MUSICAL!
THE BARD IS BACK!

Book, Music and Lyrics
by Stephen Murray

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STORY OF THE PLAY

The students of Hilltop High are excited! They're going to put on a musical of "Romeo and Juliet." But the school's chorus director, Miss Peggy Donahue, pressed into service by a principal eager to please his superintendent, is horrified. Twenty years before, when she was a student at Hilltop High, she starred in a disastrous musical version of Shakespeare's "Scottish Play," and she believes the curse lingers on. Sure enough, everything that can go wrong does. The set for the balcony scene collapses, Juliet breaks her leg in a freak accident, her understudy develops laryngitis, and the semi-deaf costumer arrives with cowboy outfits **–** she thought the show was called "Rodeo and Lariat." Add a hysterical playwright, a stage mom from hell, and a mysterious cult of techies who sing a love anthem to their favorite "tool" **–** duct tape **–** and you've got one merry mayhem of a madcap musical, quicker than you can say, "Macbeth" **–** oops!

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(8m, 14w, chorus extras)

MISS PEGGY DONAHUE: A high school chorus director.
PRINCIPAL SANDERS: Principal of Hilltop High.
MALLORY WATSON: Ambitious student.
MARGE WATSON: Mallory's mom, a nightmarish stage mother.
WINNIFRED BURNSIDE: Superintendent's wife & amateur playwright.
DENISE ADAMS: Lovely, talented, and less than brilliant student.
PATRICK EMERSON: Student, star football quarterback who plays Romeo.
WENDELL: A nerdish student.
LARRY: Student, football teammate of Patrick's.
LINDSEY: Stage manager, brilliant student with a photographic memory.
COACH BUTKUS: Hilltop High athletic director and football coach.
MINDY: Yearbook editor.
DONNA THOMPSON: Stage crew.
URIAH ANDERSON: Stage crew.
CASSIE PETERS: Stage crew.
TOMMY EDWARDS: Stage crew.
EDNA PHELPS: Somewhat hearing-impaired school secretary, pianist and costume designer.
AMY: Annoying freshman.
SARAH: Student.
KATE: Student.
LAURA: Student.
SAM: Student, football teammate of Patrick's.
CHORUS: Additional Hilltop High students.

Prop and sound effect notes are at the end of the script.

SONGS

(A rehearsal/performance CD set is available. Call 1-800-HI-STAGE.)

ACT I

Scene 1: The Day Before Auditions
A MUSICAL – Mallory, Denise, Students
THE CURSE – Peggy Donahue
MY OWN FOUR WALLS – Lindsey

Scene 2: Audition Day
I HOPE I MAKE IT – Students
DANCE AUDITION – Peggy Donahue, Students
MY DEAREST LOVE – Mallory, Denise

Scene 3: Monday Afternoon
JUST LEAVE IT TO MAMA – Marge
SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT – Company

ACT II

Scene 1: One Week to Go
ONE WEEK TO GO – Students
GIVE ME WHAT I WANT – Mallory
DUCT TAPE – Stage Crew, Company

Scene 2: Dress Rehearsal
MY DEAREST LOVE (Reprise) – Mallory
THE SHOW MUST GO ON – Lindsey, Students

Scene 3: Opening Night
CAPULET AND MONTAGUE – Chorus
O ROMEO - Lindsey, Denise, Marge, Mallory, Patrick, Chorus

Scene 4: After the Show
WE DID IT! – Company

ACT I
Scene 1

The Day Before Auditions.

(AT RISE: The auditorium of Hilltop High School, a bare stage with an upright piano. MUSIC starts. PRINCIPAL SANDERS enters putting up signs on the walls saying, "Musical Auditions." STUDENTS enter and, upon seeing the signs, become excited about the chance to perform in a musical. Some are carrying copies of the audition flyer.)

SONG #1 – A MUSICAL!

STUDENTS: *(Sing.)*
A MUSICAL? A MUSICAL? THIS SIGN SAYS THAT WE'RE GONNA DO A MUSICAL.
A MUSICAL? A MUSICAL! I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE GONNA DO A MUSICAL.
AUDITIONS ARE TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT THREE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'LL FINALLY GET THE CHANCE TO BE
IN A MUSICAL! IN A MUSICAL!

(MISS PEGGY DONAHUE, the school chorus director, enters carrying one of the audition flyers. She approaches PRINCIPAL SANDERS.)

PEGGY: Principal Sanders?
SANDERS: Yes, Miss Donahue?
PEGGY: Is it true that you have decided to have Hilltop High put on its first musical in 20 years?
SANDERS: Absolutely, Miss Donahue. And you are directing it. Meet me back here in 15 minutes. *(SANDERS walks away quickly, PEGGY pursues.)*
PEGGY: But ... but ... but ...
SANDERS: Fifteen minutes, Miss Donahue. *(PEGGY and SANDERS exit.)*

STUDENTS: *(Sing.)*
A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL!
DID YOU HEAR WE'RE GONNA DO A MUSICAL?
A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL!
HILLTOP HIGH IS GONNA DO A MUSICAL.

STUDENTS: *(Sing.)*
WE'VE NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO DO A PLAY BEFORE
ADD SINGING, AND THEN DANCING,
YOU'VE GOT SO MUCH MORE
IT'S A MUSICAL! IT'S A MUSICAL!

(MALLORY and DENISE cross to DL and R, each holding one of the flyers and singing dreamily. As they sing, they wander closer to each other. As they reach the end of their verse, we see from their reaction to each other that they are rivals.)

MALLORY: *(Sings.)*
THIS IS MY CHANCE
TO BE A STAR
THIS IS MY CHANCE
TO TAKE A BOW
THIS IS MY TIME
TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE
IT'S MY TIME, IT'S MY TIME
IT'S MY TIME
MY TIME IS NOW!

DENISE: *(Sings.)*
THIS IS MY CHANCE
TO BE THE STAR
THIS IS MY CHANCE
TO TAKE A BOW
THIS IS MY TIME
TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE
IT'S MY TIME,
IT'S MY TIME
MY TIME IS NOW!

STUDENTS: *(Sing.)*
A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL! A MUSICAL!
THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR.
NOW WE FINALLY GET THE CHANCE.
THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO TAKE THE STAGE
TO ACT AND TO SING AND TO DANCE.

WHAT A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY
THE ONLY LIMIT IS THE SKY!

RUNNING THREE WHOLE NIGHTS
WITH COSTUMES AND LIGHTS
SCENERY AND PROPS
FUN THAT NEVER STOPS

IT'S A MUSICAL, A MUSICAL, A MUSICAL
AT HILLTOP HIGH!

End of Freeview

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