

Help! I'm Trapped in a Musical!

A shamelessly derivative musical

by Stephen Murray

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Help! I'm Trapped in a Musical!

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DEDICATION

To my summer family at StarFun Theater Camp in Framingham, MA!

STORY OF THE MUSICAL

There's something strange going on at Sondheim High School. New transfer student, Norma LaBelle, is having trouble getting accustomed to the school's unusual traditions. At any given moment, students and teachers burst into song for no apparent reason. Each time they sing, it sounds almost like a famous Broadway musical. The math teacher sings a lesson on the Pythagorean theorem. The history teacher delivers a rap-filled class on Alexander Graham Bell. Mrs. Lovett, the Lunch Lady, delivers a menu filled with Broadway-themed meals. The students sing a celebration of Mondays and even the 'bad' kids perform the "Detention Tango." Principal Lloyd Webber is hiding a secret and enforces strict rules to keep the truth hidden from the students. This show is full of fun surprises and is a delight for fans of Broadway musicals as well as for those new to the genre.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(4 m, 16 w, 1 flexible, extras)

Students:

NORMA: A high school student transferring to Sondheim High. She is puzzled by all the singing and dancing that goes on in the school and community.

JENNY: A friendly Sondheim High student who befriends Norma on her first day.

PATTI, BETTE, BERNADETTE, LIZA, ETHEL, AUDRA, CHITA: Sondheim students named for famous Broadway divas (*Patti Lupone, Bette Midler, Bernadette Peters, Liza Minelli, Ethel Merman, Audra McDonald, and Chita Rivera*). It can be fun to have them take on some characteristics of these stars and give some great educational research for your cast.

SUTTON, IDINA, KRISTIN, FRANCINE: The 'bad' girls. These girls meet Norma in detention. (*As in Sutton Foster, Idina Menzel, and Kristin Chenoweth. Francine is the odd one out in many ways.*)

MANDY, HARVEY, and HUNTER: The boys of Sondheim High. (*As in Mandy Patinkin, Harvey Fierstein, and Hunter Foster.*)

CHORUS of STUDENTS: As many as you like.

Adults:

MR. LLOYD WEBBER: (*Or Ms. Andrea Lloyd-Webber.*) The principal. He/She runs a tight ship and expects rules to be followed.

MR. WISE: The History teacher, has a bit of a Lin-Manuel Miranda vibe.

MISS HART: (*I suspect her first name is Roxanne, Roxie for short.*) The Math teacher.

MRS. LOVETT: The cafeteria lady.

THE AV CLUB: Mysterious figures, dressed in black, always carrying cameras and microphones.

CHORUS of SINGING MAMAS: As many as you like. They can even be boys comically dressed as Mamas.

NORMA'S MAMA: Hovering and overly protective.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

- 1 – It's Monday That I Love
- 2 – State Song
- 3 – Hunter Song 1
- 4 – The Jock and the Band Geek
- 4a – Scene Change Music
- 5 – The Pythagorean Theorem
- 5a – Scene Change Music
- 6 – Hunter Song 2
- 6a – Scene Change Music
- 7 – The Telephone
- 7a – Scene Change Music
- 8 – The Principal

ACT II

- 9 – Entr'acte
- 10 – The Detention Tango
- 11 – The Circle of Food
- 12 – Hunter Song 3
- 13 – Please Don't Make the Students Sing
- 14 – Mama, You Bore Me
- 15 – Hunter Song 4
- 16 – Let Me Be Me
- 17 – Curtain Call

ACT I

(STUDENTS enter and bustle about as in a regular high school. The AV CLUB, dressed in black and holding microphones and cameras, mill about capturing the action. Suddenly, the students start singing and dancing. SUTTON, IDINA, KRISTIN, and FRANCINE, also known as the Bad Girls, are off to one side, not doing much dancing or singing.)

SONG #1 – IT'S MONDAY THAT I LOVE

STUDENTS:

DAY ONE, TIME TO GET THINGS DONE
TIME TO GET BACK TO THE OLD ROUTINE.
LET'S GO! TIME TO START THE SHOW.
TIME TO GET BACK TO THE STUDYING SCENE.
I'VE GOT MY BOOKS AND MY LOCKER COMBINATION.
THIS WEEK IS GONNA BE A SENSATION.
I AM READY FOR ANYTHING!
IT'S MONDAY THAT I LOVE!

(As the song continues, NORMA enters with NORMA'S MAMA. Norma seems a bit confused to see all the singing and dancing. Norma's Mama takes a picture of Norma before being shooed to exit by Norma. PRINCIPAL LLOYD WEBBER enters and discovers the non-dancing BAD GIRLS. He glares at them with a threatening look. They reluctantly start dancing along with the other students. Satisfied with their response, the Principal inspects other students, offering some praise, cautioning others. When the Principal's back is turned, the Bad Girls cast mocking looks at him.)

STUDENTS:

LET'S CHEER, ALL MY FRIENDS ARE HERE.
EVERYBODY'S LOOKING HAPPY AND BRIGHT.
OH, WOW! BETTER HAVE FUN NOW
'CAUSE WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOME HOMEWORK TONIGHT!
GONNA MAKE SURE EVERY TEST IS PASSED.
THIS WEEK IS GONNA BE A BLAST!
I AM READY FOR ANYTHING!
IT'S MONDAY THAT I LOVE!

STUDENTS: *(Cont'd.)*

MONDAY'S MY FUN DAY.
IT'S THE DAY WHEN EVERYTHING BEGINS.
FRIDAY'S MY CRY DAY.
IT'S THE LAST DAY OF THE WEEK WITH MY FRIENDS.
I HATE TO SLEEP LATE.
I DON'T WANT TO MISS A SINGLE THING.
CAN'T WAIT, 'CAUSE MONDAY'S FIRST RATE.
IT MAKES ME WANT TO DANCE AND SING!

(PRINCIPAL LLOYD WEBBER approaches NORMA as students dance in the background.)

PRINCIPAL WEBBER: Ah, you must be Norma LaBelle!

NORMA: Yes! How did you know?

PRINCIPAL WEBBER: I can spot a new student a mile away.

I'm Principal Lloyd Webber.

NORMA: Nice to meet you Mr. Webber!

PRINCIPAL WEBBER: Welcome to Sondheim High School!

We have some pretty strict rules around here so be sure to pay close attention!

NORMA: Thanks, I'll be sure to do that.

PRINCIPAL WEBBER: I'll be watching you, Norma. *(Exits.)*

GROUP ONE:

DAY ONE, TIME TO
GET THINGS DONE
TIME TO GET BACK TO THE
OLD ROUTINE.

LET'S GO, TIME TO
START THE SHOW.
TIME TO GET BACK TO THE
STUDYING SCENE.

GROUP TWO:

DAY ONE, TIME TO
GET THINGS DONE
TIME TO GET BACK TO THE
OLD ROUTINE.

LET'S GO, TIME TO
START THE SHOW

ALL:

I'VE GOT MY BOOKS AND MY LOCKER COMBINATION
THIS WEEK IS GONNA BE A SENSATION.
I AM READY FOR ANYTHING!
IT'S MONDAY THAT I LOVE!
I AM READY FOR ANYTHING!
IT'S MONDAY THAT I LOVE!

End of Freeview

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