

# BAREFOOT BOY WITH CHEEK

Book by  
MAX SHULMAN

Music by  
SIDNEY LIPPMAN

Lyrics by  
SYLVIA DEE

Based on the novel "Barefoot Boy With Cheek" by Max Shulman

Directed by  
BEN WEST

Final Draft  
Jan. 14, 2011

UnsungMusicalsCo. Inc.  
P.O. Box 722  
New York, New York 10159  
[www.unsungmusicals.org](http://www.unsungmusicals.org)

## CHARACTERS

Asa Hearthrug  
Clothilde Pfefferkorn  
Yetta Samovar  
Noblesse Oblige  
Roger Hailfellow  
Shylock Fiscal  
Kermit McDermott  
Eino Fllliikkiinnenn  
Professor Schultz  
Peggy Hepp  
Muskie Pike  
Ensemble

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT ONE

Overture.....Orchestra  
"A Toast to Alpha Cholera".....Roger & Shylock  
"The Legendary Eino Fllliikkiinnenn".....Roger, Shylock, Asa, Eino & Men  
"Too Nice a Day to Go to School".....Kermit, Peggy & Company  
"I Knew I'd Know".....Clothilde  
"I'll Turn a Little Cog".....Yetta, Asa & Company  
"Who Do You Think You Are?".....Kermit & Asa  
"After Graduation Day".....Kermit  
"Everything Leads Right Back to Love".....Clothilde & Asa  
"Little Yetta's Gonna Getta Man".....Yetta  
"Don't Spoil the Party".....Company

### ACT TWO

Entr'acte.....Orchestra  
"After Graduation Day" Reprise.....Muskie Pike  
"There's Lots of Things You Can Do".....Noblesse, Yetta & Asa  
"The Story of Carrot".....Asa & Eino  
"Star of the North Star State".....Company  
"When You're Eighteen".....Clothilde  
"Star of the North Star State" Reprise.....Kermit & Company  
"It Couldn't Be Done".....Company

ACT ONE**#1 OVERTURE****Orchestra**

University of Minnesota. The Alpha Cholera fraternity house. It is crowded with all the standard appoints of a frat house: leather divans, bookshelves, a radio-phonograph, fireplace, piano, etc. Roger paces nervously in front of the French windows. Shylock and others are present.

**#1A INTO ALPHA CHOLERA****Orchestra**

ROGER

My god, where are they? What's happened to them?

SHYLOCK

Relax, can't you?

ROGER

Relax! Thousands of freshman on campus and we haven't got a single one. Relax! School opens tomorrow.

SHYLOCK

Oh, somebody will turn up.

ROGER

If we don't get a pledge pretty soon, I'm going to list the Bayer Company as a dependent.

FRAT BROTHER'S VOICE

Here comes one!

The boys spring into action as the First Freshman is brought into the house.

**#2 A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA****Roger & Shylock**

ROGER &amp; SHYLOCK

HERE'S A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA  
FROM EACH AND EV'RY FAITHFUL FOLLERA  
WE'RE HAIL FELLOW-WELL-MET SOLID AS FELLAS CAN GET  
WE'RE MEN WHO ARE MEN WHO ARE MEN  
SO OPEN UP YOUR MOUTH AND BE A HOLLERA  
LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AND THEN  
LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AGAIN

ROGER

You are a freshman, aren't you?

FIRST FRESHMAN

Yes.

SHYLOCK

Have you got change for a twenty?

FIRST FRESHMAN

Hell no. Where would I get that kind of money?

Shylock fakes disappointment.

SHYLOCK

Oh...your name isn't Outerbridge Tremblatt, is it?

FIRST FRESHMAN

No, it isn't.

Shylock eases him out the window.

SHYLOCK

Sorry, we thought you were Outerbridge Tremblatt.

ROGER

What did you do that for? He was a likely looking kid.

SHYLOCK

He didn't have any money. We need capital. I saw a bust of Venus at the Bon-Ton furniture store yesterday that's a beaut.

ROGER

For God's sake, will you quit buying furniture?! Look at all the junk we've got now.

SHYLOCK

Furniture gives a place tone. You can't expect to get new members if your house looks shabby-genteel.

FRAT BROTHER'S VOICE

Got another one!

Second Freshman enters.

<b>#4</b>	<b>A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA</b>
-----------	---------------------------------

<b>Roger &amp; Shylock</b>
----------------------------

ROGER & SHYLOCK

HERE'S A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA  
 FROM EACH AND EV'RY FAITHFUL FOLLERA  
 WE'RE HAIL FELLOW-WELL-MET SOLID AS FELLAS CAN GET  
 WE'RE MEN WHO ARE MEN WHO ARE MEN  
 SO OPEN UP YOUR MOUTH AND BE A HOLLERA  
 LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AND THEN  
 LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AGAIN

ROGER

You are a freshman, aren't you?

SECOND FRESHMAN

Yes, but...

SHYLOCK

Have you got change for a twenty?

SECOND FRESHMAN

Yes, but...

SHYLOCK

So you decided to join Alpha Cholera.

ROGER

A wise decision, friend, a wise decision.

SECOND FRESHMAN

But...

SHYLOCK

Yes sir, it isn't everybody can get into Alpha Cholera.

SECOND FRESHMAN

I'm trying to tell you, I already belong to a fraternity. I joined Beta Fistula this morning.

They throw him out the window.

ROGER

We're licked, Shylock, we're licked.

SHYLOCK

Oh, don't give up. We'll get one.

ROGER

No, it's no use. Maybe we ought to dig pits around campus like we did last year.

SHYLOCK

And have the Dean fall in and break his leg again? You nuts? He damn near took our charter away last year! We've got to be careful.

FRAT BROTHER'S VOICE

Incoming!

Asa Hearthrug enters.

<b>#6</b>	<b>A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA</b>
-----------	---------------------------------

<b>Roger &amp; Shylock</b>
----------------------------

ROGER & SHYLOCK

HERE'S A TOAST TO ALPHA CHOLERA

FROM EACH AND EV'RY FAITHFUL FOLLERA

WE'RE HAIL FELLOW-WELL-MET SOLID AS FELLAS CAN GET

WE'RE MEN WHO ARE MEN WHO ARE MEN  
 SO OPEN UP YOUR MOUTH AND BE A HOLLERA  
 LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AND THEN  
 LET'S TOAST ALPHA CHOLERA AGAIN

ROGER

You are a freshman, aren't you?

ASA

Yes...

SHYLOCK

Have you got change for a twenty?

ASA

Yes...

ROGER

Well, well, well. So you've decided to join Alpha Cholera. A wise decision, friend, a wise decision.

ASA

No, no, no, no. I was just walking down the street when -

ROGER

My name is Roger Hailfellow. I'm president of Alpha Cholera. And this is our treasurer, Shylock Fiscal.

SHYLOCK

Just call me Shy.

The frat boys bolt the windows and block  
 the exits so that Asa can't escape.

ROGER

Yes, sir, you sure picked yourself the right fraternity. Alpha Cholera isn't one of those little upstart outfits. No, sir. Alpha Cholera is the oldest fraternity in the world. It was founded in ancient Greece by Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides.

SHYLOCK

They did not give their last names.

ROGER

Yes, sir. I know you're going to be happy here. Say, what is your name?

ASA

Asa Hearthrug. Now, look, I was just walking down the street -

SHYLOCK

And lucky it is you were, friend. We just happen to have a vacancy in the fraternity right now. He sure is lucky, isn't he, Roger?

ROGER

Indeed he is. It isn't everybody who can get into Alpha Cholera.

SHYLOCK

We investigate them very carefully. Their families too. Roger, bring me my Dun and Bradstreet, will you?

ASA

Oh, my father wouldn't be in that. He's got a drug store in Blue Earth, Minnesota.

SHYLOCK

You sure you got change for a twenty?

ASA

Oh, sure. I've got two hundred dollars here.

ROGER

Well, well, well.

SHYLOCK

How long does that have to last you?

ASA

'Til next month when I get another two hundred dollars. I get two hundred dollars every month.

SHYLOCK

Glad to hear your father's a druggist, Asa. Salt of the earth - druggists. Always standing by, rain or shine, light or dark, to prepare the medicines to heal the sick.

ASA

There's no prescription department in dad's store.

SHYLOCK

Standing by, rain or shine, light or dark, to prepare the sandwiches to feed the hungry...

ROGER

I can't begin to tell you the fun you'll have in Alpha Cholera - always something gay and exciting going on. Next week, for example, we're holding our big Pan-Hellenic dance.

ASA

Next week?

ROGER

It's a dance open to other fraternities. Every fall - on election eve - we hold an open dance. Another one of those great Alpha Cholera tradition you'll come to love.

ASA

Election eve? There's no election until 1948.

ROGER

Election to the student council, Asa.

ASA

If I joined your fraternity - I'm not saying I will, mind you - but if I did join, how much would it cost?

ROGER

Come over here, Asa. I want to show you our radio-phonograph and record collection. Finest on campus. We got everything - Goodman, Dorsey, Herman. Or if you go in for classical stuff, we got an album of Fred Waring.

SHYLOCK

Now then. You get \$200 a month from home?

ASA

That's right.

SHYLOCK

Dues are forty dollars a month. No, make that fifty.

ASA

Oh, I couldn't possibly pay...

SHYLOCK

Then there's meals. Breakfast, one dollar. Lunch, one fifty. Dinner, two fifty. And no tipping. We're very strict about that.

ASA

But I can't pay that much for meals.

SHYLOCK

You can skip breakfast. It makes you logy all morning anyhow. As for laundry. You just throw your dirty clothes down the chute and five days later you get your wet-wash back - all for six dollars a week.

ROGER

Know what's in here? A file card on every girl on campus. Name, address, age, weight, height, food and liquor capacity. Also the achievement records of all the fellows who have ever taken her out. Join Alpha Cholera and be sure what you're getting into. And here is our crib section, Asa. All the answers to all the questions on all the tests ever given at the University of Minnesota. See? Long strips of paper, accordion pleated, fits right in the palm of your hand.

SHYLOCK

Then there's national dues. Alpha Cholera isn't one of those dinky one-chapter houses. No sir. We've got chapters at the Utah

School of Mines and the Winnipeg Secretarial College too. Whenever you're in Utah or Winnipeg, just go right into the Alpha Cholera house and you'll be welcome. National dues are... (To Roger.) How much have we taken him for so far?

ROGER

187, so far, Shy.

SHYLOCK

National dues are thirteen dollars a month. And that's it, Asa. That's every red cent you'll pay for being an Alpha Cholera - except of course \$300 for your handsome zircon Alpha Cholera pin. We'll have to work something out on that - perhaps a mortgage on your father's drug store.

ASA

No. The whole thing is out of the question. Why, I won't even have enough money to pay my tuition. I haven't paid it yet.

SHYLOCK

Oh, you can write home for that. You've got a whole week left to pay your tuition.

ASA

No. I'm sorry, but I can't join. Now if you gentlemen will direct me to a moderately priced boarding house...

SHYLOCK

Roger! You forgot to show him our B.M.O.C.

ASA

What's a B.M.O.C.?

ROGER

A big man on campus. And we've got the biggest of 'em all. Do you know who will be your fraternity brother when you join Alpha Cholera?

ASA

Who?

ROGER

Eino Fllliikkiinnenn.

ASA

Not Eino Fllliikkiinnenn, the football player?

ROGER

None other.

ASA

Not Eino Fllliikkiinnenn, the triple-threat?

SHYLOCK

The same.

ASA

Not Eino Ffllliikkiinnenn who made every All-American in the country last year?

SHYLOCK

Yes, sir. Would you like to see him?

ASA

Oh, may I? may I?

SHYLOCK

Of course. I'll call him. (Calling off.) Eino!!!

Eino Ffllliikkiinnenn enters dressed in shorts and shoulder pads. He is carrying a dead rabbit.

EINO

He don't move no more. Ay vant vun dat moves.

Musical flourish into song.

<b>#8</b>	<b>LEGENDARY EINO FFLLIKKIINNENN</b>	<b>Roger, Shy, Asa, Eino &amp; Men</b>
-----------	--------------------------------------	--

ROGER & SHYLOCK

HE'S THE LEGENDARY EINO FFLLIKKIINNENN  
WHEN HE AMBLES ON THE FIELD AT MICHIGAN  
THEY TREMBLE AND SHAKE LIKE A STORMY LAKE  
EINO LIVES EXCLUSIVELY ON UNCOOKED STEAK

EINO

OH, GENTLEMEN YOU OUGHT TO KNOW  
DAT AIN'T SO TRUE  
'CAUSE NOW AND DEN AY LIKE A BOX OF ANIMAL CRACKERS TOO

ROGER & SHYLOCK

HE'S THE LEGENDARY EINO FFLLIKKIINNENN  
THROUGH THE YEAR WE WANT TO CHEER THAT KICK AGAIN  
WE KNOW IT SOUNDS TALL  
BUT WE SWEAR LAST FALL  
NOTRE DAME TACKLED EINO BUT HE PASSED THE BALL  
AND RAN TWO HUNDRED YARDS AND WON HIS WORLD REKNOWN  
WHEN HE CAUGHT THE BALL HE'D THROWN AS IT WAS COMING DOWN

MEN

DOUBLE F  
DOUBLE L  
DOUBLE I  
DOUBLE K  
DOUBLE I  
DOUBLE N

E  
DOUBLE N

THERE WILL NEVER, NEVER BE  
SUCH A NAME OR SUCH A MAN AGAIN

HE'S THE LEGENDARY EINO FLLIIKKIINNENN  
AND WE KNOW TO US HE'LL STICK THRU THICK AND THIN  
HE'S SOLID OF LIMB  
FILLED WITH PEP AND VIM  
FOR HE SPENDS THE WHOLE DAY LONG UP IN THE GYM

EINO  
OH, GENTLEMEN YOU OUGHT TO KNOW  
DAT AIN'T SO TRUE  
'CAUSE NOW AND DEN AY LIKE TO PLAY  
WITH MY TINKER TOYS TOO

ASA  
ISN'T HE THE MAN WHO GAINED A THOUSAND YARDS AGAINST PURDUE  
AND COMPLETED A HUNDRED PASSES TO DEFEAT OHIO U

MEN  
YES!

ASA  
THE MAN WHO FRACTURED BOTH HIS LEGS  
BUT WENT AHEAD JUST THE SAME  
AND COMPLETED HIS LONGEST TOUCHDOWN  
MADE AT NOTRE DAME

MEN  
YES!

ASA  
THE MAN THEY BUILT A STATUE TO ON INDIANA'S SOD  
AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO THE COACH AND TO THE SQUAD

MEN  
HE'S THE LEGENDARY EINO FLLIIKKIINNENN  
AND WITH HIM BEHIND US WE KNOW WE CAN WIN  
HE'S SOLID AS STEEL FROM HIS HEAD TO HIS HEEL  
BUT HIS HEART IS SOFTER THAN A BABY'S MEAL

ROGER & SHYLOCK  
HE LOVES US ALL AND IF YOU JOIN HE'LL LOVE YOU TOO  
IN FACT HE'LL BE JUST LIKE A BROTHER TO YOU

EINO  
OH YEAH, AY BE JUST LIKE A BROTHER TO YOU

ASA  
I'LL JOIN

ROGER & SHYLOCK

HE'LL JOIN

ASA

I'LL JOIN

MEN

HE'LL JOIN

OH, WE GOT A MEMBER WITH THE SAME TRICK AGAIN  
THANK GOD FOR THE LENEDARY EINO FFLLIKKIINNENN

**#8A EINO PLAYOFF**

**Orchestra**

The corridor outside a classroom. Noblesse Oblige enters. She stops and applies makeup with great care. A few boys enter.

NOBLESSE

Are you kids in this sociology class?

BOYS

Yes.

NOBLESSE

Gee, I mean that's marvy. That's keen, I mean, it's...

Girls enter and pair off with the boys.  
Clothilde enters carrying books.

CLOTHILDE

This is Sociology One, isn't it? (Noblesse nods.) Good.

Clothilde opens a book and starts to read.  
Boys enters. Noblesse smiles. Girls enter and pair with boys again.

NOBLESSE

What are you reading?

CLOTHILDE

The Origin of the Species. Have you read it?

NOBLESSE

No, but I've seen the movie. I just adore reading, I mean I'm utterly mad about it, but I just never get time to open a book. I mean with all the social life on campus. I mean I'm on the go every second - parties, dances, sleigh rides, hayrides, the theatre, night court - I mean I never have a second to relax with a good book, I mean.

CLOTHILDE

I suppose.

Boys enter quickly followed by more girls.

NOBLESSE

What other books have you got there?

CLOTHILDE

History and economics and statistics...I'm majoring in statistics  
- and psychology and...

NOBLESSE

Psychology! I just adore psychology. I mean psychology knocks me  
out. Does psychology knock you out?

CLOTHILDE

Yes, I enjoy it very much. In fact, I was reading this psychology  
book a little while ago. It's perfectly fascinating...

Yetta Samovar bursts in, thrusting  
pamphlets at everyone in sight. Noblesse  
receives one but drops it.

YETTA

Comrades! The revolution is at hand! (To Noblesse.) Better pick  
that up, Comrade. Siberia is not a comfortable place.

NOBLESSE

(To Clothilde.) Don't pay any attention to her, dear. She's  
maladjusted because she can't get into a sorority.

YETTA

Why, you instrument of reaction! You strikebreaker! You bourgeois  
exploiter! You...

Professor Schultz enters.

STUDENTS

Good morning, professor.

SCHULTZ

The new generation. These...these, mark you...are the people we  
must trust with the atom bomb. Makes one's flesh creep.

She exits into the classroom. Kermit  
enters. The freshmen go into a frenzy,  
especially Peggy Hepp.

PEGGY

Hey! It's Kermit McDermott!

NOBLESSE

It's Kermit McDermott! The B.M.O.C.! I mean I think I'm gonna  
swoon.

CLOTHILDE

Who is he?

YETTA

He's running for president of the student council. A cinch to win.

CLOTHILDE

Is he a member of your party?

YETTA

Party, shmarty. Look at those shoulders.

KERMIT

Hello, my fledglings. Ah, let these old eyes look at you. And what is your name, my pretty mouse?

PEGGY

Peggy Hepp, sir.

KERMIT

I think I'll call you Blondie. Because you're blond. Get it?

PEGGY

You noticed!

Asa enters carrying a stack of books.

KERMIT

Why here's another eager young face. Look at all those books. What do you want to be when you grow up, Junior, blind?

Kermit laughs heartily at his joke. Asa drops a book in the confusion. Clothilde picks it up.

ASA

Oh - thanks.

KERMIT

What an I.Q. he must have. O.K. Freshmen you'll grow up, and I'll help you.

PEGGY

Oh do, Kermit.

KERMIT

If I wanted to be a bad influence, I could give you some very pernicious advice.

PEGGY

Oh - do, Kermit.

KERMIT

It wouldn't jibe with the curriculum.

#9	TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL	Kermit, Peggy & Company
----	--------------------------------	-------------------------

KERMIT

WITH FISHES IN THE BROOKS  
WHO WANTS TO LOOK AT BOOKS  
IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
WITH BENCHES IN THE PARKS  
WHO WANTS TO HEAR REMARKS  
FROM SOME FUDDY DUDDY OLD FOOL?

WITH BIRDIES IN THE TREES  
AN' AUTUMN IN THE BREEZE  
IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
WITH ROSY TINTED SKIES  
WHO WANTS TO MEMORIZE  
SOME DUMB FUDDY DUDDY OLD RULE?

LET'S GO SIT IN PINK-FACED CLOVER  
HIGH ON A SUN-DRENCHED HILL  
LET'S SIT AND LOOK THE WHOLE WORLD OVER  
FROM THE VIEW OF A DAFFODIL

KERMIT & PEGGY

THE LEAVES ARE TUMBLIN' DOWN  
THEY'RE GOLDEN, TAN AND BROWN  
THE GREEN GRASS IS COMF'T'BLE AN' COOL  
THERE OUGHT TO BE A WAY  
TO HAVE A HOLIDAY  
IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
YES, IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL

The set has turned into the classroom.  
Kermit stands at the front pretending to be  
the professor.

KERMIT

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!  
GIVE ME YOUR ATTENTION  
TODAY WE WILL DISCUSS THE THIRD DIMENSION

COMPANY

OH NO!

KERMIT

HOW TO GET GUTTA-PERCHA SAP  
OUTTA MALAYAN TREES  
THE RELATION OF HEREDITY TO BRIGHT'S DISEASE

COMPANY

PLEASE!

KERMIT

ALL 'O THE CASTES OF INDIA  
EMPERORS OF JAPAN

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MAN FROM THE ORANGATAN  
 WHETHER TOM JEFFERSON BORROWED  
 SOME O' THE THINGS HE SAID FROM BURKE  
 THE EFFECT OF EL GRECO ON KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN'S WORK  
 THE MATING SEASON OF THE HAWK  
 AND THE SPECKLED JAY  
 THE MANY DAILY DUTIES DONE  
 BY THE TURKISH BEY  
 THE LATEST RULINGS IN PERU  
 ON THE STOWAWAY

COMPANY

OH! CAN'T WE LEARN IT ALL SOME OTHER DAY?

WITH MEADOWS DEEP IN GRASS  
 WHO WANTS TO SIT IN CLASS  
 IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
 WITH MILES OF SANDY BEACH  
 WHO WANTS TO HEAR A SPEECH  
 FROM SOME FUDDY DUDDY OLD FOOL?

WITH FLOWERS FULLA SUN  
 AND HEARTS SO FULLA FUN  
 IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
 WHEN WE COULD CHEW A WEED  
 WHO WANTS TO SIT AND READ  
 SOME FUDDY DUDDY OLD RULE?

KERMIT & PEGGY

LET'S GO SIT BENEATH A WILLOW  
 DOWN A COUNTRY LANE  
 THE SUN WILL MAKE A HILL ITS PILLOW  
 WITH A CLOUD FOR A COUNTERPANE!

COMPANY

WITH AUTUMN ALL IN BLOOM  
 WHO WANTS TO SEE A ROOM  
 AND GAZE AT A TEACHER ON A STOOL?  
 THERE OUGHTA BE A WAY  
 TO HAVE A HOLIDAY  
 IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL  
 YES! IT'S TOO NICE A DAY TO GO TO SCHOOL!

Schultz enters the classroom.

SCHULTZ

Attention please.

Asa enters late and frustrated. There are only three empty seats next to Clothilde, Noblesse and Yetta. Yetta forces him into the seat next to her.

SCHULTZ (Cont'd)

May I start now? Thank you...where do I get the strength to continue this year after year? I swear I'd quit today if I didn't need a new dress. Policeman told me yesterday that this one was a traffic hazard, the way the sun glares off it and blinds motorists. So you're all taking Sociology One. Well, it's a state university. Anybody can go. I don't mean to pry, but does any of you have the vaguest idea what sociology is?

YETTA

Sociology is the study of how the working class is oppressed by the capitalist bosses, how the masses are exploited by the plutocracy, how the few are enriched by the toil and sweat of the many. How long, I ask you, will we stand for this? Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains.

SCHULTZ

Oh my God. Another party intellectual. The only party in the country composed entirely of intellectuals. So it starts again - mass meetings, leaflets, acne, letters to editors, burning the dean of the business school in effigy. Every year the same revolution. Anybody else want to answer the question? What is sociology?

NOBLESSE

Sociology is all about society. I mean how you get in the swim, how you get to be somebody, I mean. You know - savoir faire and poise and well-rounded-out personality. A kid can't get anywhere on campus without he has a well-rounded-out personality, I mean.

SCHULTZ

Ah yes. The social lion-cub. Anybody else?

CLOTHILDE

Sociology is the study of human relations. It deals with the patterns of society, the forces at work in it, the changes that take place. Sociology may be divided into the following branches: theoretical, clinical, psychological and statistical.

SCHULTZ

Well, whaddaya know. Even before she starts taking the course, she knows the right answer. Uh, huh. The useful citizen type. Perhaps the most dangerous of all. But what am I knocking myself out for? All I am required to do on the first day of school is to tell you the name of the course, my name, and the textbooks you'll need. What am I getting wound up for? It isn't as though I were ever going to get a raise. All right. The name of this course is Sociology One. My name is Schultz. Get out paper and pencil and I'll give you a list of books you'll need for the course. Ready? Okay. Introduction to the Study of Sociology by Schultz. Sociology Made Simple by Schultz. Sociology for College Freshmen by Schultz. Sociology for Freshmen in College by Schultz. Survey of Freshman Sociology by Schultz. Introductory Monograph to the Study of Freshman Sociology by Schultz. Broader

Aspects of Sociology by Schultz. Bibliography of Schultz's Works on Sociology for College Freshmen by Schultz. The Science of Sociology by Clabberhouse. He's my brother-in-law. He's got to live too. I'll dismiss the class now so you can get right over to the bookstore and buy those books. And don't try to get them second-hand because you can't. I just wrote them last summer.

She exits as do the students, except for  
Clothilde, Noblesse and Yetta who trap Asa.

ASA

Well, it looks like this is going to be a real interesting class.

NOBLESSE

It could be, dream man, it could be.

ASA

I'm Asa Hearthrug.

CLOTHILDE

I'm Clothilde Pfefferkorn.

NOBLESSE

I'm Noblesse Oblige.

YETTA

I'm Yetta Samovar. My party name, of course. I took the name of our great feminine martyr.

ASA

Who was she?

YETTA

The first woman in the Soviet Union to operate a power crane. She was working on the Dneprepetrovsk dam when she was martyred. She leaned too far out of her crane and fell into a block of newly-laid, quick drying cement. Her last words as the cement hardened around her were "Solidarity forever".

ASA

I see. Well, I've got to go now. I've got another class. (The girls surround him.) Uh - this sure is a nice university. A fellow can make something of himself here.

NOBLESSE

Indeed he can. I mean the university is a marvy place to learn poise and social presence and all that kind of stuff. I mean you make contacts here that are so important in later life and you learn the things that matter, really matter, I mean, like drinking and dancing and bridge and repartee. You round out your personality.

YETTA

Bourgeois talk! I'm here to get information that will bring on the millennium.

CLOTHILDE

To me college is a preparation for a career. The more you know, the better equipped you are for any business or profession. My particular interest is statistics. Statistics is enjoying a boom not only in industry but in all fields of human endeavor. All knowledge is in the province of the statistician. I'm here to learn all I can.

ASA

That's real nice and I wish you success. All of you. Now if you'll excuse me.

NOBLESSE

What do you want to learn at college, Asa?

ASA

Oh, I don't know. Just get a general education, I guess.

CLOTHILDE

But surely there's something specific you want to be.

ASA

Well, no. Just a general education.

NOBLESSE

Come on, Asa. There is something, isn't there?

ASA

Well...

YETTA

Come on.

ASA

Well, I'd like to be a writer.

NOBLESSE

Gee, I mean, that's marvy.

YETTA

You've got to suffer to be a writer, comrade. Tell me, have you suffered?

ASA

Well, yes, I get awful chafed in summer.

CLOTHILDE

A writer has to be more informed than a statistician even. If I were you I would spend every minute learning all kinds of things. Why don't you come with me now? We'll go over to the Knoll and

lie on the grass and I'll tell you lots of facts. I just finished the World Almanac last night.

They start to leave.

NOBLESSE

The really important thing for a writer is poise and social awareness and a well-rounded-out personality. And I know just where to get it. There's a funny little place called The Sty right near campus where all the hep college crowd goes for a perfectly mad time. It's a slice of life, Asa, I mean it's a slice of life. Come on.

They start off.

YETTA

The most important thing for a writer is to get published. The editor of Poignancy, the campus literary magazine, is a friend of mine. You've heard of Poignancy, haven't you?

ASA

Who hasn't? I'll never forget the time they scooped the world by publishing a laundry list of James Joyce.

YETTA

That's the one. Have you got any of your stories with you?

ASA

I have one over at the fraternity house.

YETTA

Go get it and meet me at the Poignancy office in half an hour.

He starts to leave.

NOBLESSE

What about me? I mean when am I going to see you? I mean after all.

ASA

Gee I don't know.

NOBLESSE

Meet me tonight at the Sty. Nine o'clock. Okay?

ASA

(Helplessly.) Okay.

Noblesse exits.

CLOTHILDE

When will I see you?

ASA

I don't know, Clothilde. Maybe tomorrow.

CLOTHILDE

That's a date. Tomorrow at two o'clock. On the Knoll.

YETTA

Hurry, comrade. Go get that story.

She exits.

ASA

All right. I'll see you in a half hour.

He exits. Music in.

CLOTHILDE

Goodbye, Asa.

<b>#10 I KNEW I'D KNOW</b>
----------------------------

<b>Clothilde</b>
------------------

CLOTHILDE (Cont'd)

I'VE HADA LOT OF BOY FRIENDS FOR A GIRL MY AGE  
 I'M POSITIVE THEIR NAMES WOULD FILL A PAGE  
 THERE WAS JIM, HE TOOK ME RIDING  
 ON THE HANDLE BARS OF HIS BIKE  
 THERE WAS ELMER WITH HIS ADAM'S APPLE  
 AND A GROC'RY BOY NAMED MIKE  
 THERE WAS CHARLIE, HE WAS THE SMOOTH ONE  
 AND DONALD, HOW HE COULD SING!  
 BOBBY, HE HAD A ROADSTER  
 BUT NONE OF THOSE BOYS MEANT A THING  
 EV'RY NIGHT I WROTE IN MY DIARY  
 "I HAVEN'T MET HIM YET"  
 SOME PEOPLE SAID I NEVER WOULD  
 I WISH I'D MADE A BET

I KNEW I'D KNOW  
 WHEN THE RIGHT ONE CAME ALONG  
 I KNEW I'D KNOW  
 AND I SEE I WASN'T WRONG  
 THERE HE WAS AND HE WAS FOR ME BECAUSE  
 THE MOMENT HE SMILED  
 I KNEW HIS SMILE HELD MY HAPPINESS  
 YES  
 I KNEW I'D KNOW  
 BY THE SUDDEN GLOW I'D FEEL  
 I KNEW I'D SHOW  
 ALL THE LOVE I SHOULD CONCEAL  
 JUST TODAY WE MET  
 AND YET A LONG LONG TIME AGO  
 I KNEW I'D KNOW I KNEW I'D KNOW

**#10A INTO POIGNANCY****Orchestra**

The Poignancy office. Sam is on the phone.

SAM

(Into phone.) The next issue of Poignancy goes to press tomorrow, and I'd like to have another avant-guard play from you. That last one of yours - Spasm - was real good. Fine idea you had - letting the characters say their lines backwards. Got something new?

Yetta enters followed by Asa.

YETTA

Sam!

SAM

(Into phone.) Good. Get it over to me this afternoon.

He hangs up.

YETTA

Sam, this is Asa Hearthrug. He's got a short story he'd like you to hear.

SAM

All right. I could use a good class-conscious short story. Read it, kid.

ASA

Thank you, sir. It's called Tomorrow is Tomorrow.

SAM

It stinks. But go ahead. I'll change it later.

ASA

"Stephen walked up the path that lay coiled and fretted around the arbor."

SAM

Stop! Stephen! Of all the petit-bourgeois, Ladies Home Journal names, that is number one. And what kind of a path around what kind of an arbor? What kind of a counter-revolutionist are you? You better beat it, kid.

YETTA

Wait a minute, Sam. Those are only minor points. You can change the name of the character. Call him Sam.

SAM

That's a good name.

YETTA

And you can change the locale. Give it a proletarian setting. An alley.

SAM

An alley. That's it. An alley. Go ahead, kid.

ASA

"The oblique rays of the afternoon sun silhouetted his broad shoulders, his flat hips, his long, lean legs, his finely molded head."

SAM

What kind of body is that for a proletarian?

YETTA

Wait a minute. Let's not be hasty. Let's work on it. Here is a guy named Sam in an alley. He is shriveled up - a hunchback. He got rickets when he was baby because the food trust raised their prices and his mother couldn't get him any vitamins. Now he is bitter, defeated by the class war. He can't find work. He hasn't got money for food. He's going down the alley - I got it! - searching in garbage cans.

SAM

Yeah, I like that. It's got symbolism. Go ahead, kid.

ASA

"Now Amelia comes toward him, trippingly, trippingly. Amelia of the golden hair, Amelia of the tawny green eyes, with her white, diaphanous tunic, as pure as her soul, billowing in a gentle breeze."

SAM

Amelia!

YETTA

You can call her Sarah!

SAM

All right, I'll call her Sarah. I'll dress her in burlap. But what is she doing in an alley?

YETTA

Can't she be picking garbage too?

SAM

Yeah, that's it. She's a scavenger too.

YETTA

Sure. He opens the garbage can, and there she is inside of it.

SAM

Inside of it?

YETTA

She's a dwarf. At first he snarls at her. He's mad because she's muscling in on his garbage. Then he notices that she's a woman. Now another emotion comes over him - passion.

SAM

Yeah, passion. Go ahead, kid.

ASA

"He took the delicate contour of her cheek in his bronzed palm. The coolness of her lips was near, inviting. They kissed."

SAM

What kind of bronzed palm? What kind of kissing? They been eating garbage. Will you get outa here, kid, before you make me crazy!?

YETTA

Wait a minute. I got it. He lunges at her. She ducks. He lunges again. She whips out a dirk.

SAM

Ah, that's more like it.

YETTA

Listen. He's coming at her. She swings the knife. She slashes his arm. He belts her in the head. She falls back. He grabs her. She kicks him in the groin. He falls back. She closes in on him. He's groggy. She jabs the knife into his throat. He falls. But when he falls, he grabs her leg and she goes down. She cracks her head on a rock. She's groggy. He's sinking fast. With his last ounce of strength, he pulls the knife from her hand and lets her have it four times in the kidney. They're both dead. Get the irony, Sam? They kill each other when they should be in the class war killing the common enemy.

SAM

What a story. What an indictment of the system. Okay, kid. You make those minor changes, and I'll run the story. I'll see you later. I've got to leave now to fight the class war.

He exits.

YETTA

Isn't Sam a wonderful editor? With just those few minor changes he turned your story into a powerful document, a death-blow to bourgeois-democratic-capitalism.

ASA

Just a few minor changes, yeah.

YETTA

Surely you're going to make those changes aren't you?

ASA

I don't know, Yetta. I...

YETTA

Asa, listen to me. You want to be a writer. What kind of writer do you want to be? Do you want to be the sniveling voice of reaction or do you want to be the brave trumpet of a new era?

ASA

The brave trumpet of a new era I guess, but...

YETTA

Then join with me. Build the new world with me. Join the army of the proletariat.

ASA

Thanks a lot, Yetta. But I've got a little homework to do. Maybe later.

YETTA

Now, comrade, now, before it is too late. Humanity is at the crossroads. You must choose now. The sides are arrayed; the class war is about to begin. It will be a bitter struggle, Asa, bitter. But the people will prevail. And afterwards (She takes his hand.) we will share, you and I, the joy in the people's movement, the joy in communal labor, the joy in reaping the fruits of toil, the joy in the folk arts. Strong and bronzed, we will work side by side, singing as we work, clapping one another on the back with simple heartiness. Asa, my answer is yes. I will go steady.

ASA

Who asked you?

YETTA

Put it here.

ASA

Put what there?

YETTA

Your fraternity pin, comrade. What else?

ASA

But Yetta, you can't be serious. We've know each other such a short time.

YETTA

Time! A capitalistic invention. Especially overtime. What do we care for time? Gimme the pin.

ASA

Now, just a minute, Yetta. There seems to be some...

She lunges for his pin. They struggle and she pulls it off.

ASA (Cont'd)

You broke the catch.

YETTA

It's nothing, dear comrade. See? All you have to do is bend this little gadget back. See? Just as good as new.

ASA

No, Yetta, that won't hold. It will have to be fixed.

YETTA

Nonsense, dolly. It's perfectly all right. See, I'll pin it on.

ASA

No, I'll have it fixed.

YETTA

Give it back, you social democrat.

ASA

(Thinking quickly.) Look, Yetta, I'm not the type of fellow who would give a girl a defective pin. This is, after all, an important step. I want everything to be right. I'll have it fixed.

YETTA

All right, my little commissar. When will it be ready?

ASA

Soon. A few days. I'll call you.

YETTA

When?

ASA

Soon, yetta, soon.

YETTA

Will you give it to me at the Pan-Hellenic dance your fraternity is throwing next week?

ASA

Sure. Sure.

Music in.

YETTA

Then we got a date for the dance?

ASA

(Desperately.) Yes. Yes. All right.

**#11 I'LL TURN A LITTLE COG****Yetta, Asa & Company**

YETTA

COMRADE, YOU AND I COULD SHARE  
 IN THE BRAVE NEW WORLD TO BE  
 ALL THE WORKERS WILL NEED STRONG YOUNG WIVES  
 AND YOU SHOULD HAVE A GIRL LIKE ME  
 I CAN SAW DOWN THE LUMBER  
 I CAN HELP BUILD A HOUSE  
 FOR I'M NOT A NUMBER  
 WHO'S AFRAID OF A MOUSE  
 I'LL SAW THE LUMBER  
 AND I'LL CARRY IT  
 FOR I'M A WOMAN OF THE PROLETARIAT!  
 WHEN OUR HOUSE IS DONE, WE'LL ARISE  
 AND GO TO THE FAC'T'RY LIKE MEN  
 I'LL SLAP YOU ON THE BACK  
 YOU'LL SLAP ME ON THE BACK  
 WE'LL SIT AT A BENCH AND THEN:

I'LL TURN A LITTLE COG  
 YOU'LL TURN A LITTLE WHEEL  
 WE'LL BOLT A LITTLE NUT  
 AND WE'LL WORK WITH ZEAL  
 SIDE BY SIDE FOR THE PARTY'S SAKE  
 AND WE WON'T GIVE A DAMN  
 HOW OUR BACKS ACHE

I'LL TURN A LITTLE COG  
 YOU'LL TURN A LITTLE WHEEL  
 WE'LL BOLT A LITTLE NUT  
 OH THE JOY WE'LL FEEL  
 SIDE BY SIDE WITH OUR FLAG UNFURLED  
 WE'LL BE BRAVE NEW WORKERS  
 OF A BRAVE NEW WORLD

ASA

WOULDN'T LIFE GROW TO BE  
 SORT OF DULL AND FLAT  
 DOING NOTHING ALL THE DAY BUT THAT?

YETTA

IF YOU'RE TIRED OF YOUR WHEEL  
 I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'LL DO  
 FOR VARIETY  
 I'LL CHANGE PLACES WITH YOU

YOU'LL TURN A LITTLE COG  
 I'LL BOLT A LITTLE NUT  
 THEN WE CAN SAY THAT WE'RE NEVER IN A RUT  
 SIDE BY SIDE FOR THE SOVIET  
 AND WE'LL BOTH LOVE THE SMELL  
 OF GOOD CLEAN SWEAT!

Asa sneaks out of the office as Yetta turns  
her attention to her imaginary 'people'.

WE'LL KEEP OUT STOMACHS AMPLY FED  
ON BEET-BLOOD BORSCHT AND BAKED BLACK BREAD  
OUR RECREATION WILL CONSIST  
OF PLANNING HORRIBLE FATES FOR THE CAPITALIST

YOU'LL TURN A LITTLE COG  
I'LL BOLT A LITTLE NUT  
OUR ARMS AND LEGS MAY ACHE LIKE THE DEVIL BUT  
WE'LL IGNORE HOW OUR BODY FEELS  
FOR OUR SOULS WILL SOAR TURNING COGS AND WHEELS

COMPANY  
FOR OUR SOULS WILL SOAR TURNING COGS AND

YETTA

YA POVER MU ZUB TZOM  
JI POVYEV NYESH CAL TZOM  
MUI DVIN YEM GI KOVNEES  
DYEALO POY DJYOT VMYEES

*Translation.*

*I WILL TURN THE SWITCH  
YOU WILL TURN THE RING  
WE WILL REMOVE THE CHAINS  
TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT*

*Phonetic spelling.*

*YAH POE-VAIR MOO ZOOB T'SOME  
YEE POVE-YEV NYESH CAL T'SOME  
ME D'VEEN YEM GHEE COVE-KNEES  
D'YA-LOW POY DEE-OTT (ONE SYLLABLE) V'MEES*

YETTA & COMPANY

BOC A BOC NA PAR TZYNY PVOAK  
BROSIM DU MATZ CHTO SPEE NU DAL JNEE GNUTCH

*Translation.*

*SIDE BY SIDE FOR THE PARTY'S SAKE  
WE WILL FORGET THAT WE HAVE TO WORK LIKE SLAVES*

*Phonetic spelling.*

*BOKE-UH-BOKE NAH PAR TZEE KNEE VOE-ACK (ONE SYLLABLE)  
BRO-SIM DO MAHTZ CHOE SPEE NEW DAL G'KNEE G'NOOTCH*

YETTA

AND AFTER SIXTY YEARS OR MORE  
OF WORKING 'TIL WE'RE TIRED AND SORE  
THE STATE WILL IMMORTALIZE OUR NAMES  
ON A LARGE GREY TOMBSTONE WHICH PROCLAIMS  
THEY TURNED A LOT OF

COMPANY  
COGS!

YETTA  
THEY BOLTED LOTS OF

COMPANY  
NUTS!

YETTA  
THEY TURNED A LOT OF

COMPANY  
WHEELS!

YETTA  
AND HAD LOTS OF GUTS

YETTA & COMPANY  
ALL TRUE BLUE TO THE COLOR RED  
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE NOW THAT THEY'RE DEAD!

#11A INTO STY	Orchestra
---------------	-----------

The Sty. Very fashionable. Music is playing. Students are socializing.

GUS  
What'll it be, mac? The usual beer?

SHYLOCK  
Oh, no. Not tonight, Gus. Mix me a Courvoisier and Seven-up.

GUS  
Say, you must have got a pledge for that fraternity of yours.

Roger enters carrying a stack of mail.

SHYLOCK  
Hi, Roger.

ROGER  
Answers from the bands for the election eve dance.

SHYLOCK  
Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Xavier Cugat. Hey, here's a letter for Asa Hearthrug. How did that get mixed up in here? Money! It must be the tuition money he wrote home for. I wonder...

ROGER  
Shy! You cut that out. The postmaster general takes a dim view of that sort of thing.

They have split the mail between themselves.

SHYLOCK

It's a shame to waste all this money on tuition. What does Goodman say?

ROGER

He says he won't come for \$75. What about Tommy Dorsey?

SHYLOCK

I don't think he understood my letter. All he sent back was an autographed picture.

ROGER

How about Cugat?

SHYLOCK

He says he can play for a limited time.

ROGER

Swell!

SHYLOCK

Wait a minute. It isn't as good as it sounds. He said that on the night of our dance, he would be on his way to Seattle to play a date there. However, his train goes through Minneapolis at 11:35. He said that if we brought the kids down to Union Station, he would have his marimba player strike a few chords as the train went through.

ROGER

Decent of him. Who else did you hear from?

SHYLOCK

A band called Muskie Pike and his Muskrat Ramblers.

ROGER

Never heard of them.

SHYLOCK

Frankly, I hadn't either until I saw their ad in variety.

ROGER

Where were they playing?

SHYLOCK

The ad in variety said they were at Liberty - someplace in the East, I guess.

ROGER

Will they come for \$75?

SHYLOCK

Yeah. And for another dollar, he says, we can get a stack of his home recordings.

ROGER

Well, it looks like we'll have to settle for Muskie Pike and his Muskrat Ramblers.

Noblesse and Asa enter.

NOBLESSE

This is it, Asa. Isn't it a keen place? I mean isn't it marvy?

ASA

Yeah, marvy.

NOBLESSE

Watch. Kermit McDermott is going to be here tonight.

ASA

Him? Let's go to a movie.

NOBLESSE

Don't be silly. Come on, we'll find a booth.

ASA

There's a couple of fraternity brothers of mine. Let's sit with them.

NOBLESSE

No, let's be by ourselves. Ah, this is fine. We should be alone tonight. I mean it's a kind of special night.

ASA

What's special about it?

GUS

What's it be, folks?

NOBLESSE

Crème de menthe, beer, and a pinch of pickling spices. Two of them, Gus.

ASA

What's special about tonight, Noblesse?

NOBLESSE

Wait till our drinks come, Asa. This will require a toast. Oh, Asa, aren't you just mad about this place, I mean mad? I mean it's so utterly gay.

ASA

It's all right.

NOBLESSE

Ah, this is the life, Asa. This charm, this verve, this savoir faire. It's places like this that give you a well-rounded-out personality.

Noticing her breasts.

ASA

Yours is pretty rounded out already.

NOBLESSE

Yes, I have one of the most well-rounded-out personalities in the freshman class. So will you before long, Asa.

GUS

That'll be five twenty, mac.

Asa pays.

ASA

Gee, drinks are expensive here.

NOBLESSE

But worth it, Asa. It's so important to know what kind of drinks to order. I mean nothing impresses people more than to see you order just the right thing. Well, a toast, Asa. To us. Two more, Gus. This is the way it's always going to be, Asa - drinks in funny little bars, dinners in crazy little cafes, dancing in screwy little ballrooms. What nutty little lives we're going to lead, Asa. We two, together, for always. You may give me your pin now, dear.

ASA

Now wait a minute.

Gus brings more drinks. Asa pays.

NOBLESSE

This is the way I've always imagined it - a romantic spot, soft lights, fine drinks. I'm just mad about this quaint, old-world atmosphere.

ASA

Look, Noblesse, you're jumping at conclusions. I...

NOBLESSE

You mean after what just happened you're not going to give me the pin?

ASA

Look, Noblesse...

NOBLESSE

You're excited, dear. You don't know what you're saying. Of course you're going to give me the pin, aren't you?

ASA

Two more, Gus...Noblesse, listen...all right, I'll give you the pin.

NOBLESSE

Oh, that's keen. That knocks me out. I mean that charges me.

ASA

Oh, oh, the catch broke. See?

NOBLESSE

Oh that's nothing. I mean you just have to bend this little thing back and it'll be alright.

ASA

No, it's got to be fixed

NOBLESSE

Nonsense, it isn't really broken. Go ahead. Pin it on.

ASA

Look, noblesse, I'm not the type fellow who would give a girl a defective pin. This is, after all, an important step. I want everything to be right. I'll have it fixed.

Drinks arrive.

NOBLESSE

All right, dear. When will it be ready?

ASA

I don't know. A few days. I'll call you.

NOBLESSE

When?

ASA

Soon, Noblesse, soon.

NOBLESSE

But when?

ASA

I don't know. I'll...

NOBLESSE

When Asa? Will you give it to me at your fraternity's Pan-Hellenic dance on election eve? Will you? Will you?

ASA

All right.

NOBLESSE

Oh, marvy. That's a date. I think I'll announce our engagement now. Attention, everybody, I mean attention.

Noblesse stands on table but Asa stops her just as Kermit enters with Peggy.

NOBLESSE (Cont'd)

Oh, look! It's Kermit McDermott. And that girl with him is a sorority sister of mine, Peggy Hepp. Maybe we can get them to sit with us. Peggy, oh Peggy, come sit here.

PEGGY

Shall we, Kermit? Noblesse is a good friend of mine.

KERMIT

But they're freshmen, aren't they?

PEGGY

Yes, Kermit, but they'd be so thrilled. Please, Kermit? Please?

KERMIT

Oh very well. That will be my good deed for today. For the whole week.

PEGGY

This is Noblesse Oblige.

NOBLESSE

Charmed. And this is Asa Hearthrug. Peggy Hepp and I'm sure you know who he is.

ASA

Can't say that I do.

KERMIT

New around here, aren't you, sonny?

NOBLESSE

Kermit's a senior.

PEGGY

And a B.M.O.C.

NOBLESSE

He's the campus cheer leader.

PEGGY

And chairman of the keep your campus clean committee.

NOBLESSE

And bursar of the Tobogganing club.

PEGGY

And recording secretary of the Homecoming Button Committee.

ASA

And he claps erasers after school.

PEGGY

And he's the next president of the student council.

ASA

Doesn't he have to be elected first?

KERMIT

Just a formality, sonny, just a formality. What are you kids drinking?

NOBLESSE

We were having Minnesota Rousers. What would you like?

KERMIT

Well, I'd like a Wham-Bammy.

NOBLESSE

That sounds marvy. Let's have those.

KERMIT

You can't. You've got to have a prescription. The Minnesota Rouser will do.

NOBLESSE

Gus, four more.

PEGGY

Isn't it wonderful? Kermit takes me out and I'm only a freshman.

KERMIT

Anything is possible in a democracy.

ASA

What's the matter with being freshman?

KERMIT

Come around some time when you've got a free month and I'll tell you.

They laugh.

NOBLESSE

Oh, Kermit, you're a scream!

PEGGY

Yes, isn't he. And so intelligent too. We have the most marvelous serious discussions. Kermit just knows everything. He's so well informed.

ASA

Yeah! How many caliphs succeeded Mohammed? Who invented the fiacre? When does an Oryx mate?

KERMIT

My, hasn't Joel Kupperman gotten to be a big boy? Come on, Peggy, we don't have to listen to this.

NOBLESSE

Oh, stay, Kermit. Please stay. Asa is sorry. Please, Kermit.

ASA

Sorry, my foot!

NOBLESSE

Asa!

KERMIT

(To Gus.) It's on him. Let's drink!

Asa begrudgingly pays and they drink.

PEGGY

To the next president of the student council.

ASA

I still don't see how you can be so sure.

KERMIT

Listen, you wouldn't like to run against me, would you, freshman?

ASA

Maybe I would.

NOBLESSE

Of course he wouldn't. Asa, you apologize to Kermit.

ASA

What for? I was only expressing an opinion.

KERMIT

Freshmen don't have opinions.

PEGGY

Kermit says being a freshman is a stage. Like being a larva.

KERMIT

Drink up, worms. (They do.) Four more, Gus...candy is dandy, but liquor is quicker. Heh, heh, heh.

NOBLESSE

Oh, Kermit, you're a panic.

PEGGY

You should see him with a lampshade on his head.

KERMIT

You should see my imitation of Mrs. Roosevelt. I'm mad. Utterly mad!

PEGGY

He is. But he has his serious side too. The other night he said it's silly for us to be governed by eighteenth century morals. He said continence was as obsolete as the horse and buggy.

NOBLESSE

What's continence, Asa?

ASA

Asia, Africa, Australia, North and South America.

Gus brings drinks. Kermit looks at Asa to pay again.

ASA (Cont'd)

I paid for the last round.

KERMIT

You don't think I'm going to sit with freshmen and pay for my own drinks too?

NOBLESSE

Of course not. Asa, you pay for those drinks.

PEGGY

To the next president of the student council.

ASA

I still don't see how he can be so sure.

NOBLESSE

Asa, you stop being stupid. How can Kermit miss?

ASA

I won't drink. He hasn't been elected yet and I'm not so sure he's going to be.

NOBLESSE

Asa, you can't talk to Kermit like that. Who do you think you are?

ASA

Me? Who does this guy think he is, acting like he's already won?

KERMIT

Who's gonna beat me? You?

ASA

Well...

KERMIT

Hey, the election is open to everybody. Other people are running against me. Why don't you?

ASA

Well, I...

KERMIT

I'll tell you why. Because you're yellow. You know damn well that I've got every vote on campus sewed up. Senior, junior, sophomore. Yes, and freshmen too. Your own class, sonny, and I don't even campaign among freshmen. You're scared. Admit it.

Music in.

ASA

I'll run.

KERMIT

Hah!

ASA

Yes, by god, I'll run.

**#11B WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?****Kermit & Asa**

KERMIT

SAY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA

WELL, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

KERMIT

Me?

He sings.

WHY I'M THE GUY WHO TOOK THIS PLACE BY STORM  
WHEREVER I GO  
ALL THE CO-EDS SWARM

ASA

SO!?  
FOLKS SWARM AROUND A MONKEY TOO  
MAYBE YOU SHOULD BE IN A ZOO

KERMIT

SAY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA

WHY, WHO I YOU THINK I AM?

KERMIT

Yeah!

ASA

WHY I'M THE GUY WHO CAME IN SECOND PLACE  
THE TIME MY HIGH SCHOOL HELD A POTATO RACE

KERMIT

HA!  
THAT'S ALL HE'S GOT TO BRAG ABOUT  
LITTLE POT WITH A GREAT BIG SPOUT  
YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT A B.M.O.C.  
THERE'S MURDERS OVER MY FRAT PIN  
THERE'S NOBODY CAN COMPETE WITH ME

ASA

THIS IS WHERE I CAME IN!

KERMIT

SAY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA

WHY, WHO I YOU THINK I AM?

KERMIT

That's right.

ASA

WHY, I'M THE GUY WHO THINKS HE'S GOOD AS YOU

KERMIT

AND I'M A GUY WHO'LL PROVE THAT ISN'T TRUE

ASA

YEAH! YOU'RE JUST A GREA BIG BAG OF AIR  
AND I'M A GUY WHO DOESN'T SCARE!

Music under.

KERMIT

Hey gang, want a laugh? This jerk, this pink, this freshman, is  
going to run against me for president of the student council!

He sings.

SAY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA

WELL, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

Me?  
KERMIT

He sings.  
WHY I'M THE GUY WHO'S NUMBER ONE IN CLASS  
AND I'M THE GUY THAT NO ONE ELSE CAN PASS

ASA  
SO?! NOBODY CARES TO PASS A SKUNK!

KERMIT  
LISTEN YOU MEASLY LITTLE PUNK  
WHY, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA  
WHY, WHO DO I THINK I AM?

Uh-huh!  
KERMIT

ASA  
WHY I'M THE GUY WHO WON A SPELLIN' BEE  
IN MISS SHAPIRO'S CLASS IN THIRTY-THREE

KERMIT  
HA! THAT'S ALL HE'S GOT FOR HIS COME BACK  
LITTLE DUCK WITH THE GREAT BIG QUACK!  
THE CO-EDS ALL SWOON WHEN I APPEAR  
THE SORORITIES HAVE A SIGN  
QUOTE: "KERMIT MCDERMOTT ONCE SLEPT HERE"

ASA  
NO DOUBT BY YOUR DESIGN

KERMIT  
SAY! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

ASA  
WHY, WHO DO I THINK I AM?

Yeah!  
KERMIT

ASA  
WHY I'M A GUY WHO THINKS YOU'RE JUST A FAKE

KERMIT  
AND I'M A GUY TO SHOW YOU YOUR MISTAKE

Yeah?  
ASA

KERMIT  
YOU'LL NEVER BE A GUY LIKE ME

ASA

THAT I CAN GUARANTEE!

Sharp focus switch to Shy and Roger.

ROGER

Hey! That's our new pledge. That's Asa. Jeez, let's stop this.

SHYLOCK

No, let him run. I tell you it's a cinch. Look. He's got a date on the Knoll tomorrow afternoon. We'll go over there and tell him that we bet his tuition money on him to win. We'll tell him the bet's already made. What can he do?

ROGER

He can go to the postal authorities, that's what.

SHYLOCK

Postal authorities! He don't even know how to lick a stamp. You got the dance tickets?

ROGER

Right here.

SHYLOCK

How many you gonna give him to sell?

ROGER

I thought a hundred.

SHYLOCK

Make it two hundred. We've got to keep him so busy that he won't have a chance to go out and campaign.

ROGER

I don't care about Asa, but it reflects on the fraternity.

SHYLOCK

We'll convince Asa that he shouldn't make speeches. Imagine that jerk running against Kermit McDermott!

Scene shifts to the Knoll as Kermit leads  
Peggy on while crooning.

<b>#12 AFTER GRADUATION DAY</b>
---------------------------------

<b>Kermit</b>
---------------

KERMIT

PROMISE ME WE'LL STILL BE SWEETHEARTS  
AFTER GRADUATION DAY  
PROMISE ME WE'LL BE TOGETHER  
WHEN COLLEGE MEM'RIES SEEM FAR AWAY  
THOUGH THEY SAY ROMANCES BREAK UP  
AFTER GRADUATION DAY

WE CAN KEEP OUR LOVE AS LIVELY  
AND PROVE THERE'S NOTHING IN WHAT THEY SAY

THOUGH SOON CLASSMATES WILL BE PARTED  
AND WE'LL SAY GOODBYE TO ALL THIS  
BUT LET'S KEEP EV'RY DREAM WE STARTED  
WHERE THE MOON AND THE CAMPUS KISS  
WHEN THESE DAYS ARE RECOLLECTIONS  
HOW I HOPE AND HOW I PRAY  
WE WILL REMINISCE TOGETHER  
LONG AFTER GRADUATION DAY

PEGGY

Oh, Kermit!!! (Dreamily.) Where are we?!

KERMIT

(Also dreamily.) The Knoll.

Clothilde is sitting as Asa enters.

CLOTHILDE

Hi, Asa.

ASA

Look, let's get one thing clear immediately. You don't want my pin, do you? You don't want to go steady?

CLOTHILDE

Well, I...

ASA

Because if you do, I'm leaving right now. I've had all I can stand of romance.

Clothilde hides her feelings.

CLOTHILDE

No, I don't want your pin.

ASA

Good. You're a good girl, Clothilde. A good, sober, hard-headed girl. Got your feet on the ground. You're here to learn something, just like me, and none of this going steady business.

CLOTHILDE

No. No, none of this going steady business.

Her heart is breaking.

ASA

I don't know what gets into the girls around here. Men, men, that's all they've got on their minds. I'm beginning to believe that all women ever think about is getting married.

CLOTHILDE

Fifty percent of all parties to marriage are women.

ASA

That's what I like about you, Clothilde. You're always ready with a hard fact. You're not thinking about marriage all the time.

CLOTHILDE

No.

ASA

Tell me some facts, Clothilde. You said you'd tell me some facts.

CLOTHILDE

All right. In Minnesota, marriages may be made with consent of parents when the boy is eighteen and the girl is sixteen.

ASA

That's real interesting.

CLOTHILDE

No Wasserman test is required before issuance of the marriage license.

ASA

Is that so?

CLOTHILDE

Common law marriage is recognized in Minnesota if the man and woman live together for one day or more under an agreement to be man and wife. Such agreement may consist of writings or declarations, or may merely be implicit in the conduct of the parties.

ASA

That's fine, Clothilde, but don't you know some facts that aren't about love and marriage? Maybe some nice data on navigation or metallurgy or something.

CLOTHILDE

Navigation? Sure. Masters of sailing or power vessels licensed to carry passengers are authorized to perform the marriage ceremony on the high seas, marriages thus effected being recorded in the port of the ship's registry.

ASA

Ah, ah, ah. Navigation.

**#13 EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE Clothilde & Asa**

CLOTHILDE

YOU START TO TALK OF SHIPS  
THEY MAKE YOU THINK OF TRIPS  
THAT MAKES YOU THINK OF

WHO YOU'D LIKE TO TAKE WITH YOU-OH!  
 EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE  
 WHATEVER YOU'RE TALKIN' OF

YOU START TO TALK OF SHOES  
 AND SINCE THEY COME IN TWOS  
 THEN SUDDENLY YOU FIND  
 THAT COUPLES COME TO MIND-HOH!  
 EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE  
 WHATEVER YOU'RE TALKIN' OF

WHY EVEN CHILDREN REMIND YOU OF MARBLES  
 AND MARBLES REMIND YOU OF SPRING  
 AND I DARE YOU TO TELL ME  
 THAT SPRING WON'T REMIND YOU  
 OF A CERTAIN WONDERFUL THING

YOU MAY BEGIN TO CHAT  
 ABOUT THIS THING OR THAT  
 THE RAINFALL AND THE CROPS  
 THE BANDS YOU THINK ARE TOPS, OH!  
 EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE  
 WHATEVER YOU'RE TALKIN' OF

ASA

YOU COULD DISCUSS SLEEP

CLOTHILDE

THAT MAKES YOU THINK OF DREAMS

ASA

WELL HOW ABOUT SPORTS

CLOTHILDE

THAT MAKES YOU THINK OF TEAMS

ASA

THERE'S ALWAYS THE NEWS

CLOTHILDE

IT'S FILLED WITH WEDDINGS EV'RY DAY

ASA

YOU COULD TALK ABOUT CRIME

CLOTHILDE

AH, BUT THAT DOESN'T PAY  
 FOR YOU START TO TALK OF CRIME  
 THAT MAKES YOU THINK OF TIME  
 AND THEN YOU THINK OF LIFE  
 THRU LIFE YOU NEED A WIFE, SO  
 EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT TO AMOUR  
 NO MATTER HOW YOU DETOUR

Schultz appears. Asa quickly greets her.

ASA

Hello, Professor Schultz.

SCHULTZ

Over at the faculty club the other night professor Pomfritt said that in 1913 there was a co-ed here at the university who didn't want a man. Her name was Harris or Benuti or something like that. Now, of course, I didn't say anything. One doesn't leap up and shout "Liar!" at the faculty club. The by-laws are specific on that point. But I recalled to myself certain episodes in the life of Professor Pomfritt. The recent illness of his wife, for instance. Odd that he should have cremated her before calling a physician. Then, there was the half million dollar house he built a few years ago. He had never explained to my satisfaction how such a sum accrued to him. His story that he earned it on his newspaper route as a boy rings very hollow. And the bones that were found in his back yard. Chicken bones, he said. "Pretty big chicken" said the policeman. "Isn't it?" said Pomfritt. "About six feet two", said the policeman. "Biggest chicken I ever saw" said Pomfritt. "And it's got toes" said the policeman. "Gad, sir, it's remarkable" said Pomfritt and wrote an article about it for the Journal of Zoology. No, one is justified to look askance at statements from our Professor Pomfritt - particularly such wild statements as his story of the co-ed who didn't want a man.

Schultz exits.

ASA

Well, Clothilde, I think I'll be running along.

CLOTHILDE

Wait, Asa, wait. I - I've got some more facts.

ASA

Not today, Clothilde, I've got to go. I got to do some campaigning.

CLOTHILDE

Campaigning for what?

ASA

I'm running against Kermit McDermott for president of the student council.

CLOTHILDE

Asa! That's wonderful! You'll make such a fine president.

ASA

Clothilde, there's something you should know: I'm not going to beat Kermit McDermott. Nobody can. He's so smooth.

CLOTHILDE

So are you. You're smooth and sweet and handsome and charming and intelligent and forceful and wise and gentle and kind and manly and honest and fearless and - and lovable.

ASA

It's nice of you to say so, Clothilde, but...

Roger and Shylock enter.

ROGER

Ah, there you are, Asa.

ASA

Hello, fellows. I'd like you to meet a friend of mine - Clothilde Pfefferkorn, Roger Hailfellow and Shylock Fiscal.

CLOTHILDE

How do you do?

SHYLOCK

Hi.

ROGER

Hi. Asa, here are the tickets for our election eve dance. You're to sell two hundred of them for us.

ASA

I'd love to, fellows, but I'm afraid I won't have time. I've got a lot of campaigning to do. It's not very long 'til election.

SHYLOCK

Uh, Asa, we've decided that it will be better if you don't campaign.

ASA

But why not?

SHYLOCK

Asa, we're not asking. We're telling.

ROGER

You haven't forgotten your initiation oath, have you, Asa?

ASA

No.

SHYLOCK

So here are the tickets, and you'd better sell them because we're charging you for all you return.

ASA

This isn't going to leave me much time to campaign.

SHYLOCK

Campaign? What do you want to campaign for? You're a lead pipe cinch to win.

ROGER

That's right, Asa. You can't possibly lose.

ASA

Huh?

SHYLOCK

Sure. All the smart money is on you to win. It's all over the campus. People are sick of Kermit. He's too smooth. We bet every cent we had on you, Asa - as a matter of fact, we bet a little for you too.

ASA

For me? I don't have any money.

SHYLOCK

Sure you do. Your father sent you some for tuition.

ROGER

Your letter was opened by mistake.

ASA

You bet the money they sent me? How am I going to pay my tuition now?

SHYLOCK

You'll raise it somewhere, Asa. Don't worry. Well, we've got to go getting along. Goodbye, Mr. President.

They exit.

ASA

I wish I was dead.

CLOTHILDE

You aren't going to give up.

ASA

What's the use? Kermit has got the senior, junior and sophomore vote.

CLOTHILDE

What about the freshmen?

ASA

He hates freshmen. He won't campaign among freshmen.

CLOTHILDE

You mean that you have the freshman class to yourself?

ASA

Yeah, I guess so.

CLOTHILDE

Oh, that's wonderful. You're going to win, Asa, you're going to win!

ASA

What in the world are you talking about?

CLOTHILDE

Asa, oh this is wonderful. Listen. Every year a large number of freshmen enter the university. At the end of the first year, about half that number doesn't come back. Some of them flunk out, some find jobs, some can't afford to return, some get married, and so forth. At any rate, roughly fifty percent of the freshman class does not return for the second year. So that makes the sophomore class about half as big as the freshman class. Right?

ASA

Right.

CLOTHILDE

Now at the end of the second year, half the sophomores don't come back. It's the same thing again - some find jobs, some flunk out, some get marrieds and so forth. So the junior class is half as big as the sophomore class. At the end of the third year, it happens again. Half the class doesn't return. The senior class, then, is half as big as the junior class. In other words, each class is half as big as the one directly below it.

ASA

You mean...

CLOTHILDE

Precisely. The freshman class outnumbered all the other three classes combined.

ASA

I'll be damned. Does it always work out that way?

CLOTHILDE

Yes! Kermit left you the freshman class. Go on out and get it, and you'll win!

ASA

Clothilde, that's wonderful. Oh, that's just wonderful. I love you.

CLOTHILDE

You do, Asa? Do you?

ASA

I...I...yes...yes, by God, I do. I do love you!

They kiss passionately.

CLOTHILDE

Oh, Asa, darling, I'm so happy.

ASA

Yeah, me too. Clothilde, will you wear my pin?

CLOTHILDE

Of course, dear. Oh, that's too bad. I think you broke the catch.

ASA

Oh no, it's nothing. All you have to do is bend this little thing back. See? Honey I have to go now. I'd better start selling these tickets, so I'll have time to do some campaigning.

CLOTHILDE

All right, dear. When will I see you again?

ASA

Let's see now. I'll be pretty busy for the next few days with these tickets for the dance...that's it...the dance. You come to the dance with me. Okay?

CLOTHILDE

Fine. I'll meet you there. Goodbye, love.

They kiss. Schultz enters.

<b>#13A REPRIS: EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE</b>
---

<b>Schultz</b>
----------------

SCHULTZ

YOU MAY BEGIN TO CHAT  
ABOUT THIS THING OR THAT  
THE RAINFALL AND THE CROPS  
THE BANDS YOU THINK ARE TOPS, OH!  
EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE  
WHATEVER YOU'RE TALKIN' OF

WHY EVEN CHILDREN REMIND YOU OF MARBLES  
AND MARBLES REMIND YOU OF SPRING  
AND I DARE YOU TO TELL ME  
THAT SPRING WON'T REMIND YOU  
OF A CERTAIN WONDERFUL THING

Strip tempo. Bump and grind.

YOU TALK PHOTOGRAPHY AND BOOM!  
YOU THINK OF A DARK ROOM  
AND DARK ROOMS WITH NO LIGHTS  
MAKE YOU THINK OF WEDDING NIGHTS!  
YES, EVERYTHING LEADS RIGHT BACK TO LOVE  
WHATEVER YOU'RE TALKIN' OF

Yetta's room on Election Eve. She is primping herself for the dance. Completely involved with her preparations, she doesn't even see Sam enter.

SAM

Yetta, c'mon. We'll be late.

YETTA

Where are you going?

SAM

The subversive elements league is holding a monster demonstration tonight.

YETTA

Yeah. What kind of monsters they demonstrating?

SAM

Naah. It's a protest meeting. One of our members got his library card taken away for burning up J.P. Morgan's biography. C'mon.

YETTA

Can't Sam. Not tonight.

SAM

Where you going in that middle class dress?

YETTA

To the Alpha Cholera dance.

SAM

Boring from within, huh? You're a good worker, Yetta. The party'll thank you for this. Well, I gotta blow.

He exits. Music in.

YETTA

The party'll thank me, sure. They'll shake my hand, slap my back. Who wants to get slapped on the back?!

<b>#14</b>	<b>LITTLE YETTA'S GONNA GETTA MAN</b>	<b>Yetta</b>
------------	---------------------------------------	--------------

YETTA (Cont'd)

I GOT A PRETTY SOLID PLATFORM  
 I GOT A VERY POPULAR FRONT  
 I'M GETTIN' MY EQUIPMENT READY FOR A HUNT  
 AND THIS EVENIN' IF EV'RYTHING  
 TURNS OUT JUST ACCORDIN' TO PLAN  
 SOMEHOW OR OTHER  
 LITTLE YETTA'S GONNA GETTA MAN

I GOT A MIGHTLY LIB'RAL VIEWPOINT

AND WHEN IT COMES TO SHARIN' A THRILL  
 I'M NO REACTIONARY PALE-FACED DAFFODIL  
 GOT THE STANDARD REQUIREMENTS  
 AND I GOT A PASSABLE PAN  
 AND WITH THESE ASSETS  
 LITTLE YETTA'S GONNA GETTA MAN

I BEEN TRYIN' A LONG, LONG TIME  
 WHEN I WAS ONLY FOUR  
 I SAID: "HEY MA! FOR MY BIRTHDAY  
 I WANT THE LITTLE BOY NEXT DOOR"

I'M GOOD AND READY TO SURRENDER  
 SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY  
 I'LL EVEN DO MY SHARE TO HELP HIM CONQUER ME  
 NOW IT'S TIME THAT SOME TRISTAN  
 AND ISOLDE MANUVEURS BEGAN  
 AND JUST BETWEEN US  
 LITTLE YETTA'S GONNA GETTA MAN

DELILAH HAD A PAST A TWENTY  
 AND SEVENTEEN SAW AMBER ALL SET  
 AND ROMEO LOVED FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD JULIET  
 WHEN A GEISHA GIRL'S TWELVE YEARS OLD  
 THAT'S WHEN SHE'S A RAGE IN JAPAN  
 I'M GETTIN' OLDER  
 LITTLE YETTA'S GONNA GETTA MAN!

I BEEN KEEPIN' A DIARY  
 AND YOU CAN BET IT'S FRANK!  
 IT TELLS JUST WHAT I BEEN DOIN'  
 AND EV'RY SINGLE PAGE IS BLANK

MY GRANDMA RAISED TEN LITTLE COMRADES  
 MA GAVE THE STATE A KID EV'RY YEAR  
 AND NOW IT'S UP TO ME TO CARRY ON FROM HERE  
 I'D BE CARRYIN' ON LIKE MAD  
 EXCEPT FOR A MINOR DETAIL  
 TO START PRODUCTION  
 LITTLE YETTA'S GOTTA GET A MALE!

<b>#14A LITTLE YETTA'S TAG</b>
--------------------------------

<b>Orchestra</b>
------------------

The Alpha Cholera house just before the  
 dance. Roger and Shylock are preparing.

ROGER

Place looks nice, doesn't it, Shy?

SHYLOCK

Especially that new bust of Venus.

ROGER

More furniture!

SHYLOCK

What are you kickin' about? Asa paid for it...only he don't know it.

ASA

Hi fellows.

SHYLOCK

Hi Asa. How'd you do with the dance tickets?

ASA

Sold every one of them. In fact, I just sold the last one ten minutes ago.

ROGER

Good boy.

ASA

I haven't had time to make a single campaign speech. I'll have to concentrate everything in my speech to the freshman rally tonight after the dance.

ROGER

Listen, Asa, get this through your heard. You're not going...

SHYLOCK

We'll talk about that later, Asa. You'd better go upstairs and get dressed now. People will be here any minute.

ASA

Okay. Say, I haven't had a chance to tell you guys. I'm going to win the election.

SHYLOCK

That's fine, Asa. You go get dressed now.

ASA

All right. I'll tell you later.

He exits.

ROGER

He's going to win the election, and I'm Napoleon. Shy, we can't let that jerk go out and make a speech tonight.

SHYLOCK

Don't worry. He won't get out.

Eino enters in a tux too small for him.

EINO

Don't ay look nice?

SHYLOCK

Beautiful Eino. Now look. You're the doorman. You stand right over here by the door and when people come in, you take their tickets. Now listen carefully. After you take their tickets, you stamp the backs of their hands with this. Don't let anybody in without a ticket, you hear?

Muskie Pike and his Muskrats appear at the door. Eino stops them.

EINO

Tickets.

MUSKIE PIKE

We don't need no tickets, shorty. We're the band.

EINO

Tickets.

MUSKIE PIKE

I just tole ya. We're the band. We play the notes, shorty, the notes.

EINO

Tickets.

SHYLOCK

It's all right, Eino, let them in. They don't need tickets. They're the band.

EINO

Stamp hands

ROGER

That's not necessary, Eino. You don't have to stamp their hands. They're the band.

EINO

Stamp hands.

SHYLOCK

(To Muskie Pike.) Would you fellows mind awfully if he stamped your hands? It will only take a second.

Eino stamps their hands forcefully.

ROGER

That's enough, Eino. Come on in, gentlemen. You're Muskie Pike and his Muskrat Ramblers, I presume. I'm Roger Hailfellow, the president of Alpha Cholera and this is Shylock Fiscal, our treasurer.

MUSKIE PIKE

You guys college stoonts?

SHYLOCK

Yes, we're students.

MUSKIE PIKE

Yeah? Then where's your raccoon coats?

ROGER

Well, raccoon coats are very seldom worn at college these days.

MUSKIE PIKE

I don't like it. The whole thing don't sit good. First Carnera over there tries to break our hands and then you give me con about raccoon coats. I don't like it. Another thing. I don't see no flags around here that says Yale or Harvard on 'em.

ROGER

But this is Minnesota, Mr. Pike.

MUSKIE PIKE

I don't like it. I got a feeling somebody is giving us a fast riffle.

SHYLOCK

I assure you, Mr. Pike, this is a perfectly legitimate fraternity dance. We have one every year on election eve.

MUSKIE PIKE

Who's gettin' elected to what?

SHYLOCK

We vote for president of the student council tomorrow. He runs the student government.

MUSKIE PIKE

Ain't you got no dean? A guy in the poolroom tole me colleges got deans. They're like wardens, kinda.

ROGER

Certainly we have a dean. This is just the student government.

MUSKIE PIKE

It smells like an old halibut to me. I don't like it.

SHYLOCK

Nonsense, Mr. pike. Everything's perfectly all right. Now, how about getting your band set up? The guests will start arriving any minute. I thought you could play over there by the piano. Okay? You can stop playing about a quarter to twelve. The election eve rallies begin at midnight, and everybody will be leaving the dance to go to the rallies. Come along, if you like. They're a lot of fun. Each class has its own rally with...

MUSKIE PIKE

The dough. We want our dough.

ROGER

You'll have it in just a few minutes, Mr. Pike. One of our men - Asa Hearthrug - has got the money. He's upstairs dressing now.

MUSKIE PIKE

The dough. Now.

SHYLOCK

He'll be down in just a minute. You'll have your money. Don't worry.

MUSKIE PIKE

He better or I go to the dean.

ROGER

You'll have it. Now please get set up. Here come some guests already.

Clothilde arrives.

MUSKIE PIKE

Where's that kid with the dough?

SHYLOCK

There he is now. Come on, I'll get your money for you. Asa, this is Muskie Pike, our band leader. Will you give Mr. Pike seventy-five dollars?

ASA

How do you do, Mr. Pike? I can't.

ROGER

You can't what?

ASA

I can't give him seventy-five dollars. Not right now.

SHYLOCK

What do you mean you can't? Where's the money you got selling tickets?

ASA

I had to use that - just temporarily. I paid my tuition with it.

SHYLOCK

You what?

ASA

I paid my tuition with it. Today was the last day to pay tuition, and I had to pay it, or else I wouldn't have been eligible for the election.

MUSKIE PIKE

I'm gonna go to the dean.

ASA

But you'll have it back tomorrow. I'm going to win the election. Then I'll collect that bet you made for me, and then I'll give you back the money, see?

MUSKIE PIKE

Where's the dean at? I knew this job stank from the go. Where's the dean at?

SHYLOCK

Just a minute, Mr. Pike. Asa, you're joking. You can't mean it.

ASA

Sure I do. I can't lose. Clothilde, you tell 'em.

CLOTHILDE

Well, every year a large number of freshmen enter the university. At the end of the first year, approximately half that number don't come back. Some flunk out, some get married, some find jobs, some can't afford to return. At any rate, half that number don't come back. So the sophomore class is half as big as...

MUSKIE PIKE

If the dean don't help, I go to Petrillo. Come on, boys.

SHYLOCK

You can't leave, Mr. Pike, not right in the middle of a dance.

ROGER

Asa, you goddamn lame-brained, addle-pated, muckle-headed fool. Do you know what you have done?

ASA

It's all right, I tell you. Clothilde is explaining.

CLOTHILDE

So the sophomore class is half as big as the freshman class. The next year the same thing happens. Half the sophomores don't come back. So the junior class is half as big as the sophomore class.

Peggy Hepp enters and listens.

MUSKIE PIKE

To think I turned down a Lithuanian wedding to play this date. You ain't goin' to get away with it. Nobody's goin' to slip me a cold deck.

SHYLOCK

How could you do it, Asa? How could you?

ASA

If you'll only listen, Clothilde is explaining. Didn't you bet on me?

CLOTHILDE

Then only half the juniors come back so the senior class is half as big as the junior class. In other words, each class is half as big as the one directly below it.

ROGER

Shut up, little girl. Asa, you get that money back right now.

MUSKIE PIKE

I'm going to the dean. Come on, boys.

ROGER

Please, Mr. Pike.

MUSKIE PIKE

Nobody's gonna sandbag me.

CLOTHILDE

Look, Kermit McDermott is not campaigning among freshmen. Asa has the freshmen all to himself. The freshman class is bigger than all the other classes combined. So if Asa gets the freshmen, he wins the election.

ASA

Sure. All I have to do it get the freshmen.

SHYLOCK

All you have to do! My god, man, do you realize that this is the night before election.

ASA

Now, be calm. I'll get them at the rally tonight. I'll win the election tomorrow, and you'll get your money right back.

PEGGY

Oh no, you won't. I heard everything you said. Do you think I'm going to stand by and let you pull a trick like this on Kermit? No sir! I'm going out tonight and speak to the freshman rally on Kermit's behalf. And I'll bet I get more freshman votes for Kermit than you get for yourself.

ASA

Peggy, you can't do that. I can't win unless I get all the freshman votes. It's my only chance. You can't do this to me.

PEGGY

Oh, can't I?

ASA

My god, this is awful.

MUSKIE PIKE

I'm going to the dean.

Noblesse enters.

EINO

Tickets.

NOBLESSE

I'm Asa Hearthrug's date.

EINO

Stamp hand.

NOBLESSE

There you are, Asa. Why didn't you call for me, you naughty boy?

ASA

I...I...ooooh.

NOBLESSE

You should always call for your date, Asa. Oh, I've got so much to teach you.

CLOTHILDE

Date? What do you mean date?

NOBLESSE

I mean Asa asked me to the dance, I mean.

CLOTHILDE

Is that true, Asa? Did you ask her?

ASA

Clothilde, listen, I can explain everything.

NOBLESSE

Of course he asked me. I mean do you think I'd be here if he didn't ask me? I mean after all.

CLOTHILDE

Did you, Asa?

ASA

Excuse me. I feel faint. I think I'll go upstairs and lie down.

CLOTHILDE

Asa! Answer me!

Yetta enters.

EINO

Tickets.

YETTA

I'm Asa Hearthrug's date, comrade.

EINO

No. Uder vun is Asa's date.

YETTA

What other one? I'm Asa's date. Let me in.

EINO

No. you can't come in.

YETTA

Get out of my way, you Cossack.

They struggle but she sneaks in.

NOBLESSE

Have you had it fixed yet?

CLOTHILDE

Had what fixed?

NOBLESSE

His fraternity pin, of course.

CLOTHILDE

What have you got to do with his fraternity pin?

NOBLESSE

He said he would give it to me at the dance tonight. Say, what business is it of yours?

ASA

Ooooh.

CLOTHILDE

Is that true, Asa? Did you promise her your pin?

YETTA

Hello, gaspadin. You got the pin?

CLOTHILDE

What pin?

YETTA

His fraternity pin. He said he'd give it to me at the dance tonight.

ROGER

Asa, did you promise your pin to this person too?

ASA

Yes, but you don't understand...

ROGER

Good God, Shy. We've pledged another Jack the Ripper.

NOBLESSE

What are you talking about? He promised it to me.

YETTA

You're crazy.

NOBLESSE

You're crazy. Look, why don't you go overthrow the government? Nobody wants you around here. What are you doin' here anyway? This is a Pan-Hellenic dance. That means for members of fraternities and sororities only. You're not in any sorority.

YETTA

I'm in a fraternity. I'm in the fraternity of mankind, the fraternity of the downtrodden and oppressed. When an underpaid seamstress works overtime in a Manhattan sweatshop, my eyes smart for her. When a Chinese coolie gleans his beans, my back aches for him. When a Spanish peasant dies in the name of humanity, my bell tolls for him. Asa, tell this counter-revolutionist to go. Gimme the pin.

CLOTHILDE

Asa, is this all true? Did you promise these two girls your fraternity pin?

ASA

Now just a minute. Let's be calm. This can all be explained if we have a little time and patience. Let's all go to our homes now and come back when we're sophomores.

NOBLESSE

Asa!

YETTA

Asa!

CLOTHILDE

Asa!

ASA

Oh, god, why didn't I go to a vocational school?

CLOTHILDE

It is true, isn't it? Isn't it?

ASA

Yes, but...

CLOTHILDE

You gave me your pin after promising it to two other girls. You said you loved me after you - oh, Asa, how could you? How could you do that to me?

ASA

Clothilde, listen...

She removes the pin and gives it back to him. She leaves. He tries to follow but Noblesse and Yetta stop him and try to get the pin. Meanwhile, Roger and Shylock are trying to stop the band from leaving.

MUSKIE PIKE

Lemme outa here or I'll nail you with an abduction rap. I already gotcha on grand larceny.

SHYLOCK

Now, Mr. Pike, don't spoil the party.

MUSKIE PIKE

Don't spoil the party he says. C'mon boys, we're going to the dean.

SHYLOCK

Eino! Oh, Eino! Come over here. Eino, I want you to make these gentlemen play some music.

He wraps his arms around three musicians.

EINO

You play. You understand.

MUSKIE PIKE

Okay!

<b>#15 DON'T SPOIL THE PARTY</b>
----------------------------------

<b>Company</b>
----------------

The music blares as the band sets up for the dance. Yetta and Noblesse both try to dance with Asa. More students arrive as the party gets into full swing. As the dance climaxes, the students shout in rhythm.

COMPANY

DON'T SPOIL THE PARTY  
 WE DON'T WANNA HEAR YA BAWL  
 IF YA GOTTA GROAN AN' YA GOTTA MOAN  
 GO HIRE YOURSELF A HALL  
 DON'T SPOIL THE PARTY  
 THO WE KNOW IT MAY SOUND TRITE  
 SMILE AT THE FRIEND WHO'S ON YOUR LEFT  
 AND THE ONE WHO'S ON YOUR...

DON'T SPOIL THE PARTY  
WE DON'T WANNA HEAR YA BAWL  
IF YA GOTTA GROAN AN' YA GOTTA MOAN  
GO HIRE YOURSELF A HALL  
DON'T SPOIL THE PARTY  
THO WE KNOW IT MAY SOUND TRITE  
SMILE AT THE FRIEND WHO'S ON YOUR LEFT  
AND THE ONE WHO'S ON YOUR RIGHT!

They dance as the curtain falls.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**#16 ENTR' ACTE****Orchestra**

The curtain rises on the end of the party.  
The band is playing the final song.

**#17 REPRISE: AFTER GRADUATION DAY****Muskie Pike**

## MUSKIE PIKE

PROMISE ME WE'LL STILL BE SWEETHEARTS  
AFTER GRADUATION DAY  
PROMISE ME WE'LL BE TOGETHER  
WHEN COLLEGE MEM'RIES SEEM FAR AWAY  
THOUGH THEY SAY ROMANCES BREAK UP  
AFTER GRADUATION DAY  
WE CAN KEEP OUR LOVE AS LIVELY  
AND PROVE THERE'S NOTHING IN WHAT THEY SAY

THOUGH SOON CLASSMATES WILL BE PARTED  
AND WE'LL SAY GOODBYE TO ALL THIS  
BUT LET'S KEEP EV'RY DREAM WE STARTED  
WHERE THE MOON AND THE CAMPUS KISS  
WHEN THESE DAYS ARE RECOLLECTIONS  
HOW I HOPE AND HOW I PRAY  
WE WILL REMINISCE TOGETHER  
LONG AFTER GRADUATION DAY

He speaks.  
Look out old Muskie is back!

Lights up on the full scene.

EINO

Stamp hand?

SHYLOCK

Go away, Eino.

EINO

Stamp hand?

ROGER

No, Eino. The dance is over. No more stamping hands. Give me the stamp.

EINO

Ay keep it.

ROGER

All right, keep it. But go away. Quit bothering people.

MUSKIE PIKE

You can't keep me here no longer. Either I get my dough or I go to the dean.

SHYLOCK

He's asleep.

MUSKIE PIKE

Ain't they got a night dean? I want my dough.

YETTA

Money! Money is the opium of the people. Forget money. Join with me now. Let us build the shining road to the millennium.

MUSKIE PIKE

Who is this beast?

SHYLOCK

Beat it. Eino, get her out of here.

YETTA

Keep your hands off me, you reactionary ape.

EINO

You go.

Eino carries Yetta out of the house.

NOBLESSE

Now you can give me your pin, Asa.

ASA

Please, Noblesse. Let's not talk about that now.

NOBLESSE

Not talk about it? I mean after you promised me your pin, you can't just not talk about it. I mean after all.

MUSKIE PIKE

I'm goin' to the dean.

He starts to leave but Eino threatens him. Muskie Pike and his band go off in a corner and play cards.

NOBLESSE

Roger, he promised me his fraternity pin and now he won't give it to me.

ROGER

Is that true, Asa?

ASA

Yes, but...

ROGER

Then give it to her. And let's not have any more trouble out of you.

NOBLESSE

You heard what the man said.

ASA

Alright. Oh, oh, the catch is broken. I'll have to...

NOBLESSE

Never mind that. You put that pin right on. Gee, this is marvy. I feel just like a soldier getting a medal pinned on him.

Yetta leaps through the window.

YETTA

Oh no, you don't, you bulwark of reaction.

NOBLESSE

What is the meaning of this?

YETTA

You're not getting his pin. He promised it to me and by God - to mention a popular figure from the bourgeois religion myth - he's going to give it to me.

NOBLESSE

I want my pin now. I mean now.

YETTA

Your pin! Why, you decadent capitalist. You downtrodder of the working-class. Asa, you gimme that pin.

NOBLESSE

Shut up, you dreadful, unstylish girl. Asa is going to give me the pin.

YETTA

Me!

SHYLOCK

Girls, girls, quit that bickering. Why don't you share Asa? Make a threesome out of it.

NOBLESSE

How can you think of such a thing? What I mean is everyone knows it isn't practical.

#18	THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO	Noblesse, Yetta & Asa
-----	-----------------------------------	-----------------------

NOBLESSE (Cont'd)

YOU CAN TURN OUT ALL THE LIGHTS

AND GET AS COZY AS A BABY IN A BUGGY  
 CUDDLE CLOSE AND MAKE THE MOST  
 OF EV'RY MOMENT THAT YOU'RE FEELIN' KISS AND HUGGY  
 YOU GET A WHOLE LOT DONE  
 WHEN THERE IS ONLY ONE HE AND SHE  
 FOR THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH TWO  
 BUT NOT WITH THREE

YETTA

YOU CAN WALK INTO A PARK  
 WHERE OTHER COUPLES WELCOME ONLY THOSE DUETING  
 FIND A BENCH THERE IN THE DARK  
 AND THEN YOU START IN ROMEO AND JULIETING  
 SO LET'S GET OUTTA HERE  
 FOR THERE'S A MILLION YEAR GUARANTEE  
 THAT THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH TWO  
 BUT NOT WITH THREE!

ASA

WHY CAN'T WE KEEP IT THIS WAY?  
 THIS WAY IS SAFE AND SOUND  
 DIDN'T I HEAR A FELLOW ONCE SAY  
 YOU CAN'T GET INTO TROUBLE WITH THREE AROUND

NOBLESSE

YOU CAN FIND A ROOM WHERE POTTED PALMS  
 ARE KEEPIN' LOTS OF COZY PLACES HIDDEN

YETTA

YOU CAN TRY THE THINGS A SCOUT IS TOLD  
 ARE DEFINITELY LISTED AS FORBIDDEN

YETTA & NOBLESSE

OH, HURRY UP  
 LET'S GO WHERE WE'RE ALONE  
 I KNOW YOU'LL AGREE  
 THAT THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH TWO  
 BUT NOT WITH THREE!!

ASA

WHY CAN'T WE KEEP IT THIS WAY?  
 MAYBE IT'S BEST WITH THREE  
 DIDN'T I HEAR A FELLOW ONCE SAY  
 YOU ALWAYS NEED A THIRD ONE TO REFEREE?

NOBLESSE

I DON'T CARE TO MENTION NAMES  
 BUT YOU CAN SEE THAT ONE OF US HERE ISN'T NEEDED  
 PUTTING THINGS IN PAIRS  
 IS ONE GOOD PLAN THAT THEY BEGAN  
 WHICH RALLY HAS SUCCEEDED  
 THEY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE AT  
 OH WHATCHA BETCHA THAT THEY COULD SEE  
 BUT THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH TWO

BUT NOT WITH THREE

YETTA

THERE YOU STAND AND SAY YOU WON'T  
 BUT DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND  
 YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE THERE  
 IF YOUR MOM AND DAD  
 HAD ALWAYS HAD THEIR DATES  
 AND TETE-A-TETES AT NIGHT WITH THREE THERE

YETTA & NOBLESSE

LET'S SHOW THAT DAME OUR DUST  
 AND MAKE HER SEE IT'S JUST YOU AND ME  
 OH, THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH TWO  
 BUT NOT WITH THREE!

Asa manages to get the girls out by the end  
 of the song.

MUSKIE PIKE

I'm going to the dean. You ain't gonna stop me this time. Lay a  
 hand on me, you ox, and I'll scream so loud you'll have every  
 flattie in town down here in thirty seconds.

SHYLOCK

Mr. Pike, be reasonable. You'll have your money tomorrow.

MUSKIE PIKE

We need it tonight. We got to have money for a room.

SHYLOCK

You can stay here tonight. We'll put you up in Asa's room.

MUSKIE PIKE

How about breakfast?

SHYLOCK

You'll have breakfast here.

MUSKIE PIKE

Bourbon and shredded wheat?

SHYLOCK

Anything you want...and tomorrow you'll have your money.

MUSKIE PIKE

Yeah? Where you gonna get it?

SHYLOCK

Why - uh - well I - we'll have the money when Asa wins the  
 election. Naturally.

MUSKIE PIKE

What are you givin' me? A little while ago when he said he was gonna win the election, you was gonna knock his brains out.

SHYLOCK

Oh that. That's just the way we talk to pledges, Mr. Pike. It's required by our constitution.

MUSKIE PIKE

He ain't gonna win no election. He got a head like a potato.

SHYLOCK

Ah, that's just it. He'll appeal to the freshmen. They want somebody simple and unaffected.

MUSKIE PIKE

Naah.

SHYLOCK

Sure. And you heard what he said before: that he had the whole class to himself and freshmen outnumber all the other classes combined.

ASA

But Peggy Hepp said she was going to

Roger quickly takes Asa away.

ROGER

Read any good book jackets lately?

SHYLOCK

He's a cinch, Mr. Pike. All the smart money is on him to win. Matter of fact, I'm going out in a few minutes and place a bet on him before the odds get out of line. He's even money now, but he'll be five-to-thirteen in an hour.

MUSKIE PIKE

They got bookies in college?

SHYLOCK

You bet.

MUSKIE PIKE

That's terrible, all these kids learnin' bad habits. Hey, wait a minute. Where you gonna get money for a bet?

SHYLOCK

Oh, my credit is good. Say, maybe I could make a bet for you too. Let's see, we owe you seventy-five dollars. I can put it on Asa for you.

MUSKIE PIKE

Now wait a minute.

SHYLOCK

Can't wait, Mr. Pike. I've got to get out there before the odds change.

MUSKIE PIKE

This kid is a cinch, you say?

SHYLOCK

Like death and taxes.

MUSKIE PIKE

Well...

SHYLOCK

That's fine, Mr. Pike. I'll place the bet for you. Now, why don't you boys go up to Asa's room and turn in? Big day tomorrow. Heh, heh, heh. (The band goes.) Whew!

SHYLOCK

Come on.

Shylock and Roger start out. Asa follows.

ROGER

(Stopping Asa.) Where you going?

ASA

Out to make a campaign speech. I know it isn't much use, but I've got to try it anyhow.

ROGER

You stay right here.

ASA

But I've got to try, don't you see? If I don't win my bet, how else can I pay you back the money I took for my tuition. And - and - maybe Clothilde would...

SHYLOCK

You stay here. We'll go out and make your speech.

ASA

No, I've got to try.

SHYLOCK

Eino, you see that Asa stays right here.

EINO

Sure.

SHYLOCK

Come on, Roger.

They exit.

ASA

Eino, if you let me go, I'll get you a new rabbit. One that moves.

EINO

No.

ASA

A cap pistol.

EINO

No.

ASA

A whistling yo-yo.

EINO

No.

ASA

A fireman's hat.

EINO

No.

ASA

A little telephone that really rings - ting-a-ling-a-ling.

EINO

No.

ASA

All right Eino. I'll stay. In fact, I'm glad I'm staying. There's nobody I'd rather be with than you. Let's see now. What shall be do? I know. Let's make a daisy chain. I'll go out and pick some flowers.

EINO

You stay.

ASA

I wasn't going anywhere.

EINO

You stay.

ASA

Say! Let's play hide and seek. You be it. Now, you go over against the wall there and close your eyes and count to...

EINO

Sit down. Shut up.

ASA

All right, Eino. I'll be quiet. Tell you what. Let's take a little nap.

EINO

No nap.

ASA

Hmmm. Eino, I know what let's do. Let's sing a song.

EINO

No song.

ASA

Oh, but I know the most wonderful song. It's about a rabbit, Eino. A rabbit.

Eino considers it.

EINO

Sing.

ASA

Sit down first, Eino. Get comfortable. Over here. That's right.

Eino sits on the settee.

<b>#19 THE STORY OF CARROT</b>
--------------------------------

<b>Asa &amp; Eino</b>
-----------------------

ASA (Cont'd)

ONCE THERE LIVED A BUNNY  
 WHO WAS AWF'LY STRONG  
 AND CARROT WAS HIS NAME  
 BUNNIES CAME FROM NEAR AND FAR  
 TO SEE HIM SO GREAT WAS CARROT'S FAME  
 WHY HE COULD LIFT A MOO COW  
 WITH JUST ONE PAW  
 HE WAS THE STRONGEST BUNNY YOU EVER SAW  
 YES, HE COULD LIFT A  
 MOO COW  
 WITH JUST ONE PAW  
 HE WAS THE STRONGEST  
 BUNNY  
 YOU EVER SAW  
 OH, HE COULD LIFT A HORSIE  
 WITH JUST ONE PAW  
 HE WAS THE STRONGEST BUNNY YOU EVERY SAW  
 YES, HE COULD LIFT A  
 HORSIE  
 WITH JUST ONE PAW  
 HE WAS THE STRONGEST

MOO COW

EINO

NO!

ASA

HORSIE

EINO

NO!

ASA

BUNNY!

EINO

YES, THAT'S RIGHT

...THAT YOU EVER SAW

NOW, CARROT WAS SO BUSY SHOWING OFF

HIS STRENGTH MOST EVERY NIGHT AND DAY

THAT HE NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GOT TO SLEEP

SO HE GREW WEAKER IN EVERY WAY

'TIL HE COULDN'T LIFT A BEETLE

OR A BLADE OF GRASS

AND ALL THE OTHER BUNNIES SAID "ALAS ALAS"

'TIL HE COULDN'T LIFT A BEETLE

OR A BLADE OF GRASS

AND ALL THE OTHER BUNNIES SAID

MOO COW

EINO

NO, EINO!

ASA

BEETLE?

EINO

NO!

ASA

ALL THE OTHER BUNNIES SAID: "ALAS"

ALAS

EINO

THAT'S GOOD, EINO

WELL CARROT GOT TIRED OUT

HE YAWNED AND HE YAWNED

AND HE GOT SLEEPIER AND SLEEPIER

SLEEPIER

EINO

ASA  
 THAT HE JUST COULDN'T KEEP FROM FALLING ASLEEP  
 HE JUST COULDN'T KEEP FROM FALLING A-

EINO  
 SLEEP

Eino falls asleep and Asa moves to window.

ASA  
 HE SLEPT THRU THE SUMMER  
 AND THE WINTER TOO  
 HE SLEPT AND HE SLEPT AND SLEPT JUST LIKE YOU  
 JUST LIKE YOU  
 JUST LIKE YOU

#19A CARROT TAG
-----------------

Orchestra
-----------

Asa goes out window. We are on the Street.  
 Yetta and Noblesse enter.

YETTA  
 Look. Let's be reasonable. Both of us can't get Asa's pin can we?

NOBLESSE  
 No.

YETTA  
 All right. Let's match for it. We'll flip a coin.

NOBLESSE  
 Okay.

YETTA  
 I'll be heads and you be tails. No offense.

NOBLESSE  
 All right.

YETTA  
 Tell you what. Let's not flip a coin. That's just straight luck.  
 Let's have some kind of contest instead.

NOBLESSE  
 Yes, that's good. I know! Let's go past the sorority houses and  
 look at the Greek letters on the doors and the one who can  
 identify the most Greek letters gets Asa.

YETTA  
 No. I'll tell you. The one who can quote the most from Karl Marx  
 gets him.

NOBLESSE  
 No. The one who knows the most titles of popular songs.

YETTA

No. The one who can name the most stations on the Trans-Siberian railway.

They exit. Kermit appears at a podium at the senior rally.

KERMIT

And so, fellow, seniors, I ask you to go to the polls tomorrow and vote for me. Before I go, I want to introduce to you Peggy Hepp. Peggy is only a freshman, but I think we ought to give her a big hand anyway. She is going to address the freshmen for me in a little while. Come on up here, Peggy.

She does as we see Asa enter the rally site off to the side.

ASA

Can you tell me where Peggy Hepp is speaking?

SENIOR

There she is - up there on the platform.

ASA

Ah, then this is the freshman rally. Thank you.

He makes his way up to the podium.

SENIOR

Hey, wait a minute. This is the senior rally. Hey!

PEGGY

Thank you. Thank you very much.

Asa pushes her to the side.

ASA

Attention! Your attention please! I am Asa Hearthrug, candidate for president of the student council. My platform is simple: I am out to end the tyranny of the senior class. How much longer are we going to let the senior class walk all over us? Where do they get that stuff? Who do they think they are? They seem to have an idea that they are better than freshmen. Well, if being boors and bullies makes some men better than others, then seniors are better than freshmen. (Crowd starts to get vocal.) That's right. Get mad. Get good and mad. It's about time. We've taken enough pushing around from those seniors. Those lice. Those scum. Those arrogant jerks. Those high-and-mighty creeps. Those pompous churls. Those inflated crumbs. Why, the whole senior class isn't worth the little finger of one freshman! The seniors are a disgrace to the university! They're a shame to the whole country! They're a blot on humanity!

The seniors immediately jump his from all sides and begin to beat him. Schultz stops as she's passing by.

SCHULTZ

Hm. Very interesting. How vigorously they pummel that unfortunate fellow. I hope somebody will come along who knows first aid. Myself, I have no aptitude for it. Fellow last week tried to sell me a book - "What to Do Till the Doctor Comes". Don't be silly, I said. Everybody knows what to do till the doctor comes; try to interest the patient in handicraft and see that he doesn't swallow his tongue. No sir, if this fellow had had a book on what to do till the doctor goes, perhaps we could have done business. That's my difficulty: how to behave while the doctor is in the house. Every time a doctor calls on somebody at my house, I seem to be stricken witless. I don't know what comes over me. Last winter for example, I called my doctor, an elderly practitioner named Nankivell. I was perfectly composed while waiting for the doctor. I brought my check stubs up to date, I wormed the dog, I wrote a letter to the Times urging moderation in all things. But the moment the doctor knocked on the door, I simply went to pieces. Come in! Come in! I roared, dragging his old bones into the vestibule. I wrenched off his coat and hat and seized his black bag. When he clung to the bag, I put my foot against his chest and tore it, snarling, from his grasp. You'll want to wash, I said. No, no, he cried, but I dragged him into the bathroom and plunged his arms, sleeves and all into a basin of scalding water. Then I took a flagon of Lysol and...

Asa cries out in pain. Schultz stops.

SCHULTZ (Cont'd)

The victim is still identifiable. (To seniors.) Attention students. Forgive the intrusion, but I must ask you to stop raising lumps on your colleague. The university authorities frown on this sort of thing. They say it gives the school a bad name. Me, I don't care. But you see how it is. Why don't you go tear up a water main or something. I'm afraid you'll have to stop murdering this chap.

KERMIT

Yes, men. I think you overdid it. We'll wash him off and send him to the freshman rally.

They take Asa off.

SCHULTZ

I was telling you about the doctor. Well... (Music in.) Oh, here come the freshmen. This damn campus is overrun with students.

She goes off as the freshmen enter singing.

#20	STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE
-----	------------------------------

Company
---------

## COMPANY

IN THE LAND OF THE CHIPPENWA-WAH-WAH  
 THERE'S A SCHOOL WE THINK IS GREAT  
 MINNESOTA, MINNESOTA  
 YOU'RE THE STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE  
 GIVE A CHEER WITH A SKIUMAH! MAH! MAH!  
 SHOW THE CROWD WE REALLY RATE  
 SHOW WE GO TA MINNESOTA  
 SHINING STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE

WE'RE MAROOM AS A PLUM  
 AND A CHERRY AND A BERRY  
 AND A BOTTLE OF OLD PORT WINE  
 WE'RE GOLD AS AN ANGEL'S HALO  
 MAY OUR COLORS EVER SHINE  
 SO LET'S ALL GIVE A MIGHTY WAH! WAH! WAH!  
 FOR WE SURE APPRECIATE  
 ALL WE OWE TO MINNESOTA  
 OUR STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE

Peggy and Shylock are at the podium.

## SHYLOCK

Freshmen, I am here to speak to you on behalf of Asa Hearthrug who is embarrassed about his cleft palate. Seated here beside me is Peggy Hepp who is here to speak for Kermit McDermott. Not that he needs any speaking for. You all know Kermit - the smoothest, the sharpest, the neatest, he biggest B.M.O.C. on campus. What a president he would make. What a parliamentarian. What an administrator. I can't remember when a better man has run for the office. Yes, I wish with all my heart that I were up here speaking for Kermit - I'm sure going to vote for him - but I promised Asa, so I must ask you to vote for Asa Hearthrug. I'm sorry. And thank you.

He steps aside and Clothilde approaches him.

## CLOTHILDE

That was a terrible thing to do!

## SHYLOCK

Huh? Oh, you're the girl who's stuck on him?

## CLOTHILDE

I'm the girl who hates him - but I like fair play.

## SHYLOCK

I'm just as fond of that kid as you are but...

## CLOTHILDE

I told you I hated him. But I don't like to see him hit behind his back.

SHYLOCK

Hate him. Who are you kidding? You love him...or you think you do. Look, honey, you'll be over it before you know it. At your age, these things aren't as serious as they seem. They couldn't be.

Clothilde is left alone.

<b>#21</b>	<b>WHEN YOU'RE EIGHTEEN</b>
------------	-----------------------------

<b>Clothilde</b>
------------------

CLOTHILDE

IF I WERE A WOMAN OF THIRTY  
AND MY LOVE AFFAIR WERE THROUGH  
I'D HAVE THE RIGHT TO WEEP AND WAIL  
THE WAY THAT WOMEN DO  
OR I COULD DRESS IN BLACK  
AND SIT AND BROOD AND STARE  
AT THE MOON AND LEAVE MY FOOD  
AND EVERYBODY'D PITY ME AND SAY  
"ISN'T IT AS HAME THAT THINGS TURNED OUT THIS WAY?"  
BUT I'M FAR TOO YOUNG TO RATE SUCH SYMPATHY  
AND ANYHOW  
THAT SORT OF THING  
JUST COULDN'T BE HAPPENING TO ME

YOUR HEART CAN'T REALLY BREAK  
WHEN YOU'RE EIGHTEEN  
YOU SAY WHAT DIFF'RENCE DOES IT MAKE?  
WHEN YOU'RE EIGHTEEN  
IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN  
PUPPY LOVE I'M GOING THROUGH  
I WON'T RECALL THE BOY AT ALL  
IN JUST ANOTHER WEEK OR TWO  
FOR I'M IN LOVE WITH LOVE  
THAT'S ALL IT IS  
I'D HAVE BEEN IN SOMEONE ELSE'S ARMS  
IF NOT IN HIS  
AT TWENTY-FIVE, MY HEART MAY BREAK  
BUT IT'S PLAIN TO BE SEEN  
YOUR HEART CAN'T REALLY BREAK  
WHEN YOU'RE EIGHTEEN

Asa enters limping and looking disheveled.

CLOTHILDE

Asa!

ASA

Hello.

CLOTHILDE

Asa! What happened to you?

ASA

It's nothing. Just a flesh wound.

CLOTHILDE

What happened? Who did this to you?

ASA

I guess it must have been the seniors. You see, I made a little mistake. I thought...

CLOTHILDE

Oh, my poor Asa. My poor baby.

ASA

All I wanted was to win the election. I thought maybe if I could get to be president of the student council, you would come back to me. I thought...

CLOTHILDE

I've come back to you.

ASA

You have? You mean you're my girl again and you forgive me for all that stuff about the pin and everything?

CLOTHILDE

Of course, dear.

ASA

Oh, I'm so happy, Clothilde.

CLOTHILDE

Me, too.

They kiss.

ASA

This is wonderful, Clothilde. I don't even care about not winning the election now, do you?

CLOTHILDE

No, dear. Still it makes me so mad. The way you've been treated. Look at you.

ASA

It's nothing.

CLOTHILDE

They're not going to get away with it. We're going to fight, Asa. We're not licked yet. I've got an idea.

ASA

You mean about there's more freshmen than seniors.

## CLOTHILDE

No, another one. Have you got bandages at your place? Come on.

#22	REPRISE: STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE
-----	---------------------------------------

Kermit & Company
------------------

## KERMIT

ONCE THERE WAS A WIGWAM HERE  
 A SQUAW AND A COUPLE OF PAPOOSES  
 AN INDIAN BRAVE WHO NEEDED A SHAVE  
 A DEER AND A COUPLE OF MOOSES  
 THEN CAME PALE-FACE, TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP  
 STARTED IN A-GRABBIN'  
 RIGHT 'BOUT HERE HE SET UP CAMP  
 AND BUILT HIS FIRST LOG CABIN

FIRST LITTLE WHITE BOY CAME ALONG  
 FIRST ONE HAD A BROTHER  
 THIRD LITTLE WHITE BOY CAME ALONG  
 SOON THERE WAS ANOTHER  
 FOUR LITTLE WHITE BOYS CLIMBED UP TREES  
 ALL SAID "AIN'T"  
 NONE SAID "PLEASE"  
 ATE LIKE PIGS  
 ROLLED IN THE MUD  
 NEVER GOT CLEAN 'TIL THE FIRST SPRING FLOOD  
 SO PA SAID:  
 "SOMETHING MUST BE DONE  
 TO TEACH THOSE KIDS A THING OR TWO"  
 SO PEG BY PEG  
 STICK BY STICK  
 NAIL BY NAIL  
 BRICK BY BRICK  
 HE BUILT MINNESOTA U

## COMPANY

HE BUILT MINNESOTA U  
  
 IN THE LAND OF THE CHIPPENWA-WAH-WAH  
 THERE'S A SCHOOL WE THINK IS GREAT  
 MINNESOTA, MINNESOTA  
 YOU'RE THE STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE  
 GIVE A CHEER WITH A SKIUMAH! MAH! MAH!  
 SHOW THE CROWD WE REALLY RATE  
 SHOW WE GO TA MINNESOTA  
 SHINING STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE

WE'RE MAROOM AS A PLUM  
 AND A CHERRY AND A BERRY  
 AND A BOTTLE OF OLD PORT WINE  
 WE'RE GOLD AS AN ANGEL'S HALO  
 MAY OUR COLORS EVER SHINE  
 SO LET'S ALL GIVE A MIGHTY WAH! WAH! WAH!  
 FOR WE SURE APPRECIATE  
 ALL WE OWE TO MINNESOTA

## OUR STAR OF THE NORTH STAR STATE

Outside the polling place. The end of the line of sophomores is moving offstage. Kermit is present as Peggy runs on.

KERMIT

What's the latest tally?

PEGGY

Wonderful, Kermit! Practically a clean sweep of the sophomore class.

KERMIT

And I've already got the senior and junior classes, naturally.

PEGGY

The freshmen will be here in a minute. Here they come.

The freshmen start to form their line into the polling place.

FRESHMEN

Vote for Kermit McDermott! Vote for Kermit McDermott!

PEGGY

Oh, Kermit, everybody's voting for you. Everybody!

KERMIT

Of course they are, child.

Muskie Pike and his band enter carrying Asa on their shoulders. He is bandaged from head to toe. Clothilde leads them in.

CLOTHILDE

Friends and fellow freshmen. This boy, only a few hours ago laughing, singing, and dancing, is Asa Hearthrug, a freshman and candidate for president of the student council. Asa Hearthrug now lies in the valley of the shadow. His young skin hangs in tatters, his bones are jagged splinters, his organs are nests of pathology. Perhaps Asa Hearthrug will live, perhaps not. But if Asa Hearthrug dies, he will die cheerfully - with a smile on his lips. For what better end can a man have than to die in the cause of justice? Justice, friends and fellow freshmen, was all that Asa Hearthrug was asking when he incurred these grievous wounds. Last night, Asa Hearthrug stood in front of a gathering of seniors - seniors, the class of Kermit McDermott - exercising the right of free speech granted him by the founding fathers, the right preserved at Chickamauga and San Juan Hill and Chatteau-Thiery and Iwo Jima by other American heroes - exercising this right of free speech, Asa Hearthrug addressed the seniors. Mildly and reasonably he pointed out to them that he thought it was high time the freshmen threw off the yoke of senior oppression.

Whereupon they fell on him like a pack of raving beasts. They attacked him with fang and claw, with clubs and knives. Had not a squad of policemen chanced by and stopped the violence with riot guns, Asa Hearthrug at this moment would be lying on a slab. Friends and fellow freshmen, you have been asked to vote for Kermit McDermott, a senior. You have been asked to strengthen the bonds with which the seniors hold you enslaved. What a piece of irony! You, the freshmen, are a majority on this campus. Statistics show that you outnumber all the other classes combined. Yet you are asked to allow yourselves to be governed by seniors, a victim of whose brutality lies here before you. Has Asa Hearthrug been martyred in vain? Will you allow his sacrifice to go unheeded? Will you not rise in righteous wrath and exercise your very birthright: majority rule? I ask you to go vote for Asa Hearthrug. In all honesty, I must tell you that he may not survive to serve you in office. But if he must go, let him go with the knowledge that the cause for which he perished has been victorious. Come. Fellow me. Let us vote for Asa Hearthrug.

She leads the line into the poling place.

<b>#22A ELECTION MUSIC</b>
----------------------------

<b>Orchestra</b>
------------------

Alpha Cholera. Eino is still asleep. Muskie Pike and his band members are present. Yetta and Noblesse enter arm in arm.

NOBLESSE

No, honey. How about this: the one who can name the most sterling silver patterns?

YETTA

No, dolly. I'll tell you: the one who can name the most jurors in the Sacco-Vanzetti trial.

NOBLESSE

No, dear.

They sit down pondering the situation. A student enters.

MUSKIE PIKE

The election over?

STUDENT

Will be in ten minutes.

MUSKIE PIKE

I don't know, boys. It don't look good for our man. I think we been...

STUDENT

Shhhhh.

Asa and Clothilde enter. He has most of his bandages off. Clothilde helps him with the remaining ones.

ASA

Clothilde, whether I win or lose, I want you to wear this. Will you?

CLOTHILDE

Of course, dear.

NOBLESSE

(To Yetta.) I got it! The one who can name all of Van Johnson's measurements gets Asa's pin.

ASA

Girls, I think you should know. I just gave Clothilde my pin.

YETTA

Don't bother us, comrade. Can't you see we're busy?! (To Noblesse.) Listen: the one who comes closest to the number of lines of advertising in Izvestia in 1939, not counting the classifieds.

NOBLESSE

No...gee, this is fun, isn't it?

Shylock and Roger enter. They can barely conceal their glee.

SHYLOCK

Tough, kid. You lost by one vote. Tough break.

CLOTHILDE

Is the election all over?

ROGER

It will be in three minutes. But everybody's voted already.

ASA

By one vote. That's hard to take.

SHYLOCK

Tough.

CLOTHILDE

Asa! You didn't vote, did you?!

ASA

Huh? No, I didn't! I was on the stretcher all bandaged up.

CLOTHILDE

Come on, hurry!

They start toward the door.

SHYLOCK

Wait a minute.

ASA

Can't. Only a couple of minutes left.

SHYLOCK

Wait a minute! Now, use your head. Don't run off. You can't win with one vote. You'll only tie. What good will that do?

CLOTHILDE

We'll worry about that later. Come on, Asa.

SHYLOCK

Roger, help me.

They hold Asa.

ROGER

Asa, behave yourself.

CLOTHILDE

Let him go. Help - somebody help!

YETTA

It's Asa - hey Eino!

MUSKIE PIKE

(To Shylock.) Let him vote. Let go of him.

Eino enters.

EINO

What is it?

CLOTHILDE

They're hurting Asa.

YETTA

Make them let him go.

NOBLESSE

You're his friend.

EINO

Okey-dokey.

He makes them let go of Asa.

ROGER

What are you doing, Eino?

EINO

He sing nice song. He can go out now.

SHYLOCK

No, not yet.

EINO

(To Asa.) You go out.

CLOTHILDE

Eino, did you vote?

EINO

What's vote?

CLOTHILDE

Go with Asa, Eino, do you understand? Just do whatever he does. Hurry!

ASA

Eino, we've got to hurry.

EINO

Sure.

They barrel out of the house. Everyone else starts following after them.

YETTA

He'll never make it.

CLOTHILDE

Hurry!

MUSKIE PIKE

Come on, I want to be in on this.

Only Roger and Shylock remain.

SHYLOCK

What went wrong? We must have overlooked something. Well, Kismet - that means fate.

ROGER

This is awful. How are you going to pay Muskie? He'll go to the dean. We'll lose our charter. My God, what are we going to do without the fraternity?

SHYLOCK

We can always go back to the Western Union. Think you can still ride a bike?

ROGER

Sure. Once you learn, you never forget. It's like riding a bike.

Asa, Clothilde, Eino, Yetta, Noblesse and Muskie Pike enter. Hereafter they are referred to as "All Six". The gang follows them in triumphantly.

#23	IT COULDN'T BE DONE
-----	---------------------

Company
---------

ASA

THE CHANCES WERE FORTY-NINE MILLION TO ONE

YETTA

THAT WE COULDN'T WIN WITH THAT SON OF A GUN

MUSKIE PIKE

THEY COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A CORNIER HICK TO RUN

ROGER

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

SHYLOCK

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

ROGER

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

SHYLOCK

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

ALL SIX

IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT WE DID IT!

YETTA

IT'S LIKE WHEN GOLIATH AND DAVID GOT SET  
TO PROVE WHO WAS BETTER AND EV'RYONE BET  
THAT DAVE'D GET BEAT AND LOOK LIKE A MEAT CROQUETTE!

CLOTHILDE

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

MUSKIE PIKE

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

NOBLESSE

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

YETTA

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

ALL SIX

IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT WE DID IT!

NOBLESSE

SO TAKE THE NEWS AND SPREAD IT

IT'S A WONDERFUL VICTORY  
AND A LOT OF ALL THE CREDIT  
GOES TO ME!

EINO

ME!

YETTA

ME!

ASA

ME!

CLOTHILDE

IT'S LIKE WHEN THE WRIGHT BROTHERS TOOK TO THE AIR  
AND PEOPLE SAID: "LOOK AT THAT TOOL OF A PAIR  
ARE THEY GONNA TRY TO FLY TO THE SKY IN A CHAIR?"

ASA

IT NEVER WILL RUN

MUSKIE PIKE & EINO

WE KNOW IN ADVANCE IT NEVER WILL RUN

YETTA, NOBLESSE & CLOTHILDE

THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE

ALL SIX

IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT THEY DID IT!

ASA

IT'S LIKE A B-MOVIE WHERE TWENTY-FIVE MEN  
ATTACK THE POOR HERO AGAIN AND AGAIN  
THE BULLETS FLY PAST AND HE SAYS HIS LAST AMEN

MUSKIE PIKE

HE'S SURE TO GET DRILLED!

NOBLESSE

HE CAN'T BE ALIVE!

YETTA

OH, LOOKIT! HE KILLED THE WHOLE TWENTY-FIVE

FULL COMPANY

IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT WE DID IT!

ALL SIX

HERE'S THE HANDS THAT SHOULD BE SHAKEN  
IT'S THANKS TO US HE DIDN'T MISS  
AND OUR PHOTOS SHOULD BE TAKEN  
JUST LIKE THIS

CLOTHILDE & ASA

THIS!

YETTA, NOBLESSE, EINO & MUSKIE PIKE

THIS!

FULL COMPANY

THIS!

HE HAD AS MUCH CHANCE AS A SNOWMAN IN MAY  
THE CHANCE OF A TURKEY ON THANKSGIVING DAY

SCHULTZ

HIS CHANCES TO WIN WERE THIN AS A NEGLIGEE!

SHYLOCK

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

ROGER

HE COULDN'T HAVE WON

KERMIT

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

PEGGY

IT COULDN'T BE DONE

FULL COMPANY

IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT WE DID IT!

Curtain.

END OF ACT TWO

<b>#24 BOWS AND EXIT</b>
--------------------------

<b>Orchestra</b>
------------------

END OF PLAY