

A graphic design featuring a treble clef, several musical notes, and a series of flowing, wavy lines in shades of gray. Below these elements are five silhouettes of women in various poses, suggesting a musical performance or dance.

Real Housewives

THE MUSICAL

Book, Music & Lyrics by
MOLLY BELL

Additional Music, Arrangements and Orchestrations by
DOLORES DURAN-CEFALU



www.stagerights.com

REAL HOUSEWIVES: THE MUSICAL

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REAL HOUSEWIVES: THE MUSICAL

Originally presented as
THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF WALNUT CREEK: THE MUSICAL
Originally produced by Center REPertory Company, Walnut Creek, CA
Michael Butler, *Artistic Director*, Scott Dennison, *Managing Director*

Cast: Molly Bell, Riette Burdick, Lynda DiVito,
Jason Hoover, Danelle Medeiros, Lizzie O'Hara

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The Los Angeles Production was presented as
THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF TOLUCA LAKE: THE MUSICAL
Opening April 1, 2016

Roger Bean Productions and the Falcon Theatre,
Garry K. Marshall, Kathleen Marshall LaGambina
and Sherry Greczmiel, *Producers*

Book, Music & Lyrics by **Molly Bell**
Additional Music, Arrangements & Orchestrations by **Dolores Duran-Cefalu**
Directed by Roger Bean

Music Direction: Kyle de Tarnowsky | Choreographer: Roger Castellano
Scenic Designer: Stephen Gifford | Costume Designer: David Kay Mickelsen
Lighting Designer: Jean-Yves Tessier | Sound Designer: Robert A. Ramirez
Properties: John McElveney | Casting: Sandi Logan, CSA
Asst. Stage Manager: Danielle DeMasters | Stage Manager: Dale Alan Cooke

Cast (in order of appearance)

Joanne.....Meredith Patterson
Beezus..... Cynthia Ferrer
Penny.....Jenna Coker-Jones
Babette..... Adrienne Visnic
Lulu..... Anita Barone
The Man Marc Ginsburg

CHARACTERS

JOANNE JOHNSON: Female, 30s, the perfect wife who seemingly has it all, a put-together, type-A personality— nothing in her purse is out of place. Joanne is named “Head Housewife” under unusual circumstances and is thrown to the wolves by the other wives when her husband Anderson is indicted for fraud. She crawls her way back to the top as she learns how to change her life and become more like a “real” Real Housewife.

BABETTE BELLINI: Female, 30s, Joanne's best friend/frenemy, is desperately trying to hold onto her marriage to real estate mogul Royce Bellini, who is cheating on her with an “unspecified party” (who we learn is another of our wives). Her friendship with Joanne is almost destroyed by jealousy and rivalry, and their journey toward their patch-up is the heart of the show.

BEEZUS HOROWITZ: Female, 49-55, the oldest of the wives, trying to hold onto her youth, elegance, and wealth. Even though she doesn't like it, she acts as the matriarch of the group. When Joanne has troubles, Beezus stirs the water as only she can to create mayhem and chaos.

LULU DELECANTE: Female, mid-40s, the mysterious wife with a mysterious sort of English accent. She is a Sultana, and despite her divorce from the Sultan, she still uses the title, which she uses to hide a dire secret from the rest of the wives. Always first to recommend a pharmaceutical pick-me-up, Lulu helps steer Joanne through her early rocky period with the other wives.

PENNY QUINOA ST. SIMONE: Female, 30, cute and spirited, this wife is a follower, married to Theodore St. Simone (of questionable sexuality). Penny is both quick-and-dim-witted, a pleaser, and sells a 10-day cleanse called “Babylicious.” Penny is a world-famous Christian hand model.

MAN: Male, 30s-early 40s, plays all the men in the show: Anderson Johnson, Royce Bellini, Theo St. Simone, a swishy hairdresser, a bedazzled TV host, a snooty shoe salesman, a mysterious gypsy, and so much more. Must be very adept at multiple characters and quick changes.

REAL HOUSEWIVES: THE MUSICAL

ACT ONE

- Scene 1: Opening/*Your City, 2016*
#1: MEET THE WIVES..... Babette, Beezus, Joanne, Lulu, Penny
- Scene 2: Living Well Funeral Home*
#2: AMAZING Joanne
- Scene 3: The Pampered Tush (A Spa)*
Scene 4: PGV Studios, Home of "Nip It In The Bud"
#3: NIP IT IN THE BUD Bud Beedle
#4: STRAP IT ON.....Joanne, Babette, Bud Beedle
- Scene 5: A Local Restaurant / Mid-Afternoon Drinks & Gossip*
Scene 6: Joanne's Bollywood Party
#5: JOANNE'S BOLLYWOOD DANCE (Dance Only).....(Wives) Instrumental
- Scene 7: Azuzu Yoga*
Scene 8: A Local, Romantic Restaurant
Scene 9: Joanne's House / Surgery Center
#6: CHANGE IT Lulu, All
- Scene 10: Soul Bounce*
#7: BOUNCE IT J.T, All
- Scene 11: Financial Offices / Barney's Shoe Department*
#8: AMAZING (REPRISE): ACT ONE FINALE Joanne, Wives

ACT TWO

- #9: ENTR'ACTE Instrumental
- Scene 1: Bitch Of The Ball*
#10: BITCH OF THE BALL Beezus, All
- Scene 2: Joanne's House / Split Bedroom*
#11: AMAZING (REPRISE) Joanne
#12: LAP DANCE BOOTY SONG (Sound Cue-Dance Only)..... (Babette, Penny, Man)
- Scene 3: Vicious Gossip / Vanities*
#13: CHIN UP Babette, Beezus, Lulu, Penny
- Scene 4: Joanne's Bedroom*
#14: TELL ME YOU MISSED ME Anderson (Joanne)
#15: BREAK THE RULES Joanne (Wives)
- Scene 5: Ricardo's Hair Salon*
#16: I FORGIVE YOU..... Joanne, Babette
- Scene 6: Vanities / Morocco*
#17: MOROCCAN MEET THE WIVES Babette, Beezus, Joanne, Lulu, Penny (Man)
#18: AMAZING FINALE.....All
- #19: BOWS / MEET THE WIVES FINAL REPRISEAll
#20: EXIT Instrumental

ACT ONE

SCENE 1: *NAME OF YOUR CITY, 2016

SONG #1: MEET THE WIVES

PROJECTION: *NAME OF YOUR CITY, 2016 (CURRENT YEAR)

**In the Original Los Angeles Production, projections were displayed above the stage to indicate location changes, as well as for meeting the wives and the announcement of the rules. All projections have an auto-fade, unless otherwise indicated.*

The WOMEN are revealed one by one in gorgeous dresses.

They appear in solo spots, twirling and posing à la the top of the reality show "Real Housewives."

JOANNE

*CITY is *AREA OF STATE'S playground.

Throughout the show, names, areas, restaurants, and local references are inserted for local flavor.

*Each instance is indicated (and underlined) with an *ASTERISK.*

BEEZUS

It's the city that offers everything.

PENNY

And if you have the money you really can have it all.

BABETTE

If you haven't met everyone yet, at some point you will.

LULU

And you better be ready, because if you cross the wrong person.

WIVES (WITHOUT JOANNE)

You've crossed the wrong person!

JOANNE

YOU CAN END UP ALONE

BEEZUS

Shut up!!

PENNY

Out here:

(singing)

DRAMA'S LIKE THE WEATHER

LULU

Oh my god!

BABETTE

What?!

PENNY

Why?

Who? **LULU**

Where? **BEEZUS**

And when it rains... **JOANNE**

RAINS **LULU**

RAINS **BEEZUS**

RAINS **PENNY**

RAINS **BABETTE**

IT POURS **WIVES**

THEY all move down front, in a line along the front of the stage.

THE TIME IS NOW
IT'S READY SET AND POW
WE ROCK WE MOVE

JOANNE
GOT NOTHIN' LEFT TO PROVE

WIVES
I FEEL MY BEST, NO TIME FOR ME TO REST
DON'T ASK ME WHY
MY HEELS ARE SEVEN INCHES HIGH

PENNY moves forward into a solo spot.

PROJECTION: PENNY

PENNY
I'M PENNY THE CHRISTIAN HAND MODEL
I'M HOT BUT LOVE MY GOD
I SERVE THE LORD AND THANK HIM
FOR MY BANGING KICK ASS BOD

LULU moves forward into a solo spot.

PROJECTION: LULU

LULU
I'M LULU, I'M MYSTERIOUS
I LIKE TO GET AROUND
I HAVE A SULTRY SORT OF ACCENT
AND I LIKE WAY I SOUND

BEEZUS moves forward into a solo spot.

PROJECTION: BEEZUS

BEEZUS

BEEZUS HERE, MOVE OVER GIRLS
I'M THE RICHEST OF THEM ALL
I DO GREAT THINGS FOR CHARITY
AND I LOVE TO HAVE A BALL

BABETTE moves forward into a solo spot.

PROJECTION: BABETTE

BABETTE

BABETTE, THE SEXY STEAMY WIFE
WHO STANDS RIGHT BY HER MAN
THE ONLY PERSON I LOVE MORE
IS MY BFF, JOANNE

JOANNE moves forward into a solo spot.

PROJECTION: JOANNE

JOANNE

I'M JOANNE THE PERFECT ONE
MY WHOLE LIFE IS COMPLETE
MAKE SURE YOU KEEP AN EYE ON ME
'CAUSE YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT

One by one, spots come up on the wives as they announce themselves.

PENNY

PENNY

BABETTE

BABETTE

LULE

LULU

BEEZUS

BEEZUS

JOANNE

AND JOANNE

WIVES

WE'RE YOUR REAL HOUSEWIVES
KEEP UP WITH US IF YOU CAN

The music continues under dialogue.

LULU

Now that you've met us there are a few rules you should know about being a wife.

PROJECTION: RULE 1

Rule one: we're not all wives.

BEEZUS

(pointing to Lulu)

She's recently divorced.

LULU

And loving it!

BEEZUS

Lulu is a Sultana.

PENNY

Her sultan husband was sleeping with whores all over the world.

JOANNE

So she divorced him.

BABETTE

Kept half his money.

BEEZUS

Got a new nose.

PENNY

New lips.

JOANNE

A new chin.

LULU

But I've kept my title, Sultana. It just works, you know?

PENNY

Does it?

PROJECTION: RULE 2

LULU

Rule two: We love a good party!

The music shifts as the wives all grab wine glasses and move about the stage, creating a party atmosphere.

JOANNE

We love to dress up in costumes.

BEEZUS

And we love to have a ball.

PENNY

It's always for charity.

BABETTE

It has nothing to do with charity.

LULU

It has everything to do with who you're wearing.

JOANNE

Who you're with.

BEEZUS

Who you invite.

PENNY

And who you don't.

BABETTE

Invites are very important.

JOANNE

Did you give the invite?

BEEZUS

Did you get the invite?

PENNY

How did you send the invite?

LULU

It's all about the invite.

LULU & PENNY

WE STRUT OUR STUFF
AND SAY THINGS OFF THE CUFF

BABETTE

DON'T MATTER IF

BABETTE & JOANNE

THE THINGS WE SAY DON'T MAKE A DIF

BEEZUS

MY BOOBS ARE FAKE

BEEZUS & LULU

THEY NEVER MOVE WHEN I SHAKE

WIVES

COME INSIDE OUR LIVES AND TAKE SOME
TIME TO MEET THE WIVES

The music continues under dialogue.

PROJECTION: RULE 3

LULU

Rule three: We will sell anything that has our name on it.

The wives hold up their "products" one by one.

PENNY holds up a wine bottle with her photo on it.

PENNY

Penny's Pinot.

BEEZUS holds up a Bikini Wax box with her photo on it.

BEEZUS

Bikini Wax by Beezus.

LULU holds up a book with the title positioned over a sexy photo.

LULU

The Divorced and Delicious Sultana.

JOANNE and BABETTE hold up a box with their photos and the product title "The Strap On."

JOANNE & BABETTE

The Strap On.

THEY all put their products away and move down front.

BEEZUS

We're entrepreneurs.

PENNY

Jesus-preneurs.

LULU

Twitter-preneurs.

JOANNE & BABETTE

Mom-preneurs!

PROJECTION: RULE 4

LULU

Rule four: We always go on vacation together.

THEY begin to celebrate onstage.

JOANNE

Sun and fun in Cabo!

PENNY

Tropical and sleek in Bali!

LULU

Hunky Cowboys in Montana!

BEEZUS

We fight the entire time.

BABETTE

No we don't!

BEEZUS

Yes we do!!

JOANNE

One day we're besties...

BABETTE

And the next day I hate your face!

THEY fight, growing in intensity until THEY break into the next section of music.

WIVES

HEAR US

PENNY

SOMETIMES WE FIGHT

WIVES

FEAR US

BEEZUS
SOMETIMES WE SCREAM
WIVES
LOVE US
BABETTE
SOMETIMES WE BITE
BUT WE ALWAYS HAVE THE BEST EYE CREAM
WIVES
WATCH US
JOANNE
WE LOVE TO PARTY
WIVES
SEE US
LULU
WE LOVE TO KISS
JOANNE & BABETTE
LOVE US
BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY
WE LOVE TO SPEND
WIVES
DON'T YOU WISH YOU WERE A PART OF THIS?

The music continues under dialogue.

PROJECTION: RULE 5

LULU
Rule five: We all have secrets.
BEEZUS
Our age.
PENNY
Affairs.
LULU
Addictions.
BABETTE
Marriages.
JOANNE
They're hidden, out of site.
PENNY
Most of us survive.
BEEZUS
But some of us do not.
LULU
One of us did not follow the rules.

The music shifts.

JOANNE

Former housewife, Poppy Grace Von Vandenberg went missing two weeks ago.

BABETTE

I thought she was just getting lipo.

LULU

Or having a nasty affair.

PENNY

Turns out, she was preparing her final invitation.

BABETTE

We follow the rules.

BEEZUS

We make the rules.

LULU

We are the rules!

WIVES

WE ARGUE AND WE TEASE
WE DO JUST WHAT WE PLEASE
WE TUCK AND THEN WE NIP
SOMETIMES WE SKINNY DIP

KISS TWICE UPON THE CHEEK
'CAUSE OF COURSE THAT IS SO CHIC
YOU MAY THINK WE'RE FOOLS
BUT NOW LISTEN TO MORE RULES

WE LOVE TO BRUNCH
AND DRINK WHITE WINE WITH LUNCH
WE STAY SKINNY WITH

LULU

YOGA

BEEZUS

SPIN

JOANNE

BALLET

PENNY

TAI-CHI

BABETTE

WE LOVE TO GLOW

WIVES

A FAKE TAN IS THE WAY TO GO!
YOU WATCH OUR LIVES
COME INSIDE AND MEET THE WIVES

The WIVES return to their dressing rooms and change into fabulous black dresses as invitations fall from the sky. Inside the invitations are black veils. THEY sing as they prepare for the funeral.

*The following lyrics are sung together.***

****JOANNE & PENNY**

VACATION AT ST. BARTS
WHERE WE WAX OUR PRIVATE PARTS
SHOW UP AT THE SHOWS
FOR THE CAMERAS WE POSE
JOIN A CHARITY
BE THE QUEEN OF GENEROSITY
WELCOME TO THE SHOW
REAL HOUSEWIVES

****BEEZUS & LULU**

WE ROCK, WE MOVE
WE TUCK, WE NIP
WE STRUT OUR STUFF
WE SKINNY DIP
THIS IS THE WAY
OF LIFE IF THIS
DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE

****BABETTE**

HEAR US
OH, FEEL US
JOIN A HARITY
BE THE QUEEN OF GENEROSITY
WELCOME TO THE SHOW
REAL HOUSEWIVES

WIVES

THE MUSICAL

THEY all come downstage, posing in a final tableau.

PROJECTION: THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF *CITY

IT'S REAL HOUSEWIVES THE MUSICAL!

*They hold out *objects on their final pose.*

*The *objects should be instantly recognizable from the city in which the show is staged.*

MUSIC CUE: 1A-TO THE FUNERAL

LIGHTS shift to...

SCENE 2: *LIVING WELL FUNERAL HOME**PROJECTION: *LIVING WELL FUNERAL HOME**

The WIVES arrive at the funeral, where there is a funeral display including an urn, an eternal flame, an 8 x 10 frame that says "Here Lies Poppy," and a floral display with a sash (Gone But Not Forgotten.)

**The Name of the Funeral Home can be something local.*

BABETTE and JOANNE are standing to the side talking.

JOANNE

I can't believe she's gone.

BABETTE

I know.

THEY look back toward the others, who are taking a "sad selfie" with the urn and display.

JOANNE

She was one of us.

BABETTE

Was she? She was sort of on her way out.

JOANNE

Doesn't it make you appreciate what we have?

BABETTE

I was just thinking...

JOANNE

(cutting Babette off)

Wait, I'm not done. I have Anderson, you have Royce. I have my beautiful children Asher and Ashlyn, you have your twins Melanie and Meloni. We have each other and nothing will ever come between us.

BABETTE

I am so grateful...

JOANNE cuts her off again with a "shh" noise and motion.

JOANNE

Babette, shhh.

BABETTE repeats the "shh" noise and motion on herself.

Let's make a solemn vow that nothing will ever, ever come between us.

BABETTE

I love you.

JOANNE

I know.

MUSIC CUE: 1B-THREE GONGS AND CHIME

The LIGHTS shift as the PRIEST enters.

JOANNE and BABETTE join the others around the display.

PRIEST

Here we lay Poppy Grace Von Vandenberg to rest.

The PRIEST turns on the eternal flame.

The WIVES “ooh” at the flame.

Poppy knew she was not long for this world, and although we cannot reconcile in our heads why she decided it was time, we can be comforted with the notion that she is free from the demons inside her. She sends with her passing a note for those she holds dear.

Throughout the show, the WIVES have “confessionals” with the audience, accompanied each time with a light change and a confessional “in” and “out” sound. As the sound and lights “swoosh in” to the confessional, the WIFE turns to the audience.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN**BABETTE**

(confessional to audience)

Was I surprised she left a note? Not really. Poppy always had to have the last word.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT**PRIEST**

Dear wives, I trust you got my invitation for my “final soiree.”

The WIVES all react positively as they get black invitations out of their purses to show they received them. Quiet ad-libs from wives.

I know that I left on “not-so-great” terms.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN**PENNY**

(confessional to audience)

Poppy Grace was slowly being pushed out of the group. It was really Beezus’ doing.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN**BEEZUS**

(confessional to audience)

What can I say? We had creative differences.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN**LULU**

(confessional to audience)

Poppy was about to tell everyone Beezus’ actual age.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

Note: When there are multiple confessionals in a row, all WIVES giving confessionals should remain in their “confessional in” pose until all move back into the scene at one time.

PRIEST

In light of our “creative differences,” you may remember I’m worth billions.

The WIVES react.

That’s with a “B,”

The WIVES react even bigger.

PRIEST (CONT'D)

...and I'm sure you're anxious to hear about the reading of my estate.

The WIVES all lean in toward the PRIEST.

The PRIEST pauses for a moment.

You get nothing.

The WIVES react.

All of my assets will be used to continue the Von Vandenberg Legacy and will be spread out amongst the PGV Media Group.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

PENNY

(confessional to audience)

Poppy owned her own television station, PR firm and the website "The Daily Wife."

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

BABETTE

(confessional to audience)

It's like the "Huffington Post."

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

LULU

(confessional to audience)

But not.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

PRIEST

Despite your attempts to ice me out of the group, I'm still head housewife and I've invited you all here today to appoint a new head housewife.

BEEZUS

This is ridiculous. There is no such thing as a head housewife, that's like not even a thing.

PRIEST

Head housewife is something you cannot put a price on. In anointing this person head housewife, I expect her to lead. Remember, the journey is worth more than the destination.

PENNY

Hashtag amen.

PRIEST

The new head housewife is...

MUSIC CUE: 1C-NEW HEAD HOUSEWIFE PULSE

Tension builds as the WIVES all take a step in.

Is...

MUSIC CUE: 1D-NEW HEAD HOUSEWIFE PULSE 2

The WIVES all step in again.

BEEZUS

Oh just say it already!

*The PRIEST opens an academy award-style envelope and reads from a card.***PRIEST**

Joanne Johnson!

MUSIC CUE: 1E-JOANNE IS HEAD HOUSEWIFE*BEEZUS responds in disbelief.***BEEZUS**

What?!

*JOANNE responds as if she's won the Miss America Pageant. SHE grabs the urn and holds it up like a trophy.***JOANNE**

Oh my god. I am so shocked.

BEEZUS

I'm contesting the will! Obviously if there's going to be something called "Head Housewife" it should go to the most powerful member of the group.

BABETTE

You mean the most senior member.

*JOANNE quiets BABETTE with the "shh" motion and sound.***JOANNE**

Babette, ssh.

JOANNE crosses to BEEZUS.

Beezus, this isn't even a thing. I mean it's ridiculous to think that one of us is better than the rest. It's not like Poppy is giving out a plaque.

The PRIEST hands JOANNE a plaque.~~Okay~~, Well I didn't know it was going to be engraved.*BEEZUS 'harrumphs' and crosses away.*

Girls, I suggest we head over to The Pampered Tush. It's on me.

BABETTE

I'm in.

PENNY

It's what Poppy would have wanted.

LULU

Ooh perfect! I need a lip injection.

BABETTE

One more lip injection and your face is going to float away.

JOANNE

Beezus, will you join us?

THEY all look to BEEZUS.

BEEZUS

I'll go, but not because the head housewife is telling me to go.

JOANNE

Wonderful. Everyone, if I could have a few moments alone with Poppy Grace?

The WIVES all exit, except for BABETTE.

Babette, you too.

BABETTE performs the "shh" sound and motion to herself, then exits.

JOANNE takes a moment beside the urn.

Poppy, I don't know why you took your life. Well, maybe I do know why. And I don't want to make this about me because really this is your day.

SHE places the plaque directly in front of the "Here Lies Poppy" sign.

You look good. You look thin.

SHE places her purse down, and warms her hands on the eternal flame.

You made the right choice in picking me. It just feels right. I am so blessed.

SONG #2: AMAZING**JOANNE (CONT'D)**

I've got everything a girl could ask for.

(singing)

I'M A MOTHER OF TWO
HAVE A HUSBAND WHO'S IN LOVE WITH ME
IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT GETS BETTER
BUT IT DOES
DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO
IF I COULDN'T BE JUST ME
SOMETIMES I GET SO JEALOUS OF MY LIFE
AND THEN I REALIZE THAT'S DUMB

(speaking)

Because I'm talking about myself.

(singing)

I KNOW THAT YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND
THE WAY IT FEELS TO BE ME

(speaking)

So I'll tell you.

(singing)

IT FEELS AMAZING
THAT'S ALL I REALLY HAVE TO SAY
IT FEELS AMAZING
THE SUN IS SHINING EVERY SINGLE DAY
I DRIVE MY KIDS EACH MORN TO SCHOOL

JOANNE (CONT'D)

AND THEN MY DAY IS FREE
TAKING CARE OF WHAT I AM
AND WHO I WANNA BE

IT FEELS AMAZING
TO BE THE HEAD OF THE P.T.A.
IT FEELS AMAZING
TO MEET MY FRIENDS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY
TO DRINK WHITE WINE WITH LUNCH
AND THEN IT'S OFF TO PILATES

MY ASS IT LOOKS AMAZING
AND I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE
YOU WANNA BE ME
IT'S OKAY YOU CAN ADMIT IT
YOU CAN LEARN SOMETHING FROM ME
WITH A LITTLE BIT OF WORK AND GRIT

ALL YOU NEED IS A LIFE
THAT'S BLESSED AND CHARMED
A HOUSE THAT'S GATED AND FULLY ARMED
IN A TOWN THAT'S NESTLED IN THE HILLS
I LOOK PICTURE FRICKIN' PERFECT
LOOKING OUT MY WINDOW SILL.

'CAUSE MY LIFE'S AMAZING
I SPEND MY WEEKENDS IN PARIS AND CANNES
YOUR LIFE IS BORING
YOU POOR THING IN YOUR RED MINIVAN
MY LIFE'S AMAZING 'CAUSE
I DRIVE A WHITE LEXUS HYBRID SUV

DID I MENTION HOW IT FEELS TO BE JUST ME?

SHE pulls out a pink scarf and dances with it, like a ribbon dance.

'CAUSE IT'S AMAZING
AMAZING
AMAZING
AMAZING

The PRIEST enters and turns off the eternal flame. HE picks up the flowers and starts to exit.

JOANNE sees him and shouts.

(spoken)

Wait!

SHE runs back to the PRIEST.

JOANNE (CONT'D)

(singing)

DID I MENTION I'M AMAZING?

*SHE pulls the sash off the flower display. SHE puts it on herself.
On the reverse side, facing out, is the word "AMAZING."*

I'M AMAZED TO BE
AMAZING ME!

*SHE grabs a small tiara that was on Poppy's display, putting it on.
JOANNE will wear this tiara for the rest of the show.*

AMAZING ME!

LIGHTS.

MUSIC CUE: 2A-TO THE SPA

SCENE 3: THE PAMPERED TUSH**PROJECTION: THE PAMPERED TUSH**

PENNY, LULU, BABETTE and BEEZUS are discovered wearing spa robes.

BEEZUS

I'm just saying that if we all agree that there is no head housewife then she'll have to go along with it.

PENNY

I don't mind really.

LULU

Neither do I.

BABETTE

I don't really care.

LULU, BEEZUS and PENNY all laugh, reacting to BABETTE.

BEEZUS

Oh come on Babette, of course you care. Aren't you sick of being second fiddle?

BABETTE

I'm not second fiddle. Do you guys think I'm second fiddle?

PENNY

Is a fiddle like a banjo?

BEEZUS

Just once I'd like to see you stand up to her.

JOANNE enters.

JOANNE

Babette, you didn't wait for me!

BEEZUS

Does anyone else hear that fiddle?

FRANZ enters.

FRANZ

Ladies, welcome to Ze Pampered Tush. I'd like to introduce you to our latest treatment. Please put on... your shock masks.

The WIVES all turn around and put on the masks facing upstage. These are transparent masks with imbedded LED lights. The masks are wired up to an on/off switch hidden in each WIFE's robe pocket.

FRANZ continues as THEY put on their masks.

Do not be concerned if ze mask cuts off circulation – ze tighter ze better I say.

PENNY

You guys -- Poppy would have loved this.

THEY all turn around together with a vocal "aah!"

WIVES

Aaah!

FRANZ

You will receive a random electrical surge that will literally shock your face into looking younger. It hurts a bit but I think you'll be pleasantly surprised. The hardest part is anticipating...

HE holds this word out for a long time, and the WIVES all lean forward, waiting for it, waiting for it...

..ze shock!

The WIVES all react and jump in surprise at FRANZ.

So relax.

BABETTE raises her hand.

FRANZ calls on her.

Jawohl?

BABETTE

Does it hurt?

BABETTE's mask lights up. SHE swears loudly.

Mother Fuuuuuuu.....

SHE finishes with a distinctive laugh.

FRANZ

Isn't it worth it?

WIVES

Yes.

FRANZ

Auf Wiedersehen.

FRANZ exits.

The WIVES sit and relax in the spa.

(The underlined words are screamed when they are zapped.)

BEEZUS

Lulu, how is it being single? I mean left by a Sultan for his concubine, what are the odds?

BEEZUS is zapped.

Aaahh! Crap!

LULU

I love being single. I feel so free.

LULU is zapped.

Bloody hell!

PENNY

What is a sultan anyway?

PENNY is zapped.

Sweet baby Jesus!

BABETTE

It's like a prince or a king, but more terrorist-like.

JOANNE

Babette, that is inappropriate. He is not a terrorist. He just has a bushy beard.

JOANNE iz zapped.

Aahhh! Sugar Smacks!

JOANNE recovers quickly.

Girls, I trust you all got my invite to our anniversary party?

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

Yes.

The four WIVES are zapped. THEY swear together in their own words:

Aahhhh!! Crap! / Bloody Hell! / Sweet Baby Jesus! / Mother Fuuuuuuuuu!

LULU

Yes! Mine came today. Love the invite. An actual middle eastern man hand delivering from door to door. He was hot.

LULU is zapped.

Ooh!

LULU is zapped again. SHE enjoys it.

Oh, yes!

LULU is zapped again. All of these zaps should happen quickly in succession.

Oohhh! Oohhh!

SHE turn to the others.

Can we turn this thing up?

BABETTE

I won't be able to make it to your party.

JOANNE

You're not coming? I need back up dancers.

BABETTE

I have a dinner date with my husband. It's important that I spend quality time with him.

JOANNE

You can spend time with him at our anniversary party. What better way to connect than to watch role models like me and Anderson?

BABETTE

I don't need a role model for my marriage.

PENNY

You know who was a great role model?

LULU

Don't say Jesus.

PENNY

Jesus.

LULU is zapped.

LULU

Jesus!

JOANNE

Is this about The Tiny Mat?

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

BABETTE

(confessional to audience)

The Tiny Mat is our latest project together.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

JOANNE

(confessional to audience)

She's mad because I'm not letting her put her name on the label.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

(back to Babette)

I told you, having two names on a label is confusing. People need to be lead by one person. Me. The head housewife.

BEEZUS

Oh good lord, here we go again.

BABETTE explodes.

BABETTE

The Tiny Mat wasn't even your idea!

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

PENNY

(confessional to audience)

I've never ever seen Babette talk back to Joanne.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

BEEZUS

(confessional to audience)

Never.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

LULU

(confessional to audience)

Ever.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

JOANNE

I am your mentor!

BABETTE

Oh please! You just say you're my mentor because you look older than me.

The WIVES gasp loudly.

BEEZUS is zapped.

BEEZUS

Aaahh!

BEEZUS, LULU and PENNY now watch this argument escalate back and forth like an exciting tennis match.

BABETTE

The bottom line is I have ideas too. In fact, I've come up with my own product. The Mini Carpet-TM.

JOANNE

The mini what?

BABETTE

The Mini Carpet-TM. Much softer, more streamlined, feminine, if you will. I'm releasing The Mini Carpet-TM in a leopard print.

BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

What's TM?

BABETTE

Totally Mine.

JOANNE

I can't believe you would do this! We're going on PGV tomorrow!

BABETTE

Well, tomorrow is a perfect opportunity to see which product is better. The Tiny Mat or The Mini Carpet-TM.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

PENNY

(confessional to audience)

Let the games begin.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

LIGHTS blackout.

The WIVES are all zapped in the dark.

WIVES

Aaaahhh!

Another, more real blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 2B-TO PGV STUDIOS

SCENE 4: PGV STUDIOS

We are at Poppy Grace's television station PGV.

PROJECTION: PGV STUDIOS

There is a table upstage center with the products on sale today: "The Tiny Mat" (with Joanne's face on the box), an identical box with Babette's face pasted over Joanne's face with the title "Mini Carpet-TM" pasted over the "The Tiny Mat," and two each of the pink glittery Tiny Mat and the leopard print Mini Carpet-TM.

LIGHTS UP on BUD in a spotlight. BUD is a fast-talking, botoxed-out, television personality. His program "NIP IT IN THE BUD" is similar to QVC or any other on-air sales shows.

SONG #3: NIP IT IN THE BUD**BUD BEEDLE**

LIGHTS, CAMERA, MY MAKEUPS ON
WE'RE READY TO START THE SHOW
GRAB YOUR PHONE AND YOUR COFFEE
SNUGGLE UP TIGHT AND
GET READY TO SPEND SOME DOUGH
DO YOU FEEL KIND OF BLUE
IS YOUR LIFE SORT OF TRAPPED?
THEN YOU NEED A SHOPPING SPREE
SO TAKE YOUR ATIVAN
AND GIVE ME A CALL
LET'S NIP IT IN THE BUD ON PGV!
HEY!

PROJECTION: APPLAUSE**SOUND FX: CANNED AUDIENCE APPLAUSE**

(speaking)

Good morning and welcome to PGV. I'm your host Bud Beedle, and you've just tuned in to...

SOUND FX: "NIP IT IN THE BUD" VOICEOVER**PROJECTION: "NIP IT IN THE BUD"**

BUD gives air quotes and speaks along with the voiceover.

"Nip it in the Bud," our weekly look at the latest crazes sweeping the PGV nation. Each product chosen today is designed to fit your unique, gorgeous, graceful – and let's face it – sometimes sluggish lifestyle. So I'm here, you're here we're all here to...

SOUND FX: "NIP IT IN THE BUD" VOICEOVER**PROJECTION: "NIP IT IN THE BUD"**

BUD gives air quotes and speaks along with the voiceover.

"Nip it in the Bud!"

BUD laughs unctuously for the crowd.

BUD BEEDLE (CONT'D)

Okay, you probably recognize them, you love them, you might even want to be them! Please welcome those Real Housewives of *CITY, Joanne Johnson and Babette Bellini!

SOUND FX: CANNED AUDIENCE APPLAUSE

JOANNE and BABETTE run onstage, wearing workout clothes.

BABETTE

In the ho-use!

JOANNE

(taking it much more seriously)

Hi Bud, so nice to see you.

JOANNE shakes his hand.

BUD BEEDLE

Ladies, this is a joint venture between the two of you, no?

BABETTE

No, we're pretty separate.

BUD BEEDLE

How's it been working together? We saw what happened last year when *CITY alums *Julie Andrews and Joanne Worley opened up that bikini waxing blow out bar, "BJs galore."

**These names should be local celebrities or personalities, local names the audience will recognize.*

BABETTE

So sad. Last week they just did their last Vajazzle.

JOANNE

They were best friends, but they just couldn't make it work. There are a lot of terrible ideas out there. There are also a lot of backstabbing bitches.

BUD BEEDLE

Fantastic. And of course you two are best friends for life, no?

BABETTE & JOANNE

We were.

BUD BEEDLE

Uh oh, I sense some awkwardness here. So, "best friends for life," you've invented a multi-level marketing company, or 'pyramid scheme," if you will. Tell us about it.

JOANNE

Well, as you know Bud, last year I developed my first product.

BABETTE

Our first product.

JOANNE

The Strap On!

JOANNE holds out her arms. Her inside sleeves have patches with the words "STRAP ON" on her arms.

BABETTE also holds out her arms with the same patches.

THEY compete for attention throughout with the patches on their arms.

BUD BEEDLE

Who could forget The Strap On! I wear mine every morning when I'm doing my facial yogalates.

JOANNE holds her arms out.

JOANNE

As you know, The Strap On was a disrupter in the fitness industry.

BABETTE holds her arms out again.

BUD BEEDLE

Sold out in ten minutes!

JOANNE

But when using it I noticed that I was starting to sweat, here and here.

JOANNE indicates her cheek and then her other cheek.

BUD BEEDLE

And frankly that's a health hazard.

JOANNE

So, I developed The Tiny Mat.

SHE displays the box of her product on the table.

BUD BEEDLE

The Tiny Mat. Tell us about it.

JOANNE

Well, it's exactly what it looks like Bud.

SHE holds up a tiny, bedazzled pink yoga mat.

A tiny yoga mat for your face.

BABETTE

Bud, if I could interrupt, I've developed a newer, fresher approach. I call it The Mini Carpet-TM and it comes in a leopard print.

BABETTE holds up a tiny leopard-print yoga mat.

BUD BEEDLE

Ooh, do I sense a little healthy competition?

BABETTE & JOANNE

You do, Bud.

JOANNE

Let me show you how this works, Bud. I assume you have your Strap On?

BUD BEEDLE

I brought mine from home.

BUD holds up a brightly bedazzled "Strap On."

I bedazzled it.

The Strap On is an exercise mask/contraption that goes on your face to tighten your muscles. It could have tiny little weights on either side. Whatever it ends up looking like, it should look ridiculous and funny and Bud should have trouble talking.

BUD turns upstage and puts on his STRAP ON out of audience view.

JOANNE

Can I get a little music here?!

The music begins.

SONG #4: STRAP IT ON

JOANNE (CONT'D)

Okay! I'm going to take you through a few facial yogalates moves. I want you to remember to pull in your core, and...

In time to the music:

...don't forget to breathe!

JOANNE illustrates using the Tiny Mat.

(singing)

DO YOU WANT A LIFT, DO YOU WANT TO GLISTEN?
JUST WORK IT OUT, GIVE ME A LISTEN
PAY ATTENTION THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE
'CAUSE YOU'RE LOOKIN A LITTLE PUDGY IN THE FACE

BUD turns around. JOANNE gives a Tiny Mat to BUD.

THEY illustrate facial yogalates moves as THEY sing, each with a Tiny Mat.

YOU JUST STRAP

BUD BEEDLE

STRAP!

JOANNE

IT ON

BUD BEEDLE

WE'RE GETTIN' FREAKY!

JOANNE

YOUR FAT

BUD BEEDLE

FAT!

JOANNE

IS GONE!

BUD BEEDLE

YOUR FACE LOOKS SLEEPY!

JOANNE

GIVE A LITTLE LIFT SO YOU'RE FACE AIN'T SO FAT

JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

NO ONE'S LOOKING AT YOUR ASS

JOANNE

'CAUSE YOU

JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

USE THE TINY MAT!

BABETTE jumps in, taking the bedazzled Tiny Mat away from BUD.

BABETTE

FEELING SUPER-TIRED, AND DROOPY, AND SAGGY?

BUD BEEDLE

DROOPY AND SAGGY

BABETTE

GOT A ROOSTER NECK, AND YOUR LIDS ARE ALL BAGGY?

BUD BEEDLE

ALL BAGGY

BABETTE

GO TO THE DOC FOR A SUCK, A NIP, A TUCK
BUT YOUR FACE STILL LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN

BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

HIT BY A TRUCK!

BABETTE now holds up her leopard print Mini Carpet-TM.

SHE gives it to BUD, who now continues yogalates with the leopard print Mini-Carpet-TM. BABETTE also picks up her own Mini-Carpet-TM to use as well.

BABETTE

YOU JUST STRAP

BUD BEEDLE

STRAP!

BABETTE

IT ON

BUD BEEDLE

YOUR FACE LOOKS TRAGIC

BABETTE

YOUR FAT

BUD BEEDLE

FAT!

BABETTE

IS GONE

BUD BEEDLE

NOW WORK YOUR MAGIC

BABETTE

DO IT TEN TIMES A DAY

BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

IN THE GYM, THE CAR, THE MARKET

BABETTE

ALL FOR \$19.99

IT'S THE BEST SELLING MINI CARPET!

JOANNE grabs the Mini-Carpet-TM from BUD and slams it down on the table. JOANNE rushes forward with her Tiny Mat.

JOANNE

YOU JUST STRAP

BUD BEEDLE

STRAP!

JOANNE

IT ON

BABETTE rushes forward with her Mini-Carpet-TM.

BABETTE

THE MINI CARPET!

YOUR FAT

BUD BEEDLE

FAT!

BABETTE

IS GONE!

JOANNE

GET THE TINY MAT!

STRAP!

BUD BEEDLE

STRAP!

JOANNE

IT ON

BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

WE'RE GETTING' LOOPY

JOANNE

YOU JUST STRAP!

BUD BEEDLE

STRAP!

JOANNE

IT ON---!

BUD BEEDLE

YOUR FACE LOOKS DROOPY!

BUD's next line is sung over the next four lines of JOANNE and BABETTE.

YEAH, YEAH---!!

TINY MAT
JOANNE

MINI CARPET
BABETTE

IT'S THE TINY MAT
THE TINY MAT
JOANNE

THE MINI CARPET, YEAH
BABETTE

JOANNE and BABETTE now begin fighting across, who continues singing as best HE can.

STRAP IT!
JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
JOANNE & BUD BEEDLE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE

JOANNE and BABETTE now begin body slamming against BUD BEEDLE. BUD stops singing, but makes large explosive noises as HE's slammed about.

STRAP IT!
JOANNE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE

STRAP IT!
JOANNE

STRAP IT!
BABETTE

STRAP IT –
JOANNE

STRAP IT - **BABETTE**

STRAP IT - **BUD BEEDLE**

THEY take a final pose.

STRAP IT ON! **JOANNE, BABETTE & BUD BEEDLE**

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 4A-TO THE RESTAURANT

SCENE 5: *LOCAL RESTAURANT NAME**PROJECTION: *LOCAL RESTAURANT**

**This local restaurant name should be chosen as a spot where the wives would meet during the day for a quick 'pick-me-up' cocktail and gossip.*

LIGHTS UP in a restaurant where BEEZUS, LULU and PENNY are about to order drinks. BEEZUS is fanning herself.

BEEZUS

I'm hot. Are you guys hot?

PENNY

Did you guys watch PGV yesterday?

BEEZUS

I Tivo'd it and have watched it like ten times. I loved it when they body slammed Bud. Fantastic.

LULU

What time is the party tonight?

BEEZUS

8:30.

PENNY

And it's a Bollywood theme. So, wear what? Like a burka?

LULU

No, a sari.

PENNY

No I'm not sorry.

BEEZUS

No, you wear a sari.

PENNY

Sorry, I'm not following.

BABETTE enters.

BABETTE

Sorry I'm late.

THEY "air kiss" all around.

I got stuck at the corner of *Ledge and Riverside.

**Choose a notorious intersection that seems to have the longest light and wait times for traffic.*

LULU

Oh darling, never take *Riverside!

BEEZUS

Only take the back alleys.

PENNY

Der.

LULU

We were just talking about Joanne's Bollywood party.

BABETTE

I decided I'm going.

*The wives react.***BEEZUS**

Does she know that?

BABETTE

That wouldn't be any fun.

*THEY react again.**THE MAN enters as a WAITER.***LULU**

Whiskey straight up.

BEEZUS

Grey goose and soda.

BABETTE

Pinot.

PENNY

I'm gonna do a singapore sling. But I'd like it with Royal Sapphire with not a cherry but lychee brandy, and on one side of the rim I'd like sugar and the other salted. I'd like a cherry garnish, but just put half of the cherry because I'm on a cleanse.

*THEY all look to the waiter.***BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY**

Sorry.

*The WAITER exits.***SOUND FX: TWITTER TWEET****LULU***(looking at her phone)*

I am completely engrossed in a tweet war with this twat who tweeted that I should stop calling myself a Sultana.

LULU hands her phone to BABETTE.

I told her she should go back to *Rival Town where we all know she came from. Amiright?

SOUND FX: TEXT**BABETTE**

Lulu, you got a text.

*BABETTE looks at it.**SHE reacts.*

Oh! That's a dick pick!

SHE quickly reads the incoming text.

OMG, "Can't wait to see you tonight, I want to lick..."

LULU quickly pulls the phone away.

LULU

I have no idea who that is from. Disgusting.

LULU begins to pack it up and gathers her purse.

Well, I've got botox and a cellulite blast scheduled.

BEEZUS

We haven't even gotten our drinks yet.

LULU

Cellulite waits for no one. Toodles.

LULU exits.

BABETTE

She is completely doing it with someone.

PENNY

Obvi.

BEEZUS

Totes.

SOUND FX: *GOOGLE ALERT

**This Google Alert should be either spoken or sung. Should be distinct, and used throughout.*

ALL

Ooh! Google alert.

It is PENNY's phone.

SHE quickly picks up and looks at her phone.

PENNY

Oh, it's just about Theo designing Joanne's Bollywood dress for tonight.

BABETTE

Don't you think it's weird your husband is designing another wife's dress?

PENNY

Jesus was a carpenter, Theo is a designer.

BEEZUS

Did Jesus also get a full Brazilian bikini wax?

PENNY

He would have if he was at a swimsuit fashion show for A.A.

BEEZUS

A.A.?

PENNY

Alopecia Awareness.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 4B-TO JOANNE'S

SCENE 6: JOANNE'S HOUSE & DRESSING ROOM**PROJECTION: JOANNE'S BOLLYWOOD PARTY**

LIGHTS up on THEO and JOANNE.

THEO is finishing a final hem on JOANNE's dress: a fabulous Bollywood outfit dripping with baubles, bangles and beads.

THEO is wearing a pin-cushion on his wrist and a measuring tape around his neck.

THEO

You look gorgeous.

JOANNE

Oh my god, Theo, I know.

THEO

Everything looks perfect. They are going to be soooo jealous.

JOANNE

Don't say that.

THEO

It's true.

JOANNE

I know.

THEY laugh and share a moment together.

THEO

I think everyone has arrived. Are you ready? I'll introduce you.

JOANNE

Of course I'm ready.

THEO hands his measuring tape and pin cushion to JOANNE who takes the items off stage.

THEO crosses center into a spotlight.

MUSIC CUE: 4C-THEO'S ENTRANCE TO PARTY

THEO

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the hostess this evening, I would like to welcome you to Joanne and Anderson's 10th wedding anniversary extravaganza! Please join me in welcoming the lady of the night, Joanne Johnson!

THEO backs up, bowing low as HE exits.

LIGHTS up for JOANNE's entrance.

MUSIC CUE: 4D-JOANNE'S ENTRANCE

JOANNE perform her Bollywood-flavored entrance dance, landing in the center spotlight.

JOANNE

Thank you to everyone for coming out to our 10th wedding anniversary. I will speak for both of us when I say that Anderson and I have a love that can't be duplicated. The trust I feel for him is beyond measure. He allows me to be me. He supports me. Literally, I've never worked a day in my life.

SHE crosses downstage, emotional.

MUSIC CUE: 4E-JOANNE GETS EMOTIONAL

JOANNE (CONT'D)

He is my friend, my love, my heart.

SHE now speaks out to Anderson.

Anderson, I know there really isn't anything I could buy you to show my love. Because Anderson, this night is not about me. It's about you, watching me.

JOANNE takes her opening position, which cues the music.

SONG #5: JOANNE'S BOLLYWOOD DANCE

JOANNE begins the Bollywood dance, and is soon joined by the other WIVES in their own Bollywood outfits.

The music ramps up as THEY all dance together.

JOANNE notices that BABETTE has changed her mind and attended the party. THEY speak during the frenzy of the dance.

JOANNE

You came!

BABETTE

I did!

The music ramps up, and then suddenly, the lights go out.

LIGHTS BLACKOUT.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS OUT SWOOSH

The wives all ad-lib about the lights going out. As suddenly as the lights went out, they come back on.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS ON SWOOSH

Standing next to JOANNE is a MAN in a suit. The WIVES are all excited at seeing the man in the middle of their dance.

WIVES

Ooh! A male stripper!

The MAN steps forward. HE is a PROCESS SERVER.

PROCESS SERVER

Are you Joanne Johnson?

JOANNE still believes this might be part of a gift for her anniversary.

JOANNE

I am.

HE hands her a legal envelope.

PROCESS SERVER

You've been served.

The WIVES all gasp at this dramatic turn of events.

PROCESS SERVER (CONT'D)

Enjoy your party.

The PROCESS SERVER exits.

MUSIC CUE: 5A-BOLLYWOOD DRAMA

LULU grabs the envelope from JOANNE.

LULU

Oh my god.

LULU opens the envelope and pulls out legal papers.

BEEZUS and the other WIVES rush forward, stunned.

BEEZUS

What? What does it say?

LULU

(reading from the summons)

Anderson and Joanne Johnson must appear before the grand jury to answer on 30 counts of embezzlement, fraud and tax evasion. A hearing has been set on *June 16, 2016 at the *Los Angeles Superior Court.

**This date should be approximately two months in the future. The courthouse should be the appropriate Superior Court for your region.*

BEEZUS

Oh my god!

The WIVES all fade toward the background, and their voices become distant as JOANNE begins to reel.

The WIVES exit.

JOANNE

Anderson?! Where is he?! Where is he?!

JOANNE starts to hyperventilate.

THEO runs in.

THEO

Joanne! The Porsche – it's not in the garage! I checked the luggage room, all gone. He left all his suits except for the Tommy Bahama cream linen and Joanne? He took his sombrero!

THEO screams in terror and exits.

The LIGHTS begin to swirl around the room.

The Bollywood music builds as JOANNE begins to twist and twirl in the swirling lights.

JOANNE

Anderson? Anderson? Anderson!!!!!!

SHE faints onto the floor on the final beats of the music.

BLACKOUT.

MUSIC CUE: 5B-TO AZUZU YOGA

SCENE 7: AZUZU YOGA**PROJECTION: AZUZU YOGA**

LIGHTS UP on Azuzu Yoga Studio.

BEEZUS and PENNY enter in their yoga clothes. THEY carry rolled-up yoga mats, and BEEZUS carries her purse with extra gear.

PENNY

Did you talk to Joanne? Have they found Anderson yet?

BEEZUS

No. His cell is turned off. No response on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or Vine. Did you read the front page of *The Toluca Times this morning?

PENNY unrolls her yoga mat.

PENNY

*The Toluca Times has a front page?

This should be an appropriately small local paper, notorious for either advertising or all photos on the front page. If there is no local paper that works for the joke, substitute with "Did you read the home page of the Daily Wife this morning?"

BEEZUS unrolls her yoga mat, and begins setting up her area – readying her phone, her coffee mug, her purse, her bottle of Pellegrino – everything she needs to do yoga. Or rather, not do yoga.

BEEZUS

The judge told Joanne she should have known better when signing her name on the tax returns. She has to begin payment back to the IRS or serve jail time.

PENNY

You've got to be kidding me.

AZUZU, a Russell Brand-like yoga instructor enters. HE has long curly hair, wears a flowing white robe, with bare feet.

HE carries a small hand-held gong, or brass bowl and mallet. As HE enters, HE plays the gong.

AZUZU

Ladies, let us get right to work today. Azuzu yoga express is a 4-minute retreat for the mind. Here we quiet our minds and unleash our hearts. Quickly.

AZUZU hits the gong.

PENNY immediately goes into the first pose, the Cobra.

BEEZUS performs a modified version, getting to the floor as quickly as possible. SHE is then saved by:

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT**BEEZUS**

Oh! Google alert.

AZUZU hits the gong.

PENNY goes into the next pose, as BEEZUS quickly reads the alert.

BEEZUS (CONT'D)

Oh my god!

PENNY

What is it?

BEEZUS

Joanne's house. It's being foreclosed.

PENNY

Oh my Jesus.

BEEZUS

She may have to get a job.

AZUZU hits the gong.

PENNY goes into her next pose, as BEEZUS reads more of the story on her phone.

BEEZUS

Joanne may have to send her kids to public school.

PENNY

Unbelievable.

AZUZU hits the gong.

PENNY goes into the next pose, as BEEZUS continues to focus on the story.

It's just sad.

BEEZUS

If I could move my forehead I would cry.

PENNY

Totally.

LULU barges in with her yoga mat.

LULU

Hello lovelies!

AZUZU

You're late. One-minute express for you.

LULU

Well, let's get going then.

LULU unrolls her yoga mat quickly.

AZUZU hits the gong.

PENNY goes into her next pose as LULU takes her first pose, exposing herself ever-so-slightly for AZUZU, who helps 'lift' her to her final position. BEEZUS continues with her non-yoga.

AZUZU

And let's stretch.

BEEZUS

Did you hear?

LULU

I just got the Google alert.

PENNY

(in a ridiculous yoga pose)

I just keep wondering how this is going to affect me.

AZUZU hits the gong.

AZUZU

And final breath in.

They all breathe together and bow.

AZUZU, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

Azuzuuuuuuuu.

AZUZU hits the gong, and exits.

LULU

Wow. I completely needed that.

The WIVES roll up their mats.

I'm on my way to Joanne's to see how she's doing.

PENNY

That's so nice.

LULU

Yes, I'm nice.

BEEZUS gathers her things back into her purse.

BEEZUS

I've got a colonoscopy.

PENNY and LULU both stop and stare.

LULU

A colonoscopy?

BEEZUS

Yes.

LULU

Someone up your back end and not in a good way?

PENNY

Isn't that something you get when you're fifty?

This stops BEEZUS in her tracks. SHE confronts PENNY.

BEEZUS

Well, I wouldn't know! I do know that it runs in my family, and early detection in your early-to-mid-forties is key!

BEEZUS exits in a huff.

LULU

Early forties, my arse. We need to look at her driver's license.

PENNY

I already looked in her purse. All I found was a medical marijuana card.

LULU

Well, I can't fault her for that!

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 5C-TO BABETTE'S LUNCH

SCENE 8: *A ROMANTIC LUNCHTIME EATERY**PROJECTION: *NAME OF LOCAL RESTAURANT***LIGHTS up on BABETTE and ROYCE, seated at lunch.**ROYCE, BABETTE's husband and local real-estate mogul, is preoccupied throughout the scene with text messages arriving on his cell phone. BABETTE continually tries to get his attention, as HE faces away from HER.***SOUND FX: PHONE TEXT****ROYCE****They still haven't sold the Bob Hope Estate.***BABETTE****What do they expect? It costs like a gajillion dollars.***ROYCE****Maybe Universal can make it part of Harry Potter Land.***If an appropriate landmark is under development or up for sale, this can go in here. Otherwise, star the scene with the following.***SOUND FX: PHONE TEXT****BABETTE***Honey, get off the phone. This is our time.***ROYCE***Just tying up some loose ends.***BABETTE***Honey, I've got exciting news! I'm auditioning to be *Good Day L.A.'s weather girl.***Local well-known news station and program.***ROYCE***What do you know about weather?***BABETTE***I know this.**SHE swipes her hand left.**And this.**SHE swipes her hand up and down.***SOUND FX: PHONE TEXT***ROYCE laughs at his phone.**SHE switches gear. SHE crawls her fingers up his back.**Honey, I can tell you've been feeling neglected.**ROYCE shrugs her off.***ROYCE***No I haven't.**SHE makes another attempt, fiddling with the back of his neck.*

BABETTE

(babytalk)

Honey, I know when my man feels neglected and you're feeling neglected.

Crawling up his arm, ready to embrace him.

To make it up to you, I've planned a special night for us tonight.

SHE embraces HIM from behind.

ROYCE shrugs her off again.

ROYCE

I'm in *North Hollywood tonight.

**This should be a local reference, an area of unseemly quality and questionable taste.*

BABETTE

Again? What's in *North Hollywood?

ROYCE

I've got a big listing over there.

BABETTE

Gross. Why would anyone live in *North Hollywood?

ROYCE stands up and begins to exit.

ROYCE

I'll see you this weekend.

BABETTE

Honey? A kiss?

ROYCE walks back, kisses her on the forehead, and exits.

(calling back to him)

Have fun in *North Hollywood!

SHE looks out in disdain and slight disgust.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 5D-BACK TO JOANNE'S

SCENE 9: JOANNE'S HOUSE / SURGERY CENTER / RECOVERY ROOM

PROJECTION: MEANWHILE, BACK AT JOANNE'S

LIGHTS up. JOANNE is still on the where she fainted. LULU enters and crosses to Joanne. She taps her gingerly at first.

LULU

Jo? Jo? Joanne!!!!

JOANNE wakes up disoriented.

Aw, you look loovely.

LULU helps JOANNE up, taking her to a chair to sit.

JOANNE

I had the worst dream. You were there. Anderson was under investigation and fled the country!

JOANNE begins to laugh. LULU joins in.

Isn't that ridiculous?

LULU

(laughing)

Oh sweetheart, that is terrible.

THEY both stop laughing.

And exactly what happened.

JOANNE

What?

LULU

Yes, it was tragic. It is tragic. But not to worry! That's what pre-nups are for.

JOANNE

I don't have a pre-nup.

LULU

What? Joanne, how could you let that happen? Have you not read my book?!

JOANNE

I'm not even sure a pre-nup would help me. The judge has ordered back payments from the past seven years.

LULU

Oh.

LULU grabs a bottle of pills from her purse.

Sweetheart, take one of these.

LULU hands JOANNE a pill.

JOANNE

I shouldn't.

LULU

You need it. It's just a little something to take the edge off. Come on, we'll do it together.

LULU takes one, and they tap the pills together.

Cheers!

LULU quickly takes one more pill.

LULU (CONT'D)

One for the road.

LULU puts away the pill bottle.

Darling, I came here to invite you to a party celebrating my new nose. It's an exclusive reveal.

LULU hands her a nose-shaped invitation.

Of my nose.

JOANNE

You're getting another nose job?

LULU

Darling you can never have too many. You should get one too! New nose, new outlook! If you don't like your life, you can always make it better!

JOANNE

How?

LULU

When I was a little girl my mum would hold me to her bosom, rock me and sing me a little lullaby. She said, "Lulu, if you don't like something in life, if you're sad, if you've lost control: then run away. Become a whole new person!"

Music begins.

SONG #6: CHANGE IT

LULU sounds a bit like Julie Andrews in the first section.

LULU (CONT'D)

ARE YOU FEELING LOW?
YOU THINK YOUR LIFE IS THROUGH
DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU WILL GO?
WELL I'LL TELL YOU WHAT TO DO

MARY POPPINS JUST ATE SUGAR
THE QUEEN SHE ALWAYS FROWNS
THE LITTLE MERMAID BECAME A HOOKER
SO LET ME TELL YOU HOW TO TURN THIS WHOLE THING AROUND

LULU twirls JOANNE around, then yanks her up toward her bedroom. SHE quickly helps JOANNE out of her Bollywood Outfit and into a traveling outfit.

IF YOUR HUSBAND LEAVES YOU FLAT
WITH NOTHING LEFT IN SIGHT?
DON'T WORRY, THERE'S ANOTHER GUY
WHO WILL SURELY MAKE THINGS RIGHT

JUST FIND A MAN WHO'S DUMB
PERHAPS A LITTLE TRAGIC
TAKE YOUR PANTIES OFF FOR HIM

LULU (CONT'D)

AND LET HIM WORK HIS MAGIC!

*LULU now travels to the *Bob Hope Rhinoplasty Center. The scene immediately switches from Joanne's House to the Surgery Center.*

JUST CHANGE IT!

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT

JUST CHANGE IT!

AND WEAR A DIFFERENT HAT

The MAN enters as a DOCTOR, bringing a rolling I.V. pole and robe for LULU. HE helps LULU into the robe.

WHEN IN DOUBT, JUST RUN AWAY

THEY WON'T MISS YOU WHEN YOU'RE GONE

YOU'LL LEAVE THIS MESS ALL BEHIND

AND BE READY TO MOVE ON!

The DOCTOR hooks LULU up to the I.V., and SHE immediately feels the delightful effect of the morphine drip.

As the drugs take effect, BABETTE, BEEZUS & PENNY appear as sexy nurses, bringing rolling I.V. poles along with them.

IF YOU FIND YOU'RE IN A SPAT

AND THERE'S NO WAY THAT YOU'LL WIN

JUST POP SOME PILLS AND KNOCK 'EM BACK

WITH A FIFTH OR SO OF GIN

YOU MAY THINK YOU'RE STRONG

OR THAT YOU KNOW THE SCORE

BUT I'M HERE TO SAY THAT LIFE IS

BEST WHEN YOU JUST IGNORE AND

BACKUP WIVES (+JOANNE)

CHANGE IT!

CHANGE IT!

DON'T MAKE IT COMPLICATED

CHANGE IT!

CHANGE IT!

YOUR PAST IS OVERRATED!

YOU CAN GET A NEW IDENTITY

OOH--

IN JUST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS

OOH--

I KNOW A GUY HE'LL HOOK YOU UP

OOH--

IT'S ALL WITHIN YOUR POWER!

AAH, YOUR POWER!

JUST CHANGE IT!

CHANGE IT!

IF YOU'RE FEELING FAT

JUST CHANGE IT!

CHANGE IT!

GET A NEW ASS IN NO TIME FLAT!

IF YOUR FACE NEEDS A NEW OUTLOOK

LULU (CONT'D)

BACKUP WIVES

MAKE YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND A SURGEON
 YOU NEED A NEW VAGINA?
 HERE YOU GO, NOW YOU'RE A VIRGIN!

YOU'RE A VIRGIN!

Dance break, with lots of sexy moves with the I.V. poles.

At the end of the dance break, the DOCTOR has set up his operating station behind a hospital screen.

NEED SOME MONEY?
 FEELING DOWN?
 LOST YOUR HUSBAND?
 GET OUT OF TOWN!
 GOING TO JAIL?
 BUY SOME NEW CLOTHES!

CHANGE IT!
 CHANGE IT!
 CHANGE IT!
 CHANGE IT!
 CHANGE IT!
 CHANGE IT!

(speaking)

Having an affair with a married man and can no longer bear to look yourself in the face?

(singing)

GIVE ME A NEW NOSE!

NOSE!

The NURSES escort LULU into position behind the operating screen. The lights switch, and the screen is backlight with LULU and the DOCTOR. The NURSES are on with side of the screen. One NURSE hands the DOCTOR his 'tools.'

CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT!

The DOCTOR takes a large hammer and mallet, and we see HIM bang on LULU's nose to a loud sound effect.

SOUND FX: CLANG, CLANG (EMBEDDED IN SONG)

CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT!

We see the DOCTOR use a large drill on LULU's nose to a loud drilling sound effect.

SOUND FX: DRILL, DRILL (EMBEDDED IN SONG)

BACKUP WIVES

CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT
 CHANGE IT!

The DOCTOR slaps LULU across the nose behind the screen. SHE screams in time to the music.

LULU

Aahhhhhhhh!

The NURSES remove the screen, and the DOCTOR escorts LULU out. SHE has an immense bandage across her nose.

LULU (CONT'D)
(singing)

BACKUP WIVES

CHANGE IT!

AAAH–
CHANGE IT!

LULU strikes an exultant and triumphant pose.

The NURSES disappear.

The DOCTOR escorts LULU to a chair in the recovery room.

**PROJECTION: *BOB HOPE RHINOPLASTY
RECOVERY ROOM**

JOANNE helps LULU get seated.

DOCTOR

Okay, she should be groggy when she wakes up. Plenty of ice, and for god's sake don't touch the nose! I don't want to operate on that thing again.

The DOCTOR exits.

LULU is groggy from the surgery.

LULU

Ooooh.

JOANNE is also feeling the effects of the pill LULU gave her.

JOANNE

Hello, sleeping Sultana. How are you feeling? I'm not sure what little pill you gave me, but it's made me feel pretty good, actually.

LULU is still heavily sedated and doesn't know what she's saying.
LULU grabs JOANNE and holds her tight.

LULU

I feel bad. We have to stop sleeping together.

MUSIC CUE: 6A-WHO ARE YOU SLEEPING WITH?

JOANNE

What? Who are you sleeping with Lulu?

LULU

It's not right. I can't believe I gave you a blow job in *North Hollywood.

JOANNE

Gross, *North Hollywood?

JOANNE shakes LULU, who yelps and grabs her nose in pain.

Who are you sleeping with? Lulu!?

JOANNE shakes LULU on each word.

Who – Are – You – Sleeping – With – Lulu?!

BABETTE, BEEZUS and PENNY enter. BEEZUS is carrying a bottle of Grey Goose and a cactus with a red ribbon.

BEEZUS rushes forward when SHE sees JOANNE shaking LULU.

BEEZUS

Joanne? What are you doing?

JOANNE

What? Nothing!

BEEZUS

We didn't realize you would be here.

BEEZUS hands the bottle and cactus to LULU.

Lulu, happy nose job party! You look smashing.

LULU holds the cactus tight against her face. SHE can't feel a thing.

LULU

Girls, you're just the looviest for coming to celebrate my new nose.

BABETTE

I've been here before. Beezus didn't you get your vaginoplasty here?

BEEZUS

Excuse me, it was vaginal rejuvenation.

LULU

Don't be embarrassed Beezus, sometimes your vagina needs a little plasty.

PENNY

I'd love a little plasty.

BABETTE

Why do you need it Penny?

PENNY

I have a lot of sex!

BEEZUS

Do you? With your husband?

PENNY

What I do with my husband is between me, Theo, and God.

BABETTE

And on the seventh day God gave Penny a new vagina.

BABETTE, BEEZUS and PENNY all react together, before BEEZUS breaks it up.

BEEZUS

Girls, let's focus on what's important here.

BEEZUS turns her attention to JOANNE.

Joanne. What are you going to do?

JOANNE

About what?

BABETTE

Your husband left the country with his sombrero. Enough said.

JOANNE

Oh, you just love this don't you?

BABETTE

I do.

JOANNE

I feel great. Ready to take on the world.

JOANNE falls down.

BEEZUS and PENNY show concern.

LULU

I might have given her a little something.

BABETTE

Oh I almost forgot! While I have you all here, I'm having a private event at "Soul Bounce."

BEEZUS

What kind of private event?

BABETTE

A benefit bounce.

PENNY

I don't even know what that is but it sounds fun.

LULU

Bouncy.

JOANNE

What's it benefiting?

BABETTE

Baby obesity.

JOANNE

What? Babies are supposed to be chubby.

BABETTE

Not if they expect to fit into skinny diapers. I wouldn't expect you to come, since Asher's been in 4T's since he was two.

BEEZUS, LULU and PENNY gasp loudly.

LULU

Why wouldn't she come? Joanne's a front row bouncer!

BABETTE

I'm a front row bouncer -- big deal!

LULU

(questioning her)

Babette.

(entreating her)

Babette.

(softly pleading)

Babette...

BABETTE

Fine. Come. Since it's for the babies.

LULU

(excited)

Oh, Joanne come, it's for the wee fat babies.

JOANNE

Oh, I'm coming.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

PENNY

(confessional to audience)

Let the games continue.

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL OUT

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 6B-TO SOUL BOUNCE

SCENE 10: SOUL BOUNCE**PROJECTION: SOUL BOUNCE: SAVE OUR OBESE BABIES**

LIGHTS up as J.T. Enters. He is the master trainer at Soul Bounce and wears a tight tank top that says, "I SWEAT BALLS." HE carries on a big blue exercise ball.

J.T.

Welcome to Soul Bounce. Can I get a "hell, yeah?"

HE puts his hand to his ear, encouraging the audience to respond.

When I say "Soul," you say "Bounce!"

HE encourages the audience to respond back and forth.

Soul!

HE points to the audience. THEY respond with...

Bounce!

HE points to himself.

Soul!

HE points to the audience. THEY respond with...

Bounce!

HE puts the blue ball down, and puts one leg up on it. HE is wearing a cup, making him appear rather well-endowed.

Welcome to Soul Bounce. We've revolutionized indoor bouncing and taken the bounce world to a whole new level.

HE yanks up on his jock, emphasizing his package.

I'm Master Bouncer J.T., and today's heart-pounding class is for the fat babies of the world.

HE kisses his fingers, and points to the sky.

Ladies! Are we ready to get on my balls?!

BABETTE, PENNY, LULU all enter excitedly, carrying their balls.

WIVES

Whooh!

J.T.

Where my front row at?

BABETTE moves forward to the front row and unzips her warm up jacket. SHE wears a tank top that says "FRONT ROW BOUNCER." There is an open spot in the front row.

Where's Joanne?

BABETTE

I guess she doesn't really care about babies.

J.T.

Penny!

HE motions to PENNY. PENNY moves to the open position in the front row excitedly.

HE tosses a "FRONT ROW BOUNCER" tank top to her.

J.T. (CONT'D)

Get on my balls, Penny!

PENNY is overwhelmed by his sexiness.

PENNY

Sweet Jesus, yes!

PENNY puts the tank top on and moves into position.

JOANNE runs in late and crosses down to between J.T. and PENNY.

JOANNE

Penny, you're in my spot!

J.T.

Sorry Joanne, we've had to make some changes around here. As soon as there's an opening for the front row you can audition again. Now go get a ball from the back.

JOANNE, flustered and confused, exits toward the back.

The WIVES all vocalize toward JOANNE on her exit with "Sorry," "You were late," "Bye," etc.

J.T. pulls a remote control out and points it straight out, to the 'playback system.' HE starts the music.

SONG #7: BOUNCE IT

J.T. crosses and puts away the remote.

J.T. (CONT'D)

Ladies, we're gonna work it hard, push you beyond your limits, and most of all we're gonna get our bounce on!

(singing)

DAMN GIRL YOU'RE LOOKING SEXY
HOW'D YOU GET THAT BUTT
COME OVER HERE, AND LET'S GET FLEXIE
LET'S GET RID OF THAT GUT

IT'S TIME WE START TO JIGGLE
IT'S TIME WE START TO WIGGLE
FORGET ABOUT THE TWERK
'CAUSE WE ABOUT TO WERK

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT
BOUNCE IT

J.T.

BOUNCE IT LIKE YOU WANT IT
BOUNCE IT AND THEN FLAUNT

JOANNE bounces on from the back. SHE is on a smaller, red 'hippity-hoppy' type ball. SHE struggles and bounces to the center of the back row.

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT
BOUNCE IT

JOANNE bounces down the center to the front row.

J.T.

THE SWEAT WILL HIT THE WALLS
NOW GET ON MY BLUE BALLS

J.T. notices JOANNE struggling.

J.T.

(chanted, in rhythm)

JOANNE
YOU'RE OFF YOUR BOUNCE
COME ON GIRL
BACK ROW!

JOANNE turns and carries the red ball back up center to the back row.

SQUEEZE AND BOUNCE
SQUEEZE AND BOUNCE
MOVING ON --
LET'S GO!

(singing)

DAMN GIRL YOU'RE LOOKING FLY
DON'T YOU GAIN ANOTHER OUNCE
BOUNCE SO HARD, YOU CAN TOUCH THE SKY
GET ON THAT BALL AND BOUNCE!

JOANNE joins in the bouncing, but falls off. SHE continues to try in the back row, but it's becoming clear SHE cannot keep up with the others on her smaller ball.

ALL

BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
(now in double-time)
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!

J.T.

NOW'S THE TIME TO KICK IT
NOW'S THE TIME TO STICK IT
THE SWEAT WILL HIT THE WALLS
NOW GET ON MY BLUE BALLS

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

RESET!

JOANNE now begins to sing a beat behind, ad-libbing in between sections.

JOANNE

RESET!

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT!

JOANNE

BOUNCE IT!

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT!

JOANNE

BOUNCE IT!

(shouted from the back row)

This is unfair!

J.T.

BOUNCE IT LIKE YOU WANT IT

JOANNE

I need some help here!

J.T.

BOUNCE IT AND THEN FLAUNT IT

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT!

JOANNE

This ball is too small!

J.T, BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BOUNCE IT!

JOANNE

This is financial discrimination!

J.T.

THE SWEAT WILL HIT THE WALLS
NOW GET ON MY BIG BLUE BALLS

(spoken)

Here we go!

Dance Break.

J.T. leads them through a "Blue Ball Dance Break," shouting out instructions, as THEY add in and shout back to him.

JOANNE decides it's time to make her stand, and rushes through the WIVES to put herself down front and center.

SHE slams down her red ball, and the WIVES slam down their blue balls.

J.T.

BOUNCE IT LIKE YOU WANT IT
BOUNCE IT AND THEN FLAUNT IT
THE SWEAT WILL HIT THE WALLS
NOW GET ON MY BLUE BALLS—!

C'MON!

WIVES (NO JOANNE)

BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!
BOUNCE! BOUNCE! BOUNCE!

J.T. and the WIVES take a final pose holding their blue balls, and JOANNE falls off her red ball into a final humiliating tableau.

As the lights shift, JOANNE runs out, followed by LULU.

J.T. and the others exit with all of the balls.

LULU

Joanne! Wait! Maybe you shouldn't have come.

JOANNE

You told me to come!

LULU

I did? Four Percocet -- I can't be responsible for what I said!

JOANNE

It doesn't matter. I need to go. I'm meeting someone.

LULU

Ooh, dating already are we?

JOANNE

No, I'm meeting a financial advisor.

LULU

You're sleeping with your financial advisor? How exciting!

JOANNE

He's just helping me with my finances.

LULU illustrates sexual escapades with each phrase.

LULU

"Helping you" with your "finances."

JOANNE

I'm going.

LULU

Don't do anyone I wouldn't do!

LULU looks out, thinking on it.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 7A-TO MATT MULROONEY

SCENE 11: FINANCIAL OFFICES / BARNEY'S SHOE DEPARTMENT

**PROJECTION: MATT MULROONEY, MONEY
MANAGER**

LIGHTS up in an office where JOANNE is waiting. Her phone rings.

SOUND FX: JOANNE'S CELL PHONE RINGS

JOANNE gets her phone from her purse and answers.

JOANNE

Hello?

WOMAN CALLER (V.O.)

Joanne, I'm calling from PGV Media and I'd like to discuss an opportunity with you.

JOANNE

Opportunity?

WOMAN CALLER (V.O.)

Yes. We're interested in you writing a sister blog for "The Daily Wife."

MUSIC CUE: 7B-MYSTERIOUS CALLER

JOANNE

A sister blog?

WOMAN CALLER

Yes, we're calling it "Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com."

JOANNE

Oh, I don't think...

THE MAN barges into the office holding a stack of papers. His name is MATT MULROONEY, Joanne's financial advisor.

MATT MULROONEY

Joanne Johnson?

JOANNE

I've got to go.

JOANNE hangs up. SHE answers to MATT.

Yes?

MATT MULROONEY

Bottom line. You've got nothing.

JOANNE

I've got my spirit.

MATT MULROONEY

You've got nothing.

JOANNE

I've got spunk.

MATT MULROONEY

You've got nothing. Strike that. You've got two kids, a husband who left you with a huge pile of debt and beyond that, piles and piles of nothingness.

JOANNE

And so?

MATT MULROONEY

You've got to get a job.

JOANNE

A job?

MATT MULROONEY

Yes, it's this thing where you show up, do something and they give you money in return.

JOANNE

Oh. Oh...

MATT MULROONEY

What skills you got?

JOANNE

Oh! I've run the PTA silent auction for the last four years.

MATT MULROONEY

You know about shoes?

SHE points to her fabulous shoes.

JOANNE

Of course.

MATT MULROONEY

My cousin works in the shoe department at Barney's. I'll put in a word for you.

JOANNE

No! I can't work there. All my friends shop there. I shop there!

MATT MULROONEY

Not anymore.

JOANNE starts to hyperventilate.

JOANNE

I think I'm going to faint.

MATT MULROONEY

Come on goldilocks, I'll take you over there.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 7C-TO BARNEY'S

PROJECTION: BARNEY'S SHOE DEPARTMENT

LIGHTS up on the others side of the stage, where BEEZUS, LULU, PENNY and BABETTE are in the shoe department of Barney's. LULU, PENNY and BABETTE are drinking champagne.

BEEZUS

Girls, let's not forget what we're here to do. Shoes for my "Bitch of The Ball Bonnet Competition." You've all been practicing your runway walks, yes?

SOUND FX: CONFSSIONAL IN

LULU

(confessional to audience)

The “Bitch of the Ball Bonnet Competition.” Beezus Horowitz’s annual charity, slash runway, slash bonnet competition that raises money for dogs who are deaf. That’s right. Dogs who are deaf.

SOUND FX: CONFESSIONAL OUT

PENNY

Why does it matter? You always win.

BEEZUS

That’s not true. It’s completely confidential voting.

LULU

Confidential!? Your husband tallies up the votes!

BABETTE

I think you should give somebody else a chance! What about the cats? There are cats that are deaf too.

BEEZUS

Babette, it’s wonderful that you’ve stepped out from behind Joanne’s shadow, but you’re still in mine.

BABETTE

Maybe your shadow is getting old.

PENNY

I see what you did there.

LULU

Girls, stop. There’s room for the bitches and the pussies.

The LIGHTS switch from the WIVES to the others side of the stage, where JOANNE is waiting nervously while ALLESANDRO (Barney’s Shoe Department Manager) is looking over her application. The application has Joanne’s modeling headshot stapled to the back.

The light switch is accompanied by a “swoosh.”

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

ALLESANDRO speaks with an affected lilt, seemingly ending each phrase with a question.

ALLESANDRO

I just don’t think my manager will okay this? You don’t have any experience?

JOANNE

Maybe you could give her a call?

ALLESANDRO

I’ll try...?

HE exits.

SOUND FX: JOANNE’S CELL PHONE RINGS

JOANNE reaches into her purse, pulls out her phone & answers.

JOANNE

Yes?

WOMAN CALLER

Joanne, I'm calling again about the online opportunity with "Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com."

JOANNE

I'm not interested.

WOMAN CALLER

It's a paid position.

MUSIC CUE: 7D-MYSTERY CALLER 2

JOANNE thinks for a moment, then decides quickly.

JOANNE

I'm sorry, I've just applied for a job and I'm waiting to hear, so I need to go.

JOANNE hangs up the phone.

The LIGHTS switch from JOANNE back to the WIVES.

The light switch is accompanied by a "swoosh."

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LULU

Girls! Let's buy some shoes!

LULU and PENNY move back to a table with shoes. BABETTE needles BEEZUS.

BABETTE

I'm going with a bedazzled leopard print.

BABETTE walks away.

BEEZUS

Excuse me?! Stick to the dress code! Your dog is a Shar-Pei!

BEEZUS chases after BABETTE.

BABETTE

What if I don't want to go as a Shar-Pei?

JOANNE enters the Shoe Department, sees the other wives and dives to the ground behind a table center.

JOANNE

(hiding)

Oh!

LULU and PENNY move toward the center table to look at the shoes. JOANNE tries to moves around so she isn't seen.

LULU

Ooh, these are sexy.

JOANNE crawls around front, now seen by PENNY.

PENNY

Joanne?

JOANNE freezes.

LULU

Joanne, what are you doing on the ground?

JOANNE

Shopping for shoes of course.

BABETTE

Can you really afford it?

BEEZUS

Babette, that's not nice!

(turning to Joanne, sweetly)

Can you really afford it?

JOANNE

What are you all doing here?

LULU

(sarcastically)

It's Bitch of The Ball Competition time of the year. Again.

BEEZUS gives LULU a look that says, "I didn't invite her."

BEEZUS

Lulu.

LULU

What kind of dog are you this year?

BEEZUS

Lulu!

JOANNE

I didn't receive an invite.

The WIVES all look at BEEZUS with a gasp.

BEEZUS

Joanne, I didn't want to trouble you with it. You've got so much on your plate. You don't need to worry about my silly charity.

BEEZUS takes JOANNE by both hands.

You need to focus on you.

JOANNE tosses her hands away.

JOANNE

I don't want to go to your stupid dog party.

ALLESANDRO enters with a bottle of champagne.

ALLESANDRO

Ladies! Hello!

BEEZUS

Alessandro! How are you?

ALLESANDRO greets all with air kisses on both cheeks, and refills their champagne glasses.

ALLESANDRO

What brings the wives in today?

BEEZUS

Last minute shopping for “The Bitch of The Ball Bonnet Competition.” It’s on Saturday! You’ll be there, yes?

ALLESANDRO

Of course. It’s the event of the season. Who wouldn’t be there?

The WIVES look at JOANNE.

MUSIC CUE: 7E-ALL LOOK AT JOANNE

ALLESANDRO turns and sees Joanne.

Oh.

LULU takes the champagne bottle as HE crosses to JOANNE. HE takes the application out of his jacket and hands it back to her.

I spoke to the regional manager? I’m sorry but you don’t have enough experience? If you’d like to start at Shoe Barn and work your way up she said we could consider your application in several years?

ALLESANDRO exits.

The WIVES are aghast.

BABETTE

You are applying for a job? Here?

PENNY

Wow.

JOANNE starts to answer.

JOANNE

I... I...

JOANNE bursts into tears and runs out.

MUSIC CUE: 7F-JOANNE RUNS AWAY

LULU runs after her, champagne bottle in hand.

THE others exit as the scene moves outside of Barney’s.

LULU

Joanne! Wait!

JOANNE

You were right, Lulu. I should have run away.

LULU

What? I never said that.

JOANNE

Yes you did! You told me to change it! Just run away. No one will miss me when I’m gone!

LULU

I did? I must have been so high.

LULU takes a swig from the bottle of champagne.

Listen, come with me to the Bitch Ball. You can come as my date. I won’t remember anything anyway.

JOANNE

No! My life is over. I can't get a job. I was banished to the second row of a class that only has five people in it. Over the past two days I've been uninvited to three different events!

**Option to add three local events here.*

I don't even want to go to the Bitch Ball. Who cares that the dogs are deaf?! I wish I was deaf! I wish I was dead!

JOANNE falls to the ground crying.

LULU

Well, I've had five Vicodin. I'm not going to remember this tomorrow, so I'll just step out now. Toodles.

LULU exits with the champagne bottle.

SONG #8: AMAZING (REPRISE) ACT ONE FINALE

JOANNE

I'M A MOTHER OF TWO
HAVE A HUSBAND WHO'S LEFT ME ALONE
I HAVE NO IDEA OF WHAT I NEED TO DO
FOR THE FIRST TIME I DON'T REALLY WANT TO
BE INSIDE THIS LIFE
SOMEONE HELP THIS TIRED, POOR
AND TRAGIC REAL HOUSEWIFE

AMAZING
DON'T KNOW WHAT'S NEXT, OR WHERE I'LL GO
AMAZING
KICKED OUT OF THE FRONT ROW
I DON'T THINK THAT I'M STRONG ENOUGH
TO FACE A WORLD UNKNOWN
BUT THEY'VE SHUT ME OUT, LEFT ME ALONE
TO DO THIS ON MY OWN

The music continues.

SOUND FX: JOANNE'S CELL PHONE RINGS

JOANNE, annoyed, gets her phone from her purse and answers it.

(speaking)

What?

WOMAN CALLER

Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com. I will pay you.

JOANNE

Who is this?

WOMAN CALLER

Just call me deep throat.

JOANNE

Gross.

WOMAN CALLER

Will you do it?

JOANNE

I wouldn't know what to write.

WOMAN CALLER

It's very simple. You write about the wives, you hit publish, and their secrets are exposed. First they turned on Poppy and now they've turned on you. Poppy would want you to do it.

JOANNE

POPPY WAS A WOMAN WHO DIDN'T HAVE A HEART
SHE TREATED US LIKE SUBJECTS, HER MAIDENS FROM THE START
WE THOUGHT THAT SHE WAS PERFECT, I DIDN'T HAVE A CLUE
THAT SHE WOULD END HER LIFE SO SUDDENLY
THERE WAS NOTHING WE COULD DO

The other WIVES appear at their vanities, getting ready for "The Bitch of The Ball." As THEY sing, THEY have a distant echoed quality.

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

WE COULD DO! WE COULD DO!

WOMAN CALLER

\$10,000 per article.

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

WE DO JUST WHAT WE PLEASE

JOANNE

\$10,000?

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY

JOANNE

To expose their secrets?

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

OR WE'RE GONNA MAKE YOU PAY!
MAKE YOU PAY! MAKE YOU PAY!

The music continues.

WOMAN CALLER

Payback's a bitch.

JOANNE

I wouldn't know where to start.

WOMAN CALLER

That's not true. A certain someone, with a new nose?

JOANNE understands, and is filled with excitement, shame, wonder – her problems may be solved!

JOANNE

Lulu?

WOMAN CALLER

Find out who she's sleeping with. Ten-thousand per article, Joanne. This could change your life!

JOANNE hangs up. SHE turns and faces each WIFE as THEY seemingly challenge her.

BEEZUS

POPPY GRACE WAS TAKEN DOWN
THAT'S WHY SHE TOOK HER LIFE

LULU

ARE YOU NEXT? THE ONE WHO'LL DROWN
A WASHED UP REAL HOUSEWIFE?

PENNY

IT'S TRUE WE ALL HAVE SECRETS
HIDDEN OUT OF SIGHT

BABETTE

AND NOW YOU HAVE THE CHANCE
TO MAKE A WRONG BE RIGHT

BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

WRONG BE RIGHT

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

WRONG BE RIGHT!

JOANNE turns around with renewed confidence.

The other WIVES continue to get prepped for the ball and admire themselves.

JOANNE

AMAZING!
I'LL SHOW THE WORLD THAT I CAN BE

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE

JOANNE

AMAZING!
THE TRUTH SHALL FINALLY SET ME FREE
I'LL EXPOSE THEIR SECRETS
ONE BY ONE
I WON'T LEAVE OUT OF THING
JOANNE JOHNSON'S BACK
A REAL HOUSEWIFE
AND I'M AMAZING!

OTHER WIVES

OOH--

REAL HOUSEWIFE
DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
ZING!

A-MA-ZING!

Blackout.

END OF ACT ONE.

SONG #9: ENTR'ACTE**ACT TWO****SCENE 1: BITCH OF THE BALL COMPETITION**

In the dark we hear:

BEEZUS

Ladies and gentlemen. This is Beezus speaking.

SONG #10: BITCH OF THE BALL**PROJECTION: BITCH OF THE BALL**

BEEZUS (CONT'D)

The Bitch has arrived.

As LIGHTS come up, we see BEEZUS dressed in a sexy dog costume.

(singing)

IT'S A DOG EAT DOG WORLD
AND IT'S GETTING REALLY RUFF
I DON'T WANNA LOSE MY COOL
BUT GET YOUR HANDS OFF OF MY MUFF
LOOK AT THE WORLD AROUND YOU
THERE ARE DOGS THAT CANNOT HEAR

THEO enters dressed in a dog costume, unzipped down to his navel. HE also has a studded dog collar and leash.

THEO

THEY'RE DEAF!

BEEZUS

MISS BEEZUS HERE TO SAVE YOU
LITTLE DOGGIES DON'T YOU FEAR

THEO dances with BEEZUS.

IN A LIFE THAT HAS IT ALL
YOU FORGET WHAT REALLY MATTERS
THEN YOUR LIFE COMES CRASHING DOWNWARD
AND YOUR WHOLE LIFE IT JUST SHATTERS
JUST WANT YOUR POOCH TO HAVE THE BEST
TO LIVE A LIFE THAT'S FULL
JUST TO CLAP YOUR HANDS AND SEE HER TURN
WHEN YOU SAY, "OLIVE, COME HERE GIRL"

PENNY, BABETTE and LULU appear in sexy dog costumes.

THEY sing and dance throughout.

BEEZUS (CONT'D)

A DOGGY IS A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND
 THICK AND THIN THROUGH THE END
 A DOGGY WON'T TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
 BUT WILL LOVE YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH

YOU PRETEND THAT YOU DON'T SEE THEM
 JUST AVOID AND WALK ON BY
 BUT THEY CAN SEE YOU THEY CAN FEEL YOU
 CAN'T HEAR YOU BUT STILL CRY
 THEY BARK ALONE IN SILENCE
 LITTLE POOCHES YELL, "PLEASE FREE US"
 ONE BY ONE I COME TO RESCUE
 I'M THE ONE AND ONLY BEEZUS

Sexy Doggy Dance Break.

A DOGGY IS A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND
 THICK AND THIN THROUGH THE END
 A DOGGY WON'T TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
 BUT WILL LOVE YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH

BEEZUS breaks into an amazing "rap."

THE DOGS THEY COME TO RESCUE YOU
 AND MAKE YOUR LIFE COMPLETE
 SO I SUGGEST THAT YOU ADOPT
 AND GET ONE OFF THE STREET
 GO TO THE POUND AND PICK ONE UP
 'CAUSE WE ALL KNOW YOU'RE RICH
 AND IF YOU DON'T I'LL KNOCK YOU OUT
 'CAUSE I AM BEEZUS, BITCH!

BEEZUS makes her mic drop, & THEY dance through to the end.

A DOGGY IS A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND
 THICK AND THIN THROUGH THE END
 A DOGGY WON'T TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
 BUT WILL LOVE YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH
 A DOGGY WON'T TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
 BUT WILL LOVE YOU THROUGH AND THROUGH

THEO wraps around BEEZUS' leg and humps her through the end.

HE'LL LOVE YOU!
 HE'LL LOVE YOU!
 HE'LL LOVE, LOVE, LOVE YOU!
 HE'LL LOVE YOU!
 HE'LL LOVE YOU!
 HE'LL LOVE YOU --
 THROUGH AND THROUGH!

OTHERS (NO JOANNE)

RUFF, RUFF
 THROUGH THE END
 NO, NO
 THAT'S RIGHT!

OOH--
 WALK ON BY--

ARF, ARF!

ONE AND ONLY BEEZUS

RUFF, RUFF
 THROUGH THE END
 NO, NO
 THAT'S RIGHT!

COMPLETE!
 GET THEM OFF THE STREET!
 YOU'RE RICH!

RUFF, RUFF
 THROUGH THE END
 NO, NO
 THAT'S RIGHT!
 NO, NO
 THAT'S RIGHT!

LOVE!
 LOVE!
 LOVE! LOVE!
 LOVE!
 LOVE!
 THROUGH AND THROUGH!

THEY take a final pose.

BEEZUS and the other girls exit during the BITCH EXIT.

MUSIC CUE: 10A-BITCH EXIT

THEO steps into a spotlight.

THEO

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for joining us this evening for such an important cause — dogs who are deaf. In their right ear. In addition to helping the dogs, our hostess ‘Bitch’ has also pledged that 10% of all proceeds collected tonight will go to *fixing the sign at the Smokehouse Restaurant.

**This should be an appropriate and well-known thing/building/sign in town that’s either broken, needs to be fixed, or requires a major capital campaign.*

THEO turns upstage.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

The LIGHTS swoosh to a vanity on the other side of the stage. ON it are Joanne’s laptop and her cell phone.

SOUND FX: JOANNE’S CELL PHONE RINGS

JOANNE enters. SHE appears to be ‘hiding out,’ with a scarf over her hair. SHE [picks up the phone and answers it.

JOANNE

Hi.

The MAN speaks as the WOMAN CALLER while facing upstage.

WOMAN CALLER

Ready to publish your first story?

JOANNE

I’m not sure, this doesn’t feel right.

WOMAN CALLER

As soon as you hit “publish,” your first ten thousand will be wired to your account.

JOANNE

I don’t even know who you are. Maybe you’re lying.

WOMAN CALLER

I’m not lying. Hit publish, their Google alerts will go off, and we’ll be in business.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

The LIGHTS switch back to THEO. THEO faces out.

THEO

Now for everyone’s favorite part of the evening! Wearing this year’s fabulous Bitch of the Ball Dog Bonnets, please welcome the Real Housewives of *City!

MUSIC CUE: 10B-BONNET MUSIC

BEEZUS enters wearing a Standard Poodle bonnet. The poodle’s head bounces as she promenades for two measures.

PENNY enters wearing a St. Bernard bonnet, which includes a glittery cross and a gay pride rainbow. She promenades for two measures.

LULU enters wearing a Weiner Dog bonnet. As SHE turns, we see the Weiner dog is lifting its leg on a huge fire hydrant. She promenades for two measures.

Finally, BABBETTE enters, and the music changes. BABBETTE has changed into a cat outfit, complete with tail, and wears a large, statuesque cat on her bonnet, with a sign that says, "Don't Forget the Pussies!"

BEEZUS is angry at BABBETTE's defiance.

MUSIC CUE: 10C-BITCH FIGHT

BEEZUS

How dare you!

BABETTE

How dare I what? Step out of your shadow?

BEEZUS

You're supposed to have a Shar-Pei on your head!

BABETTE

I told you, Shar-Peis are fat and wrinkly! It's time someone stood up for the felines.

BABETTE takes a pose, showing off her bonnet and the sign.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

THEO faces back as the LIGHTS switch back to JOANNE.

JOANNE is hesitating over her laptop.

WOMAN CALLER

Hit publish. Do it.

JOANNE

No.

WOMAN CALLER

Do it...!

JOANNE

No!

WOMAN CALLER

Do it!

JOANNE

Fine!

JOANNE dramatically hits the button on her laptop.

The LIGHTS quickly switch back to the "Bitch of the Ball."

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT

BABETTE pulls her phone out, hidden in her cat outfit.

BABETTE

Ooh! Google alert!

BEEZUS

Excuse me, now is not the time to check your phone!

BABETTE quickly reads and then falls to the ground in a heap.

BABETTE

Oh no!

MUSIC CUE: 10D-BABETTE FALLS TO THE GROUND

PENNY

Babette, what's the matter?

BABETTE

He cheated on me!

PENNY

Royce?

BEEZUS has grabbed BABETTE's phone.

BEEZUS

It's on some blog called "Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com."

PENNY grabs the phone to look.

PENNY

It must be true then.

BEEZUS

This town is so small, where has he been going?

BABETTE

(whispering)

*North...

BEEZUS

What?

BABETTE

(louder)

*North...

BEEZUS, PENNY, THEO

What?

BABETTE

(loudly)

*North Hollywood!

BEEZUS, PENNY and THEO look out, horrified.

BEEZUS, PENNY, THEO

*North Hollywood!

**Adjust this section to fit the name of this locale.*

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT

PENNY

There's more!

(reading from the phone)

"Royce Bellini, Toluca Lake real estate mogul, has been caught with his pants down. Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com is now confirming the other party involved in this sexy scandal.

MUSIC CUE: 10E-THE OTHER PARTY

BABETTE, BEEZUS and PENNY read from the phone.

THEY look up together with an audible gasp.

BABETTE, BEEZUS & PENNY

Lulu Delecante!

THEY all look at LULU.

LULU

I can explain.

BABETTE grabs her phone and races after LULU.

BABETTE

I'm going to kill you!

LULU runs around the stage, followed by BABETTE, PENNY & THEO.

THEY circle BEEZUS, who is stays center.

THEY exit as BEEZUS sings the playoff.

SONG #10F: BITCH OF THE BALL PLAYOFF**BEEZUS**

HE'LL LOVE YOU!

HE'LL LOVE YOU!

HE'LL LOVE, LOVE, LOVE YOU!

HE'LL LOVE YOU!

HE'LL LOVE YOU!

HE'LL LOVE, LOVE, LOVE –

THROUGH AND THROUGH!

THEY have all run offstage chasing LULU.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 10G-TO JOANNE

SCENE 2: JOANNE'S HOUSE / SPLIT BEDROOM**PROJECTION: MEANWHILE...***The LIGHTS come on JOANNE, still at her laptop.***SONG #11: AMAZING (REPRISE 2)***SHE slowly rises.***JOANNE**

AMAZING
 THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I KNOW
 AMAZING
 WHO KNEW THAT I COULD SINK SO LOW?
 SHOULD I SPILL THEIR TRUTH AND LIES
 AND SECRETS, ONE BY ONE?

SOUND FX: JOANNE'S CELL PHONE RINGS*JOANNE picks up her cell phone and answers it.**(spoken)*

Hello?

WOMAN CALLER

Don't get soft. Publish another story.

JOANNE

I'm about to ruin more lives.

WOMAN CALLER

You're so dramatic. Let me hear what you have...?

*JOANNE opens the laptop, and reads from what she's written.***JOANNE**

Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com has learned that Babette Bellini is doing everything within her power to get back her man. She refuses to let her marriage go down in flames like a, quote, "certain, conniving, washed-up Sultana."

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH*LIGHTS up on one half of a bed where BABETTE is sitting in lingerie. Next to the bed is an ice bucket with a bottle of champagne.***BABETTE**

Royce?! Can you come in here? I've got something to show you.

ROYCE*(from offstage)*

Be there in a minute.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH*LIGHTS dim on BABETTE, and come up full on JOANNE.*

JOANNE

It seems that everyone is working on their marriage these days. A little birdy told Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com that Penny Quinoa St. Simone and husband Theo are seeing world-renowned sex therapist Dr. Nicolette Ninatelli.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS out on JOANNE. LIGHTS UP on the other half of the bed.

PENNY enters in her robe, holding some delicate-looking lingerie.

PENNY

Theo! Can you come in here for a sec?

THE MAN enters as THEO.

THEO

Hi, sweetie.

He sees PENNY holding a nightie and gets nervous.

Oh. What have we here?

PENNY

Doctor Nicole said we have to have sex at least once this week.

THEO

She did say that didn't she.

PENNY

Do you want me to do a little fashion show for you?

THEO claps excitedly.

THEO

You know I love a good fashion show.

PENNY exits. THEO exits.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to BABETTE's side of the bed. BABETTE is still waiting.

BABETTE

Hello?

THE MAN walks through the door as ROYCE, texting on his phone.

ROYCE

Hey. Sorry I'm late.

BABETTE

I wanted to do something special for you. Turn up the romance a bit? I feel like we haven't been connecting.

ROYCE

Sure.

SOUND FX: TEXT SOUND

Give me a sec, I gotta make a call.

BABETTE

Okay, just one.

ROYCE exits.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to PENNY's side of the bed.

THEO enters.

THEO

Sweetheart, I'm waiting!

PENNY

(from offstage)

Coming!

THEO

That's what he said.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to BABETTE's side of the bed.

THEO exits.

BABETTE

Royce? Honey?

ROYCE enters and picks up the champagne bottle.

ROYCE

Is this for us?

BABETTE

Yes, darling.

ROYCE

I need a glass.

BABETTE takes the bottle and mimes pouring it down her cleavage.

BABETTE

How about you just lick it off me?

ROYCE

That sounds sticky.

BABETTE

No it's not. It's sexy.

ROYCE

Whatever.

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to PENNY's side of the bed.

ROYCE exits.

PENNY comes out in her first outfit. SHE poses as she calls out to him.

PENNY

Theo..!

THEO enters.

THEO

Wow. Sexy. It says, "I'm slutty but I'm a princess." "I want to ride you hard," and at the same time "daddy, waddy, ooh, I'm naughty!"

THEO applauds excitedly.

Let's see the next one!

PENNY

Okay!

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to BABETTE's side of the bed.

THEO exits.

BABETTE

So, one of my fitness classes is called "Lap Dance Booty Camp."

ROYCE enters.

ROYCE

What's that?

BABETTE

It's an exercise class. Amazing for your core and glutes. We've been working on a little routine. Wanna see it?

ROYCE

Sure.

BABETTE exits excitedly to get ready

SOUND FX: LIGHTS SWOOSH

LIGHTS switch to PENNY's side of the bed.

ROYCE exits.

PENNY enters in her second white nighty. SHE calls to him again.

PENNY

Theo...?

THEO enters.

THEO

Ooh, that's so virginal. Love it.

PENNY walks towards him in a funny/bad sexy walk.

SHE backs him against the bed.

As SHE gets ready to leap onto him, HE moves aside, and SHE falls onto the bed.

THEO lands on his knees in front of the bed, and PENNY rises to her knees on the bed behind him and tries to kiss him on the neck.

THEO (CONT'D)

(pulling away)

Should we pray for a minute?

PENNY tries to kiss him on the other side.

THEO pulls away again.

I think I should brush my teeth...!

THEO slips away, and PENNY lands onto the floor.

PENNY

Theo I think we need to actually do it.

THEO

Okay, but wait! In the spirit of this sex therapy thing, I've been going to lap dance booty camp.

PENNY

I heard.

THEO

And we've been working on a routine for you. Can I show you?

PENNY

Of course.

THEO claps twice, and the music begins.

SONG #12: LAP DANCE BOOTY SONG (SOUND CUE ONLY)

Lap Dance Booty Song begins with THEO dancing for PENNY.

Partway through, THEO crosses over to become ROYCE, and BABELLE begins her portion of the Lap Dance Booty Song.

ROYCE heads back over to become THEO as PENNY joins into the excitement, then THE MAN heads to the center of the bed where he becomes both THEO and ROYCE, as PENNY and BABELLE gyrate against him.

The song ramps up, the LIGHTS go crazy, and the three of them end in an accidental threesome, ending with a final tableau on the bed.

The transition to the next scene is immediate.

SCENE 3: VICIOUS GOSSIP / WIFE'S VANITIES

The scene is an immediate segue from the applause of the final tableau of Lap Dance Booty Song.

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT

PENNY and BABETTE grab for their phones as THE MAN lies back on the bed.

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT

BABETTE screams and races across the stage to a spotlight.

PENNY also screams and races across the stage to a different spotlight.

The bed disappears.

BEEZUS appears in another spotlight.

BEEZUS

I know, I read it! Honey, are you sure you should stay with Royce?

LULU appears in another spotlight.

LULU

Is it true? Sex therapy?

All four WIVES are now talking to each other in various ways, looking at their phones, talking into the microphone, etc.

With each Google Alert, they variously look and scroll as they read the vicious gossip. The scene is elevated, and continues to grow in intensity as they begin to attack each other.

PENNY

It might be true.

BABETTE

We've got to find out who is behind this frickin' Sex, Lies and Secret Wives-dot-com. What a stupid name.

LULU

I think it's kind of clever.

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT**PENNY**

Lulu! You slept with your postman?!

LULU

We've got to shut this down!

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT**BABETTE**

Beezus! You had a butt implant in Acapulco?!

BEEZUS

It makes my waist look smaller!

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT

BABETTE

Beezus, you swore you'd never tell anyone about my beauty mark.

PENNY

You have a third nipple?

BABETTE

It's a mole!

SOUND FX: GOOGLE ALERT CACOPHONY

The Google alerts now begin to overlap, coming from all areas of the theater. It turns into a cacophony of sound as the WIVES get angrier and begin yelling at each other.

The WIVES overlap lines, building in intensity to the end.

BEEZUS

Oh my god!

LULU

I am not a big fat ho!

BABETTE

Lulu you slept with your dentist?

PENNY

You are a big fat ho!

LULU

I am not fat!

BEEZUS

Those are knock-off Louboutins?

LULU

I knew it!

BABETTE

Shut up! Your whole face is fake!

LULU

At least my lips are smaller than your ass!

PENNY

That doesn't even make sense!

BEEZUS

I am never speaking to you again!

BABETTE

Good, hang up!

PENNY

You hang up!

LULU

I'm not hanging up, you hang up!

ALL

I'm hanging up!

SOUND FX: END OF CACOPHONY

The WIVES all hang up in one exhausted heap, and sound swooshes to the end of the cacophony, in a simulated hanging up, or rather, turning off of their phones.

SONG #13: CHIN UP

THEY all sit at their vanities dejected.

THEY sing to their reflections in the mirrors, out to the audience.

LULU

HEY THERE, GIRL
I SEE YOU'RE FEELING LOW
DID THEY BREAK YOUR HEART IN PIECES
AND CALL YOU A BIG FAT HO?

HEY THERE, GIRL
JUST LIFT YOUR HEAD UP HIGH
DON'T BE A LITTLE WUSSIE
I SEE YOU START TO CRY

PENNY

'CAUSE EVEN GIRLS LIKE ME
THEY CAN BE BULLIED
EVEN WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE THIS
YOUR LIFE IS SULLIED

SO LET YOUR SPIRITS SOAR
AND LET ME YOU ROAR
'CAUSE PRETTY PEOPLE
CAN BE BULLIED TOO

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

SO, CHIN UP, CHIN UP, CHIN UP
AND JUST BULLY THEM BACK
YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE BETTER
AND GOOD LOOKING PEOPLE WIN

SO CHIN UP, CHIN UP, CHIN UP
AND KEEP YOUR LIFE ON TRACK
YOU'LL ALWAYS HAVE MORE MONEY
AND THE REST OF THEM ALL WHACK

BEEZUS

HEY THERE, GIRL
I SEE THAT YOU'VE BEEN DOWN
DID THEY MAKE YOU FEEL A LOSER
'CAUSE YOU'RE THE HOTTEST GIRL IN TOWN?

LISTEN UP, HOT GIRL

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU

OOH--
OOH--
EVEN WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE THIS

SO LET YOUR SPIRITS SOAR
AND LET ME YOU ROAR

BABETTE, LULU, PENNY

HEY THERE, GIRL
HOTTEST GIRL IN TOWN?

LISTEN UP, HOT GIRL

BEEZUS (CONT'D)

TO THE PEOPLE YOU HOLD CLOSE
DON'T EVEN THINK A MINUTE
OF THE PEOPLE WHO LOOK GROSS

BABETTE

'CAUSE EVEN GIRLS LIKE ME
THEY CAN BE BULLIED
YES, EVEN WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE THIS
YOUR LIFE IS SULLIED

SO LET YOUR SPIRITS SOAR
AND LET ME HEAR YOU ROAR
'CAUSE PRETTY PEOPLE
CAN BE BULLIED TOO

PENNY

THERE ARE PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD
THAT FEEL SECLUDED
THERE ARE PEOPLE IN THIS LIFE
WHO ARE JUST PLAIN STUPID
YOU TAKE THEM ONE BY ONE
EACH STATE, EACH CITY

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY

'CAUSE YOU CAN'T HELP IT
THAT YOU'RE JUST FRICKIN' PRETTY

THEY all come downstage into spotlights, staying separate, but singing and moving together: a solo "We Are The World" moment.

SO, CHIN UP, CHIN UP, CHIN UP
AND JUST BULLY THEM BACK
YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE BETTER
AND GOOD LOOKING PEOPLE WIN

SO, CHIN UP, CHIN UP, CHIN UP
AND KEEP YOUR LIFE ON TRACK
YOU'LL ALWAYS HAVE MORE MONEY
AND THE REST OF THEM ALL WHACK
REST OF THEM ALL WHACK
AND THE REST OF THEM ALL WHACK
REST OF THEM

THEY each hold up lit lighters as THEY sing their final notes. Even better if they have real iPhones with lighter apps ablaze.

PENNY

ALL WHACK

LULU

WHACK

BABETTE, LULU, PENNY

PEOPLE WHO LOOK GROSS

BEEZUS, LULU, PENNY

OOH--
OOH--
EVEN WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE THIS

LET YOUR SPIRITS SOAR
LET ME HEAR YOU ROAR

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU

OOH--
OOH--
OOH--
JUST PLAIN STUPID
OOH--
OOH--

WHACK **BABETTE**

WHACK **BEEZUS**

WHACK **BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY**

*THEY all resolve together, holding their lighters up.
Blackout.*

MUSIC CUE: 13A-JOANNE FALLS ASLEEP

SCENE 4: JOANNE'S HOUSE

LIGHTS UP on JOANNE who has fallen asleep.

MUSIC CUE: 13B-ANDERSON'S ENTRANCE

We hear wind, and panels at the back of the stage open. Large curtains billow gently in the wind, and ANDERSON appears in silhouette. ANDERSON is instantly recognizable wearing a suave linen suit and a sombrero hat. HE enters, takes off the sombrero, and steps into the dreamy lights.

SONG #14: TELL ME YOU MISSED ME

HIS voice seems far away.

ANDERSON

(singing)

I KNOW THAT I HURT YOU
PLEASE DARLING FORGIVE ME
I LEFT YOU TO FIGHT ALL ALONE

JOANNE

Anderson?

ANDERSON

IT SEEMS LIFE WITHOUT YOU
IS SO FULL OF SORROW
I WISH THAT SOMEHOW I'D HAVE KNOWN

HE crosses around her, and SHE rises.

MY LIFE WITHOUT YOU
IS LONELY AND BORING
I'M LONGING TO BE BY YOUR SIDE
MY ONE AND ONLY BRIDE
I'M SORRY THAT I LIED

THEY begin a delicate dance together, not yet touching.

SO COME RUN AWAY
WE CAN HIDE OUT FOREVER
AND NO ONE WILL CARE THAT WE'RE GONE
WE CAN LIVE A NEW LIFE
PUT THIS NIGHTMARE BEHIND US
AND SOMEHOW WE'LL TRY TO MOVE ON

SO TELL ME YOU'VE MISSED ME
AND TELL ME YOU NEED ME
AND JOIN ME IN THIS FANTASY
JUST ME, AND MY LOVELY JOANNE
WALKING HAND IN HAND

HE holds out HIS hand, SHE takes it, and THEY dance.

ANDERSON (CONT'D)

(spoken)

Remember this?

JOANNE

Our first dance.

THEY continue. It's romantic and beautiful, and JOANNE is swept away, reveling in the feeling of her old life.

ANDERSON pulls her close, kissing her.

HE holds both of her hands

ANDERSON

Let's go.

JOANNE

No. I can't just run away.

ANDERSON

Yes, you can.

JOANNE pulls away.

JOANNE

Like you did? You just left me and our children behind to fend for ourselves.

ANDERSON

But look at you. You did it Joanne.

JOANNE

I've just made everyone miserable.

ANDERSON

They kicked you when you were at your lowest.

JOANNE

Didn't I do the same thing to Poppy? Look what happened to her.

ANDERSON

Poppy knew she was about to be replaced, so she replaced herself.

JOANNE

With me. She told me to lead.

ANDERSON

And you're doing that.

ANDERSON moves towards JOANNE.

JOANNE

No, don't touch me. I don't want to do this anymore.

SHE pauses to think.

I need to break the rules.

ANDERSON

Break the rules?

JOANNE

If I don't break them, nobody will.

ANDERSON

You're adorable when you say things that don't make sense.

JOANNE

Get out.

The LIGHTS shift.

SONG #14A: TELL ME PLAYOFF

ANDERSON slowly backs toward the door.

ANDERSON

REMEMBER ME ALWAYS
THINK OF THE OLD DAYS
WHEN I WAS A MUCH STRONGER MAN
REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE, JOANNE

ANDERSON begins to exit, then quickly returns to grab his sombrero. HE puts it on and stands in the lights of the blowing curtains as the panels close in front of him. HE is gone.

JOANNE goes to her laptop and begins to type into her blog.

JOANNE

Everyone in *CITY knows there are rules to being a housewife. Rule: Appearances are key. Rule: hair extensions a necessity. Rule: bronzing a must. The list of rules goes on and on. But for some, the rules go even deeper. And it's starting to kill us. Endless surgeries, constant lies, two or three Vicodin before a girls luncheon because you can't stand the boring conversation, and then chase it with two Pinot Grigios so that you can have sex with your husband? That is why today I declare that it's time to break the rules!

SHE continues to type as the music comes in.

SONG #15: BREAK THE RULES**JOANNE (CONT'D)**

(singing)

WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO BREAK THE RULES
IT'S TIME TO DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY
WHO CARES IF WE LOOK LIKE FOOLS
IT'S TIME TO SHOW THE WORLD
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE REAL
WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO BREAK THE RULES
AND THEN WE'LL START TO FEEL

SHE steps up from her laptop, moving center. The song now becomes a singing embodiment of her blog post.

I NEED TO KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE
TIME TO SHOW THE WORLD I'M FREE
STOP ACTING UNTRUE AND FAKE
ENOUGH OF TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH THEIR LIVES
I'M GONNA HAVE TO BREAK THE RULES
NOT BE LIKE OTHER WIVES

The LIGHTS come up on PENNY at her vanity, reading the blog on her phone.

JOANNE (CONT'D)

NO MORE MAKING SURE
THAT MY CLOTHES ARE COUTURE
AND ARE SIZE TWO

The LIGHTS come up on BEEZUS at her vanity, reading the blog on her phone.

NO MORE BEING LATE
TO A LUNCH DATE
JUST TO SCREW WITH YOU

The LIGHTS come up on LULU at her vanity, reading the blog on her phone.

I DON'T WANNA FIGHT
WITH YOU ALL NIGHT
'CAUSE YOU WORE THE SAME DRESS AS ME

The LIGHTS come up on BABETTE at her vanity, reading the blog on her phone.

IT'S TIME THAT YOU KNOW
I HAVE NO MORE DOUGH
AND I'M FILING FOR BANKRUPTCY!

The WIVES continue to read the blog post.

JOANNE moves UC.

WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT
THAT WE CAN DO MORE THAN JUST CAT FIGHT
SICK OF BEING AFRAID AND NOW I'M ON A CRUSADE
TO BREAK THE RULES
BREAK THE RULES!

JOANNE crosses to PENNY DSL, singing directly to her. PENNY is still reading and reacting to the blog.

NO MORE FANCY WORKOUT CLOTHES
NO MORE FIVE OR SIX INCH HEELS

JOANNE crosses to LULU USR, singing directly to her. LULU is still reading and reacting to the blog.

YOU DON'T NEED ANOTHER NOSE
STOP THOSE FANCY CHEMICAL PEELS

JOANNE crosses to BEEZUS USL, singing directly to her. BEEZUS is still reading and reacting to the blog.

I DON'T NEED TO BE ON TOP
I DON'T WANT TO TELL YOU WHY

JOANNE crosses to BABETTE DSR, singing directly to her. BABETTE is still reading and reacting to the blog.

JOANNE (CONT'D)

ALL THE WHISPERING WILL STOP
AND MY SPIRIT, IT WILL FLY

JOANNE crosses center.

IT'S TIME WE ALL AGREE
SO WE CAN FINALLY BE FREE
LET'S DO IT NOW
TAKE A SOLEMN VOW
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW

TO BREAK THE RULES
BREAK THE RULES
BREAK THE RULES!

JOANNE holds her arms up in a final triumphant pose.

The other WIVES look out for the button, stunned at what they've read in the blog.

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 15A-TO RICARDO'S SALON

SCENE 5: RICARDO'S HAIR SALON**PROJECTION: RICARDO'S HAIR SALON**

LIGHTS up on BABETTE who is getting her hair done at Ricardo's Hair Salon. SHE is wearing a salon robe, with a cape over it.

SHE is reading from her phone to RICARDO who is in the next room.

BABETTE

And then she writes, "Two or three Vicodin before a girls luncheon because you can't stand the boring conversation and then chase it with two Pinot Grigios so that you can have sex with your husband!" It's like she's the wife whisperer.

RICARDO enters. HE is slightly swishy and speaks with a distinct Latin accent.

RICARDO

So you caught him doing it with Lulu in *North Hollywood*? Grossamundo! So it's like bye-bye Lulu?

BABETTE

No! It's like bye-bye Babette! No one will talk to me. I haven't been invited to anything. It's like she totally gets to F my husband and I'm stuck at home while my children have lice!

RICARDO reels back in disgust.

RICARDO

Ay dios mio!

BABETTE

Please don't tell anybody.

JOANNE enters wearing a salon robe.

SHE does not see BABETTE, who turns and hides her face. BABETTE listens and reacts during the following interaction.

JOANNE

Ricardo!

RICARDO

Oh my god! Joanne, hi hi hi! You poor thing, your highlights, let's get you in this chair.

HE sits her down and puts a cape on her.

JOANNE

I want to go back to my original color.

RICARDO is silent for a beat.

RICARDO

I'm sorry, I think I just had a mini stroke. I thought you said your original color?

JOANNE

I did.

RICARDO

Brown?

JOANNE

Brunette, my original color.

RICARDO

Joanne, you've literally got nothing else besides your beautiful golden locks. No, I won't do it. Anything else.

JOANNE

Fine. Then I need a new hairstyle. I am no longer wearing a tiara.

BABETTE gasps, turning again to hide her face.

RICARDO

Joanne that's your signature look.

JOANNE

Not anymore. Take it out.

RICARDO

Okay. But you're going to have to sign a waiver.

Against his better judgment, RICARDO slowly reaches over toward the tiara. HE yanks it off in one fell swoop, and gives JOANNE a hand mirror. JOANNE admires her new look in the mirror.

JOANNE

Oh! Oh!

JOANNE sees BABETTE, and THEY react together, turning away from each other.

BABETTE & JOANNE

Oh.

JOANNE

Babette.

BABETTE

Joanne.

RICARDO

Oh my goodness, I completely forgot you guys were like total enemies. But you know what? This is a beauty salon, and this is where women work it out. Everyone has troubles.

HE leans toward JOANNE.

Her husband did with Lulu La Puta...

HE leans toward BABETTE.

Her husband embezzled millions of dollars...

HE leans toward JOANNE.

Her children have lice.

RICARDO covers his mouth as BABETTE reacts in horror.

JOANNE gasps and rises.

JOANNE

Your children have lice?!

BABETTE

Oh, don't you just love that?!

JOANNE

No. I don't. I wouldn't wish lice on anyone in the entire world.

THEY pause, and then quickly step toward each other in sincerity.

BABETTE & JOANNE

I'm sorry!

RICARDO loudly stifles a cry and waves tears from his eyes.

SONG #16: I FORGIVE YOU

BABETTE

I miss you.

JOANNE

I miss you too.

RICARDO draws a heart with his fingers and then exits.

(singing)

EVERY DAY I WAKE UP THINKING
THAT SOMETHING IS AMISS
I MISS MY BETTER HALF
AND I MISS THAT CRAZY LAUGH

BABETTE laughs her crazy and distinctive laugh.

BABETTE

Hahahahaha.

JOANNE

That's the one.

(singing)

I REALIZE NOW I NEED MORE
THAN I EVER HAVE BEFORE
AND I'M SORRY THAT YOUR HUSBAND
SLEPT WITH THAT BRITISH WHORE

BABETTE

IT'S TRUE THAT FRIENDS WILL LEAVE YOU
AND KICK YOU WHEN YOU'RE DOWN
I'VE SPAT ON YOU
AND SPREAD SOME LIES
TO EVERYONE IN TOWN

I KNOW THAT NOW IT WAS WRONG OF ME
TO KICK YOU IN THAT DITCH
AND I'M REALLY SAD I CALLED YOU
A BACKSTABBING LOW LIFE BITCH

BABETTE checks in with JOANNE to see if SHE is forgiven.

JOANNE

I FORGIVE YOU

BABETTE

I FORGIVE YOU

JOANNE

LET'S PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED

BABETTE

LET'S START ANEW

BABETTE & JOANNE

OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH
 'CAUSE WE'RE BETTER OFF AS FRIENDS
 WE'RE TAKING BACK OUR LIVES
 WHO CARES WHAT THOSE OTHER BITCHES SAY
 TOGETHER WE ARE BFF'S
 WHATEVER COMES OUR WAY

BABETTE

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I THINK
 "WHAT'S THE POINT OF TRYING
 SO HARD TO BE ME?"

JOANNE

AND SOME MORNINGS I JUST WANT
 TO STAY IN BED AND CLOSE MY SHADES
 SO THE WORLD CAN'T SEE

BABETTE

TO EAT WHATEVER I WANT

JOANNE

FULL-FAT LATTES

BABETTE

AND BURGERS

JOANNE

AND FRIES!

BABETTE & JOANNE

TO BE THE GIRL WHO DOESN'T CARE
 ABOUT THE CELLULITE ON HER THIGHS!
 I FORGIVE YOU
 LET'S PRETEND WE NEVER LOST EACH OTHER
 THE FIGHTING IS THROUGH
 OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH
 NOT GONNA BLAME OR TAKE DOWN ONE ANOTHER

JOANNE

WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN?

BABETTE

NO HUSBAND

BABETTE & JOANNE

WE'RE ON OUR OWN
 BUT WE CAN FACE IT ALL AS BFF'S

BABETTE & JOANNE (CONT'D)

AND KNOW WE'RE NOT ALONE

JOANNE rips her cape off, revealing the robe underneath.

JOANNE

I'M GONNA SPEAK MY MIND
AND TELL THE TRUTH
AND NOT BE AFRAID TO BE ME

BABETTE rips her cape off, revealing the robe underneath.

BABETTE

WE'RE GONNA SHOW THE WORLD
THAT THESE BFF'S
HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE FREE

JOANNE

I'M GONNA REACH
THE TOP ON MY OWN
DON'T NEED A MAN TO GET BY

BABETTE & JOANNE

WE'RE GONNA KNOCK YOU DOWN
IF YOU STAND IN OUR WAY
AS WE CLIMB TO THE TOP TO REACH THE SKY!
WHOAH, WHOAH---

I FORGIVE YOU
LET'S PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED
LET'S START ANEW
OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH, OOH
'CAUSE WE'RE BETTER OFF AS FRIENDS

THEY hold both hands, looking into each other's eyes.

JOANNE

WE'RE TAKING BACK OUR LIVES

BABETTE

SO WHAT, MY KIDS HAVE LICE?

BABETTE & JOANNE

WHO CARES WHAT THOSE OTHER BITCHES SAY?

THEY play imaginary drums with the music, reveling in their renewed friendship.

TOGETHER WE ARE BFF'S
WHATEVER COMES OUR WAY

Blackout.

MUSIC CUE: 16A-I FORGIVE YOU PLAYOFF

SCENE 6: VANITIES / MOROCCO

We discover the WIVES at their vanities. THEY are speaking to the audience, looking at their 'reflections' in their vanity mirrors.

LIGHTS up on BEEZUS.

BEEZUS

So life seems to be getting back to some sort of normalcy.

LIGHTS up on LULU.

LULU

Babette won't talk to me.

LIGHTS up on PENNY.

PENNY

But Joanne and Babette are best friends again.

LIGHTS up on BABETTE.

BABETTE

I decided to leave Royce.

JOANNE enters and sits next to BABETTE.

JOANNE

And we're officially roommates!

JOANNE and BABETTE hug.

BEEZUS

Then it arrived.

**PROJECTION: A MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE
ARRIVES...**

MUSIC CUE: 16B-MYSTERIOUS ENVELOPE

The WIVES all hold up the invitation at the same time.

PENNY

A mysterious cream envelope, with a yellow satin ribbon.

LULU

Of course I opened it.

BEEZUS

Inside, a poem.

JOANNE

No signature.

MUSIC CUE: 16C-INVITATION TO MOROCCO

THEY each read from the invitation.

PENNY

A girls' weekend is much in need.

BEEZUS

To mend and heal, I do decree.

JOANNE

I've organized this trip for you.

BABETTE

To reveal inside the hidden truth.

LULU

The hate and anger you must forgo --

WIVES

As I take you too...

THEY all gasp excitedly together.

Morocco!

THEY rise and push off their vanities.

SONG #17: MOROCCAN MEET THE WIVES

THEY put on sunglasses.

WIVES (CONT'D)

A GIRLS WEEKEND, WE'RE LEAVING NOW, COME ON LET'S GO
 DRINKS AND FIGHTS ARE WAITING FOR US IN MOROCCO
 A JET SET LIFE, HAVE NO IDEA WHERE WE'LL BE
 BRING ON THE SUN, AND BOOZE, AND FUN, AND MYSTERY

THEY travel downstage, and the stage is transformed into Morocco. THEY are excited to land in Morocco.

PROJECTION: MOROCCO!

MOROCCO—

PENNY

FETCH MY BIKINIS

WIVES

MOROCCO—

BABETTE

GET THE LIMOUSINE

WIVES

MOROCCO—

PENNY

FIRST CLASS IS THE ONLY WAY TO BE

Suddenly, Morocco doesn't look so great anymore.

WIVES

MOROCCO—

LULU

THERE'S A LOT OF SAND

WIVES

MOROCCO—

BEEZUS

IT'S REALLY HOT

WIVES

MOROCCO—

I HOPE YOU'RE READY FOR ME TO COMPLAIN A LOT!

The back panels open, and a MOROCCAN MAN in a caftan and red hat enters.

HE dances and passes out pillows.

THEY are swept up in the dance as HE chants. The WIVES chant in return.

HE brings forward a crystal ball, and poses on the final beat of the music.

MOROCCAN MAN

Ladies of the housewives from where you call *Lake of the Toluca. Welcome. Your host has arranged for you a special evening.

**This reference should be a slightly mangled way of saying the name of the CITY.*

The MOROCCAN MAN places the crystal ball in the center of the room.

PENNY

You are adorbs.

MOROCCAN MAN

Please, have a seat.

BEEZUS

On the floor?

LULU

Why is there a crystal ball?

MOROCCAN MAN

All will be revealed.

BEEZUS

Now hold on a minute! Who is our host? I thought they would have at least greeted us upon arrival.

MOROCCAN MAN

Let me check the room reservation.

HE types on the crystal ball.

SOUND FX: CRYSTAL BALL COMPUTER TYPING

The crystal ball glows as HE types.

HE lifts his fingers, the sound stops, and the crystal ball no longer glows.

The reservation was made by a Poppy Grace Von Vandenberg

The WOMEN gasp, dropping their pillows.

LULU

Poppy? But she's dead.

MOROCCAN MAN

Ladies, this is Morocco. We believe in the continued existence of the soul. Enjoy.

MUSIC CUE: 17A-MOROCCAN MAN DISAPPEARS

HE exits.

THEY begin to sit in a semi-circle around the crystal ball.

PENNY

You guys, do you think Poppy Grace set all of this up?

BEEZUS

Don't be ridiculous.

PENNY

Maybe she's mad and she's come back from the dead to punish us.

LULU

Penny, our friend Poppy ended her life because she was spiraling downward.

BEEZUS

We couldn't help it if she couldn't be a housewife any longer.

PENNY

She cut her hair short. It was all downhill from there.

BEEZUS

That had nothing to do with us.

JOANNE

Didn't it have everything to do with us?

BEEZUS

I don't know what's going on with you but I think we all agree the new hairstyle, the new lip gloss, the flats -- you're obviously having a crisis.

BEEZUS is the last to sit.

MUSIC CUE: 17B-MYSTERIOUS GYPSY MUSIC

A GYPSY enters, her face and head completely covered with a beaded burka.

The GYPSY gurgles and groans as SHE moves forward.

GYPSY

I see you started without me.

LULU

Who are you?!

GYPSY

Who are you, Lulu Delecante?

LULU

How do you know my name? And it's Sultana.

GYPSY

Ah yes, Sultana. Don't worry we'll get to that.

The GYPSY moves to the other wives.

GYPSY (CONT'D)

Wives, Poppy Grace Von Vandenberg has sent me here to tell you she was—

The GYPSY pauses for effect.

—Murdered.

The WIVES gasp.

PENNY

Oh my god.

GYPSY

And she believes it was one of you.

LULU

What?!

The GYPSY confronts LULU.

GYPSY

You wanted to have her pink Birkin bag, no?

LULU

Yes, but I didn't get it! And I certainly wouldn't murder her for it!

PENNY

I don't know, there aren't many pink alligators left in the world.

GYPSY

Silence! The punishment for murder in the city of Marakesh is grim indeed.

The GYPSY reaches out toward the audience, perhaps illustrating the 'grimness,' making old lady grimaces and groans.

The WIVES all lean toward her.

The GYPSY stops suddenly, startling them.

Okey-dokey, shall we get started? Please join hands.

MUSIC CUE: 17C-SÉANCE MUSIC #1

The crystal ball lights up as the Séance begins.

The GYPSY feels the energy over each of the WIVES as SHE travels around the circle, eventually settling on PENNY.

Penny Quinoa St. Simone!

PENNY is startled.

Have you ever had malicious thoughts toward Poppy Grace?

PENNY

Yes.

The other WIVES react.

I mean she was constantly starting rumors about me.

GYPSY

And the rumors?

PENNY

It's not important.

BEEZUS

It is important Penny. Poppy told everyone Penny's husband is gay.

PENNY

Beezus!

BABETTE

Oh come on, Penny. Of course he's gay. He had his bachelor party in Vegas.

LULU

Well that's pretty normal.

BABETTE

At Thunder From Down Under.

GYPSY

Ah yes, that's a sign.

BEEZUS

Darling, why did you go through with it?

PENNY rises, leaving the circle.

PENNY

I was turning thirty! Thirty! I needed to get married.

BEEZUS

No one thought you needed to get married.

PENNY yells at BEEZUS.

PENNY

You gave me the card game "Old Maid" for my twenty-ninth birthday!

GYPSY

It's true Beezus, you did.

BEEZUS

It was a joke.

MUSIC CUE: 17D-SÉANCE MUSIC #2

The crystal ball lights up.

The GYPSY puts a 'spell' over BEEZUS, who rises to the music.

GYPSY

And Beezus Horowitz –

The music ends, the crystal ball goes dark.

Did you get angry when Poppy Grace told you that your thighs could double for Kim Kardashian's ass?

BEEZUS

It was mortifying! You try wearing waist-high daisy dukes with a Brazilian gone bad.

GYPSY

And why haven't you been drinking the last few weeks?

BEEZUS

Well, if you must know.

Dramatic pause.

I'm pregnant.

THEY all react.

LULU

What?! Pregnant? You're almost fifty!

BEEZUS

How dare you! I'm somewhere in my forties. I'm with child.

PENNY

Have you heard of menopause?

BEEZUS

Don't even say that word!

BABETTE

You said you've been having night sweats!

BEEZUS

Shut up, I'm pregnant!

LULU

Mood swings.

BEEZUS now confronts LULU.

BEEZUS

Okay, hooker who steals husbands! Let's talk about your skeletons. Did you sleep with Poppy Grace's husband too?!

BABETTE rises.

BABETTE

She did. I hired a private investigator and found out lots of information about Lulu.

BEEZUS rushes around toward BABETTE.

BEEZUS

What else do you know?!

PENNY

Maybe the fact that she's not a Sultana?

LULU jumps to her feet.

LULU

Yes I am!

BABETTE

No you're not. You're from *Fresno!

The WIVES gasp. This is a huge announcement.

You're an orphan from Fresno who ran away when you were 15 and joined a pageant. Thank god you were beautiful, because you won the Miss *Fresno teen pageant and got the title Miss Raisinette.

GYPSY

You were Miss Raisinette?

The GYPSY lets out a salty, old-lady laugh.

BABETTE

Do you know what another name for raisin is?

PENNY

Sultana!

BABETTE

Lulu changed her name from Louise Dixon and moved to Toluca Lake and voila, Miss Raisinette became Sultana Lullu Delecante.

LULU responds in an American accent.

LULU

Alright! You got me. I'm from *Fresno!

THEY all react with a loud gasp.

How do you think anyone can keep up with you girls? Rich, pretty, skinny.

BEEZUS

So your accent is completely fake?

LULU

I worked really hard on it.

PENNY

And your husband wasn't a sultan?

LULU

No, he was my therapist.

PENNY

For what?

LULU

Sex addiction.

BABETTE, BEEZUS, PENNY

Oh.

LULU

Pill addiction.

BABETTE, BEEZUS, PENNY

Oh.

LULU

Kleptomania.

SHE takes a bracelet from her wrist, handing it to BABETTE.

Sorry.

BABETTE is surprised, putting it back on her wrist.

PENNY

We're praying for you Lulu.

LULU

Look who's talking, Miss holier than thou!

LULU starts after PENNY, who runs away.

LULU (CONT'D)

Penny is having an online relationship with a man named Escobar who lives in Havana!

PENNY diverts attention, now attacking BEEZUS.

PENNY

Beezus keeps half of the proceeds from the Bitch Ball!

BEEZUS reels, shouting back.

BEEZUS

I do not!!

BABETTE, BEEZUS, LULU & PENNY devolve into a huge catfight, screaming at each other for a few moments.

JOANNE rises. JOANNE has been watching it all, taking it all in, and now realizes what SHE must do.

JOANNE

That's enough!

THEY all stop arguing. The force of JOANNE's energy has them all at attention.

JOANNE turns to BEEZUS.

Yes, Beezus, you do keep half of the money from The Bitch Ball to pay for your daily laser therapy that you hope will stop you from aging any longer. But the truth is you're not pregnant, you're just getting older.

MUSIC CUE: 17E-JOANNE CONFRONTS BEEZUS

BEEZUS sits on her pillow with the music.

JOANNE turns to PENNY.

You've known your husband was gay since the seventh grade, when you and he made a pact that if neither of you could find a partner by the age of 30, you would become each others' accessories.

MUSIC CUE: 17F-JOANNE CONFRONTS PENNY

PENNY sits on her pillow with the music.

JOANNE turns to LULU. SHE points to the others wives as SHE speaks to LULU.

You slept with her husband, her husband and my husband and

(pointing at Lulu)

your husband slept with

(pointing to Penny)

her husband.

MUSIC CUE: 17G-JOANNE CONFRONTS LULU

LULU is surprised, and sits on her pillow with the music.

JOANNE turns to BABETTE.

And you. You've known that your husband has been sleeping around for the past five years, you just didn't want to admit it.

MUSIC CUE: 17H-JOANNE CONFRONTS BABETTE

BABETTE sits on her pillow with the music.

JOANNE stands in the center of the circle.

JOANNE (CONT'D)

And I. I am the person who exposed all your secrets on Sex, Lies, and Secret Wives-dot-com.

The WIVES all gasp.

BABETTE

It was you?

JOANNE

I thought I needed the money. I thought I needed to get back at you. I needed to be back on top. But I realized something. That I can still be—

The music begins with a bell tone.

SONG #18: AMAZING FINALE – PART ONE

JOANNE (CONT'D)

(singing)

AMAZING
THAT'S ALL I REALLY NEED TO THINK
AMAZING
THE LIFE I WANT IS ON THE BRINK
EMBRACE MYSELF THE GOOD THE BAD
DON'T WORRY BOUT A THING
'CAUSE IN THE END AREN'T WE ALL
CRAZY AMAZING?

JOANNE goes to PENNY, who rises. THEY hold hands.

YOU'RE AMAZING
WHO CARES IF YOUR HUSBAND IS GAY?
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE
YOU HAVE A STYLIST FOR THE REST OF YOUR DAYS

JOANNE crosses to BEEZUS, who rises.

WHO CARES THAT YOU'RE IN MENOPAUSE?

JOANNE crosses to LULU, who rises.

WHO CARES WHAT YOUR OLD LIFE WAS?

JOANNE crosses to LULU, who rises.

YOU'VE GOT YOUR BEST FRIEND BACK AND MORE

JOANNE crosses to the side.

WE'RE CALLING OFF THIS BITCHY WAR

PENNY

So did you murder Poppy Grace?

JOANNE

No!

The GYPSY is now center stage, and moves toward the Crystal Ball.

GYPSY

Poppy Grace wasn't murdered. She's very much alive.

MUSIC CUE: 18A-POPPY GRACE REVEAL

The LIGHTS pulse, the crystal ball glows, and the GYPSY begins to convulse.

The WIVES all watch in horror and excitement, not sure of what's happening. THEY scream and vocally react to the ensuing action.

The GYPSY rips off her burka, turning to reveal herself, dressed in white.

It is Poppy Grace!

POPPY GRACE

Hi girls!

JOANNE

Poppy? You're not dead?!

POPPY GRACE

Nope! Surprise!

The music begins with a bell tone.

SONG #18B: AMAZING FINALE – PART TWO

POPPY looks at the WIVES, who all stare and whisper-sing in disbelief. Music accompanies the remainder of the scene.

WIVES

AMAZING

POPPY GRACE

You should see your faces right now.

PENNY

You grew out your hair.

POPPY GRACE

I'm turning fifty tomorrow and I needed my wives with me!

WIVES

AMAZING

BEEZUS

So let me get this straight. You faked your own death? Moved to Morocco, and then two months later invited us here all to celebrate your 50th birthday?

POPPY GRACE

AMAZING

(speaking)

Right? I missed you girls! Never thought I'd say that.

BABETTE

Why did you leave?

POPPY GRACE

Babette – shh!

POPPY shushes BABETTE as JOANNE has throughout the show.

POPPY looks at JOANNE and takes her hands.

(singing)

IT WAS TIME FOR ME TO
 BREAK THE RULES
 TIME TO DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY
 THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN CLOTHES AND FANCY JEWELS
 SO I PACKED UP ALL MY STUFF AND OFF I RAN
 UNTIL I FOUND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO POOR JOANNE

JOANNE

You're deep throat?

PENNY

Gross.

POPPY GRACE

Yes, of course. I know, it seemed mean what I was doing. But look what it's done! It's brought you all together. And you've become your own woman, who doesn't need a perfect life to be amazing.

(singing)

IF I CAN FIND A NEW LIFE HERE
 THEN YOU CAN FIND YOUR WAY
 IT'S TRUE I HAD TO DISAPPEAR
 BUT YOU CAN START RIGHT NOW TODAY!
 TODAY!

WIVES

AMAZING

POPPY GRACE

EMBRACE YOURSELF: THE GOOD, THE BAD

WIVES

AMAZING

POPPY GRACE

DON'T GET EVEN, DON'T GET MAD

WIVES

AMAZING

POPPY GRACE

IT'S TRUE THAT WE ARE ALL BIZARRE

THEY take hands one by one.

WIVES

AMAZING
 AMAZING
 AMAZING
 AMAZING

JOANNE & POPPY GRACE

BUT IN THE END WE KNOW WE ARE

POPPY GRACE breaks out from the group.

POPPY GRACE

A—M—A—Z—I—N—G

THAT'S HOW YOU SPELL AMAZING

AMAZING -- HEY, HEY

AMAZING -- HEY, HEY

The WIVES join POPPY down front.

WIVES

A—M—A—Z—I—N—G

THAT'S HOW YOU SPELL AMAZING

AMAZING -- HEY, HEY

AMAZING -- HEY, HEY

The song ramps up into joyous celebration.

ALL

AMAZING

AMAZING

POPPY brings BABETTE and LULU together, who embrace.

BABETTE

I FORGIVE YOU EVEN THOUGH

ALL

AMAZING

AMAZING

BABETTE

YOU'RE SOMETIMES A LYING DIRTY HO

ALL

AMAZING

AMAZING

POPPY brings BEEZUS forward.

BEEZUS

THROW A BALL, AND MAKE A SPLASH

ALL

AMAZING

AMAZING

BEEZUS

I'M KICKIN DOWN THIS HOT FLASH!

ALL

AMAZING

AMAZING

POPPY brings PENNY forward.

PENNY

SO WHAT MY HUSBAND HAS A BEAUX!

ALL

AMAZING
AMAZING

POPPY brings LULU forward.

LULU

SO WHAT I'M FROM FRESNO

ALL

AMAZING
AMAZING

POPPY brings JOANNE forward.

POPPY GRACE

A NEW BEGINNING FOR JOANNE

ALL

AMAZING
AMAZING

JOANNE

I'LL STILL NEVER DRIVE A MINI VAN!

THEY now dance together with renewed energy and abandonment.

ALL

AMAZING
AMAZING
WHOO, HOO, HOO, HOO
AMAZING
AMAZING
WHOO, HOO, HOO, HOO

AMAZING, AMAZING
WHOO, HOO, HOO, HOO
AMAZING, AMAZING
WHOO, HOO, HOO, HOO

WE'RE ALL AMAZING
AMAZING, AMAZING
AMAZING, AMAZING

DROP DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
DROP DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
DROP DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE

PROJECTION: REAL HOUSEWIVES: THE MUSICAL

THEY take a final pose down front, à la The Real Housewives.

REAL HOUSEWIVES, THE MUSICAL!

Blackout.

SONG #19: BOWS

LIGHTS up for bows.

In this order:

THE MAN.

PENNY.

BEEZUS.

LULU.

BABETTE.

JOANNE.

Group Bow.

Then sing:

ALL

DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
 DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
 DROP-DEAD GORGEOUS HOUSEWIFE
 MUSICAL
 REAL HOUSEWIVES, THE MUSICAL!

WELCOME TO THE SHOW
 REAL HOUSEWIVES
 THE
 MUSICAL
 REAL HOUSEWIVES, THE MUSICAL!

THEY take one final pose down front, à la The Real Housewives.

PROJECTION: REAL HOUSEWIVES: THE MUSICAL

Final Group Bow.

SONG #20: EXIT MUSIC

CURTAIN.