

**Extraordinary**

A rock musical  
by  
Andrew Geha

Act 1 Perusal Script

To listen to the cast recording please visit:  
[geha.bandcamp.com](http://geha.bandcamp.com)

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## **Setting**

*Extraordinary* is set in the present day. The story takes place in and around a high school, the homes of four students, and a hospital.

## **Cast of Characters**

SETH - An injured high school champion swimmer. He is dating CODI.  
CODI - A high school girl with a sick mother. She is dating SETH.  
NATE - SETH's best friend, TARYN's brother  
TARYN - NATE's sister

REEVE - a friend of SETH's  
MAYA - REEVE's sister  
CHASE - a stranger

ALLIE - TARYN's former best friend  
MEG - a high school student  
DARCY - a high school student  
LIZ - a high school student

CAROLYN HUDSON - CODI's mother

BARRY RASKUS - SETH's father  
SHEILA RASKUS - SETH's mother

MRS. MAGUIRE - The principal  
MS. FRANKLIN - A teacher  
MS. KELLY - The school nurse  
MR. KRAMER - A teacher  
LEIGH FONTANA - A social worker

DOCTOR RAINS  
DOCTOR LARSEN  
NURSE QUINN

LINDA  
POWELL  
911 OPERATOR  
MS. LANYON

TODD  
TOMMY  
PATTY  
JAMES  
LAURA

YOUNG NATE

Act I

Song 01. Extraordinary

I WAS YOUNG, HAD A DREAM I COULD FLY THROUGH THE AIR  
TIME MOVES ON, DREAMS ARE GONE, WE PRETEND WE DON'T CARE  
LIFE GOT REAL, NO MORE POINTS FOR JUST SHOWING UP  
THE DISILLUSIONMENT IS JUST ANOTHER PART OF GROWING UP

SEE THE NEWS, HEAR THE SCREAMS, EVERYONE TAKES A SIDE  
WHERE'S THE PEACE, WHERE'S THE SAFETY THAT YOU SAID YOU'D PROVIDE  
IT'S A PRAYER, IT'S A JOKE, AND I'M SCARED BECAUSE  
I'VE GOT TO FACE THE WORLD, ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT THE WORLD I'M DREAMING  
OF

AND I KNOW THAT I NEED TO HAVE FAITH  
IN MYSELF BUT IT SEEMS IN ITS PLACE  
THERE'S A FEAR THAT I'M MISUNDERSTOOD  
AND DEEP DOWN I'M NOT ANY GOOD

GOT A FUSE IN MY POCKET AND ITS SET TO EXPLODE  
CUT IT OUT, STOMP IT DOWN, BECAUSE THE LINE MUST BE TOWED  
BACK AWAY FROM THE LIGHT, CAN'T IGNITE AGAIN  
I'M RUNNING FROM THE FIRE, BUT I'M FALLING IN THE FRYING PAN

BLOW SOME STEAM SO THE PRESSURE DOESN'T BLOW ME APART  
SHOOT MYSELF IN THE FOOT SO I DON'T SHATTER MY HEART  
PULL THE BRAKE, CRACK THE GLASS, I'M ON OVERFLOW  
I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER BUT I JUST REFUSE TO LET IT GO

AND I'M SCARED THAT IT'S GONNA HEAD SOUTH  
WHEN I DARE TRY TO OPEN MY MOUTH  
BUT I CAN'T SIMPLY SIT AND BE SEEN  
AND IGNORED LIKE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN

I JUST WANT TO BE EXTRAORDINARY

SOMETIMES I WISH I WAS STILL JUST A KID  
HAVING DREAMS WHERE I'D TAKE OFF AND FLY  
BUT THEY TOLD ME TO GROW UP, SO I DID  
STILL SOMETIMES I REACH UP TO THE SKY

I JUST WANT TO BE EXTRAORDINARY!

MAKE A MESS EVERY TIME I DON'T DO WHAT I'M TOLD  
REEL ME IN, HOLD ME BACK OR ELSE I'M BREAKING THE MOLD  
CUT ME STRAIGHT TO THE HEART WHEN YOU CANNOT SEE  
THAT THERE'S NO WAY THIS LITTLE MOLD COULD EVER HAVE CREATED ME

AND I SEE THAT I'LL NEVER GET BY  
BACKING DOWN, CAUSE THAT'S LIVING A LIE  
GOT TO FIGHT AND I'VE GOT TO BE TOUGH,  
BUT I'M SCARED I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH!

I JUST WANT TO BE EXTRAORDINARY  
( x 7 )

I JUST CAN'T CONCEDE TO SOME TIRED, BARELY LIFE  
AH ---

1 SCENE: THE HALL

*The song ends. CHASE attaches a severe leg brace to SETH's right leg.*

SETH starts backing away from CHASE. CHASE smiles. SETH lands poorly on his leg, causing him a jolt of pain. He falls. CHASE smiles again and exits.

*REEVE enters, holding crutches. He runs to SETH, helping him stand.*

REEVE  
Easy. Easy now.

SETH  
I'm okay.

REEVE  
Was that -?

SETH  
I'm fine. Everything's fine.

*REEVE gives SETH the crutches, and helps him to a nearby bench.*

Thanks.  
(A slight pause.)  
It feels safer when you're here.

REEVE  
I know. It's why I stay.

SETH  
It's getting dark. Why's it getting -?

REEVE  
You're waking up.

SETH  
What?

REEVE

It's time to wake up.

*SETH inhales sharply, waking up. He does not see REEVE, who exits, silently.*

*SETH painfully adjusts the position of his injured leg. His backpack is sitting by the bench. He reaches into the bag and takes a pill bottle out, pouring two pills in his hands. He stares at the pills.*

*CODI enters. SETH doesn't see her.*

*Frustrated, SETH flings the pills across the room.*

CODI

Seth!

*(He is startled.)*

What are you doing?

SETH

I'm... Nothing.

CODI

Was that your--

SETH

Yeah.

*CODI pulls out her phone and checks the time.*

CODI

It's noon. You should be taking those now.

SETH

Yeah.

CODI

Not flinging them across the hall.

SETH

I don't want to take them.

CODI

Are you in pain?

SETH

Yes...

CODI

The doctor said that if you --

SETH

Don't tell me what the doctor said, Codi! I was there.  
You weren't.

*A pause. CODI sits down next to SETH.*

CODI

We shouldn't leave those on the floor.

SETH

Give the mice a night to remember.

*CODI smiles at SETH's weak attempt at a joke.*

CODI

I waited for you outside your physics class.

SETH

I wasn't there.

CODI

I figured that out.

SETH

I needed some time. I'm just... overwhelmed.

CODI

It's your first day back. Of course you're overwhelmed.  
You should take the Percocet. You haven't been on your  
feet this much in two months.

SETH

I hate taking them. I get... loopy. The world goes all  
fuzzy.

CODI

That's a bad thing?

SETH

Sometimes.

*(A pause.)*

I quit the team.

CODI

What? I thought you were going to talk to the coach after  
school.

SETH

I was, but... I had a free.

CODI  
What did he say?

SETH  
He'd already taken me off the roster.

CODI  
He had to.

SETH  
Yeah, I know. But... feels like I'm giving up.

CODI  
You're not giving up.

SETH  
There's no chance I'll be All-American.

CODI  
But you knew that.

SETH  
I'll probably never swim again.

CODI  
You will.

SETH  
Not like I could.

CODI  
You'll do something else. Come on. Don't go here again.  
Everything's going to be all right.

SETH  
Maybe.

CODI  
Have you been here since you talked to the coach?

SETH  
Yeah. I kind of fell asleep.

CODI  
And you skipped physics.

SETH  
Yeah.

CODI  
You should talk to him. He might not give you a cut.

SETH

No, he will. It's just what I need. My future flushed down the toilet and a detention. Great.

CODI

*(Putting her hands on his shoulders)*

Hey. You're going to get through it. You're going to be fine.

SETH

Yeah?

*(They embrace)*

Thank you. I don't know if I could do this without you.

CODI

Guess you're damn lucky, huh?

SETH

Yeah.

CODI

How's the rest of the morning been?

SETH

I gave Mr. Sellers all the math homework. And Ms. Donner everything but the research paper, which she said I could turn in Monday.

CODI

Good.

*(Realizing a problem)*

But I can't help you.

SETH

I thought we were working on it Saturday.

CODI

We were, but... I got an email from my aunt. She can't come in this weekend.

SETH

What? Why not?

CODI

Her kids are in town.

SETH

So what's that mean?

CODI

It means that once the visiting nurse leaves Friday, I'm on for the rest of the weekend.



SETH  
We're not going to see each other?

CODI  
I'm sorry. I just... my mom has to come first, okay?

SETH  
Yeah, no, of course she does. Can I at least come over?

CODI  
That's... probably not a good idea.

SETH  
Has she been worse?  
(*CODI doesn't respond.*)  
Codi?

CODI  
It's been a bad week.

SETH  
Okay. Well, next week will be better. Won't it?

CODI  
I don't know. The nurse said--

*MS. FRANKLIN enters.*

MS. FRANKLIN  
Codi?

CODI  
Yeah, Ms. Franklin?

MS. FRANKLIN  
I'm glad I found you. The principal is looking for you.

CODI  
Why?

MS. FRANKLIN  
She said it's not a crisis, but she'd like to speak to you as soon as possible.

CODI  
Okay.

(*To SETH*)  
What are you doing now?

SETH  
Uh... lunch, I guess. What's going on?

CODI

*(Getting up)*

I don't know. I'll meet you in the cafeteria.

*(As SETH picks up his crutches)*

Do you need a hand?

SETH

No, I'll be --

*As SETH puts weight on his injured leg, he feels a burst of pain. It nearly topples him over. CODI and MS. FRANKLIN try and help.*

MS. FRANKLIN

Are you okay?

CODI

What is it?

SETH

Just... nothing. I stepped wrong. It's fine now. I'm fine.

CODI

I should walk you to lunch.

*(to MS. FRANKLIN)*

Can I do that first?

SETH

I'm okay. Really.

CODI

You sure?

SETH

Go. I'm fine. I'll make it to the cafeteria.

CODI

Okay. I'll see you in a bit.

*CODI kisses SETH on the cheek.*

MS. FRANKLIN

It's good to see you back, Seth.

SETH

Yeah. Good to be back, I guess.

MS. FRANKLIN

We were all worried about you.

SETH

Uh... Thanks.

*TODD enters, carrying a gym bag.*

MS. FRANKLIN  
(to CODI)  
Shall we?

*CODI shrugs and walks with MS. FRANKLIN.*

TODD  
You're back!

SETH  
Yeah.

TODD  
Welcome back.

SETH  
Thanks.

TODD  
You coming to practice today?

SETH  
Uh, probably not.

TODD  
Sucks. We've been struggling without you.

SETH  
Yeah. Sucks.

*SETH exits.*

2 SCENE: OUTSIDE THE CAFETERIA

2

*The bell rings.*

*DARCY and LIZ are walking. TARYN catches up with them.*

LIZ  
Is the conference list up yet?

DARCY  
Ms. Franklin said there's a delay. It goes up tomorrow.

LIZ  
Are you nervous?

DARCY

I'm on yearbook, SADD and Key Club. They have to choose me.

TARYN

Liz? Darcy? What time do we need to be there today? I lost the info sheet.

DARCY

We have to be there at four.

LIZ

I thought 3:45.

DARCY

Oh. Right. Sorry. 3:45

LIZ

(To TARYN)

We're going for protein shakes right after school. Wanna come?

TARYN

Sure.

DARCY

If there's room in the car. Candace is driving.

TARYN

Oh. Okay.

LIZ

Semi-Finals, baby!

TARYN

It's gonna be awesome!

*DARCY bumps into ALLIE, who is walking the other direction. ALLIE's bag falls to the floor, spilling its contents.*

ALLIE

Hey!

DARCY

Sorry!

LIZ

That sucks.

ALLIE

You could stop and help, you know!

LIZ

It was an accident.

*ALLIE begins to pick up her stuff  
as the other girls keep walking.*

DARCY

Oh my g-d, did you see Meg's car this morning? It was incredible.

TARYN

Uh - I forgot something in my locker. I'll meet you in the cafeteria.

LIZ

*(To DARCY as they keep walking)*

What was on her car?

DARCY

*(exiting)*

The windows were tinted in school colors, with her number painted on the rear windshield.

TARYN

Need a hand?

ALLIE

What?

TARYN

Let me help.

ALLIE

Are you sure they're gone?

TARYN

What?

ALLIE

It's just... You should make sure they're gone before you speak to me.

TARYN

Allie, don't be like that.

ALLIE

What? I don't want to ruin your blossoming reputation.

TARYN

What's that supposed to mean?

ALLIE

Nothing. Sorry.

TARYN  
Allie!

ALLIE  
What? You haven't talked to me in three weeks.

TARYN  
I've been busy. It's not intentional.

ALLIE  
Then what is it?

TARYN  
What?

ALLIE  
If it's not intentional, what is it?

TARYN  
I'm... just swamped. Between karate, my tutor, basketball... Varsity takes up a lot of time.

ALLIE  
I hear you're playing well.

TARYN  
I'm okay.

ALLIE  
I heard you had six rebounds the last game and they wouldn't have won without you.

TARYN  
Meg got the winning basket.

ALLIE  
Meg may be the star. But from what I hear, you're just as good.

TARYN  
That's not true.

ALLIE  
You afraid to take some credit?

TARYN  
No. It's not about credit. I'm just doing it to have fun.

ALLIE  
Well, at least you're having fun somewhere.

*A Pause as they get the last of ALLIE's things together.*

TARYN  
How have you been feeling?

ALLIE  
Okay.

TARYN  
No migraines?

ALLIE  
The new medication's great. It's been almost three months.

TARYN  
That's... that's awesome. Look, I'm sorry we haven't hung out.

ALLIE  
Me too.

TARYN  
I've just... been busy.

ALLIE  
Taryn, I get it. You have new friends. You're not going to talk to me when you're with them. It sucks, but it's okay.

TARYN  
That's not... that's not fair.

ALLIE  
It's true.

TARYN  
It doesn't have to be.

ALLIE  
Oh, what, you're going to change it? Go against the grain?

TARYN  
I... What do you mean?

ALLIE  
Taryn... you're a bystander. I mean, I love you and I think you're great, but you're not about to fight for anything.

TARYN  
I fight for things.

ALLIE  
Like what?

TARYN  
I....

ALLIE

When we used to hang out, and they would treat us both like crap, you'd just take it.

TARYN

And you'd yell at them. And it would do nothing.

ALLIE

So now, I yell, and you wait until they're out of sight to talk to me.

TARYN

What do you want me to do?

ALLIE

I want you to do lots of things. But I know you're not going to. You're too terrified of confrontation. G-d forbid you were ever in any real danger...

TARYN

It's not that easy.

ALLIE

To stand by and go with the flow? Taryn, that's the easiest choice of all.

TARYN

Well, not all of us are cut out to be the victim.

ALLIE

*(A pause. She is hurt)*  
Is that what you think of me?

TARYN

I... well, sometimes you--

ALLIE

You know what? I get it. Thanks. I'll see you around, Taryn.

*ALLIE turns and walks away. TARYN knows she's messed up.*

TARYN

Oh, Allie, wait. That's not... Allie!

*ALLIE is gone.*

### **Song 02. Stuck**

TARYN (cont'd)

STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HIGH SCHOOL  
GETTING TOUGH TO BE THIN ENOUGH TO FIT  
SUCK IT IN TO SQUEEZE INSIDE AND HIDE FROM RIDICULE



SUCK IT UP MORE THAN I WOULD ADMIT

TARYN AND ALLIE

I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE EASY, I DIDN'T GUESS IT'D BE THIS BAD  
AFTER ALL THE MOVIES SMILE AND LIE THAT THESE WILL BE THE BEST YEARS  
WE'VE EVER HAD

ALLIE

STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HIGH SCHOOL  
CAN'T WE JUST NEGOTIATE A TRUCE  
BUT WHEN I TRY TO SPEAK I END UP LOOKING LIKE A FOOL  
AND I JUST CAN'T INVITE ALL THE ABUSE

TARYN AND ALLIE

IN A COUPLE OF YEARS, I'M GONNA BE STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND AN  
OFFICE... IF I CAN GET A JOB  
SO WORK JUST PAYS OFF WITH MORE WORK, WHILE TRAPPED INSIDE A  
SOULLESS, THOUGHTLESS MOB?

ENSEMBLE

I THINK THE SYSTEM'S BROKEN AND IT'S STARTING TO DECAY  
WE FORGOT THAT WE WERE HUMAN SOMEWHERE THERE ALONG THE WAY  
NOBODY'S GONNA FIX IT, 'CAUSE IT'S TOO MUCH OF A STRAIN  
AND EVEN THOUGH IT'S BROKEN, IT'S REAL EASY TO MAINTAIN

STUCK INSIDE A SYSTEM THAT'S A NIGHTMARE  
WHICH CLAIMS WE'LL BE PREPARED TO LIVE THE DREAM  
TO OUR FACE THEY SMILE AND SAY ITS ALL PERFECTLY FAIR  
TO OUR BACK THEY UNDERMINE AND SCHEME

STUCK BETWEEN MY FREEDOM AND CONDITIONING TO PLEASE  
THE MORE I LEARN THE LESS I'M SURE I KNOW  
I THINK I MAY BE SINKING, SEE THE QUICKSAND'S AT MY KNEES  
I WON'T BE LEFT BEHIND, JUST LEFT BELOW

STILL MY POTENTIAL'S WAIVED BEFORE ME LIKE A PRIZE I HAVE TO CHASE  
SO I SACRIFICE TO MEET A STANDARD SET BY MEN WHO'VE NEVER SEEN MY  
FACE

I THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO BREAK ME SO I DON'T UPSET THE RULES  
FORGET ALL OF MY INSTINCTS, ANOTHER CASUALTY OF SCHOOL  
NOBODY SEES THE DANGER, NO, THEY THINK IT'S WHAT I NEED  
SO I EITHER FIGHT THE SYSTEM OR EMBRACE IT AND SUCCEED

TARYN

I HATE HIGH SCHOOL  
AND I HATE ROCKS  
I HATE THE MIDDLE  
BUT I'M STUCK

*The song ends. TARYN opens her bag  
and pulls out her lunch. She opens  
it, sniffs, then gets angry.*

TARYN (cont'd)  
Dammit!! I'm going to kill him!

*TARYN stomps off.*

3 SCENE: THE LUNCHROOM

*REEVE is sitting with LAURA, who is deeply engaged in their conversation. REEVE has a lunch tray in front of him, LAURA does not.*

*Upstage there is a second table of students, including JAMES, who glances at LAURA every so often.*

LAURA  
It's not that simple.

REEVE  
Sure it is.

LAURA  
No, it's --

REEVE  
You like him. He likes you. Ask him.

LAURA  
That's not how it's supposed to happen.

REEVE  
So what?

LAURA  
I don't want to be weird.

REEVE  
You're in ninth grade. Everything's weird. Ask him. He'll say yes. You two will go to a movie. You'll talk for a few hours, it'll be awesome.

LAURA  
How do you know?

REEVE  
Cause I do. It's in the stars. Or something.

LAURA  
Okay...

*NATE enters with a lunch bag.*

REEVE  
Nate! Sit.

NATE  
Okay. Wait, who -- ?

REEVE  
I'm waiting for Seth. Sit.

LAURA  
I should go.

REEVE  
You should go talk to him.

LAURA  
No.

REEVE  
He's right over there. He's been watching us.

LAURA  
Really?

REEVE  
Well, watching you.

NATE  
Who?

LAURA  
Oh g-d.

REEVE  
Have fun.

*LAURA gets up, very nervous.*

LAURA  
Okay. Thank you!!

*She goes over towards the US table to talk to JAMES.*

*NATE starts eating his lunch. REEVE picks at his tray, uninterested.*

NATE  
What was that?

Advice.  
REEVE

Who was that?  
NATE

Ninth grader. Laura, I think.  
REEVE

You're flirting with ninth graders?  
NATE

No. And who cares if I was? She wanted advice.  
REEVE

From you?  
NATE

Yeah. I'm good with people.  
REEVE

*There is a small commotion at the US table, where LAURA has clearly been successful asking JAMES. She hugs him and exits.*

Nice.

How are you good with people?  
NATE

I've had a lot of relationships.  
REEVE

Uh-huh.  
NATE

Whereas you've just had dreams about a certain Ms. Meg Reilly.  
REEVE

Shut up.  
NATE

Nightly dreams, I believe.  
REEVE

Reeve. Shut. Up.  
NATE

You should really talk to her before she graduates in June.  
REEVE

I'm going to.  
NATE

REEVE  
Sure. What are you afraid of, anyways?

NATE  
Nothing. I don't want to mess it up.

REEVE  
Wow that's... boring.

NATE  
No it's not.

REEVE  
Yeah, really, it is. You've gotta be willing to take a risk. You might be surprised.

NATE  
I don't like surprises.

*TARYN enters and walks to NATE's table. She glares at him.*

NATE (cont'd)  
What?

TARYN  
You're a jerk.

NATE  
Why?

TARYN  
That's my lunch.

NATE  
*(looking at the half-eaten sandwich)*  
What?

REEVE  
Surprise.

TARYN  
You took the wrong bag.

NATE  
How...

TARYN  
This is turkey. You eat turkey.

NATE  
I eat cheese too.

TARYN  
I can't eat turkey, and you know it.

NATE  
Can't? Won't.

TARYN  
You're such an idiot.

NATE  
At least I'm not a vegetarian. Do you want this?  
*(He offers her the half-eaten sandwich)*

TARYN  
Not anymore.

REEVE  
I have some money, I can get you something.

TARYN  
No, thank you. Who --

REEVE  
Reeve. We've met.

TARYN  
Right.

NATE  
You should eat something.

TARYN  
Well, I wanted to eat my lunch, but that's not gonna happen.

NATE  
*(pointing to the bag she's holding)*  
Okay. You know, if you're not going to eat that, could I...

TARYN *throws the lunch bag at NATE.*  
Ow!

TARYN  
Enjoy.

NATE  
Thanks. Hey, how are we getting home?

TARYN  
I'm not going home.

Why not?  
NATE

I have a game!  
TARYN

Good luck.  
REEVE

You do?  
NATE

Do you ever pay attention? It's semi-finals!  
TARYN

You play basketball, right?  
NATE

Are you coming?  
TARYN

To the game? ...No... Should I?  
NATE

*TARYN sighs in frustration and exits.*

Well...  
REEVE

Yeah. I don't know how I'm getting home. That's not good.  
NATE

Your parents are out of town again?  
REEVE

Till Sunday.  
NATE

So no one's going to your sister's game?  
REEVE

I'm sure someone's going. I wonder if Baxter can give me a ride.  
NATE

*SETH enters, escorted by MEG, who is carrying his lunch tray.*

Where do you want to sit?  
MEG

REEVE  
(Seeing SETH)  
There he is.

NATE  
Huh?

REEVE  
Seth. And Meg.... That's convenient.

SETH  
Uh... With Nate. Thank you for helping. Codi said she'd-

MEG  
Don't worry about it.

SETH  
Aren't you eating?

MEG  
I'll go back.

SETH  
Thank you.

*MEG has put SETH's tray on the table and helped him sit down.*

MEG  
(Exiting)  
No problem. I'll be back in a minute.

NATE  
She talks to you?

SETH  
Everyone talks to me now. I think it's the sympathy vote.

REEVE  
Nice to see you, Seth.

SETH  
What are you doing here?

REEVE  
I'm having lunch.

SETH  
I didn't think you were --

*SETH looks down, feeling a spike of pain.*



NATE

You okay?

SETH

Yeah. Just need to re-adjust  
(*He repositions his leg.*)

REEVE

How's it going?

SETH

All right. A little overwhelmed.

NATE

Eight weeks out will do that to you.

SETH

Yeah.

REEVE

You're in a lot of pain still.

SETH

Yeah.

NATE

I told you -- you should have stayed out 'till after break.

SETH

I was tired of lying down.

NATE

Good. 'Cuz I was tired of visiting you at home.

SETH

Thanks.

REEVE

How's your morning?

SETH

Complicated.

NATE

I'll bet. You actually hand in all your work?

SETH

Most of it.

NATE

I couldn't do that. I mean, the math alone - you had to go through six chapters.

SETH  
I had a tutor. And Codi kept me on track.

NATE  
Where is she?

SETH  
Uh... she had a thing.

NATE  
A thing?

SETH  
Yeah. A meeting.

NATE  
With who?

REEVE  
*(Changing the subject)*  
Did you talk to Coach Pauls?

SETH  
Yeah. It was... defeating.

NATE  
You want to hang out at my place tonight? My parents aren't around.

SETH  
Maybe.

NATE  
Cool. Can you drive?

SETH  
*(looking at his crutches, incredulous)*  
No.

*MEG returns with her lunch. LIZ and DARCY are in tow.*

MEG  
Hey. Can we all join you?

SETH  
Uhh.. Yeah.

REEVE  
Definitely.

LIZ  
Welcome back, Seth! We were so worried about you!

SETH  
Yeah, I got the card. Thanks.

LIZ  
Darcy designed it. In Art class.

SETH  
Cool.

REEVE  
(to NATE)  
Say something.

NATE  
Shut up.

MEG  
What?

NATE  
Uh, Meg, I... hear you're tearing it up on the court.

MEG  
I'm doing okay.

DARCY  
She got the winning basket in our last game.

NATE  
That's great.

LIZ  
It was awesome.

NATE  
Cool...

MEG  
(to SETH)  
How long do you have to wear the brace?

SETH  
Not sure. I find out next week.

MEG  
It must hurt.

REEVE  
(to NATE)  
Say something else.

NATE  
Leave me alone.

DARCY  
(To SETH, re: the brace)  
It looks heavy.

NATE  
How... how's my sister doing?

LIZ  
Your sister?

NATE  
On the team.

LIZ  
Who's your sister?

DARCY  
Taryn's his sister.

LIZ  
I didn't know that.

NATE  
Yeah.

MEG  
She's doing fine.

NATE  
Cool.

MEG  
Didn't you hurt your shoulder also?

SETH  
Yeah. The rotator cuff.

LIZ  
And you swim butterfly.

SETH  
Not anymore.

DARCY  
What was it like when he hit you? It must have been scary.

SETH  
Uh... I don't remember much of it.

DARCY  
You need to come to a SADD meeting. You could tell your story.

Darcy! MEG

Why would I do that? SETH

You're, like... the result. Of a destructive decision. DARCY

That would be so cool. LIZ

I don't really do public speaking. SETH  
(To NATE)  
We have to go.

Okay. Why? NATE

If we're gonna get to History on time, I need to start moving now. SETH

We'll walk you there. MEG

Great! NATE Great. SETH

*Everyone but REEVE gets up and begins exiting.*

Don't mind me. REEVE

Do you remember what his car looked like? I mean, how fast was he going? LIZ

Does it hurt to walk? DARCY

*The rest of the lunch room empties out, except for MAYA, who is left, sitting alone at another table. She rises and crosses to REEVE.*

*REEVE sees MAYA, and takes a slow, deep breath. He is not happy to see her.*

Reeve. MAYA

REEVE  
Hi.

MAYA  
What are you doing here?

REEVE  
I was eating.

MAYA  
That's not what I meant.

*Pause.*

REEVE  
I'm not really sure what I'm doing.

MAYA  
You shouldn't be here. Father wants you to come home.

REEVE  
I will.

MAYA  
When?

REEVE  
Soon. Okay? I just need a little time. Give me a little time.

4 SCENE: THE OFFICE

4

*CODI enters MRS. MAGUIRE's office.  
MAGUIRE is talking quietly with  
LEIGH FONTANA.*

CODI  
Mrs. Maguire? You wanted to see me?

MRS. MAGUIRE  
Yes, Codi. Come in. I want you to meet someone.

LEIGH FONTANA  
Hi.

CODI  
Hi.

LEIGH FONTANA  
You're Codi Hudson?

CODI

Yeah.

LEIGH FONTANA

I'm Leigh Fontana. I work for the Administration of Child Services.

CODI

What's that?

MRS. MAGUIRE

She works for the government, Codi.

CODI

Oh. Am I under arrest?

LEIGH FONTANA

I'm not a police officer.

CODI

Okay. Cool.

LEIGH FONTANA

We've gotten a phone call expressing some concerns for your well being.

CODI

What does that mean?

LEIGH FONTANA

It means that someone's called us regarding a concern that your home situation is... deteriorating.

CODI

Who.

LEIGH FONTANA

I can't reveal that.

CODI

Was it the nurse? Because that's illegal. That's a breach of... of doctor-patient confidentiality.

LEIGH FONTANA

The phone call didn't discuss any medical information with us.

CODI

So it was the nurse.

LEIGH FONTANA

That's not what I said. We received a call. It stated concern for you.

CODI  
I'm fine.

MRS. MAGUIRE  
We're concerned too, Codi.

CODI  
I said I'm fine.

MRS. MAGUIRE  
But you're not. You're grades have fallen across the board.

CODI  
I'll get them back up. Give me some time.

MRS. MAGUIRE  
And it's not just the grades.

CODI  
I've been stressed, okay? I mean, I've been helping Seth out a lot...

LEIGH FONTANA  
Who's Seth?

MRS. MAGUIRE  
The boy who was hit by that car two months ago. They're... going out.

LEIGH FONTANA  
Oh, I read about that. That was awful.

CODI  
We're not just "going out."

LEIGH FONTANA  
It's a serious relationship?

CODI  
It's... why do you care?

LEIGH FONTANA  
I'm... just trying to talk to you.

CODI  
And you're starting with my love life?

LEIGH FONTANA  
Let's... sorry. Let's just start over. We received a phone call.

CODI  
From the nurse. Who I'm going to fire.



LEIGH FONTANA  
Why do you have a visiting nurse, Codi?

CODI  
Because... my mom's sick.

MRS. MAGUIRE  
How long has she been sick?

*A Pause.*

CODI  
How much do you already know? ... And how much are you just trying to get me to talk?

LEIGH FONTANA  
We'd like to hear it from you.

CODI  
But you already know the answers.

LEIGH FONTANA  
We know some of them.

CODI  
So then why am I here?

*A Pause.*

LEIGH FONTANA  
Because we've opened up a case file. And I need to evaluate your home situation and your mental and physical state and decide whether your current living environment is suitable for someone your age.

CODI  
You plan to do all that right now?

LEIGH FONTANA  
This is the first meeting. Of several. We'd like to visit your home as well.

CODI  
You can't take me from my mom.

MRS. MAGUIRE  
You're mom's dying, Codi.

CODI  
*(Getting up to leave)*  
You don't know what you're talking about.

LEIGH FONTANA  
Please sit back down.

MRS. MAGUIRE

Codi, you're not doing yourself any favors by walking out right now.

CODI

And what favors are you doing for me, Mrs. Maguire? How, exactly are you helping me?

MRS. MAGUIRE

I'm trying to get you support.

CODI

I don't need your support

*CODI exits the office.*

**Song 03. The Cure**

CODI (cont'd)

THE DIAGNOSIS WAS A SINGLE SENTENCE  
I WAS SENTENCED WITH HER DIAGNOSIS

I SEE HER WEAKER EVERY DAY  
THE DOCTORS PAT ME ON THE BACK AND SAY I MUST BE STRONG  
BUT I KNOW BY THEIR FACES THAT IT'S ALL GONE WRONG  
IT'S ALL GONE WRONG

THE MEDICATION IS A POISON AND THE SCIENCE INEXACT  
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE OUT THE DISEASE AND LEAVE THE BODY STILL INTACT  
BUT THE CASUALTIES ARE MOUNTING AND VICTORY'S UNSURE  
YET YOU PROMISE THAT YOU'RE HELPING CAUSE YOU CALL YOURSELF  
THE CURE

YOU TELL ME WHAT I NEED INSTEAD OF ASKING ME IF I'M OKAY  
YOU THINK IT NOBLE THAT YOU INTERCEDE, YOUR SYMPATHY DISPLAYED  
FOR ALL SO THEY APPLAUD  
YOU SAY YOU UNDERSTAND, YOU FRAUD  
YOU BARELY KNOW MY NAME  
YOU BARELY KNOW MY NAME

THE MEDICATION IS A POISON AND THE SCIENCE INEXACT  
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE OUT THE DISEASE AND LEAVE THE BODY STILL INTACT  
BUT THE CASUALTIES ARE MOUNTING AND VICTORY'S UNSURE  
YET YOU PROMISE THAT YOU'RE HELPING CAUSE YOU CALL YOURSELF  
THE CURE

SO TAKE ME BACK TO WHEN A BAD DAY WAS A SCIENCE TEST  
AND I WOULD SHED A DOZEN TEARS FOR FEAR I WASN'T PRETTIEST  
BUT IF I WERE TO CRY NOW, THEY WOULD USE IT AS A SIGN OF HOW  
MY LIFE'S OUT OF CONTROL  
AND I CAN'T LOSE CONTROL

THE MEDICATION IS A POISON AND THE SCIENCE INEXACT  
WE'VE GOT TO TAKE OUT THE DISEASE AND LEAVE THE BODY STILL INTACT

BUT THE CASUALTIES ARE MOUNTING AND VICTORY'S UNSURE  
YET YOU PROMISE THAT YOU'RE HELPING CAUSE YOU CALL YOURSELF  
THE CURE

YOU FORCE ON ME YOUR EXPERTISE  
BUT UNDERSTAND THE CURE IS WORSE THAN THE DISEASE  
IT'S WORSE THAN THE DISEASE

5 SCENE: NATE'S HOUSE

*SETH is sitting by NATE's pool.  
NATE enters with a glass of water  
and hands it to SETH*

SETH

Thanks.

NATE

You sure you don't want anything stronger than water?

SETH

No. I can't. My mom's been making me take something at night.

NATE

Why?

SETH

Because I have trouble sleeping.

NATE

Like the pain keeps you awake?

SETH

Sometimes. Other times... I was having nightmares. Kept me up. But not anymore. She gives me a pill and I'm out.

NATE

It's that strong?

SETH

Oh, yeah. Don't dream. Don't nothing. Right till sunrise.

*A slight pause.*

NATE

You made it through your first day.

SETH

Yippie.

NATE

Let's go inside.

SETH

I like the air. Do you ever actually swim in this pool anymore?

NATE

Not really. My dad's in it every morning. Doing laps.  
(A pause)  
Think you'll swim again?

SETH

No. I don't know. Not like I did.  
(pause)  
Why didn't you ever join the team?

NATE

Not my thing. I don't like the competition. Give me my drums and a conductor any day.

SETH

That's funny. You love the structure. I love the freedom. Launching off the starting block and hitting the water... Just me.

NATE

And the roaring crowd.

SETH

No, no crowd. All the cheering is gone once you go under. The noise just disappears. And your whole body is enveloped... and weightless. I miss that.  
(Pause)  
The trial starts next week.

NATE

You going?

SETH

I don't know.

NATE

You don't have to like... witness?

SETH

I... The district attorney wants me to. But my mom says they won't force me. I didn't see anything.

NATE

What do you mean?

SETH

I didn't see anything. I mean, I remember some flashes. I know I was walking to school, and I know the light changed to walk. Everything else is a blur.

NATE

Newspaper said he was drunk.

SETH

Yeah. At seven-thirty on a Wednesday morning. He hit me, slammed into a tree and was still able to get out of his car and walk away from it.

NATE

Huh.

SETH

I remember the impact... I didn't see the car, but... I felt my feet ... in the air and... the sound. I didn't feel myself get hit, but I heard the...

*(he makes a sound like the impact.)*

NATE

Geez.

SETH

And then I was staring up at the sky. And thinking 'this can't be it.' Next thing I remember is the hospital a week later.

NATE

So... you don't want to testify.

SETH

I didn't say that.

NATE

But you don't.

SETH

I... no.

NATE

Why not?

SETH

I don't want to see his face, Nate. I don't want to look at him.

NATE

Are you... are you scared?

*(SETH doesn't respond)*

Hey, Seth, that's - I mean, people would understand that.  
You don't have to --

*TARYN enters with CODI.*

TARYN  
Why are you guys out here?

NATE  
You're home.

TARYN  
Yeah.

SETH  
(to CODI)  
Hey.

TARYN  
Codi was waiting outside. Didn't you hear the bell?

NATE  
No. We were... no.

CODI  
I was only waiting a little bit.

NATE  
Oh. ... Sorry.

TARYN  
We won.

NATE  
Cool. Right. How was the game?

TARYN  
It was fine. I mean, it was really good.

SETH  
(To CODI)  
You okay?

CODI  
Not really.

NATE  
Did you get to play?

TARYN  
Yes! I scored sixteen points.

NATE  
That's ... good?

CODI

It's very good.

NATE

Why aren't you out with them?

TARYN

Cuz I didn't want... I don't know. I may join them later.  
I need something to eat.

*TARYN goes in.*

NATE

*(shouting after her)*

I think there's celery.

SETH

Be a host.

NATE

Taryn lives here.

SETH

I mean Codi!

NATE

Oh. Sure. Do you want something? We have everything!

CODI

Orange juice?

NATE

Yeah.

CODI

Great.

NATE

What do you want in it?

CODI

... Orange juice.

NATE

That's it?

CODI

Yeah.

NATE

Everyone's so boring tonight.

*NATE goes in.*

SETH  
                    (to CODI)  
What's going on?

                                CODI  
Just... rough afternoon. They want to set up a house  
visit.

                                SETH  
Is that bad?

                                CODI  
If my aunt's not there, it's bad.

                                SETH  
What can I do?

                                CODI  
Nothing.

                                SETH  
Let me do something.

                                CODI  
What? You're going to hobble over?

                                SETH  
If it'll help, yeah! I'll say I live there too.

                                CODI  
They know you don't.

                                SETH  
So what are you going to do?

                                CODI  
I don't know. I got a message from my dad.

                                SETH  
Your dad?

                                CODI  
They called him.

                                SETH  
Why?

                                CODI  
Because if they decide I can't live with my mom, I'll be  
sent to live with him.

                                SETH  
That's a thousand miles away.



CODI

I thought I could do this, Seth. When she got sick... when she first got sick, it wasn't so bad. I helped her clean and cook, and it was fine. And as she got worse, I did more, and that was okay. I had it under control. It was all under control.

*A loud shattering of glass is heard from offstage. NATE, off-stage, curses.*

CODI (cont'd)

Then you got hit.

SETH

What?

CODI

And that one more thing...

SETH

So this is my fault.

CODI

No! It's nobody's fault.

SETH

But I pushed it over the edge. I'm the straw.

*TARYN sticks her head outside.*

TARYN

Hey, Codi, can you give me a hand?

CODI

What?

TARYN

Nate broke a glass and cut himself. He doesn't trust me to bandage him.

CODI

We're kind of in the middle of -

SETH

Go.

CODI

You sure?

SETH

He's bleeding.

CODI  
We're not done with this conversation.

SETH  
Yeah.

*CODI goes in.*

*SETH closes his eyes and lays back.*

*REEVE enters.*

REEVE  
You all right?

SETH  
What?

REEVE  
I said are you all right?

SETH  
When did you get here?

REEVE  
Just now.

SETH  
I'm.... No, I'm not.

REEVE  
What is it?

SETH  
... I'm just helpless. I've been... ever since this accident, my life's been a nightmare. And now I'm bringing Codi down with me.

REEVE  
No you're not.

SETH  
You don't understand.

REEVE  
Yeah, I do. And I know you're gonna get through this.

SETH  
How?

REEVE  
Cause I believe in you. You're strong enough.

SETH

I don't know if that's true. If Codi leaves... I just don't know what I have left.

REEVE

*(Putting a hand on SETH's shoulder)*

You have a lot left. Way more than you realize.

SETH

*(Amused by REEVE's seriousness.)*

Please. You want to read my palm, too? Tell my fortune?

REEVE

I could.

*SETH gives REEVE a funny look.*

REEVE (cont'd)

What?

SETH

I remember this.

REEVE

What.

SETH

Me ... and you.

*(The memory clicks.)*

You were there. In the hospital.

REEVE

Yeah.

SETH

After the accident. You visited?

REEVE

I did. I'm surprised you remember.

SETH

I was so out of it. You sat in my room. You stayed with me.

REEVE

I thought it would help.

SETH

I was having this awful dream. You woke me up.

REEVE

You were in pretty bad shape.

SETH

I thought only family could visit intensive care.

REEVE

My dad got me in. He pulled some strings.

SETH

Your dad?

REEVE

Yeah. He does some work there.

SETH

They said I was unconscious that entire first week.

REEVE

Yeah.

SETH

Why didn't you tell them I woke up?

REEVE

... You didn't really. You just... you barely opened your eyes.

*(Standing)*

I should probably go in and make sure our pal doesn't bleed to death.

SETH

Yeah. That was the first time I had that dream.

REEVE

You still having it?

SETH

*(A slight pause)*

Go help Nate.

**Song 04. I've Forgotten How to Dream**

SETH AND GROUP 1

THERE'S A DREAM I USED TO HAVE  
ABOUT A FUTURE IN WHICH EVERYTHING WAS GONNA FEEL ALL RIGHT  
IT WASN'T PERFECT OR PROFOUND  
JUST THE WORLD AROUND ME HONESTLY EMBRACING ME  
IN SPITE OF ALL OF MY FAILINGS

BUT NOW THE NIGHTMARE'S TAKEN HOLD  
AND I AM STRUGGLING TO BREATHE WHILE IT'S IMPALING ME  
AND THOUGH I TRY TO FIGHT IT  
I AM GETTING WEAK, AND FEEL LIKE GIVING UP  
THE NUMBNESS REACHES DEEP INSIDE MY HEART AND I'M AFRAID  
THE PAIN MAY BE PREVAILING

GROUP 2

I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM  
I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM  
I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM  
I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM  
I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW...

SETH

THE PAIN MAY BE PREVAILING

SETH AND GROUP 1

THERE'S A DREAM I USED TO HAVE  
IN WHICH YOUR LOVE FOR ME WAS ALL THAT I WOULD NEED TO BE ALL RIGHT  
I WAS HAPPY I HAD FOUND A KINDRED SPIRIT WHO COULD  
LIFT ME FROM MY MISERY AND CALMLY HELP ME STEER IT AWAY  
BUT REALITY INVADED AND YOUR LOVE FOR ME WOULD ECHO  
'CAUSE I COULDN'T LOVE MYSELF  
AND I AM GETTING WEAK AND FEEL LIKE GIVING UP  
MY HEALTH IS LACKING AND THE SHELL THAT I AM UNDERNEATH HAS SLOWLY  
STARTED CRACKING

GROUP 2

I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM ( X8 )  
(sung under the following:)

SETH AND GROUP 1

THERE'S A DARKNESS IN MY SOUL  
I TRIED TO FIGHT IT  
BUT IT'S TEARING ME APART  
AND IT'S TAKING ME AWAY  
AND IT'S TRYING TO SWALLOW ME WHOLE

THERE'S A DREAM I USED TO HAVE  
BUT LATELY I DON'T HAVE ANY DREAMS AT ALL  
I'M NOT HAPPY, I'M NOT SAD  
INSTEAD I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING AT ALL

GROUP 2

I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM

SETH AND GROUP 1

PEOPLE ASK IF I'M OKAY, I SAY I'M FINE BECAUSE  
IT'S SO MUCH EASIER TO LIE  
THEY SMILE AND PROMISE ME TOMORROW WILL BE BETTER  
I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY

I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO DREAM

*Songs ends. Stage clears except  
for SETH and CHASE. SETH sees  
CHASE. He is frightened.*

SETH  
What are you doing here?  
                                (CHASE smiles)  
Why do I keep seeing you?  
                                (CHASE shrugs)  
Go away! Leave me alone!!

                                CHASE  
No.

                                SETH  
                                (Backing away from CHASE)  
Why won't you leave me alone??

*SETH's leg give out, causing him tremendous pain. He screams, and collapses as the lights blackout, and we hear the sound of SETH falling into the pool.*

6 SCENE: PHONE CALL

6

*Dark stage. Isolated light on the 911 OPERATOR.*

                                911 OPERATOR  
911. What is your emergency?

                                TARYN (V.O.)  
We need... we need an ambulance. Please!

*There is a lot of commotion on TARYN's end of the phone. CODI and NATE's voices can be heard.*

                                911 OPERATOR  
I can dispatch one. Can you tell me what's going on?

                                TARYN (V.O.)  
He's.... Our friend fell in the pool I think he hit his head. He's not breathing.

                                911 OPERATOR  
I'm sending an ambulance to 413 Engle Drive. Is that correct?

                                TARYN (V.O.)  
Yes, it's...What is he doing?

                                911 OPERATOR  
Ma'am? Can you tell me what's going on?

TARYN (V.O.)  
No... I... What are you doing??

911 OPERATOR  
Does anyone there know CPR?

TARYN (V.O.)  
Reeve is trying to -- oh my g-d!

911 OPERATOR  
Ma'am, tell me what's happening!

*NATE and CODI can be heard in the background, shouting.*

TARYN (V.O.)  
What is that? What is he -- ?

911 OPERATOR  
Can you hear me? Ma'am? Are you there?

*TARYN is gone, but NATE and CODI can still be heard. White light begins to fill the stage.*

Hello? Is anybody there?

*The phone goes silent. The light gets brighter.*

Hello?

*The stage is overwhelmed by light. The sound of a pulse monitor in a hospital is heard. The monitor gets louder as the light fades, and the scene transitions.*

7 SCENE: THE HOSPITAL

7

*A hospital room. CODI lies in the bed, attached to a pulse monitor.*

*With a sharp inhale, CODI opens her eyes. She is not sure where she is.*

*CODI begins to get out of bed when DOCTOR RAINS enters.*

DOCTOR RAINS

Going somewhere?

I... where I am?  
CODI

The Clouds.  
DOCTOR RAINS

What?  
CODI

St. Clouds Hospital.  
DOCTOR RAINS

What happened?  
CODI

I was going to ask you.  
DOCTOR RAINS

Seth wasn't breathing. He was --  
CODI

Seth Raskus?  
DOCTOR RAINS

Yes! Is he --  
CODI

He's fine. He's here. His parents are with him.  
DOCTOR RAINS

Is he hurt?  
CODI

He's fine. What were you doing?  
DOCTOR RAINS

What?  
CODI

What was going on at the party?  
DOCTOR RAINS

It wasn't a party.  
CODI

There was shattered glass in the kitchen?  
DOCTOR RAINS

Nate. He was pouring juice and he dropped the glass.  
CODI

... And what else?  
DOCTOR RAINS



CODI  
What do you mean?

DOCTOR RAINS  
What else was he pouring?

CODI  
What? Nothing! We weren't drinking.

DOCTOR RAINS  
Okay.

CODI  
We weren't doing anything. You can test me if you want.

DOCTOR RAINS  
We did.

*CODI notices the band-aid on her  
pointer finger.*

CODI  
And?

DOCTOR RAINS  
Blood-Alcohol level was zero. Follow the light.

*RAINS takes out a small pen light,  
and shines it into CODI's eyes,  
testing her eye movement.*

CODI  
What's going on?

DOCTOR RAINS  
That is what I'm trying to figure out. That's funny...

CODI  
What?

DOCTOR RAINS  
Don't anticipate. Just follow the light.

CODI  
I'm not anticipating.

DOCTOR RAINS  
Do you know why you fell unconscious?

CODI  
No. Do I have a concussion?

*RAINS stands up, perplexed.*

DOCTOR RAINS

No...

CODI

So then, what? What's going on?

DOCTOR RAINS

When the ambulance got to your address, they found the three of you unconscious and unresponsive.

CODI

The three of us?

DOCTOR RAINS

You. Mr. Raskus. And...  
*(looking at the notes)*  
Nathaniel Deans.

CODI

What happened to Nate?

DOCTOR RAINS

He's fine. He's woken up as well.

CODI

Where's Taryn?

DOCTOR RAINS

Who?

CODI

Taryn. And Reeve.

DOCTOR RAINS

The EMT's found you three. There were other people at the party?

CODI

It wasn't a party.

DOCTOR RAINS

Did you eat anything today?

CODI

Yes. Breakfast.

DOCTOR RAINS

No lunch?

CODI

I... no, things got busy.

DOCTOR RAINS

Do you normally skip lunch?

CODI

No. Look, I'm not anorexic. What's going on?

DOCTOR RAINS

That's what I'd like to know. You were found unconscious with your friends and there are no obvious signs of trauma or evidence of drug use.

CODI

So then what happened?

DOCTOR RAINS

I'm not sure. We need to do a CT scan. See what's happening in there. And we'll need a parent's signature. We've tried to call your home...

CODI

You don't need to do that.

DOCTOR RAINS

Yes we do. You're a minor and we need to inform your parent or legal guardian. Is your mother or father...

CODI

My father lives in Florida. And my mom... doesn't answer the phone. Oh, g-d, what time is it?

DOCTOR RAINS

It's almost Eight PM.

CODI

I have to leave.

DOCTOR RAINS

I'm afraid we can't let you go until --

CODI

Yes you can.

*(A pause. RAINS is still.)*

You have too. Please? I feel fine. Let me sign myself out. I'm ... responsible... You need to understand. I need to get home. My mom needs my help, and if I'm not there.... You have to let me go.

*RAINS flips a page on the chart, then turns it towards CODI.*

DOCTOR RAINS

I'll need you to sign here ... and here. And one more form at the front desk.

CODI

*(surprised)*

.... Really? Okay, great.

*CODI signs the forms as the scene transitions to the hospital main desk.*

8 SCENE: HOSPITAL LOBBY

8

*LINDA sits at the main desk, answering phones.*

LINDA  
St. Clouds Hospital, how may I direct your call? One moment. St. Clouds Hospital, how may I direct your call? One moment.

*DOCTOR RAINS and CODI enter.*  
St. Clouds, please hold.  
*(To RAINS)*  
Yes Doctor?

DOCTOR RAINS  
Codi Hudson is signing out.

LINDA  
Okay...  
*(Pulls some paperwork)*  
Doctor, she can't sign herself out, she's...

CODI  
The doctor said I could. I'm signing out.

LINDA  
*(Backs down)*  
The doctor said you could. Very well.

*NATE enters, looking over his shoulder - he is not supposed to be in the lobby.*

NATE  
Codi! Sign me out.

CODI  
What?

NATE  
You need to sign me out, too.

CODI  
How am I supposed -

NATE

Tell them that you're my legal guardian and you're here to sign me out.

CODI

That's insane. How am I...?

LINDA

Sign here please?

CODI

(to LINDA)

Sure.

NATE

Just do it!

CODI

Okay!

(to LINDA)

I'm... um, also Nate Dean's legal guardian, and I'm here to sign him out.

LINDA

Very well, let me get the papers.

CODI

(to NATE)

What's going on?

NATE

We need to do this quickly!

CODI

Why?

LINDA

Would you sign here please?

CODI

Umm... Sure.

LINDA

Thank you. Have a good day.

CODI

Thanks.

*The phone rings. LINDA does not answer it.*

NATE

Let's go.

CODI  
Where?

NATE  
There's...  
*(He closes his eyes and thinks for a moment)*  
There's a cab out front. He'll take us home.

CODI  
You ordered a cab?

NATE  
We need to go.

*CODI and NATE exit.*

*The phones continue to ring. LINDA makes no move to answer. RAINS also does not leave the desk.*

*POWELL enters and approaches the desk.*

POWELL  
Hi, excuse me. I'm here to see my mother? She was admitted this morning.

LINDA  
Hello.

POWELL  
Her name is Jane Powell. I think she's in room 315.

LINDA  
Okay.

POWELL  
... Can you tell me where that is?

LINDA  
What?

POWELL  
Room 315.

LINDA  
Okay.

*MAYA enters.*

POWELL  
Are you all right?

What? LINDA

*MAYA approaches the desk, looking at RAINS and LINDA.*

Wake up! MAYA

*RAINS and LINDA inhale sharply. Both look around, confused.*

Doctor? Do... did you need something? LINDA

What? No, I... I have rounds. Excuse me. DOCTOR RAINS

*DOCTOR RAINS exits.*

What's going on? POWELL

I'm sorry, what did you need? LINDA

My mother - Jane Powell in room 315. POWELL

Sure - just follow that hall to the elevator. Third floor nurses' station will help you. LINDA

Thank you. POWELL

*POWELL exits.*

And you? LINDA

Seth. I'm looking for Seth. MAYA

I'm sorry, who are you? LINDA

We've met. MAYA

Oh, that's right, of course. I don't know where my head is today. Now... Seth. Do you have a last name? LINDA

MAYA

I don't. But he was admitted recently.

LINDA

Well, let's look in our system and see what we can find.

*LINDA begins typing.*

9 SCENE: SETH'S HOSPITAL ROOM

9

*SETH is sitting up (with the intention of getting out of bed) in his hospital room.*

*His parents, BARRY and SHEILA RASKUS, are hovering over him, very agitated.*

*His doctor, DOCTOR LARSEN, is in the middle.*

SETH

I'm fine!

SHEILA RASKUS

You're not fine!

SETH

Yes, I am. Doc, tell them!

DOCTOR LARSEN

You're not fine, you're lucky. You could have seriously hurt yourself. But other than your previous injuries, looks like you're okay.

BARRY RASKUS

I just don't see how you could let this happen.

SETH

I didn't let anything happen! I fell in a pool.

SHEILA RASKUS

Why were you by the pool to begin with?

SETH

Because we were hanging out. And I took a bad step and... it hurt. It, like, blinded me. I lost my balance.

SHEILA RASKUS

Oh, honey...



BARRY RASKUS

(To LARSEN)

Blinding pain? What do we do about that?

DOCTOR LARSEN

Well, we could increase the Percocet dosage.

SETH

No.

DOCTOR LARSEN

If you're still feeling pain --

SETH

I haven't been taking it.

BARRY RASKUS

What?

DOCTOR LARSEN

Really?

SHEILA RASKUS

Why not?

SETH

Cause I don't like how it makes me feel!

SHEILA RASKUS

Well that's just... silly.

DOCTOR LARSEN

How does it make you feel?

SETH

...Weird. Loopy, like nothing's real. I hate it.

DOCTOR LARSEN

Did you tell someone you stopped taking it?

SETH

... I told Codi.

SHEILA RASKUS

Oh, wonderful.

BARRY RASKUS

Did you tell anyone other than your girlfriend?

SETH

I didn't think it was a big deal.

BARRY RASKUS

We should pull him from school. Keep him home.

SETH

Dad, you don't have to do that!

BARRY RASKUS

If we can't trust you to take your own medication, you're clearly not responsible enough to take care of yourself.

SHEILA RASKUS

Maybe you're right.

SETH

It's not medication! It's a painkiller!

BARRY RASKUS

That would have kept you from nearly cracking your head open.

SHEILA RASKUS

Do the sleeping pills make you feel the same way?

SETH

No. I don't feel anything with those.

*NURSE QUINN enters with a folder.*

NURSE QUINN

Doctor? The CT scans.

DOCTOR LARSEN

Thank you.

*(LARSEN looks at the scans)*

Huh.

SHEILA RASKUS

What?

DOCTOR LARSEN

No, nothing. Like I thought - no concussion. Hardly a bruise, even.

SHEILA RASKUS

Then why are you frowning?

DOCTOR LARSEN

You have a lot of activity going on.

BARRY RASKUS

Is that bad?

DOCTOR LARSEN

It's... unusual after a head injury.

SETH

I feel fine.

DOCTOR LARSEN

It's not a bad thing.

SETH

Maybe I'm getting smarter.

BARRY RASKUS

We can only hope.

*(To the DOCTOR)*

So where do we go from here?

DOCTOR LARSEN

Well, we can change Seth's painkillers entirely.

SETH

I don't like taking them.

DOCTOR LARSEN

You don't like taking Percocet. But we can put you on something more mild.

SETH

Can't I just skip it all together?

SHEILA RASKUS

You want to feel more "blinding pain?"

SETH

I'll be careful.

BARRY RASKUS

As careful as you were crossing the street?

SETH

Dad! That wasn't my fault.

BARRY RASKUS

And neither is this.

SETH

It was an accident.

SHEILA RASKUS

You've had enough accidents for one lifetime.

SETH

Well, I'm sorry I'm such a burden.

SHEILA RASKUS

That's not ---

DOCTOR LARSEN

Let's step back for a moment.

SHEILA RASKUS

You're not a burden, honey. It's just that this has been terrifying.

DOCTOR LARSEN

Seth, she's right. You and your family have been through a pretty rough two months. You suffered a massive physical trauma in that car accident. You're still recovering. Now, you could walk away from this fully recovered. But not if you don't take care of yourself.

SETH

I'm taking care of myself.

DOCTOR LARSEN

You're not managing your pain.

SETH

.... No.

DOCTOR LARSEN

And that's what led to tonight.

SETH

Yeah, I guess.

DOCTOR LARSEN

So we need to do this better. I'll prescribe something a little softer. But if the pain continues to be this bad, maybe a few more days at home is a good idea.

SETH

I'll take the pills. I'll do better.

DOCTOR LARSEN

And you'll do a better job of telling us what's going on?

SETH

Yeah.

BARRY RASKUS

Do you mean that?

SETH

Dad, yes!

SHEILA RASKUS

Thank you, Doctor.

DOCTOR LARSEN

Of course.

INTERCOM (V.O.)

Doctor Larsen to room 422. Doctor Larsen, you're needed in room 422.

DOCTOR LARSEN

I'm sorry, I need to step out.

(To NURSE QUINN)

Will you see to their paper work?

NURSE QUINN

Of course, Doctor.

*DOCTOR LARSEN exits.*

BARRY RASKUS

Well, let's get your stuff together. You need help with your shoes?

SETH

Yeah, I guess.

BARRY RASKUS

I know this is hard for you, kiddo. It's been scary for us too.

SHEILA RASKUS

It's been a nightmare.

BARRY RASKUS

We're just doing the best we can.

NURSE QUINN

I can take you to the front desk. You can start signing him out.

BARRY RASKUS

Great.

*BARRY RASKUS and NURSE QUINN exit.*

SHEILA RASKUS

Do you need help with those buttons.

SETH

No, I got it.

*MAYA enters*

MAYA

Seth?

SETH

Yeah. Hi.

SHEILA RASKUS

Hi. Who are you?

MAYA

We've met. I'm Maya.

SHEILA RASKUS

We have? Oh, that's right. I'm sorry.

MAYA

Seth, have you seen Reeve?

SETH

No. Well, he was at Nate's.

MAYA

Since then.

SETH

I was unconscious. They brought me to the hospital.

MAYA

But he was here. I thought...

SETH

I haven't seen him.

MAYA

Something's happened.

SETH

What do you mean?

MAYA

He's hurt. I can tell. I told him this was a mistake. You're sure he hasn't been here?

SETH

Yes. I'm sorry.

MAYA

I need to find him.

*MAYA exits.*

SHEILA RASKUS

That was strange. How do you know her again?

SETH

Uh... From school. I think.

SHEILA RASKUS

Let's go meet your father. Do you need a hand?

SETH

No, I'm fine. Actually... it doesn't hurt so much right now.

*They exit.*

10 SCENE: OUTSIDE NATE'S HOUSE

*NATE and CODI can be heard exiting the cab. It drives off. They enter. NATE is distracted.*

CODI

Who paid for the cab?

NATE

It was pre-paid.

CODI

By who?

NATE

Whom. It doesn't matter.

CODI

Nate!

NATE

It doesn't matter. They've already ordered another one. They're fine.

CODI

We stole someone's cab?

NATE

No. Yes. It's fine.

CODI

Are you okay?

NATE

I'm... I don't know.

CODI

I don't understand what's happening. Seth's still in the hospital --

NATE

He's with his parents. He's fine. He's...  
*(looking into the sky)*  
...better than fine.

CODI  
Where are Taryn and Reeve?

NATE  
Taryn's in the house.  
*(He becomes confused)*  
I think... And Reeve... Reeve's gone...

CODI  
Nate, I need to go home. My mom...

NATE  
Yeah, you do.

*NATE looks at her, as if recognizing her for the first time.*

CODI  
What?

NATE  
Codi, I didn't know.

CODI  
Know what?

NATE  
Why didn't you tell anyone? Your mom...

CODI  
*(challenging)*  
What about my mom?

*A Pause.*

NATE  
Nothing. Sorry. You should go. I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

CODI  
What are you talking about?

NATE  
Nothing. You should go. Enjoy it while it lasts.

CODI  
What?

*NATE's attention wanders away.*

NATE  
Go. We'll see each other tomorrow.

CODI  
Okay. You should maybe lay down.



*CODI exits.*

*TARYN enters.*

TARYN

Nate?

*NATE looks towards TARYN but doesn't see her.*

Are you okay?

NATE

Taryn...

TARYN

What's going on?

NATE

You're here...

TARYN

Seth... he was... Is Seth okay?

NATE

Taryn?

TARYN

Nate! Where did everybody go? I woke up outside by the pool and no one was home. I've been terrified.

NATE

Okay... this is weird. I mean, I know you're there. I can hear you, but... no. No, that's not it. I can't hear you.

TARYN

Nate, are you okay?

NATE

I know what you're going to say. Like, I can remember it. But then, when you say it, I don't hear you.

TARYN

What?

NATE

This is weird.

*(Answering her first question)*

Seth's fine.

TARYN

What are you talking about?

NATE

He's going to be okay. But what happened to you? You're standing here. I mean, you're supposed to be standing here. But you're not.

TARYN

Nate, look at me.

NATE

And you think it's me.

TARYN

Look at me!

*She waves her hands in front of his face. NATE doesn't see her.*

NATE

You think something's wrong with me.

TARYN

Okay. What's going on?

NATE

Which, obviously, there is. But... whoa...

TARYN

This isn't funny, Nate. I'm really starting to freak out here.

NATE

And you're... you're going to...

*(He sees something - a good vision)*

Oh Taryn... wow.

TARYN

What?

NATE

You're gonna stop him. You're gonna be fine. You'll be great.

*(He sees more.)*

But I won't be.

*(Underscore, Song 05 intro, begins)*

*NATE exits.*

TARYN

Nate?! What's happening? Can anyone hear me?

11 SCENE: CODI'S HOUSE

11

*CODI enters her house. It is dark inside. Her mother, CAROLYN HUDSON is on the couch, sleeping. There are three pill bottles on the table.*

CODI

Mom! I'm home.

*(She sees her mother on the couch)*

Hi.

*(No response)*

I'm sorry I was late... did the nurse - what time did she leave? Have you even gotten up since this morning?

CAROLYN HUDSON

*(Muttering, unintelligibly)*

She left... I don't know. I've just been so tired today.

CODI

Are you hungry?

CAROLYN HUDSON

*(Again, muttering unintelligibly)*

I don't know. You were out so late.

CODI

I know it's late. Do you want me to make you dinner?

CAROLYN HUDSON

Mmmmm.

CODI

They're gonna come this weekend, mom. And if they see you like this, they're gonna make me leave. Can't you just... get up. Feel better.

*CAROLYN opens her eyes and sits up on the couch.*

CAROLYN HUDSON

*(Speaking clearly)*

You know, I think I do.

CODI

*(stunned)*

Ma?

CAROLYN HUDSON

What, honey?

CODI

Are you... are you okay?

CAROLYN HUDSON

I really am. And now that I think about it, I am hungry.

*CAROLYN stands up.*

CODI

Whoa, careful. Let me give you a hand.

CAROLYN HUDSON

Why? I'm fine. I haven't felt this good in years. Let's go make some dinner!

CODI

Okay...

SCENE: SETH'S HOUSE

*The RASKUS family returns home.  
SETH is trying to contain his energy.*

SHEILA RASKUS

Do you want something to eat?

SETH

I'm not really hungry. Thanks.

SHEILA RASKUS

You should eat something.

BARRY RASKUS

You're moving pretty smoothly on those things.

SETH

Yeah.

BARRY RASKUS

How are you feeling?

SETH

I'm... great. I feel great.

SHEILA RASKUS

Let me make you something. You need to eat dinner.

SETH

Okay fine.

SHEILA RASKUS

Sit.

SETH  
No... I... I want to go outside for minute.

SHEILA RASKUS  
Seth... you should rest.

SETH  
*(Exit the house)*  
I slept at the hospital.

SHEILA RASKUS  
That's not funny.

BARRY RASKUS  
Sheila, let him go. He's obviously feeling better.

SHEILA RASKUS  
Okay... I just feel like every time he's out of our sight,  
something happens.

*SETH is outside. The stage is dim.*

**Song 05. Flying**

*As the opening verse is sung, SETH  
drops his crutches.*

SETH  
THE WEIGHT LIFTS OFF MY FEET  
THE AIR SURROUNDS ME, I'M NOT EVEN TRYING  
MY LEGS RELAX, MY HEART EXPLODES, MY G-D, I FEEL COMPLETE  
NOW I CAN SEE, I WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE HERE,  
I AM FLYING

*Lights up. SETH is mid-air and  
flying.*

YOU CAN'T CATCH ME  
YOU CAN'T REACH ME  
YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME  
I'M FAR FROM YOUR GRASP AND I'M FREE  
THE PAIN'S BEHIND ME  
NOTHING CAN CONFINE ME  
STARS HAVE REALIGNED INTO A NEW REALITY

I WAS TOLD IT'S NOT ALLOWED  
TO KEEP MY HEAD UP IN THE CLOUDS  
BUT MY SIGHT'S PERFECTLY CLEAR WAY UP IN THE STRATOSPHERE  
LET GO ALL MY DREAMS OF DYING NOW THAT I'M ACTUALLY FLYING

YOU CAN'T CATCH ME  
YOU CAN'T REACH ME  
YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME

I'M FAR FROM YOUR GRASP AND I'M FREE  
THE PAIN'S BEHIND ME  
NOTHING CAN CONFINE ME  
STARS HAVE REALIGNED INTO A NEW REALITY

SO KEEP ME AWAY FROM THE WINDOWS  
AND DON'T LET ME NEAR THE SCENIC VIEW  
NOW THAT I'VE FOUND MY PLACE IN THE AIR  
TELL ME WHY WOULD I STAY DOWN THERE ON THE GROUND WITH YOU?

I'M FLYING  
I'M FLYING  
I'M ---

*An airplane rushes past SETH,  
blowing him (momentarily) off  
course.*

*(Spoken:)*

Whoa.

*Blackout.*

**END OF ACT I**

Perusal Script - Do Not Duplicate