

ACT 1

2

scene 1 - Trevor's arrest

2

Empty stage. Soft colored lights sweep the stage and the audience, as ominous sounding music fills the theater.

A narrator steps onto the stage, standing at stage right.

NARRATOR

No one would have believed that in the early years of the twentieth century, new technology has eliminated the need for currency. The government mandated that a chip, injected into a person's hand, be used in place of currency. While most accepted this new form of currency, a small number of people, citing health concerns and privacy issues, refused. This group was immediately labeled a terrorist organization, forcing them to go underground, and forage their food and other items from dumpsters. They became known as the Dumpster Liberation Front. This is their story. This is Dumpster Diver the musical.

Music, a combination of synthesizers, keyboards, violins, drums, etc, shatters the silence.

Suddenly, while the music continues to play, signaling an ominous soundtrack, the sound of helicopters are heard as the Dumpster Liberation Front, a rag-tag group of dumpster divers, enter the aisles of the audience.

Spotlights scan the audience, as the music and the sound of helicopters continue.

The Dumpster Liberation Front is being hunted.

As the music kicks in, Dumpster Liberation Front, a rag-tag group of dumpster divers, storms the stage.

After 30-seconds of hiding in the aisles, the Dumpster Liberation Front, get onto the stage. A spotlight appears on them. All of the Dumpster Liberation Front exit the stage, and hide, crouching down on stage right.

Trevor and Faith remain on the stage, the spotlight on them.

The music stops. (The music continues at a lower volume.)

(CONTINUED)

The sound of helicopters continues, forcing Trevor and Faith to speak loudly.

TREVOR

(reaches into jacket, extracts disk)
Take the file.

FAITH

You're the one that created it.

TREVOR

I didn't know what they were planning to use it for.

FAITH

That's why you have to come with us.

TREVOR

They won't be looking for you. (beat) This is your chance to shut down Sorl Pharmaceuticals. They're the ones who killed your Dad.

Faith takes disk and pockets it.

FAITH

They won't believe a bunch of dumpster divers. They're calling us identity thieves. You need to go with us.

TREVOR

I'll catch up with you.

Faith runs to the Dumpster Liberation Front, joining them, as they crouch down on stage right, watching Trevor, and looking up at the helicopters above.

Trevor is standing as the helicopters searchlight bathes him in its white glow.

GUARD #1 and GUARD #2, with their weapons aimed, approach Trevor. Trevor opens his hands to show that he is surrendering.

SHELBY approaches Trevor. SHELBY circles Trevor, then stands beside the guards.

TREVOR

(facing audience, arms outstretched)
I never thought it would come to this. Every decision you make leads to another life..

SHELBY

Hand over the file.

TREVOR

Wait. I feel

TREVOR

A song rising in me.

SHELBY

Oh no. If you just bought food like everyone else, you wouldn't be singing all the time. That dumpster food's made you crazy.

The only thing rising in you is indigestion, from eating that dumpster'ed cheese.

song: ANOTHER LIFE

TREVOR

I never thought it would come to this. Every decision you make. Leads to another life. Was my choice a mistake.

(CONT)

I'm burning bridges behind me. I'm building new ones ahead. I've traded that life for this one. Been ridiculed instead.

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

SHELBY

We know, you're an identity thief.

TREVOR

It's your lies that cause me grief. Soon the world will know what you're about.

SHELBY

You're an info terrorist.

TREVOR

I'm dumpster diving, I insist. I found some tofu and a jar of sauerkraut.

SHELBY

We know you're leading a movement, that doesn't follow the rules.

TREVOR

That's not true. I'm a watchdog for freedom. The kind they don't teach at schools.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

The guards respond to the music by bouncing on their feet.

SHELBY

Hand me the file you've stolen. Or you'll be under arrest. Then taken for treatment. After you've confessed. To this other life. This other life.

TREVOR

The file is our evidence. The truth is our defense. We're couchsurfing. We're sleeping in tents. And we'll reach the radio. Then the whole world will know. Options overflow ...

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

SHELBY

You're an info terrorist.

TREVOR

I'm dumpster diving, I insist. An open hand, not a fist.

TREVOR AND DLF

We're free-cycling every day, all the food you're throwing away. Sometimes, it's stale but that's okay. Dumpster diving's here to stay. Dumpster diving's here to stay.

TREVOR

An underground community. You ridicule what you fail to see. A surrogate family. Another life.

SHELBY

You're brainwashed. It's called a cult. You're not acting quite adult. Oh, it's not your fault. It's another life.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
An underground community.

SHELBY

(overlapping)
You're brainwashed. It's called a cult.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
You ridicule what you fail to see.

SHELBY

(overlapping)
You're not acting quite adult.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
A surrogate family.

SHELBY

(overlapping)
Oh, it's not your fault. It's another life.

DLF

Dumpster diving's ...

TREVOR

(overlapping)
Another life.

DLF

(overlapping)
here to stay.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
Another life.

Shelby directs guards to arrest Trevor. They handcuff him and lead him away to stage right. The Dumpster Liberation Front watch in horror as Trevor is led off the stage.

Stage lights go black.

4

scene 2 - Evaluate

4

The lights come up. The stage is bathed in red light.

A single chair on the stage with wires attached to it, and a helmet sitting on the chair with wires on it.

GUARD #1 and GUARD #2, flanked by Shelby, lead Trevor onto the stage. One of the guards takes the helmet. The guards sit Trevor.

Trevor looks around.

TREVOR

This looks like a laboratory.

GUARD #1 places wires onto his wrist and his shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD #2 places the helmet on his head.

Shelby stands nearby, watching everything.

SHELBY

Where's the file?

TREVOR

I gave it to Faith.

SHELBY

Where is she?

TREVOR

I don't know.

SHELBY

(to guards)
Find her.

SHELBY

You look like you just crawled out of a dumpster.

TREVOR

I did.

SHELBY

You used to wear a suit to work.

TREVOR

A straight jacket.

SHELBY

A tie.

TREVOR

A noose around my neck.

SHELBY

You had a company car.

TREVOR

Can I have that back?

SHELBY

You had a six-figure income.

TREVOR

Maybe poverty is the price of sanity. I have a dream
that one day we'll be eating from dumpsters.

(CONTINUED)

SHELBY

That's not a dream you have. That's a condition you suffer from.

Shelby pulls a remote control from his pocket. And I have the cure. We're going to evaluate you. A little bit of shock treatment and you'll lead us right to your smelly friends.

Shelby presses a button on the remote control, and Trevor shakes violently in the chair. Shelby releases the button and Trevor's head slumps down.

song: EVALUATE

SHELBY

Evaluate the patient, then administer the pill. Reduce him to a zombie who forgets he has a will. Feed it to the soldiers so they won't think twice to kill. Give it to the people who will not sit still

TREVOR

No!

SHELBY

I'm only trying to help you, of that you can be sure. You have excuses, well, I have the cure. Time to join the human race, time to take a hint. Open up and swallow this after dinner mint.

Shelby puts a mint into Trevor's mouth.

Guard #1 and Guard #2 enter the room and join Shelby in singing the chorus.

SHELBY AND GUARDS

Medicate the masses, you'll be in control. Herded into apathy for the latest TV poll. As long as we have cable, everything's okay. Programmed to believe in the American way.

Drugs are for your benefit. This you can't deny. We drink caffeinated coffee for the early morning high. Pills to make us sexual. Pills to fall asleep.

TREVOR

Look around, you're turning everybody into sheep.

End of song.

Ominous music, sounding like a science-fiction movie soundtrack, begins to play at a low volume.

(CONTINUED)

SHELBY

You have one hour to confess, to tell us the truth about how you became an info terrorist, an identity thief. After that, you will be reconditioned.

Shelby and the 2 guards leave the stage.

NARRATOR

Confession begins in 5, 4, 3, 2 ...

TREVOR

(takes deep breath)

My name is Trevor. Well, you know that. This all started four years ago. At college graduation.

Stage lights fade to black.

5

scene 3 - College Graduation

5

Stage lights come up.

NARRATOR

It's four years earlier. We find ourselves at college graduation for Trevor, Faith, and the self-declared rebels that will later become known as the Dumpster Liberation Front. Shelby is here, too. He's a college professor.

Introducing Erin, the daughter of Shelby, and friend of Trevor's.

It's four years earlier, and a world apart from the world we know now.

Yard of a college campus. College graduation day.

The Dumpster Liberation Front kids, and Faith, are standing near stage right. They are cleaned up, wearing cap and gown, for college graduation.

Trevor is standing beside his girl friend ERIN.

All of them look younger and wear the naive expression of innocence that marks the faces of youthful college students of a small town.

ERIN

That was a great speech, Trevor.

TREVOR

(to Faith)

Hey Faith. Did you like my speech.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

No.

ERIN

It was really good. She didn't understand it, that's all.

FAITH

(to Trevor)

Trevor. You're still coming with me to Europe. There's a treatment there, for my Dad.

TREVOR

Sure.

ERIN

I wanna go to Europe.

TREVOR

You can come.

ERIN

But I'm not going to Couchsurf.

TREVOR

You don't have to.

ERIN

(exasperated, nodding head, throws hands up)

Ughhh.

SHELBY

I enjoyed your speech about technology. It sounds like you lifted it from my syllabus.

FAITH

He did.

SHELBY

I'd like to speak with you alone. Let's go for a walk.

song: shelby

SHELBY

The technology department came about, with a big donation from Angelwire. A check that big doesn't normally come for free. A six figure gift, they offered, will inspire (me), to pick the brightest minds from the tree.

They asked me to be on the lookout, for the genius college mind. Recruit students, with IQs above 158.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SHELBY (CONT'D)

If they hire the candidate, who I refer, this is how they spell appreciate.

Bigger dollar, come to me, I have a student I've molded so perfectly. Bigger dollar, flies at me, it's remuneration not bribery.

I'll get paid by Angelwire. \$50,000 for each lead. For every student I recommend, that they hire. A few students should do the job. No more dressing like a slob. Money talks, but it's the zeroes that inspire.

Professor Shelby is my name. And money is my game. No longer the little nerd from high school. Doctor Shelby can't complain, six-figures control my brain. So much power I can give and take away.

Who would've thought that, I'd be this way? Seduced, and reduced, to a puppet they can play? Bribe by a bio-technology pharmaceutical giant? Dead presidents convincing me to become compliant.

The future DLF begin snapping their fingers to the beat.

I'll get paid by Angelwire. \$50,000 for each lead. For every student I recommend, that they hire. A few students should do the job. No more dressing like a slob. Money talks, but it's the zeroes that inspire.

Professor Shelby is my name. And money is my game. No longer the little nerd from high school. Doctor Shelby can't complain, six-figures control my brain. So much power I can give and take away.

SHELBY

I need you to be there on Monday.

TREVOR

But I was planning to go to Europe. With Faith.

SHELBY

I got you that scholarship.

TREVOR

You didn't say there were strings attached.

SHELBY

(pretending to play violin)
There's always strings attached. See you on Monday.

Trevor walks over to Faith, who's sitting with the future DLF crew.

TREVOR

I need to talk to you, alone.

Faith sits there.

SOPHIE

Say what you have to say.

TREVOR

(beat)

I'm not gonna be able to go with you. I'm sorry

FAITH

You said you would go.

TREVOR

I have loans to pay back.

FAITH

(overlapping)

You need to quit staring at that computer and programming code. Look at you. You look sick.

TREVOR

I don't look sick. Do I?

FAITH

Come with me. While you're rotting away in front of a computer, I'll be roaming the streets of Prague.

TREVOR

You're a nomad. This is your life.

FAITH

Learn to follow the music that's in here.
(tapping her heart)

TREVOR

That'll get you in trouble.

FAITH

Maybe. But at the end of the day, I'll have good stories to tell.

TREVOR

(tapping head)

I program code. I'm not -
FAITH

FAITH

Don't waste your future on a job.

TREVOR

This isn't a job. It's a career.

FAITH

(loud voice, almost yelling)
Whatever! A career is just a job that you dress up for!

TREVOR

(looking around embarrassed)
Faith, calm down. You're drunk.

FAITH

(voice rising)
I'm not drunk. I'm passionate.

song: destiny

Faith and Trevor pull apart from each other. Each of them do a little dance.

TREVOR

I've graduated college, with honors no less. Four years of education, I'm ready to impress.

FAITH

You're living out the fantasy your dad wants you to be. Find your own dream, learn to break free.

TREVOR

I have. I did.

FAITH

Who are you trying to kid?

TREVOR

My degree is the ticket, the paper in my hand.

FAITH

Don't expect the real world, to be the promised land.

TREVOR

You act like I'm naive, but it's you I need to show. Once you're an adult, you'll see a friend who's not a foe.

FAITH

Once you're in that world, it will never let you go.

TREVOR

Youth can be a prison that you never do outgrow.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

I'd rather be myself, than someone I do not know.

TREVOR AND FAITH

Destiny in front of us, the choices that we make. We, can change, the future, if, we face it wide awake. Two roads before us, the paths that we take. We, can change, the future, if we face it wide awake.

FAITH

Come with me to Europe. Go. Don't hesitate. Experience the teacher, a job will always wait.

TREVOR

It's not that I'm afraid to go, my destination's clear.

FAITH

Living is the prize when you face the things you fear.

TREVOR

I want to travel with you, but the real world doesn't wait.

FAITH

You choose a path that's common. Me, I will choose fate/Faith.

TREVOR AND FAITH

Destiny in front of us, the choices that we make. We, can change, the future, if, we face it wide awake. Two roads before us, the paths we must take. We, can change, the future, if we face it wide awake.

Awake!

End of song.

FAITH

Come with me to Europe.

TREVOR

I want to, but.

FAITH

Those four words will haunt you for the rest of your life.

Trevor looks at Faith and slowly moves away from her, while facing her. The spotlight appears on the faces of Trevor and Faith, while they look at each other. Slowly, the spotlight fades to black.

6

scene 6 - Different lives - Goodbye

6

Trevor on one side of the stage, sitting at desk, working on computer.

Faith on other side of stage, sitting at her Dad's hospital bedside. Acoustic guitar sits beside Faith.

NARRATOR

Six months later, we find Trevor and Faith in different places.

Trevor is living in New York City. As a lead developer for Angelwire and Sorl Pharmaceuticals, he's well-paid, given a company car and a luxury condo that's minutes away from the company office.

Faith is living in Europe. As a nomadic vagabond who's overstayed her Visa, she's hustles for cash jobs, hitchhikes or takes the subway, or walks, and she sleeps on the couches of co-workers and friends. In her free time, she's at the hospital, at her Dad's bedside, while he undergoes an experimental medical treatment.

The stage lights dim on Trevor.

Faith picks up guitar and starts to play.

FAITH

Dad. Are you sleeping? I got a guitar. Remember, I used to play?

song: Goodbye

As the song plays, the stage lights grow darker and change from blue to yellow. The sound of wind (keyboard) is heard. At the chorus of the song, a tombstone is placed in front of her.

FAITH

Growing up, we try to be, apart from our own family. Finding, a voice to call our own. The differences we fear to show, leave room for you and I to grow. Together, we are not alone.

And Dad, he's always there for you, hoping that your dreams come true. Life interferes, with its demands. Still, he's there, with open hands.

Now that you're older, you're not who you used to be. Trapped inside a disease, that will not set you free.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FAITH (CONT'D)

The years have passed, and we've grown apart. But I still feel you inside, when I touch my heart.

Goodbye, this is not the end. One day, I'll see you again, my friend. Goodbye, this is not the end. One day, I'll see you again, in Heaven.

Goodbye.

End of song.

Faith stands. Faith, holds the guitar at her side, stares at tombstone.

FAITH

I'm sorry. I tried to get you out of here. Sorl pharmaceutical killed you with that new medication.
(with a clenched fist raised toward the sky)

Sorl pharmaceuticals will be destroyed.

Stage lights go dark.

8

scene 7 - Faith meets DLF -

underground

8

NARRATOR

Later that week, Faith attended a protest at the Sorl Pharmaceutical factory. It was there that she met the Dumpster Liberation Front, who invited her to their community warehouse. That night, she visited the warehouse.

A stage with a few chairs. The Dumpster Liberation Front, some sitting, some standing, in groups of two and three.

Faith enters stage. Looks around cautiously.

FAITH

What do you call this place?

DLF

This is the underground.

song: underground

SOPHIE

Orphaned from society, left from the pack. Are you looking for acceptance that you lack.

(CONTINUED)

ELI

Is your life a poem in motion, words you know so well.

SOPHIE

Is the property in your head ready to sell.

DLF

This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You're a little bit quirky. This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You've probably got issues.

ELI

It's a good thing you don't carry a backpack.

SOPHIE

Why?

ELI

Because no backpack's big enough to hold all those issues.

ELI

We're artists, poets, musicians, dreamers, writers. We've left the treadmill of nine to five.

JONCHAUB

We're dumpster divers, reclaiming meals on wheels. We'll show you how to dumpster dive.

DLF

This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You're a little bit quirky. This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You've probably got issues.

MELODY

The dumpster is open, twenty four hours a day. Minus the slurpee and cold drinks.

DLF

Like a seven eleven, but you don't have to pay. You can compost the food that really stinks. Grow a community garden.

ELI

Do you hear the sound of the dumpster song? Hear the sound, the dumpster cries. Dive into this lunch cart, a midnight buffet. Explore my cave, I have a surprise, for you and you and you.

(CONTINUED)

SOPHIE AND ELI

This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You're a little bit quirky.

This is the underground. If you're out there, you're here. Now that you've been found, it is clear. You've probably got issues.

End of song.

ELI

You mentioned that you know someone who works at Angelwire, who recently merged with Sorl Pharmaceutical.

FAITH

I do. It's been a few years.

JONCHAUB

Do you know where he lives?

Faith looks at Jonchaub, Eli, and the DLF. She nods.

Stage lights go dark.

9

scene 8 - Faith and Trevor re-meet9

NARRATOR

90 days later, the warehouse, where the Dumpster Liberation Front has been squatting, is condemned. Faith and the Dumpster Liberation Front move their group to upstate New York. Faith tracks follows Trevor to his apartment and confronts him.

TREVOR

So that's why you want to shut down SORL and Angelwire, because you blame them for killing your dad.

Faith nods.

I can't believe I'm hearing this.

FAITH

(stands up)

I've been talking to you for 2 hours. You're not listening.

TREVOR

Where are you going?

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

Wherever I want to go.

TREVOR

Look where it's gotten you. You're homeless.

FAITH

At least I'm not trapped in an ugly apartment. Looks like a doctor's office. A doctor who's on the sad drugs.

Faith walks toward the door.

TREVOR

Faith, I have to know something.

Song: Let the burden go

TREVOR

(singing)

Is the story you've told something that you've made up in your head?

A reason to refuse a life ordinary instead.

You tell me don't worry, about the life you choose. If you don't play by rules, then you're surely to lose. To sum up my thoughts in three words, I am concerned.

It's been years, I barely recognize who you are. Where have you been traveling, adventures unraveling, chasing a star.

Where have you been living, you don't look so well. Your hair is a mess. To be honest, you smell. I left a message that you never returned.

I heard you were in Europe, the story is unverified. Finding a cure for your dad, is it true that he died.

I'm sorry to hear that he passed away. Were you by his side on that day. Tell me, let me know what I can do.

Since your dad's passing, you've carried this chip on your shoulder. Feeling guilty and angry, wanting to fight, this chip has become a boulder.

Sorl medication did not kill him that day. The cost of revenge takes a lifetime to pay. Don't spend your life, looking for dragons to slay, or they will find you. I'm here to remind you.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR AND DLF

It's not your fault, Faith. Let the burden go. It's a result, Faith, I want to know. Life continues, despite your best intention. You tried, and that's an honorable mention.

It's not your fault, Faith. Let the burden go. You're in a cult, Faith, a carnival side show. Forget being homeless, embrace being normal. If you want to make a difference, dress a little formal.

FAITH

Trevor, I never can sever the friendship with you. Trevor, believe me. The story I tell you is true.

FAITH

In the encrypted files, it's no mystery, on the mainframe computer in room number three. The hard drive contains the history.

Once you make this decision, you cannot go back. Honesty in this world is a revolutionary act.

Think carefully before you decide. If you seek adventure, you won't be denied. Listen to that still, small voice inside.

You can help destroy the chip you've created. Undo what you've done, join us on the run, 9 to 5 is overrated.

We'll reach the radio in Nevada. Dance for money to buy coffee coolata. Sorl and Angelwire will be exposed and shut down, run out of this town.

A life of adventure opens her hand. Your spinning yarns to justify yours but you're hanging to a strand.

Trevor, it's time to sever the tie. If you wait too long, I'll say goodbye. Perhaps the life you're meant for, is not the life you planned. This life could be grand.

FAITH AND DLF

It's your fault, Trevor. You designed the chip. But you can destroy it, sever technology's grip. Progress has no conscience. But you have moral choices. Turn on, tune in, to those moral voices.

How can you continue, Trevor, now that you know this fact? You think you're clever, pretending I am have wacked. Ridicule the person, dismiss what they say. Anything to keep that 401k.

(CONTINUED)

The music continues.

Trevor and Faith look at each other.

Faith walks to the DLF. She continues to watch Trevor.

Trevor stands there, looking at Faith and DLF.

Trevor drops his head, turns, walks away, then stops to turn and look them once more.

Stage lights go dark.

10

scene 9 - Trevor and Erin

10

Trevor inserts pen drive into computer at his apartment and looks over it.

ERIN

Let me get this straight. You're saying that my dad's company is planning to chip people, against their will. And if they refuse, they won't be able to buy food?

TREVOR

Basically. I'm not saying it. It's right here on this file. (stands up, waving hand at computer monitor) Read it yourself.

Erin stands there, puts arms on hips, shakes head.

ERIN

I can't believe I'm hearing this.

TREVOR

I can't believe I'm saying it. I wish it weren't true.

ERIN

Trevor. Trevor. You're lacking nutrients. You need to eat more protein.

TREVOR

I am not making this up.

ERIN

Your former girlfriend from college is.

TREVOR

She was never my girlfriend.

(CONTINUED)

ERIN

You made out with her.

TREVOR

We were drunk.

ERIN

We? Ugh. You're already using pronouns.

TREVOR

Look at computer.

ERIN

You're delusional.

TREVOR

Look at the computer.

ERIN

I know my dad better than some homeless girl who you used to date.

TREVOR

We did not date. Look at the computer.

ERIN

Pawk. Look at the computer. Look at the computer. Pawk! You sound like a parrot

TREVOR

It's right there.

ERIN

You want so bad to believe.

TREVOR

I don't want to believe this.

ERIN

Just like when you believed that cult leader.

TREVOR

He wasn't a cult leader. He was a guru. And it was a tech startup.

ERIN

We have everything we need right here.

TREVOR

That's the problem. Forget stuff. I want adventure.

(CONTINUED)

ERIN

Does my dad know about this?

TREVOR

Shelby? Of course. He has to. He's the Vice President of Angelwire and a board member of Sorl Pharmaceutical.

ERIN

Is this how you repay someone who made all this possible? If it wasn't for me, my dad wouldn't have hired you.

TREVOR

What are you talking about?

ERIN

I asked my dad to get Angelwire to hire you immediately, so you wouldn't be able to leave.

TREVOR

Wait. You convinced your dad to hire me so I wouldn't leave?

ERIN

It's not just that.

TREVOR

If I hadn't accepted the job from your dad, would you have wanted to be with me?

ERIN

I fell in love with the person you became.

TREVOR

But what I became was based on a lie.

The stage lights go dim. A single light falls on Trevor. Then, slowly, the lights fade to darkness.

11

scene 10 - Trevor gets file, meets

Faith

11

The stage is bathed in the orange-yellow glow of a dust covered streetlamp. Faith stands at center stage, looking cautiously in all directions. Trevor arrives, a backpack on his shoulders.

NARRATOR

48 hours later, after getting the file and packing some items, Trevor meets Faith.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

Did you get the file?

TREVOR

Yeah. I told Erin what you told me.

FAITH

Now Shelby's gonna know. He's gonna have us arrested.

TREVOR

I want Erin to come.

FAITH

There's no time. We have to leave now. They'll be after us.

The sound of sirens are heard, growing louder.

Faith motions for Trevor to follow her. They exit the stage.

Stage lights go dark.

12

scene 11 - Trevor's second thoughts

12

The stage is bathed in the early morning glow of early morning light.

Trevor and Faith on the stage.

NARRATOR

After 48 hours of camping in a wooded area outside of the cemetery, Trevor is having second thoughts.

TREVOR

I'm think I'm gonna go back.

(beat)

I don't know if I have what it takes to be a dumpster diver.

FAITH

You just have to find the right dumpster. You haven't been to the chocolate dumpster, yet.

TREVOR

I stink. I'm tired of sleeping in a tent. This lie. It's uncomfortable.

FAITH

That's how you grow.

song: Something Inside

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

When, will you stop pretending, that, the life you're living, is, something less than you want? When will you answer your heart?

Look, at the person you've become. And the choices you make. Is this living or existence? You still have paths you can take.

A blade of grass, yearns to be free. Splitting the asphalt sea. The sunlight is calling you. Rise up, so you can see.

Something inside, cries to be heard. Melody of a caged bird. The song is a muse for you. What will you do?

TREVOR

Did you expect, to be this way, at 28 years old?

Do you regret, not taking the advice you were told?

FAITH

This is who I am. Who are you? This is who I am. Who are you?

FAITH AND TREVOR

(sing to each other and audience)

A blade of grass, yearns to be free. Splitting the asphalt sea. The sunlight is calling you. Rise up, so you can see.

Something inside, cries to be heard. Melody of a caged bird. The song is a muse for you. What will you do?

Moments to hours, days into years, you're held by imaginary fears. Excuses only you can see, learn to break free.

FAITH AND TREVOR

Did you expect, to be this way, at 28 years old?

Do you regret, not taking the advice you were told?

This is who I am. Who are you? This is who I am. Who are you?

FAITH AND TREVOR AND DLF

(to audience)

Moments to hours, days into years, you're held by imaginary fears. Excuses only you can see, learn to break free.

Everyone has, a dream to call their own. Your life is

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FAITH AND TREVOR AND DLF (CONT'D)

a gift on loan. Your dream is calling you. What will you do?

What will you do?

End of song.

FAITH

You like chocolate?

TREVOR

I love chocolate.

FAITH

Follow me. To the chocolate dumpster.

Stage lights fade to black.

14

scene 12 - I feel aliver

14

Stage bathed in warm light.

Trevor, Faith, the DLF are on the stage.

A dumpster sits nearby.

Trevor is inside the dumpster. He's eating a chocolate bar.

TREVOR

This is incredible. There must be a hundred chocolate bars in here.

(looks down at his feet, puzzled)

There was a hundred. Probably 90 now.

(beat)

I feel weird.

Faith hands him a bottle of water. He drinks some.

The glow of a flashlight appears on Trevor, Faith, the DLF.

Erin, with flashlight in her hand, steps onto the stage. She switches flashlight off.

TREVOR

Erin. It's so good to see you. Want some chocolate.

ERIN

No. Thanks. I'm here to bring you back. From the terrorist group you joined.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

We're just dumpster diving.

(motions to DLF)

These are my friends. The DLF. The Dumpster Liberation Front.

ERIN

More like Deodorant Liberation Front.

ERIN

I told to my dad, and he said that if you return the file, and sign a form, then you can return to work.

ELI

(to DLF)

Let's get out of here. I smell a trap.

MELODY

I smell fresh perfume.

JONCHAUB

Exactly. A trap.

The DLF disappear into the night, watching quietly nearby on stage right.

Trevor, Faith, Erin remain on stage.

FAITH

How do I know you haven't been followed.

ERIN

(to Faith)

If I had, you would all be arrested.

(to Trevor)

You're a wanted man.

TREVOR

It is nice to be needed.

(beat)

How are you?

Faith joins DLF, watching quietly nearby on stage right.

ERIN

Disappointed. I'm worried about you, Trevor.

TREVOR

Don't worry about me. I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

ERIN

Where do you sleep? Don't you miss hot showers?

This chaos that you're embracing, where's it gonna lead?

Everyone's asking about you. We're gonna have to tell them the truth.

TREVOR

And what's that.

BRENT

You had a meltdown. You ran off with a bunch of homeless people, who jump around in dumpsters.

TREVOR

Come with me. Before it's too late. Angelwire has plans to control everyone by forcing them to get chipped. You can get out now. Help us destroy the monster that I helped create.

The DLF rejoin Trevor on the stage.

BRENT

You're so dramatic.

TREVOR

That's the only way to be in a world that thinks too much, and feels too little.

BRENT

Trevor. You've snapped.

TREVOR

The scales have fallen from my eyes.

ERIN

You need medication. And a shower.

TREVOR

Every dumpster is an opportunity, a cave waiting to be explored.

Eat from the chocolate dumpster, and then you'll understand everything I am telling you.

The DLF and Faith take the stage.

song: I feel aliver

TREVOR

I've got alleys to bike before I sleep. In my quest for free food, I've got a schedule to keep.

FAITH

There's a third-hand store with snacks to spare. We'll find apples, and cookies, and carrots to share.

TREVOR

Oh Lord, please bless me as I search in the night. This buffet of treats--an expired delight.

FAITH AND TREVOR

Chocolate I crave, bread would be great! Samantha's juice not to far over date!

TREVOR AND FAITH

Samantha's juice not to far over date!

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

DLF

We are the dumpster liberation front, riding bicycles, out on the hunt.

SOPHIE

Lose the crowd. Abandon the malls. With their credit card slaves, walking the halls.

ELI

There's dumpster diver's everywhere. Finding food, open to share.

JONCHAUB

From New York City to Hong Kong, one man's trash, is another man's song.

MELODY

From West Palm Beach to Burlington, Vermont. There's plenty of dumpsters for you to haunt.

SOPHIE

California to Mississippi, even if, you're not a hippie.

DLF

Are you curious, join us tonight. Bring a smile, and an appetite. You'll learn, every dumpster hides a prize, when you lift the lid, and open your eyes.

TREVOR

In the diving world, I'm blessed so much!

DLF

The king of diving with the dumpster touch!

TREVOR AND FAITH

We refuse the chip, we'll dive our food.

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH

We're dumpster divers with attitude. Dumpster divers with attitude.

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

I feel aliver, now that I'm a dumpster diver. Together, we're exploring, what other people, are ignoring.

End of song.

The DLF exit the stage. Faith walks to stage right, watching quietly to see what will happen next.

ERIN

I didn't know you could sing.

TREVOR

You can sing, too. Come with us. There's always room for one more.

Erin walks toward Trevor, with a hopeful look on her face, then retreats slowly, as her countenance changes to a more somber look.

(CONTINUED)

ERIN

You're the one who left. My dad would kill me if I joined you.

TREVOR.

No. He would respect you.

(beat)

Don't you see?

(beat)

He's got you in his claws.

ERIN

(beat)

At least I'm safe there.

Stage lights on Trevor and Erin.

Stage lights fade on Erin.

Trevor stands there, disappointed.

Stage lights fade on Trevor.

15

scene 13 - back to the situation 15

Ominous music, sounding like a science-fiction movie soundtrack, begins to play at a low volume.

The lights come up. The stage is bathed in red light.

A single chair on the stage with wires attached to it, and a helmet sitting on the chair with wires on it.

GUARD #1 and GUARD #2 stand beside a chair.

Trevor is sitting in the chair.

Trevor has with wires attached to his wrist. Trevor is wearing a helmet with wires attached to the helmet.

Trevor looks around.

NARRATOR

And all of this, the last four years, brings us to Trevor's original predicament. Captured by Shelby. Handcuffed to a chair. At a secret laboratory in the middle of nowhere. Moments away from being reconditioned. A human lab rat. A pharmaceutical inventor's wet dream.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR

She says, at least I'm safe there. And then, she turns around, and disappears into the night. I haven't seen her since.

That's what happened.

Between graduating college, getting a high-paying job at Angelwire, then, finding out the truth about Angelwire and Sorl pharmaceutical, then joining the Dumpster Liberation Front, then being captured.

And everything in between.

That's what happened.

(beat)

I guess this is where you recondition me. Give me the electroshock so I can lead you to the Dumpster Liberation Front, the DLF. Well, thanks for listening to my story.

The guards, Guard #1 and Guard #2, look at each other, and nod to each other.

The guards unstrap the wires from his wrist and helmet, remove the helmet.

The guards lead Trevor to stage right.

TREVOR

I was just like you, working for Shelby. Then, I learned the truth. You don't have to do this. Set me free. Join us. Discover who you really are.

The guards look at each other, then walk him off stage.

Stage lights go dark.

16

scene 14 - 3 days

16

The lights come up.

It's nighttime.

In the clearing of a forest. Railroad nearby.

Campfire with flickering lights.

Dumpster Liberation Front and Faith are sitting around campfire.

Trevor approaches them. He looks tired and hungry.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH AND DLF

Trevor. What happened?

TREVOR

The guards let me go.

SOPHIE

You look hungry and thirsty. Eat. Drink.

TREVOR

Thanks.

*Trevor approaches campfire. Sits down with
DLF. Takes gallon jug of water and takes a swig.*
How long have you been out here?

song: 3 days

FAITH

For three days, we've been traveling. Following a
star.

SOPHIE AND MELODY

A life, of safety unraveling. We don't know where we
are.

DLF

But does, anybody know. But does, anybody know.

Does, anybody know. But does, anybody know.

FAITH

For three days, we've been running. Soon, we will be
there.

DLF

Trading comfort, for what we believe.

Living on the edge. Life is a dare.

TREVOR

But does, anybody care. Does anybody care.

But does, anybody care. Does, anybody care.

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH

The city is burning behind us.

If we keep running, they'll never find us.

The world's disappearing, behind us.

If we keep running, they won't try to find us.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

For three days, we've persisted.

Chasing the night, to find the dawn.

SOPHIE AND JONCHAUB

Dissenters, we have been listed.

FAITH

Shelters are melting. Safety is gone.

DLF

But we're, alive and free.

The grass for a blanket, bathing in the sea.

And we're, alive and aware.

Wanting to believe, sending a prayer.

TREVOR AND FAITH

And the city is burning behind us.

If we keep running, they'll never find us.

The world's disappearing, behind us.

If we keep running, they won't try to find us.

FAITH AND TREVOR

(Looking for) A Hope that cannot be contained.

A reason to live that cannot be chained.

A hope that we must not neglect.

Faith can move a mountain. We'll see the effect

Of a journey about to conclude.

Chased by a progress, we're trying to elude.

Of a journey about to conclude.

Time is the culprit. We're being pursued.

Time is the culprit. We're being pursued.

The song ends.

The sound of a train grows louder.

ELI

Let's break camp and jump that train.

The DLF begin breaking down the tent, taking down the tent, putting things into their backpacks, putting out the fire.

The sound of the train grows louder.

The DLF hoist their backpacks on their shoulders and exit the stage.

The stage lights go dark.

17

scene 15 - you're beautiful to me17

The stage lights go up.

The DLF and Trevor and Faith, wearing backpacks, hike through the forest.

Eli is leading the group. He stops and turns to the DLF.

Eli addresses everyone.

ELI

Tomorrow, we reach the radio station. We're gonna jam half the signals of all major networks. We're gonna get the truth out about Angelwire and Sorl Pharmaceuticals.

The DLF gives each other hand clasps, hugs, high-fives.

They continue walking.

The DLF walk to one side of the stage.

Faith and Trevor stand center stage.

TREVOR

Faith. I'm sorry.

FAITH

For what?

TREVOR

Promising that I'd go with you to Europe, then bailing out at the last minute.

(CONTINUED)

FAITH

I forgive you.

TREVOR

I think. I know, your dad would've been really proud of you. He's probably watching you now, smiling from the Pearly Gates.

Faith nods, smiles, wipes a tear from her eye.

TREVOR

I've had more crazy experiences in the last 2 weeks than I've had in the last 2 years.

Faith nods.

TREVOR

It inspired me to write a song.

For all the people like you ...

who are underestimated, unappreciated, overlooked.

This world is too small for you.

People don't understand you and that's okay.

It's not their fault.

They don't hear the same music.

song: You're Beautiful to me

TREVOR

Born in freedom, but soon we're told.

To work like slaves until we're old.

To trade a life, for a living.

The hands of time are less forgiving.

Conformity, bears it's claws.

But you don't bow to the world's applause.

The rat race, never captured you.

I'm tired of running. I'm looking for a clue.

Can you tell me what to do?

You're the light at the end of the tunnel.

A raised surface for the blind.

(CONTINUED)

You're the quiet dog in the kennel.

The one who's left behind.

You're the shadow in the picture.

That I can't identify.

But the future that I've seen, holds,
it's breath for you to try.

chorus:

You're beautiful to me.

Let the world be blind if they can't see.

You're beautiful to me.

You're eyes they hide a mystery.
You're beautiful to me.

You've left the cage.

You're flying free.

You're beautiful to me.

A future page of my history.

(repeat chorus)

End of song.

An ominous soundtrack is heard.

The stage lights change color.

The sound of helicopters grows louder.

The stage lights flash in red and orange as ...

The sound of gunfire is heard.

The DLF run to the trees and huddle together.

Flashes of light.

Gunfire grows louder and more incessant.

Stage lights go immediately black.

The sound of bodies dropping to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

Ominous soundtrack is heard.

18

scene 15 - the aftermath

18

The stage lights slowly go up.

*A stage is bathed in a soft orange glow as we see
...*

*The DLF and Trevor and Faith lying in various
positions on the ground.*

*Shelby and Guard #1 and Guard #2 are standing at
stage right.*

SHELBY

Grab the shovels and bury them. You can take the other
vehicle back. We'll say they committed mass
suicide. Then, we'll sell the movie rights.

Shelby exits the stage.

*Once Shelby is gone, the guards look at each
other.*

*They walk to each body, giving each body a light
tap with their boot.*

GUARD #1

He's gone.

GUARD #2

It's safe to get up now.

The DLF slowly get up. They hug the guards.

*The guards leave. Then, the guards return to join
them.*

Trevor pulls out a pair of massive binoculars.

He looks through it.

*He hands the binoculars to each of the DLF, and
then to the guards.*

TREVOR

We're almost there.

The stage lights get really colorful.

song: Someday is now

(CONTINUED)

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH
Someday is now.

Somewhere is here.

Someone is you.

Someone is you.

TREVOR AND FAITH

This is the time. Adventure will find us.

The end of our time, apart.

Leaving the past of our old life behind us.

Open to find a new start.

DLF AND TREVOR AND FAITH
Someday is now.

Somewhere is here.

Someone is you.

Someone is you.

(repeat)

Someone is you.

Stage lights fade to black.

End of musical.