

Now and Then

A new musical

Music and Lyrics

by

Dennis Manning

Story and Book

by

Ronnie Larsen

*All-Male Version

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Character List

Two characters played by 6 actors.

Daniel 1 - 20's

Greg 1 - 20's

Daniel 2 - Mid 30's

Greg 2 - Mid 30's

Daniel 3 - 50's and older

Greg 3 - 50's and older

18 Song List - 54 Minutes of Music

Solitary Man - 3:46 (MP3)

Long Stemmed Red Rose 4:16 (MP3)

Look at Me - 2:45 (MP3)

Good Morning - 2:45 (MP3)

Don't Get Caught in the Rain 4:23 (MP3)

Now and Then - 3:50 (MP3)

Captured 4:39 (MP3)

Look at Me Reprise - 2:45 (MP3)

Castles 5:33 (MP3)

When I Get Through 4:16 (MP3)

Coming Home 4:45 (MP3)

Fall in Love Everyday 3:36 (MP3)

Say Them 4:57 (MP3)

I Remember Love 4:10 (MP3)

Solitary Man Reprise 3:46 (MP3)

Total Music: 56:52

Show Running Time: 100 Minutes.

There is one intermission.

SCENE: PROLOGUE - TUNE UP

Daniel 3, enters, sits in a spotlight tunes his guitar, plays a few notes then plays the instrumental intro to "Don't Get Caught in the Rain" as theater slowly goes dark.

In the blackout the music continues to play.

SCENE: "YOU'RE ON NEXT"

Lights up on a young man with a guitar case. He kneels down on the ground and removes his guitar and puts the strap around his neck. Closes the guitar case.

He begins to tune it though we don't hear it cause the intro to "Don't Get Caught in the Rain" is still playing.

Greg 1 enters with a clipboard.

Intro music ends.

GREG 1
Daniel?

DANIEL 1
Yep?

GREG 1
You ready?

DANIEL 1
Yep.

GREG 1
Okay, you're on next. I'm gonna make a few jokes then I'm gonna say our final performer is Daniel Manning and you just come out and do your thing. Got it?

DANIEL 1
Yep.

GREG 1
Daniel, darling, do you know any words besides, "yep".

DANIEL 1
Nope.

GREG 1
(sarcastic)
Adorable.
(beat)
Okay, you're almost on. Don't suck.

The instrumental returns to cover the transition.

Daniel 1 exits, Daniel 3 exits.

SCENE: OPEN MIC

Greg 1 enters and walks into a spotlight downstage holding a clipboard.

GREG 1

(to audience)

You guys have been such a great audience. I just want to thank you again for coming out tonight to Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night, hosted by me, Greg. Okay, we have one final performer. I save the worst for last so if you want to go home now you won't miss anything. Okay, let's make some noise for our next performer, he came all the way from a little town called Nowhere, Texas so let's give him a big old warm: "yeehaw."

(beat)

Oh come on, you can do better than that. Here we go, on the count of three, one, two, three, YEEHAW! Please put your hands together for the one and only, according to him, Daniel Manning!

Daniel 1 enters wearing a white t-shirt, jeans and an off-white cowboy hat. Smiles, nervous, sits center stage. He is both nervous and charismatic. Awkward but sexy. He has an instant rapport and connection with the audience. He should make eye contact with as many of the audience members as he can during his song.

DANIEL 1

I'm actually not from Texas. I just dress like it.

(MORE)

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

So, I actually wrote this song
the summer after I graduated
high school...I felt free as a
bird but also sort of lost and
lonely...so, I hope you like
it.

Song - Solitary Man

Slow at first and intense. Draw the audience in.
Don't give them too much yet.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

Wet leaves and misty days
Make up my longing ways
A bird flies to the east
Leaving me behind
Run to try and catch the wind
Stand apart let no one in
The wind sounds like laughter
As it moves away

Builds musically as he stands up and quickly moves
downstage.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 smile at each other. Greg 1
likes the song and nods his head to the music.
Louder and faster.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(singing)

I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
(shared note)

Me

Daniel 2 & 3 enter in the foreground in the same outfit as Daniel 1 and they sing together but do not acknowledge each other.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)
(singing)
Solitude my fortress strong
Loneliness is my song
The heart does not change
It tries to re-arrange

DANIEL 2
(singing)
Harmony with just one voice
Sing alone
I've made the choice
No broken hearts
No tears to see
I sing my songs for me

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
(singing)
I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
And who's to really know
I'm an altogether man
Playing a one man band
I play for no one
No one plays for me

The Daniels go and sit in a line downstage.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)
Solo plays and single days
The monologue's the same

DANIEL 3
No actors here
To play the parts

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
 Learn the rules from the start
 No one to break the heart
 No one to play the game
 Solitaire's the name

DANIEL 1
 (singing)
 I'm a solitary man
 Playing all alone
 I can cheat the deck
 And who's to really know

They stand and spread along the edge of the stage.

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
 I'm an altogether man
 Playing a one man band
 I play for no one
 No one plays for me

Daniel 2 & Daniel 3 drift behind Daniel 1 so they disappear behind him and become 1 person then they turn and exit leaving Daniel 1 alone again center stage.

DANIEL 1
 (singing)
 Solitary
 (5 seconds)
 All-together
 (5 seconds)
 Man

Song ends.

Greg 1 goes to center stage.

GREG 1
 Wow, that was awesome, thank
 you so much, Daniel. I loved
 that song.
 (MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

It sort of sounded like John Denver...if John Denver had writers block.

(laughs at his joke)

I'm kidding. I thought he was great. I thought you were great, Daniel. I'm actually a solitary woman so we'd be a perfect couple. I'm just kidding, Daniel. Actually, I'm not kidding. I'm a sucker for a man in a cowboy hat. Oh, wait, that came out wrong...well you know what I meant. Okay, so that's our show. Go home. It's over. You were a horrible audience so don't come back next week even though we'll have much better performers. And remember to tell your friends they have to see Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night, hosted by me, Greg, right here, every Tuesday in the student union except during vacations and finals week. Have a great night everybody and remember, since most of you don't have cars, Don't Drink and Walk. It's not pretty. Thanks again for coming. See you next week!

Guitar underscoring for the scene transition.

Caught in the Rain reprise

SCENE: BACKSTAGE - POST SHOW

Daniel 1 is back on one knee putting his guitar in its case as Greg 1 approaches him, Greg 1 is still holding his clipboard. Greg 1 studies Daniel 1 for a bit before he speaks.

GREG 1
So, are you really a solitary
man?

Daniel, stops, looks up at him and chuckles.

DANIEL 1
Sure.

GREG 1
Perfect. Me, too. We could be
great friends. Two solitary
men.

DANIEL 1
You don't seem very solitary.
Your "fabulously...fabulous"
show was packed.

GREG 1
Well, it was free.

DANIEL 1
It was still packed.

GREG 1
They got their money's worth.

DANIEL 1
Seems like you have a
"fabulous" following

GREG 1
Well you can be fabulous and
solitary at the same time.

DANIEL 1
Did you pick the name?

GREG 1
You don't like it?

DANIEL 1
Sure, it's very..."fabulous."

GREG 1

Don't make fun of my show. I didn't make fun of your song.

DANIEL 1

Actually, you did. You said I sounded like John Denver if John Denver had writers block.

GREG 1

I was gonna say you sound like John Denver after the plane went down but...

DANIEL 1

You're bad.

GREG 1

Oh relax. I make fun of everyone. Don't be flattered.

DANIEL 1

Well thanks for me letting me be in your show.

GREG 1

Daniel, I loved your song. Seriously. I loved it. You're very talented.

DANIEL 1

But...?

GREG 1

No buts. I loved it.

DANIEL 1

I can't tell when you're joking or being serious.

GREG 1

I'm serious. I loved your song. If you want to come back next week I'll get you in again.

DANIEL 1

Really?

GREG 1

Sure. You can do that song again...or if...do you have other songs?

DANIEL 1

I gotta bunch of songs.

GREG 1

Really? Wow. Awesome. I'd love to hear 'em.

DANIEL 1

Okay, that'd be cool.

GREG 1

Great, it's a date. When?

DANIEL 1

When what?

GREG 1

When do I get to hear all your other songs.

DANIEL 1

I don't know.

GREG 1

How 'bout right now?

DANIEL 1

Right here.

GREG 1

No silly, back in my dorm room. I have my own room. I lucked out. Want to see it? It's really nice.

DANIEL 1

I know what a dorm room looks like.

GREG 1

Not mine.

Long awkward silence.

DANIEL 1

Probably another night's
better.

GREG 1

Why whadda you have a date? I
thought you were a solitary
man. I hope you didn't just
sing a bunch of lies to my
audience.

Another long awkward silence.

DANIEL 1

Are you hitting on me?

GREG 1

Are you joking??? Of course
I'm hitting on you. I'm a
sucker for a guy in a cowboy
hat.

Daniel 1 takes off the hat. Greg 1 sees Daniel's
whole face for the first time.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

(repulsed)

Oh, hell no. Maybe another
time. Adios. See you around.

Greg 1 turns and quickly walks away.

DANIEL 1

(singing loudly, silly)

"You fill up my senses
Like a night in a forest".

Greg turns on a dime and goes back.

GREG 1

Now, that's a song! And I would fill up your senses...if you were a census taker.

DANIEL 1

That's not funny.

GREG 1

Well they can't all be winners. So what are we doing?

Daniel 1 is nervous.

DANIEL 1

What do you mean what are we doing?

GREG 1

I mean what are we doing? What do you wanna do?

(pause)

Hello?

DANIEL 1

You make me nervous.

GREG 1

I make everyone nervous. It's part of my charm.

DANIEL 1

You really want to hear more music tonight?

GREG 1

If it's good.

DANIEL 1

Well I'm sure you'll tell me.

GREG 1

I'm always honest. I never lie. It's too much work. What about you?

DANIEL 1

I just spent 2 years in a seminary studying to be a Priest so I try to be honest.

GREG 1

A Priest??? No way.

DANIEL 1

Yep.

GREG 1

Wow. That's crazy. I use to date a Priest.

DANIEL 1

Really?

GREG 1

Yeah, when I was 8. But it didn't work out. When I turned 10 he dumped me for a younger guy.

DANIEL 1

You're sick, you know that.

GREG 1

You have no idea. You ready?

DANIEL 1

No.

GREG 1

Good, let's go.

Lights transition to a tight spotlight on Daniel 3 who has been on stage the whole time watching this scene.

SCENE: SOLITARY MAN REPRISE

DANIEL 3

Solitary
Altogether man

SCENE: DORM ROOM

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter the dorm room thru the door as the Solitary Man reprise fades out.

DANIEL 1

Wow, this room is amazing. It looks like every other single dorm room I've ever seen. Your decorating skills are impressive.

GREG 1

Almost as impressive as your Garth Brooks impersonation.

DANIEL 1

Wow, you're actually a funny guy. I didn't realize that while watching your stand-up routine tonight.

GREG 1

You're hateful, get the hell out.

DANIEL 1

Nope. You're stuck with me now. You ready?

GREG 1

This better be good. Okay go.

DANIEL 1

Are you gonna talk the whole time?

GREG 1

Okay, go!

DANIEL 1

Okay, this is a new song I'm working on. It's not quite finished but...it's a love song but don't get all excited. I wrote it way before I met you.

GREG 1
Just play it.

DANIEL 1
Ok here we go.

He begins to play the intro.

GREG 1
Wait.

Daniel 1 stops playing.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
I think it will sound better if
you take your shirt off.

DANIEL 1
How much money you got?

Daniel 1 starts over.

GREG 1
No. Stop. It's horrible.
Horrible. What else do you
have?

Both laughing.

DANIEL 1
You're going to hell. And I
would know.

GREG 1
Can't I just confess my sins to
you.

DANIEL 1
I don't have that much time.
Now shut up.

He starts over again.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
(singing)
Maybe you could help me
(MORE)

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

To write a love song
Just maybe
If you tell me how you feel
When you look in my eyes
It's no surprise
I've fallen for you
I sing a tune
To the sound of your name
You are a long, stem, red rose
A glass of champagne
The tide
As it ebbs and flows
On the shoreline
Of my heart
You are a long, stem, red rose
And the fragrant autumn air
I long to lay beside you
I long to be right there

GREG 1

(speaking)
I like it.

DANIEL 1

(speaking)
Really.

GREG 1

(speaking)
Yes.

DANIEL 1

(speaking)
Really?

GREG 1

(speaking)
Yes. I like it.

DANIEL 1

(speaking)
Don't lie.

GREG 1

(speaking)
I like it.

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
I didn't say I loved it. I
said I liked it. I'm not
giving you a Grammy or
anything...yet. Keep singing.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Maybe you could tell me
Your favorite story

GREG 1
(speaking)
I could actually.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Could I be the prince
On the white horse
That comes to carry you away

GREG 1
(speaking)
Would that make me the
princess?

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Make a wish
And count to three
There is magic in the air

GREG 1
(speaking)
One, two, three...

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Let's weave a tale of life
That goes on and on and on.
(speaking)
You know this part, feel free
to sing along.

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1
(singing)
You are a long
(MORE)

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1 (CONT'D)

Stem, red rose
 A glass of champagne.
 The tide
 As it ebbs and flows
 On the shoreline of my heart

DANIEL 1

(singing)
 You are a long, stem, red rose
 And the fragrant autumn air
 I long to lay beside you
 I long to be right there

GREG 1

(speaking)
 Honestly, it's a little sappy.

DANIEL 1

(speaking)
 Hey, hey, hey...

GREG 1

(speaking)
 I'm not sure about the whole
 Red Rose thing...it's a little
 cliché'd...how 'bout something
 more practical instead...like
 "You are an ATM debit card
 Or A dog that never poops."

DANIEL 1

(singing)
 Isn't love just like the
 Setting sun
 Isn't love just like the wind
 Isn't love just like the
 Falling rain?
 Rain on me
 Rain on me

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1

(singing)
 You are a long, stem, red rose
 A glass of champagne.
 The tide
 As it ebbs and flows
 (MORE)

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1 (CONT'D)

On the shoreline of my heart
You are a long, stem, red rose
And the fragrant autumn air
I long to lay beside you
I long to be right there

DANIEL 1

(singing)

I long to lay beside you
I long to be right
There

Song ends.

GREG 1

(speaking)

It's lovely. It sounds like
what you'd get if Kenny Rogers
and Neil Diamond had sex and
gave birth to a really
untalented love child.

DANIEL 1

Thank you. I'm taking that as
a compliment. I actually wrote
it in the seminary.

GREG 1

For a nun? Or for a Bishop?

DANIEL 1

Well, that's a good question.

GREG 1

And the answer is...?

DANIEL 1

Take a guess.

GREG 1

The Bishop.

DANIEL 1

No. Wishful thinking.

GREG 1
Straight?

DANIEL 1
Ummmm. No.

GREG 1
No? Hmm. Interesting. Bi?

DANIEL 1
Maybe.

GREG 1
Celibate?

DANIEL 1
Sort of.

GREG 1
Confused?

DANIEL 1
Bingo!

GREG 1
Really?

DANIEL 1
Yeah.

GREG 1
What are you confused about?

Daniel 1 is silent.

He thinks.

Long silence.

Greg 1 slowly leans in and kisses him.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
Still confused?

DANIEL 1
Very.

Greg 1 leans in and kisses him a second time.

GREG 1
What about now?

DANIEL 1
Less confused.

Greg leans in and kisses him for a longer time.

GREG 1
And now?

DANIEL 1
Not confused at all.

They kiss again.

Daniel 3 plays a sweet instrumental as Daniel 1 and Greg slowly kiss and slowly lie down on the bed together. They remain fully clothed. The only light is on Daniel 3 who sings.

The song begins at the 1:20 minute mark in the song.

DANIEL 3
(singing)
Maybe you could tell me
Your favorite story
Could I be the prince
On the white horse
That comes to carry you away
Make a wish
And count to three
There is magic in the air
Let's weave a tale of life
That goes on and on and on.

Dim lights back up on dorm room. It is 4am and Daniel 1 and Greg 1 are now asleep.

Music begins

Song: Look at Me

Daniel 3 plays guitar.

Greg 1 sits up in bed. Daniel 1 remains asleep.

Greg 1 worries he might be falling in love too fast.
He sings to himself not to the audience.

GREG 1

(singing)

Sometimes I fall in love
Too hard
Too fast
For too long
For today
It never seems to last
Some days I say
"I'll never fall again"
For a while
But then I see your smile
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance

Daniel wakes up suddenly.

DANIEL 1

Hey.

Music stops suddenly.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

You okay?

GREG 1

Yep.

DANIEL 1

What are you doing?

GREG 1

Just thinking

DANIEL 1
You should be sleeping...next
to me...right now.

Daniel 1 jumps out of bed.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
But first I gotta pee.

GREG 1
That's romantic.

DANIEL 1
Be right back

Daniel exits, shutting the door.

Music resumes.

GREG 1
(singing)
When I saw you
I fell so hard

Daniel suddenly swings the door back open and pops
his head in. Music and singing stop.

DANIEL 1
Hey!

They look at each other...Daniel 1 is very happy.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
Don't go anywhere.

Daniel 1 exits. Greg resumes singing.

GREG 1
(singing)
When I saw you
I fell so hard

Again, Daniel 1 suddenly swings the door back open
and pops his head in. Music and singing stop.

DANIEL 1

Hey, I'm serious, don't go
anywhere.

Daniel 1 exits. Greg is about to sing again but
right as he opens his mouth, he stops, stares at the
door and waits for Daniel 1 to burst in again.
Daniel 1, doesn't Greg resumes singing.

GREG 1

(singing)

When I saw you
I fell so hard
So fast
So long to the past
And the other loves I've known
You said I'd never be
Alone again
I could rest
In the shelter of your arms
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
I will stand in the rain
I will walk through the fire
I have waited a lifetime
For your love
I will sing to you at night
Come and meet me in my dreams
Oh, talk to me
Stay with me
Look at me

Greg builds that final note on "me" as the door
suddenly flies open again and the music cuts out
suddenly.

DANIEL 1

I'm back.

GREG 1
How was it?

DANIEL 1
All good.

GREG 1
I missed you.

DANIEL 1
I missed you, too.

They kiss.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
Aren't you tired?

GREG 1
I'm okay.

DANIEL 1
Come on lets go to sleep.

Greg sings to him now but its as if they're talking

GREG 1
(singing)
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1
(singing)
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
Look at me
Honey, give my heart a chance

They kiss and the lights fade to black.

Song ends.

"Don't Get Caught In The Rain" intro vamp begins
played by Daniel 3

SCENE: GOOD MORNING - KITCHEN

Daniel 2 is off-stage.

Greg 2 enters, we are in a kitchen in the morning and
Greg 2 is rushing to make coffee and toast and get
out the door. Things are tense.

GREG 2
(speaking)
Daniel!?!?! Daniel?!?!?! Come
on, dude. I'm gonna be so
late. Daniel. Daniel???
Seriously.

Vamp ends.

DANIEL 2
(speaking, off-stage)
One second!!! I can't find my
keys.

GREG 2
I have them.

DANIEL 2
You have the keys?

GREG 2
Yes, I have the keys, let's go.

DANIEL 2
Do you have my wallet?

GREG 2
Yes, I have your wallet.

DANIEL 2
One second.

GREG 2
I don't have a second.

DANIEL 2
One second.

GREG 2
I'm just gonna go. I'll see
you later.

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
Hold on, I'm ready.

Daniel 2 enters, wearing a cowboy hat like the one
Daniel 1 was wearing.

The music vamp becomes "Good Morning"

Song - Good Morning

GREG 2
(speaking)
Seriously, dude? Every time.

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
Good morning to you, too,
handsome.

GREG 2
(speaking)
"Good morning to me."

DANIEL 2
(singing)
"Good morning"
I said
And you
Jumped out of bed
Its funny how things change
Or do dreams re-arrange
What you know to be true
In the night
They say
"Looks different
In the light of the day"

GREG 2

(singing)

We're on the
Wrong side of love, baby
Let's switch side
This fighting thing
It's just not our style
Let's stop
And start this again

DANIEL 2

(singing)

"Good morning" again
And you tossed me a pen
You said

GREG 2

(singing)

"That I can't listen now
But could you write it down"

DANIEL 2

(singing)

All the things that I need you
To hear from my heart
Some how I don't think
This is the way to start

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2

(singing)

We're on the wrong side
Of love, baby
Let's switch sides
This fighting thing
It's just not our style
Let's stop
And start this again

DANIEL 2

(singing)

It's not "you" you say
"It's me"

GREG 2

(singing)

It's just a

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)
 Momentary compromise
 In our otherwise
 Picture-perfect
 "white picket fence"
 Of the dream that we live
 Don't worry I'll be fine

DANIEL 2
 (singing)
 You said "I'll be fine"
 Don't worry
 We'll be just fine

They get ready to leave by putting on jackets and grabbing umbrellas. Daniel 2 pours himself a cup of coffee.

GREG 2
 (singing)
 "Good morning"
 You say
 Hey
 It's another day

DANIEL 2
 (singing)
 So, stop all this moaning

GREG 2
 (singing)
 I was just hormoning
 So pass me the chocolate
 And pass me the wine
 Let's get on
 With our prime-time love

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2
 (singing)
 "Good morning" I said
 "Good morning" you say

Light back up on the dorm room.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 are now sitting up in bed smiling at each other. Daniel 1 is still wearing his cowboy hat.

DANIEL 1 & 2 AND GREG 1 & 2
(singing)
Good morning again
Hey
It's another day

Song ends.

SCENE: COLLEGE MORNING

GREG 1
You are so damn sexy in that
cowboy hat

Daniel 1 removes the cowboy hat.

DANIEL 1
And now.

GREG 1
Not so much. Don't ever take
it off.

SCENE: BACK TO THE KITCHEN

Daniel 2 is finishing a cup of coffee.

GREG 2
You're really gonna wear that
hat? Really?

DANIEL 2
Why not?

GREG 2
To the chiropractor?

DANIEL 2
So.

GREG 2
Daniel, it's a doctor's office,
not a rodeo.

DANIEL 2
It's raining?

GREG 2
Whatever, I don't have time for
this, let's just go.

Greg 2 opens his umbrella and exits.

SCENE: "WHAT'S THE PLAN STAN?"

GREG 1
So what's the plan Stan?

DANIEL 1
You tell me.

GREG 1
What do you want to do today?

DANIEL 1
Whatever you want to do.

GREG 1
What do you want to do?

DANIEL 1
I'm happy right here.

GREG 1
Me, too. It's raining pretty
hard. Maybe we should stay in
bed all day. Stay dry. Stay
warm.

DANIEL 1
Sounds good to me.

GREG 1
Play me another song.

Song - Don't Get Caught in the Rain

SCENE: CAUGHT IN THE RAIN

Daniel 3 plays the intro while Daniel 1 goes and gets his guitar.

DANIEL 1
(singing)
It's another early
Morning sunrise
The birds sing their song
The sunlight
Dances on the waves
And I recall
That certain look
In your eyes

Daniel 2 and Greg 2 enter with umbrellas, rushing to their car, they quickly close their umbrellas and jump in the car. They begin to drive. Greg 2 begins to drive while Daniel 2 stares out the window.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)
(singing and playing)
Please do not leave me
In the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh the sky is red
So I guess you best take care
Don't get caught in the rain
Don't get caught in the rain

Daniel 1 & 3 continue to play.

GREG 2
(singing)
I pack my bags
And get into the car
Heading out west
To see the setting sun

DANIEL 3
(singing)
I am haunted
By the memory of your face
And the final words
(MORE)

DANIEL 3 (CONT'D)

I said to you
I said

GREG 1 & 2 AND DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(singing)

Please
Do not leave me in the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh, the sky is red
So I guess you best take care
Don't get caught
In the rain
Don't get caught
In the rain

DANIEL 2

(singing)

My love for you
Is deeper than the sea
Let me fill your night
With song

GREG 2

(singing)

My love for you
Is deeper than the sea
Let me fill your night
With song

GREG 1

(singing)

Let me enlighten
Your days

Music pauses.

SCENE: FIRST CAR CONVERSATION

GREG 2

(speaking)

We're here.

Daniel 2 puts back on his cowboy hat.

DANIEL 2

You ready?

GREG 2

My God, it's pouring.

DANIEL 2

You ready?

GREG 2

Are you really gonna wear that?

DANIEL 2

I remember a time when you
never wanted me to take it off.

GREG 2

That was a long time ago.

DANIEL 2

Yeah, that's when we were
actually in love.

A big long silence.

GREG 2

Don't say that.

DANIEL 2

I'm just saying...

GREG 2

I can't do this right now.
Just wear the hat. Let's go.

Music resumes where it left off.

SCENE: CAUGHT IN THE RAIN - PART 2

Daniel 1 and Daniel 3 resume playing. They should play a few seconds of instrumental intro to cover the exit of Daniel 2 and Greg 2 before singing the lyrics.

Greg 3 enters upstage with an umbrella.

Greg 2 exits the car, open his umbrella and leaves Daniel 2 behind. Daniel 2 exits the car wearing his cowboy hat, starts to exit, changes his mind, returns to the car, leaves his cowboy hat in the car. Daniel 2 exits.

DANIEL 1

(singing)

It's another early morning
Sunrise
I turn to you
And you smile

GREG 1

(singing)

There's a certain sadness
When I look into your eyes
I hope that you are
Here to stay

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1

(singing)

Don't go away

GREG 1 & 3 AND DANIEL 1 & 3

Please
Do not leave me in the morning
Don't sail into my life
And then sail away
Oh, the sky is red
I guess you best take care

Greg 3 enters in a raincoat with an umbrella.

DANIEL 1

(singing)

Don't get caught in the rain

GREG 3

(singing)

Don't get caught in the rain

Greg 3 sits and watches Daniel 3 play and sing.

DANIEL 3
(singing)
Oh don't get caught
In the

Song Ends.

SCENE: TIME TO SELL

Greg 3 and Daniel 3 sit in silence. Thinking.
Finally Greg 3 breaks the silence

GREG 3
(thinking)
HMMMMMMMMM.

DANIEL 3
(mirroring him)
"HMMMMMMMMM."

GREG 3
(beat)
So what's going on here?

DANIEL 3
Nothing much.

GREG 3
(thinking)
HMMMMM.

DANIEL 3
(mirroring him)
"HMMMMM."

GREG 3
The kids across the street
toilet papered Joe and Linda's
house and it's pouring now and
it's a mess and they'll never
get all that toilet that paper
out of the grass.

DANIEL 3
That's funny.

GREG 3

Not if you're Joe and Linda.

(beat)

So what's really going on here?

DANIEL 3

Nothing much.

GREG 3

No. I mean that.

(indicating guitar)

What's up with that, thing?

DANIEL 3

I don't know. I was bored. I guess it's time again.

GREG 3

Really?

DANIEL 3

I guess. Maybe. I don't know. I think so.

GREG 3

You think so or know so?

DANIEL 3

I know so.

GREG 3

That's wonderful.

DANIEL 3

Maybe. Hopefully.

GREG 3

I think the last time you played was at your Mom's funeral.

DANIEL 3

Yep. Two years ago in May.

GREG 3

You okay?

DANIEL 3

I'm fine. How are you?

GREG 3

I'm fine. Mitchell knows a guy who knows a guy who knows a great realtor. He's gonna get me his number. He's gay. Mitchell's heard great things about him. And Mitchell thinks if the house is staged right we should have no problem selling it.

DANIEL 3

Is that what Mitchell thinks.

GREG 3

It's what he said.

DANIEL 3

But Mitchell isn't a real estate agent.

GREG 3

That's true but when he sold his house he made some nice money.

DANIEL 3

I don't want to sell our house. I love this house. We've had a lot of great fights in this house. Greg, this is our home. I don't want someone else living in our home.

GREG 3

And what happens when I'm gone? This house is a lot of work.

DANIEL 3

You're not going anywhere.

GREG 3

Ok, if you say so.

DANIEL 3

I say so.

GREG 3

So other than the fact that you don't want to sell a house that is way too big for one person.

DANIEL 3

Two people.

GREG 3

For now.

DANIEL 3

Forever.

They sit in silence.

GREG 3

I could really use a kiss.

DANIEL 3

Really?

Greg 3 gets up and goes over to Daniel 3. They begin to kiss.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 also kiss.

The kiss is tender not "hot and heavy".

Daniel 3 begins to play the intro to Now and Then which underscores Greg's monologue.

SCENE: NOW & THEN INTRO

Song: Now And Then (underscore)

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 enter under the umbrella and get back in the car.

Spotlight only on Greg 2 and Daniel 2

GREG 2

(speaking)

Listen, I'm sorry I was such a jerk this morning. I'm sorry.

Now and Then music intro continues.

SCENE: CAR MONOLOGUE - GREG 2

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

It would just be really nice if we got somewhere on time once in a while. I just feel like I'm always 20 minutes behind. We've talked about this endlessly. It really stresses me out when I'm late but you don't seem to care. Do you understand that it stresses me out? I don't like starting my day totally stressed out. It screws my whole day up. I feel like I can never catch my breath. We're just always running. Running. Running. But I'm sorry. I shouldn't yell at you. I'm sorry. I love you. But, Daniel, you make me crazy sometimes. And it's getting worse. I'm being honest. Some days I want to just...I just...I feel out of control...you focus on your music and I focus on everything else and it doesn't feel balanced. It's too much for me to work full time, manage the money, clean the house, and then when I ask you to just be ready to go somewhere, on time, you can't even do that. I'm not asking for a lot. Just respect that I'm a lot busier than you.

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

I would love to stay home all day and write music but then who would pay the bills? I love you. I love you like crazy. I love you more today than I did yesterday. And I don't just love you but I'm in love with you. So it really hurts me when you say, "Yeah, that's when we were actually in love." Like we aren't in love anymore?!?! That's a really crappy thing to say. Would I work 10 hours a day and support us if I didn't love you...if I didn't believe in you...if I didn't believe in us...Daniel, listen to me, I know you're gonna be big one day. I know it. There's no doubt in my mind. I know you're gonna get rich and famous and I'll quit working and we'll live happily ever after. I know that's gonna happen...but it hasn't happened yet...and it may not happen soon...so until it does...can you just work with me here? Can we just try to get somewhere on time...

Daniel 1 joins the vamp with his own delicate underscoring.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Just once? Is that possible?
Are you gonna say anything? Do
you hate me?

SCENE: NOW AND THEN SONG

Song - Now and Then

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Maybe you could tell me

(MORE)

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

Why it is
 That I want you
 When so many times
 You cast me away
 Maybe some night
 You'll turn to find
 I've gone away

GREG 2

(singing)

Now and then I fall again
 A gentle touch from you
 And I fall again
 Now & then
 I fall again
 For you

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Maybe I could tell you
 What it is
 That you do for me
 If only I knew why I fall
 Now and then it seems that I
 Fall deeper into your eyes

Lights up on the other two couples.

This next paragraph should be a great contrast between Greg/Daniel 1, Greg/Daniel 2, Greg/Daniel 3. Greg/Daniel 1 are full of pure optimism and joy and puppy love and Greg/Daniel 2 are much more conflicted about their feelings and Greg/Daniel 3 are content and settled.

DANIEL 1 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(singing)

Now and then I fall again
 A gentle touch from you
 (harmonizing)
 And I fall again
 Now and then
 I fall again
 For you

GREG 2

(singing)

As you turn to hold me
"I love you" you say

DANIEL 2

(singing)

But you say "I love you"
A thousand times every day

GREG 2

(singing)

After the FALL you say
"Your time is through"
I'd take that fall again
If you'd fall, too

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Now and then it seems that I
Fall deeper
Into your eyes

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3

(singing)

Now & then I fall again
A gentle touch from you
And I fall again
Now and then I fall again
For you

DANIEL 1 & GREG 1

(singing)

Now and then I fall again
For you

DANIEL 2 & GREG 2

(singing)

Now and then I fall again
For you

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(singing)

Now and then I fall again
For you
Now and then I fall again

(MORE)

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
For you
Now and then I fall again
For you

Song ends.

SCENE: FINAL CAR SCENE

DANIEL 2
(speaking)
We need to have more fun.

GREG 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2
Less fighting, more laughing?

GREG 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2
More sex.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2
I agree.

DANIEL 2
So we agree on everything. So
what's the problem?

GREG 2
I don't know.

DANIEL 2
Gimme a kiss.

Underscoring, upbeat, quiet and steady...slowly
building.

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
Let's go do something.
Something fun. What do you
want to do?

GREG 2
I don't know.

DANIEL 2
I do.

GREG 2
What?

DANIEL 2
It's a surprise.

GREG 2
I'm nervous.

DANIEL 2
Let me drive.

GREG 2
Where are we going?

DANIEL 2
Trust me. Come on.

They switch seats.

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
Ready?

GREG 2
I'm not sure.

DANIEL 2
You're gonna like it. Buckle
up.

The music gets louder. We are now in a bar. Neon
beer signs slide in. Dance floor lights are pulsing.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter, Daniel 1 is holding a
bottle of beer. Greg sits and changes shoes.

SCENE: COUNTRY WESTERN BAR

GREG 1
How come I've never been here.

DANIEL 1
Because you're boring.

GREG 1
I don't line dance.

DANIEL 1
You do tonight.

GREG 1
I don't know how.

DANIEL 1
I'll teach you. It's easy.

GREG 1
I hope you're a better teacher
than you are a singer.

DANIEL 1
There's a lot of other cowboys
in here that would love to have
me sing to them...

GREG 1
Oh yeah, a line around the
block.

Daniel 1 puts Greg 1 in a playful headlock.

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
Uncle! Uncle!

DANIEL 1
I'm not your Uncle. I'm your
partner.

GREG 1
"Partner???" Is that official?
You've never used that word
before.

DANIEL 1

No. It was a mistake. I
didn't mean partner. I meant
fiance.

Right before the word "fiance" everything stops. No
music. A tight spotlight hits Greg 1 and Daniel 1.
Greg 1 is in shock and deeply moved..

GREG 1

What did you say?

DANIEL 1

You heard me.

GREG 1

I'm pretty sure I heard
"fiance". Or was it Beyonce?

DANIEL 1

You have excellent hearing.

GREG 1

I swear I heard fiance. Fiance
is actually a French word. Are
you sure you know what it
means.

DANIEL 1

I believe it means, a person
Daniel would like to spend the
rest of his life with.

Daniel 1 gets on his knee and takes out a ring box,
opens it, puts a ring on Greg 1.

Greg 1 is trying not to fall apart emotionally.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

(slow and quiet)

Take my hand
Walk with me
Leaves have fallen
So have we
Into a love
So deep

(MORE)

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

So rare
 (tempo increases)
 Captured in your eyes

Daniel 1 stands up and they begin to dance. Daniel 1 is teaching Greg 1 to line dance but taking it slow.

DANIEL 1 (CONT'D)

And held there in your glance
 The music of your voice
 Gives my spirit
 Strength to dance
 Captured in your eyes
 I swear it must be true
 I have fallen in love
 I am captured
 By you

Instrumental underscoring, disco lights return.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 enter carrying hats and cowboy boots. They sit and change shoes, like in a bowling alley.

GREG 2

No way. I thought this place was closed.

DANIEL 2

We don't get out enough.

GREG 2

That's where you proposed to me, right over there.

Greg 2 indicates the spotlight where Greg 1 and Daniel 1 are now dancing.

DANIEL 2

I remember it well.

GREG 2

I loved this place.

DANIEL 2

Me, too.

GREG 2
Why did we stop coming?

DANIEL 2
I don't know.

GREG 2
I don't know either.

DANIEL 2
You think you remember
everything I taught you?

GREG 2
Honey, I taught you.

DANIEL 2
Then let's go. Less talking,
more dancing.

GREG 2
Bring it on, mother/

The music cuts him off.

Music - Look at Me

Music shifts and we are now in full line dancing music mode. The two younger couples do an intricate line dance sequence. Daniel 3 plays guitar while Greg 3 tries to keep up but can't.

ALL CAST
(singing)
Sometimes I fall in love
Too hard
Too fast
For too long
For today
It never seems to last
Some days I say
"I'll never fall again"
For a while
But then I see your smile
Look at me
Give me just your smile
(MORE)

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

Talk to me
 Honey for a while
 Hold my hand
 Let's try this romance
 Look at me
 Give my heart a chance

Now all three couples are line dancing with each other as one group. They become aware of each other and start to function as one unit. The dance should build and become explosive. Interesting shapes and formations form and break apart and come together again. At one point all the Daniels are one side and all the Gregs are on other and then they are all one unit again. It should be more than just a line dance. It should be a collision of time and memory. Joy, nostalgia and discovery all overlap...the number should be both entertaining and cathartic.

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

When I saw you
 I fell so hard
 So fast
 So long to the past
 And the other love's I've known
 You said I'd never be
 Alone again
 I could rest
 In the shelter of your arms
 Look at me
 Give me just your smile
 Talk to me
 Honey for a while
 Hold my hand
 Let's try this romance
 Look at me
 Give my heart a chance
 I will stand in the rain
 I will walk through the fire
 I have waited a lifetime
 For your love
 I will sing to you at night
 Come and meet me in my dreams
 Talk to me
 Stay with me
 Look at me

(MORE)

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

Look at me
 Give me just your smile
 Talk to me
 Honey for a while
 Hold my hand
 Let's try this romance
 Look at me
 Give my heart a chance
 Look at me
 Honey, give my heart a chance.

It builds to a crescendo of drunken hoots and hollars
 and we fade to black.

INTERMISSION

SCENE: BACK TO THE BAR

Song Begins - Look At Me

As intermission ends Daniel 3 enters playing a
 reprise of "Look at Me". He is alone at first but
 then one by one the rest of the cast enter.

DANIEL 3

(singing)
 When I saw you
 I fell so hard
 So fast

DANIEL 3 AND GREG 3

(singing)
 So long to the past
 And the other love's I've known

DANIEL 1 & 3 AND GREG 1 & 3

(singing)
 You said I'd never be
 Alone again

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3

(singing)
 I could rest
 In the shelter of your arms

The whole cast are now back on stage and they do a brief reprise of the previous line dance.

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
(CONT'D)

(singing)

Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
I will stand in the rain
I will walk through the fire
I have waited a lifetime
For your love
I will sing to you at night
Come and meet me in my dreams
Talk to me
Stay with me
Look at me
Look at me
Give me just your smile
Talk to me
Honey for a while
Hold my hand
Let's try this romance
Look at me
Give my heart a chance
Look at me
Honey, give my heart a chance.

Song ends.

Finally the number ends. All the couples now sit side by side, facing out, sitting in one long row across the stage facing forward. Daniel 1 and 2 are drinking. Daniel 1 and 2 should drink in unison.

GREG 3

I'm exhausted.

DANIEL 1

You're not bad.

DANIEL 2
It all came back to you.

DANIEL 3
Like riding a bicycle.

GREG 1
Who taught you to dance?

DANIEL 3
I'm just naturally gifted.

GREG 2
No really.

GREG 3
Who taught you?

DANIEL 3
I honestly don't remember.

DANIEL 1
I think I just picked it up.

GREG 2
I'm not gonna be able to walk
in the morning?

GREG 3
I can't remember the last time
I wore cowboy boots.

GREG 2
I think it was in Nashville.

DANIEL 1
I want to get married in
Nashville.

GREG 1
Why?

DANIEL 1
Cause I want to be surrounded
by the my two loves on the
happiest day of my life.

GREG 1

You're two loves? Is there someone you haven't told me about?

GREG 3

"You and music, my two loves." Do you remember saying that to me? Right over there.

DANIEL 3

I was stupid. I love you way more than music. Nothing else even comes close.

GREG 1

We don't even know anyone in Nashville.

DANIEL 1

So what? We'll meet people. Maybe important people. We can invite them to the wedding.

DANIEL 3

I dragged you to Nashville how many times? 6? 7? 8 times maybe...and nothing.

GREG 3

No regrets, Daniel.

DANIEL 3

Nothing.

GREG 3

We got married in Nashville. That's not nothing.

DANIEL 3

I mean professionally.

GREG 3

No regrets.

GREG 2

We should go back. For a honeymoon. For old times sake.

DANIEL 2

Nah, I think I'm done with Nashville and I think Nashville's done with me.

GREG 2

Stop that. Your time is coming.

DANIEL 2

I don't think so.

GREG 1

We can get married. Invite a few locals. Then we can stay and work the town for contacts. Drop off your demos. We'll kill two birds with one trip. Get hitched and get famous in the same weekend.

DANIEL 1

I'm not gonna spend our wedding knocking on the doors of a bunch of music executives who don't know nothing about music. I only want good memories that weekend.

GREG 1

As long as were together it'll be good memories.

DANIEL 3

How much money did I give to Nashville. And how much did I get back?

GREG 3

We're not doing this tonight. No regrets. It's not over yet.

(MORE)

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

You've still got a lot of great music in you. Your time will come, Daniel. I believe in you.

DANIEL 3

I'm 62, Greg.

GREG 2

And your time will come.

DANIEL 2

I don't know.

GREG 1

I believe in you.

DANIEL 2

I'm a mattress salesman now. I work in a fucking mattress store. I know I disappointed you. You fell in love with a rock star and wound up with a mattress seller.

GREG 2

You're a musician. That's what you are. So you work on something else during the day to pay the bills. That doesn't make you a failure it makes you mature. Don't beat yourself up.

DANIEL 1

I think we should have three homes. One in Nashville, one in New York City and one wherever you want.

GREG 1

Actually, I think we should have four homes.

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

One by each of our parents,
that's two and then one in
Nashville and another one in
New York City. How's that for
a plan?

GREG 3

I talked to Michael last
week...he think it's a good
time to buy...we can get a
condo on the water for about
150,000. It's not huge but
it's on the water. He thinks
we should get 220 for the
house. I'm really ready to
downsize. What do you think?

DANIEL 2

I'm just tired of paying rent.
I want something for us.
Something we own. We were
supposed to own four homes by
now and what do we have?

GREG 2

Four homes? That was stupid
kid talk. We can barely keep a
1 bedroom apartment clean. 4
houses would be a nightmare.
This is what you do, Daniel.
You start focusing on
everything you don't have and
you go into a rabbit hole and
everything goes black. We have
a nice place, we have a nice
landlord, we can afford it,
when something breaks we don't
have to fix it ourselves, we
just call the landlord...it's a
good situation.

DANIEL 2

I just want more for us. I
want more for you.

GREG 2
Everybody wants more.

DANIEL 2
I don't want to be 60 years old
and selling mattresses.

GREG 2
You won't be.

GREG 3
After you retire in September
we can go anywhere. We can
afford a place on the water. I
think you'll be happy there,
after I'm gone. What do you
think?

Music intro begins

DANIEL 3
I think I don't want to live
anywhere if you're not there so
don't talk like that. You're
in remission, you're doing
great. Period.

Song - Castles

GREG 1
(singing)
Can you build me a house
With a lovely garden
A lovely view
On a mountain
We'll watch the sunrise
Watch the night fall
Watch the day come again

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
Maybe we could sail away
Maybe we
Could dance on stars
I'd go with you anywhere
Can I live with you
(MORE)

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
In your castle
In the air

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
The doctor said if you're in
remission for the first two
years...

GREG 3
(speaking)
I know what the doctor said
but...

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
He said if you're in remission
in the first two years the
chances are very good that it's
never going to come back.

GREG 3
(speaking)
No, that's not exactly what he
said.

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
It's basically what he said.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Can we not talk about this on
our date night?

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
You brought it up.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Well let's drop it, please.
(singing)
Can you build me a house
To keep out the rain
I have no time for the pain

DANIEL 1
(singing)
Since I've known you
My life is wonderful

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3
(singing)
My life is magical

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 2, 3
(singing)
A fairytale come true
Maybe we could sail away
Maybe we
Could dance on stars
I'd go with you anywhere
Can I live with you
In your castle
In the air

Instrumental underscoring.

SCENE: NEW HOME

GREG 3
(speaking)
Oh my God. Look at this view.
I love it. It's so beautiful.
It's perfect. What do you
think?

DANIEL 3
(speaking)
I think the closing costs were
too high but I'm done talking
about that. And the HOA fees
are too high but I'm done
talking about that, too. If
you're happy, I'm happy.

GREG 3
(speaking)
I'm happy.

DANIEL 3
 (speaking)
 Then I'm happy.

GREG 3
 (singing)
 Oh, walk with me
 And talk with me
 While there's time

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3
 (singing)
 Time can wash away
 Like castles
 In the sand
 Oh, walk with me
 And talk with me
 While there's time

GREG 3
 (singing)
 Time can wash away
 Like castles in the sand

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3
 Can we live right here
 In this castle
 In the air

Song Ends.

SCENE: CHRISTMAS PHONE-CALLS

DANIEL 1
 Daniel, I can't believe you
 can't pick up the phone. I've
 been calling for like two
 hours. This is ridiculous.
 It's 2 in the morning. Where
 are you? Call me back.

Greg hangs up the phone.

Song - When I Get Through

Greg 2 goes to the kitchen and gets wine glass and pours himself a big glass of wine. He is in a rage. He keeps checking his phone.

GREG 2

(singing)

I've been calling
 One more hour
 One more try
 To keep from falling
 In to this spell
 In to your eyes
 But I keep calling
 One more dial
 One more chance
 To keep from falling
 In to this spell
 In to romance
 When I get through
 Will it be all over
 Will all my words
 Just die down
 When I hear your voice
 When I get through
 Will you hear
 Hear I can't go on
 Hanging on the phone
 Calling
 Waiting
 Calling

Greg 2's phone rings. Greg 2 picks it up right away.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Daniel, where are you? It's 4 o'clock in the morning. Are you drunk, again? Hello? I can barely hear you. You're ridiculous. Where are you? I said, where are you? Where are you? Are you coming home? Tomorrow's Christmas Eve and we're supposed to go to my parent's house but I'm not taking you if you're drunk again. This is ridiculous.

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

I said, it's ridic/what? Where are you? I can't understand you. You know what, forget I'm going to bed. Don't come home, seriously...I said, don't come home. What is that noise in the background. What? I can't hear you! Just call me back. Or don't. I really don't care. Please don't come home! Merry Christmas.

Daniel 1 and Greg 1 enter with a Christmas tree and begin to decorate the left side of the tree while Greg 3 and Daniel 3 decorate the right side. Daniel 1 & 3 and Greg 1 & 3 are all wearing different Santa hats.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(singing, angry)

Do you remember
Your words
And all our plans
Was it December
That you said
We'd have a chance
When I get through
Will it be all over
Will all my words
Just die down
When I hear your voice
When I get through
Will you hear
I can't go on
Hanging on the phone
Calling, waiting

During this next verse, Greg 2 looks at his phone but doesn't pick up. Daniel 2 appears wearing a Santa hat. Daniel 2 has a beer in one hand and a phone in the other.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Calling
Late at night
(MORE)

DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)

Are you alone
Is anyone there
Are you at home
When I call
Are you there
Answer me

Daniel 2 exits.

SCENE: "MERRY CHRISTMAS, PARDNER"

DANIEL 1

Merry Christmas, pardner.

GREG 1

It's beautiful.

DANIEL 3

It is.

GREG 1

Our first tree.

DANIEL 1

But not our last.

GREG 3

Hopefully, not our last.

DANIEL 1

Merry Christmas, funny guy.

DANIEL 3

Merry Christmas, handsome.

GREG 1

To many more.

DANIEL 3

To many more.

GREG 3

Remember two Christmases ago we
thought it would be our last
and here we are.

DANIEL 3

Here we are.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 appear in a spotlights on opposites of the stage. Daniel 2 is still wearing a Santa hat, drunk, with his guitar and a beer bottle.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2

Is there no chance now
 To end my pain
 To end this fight
 Do you hear my voice now
 A distant cry
 On a darkened night
 When I get through
 Will it be all over
 Will all my words
 Just die down
 When I hear your voice
 When I get through
 Will you hear I can't go on
 Hanging on the phone
 Calling waiting
 When I get through
 Will it be all over
 Will I my words
 Just die down
 When I hear your voice
 When I get through
 Will you hear
 I can't go on
 Hanging on the phone

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Calling, waiting

They cross toward each other and are now in their home.

DANIEL 2 AND GREG 2

(singing)

I've been calling

Song ends.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

Merry Christmas, funny guy. I won the open mic contest. Free drinks and 50 bucks. Merry Christmas, handsome.

Daniel 2 tries to hand him the money.

GREG 2

You keep it. You're gonna need it for a down payment on your own apartment because I am done here.

DANIEL 2

What does that mean "you're done here?" Does that mean you're done *here* or you're *done* here.

GREG 2

You're pathetic.

Greg 2 exits. Daniel 2 is alone on stage. He sits. Thinks.

SCENE: SEARS CATALOGUE

GREG 1

When I was 12 I was obsessed with the Sears Catalogue and every Christmas I would go thru it and circle everything I wanted for Christmas and I'd make sure my parents knew exactly what I wanted. And I remember I was flipping thru the catalogue and I saw an ad for this crazy new thing called an EZ Bake Oven. It was a real oven but for kids. And it was pink. Bright pink. I was instantly obsessed. I was possessed. I had to have it.

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

I talked about it constantly. I wrote letters to Santa telling him how good I'd been all year and how much I needed it. I remember promising my family that I would do all the cooking if they got it for me. "You'll never have to cook again", I told them. I don't think they believed me. I had no idea about being gay or what it meant but in hindsight I guess I was pretty much announcing my sexuality...at 12 years old. I was the only boy I knew who wanted an EZ Bake Oven but I didn't care. The heart wants what the heart wants, right? I had to have it and I knew in my heart I was going to get it. So Christmas morning comes, I run downstairs...I can't wait to open my new oven and start cooking. I've never been as excited as I was that morning. So I come down and there it is...not the oven exactly, but a really big box...clearly it was my oven...it was the biggest present under the tree...well not under the tree but next to the tree cause it was so big...so there it is my beautiful oven all wrapped up with beautiful paper...and my heart is racing...I think I was shaking...did I mention I couldn't sleep the night before....I remember saying thank you, thank you, thank you...even before I opened it. Thank you, thank you, thank you...and who was I thanking?

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

No one specific just a general thank you to everyone, the Universe, to my family, to Santa, to God...it was like a weird chant...thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you...looking back I was slightly deranged...no that's not true...not slightly...totally deranged...I was unhinged...because I knew, in my soul, I was about to experience the happiest moment of my young life. So I rip off the paper and it's...well...it's not an EZ Bake Oven. I wasn't sure what it was but I knew what it wasn't. And it was heavy. Really heavy. So I finally got it open and I looked inside and it was...are you ready for this...it was weights. It was weights for weightlifting. Dumbbells. I was a very scrawny kid. Maybe a little effeminite...maybe everyone had already figured out what I was before I figured it out and they knew that an EZ Bake Oven was fuel for the homosexuality...I guess they thought...I don't know what they thought...I guess they thought I wanted to be muscular...I guess they thought I wanted to be strong...but I didn't...I just wanted to cook...I wanted to make things that people liked...I didn't care about muscles I cared about cooking. I was devastated...seriously. Seriously devastated. But then I tried really hard not to show it...I tried to act happy.

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)

"Thank you for the weights...I love them...I can't wait to be big and strong and not a pansy chef...thank you...thank you for keeping me on the righteous path of heterosexuality."
Later on my brother, Big Doug said, "we didn't know what to get you...we did our best."
And I believed him. But it was still devastating. I still haven't totally gotten over it. So that's the story of my worst Christmas. Okay, your turn.

SCENE: WORST CHRISTMAS

GREG 3

You know, what it is...you know which Christmas was the worst. Well actually, no you probably don't know cause you were too drunk off your ass to even remember. But my worst Christmas is you not coming home til 5am, the day before Christmas Eve. I decorated the tree by myself and then lying to my parents about why my alcoholic husband wouldn't be joining us for Christmas Eve.

DANIEL 2

I'm not an alcoholic. I just like being drunk.

GREG 2

(on phone)

"Yeah, Mom, he's not feeling well. He's sick. He's very sick."

DANIEL 3

I was.

GREG 3

You were.

GREG 2

You are.

DANIEL 2

I am.

DANIEL 3

I was. I'm sorry. That was a really rough time.

GREG 3

But we got thru it.

DANIEL 3

Barely.

GREG 3

We got thru it.

GREG 2

I'm gonna go.

DANIEL 3

Hold on, don't go anywhere.

Daniel 3 exits.

GREG 2

No. I'm going.

Greg 2 starts to exit.

DANIEL 2

Where are you going?

GREG 2

You know where I'm going.

DANIEL 2

I wanna go.

GREG 2

Not this time.

DANIEL 3
Just hold on.

Greg 2 exits.

DANIEL 2
You're not going anywhere.
Greg? Greg? Greg? I won 100
bucks. I'm a rock star. Greg,
come back here!

Daniel 3 returns with a present.

DANIEL 3
I got you a little something.

GREG 3
I thought we said no presents.

DANIEL 3
It's nothing.

GREG 3
It's something.

DANIEL 3
Oh, it's something.

GREG 3
No presents means no presents.
You never could stick to the
rules. I don't need anything
except you.

DANIEL 3
You need this. Trust me. Open
it up.

GREG 3
You're crazy.

Greg 3 opens his present. It's an EZ Bake Oven.
Greg is overwhelmed with emotion.

DANIEL 3
Merry Christmas, funny guy.

Greg 3 is speechless...trying not to ball but failing, Greg 3 becomes a blubbering mess. He's waited over 50 years for this present.

GREG 3
You knew this would destroy me.
You're bad. I love you so
much, you idiot. Look at me.

Daniel 2 begins to play.

SCENE: COMING HOME

Song - Coming Home

DANIEL 2
(singing, still drunk)
He waited up most nights
For him to come home
Dinner was long since over
The dishes washed
And put away
It was gonna be another
Long ending
To another long day
Another night
He'd probably
Turn out the lights
And go to bed alone

Greg 2 enters

GREG 2
(singing)
I'm not mad at you
Just tired, can't you see
I've waited up all night
For you to come home to me
Coming home
To me

Musical underscoring continues.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

I'm gonna go to my parents house. I can't sleep. I'm sorry. I thought maybe this Christmas could be special but...anyway...I can't keep doing this...I think you need help...or we need help...maybe you should see a counselor...or we should see a counselor or...I don't know...you just seem very unhappy...

Underscoring fades out.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

Oh no...not at all...I'm very happy. I sold two king mattresses yesterday. I'm a big success. All of my dreams have come true. Merry Christmas to me.

GREG 2

(speaking)

And what am I supposed to say to that..

DANIEL 2

Nothing...you don't have to say anything...

GREG 2

But I'm the bad guy for finding you a job...is that it?

DANIEL 2

I didn't say that.

GREG 2

But it's what you think?

DANIEL 2

Nope. Gotta have a real job.
Gotta pay the bills. Gotta
grow up. Gotta be an adult.
Gotta to sell those fucking
mattresses. Boom, boom, boom.
Make my bosses proud. Maybe
one day if I'm really lucky
I'll own my own fucking
mattress store. Then you'll
finally be proud of me, right?

GREG 2

I'm proud of you now.

DANIEL 2

Really?

GREG 2

Yes.

DANIEL 2

I'm not sure I believe that.

GREG 2

I am. I love your music...but
it hasn't happened yet...and it
might never happen...and I'm
sorry...I had crazy dreams,
too...I wanted to be a
comedian...

SCENE: THE COMIC PLAN

DANIEL 1

So how would that work?

GREG 1

I start small working in small comedy clubs around the country but after a while I develop a following then I move to bigger clubs then my following grows amnd I get booked in bigger clubs and then then I'm playing huge theaters in major cities and then I either end up on Saturday Night Live or a sitcom on a major network and all this time you're writing songs and making records and the money's just flying in and suddenly we're America's most successful gay couple...rich, famous and sexy...everybody hates us...because they're jealous. Because you're a genius composer married to a hilarious comic. How does all that sound?

DANIEL 1

It sounds perfect.
(they kiss)
It sounds perfect and crazy...just like you...
(kiss again)
...my funny guy.

SCENE: "I USED TO BE FUNNY."

GREG 2

I used to be funny...do you remember when I was funny, cause I sure as hell don't...I was "fabulous" remember but being fabulous didn't pay our bills...you think I like working in a bank now?

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

You think my life's ambition was to spend 8 hours a day saying, "Hi, would you like to open a checking or a savings account. I can help you with both." All day long. "Have a seat. Checking or savings?" 8 hours a day. Yeah, that's a laugh riot. But I'd rather work in a bank than live in my parents basement or live on the streets, or be poor. We've been poor and we didn't like it. Remember.

DANIEL 2

I feel like I'm dying, Greg. When I walk in that mattress store every morning and I see all those mattresses...they look like coffins to me...every day a part of me dies in that store...then I pick up the guitar and I start to come back to life. You and this guitar are all I care about. Nothing else matters.

GREG 2

So quit. You don't have to keep working there...fine...quit...but you have to keep working....somewhere...

SCENE: CANCER JOKE

GREG 3

Marty just sent me this. It's pretty funny. You listening?

DANIEL 3

I'm listening.

GREG 3
No, you're not forget it.

DANIEL 3
I'm listening.

GREG 3
You're falling asleep.

DANIEL 3
I'm listening.

GREG 3
Ok, what did I say?

DANIEL 3
You said I wasn't listening.

GREG 3
No, just now, what did I say
just now?

DANIEL 3
You said, "just now, what did I
say just now."

GREG 3
Go back to sleep. You're
impossi...

DANIEL 3
I'm kidding. I heard
everything...Marty sent you a
joke. Read it to me.

GREG 3
You're a wise-ass you know
that?

DANIEL 3
Just read me the joke.

GREG 3
Okay..."Three friends with
terminal cancer"...get it, they
all have terminal cancer...

DANIEL 3

Hilarious.

GREG 3

Listen, it's funny.

(reading)

"Three friends with terminal cancer were all sitting around talking about their deaths and dying and one friend asked, "At your funeral, when you're in your casket and your friends and family are gathered around you, what would you like to hear them say about you?"

The first guy says, "I would like to hear them say that I was a loving husband and a great father."

The second man says, "I would like to hear them say that I was a wonderful friend to lots of people.

And the last guy says, "I would like to hear them say...LOOK, HE'S MOVING!!!"

SCENE: "MAYBE YOU CAN TEACH MUSIC"

GREG 2

...maybe you can teach music...no one is forcing you to work in a mattress store...quit...but you have to make money...I don't make enough to pay all our bills...

Musical underscoring resumes.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

...if you're so miserable, quit...but then what are you gonna do? Take one more trip to Nashville?

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

Keep praying that "this is the
trip when everything
changes"....just one more trip
to Nashville...is that the
plan?

DANIEL 2

(singing)

When he comes through the door
It's ten past twelve

GREG 2

(speaking)

Daniel, I asked you a question

DANIEL 2

(singing)

He has excuses ready

GREG 2

(speaking, sarcastic)

What a surprise.

DANIEL 2

He has his stories
He has his alibis
He is sound asleep
With the late-night show
Playing on and on
As he woke him
He said
"What a surprise"
Then tears filled his eyes

GREG 2

(singing)

I'm not mad at you
Just tired
Can't you see
I've waited up all night
For you to come home to me
Coming home
To me

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

Daniel. I'm gonna take off,
okay. Merry Christmas and all
that.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

I won 100 bucks tonight, isn't
that something?

GREG 2

(speaking)

It's something.

DANIEL 2

(speaking)

But you don't congratulate me.

GREG 2

(speaking)

Congratulations.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

He gave him some flowers
He promised not to be
Coming home again so late
As the evening hours
Rolled on by
He heard the sound
Of his truck
In the drive
And when he stumbled in
He called out his name
But there was no reply
Just a note that said

Greg enters with a suitcase.

GREG 2

(singing)

I'm not mad at you
Just tired
Can't you see
I've waited half my life

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

For you to come home to me
I won't be coming home
"Goodbye"

Song ends.

DANIEL 2

I wrote you a song. For
Christmas. But I guess you
don't want to hear it. Do you
want hear it?

GREG 2

I have to go.

DANIEL 2

I wrote it for you. I wish I
could buy you nice things. I'm
sorry I'm a loser. You deserve
better. You do. You deserve
your EZ Bake Oven. You're a
good person. I was gonna get
you a new mattress but I wrote
you this song instead.

Daniel 2 begins to play. Greg struggles with leaving
and staying.

Song - Fall In Love Every Day

SCENE: FALL IN LOVE EVERY DAY

DANIEL 2

(singing)

Who's to say what is
And isn't real
With us
Who can judge
The things we really feel
Look in my eyes
I'll take your fears away

DANIEL 1, 2, 3

And I fall in love
Everyday again
(MORE)

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 (CONT'D)

I fall in love
 Every way
 When I take your hand
 All the loves I've known
 Fade away

DANIEL 1

And I fall in love again
 Day after day

GREG 3

What's gone is gone
 But we can start again
 Tonight
 I am right here
 We'll make it right
 A brand-new plan
 You're all I need
 My pathway
 How I love you

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3

And I fall in love
 Everyday again
 I fall in love every way
 When I take your hand
 All the loves I've known
 Fade away
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day

GREG 1

I thought I died
 When you said to me
 "The search is done
 You are the one"
 I died once more
 You dried my eyes
 And held me close
 It's no surprise
 That I love you
 And I fall in love
 Everyday again
 I fall in love every way
 When I take your hand

(MORE)

GREG 1 (CONT'D)
 All the loves I've known
 Fade away

GREG 1 & DANIEL 1
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day

GREG 3 & DANIEL 3
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day

DANIEL 2
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3
 And I fall in love again
 Day after day
 And I fall in love
 Again
 Day after
 Day

Song Ends

DANIEL 1, 2, 3 AND GREG 1, 3
 (CONT'D)
 Merry Christmas.

Daniel 1/Greg 1 & Daniel 3/Greg 3 kiss.

GREG 2
 That's a lovely song. Thank
 you.

DANIEL 2
 Is it better than an EZ Bake
 Oven?

GREG 2

I wouldn't go that far. I'll
call you tomorrow. Please
sober up. I love you.

All exit except Greg. Daniel 3 plays the exit
underscoring but Greg 2 plays the next song off-
stage. Greg 2 stands center stage in a spotlight.

SCENE: GREG 2 ARIA

GREG 2

(singing, tense)

Can I buy a small house
A quiet resting place
One room will do
On a mountain
I'll rest in clover
I have a plan
My design is on you
Maybe I could sail away
Maybe I
Could dance on stars
I should just go anywhere
Can I live alone
In my castle
All alone
Can I live alone
In my castle
In the air

Song ends

SCENE: THREE DANIELS TALKING

DANIEL 3

Daniel? Daniel? What's going
on?

DANIEL 1

Yeah, what's going on. That's
not me. I'm cool. That guys
not cool. When did I stop
being cool?

DANIEL 2

I'm funny.

DANIEL 1

No, you're not. You're a mess.
You need to get it together.

DANIEL 3

It goes by really fast, man.
Way too fast. First, you meet
at open mic, then you buy your
first home, then you retire and
next thing you know you're
playing Solitary Man at your
husband's funeral. You're
wasting time, Daniel.

DANIEL 2

Wait, wait, wait...Greg dies
first?

DANIEL 1

I don't want to know that.

DANIEL 3

I'm just saying, time goes by
crazy quick. Don't waste it.
You only get so many
Christmases.

DANIEL 1

How many Christmases do we get?

DANIEL 3

Not enough.

DANIEL 2

I like Jack Daniels. I like
rum and coke. I like whiskey.
I like it. I don't like
mattresses. I like open mic
night. We met at open mic
night. I like open mic night.
He doesn't want to go anymore.
He hates me. I like Bud Light
too, it's good.

DANIEL 3
 (to Daniel 1)
 Can you make some coffee,
 please?

DANIEL 1
 I don't even own a coffee pot,
 yet.

DANIEL 3
 I have to do everything don't
 I.

Song begins

Song - And It's True

DANIEL 2
 (A Capella)
 The first snow in December
 Took me by surprise
 Then I remember

Daniel 3 goes and takes the guitar.

DANIEL 3
 Nope, nope, nope...no more
 guitar. No more singing. Time
 for silence. Just think.
 Quiet. Just think. Just
 think. What's going on? Who
 do you want to be? Where do
 you want to end up? Think.
 You could lose this. You could
 lose him. I want you to become
 me. I grew up. It's tough but
 it's worth it. I got my own
 mattress store. Then I got
 two. We aren't rich but we
 have a nice place on the water.
 It's very peaceful. We cook
 great meals. We watch movies.
 We have friends over. It's a
 nice life. Don't mess it up.
 Don't mess up my life. Don't
 you dare mess up my life.

DANIEL 1
Don't mess up my life, either.

DANIEL 2
Can you both shut up, please.
You're giving me a head ache.
I'll take that coffee now.

DANIEL 3
You need help.

DANIEL 1
Listen to him.

DANIEL 2
I won tonight. 100 bucks. I
won. I'm a winner...screw
Nashville... they don't know a
winner. I'm a winner.

Daniel 1 & 2 begin to play.

SCENE: COUPLES COUNSELING

Song - Say Them

Greg 2 enters goes to the chairs and sits.

We are now in a therapist's office.

Greg 3 plays the therapist with his back to the audience.

Greg 2 and Daniel 2 sit next to each other. Greg 2 talks. Daniel 2 listens. Daniel 1 and Daniel 3 play the underscoring and the song.

GREG 2
(speaking)
I don't know when things went
officially off the rails.
(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

It just feels to me that we went from being madly in love to just being mad and I don't know exactly how or when or why that happened. All I know is that when I first met him...

(looking at Daniel 1)

...he wore this cowboy hat and he was so sexy and I never wanted him to take it off and I use to compliment him all the time and tell him how handsome he was and then one day the cowboy hat

(looks at Daniel 2)

...wasn't really cute anymore, it was silly, then it was ridiculous, then it was annoying and then it was embarrassing and finally he stopped wearing it and I thought I'd won but I didn't win. I just wore him down. That's not a win. I know that. I'm not stupid. And then he just sort of stopped talking. He'd write me songs but he wouldn't talk to me. He'd sing to me but he wouldn't really talk to me. And things have just become increasingly tense. And now he's drinking a lot. I think he's depressed. I think you're depressed. No. I know he's depressed. You're depressed. This is not where he thought be at this point in his life. Hell, it's not where I thought I'd be either...sitting here in this office, spending money we don't have, trying to save this marriage...

Stage goes red. Spotlight on Daniel 2

Greg 2 continues to talk to therapist but we don't hear him, it is only mimed. We hear Daniel 2 who is basically singing his thoughts to himself but out loud. No one else in the room can hear Daniel 2 when he sings.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

What do you feel
 When I sing you songs
 What is that look in your eyes
 Am I dreaming
 Or are you believing in me
 What are your words

Greg 2 now sings to Daniel 2. Regular lights restore.

GREG 2

(singing)

Speak to me
 Be true to me
 Cause I can't sleep
 At night
 And I dream of you
 Do you think of me
 Do you have words
 Say them

Greg continues to talk but, again, once Daniel 2 starts to sing Greg 2 becomes inaudible.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(speaking)

And I guess the thing that really makes me crazy is the whole punctuality thing, it's like it's not important when I have to be somewhere and we're always late and it's always his fault. I'm sorry, I know that sounds harsh, but it is, it's always his fault. Oh, and the drinking, don't get me started on the drinking, I'm really tired of the drinking...

Greg continues to mime talking to the therapist who is taking notes.

DANIEL 2

(singing)

What do you see
When I sing you songs
What do you see in my eyes
Just look closer
And look a little bit longer
At me
You inspire
All of my words

GREG 2

(singing)

Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I
Dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words
Say them

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(talking)

Like he says he'll do things
and he doesn't do them. For
instance, it's late January and
the Christmas tree is still up.
Why the fuck is the Christmas
tree still up on January 20th?
I'll tell you why, because he
said he'd take it down and he
hasn't.

(MORE)

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

He has no time to take down our Christmas tree but he has plenty of time to go to the bar and hang out with his friends til 2am and sleep and play guitar and watch TV and yes, I could take the tree down but he said he'd take it down and I feel like he should do what he says he's gonna do but somehow that makes me unreasonable, that makes me the bad guy and I don't think that's fair but if I'm being unreasonable then tell me but he doesn't want to talk about anything except music...music music, music, he holds that guitar more than he holds me...he'll sing to me but he won't talk to me, that's weird, right? He won't talk about us, he just shrugs me off or ignores me or heads to the bar, he won't talk to me, why can't he talk to me...

During this next scene Greg 2 and Daniel 2 begin communicating thru song and by the end of the verse we should feel that progress has been made.

GREG 2 (CONT'D)

(singing to Daniel 2)

Speak to me
Be true to me
Cause I can't sleep
At night
And I dream of you
Do you think of me
Do you have words

Slowly Daniel 2 softens and begins to sing.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2

(singing to each other)

Speak to me
Be true to me
(MORE)

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
 Cause I can't sleep
 At night
 And I
 Dream of you
 Do you think of me
 Do you have words

They begin to become more playful.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
 (singing)
 Speak to me
 Be true to me
 Cause I can't sleep
 At night

They move to center stage, holding hands.

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2 (CONT'D)
 (singing)
 And I dream of you
 Do you think of me
 Do you have words

They slowly line dance like they did in the past when they were happier.

Song - Look at Me (reprise)

GREG 2
 (singing)
 Look at me
 Give me just your smile
 Talk to me
 Honey for a while

GREG 2 AND DANIEL 2
 Hold my hand
 Let's try this romance
 Look at me
 Give my heart a chance
 Look at me
 Honey, give my heart
 A chance.

End of song.

SCENE: GROUP THERAPY

GREG 3

(speaking to group)

"A relationship is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the differences between two people." "Would you rather be right or would you rather be happy."

GREG 1

Why can't I be right and happy?

GREG 3

Shhhhhhhh. Listen..."The only way a relationship lasts is if you both see the relationship as a place that you go to give, and not a place that you go to take." That cost me 30,000 dollars to learn but it was worth every penny. And I just gave it to you for free.

He smiles at Daniel 3 who has been listening.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

(beat)

I want to be cremated.

A long awkward and painful silence.

DANIEL 3

I don't want to talk about this right now.

GREG 1

I really don't want to talk about this right now.

GREG 2

I don't want to be cremated.

GREG 1

I don't want to die.

GREG 3

(stern)

I want to be cremated...and I
want you to spread my ashes in
Nashville so I'll always be
near a guitar and a cowboy hat.
Can you do that for me?

DANIEL 3

I just need some air. I have
to take a walk.

(to Daniel 2)

I told you it goes by too
fast...you idiot.

Daniel 1 2 & 3 exit and Greg 1 and 2 go and sit on
either side of Greg 3.

SCENE: I REMEMBER

Greg 3 sings to them and to the audience. The three
Greg's hold hands.

GREG 3

I remember. I remember. I
remember. I remember dancing.
I remember kissing. I remember
fighting. I remember
Christmas. I remember
laughing. I remember music. I
remember Daniel. Daniel?
Daniel?

Song - I Remember Love

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

(singing)

There was a chain
He used to wear
With a diamond
And a key
He was the one I dreamed of
He was all I'd ever need
He had the key
To my heart

(MORE)

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

Kept me safe
 There in his hands
 I found that chain today
 By chance
 Whatever happened
 To the romance
 I remember falling in love
 And calling it "love"
 Those summer nights
 The autumn walks
 And deep December talks

GREG 1 & 2

When snow would fall

GREG 1

I remember love
 I found a note in my old jacket
 From a time from long ago
 It said,

GREG 2

"You are the one I dream of
 you're the one I want to know"

GREG 1 AND 2

More and more
 As life goes on

GREG 1, 2 & 3

I find I love him more
 Each day
 I wonder why we left that love
 I wonder why
 We ever walked away

GREG 3

I remember falling in love
 And calling it "love"

GREG 1 & 2

Those summer nights
 The autumn walks

GREG 1, 2 & 3
And deep December talks
When snow would fall

GREG 3
I remember love

GREG 1, 2 & 3
And the choices you make
And the chances you take
May be mistakes
When it all comes around
But when the choosing is done
And the choice is not the one
That you wanted
What can you do

GREG 3
What can you say
(speaking)
You ready?

GREG 1
(speaking)
No.

GREG 3
(speaking)
How bout you?

GREG 2
(speaking)
Not really.

GREG 3
(speaking)
We had a good life.

GREG 1
(speaking)
I want more.

GREG 3
(speaking)
Me, too.

GREG 2
 (speaking)
 It's over too soon.

GREG 3
 (speaking)
 It is.

GREG 2
 (speaking)
 I made so many mistakes.

GREG 1
 (speaking)
 You did.

GREG 2
 (speaking)
 I wasted so much time.

GREG 1
 (speaking)
 You did.

GREG 3
 (speaking)
 Be nice. Don't beat yourself
 up. No regrets. We had a good
 life. We had a great life.
 Time to let go.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)
 (singing)
 Since I let love go
 I am left to dwell
 With the things
 I did not choose
 And I lose it all

GREG 1, 2 & 3
 And at time I don't know
 Where it starts
 And where it ends again
 And old lovers
 Who become your friends
 Are not the same

The three Greg's remain on stage as three Daniels enter in a line and stand behind their Greg. Each Daniel has his guitar and the Daniels are now dressed identically in black with black cowboy hats for a funeral.

ENTIRE CAST

I remember falling in love
 And calling it "love"
 Those summer nights
 The autumn walks
 And deep December talks
 When snow would fall
 I remember love
 I remember love
 I remember love
 I remember love

Song ends.

SCENE: GREG'S FUNERAL

DANIEL 3

(to audience)

Greg was convinced that no one would come to his funeral so thank you all for coming out today. He'd want me to tell jokes, to keep it light...he kept saying to me...

GREG 1

"I want my funeral to be fabulous."

GREG 3

Don't be all serious and depressing.

GREG 3 (CONT'D)

Nobody wants to see that.

GREG 1

Tell some good cancer jokes.

DANIEL 3

I'm not a comedian, that was Greg's department. So I Googled a few cancer jokes.

DANIEL 1

And they're dumb but they might have made Greg laugh.

DANIEL 2

Or make him laugh now if he's watching this.

DANIEL 1

Ok, here goes..."What was the last movie that Greg watched? Finding Chemo."

GREG 3

That's funny.

GREG 1

Hilarious.

DANIEL 2

How do you get bubble gum out of your hair? Cancer.

GREG 3

That's not funny.

GREG 2

It's sort of funny.

GREG 1

I really should have written the jokes.

DANIEL 3

Ok, last one. The last time Greg and I saw the doctor he said, "I've got your test results and it's really bad news. I'm afraid you have cancer AND Alzheimer's. Greg said,

GREG 3

"Boy, am I lucky! I was afraid I had cancer!" Now that's funny!

GREG 1

None of this funny.

DANIEL 3

I never really had Greg's wicked sense of humor or his maturity...or his strength.

DANIEL 2

Or his ability to forgive and move on when his dumb husband was screwing everything up. I'm sorry. I'm not really a public speaker. I'm more comfortable singing than talking. I learned that in therapy.

DANIEL 3

So before we go, I'd like to play you the first song that I ever played for Greg.

DANIEL 1

He always says he fell in love with me because of this song. We met in college at Greg's open mic night he hosted every Tuesday night and it was called:

GREG 1

"Greg's Fabulously Fabulous Open Mic Night. Hosted by me, Greg.

DANIEL 1

And I performed this song and afterwards we just sort of hit it off...I was a very confused kid right out of the seminary and Greg, well, he just sort of "straightened" me out.

DANIEL 3

And we've been together ever since. 43 years.

GREG 1, 2

(looking at Greg 3)
43 years?

GREG 3

43 years.

DANIEL 3

Until this week. But I feel him here with me and I hope you do, too. This is Solitary Man...for Greg.

All three Daniel's play guitar.

DANIEL 1

(singing)
Wet leaves and misty days
Make up my longing ways
A bird flies to the east
Leaving me behind

DANIEL 2

(singing)
Run to try and catch the wind
Stand apart let no one in
The wind sounds like laughter
As it moves away

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3

(singing)
I'm a solitary man
Playing all alone
I can cheat the deck
(MORE)

DANIEL 1, 2 & 3 (CONT'D)

And who's to really know
 I'm an altogether man
 Playing a one man band
 I play for no one
 No one plays for

ALL CAST

(singing)

Me
 Solitude my fortress strong
 Loneliness is my song
 The heart does not change
 It tries to re-arrange
 Harmony with just one voice
 Sing alone
 I've made the choice
 No broken hearts
 No tears to see
 I sing my songs for me

The cast fans out along the front of the stage.

ALL CAST (CONT'D)

I'm a solitary man
 Playing all alone
 I can cheat the deck
 And who's to really know
 I'm an altogether man
 Playing a one man band
 I play for no one
 No one plays for
 Me

The music continues to play and one by one each leaves the stage watched by the remaining cast - First Greg 2, then Greg 1, then Daniel 2, then Greg 3. Finally, all that remain are Daniel 1 and Daniel 2 who look at each other, they play briefly for each other, it is both hopeful and sad. Daniel 1 tilts his hat at Daniel 3 and exits and Daniel 3 is now alone. Daniel 3 takes in the enormity of that realization as he plays his guitar, the lights dim to a tight, dark, spotlight as he sings the final words...

DANIEL 3

Solitary
(5 seconds)
All-together
(5 seconds)
Man

The last few notes of the guitar play as we slowly fade to black.

Lights up.

Curtain call.

The whole cast come out for a group bow. Then they each get an individual bow. Daniel 3 plays the fast-paced opening of Don't Get Caught In the Rain until it is his time to bow. He should have the final bow. After his bow he continues to play as the actors exit the stage and the house lights come up.

The End