

AN OFF-BEATS VALENTINE'S

1/20/98

ACT ONE, SEQUENCE A

WE FADE UP ON TOMMY WALKING & HUMMING TO HIMSELF. HE IS APPROACHED BY THE POPULARS.

TINA: Well, if it isn't Tommy-Wommy.

TOMMY: What do you want, Tina?

TINA: (FAKE SUPER-SWEET) We want to give you a Valentine's!

TINA PULLS OUT A CARD.

TOMMY: Why would you do that?

TINA: (MEAN) Just read it, hat-boy!

TOMMY TAKES THE CARD & READS.

TOMMY: "Roses are red. Violets are Blue. Turtles are stupid. And so are you."

POPULARS: HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

TOMMY: (DRY) Very funny.

TINA: (PROUD) I wrote it myself.

THE POPULARS START TO EXIT.

TINA: (CON'T, TO BETH) Destroy the evidence, Beth.

BETH: Yes, Tina.

THEY EXIT. BETH RE-ENTERS WITH A PORTABLE SHREDDER ON WHEELS. SHE APPROACHES TOMMY, GLOWERING.

BETH: (CON'T) You read it, now shred it.

TOMMY NERVOUSLY PUTS THE CARD IN THE SHREDDER.

SFX: SHREDDING. (THIS CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE FOLLOWING CLOSE UPS.)

SEQUENCE A (CON'T)

CUT TO: CU OF TOMMY. HE RAISES HIS EYEBROWS AS IF SEEING BETH FOR THE FIRST TIME.

CUT TO: CU OF BETH. HER GLOWER CHANGES TO A SLIGHTLY CONFUSED EXPRESSION. SHE IS SEEING HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME.

CUT TO: CU OF TOMMY. HIS EYES GO WIDE & A SMILE CREEPS UP ON HIS FACE.

CUT TO: CU OF BETH. HER EYES GO WIDE & A FLICKER OF A SMILE APPEARS ON HER FACE.

CUT TO: LS OF BETH & TOMMY BY THE PORTABLE SHREDDER.

SFX: BELL DINGS. THE SHREDDING IS OVER, & THEY ARE GAZING LOVINGLY AT EACH OTHER.

BEAT.

BETH: Um...I guess I'll go now... If you're done shredding...

BETH RELUCTANTLY TURNS TO GO.

TOMMY: Wait.

SHE TURNS BACK. THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER FOR A BEAT. QUICKLY, TOMMY TAKES OFF HIS HAT & PUTS IT IN THE SHREDDER. THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER LONGINGLY AS THE HAT SHREDS.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE B

FADE UP ON A BACKGROUND LIKE THE OLD TITLE SEQUENCE, THE OFF-BEATS FALL FROM THE SKY AS BEFORE.

GROO(V.O.): Dey nervous, Dey Nebbish, Dey Small.
And the Populars don't like them at all.

THE POPULARS PASS BY.

SEQUENCE B (CON'T)

GROO(V.O.): It don't matter, dey hip.
Dey got they own friendship.

But when love is in the air.
It can cause quite a scare.

OFF-BEATS: Aaaaaah!

THE OFF-BEATS DASH OFF FRAME AS A GIANT HEART
FALLS FROM THE SKY.

GROO(V.O.): And sometimes it's hard to
define.
The weird stuff that goes on
at Valentine's.

THE HEART CRACKS OPEN TO REVEAL GRAPHICS: "AN
OFF-BEATS VALENTINE'S."

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE C

FADE UP ON AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, BETTY-ANNE, &
REPUNZIL IN FRONT OF A POSTER THAT READS,
"VALENTINE'S DANCE! ALL LOVERS WELCOME! AT
THE CAFE AD HOC, VALENTINE'S NIGHT".

REPUNZIL: Look guys! A Valentine's Dance!
How exciting!

LITTLE HEARTS START FLOATING AROUND REPUNZIL.
BETTY-ANNE SWATS THEM AWAY, ANNOYED.

BETTY: Oh, brother. You're not really
into Valentine's Day, are you Repunzil?

REPUNZIL: Sure! It's such a romantic time of
year. Love is in the air!

LITTLE HEARTS START FLOATING AROUND REPUNZIL
AGAIN. BETTY-ANNE PULLS OUT A CAN OF FLIT,
SPRAYS THE HEARTS & KILLS THEM.

BETTY: August, you're not going to grab
one of your contraptions and try to get a
Valentine, are you?

AUGUST: I wouldn't dream of it, Betty-Anne.

SEQUENCE C (CON'T)

BETTY: Whew.

AUGUST: This year I'm finding love unplugged and natural!

BETTY: I don't believe you guys. Why do you need all that mushy love-y stuff if you've already got the love of friendship? Right, September?

SEPT: (BARELY ABLE TO CONTAIN HIS EMOTION) Excuse me, I think I have something in my eye.

SEPTEMBER EXITS. BETTY-ANNE DOES TAKE TO CAM. TOMMY ENTERS WITHOUT HIS HAT ON. HE'S BALD.

TOMMY: Hi guys.

AUGUST: What happened to your hat?

TOMMY: (DEFENSIVE, RAPID FIRE) Nothing. Nothing happened to my hat, so don't ask what happened to my hat, 'cause nothing happened to my hat.

CUT TO: THE OTHER OFF-BEATS SILENTLY IN SHOCK.

CUT TO: CU OF TOMMY.

TOMMY: (CON'T) So, what's up?

BETTY: August and Repunzil are going all goo-goo over Valentine's day. Crazy, huh?

TOMMY SUDDENLY JUMPS UP.

YELLING TOMMY: VALENTINE'S DAY IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!

EVERYONE IS KNOCKED OVER. TOMMY LANDS & EXITS.

REPUNZIL: (SIGHS) He's so cute when he yells.

BETTY: Oh brother.
FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE D

FADE UP ON SEPTEMBER ALONE. TOMMY (STILL HAT-LESS) ENTERS FRAME.

TOMMY: September, I need some advice. I really like a Popular, but it's a forbidden love. What should my breaking heart do?

SEPT: Well, you've come to the right dog. (HE PULLS OUT A PHOTO & HANDS IT TO TOMMY) Here.

TOMMY: Who's that?

SEPT: My long lost love.

CUT TO: A CU OF THE PHOTO. IT'S A GLOSSY HEAD SHOT OF A CAT.

TOMMY: You were in love with a cat?

SEPT: True love conquers all obstacles, Tommy. It was only a year ago, although it seems like six years to me...

WE SLOWLY RIPPLE DX INTO THE PAST AS SEPTEMBER NARRATES HIS STORY.

SEPT: (CON'T) I was taking my lunch hour relaxing under a big tree in the yard...

WE SEE SEPTEMBER UNDER A TREE, READING "HOWL".

SEPT: (CON'T) When suddenly I saw her.

SUDDENLY A CAT (FEBRUARY) FALLS OUT OF THE TREE & LANDS ON HER HEAD.

FEBRUARY: Meow.

SEPT: (CON'T) Her name was February, and she was more beautiful than a year's supply of squeak toys. Sure, the others didn't understand.

CUT TO A SHOT OF SEVERAL DOGS COMPLETELY AGHAST.

CUT TO A CU OF SEPTEMBER.

SEQUENCE D (CON'T)

SEPT: (CON'T) But I didn't care. When love calls the tune, all you can do is dance.

WE SEE SEPTEMBER SERENADING FEBRUARY. HE PLAYS A GUITAR & WEARS A SOMBRERO. FEBRUARY IS ON A BALCONY. SHE FALLS OFF & LANDS ON HER HEAD.

WE SEE THE TWO LOVERS SKIPPING THROUGH CLOVER. FEBRUARY TRIPS & FALLS.

WE SEE THE TWO LOVERS FROM THE BACK SITTING ON A PIER. THERE IS A BEAUTIFUL SUNSET.

SEPT: (CON'T) It was heaven....

SUDDENLY FEBRUARY FALLS OFF THE PIER & SPLASHES INTO THE WATER. RIPPLE DX BACK TO THE PRESENT.

TOMMY: Then what happened?

SEPT: The war broke out.

RIPPLE DX TO: SEPTEMBER & AT THE PARIS RAIL STATION A LA "CASABLANCA". IT'S RAINING. SEPTEMBER LOOKS LONGINGLY FOR FEBRUARY TO ARRIVE.

SEPT: (CON'T) We had to leave Paris before the invasion. She said she'd be at the station.....but she never showed.

SEPTEMBER SLOWLY TURNS TOWARD THE TRAIN.

RIPPLE DX BACK TO THE PRESENT.

TOMMY: That's sad. But what does it mean?

SEPT: Pursue your love, 'cause even a short time with love is worth more than all the squeak toys in the world. And don't date a cat. They're very fickle.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE E

FADE UP ON A CLOSE UP OF TOMMY CAREFULLY WRITING A NOTE.

CUT TO: THE NOTE. IT READS: "DEAR BETH, I REALLY LIKE YOU. WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?" AFTER THAT WE SEE THE WORD "LOVE" SCRATCHED OUT, FOLLOWED BY "SINCERELY" (WHICH IS SCRATCHED OUT), FOLLOWED BY "LOVE" (WHICH IS SCRATCHED OUT), FOLLOWED BY "YOUR FRIEND" (WHICH IS SCRATCHED OUT), FOLLOWED BY "LOVE" (WHICH IS SCRATCHED OUT), FOLLOWED BY "YER PAL" (WHICH IS SCRATCHED OUT), ETC.

WE PAN DOWN THE NOTE UNTIL WE FINALLY GET TO TOMMY'S HAND WRITING, "LOVE, TOMMY."

TOMMY: (WRITING) Looovee.....Tommmmy!

HE LOOKS AT THE NOTE & SIGHS.

TOMMY: (CON'T) Here goes nothing.

CUT TO A WIDE SHOT REVEALING A PIGEON ON A ROCK NEXT TO HIM. TOMMY TIES THE NOTE TO THE PIGEON'S LEG & GRABS THE BIRD.

TOMMY: (CON'T. TO BIRD) Fly, Mercury. Fly like a bird!

BIRD: Coo.

HE LETS THE BIRD GO. THE NOTE IS VERY HEAVY. IT FLIES OFF SCREEN WITH DIFFICULTY.

BEAT. BETH ENTERS.

BETH: Hi Tommy. I got your note.

TOMMY: You left the Populars' Clump to see me?

BETH: I'm on a Bathroom Break.

TOMMY: Wow.

BETH: Look, I got something for you.

SHE PULLS OUT A HAT. TOMMY TAKES IT.

SEQUENCE E (CON'T)

TOMMY: It's beautiful. (HE PUTS IT ON)
Does this mean we're going out?

BETH: I guess so. But we'd better not
tell anybody.

TOMMY: I don't care as long as we know
we're going out.

BETH: Well, I gotta go.

TOMMY: No! Stay a little longer.

BETH: You don't understand. I gotta go.

TOMMY: Oh.

BETH: Bye.

BETH STARTS TO EXIT, BUT TURNS BACK & GIVES
TOMMY A QUICK PECK ON THE CHEEK. HE GOES
BRIGHT RED. BETH EXITS. TOMMY IS IN HEAVEN.
HE STARTS TO FLOAT & BOB IN THE SKY.

REPUNZIL ENTERS.

REPUNZIL: Hi, Tommy.

TOMMY IS STARTLED & FALLS TO THE GROUND.

TOMMY: (NERVOUS) Uh, hi Repunzil.

REPUNZIL: I just wanted you to know that this
year someone is going to get a very special
Valentine!

TOMMY: Uh...That's nice, but...

REPUNZIL: (INTERRUPTING) Don't go away! (SHE
EXITS)

TOMMY: (TO CAM) Uh oh.

TOMMY DASHES OFF FRAME. REPUNZIL RE-ENTERS
WITH A GIANT CHOCOLATE HEART.

REPUNZIL: Where did he go?

CUT TO:

SEQUENCE F

TWO ADULTS HAVING A ROMANTIC DINNER OUTSIDE IN A CAFE. THE TABLE CLOTH IS THE SAME PLAID AS TOMMY'S COAT. TOMMY DASHES IN, LOOKS BEHIND HIM, & CAMOUFLAGES HIMSELF IN THE PLAID OF THE TABLE CLOTH. REPUNZIL ENTERS WITH THE GIANT CHOCOLATE HEART & PASSES TOMMY.

REPUNZIL: Oh, Tommmmy!? Where aaaarrreee you!?

SHE STOPS, LOOKS AROUND & FURTIVELY TAKES A SMALL BITE OUT OF THE CHOCOLATE HEART.

DX TO: A GALLERY FILLED WITH VARIOUS PAINTINGS. REPUNZIL ENTERS WITH THE HEART (MISSING A FEW MORE BITES). WE TRACK AS SHE PASSES THE ART. THE LAST 'PAINTING' IS ACTUALLY TOMMY HOLDING UP A FRAME.

REPUNZIL: (CON'T) Come out, come out where ever you are!

DX TO: TOMMY WITH A SIGN THAT READS: "I AM NOT TOMMY" IN FRONT OF HIM. REPUNZIL ENTERS.

REPUNZIL: Excuse me. Have you seen Tommy?

TOMMY: No.

REPUNZIL: Thanks anyway.

SHE EXITS.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE G

FADE UP ON BETTY-ANNE WALKING. TOMMY RUNS BY WITH A FAKE MUSTACHE FOLLOWED BY REPUNZIL WITH A SMALLER CHOCOLATE.

REPUNZIL: I'll fiiiinnnd you!

SHE EXITS.

BETTY: (TO HERSELF)(SIGH) At least August hasn't gone totally love crazy yet.

SEQUENCE G (CON'T)

SHE CONTINUES WALKING UNTIL SHE REACHES
AUGUST SITTING ON THE BRANCH OF A TREE.

BETTY: (CON'T. TO AUGUST) What are you
doing, August?

AUGUST: Practicing sitting in a tree. Later
my Valentine and I will sit here K-I-S-S-I-N-
G.
If I'm gonna get a girlfriend all by myself, I
need training.

SUDDENLY, THE BRANCH BREAKS.

AUGUST: (CONT) Aaaargh!

HE LANDS ON THE GROUND & SITS UP.

AUGUST: (CONT') And a little help.

BETTY: Don't look at me. I'm not going to
kiss you.

AUGUST: I just need someone to show me how
to treat a lady. Please, Betty-Anne. I ask
you as a friend.

BETTY: (SIGHS) OK, August. As a friend.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE H

FADE UP ON BETTY-ANNE & AUGUST. BETTY-ANNE
HAS A WHISTLE AROUND HER NECK, AUGUST WEARS A
TRACK SUIT. HE JOGS IN PLACE & EXITS.

AUGUST APPROACHES A STUFFED "GIRL" (ITS A
CRUDELY SEWN TOGETHER DUMMY ON A STICK) HE
TAKES THE "GIRL'S" HAND & BOWS DOWN TO KISS
IT. AS HE BENDS, HIS HEAD HITS HERS. THE
"GIRL'S" HEAD FALLS OFF.

BETTY-ANNE BLOWS HER WHISTLE.

SEQUENCE H (CON'T)

DX TO: AUGUST, & THE "GIRL" IN FRONT OF A DOORWAY THAT HAS BEEN SET UP IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIELD. AUGUST TRIES TO OPEN THE DOOR FOR HER, BUT SMASHES HIMSELF IN THE FACE WITH THE DOOR AS HE OPENS IT. AUGUST COLLAPSES & THE DOOR FRAME FALLS DIRECTLY ON THE "GIRL".

BETTY-ANNE BLOWS HER WHISTLE.

DX TO: AUGUST & THE "GIRL" SITTING IN TWO MOVIE SEAT IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIELD. AUGUST TRIES TO PUT HIS ARM BEHIND THE GIRL. HE LOOSES HIS BALANCE & FALLS BACKWARD, KNOCKING OVER THE MOVIE SEATS.

BETTY-ANNE BLOWS HER WHISTLE.

BETTY: Maybe you should just write your Valentine a note.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE I

FADE UP ON TOMMY HAPPILY WALKING AS HE PASSES BETTY-ANNE WALKING THE OTHER WAY WITH HER WHISTLE AROUND HER NECK.

TOMMY: (GRABBING BETTY'S HAND, DREAMY)
Hello, my dear, dear friend.

BETTY: You've got a girlfriend, don't you?

TOMMY: Uh....no.

BETTY: Right.

TOMMY: (SUDDENLY BREAKING DOWN) Oh, she's so beautiful, Betty-Anne! When we're together I feel all...uh... Like this:

TOMMY DOES A CRAZY LITTLE DANCE.

BETTY: (INCREDULOUS) She makes you feel like this:

BETTY GETS UP & DOES THE SAME CRAZY DANCE.

SEQUENCE I (CON'T)

TOMMY: Uh huh. Sometimes she even makes me feel like this:

TOMMY DOES A FLIP.

BETTY: Who could make you feel like (CRAZY DANCE) and (FLIP)?

TOMMY: I'm sorry, but I can't tell you.

BETTY: That's OK Tommy. I respect your privacy.

TOMMY SUDDENLY JUMPS UP & YELLS.

YELLING TOMMY: IT'S BETH!!! BETH, DO YOU HEAR ME!?!?! BETH !!! BETH !!!
BEEEEETTTTTTHHHH!!!!

BETTY'S KNOCKED TO THE GROUND & TOMMY LANDS COMPLETELY OUT OF BREATH.

BETTY: You're dating a Popular? If Tina finds out, you're dead.

TOMMY: (SHORT CRAZY LAUGH) Ha ha!(SCARED) I know.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE J

FADE UP ON THE POPULARS WALKING. THEY PASS TOMMY (CAMOUFLAGED IN A BUSH). HE FOLLOWS THEM & HOLDS BETH'S HAND.

TINA LOOKS BACK. BETH & TOMMY LET GO OF THEIR HANDS, & TOMMY FALLS TO THE GROUND LIKE A STATIONARY BUSH.

DX TO: THE POPULARS WALKING. TOMMY (CONNECTED TO A HELI-BELT) SLOWLY DESCENDS FROM THE SKY BEHIND THEM. THE HELI-BELT IS HAND POWERED, SO HE MUST SPIN BICYCLE PEDALS WITH HIS ARMS TO STAY ALOFT. HE HOVERS BY BETH WHO TURNS & GIVES HIM A KISS. HE THEN ASCENDS OFF FRAME.

THE POPULARS EXIT. BEAT. TOMMY, EXHAUSTED DESCENDS BACK INTO FRAME.

SEQUENCE J (CON'T)

DX TO: THE POPULARS WALKING. AS THEY PASS FRAME, TOMMY BUNGEE'S IN BEHIND THEM WITH A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS, & HANDS THEM TO BETH. SHE SMELLS THE FLOWERS AS THE POPULARS EXIT.

BEAT. TOMMY RE-ENTERS FRAME & BOUNCES HALFWAY UP. INERTIA QUICKLY SETS IN UNTIL HE IS LEFT DANGLING IN MID-AIR.

TOMMY: (TIRED, TO CAM) I can't go on like this...

FADE OUT.

END ACT 1: COMMERCIAL BREAK #1

ACT 2, SEQUENCE K

FADE UP ON TOMMY AT A PHONE KIOSK. HE IS VERY UNCOMFORTABLY DRESSED UP AS A FIRE-HYDRANT. HE SIGHS, PICKS UP THE PHONE & DIALS A NUMBER.

SFX: PHONE RINGING.

CUT TO: A CU OF BETH. SHE PULLS OUT A PORTABLE PHONE & TAKES THE CALL.

BETH: (NASTY) Yes?

CUT TO: TOMMY.

TOMMY: It's Pookie-Bear.

CUT TO: CU OF BETH.

BETH: (SUDDENLY SWEET) Hiiiiii.....

CUT TO: TOMMY.

TOMMY: I need to see you.

BETH: We'll be at your position in 3 seconds.

TOMMY QUICKLY HANGS UP THE PHONE, TAKES A STEP BACK, SQUATS DOWN & HIDES IN HIS HYDRANT COSTUME.

SEQUENCE K (CON'T)

THE POPULARS WALK BY. TOMMY TIMIDLY STICKS HIS HEAD OUT OF HIS COSTUME & BETH FURTIVELY WAVES AT HIM. THEY EXIT FRAME.

TOMMY GETS UP, GOES THE PHONE & DIALS AGAIN.

SFX: PHONE RINGING.

BETH: Hello?

TOMMY: That was unsatisfying.

CUT TO: BETH.

BETH: I'm sorry.

CUT TO: TOMMY.

TOMMY: I want to really see you.

CUT TO: A WIDE SHOT OF THE POPULARS. TINA IS MAKING ALL KINDS OF NASTY FACES TO A SAD, TEARY WIDE-EYED KID.

BETH: We're busy right now.

CUT TO: TOMMY.

TOMMY: I love you, but all of this sneaking around is driving me crazy!

CUT TO: CU OF BETH.

BETH: I can't help that.

CUT TO: TOMMY.

TOMMY: We could go public.

BETH: Yeah, right.

TOMMY: I'm really going nuts here and I spent all my allowance on this hydrant rental.

CUT TO: CU OF BETH. SHE LOOKS AROUND QUICKLY.

BETH: Poor Pookie-Bear. OK, Let's meet tonight by the fountain and we can talk.

SEQUENCE K (CON'T)

CUT TO: CU OF TOMMY.

TOMMY: Thanks.

WE HEAR THE OTHER PHONE SUDDENLY
DISCONNECTED. TOMMY HANGS UP THE PHONE.

CUT TO: A LS AS TOMMY EXITS THE PHONE BOOTH.
THERE IS AN EXCITED DOG WAITING FOR HIM.

TOMMY: (TO DOG) Go away.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE L

FADE UP ON BETTY-ANNE. REPUNZIL ENTERS.

REPUNZIL: Hi, Betty-Anne. Have you seen
Tommy? (SHE PULLS OUT HER CHOCOLATE, WHICH
IS PRETTY SMALL NOW & NIBBLED INTO THE SHAPE
OF A HEART) I'm trying to give him my special
Valentine.

BETTY: I think you'd better sit down,
Repunzil.

REPUNZIL: (CHEERFUL) OK!

REPUNZIL DASHES OFF FRAME, & QUICKLY RETURNS
WITH A GIANT RECLINER. SHE PLOPS DOWN INTO
IT & FLICKS A SWITCH. IT STARTS VIBRATING.

BETTY DOES A TAKE TO CAMERA.

BETTY: Tommy is avoiding you because he
likes somebody else, Repunzil.

THE CHAIR SUDDENLY SHORTS OUT & STOPS
VIBRATING. SMOKE COMES OUT OF THE TOP OF IT.

BETTY: Tommy likes you as a friend.

THE CHAIR FALLS APART.

BETTY: You're better off, Repunzil.
Falling in love makes you stupid.

SEQUENCE L (CON'T)

REPUNZIL GETS OUT OF THE BROKEN CHAIR AS GRUBBY GROO ENTERS WITH HIS YOUNG TEEN-AGED (& VERY HIP) NEPHEW, NORMAN.

NORMAN: Hello.

BETTY: (COMPLETELY SMITTEN) HA.. ha...
ja.. who... ah..

GROO: What's up, kiddos? This is my nephew, Norman. The Normster's gonna help me chaperone the Valentine's dance tomorrow night.

REPUNZIL: Hi.

BETTY: (COMPLETELY SMITTEN) HA.. ha...
ja.. who... ah..

GROO: Check you cats later, Norman and I gotta prepare for the party of the year!

GROO & NORMAN EXIT.

REPUNZIL: Bye! (TO BETTY) Gee, Norman's dreamy.

BETTY-ANNE SUDDENLY EXPLODES, GRABBING REPUNZIL & SHAKING HER.

BETTY: HE'S MINE! DO YOU HEAR ME!?!?
MINE!!!

BETTY-ANNE STORMS OFF LEAVING REPUNZIL FROZEN IN TERROR.

REPUNZIL: (SCARED) Eeep.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE M

FADE UP ON SEPTEMBER NEXT TO A DRESSING SCREEN WITH AUGUST'S PANTS FLUNG OVER IT. AUGUST IS BEHIND THE SCREEN.

SEPTEMBER IS A MESS. HE PULLS OUT FEBRUARY'S PHOTO, HOLDS IT UP & DROPS IT ON IT'S HEAD. HE LETS OUT A BIG SIGH.

SEQUENCE M (CON'T)

AUGUST: Are you ready to see what I'm going to wear to the Valentine's Dance, September?

SEPT: I'm aflutter with anticipation.

AUGUST COMES FROM BEHIND THE SCREEN. HE'S NAKED EXCEPT FOR HIS UNDERWEAR.

AUGUST: I don't need gadgets or fancy clothes to impress girls. They'll love me for who I am.

SEPT: A lunatic in his underwear.

AUGUST: You don't understand, September. I've never felt so free!

AUGUST SKIPS OFF. REPUNZIL ENTERS.

REPUNZIL: Hi, September. I wanted you to know that I too have faced heart rending rejection in love. I feel your pain.

SEPT: Not all of it, sister.

REPUNZIL: (SAD) I know. But where I have failed, my friends shall succeed. (CHEERFUL) I've decided to set you up!

REPUNZIL PULLS OUT A GOOSE, HOLDING IT BY THE NECK.

REPUNZIL: (CON'T) September, this is Widdles. Widdles, September.

WIDDLES: Honk!

REPUNZIL: Do you see the romantic possibilities?

SEPT: I'd rather be neutered.

SEPTEMBER GETS UP & EXITS.

REPUNZIL: (TO WIDDLES) I think he likes you.

WIDDLES: Honk!

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE N

FADE UP. IT'S NIGHT. WE SEE TOMMY STANDING ON A PILLAR IN THE MIDDLE OF A WATER FOUNTAIN. HE WEARS A ROMAN ROBE OVER HIS CLOTHES.

TOMMY: Beth?

BETH'S HEAD POKES OUT FROM BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN.

BETH: (LOUD WHISPER) Look out!

TOMMY SUDDENLY ASSUMES THE POSE OF A NYMPH & SPITS WATER OUT OF HIS MOUTH, AUGUST (IN UNDERWEAR) SKIPS BY. RIGHT BEFORE HE EXITS, HE TRIPS OFF FRAME.

AUGUST: Aaaah!

SFX: THUD.

TOMMY: Clear.

BETH: (POKING HER HEAD OUT & WHISPERING) That was close.

TOMMY: We have to stop meeting like this.

SHE STANDS UP REVEALING THE REST OF THE POPULAR CLUMP BEHIND HER. THEY ARE IN THEIR PAJAMAS, SLEEPING.

BETH: I know. The others might wake up.

TOMMY: That's not what I meant. I need to bask in our love! I need to see you without hiding.

BETH: We'll see each other at the Valentine's Dance. You won't have to hide then.

TOMMY: Yes, but...

HE JUMPS UP.

YELLING TOMMY: WE'LL HAVE TO PRETEND WE HATE EACH OTHER!!!

SEQUENCE N (CON'T)

TOMMY LANDS. THE OTHER POPULARS START TO WAKE UP. TOMMY GETS INTO FOUNTAIN POSITION

TINA: Uh...ungh...What was that?

BETH: (TO TINA) An elephant passed by. Go to sleep.

TINA: Ungh...OK..

THE POPULARS GO BACK TO SLEEP. TOMMY BREAKS HIS FOUNTAIN POSE.

TOMMY: You see what I mean?

BETH: You're right. We love each other, and the world should know. Tomorrow, I'll dance the slow dance with you so everyone can see that we're Valentines.

TOMMY: Really?

BETH: Yeah.

TOMMY STARTS TO FLOAT. HE TURNS & FLOATS. WE PAN WITH HIM A BIT, THEN HE FLOATS OFF SCREEN.

FEBRUARY SUDDENLY FALLS FROM THE SKY.

FEBRUARY: (VERY SAD) Meow.

FADE OUT.

END ACT 2: COMMERCIAL BREAK #2

ACT 3, SEQUENCE 0

FADE UP ON AUGUST (IN HIS UNDERWEAR) & SEPTEMBER OUTSIDE THE CAFE AD HOC. IT'S DECORATED FOR THE VALENTINE'S DANCE.

AUGUST: Here I am, September! The new Natural August about to get himself a new love!

SEPT: Hope springs eternal.

AUGUST: Yeah! In fact, the first girl I see tonight is going to see the real me and be my Valentine! 'Cause, nothing can stop me now!

THE POPULARS ENTER

TINA: What are you doing here?

CUT TO: CU OF AUGUST NERVOUS. HE BLUSHES & PUTS HIS HANDS IN FRONT OF HIS UNDERWEAR.

AUGUST: Uh.. Be right back.

HE QUICKLY EXITS FRAME & RE-ENTERS IN HIS CLOTHES WITH A HEART-TROMETER 4000.

AUGUST: (CON'T) Wanna check out my latest gadget, Tina?

THE HEART-TROMETER 4000 GRABS TINA, SPINS HER & DIPS HER DURING IT'S POEM.

HEART: Oh, Tina, Tina, Tina!
You're so sublime!
Won't you be my Valentine!

FIREWORKS GO OFF. "AUGUST + TINA" FLASHES ON THE HEART. THE OTHER POPULARS ARE SHOCKED.

AUGUST: Pretty impressive, huh?

TINA: (RED FACED. STILL BEING DIPPED)
Get... this.. thing... off.. of.. me!

THE HEART-TROMETER TAKES TINA OUT OF THE DIP & RETURNS HER TO THE CLUMP. TINA WAITS A BEAT, THEN SLAPS THE HEART-TROMETER. IT SUDDENLY DEVELOPS A THOUSAND CRACKS, THEN FALLS INTO A MILLION PIECES.

SEQUENCE O (CON'T)

SEPT: That's a heart-breaker.

SEPTEMBER ENTERS THE CAFE.

BILLY: (LAUGHS) That was funny!

TINA TURNS AROUND, FURIOUS.

TINA: Grrrrrr!

BILLY IS EJECTED FROM THE CLUMP.

BILLY: Aaaaaaaaaah!!!

TINA: (TO AUGUST) You're dead meat!

TINA GRABS AUGUST BY THE COLLAR & DRAGS HIM INTO THE CAFE WITH THE POPULARS.

BEAT.

FEBRUARY FALLS FROM THE SKY & LANDS ON HER HEAD.

FEBRUARY: Meow.

CUT TO:

SEQUENCE P

INT. CAFE. SLOW, DULL COUNTRY MUSIC IS PLAYING. WE PAN ACROSS THE CAFE (REVEALING A BUNCH OF KIDS STANDING AROUND) UNTIL WE SEE THE POPULARS. BETH LOOKS NERVOUSLY AT THE DOOR. TINA FACES THE OTHER POPULARS. SHE'S IN A TIZZY.

TINA: Can you believe that August thought that one of us would ever in a million years like one of them!

BETH: (LAUGHING NERVOUSLY) Heh heh. That's...ridiculous.

BETH FURTIVELY LOOKS BACKWARDS. ZIP PAN TO THE ENTRANCE TO REVEAL TOMMY IN THE DOORWAY WEARING A BOW TIE & LOOKING CONFIDENT.

SEQUENCE P (CON'T)

ZIP PAN BACK TO THE POPULARS. BETH TURNS BACK TO TINA & GULPS.

TINA: And what is with this lame music? My dog would be a better DJ!!!

CUT TO: SEPTEMBER AT THE DJ STAND WITH TWO TURN TABLES & HEADPHONES ON.

SEPT: I bet your dog hasn't been kicked into the gutter by love.

CUT TO: BETTY-ANNE ENTERING THE PARTY. SHE PASSES THE PUNCH BOWL IN WHICH AUGUST HAS BEEN INSERTED.

BETTY: I guess the Valentine didn't work out, August.

AUGUST: (BUBBLY FROM BEING UNDER WATER)
NoOo.

REPUNZIL ENTERS. SHE'S WEARING A GOLD SEQUINED DRESS & HER HAIR IS WRAPPED IN A BUN ON TOP OF HER HEAD. THE BUN IS VERY BIG & HEAVY, SO REPUNZIL IS A BIT WOBBLY.

BETTY: Hi, Repunzil.

REPUNZIL: Sometimes I hate my mom.

BETTY: Don't worry. You look fine.

REPUNZIL: I hope Tommy thinks so. (BEAT)
What's up with September? He's usually such a good doggy DJ.

BETTY: He's still upset about his long lost love.

REPUNZIL. SHE TURNS TO AN ELEPHANT BEHIND HER.

REPUNZIL: Sorry, Tootles.

TOOTLES: (BIG ELEPHANT TRUMPET)

CUT TO: THE POPULARS.

SEQUENCE P (CON'T)

TINA: Attention!! If this geek music doesn't stop soon, we are out of here!

CUT TO: ASSORTED KIDS.

KIDS: Gasp!

CUT TO: SEPTEMBER MOROSE AT THE DJ STAND. HE'S ON THE EDGE.

SEPT: (BIG DOGGIE HOWL) Owwwwwww!

SUDDENLY FEBRUARY FALLS FROM THE SKY & LANDS ON ONE OF THE TURNTABLES, SCRATCHING THE RECORD.

SEPT: February! Where have you been? You broke my heart!

FEBRUARY: Meow.

SEPT: You haven't lost your wit! (TO CROWD) Ladies and Gentlemen, my love has returned to me! Let's Partay!!!

SEPTEMBER QUICKLY PUTS A HIP SONG ON THE OTHER TURNTABLE & GRABS HIS BELOVED.

MUSIC: HIP SONG. BACKGROUNDS DX INTO DISCO BACKGROUNDS.

CUT TO: THE POPULARS.

TINA: Well, it's about time!

ANOTHER CLUMP OF KIDS ENTER, WITH SOMEONE OF THE OPPOSITE SEX IN EACH POSITION.

BOY LEADER: Wanna dance?

TINA: Sure.

BOTH CLUMPS DANCE TOGETHER.

CUT TO: VARIOUS OTHER KIDS AT THE DANCE.

KIDS: (SIGH OF RELIEF) Aaaaah!

THEY KIDS START TO PAIR OFF & DANCE.

SEQUENCE P (CON'T)

CUT TO: REPUNZIL DANCING. SHE DESPERATELY TRIES TO STAY UPRIGHT.

CUT TO: BETTY-ANNE, GRUBBY GROO, & NORMAN.

BETTY: (NERVOUSLY TO NORMAN) Uh...um.. Do you want to dance...?

NORMAN: I'd be happy to.

BETTY-ANNE SWOONS.

BETTY: Ooooooh!

SHE COLLAPSES ON THE GROUND PASSED OUT.
BEAT.

NORMAN & GRUBBY GROO LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

GROO: Must be some new kind of dance.. or somethin'.

CUT TO: TWO KIDS DANCING.

CUT TO: AUGUST. HE LOOKS AROUND AT THE OTHERS DANCING. BEAT.

AUGUST: What the heck.

HE PUTS A WHEEL ON THE GROUND, TAKES OUT A WATER DROPPER, & DROPS A DROP OF WATER ON THE WHEEL. IT SUDDENLY GROWS INTO A ROBO-DANCER. AUGUST & THE ROBO-DANCER DANCE.

CUT TO: THE POPULARS & THE OTHER CLUMP DANCING.

CUT TO: TOMMY WATCHING THE POPULARS DANCE.

THE SONG ENDS.

CUT TO: A LS OF VARIOUS KIDS. THEY APPLAUD.

CUT TO: SEPTEMBER, WITH HIS ARM AROUND FEBRUARY, ACKNOWLEDGING THE CROWD.

CUT TO: BETTY-ANNE PASSED OUT ON THE GROUND. AUGUST (HOLDING A GLASS OF WATER & A PITCHER OF WATER) & REPUNZIL ARE STANDING OVER HER.

SEQUENCE P (CON'T)

AUGUST THROWS THE GLASS OF WATER ON BETTY-ANNE'S FACE. SHE REVIVES.

BETTY: (WOOZY) H-how was it? Did we dance?

AUGUST & REPUNZIL LOOK AT EACH OTHER, THEN BACK TO BETTY-ANNE.

AUGUST: Yes.

REPUNZIL: You were very good.

BETTY: Ooooooh.

BETTY-ANNE PASSES OUT AGAIN. AUGUST FILLS UP THE GLASS WITH WATER FROM THE PITCHER & THROWS IT ON BETTY-ANNE.

CUT TO: SEPTEMBER & FEBRUARY AT THE TURNTABLES.

SEPT: I know you love the dancin', but it's time for romancin'. So, grab the one ya love and...Slow dance!

HE PUTS ON A SLOW RECORD.

CUT TO: VARIOUS KIDS. THEIR EYES BULGE IN ABJECT TERROR. SLOWLY THEY BACK AWAY FROM THE DANCE FLOOR, LEAVING ONLY THE POPULARS ON THE FLOOR.

TOMMY, BRAVELY, WALKS ONTO THE FLOOR.

TINA: What are you doing here? You can't have anyone to slow dance with!

TOMMY: I do.

CUT TO: A CU OF BETH, NERVOUS.

CUT BACK TO: TOMMY & THE POPULARS.

TINA: Well, where is she: taking the red eye from Dork-O-Vokia!?

TOMMY: No. She's right here.

SEQUENCE P (CON'T)

TINA: Well, this I've got to see! The one girl in the whole world nerdy enough to dance with Tommy-Wommy!

HAT-BOY: Yeah!

BACK-BOY: Yeah!

BILLY: Yeah!

P-BOY: Yeah!

CUT TO: BETH, SWEATING. SHE NERVOUSLY LOOKS UP.

BETH: (UNENTHUSIASTIC, UPSET) Yeah. She must be a real jerk or something. Heh heh.

ALL OF THE POPULARS EXCEPT BETH BURST OUT LAUGHING.

POPULARS (EXCEPT BETH) HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA !!

TOMMY IS CRUSHED. THE POPULARS CONTINUE TO LAUGH.

CUT TO: A CU OF BETH.

BETH: (GIGGLING, YET UPSET) Eh, heh, hee!

CUT TO: TOMMY & THE POPULARS LAUGHING.

TINA: Well, I don't seeeee her!!!

TOMMY IS IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE. HE JUMPS UP TO YELL.

TOMMY: (SAD SQUEAK) Eerp.

TOMMY FALLS ON THE GROUND, UTTERLY DEFEATED. REPUNZIL ENTERS, ANGRY. SHE STOPS, JUMPS UP & YELLS.

YELLING REPUNZIL: LAY OFF MY FRIEND!!!

THE POPULARS ARE STOPPED COLD. REPUNZIL GRABS THE STUPEFIED TOMMY & DRAGS HIM AWAY.

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE Q

FADE UP ON TOMMY & REPUNZIL ON WHAT SEEMS LIKE A CLIFF.

REPUNZIL: I know you don't like me, like me. But I hope we will always be friends.

TOMMY: No problem. But now I need to be alone.

REPUNZIL: OK, friend.

TOMMY: Repunzil. Thanks.

REPUNZIL EXITS & WE PAN OVER TO REVEAL A SIGN THAT READS "YOUNG LOVER'S LEAP". TOMMY LOOKS AT THE SIGN. TAKES A DEEP BREATH, CLOSSES HIS EYES, & JUMPS.

HE DOESN'T GO THAT FAR. WE ZOOM OUT TO REVEAL THAT THE 'CLIFF' IS ONLY A COUPLE OF INCHES HIGH.

TOMMY SLUMPS DOWN ONTO THE GROUND.

BEAT.

SLOWLY BETH ENTERS ALONE.

BETH: (SOFTLY) Tommy? (NO REACTION) I'm sorry. I wanted to dance with you...

TOMMY: Sure...

BETH: Why can't we just keep on going like we were?

TOMMY: Because I need a girlfriend I can see without dressing up like a mailbox! I need a real relationship, Beth. One that makes me feel special, and wanted, and loved.

BETH: But I really do love you.

TOMMY: Not enough.

BETH: Can we talk about this later? Tina's starting to wonder why I'm taking so many bathroom breaks.

SEQUENCE Q (CON'T)

TOMMY: I think our conversation is over,
Beth.

BETH STARTS TO EXIT, THEN TURNS.

BETH: (SAD) Happy Valentine's Day.

BETH EXITS.

TOMMY: (SIGH) Yeah...

FADE OUT.

SEQUENCE R

FADE UP ON INT. THE CAFE AD HOC. THE PARTY
IS NOW OVER, ALL THAT'S LEFT IS SOME
STREAMERS, SEPTEMBER'S TURN TABLES &
SPEAKERS, & AUGUST, REPUNZIL, BETTY-ANNE,
SEPTEMBER & FEBRUARY.

BETTY: Did I really dance with Norman?
Did he look like he was having fun?

TOMMY ENTERS.

REPUNZIL: Tommy!

BETTY: Are you OK?

TOMMY: I'm fine. I feel like spending some
time with my friends.

AUGUST: Thank goodness Valentine's only
comes around once a year, huh Tommy?

TOMMY: I guess so. Maybe Valentine's
isn't just about falling in love. Maybe it's
a time to spend with the friends that you
love, even if you're not in love with them.

SEPT: Actually, Valentine's Day
commemorates the Patron Saint of Beekeepers
who was martyred in 273 AD.

REPUNZIL: Silly puppy.

BETTY: September, why don't you just play
some tunes?

SEQUENCE R (CON'T)

SEPT: I thought someone might be interested.

SEPTEMBER PUTS ON A RECORD & THE OFF-BEATS DANCE TOGETHER. AFTER A WHILE TOMMY JOINS IN.

ROLL CREDITS. THEY CONTINUE DANCING THROUGHOUT THE CREDITS.

FADE OUT.

END ACT 3

THE END