

# Alternate Lyrics

*By Brent Holland*

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### **DEDICATION**

*Thanks to Dan Bennett for helping me record and for mixing the music for this show. Your continued friendship means a lot to me amigo.*

### **SYNOPSIS**

Barrett is an outstanding musician and songwriter. Due to his talents his band is growing in popularity. This would-be great news but Barrett is on the spectrum and in addition to the normal teen pressures, he must manage his autism. He is most comfortable expressing himself with music. He is struggling with the fact that he is in love with Sarah, his best friend, and the lead singer of the group. Although his songs are written about her, Barrett has changed the lyrics so that she has no clue. When she finds out, Barrett must figure out what to do to save his group, and his relationship. About 70 minutes with music.

The original songs, all lead by Sarah, include "Come Around," "Comic Book Life," and "The Test" while the "SAT song" is a short duet between Sarah and Barrett and "When You're Not Here" is sung by both Sarah and Barrett independently.

The songs are designed for Sarah to sing, but if you have a talented singer playing Erin and want to arrange harmony or backup vocals for her, then please do.

If you plan to use the accompanying track instead of having your actors play their instruments live, please replace Erin's ukulele with a bass guitar. You may have her play a bass or bass ukulele on stage to add depth to the sound.

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**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(2 M, 3 W)*

**BARRETT:** High school senior. Barrett is a songwriter and guitarist who is on the autism spectrum.

**ERIN:** Barrett's twin sister. Outgoing and fun, she plays the ukulele in their band.

**SARAH:** The band's singer. Attractive and the topic to every song Barrett writes.

**RYAN:** Another high school student who has applied to be the new percussionist.

**ELLEN:** Barrett and Erin's mother. Protective of her kids.

**SETTING**

Barrett's bedroom, a restaurant, and a recording studio

**SOUND EFFECTS**

music, cell phone sounds

**PROPS**

Instruments including percussion, guitar, ukulele and microphones

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**SCENES AND SONGS**

Scenes should flow seamlessly into each other. The script is divided for ease of rehearsals.

**Scene 1: The restaurant**

Song 1 "Come Around" - Barrett, Erin, and Sarah

Song 2 Transition music "Comic Book Life"

**Scene 2: Barrett's Bedroom**

Song 3 - "Comic Book Life" Acoustic version - Barrett and Ryan

Song 4 - Transition music- "Comic Book Life" - Barrett and Ryan

**Scene 3: The restaurant**

Song 5 - "Comic Book Life" - Barrett, Erin, Sarah, and Ryan

Song 6 - "The Test" - Barrett, Erin, Sarah, and Ryan

**Scene 4: Barrett's Bedroom**

Song 7 - "SAT Song" - Barrett and Sarah

Song 8 - "SAT Song #2" - Barrett

Song 9 - "When You're Not Here" - Barrett, Erin, Sarah, and Ryan

Song 10 - Transition music "Come Around" - Barrett, Erin, Sarah, and Ryan

**Scene 5: Barrett's Bedroom**

Song 11 - "When You're Not Here" - Professional recording

**Scene 6: The Studio**

Song 12 - "Come Around" - Sarah

Song 13 - "Come Around" (Original Lyrics) - Sarah

**Scene 7: Barrett's Room and the restaurant**

Song 14 - "When You're Not Here" - Barrett and Sarah

Song 15 - "When You're Not Here" - Barrett

Song 16 - "When You're Not Here" - Barrett, Erin, Sarah, and Ryan

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**Scene 1**

*(AT RISE: LIGHTS up on a trio performing at a local restaurant. BARRETT is playing guitar, his sister ERIN plays the ukulele, and SARAH is singing.)*

**SONG 1 - COME AROUND**

**SARAH:** *(Singing.)*

COME AROUND, I TEAR MYSELF APART WHEN YOU COME  
AROUND

IF I SAY ANYTHING, EVERYTHING AROUND ME STARTS TO  
SPIN AGAIN

BUT I GAVE UP ANY CHANCE OF YOU FORGIVING ME  
A LONG TIME AGO, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S STILL  
BOTHERING ME  
WHEN YOU COME AROUND. WHEN YOU COME AROUND.

I SEE MYSELF, REFLECTED IN A DARKER LIGHT WHEN YOU  
COME AROUND  
BUT THE WORLD TAKES SHAPE AGAIN, I DREAM I CAN GET  
IN AGAIN WHEN YOU COME AROUND.

BUT I GAVE UP ANY CHANCE OF YOU FORGIVING ME  
I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR THAT, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S  
STILL TEARING AT ME  
WHEN YOU COME AROUND, WHEN YOU COME AROUND.

TO KEEP MYSELF FROM THINKING OF YOU  
I STAY AWAY FROM THE PEOPLE WE KNEW  
THE MORE FAMILIAR FACES I SEE MAKES ME WONDERING  
IF YOU'RE STILL THINKING OF ME.

COME AROUND, I CAN'T SEEM TO BE MYSELF WHEN  
YOU'RE NOT AROUND  
I'LL MAKE THIS UP TO YOU, THERE'S NOTHING THAT I  
WOULDN'T DO  
IF YOU'D COME AROUND.

I'LL NEVER GIVE UP... MAKING YOU BELIEVE IN ME, LIKE  
YOU DID ONCE BEFORE  
I WON'T LET YOU FORGET ABOUT ME  
OH WHEN YOU COME AROUND... WHEN YOU COME  
AROUND.

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**SARAH:** *(Cont'd. Acknowledging the audience.)* Thank you. Once again, we're Rogue's Gallery and we have CDs for sale at the register, and if you would follow us on social media and check out our webpage you can keep up with where we'll be playing each week. Right now, we're going to take a 10-minute break and let you all eat in a little silence. *(To ERIN and BARRETT.)* I have to go to the bathroom. Be right back.

**ERIN:** Okay.

**BARRETT:** Good luck!

**SARAH:** *(Looks at him.)* Ha. Thanks.

**BARRETT:** *(As she leaves.)* I hope everything comes out all right.

**SARAH:** *(Laughing.)* If it doesn't, I'll let you know! *(Exits.)*

**BARRETT:** *(Calling after her.)* Actually, if it doesn't just keep that to yourself. Thanks!

*(BARRETT and ERIN cross away from the playing area.)*

**BARRETT:** *(To Erin.)* How do you think the new song went?

**ERIN:** It was good. I think it was a good idea putting it between two covers.

**BARRETT:** I wanted to test it that way in case the audience didn't like it.

**ERIN:** I think they did.

**BARRETT:** Good. You sure Sarah likes it?

**ERIN:** She said she did. You could always ask her yourself you know. *(BARRETT doesn't comment.)* When are you going to meet with the new drummer?

**BARRETT:** Percussionist... and I'm not sure. No timeline for that yet.

**ERIN:** Drummer... Percussionist... same thing.

**BARRETT:** It's not the same thing.

**ERIN:** You know what I meant. I'll tell Ryan you can meet with him tomorrow.

**BARRETT:** Don't do that. I'm not ready to audition a percussionist.

**ERIN:** *(Sending a text.)* Too late. I told him right after school.

## **End of Freeview**

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