

Genie! I Feel Like Singing! D2 draft - Grant Cathro

1 INT. SCHOOL SPORTS HALL - NIGHT (GREEN SCREEN)

Pastiche of a "High School Musical" type finale. A HIGH SCHOOL JOCK embraces a HIGH SCHOOL DOLL.

1 HIGH SCHOOL DOLL
Say it, babe! - say it! - say it!

2 HIGH SCHOOL JOCK
I love you.

3 HIGH SCHOOL DOLL
You're not just saying it?

4 HIGH SCHOOL JOCK
(sings)
I love you, it's true,
I love you, doo-be-doo.

5 HIGH SCHOOL DOLL / JOCK
(sing together in harmony)
I really, really love you.

The music swells. Their lips meet in trembling ecstasy. FIREWORKS explode all around them. In big golden letters, the words "THE END" appear on screen. Fade to Black.

CUT TO:

2 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

We discover SOPHIE and HAROLD sitting on the sofa, with ADIL squished in between them. They've all been eating POPCORN, drinking JUICE, and watching the musical on TV. There's a gooey, melting expression on SOPHIE'S face. Curiously, she is holding ADIL'S hand.

6 SOPHIE
Awww - so SWEET.
(turns)
Did you enjoy it?

7 ADIL
Up to a point.

8 SOPHIE
(taken aback)
Adil! - where did you come from?!

9

ADIL
Balambakadar.

10

SOPHIE
Have you been sitting there the whole time??
(she sighs and throws his hand down)
Did you enjoy the movie - Harold?

11

HAROLD
(shy as ever)
It was - kind of cool.

12

ADIL
Cool but confusing. Why did everyone in the film keep bursting into song?

13

SOPHIE
(collecting up the empty popcorn dishes)
Because it's a musical.

14

ADIL
That is no excuse! It was not remotely realistic.

15

SOPHIE
It's not meant to be realistic, is it? It's a fantasy. All musicals are - you know - much larger than life, and -
(she invites Harold to explain more clearly)
Harold?

16

HAROLD
(collecting up the dirty glasses)
In musicals, Adil, people start singing because things happen in the story which stir up their emotions and they can't express their feelings in any other way.

17

ADIL
Ahhhhhh.

18

SOPHIE
Now do you understand?

(CONTINUED)

(CONTINUED)

19 ADIL
No.

20 SOPHIE
I give up.

SOPHIE takes the DISHES to the KITCHEN. HAROLD follows with the DIRTY GLASSES. ADIL stays put, and looks confused.

CUT TO:

3 INT. KITCHEN - DAY

SOPHIE and HAROLD enter. Bizarre, ADIL is already there. He is squatting by the sink, still looking confused.

21 ADIL
So! - Harold!
(Harold reacts with a start)
You are saying that in musicals, everyone is basically nuts?

22 SOPHIE
He's not saying that!

23 ADIL
I do not get this musical thing AT ALL.

24 SOPHIE
(loading the dishwasher)
Look - it's perfectly simple. In musicals, people sing when they're happy. They sing when they're upset. When they're in love, they sing. Finally, they kiss. And that's when then they stop singing.

25 ADIL
Because they would be singing into each other's mouths.

26 SOPHIE
No! Because it's "The End" - you twit! The musical is over!
(dreamily to Harold)
Love has conquered all.

27 ADIL
Ahhhhhh.

(CONTINUED)

28 SOPHIE
Got it? Good.
(signals with her eyes)
Now go! - GO!!

29 HAROLD
(suddenly flustered)
You're right! - it's, it's, it's time I was off! - bye!

HAROLD heads for the LIVING ROOM.

30 SOPHIE
Not you, Harold! - wait - !

SOPHIE hurries after him.

CUT TO:

4 INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

HAROLD enters from the KITCHEN and races for the FRONT DOOR. SOPHIE catches him up, and grabs hold of his hand. HAROLD stares at the hand-holding and stammers.

31 HAROLD
I have to leave! I-I-I-I said I wouldn't be late home!

32 SOPHIE
It's six thirty, Harold! You live across the street!

33 HAROLD
I-I-I-I do? - of course I do.
(tugs to try and free himself)
It's just that - I-I-I-I said I'd help my-my-my sister with her homework.

34 SOPHIE
Harold, you don't have a sister!

35 HAROLD
I-I-I-I don't? - of course I don't.
(finally reclaims his hand and stares at his wrist)
Oh! - look at the time!

(CONTINUED)

36 SOPHIE
You don't have a watch, either!

37 HAROLD
Then I-I-I-I better go and get one,
eh? See you around? Maybe?

HAROLD beats a cowardly exit out the door. A look of defeat
sweeps across SOPHIE'S face.

38 SOPHIE
Great! - really great!

ADIL appears at her elbow.

39 ADIL
What happened? - why did he leave?
It is my fault, isn't it?

40 SOPHIE
No, Adil - it's mine.
(to herself)
What an idiot.
(sighs heavily)
Love conquers all - yeah, right! -
huh! - I wish my life was like a
musical!

As SOPHIE stomps upstairs, ADIL leaps into action.

41 ADIL
Your wish is my command.
(gestures)
Turn Sophie's life into something
entrancing,
A musical world full of singing and
dancing.

A bolt of magic flies from ADIL'S hands and explodes into the
screen.

CUT TO:

5 INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - DAY

SOPHIE walks in, looking down in the dumps. She crosses to
her dressing table and slumps down with her head in her
hands. Across the room, EMMA sits on her bed. She is tracing
her finger round a beachball-sized INFLATABLE GLOBE ATLAS.
She looks every bit as dejected.

(CONTINUED)

42 EMMA
I don't believe it! - oh, what? -
no! - it can't be! - argh!

EMMA holds the GLOBE upside down. She peers at it from every
angle. This quickly gets on SOPHIE'S nerves.

43 SOPHIE
(irritated)
What's with you?

44 EMMA
Today's Geography exam? - I blew
it! - *big time!*

45 SOPHIE
Says who?

46 EMMA
I just checked the answers I put
down on the paper today, and every
single one of them is wrong.
(she hurls the globe
around)
Wrong! - wrong! - wrong! - wrong! -
and wrong!

A fast, up-tempo musical accompaniment kicks in. SOPHIE is
startled, and looks all around to see where the music is
coming from. Suddenly, EMMA bursts into song, using the
bouncy GLOBE as a dancing prop.

47 EMMA
(sings)
*The Pyramids of Giza!
The Leaning Tower of Pisa!
Who gives a heck where these are?
Like I could care less!
The Capital of Spain is - ?
The rockiest terrain is - ?
It's just not where my brain is!
It's all a big mess!*

To SOPHIE'S astonishment, a CHORUS OF BOYS AND GIRLS (each
holding a cardboard cut-out of a FAMOUS WORLD LANDMARK) steps
out from behind EMMA. Tempo change...

48 CHORUS
(sings)
*Now, in a world designed by Emma
The River Nile flows through Vienna*

53

(CONTINUED)

49 EMMA
 (sings)
 *Lake Titicata's now a hill
 New York's a city in Brazil*

50 CHORUS
 (sings as Emma dances)
 *Oh, it's a New World - my oh my!
 The Pyramids have moved to Paraguay
 We'll dance a chilly habanera
 By the Moscow Riviera*

51 EMMA
 (sings)
 *Yes in a world designed by me
 There would be no Geography*

52 CHORUS
 (sings)
 By far the best thing, you'll agree

53 EMMA & CHORUS
 (sings)
 *If Geography is - history!
 If Geography is - history!*

They ALL end the song with a flamboyant gesture. EMMA smiles. SOPHIE'S glowering expression tells us everything we need to know. ADIL has fouled up - again!

54 EMMA
 Something wrong?

55 SOPHIE
 I'll be right back.
 (yells)
 Adil? - ADIL??

She exits. The CHORUS all titter to a super-jolly musical sting.

CUT TO:

6 **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

A raging SOPHIE marches downstairs to yell at ADIL.

(CONTINUED)

56 SOPHIE
 Can't you tell the difference
 between a casual "I wish" comment,
 and a serious "I really do
 definitely wish" type wish? What is
 the matter with you?

57 ADIL
 (sings and waltzes with
 her)
 *Nothing's the matter with me - !
 I put the genie in genius - !*

58 SOPHIE
 You can stop that right now.

59 ADIL
 Certainly.
 (subserviently)
 You wish this wish to be cancelled?

60 SOPHIE
 Definitely.

61 ADIL
 I shall try.

62 SOPHIE
 Wait - listen! - what's that?

Tinkling offstage music is heard. It's coming from outside in the GARDEN. SOPHIE and ADIL hurry across to the open French Windows and peer out.

CUT TO:

7 **EXT. BACK GARDEN - DAY**

HAROLD sits perched on a WHITE ROPE SWING (which dangles down, facing away from the house). SOPHIE and ADIL are seen hovering in the doorway behind him. HAROLD swings to and fro, pensively singing to himself.

63 HAROLD
 (sings)
 *She is sweet, and she is gentle,
 she is kind
 And I just can't seem to get her
 out my mind
 When she speaks to me, I am
 overcome*
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HAROLD (CONT'D)
*When she smiles, my whole body
turns numb*

HAROLD hops off the SWING. He snatches up a BROOM and
embraces it, imagining it to be SOPHIE

64 HAROLD (CONT'D)
(sings to the broom)
*Soph, I wish that I could tell you
how I feel
You must think that I'm a stupid
imbecile
But I linger all alone, and sadly
sigh
Because I'm shy! - so very shy! -
so very shy!*

Music continues under.

CUT TO:

8 **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

As HAROLD continues singing in the GARDEN, SOPHIE flops
against the door frame. Heart fluttering, she whispers into
ADIL'S ear.

65 SOPHIE
(doe-eyed)
*Hear that? - I KNEW he liked me!
He can't get me out of his mind!
But he can't tell me how he feels,
because he's shy! - so very shy! -
so very shy! Bless!!*

66 ADIL
Shall I un-wish the wish now?

67 SOPHIE
*Not now, Adil. Can't you see I'm
trying to listen? Scram, will you?*

SOPHIE listens intently as HAROLD embarks on a second verse.
Suddenly a hand reaches out and taps ADIL on the shoulder.
It's EMMA.

68 EMMA
Am I brilliant, or what?

69 ADIL
(confused)
What?

(CONTINUED)

70 EMMA
(misunderstanding him)
*You're not funny, Adil. Come with
me. I have had a storming idea.*

She hooks his arm and whisks him off. In the b/g, SOPHIE
settles into her position by the window as HAROLD's dance
continues.

CUT TO:

9 **EXT. BACK GARDEN - DAY**

Accompanied by high energy music, HAROLD is now dancing all
around the garden, using the BROOM as a partner.

CUT TO:

10 **INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY**

PHILLIP enters from the KITCHEN, drying a PLATE.

71 PHILLIP
What's with the music?

SOPHIE panics. She fears that DAD will guess that something's
up if he sees what HAROLD is up to. She slams the French
Windows shut and locks them.

72 SOPHIE
(plays angry)
*I know! - annoying, or what?
Playing CDs in the garden at this
time of the day! - those new
neighbours have no consideration
for others!
(she yanks the curtains
shut)
None!*

73 PHILLIP
(ogles her weird over-
reaction)
I quite liked it.

(CONTINUED)

PHILLIP shrugs and returns to the KITCHEN. SOPHIE turns and peeks through the CURTAINS, back into the GARDEN, from where the muffled sounds of HAROLD singing (a refrain) can be heard. A big-hearted smile appears on her face.

CUT TO:

11 INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - DAY

ADIL reacts warily to EMMA'S big idea.

74 ADIL
And you are absolutely sure about this?

75 EMMA
I am absolutely sure that I am absolutely sure.
(rattled)
Must you question *everything*?

76 ADIL
But Emma. Your examination paper will be locked in your teacher's desk, waiting to be marked in the morning. It is the property of the school. It would be most wrong to steal it.

77 EMMA
Who's stealing? - I only want to borrow it.
(tartly)
Adil! - *I made a wish!*

78 ADIL
On your head be it.
(gestures)
Emma's exam paper, hear my command, Fly from her teacher's desk, into her hand.

FOOM! - a flash and suddenly EMMA'S EXAM PAPER appears in her hand.

79 EMMA
It worked! - incredible!
(full of sudden purpose)
To work!

(CONTINUED)

ADIL looks on as EMMA plunks herself down and reads aloud from the PAPER.

80 EMMA
The capital of Germany is - G.
(she opens a bottle of Tipp-ex and blots it out)
Maybe not.
(she looks up the correct answer in a text book)
Berlin! - I knew that.
(she writes it down)

81 ADIL
I hate to nag, but surely this is cheating?

82 EMMA
Yes? - so? - and your point is?

83 ADIL
I really do not think -

84 EMMA
Very wise, Adil. I really do not think either. Let's face it - thinking is for nerds.

Humming happily, EMMA plops another load of CORRECTING FLUID on to the EXAM PAPER and blows it dry.

CUT TO:

12 EXT. NORTON HOUSE - NIGHT

Establishing shot of the house. Day has turned to night.

CUT TO:

13 INT. GIRLS' BEDROOM - NIGHT

EMMA finishes doctoring her EXAM PAPER. ADIL looks on.

85 EMMA
Done! - and dusted!
(holds up the paper and turns to Adil)
Adil, I wish you to return this exam paper to the school. Pronto, Tonto.

(CONTINUED)

86 ADIL
If you insist.

87 EMMA
I do.

88 ADIL
(shrugs - then gestures)
Fly back to where you came from,
this is my request
It is time that you were reunited
with the rest.

FOOM! - Instead of the EXAM PAPER returning to the desk, all
the OTHER EXAM PAPERS - a huge heap of about 600 of them -
appear in EMMA'S arms.

89 EMMA
What?? - what's all this??

90 ADIL
(a tad embarrassed)
It is possible I may have boobed.
It seems I have reunited your exam
paper with all the other exam
papers - but not quite in the way
that you meant.

91 EMMA
You screaming great nit.

92 ADIL
I shall try again.

93 EMMA
You'll do nothing of the no-such-
which.
(she drops the papers onto
the floor)
I'll handle this. My way.

EMMA fetches TWO BIG SUITCASES from the closet. She plucks
up a pair of SMART LEATHER GLOVES, pulls them on, and hastily
stuffs the TWO SUITCASES with the EXAM PAPERS.

94 ADIL
Emma? What are you doing? Are your
hands cold?

(CONTINUED)

95 EMMA
(stuffing cases)
I don't want tell-tale fingerprints
everywhere, do I? Serious
business, this. Honestly, if you
want a job done, do it yourself.
(slams lids shut)
Come on, then - let's go.

96 ADIL
I thought you were doing it
yourself.

97 EMMA
Less of the smart remarks.

She points sharply at the SUITCASES. ADIL obeys, picks them
both up, and follows EMMA to the door. Just then, SOPHIE
enters, ready for bed. She stares at the weird spectacle
before her.

98 SOPHIE
What's all this?

99 EMMA
(blags)
Just - er - preparing for our
holiday.

100 SOPHIE
It's in five months.

101 EMMA
That soon? - oh, I hate getting
packed at the last moment!

EMMA hustles ADIL out the room. SOPHIE ponders this for a
moment, but gets distracted when plinking guitar music is
heard. SOPHIE pushes open the bedroom window and gawks down
into the GARDEN.

CUT TO:

14 EXT. BACK GARDEN (P.O.V. FROM ABOVE) - NIGHT

HAROLD, bathed in the moonlight, strums flamboyantly on a
GUITAR and sings up.

102 HAROLD
(sings)
Sophie, Sophie - are you there?
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HAROLD (CONT'D)
*Sophie, Sophie - do you care?
That outside of your window in the
cool night air
Some funny guy
Stands terrified - !
Sophie, Sophie - can you hear?*

SOPHIE feels compelled to respond by singing back in duet.
She gropes for a good rhyme.

103 SOPHIE
(at window, sings)
*Harold, Harold, have no fear!
I'm up here, and you're down there!
(corrects herself)
I mean! - you're down there, and
I'm up here!*

104 HAROLD
(sings)
*I'm shaking in my shoes, but still,
I'll persevere
I'm just a clot
Who lies you - quite a lot
(Sophie laughs)
Sophie, Sophie - please be mine?*

105 SOPHIE
(sings)
*Harold, Harold, that sounds great!
(corrects herself)
I mean fine!*

106 HAROLD
(sings)
*Will you ever send a sign?
To show me there's some hope and
that you won't decline
I know I'm not a very forceful
valentine*

107 SOPHIE
(sings)
*But still, I get the feeling thing
could work out - pretty much to our
mutual satisfaction -*

108 HAROLD
(sings)
Could I be right?

109 SOPHIE
*Yes, Harold!
(sings)
They absolutely - definitely -
might.*

She smiles, winks, and closes the window. HAROLD beams from
ear to ear. Inside, SOPHIE does the same.

CUT TO:

15 INT. SCHOOL (CLASSROOM) - NIGHT

We find ourselves at the dark and deserted SCHOOL - where a
classroom window squeaks open, to reveal EMMA and ADIL,
looking in.

CUT TO:

16 INT. SCHOOL (CORRIDOR) - NIGHT

Funny pizzicato music accompanies EMMA and ADIL slinking
along the corridors.

CUT TO:

17 INT. SCHOOL (HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE) - NIGHT

We discover that Head Teacher MR PRESTON is working late in
his OFFICE. He hears something - and looks up. The
pizzicato music stops. He cocks his head this way and that,
accompanied by a few notes of suitable comic music.

CUT TO:

18 INT. SCHOOL (CORRIDOR) - NIGHT

In the corridor outside, EMMA and ADIL hold their breaths and
hide in the shadows as the door opens (to the accompaniment
of tremulous strings and snarling trombones). MR PRESTON
emerges and tiptoes along the corridor. EMMA and ADIL duck
into the HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE - their fear and trepidation
mounting by the second.

CUT TO:

19 INT. SCHOOL (HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE) - NIGHT

ADIL plunks the SUITCASES down on the DESK and noisily un-clicks the catches. EMMA makes all kind of silent pointing and gesturing motions, none of which ADIL can decipher. Finally, ADIL speaks (full voice):

110 ADIL
I do not understand what you are
trying to -

EMMA freaks, grabs his mouth to hush him, and sings:

111 EMMA
(sings, sotto voce)
*We gotta be quiet! - be quiet!
Take hold of that tongue - and tie
it!
Don't say that it's slippery - try
it!
'Coz otherwise, you great big lunk -
we're sunk!*

Unnervingly, the CHORUS OF BOYS and GIRLS pop up from behind the FURNITURE (dressed as JUNIOR BURGLARS) to join in with the song.

112 CHORUS
(sings, loudly)
*We gotta be quiet! - quiet! - quiet
- quiet!
Or else there's gonna be a riot!
We need silence! - so, supply it!
Don't go crash, or bang, or thud,
or biff, or click, or clunk!*

EMMA tenses, and gestures them all to shut up.

CUT TO:

20 INT. SCHOOL (CLASSROOM/CORRIDOR) - NIGHT

MR PRESTON looks startled by the sound of voices which echo all around.

113 CHORUS (CONT'D)
(sings, off)
*We gotta be quiet! - quiet! -
quiet! - quiet!
Surely no-one dare deny it?
(MORE)*

(CONTINUED)

CHORUS (CONT'D)
*Keep it down! - don't amplify it!
'Coz otherwise, you great big lunk -
we're sunk!*

MR PRESTON pushes open the classroom door and clicks on a light. No-one is in the room. But looking across, he sees that the window is wide open. A furious expression wells up on his face.

CUT TO:

21 INT. SCHOOL (HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE) - NIGHT

As the CHORUS hop and prance around the room, EMMA fumbles to return the EXAM PAPERS. Alerted by a sudden shaft of light which spills in from the CORRIDOR, she panics, shoves everything into the CUPBOARD (N.B. including one of the GLOVES) and hurriedly locks it. EMMA grabs ADIL and drags him to the door - but stops in her tracks when she sees MR PRESTON'S shadow approaching along the wall. Desperately they both look this way and that for an alternative way out.

CUT TO:

22 INT. SCHOOL (CORRIDOR) - NIGHT

The corridor is now brightly lit. MR PRESTON approaches his OFFICE with his eyes menacingly narrowed. The thuds and scuffles coming from inside the room worry him, but he steels himself and perseveres.

CUT TO:

23 INT. SCHOOL (HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE) - NIGHT

The last of the song-and-dance BOYS and GIRLS duck down out of sight behind the FURNITURE as MR PRESTON bursts in. The music immediately ends. The room is totally empty. A window is open, and the BLINDS blow in the breeze. EMMA and ADIL have escaped by the skin of their teeth. MR PRESTON looks around, confounded.

Then he sees something poking out of his CUPBOARD. It's the finger of a GLOVE. He opens the CUPBOARD, picks up the GLOVE, looks at it, and narrows his eyes.

CUT TO:

24 INT. KITCHEN - DAY 2

EMMA, SOPHIE and ADIL sit around the table, eating CORNFLAKES. PHILLIP is by the sink, squeezing ORANGES. He looks across and reacts to something EMMA just said.

114 PHILLIP
(askance)
Sleepwalking!?

115 EMMA
The noises in the night. It was Adil, dreaming that he was Marco Polo.

116 PHILLIP
(looks at them, full of suspicion)
D'you think I was born yesterday?

117 ADIL
If you had been born yesterday, Mr. Phillip, it would have come as a very nasty shock to your mum.

118 PHILLIP
I plan to get to the bottom of this. Make no mistake.

They're saved by the front doorbell - which rings, urgently. PHILLIP lays down his SQUEEZER and goes to answer. ADIL quietly converses with SOPHIE.

119 ADIL
Now shall I un-wish this wish? - before things take a musical turn for the worse?

120 SOPHIE
(very reluctantly)
You're right. Enough's enough, I suppose. Adil? - I wish -

SOPHIE is interrupted by a tapping at the BACK WINDOW. All look and see HAROLD outside. He smiles tentatively and waves in at SOPHIE.

121 ADIL
You were saying?

(CONTINUED)

122 SOPHIE
(torn clean down the middle)
Ohhhh! - hang on a sec.
(rises)
Hi, Harold.

SOPHIE opens the BACK DOOR and HAROLD steps in. He holds out a FLOWER.

123 HAROLD
I brought you this.

124 SOPHIE
Awww! - and they say romance is dead.

125 EMMA
Not dead - just sick.
(pulls an ill face)

126 ADIL
Er - to return to your wish -

127 SOPHIE
(stroppily)
Yes, Adil - ! Alright! - in a second, okay - ?

The LIVING ROOM door opens and a small delegation enters: PHILLIP, MR PRESTON, a PC and a WPC. The moment EMMA sees them, she sinks quickly out of sight beneath the table, dragging ADIL with her. SOPHIE starts.

128 SOPHIE
Mr. Preston - !

129 PHILLIP
(very ominously)
Apparently, there was a break-in at the school last night.

130 MR PRESTON
Yes. Unfortunately for the intruder, a clue was left behind.

The WPC reveals - SOPHIE'S leather GLOVE! MR PRESTON takes it, and reads a label on the inside.

131 MR PRESTON
"Property of Sophie Norton."
(Sophie stutters in shock)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MR PRESTON (CONT'D)
As the saying goes, Miss Norton,
"If the glove fits - !"

132 WPC
Sophie Norton, I must caution you
that it may harm your defence ...

133 SOPHIE
I'm being arrested - !?!

134 PHILLIP
Sophie! - how could you?

135 SOPHIE
Emma?!
(she looks over - no sign
of her)
Adil?!

136 MR PRESTON
Your Head Teacher is a most
disappointed man, Miss Norton. A
most disappointed man.

137 SOPHIE
It - it wasn't me, Mr Preston!
Honest!

138 PHILLIP
(eyeballs Sophie)
Your glove was found in Mr.
Preston's room. Perhaps you'd care
to explain how it got there.

139 SOPHIE
I don't know, do I?
(panicking)
Dad, you've got to believe me! - I
didn't - ! It wasn't - !

140 PHILLIP
(fizzing mad)
I said I'd get to the bottom of
this, and believe me, young lady! -
I will!

Cue: funky music.

141 PHILLIP (CONT'D)
(sings)
*It doesn't take a sleuth
To figure out the truth*
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PHILLIP (CONT'D)
*So spare us all this stupid
pantomime!
You'd do yourself a favour
To give all of us a flavour
Of how you masterminded such a
crime!*

142 SOPHIE
I didn't do it, dad! - I'm not
guilty of anything!

143 PHILLIP (CONT'D)
(sings)
*Not guilty? - not guilty?
Let ME be the judge of that!
Gown! - frown!
Big! - wig!
Let's get to where the truth is at!*

A flowing GOWN and CURLY LEGAL WIG appear (as if by magic)
transforming PHILLIP into a HIGH COURT JUDGE. The KITCHEN
WALL disappears, to reveal:

CUT TO:

25 INT. LIVING ROOM (NOW AS A STYLISED CROWN COURT) - DAY

Music intro plays under, as SOPHIE is hustled across the room
by the PC and the WPC and lunged into the WITNESS STAND. A
JURY (the BOYS and GIRLS of the CHORUS) is already in place.
They all chatter excitedly to each other about the trial to
come. Bemused and confused, SOPHIE looks across at HAROLD.
She shrugs and waves at him. HAROLD smiles shyly and waves
back. PHILLIP strides across the floor.

144 WPC
Silence in court! Silence in
court!

The chatter subsides. Music intro continues, under.

145 PHILLIP
(as judge)
Sophie Norton, you are accused of
breaking and entering and breaking
and exiting. How do you plead?

146 SOPHIE
(without flinching)
Not guilty.

(CONTINUED)

The JURY laughs uproariously. SOPHIE grips the WITNESS STAND with a steely determination.

147 SOPHIE
Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I
plan to defend myself against all
of these charges.

More laughter. We angle back on the kitchen table, where EMMA and ADIL'S heads rise up to watch the events as they unfold.

148 SOPHIE (CONT'D)
To begin with, dad - I mean, Your
Honour - I was nowhere near the
school last night. I was at home
with my good friend, Harold.

PHILLIP bangs his GAVEL.

149 PHILLIP
(as Judge)
Call Sophie's good friend, Harold.

150 WPC
Call Sophie's good friend, Harold.

151 JURY
Call Sophie's good friend, Harold.

HAROLD is propelled forward to take the stand.

152 PHILLIP
(as Judge)
Harold? - the truth, if you please.

153 HAROLD
The truth? Here's the truth. Sophie
always tries to do the right and
proper thing. If she said she
wasn't there, Mr Norton - I mean,
Your Honour - then she wasn't
there. Standing here is the
sweetest and nicest girl I have
ever met.

SOPHIE melts at these words. But PHILLIP remains unmoved as the music swells.

154 PHILLIP
(sings, as Judge)
*Well, thank you very much!
I'd like to say I'm touched!*
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PHILLIP (CONT'D)
*But frankly I am looking at the
evidence!
(to Sophie)
This glove that bears your name!
Shows clearly you're to blame!
It really doesn't take that much
intelligence!*

Unable to bear it a minute longer, HAROLD finally conquers his shyness and loudly protests.

155 HAROLD
(spoken)
She didn't do it, I'm telling you! -
there's no way! - Sophie's not
guilty of anything!

MR PRESTON stands up and chips in.

156 MR PRESTON
(sings)
*Not guilty? - not guilty?
Who asked your opinion, kid?
Bad ploy, little boy!
More from you, I forbid!*

157 HAROLD
(spoken)
She's innocent, I'm telling you!
Sophie would never, never lie!

158 PHILLIP
(sings and bangs gavel)
*Silence in court - !
Silence in court - !
What is your game?
Are you trying to thwart these
proceedings?*

159 HAROLD
(spoken)
You're being totally unreasonable.
Please - ?

160 PHILLIP
(sings and bangs gavel in
a funky rhythm)
*Take him away!
Take him away!
This is contempt of the court! Let
me say that I just cannot take any
more of these juvenile pleadings!*

(CONTINUED)

The PC and the WPC grabs hold of HAROLD. They HANDCUFF and drag him away, as MR PRESTON leaps from his chair and lapses into a funky dance around SOPHIE.

161 MR PRESTON
(sings)
*So, so, so,
So, Sophie Norton!*

162 MR PRESTON & JURY
(sings)
*So, so, so,
So, Sophie Norton!
So, so, so,
So, Sophie Norton - so!!!*

163 PHILLIP
(sings, as Judge)
*On with the plot - !
On with the plot - !
Is she guilty,
Or guilty,
Or guilty - or not??*

164 JURY
(sings)
*Guilty! - guilty! - guilty as can
be!
Lock her in detention - and throw
away the key!
Lock her in detention - and throw
away the key!*

SOPHIE looks crushed and helpless. HAROLD struggles to get free, but he is manhandled towards the door. Suddenly EMMA strides up, along with ADIL.

165 EMMA
(spoken)
Stop, Your Honour!

166 ADIL
(spoken)
Stop, Your Honour!

167 EMMA & ADIL
(spoken)
STOP, STOP, STOP!

A sudden silence engulfs the room. EMMA marches up to DAD.

(CONTINUED)

168 EMMA
Dad. I mean, Your Honour. I have taken expert advice, and - well - the fact is - not to put too fine a point on it -
(Adil nudges her in the ribs)
It was me. I did it. I'm to blame.

A gasp goes up. But an even louder gasp goes up when SOPHIE speaks.

169 SOPHIE
No, you're not. I am.

170 PHILLIP
(befuddled)
Explain?

171 SOPHIE
Your Honour. I mean, dad. I could have stopped all of this. But I was selfish, and I didn't.

172 EMMA
That's rubbish, dad. The guilty one is me - me!

173 SOPHIE
It's me - me!!

SOPHIE and EMMA fight over it (ad lib). This quickly rises to a screeching crescendo. PHILLIP bangs the desk with his GAVEL.

174 PHILLIP
(as judge)
I sentence you to jail! - for five years! - BOTH OF YOU! - take them away!

175 JURY
(sings a reprise)
*Guilty! - guilty! - guilty as can
be!
Lock her in detention, and throw
away the key!*

EMMA gets HANDCUFFED. The PC approaches SOPHIE, who turns to ADIL.

(CONTINUED)

176 SOPHIE
Adil - ??

177 ADIL
I am sorry! - it is too late!

178 SOPHIE
There's got to be some way to end
this.
(beat)
To "end" it - !! *Of course - !!*

With the court-room in an uproar, SOPHIE ducks past the PC
and runs across to HAROLD. She grabs him - as per the SCENE
1 "High School Musical" movie pastiche:

179 SOPHIE
Say it, Harold! - say it!

180 HAROLD
Say what?

181 SOPHIE
(shakes him)
You know what, Harold.

182 HAROLD
I-I-I-I do?

183 SOPHIE
Right! - then I'll say it for you!
Harold? - I love you.
(shouts)
Your turn!

184 HAROLD
I-I-I-I-I -

185 SOPHIE
Say it, Harold! - *quick!!*

186 HAROLD
(he gulps, then
tentatively)
I love you too?

187 SOPHIE
For pity's sake! - *say it like you
mean it!*

A dramatic musical chord, held under as HAROLD proclaims -

(CONTINUED)

188 HAROLD
I do mean it, Sophie! - I do!
175 (heartfelt)
I love you, Sophie Norton! - I
always have loved you! - and I
always will!

It's like SOPHIE is hit by a thunderbolt. All of her troubles
melt away in the face of this incredible admission from her
beloved HAROLD. The music swirls and builds in intensity. At
the climax, HAROLD pulls off his GLASSES, throws them away,
and takes SOPHIE in his arms.

189 HAROLD
(sings a reprise of the
pastiche ending from
Scene 1)
I love you - it's true!
I love you - I really do!

190 SOPHIE / HAROLD
(they sing together in
perfect harmony)
I love you,
I really love you,
I really, really love you - !!!

The music swells. Their lips meet in trembling ecstasy.
FIREWORKS explode all around them. In big golden letters,
the words "THE END" appear on screen. Fade to Black.

CUT TO:

26 INT. LIVING ROOM - (BACK AT) DAY 1

We discover SOPHIE, ADIL and HAROLD all squished together on
the sofa, exactly as in SCENE 2. As before, SOPHIE is
holding ADIL'S hand. PHILLIP enters from the KITCHEN, drying
a POT with a DISHCLOTH.

191 PHILLIP
What's with the music?

192 SOPHIE
(thrilled to bits)
It's finished! - the musical is
over!
(dreamily)
Love has conquered all - !

(CONTINUED)

Semi-satisfied, PHILLIP nods, looks again, shrugs, and returns to the KITCHEN. SOPHIE sees that she is holding ADIL'S hand - as before, she sighs and throws it down. HAROLD looks across at SOPHIE and offers her a shy smile. EMMA comes downstairs, carrying the INFLATABLE BLOW-UP GLOBE of the world.

193 EMMA
Today's Geography exam? I blew it -
big time.
 (into Adil's ear)
But I have had a storming idea.
All I have to do is somehow get my
exam paper back, and then -
 (they all look at her and
 she comes to her senses)
You're right. All I have to do is
... re-sit the test.
 (wearily)
I can hardly wait.

She rolls her eyes and stomps off. SOPHIE gets up and sits next to HAROLD.

194 SOPHIE
So - Harold.
 (dreamily)
Say it again.

195 HAROLD
Say what again?

196 SOPHIE
You know what, Harold. Say it, say
it, SAY IT!!!

197 HAROLD
 (stammers)
I-I-I-I have to go - I said I
wouldn't be late.
 (he gets up)
See you around? - maybe?

As before, HAROLD beats a cowardly exit. ADIL looks sympathetically at SOPHIE - who seems strangely unperturbed.

198 SOPHIE
 (smiles knowingly)
He's just saying it.

Her smile deepens into a laugh. ADIL laughs along too.
Musical sting.

Fade to Black.

THE END