

# BASED ON THE NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES "BEAT BUGS" CREATED BY JOSH WAKELY

WRITTEN BY
SEAN CERCONE & DAVID ABBINANTI

## **PERUSAL**

(Workshop Draft)



07/24/18

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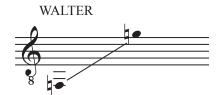
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#### **ACTOR TRACKS**

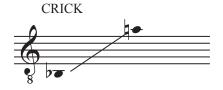
(10 Actors)

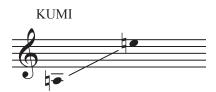
- 1. WALTER (M)
- 2. JAY (M)
- 3. CRICK (M or F)
- 4. KUMI (F)
- 5. BUZZ (F)
- 6. MR. MUSTARD (M)
- 7. PRUDENCE (F)
- 8. MINERBIRD #1/DORIS/THE QUEEN BEE (F)
- 9. MINERBIRD #2/POSTMAN BEE/CARPENTER ANT/STAGE MANAGER/JOE COCKEROACH/BILLY SHEARS (M or F)
- 10. MINERBIRD #3/MR. SUN/MUDWASP/SGT. PEPPER (M)

## **Beat Bugs Character Vocal Ranges**

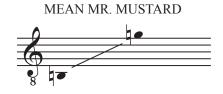






















### Beat Bugs: Saving Strawberry Fields Forever Scenes, Characters, Musical Numbers, and Pages

Scene 1
#1 Opening: Sun King (Offstage Voices) #2 Good Day Sunshine (Jay, Crick) #3 Birthday (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi) #4 Strawberry Fields Forever (Walter, Buzz, Crick, Kumi) #4A Nowhere Man (Scene Change)
Scene 2
#5 Nowhere Man (Prudence)
Scene 3
Scene 4
Scene 5
#10A When I'm Sixty-Four – Rehearsal (Walter) #11 Hello Goodbye/We Can Work It Out (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi

cene 640
Mean Mr. Mustard, Miner Birds, Prudence
#11A Nowhere Man - Reprise (Prudence)
cene 743
Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi, Stage Manager
#12 Eleanor Rigby (Walter)
cene 8
Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi, Prudence, Mean Mr. Mustard, The Queen-Bee, Joe Cockeroach, Mr. Sun
<ul> <li>#13 Magical Mystery Tour (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi)</li> <li>#14 Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi)</li> <li>#15 Yellow Submarine (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi)</li> <li>#16 Across the Universe (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi)</li> <li>#17 With a Little Help from my Friends (Joe Cockeroach, Prudence, Mean Mr. Mustard, Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi)</li> <li>#18 All You Need is Love (Walter, Buzz, Jay, Crick, Kumi, Prudence, Mean Mr. Mustard)</li> </ul>
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#### SCENE 1

#### THE BACKYARD

(SFX of chirping birds...the sun is just starting to rise.)

#### **#1 OPENING: SUN KING**

#### O.S. VOICES

AH
HERE COMES THE SUN KING
EVERYBODY'S LAUGHING
EVERYBODY'S HAPPY
HERE COMES THE SUN KING

(We see MR. SUN turn and come to life on stage as he oversees the backyard.)

#### MR. SUN

HELLO, everyone out there.

(beat)

I said, HELLO EVERYONE OUT THERE!...It's so wonderful to see all of you. For those of you who have forgotten what I look like, or if you live in Seattle, I am Mr. Sun! They call me the King of the Garden.

(He pauses to think)

Everyone does look UP to me, so I guess they don't have a choice.

(He laughs)

I know many of you have joined us today to answer that age-old question; How did Strawberry Fields come to be? Now that is a very interesting story. "Imagine" yourself as a tiny bug in a big backyard and well...you'll see.

#### **#2 GOOD DAY SUNSHINE**

(Lights come up on CRICK, asleep in his bed. Music builds, then JAY bursts onto the stage with his skateboard.)

JAY

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE GOOD DAY SUNSHINE GOOD DAY SUNSHINE

#### JAY (CONT'D)

I NEED TO LAUGH AND WHEN THE SUN IS OUT I'VE GOT SOMETHING I CAN LAUGH ABOUT

I FEEL GOOD IN A SPECIAL WAY I'M IN LOVE AND IT'S A SUNNY DAY

(looking at CRICK...in a loud whisper)

Crick? Crick? Wake up! Come on, dude.

(CRICK doesn't budge)

(a little louder now)

Crick! Wake up bro. Come on! *(still nothing)* 

(JAY tiptoes over to CRICK, bends down MUSIC OUT and screams into his ear)

Lawnmower!!!!!!!!

(CRICK leaps up from his sleep screaming and running around)

#### CRICK

Where?! WHERE!?

*(realizes, then to JAY)* 

I hate it when you do that.

(music back in... CRICK is not amused and just wants to go back to sleep)

**JAY** 

I said-

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE

(CRICK groans and puts the pillow over his head)

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE GOOD DAY SUNSHINE

**CRICK** 

I'M SO TIRED

I HAVEN'T SLEPT A WINK

#### CRICK (CONT'D)

#### I'M SO TIRED MY MIND IN ON THE BLINK

JAY

Come on! We got big plans today – I'm gonna finally do the quadruple kick-flip with a pike twist!

**CRICK** 

Is that even possible?

**JAY** 

Ummmm...

(he kicks up his skateboard)

Not so far, but the day is still young!

WE TAKE A WALK
THE SUN IS SHINING DOWN
BURNS MY FEET
AS THEY TOUCH THE GROUND

**CRICK** 

Jay, I actually have a lot to do today. I have to finish my latest invention for Walter, THE MI-CRICK-PHONE!

**JAY** 

**GOOD DAY SUNSHINE** 

**CRICK** 

Can I get a little help from...

**JAY** 

GOOD DAY SUNSHINE

**CRICK** 

How about that silver hammer...

**JAY** 

**GOOD DAY SUNSHINE** 

I NEED TO LAUGH AND WHEN THE SUN IS OUT I'VE GOT SOMETHING I CAN LAUGH ABOUT

**JAY CRICK GOOD DAY SUNSHINE** GOOD DAY SUNSHINE YOU KNOW I'D GIVE YOU EVEYTHING I GOT FOR A LITTLE PEACE OF GOOD DAY SUNSHINE **MIND** YOU KNOW I'D GIVE YOU EVEYTHING I GOT FOR A LITTLE PEACE OF **GOOD DAY SUNSHINE MIND** PEACE OF-GOOD DAY SUNSHINE PEACE OF-**JAY & CRICK** GOOD DAY SUNSHINE **GOOD DAY SUNSHINE** (They both fall down laughing together) JAY That's the Crick I know! Heeyyyyy! You haven't forgotten, have ya? CRICK Forgotten what? JAY Oh Crick...only something we've known since the first day we've met! Don't you remember what's special about today? **CRICK** Well, I think I know that it's...I think it may be, uh, then again, uh, ummm, I'm not sure. (KUMI, WALTER and BUZZ barge in with a birthday cake, gifts and other birthday party items) **KUMI, WALTER & BUZZ** HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

**#3 BIRTHDAY** 

**KUMI** 

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

JAY

IT'S MY BIRTHDAY TOO, YEAH

We're Birthday Buddies - remember?!

**WALTER** 

THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

**JAY & CRICK** 

WE'RE GONNA HAVE A GOOD TIME

**BUZZ** 

I'M GLAD IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

ALL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

WALTER

Oh, my belli-ness this is SO exciting!

**KUMI, WALTER & BUZZ** 

YES, WE'RE GOIN' TO A PARTY, PARTY YES, WE'RE GOIN' TO A PARTY, PARTY

ALL

YES, WE'RE GOIN' TO A PARTY, PARTY

**KUMI & BUZZ** 

**WALTER** 

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO DANCE

(JAY and CRICK start doing goofy dance moves...they start playing games, blowing out candles...birthday party stuff)

**BIRTHDAY** 

TAKE A

CHA-CHA-CHA-CHANCE

**BIRTHDAY** 

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO DANCE

**BIRTHDAY** 

**ALL** 

OOO DANCE...YEAH!

#### JAY & CRICK

(to each other) YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY IT'S MY BIRTHDAY TOO, YEAH THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY WE'RE GONNA HAVE A GOOD TIME I'M GLAD IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY **ALL** HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU **CRICK** Wow, that was a quick party. **BUZZ** It's over already? **WALTER** Yeah, we were told to keep it under three minutes and thirty seconds. **BUZZ** Why? **JAY** Because we have birthday thingies to do. **KUMI** Oh fun! How about we go on a fantastic adventure!? **CRICK** Good idea! There's a new exhibit at the Museum of Math and Scientific Formulas! JAY You have no idea how to be cool, do you? **WALTER** Orrrr...

(he suggests this all the time)

We could perform a medley of my greatest mime acts in a modern interpretation...

**ALL** 

NO!

#### **WALTER**

OK. How about a musical! We can practice like this:

(He clears his throat and sings)

The silly slug slithered up the slippery slide

The silly slug slithered up the slippery slide.

**KUMI** 

I don't think so.

**BUZZ** 

The plan ish...

(beat)

Do we have a plan?

#### **KUMI**

The plan *is*, to go somewhere we have never been before. That's what makes an adventure a *real* adventure.

#### WALTER

I am not sure my offer of a medley of mime classics has been properly considered.

#### **CRICK**

Well...if it's a new adventure that you want, then I may know of just the place. A truly magical place.

WALTER, BUZZ, KUMI & JAY

WALTER

Magical?

#### **CRICK**

Yeah-and-and... Mysterious. That's right. A magical, mysterious place.

WALTER

Oooooooo. I wanna go! I WANNA GO!

**BUZZ** 

Where ish it, Crick?

#### **CRICK**

Well, I found it one night when I couldn't sleep. I was working on one of my inventions and my crickta-calculations didn't add up, so I went outside for some night air when I saw it...a mystical symbol.

#### **#4 STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER**

#### **CRICK**

I followed it down a long and winding road, climbed pass the Mountain of Amazing Marvels, then came to a clearing and...

**KUMI** 

What?!!! WHAT?!!!

#### **CRICK**

I had never seen something so amazing and so beautiful. They looked like they went on forever.

WALTER

What were they?

**CRICK** 

Well, come on, I'll show you.

(Through this, the group begins to travel through the backyard. BUZZ now has a safari hat on. CRICK has turned a hairpin into a hiking pole. KUMI and JAY consult KUMI'S digital watch like it's a compass. They look deep into the backyard. WALTER lags behind, a little tired, finally catches up.)

#### **CRICK**

LET ME TAKE YOU DOWN
'CAUSE I'M GOIN' TO
STRAWBERRY FIELDS
NOTHING IS REAL
AND NOTHING TO GET HUNG ABOUT
STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER

(they arrive at Strawberry Fields)

**KUMI** 

Crick, this place is magical!

LIVING IS EASY WITH EYES CLOSED MISUNDERSTANDING ALL YOU SEE IT'S GETTING HARD TO BE SOMEONE

#### KUMI (CONT'D)

BUT IT ALL WORKS OUT IT DOESN'T MATTER MUCH TO ME

**ALL** 

LET ME TAKE YOU DOWN
'CAUSE I'M GOIN' TO
STRAWBERRY FIELDS
NOTHING IS REAL
AND NOTHING TO GET HUNG ABOUT
STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER

**BUZZ** 

Wow! What ish this place?

**CRICK** 

It's called a preserve.

WALTER

I love jam!

**CRICK** 

No...not that kind of preserve.

**WALTER** 

I love jelly, too!

CRICK

No, no. A nature preserve. This is what I wanted to show you. They're called strawberry plants and there's plenty of them.

**KUMI** 

They're so beautiful and colorful-

**BUZZ** 

The colorful-esht!

**WALTER** 

And-the delischioush-est!

ALL

Mmmmm. Strawberry.

**BUZZ** 

NO ONE I THINK IS IN MY TREE

#### BUZZ (CONT'D)

I MEAN, IT MUST BE HIGH OR LOW

#### **WALTER**

I THINK A "NO" WILL MEAN A "YES" BUT IT'S ALL WRONG THAT IS, I THINK I DISAGREE

ALL

LET ME TAKE YOU DOWN
'CAUSE I'M GOIN' TO
STRAWBERRY FIELDS
NOTHING IS REAL
AND NOTHING TO GET HUNG ABOUT

STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER

#4A NOWHERE MAN (SCENE CHANGE)

#### **SCENE 2**

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD'S OFFICE

(PRUDENCE...MEAN MR. MUSTARD'S (THE STINK BUG) assistant is in an office answering ringing phones...the name plate on the big desk reads "Mean Mr. Mustard." Music out)

#### **PRUDENCE**

Mean Mr. Mustard's Destruction of Happiness Company, Hello-goodbye (she hangs up)

Mean Mr. Mustard's Destruction of Happiness Company, Hello-goodbye (she hangs up)...etc...

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

(entering)

Prudence! I've done it! I've done it this time! Ohh, Mom & Dad Stink Bug would be so proud. They knew my hard work would pay off! Everyone said it couldn't be done but *Iiiiiiiiiii* did it!

#### **PRUDENCE**

Did what? Finally figure out how to produce power by gaseous stink?

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Pull my finger.

(She does and MEAN MR. MUSTARD let's out a stink from his tail.)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTRAD

(evil laugh)

Hahahahahahahaha!

(PRUDENCE rolls her eyes)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD (CONT'D)

No. This is about the old lot on the corner of Blue Jay Way and Penny Lane! That's the perfect spot to build my new pollution factory. My old neighborhood! Oh Pru, this is perfect! A perfect spot to seek revenge on all the people who teased me when I was growing up!

#### **PRUDENCE**

Wait! That's not a vacant lot! That's a park! Bursting with life, animals and nature...a beautiful refuge for people to go and feel at peace.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Ehh. Potato bug — potato bug. (pronounced 'po-TAY-toe, po-TAH-toe')

#### **PRUDENCE**

Sir, the zoning bird will never approve it. The park means too much to the community. It's a huge part of The Queen-Bee's new environmental preservation campaign. You know, "Everybody's Green?" I wouldn't recommend---

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

(interrupting)

Zip it, Pru. The Queen-Bee is too busy making honey for all the wild honey pies. She's not going to care about that silly green campaign. Besides, there's only one green that matters and that's MONEY! And nowhere in the world is someone as gaseous green as me. Nowhere in the world is someone as mean as me.

(MEAN MR. MUSTARD exits while PRUDENCE stays behind and does something)

#### **PRUDENCE**

And nowhere in the world is someone as unseen as me.

#### **#5 NOWHERE MAN**

HE'S A REAL NOWHERE MAN
SITTING IN HIS NOWHERE LAND
MAKING ALL HIS NOWHERE PLANS FOR NOBODY

NOWHERE MAN PLEASE LISTEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISSING NOWHERE MAN, THE WORLD IS AT YOUR COMMAND

DOESN'T HAVE A POINT OF VIEW KNOWS NOT WHERE HE'S GOING TO ISN'T HE A BIT LIKE YOU AND ME?

NOWHERE MAN DON'T WORRY TAKE YOUR TIME, DON'T HURRY LEAVE IT ALL TILL SOMEBODY ELSE LENDS YOU A HAND

HE'S AS BLIND AS HE CAN BE JUST SEES WHAT HE WANTS TO SEE NOWHERE MAN CAN YOU SEE ME AT ALL

#### **SCENE 3**

#### STRAWBERRY FIELDS

(ALL FIVE BUGS are sitting and/or laying full from eating strawberries. WALTER is the only one standing, still eating and telling his story.)

#### **WALTER**

...and I was sweating so much that when I ran out on stage, my squish started sliding, and sliding and sliding, right across the stage till I collected the leading lady! Oh, my belliness!

**JAY** 

(being full)

Oh, my belli-ness.

#### WALTER

I know, right? I slid toward the footlights with her on board and we landed on top of the audience in the front row. I was sure I ruined *everything*...But they stood up and started cheering. They called it "immersive."

**KUMI** 

Great story Walter!

**BUZZ** 

I have a sh'tory too!

**KUMI** 

(dismissively to BUZZ)

That's nice, Buzz.

(to the rest)

I wonder how long, I mean how far the Strawberry Fields go for?

#### CRICK

By my crick-to-calculations, I'd say they go for...well...forever.

**BUZZ** 

Forever and ever and ever.

(CRICK sees the berry in WALTER'S arms and takes his Crick-totape and starts to measure it.)

**CRICK** 

Eh...perhaps, we shouldn't eat too many.

#### JAY

Why not? Like you said, Crick - they go on forever!

#### **CRICK**

(As WALTER eats the strawberry, CRICK stretches the tape across WALTER'S stomach, measuring it instead)

Y-yes, but I didn't factor in Walter's appetite.

(we hear the sound of jackhammers)

**WALTER** 

Uh-oh. What is that?

**BUZZ** 

That's a shearry shound?

(A flock of three MINER BIRDS, rough characters in yellow hard hats and neon vests, are pecking systematically at the strawberries, bobbing like a jackhammer ripping out plants by the roots.)

#### KUMI

Oh no - Miner birds! What are they doing here?

#### MINER BIRD #2

Woooo-weee. Well looky what we got ourselves here.

**MINER BIRD #1** 

Hey. What're you bugs doin' here?

WALTER

Nothin'-nothin'. We were just leaving.

**JAY** 

Wait - why should we leave?

#### **MINER BIRD #1**

I reckon you bugs better get outta here, quick-smart-like.

(the birds go back to pecking)

**CRICK** 

Ah, excuse me. Th-there's a small problem.

MINER BIRD #1

Oh yeah? What's the problem?

#### CRICK

Ah, you see, at your rate of b-berry picking, you will endanger the long-term prospects of-

#### **KUMI**

If you keep pulling out the plants, soon there'll be no strawberries left for anybody!

**JAY** 

Yeah, you're wrecking everything.

**MINER BIRD #3** 

(he laughs)

That's the plan. Now bug off!

**BUZZ** 

How rude-ish.

#### WALTER

I'm going to show you a thing or two, or my name isn't Walter W. Walrus.

(MEAN MR. MUSTARD and PRUDENCE enter through the birds)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

My friends, my friends. What is this much ado about nothing?

#### **WALTER**

Oooo - Shakespeare. I like this guy.

#### **MINER BIRD #1**

Mr. Mustard, these bugs are well, buggin' us and they're tryin' to stop us from getting our work done.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

I see.

#### JAY

Mr. Mustard? As in Mean Mr. Mustard who sleeps in the park?

#### **WALTER**

As in Mean Mr. Mustard who shaves in the dark?

#### CRICK

As in Mean Mr. Mustard who sleeps in a hole?

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Ah-ah-ah. I'm fixin' that hole.

#### **KUMI**

Your birds are eating all the strawberries and aren't saving any for later.

**BUZZ** 

Who'sh later?

**JAY** 

Later is like, tomorrow, Buzz.

#### #6 TOMORROW NEVER KNOWS

(the birds all turn their focus menacingly on the BB. THE BIRDS fly into formation ala Sharks in WEST SIDE STORY. The BB & birds circle each other)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Ah...Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow, yet tomorrow never knows

TURN OFF YOUR MIND RELAX AND FLOAT DOWNSTREAM IT IS NOT DYING, IT IS NOT DYING

LAY DOWN ALL THOUGHT SURRENDER TO THE VOID IT IS SHINNING

MEAN MR. MUSTARD & MINER BIRDS

IT IS SHINNING

**MINER BIRD #1** 

LISTEN TO THE COLOR OR YOUR DREAMS

MINER BIRDS

IT IS NOT LIVING IT IS NOT LIVING

(Ballet sequence begins with THE THREE BIRDS— doing a well-choreographed act which incorporates tying the BB together with construction tape...all the while, doing random batama, pirouettes and jettes.)

MINER BIRD #3

THAT YOU MAY SEE
THE MEANING OF WITHIN

#### **MINER BIRDS**

IT IS BEING IT IS BEING

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Everyone knows Strawberry Fields won't last forever. I'm just speeding up the process for it's a perfect location for my new pollution factory. Can't you smell all the progress! So-

PLAY THE GAME
EXISTANCE TO THE END
OF THE BEGINNING

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD & MINER BIRDS

OF THE BEGINNING OF THE BEGINNING OF THE BEGINNING

(THE MINER BIRDS grab the tape and fling the BB off stage. The song ends. MUSIC OUT.)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Good work, you three.

#### MINER BIRD #2

Does that mean we're done for the day?

#### MINER BIRD #1 & MINER BIRD #3

Yeah!

#### **MINER BIRD #2**

Ahhh, free as a bird!

#### **MEAN MR. MUSTARD**

Fat chance. Now follow me over to the east end. I want to show you where those babbling beaks will be digging next!

#### **MINER BIRDS**

Awwwwwwwww. But it looks like it's might rain.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

I got your forecast right here. Sunny with a chance of thunder and wind! (MEAN MR. MUSTRAD blows his stink in their direction.)
Now get going!

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD (CONT'D)

(to PRUDENCE)

Awwww...don't look so sad. Let me see your smile. Soon, this whole place will be alive and bustling with the smog of progress!

(to MINER BIRDS)

Come on, I didn't get where I am by waitin'.

(MR. MUSTARD & MINER BIRDS exit, leaving PRUDENCE alone and sad.)

#### **SCENE 4**

THE TOWN SQUARE

#### #7 SGT. PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND

(The music begins in darkness. ..LIGHT UP on the town square...various bugs mingling... and in walks a group of four, interestingly-dressed performers. Costumes are like nothing anyone has ever seen before.)

#### **BAND MEMBER #1**

IT WAS TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY

#### **BAND MEMBER #2**

SERGEANT PEPPER TAUGHT THE BAND TO PLAY

#### **BAND MEMBER #3**

THEY'VE BEEN GOIN' IN AND OUT OF STYLE

#### **BAND MEMBER #4**

BUT THEY'RE GUARANTEED TO RAISE A SMILE

#### **BAND MEMBER #1**

SO, MAY I INTRODUCE TO YOU THE ACT YOU'VE KNOWN FOR ALL THESE YEARS

#### **ALL FOUR BAND MEMBERS**

SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND

(the BEAT BUGS hop in, still tied in their construction tape)

#### WALTER

Oh, my belli-ness! Who is that...?

**JAY** 

Hey Crick, can you find out who they are?

#### **CRICK**

Gee, I'd like to but I'm a little tied up at the moment.

#### **ALL FOUR BAND MEMBERS**

WE'RE SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY THE SHOW

#### **WALTER**

They're street performers.

#### **ALL FOUR BAND MEMBERS**

SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND SIT BACK AND LET THE EVENING GO

#### **WALTER**

(Whispers to the other BB) They do it in the road.

#### **ALL FOUR BAND MEMBERS**

SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY
SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY
SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND

(SGT PEPPER enters. He is even more grandly-dressed than his band members.)

#### SGT. PEPPER

IT'S WONDERFUL TO BE HERE
IT'S CERTAINLY A THRILL
YOU'RE SUCH A LOVELY AUDIENCE

#### **SERGEANT PEPPER & BAND**

WE'D LIKE TO TAKE YOU HOME WITH US WE'D LOVE TO TAKE YOU HOME

#### WALTER

I DON'T REALLY WANNA STOP THE SHOW BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW THAT—

#### **BAND MEMBER #3**

(interrupting WALTER) THE SINGER'S GONNA SING A SONG AND WE WANT YOU ALL TO SING ALONG

#### **BAND MEMBER #4**

SO, MAY I INTRODUCE TO YOU

#### **ALL BAND MEMBERS**

THE ONE AND ONLY BILLY SHEARS

(in walks a bug with all different types and sizes of scissors)

#### **ALL**

## SERGEANT PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND! BILLY SHEARS!

(BILLY SHEARS picks the right scissors for the job and cuts the bugs free.)

**KUMI** 

Oh, great. Thank you.

**CRICK** 

Yes. Thank you.

**SGT. PEPPER** 

And who might you be, my good sir?

WALTER

Um... Walter...?

SGT. PEPPER

The Wondrous Walter? The Wow-tastical Walter? The Whizz-bang Walter, perchance?

**WALTER** 

Well no, just...Walter.

SGT. PEPPER

"Well-no-just-Walter"? What kind of poppycock name for a performer is *that*? Unless...you're not a performer?

**WALTER** 

No, I AM a performer! How did you know?

SGT. PEPPER

I can smell it, my dear bug

**WALTER** 

Oh...I'm sorry.

(WALTER smells under his own arm)

**SGT. PEPPER** 

(laughing)

No..."the theatre" my dear bug! I can smell the theatre...it must be in your, in your...well, in your-

#### **WALTER**

SQUISH! It is in my squish. I come from a long line of performers. My dear Uncle Tusk always used to say-

#### **SGT. PEPPER**

Yes. Well that's lovely now isn't it. Ok. Moving on.

#### **DORIS**

We've gathered every bug in the garden for the meeting.

#### **CRICK**

Great. Thanks Doris. We have something important to tell everyone.

**KUMI** 

Mean Mr. Mustard-

ALL

(all scream)

Ah!

#### KUMI

Of Mean Mr. Mustards Destruction of Happiness Company-

**ALL** 

(All scream)

Ah!

**KUMI** 

Is building another new pollution factory!

(The towns bugs are unaffected)

#### **CRICK**

Don't you get it?! That means no more Strawberry Fields!

(no one cares)

**BUZZ** 

No more banana sh'tands!

(still no reaction)

**JAY** 

No more apple store!

(the crowd freaks out!)

#### JAY

It will continue to drive away all the plants and trees and animals.

#### **WALTER**

Our perfect world, turned into this desolate wasteland! We're all doomed- DOOMED I SAY!

#### **ROACH**

(slowly)

Chillax Walter. It can't be that bad. Can it Crick?

#### CRICK

I-I'm afraid so. No bugs can live in that environment.

#### **ROACH**

Speak for yourselves, man. Us roaches can live anywhere, y'know?

#### **CRICK**

That's n-not really, um, helping?

#### **KUMI**

We need ideas! Lots of ideas or from tomorrow, this is what our home will look like.

(KUMI shows the crowd a picture of a wasteland labeled "DESOLATE WASTELAND" with an arrow.)

#### **MUDWASP**

Wot choice 'ave we got? It's not like we can stop them, is it?

#### WALTER

I think we should have a Squish-in!

(sits down to demonstrate)

We'll link arms and sit in the group so they can't POSSIBLY move us!

#### **MUDWASP**

They'll just step on us instead! Then it will really be a squish-in.

**BUZZ** 

Exchuse me? I have a-

#### **POSTMAN BEE**

I'll just float like a butterfly and sting like me.

#### **KUMI**

No. No stinging Mr. Bee.

II have an idea-	BUZZ
	CODIC
I can spin my web and-	OORIS
Yes, and I think my stinger-	OSTMAN BEE
(Overlapping) No stingers, no webs, we-	CRICK
<b>W</b> (Overlapping)	ALTER
We should try my Squish-in idea.	:10°
(Overlapping) There's got to be-	JAY
HELLO - WILL YOU LISH'TEN!!!	BUZZ
(They all draw silent and look a We must sh'ave Sh'trawberry Fieldsh.	t BUZZ.)
Buzz! That's it!	KUMI
It ish?	BUZZ
Kumi, we know that.	JAY
	KUMI
Nomake them listen to even the smallest	bug. "We must save Strawberry Fields."
Yes! By my squishiness. We won't back d	Own.
	CRICK
We won't yield.	

#### **BUZZ**

We must sh'ave Sh'trawberry Fieldsh.

#### **#8 COME TOGETHER**

#### **KUMI**

WE WON'T BACK DOWN
WE WON'T YIELD
WE MUST SAVE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

#### **ALL FIVE**

WE WON'T BACK DOWN
WE WON'T YIELD
WE MUST SAVE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

#### **KUMI**

HERE COME OLD FLAT TOP
HE COME GROOVIN' UP SLOWLY
HE GOT JOO-JOO EYEBALLS
HE'S ONE HOLY ROLLER

HE GOT HAIR DOWN TO HIS KNEES GOT TO BE A JOKER HE JUST DO AS HE PLEASE

(The BEAT BUGS rouse the TOWNSBUGS who join along)

#### ALL FIVE

WE WON'T BACK DOWN
WE WON'T YIELD
WE MUST SAVE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

#### **ALL FIVE & TOWNSBUGS**

WE WON'T BACK DOWN
WE WON'T YIELD
WE MUST SAVE STRAWBERRY FIELDS

#### JAY

HE WEAR NO SHOESHINE
HE GOT TOE JAM FOOTBALL
HE GOT MONKEY FINGER
HE SHOOT COCA COLA
HE SAY, "I KNOW YOU. YOU KNOW ME."
ONE THING I CAN TELL YOU IS WE GOT TO BE FREE

		ALL
	COME TOGETHER RIGHT NOW OVER ME	
	SHOO	
Ask no	ot what your colony can do for yo	WALTER u.
	SHOO	ALL
But wl	hat you can do for your colony.	WALTER
	SHOO	ALL
One sr	mall hop for bugs.	KUMI
	SHOO	ALL
One gi	iant leap for insect-kind.	
	HE ROLLERCOASTER	KUMI
· C	HE GOT EARLY WARNING	CRICK
5	HE GOT MUDDY WATER	WALTER
	HE ONE MOJO FILTER HE SAY	CRICK

ONE AND ONE AND ONE IS THREE GOT TO BE GOOD LOOKIN' 'CAUSE HE'S SO HARD TO SEE

ALL

#### ALL (CONT'D)

## COME TOGETHER RIGHT NOW, OVER-

(MUSIC STOPS abruptly--THE PROTESTORS arrive at Strawberry Fields, although this time the fields are barren and torn. There once-inspired march has now let the air out of it and all are dismayed and sad at the sight.)

What happened?

BUZZ
I think I'm gonna be sh'ad.

WALTER
All the strawberries...

CRICK
Are gone.

KUMI
We're too late.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

(Enters behind the bugs without them realizing with PRUDENCE.) It's practically perfect, isn't it. A beautiful disaster.

**KUMI** 

What did you do?

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Poisoned all the plants in preparation of "the pouring of the pavement!"

**BUZZ** 

That's horrish-ible.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

I know. How exciting! Aannnnnd, we have just received approval from the Zoning Bird to expand our marvelously mean operations throughout the entire garden, building one big poisonous, pollution plant. A concrete jungle, if you will. Pru?

#### **PRUDENCE**

(reluctantly reading from a scroll)

It is hereby ordered by and decreed as follows...blah, blah, blah, pollution plant, blah, blah, irrevocably waived-

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Blah-blah - I win, you loose.

JAY

You really are as mean as they say you are.

MR. POSTMAN BEE

But, we will have to leave our homes.

**DORIS** 

Our lives.

**ALL BEAT BUGS** 

(sadly)

Our friends.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Ummmm.-yeah. Tough termites. Ok. Off ya go. Keep calm and get out.

(MR. MUSTARD and MINER BIRDS begin to move everyone off stage.)

#### **PRUDENCE**

Sir, there's just one thing, I was thinking-

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Zip it, Pru. Look around. Less thinking and more doing for the destruction of happiness is mine!

**PRUDENCE** 

Yes, sir.

(PRUDENCE follows MR. MUSTARD and all off stage. WALTER is alone)

#### #9 IN MY LIFE

#### **WALTER**

THERE ARE PLACES I'LL REMEMBER ALL MY LIFE THOUGH SOME HAVE CHANGED

#### WALTER (CONT'D)

#### SOME FOREVER NOT FOR BETTER SOME HAVE GONE AND SOME REMAIN

#### ALL THESE PLACES HAD THEIR MOMENTS

(he looks around and sees one single strawberry)

Good for you...you little tough guy.

SOME ARE DEAD AND SOME ARE LIVING IN MY LIFE, I'VE LOVED THEM ALL

(music continues...SGT. PEPPER enters)

SGT. PEPPER

Where are your mates?

WALTER

Packing, I guess. What should I do, Sergeant?

SGT. PEPPER

Only you can decide, my dear bug. All I can say is...the road has been my home because...I never had any other.

WALTER

This is our home and I don't want to leave it. Look at the destruction and decay. And soon, the entire backyard is going to look this way. It's hopeless.

(MUSIC OUT)

SGT. PEPPER

Poppycock and rubbish!

**WALTER** 

Ex-squish me?

SGT. PEPPER

Walter, enough of this malarkey! I'm surprised at you, my dear slug.

**WALTER** 

Me?

#### SGT. PEPPER

Yes, you. Think Walter, think. Think about your friends, your adventures, your community! Are you going to give that all up so easily?

**WALTER** 

No, but -

#### **SGT. PEPPER**

I should say not! You know, there are higher authorities who can put an end to this. But you need to get their attention. Show them your voice. All of your voices! All together, now.

**WALTER** 

But, how?

#### SGT. PEPPER

Come now, my fellow thespian. What's the one thing that makes a bunch of odd-looking, strange creatures come out from the woodwork and gather for reasons unbeknownst to anyone...even themselves.

WALTER

(inspiration)

A musical!

SGT. PEPPER

I like the cut of your jib, sir.

WALTER

Great! So, we will put on a musical! What's our first step?

SGT. PEPPER

Not "we"...you.

**WALTER** 

Me?!? What are you going to do?

**SGT PEPPER** 

Nothing. I'm a producer.

**WALTER** 

You lost me.

#### **SGT PEPPER**

Walter, you already know how to create a musical. I see it in you. You have heart, talent, passion.

#### **WALTER**

And you think that's all it takes?

#### **SGT PEPPER**

Well...not all. You need one more thing...the most important thing.

#### **WALTER**

(can't think of anything)

New headshots?

#### **SGT PEPPER**

Since the dawn of time, every show from Shakespeare to Sondheim has had the same underlying current.

#### # 10 THE WORD

The most powerful force in this world is not money, greed or corruption. Every performance needs that one special ingredient. Come on now, man...think!

SAY THE WORD AND YOU'LL BE FREE SAY THE WORD AND BE LIKE ME SAY THE WORD I'M THINKING OF HAVE YOU HEARD THE WORD IS LOVE? IT'S SO FINE, IT'S SUNSHINE IT'S THE WORD, LOVE

EVERYWHERE I GO I HEAR IT SAID IN THE GOOD AND BAD BOOKS THAT I HAVE READ

SPREAD THE WORD AND YOU'LL BE FREE SPREAD THE WORD AND BE LIKE ME SPREAD THE WORD I'M THINKING OF HAVE YOU HEARD THE WORD IS LOVE? IT'S SO FINE, IT'S SUNSHINE IT'S THE WORD, LOVE

**WALTER** 

Ahhh!!

IN THE BEGINNING, I MISUNDERSTOOD BUT NOW I'VE GOT IT, THE WORD IS GOOD

#### **WALTER & SGT. PEPPER**

SAY THE WORD AND YOU'LL BE FREE SAY THE WORD AND BE LIKE ME SAY THE WORD I'M THINKING OF HAVE YOU HEARD THE WORD IS LOVE? IT'S SO FINE, IT'S SUNSHINE IT'S THE WORD, LOVE

#### **WALTER**

NOW THAT I KNOW WHAT I FEEL MUST BE RIGHT I'M HERE TO SHOW EVERYBODY THE LIGHT

#### **WALTER & SGT. PEPPER**

GIVE THE WORD A CHANCE TO SAY THAT THE WORD IS JUST THE WAY IT'S THE WORD I'M THINKING OF AND THE ONLY WORD IS LOVE IT'S SO FINE, IT'S SUNSHINE IT'S THE WORD, LOVE

SAY THE WORD LOVE SAY THE WORD LOVE SAY THE WORD LOVE SAY THE WORD LOVE

#### SCENE 5

#### BACKYARD – REHEARSALS

### #10A WHEN I'M SIXTY-FOUR (REHEARSAL)

(Rehearsals are underway for their benefit show...WALTER is the director, JAY is playing his Skateboard-Piano and the other three are trying to learn the dance routine a la the opening of A CHORUS LINE)

#### **WALTER**

STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH AGAIN. STEP, KICK, KICK, LEAP, KICK, TOUCH, AGAIN

(WALTER is relentless and wants to do it over and over again...the gang is exhausted)

WALTER Focus, everyone, focus! CRICK Walter! This is the tenth time we've done this routine! **WALTER** I don't think so. It's only number nine. **BUZZ** Number nine? **KUMI** Number nine? CRICK Number nine? **WALTER** Yes. Number nine. And we're not gonna stop until we know this thing backwards and forwards! (to IAY) Again, music person! JAY

(whiny and exhausted)
Come on, Walter...I got blisters on my fingers!

**KUMI** Walter, don't you think the show is a little too ambitious? **WALTER** It isn't called a "spectacle" for nothing. **CRICK** My Crickta-Review-Amter gives it a b-big thumbs up! **WALTER** There's one section that isn't just right yet. I may need to rewrite it. **BUZZ** I can write it! WALTER Buzz, I know I make it look easy-ridiculously easy-**BUZZ** But...I can sh'till try, can't I? **KUMI** Of course! Everyone needs to try! **CRICK** (to BUZZ) Why not, ah try something simple. Like maybe a n-nursery shyme? WALTER Yes - or a cute little dance? **BUZZ** 

No, no, NO! It hash to be Sh'pectabular and Aweshome! I jusht need to find the right...thing..

WALTER

Ugh. I can't work like this. Ok. Take five everyone.

ALL

Thank you, five.

(WALTER exits)

**BUZZ** 

Hmmm. Sho many wordsh...wordsh and wordsh...

JAY (stepping out from behind the Skateboard-Piano) The problem isn't the words... (no so subtly towards KUMI) it's that some of the bugs are kicking when they should be ball-changing! **KUMI** Excuse me? I know you don't mean me. **JAY** (sarcastically) Nooooooooooooo. Of course not. CRICK By my Crick-ulations, this, er, isn't worth fighting about... KUMI That does it! (WALTER re-enters) WALTER Hey, hey, hey! What happened? **KUMI** I'm sorry, Walter but this isn't working! Jay and Crick have no idea what it takes to put on a show of this size and importance! CRICK What did I do? KUMI Jay thinks he's a know-it-all! Remember that time he insisted we try to get a glimpse of Mr. Kite's Circus Benefit when it came to town? We all almost got trampled by a horse. **JAY** It was a mule. **KUMI** It was a horse!

JAY

**KUMI** 

Mule!

Horse!

**JAY** Mule! **WALTER** Alright!!! Stop it!! Try to be calm...like I am. (meant to sound like 'l'chaim') **KUMI** Arrrrrrgh. You're always so contradictory. #11 HELLO GOODBYE/WE CAN WORK IT OUT **JAY** No, I'm not. **KUMI** Yes, you are. JAY No. I'm not! **KUMI** Yes! You! Are! **KUMI** YOU SAY YES I SAY NO

JAY

YOU SAY STOP AND I SAY GO GO GO

**CRICK** 

Come on guys, that's enough.

**KUMI & JAY** 

OH NO

**WALTER** 

We don't have time for this.

**JAY** 

YOU SAY GOODBYE

**KUMI** 

AND I SAY HELLO

JAY

TRY TO SEE IT MY WAY DO I HAVE TO KEEP ON TALKING TILL I CAN'T GO ON

**KUMI** 

WHILE YOU SEE IT YOUR WAY RUN THE RISK OF KNOWING THAT OUR LOVE MAY SOON BE GONE

WALTER/CRICK/BUZZ

WE CAN WORK IT OUT WE CAN WORK IT OUT

**JAY & KUMI** 

YOU SAY GOODBYE AND I SAY HELLO

**CRICK** 

THINK OF WHAT YOUR SAYING YOU CAN GET IT WRONG AND STILL YOU THINK THAT IT'S ALRIGHT

WALTER

THINK OF WHAT I'M SAYING WE CAN WORK IT OUT AND GET IT STRAIGHT OR SAY GOODNIGHT

WALTER/CRICK/BUZZ

WE CAN WORK IT OUT

KUMI/JAY

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SAY GOODBYE I SAY HELLO HELLO, HELLO I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SAY GOODBYE I SAY HELLO

**CRICK** 

LIFE IS VERY SHORT AND THERE'S NO TIME

#### CRICK (CONT'D)

FOR FUSSING AND FIGHTING, MY FRIEND

KUMI JAY

(overlapping)

Well he started it! He said that I couldn't dance And that-- No way, this is totally not my fault. You can't be blaming this one me--

#### **CRICK & WALTER**

I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT IT'S A CRIME

**KUMI & JAY** 

SO, I WILL ASK YOU ONCE AGAIN I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SAY GOODBYE I SAY HELLO

KUMI/JAY

TRY TO SEE IT MY WAY ONLY TIME WILL TELL IF I AM RIGHT OR I AM WRONG

WALTER

Bugs! Listen to yourselves! (MUSIC OUT)

WALTER

(rubato)

WHILE YOU SEE IT YOUR WAY

**CRICK** 

THERE'S A CHANCE WE MIGHT FALL APART BEFORE TOO LONG

**WALTER** 

(Slowly pushing KUMI to face JAY)

WE CAN WORK IT OUT

**CRICK** 

(Slowly pushing Jay to face KUMI)

WE CAN WORK IT OUT

**KUMI** 

I'm a big enough bug to apologize. I'm so sorry, Jay.

## JAY

Yeah, me too. I shouldn't have made fun of your dancing. You have to be in our musical. It would be no fun without you.

**KUMI** 

Because together, we can do anything.

(They hug)

**CRICK** 

Thank goodness that's over.

WALTER

Can we please get back to rehearsal?

**BUZZ** 

Wordsh-wordsh-wordsh-(etc...)

#### **SCENE 6**

#### MEAN MR. MUSTRAD'S OFFICE

(MEAN MR. MUSTARD and the MINER BIRDS stands around a miniature model of the Garden, all looking down at the little pieces.)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Strawberry Fields is now under our control.

#### MINER BIRD #1

Sir, our horde of birds are at the ready to expand operation into the remaining parts of the backyard.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Good, very good. Instruct the stink bug brigade to raise the pollution level to extremely rancid.

#### MINER BIRD #2

Right away, sir.

## MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Oooooo, this is so fun. It gives me that warm feeling right in the black pit of my – (he passes gas again)

Blah-ahahahaha! With the Zoning Bird in our pocket the Garden is powerless to stop us. I will teach every bug, insect and larva to be sorry for making fun of my stink. Making me sit outside the classroom as a child, for making fun of me and calling me names like Squeaky Cheeks, Stinky Dink...Odor Of A Lonely Heart! Well, I will show them my lonely heart. It'll be-

(PRUDENCE enters running with a flyer in her hand.)

#### **PRUDENCE**

(out of breath from running)

Sir, you have to see this.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Not now Prudence, can't you see I'm in the middle of my maliciously mean monologue?

#### **PRUDENCE**

But sir-

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Zip it, Pru...I'm not finished!

(he returns to his monologue)

It'll be full stink ahead! Blahahahahahaha.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD (CONT'D)

(to PRUDENCE)

Ok, I'm finished.

**PRUDENCE** 

Here.

(PRUDENCE hands MEAN MR. MUSTARD a flyer)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

(reading)

HELP SAVE STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER come see the BUGSTOCK Musical and Arts Fair? Where did you find this?

#### **PRUDENCE**

They're plastered all over. I went down to the road and there was a steady stream of bugs walking toward Penny Lane. Hundreds of them...maybe more. By the time they get to Bugstock they may be half a million strong!

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Ha! Millions gathering to watch a bunch of animals, beetles and crickets singing on stage-that'll be the day. Well if it's a musical they want, let's give them something truly...majestic!

(He grabs a folded-up black costume from his desk drawer and hands it to PRUDENCE)

Here. Put this on. We will teach those bugs that they have messed with the wrong stink bug, or my name isn't-

**MINER BIRD #1** 

Squeaky cheeks?

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

(As MEAN MR. MUSTARD and MINER BIRDS exiting)

No.

**MINER BIRD #2** 

Tootie & The Blowfish

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

No!

**MINER BIRD #3** 

Vladimir Pootin'

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

NOOOOOOOOOO!

## **#11A NOWHERE MAN (REPRISE)**

#### **PRUDENCE**

HE'S A REAL NOWHERE MAN SITTING IN HIS NOWHERE LAND MAKING ALL HIS NOWHERE PLANS FOR NOBODY

**MEAN MR. MUSTARD** 

(from offstage)

Prudence!

**PRUDENCE** 

MAKING ALL HIS NOWHRE PLANS FOR NOBODY

#### **SCENE 7**

#### BACKSTAGE AT STRAWBERRY FIELDS--THE SHOW

#### WALTER

Alright, alright...settle down, settle down. Now, there are certain pre-show rituals that I do before gracing the stage...

(WALTER stops talking and stares off into the distance. THE BUGS await what he'll say next but he says nothing. Finally--)

**BUZZ** 

Umm...Walter? You okay?

**WALTER** 

(annoyed by the interruption)

I'm getting into my space.

**JAY** 

Your what?

#### WALTER

(exhausted with such novices)

Ugghh...my space, my space. Every actor needs to get into "their space."

#### **KUMI**

Okkaaayyy...so how does one get into their space?

#### **WALTER**

You just stare out into space like this and eventually...you know...you're there. In your space.

#### KUMI, BUZZ, JAY & CRICK

Ohhhh.

(they all stare into space...after some time, a chandelier falls from the truss above the stage...they all jump in startled fear, PRUDENCE in her black cape disguise is seen running away by the audience, but not THE BUGS)

**BUZZ** 

Oh man, that was sh'cary.

**KUMI** 

Hey, isn't that good luck?

# WALTER

AHHHHH!!! Don't ever say that in the theatre! That's bad luck!
CRICK Saying, "Good luck" is bad luck?
WALTER  (interrupting) SHHHHHH!!!! Stop saying that!!!!
CRICK It just doesn't make sense that good —
WALTER (covering his ears) La, la, I can't hear you, I can't hear you(ad lib)
JAY Okay then, Walter. Since you're so smart. What does it mean when a light breaks right before a performance?
WALTER Usually means the rigger is union.
Be serious!
WALTER Maybeit wasnocould itcould it be?
Could it be what?
(whisper) Eleanor. Rigby.
ALL (whisper) Eleanor Rigby?
KUMI Who's that, a rugby player?

#### **WALTER**

No. Eleanor Rigby...The First Ladybug of the American Theatre.

**KUMI** 

I thought that was Helen Hives.

**WALTER** 

No, she was the Queen Bee.

**BUZZ** 

I thought that was Beeee-yonce.

#### **WALTER**

No, listen! There are stories passed down from slug to slug since olden days. The legend goes, that throughout her life, Eleanor wanted so badly to be an actor. She was a lonely woman with a lonely job, but in the theatre, she could be surrounded by lots of wonderful people. People...who need people.

**BUZZ** 

Well, that'sh nishe. ("nice")

#### WALTER

Not exactly. You see, her dream never came true. She never made it past that elusive eleventh callback. So now her ghost, if you believe in that kind of thing, haunts musicals all around the world.

#### TAY

There are some musicals that have haunted me long after the show.

#### WALTER

...she haunts the theatres hidden behind a mask so no one will see her sad and lonely face ever again.

(WALTER grabs a firefly and lights up his face a la a flashlight telling a ghost story)

#### **#12 ELEANOR RIGBY**

#### WALTER

AHH, LOOK AT ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE AHH, LOOK AT ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE

ELEANOR RIGBY PICKS UP THE RICE IN THE CHURCH WHERE A WEDDING HAS BEEN

#### WALTER (CON'T)

LIVES IN A DREAM

WAITS AT THE WINDOW, WEARING THE FACE THAT SHE KEEPS IN A JAR BY THE DOOR WHO IS IT FOR

(WALTER begins to get even spookier, trying to scare his friends)

ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE
WHERE DO THEY ALL COME FROM?
ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE
WHERE DO THEY ALL BELONG?

AHH, LOOK AT ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE AHH, LOOK AT ALL THE LONELY PEOPLE

#### STAGE MANAGER

(flipping on the lights, cutting off the song and completely breaking the scary mood, all business as Stage Managers usually are)

Okay, places. Boy, you should see it out there. I've never seen so many bugs. Even bigger than Larva-palooza!

**JAY** 

Ugghhhh. I'm n-not sure I want to do this.

**KUMI** 

It's okay, Jay. I'm right next to you.

WALTER

Okay, group hug.

(They hug)

**KUMI** 

Walter, your squishing my face.

**WALTER** 

Well, you're facing my squish.

(They all laugh, then gather in a circle and put their hands one on top of another)

Anytime at all...

CRICK

All you've got to do is call.

ALL FIVE

And I'll be there!

(raise their hands in a "go team" fashion)

#### **SCENE 8**

#### **#13 MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR**

#### THE PENNY LANE THEATRE

(The music starts as the curtain rises...WALTER holds his mi-CRICK-phone like an emcee, CRICK has an electric guitar, JAY has a bass, JAY is at the Skateboard-Piano and KUMI holds a tambourine.)

#### **WALTER**

Helllloooooooooo, Strawberry Fields! What's up all you "bo-day-squish" butterflies, funky fireflies and invertebrate everywhere.! So fantastic to see all of you come out for such an important cause! Now, for your diversion and delight, let's roll up! Roll up! For the magical mystery tour! Step right this way!

#### **ALL FIVE**

ROLL UP ROLL UP FOR THE MYSTERY TOUR ROLL UP ROLL UP FOR THE MYSTERY TOUR

B,J,K,C

**ROLL UP** 

WALTER

AND THAT'S AN INVITATION

ROLL UP FOR THE MYSTERY TOUR ROLL UP

ROLL UP FOR THE MYSTERY TOUR

TO MAKE A RESERVATION

**JAY** 

THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR IS HOPING TO TAKE YOU AWAY

**ALL FIVE** 

HOPING TO TAKE YOU AWAY

AHHHH
THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR
ROLL UP
THE MAGICAL MYSTER TOUR

THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR IS HOPING TO TAKE YOU AWAY

#### ALL FIVE (CONT'D)

# HOPING TO TAKE YOU AWAY TAKE YOU TODAY

(focus shifts to JAY on the keyboard MUSIC SEAMLESSLY TRANSITIONS TO...)

#### #14 LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS

(KUMI nervously takes center stage dressed as a caterpillar...CRICK and WALTER are together on one side of the stage)

#### CRICK

PICTURE YOURSELF IN A BOAT ON A RIVER WITH TANGERINE TREES AND MARMALADE SKIES

#### WALTER

SOMEBODY CALLS YOU, YOU ANSWER QUITE SLOWLY A GIRL WITH KALEIDOSCOPE EYES

(KUMI transforms into a beautiful butterfly with theatrical wings, and glamourous eye makeup.)

#### **KUMI**

CELLOPHANE FLOWERS OF YELLOW AND GREEN TOWERING OVER YOUR HEAD LOOK FOR THE GIRL WITH THE SUN IN HER EYES AND SHE'S GONE

#### **ALL FIVE**

LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS AH

#### **JAY**

FOLLOW HER DOWN TO A BRIDGE BY A FOUNTAIN WHERE ROCKING HORSE PEOPLE EAT MARSHMALLOW PIES

#### **BUZZ**

EVERYONE SMILES AS YOU DRIFT PAST THE FLOWERS THAT GROW SO INCREDIBLY HIGH

#### **KUMI**

NEWSPAPER TAXIS APPEAR ON THE SHORE WAITING TO TAKE YOU AWAY CLIMB IN THE BACK WITH YOUR HEAD IN THE CLOUDS AND YOU'RE GONE

#### **ALL FIVE**

LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS

#### **WALTER**

Most of us have been busy packing to leave our home. Searching for a totally new place, somewhere we have never been before. But sometimes, a new place is a place you've already been, but this time you're seeing it in a whole new way. My friends and I have been on many wonderful adventures together, but there is one in particular that we would like to take each and every one of you with us!

#### **#15 YELLOW SUBMARINE**

#### **CRICK**

IN THE TOWN WHERE I WAS BORN LIVED A MAN WHO SAILED TO SEA AND HE TOLD US OF HIS LIFE IN THE LAND OF SUBMARINES

(KUMI, JAY, CRICK and BUZZ take a mouthful of water and collectively spray)

#### WALTER

SO, WE SAILED UP TO THE SUN TILL WE FOUND A SEA OF GREEN AND WE LIVED BENEATH THE WAVES IN OUR YELLOW SUBMARINE

#### ALL FIVE

WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE

#### **BUZZ**

AND OUR FRIENDS ARE ALL ABOARD

# JAY MANY MORE OF THEM LIVE NEXT DOOR

#### **KUMI**

AND THE BAND BEGINS TO PLAY

(WALTER plays trombone solo)

#### **ALL FIVE**

WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE

#### **WALTER**

Full speed ahead, my friends! FULL, SPEED AHEAD!

(In the next section, THE BEAT BUGS get the audience to call and response.)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

AS WE LIVE A LIFE OF EASE

KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)

(A LIFE OF EASE)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

**EVERYONE OF US** 

KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)

(EVERYONE OF US)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

HAS ALL WE NEED

KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)

(HAS ALL WE NEED)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

SKY OF BLUE

**KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)** 

(SKY OF BLUE)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

AND SEA OF GREEN

**KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)** 

(AND SEA OF GREEN)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

IN OUR YELLOW

**KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)** 

(IN OUR YELLOW)

WALTER/BUZZ/CRICK

**SUBMARINE** 

KUMI/JAY (WITH AUDIENCE)

(SUBMARINE - HA! HA!)

ALL FIVE (WITH AUDIENCE)

WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE WE ALL LIVE IN A YELLOW SUBMARINE YELLOW SUBMARINE, YELLOW SUBMARINE

(MEAN MR. MUSTARD bursts on to the stage)

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Stop – STOP – STTTTTOOOOOPPPPP THE MUSIC! UGH. There's nothing more pitiful than this type of hippie-dippie love in. Blah! Gross.

(addressing the audience with a megaphone)

You all were told to leave. That's it, show's over. Time to leave.

#### **KUMI**

Wait you can't, Buzz never got her chance to share her...well, her...well, Buzz? Did you ever find it...you know...your...thing?

#### **MEAN MR. MUSTARD**

Nope-nope-nope! No time. Time to-

#### **PRUDENCE**

(PRUDENCE dressed in a black cape holding a white mask, enters.)

Zip it, Milton!

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Prudence, your disguise.

#### **PRUDENCE**

Oh Hush! All these people have gathered to hear these bugs and immediately after, they are all leaving. You'll get your chance to have your bulldozers level this entire place.

#### PRUDENCE (CONT'D)

You've won Milton, you've won. But the least you can do is allow this young child to say what she needs to say. So, until then--put a cork in it.

(turning to BUZZ)

Go ahead, Buzz...do you have something to say?

(BUZZ is nervous, as the spotlight turns onto her.)

**KUMI** 

Go ahead Buzz.

**CRICK** 

Yeah, Buzz, say something.

WALTER

Come on, Buzz. I believe in you.

(BUZZ walks center stage.)

**BUZZ** 

Wordsh...

(beat)

Wordsh...

(beat–BUZZ closes her eyes and begins a capella)

## **#16 ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**

WORDS ARE FLOWING OUT LIKE ENDLESS RAIN INTO A PAPER CUP

THEY SLITHER WILDLY AS THEY SLIP AWAY ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

(CRICK picks up his guitar and the rest join in)

BUZZ (CONT'D)

POOLS OF SORROW
WAVES OF JOY ARE
DRIFTING THROUGH MY OPENED MIND
POSSESSING AND CARESSING ME

JAI GURU DEVA OM

#### BUZZ (CONT'D)

NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD

BUZZW,K, J, CNOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLDOOOOONOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLDOOOO

SOUNDS OF LAUGHTER SHADES OF LIFE ARE RINGING THROUGH MY OPEN EARS INCITING AND INVITING ME

#### **BUZZ & WALTER**

LIMITLESS UNDYING LOVE WHICH SHINES AROUND ME LIKE A MILLIONS SUNS AND CALLES ME ON AND ON ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

JAI GURU DEVA OM

**ALL** 

NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD NOTHINGS GONNA CHANGE MY WORLD

JAI GURU DEVA JAI GURU DEVA JAI GURU DEVA

**OMMMMMMMM** 

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

What is that?

**BUZZ** 

What ish what?

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

That-that! That thing you were saying. "Jack like choco-full-oh-nuts."

**BUZZ** 

Jai guru deva. It meansh...It meansh...

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

(offstage)

It means be thankful for your great teachers!

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Who was that?

#### WALTER

(screams)

Argh! It's Eleanor Rigby!

(Trumpet fanfare, as they make way for the entrance of THE QUEEN-BEE. She enters passing KUMI and the others.)

#### **KUMI**

(gasp)

Your majesty.

(KUMI curtsies and the rest properly acknowledge THE QUEEN-BEE as she dances her way downstage between BUZZ and MEAN MR. MUSTARD.)

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

My dear child, that was beautiful...and so touching. How did you think of that?

#### **BUZZ**

I jusht, I jusht lish' tened to my friendsh and I thought of everything they have taught me. Oh and...well, how important they are to me.

(beat... as BUZZ looks at the others)

I guessh I learned that, no matter where we make our home, whether it'sh here or sh'omeplace elshe, what makesh it home ish the love you sh'urround yourshelf with.

(She turns to MEAN MR. MUSTARD, sadly but sweetly)

Sh'o, Mr. Mushtard, it'sh ok if you take our garden, becaushe ash long as my friendsh are with me, nothing'sh gonna change my world.

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

Such wise words, from such a young bug. You know Buzz, there are many out there who could learn a thing or two from youngsters such as yourself.

(she turns to MEAN MR. MUSTARD)

And as for you, Squeaky Cheeks

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

Oh, please your highness. Have mercy on me. I was misguided. Yeah. I was wayward and lonely. I played to many video games as a kid. Yeah – that's it!

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

I should banish you from the garden, forever.

#### MEAN MR. MUSTARD

No, please! Anything but that!

**BUZZ** 

Mrsh. Queen Bee...I have a better idea.

(She motions to THE QUEEN-BEE to bend down)

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

Uh-huh....Uh-huh...Oh my! Yes. Yes, I think so indeed. (She stands...BUZZ smiles)

Mr. Mustard, in light of your destruction of Strawberry Fields, I hereby decree and blahblah-blah that you shall work to repair our lovely preserve and transform it into an allorganic, green certified, co-op farm for the community. Strawberry Fields shall be restored for all to enjoy!

**ALL** 

Hooray!!!!

#### **MEAN MR. MUSTARD**

Well, I guess I can give peas a chance.

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

Bugs, I was so inspired when I heard about your musical, that I have a special treat for you. I have brought a dear friend to your show and he asked if he could come up and sing a song with you. Would that be ok?

#### THE BEAT BUGS

Yeah, sure, or course (ad lib. etc)

#### THE QUEEN-BEE

Ladies and gentleman...I am proud to introduce to you, my dear friend...JOE COCKEROACH!!!!!

#### #17 WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

(THE BEAT BUGS start screaming, so excited and run to their instruments. JOE COCKEROACH, enters the stage long hair and in a tie-dye shirt V-neck shirt and white pants.)

#### JOE COCKEROACH

WHAT WOULD YOU DO

#### JOE COCKEROACH (CONT'D)

IF I SANG OUT OF TUNE WOULD YOU STAND UP AND WALK OUT ON ME

LEND ME YOUR EAR AND I'LL AND I'LL SING YOU A SONG AND I'LL TRY NOT TO SING OUT OF KEY

BUGS JOE

OH, I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

ALL I NEED IS MY BUDDIES

MM, I GET HIGH WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

I SAID I'M GONNA GET HIGH

MM, GONNA TRY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

OHHH OHHH

**PRUDENCE** 

WHAT DO I DO WHEN MY LOVE IS AWAY?

**MEAN MR. MUSTARD** 

DOES IT WORRY YOU TO BE ALONE

PRUDENCE

HOW DO I FEEL AT THE END OF THE DAY

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

ARE YOU SAD BECAUSE YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN?

ALL

NO, I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS MM, I GET HIGH WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS MM, GONNA TRY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

DO YOU NEED ANYBODY?
I NEED SOMEBODY TO LOVE
COULD IT BE ANYBODY?

I WANT SOMEBODY TO LOVE

#### ALL (CONT'D)

OH, I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP
FROM MY FRIENDS
MM, GONNA TRY WITH A LITTLE HELP
FROM MY FRIENDS
OH, I GET HIGH WITH A LITTLE HELP
FROM MY FRIENDS
YES, I GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

(We see MR. SUN turn and come to life on stage as he over sees the backyard.)

#### MR. SUN

And that's how Strawberry Fields was saved, and became the beautiful place we all know and love today.

Mean Mr. Mustard and Prudence fell in love and had many little stink bugs running around the farm.

The Miner Birds were so inspired, they went on to change their name and start a band...The Yardbirds. It's catchy, right?

And the bugs? Well, the bugs they kept their homes, saved their community and had many more adventures.

#### **#18 ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**

All because they learned one very important lesson. Right, Walter?

WALTER

That's right Mr. Sun.

ALL

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE LOVE, LOVE, LOVE LOVE, LOVE

**BUZZ** 

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO THAT CAN'T BE DONE

WALTER

NOTHING YOU CAN SING THAT CAN'T BE SUNG

JAY

NOTHING YOU CAN SAY BUT YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO PLAY THE GAME IT'S EASY

MEAN MR. MUSTARD

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN MAKE THAT CAN'T BE MADE

**PRUDENCE** 

NO ONE YOU CAN SAVE THAT CAN'T BE SAVED

**KUMI** 

NOTHING YOU CAN DO BUT YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO BE YOU IN TIME

MEAN MR. MUSTARD, PRUDENCE & KUMI

IT'S EASY

ALI

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE, LOVE ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE, LOVE LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

**WALTER** 

Thanks, Sgt. Pepper!

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE LOVE, LOVE, LOVE

WALTER

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN KNOW THAT ISN'T KNOWN

**BUZZ** 

NOTHING YOU CAN SEE THAT ISN'T SHOWN

JAY

NOWHERE YOU CAN BE THAT ISN'T WHERE YOU'RE MEANT TO BE

WALTER, BUZZ & JAY

IT'S EASY

**ALL** 

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE, LOVE LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

**WALTER** 

All together, now!

**ALL** 

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

WALTER

Everybody!

ALL

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE, LOVE LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED THAT IS ALL YOU NEED

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE!

END OF MUSICAL



# "SAVING STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER"

BASED ON THE NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES "BEAT BUGS"
CREATED BY
JOSH WAKELY

WRITTEN BY
SEAN CERCONE & DAVID ABBINANTI

**SCORE SAMPLE** 



Broadway Licensing Perusal

Br

# Opening: Sun King



# From BEAT BUGS: Saving Strawberry Fields Forever





# Nowhere Man



# From BEAT BUGS: Saving Strawberry Fields Forever

WARN MEAN MR. MUSTARD: "Zip it, Pru."

Words and Music by John Lennon & Paul McCartney arr. David Abbinanti

CUE PRUDENCE: "And nowhere in the world is someone as unseen as me."



2 Nowhere Man



Nowhere Man 3



## Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band From BEAT BUGS: Saving Strawberry Fields Forever

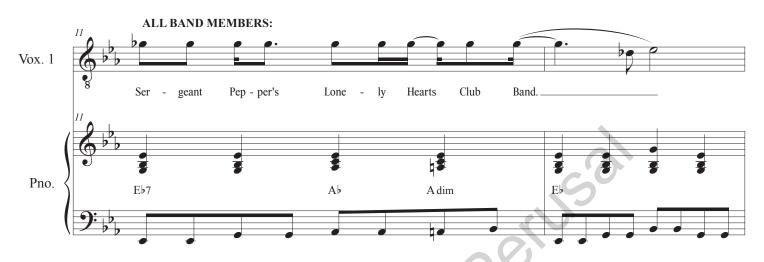
WARN MEAN MR. MUSTARD: "I got your forecast right here..."

Words and Music by John Lennon & Paul McCartney arr. David Abbinanti

CUE

MEAN MR. MUSTARD: "Come on, I didn't get where I am by waitin'."





(the BEAT BUGS hop in, still tied in their construction tape)

WALTER: "Oh, my belli-ness! Who is that...?"

JAY: "Hey Crick, can you find out who they are?"

CRICK: "Gee, I'd like to but I'm a little tied up at the moment."







## Hello Goodbye/We Can Work It Out From BEAT BUGS: Saving Strawberry Fields Forever

 $\frac{\textbf{WARN}}{\textbf{KUMI:}} \text{ "...we all almost got trampled by a horse."}$ 

Words and Music by John Lennon & Paul McCartney

<u>CUE</u> KUMI: "Arrrrggghhhh. You're always so contrdictory."

















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