

Glama

A Musical Comedy in Two Acts
by
William Armstrong

Version 2.0, February 26, 2006

13 women (2 girls), 7 men, 5 either, various dancers and extras.
90 pages. Rated G, All audiences.

Synopsis:

Jeff guides tourists around Los Angeles. He loves Anita; she loves him; but will he pop the question? His life is complicated by a misguided drug enforcement officer.

Scene1 – Glama Bus near LAX.
Saturday midday.
Lights up. We are looking through the front windshield of a tour bus. A sign across the top of the bus says, "GLAMA Tours". Angel, a Hispanic male in his 40's, is driving the bus. Jeff, a male 33, is in the seat on Angel's right. Jeff has a clipboard.

JEFF

Don't you just love Saturdays, Angel? We say, "Bon voyage" to last week's tour group and say "Welcome to Los Angeles" to a new group of travelers.

ANGEL

I like Saturdays because we get our tips. But I like Tuesdays better 'cuz, once we drop everybody off at Disneyland, I can sleep all day.

Jeff looks at his clipboard.

JEFF

About half of this week's tour is already put up at the hotel. We've got eleven to pick up here at the airport right now. After we're done, I'm going to pick up Mr. and Mrs. Evans over at Union Station.

ANGEL

I hope you're picking them up in a Glama Tours van, because if they're afraid of flying – I can't imagine the white knuckles they'd have riding in **your** car.

JEFF

They're not afraid of flying. They just think that train travel is romantic. That's all.

ANGEL

Would it ruin the romance to take a cab from the station – er, train station? I don't suppose that you picking them up would have anything to do with the fact that Anita's shop is just across the street from the station!?

JEFF

I **was** planning to stop and visit Anita while I was in the neighborhood.

ANGEL

Why don't you just marry her, Jeff? Make an honest woman of her.

JEFF

Why don't you just drive the coach?

ANGEL

Have you told her yet? ...that you own Glama Tours? The whole wall of backs?

JEFF

No. And you're not going to tell her either. You're certainly not going to tell any of the guests because the tips won't be as good if they know that I own the company.

ANGEL

Wild horses couldn't drag it out of me. Wild Turkey, maybe, but not wild horses. I just think she's proven that she's not after you for your money. She even rides in your car. She's a good girl who has been hurt. When that rotten ex-husband of hers ran off to Mexico and just left her with the kids.... Well, you know.

JEFF

I know. I'll tell her soon. Here we are. You know the drill.

ANGEL

I'll make one circle around the airport and then I'll start loading the bus.

JEFF

Don't call it a bus. Call it a coach. For what they're paying, the customers deserve a deluxe motor coach.

ANGEL

Okay, coach.

Angel stops the bus and Jeff exits.
Lights go down. Angel rolls the bus
seats off stage in the dark. The bus
front rises on a rail.

Scene 2 – Los Angeles Airport.
 Curtains open. Scrim rises. Lights
 go up on full stage. We see a crowd
 of airport travelers. Music begins for
 "Travel Tips".

COMPANY

L.A.X. – Flight connects – Trav'lers cheques – Auto wrecks [*drums crashing*]
 Airline flights – See the sights – Traffic lights – Family fights
 Airline overbooking – Rest'rant overcooking
 May I take your order? – Gotta tip the porter.
 Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Here are a few of our travel tips:

FIRST TRAVELER

Leaving my house all alone makes me nervous,
 But I can't afford a security service.

TRAVEL ADVISOR

When trav'ling, set home stereos loud for the folks remaining.
 Police will check your house every day as neighbors call complaining.

COMPANY

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Lock your doors – Roommate snores – Ocean shores – Pack your drawers
 Dramamines – Magazines – Tower that leans – Pouting teens
 Signing up for quick tours – Take a zillion pictures
 Wrinkles in my great dress – Gotta tip the waitress

Porter uses hand truck to tip waitress
 to side and wheel her away.

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Here are a few of our travel tips:

SECOND TRAVELER

Should we be carrying credit card plastic?
 Because if it's stolen, results could be drastic.

A purse snatcher grabs a woman's
 purse, but someone collars him and
 takes him back to husband.

TRAVEL ADVISOR

You catch the thief who took your wife's purse – came from out of nowhere –
 But let him keep the credit cards, 'cuz the charges will be lower.

COMPANY

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Wallet lost – Date line crossed – Truck exhaust – What's the cost?

Tourist guide – Pamphlet lied – Horseback ride – Sore backside
 Living from a suitcase – I forgot the toothpaste
 Buy your kid a swell toy – Gotta tip the bellboy

Traveler tips his hat to bellboy.

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Here are a few of our travel tips:

THIRD TRAVELER

Do you have tips about trav'ling with baby?
 Could you tell us something about flying, maybe?

TRAVEL ADVISOR

The baby's ears will painfully pop when the plane is flying
 Be sure to take some earplugs along so you won't hear him crying

COMPANY

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Baby yowls – Stomach growls – Spotted owls – Swipe the towels
 Flying fears – Popping ears – Souvenirs – Tired rears
 Drivers popping No-Doze – Sorting all the photos
 Being a survivor – Gotta tip the driver
 Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Here are a few of our travel tips:

FOURTH TRAVELER

Fighting for legroom and headroom on airplanes
 Is frequently cited by some among their pains.

TRAVEL ADVISOR

When airline seats in front of you tilt back in tourist section
 Just mention your tuberculosis and cough in that direction.

COMPANY

Tips, tips, tips, tips.
 Tourist traps – Folding maps – Broken straps – Frequent naps
 Baggage tag – Hit a snag – Get jet lag – Air sick bag
 Crowded in the guest room – Looking for a restroom
 Honeymoon with your bride – Gotta tip the tour guide
 Tips, tips, tips, tips.

Entire company freezes for PA.

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM

Carmen San Diego, please pick up the white courtesy phone.

COMPANY

Those were a few of our travel tips.

Herb March (a spry 70-year-old man) comes up behind Claire Stebbins (a feisty, fun-loving 70-year-old woman) and embraces her fondly.

HERB

Claire, we've got to stop meeting like this. People are beginning to talk.

Claire turns and melts into his arms.

CLAIRE

Let them talk, Herbie Bear. [*kisses Herb*] But if you want to stop seeing me, you'll have to be the one to end it. I just can't find a better traveling companion than my little Herbie Bear.

HERB

I don't want to stop. I was thinking more of marrying you.

CLAIRE

And where would we live? Florida or Delaware?

HERB

I've got a granddaughter in Charlotte. We could split the difference.

CLAIRE

We can enjoy arguing about this for a whole week. It'll be just like being married.

Jeff sees their Glama luggage tags and introduces himself.

JEFF

Hi, I'm Jeff Carson. It looks like I'll be your tour guide on Glama Tours.

Herb shakes Jeff's hand and introduces him to Claire.

HERB

Herb March. And this is Claire Stebbins.

CLAIRE

Let's use first names only. Some people are kinda old fashioned – they think you have to be married to travel together.

JEFF

First names it is. Point out all of your luggage, and I'll see that it gets on the coach.

The three of them exit as the spotlight moves to Don and Susan

Richards collecting luggage with their daughter Kelli.

KELLI

Mom, you promised that on this tour you guys *aren't* my parents.

SUSAN

We had to use your real name for the airline, and the tour guide needed to know how old you are so he could make arrangements with the nightclub. But we're all sworn to secrecy, Dear.

Jeff approaches and introduces himself to the Richards'.

JEFF

Hi, I'm Jeff Carson from Glama Tours. Are you Mr. and Mrs. Richards?

DON

Yes, I'm Don. This is my wife, Susan.

JEFF

And you must be Kelli Klee. I am really looking forward to hearing you sing on Wednesday night. I circulated your demo CD to some key people, and they might be there, too. Let's round up your luggage and head for the hotel.

The parents and daughter exit as the spotlight moves to Marcy and Jeff introduces himself to her.

JEFF

Hi, I'm Jeff Carson with Glama Tours. You must be Marcy Blackburn. I'm always happy when we can accommodate people who sign up at the last minute. That's the way I like to travel: spur-of-the-moment.

MARCY

I'm pleased to meet you, Mr. Carson. These are my bags. If you'll excuse me a moment, I need to make a phone call.

JEFF

Of course, just meet me out at the coach when you're done.

Jeff takes her bags and exits to bus. The spotlight follows Marcy as she steps forward and a scrim comes down. She stands in front of the scrim talking on her cell phone (to an answering machine).

MARCY

[on cell phone] Hello, Lynn, this is Marcy. I'm calling from LA Airport. It's Saturday. I knew you wouldn't be in the office, but I had to tell someone what I'm doing. Don't tell the boss, but I'm sure that Jeff Carson and Glama Tours are smuggling and dealing drugs. Miller thinks I'm crazy. He wouldn't send anyone, so I'm using my vacation and my own money to bust Glama. I'll keep you posted, but if anything happens to me – if I don't report back – You'll know that I dug too deep. You'll know who to go after. Jeff Carson. Goodbye.

Marcy shuts off her phone and exits
to board the Glama bus. Lights out.

Scene 3 – Anita’s shop, Olvera St.
Saturday midday
Scrim rises and lights up revealing
the gift shop where Anita Morales
works. She hands a package to a
customer who exits the shop. Lucia,
Anita’s 5-year-old daughter rushes in
from the plaza.

LUCIA

Mama, Mama! Jeff is coming. He’s coming through the plaza now with Honda.

ANITA

Thank you, Lucia. I always enjoy seeing Jeff.

Lucia smiles as if happy to be the
bearer of good news. Lucia turns
back toward the door as Anita
checks her face and hair in a small
mirror. Anita turns and smiles at Jeff
as he enters the shop. He is led by
Honda, Anita’s 7-year-old daughter.

HONDA

[to Jeff] ...So we saw dinosaur bones even older than your car. Pick me up by the ears. Please, pick me up by the ears.

JEFF

Okay, but just once.

Jeff picks Honda up “by the ears”
and puts her down again. Lucia
dances impatiently beside them.

LUCIA

Pick me up, too.

JEFF

All right, but you don’t know the secret to being picked up by the ears, so I’ll just do it the regular way.

Jeff lifts Lucia by the waist and turns
himself around before putting her
back on the ground. Lucia giggles
with delight.

HONDA

Lift me like that, too.

JEFF

That's enough for now, girls. Go back to Nanna. I want to talk to your mother.

The two girls skip to the door but stop there and turn around to watch Jeff sweep Anita into his arms and kiss her enthusiastically.

HONDA

You call that **talking**? [*giggle*]

Jeff stops kissing for a moment and addresses the girls without turning to look at them.

JEFF

Goodbye, girls.

The girls giggle and exit the shop. Jeff and Anita kiss again.

ANITA

Now you're talking!

They kiss a third time. Carmen, Anita's 40ish co-worker, enters from the back of the shop.

CARMEN

You two need to get a room. [*sarcastically*] Oh, I forgot, it's not Tuesday.

JEFF

[*to Carmen*] Hello, Carmen. [*to Anita*] Yeah, I can't stay. I've got to pick up a couple at the train station.

ANITA

Afraid of flying?

JEFF

No, they just think that train travel is more romantic.

Anita tightens her embrace on Jeff.

ANITA

Is it more romantic?

JEFF

Unless you're going to Hawaii.

ANITA

I can't think of anything more romantic than that trip we took to Hawaii. I'm glad you talked me into it.

JEFF

I love you.

Jeff kisses Anita again.

CARMEN

I think I'm going to be sick.

Carmen exits the way she came.

JEFF

Well, like I said, I can't stay. I just couldn't wait till Monday.

ANITA

I'm always glad to see you. And I always worry about how you might be satisfying those women customers of yours.

JEFF

Ha, most of them are over 60 years old. But, come to think of it, there are two younger, unattached women on this tour. I'll let you worry about them until Monday.

ANITA

You promised to be true to me ...for now. So I'll believe you ...for now. They just better not be beautiful.

JEFF

One of them is gorgeous, but I'm almost old enough to be her father.

ANITA

I know how you like younger women. Me, for example ...and Honda and Lucia.

JEFF

I can't wait for Tuesday. But right now I've got to go.

Jeff gives her a quick kiss and trots out the door. Anita steps forward as scrim comes down and lights dim. Anita is left in a spotlight downstage. Music begins for "Please Make My Dream Be True".

ANITA

When I was just a little girl, I had dreams of 'ever after'.
And as you might expect, that world was awash in joy and laughter.

Those dreams never died. They're still here inside.
So now each and ev'ry day, I fold my hands and pray...
Please make my dream be true.

A man to love was nowhere near.
But now it seems he's really here.
He's flesh and blood, not just a dream.
So my dream came true.

I hope and pray that he will stay
Not be the type to go away,
Someone to trust forevermore.
Make my dream be true.

Don't let my heart be broken
By a man who seems to share my dreams of love.
And if our vows are spoken
Make them bulletproof, eternal truth above.

I hope and pray that he will be
My lover for eternity
Someone to love forevermore.
Make my dream be true
Make my dream be true.

Anita exits thoughtfully as lights fade out.

Scene 4 – Hotel poolside lounge
Saturday afternoon
Lights come up on hotel lounge where Glama Tours is holding a champagne reception for this week's tour. Guests are milling around with fluted glasses. Most are wearing nametags. Tony, dressed as a bellboy, approaches Jeff with a tray of six fluted glasses (full).

TONY

Here you are, Mr. Carson. They look just like the champagne glasses, but they have non-alcoholic apple cider.

JEFF

Thanks, Tony. It looks like I've got one taker right now.

Jeff picks up one of the glasses of apple cider and walks to Janet (who has no glass in her hand).

JEFF (continued)

Janet, I think you said that champagne didn't agree with you. Would you like some apple cider?

JANET

Could I get a Coke instead? And, I don't want to be a pest, but the hotel only gave us one key to our room. Could we get two of them, please?

Marcy enters, sees Jeff, and points her camcorder at him. Lights change to show what she's taping.

JEFF

Sure, I can get you a couple of **keys**. ...and the **Coke**, too.

JANET

Can I have a couple of little straws for the Coke?

JEFF

Certainly. I can easily do that, and don't hesitate to ask me for the **hard stuff**, if you need anything else.

Jeff goes to Tony and whispers something to him. Tony exits. Jeff sees Kelli enter. He crosses quickly to her. Jeff takes the champagne

glass that Kelli has just picked up.
He replaces it with the glass of cider.

JEFF (continued)

I'll make a **deal** with you, Kelli. It has to do with **alcohol**...

Someone steps directly in front of
Marcy, which ends her videotaping.
Lights change back to normal.

JEFF (continued)

I know that you're only 16 years old, but I'll keep it secret from everyone here if you promise not to drink or do anything that could hurt the hotel. They could lose their liquor license serving alcohol to minors.

Kelli pauses to think.

KELLI

Okay, I won't do anything to get the hotel in trouble.

JEFF

Thank you, Kelli. I know most of this tourist stuff is pretty boring for you, but I thought of something you might enjoy. I heard that you're a fan of "Buffy, the Vampire Slayer". Well, James Marsters frequents a club in Santa Monica called **14 Below**. You couldn't go inside, but I could get someone to take you down there when James usually comes by. He's pretty good about talking to fans, signing autographs, and that sort of thing. Would you be interested?

KELLI

Well, sure. That would be great.

JEFF

Okay, I'll arrange it.

Jeff looks across the room at Claire.
She picks up an hors d'oeuvre and
speaks to Herb.

CLAIRE

I didn't say I was trying to diet. I said I was dying to try it.

An unattached, 60-ish woman
(Dawn) grabs Jeff's arm and pulls
him aside for a private remark.

DAWN

I wonder if you'd kind of make eyes at me... you know, to make my husband a little jealous.

JEFF

Dawn, I thought you were a widow.

DAWN

I am, but he's always watching – up there.

Dawn points up toward heaven. Jeff looks up then back at Dawn. Jeff winks and pats Dawn's hand.

JEFF

I'll do what I can.

Jeff moves to center stage and calls for the group's attention. Tony enters unnoticed. He gives a Coke and an extra key to Janet.

JEFF

Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention please? Let me make a couple of introductions. I think I've met everyone. My name's Jeff. I'll be your tour guide. This is Angel; he'll be driving your couch this week. You won't find a better driver anywhere. And that young man is Tony, one of the hotel staff dedicated to your comfort. Let me welcome you all to Glama Tours.

Music begins for "Welcome to Los Angeles".

JEFF (continued)

Welcome to Los Angeles. It's fun. It's wild, and I'll be your guide.
I can make your man jealous. It's easy, ladies, stay by my side.
But hang on to that guy of yours.
At ev'ry stop, temptation lures.
He's gonna see harlots and movie starlets
Here on GLAMA Tours.

Southern California: The sea and surf will work its romance.
Don't say I'm not warnin' ya. Against its magic you have no chance.
So stretch out on that golden sand
Where ev'ry beach is lifeguard-manned.
If you like bikinis on cute wahinis,
You'll love LA-LA Land.

Shopping opportunities abound in lovely Beverly Hills.
Ladies, you are soon at ease, while husbands only dread all the bills.
Rodeo Drive, Olvera Street,
At Farmers' Market stop and eat.
Our credit cards free us at gallerias.
Buy yourself a treat.

Entertainment capital: there's movies, music, sports, and TV.
You won't need a map at all. To see the stars just leave it to me.
Champions of basketball.
A famous singer's curtain call.
From Hollywood moguls to gorgeous show girls.
We will see them all. It can all be yours, here on GLAMA Tours.

Jeff holds up an itinerary as he
addresses the group.

JEFF

I hope everyone got an itinerary. Tonight is Saturday, and we're going to see Hollywood after dark. Brace yourselves. They don't call it Hollyweird for nothing. Tomorrow is Sunday. You'll have free time until 3 o'clock, but if we have enough people who want to attend the Crystal Cathedral, we'll get a van. If not, I'll arrange other transportation for those who want to go. And the Farrells are going to Pat Boone's church, in case anyone else wants to tag along.

RUTH

Oh, Pat Boone was a hunk. Sign me up for that.

MARCY

I thought you were Jewish.

RUTH

Hey, I'm on vacation. Besides, Jesus was Jewish.

ZITA

Are you sure? Why does he have a Mexican name?

JEFF

Tomorrow afternoon we'll head for the beach and watch the sun set into the Pacific from one of the great seafood restaurants on the West Coast. Monday we'll see some sights of old Los Angeles, including Olvera Street. Tuesday is Disneyland.

ZITA

I've been to Disney World. Is it the same?

JEFF

They're not exactly the same, but they're similar. You can substitute Knott's Berry Farm.

ZITA

What's there to do at Nut's Fairy Barn?

JEFF

Uh... **Knott's – Berry – Farm** has shows and amusement park rides based on early California themes. And they're famous for their boysenberry pie and home-style

cooking. Wednesday we'll go to Beverly Hills and Rodeo Drive. If you're not into mega-shopping, you can go to the J. Paul Getty Museum instead.

HERB

[*whispers to Claire*] Did he say "A Spaghetti Museum"?

CLAIRE

[*whispers to Herb*] You only wish! Now, hush!

JEFF

Many people tell me that one of their favorite parts of the tour is Wednesday night when you can perform at a real Hollywood nightclub. I've arranged to get you access to the club tomorrow about noon. You can talk to the owner and check out the stage. You can even rehearse if you want to. Now, Don has a skit he wants to do, and he's looking for people to star in his show. Don, can you raise your hand please?

Dawn raises her hand with gusto.
Don raises his hand more slowly.

JEFF (continued)

[*to Dawn*] Sorry, Dawn. I meant for Don Richards to raise his hand.

DAWN

I heard you. I'm just volunteering to be in his show.

JEFF

[*to Dawn*] Well, good for you! [*to the group*] Anyone else who's interested, talk to Don. It sounds like a lot of fun.

On Thursday, we'll tour a real working movie studio. And Thursday night is usually the best time to be the "live audience" when they tape a television show. "Recorded Live" – I could never quite understand that phrase. Anyway, if you don't go to a taping, the rest of us are going to have a great time at Universal City Walk. Friday we'll catch all of the other sights in Los Angeles and have a night out on the town. Let me know if I can arrange any special side tours for you. Glama Tours wants this to be the best vacation you've ever had.

Tony addresses the tour. He directs most of his attention to Kelli.

TONY

And let me know if there is **anything** I can do to make your stay more enjoyable.

JEFF

Thank you, Tony. [*to the group*] Dinner will be served in about 10 minutes, but be ready to board the coach at 7 o'clock. We've got a lot of Hollywood to see tonight.

Several people crowd around Jeff to ask questions. Tony takes a last look at Kelli before going back to work. Lights fade out.

Scene 5 – Kosher Leprechaun,
Sunday early afternoon
Lights come up on a section of the
bar in a comedy nightclub. The club
is closed to the public right now.
Sean Steinberg, the club owner, is
sitting at the bar. He stands to greet
Jeff and some tour members as they
enter from the wings.

JEFF

[*to the tour members*] Allow me to introduce the owner of L.A.'s greatest nightclub. This is Mr. Sean Steinberg. [*to Sean*] Sean, this is Don Richards, Marcy Blackburn, Sam Evans, and Kelli Klee. Looks like the rest of my tour went in search of restrooms.

SEAN

What do you feed these people? If I installed pay toilets I'd be as rich as Bill Gates. [*to the tour members*] Anyway, welcome to the Kosher Leprechaun. I'm very pleased to meet all of you. Any friend of Jeff's ...has my sympathy. Feel free to look around, try out the mikes, and get the feel of the place. You can see the stage right up there. And we've got the band over here if you'd like to rehearse. They swore on their mothers' army boots that they wouldn't do any drugs until at least 2:30 today.

Sean notices Marcy's camcorder and points to it.

SEAN (continued)

I'm sorry, Marcy, but it's against club rules to record in here. You might accidentally pick up some music from the band, and we'd probably get sued by anyone who had to listen to it.

DON

Is there any place we could use for a dressing room?

Sean nods and points to someone offstage.

SEAN

That gorgeous young lady is Stephani. She can show you what we laughingly call dressing rooms. She might even help you change your clothes if you asked real nice. I'll be right here talking to Jeff if you need anything.

Sean takes a lingering look at Kelli as the tour exits to look around the club. Sean and Jeff sit at the bar.

JEFF

Keep an eye on Kelli.

SEAN

Hah, I'll keep both eyes on Kelli.

JEFF

You can watch her, but that's all. She's under age, but I suspect she could find a way to convince the bartender that she's legal for liquor.

SEAN

I was going to donate my body to science, but I think I'll give it to Kelli instead.

JEFF

You don't understand, Bluebeard. She's jail bait. [*sings softly*] "I am 16, going on 17."

SEAN

[*incredulous*] Get out of town on a bus!

JEFF

A coach.

SEAN

You're kidding. She's got to be at least 20! The harvest doesn't come together like that in just 16 summers.

JEFF

Sixteen. Believe it. But you're right. Any straight guy over the age of 18 would think she's fair game.

SEAN

Not just "fair". I'd say "good" or "excellent". [*sigh*] Okay, I'll watch out for her, but see if you can get her to come back again in two years.

JEFF

Your libido never stops, does it?

SEAN

It never even slows down, my friend. How about you? How's your love life? Do you want me to fix you up with Stephani? She's a 10!

JEFF

Is that her IQ?

SEAN

I'm surprised at you. You're awfully negative today, Mr. How-to-win-friends-and-influence-people. As the bartender said to the horse, "Why the long face?"

JEFF

I've been thinking about my life.

SEAN

Thinking about **your** life would depress me, too. But only because you're so darn successful.

JEFF

My dad died when he was 62. That could mean that I'm already past the halfway point in my life.

SEAN

The second half is going to be even better, big guy.

JEFF

Well, I'm thinking about a "better half". I hear that married men live longer.

SEAN

It just **seems** longer.

JEFF

Why am I discussing this with you? Two ex-wives doesn't qualify you as a marriage expert.

SEAN

Jeff, stop and think. "Marriage" isn't a word, it's a sentence.

JEFF

Would you stop with the old jokes?

SEAN

I'm on a roll. [*calling to the drummer in the band*] Hey, Jessie, give me a rim shot after everything I say. [*we hear a rim shot*] You got it. [*rim shot again*] Jessie. [*rim shot*] Give me a rim shot every time I say something funny.

We hear no rim shot this time. Sean nods his approval.

SEAN (continued)

Good. [*to Jeff*] Marriage is like a three-ring circus: engagement ring, wedding ring, and suffering. [*silence*] A man isn't complete until he's married – then he's finished.

Again, we hear no rim shot. Sean looks disapprovingly at Jessie.

SEAN (continued)

You know what they call a guy who hangs around with musicians? [*pause*] A drummer.

We hear a short, discordant clatter of drums (but no rim shot). Sean waves his hand toward the drummer, as if to say, "I give up."

JEFF

Don't you ever come up with any *new* jokes?

SEAN

All jokes are old, Jeff. If some ancient Roman centurion had only written down the jokes of his day, we'd probably recognize them. "An oracle, a priest, and a rabbi walk into a bar..." But enough of that! It looks like I've got to stop you from making a terrible mistake. I assume you're talking about Anita. Listen, Jeff, ...don't ...get ...married.

JEFF

But I love her.

SEAN

Okay, you love her. That's half of the formula. "Love 'em and leave 'em." Now it's time for the other half.

JEFF

What a heartless man you are, Sean. No wonder you've never found a soul mate.

SEAN

All's fair in love and war – and the results are about the same. Look, you're not just skating on thin ice. You're doing triple toe loops and salchows. It has nothing to do with finding a soul mate, a perfect match. It has everything to do with maneuvering you into her trap. She's probably over there at the shop right now plotting how she's going to domesticate you. Women are shrewd and devious. They're never in doubt. They have every move planned.

Lights come up on the Olvera street shop (stage left) where Anita and Carmen are chatting. Jeff and Sean freeze. Lights dim on stage right.

ANITA

I don't know what to do about Jeff.

CARMEN

Don't fall in love with his kind.

ANITA

What kind is that?

CARMEN

Men.

ANITA

Too late. I already love him. The question is: can I trust him?

CARMEN

[*sympathetically*] Oh, honey, [*sarcastically*] of course you CAN'T.

Music begins for "The Marrying Kind".

CARMEN (continued)

You can tackle him and shackle him and drag him to the church,
But he'll pick the lock and take a walk and leave you in the lurch.
He can vanish into thin air like a genie.
I'm convinced the man's a regular Houdini.
He's expert at escaping any ties that bind.
He's not – no knot – the marrying kind.

Lights up on stage right. Anita and Carmen freeze. Jeff and Sean revive. Lights dim on stage left.

SEAN:

You're a stallion she's corralling. She will hitch you up to plows.
But you won't destroy unbridled joy by taking wedding vows.
At the altar there's a halter that you're bound to.
Never let her build a holding pen around you.
Without a pen the marriage license goes unsigned.
{t} 'sa cinch, you're not the marrying kind.

JEFF

Men use bev'rages for lev'rage as they strive to take their prize.
Women don't need booze; they win by using Love to cloud your eyes.
I must keep my senses clear as love is spreading
Or we'll raise our glasses as they toast our wedding.
I always wear my glasses, knowing love is blind.
You see, I'm not the marrying kind.

Lights up on stage left. Jeff and Sean freeze. Anita and Carmen revive. Lights dim on stage right.

ANITA

Ev'ry minute he is in it he enjoys the tourist mob.
Be it rental cars or movie stars, he's married to the job.
Now he's got me seeing stars of ev'ry pattern,
But the only rings I see are rings of Saturn.

We've never had a time when all the stars aligned.
I wish he were the marrying kind.

CARMEN

He's a tour guide, for Heaven's sake: the messiah of Tinseltown pilgrims. He only spends a few hours a week with you – and never on a Friday or Saturday night.

ANITA

He's awfully busy right now. It's the tourist season.

CARMEN

Ha! If it's the tourist season, does that mean we can shoot them? Anita, when is it NOT the tourist season in Los Angeles?!? And another thing: He'll probably never have any money. Look at that car he drives.

ANITA

He asked me to move in with him. He said he'd get a place big enough for the girls and Mama, too. I just think it sends the wrong signal to the girls. I don't want them to think that it's okay to live with a man if you're not married.

CARMEN

But going with him on a "trial honeymoon" to Hawaii is perfectly acceptable?

ANITA

It's not the same.

CARMEN

It's apparent you're a parent with a pair of kids at play
If he marries you, he gets them, too, which frightens him away.
Just to give up other women never thrilled men,
But it's even worse to take on rearing children.
It isn't an idea he can get behind.
No, kid, he's not the marrying kind.

Lights up on stage right. Anita and
Carmen freeze. Jeff and Sean
revive. Lights dim on stage left.

SEAN

Ev'ry man agrees that families don't live as cheap as one.
Money disappears. You work for years, but wives leave you with none.
Ladies make you think that you're a perfect matching
Brother, watch out for the strings that she's attaching
She'll say you're in accord, but you can just unwind.
Relax, you're not the marrying kind.

JEFF

A perfect match. How am I supposed to know if she is my perfect match?

SEAN

Playing with matches can be dangerous. Jeff, the year before last you got pretty serious with Trish. If you wanted to get married, why didn't you marry her? She was hot!

JEFF

She was never satisfied with who I am. She always wanted me to be someone else.

SEAN

Hey, I'm "someone else", and she never wanted me!

JEFF

Love can never be forever, being fluid and in doubt.
If I go with her, my perfect girl might come and I'd miss out.
I am searching for an icon of perfection,
Someone worthy of perpetual affection
Some day I'll find a goddess who can be enshrined
Till then, I'm not the marrying kind.

Lights up on stage left. Jeff and Sean freeze. Anita and Carmen revive. Lights dim on stage right.

ANITA

Why can't men commit more than a bit of hormone in the night?
Tell me, what's this "love" they're speaking of? They never get it right.
When they want us horizontal in some revel,
I say, "Marry me, and keep it on the level."
To matrimony he is simply not inclined.
Why can't he be the marrying kind?

Lights up on stage right. All four characters are now revived.

CARMEN

He never plans to have his freedom undermined...

SEAN

As long as there are honeys to be wined and dined...

JEFF

Unto eternal bach'lorhood I am resigned...

ANITA

If I could be the woman who could change his mind,
Then he would be...

ANITA, JEFF, CARMEN, SEAN

The marrying kind

Blackout.

Scene 6 – Glama bus at hotel
Monday morning
Lights come up. We are looking in through the front windshield of the tour bus parked at the hotel. Angel is taking a nap in his driver's seat. Tony, the hotel bellboy, enters.

TONY

Howdy, Angel.

Angel jumps a little as he wakes.

TONY (continued)

Whoa! I'm sorry I interrupted your beauty sleep. It looks like I'm not the first. Jeff asked me to tell you that he'd be a couple of minutes late.

ANGEL

You broke off my siesta to tell me that?

TONY

Hey, I'm just trying to help. Angel, what's the story with Kelli?

ANGEL

She likes to sing, I think.

TONY

No wedding ring. Traveling alone. What's up?

ANGEL

Don't ask *me*. I'm way too married to think about things like that.

TONY

C'mon, Angel, haven't you ever given in to temptation?

ANGEL

When you get to be my age, temptation starts avoiding you.

TONY

Well, all right. Are you ready to show your guests the best of our fair city?

ANGEL

Ha! "Our fair city"? At the start of every tour – at those Saturday receptions – Jeff hypnotizes them with the fantasy L.A. Just once I'd like to tell them about the real Los Ahn-hell-ous.

Angel steps down out of the bus. He sings to Tony and an imaginary tour

group. Music begins for reprise of
Welcome to Los Angeles.

ANGEL (continued)

Welcome to LOS ANGHELIS. We love our little hometown to death.
Wonder what that strong smell is? It's smog. Go on and take a deep breath.
Our freeways are like parking lots
With drivers all tied up in knots.
Their language is graphic. There's too much traffic.
Watch for pistol shots.

Southern California: forget the hype. It ain't no great shakes.
Use the sense that born in ya. There's wildfires, mudslides, and quakes.
They spray graffiti on the grime.
Our neighborhoods are wracked with crime.
There's gonna be lootings and drive-by shootings.
Have a gay old time.

ANGEL (continued)

We live in a quiet neighborhood. Everyone uses silencers.

ANGEL (continued)

Shopping opportunities: we love to help you part with your cash.
Stores are filled with loony sleaze, where you can spend a ton in a flash.
The hicks stock up on souvenirs
On sale from heartless profiteers.
They load up on knickknacks while we get kickbacks.
Let's all give three cheers.

Entertainment capital: we go out on celebrity hunts.
Don't believe that crap at all. I've never seen a star even once.
The tourists on the 'Walk of Fame'
Don't recognize a single name.
We take all the crackpots to movie backlots.
Don't believe our claim. It will not be yours, here on GLAMA Tours.

TONY

Don't let Jeff hear you saying that stuff.

ANGEL

Any job worth doing is worth complaining about. After all, it's my job to drive the
customers away.

TONY

Oh, I forgot. Jeff wanted to know if you fixed the armrest on the seat where Ruth
Gold sits. He said she was complaining that there was a crack in the vinyl that kept
pinching her arm.

ANGEL

All fixed.

TONY

I'll tell Jeff.

Tony exits. Angel sings to himself as he tries to get comfortable in his seat for another little nap.

ANGEL

"We take all the crackpots to movie back lots. Here on Glama Tours"

Jeff and Ruth enter to board the bus. Angel sits up as people begin boarding. Marcy slips into the scene and points camcorder at Jeff. Lights change to show what she's taping.

RUTH

The pain was in my arm, just **shooting up** my arm. Is there going to be any **crack** today?

JEFF

It's all taken care of, Ruth. You should be feeling fine from now on. Glama Tours never wants you to have a **bad trip**.

Ruth boards the bus. Jeff stands at the door to greet other passengers. Janet approaches with Sam trailing behind. Jeff reaches into his pocket and removes a baggie of white powder. He surreptitiously shows it to Janet.

JEFF (continued)

I got what you asked for. I can get you some more if you need it.

JANET

Oh, thank you, Jeff. How much do I owe you?

Janet puts the baggie into her purse.

JEFF

It's all part of the service. What are you reading today, Sam?

Zita enters wearing a colorful beret.

SAM

It's a book that your friend Sean loaned me: "1001 Amish Zingers and Put-Downs".

Janet and Sam board the bus.
Marcy stops taping. Lights change
back to normal.

ZITA

That fellow Sean is not like normal people, not like you and me. He marches to the beat of a dead horse.

JEFF

Uh... a horse of a different feather.

ZITA

My sediments exactly.

JEFF

Did you get a good night's sleep, Zita?

ZITA

Morning certainly came around quickly. That wake-up call really scared the daylights into me. Where are we going today?

JEFF

We're going to see where Los Angeles was born: a little pueblo in Spanish California. And you said you wanted some souvenirs... today is probably your best chance to get some bargains.

ZITA

Wonderful. [*to Angel*] Now, Angel, you're going to obey all the traffic laws, aren't you?

ANGEL

Senorita Zita, in Los Angeles drivers don't even obey the laws of physics.

JEFF

My motto is: If Angel wants to drive the coach, I won't stand in his way.

Zita boards the bus. Other tour
members board the bus as lights
fade out.

Scene 7 – Olvera Street plaza and shop, Monday midday
All of the women from the tour are lined up to use the restroom. Ruth comes out of the powder room. She addresses Anita.

RUTH

Oh, honey, your powder room is just charming. And I've seen more powder rooms than Carter has little liver pills.

ANITA

Thank you very much. I'm glad you like it.

RUTH

Did you decorate it yourself?

ANITA

Well, uh, yes. Carmen and I decorated it. Actually, Jeff is the one who designed it.

RUTH

Jeff? You mean **our** Jeff? That young man is always watching out for us, isn't he?

ANITA

Yes, I guess he is.

Claire comes out of the restroom and approaches Ruth.

CLAIRE

Ruth, did you see those darling drapes in the ladies' room?

RUTH

Oh, yes, we were just talking about it. Excuse me, honey, what was your name?

ANITA

Anita.

RUTH

[to Claire] Yes, well, Anita decorated it. Don't you love the colors ...and that knickknack shelf? I think I'm going to get in line again.

Ruth looks over some merchandise on her way to the end of the line for the restroom. Claire crosses to a rack of dresses. Herb joins her. She holds up two dresses alternately so Herb can judge them.

CLAIRE

Which do you think looks better – the lavender or the buff?

HERB

I'd like to see you in the buff.

Claire laughs affectionately.

CLAIRE

Is that all you can think about?

HERB

Um, yeah, pretty much.

Zita sticks her head into the shop.
She is wearing a large sombrero and
holding several bags of souvenirs.

ZITA

Hey, Claire, everybody, they're about to have a show in the plaza. C'mon outside for a minute.

CLAIRE

Zita, did you see the ladies' room?

ZITA

Are you kidding? I was the first one in. I love that lotion on the vanity. I bought four bottles in the store. Hurry up. The mariachis look like they're about to "mariach".

Claire takes the two dresses over to
the register and hands them to Anita.

CLAIRE

Would you hold these for me, Anita? I'll be right back.

ANITA

Of course. Enjoy the show.

Zita (in her large sombrero) holds a
partially-eaten ice cream cone. She
has several bags of souvenirs, too.

HERB

Zita, it looks like your ice cream cone is dripping.

Zita looks down at the ground below
the ice cream cone. As she does,
the sombrero touches the ice cream.

Zita looks up again with some ice cream stuck to the bottom of the hat's brim.

ZITA

Whoops! Out of the frying pan and into the spilt milk!

Zita puts some of her souvenirs on the ground. She removes her hat and licks the ice cream from the brim and from her cone alternately. Other tourists gather around the plaza.

Folklorico dancers assemble in the center of the plaza. Mariachis stand at the edge of the plaza. Music begins for "Fiesta". Musicians and dancers perform for the tourists.

MARIACHIS AND DANCERS

Damas y caballeros, Ladies and gentlemen
Dicemos bienvenidos, We say welcome to our friends.

Compren regalos y otras cosas caras.
Es la voz de las guitarras y la luz de nuestras caras.
Gasten dinero en todas las tiendas
Para cosas estupendas o comer las meriendas.

See our Hispanic pride show its romantic side
And take a manic ride where cultures can collide.

We'll go that extra mile. Wear your fiesta smile.
Party southwestern style. Please be our guest a while.

Compren regalos y otras cosas caras.
Es la voz de las guitarras y la luz de nuestras caras.
Gasten dinero en todas las tiendas
Para cosas estupendas o comer las meriendas.

And best of all, ev'ry day's a festival
Celebrating honored guests with whom we're blest.

Jeff slips into the shop and kisses Anita. Lucia and Honda gather around the couple. Dancers and musicians finish. Tourists applaud.

LUCIA

Mama, what was the first word I ever said?

Anita looks at Honda then back to Lucia.

ANITA

I think it was “ouch”.

Tourists filter back into the shop after some tip the performers. Ruth is treating her left foot tenderly as she walks.

RUTH

I'm going to have to get different shoes. My feet are starting to hurt.

DAWN

You know what they say: "Mighty aches from little toe corns grow."

Claire buys both outfits she left with Anita. Janet sees Snowball, the cat, sleeping on a pillow near the cash register.

JANET

Oh, this is adorable, and so lifelike. Ruth, look at this sleeping cat. Doesn't it look real? [*to Anita*] How much is this stuffed animal? Do you have any in 'tabby' or 'tuxedo' cat?

Honda and Lucia run up.

HONDA

Oh, no. That's Snowball! That's a real cat – my cat.

LUCIA

No, he's *my* cat.

HONDA

He's *our* cat.

JANET

Are you sure he's alive?

HONDA

Oh, yeah, he used to be kind of wild, but the doctor *fixed* him. I don't think he can hear anything. They didn't fix that. He just likes to sleep here on his throne. That's what we call this pillow: “his throne”.

JANET

That's a very nice cat you have, young ladies.

HONDA

I call him my *pussygato*. Jeff helped me write a song about him. Do you want to hear it?

Music begins for "Pussygato".

Ev'rybody ought to have a pussygato of their own.
My kitty's name is Snowball, and he is only so tall fully grown,
Whenever it's sunny, he likes, most of all, taking a little nap.
Oh, isn't it funny having a Snowball melting here in my lap?

Ev'rybody ought to have a pussygato of their own.
I have a little kitty and he looks real pretty on his throne.
Whenever it's rainy, he just stays inside cuddling up to me.
He's thinkin' that maybe it is God who cried, causing the rain to be.

I love my little kitty. I taught him to play dead.
I think that he's so pretty, resting his little head.
But he's alive and kicking, he's just counting sheep.
You see his tail flicking even when he's asleep.

Ev'rybody ought to have a pussygato of their own.
When kitty's in a ball, right?, he looks just like an all-white ice cream cone.
Whenever it's nighttime, he won't run about. He stays at home instead.
Be-cause he is white, I'm thinking he'd stand out, but he lies in his bed.

So, get a pussygato, and you will have a lot o' – restful fun!

ANITA

Alejandra Morales! Please don't bother the customers.

RUTH

[to Anita] Oh, please, honey, she's not bothering us. [to Honda] Is your name Alejandra?

HONDA

Yeah, but only when Mama's mad at me. The rest of the time I'm Honda.

LUCIA

I'm Lucia.

ANITA

You girls run along now.

LUCIA

Don't sell Snowball, Mama.

ANITA

Don't worry, sweetheart, I won't.

Honda and Lucia exit through an adoring crowd. Zita pushes her way through the shoppers carrying almost more packages than she can hold. She also has souvenirs strapped to her body.

ZITA

I found the perfect gift for my nephew. It's from a little local brewery. My nephew is just crazy about those microwave beers. It's called "La Quinta". Do you know what that means?

CLAIRE

I think it's Spanish for "next to Denny's".

RUTH

Zita honey, you need help. First I'll help you get all that stuff back to the coach. Then I'll help you find a twelve-step program for obsessive souvenir shoppers.

Lights fade out.

Scene 8 – Hotel hallway
Monday night
Janet comes out of her hotel room
and meets Jeff going the other way.

JEFF

Janet, I was just coming up to see if that laundry soap worked all right for you.

JANET

Oh, yes, thank you.

JEFF

You know that the hotel has a laundry service if you like?

JANET

I just wanted to wash out a few unmentionables. You know what they say in Latin: "Semper ubi, sub ubi." That means, "Always wear underwear."

JEFF

[*laughs*] Were you able to find a way to dry your things?

Marcy appears down the hall and
starts her camcorder.

JANET

We **did a line** in the bathroom, and they are still **strung out**. I'm sure it'll work out fine, and no one needs to know except you, me, and Sam. By the way, Sam wants to talk to you. Do you have a few minutes?

JEFF

I have a couple more duties to perform, but I could meet him by the pool in about ten minutes.

JANET

I'll send him down.

Marcy stops taping, and the lights
change accordingly. Marcy exits.
Janet turns back to her room. Jeff
continues off stage. Lights fade out.

Scene 9 – Hotel poolside table
Monday night
Sam sits at a table by the pool. He has a drink in front of him. Jeff enters from the lobby and sits down at the table with Sam.

SAM

Can I buy you a drink?

JEFF

Sure. Are you ready for Disneyland tomorrow?

SAM

I'm looking forward to it.

Sam waves to a waitress. Jeff nods to her as if to say, "The usual".

JEFF

It should be a lot of fun. Janet said you wanted to talk to me.

SAM

Right. Before we signed up for this tour, I researched Glama Tours and Jeff Carson. I found out that you own the company, and you still lead a tour almost every week. But, more than that, you try to grant each customer one wish – nothing magical, nothing big, but something tailored specifically for that person, something they wouldn't otherwise see or do. You don't advertise it. In fact, everyone thinks that they are the only one who gets the special treatment, which makes them feel doubly special.

The waitress puts a drink in front of Jeff and exits.

JEFF

I'm impressed. You *have* done your homework. I'm guilty on all counts.

SAM

Well, I'd like to make my wish. It should be an easy one to grant. I want to know how you became the Genie of Glama Tours.

JEFF

I don't normally tell guests about myself. I find that they like it much more if I listen to them. Besides, I was thinking about a different wish for you. You like trains, and one of the supervisors down at the Union Pacific Railroad maintenance yard is a friend of mine. I think he'd give you a tour of the whole operation.

SAM

You can grant that one, too, but my request still stands.

JEFF

Can you keep a secret?

SAM

Absolutely! It's the people I tell who can't.

JEFF

I don't like people to know that I own the company. When I'm just a tour guide, the guests think that I'm risking my job, bending the company rules to "grant their wishes", as you put it. And they tip better.

SAM

My lips are sealed. Now tell about how you got here.

JEFF

Okay, I was going to college when I discovered how much I enjoyed acting. I made a radical change in my life plan: no more business major for me. In fact, college wasn't going to get me where I wanted to go. I dropped out. I took what was left of my education fund and came to Los Angeles. If you love acting, you either go to New York City or to Los Angeles. L.A. is warmer. You know what they say: "Choose a job you love, and you will never work again." I chose acting, and, sure enough, I didn't work. So, I got a job as a tour guide to pay the bills while I waited for my big break. That was 12 years ago. But the good news is... I love leading tours. I have an audience. The people here are on vacation, out to have a good time. It's a lot of fun. As my friend Sean would say, "Veni, vedi, Velcro." I came, I saw, I stuck around.

SAM

That doesn't explain how you came to own the company.

JEFF

Well, you know that Glama Tours aren't cheap.

SAM

I'll drink to that.

JEFF

Most of our clients are well-to-do and retired. "Retired and wealthy" – that sounded like a great goal to me. So, I asked some of the guests how they got to be where they were. I learned how to invest in the stock market. I learned how to start my own business.

SAM

Getting money to work **for** you is the only way to develop financial independence.

JEFF

That's what I found out. But most of all, I was unbelievably lucky. When Clinton took office he threatened to cripple the pharmaceutical industry. Health care was the political football. I bought drug stocks and doubled my money in five months.

SAM

You couldn't have had much capital to start with.

JEFF

I had my unused college tuition money and my savings from the job. My living expenses are almost nil when I'm running tours. I banked most of my tips and other income.

My real break came with the Internet frenzy. It was crazy. I bought technology stocks and sold out before everyone realized that stock prices were fifty times higher than they should have been.

SAM

So you made your first million in the stock market.

JEFF

Something like that. Anyway, Murray Rosen owned Glama Tours. When he retired, he sold the company to me. I expanded the Asian and European tours because that seemed to be where the growth and the money were.

SAM

You must have been running tours during the Rodney King riots and the Northridge earthquake. Didn't tourism dry up for a while there?

JEFF

Don't forget Y2K. At the end of last year everyone thought that civilization-as-we-know-it would come to an end just because the year changed to 2000. But, you know, it's funny. When there's trouble in the news, people still want to travel. You're right, tourism declines, but demand for **escorted** tours actually increases. I've been very lucky. I don't need to lead tours any more, but I still love it. And I'm still learning things from people like you.

SAM

So your life hasn't worked out quite the way you figured?

JEFF

Ha! Does anybody's life turn out the way they planned?

Music begins for "Funny How Life Goes".

JEFF (continued)

You have a thousand dreams
And make a million plans

But funny how it seems
It all comes down to chance.

Your fortunes are left to fortune. There's no telling if you'll get rich.
Your brilliant investment planning never comes off without a hitch.
You crave financial advice
Because you know that money talks,
But you're off taking a bath
When opportunity knocks.
Yet if luck would hang around that stock exchange,
Serendipity could bless you with a handsome chunk of change.

Romances are left to chances. It's a chess game that few can win.
Strategic maneuvers failing, you'll get rooked before you begin.
One night, you feel like a king
Upon your queen-size wedding bed.
The thrill eventually ends
With just a stale mate instead.
But the lucky ones can have a blissful fate
After years together lovers still love checking out their mate.

SAM

When a man's plans aren't coming to pass,
What he really wants is a piece of ...first class.
When a man's schemes and dreams run amuck,
What he really wants is a little ...good luck.

JEFF

Your travel plans can unravel. Drive from Groton to Boston Bay.
Regardless of mapping forethought, Providence will get in your way.
So park your karma and fly
Receding airlines take you home
Your flight is scary and then
Your luggage winds up in Rome
But with providence behind you all the way,
You could end up with your luggage on a Roman holiday.

It just never goes the way you'd suppose.
It's so funny – funny how life goes.

SAM

What kind of an actor did you want to be?

JEFF

Just about anything: commercials, dramas, sitcoms, but, actually, my favorite is musical comedy.

SAM

The old standards? *Music Man, My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music?*

JEFF

They are the best.

SAM

What do you think of *Grease*?

JEFF

The stage show? The movie? Or what they cook French Fries in?

SAM

The musical.

JEFF

The rock and roll music was fun, but the show didn't end right. It was a tragedy, not a comedy.

SAM

I know exactly what you mean.

Marcy appears down the hall and starts her camcorder; lights change.

SAM (continued)

Its entire purpose was to pervert innocent high school girls into floozies. The heroine wasn't strong enough. It didn't go the way I wanted.

JEFF

Like you said, "Life never goes the way we plan."

SAM

No, I'll bet you never figured you'd make your fortune in drugs, the Internet, and Glama Tours.

JEFF

No, but I'm not complaining. Well, it's getting late. Thanks for the drink.

SAM

Are you still going to make my other wish come true?

JEFF

How about Friday?

SAM

I can't wait.

Jeff exits. Marcy stops taping, and the lights change accordingly. Sam

puts some money on the table and slowly dances off stage singing.]

SAM (continued)

"I've been working on the railroad all the livelong day."

Marcy steps forward as the scrim comes down behind her. She holds the camcorder at arms length, points it at herself, and starts taping.

MARCY

I have got the goods on Jeff Carson and his whole ring of thugs. This guy Sam Evans admits that they're perverting young girls for immoral purposes. They use heroin, and they use the Internet, probably to recruit the girls or the Johns or both. I'm going to bring this scumbag to justice even if I have to make a citizen's arrest to do it.

Marcy stops taping and exits. Lights fade out.

Scene 10 – Olvera Street plaza and shop, Tuesday mid-morning
Carmen and Anita are talking in the shop.

CARMEN

Ah, it must be Tuesday. The girls are safely stashed out of the way, you're dressed to kill, and I am stuck minding the store. Where's lover boy?

ANITA

I'm sure he'll be here any minute. Do you really think Jeff will like me in this outfit?

CARMEN

Relax, Anita, you look great. He'll like the outfit. He'll like it even better on the floor beside his bed.

ANITA

Carmen!

CARMEN

You're wearing your best lingerie, aren't you? I can tell by the way you hold yourself, the way you move. It makes you feel prettier and more confident. What about Jeff? What kind of underwear does he wear?

ANITA

A lady wouldn't answer a question like that.

CARMEN

I'm not asking a lady. I'm asking **you**.

ANITA

Oh! Well, he doesn't wear a thong, if that's what you mean.

CARMEN

The sexiest underwear a man can have is a money belt. I don't suppose God's-gift-to-tourism wears one of those.

ANITA

Would you stop it?

CARMEN

I still think you're too good for him, Anita. You need to start looking for someone else, ...and I need to smoke a cigarette. Maybe by the time I'm done, your white knight will have swept you away on his charger, or whatever he calls that car of his.

Carmen goes out into the plaza, sits next to a trellis, and starts smoking.

Jeff and Marcy enter the plaza from offstage.

JEFF

I'm glad you're feeling better. I hate to see you miss Disneyland. As soon as Angel drops us off at the hotel, I can get you transportation back to the park.

MARCY

Oh, no, I think I'll get a rental car and see a few of the local sights.

JEFF

Do you want me to have a car ready at the hotel?

MARCY

Yes, I'd like that.

JEFF

Will you excuse me a minute? I've got to pick up Anita.

MARCY

Sure, I need to make a phone call anyway.

Marcy steps back to the other side of the trellis so that she doesn't know Carmen is near. Marcy dials her cell phone. Jeff enters the shop and crosses to Anita.

JEFF

Anita, sorry I'm late. One of the guests was ill. We're taking her back to the hotel. I tried to call, but your phone is turned off.

ANITA

I turn it off on Tuesday so we won't be interrupted.

Anita kisses Jeff.

JEFF

Mmm, good thinking. Give me a second to arrange a car for this woman, and you will have my undivided attention.

Jeff makes a call on his cell phone. Lighting changes to focus attention back on Marcy. She is talking on the phone.

MARCY

[*on the phone*] Hey, Lynn, this is Marcy. I've hit pay dirt, and "dirt" is the operative word. There's no doubt that Jeff Carson is some kind of drug lord. The weird thing is: there's a whole bunch of senior citizens on this tour, and every one of them seems to be involved in his drug ring – either as dealers or users or both.... [*listens*] It was obvious. Last month, when we busted that sleazebag Baldwin with a whole supermarket of nasty drugs, he had just come back from L.A. and a week on Glama Tours. Dope dealers don't take bus tours of L.A., but they do need to connect with their suppliers. Glama Tours takes trips into Mexico all the time. They can put dope in the tourists' luggage. No one would ever check.... [*listens*] I got the idea from a Robin Cook novel. And stop calling it a cookbook. It's a Robin Cook novel. It doesn't matter where I got the idea. Everything fits, and I'm going to bring Jeff Carson to justice. [*cough, cough*] It must be really smoggy today.

Carmen extinguishes her cigarette.
Jeff finishes his call.

MARCY (continued)

[*on the phone*] Oh, here he comes now. I've got to go. Bye, Lynn.

Jeff and Anita leave the shop and enter the plaza. Marcy ends her call and walks up to them.

JEFF

Anita, this is Marcy Blackburn. Marcy, this is Anita Morales.

MARCY

We met yesterday, sort of.

ANITA

I'm sorry you missed Disneyland.

Carmen tries to get Anita's attention without being seen by the others. Anita waves to Carmen who dives behind the trellis as Jeff and Marcy turn to see what Anita is looking at. Jeff and Marcy see no one. They look back at Anita.

ANITA (continued)

[*confused*] Uh, I thought I saw someone I knew. Shall we go?

JEFF

[*to Marcy*] You should have a car waiting at the hotel.

MARCY

Thank you.

Jeff, Anita, and Marcy exit. Carmen comes out into the open plaza. She dials her cell phone, but the line isn't connected. She talks to herself.

CARMEN

Oh, no, Anita, why do you have to turn off your phone on Tuesdays. Please hurry back, Chiquita. I have some very important news for you.

Blackout. Curtain. End of Act 1.

Scene 1 – Olvera Street shop,
Tuesday night, after date with Jeff.
Lights come up on a corner of the
Olvera Street shop. Anita and
Carmen are in a heated discussion.

ANITA

He couldn't be a drug dealer. It doesn't make any sense. Why would he put up with all of those irritating demands from the tourists?

CARMEN

I told you. He uses the tours as a cover, a way to smuggle the dope in from Mexico.

ANITA

What makes you think there's any dope in Mexico?

CARMEN

There's your ex-husband, Miguel.

ANITA

You know what I mean.

CARMEN

And then he uses those "tourists" to distribute the stuff all over the country.

ANITA

Blue-haired ladies?

CARMEN

Who would suspect them?

ANITA

Not me! And they're different people every week. It's not much of a distribution network if you have to have new couriers every time. Too many people to recruit and train. Too many people in on the secret. You must have heard it wrong.

CARMEN

Anita, face facts. I told you exactly what she said.

ANITA

Well, then she's just wrong. He couldn't be.

CARMEN

Oh, wow, you know what I just realized? I wouldn't be surprised if he asked you to elope with him.

ANITA

What are you talking about?

CARMEN

If he marries you, he has one less worry. A wife can't be forced to testify against her husband. And during the trial it always looks good to have a devoted wife and two innocent daughters there to drum up sympathy from the jury.

ANITA

You're forgetting. I can't testify against him anyway.

CARMEN

Why not?

ANITA

As far as I know, he's never done anything illegal. He mentioned something about paying some parking tickets once, but that's all.

CARMEN

They ought to fine him for littering every time he parks that junker of a car.

ANITA

His car? How do you explain that? No self-respecting drug dealer would drive a car like that.

CARMEN

I don't know why **anyone** would drive a car like that. Just stop and think about it. Maybe you're right, but what would it hurt to keep your distance for a few days? See what happens. You can't trust him.

ANITA

It's that Blackball woman that I don't trust. She's creepy. Even Angel said she gives him the creeps.

CARMEN

I hate to say this, but Angel's got to be part of this ring, too.

ANITA

Not Angel. Why would Angel do something like that?

CARMEN

He's got five kids to put through school.

ANITA

So he gets the money by destroying the lives of five hundred other kids? I refuse to believe what you think you heard.

CARMEN

You're in denial. You hardly know the man. You only see him a few hours a week. He has plenty of time to do all sorts of things he doesn't tell you about. You've got to break it off now. And you've got to keep the girls away from him.

ANITA

You're wrong. He's not like that. I know him well enough to know that he's not a drug dealer. I would know.

CARMEN

How?

ANITA

I would just know.

CARMEN

Like you knew that Miguel was going to skip off to Mexico with that bimbo?

ANITA

Whose side are you on?

CARMEN

You're letting love cloud your judgment. I could see all along that he was no good.

ANITA

I don't know. He seems like a good man to me.

CARMEN

Maybe so, but please keep your distance for a while. I thank God you never got your wish and he never asked you to marry him. Don't forget that business about recruiting young girls and God-knows-what-else on the Internet. Stay away from him, Anita. He's headed for prison.

ANITA

[almost to herself] Why do I always pick the wrong guy?

Lights fade out.

Scene 2 – Kosher Leprechaun,
Wednesday evening

Lights come up on the stage and a
section of the bar in the nightclub.

Sean is doing some stand-up
comedy as he introduces the Glama
performers.

SEAN

Good evening, folks, and welcome to the Kosher Leprechaun. If you're new here, you're probably wondering why I call a nightclub the Kosher Leprechaun. Well, my name is Sean Steinberg. My father is a wonderful man of the Hebrew persuasion, and he married a charming Irish girl. They're the perfect Irish-Jewish couple: My mother likes to drink. My father hates to pay for it. So what could be more appropriate than the Kosher Leprechaun?

One of the great things about an Irish-Jewish nightclub is that we can celebrate all sorts of holidays. Of course, on Yom Kippur we try to atone for all the partying we did on St. Patrick's Day. And right after Passover, the Easter Rabbi leaves brightly-colored eggs and chocolate bar mitzvahs. But we've even made up a few holidays of our own: Erin-go-braugh-shashanah: that's a great holiday; if your name is Erin, you have to go bra-less that day. Leprechaun-ukkah: both the Catholics and the Jews light candles and give gifts until every merchant has a pot of gold. And then there's Christ-mas-eltoiv, which means 'good luck getting a parking place at the mall'.

Today is Wednesday, and, as usual, we are pleased to introduce a few entertainers that we call the "Glama Tours Amateurs". You Glama folks stay at a hotel that has a complimentary turn-down service. I usually have to spend 200 bucks on dinner and a show before I get turned down. But you folks get those little mints on your pillow every night. We know who you are; we can smell the chocolate mint on your breath. You'll need to have at least two drinks if you want to hide that telltale odor. The alcohol will make you smell just like a local.

We're going to start off the show with one of the most bizarre and funniest parody skits I've ever seen. Let's give it up for Don Richards and "Lard Wars."

Sean exits the stage area, which is bare except for a ramp or some risers making the upstage area higher than downstage. The 'Star Wars' theme music starts playing. Sign-holders pick up the signs, tilt them, and walk upstage (then offstage) as the Narrator reads.

NARRATOR

Long ago in galaxy far, far wider than our own... LARD WARS

Episode Ate: The Death Starch

Obesity is really widespread. The galaxy is filled with 60 Billion overweight people (of course those are round figures). The Empire is trying to put everyone on a diet. They've tried before: saccharine, Sweatin'-to-the-Oldies, and (of course) Imperial margarine.

But now Imperial forces under the command of Lard Evader plan to feed the ponderous rebels its newest weapon: Starch Blockers. Princess Leia Cake, a rebel sympathizer, has stolen the formula for the Starch Blockers.

If rebel scientists can analyze the formula, an antidote might be developed. But Evader has nearly caught up with the Princess as she flees the Imperial flagship

On the rebel ship
Enter Princess Leia and R2D-fruity.
Leia is putting something into the
robot. She speaks furtively.

LEIA

Take this message to Obese-One Kenobi. Make sure he gets the formula for the Imperial death starch. He's our only chance now.

Leia looks offstage.

LEIA (continued)

Oh no, someone's coming. Quick, R2, get going.

Leia shoves the robot toward the
wings just as Lard Evader enters
from the opposite side of the stage
and grabs Leia's arm.

EVADER

All right, Princess, where is the formula?

LEIA

Well, Lard Evader, I might have known it was you when I smelled the Slim Fast. Get your skinny hands off me.

EVADER

Hand over those plans.

LEIA

What plans? I'm on a diplomatic mission.

EVADER

Not true. You have "rebel spy" written all over you.

She looks herself up and down.

LEIA

I thought it said “Goodyear”.

EVADER

You’re a fool! I would put an end to you...

Evader looks at her backside.

EVADER (continued)

...BUT you’ve beaten me to it. When I get through with you, you’ll wish that your parents had practiced birth control.

Evader drags Leia offstage.

LEIA

Better ‘birth control’ than ‘girth control’, Licorice Stick. Your kind make me thick to my stomach.

NARRATOR

The little droid, R2D-fruity teams up with the daring young Luke Skywaddler. Together they find Obese-One Kenobi on the dessert (oops, that’s desert) planet.

Inside Kenobi’s home
Luke and Kenobi stand at opposite sides of a table. The table has a custard pie and big silver fork on it.

LUKE

The princess is in trouble. We’ve got to save her, but not on an empty stomach. First, a delicious custard pie.

Luke grabs a fistful of pie and stuffs it messily into his mouth (and face).

KENOBI

No, Luke, not like that!

LUKE

Huh?

Kenobi raises a large silver fork with a black handle.

KENOBI

Luke, use ...the Fork!

LUKE

The fork?

Luke finishes eating his handful of pie and towels himself clean.

KENOBI

The fork is the most powerful tool in all of gluttony. With the fork, a Red-Eye knight can eat anything. Your father was a Red-Eye knight. He never slept. He was too busy eating. Luke, your father wanted you to have this.

Kenobi pulls a can of Redi-wip from his pocket and hands it to Luke.

LUKE

What is it? A weapon?

KENOBI

Yes, it's a Red-Eye whip. Press that button (but only when going into battle) and a fluffy white whip forms at the end.

LUKE

Tell me about my father.

KENOBI

Ahhh, he was a Big man ...with a heart of cholesterol, but Lard Evader killed him.

LUKE

With the fork?

KENOBI

No, he gagged him with a spoon. You see, Evader was once a Red-Eye, too, until he was seduced by the dark side of the Fork.

Kenobi holds up the fork so that the handle is up.

LUKE

But no one could eat anything with *that* side of the fork.

KENOBI

Exactly! Well, we'd better get going.

LUKE

We can use my hover car.

Kenobi looks offstage toward the car, then sizes up the combined weight of Luke and himself.

KENOBI

Both of us? ...in that car?

LUKE

You're right. Let's take the bus.

NARRATOR

Luke and Kenobi set out to find a fearless man with a fast starship. Naturally, they start their search in a sleazy cantina.

Inside the cantina
Luke, Kenobi, Han and Chewfasta
take center stage. Kenobi
introduces Luke to Han.

KENOBI

This is Han Sandwich. He has a ship that can get us out of here fast.

LUKE

But he has such a shady background.

HAN

You cast a pretty big shadow yourself, Kid.

LUKE

Who is that?

Luke points to Chewfasta.

HAN

That is Chewfasta. He's a Cookie.

LUKE

He looks like a ferret with a thyroid problem.

CHEWFASTA

Arrrooo Nnerrr Brrreh Baaahh, Butthead.

HAN

It's not wise to upset a Cookie. Cookies have been known to dunk people in milk and eat them alive. [*Aside to Luke*] And this one has a chocolate chip on his shoulder.

KENOBI

Enough! How much will it cost to get us out of this place?

HAN

It'll cost plenty. It'll take half the fuel on this planet to lift you two tubs into orbit. Let's say ...twenty thousand.

KENOBI

Twenty thousand? A ridiculous figure! [*aside to the audience*] Not the only one in this show. [*to Han*] It's a deal. Let's go.

NARRATOR

And so they set off across the galaxy to save the Princess who is wasting away in a jail cell on the Imperial flagship.

Inside the Imperial flagship.
Leia is banging a tin cup against the bars of the prison door. She shouts for the prison guards.

LEIA

Hey, when's supptime in this hole? I haven't eaten in (what?) [*checks wrist watch*] 20 minutes. I'm not on a hunger strike, you know.

Leia makes a little mock banging of her head with the heel of her hand. She realizes that she has a cinnamon roll on her hair. She removes it and starts to eat it.

LUKE

[*Calling*] Princess, Princess, where are you?

LEIA

[*Calling back*] Luke, you're getting warmer.

HAN

Ha! Luke warm! Outta my way, Kid. I'm gonna blast the door down.

Han pushes in front of Luke. Shoots pop gun at jail cell. Door falls open. Leia steps in front of bars and asks Han...

LEIA

Who are you?

HAN

My name is Sandwich.

LEIA

You're my hero, Sandwich. What took you so long?

HAN

We got caught in the garbage dump. Luckily we had Chewfasta with us. He ate all the garbage.

CHEWFASTA

Aaarrggghh rrrrooaarr rrrraarrggghh

LEIA

What did he say?

HAN

Oh, that was just his stomach growling. He's hungry again.

LEIA

Okay, so what's the plan?

HAN

Let's split up.

LEIA

We haven't even been on our first date, and you want to split up!?!

Luke steps in and takes Leia's arm like at an old-fashioned dance.

Everyone exits.

LUKE

Don't worry, Leia. He and Chewie can go back through the garbage dump. You and I can take the romantic way across the bottomless chasm.

Elsewhere on the Imperial flagship.

NARRATOR

Elsewhere on the Imperial flagship.

Somewhere on the flagship.
Evader senses the presence of his old mentor.

EVADER

Obese-One Kenobi is here somewhere. I can feel the vibrations in the fork ...and in the floor, and the walls, and everywhere.

Kenobi enters warily with his Red-Eye whip in hand. Evader recognizes him.

EVADER (continues)

And so we meet in battle. I will win easily. How can I miss a target like you?

Evader raises his Red-Eye whip can and shoves a 3-foot white fluffy stick out from the end of the can.

KENOBI

Let me get my Red-Eye whip.

Kenobi aims his Red-Eye whip at Evader and pushes the button. Instead of a solid whip coming out, a stream of Silly String squirts onto Evader.

EVADER

A little limp, don't you think, Kenobi? Is that why you've never had children?

KENOBI

I'm twice the man you are.

EVADER

In volume perhaps. Now, prepare to die.

Kenobi raises a hand to delay Evader until he has said his little speech.

KENOBI

If you strike me down, I'll become fatter than you can possibly imagine. My molecules will spread throughout the universe.

Kenobi holds his Red-Eye whip in both hands, against his chest, and awaits the crushing blow from Evader. Evader wields his Red-Eye whip up into a round-house swing to cut right through Kenobi's torso. As the whip reaches Kenobi, lighting effects flash and Kenobi pivots back behind the leg (or other screen) just behind and upstage of where he was hit. As Kenobi disappears behind the leg, an accomplice off stage releases one or more large (untied) balloons that sputter and scatter across the stage (hopefully). He

then drops a karate gi on the floor where Kenobi was previously standing. Evader picks up the garment, shrugs, and exits.

Somewhere else on the flagship. Luke and Leia run in with Luke in the lead. He stops abruptly near center stage to avoid falling in the chasm that crosses their path. She bumps into him and almost knocks him over the edge.

LEIA

Whoa. That was a close call. That nearly scared 20 pounds off my life.

LUKE

They're still behind us, and there's no bridge across this chasm. We'll have to swing across.

He takes a rope and grappling hook (imaginary) from his belt. He swings the hook a few times and throws it up at a structure above them. He tests the rope.

LEIA

Whatever you say, Chubbo. I'd kiss you if I could get within three feet of you.

Leia is barely able to get her arms around his neck.

LUKE

Ready? Here we go-o-o-o.

They pretend to swing across, but they don't make it all the way. They swing back and forth until they dangle over the chasm.

LEIA

Oh no. We missed the other side. Now the rope is probably going to break.

LUKE

I don't care. It doesn't matter anyway. I can barely hold on. Why don't you let go, and maybe I can get a better grip.

LEIA

No way, Fatso. I'm hangin' in there.

NARRATOR

Will our heroes get over the chasm? Will they get over the sarcasm? Will the rope break? Will they fall and squash someone?

Blackout.

NARRATOR (continued)

Be sure to join us next time when we find our friends on the ice planet Hoth Fudge Sundae.

Ice planet Hoth Fudge Sundae.
Lights come up revealing Luke, Leia,
and Han against a white backdrop.

HAN

The Empire is attacking. We have to get off this giant ice cream sundae!

LUKE

Sunday? It's only Tuesday now. Can we stop for dinner?

HAN

You don't seem to get the picture, Turkey.

LEIA

Turkey sounds good to me.

HAN

Listen, the Empire's attacking. We've got to go now.

LEIA

You want **us** to go out **there**? It's 90 degrees **below zero** out there, and that doesn't even consider the Wind Chill factor.

LUKE

Speaking of 'wind chills', can we stop for donuts?

Blackout. Everyone exits.

NARRATOR

Join us for the next exciting episode of Lard Wars, and until then, may the Fork be with you.

Sign holders hustle in from the wings
with 'LARD WARS' signs and walk
them upstage as Luke and Evader

exit. 'Star Wars' music up and out.
The 'Lard Wars' actors stumble in for
a quick, disorganized curtain call.
Sean comes back to the nightclub's
stage and introduces the next act.

SEAN

Wow, that was terrific! I laughed so hard, I cried. Did you notice that George Lucas was in the audience? He's way ahead of the rest of us. He just skipped the laughing part and went straight to the crying. Remember, George, "Sequels, heh! T-shirts, heh! A Jedi craves not these things". Oh, I guess he left. Well, you don't want to leave. We are indeed fortunate to have a very beautiful and talented young lady to sing for us tonight. This is her West Coast debut. So... Madonna, Christina, Britney – watch out! Here comes Miss Kelli Klee!

Sean exits the stage area and Kelli
enters enthusiastically as the
introduction music begins for "Come
and Get It".

KELLI

Come on, Baby, I just don't get it!
I'm open'd up, and I'm gonna let it
Happen tonight, 'cuz it feels so right,
So come and get it!

You know, Baby, I still don't get it.
A call from me and I would have bet it
Any old day, would send you my way,
So come and get it!

You know that ecstasy is mine to give.
You won't get a better offer for as long as you live.

I'm yours, Baby, so just don't sweat it.
Now come with me, and you won't regret it
I'll make you feel so totally real.
Just come and get it!

Deep in the heart of me you should be long-
ing to find a kind o' heaven that can never be wrong.

Come on, Baby, I just don't get it!
I'm open'd up, and I'm gonna let it
Happen tonight, 'cuz it feels so right,
So come, come, come...
So come and get it!

After applause dies down a bit and Sean makes his way to the stage area, Marcy speaks her thoughts to no one in particular.

MARCY

That song is filthy. Besides, I think it would be more appropriate if she sang “You’re Getting to Be a Habit with Me.”

SEAN

Ladies and gentlemen, Kelli Klee! I’ll bet she could do soft drink commercials just as good as Britney or Paula. [*calling to Kelli offstage*] Hey, Kelli, would you perform here again exactly two years from tonight? [*to the nightclub audience*] That’s the only way I can get really big stars to the Kosher Leprechaun: sign them up before they’re world famous.

[*to the band offstage*] I don’t want any of you guys in the band buying her a drink. She and I have to talk business later, and at least **one** of us has to be sober.

Here’s an interesting side note about that song, “Come and Get It”. My first wife said that was ‘our song’. It must have been. For years after our divorce, whenever I made any money at all, she would ‘come and get it’.

You know the first thing that strikes a visitor to Los Angeles is usually a car. Well, our next performer is a wonderful lady with a strikingly beautiful voice. Let’s have a warm welcome for Mrs. Myra Clark.

Lights fade out.

Scene 3 – Glama coach at hotel
Thursday morning
Lights up on Jeff and Angel standing
by the bus preparing for the tour
group to board.

JEFF

I'm worried about Marcy. She doesn't seem to be having a very good time. She doesn't seem at all interested in the sightseeing or nightlife, and she never says a word about what she really wants to do. Do you have any idea what would make this trip really memorable for her?

ANGEL

I can't figure her out. She acts real strange. At first, I thought she had a crush on you. She was always aiming that camcorder in your direction. Then, I thought maybe she was the tights knocker – I mean the "night stalker". But then I caught her shaking tots –er, "taking shots" of me, too. Nobody would stalk me. No, she acts more like a private eye trying to catch a cheating husband in a divorce case.

JEFF

I've noticed that, too. Maybe she's doing a documentary on us, or she's writing a review for a guidebook. But if she's a travel writer, you'd think that she would do some of the group activities. You can't very well evaluate a tour company if you don't really take the tour. At least I'm glad she went to the nightclub show last night.

ANGEL

Well, she gives me the creeps. You know, she was in my dream last night.

JEFF

Ah, the girl of your dreams?

ANGEL

Not hardly! This was a nightmare. You know how people are always saying how they want their dreams to come true – not me! Even when my dreams aren't horrible, they're just crazy.

Music comes up for "Don't Make My
Dream Be True".

ANGEL (continues)

When I was just a little boy, I had dreams of nightmare madness.
Those ghosts rose up from a void just awash in fear and sadness.
Those dreams never died. They're still here inside.
So now each and every day, I fold my hands and pray...
Don't make my dream be true.

There's the one where you go to church without your clothes
And at first no one notices, but still

As the service progresses their attention grows
Soon enough you know that someone will

There's the one where you go to school and there's a test
And the questions are myst'ries every one.
You are clueless about the first and all the rest.
It can't be your idea of fun.

There's the one where you flee a monster's hot pursuit.
You are racing, like your heartbeat, and then...
You are slowed to a crawl by tar along the route.
You'll prob'ly never wake up again.

There's the one where you fall from a cliff to your death –

JEFF

Enough! You're right. I don't want your dreams to come true!

ANGEL

What about the one where a carnival witch is trying to flush you down the toilet?

JEFF

You're a sick puppy. You need a psychiatrist. Or, at least, cut down on the spicy food just before bedtime. Now, here comes the group. No more dreams.

Janet and Sam enter.

JANET

Good morning, Jeff. We really enjoyed last night's show. Are they always that entertaining?

JEFF

Every show is different. I'm glad you liked it. Sam, what book do you have today?

SAM

"Ventriloquism for Dummies".

Janet and Sam board the bus. Zita enters.

JEFF

You have an absolute glow about you this morning, Zita.

ZITA

Angel says that you and that señorita Anita are an "item".

JEFF

Angel is a wealth of information, isn't he?

ZITA

Are you going to marry her?

JEFF

We'll see.

ZITA

She has two children, you know?

JEFF

They are both wonderful young ladies.

ZITA

Oh, yes, they're adorable. I'll bet your children would be adorable, too. Do you want any children of your own?

JEFF

It would be fun trying.

ZITA

[laughs] Oh, there's another thing I wanted to ask. When I was shopping at Aloe Vera Street, I guess I threw a monkey wrench into the ointment.

Marcy appears with her camcorder and starts taping Jeff and Zita. Lights change to indicate taping.

ZITA (continues)

You know that **pot** I got on Monday? Could you help me get it back home?

JEFF

I'd be happy to. You definitely don't want to take it back on the plane with you. Just write out the address you want it delivered to, and I'll take care of the rest.

Zita boards the bus. Marcy stops taping. Lights change back to normal. Marcy approaches the bus.

JEFF (continues)

[to Marcy] Is there anything I can do to make your week here in Los Angeles more satisfying? I'm afraid that you're not getting what you came for?

MARCY

Oh, I'm getting what I came for, definitely getting what I came for. But what did you have in mind?

JEFF

I don't know. What do you like to do? Is there anything you'd like to try that you wouldn't normally do back home?

MARCY

I don't **do** anything, and I don't think you have anything in California that we don't have in Ohio.

JEFF

What do you mean?

MARCY

You've got oceans and Disneyland and that kind of thing. We don't have those in Ohio, but anything that can be transported in a suitcase or on a truck has made it to the Midwest. What do you export to Ohio, Mr. Carson?

JEFF

Um – I try to send home happy travelers, but in your case I don't seem to be succeeding.

MARCY

Just keep doing what you're doing, and I'll get exactly what I want from this trip.

Lights fade out.

Scene 4 – Hotel room
Thursday night
Jeff enters Sam and Janet's hotel
room.

SAM

Jeff, please come in. Is this about tomorrow's trip to the railroad yard?

JEFF

No, that's still on. No, I was hoping you could give me some advice.

SAM

You want my advice? Sure, you can have it; I'm not using it.

JEFF

You two have been married for a long time.

JANET

46 years.

JEFF

And you still seem to be in love with each other. How do you do it?

JANET

Is this a purely academic question, or do you have a particular relationship in mind?

Music comes up for "(Love Is)
Something You Do".

JEFF

There is a woman I'm dreaming of, and I hope that the feelings will stay.
Can I continue falling in love with the same person day after day?

JANET

People will wait for romance to come, never moving 'til there is a shove.
Caught way off balance like they were someone tripping and falling in love.

Love is something you do – not a puddle you fall in to.
Love's not a pit full of quicksand or mud
Tripping up victims who land with a thud.
No – love's been my grounded commitment
By choice never knowing what "quit" meant.

You've got to roll up your sleeves, give it your all.
Love is what you do – not a place where you fall.
I tell you, love is something you do,
Decide to be forever true.

JANET

Love is something you show – not an arrow from Cupid's bow.
Love's not inflicted by magical dart,
Randomly fir'd, infecting your heart.
No – love is your pointed decision,
Requiring adult supervision.

You've got to roll up your sleeves, show that you care.
Love is what you show – not a word you declare
I tell you, love is something you show,
So go and make the feeling grow.

SAM

Infatuation is easy to find.
You fill up your senses and empty your mind.
But love that lasts is much tougher
As you will, no doubt, discover

Love is action you take – not a dream during coffee break.
Love's not a vaporous fantasy flight,
Short-lived illusions your hormones ignite.
No – love is a conscious endeavor
To work with a partner forever.

You've got to roll up your sleeves, work 'til you ache.
Love is what you do – not a flight that you take.
I tell you, love is something you do,
So go and show your love.
You've got to work at love,
And make some love with you-know-who

Lights fade out.

Scene 5 – Glama coach at hotel
Friday morning
Jeff enters and talks to Angel.

ANGEL

Are you ready for another filed rye-day – uh, wild Friday, catching up on the things we missed during the week?

JEFF

It is going to be wilder than you think, my friend. I've decided. I'm going to propose to Anita.

ANGEL

¡Magnifico! You won't regret it, *amigo*.

Marcy slips into the scene and points camcorder at Jeff. Lights change accordingly.

JEFF

Obviously, I'll need the **ring** to make this work. There's a **dealer** I can trust downtown. He knows I'm coming, so the **deal** shouldn't take long.

Jeff exits. Marcy stops taping and exits. Lights change accordingly. Angel greets Herb and Claire as they enter to board the bus.

ANGEL

Love is in the air. It smells like smog, but it's love.

Angel dances up to his driver's seat and sits, smiling. Claire rubs Herb's neck.

CLAIRE

Wow, your muscles are tight. Did you have cable installed?

HERB

What?

CLAIRE

It feels like you have a steel cable in your back. Is my Herbie Bear tense today? Are you anxious because we haven't decided where we're going on our next vacation?

HERB

I'm willing to go to Florida, if that's where you want to live.

CLAIRE

Uh oh. Are we talking marriage again?

HERB

I love going on vacation with you, Claire, but we're running out of places to go. Why don't we just get married and stay home for once?

CLAIRE

So you want to go to Niagara Falls?

Music comes up for "Been There, Done That".

HERB

Been there, done that. Seen everything there is to see.
They can keep all of that if you'll be mine,
'Cuz you mean the world to me.
I tackled Niag'ra in a barrel,
Ripped off a piece of Berlin's wall,
Spit gum out on the streets of Singapore,
But you're the greatest thrill of them all!

Been there, seen that. Done everything there is to do.
Yes, I've planted one on that Blarney Stone,
But I'd rather kiss with you.
I've run with the bulls out in Pamplona,
Surfed at Oahu's northern shore,
Ate kosher in the heart of Arab lands,
But you're the thrill that I'm hoping for

Seen this, done that. Been everywhere there is to be.
Be the love of my life from here on out,
'Cuz you mean the world, a wonderful world, you mean the world to me.

CLAIRE

All right. I don't know how those kids of mine will take the news, but let's get married. Where do you want to go on our honeymoon?

HERB

The captain of a ship can perform a wedding service. I wonder if Angel can marry us.

CLAIRE

Now, Herbie, there are a million details to work out. Don't get carried away.

HERB

I have engaged the enemy. Now all we have to do is set the wedding date.

Lights fade out.

Scene 6 – Olvera Street plaza/shop
 Friday midday
 Jeff enters the plaza with a spring in his step. Music comes up for “I’m Ready”.

JEFF

I have had almost all of my life
 Reservations about taking a wife.
 Though I hate cancellations
 I have cancelled my reservations...

Because I'm ready...
 To be yours now and evermore.
 To love you only
 And discover what life has in store.
 I'm ready. I need you
 I will love and appreciate you, evermore.

I'll turn in my round-trip and learn
 How to travel on without a return.
 I'll trade my old 'passport to roam'
 For a daily dose of "Honey, I'm home."

Because I'm ready...
 To be yours now and evermore.
 To love you only
 And discover what life has in store.
 I'm ready. I need you
 I will love and appreciate you, evermore,
 Evermore.

Jeff enters the shop and crosses to Anita who is standing at the counter.

ANITA

Jeff? I wasn't expecting...

Angel, Ruth, Dawn, and Zita watch from the doorway as Jeff proposes. Jeff goes down on his knee, presents the ring, and asks:

JEFF

Will you marry me?

Observers applaud and coo. Jeff and Anita notice them for the first time.

JEFF (continued)

Thank you for the moral support, ladies, Angel. I'd like to meet with Anita in private for a few minutes, if you don't mind.

RUTH

Aw, but this is the best thing on the tour. Can I just set the video camera going?

Angel ushers the three women off.

JEFF

I know this isn't very romantic, but I couldn't wait until Tuesday. Anita, I love you, and I want to marry you. Will you marry me?

ANITA

Is that a real diamond?

JEFF

[slightly confused at Anita's reaction] According to the jeweler. Is there something wrong?

ANITA

It's just such a large stone. How can you afford it?

JEFF

That's something I've been meaning to tell you.

Jeff gets up slowly and steers Anita to one edge of the counter. She is suddenly reluctant to be touched.

ANITA

Go on.

JEFF

If you're worried that we won't have enough money, you should know that I'm not just a tour guide. I have another source of income. I own this business.

ANITA

Oh, my God! So it's true! You call it a **business**?!

JEFF

Well, yeah. That's what it is.

ANITA

I suppose you think it's all part of the travel business, arranging people's "trips".

JEFF

Right. I try to make their trips special, make them feel good and have a great experience. You seem to be upset. I guess I should have told you about it before, but –

ANITA

I thought I knew you. And now you tell me this... and the whole time you act like it shouldn't make any difference to me. Well, it does!

Anita drops the ring and runs out.
Jeff picks up the ring.

JEFF

[to the cat] What did I do wrong, Snowball? I'm new at this. Am I supposed to follow her? She doesn't mind that I'm a tour guide, but when I tell her that I own Glama Tours, she treats me like some kind of a gangster. Wow, the only woman I've ever proposed to. This isn't the way I thought it would happen. Well, thanks for the sympathetic ear, Snowball. You're a good listener. If you get a chance, put in a good 'meow' for me. I guess Sean was right. I must not be the marrying kind.

Jeff walks slowly back to the bus as
lights fade out.

Scene 7 – Glama coach at Olvera St
Friday midday
Jeff joins Angel and the three ladies
at the bus.

ZITA
Well, did you set the date?

JEFF
Uh, no, not really.

RUTH
You still have the ring.

JEFF
Yes, I think she said "No".

ZITA
You're kidding! Turn down a cute young fellow like you? Well, I'll just go set her straight.

Zita starts to get up. Jeff waves her back into her seat.

JEFF
Thank you, Miss Reid, but maybe I'll just talk to her after she calms down.

ZITA
What a dilemon! It just proves what they say, "Don't count your chickens before they cross the road".

JEFF
Yes, uh, sorry to disappoint you, ladies. It just didn't turn out like I thought it would.

DAWN
Is there anything we can do to help?

JEFF
No, thank you. I think it's up to me.

ZITA
The monkey's in your court.

JEFF
And the ball is on my back. Angel, we'd better get going. Will you do the honors?

Lights fade out.

Scene 8 – Hotel poolside lounge
Friday night
Tony enters from the direction of the front desk. Kelli enters from the direction of her room. Kelli approaches Tony and speaks quietly to him.

KELLI

Tony. Can you recommend a nice place where a girl can get a drink or two?

TONY

Somewhere other than the hotel?

KELLI

Somewhere more anonymous and, hopefully, someplace where the average age isn't sixty-five.

TONY

I can think of several good places, but most of them are across town.

Tony pauses for a second. He thinks as he gives Kelli a thorough, but dignified, ogle.

TONY (continued)

Would you like to come over to my apartment? It's just down the street. It'll save you a taxi fare, and the price is right. Besides, you don't want to go out partying all by yourself.

KELLI

Don't you have to work?

TONY

I'll take a sick day. After all, my job is to see that everyone gets what they want. Let me go arrange it, and I'll meet you out behind the pool.

KELLI

Okay.

Kelli exits behind the pool area.
Tony exits toward the front desk.
Janet enters and is about to sit at a table when Sam enters and goes to her.

JANET

Sam, how was your day playing trains?

SAM

It was fantastic. They even let me ride in the cab when they moved the locomotives from one siding to another. How was your day?

JANET

Great. I bought a new dress. I'm ready to paint the town red.

SAM

Aw, gee, I'm awfully tired. Can't we just sit here and relax tonight?

JANET

You're on the wrong track, Mr. Engineer. This is our last night in the city, and I intend to do it up right. Come on. Just throw on your sport coat and sweep me off my feet.

SAM

Can I sit here a few minutes? Maybe we could have dinner here in the hotel.

JANET

No. Get off of your bum. We are going to dance the night away.

Music comes up for "City/Sitter Duet".

JANET

The city won't wait. There's music in the air.
Get out of the chair there. Get off of your derr'yere.
Come on and live it up with me!

SAM

Why do they call it a city if nobody ever sits down?
Why do they call it a city with ev'ryone running around?
There are cars: honk, honk! Hitting cars: bonk, bonk!
And the skyline's always hazy.
All the people rushed; all the people crushed.
It's enough to drive you crazy.

JANET

Life is for living. I want to join the parade!
Life's not forgiving to people who rest in the shade.
I wanna smell a rose, tap my toes, let champagne bubbles tickle my nose
I wanna blow my diet. Start a riot. If it's risky, honey, I wanna try it!
Life is for living. Come on and live it up with me!

SAM

Why do they call it vacation if nobody vacates the town?
Why do they call it vacation with all of these people around?
There are crowds (oh, no!) stepping on your toe.
It's enough to drive you crazy.

I wanna sit right here sucking down a beer
And for that, I know, I'm lazy.

JANET

Life is for action. We only breathe for a while.
T'get satisfaction be someone who lives life with style.
Ya gotta taste the wine, cross the line,
Fondle a breast, but make sure that it's mine
I wanna hit a disco, roll in Crisco,
See how many minutes we can make a kiss go.
Life is for living. C'mon and live it up with me!

SAM

Why do they call it a city
if nobody ever sits down?
Why do they call it a city
with ev'ryone running around?
There are cars: honk, honk!
Hitting cars: bonk, bonk!
And the skyline's always hazy.
All the people rushed;
all the people crushed.
It's enough to drive you crazy.

JANET

Life is for living.
I want to join the parade!
Life's not forgiving
to people who rest in the shade.
I wanna smell a rose, tap my toes, let
champagne bubbles tickle my nose
I wanna blow my diet. Start a riot.
If it's risky, honey, I wanna try it!
Life is for living.
C'mon and live it up with me!

JANET

As a man, it's your duty, so get off your booty.
My bug wants to jitter, so get off your sitter.

SAM

Dancing shoes?

Janet holds up Sam's shoes.

JANET

Brought 'em, so get off your bottom.

SAM

If I heard a sax I'd get off of my backside.

Saxophone music plays as Janet
dances seductively to entice Sam
out of the chair. Sam gets up.

SAM (continued)

Let's dance all night in the city / Where nobody ever sits down.
My dear, you look awf'ly pretty / Let's go for a night on the town.
We can dance: cha cha! / And romance: aha!
All my moves will drive you crazy.

We'll have fun: ha, ha! / Till we're done: uh huh!
Then to bed: we'll whoopsidaisy.

SAM and JANET

Let's dance all night in the city
Come on and live it up with me!

SAM

Let me go up and change. If we're going to be Fred and Ginger out on the dance floor, I need to look more like Fred Astaire than Fred Flintstone.

Sam sweeps Janet into his arms, and dances off stage toward their room. Jeff enters from the front desk and checks his wristwatch. Don and Susan enter from the direction of their room. They are concerned about something.

DON

Jeff, do you know where Kelli is? She's not in her room, and we can't find her anywhere in the hotel.

JEFF

I thought she planned to go to Westwood with the whole group later tonight. Do you think something could have happened to her?

SUSAN

She always wants to go out on her own. Where could she go around here?

DON

Jeff, will you help us find her? She may be in trouble. I hate to say this, but she has a problem. Our daughter likes to drink, you know, alcohol. We have to keep booze away from her because she's always getting into it.

JEFF

All right. Susan, stay by the phone in case she calls or in case I need to call you. Don, keep looking here in the hotel. I'll see if she took a cab anywhere. Then I'll get some people checking the neighborhood. We'll find her.

DON and SUSAN

Thank you.

Don and Susan talk in a quiet huddle. Then Susan goes back up to the room. Don exits a different direction. Jeff starts to exit toward

the front desk just as the Desk Clerk enters. Jeff stops the Desk Clerk.

JEFF

Have you seen Kelli Klee? She's that young, pretty girl from the American tour.

DESK CLERK

Yes, she was talking to Tony maybe a half an hour ago.

JEFF

Did she leave the hotel?

DESK CLERK

I think so.

JEFF

Where's Tony?

DESK CLERK

He said he was feeling sick. He went home about the same time he talked to the girl.

JEFF

Can you give me his phone number and address? I think Kelli may be in trouble.

Clerk exits with Jeff to supply the information.

Anita enters from the pool area. She is talking on her cell phone.

ANITA

[talking on the cell phone] The man I love asked me to marry him, and I threw the ring in his face. I've got to talk to him, face-to-face, and find out what this is all about.... *[listens]*

I owe it to him. No. No, I owe it to me. I just need to find out. Good-bye, Carmen.

Anita ends the call, puts the phone away. The Desk Clerk enters (busy with some preoccupation). Anita walks up to the Desk Clerk.

ANITA

Excuse me, have you seen Jeff Carson of Glama Tours?

DESK CLERK

I have. May I take a message for him?

ANITA

Isn't he here at the hotel?

DESK CLERK

He had some urgent business. I think he'll be back soon if you'd like to wait.

ANITA

Well, I really need to talk to him. Can you tell me where he went?

DESK CLERK

I'm not sure exactly. He was very interested in finding our bellman, because he thought Tony might have that pretty, young lady he wanted. I suspect he'll take her straight up to the room, especially if she's, um, not feeling well.

ANITA

I'll wait!

Anita crosses her arms with a harrumph and sits roughly in a nearby chair. Zita and Ruth enter together from their rooms.

ZITA

Tonight we're going to see Wedgewood.

RUTH

Wedgewood? That's china.

ZITA

No, I'm not talking about China. I'm talking about Wedgewood, **California**.

RUTH

Zita, honey, the place is called Westwood. You're beginning to sound like Angel. The way he mixes up all his words. Instead of Hollywood Bowl, he says Ballywood Hole. Instead of Burbank, he says Barbunk. Long Beach is Bong Leach.

ZITA

Personally, I liked the "La Brea Par Tits".

RUTH

[*laughs*] And I couldn't figure out what he was talking about when he called his sore toe his "torso". But my favorite was when he called "popcorn", "cop porn".

ZITA

Well, I like Angel. If he misses a phrase now and then, I think it's charming. Do you think Westwood will be charming?

RUTH

Well, I'm sure that if Jeff picked it out, it'll be a very pleasant spot for the last night of our tour. I hear it's a lively place: UCLA.

ZITA

That's what we've been doing all week.

Sam and Janet enter and join the ladies at the side of the stage.

ZITA (continued)

Oooooo, who is this handsome fellow?

SAM

I'm the dance partner Janet keeps in her luggage until Friday night.

RUTH

He's even better looking than that husband of yours.

JANET

I think I'll keep both of them.

Jeff enters from the back of the pool area, trying to slip in unnoticed. He is guiding a drunken Kelli. She doesn't seem to be happy about where she is going. She resists.

JEFF

Come on, Kelli. We're almost home. Let's try to get you to your room without anyone noticing.

KELLI

I want to go back to Tony's. We were just having a few laughs. I kept my part of the deal. I wasn't drinking in your precious hotel.

Marcy and a uniformed police officer enter from the other side of the stage.

MARCY

There he is, Officer! He's the sleaze-bag drug lord, and now he's compromising that sweet, young girl for pleasure and profit. I only hope we're not too late to save her from his sordid plans.

Marcy scrambles toward Jeff and Kelli with the police officer in tow.

JEFF

I'll be with you in a minute, Marcy. Right now, I've got to get Kelli upstairs and into bed.

MARCY

[*horrified gasp*] You are **not** taking that girl to your bed.

JEFF

No, I'm not taking her to **my** bed. What's going on here?

MARCY

You are under arrest, Mister. Officer, cuff him and read him his rights.

Jeff tries to protest. Kelli squirms free only to be captured by Marcy. Anita stands and witnesses the citizen's arrest. She runs off crying as Marcy and the police officer take Jeff and Kelli away. Sam, Janet, Zita, Ruth, Dawn, and Kelli's parents straggle after them as they go. Lights fade out. Music up and out.

Scene 9 – Police station

Friday night

A police sergeant sits at a desk as Marcy, Ruth, Zita, Sam, Janet, and Dawn gather around. The sergeant addresses Marcy.

SERGEANT

You're the complainant? Mrs....

MARCY

Marcia Blackburn. And it should make no difference whether I'm Miss or Mrs.

SERGEANT

Miss Marsha Blackburn.

MARCY

With a "C-I-A".

SERGEANT

You're with the CIA?

MARCY

No, my name is spelled with a C-I-A. It's M-A-R-C-I-A.

Marcy hands Sergeant an ID card.
Sergeant looks at it.

SERGEANT

You're from Ohio? ...in law enforcement? Is that right?

Sergeant hands the ID card to his
assistant. The assistant exits.

MARCY

Yes, sir, I'm working undercover to expose Jeff Carson.

SERGEANT

But you don't have a warrant for his arrest?

MARCY

No, but he's a drug dealer.

SERGEANT

If he's a drug dealer, you gotta arrest him with the drugs. No drugs, no case.

MARCY

I've got all the evidence you need here on videotape.

SERGEANT

Videotapes aren't real popular with the LAPD, Ma'am. But let's see what you got ...see if there's enough to hold him on.

MARCY

All right. Look at this.

Marcy plays the videotape for Sergeant. Others gather around.

ZITA (voice on tape)

You know that **pot** I got on Monday? Could you help me get it back home?

JEFF (voice on tape)

I'd be happy to. You definitely don't want to take it back on the plane with you. Just write out the address you want it delivered to, and I'll take care of the rest.

ZITA

You talk about Jeff as if he's some kind of homeopathic killer. That's ridiculous. I deny the allegations, and I resent the allegator.

Sergeant looks at Zita as music comes up for "I Just Swear".

ZITA (continued)

I bought a terra cotta clay pot.
I don't know what you're trying to say.
I assure you, there isn't any plot,
So wipe those delusions away.

Marcy plays more videotape.

RUTH (voice on tape)

...just **shooting up** my arm. Is there going to be any **crack** today?

JEFF (voice on tape)

It's all taken care of, Ruth. You should be feeling fine from now on. Glama Tours never wants you to have a **bad trip**.

Sergeant looks at Ruth as music continues for "I Just Swear".

RUTH

She claims the tour guide gave me some crack:
It's a statement she ought to retract,
'Cuz my armrest and her head are, in fact,
The only two things that are cracked.

Marcy plays more videotape.

JEFF (voice on tape)

Obviously, I'll need the **ring** to make this work. There's a **dealer** I can trust downtown. He knows I'm coming, so the **deal** shouldn't take long.

Marcy stops the tape and looks at Sergeant expectantly.

SERGEANT

This is America, Ma'am. People can **talk** about anything they want. For all I know this guy was rehearsing a scene from a play. We've got a lot of actors in this town, ya know. Show me something more than just talk.

Marcy shows tape of Jeff giving a baggie of white powder to Janet.

MARCY

Look. He's giving this woman a bag of cocaine.

JEFF (voice on tape)

I got what you asked for. I can get you some more if you need it.

JANET (voice on tape)

Oh, thank you, Jeff. How much do I owe you?

Sergeant looks at Janet as music continues for "I Just Swear".

JANET

For under-things I wanted to cleanse
In that baggie was clothes-washing soap.
You should look right **behind** the cam'ra lens
If you want to find any dope.

MARCY

You can't believe **them**. They're all on drugs.

SERGEANT

[*to the tour members*] Is this true? Do you use drugs?

The tourists all nod their heads and pull out little containers of prescription drugs. They show the drugs to the officer and say the names in a rapid-fire jumble.

DAWN

Nitroglycerin

Celebrex
JANET

Clarinet
ZITA

Viagra
SAM

Everyone looks at Sam. Sam and Janet grin. Everyone turns back.

Does Preparation H count?
RUTH

And all of these were prescribed by your doctors?
SERGEANT

The tourists all nod their heads.

It's socialized medicine. I blame the HBO's.
ZITA

The assistant enters.

[to assistant] Why is it that nobody ever exercises their right to remain silent? Did you check out this Carson guy?
SERGEANT

Yeah, he's clean. No weapons, no drugs, no record.
ASSISTANT

Take a look at this one. There's no way to argue this one.
MARCY

Marcy plays the videotape for Sergeant. Others gather around.

SAM (voice on tape)
Its entire purpose was to pervert innocent high school girls into floozies. The heroine wasn't strong enough. It didn't go the way I wanted.

JEFF (voice on tape)
Like you said, "Life never goes the way we plan."

SAM (voice on tape)
No, I'll bet you never figured you'd make your fortune in drugs, the Internet, and Glama Tours.

Sergeant looks at Sam as music continues for “I Just Swear”.

SAM

The “drugs” are pharmaceutical **stocks**.
I can't **bear** all this **bull**, as it were.
You can listen when E.F. Hutton talks,
But pay no attention to her.

And when I used the “heroine” word,
It's a leading lady I meant.
To believe he's a dealer is absurd,
And questioning me, I resent.

SAM, JANET, RUTH and ZITA

I don't care what this woman thinks.
I just swear that her story stinks.

MARCY

Aha! What about the girl? “...to pervert innocent high school girls.” What about her?

The assistant enters and hands a report to Sergeant.

SERGEANT

As for the girl: she was carrying two ID cards. One is a driver's license that says her name is Kelli Richards and that she's 16 years old. The other is a Nebraska Shepherders' Association card that says she's Kelli Klee, age 21. It's a tough call, but I'm leaning toward believing the DMV.

ASSISTANT

Her parents, Donald and Susan Richards, are asking us to release her into their custody.

Sergeant nods his approval.

SERGEANT

[to assistant] What did we find out about Miss Blackburn?

ASSISTANT

We confirmed Marcia Blackburn's credentials. Everything checks out. We even called her boss at home. He was kind of groggy and mad as hell. He said she's an idiot and that he'd really appreciate it if we'd lock her up for a while.

SERGEANT

[to Marcy] Do you have a ticket to fly back home?

MARCY

Yes, I have a flight booked for tomorrow morning, but –

SERGEANT

Be on that plane! I don't want to hear any more about citizen's arrests and little-old-lady drug dealers.

RUTH

Tsk! "Little old ladies." Well, I never!

SERGEANT

Get out of here, all of you. [*to assistant*] And release Jeffrey Carson, too, with Miss Blackburn's apology.

The assistant hands Marcy her ID card. People disperse as lights fade out.

Scene 10 – Hotel poolside
Two months later
A group of people are seated for a wedding. The bride and groom are turned away, facing a minister.

MINISTER

I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may now kiss the bride.

Wedding ends. The couple kisses. Angel is seated watching the ceremony. He sneezes into his handkerchief. He speaks to a woman seated next to him.

ANGEL

I always sneeze at weddings.

The woman cries with joy. Angel offers her the handkerchief.

ANGEL (continued)

Would you like to use my canker thief?

The woman looks indignantly at him.

WOMAN

I don't want your dirty handkerchief.

ANGEL

Yeah, well, the outside is still clean.

The couple turns around; they are Herb and Claire. They move downstage as the wedding guests start to get up.

HERB

Claire, were your kids angry about us coming back to Los Angeles to get married?

CLAIRE

They think we're getting married in Florida next month. I thought it would be more fun to elope, but it means we'll have to do the ceremony again back home.

HERB

It's been two months since we decided to do this! I guess they can wait another month. Besides, it was a cute idea getting married in a double ceremony with Jeff

and Anita, too. They've been married for ten minutes now ...and people said it wouldn't last!

Anita and Jeff enter dressed as bride and groom. Lucia is a flower girl. Honda is holding Snowball, the cat.

Music comes up for "Now and Forever".

JEFF

Starting today let me be your lover,
Loving you ever as I do now.
I pledge my life, forsaking all others,
Now and forever. That is my vow.

Just like this endless band of gold,
You'll always have my hand to hold.
And I will love you from this moment through eternity

And I will love with all of my heart,
Whether we're near or worlds apart.
So I will love you now and forever, evermore.

ANITA

Just like this endless band of gold,
You'll always have my hand to hold.
And I will love you from this moment through eternity

JEFF and ANITA

And I will love with all of my heart,
Whether we're near or worlds apart.
So I will love you now and forever, evermore.

The two married couples talk. Sean and Carmen enter. Each has a paper cup of beer.

SEAN

Well, I'm the best man, and I did the best I could, but I couldn't talk him out of it.

CARMEN

You, too? I couldn't beat any sense into Anita either. Love makes people do crazy things.

SEAN

...like getting married. Ha! "to have and to hold" ...it sounds like constipation to me.

CARMEN

The worst thing is: I caught the bouquet.

SEAN

The only bouquet I want to catch is from this beer.

Sean sniffs and drinks beer from his paper cup and then stomps on the cup.

SEAN (continued)

Mazeltov! Well, as best man, I'm supposed to make a toast, but I left it in the toaster too long. I better go dream up another one.

CARMEN

You're starting to sound like my second husband.

SEAN

How many husbands have you had?

CARMEN

One.

Sean exits. Angel comes up to Anita.

ANGEL

I believe it's kisstomary to cuss the bride.

Angel kisses Anita and congratulates Jeff. Anita turns to Jeff.

ANITA

I can't get over the fact that ever since I've known you, you've been the owner of Glama Tours?

JEFF

Why do you think the tour always stops at your shop?

ANITA

So, why is it called Glama Tours?

JEFF

You don't want to know.

ANITA

You're not going to keep secrets from me again, are you?

JEFF

Okay. It's an acronym. It stands for 'Greater Los Angeles Metropolitan Area'.

ANITA

Couldn't you come up with a better name than that?

JEFF

Murray named it GLAMA long before he sold it to me. But now that you're half owner of the business, I could name it after you.

ANITA

After me?

JEFF

Sure, we could call it "Anita Vacation".

Jeff and Anita kiss. Lights fade out.
Music up and out. Curtain. End of
show.