

TITLE

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SHOW ME A VISION

Characters: Mr. Booth, Chief Visionary
Mitzi Blastikoff, Deputy
Joey, the Hero
Kathy, the Ingenue

ACT 1

ON AN EMPTY STAGE, MR BOOTH SINGS AND DANCES

NO 1 SEND ME A VISION

Send me a vision, fill it with love
Message it to me through rainbow above
Mark it top-secret and hot-to-the-touch
Scent it with lilacs, and roses, and such
For, oh, everybody needs a vision
If he plans to fight his lonely way to the top
Otherwise he'll fall by the wayside
And show the world he's a phony, a fraud,
A dim-witted flop!

That would be a mistake of tragic proportions
Tragic, tragic. We'd be witnessing a tragedy.
This is not a tragedy. It's ... who knows what.
[Blackout]

NO 2 THE HERO

The Scene: An office

MR BOOTH [offstage]
Where's the damn secretary?

Enter MR BOOTH

MR BOOTH
I said, Where's the damn secretary?

JOEY
I don't believe you've hired one, Mister Booth.

MR BOOTH

"You don't believe"? Who do you think you are to have beliefs? Are you Catholic?

JOEY
No sir.

MR BOOTH
What, then? Jewish?

JOEY
No sir.

MR BOOTH
Then why are you putting on airs? Who are you, anyway? Have I seen you before?

JOEY
I'm Joey McGuffin, sir. You hired me yesterday.

MR BOOTH
Why did I do that?

JOEY
You don't know, sir? You don't remember?

MR BOOTH-
Of course I remember but it's slipped my mind. Did you help me hang my certificates of achievement? What do you do? Do you do anything?

JOEY
I'm a writer, I guess. When you hired me you said you saw something special in me.

MR BOOTH
What did I see in you?

JOE
How should I—. Let me start over. I don't, truthfully, know what you saw in me, sir. I could give you my resume.

MR BOOTH
Resume! Are you looking for another job? That's fine with me, I don't like the work you've been doing. But don't insult my intelligence by using 'truth' and 'resume' in the same sentence! You should know that by now! And yet you claim you're a writer - what do you write?

JOEY
Anything! I would write anything you tell me to, sir.

MR BOOTH

Anything? ... Now I remember what I saw in you! ... What have you written since I hired you?

JOEY

Nothing, sir. I just came on board yesterday —and you haven't yet told me what you want. Don't you know yet?

MR BOOTH

Sure I know. Don't be smart. I wants funny. That's my motto — make it funny! If I make them laugh when they're not expecting it, I can get away with murder. But don't worry. You won't have to do the actual murder. That's my job. You just need to write me up a vision statement and send it to my e-mail. You just need to make it funny. Don't tell me a vision statement can't be funny. Most of them are as silly as Saturday Night Live, but funny.

NO 3 MAKE IT FUNNY

Sings:

Make it funny, make them laugh
Put their laughter in your tip jar
Your salary will increase by half
Make them laugh, make them laugh, make them laugh.

JOEY [speaking]

I thought you wanted me to write about your vision for the future. That's funny?

MR BOOTH [singing]

Make them laugh,
Cut the laugh in half and make them smile
Show them my amazing style
My gratitude will leap ahead a mile
My fans will fall out laughing in the aisle.

JOEY

You want this rule applied to everything I write?

MR BOOTH

You got that right. To everthing you write for me.

[sings]

Show them my kindness, as well as my prudence
Give them a whiff of my savoir-faire
Show them my genius, don't mention my crudeness
Tell them about my most interesting hair

[speaking]

For we have to show me at my very best

Only then will you have passed the test!

JOEY

BUT WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU WANT ME TO WRITE FOR YOU?

MR BOOTH

I just told you how to write it, and now I have to tell you what to write?! Can't you figure that out for yourself? I want you to put into words my vision for the future. Just flesh it out. Not all the future, just the next 35 years – that should be enough. Can you do that? I've already got it all in my head, so I'll know it when I see it. All you need to do is work out the minor details. So can you do it?

JOEY

Yes, sir, and maybe die trying.

NO 4 LET ME DEMONSTRATE MY PLUCK

[sings]

Let me show the man my pluck
 Let me wish myself a little luck
 Because my brain feels like melted glue –
 And I haven't got a clue.
 So it's certainly a challenge –
 But I've met challenges before –
 And I will rise to this occasion
 and hope it doesn't lead me into war

Mr Booth, I really need to know I've got a job here!

MR BOOTH

What job? The job as writer? I've already got a writer. I hired her this morning. She's still in Human Resources. Nice girl. Very pretty, but that's just between the two of us. She'll be here any minute.

JOEY

BUT YOU HIRED ME JUST YESTERDAY!.

MR BOOTH

The world moves fast, you've got to stay awake. This girl will do anything, anything. She almost got hired by some U.S. Congressman, whose name would make you shudder. She's a nice girl though I don't think of her as a girl: they want me think of her as a person, as some kind of a human being... All right, I'll believe anything. When she gets in here, the two of you can duke this thing out. Get her to come in here.

JOEY

How would I do that, sir? How would I get her to come in here?

MR BOOTH

Seriously? You don't know how to get another human being to do whatever you want them to? Try whistling. Or just raise your voice real loud and see if she takes the bait. HEY, WE'RE ABOUT TO HAVE A WRITER'S CONFERENCE HERE. Now just wait a second and see what happens.

Two beats.

KATHY rushes into the room.

MR BOOTH

That was two seconds, but I was pretty close.

KATHY

Good morning, sir. Thank you again for hiring me.

MR BOOTH

I shouldn't have done it. I respected you when I hired you. But I could NEVER respect a person who would agree to work for me...!

NO 5 MY SINS I HAVE FORGIVEN THEM

[sings]

My sins I have forgiven them
 The sins of others make me sick
 My favorite sin was really quite a gem
 But, once forgiven, didn't stick
 So now I'm free to show distaste
 For those who beg me for employment
 Contemptible they are who talents wasted
 And to see them squirm is my enjoyment

[speaks]

Oh well, these kids are not my problem.

NO 6 THE COMPETITION

MR BOOTH [changing subject]

[speaking]

Introductions are in order but I'm a busy man. What is your name again?

KATHY

Kathy.

MR BOOTH

Sit down over here and type a letter. No, wait, sit over there, where the keyboard is.

KATHY

I can't type, sir.

MR BOOTH

What are you talking about. Everyone can type.

JOEY

No problem, sir. I can type, Mister Booth.

MR BOOTH

How many words per minute with fewer than seven corrections?

JOEY

I don't know, sir. I'm a writer, not a typist.

MR BOOTH

You being smart with me? The difference between writing and typing is that anyone can be a writer but not everyone can type. Writers are a dime a dozen. How much am I paying you? Way too much, I'm sure.

KATHY

Well, I'm a writer too! I deserve equal pay.

MR BOOTH

That'll be the day! ... What did I tell you? Writers are everywhere... Exactly what have you written for me?

KATHY

But you just hired me this morning!

MR BOOTH

Between the two of you, the work ethic is seven divided by zero.

JOEY

Which is what?

MR BOOTH

You dare to put me to a test?

JOEY

I'm just asking. I was an English major.

MR BOOTH

Of course you were. The answer is seven divided by zero.

KATHY

I majored in communications.

MR BOOTH

That reminds me. Take a letter. Sit over there, where the keyboard is. Or anywhere you want. "Dear Mr President..."

KATHY

Will this be addressed to President Trump?

MR BOOTH

No, to President Wiggleroom, spelled with a 'Y' – he's on the 23rd floor. It's pronounced. WY-giggleroom. You forget that at your peril. Oh, never mind, go ahead and send it the White House if you want, but then get to work on your assignments. Do you know what your assignments are?

JOEY

No, sir.

KATHY

No, sir.

MR BOOTH

I'll give you a clue: what do we DO here? ... What does it say on our door? ... What words did you see when you came into the office?

JOEY

It said "PUSH".

MR BOOTH

You being smart with me? Granted, the sign painters might take a long time to get around to us, although our work is greatly appreciated. But in point of fact our division is called "Office of the Future." The "and" will be written with that funny mark that looks like a cello.

KATHY

The ampersand. Why? There's no 'and' there.

MR BOOTH

All right, little girl, we know you've got a Bachelors in communications or whatever... Here is your assignment, and it's the same for both of you. Apply your skill sets, such as they are, to the mission of this department, and create, or craft, a unique vision for me... What's the matter?

KATHY

I would have thought that you would have FIRST given us a draft of your vision – that we could then polish and refine for you.

MR BOOTH

Don't talk so fancy, don't even think fancy. I don't want fancy or refined. I'm a guy from the streets of the city. I want it funny, not refined. If you make it funny they'll appreciate my vision, because they'll be thrown off-guard. Trust me on this, it's not my first fly-on-the-wall. I know what they like. They like funny, so make it funny!

KATHY

Are the two of us working as a team then?

MR BOOTH

No, you are on opposing teams. The winner gets to stay, the loser gets to go home, just like on TV. Separately, you should interview Mitzi Blastikof, our Corporate Pollster and Deputy Visionary. I won't comment on her morals, they're none of my business unless she tries to challenge me. The clock is ticking, so get to work, and make it funny if you want the job. I want to see you working like earthworms till the clock strikes twelve.

[Exit MR BOOTH]

JOEY

Is he serious? Is the man a lunatic? I think he's criminally insane... But who cares? Lunatic or not, I really need this job.

KATHY

I need this job too. But maybe we shouldn't be talking. Are we supposed to be talking?

JOEY

He didn't say not to talk, he just said not to cooperate. He wants us to compete.

KATHY

I'd rather be cooperating, dear.

JOEY

You call me "dear"? We've only just met!

KATHY

That's the way my mother raised me. "Throw the young man off his guard and then go straight for the jugular."

JOEY

I guess we could find a way to cooperate without telling Mr Booth.

KATHY

Sure we could...

NO 7 I'D LOVE TO BE WITH YOU TODAY

[sings]
 I'd love to be with you today
 We could do things together:
 my way
 or your way
 Together we could find a way
 to make it pay.
 for both of us

It's clear
 to me
 that we should
 work together

It's clear
 to me
 that we would
 have more fun

Come here
 sit down
 So we can work together

Come here
 my dear
 so we can work as one

Together we'll conjure great visions
 Together we'll change this whole blasted world
 And after we eat we'll play ball with the moon
 And watch stars burst apart in collisions

JOEY
 You have a really strong imagination.

KATHY
 Thanks. So what do you say?

[DUET: reprise of "I'd Love To Be With You Today"]

JOEY
 But we've still got a problem, because Mister Booth wants us
 to compete!

KATHY
 We'll give him two different endings. He can choose. Better
 to ask forgiveness than to seek permission.

JOEY
 How will the endings be different?

JOEY

I don't know yet. We'll figure something out later. For now, we better get to work. Let's talk with this Mitzi Blastikoff person.

[BLACKOUT. We are transported to the office of Mitzi Blastikoff.]

NO 8 THE VISION

MITZI

So what do you want with me? Odds are seven to one that you'll be wasting my time.

JOEY

Mister Booth told us to see you.

MITZI

You're seeing me. Are we done here?

KATHY

I think he wanted us to ask you questions.

MITZI

Is that a question?

KATHY

I guess not.

JOEY

Ms Blastikoff, Kathy's just being polite.

KATHY

That's right... I'm trying to lead gently into the subject.

MITZI

Oh, you're mincing words! I like that. I really like your style.

JOEY

We don't know what to ask you. This is my first job other than McDonalds. I also did landscaping work when I could get it.

KATHY

I worked at Dairy Queen.

MITZI

Then you know speed and you know tough, both of you. All right, I can show you the ropes. I specialize in mentoring. Fire away with your questions, what's on your mind?

JOEY

We need to create a vision for Mister Booth. By midnight, if we want to keep our jobs. At least one of us. I guess there's only one job.

KATHY

We've never created a vision before. Not even one.

MITZI

Why do you suppose he sent you to see me?

JOEY

We don't have any idea.

MITZI

We'll, he sent you to the right person, because I used to have your job, you know, the job you two are competing for. Corporate visions? I've done a million of them I could do three visions every day. Here's the way you do it; pay attention!

[sings]

NO 9 START FROM THE END

Write your vision backwards
Starting from the end
Once you've got your ending
Your work is done

Have it typed in 12-point Courier
To show that you're a pro
add some graphs and foot-notes
than to lei-sure you may go.
When you're gonna write a vision,
decide your goals and ending,
then pause for a libation'
cause your work is almost done.

Write your vision backwards
starting from the end
once you've got your ending
your work is done
The work is done. The work is done. The work is done.

KATHY

But how do know what our vision is if we don't have one?

MITZI

Make one up!

JOEY

We don't know anything at all. We don't have any facts.

MITZI

You'll fit right in here!

Look, You gotta work backwards ... That's rule one.

And then, rule two, get angry! Before you waste your time on facts Grind your axe!

JOEY

So what can we do? We haven't got a clue. Do you have any ideas?

NO 10 I'VE GOT PLENTY OF IDEAS

MITZI

I've got plenty of i deas...

[secret ideas,,,,]

in fact I'll tell you a secret.

I'm gonna go up against Mister Booth

I'm gonna take his job for myself

Why should he take all the credit?

I'm the one who's got the vision, not him!

Are you with me? Or against me?

I've got plenty of ideas...

KATHY

We wouldn't ever want to be against you, Ms Blastikoff.

JOEY

No, ma'am. We wouldn't dare.

MITZI

Then let's get organized!

Anarchy, to be effective, requires organization!

JOEY

That seems perfectly obvious.

KATHY

But we never thought of it.

MITZI

See, you're learning already. I'm a terrific mentor. Show me what you've learned.

NO 11 DISORGANIZED

MITZI

We gotta have a plan

JOEY
And we gotta have a song

BOTH
Yeah, gotta have a plan yeah gotta have a song

JOEY
a marching song

MITZI
a marching song

BOTH
a marching song

MITZI
A song to guide our feet

JOEY
On the road to anarchy

BOTH
then we can rear back and watch things completely

JOEY
just fall apart

MITZI
just fall apart

BOTH
just fall apart

MITZI
We gotta have a band!

JOEY
a band a marching band!

BOTH
To do what we're gonna do what ever it is.

MITZI
We need a band

JOEY
We need a band

BOTH
To give us a hand

MITZI
And a leg up

JOEY
And a leg up

BOTH
On the road to ruin

JOEY
Yeah we need a band

MITZI
To carry our message

BOTH
Once we learn what it is so we gotta get

JOEY
disorganized

MITZI
disorganized

BOTH
for anarchy

JOEY
disorganized

MITZI
disorganized

JOEY
disorganized

MITZI
disorganized

JOEY
disorganized

MITZI
disorganized

BOTH
destroy the status quo!

(Reenter MR BOOTH)

NO 12 THE ASSIGNMENT

MR BOOTH
What's going on here!

I gave you kids an assignment, what was it? Have you finished it?

JOEY

You've forgotten the assignment, Mister Booth? Already?

KATHY

You gave it to us just twenty minutes ago!

MR BOOTH

Don't rush me.

These things can be done quickly or they can be done correctly, not both.

JOEY

You said you wanted it by twelve p.m. midnight.

MR BOOTH

Isn't that two concepts for the same event?

KATHY

We took that to mean you have your vision prepared with utmost speed.

MR BOOTH

I want everything done with utmost speed, at all times, and even faster.

And you'd better remember that! ...

And never forget it!

MITZI

You look frazzled, Anthony. What's the matter?

MR BOOTH

I'll tell you what's the matter! But you can't tell another soul!

JOEY

Yes sir. No sir.

KATHY

No sir.

MITZI

Of course not, Anthony.

MR BOOTH

You solemnly swear? Have you been vetted?

MITZI

Of course they've been vetted, I vetted them myself.

MR BOOTH

What have you learned from the vetting process?
 I'll tell you what I've learned. I've learned a lot.
 In fact I've learned so much I've written a song about it.

MITZI

A song? You write songs? Will you write a song about me?

MR BOOTH

Sure. But it's too early in the show. Wait your turn.
 There's no place in Show Business for pushy people.
 Be careful you don't get a bad reputation! Here's my song:
 "Vetted"

NO 13 VETTED

Vet me. Vet me. Vet me. Vet me.
 Then let me in your arms to feel your charms.
 Then let me in your arms to feel your charms
 So come on Vet me. Vet me. Vet me. Vet me.
 Get me in a place to cause alarms.
 Get me in a place to cause alarms.
 And pet me. Pet me. Pet me. Pet me. Pet me.
 I won't go anyplace
 I'll just roll over.

KATHY

That's very nice. I like it.

JOEY

Is it a whole song?

MITZI

That doesn't matter, so long as it has universal appeal.

MR BOOTH

It has universal appeal, I'm sure of it.

MITZI

But you would say that, wouldn't you.
 You're the author.
 What would an unbiased nonauthor think of it?

JOEY

I'm an unbiased nonauthor.
 I loved it, especially the rolling-over line.

KATHY

Dogs would probably love that line.
 And I don't begrudge them.

JOEY

Miss Mitzi, what did you learn from the vetting process?

MITZI

I've learned I'd rather be doing something else! Anything but vetting poor innocent souls.

I'd rather be eating cumquats in Paris.

MR BOOTH

You've done that? You've eaten cumquats in Paris?

MITZI

Of course not. They're out of season. You'd get arrested there for shooting them.

MR BOOTH

You have to shoot them to eat them?

MITZI

In Paris you do.

Is this the issue that's gotten you so rattled?

MR BOOTH

That and everything else!

Things are crashing past me at warped speed.

KATHY

Sir, I think you may be thinking of warp speed, rather than warped speed.

Warped speed is something else, I would imagine.

MR BOOTH

Oh you'd imagine it, would you!

Imagine yourself being fired for insubordination!

Tell me, missy, if warped speed is something else, tell me what is.

KATHY

I don't know, I really don't.

MR BOOTH

You protest too much.

I think YOU'RE the spy, the traitor, the weasel who is leading the attack against me.

Mitzi, I need to talk with you in the conference room. Right now.

I want to review your godforsaken, failed, so-called vetting process.

MITZI

What about Kathy and Joey here. Should they come too?

MR BOOTH

You

No, leave them here to stew in their own foul juices.

MITZI

But the only actual accused traitor is Kathy.

MR BOOTH

Then you ADMIT the girl's a traitor.

I knew it from the first time I saw her evil face.

Let's go to the conference room, we need to talk before I face catastrophe.

Hurry.

(Exit MR BOOTH and MITZI)

NO14 I NEVER LIKED YOU

JOEY

What have you gotten me into?

Is this some Edward Snowden deal?

KATHY

What are you talking about! You really don't trust me? You really don't know me?

SINGING

I knew I never liked you
 from the first time ever I saw you there!
 even though you were so handsome
 and seemed so awfully kind
 I knew that underneath you were a swine
 I never really liked you
 so get your hat and take a hike
 or take a bus or go by bike
 though I must admit I will always miss you
 because you've found the perfect way
 to break my heart you're such a swine.
 I thought we were friends
 but this is the end of our history together
 you could have knocked me over with a feather
 when you turned on me this way

JOEY

The same to you but more so
 I always new that I'd been fooled
 by your lovely voice and lovely face.
 How could I have been so stupid to give in?
 I've always really loved you
 from the moment we first met
 and yet I knew I was sinking into quicksand.
 Will I get over you?
 I would not take that bet.

BOTH

I knew I never liked you
from the first time ever I saw you there!
even though you were so handsome
and seemed so awfully kind
I knew that underneath you were a swine

KATHY

I'm leaving! Never to return!

JOEY

Me too!

KATHY

Which way are you going?

JOEY

I'm exiting stage-right.

KATHY

I'm exiting stage-left.

JOEY

Then I'll never see you again?

KATHY

Not unless there's a second act.
But come to think of it, I'm pretty sure there is. In any
case I'm extremely angry with you.

JOEY

And I'm extremely angry with you. See ya after intermission.

KATHY

Fifteen minutes, i think it is.
at which time i hope you're not so stupid. see ya.
(they start to exit, kathy stage left, joey stage right.)

JOEY

Wait, am I going the right way?

KATHY

Yes! Look it up in a book on acting!
You're going off stage-right! It's about time you learned.
Get going! Off! Off! Off!
(They complete their exits)

ACT 2

NO 15 I'D MAKE A LIST IF ONLY I HAD TIME

MITZI

So where are we?

Are we going to do another round of extreme vetting?

MR BOOTH

That's right.

We're looking for the worm in the porridge.

Or the arsenic as the case may be.

The traitorous spy in this nest of vipers
conspiring against me!

MITZI

I thought Kathy was the spy.

MR BOOTH

Nah, I never really thought so. She's our ingenue, for
god's sake. She couldn't be sweeter.

Sing us a song, honey.

It doesn't have to be relevant to this so-called plot. Let's
hear whatever's on your mind.

KATHY SINGS

I'd make a list if only I had time.

I'll make a list some other time.

I'm busy now, my mind's on other things,
My mind is on ... the phone! It might now ring —
And what would I say? I could not

list all the things on my list because I can't
remember what any of them are—oh well, too bad.

I meant to write them down somewhere but
never made a list, a list that I shall never miss,
lists are never accurate,

and never make sense — and make me
so tense that I can hardly think at all:

except I feel that I'm about to fall
because there's nothing on my list
since I didn't even make a list, oh well.

Who cares? I'll make my list right now,
on the run — which reminds of something—

But I can't remember what. Maybe I'm in a movie
And my thoughts didn't make the final cut.

Instead of making a list I'll tell you what:

I'll tell you everything that's on the list I didn't make:

I need to remember to buy flour for a cake

Unless of course I change my mind and bake a roast instead,

Yes that's what I'll do if I can remember to write that down —

But I won't write it down just yet.

I may change my mind.

Maybe I should get something else.

I have so much to do, I'll never get it done,

if I could remember what it was.
 There's too much on the list I didn't make.
 I'll never get it done.
 Oh Wait! I think I remember:
 I'm supposed to be in Chicago
 tomorrow or yesterday to pick up my father.
 He's supposed to be there, I think, at 8:19,
 Oh dear. This will be difficult.
 I'm in Philadelphia, I think, unless I'm confused.
 I hope he forgives me. He probably will be:
 He's a good man. If I remember him accurately.
 Grey hair, nice smile, his name ...will come to me.
 What else, hold on a minute,
 I think I'd better make a list.
 And when I see him again,
 I need to try to remember to
 Give him a really big kiss and say hello.

MR BOOTH

That's nice, darlin'.
 Our hero here is a jerk for treating you so badly. Lets see
 how HE feels being extremely vetted.
 Hey, kid, show us what you got.
 Your story had better be good.
 Consider it an extreme audition.

NO 16 THE SHOW

JOEY

But Mr Booth, I'm really best at
 this kind of thing we're
 doing right here, right now.
 I like it.
 This is a good show.
 A little Sigmund Romberg, a little Sigmund Freud.
 A dash of Gershwin and a dollop of Cole Porter.
 Plus a sprinkle of Stravinsky,
 a soupçon of Wittgenstein, a
 whisper of Mozart.
 Maybe more than just a whisper if Mr. Webber
 can't keep himself under control.

MR BOOTH

Who are the names you're spouting – are you playing with
 me? ... But, for the most part, you're doing fine, kid.
 Keep going! Sell it! Bring it home,

Ah, I think you're okay, kid, and someday you'll be in a
 real
 play and become a big star.
 I DON'T think you're the worm in the ointment here who's
 working against everything I'm trying to accomplish.

So you and Miss Kathy should take 5, maybe 10.
I need to have a talk with Ms Blastikoff.
I'll call you when I want you back on stage.

KATHY [to JOEY]
I'm exiting stage-left. You go right. I'm still very angry
with you.

[KATHY and JOEY leave the stage]

NO 17 THE PLOT

MR BOOTH
Mitzi, dear Mitzi, I've figured it out.
It's been YOU who's been plotting to destroy me. You're the
one. Don't deny it!

MITZI
Oh, I deny every single charge you're about to make! None of
them even make sense! Who wrote this thing?

MR BOOTH
They don't have to make sense, they just need to be
syntactically correct.
Those are the rules. That's what theater's all about.

MITZI
Your lines can't be syntactically correct if you haven't
even
spoken them.

MR BOOTH
We'll let the courts decide. You'll look very pretty in
prison stripes.

MITZI
Oh do you really think so, Anthony?

MR BOOTH
Certainly. Why wouldn't I think so? You're a beautiful
woman.

MITZI
Beautiful? Not just pretty?
Do you really mean "beautiful"?
You've never told me that, Anthony.
Beautiful just in prison stripes -
or are you speaking more generally?

NO 18 YOU CALLED ME BEAUTIFUL]

?????? Song missing

MR BOOTH
Speaking generally, Mitzi.
I've always thought you are the
most beautiful woman in the
world. I love you, Mitzi..

MITZI
Wow. I mean wow.

MR BOOTH
Dare I hope you have any feelings for me?

MITZI
Anthony, you don't already know?
I think you are the most fascinating, surprising man I've
ever known. You're a complete Fool
and you always make me
laugh. Always.
No other man has ever made me laugh so hard.
I love you, you Fool.
That's what you are, the King's Fool.

MR BOOTH
That's the highest praise J could imagine.
I love you, too, Mitzi. My queen!

MITZI
What can we do about this, Anthony?
We have a problem.
When you look at me you see me in prison stripes.

MR BOOTH
Oh, that was just a passing vision, Mitzi. You know me. I
have dozens of passing visions, I'm a Visionary. That's my
job. The law is flexible, or fungible. I get those two
words mixed up.

MITZI
Anthony, you're not going to break the law, are you?
I'd never forgive myself if you were sent to jail because of
me.

MR BOOTH
People of our class don't go to jail.
Visionaries don't go to jail. I was just pleading for your
attention. Do I have to do anything to change for you,
Mitzi?
Lose some weight?
You can't possibly love me the way I am.

MITZI

Anthony, I hate to have to tell you this at this late date
but women think differently from men
They really do. They don't measure a gentleman's biceps.
Or even a gentleman's weight.
The thing you're missing is that the odd thing about women
is: all they care about is love

NO 19 WOMEN DON'T CARE

SINGING

Women don't care about your biceps
They don't care about your paunch
All they ask is that you make them laugh
But just be careful with the jokes you launch

Women don't care about your triceps
The don't want hear about your workout routine
All they ask is that you make them laugh
And keep your humor for the most part clean.

You don't need to take my word for this
Ask any girl at all
But don't believe a word I tell you
I don't want you sniffin' around no girl!

[Mr Booth sings: I ADORE YOU, MITZI BLASTIKOFF]

I adore you Mitzi Blastikoff—

You're so devious, so devious
The delightful way
You schemed for me
has always seemed suspicious

Your lies are so preposterous
And all I have to say
Today is that you make me feel so gay
I'm dancing through air like a rhinoceros.

Now that your mine, Let's uncork the wine
And in your arms I'll not a stickler be
I adore you Mitzi Blastikoff
Your lies are good enough for me.

MR BOOTH

i now pronounce us man and wife

MITZI

is this the end of the show, then?

MR BOOTH

not yet. let's the kids back.

they have to get their lives straightened out, before we can get to the finale.

NO20 FINALE

[KATHY AND JOEY COME BACK EXCITED HAPPY]

MITZI

kids, don't look so happy, yet, you're so angry with each other.

get over there right this minute and re-establish your relationship, so we can move on to the finale how has it come to this?

MR BOOTH

I knew you'd see reason, kids. I'm proud of you both. Now get over here so we can do the FINALE. Come on, front and center.

[as a Shakespeare poem]

The point of this entire play

Escapes us at the moment

But it will surely come to us again

Because we're at the end

Of your endurance...

Oh wait, here was the tune

We planned to use as

The show's ending.

It's called "Visions are Everywhere You Look".

[They reprise show's opening.]

THE END