

RS#6 Parents & Students

DEWEY
(to Billy)
Bowie. Ziggy Stardust. Iconic.

KIDS
WE'RE IN THE BAND

DEWEY
(to Marcy)
The Supremes. So tasty!

KIDS
WE'RE IN THE BAND

DEWEY
(to Shonelle)
Aretha. Soul sister number one!

KIDS/DEWEY
WE'RE/YOU'RE IN THE BAND...

DEWEY
Go! Listen! Study! Learn!

He hands out the rest of his CDs.

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SCENE SEVEN

7

STUDENT'S HOMES

Freddy enters the garage and tries
to avoid his father on his way
into the house.

Start →

MR HAMILTON
Where's your homework?

Freddy hands his father a CD.

MR HAMILTON (CONT'D)
I don't believe it. More music?
Should I tell you what my homework
was? Or how I had to chop wood and
bring it in when I finished? Jeez,
Freddy, if I had your life...

FREDDY
OK, Dad. I get the message.

MR HAMILTON
No, you don't. Do you even know why
I'm paying for this school?
(MORE)

MR HAMILTON (CONT'D)
Or why I'll pay for an Ivy League
College? So you can have any career
you choose.

FREDDY
I choose or you choose?

MR HAMILTON
Pick up that hammer and get to some
real work.

BILLY SANDFORD is reading a copy
of Sports Illustrated.

MR SANDFORD
What are you reading?

BILLY
Sports Illustrated.

Not convinced, Mr Sandford grabs
the magazine finding a copy of
Vogue hidden underneath.

BILLY (CONT'D)
Vogue. I'm going to go to my room.

MR SANDFORD
No you're not! You're going to stay
and watch the game!

BILLY
Do I have to?

MR SANDFORD
Yes! You're my son, Goddammit!
You're a Sandford! My dad played
football, I played football, and
you're gonna play football, too.
It's a legacy, Billy. Now sit down
and watch the game.

Billy sits. The light fades up on
Tomika with her two fathers.

TOMIKA
But I don't fit in, I miss my old
school.

MR SPENCER
But we love your new school!

MR WILLIAMS
Your old school was falling apart.
Do you know how long we were on the
waiting list for Horace Green?

TOMIKA
But I miss my friends -

MR SPENCER
Don't be silly! You can make
friends anywhere you go!

MR WILLIAMS
BFFs! Besties!

TOMIKA
They're so much smarter than me!

MR SPENCER
No one is smarter than you, Tomika.
No one is better than you.

MR WILLIAMS
And how cute do you look in that
uniform!

The men kiss.

TOMIKA
But I don't know how talk to anyone-

MR SPENCER
Tomika. We know what's best for
you.

Zack has arrived home. His father
talks into his phone.

MOONEYHAM
Look. I'm not asking anymore, just
get it done.

ZACK
Hey, Dad. You won't believe the day
we had -

MOONEYHAM
What did I say when Daddy's on the
phone?

ZACK
You're working.

MOONEYHAM
I'm working. Hey, Jim? I want ten
thousand shares in Northbrook
Chemicals. Never mind why. I know
what I know. Just do it.

End

~~11. IF ONLY YOU WOULD LISTEN~~

ZACK
YOU ALWAYS TALK, TALK, TALK ALL THE TIME.

MOONEYHAM
Bob?

ZACK
YOU NEVER LET ME GET IN A WORD.

MOONEYHAM
Are you at the meeting tomorrow?

Mooneyham exits.

ZACK
I WISH I HAD, I HAD A DIME
FOR EV'RY THOUGHT I'VE SWALLOWED UNHEARD.
NO MATTER WHAT IT IS THAT I DO,
IT'S LIKE I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO GET THROUGH.

BILLY
I'VE GOT SO MUCH TO SAY,
IF ONLY YOU WOULD LISTEN.
I'VE TRIED EV'RY WHICH WAY,
AND STILL YOU NEVER LISTEN.
CAN'T YOU SEE I'M HURTING?
I COULDN'T BE MORE CLEAR.
BUT I PROMISE,
ONE DAY I'LL MAKE YOU HEAR.

FREDDY
YOU KNOW I TRY TRY, TRY, TRY TO EXPLAIN
I'M NOT THE KID YOU WANT ME TO BE.
AND YET IT'S ALL, IT'S ALL IN VAIN--
YOU JUST DON'T WANNA SEE THE REAL ME.
YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT I'M ALL ABOUT,

ZACK, BILLY, FREDDY, TOMIKA
AND YET YOU JUST KEEP SHUTTING ME OUT.
I'VE GOT SO MUCH TO SHARE,
IF ONLY YOU WOULD LISTEN.
YOU COULD PROVE THAT YOU CARE
IF ONLY YOU WOULD LISTEN.
I'M NOT GONNA BEG YOU--