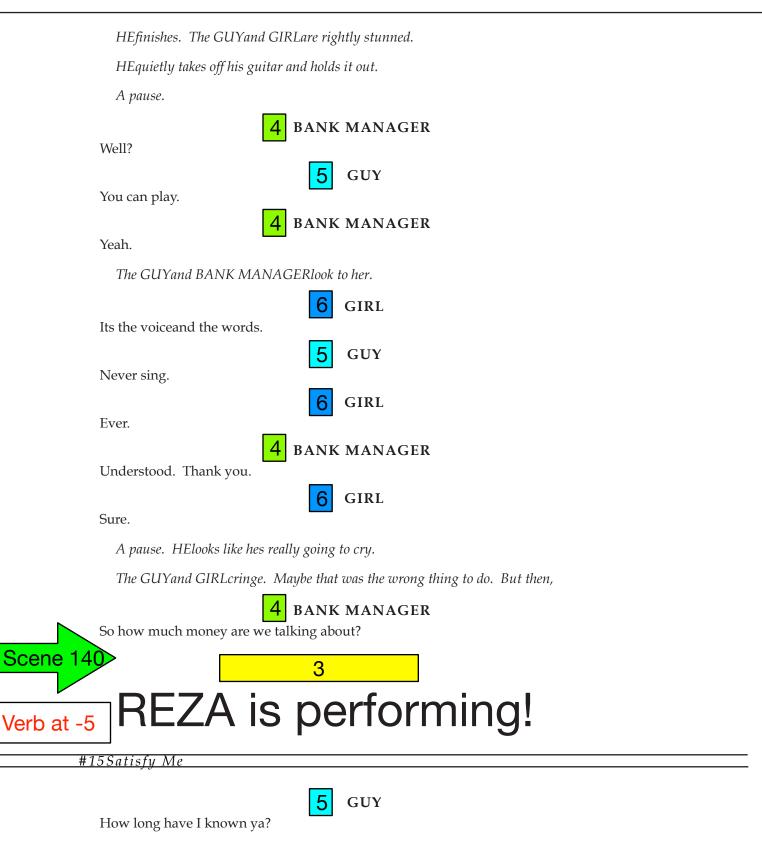
HE DIALED THAT NAME AND IMAGINED THEM KISSIN,
AS THAT SWEET CLARE VOICE FILLED HIS EARS,
BUT HIS LOVES NOT HERE AND NEVER CLOSE AT HAND.
HIS CARS ALL BUST CAUSE HE BUST THE GEARS.

TWO COUNTIES. ONE LOVE.
TOO MANY COMPLICATIONS
AND NOT ENOUGH HAND IN GLOVE.
NOT ENOUGH HAND IN GLOVE.

ABANDONED IN BANDON.



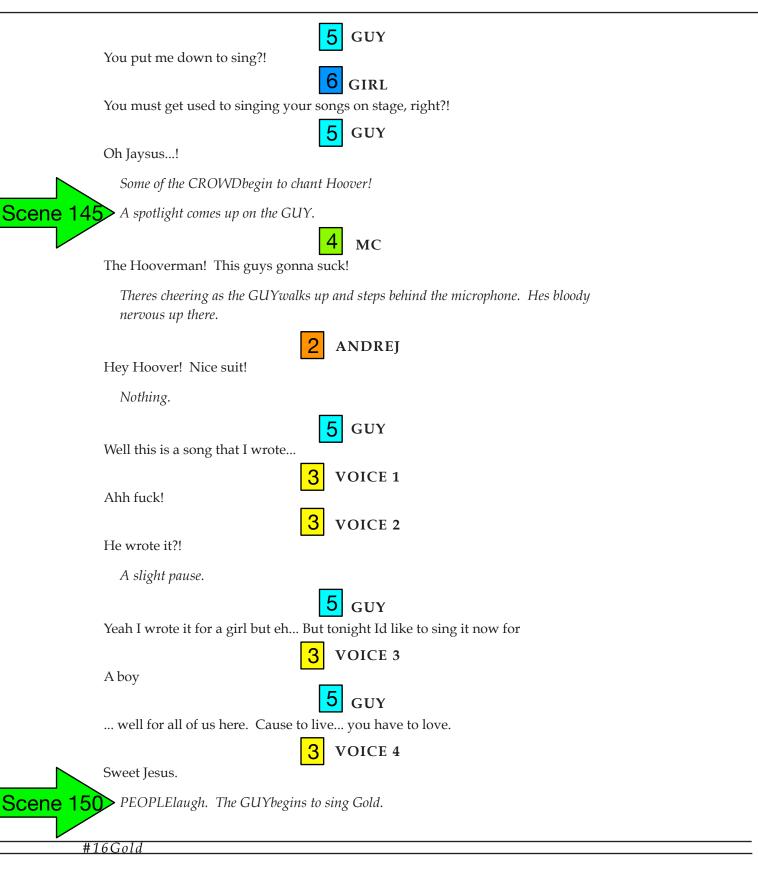
O N C E - 43 -



- 4 4 - ONCE

6 GIRL
Two days, six hours
(SHEchecks her watch)
35 minutes.
5 GUY
I dont really get it.  6 GIRL
What dont you get?  5 GUY
Well youve been so kind an everythinggiven me a new me! I dont know how to thank ya!
6 GIRL Lets sit down
5 GUY
No hang on!
(slight pause)
Listen when we met I was in a bad placeit was more than giving up on music and you knew that. I love my Da more than the world but my little room above the shop and the same view of the street outsidethat was looking like my life forever.
(slight pause)
And that was only two days ago. Two days.
(slight pause)
So thank you.
4 MC
Lets hear it for Reza. Next up on the Live Mic we got The Hooverman!
The ENSEMBLEcheer and jeer throughout the below.
6 GIRL Its you!
Whats me?!
<b>4</b> MC
Come on The Hooverman!

O N C E - 45 -



O N C E- 46 -



#### **GUY**

AND I LOVE HER SO

I WOULDN'T TRADE HER FOR GOLD

I'M WALKING ON MOON BEAMS

I WAS BORN WITH A SILVER SPOON

AND I'M GONNA BE ME

I'M GONNA BE FREE

I'M WALKING ON MOON BEAMS

AND STARING OUT TO SEA

### **Ensemble Sings Here**



AND IF A DOOR BE CLOSED

THEN A ROW OF HOMES START BUILDING!

AND TEAR YOUR CURTAINS DOWN

FOR SUNLIGHT IS LIKE GOLD

The GIRLis seen standing looking at him and we focus on her more and more like they are the only two on stage.

AND YOU BETTER BE YOU

AND DO WHAT YOU CAN DO

WHEN YOU'RE WALKING ON MOON BEAMS

STARING OUT TO SEA

CAUSE IF YOUR SKIN WAS SOIL

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK BEFORE THEY START DIGGING

### **Guys Head Mic**

AND IF YOUR LIFE WAS GOLD

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU'D STAY LIVIN'?

HEY

HEsmiles down at her, SHEsmiles back.

But there's a moment suddenly in her heart, a huge worry.

AND I LOVE HER SO

I WOULDN'T TRADE HER FOR GOLD.

She's fallen in love with him.



Interval.

Guitar 3 = -10Ensemble = -7.5

Guy = -7.5

Verb = -5

Band = -10

Push band to -5 during instrumental parts!

O N C E - 47 -



#### The Second Half.

A short musical introduction –

Band -8

#### #17 - Act 2 Opening

– and suddenly the light comes up in Billy's shop with BILLY, THE BANK MANAGER, SVEC, ANDREJ(in the grey suit) and the GUYand the GIRL.

Scene 161

The atmosphere is immediately strained.

4 BILLY

Now wait a second—you're absolutely joking me—let me get this straight—you're a banker, is that right?

3 bank manager

You've heard it three times now!

4 BILLY

The very people who are threatening to steal these premises offa me if I don't start making sales! A banker from Cork—am I the only person who's uncomfortable with this?

6 GIRL

Yes! Let's rehearse!

2 ANDREJ

(to the Bank Manager)

I have not been placed on this world to flip burgers! I am a builder of worlds. This is a lucky suit! Today I am the manager. In two hours I will interview and I will be the Area Manager!

3 BANK MANAGER

Fair play.

2 ANDREJ

You are looking at the last moments of a burger-boy. This is a great day for Andrej!

4 BILLY

It's the combination of Cork and banker, am I right?!

3 BANK MANAGER

And what's wrong with Cork?!

1 SVEC

(in his Dublin accent)

Cork is a dump!

- 48 - ONCE



- 49 -

## O N C EBANK MANAGER Hes Czech! SHUT UP! Silence. For a few moments just keep the shit-talk inside yourselves! Billy? A slight pause. **BILLY** For the sake of rehearsal and my commitment to this musical odyssey I will suspend my instinct and channel my energies into the melody. The GIRLlooks at the Bank Manager. BANK MANAGER For the sake of my investmentlets play. BILLY (hardly under his breath) Wanker.

The GIRLfires a look at him.

**SVEC** 

Very nice drums this.

**BILLY** 

Thanks.

**GUY** 

Youve played drums before right?

**SVEC** 

I played in a music group back home.

**GUY** 

Oh cool!

**SVEC** 

A Death Metal band. I play hard.

**GUY** 

Well this might be a little more folksy than metal.

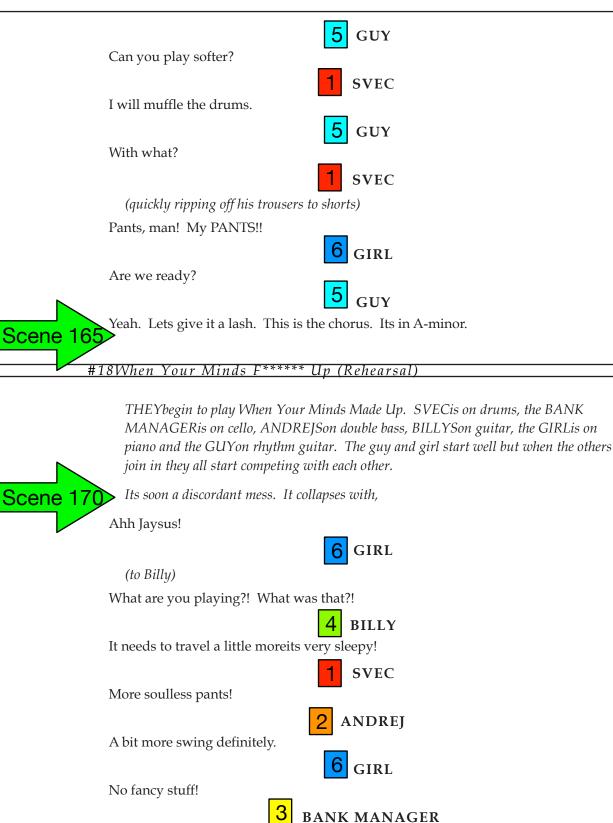
**SVEC** 

Folksy?

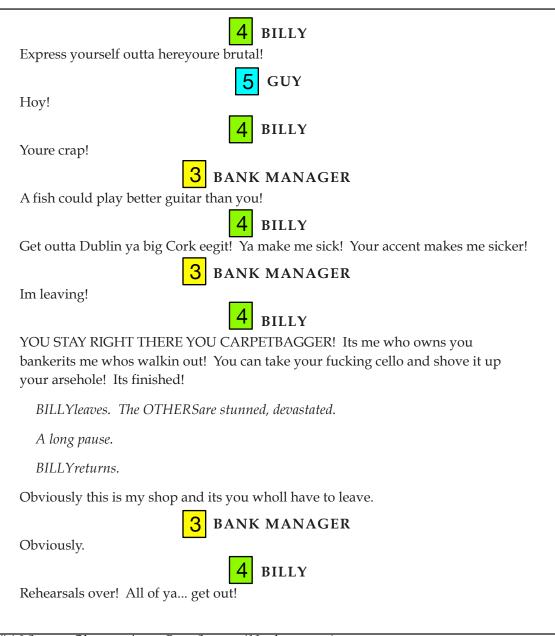
- 50 -ONCE

We need to express something!

Scene 16



O N C E - 51 -



#### #19Scene Change into Bar Scene (Underscore)



A new state.

Were in a noisy pub with BILLYand the GUY.



I need ya, BillyI need ya big time!

4 BILLY

I hate that banker! Theyre crushin me into the groundIm a man of principal I cant do it! Im out!

-52-

Im beggin ya, please!	5 GUY
ini beggin ya, piease:	4 BILLY
Dont beg me!	
Well I dont wanna beg ya!	5 GUY
Flatter me then!	4 BILLY
Flatter ya?	5 GUY
I need it!!	4 BILLY
(slight pause)	
Flatter me.	
A slight pause.	
Youre a beautiful man.	5 GUY
A slight pause.	
Yeah I do have a beauty.	4 BILLY
Youve got a real feel for the musi	<b>5 GUY</b> c tool can tell, Billy.
Ü	4 BILLY
You reckon?	5 GUY
Oh definitely! I need your playir	n!
You think I play good?!	4 BILLY
You play massive, man! Massive	5 GUY
	4 BILLY
This is helpin me! Im feelin bette	er! Get me a drink.
Anything at allthe bars yours.	5 GUY

O N C E - 5 3 -

4	BILLY
---	-------

A glass of Rioja.

The light flicks off them and onto the GIRLand REZAon the other side of the bar.

6 GIRL

We need Billywe need his drums.

A slight pause.

3 REZA

Whats it worth?

6 GIRL

I need it as a favour.

3 REZA

You want me to seduce this man I will need payment.

6 GIRL

You seduce men for fun!

3 reza

With this one I will need encouragementget me a drink.

6 GIRL

What do you want?

3 REZA

A whiskey. A double.

The light flicks off them and back on BILLYand the GUY.

4 BILLY

Dyou want an observation?

5 GUY

Not really.

4 BILLY

She likes you.

5 GUY

Right.

4 BILLY

I have an intuition about these things.

5 GUY

I dont wanna talk about it...

- 5 4 - ONCE

### 4 BILLY

Over a year Ive worked on unlocking her heart and not even a look-in! You waltz in and BAM! Youre a love thiefbut I respect you for that. Now what are you going to do about it?

5 GUY

I dont want to talk about this with you!

4 BILLY

We are talking about this!

5 GUY

LOOK WE NEED YOUR DRUMS!

4 BILLY

DRUMS?! I thought you wanted me for my massive playing! YA SNAKE!

The light flicks off them and back on REZA and the GIRL.

3 reza

Now pay me with honesty.

6 GIRL

What do you want to know?

3 REZA

This very attractive man with the dark looks and wide shoulders

6 GIRL

Yes I know who youre talking about.

3 REZA

Do you want him?

6 GIRL

In the way that you want him?

A slight pause.

3 reza

Do you want to be with him?

6 GIRL

I am with someone.

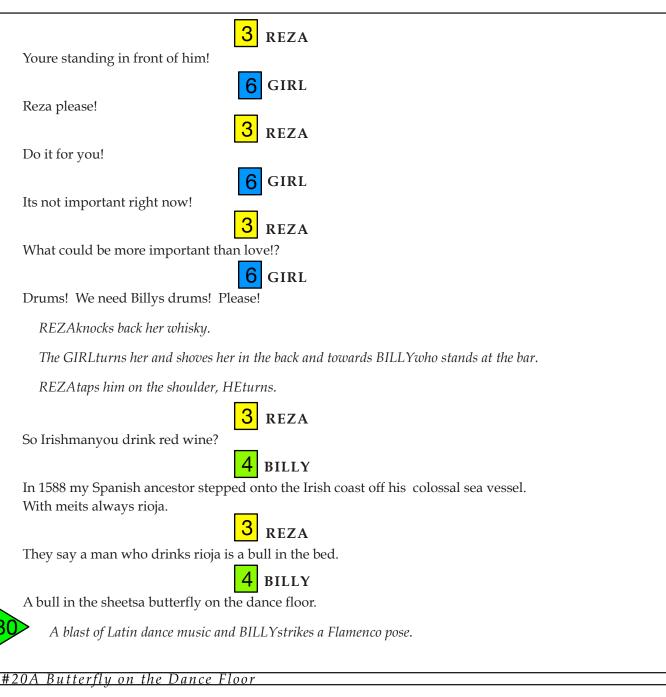
3 reza

With someone who cant see how beautiful you are! This man is sweet. He has the same soul as you.

6 GIRL

He is going to America to be with his girl.

O N C E- 55 -



Scene 180

REZA

Fabuloso!

Scene 188

REZAand BILLYdance. BILLYthrows his back out. REZAhelps him off.

Suddenly ANDREJruns into the space screaming and drunk. He rips off his lucky jacket and throws it on the ground.

- 5 6 - ONCE

## 4 ANDREJ

(screams)

Bastards! The bastards! Bastards...

HEcries for some time, his dream of being Area Manager crushed. The OTHERScan only look on.

5

**GUY** 

Oh fuck it!

6

GIRL

Dont worry. Reza will get Billy. She is a tough woman.

5

**GUY** 

But everything else. Not even gettin started and its falling apartits typical...

6

GIRL

Stop.

A slight pause.

5

**GUY** 

Lets do something. Get out of the city and breathe a little.

6

GIRL

I should go.

5

**GUY** 

Please.

A pause.

6

**GIRL** 

Okay.

#### #21Howth Head

# Scene 190 EX GF Sings!

### Reverb at -5

They look over Dublin from Howth Head. Sound of the sea.

Whats the Czech for ocean?

5

**GUY** 

6

GIRL

Ocean.

(slight pause)

Its the same.

O N C E - 57-

<b>5</b> GUY Really?
6 GIRL
Yeah.
A slight pause.
Easy language, isnt it?
6 GIRL
Yeah its very easy.
No point having it really.
6 GIRL
No.
A pause.
Look at the little lights. The city looks tiny from here.
It does. It is.
A pause.
Does Dublin feel like home?
6 GIRL
I think so. It never became what it wanted to be but its still a life and a good one I think. Very good people. Big hearted people.
5 GUY
Thatll be all those potatoes.
SHElaughs.
6 GIRL Youll miss it when you go to New York.
I suppose.
A pause.
6 GIRL Its so nice here.
200 00 2100 10201

- 58 - ONCE

5 GUY

Yeah.

A slight pause.

I used to come here as a boy on the good Sundays when the weather wasnt crap me, Ma and Da on the train. It was great. Twenty minute train journey but it may as well have been Borneo or somethin.

A slight pause.

My Ma brought me with two of my friends once. And we were walkin the cliff-walk way down there. And, ya know, like boys we were messin about, gettin a little bit too close to the edge. And I think we must have wandered off the path, gone a bit lower and onto a smaller narrower pathand theres this big rock juttin out blockin us and beyond the rock the path is much wider and safer definitely. Were all only about seven years old and my Ma can easily lift us over the rock and back onto the path and one by one she does that.

```
(slight pause)
```

So Im on the safe side and watching her climb over the rock on her own. Shes holding on to it and her little flat shoes are finding a grip.

```
(slight pause)
```

I look down and way below is a terrible fall and sharp rocks and ocean. And I start crying.

```
(slight pause)
```

And of course she makes it to the other side and the rest of the day is all fish and chips and ice cream at the harbour and lots of laughsbut I cant really shift what I felt. I knew now what it was to be scared. Thats a terrible lesson ya have to learn, isnt it? Wastin life cause youre frightened of it.

```
(slight pause)
```

Terrible.

(slight pause)

I wish I could have the same spirit my Ma had. Even half of it be good.

A pause.



Youre a lovely person.

(slight pause)

Im very happy my Hoover was broken.

O N C E - 59 -

### 5 GUY

Me too.

Theres a tension suddenly. THEYboth know something is about to happen between them. But then,

6 GIRL

I like spending time with you... but I have certain responsibilities f sometimes I seem cold...

5 GUY

Its all rightdont worry about it.

A slight pause.

6 GIRL

Ivonkas father is my husband. Is this okay?

5 GUY

I understand.

6 GIRL

Tomorrow we will go to the studio and record.

5 GUY

Yeah.

6 GIRL

We will do good. Dont be frightened.

A pause.

5 GUY

So whats the Czech for, Do you still love him?

A pause.

6 GIRL

Ty ho este miluje"?

5 GUY

So... Ty ho este miluje"?

A pause. In Czech SHEanswers,

6 GIRL

Miluji tebe.

We read I love you in the surtitles.



-60-

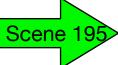
5 GUY

What does that mean?

SHElooks up above them.

6 GIRL

It looks like rain.



SHEturns away and into a new lighting state.

HEbegins to play and sing Sleeping.

#### #22Sleeping

Guy = -4
Guitar 1 = -10
Verb = -7
Build to -5 when violin comes in.





#### **GUY**

ARE YOU SLEEPING?
STILL DREAMING?
STILL DRIFTING OFF ALONE.
IM NOT LEAVING WITH THIS FEELING
SO YOUD BETTER BEST BE TOLD
AND HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU COME
TO BE SUCH A LAZY LOVE?

ITS SO SIMPLE AND FITTING
THE PATH THAT YOU ARE ON
WERE NOT TALKING, THERES NO SECRETS
THERES JUST A NOTE THAT YOU HAVE GONE
AND ALL THAT YOU EVER OWNED
IS PACKED IN THE HALL TO GO

AND HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO LIVE WITHOUT YOU? A WRONG WORD SAID IN ANGER AND YOU WERE GONE

IM NOT LISTENING FOR SIGNALS ITS ALL DUST NOW ON THE SHELF

ARE YOU STILL WORKING? STILL COUNTING?
STILL BURIED IN YOURSELF?
AND HOW IN THE WORLD DID WE COME
TO HAVE SUCH AN ABSENT LOVE?

O N C E - 61 -



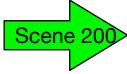
AND HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO LIVE WITHOUT YOU?

A WRONG WORD SAID IN ANGER AND YOU WERE GONE

AND HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO LIVE WITHOUT ANYONE?

AND HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU COME TO BE SUCH A LAZY LOVE?
AND WHERE DID YOU GO?





The song ends.

New state.

The studio engineer, EAMON, stands staring at this shabby bunch of misfits.

3 EAMON

So has ahhh... has any one of yas ever made anythin... anythin outside your bedrooms?

5 GUY

No were all virgins.

4 BILLY

Speak for yourself.

2 BANK MANAGER

Absolutely.

5 GUY

Studio virgins.

2 BANK MANAGER

Oh right. Yeah first time.

4 BILLY

Last night was a night of first times. Last night Eamon... last night I gave my body to the Goddess of Desire. I was free... like a birdlike a giant bird with a beard.

3 EAMON

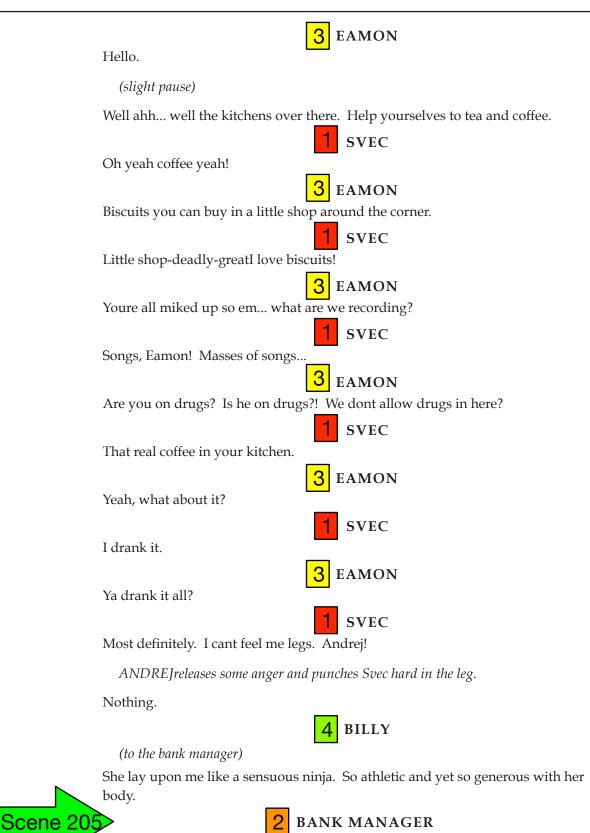
Very good.

SVECis standing very close to Eamon. He looks a little wild eyed.

1 SVEC

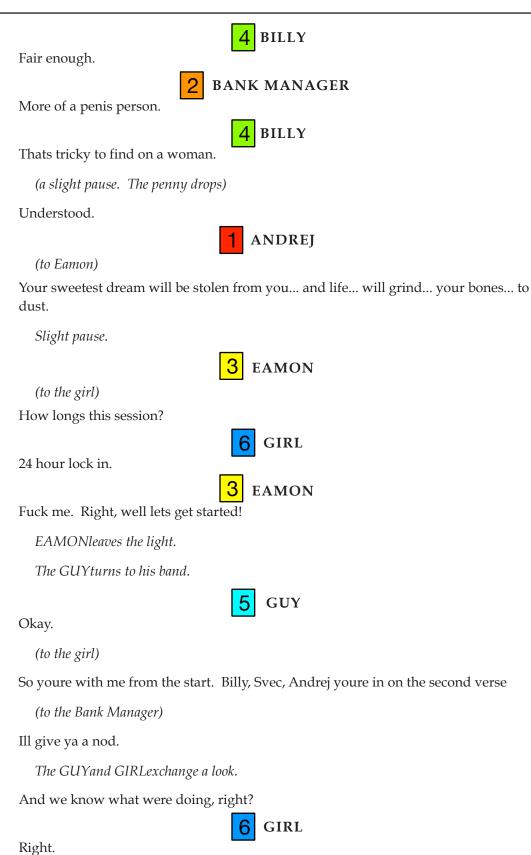
Hello.

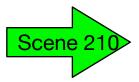
-62-



Im not a huge fan of breasts.

O N C E - 63 -





-64-ONCE

The GUYand the GIRLbegin to play When Your Minds Made Up.

#### #23When Your Minds Made Up

### Ease into the song





#### **GUY & GIRL**

#### **GUY ON STUDIO MIC**

Guy -7.5 Girl -7.5 Verb -5 Band -10 Ensemble -20 SO, IF YOU EVER WANT SOMETHING AND YOU CALL, CALL THEN ILL COME RUNNING TO FIGHT AND ILL BE AT YOUR DOOR WHEN THERES NOTHING WORTH RUNNING FOR

WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP THERES NO POINT TRYING TO CHANGE IT

WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP THERES NO POINT TRYING TO STOP IT, YOU SEE

BILLY, SVECand ANDREJare in and miraculously they play sweetly.





6 GUY, GIRL

YOURE JUST LIKE EVERYONE WHEN THE SHIT FALLS ALL YOU WANNA DO IS RUN AWAY AND HIDE ALL BY YOURSELF WHEN THERES FAR FROM, THERES NOTHING ELSE

WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP THERES NO POINT TRYING TO CHANGE IT

WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP THERES NO POINT EVEN TALKING

WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP WHEN YOUR MINDS MADE UP THERES NO POINT TRYING TO FIGHT IT ONCE -65-



WHEN YOUR MINDS, YOUR MIND LOVE, LOVE THERES NO POINT TRYING TO CHANGE IT WHEN YOUR LOVE

SO IF YOU EVER WANT SOMETHING AND YOU CALL, CALL THEN ILL COME RUNNING.

Scene 215 Its over.

EAMONwalks into the light, stunned. A pause.

**EAMON** 

Wow. That was nice. Did you write that?

Yeah.

EAMON

Wow.

The GUYturns to girl. SHESsmiling at him. It was wonderful.

Take a breath, well go for another one.

Scene 220 A lighting change.

Suddenly the GIRLSalone at the piano. She plays and sings The Hill.

#### #24The Hill



#### **GIRL**

Verb and Vocals

WALKING UPTHE HILL TONIGHT WHEN YOU HAVE CLOSED YOUR EYES

I WISH I DIDNT HAVE TO MAKE ALL THOSE MISTAKES AND BE WISE

PLEASE TRY TO BE PATIENT AND KNOW THAT IM STILL LEARNING

IM SORRY THAT YOU HAVE TO SEE THE STRENGTH INSIDE ME BURNING

BUT WHERE ARE YOU MY ANGEL NOW DONT YOU SEE ME CRYING AND I KNOW THAT YOU CANT DO IT ALL BUT YOU CANT SAY IM NOT TRYING

-66-

## 6 (GIRL)

IM ON MY KNEES IN FRONT OF HIM
BUT HE DOESNT SEEM TO SEE ME
WITH ALL HIS TROUBLES ON HIS MIND HES LOOKING RIGHT THROUGH ME
AND IM LETTING MYSELF DOWN BESIDE THIS FIRE IN YOU
AND I WISH THAT YOU COULD SEE I HAVE MY TROUBLES TOO

The GUYis coming into the light, unseen by her.

LOOKIN AT YOU SLEEPING

IM WITH A MAN I KNOW

IM SITTING HERE WEEPING WHILE THE HOURS PASS SO SLOW

AND I KNOW THAT IN THE MORNIN I HAVE TO LET YOU GO

AND YOULL BE JUST A MAN ONCE I USED TO KNOW

BUT FOR THESE PAST FEW DAYS SOMEONE I DONT RECOGNIZE

THIS ISNT ALL MY FAULT

WHEN WILL YOU REALIZE

LOOKIN AT YOU LEAVIN

Scene 225 SHE

SHEfinishes.

5 GUY

Hey.

6 GIRL

Hiare you doing okay?

5 GUY

Yeah. Its all good.

6 GIRL

It sounds great.

5 GUY

Real nice people too, hey?

6 GIRL

It will be hard to leave.

5 GUY

Jesus, youre always trying to get rid of me! You mustnt like me!

6 GIRL

I like you. You know I like you.

5 GUY

Thats all right then.

O N C E - 67-

HEtakes her hand.

Theres a moment where it looks like theyll kiss but SHElowers her head.

6 GIRL

My husband called. He is coming back to Dublin and we will try to work things out.

HIShead drops. A slight pause.

5 GUY

Thats great news.

6 GIRL

Well see.

5 GUY

Youll be grand. Itll be all great.

6 GIRL

Are you okay?

5 GUY

(quickly)

Jesus I dont know what youre doing ...!

6 GIRL

What do you mean?

5 GUY

Youve given me a new life and youre a part of that life and youre just pushing me away...

6 GIRL

You have someone too!

5 GUY

Well maybe I doI dont know yetbut thats not important...!

6 GIRL

It is unfinished between you.

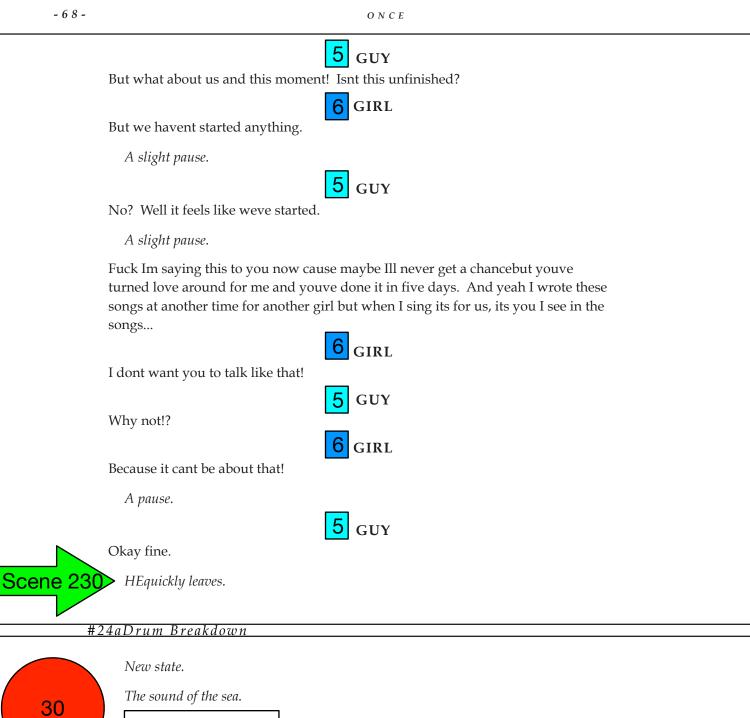
5 GUY

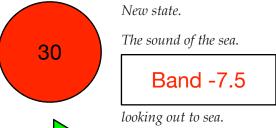
And so what?!

6 GIRL

You cannot walk through your life leaving unfinished love behind you! You have all this heart in these songs and it is because of this girl in New York. It is for you and your love that we make this tape.

- 68-





Scene 235

Unaccompanied, unprompted and BILLYbegins to sing Gold.

#25Gold (a capella)

O N C E - 69 -







I WOULDNT TRADE HER FOR GOLD IM WALKING ON MOON BEAMS I WAS BORN WITH A SILVER SPOON

The BANK MANAGER, SVEC, ANDREJand EAMONaccompany in a cappella.

1 2 3 4 5 BANK MANAGER, SVEC, ANDREJ, EAMON & BILLY

AND I LOVE HER SO

AND IM GONNA BE ME
IM GONNA BE FREE
IM WALKING ON MOON BEAMS
AND STARING OUT TO SEA

AND IF A DOOR BE CLOSED
THEN A ROW OF HOMES START BUILDING!
AND TEAR YOUR CURTAINS DOWN
FOR SUNLIGHT IS LIKE GOLD

AND YOU BETTER BE YOU
AND DO WHAT YOU CAN DO
WHEN YOURE WALKING ON MOON BEAMS
STARING OUT TO SEA.



THEY finish.

A slight pause.

5 BILLY

Shes a lovely woman Reza. Kind. A little out of my league probably.

4 BANK MANAGER

Well you can only try.

5 BILLY

Yeah.

A slight pause.

But how do people come and stay together, I wonder? Its a complicated business this love.

4 BANK MANAGER

Thats the problem. Loves all very well but in the hands of people it turns into soup.

-70-

5 BILLY
Thats often true yeah. Still.
4 BANK MANAGER
Yeah.
A slight pause.
5 BILLY
Are you married, Eamon?
Yeah Lam actually
Yeah I am actually.
4 BANK MANAGER Still in love?
3 EAMON
Yeah.
5 BILLY
Fair play to ya, thats great.
<b>3</b> EAMON Is yeah.
5 BILLY
Good soup.
EAMONsmiles.
A pause.
1 svec
Look at it lying there waking up. A little flat city and a new day.
(slight pause)
Dublins really lovely.
2 ANDREJ
A million times heartbroken and Dublin keeps on going. Youve got to love Dublin for dreaming.
A pause.
3 EAMON
I better get goin so. You made great music today, boys. Really great. All of yas.
4 BANK MANAGER
Thanks Eamon.

O N C E - 71 -

A slight pause.



Can we get a lift into town with you?

3 EAMON

Sure, where can I drop yas off?



A little shot of coffee neededkick start the head, hey bro?

2 ANDREJ

Lovely.

3 EAMON

A coffee shop then?



Bingo.

3 EAMON

And you guys are all right?



Yeah I think Ill walk actually. Stretch the old legs, Eamon.

4 BANK MANAGER

Me too.

Scene 24

EAMONwalks away with SVECand ANDREJ.



Open the shop. Though why bother openin it up, I dont know.

A slight pause. The BANK MANAGERlooks at him.

## 4 BANK MANAGER

I can give you some advice. Help you get those bastard bankers off your back.



Yeah?

4 BANK MANAGER

Ya cant have a city without music, Billy. Dublin needs you.

Its all hes wanted to hear.

5 BILLY

Thank you.

- 72 -

### 4 BANK MANAGER

Lets walk.

BILLYwalks away with the BANK MANAGER.

Scene 250

The GUYand GIRLlook across at each other.

The sound of the waves cross fades with the sound of the city. HESholding about ten CDs in his hands.

6 GIRL

Can I get one of those CDs? I knew that we would make something good. Are you happy with it?

5 GUY

Do you want to rob my Das motorbike go for a drive...

6 GIRL

I need to go to IvonkaI have to give my mother a break...

5 GUY

Yeah of course.

A pause.

6 GIRL

So youll telephone your girl tonight?

5 GUY

Yeah.

A pause.

Look do you want to come over to mine later, listen to the CD, talk a bit?

6 GIRL

A little hanky-panky?

5 GUY

No one calls it hanky panky anymore.

6 GIRL

Maybe thats why I cant find any.

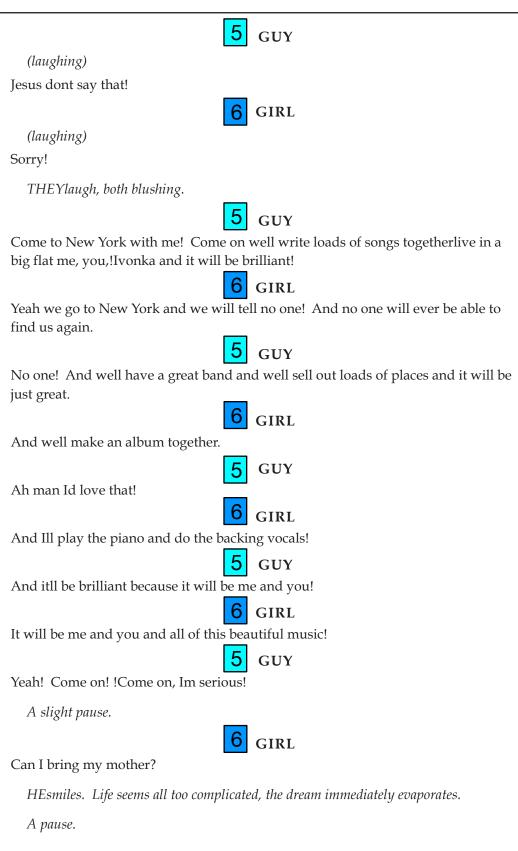
5 GUY

Yeah youve got to use a different word.

6 GIRL

That is my problem!

O<sub>NCE</sub> -73-



-74-ONCE

**GUY** Will you call by later? A pause. SHEsmiles. GIRL Ill be there. Scene 255 THEYwalk away from each other... they look back and turn away once more. #26The Moon (Company Reprise) **COMPANY** VERB -5 SHUT THE DOOR TO THE MOON AND LET THE BIRDS GATHER PLAY NO MORE WITH THE FOOL AND LET THE SOULS WANDER The light moves onto the GUYand his DAin the shop. The Das sitting listening to the CD of the guy singing. The song ends, the play button pops up. A pause. **GUY** So what do you think? You think its any goodits only a demo remember...  $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ Its fucking great. **GUY** Yeah?  $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ That II be a hit, no question even I can see that its magic, son brilliant. **GUY** Thanks, Da. A pause.  $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ I saw that ticketsays youre flying tomorrow. **GUY** Listen Ill be straight back if you need me for anything...

 $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ 

Dont be daft, Ill be grand...

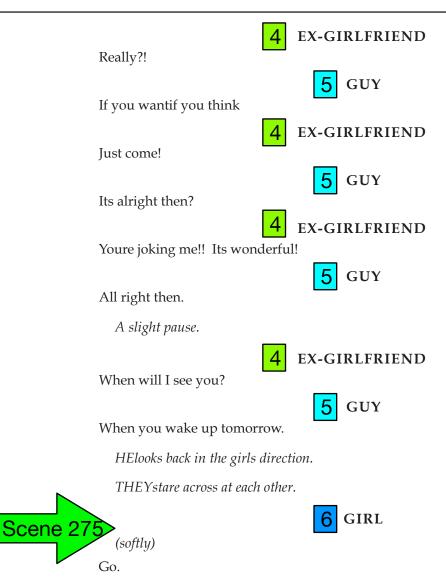
O N C E - 75 -



-76-

 $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ So hows the heart? GUY Its travellin, Da. A pause.  $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{A}$ It will all be great. Everything. Just live. (slight pause) Make your Ma proud. (about the CD) Now play it again! Scene 265 #26aPlay It Again A phone is heard ringingthe GUYalone. Scene 27 A light fades up on his EXas the phone is answered. **EX-GIRLFRIEND** Hey there. **GUY** Hi. So hows it goin over there... **EX-GIRLFRIEND** Im really missing you. **GUY** Yeah? A slight pause. **EX-GIRLFRIEND** So much. **GUY** Im missing you too. A slight pause. Listen Im coming over there.

O N C E - 77 -



### #27Falling Slowly (Reprise)

Falling Slowly is heard over All The Way Down as the light slowly fades off her.

The GUYknows in that moment that she isnt coming to him. Their lives must continue.

A new lighting state as the GUY is seen talking to Billy. HEhands him the cheque his Da had given him.

BILLYhugs kisses him.

The light comes back up in the girls flat. ANDREJis standing behind her covering her eyes. BARUSKA, REZAand SVECare all there.

-78- ONCE

BILLY is wheeling a piano wrapped in a big red bow into the living room. The piano she loved.



The GUYsings,



**GUY** 

I DONT KNOW YOU
BUT I WANT YOU
ALL THE MORE FOR THAT

Guy -5 Girl 0 Ensemble -10

ANDREJ drops his hands. SHE sees the piano and bursts into surprise.

WORDS FALL THROUGH ME

AND ALWAYS FOOL ME

AND I CANT REACT

AND GAMES THAT NEVER AMOUNT

TO MORE THAN THEYRE MEANT

WILL PLAY THEMSELVES OUT

HE continues singing.

He could be in the room with her but he is already gone. SHE sits at the piano and plays and sings with him.



TAKE THIS SINKING BOAT AND POINT IT HOME

WEVE STILL GOT TIME

Ensemble Comes Ir Here!

Ensemble Comes In RAISE YOUR HOPEFUL VOICE YOU HAVE A CHOICE

YOULL MAKE IT NOW

FALLING SLOWLY, EYES THAT KNOW ME

AND I CANT GO BACK

MOODS THAT TAKE ME AND ERASE ME

AND IM PAINTED BLACK

YOU HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH

AND WARRED WITH YOURSELF

ITS TIME THAT YOU WON

TAKE THIS SINKING BOAT AND POINT IT HOME

WEVE STILL GOT TIME

RAISE YOUR HOPEFUL VOICE YOU HAVE THE CHOICE

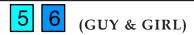
YOUVE MADE IT NOW

FALLING SLOWLY SING YOUR MELODY

ILL SING IT LOUD.

TAKE IT ALL.

**-** 79 **-**O N C E



I PLAYED THE CARDS TOO LATE, NOW IT'S GONE.

THEYare lost in the song and its music.

The delicate strains of 'Falling Slowly' fade away as the light fades off them.

Blackout.

