

NUTTY SQUIRRELS

By Reginald R. Owens

AN ORIGINAL SCRIPT

1821 Lincolnton Highway  
Elberton, Georgia 30635  
706-283-4241  
regobooks@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT. THOMAS GALLEY HOME - BATHROOM - MORNING

78 year old THOMAS Galley prepares to shave. Talks to himself a lot, mostly complaining.

THOMAS

Hey face! Why you so old and wrinkled, hair so gray, falling out daily?

MIRROR

(His reflection talks back)  
Cause you're old, dude.

Thomas jerks backward.

MIRROR (CONT'D)

What's the matter old dude? Can't stand the truth?

Mirror image laughs.

THOMAS

I must be dreaming!

Pinches left arm, nothing changes.

MIRROR

You're not dreaming old dude. You all time complaining, wishing you were young again. Well, I'm here to grant that wish.

THOMAS

You can grant my wish by leaving me alone, you SPOOK.

SPOOK

Tsk-tsk, why you put up such a fuss when I've come to help?

Mirror back to normal. Thomas is not.

THOMAS

(mutters to himself walking toward bed, clothes laid out)

PHONE RINGS

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Hello...

PHONE THOMAS (O.S.)  
See you're having trouble  
putting on clothes.

THOMAS  
Who is this?

PHONE THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Ah you know? We met in the  
bathroom just now.

Thomas slams phone down. Spook moves to dresser mirror.

SPOOK  
Now you're being all mean 'n nasty,  
old dude.

THOMAS  
Leave me alone!

SPOOK  
Hey old dude, don't you want to be  
young again?

THOMAS  
I don't believe you, nor any thing,  
nor any one can do that, so  
skedaddle Spook.

SPOOK  
Anything's possible if you want it  
badly enough.

THOMAS  
Now that really is farfetched you-  
you whatever you are.

SPOOK  
Ever talked with a mirror before?

THOMAS  
No!

SPOOK  
I rest my case.

Thomas sits side of bed, head in hands.

SPOOK (CONT'D)  
Cat gotcha tongue, old dude?

THOMAS  
Aright, aright, tell me if you  
must. I'm tired of batting back and  
forth.

SPOOK

I knew you'd come around, old dude,  
when you go to bed tonight, there  
will be a yellow pill on your  
pillow, take it.

THOMAS

(grumpy)

With or without water?

SPOOK

Doesn't matter.

THOMAS

Then what?

SPOOK

You'll see.

Mirror normal. Thomas changes clothes, leaves bedroom.

LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Thomas tries exercising with old folks TV show. Gives up, too painful.

THOMAS (V.O.)

Oh if only I could travel back in  
time, be with you Martha. Be free  
from pain and move around like I  
once did.

Picks up portrait of young Thomas. PUFF the cat watches.

PUFF

Makes me nervous the way he talks  
to the dead, or that picture when  
he was a teen, seldom ever talks to  
me.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Talking with former jazz band member, GUS.

GUS

Had some good times making music  
didn't we Thomas.

THOMAS

Yeah, you'n me only two left, other three dead and gone.

GUS

You still mess around any on that piano?

THOMAS

Too much arthr in the joints. You got arthritis, Gus?

GUS

(shows hands)

No, I'm not quite as old as you, Thomas. I got ever thang else. You name it, I got it.

THOMAS

We used to play a jazz arrangement called that.

(SINGS) "You name it - I got it,  
You want it - Cain have it. I'm  
just a stingy young Bud"

Both laugh.

GUS

You remember we worked out of Atlanta and your wife Martha, now was she ever gorgeous. And sang, could that lovely woman of yours belt out the notes.

THOMAS

Yeah, and we got most of our gigs because of her. So natural pretty, blond hair, blue eyes, shape of a calendar model. (beat)

GUS

Miss her a lot, don't ya Thomas?

THOMAS

Something fierce. Why did she have to have breast cancer two years ago?

Tears form in his eyes. Gus says nothing, just sits reminiscing giving his long time jazz buddy some space.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Gus, I sure appreciate you coming to see me, it's one of the few pleasures I have left.

GUS

Well now Thomas, I come cause you perk me up too. A man without friends is in a heap a' grief.  
(beat) Well, guess I'd better mosey on. I see it's bout ten o'clock.

They give each other hugs and pats on the back.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

THOMAS

Hey, is that a yellow pill I see on my pillow? (beat)  
What should I do? Take the pill or not take the pill?

PUFF

(Jumps on bed, has Spook's voice)  
Take the pill, Thomas, how could you be any more miserable than you are now?

THOMAS

You're right Puff, nothing ventured - nothing gained.

Takes pill, nothing gained.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Puff it's been ten minutes now and nothing.

He sees Puff sleeping at foot of bed.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I'm going to sleep too. This is nothing but a waste of time just as I thought all along. The whole business was nothing more than a daydream. I've got to stop taking those strong nerve pills.

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Teenager opens eyes, stretches.

THOMAS (V.O)

Boy that was a good night's sleep  
and I didn't even take my nerve  
pill. My breathing is better.  
There's no pain in my joints, no  
wrinkles in my hands. What, no  
wrinkles?

Springs out of bed, gazes mirror.

THOMAS

Wow, that's me back in the fifties.  
This is my old bedroom. I'm wearing  
my teenage PJ's. And just look at  
that, I'm six feet tall again with  
muscles and not a single gray hair.  
This is awesome. I'm actually a  
teenager again. That ole mirror  
Spook did it. The pill really did  
work. Thank you Jesus.

SPOOK

Well doubting Thomas, what'd you  
expect, more grief?

KNOCK on bedroom door, his MOM. Spook gone.

MOM

Thomas, are you all right? Who were  
you talking to, Son?

THOMAS

That's my Mom!

Runs to door, throws arms around his Mother.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Mom, it really is you.

Another hug.

MOM

What's gotten into you, Son? You're  
not acting at all like yourself.

THOMAS

I guess I woke up from a crazy  
dream.

MOM

Well pull yourself together Thomas,  
come downstairs. Breakfast will be  
ready in ten minutes.

Thomas selects fifties attire from closet.

THOMAS

This was the style in mid fifties.

Stands at mirror combing hair.

SPOOK

Hey there you real cool cat, I guess you're not doubting Thomas anymore?

THOMAS

Will you give me warning before popping up in the nearest mirror?

SPOOK

How'd I do? You're back in parent's house and today you'll see young Martha, so pretty 'n all?

THOMAS

Yeah, sorry, Thanks for all you've done for me. I don't mean to be ungrateful. Guess you'd say I'm still in a state of shock.

SPOOK

I can dig it. You have money to take Martha out this evening?

THOMAS

I'm not sure.

Searches book in bookcase, a secret hiding place.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Nothing where I stash cash, I'm broke.

SPOOK

Look again.

Finds twenty-dollar bill.

THOMAS

Geez, you're nice having around, Talking Mirror.

SPOOK

So, I'm no longer a Spook, am I?



THOMAS

No, I think you're pretty swell  
after all.

SPOOK

Good to hear, Thomas.

THOMAS

Say, one question, where'd this  
twenty-spot come from?

SPOOK

Your bank account.

THOMAS

I didn't have a bank account in  
high school.

SPOOK

I know.

THOMAS

It's from the future so I can't  
cash this, right?

SPOOK

Only in emergency. If you feel you  
must return to old dude, try to  
cash it and zap... you're back to  
aches and pains, bad eyesight, and  
lonely.

THOMAS

I don't think I want this transfer  
cash, Spook.

SPOOK

So, it's back to Spook again?

THOMAS

What if I tear it up?

SPOOK

Same as trying to cash it... Zap  
you're outta here.

THOMAS

I'm beginning to think I had you  
pegged the first time.

Mirror image fades laughing.

DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Entering, DAD hands him five dollar weekly allowance.

DAD  
Thanks son for keeping the yard and  
my car looking good.

THOMAS  
(hugging Dad)  
Glad to do it Dad. (gives a hug) I  
gotta get going, exam day at  
school.

Grabbing bacon strips in toast, Thomas leaves.

EXT. FRONT YARD - CONTINUOUS  
MARILYN Mercer, 17, living next door waits by 1950 Chevy.

MARILYN  
Morning Thomas, you ready for mid-  
term exams today?

THOMAS  
I hope so.

INT. 1950 CHEVY - MOVING - CONTINUOUS

Marilyn drops sun visor mirror to inspect face and hair.

SPOOK  
Hey gorgeous!

MARILYN  
(Jerking back in seat)  
Thomas, how did you do that? You  
talked from the mirror.

THOMAS  
Marilyn, you wouldn't believe if I  
told you.

INT/EXT. CHEVY - MORNING

Car pulls to curb, Couple exit, Marilyn fidgets, Thomas sees  
Martha, heart pounds.

MARTHA  
Thomas what's up with Marilyn?

No answer, grabs girlfriend, long kiss, CROWD gathers.

CROWD

Hubba-hubba, you Da man Thomas, way to go Daddio.

MARTHA

Thomas, what's the matter with you this morning?

THOMAS

I love you my darling, I don't care who knows it.

MARTHA

I love you too but this is no place to show this much affection?

Gathering her books, Thomas walks Martha to school.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Marilyn looked scared when she left your car just now.

THOMAS

She thought she saw something in the visor mirror, so how about you. How's everything with you?

MARTHA

Thomas you should know. You see me most every day.

THOMAS

Yeah, but you may be hiding a little secret or something.

MARTHA

You been reading too many comic books, Sweetie.

BELL rings

Kisses Thomas on cheek, runs to homeroom.

EXT/INT. CHEVY - PARKED - AFTER SCHOOL

Marilyn and Martha in front seat. Thomas enters car, pulls down visor mirror.

THOMAS

Spook, I need your help.

SPOOK

What's the matter Thomas?

THOMAS  
 You already know. You scared the  
 living daylights out of Marilyn  
 this morning. Do something.

Girls shocked by Thomas conversing with reflection.

SPOOK  
 Okay - okay, don't get all shook,  
 Elvis.

THOMAS  
 Well just do it.

SPOOK  
 Fold the visor back up and mirror  
 memory is no more.

THOMAS  
 You sure?

MIRROR  
 Yes, I'm positive.

Thomas flips visor back, girls now talking about a dance as  
 the car leaves.

MARILYN  
 Yes, we had a ball at the gym  
 dance, didn't we.

MARTHA  
 And that band was far out.

THOMAS  
 Where would you ladies like to pig  
 out?

MARTHA  
 How bout Toot'n Tell'um Drive Inn?

INT. TOOT'N TELL'UM DRIVE INN - CONTINUOUS

Packed with teens dancing to jukebox, loud.

MARILYN  
 There's an empty booth. (pointing)

MARTHA  
 Hey Marilyn, here comes your lover,  
 Bobby Glowers

He sits beside Marilyn.

BOBBY  
Hey you cats all set for the next  
big gym dance?

MARTHA  
Of course.

MARILYN  
Wouldn't miss it for the world.

THOMAS  
(hands open looks to side)  
You know me, Bobby.

BOBBY  
Oh yeah, Mister Jitterbug himself.

Thomas plays several instruments, played jazz band till 65.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
You wanna get together this  
afternoon Mister Jitterbug? I'll  
teach ya a few more guitar licks.

THOMAS  
Why not! Martha you wanna drum with  
us?

Martha is high school jazz band drummer.

MARTHA  
Sure, Marilyn, you come too and  
sing.

MARILYN  
I can dig it, sure.

Young WAITRESS arrives.

WAITRESS  
Howdy you all, what'll ya have?

MARILYN  
I want a burger, no onions, fries,  
and a Coke. Anybody else with me?

All agree, order same.

INT. BOBBY'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - HOUR LATER

Set up like a sound booth. Parents spent a fortune.

MARILYN

What song you wanna start with?

BOBBY

How bout the Christmas song I wrote?

MARILYN

But it's not Christmas.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

No matter, it's just to warm up on.

Bobby begins on guitar.

MARILYN

"Just look at all those houses  
With their sparkling Christmas  
lights,  
So warm and so cheery on a cold  
December night.  
Can't you just feel that Christmas  
Spirit,  
Listening to those Yule Time tunes,  
All the children are a' wishing,  
for Santa to come real soon."

BOBBY

OK, That's enough warm up. Thanks Marilyn.

Thomas moves to piano, plays fast jazz piece, Martha joins in on drums.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Hey man, when did you learn to play the keys?

THOMAS

What if I told you I'm a seventy-eight year old jazz musician?

BOBBY

Yeah like, no way José.

Bobby's mother, MISSUS GLOWERS comes to stairs.

MISSUS GLOWERS

Bobby, who was that playing piano?

BOBBY

It was Thomas, ain't he the cat's meow?

MISSUS GLOWERS

Thomas you sound like you've been playing for years.

THOMAS

Thank you Missus Glowlers. I've had a lot of practice.

MARILYN

Thomas, I live next door to ya, never heard one piano note coming my way. You must be a magician musician.

Displaying funny arms and face motion, fills room with laughter.

MARTHA

Not only has he become a magician musician, but a comedian as well.

Martha sends him an air kiss.

BOBBY

What else have you been hiding from us, Thomas?

THOMAS

Well, I can play sax.

MARTHA

Really?

THOMAS

I had some help with the sax, an instructor, actually.

MARTHA

Hey, you've been a very busy boy.

BOBBY

Well I for one am glad to hear this. Let's get busy forming a band and earn ourselves some real money. What-da-ya-say gang?

MARTHA

We'll need a band name.

MARILYN

Super Tones.

BOBBY

Nawh... Too yucky Marilyn, How bout  
the Nutty Squirrels?

MARILYN

Love it Bobby, the Nutty Squirrels  
appearing live, Sunday Night, on Ed  
Sullivan Show.

MARTHA

I thinks it's perfect for this gang  
of misfits.

THOMAS

We'll need a bass player.

BOBBY

I know one, A good one too.

MARILYN

Thomas, you got a sax?

THOMAS

No I don't, not at present.

MARILYN

Maybe our band director will loan  
you one until we can get our own  
for the band.

BOBBY

Huh, that band director will want  
Thomas in the school jazz band.

MARTHA

I'd love having Thomas in our  
school jazz band.

MISSUS GLOWERS

Why don't you meet back here  
tomorrow. We've bought all this  
other stuff for Bobby's music room,  
might as well have a sax.

BOBBY

Thanks Mom, make it a tenor sax. I  
can't wait to hear Thomas play.

INT. THOMAS' HOME - DEN - LATER

Thomas and Martha are studying together. She's busy writing.



THOMAS (V.O.)

Oh yeah, it's great to be here with the love of my life, to hold her hand and kiss her again. It would be perfect if I could tell her about my time travel, to explain the many wonderful years of our married life

(beat)

But I can't. It'd send me back to old age and all my miseries.

Martha lays pen down, reaches for Thomas, lips meet.

MARTHA

Thomas, I can't help but notice how different you've been today.

THOMAS

I don't mean to, Darling.

MARTHA

You seem like a totally different person in some ways. You've suddenly become so gifted in playing the piano, the sax, and so smart. You seem different from last week.

THOMAS

Don't be concerned. I'm going through a phase trying to do all I can do and be all I can be.

MARTHA

You've become an over achiever?

THOMAS

How well you put it.

MARTHA

You also come across as being much older than you really are and it's puzzling to say the least.

THOMAS

Don't be concerned. I'll get over it and be the same ole Thomas who has always loved you since the first day I saw you.

MARTHA

Really? That was way back in first grade.

They embrace, hug and kiss, Martha drives home.

THOMAS' BEDROOM - MIRROR - CONTINUOUS

SPOOK

You did well Thomas.

THOMAS

I'm beginning to wish you couldn't  
sneak up on me, Spook.

SPOOK

Simple, just try spending that  
twenty and you're back in aches and  
pains, poor eyesight, and  
heartbreak. That what you want  
Thomas?

THOMAS

You know dang well it's not.

SPOOK

Well you'll just have to put up  
with ole Spook, now want ya?

THOMAS

Okay - okay.

SPOOK

Good, now listen up. It's rules and  
regulations time.

THOMAS

What do ya mean?

SPOOK

If you just keep silent and listen,  
I can instruct you without  
interruptions, agreed?

(silence)

SPOOK (CONT'D)

I'll take that for a yes. Now you  
were married a long time in your  
real life, but you must remember,  
this is like 'make believe.'  
Understand what I'm saying?

THOMAS

I'm beginning to see what ya getting at.

SPOOK

Good... You must not go beyond kissing and limited fondling, you catch my drift?

THOMAS

That is going to be very difficult, Spook.

SPOOK

The rules are set, you have to play the game if you won't to remain a youth.

THOMAS

I think you get your enjoys intimidating the stuffings outta me.

SPOOK

I lay down the rules, and you follow, remember the alternative, Thomas.

THOMAS

So I'm stuck between a rock and a hard place, like it or not.

SPOOK

Now ya catching on fast, super sport. If you need me I'm as close as your car mirror, or any mirror for that matter.

Spook is gone.

EXT. THOMAS HOME - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Thomas heads for car to get keys.

MARILYN

Wanna talk?

Startled by Marilyn sitting in a rocking chair, Thomas stops.

THOMAS

Gee Whiz, Marilyn you scared the you know what outta me.

MARILYN

Sorry Thomas, something's wrong with the way you've been acting today and I'd like to help if I may.

THOMAS

Let's sit on the porch swing?

Marilyn slides over, throws arms around his neck, and begins kissing in heated passion. Thomas realizes it's wrong and eases Marilyn back gently.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Marilyn, what are we doing here?

MARILYN

Thomas I've loved you since I was a little girl.

THOMAS

Marilyn I love you too but like a sister I never had. I think the world of you but it's Martha I love, always have, always will. She and I will be married soon after high school and spend our lives together.

Thomas stops before going too far in the future. Marilyn, with tears in eyes, slumps back.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Please don't cry Marilyn. I can't stand seeing you hurt. I didn't mean to hurt you... Please?

MARILYN

Oh Thomas. I've been foolish, please forgive me?

THOMAS

Marilyn there's nothing to forgive.

Thomas kisses her forehead. Marilyn runs home.

INT. BOBBY'S BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

Thomas checks out a brand new tenor sax, makes a few adjustments, begins a slow soulful sound. Martha adds snare and high hat, then bass drum. Bobby comes in with guitar chords.

MARILYN  
 (scat singing)  
 "Do be do be doo, all musicians, do  
 be do be doo, are a little nutty."

Bobby's bass player, CHUBBY Charles on steps with electric  
 bass guitar.

CHUBBY  
 Who dat calling me nutty?

BOBBY  
 Chubby you're just in time to join  
 our band of squirrels.

CHUBBY  
 Yeah man... Hey I got a doghouse  
 out in the van if you rather I play  
 it.

THOMAS  
 No you're fine, maybe next practice  
 we can use your acoustic bass on  
 some jazz.

BOBBY  
 What-da-ya-mean..? This aggregation  
 is way too good for a next  
 practice.

MARILYN  
 Dream on Bobby, we got a ways to go  
 before stardom.

THOMAS  
 Yeah Bobby, you might want to amend  
 that statement in about ten  
 minutes.

MARTHA  
 Alright-already, lets get this show  
 on the road.

MARILYN  
 Yeah, less chatter more action, I'm  
 ready for some grooving.

Thomas starts a syncopated rhythm on piano and the bass man  
 is falling in. Martha brings in the drums. Bobby adds lead  
 guitar while Thomas moves to the sax. They sound like they've  
 played together for years. Marilyn ends with a scat send off.

MARILYN (CONT'D)  
 "De do be do be do be, doo."

THOMAS

You know, I think a couple more sessions and us nutty squirrels will be ready for an old fashioned street dance.

MARTHA

Thomas, don't you think we'll need to create some rock and roll since that's the craze these days.

THOMAS

Yep, you're right, Sweetie. We gotta rock 'n roll with the flow.

MARILYN

Roll with the flow... Hey! That'd make a good rock 'n roll tune. I'll write some lyrics.

THOMAS

Don't forget Martha's 'It's the Craze These Days.'

MARILYN

Okay, there's another goody.

Bobby's Mom comes to stairs.

MISSUS GLOWERS

Hey Squirrels, I have hotdogs and fries on the table if you're hungry.

Squirrels are right behind her.

INT. FIFTY CHEVY - EVENING - MOVING

Martha slides over as close as possible to Thomas.

THOMAS

Wanna go to a movie tonight?

MARTHA

I'd much rather go someplace quiet and just enjoy each other's company.

THOMAS

Okay!

MARTHA

My parents are out of town, the house is vacant.

THOMAS

Sounds fine by me.

SPOOK (O.S.)

Thomas only you can hear me. Be careful, don't go too far.

Thomas nods.

INT. MARTHA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She places house key in vase beside door.

MARTHA

Want something to drink or a snack?

THOMAS

No I'm fine. Your home is really nice.

MARTHA

Thanks for coming over.

THOMAS

And thanks for inviting me.

Martha faces Thomas, guides his face down, gives a kiss.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Mercy, that was some kiss Martha, you've been practicing?

MARTHA

I've kissed you in my dreams at least a hundred times.

THOMAS

I'm flattered, and if I'd known I would've been more than eager to provide myself in person.

Longer lasting kisses follow, both feeling warm.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I think I'll have that drink now.

Martha looks puzzled.

MARTHA

Well... All right, what would you like, something cold or hot?

THOMAS

Better go with cold, a soda or just water, doesn't matter.

Taking his hand, moving to kitchen, pours soda in glass.

MARTHA

Here my Darling. I think I know why you need a cold drink. Thanks for not taking advantage of the moment downstairs.

THOMAS

Wasn't cause I didn't want to, ya know.

MARTHA

Me too.

THOMAS

Guess I'd better be going, thanks for being so understanding.

MARTHA

And thanks to you, Thomas.

Another kiss and Thomas starts to leave, PHONE rings.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Wait a sec Thomas, it may be for you. (picking up phone) Hello.

MARILYN (O.S.)

Martha, is Thomas there?

MARTHA

Yes, he was just leaving. Hold on I'm handing him the phone.

THOMAS

Hello.

MARILYN (O.S.)

Thomas, the regular Saturday night dance in the gym is holding auditions for a new band. I signed up the Nutty Squirrels. Is that okay?



THOMAS  
Sure, do we bring our  
instruments?

MARILYN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
They have piano and drums, we  
bring the rest. We audition  
this Thursday evening at  
eight. I'm so excited, I know  
they'll pick us.

THOMAS  
Maybe so, see ya at practice  
tomorrow.

Hangs up phone, turns to Martha.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Marilyn's got us an audition to  
play for the Saturday Night Dance  
in the school gym.

MARTHA  
Wow, that's great news, Thomas See  
ya tomorrow, Sweetie.

She gives him a big hug and goodbye kiss.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - EVENING

Big crowd packs gym to hear auditions. QUEENIE Smith is in  
charge.

MARILYN  
Queenie how many bands competing?

QUEENIE  
Three, yours is last, it's the best  
spot.

MARILYN  
I agree, thanks.

She approaches the other squirrels.

MARILYN (CONT'D)  
There's just three bands competing  
and we're last to show our stuff.

BOBBY  
Way to go Marilyn. Saving the best  
for last.

He gives her a lip lock. She drops both arms like she's  
carried away with his kiss. He staggers around, plops on  
chair, eyes closed pretending a knock out.

QUEENIE

(at mike)

The first band to audition is the  
MOONDROPS.

MOONDROPS

"Gonna live it up, gonna rip it up.  
Gonna live it up today, and rock it  
up tomorrow, gonna have a ball  
tonight."

INSTRUMENTAL Lead Guitar.

"Gonna live it up, gonna rip it up.  
Gonna live it up today, and rock it  
up tomorrow, gonna have a ball  
tonight."

INSTRUMENTAL Lead Guitar.

Amateurish, little audience response.

QUEENIE

Thank you Moondrops. And now the  
Hotshots.

Moondrops consist of three guys, GUITARIST, bass, and  
drummer.

GUITARIST

This is a song I wrote, it'll make  
you dance ya legs off. (beat) Oh  
yeah, I'm a' singing it.

"Gimme all ya loving Baby,  
Gimme all ya love right now,  
Gimme all ya loving Baby,  
Come on and be my Cutie Pow."

INSTRUMENTAL Screaming guitar, way  
too loud.

At conclusion no one lost legs or  
even tried to dance.

QUEENIE

We have one last band to audition,  
come on up, The Nutty Squirrels.

Thomas leads way on stage, sits at piano, Bobby and Chubby  
bring up their amps and instruments, Marilyn takes the  
singer's mike. Martha has to readjust the drums.

MARILYN

Hey gang, get ready to dance cause  
this place is about to start  
jumping.

Martha starts drum beat, Chubby adds bass, Bobby now  
strumming chords on guitar as Thomas fast fingers piano,  
everybody's on the floor rocking and rolling away.

MARILYN (CONT'D)

(singing)

"You ain't nothing but a hound dog,  
just a rocking all the time.  
You ain't nothing but a hound dog,  
just a rocking all the time.  
You ain't never caught a rabbit and  
you ain't no friend of mine."

Thomas takes a solo break on piano followed by Bobby on lead  
guitar, Martha follows with a rousing solo, drumming aided by  
Chubby on bass. Thomas picks up the sax and follows Martha.  
They all come in with a long instrumental, back and forth.  
Gym floor packed with kids wearing out clothes from the  
inside.

THOMAS

(singing)

"They said you were high class,  
But that was just a lie.  
Yeah they said you were high class,  
But that was just a lie.  
You ain't never caught a rabbit and  
you ain't no friend of mine."

THOMAS and MARILYN

(duet)

"You ain't nothing but a hound dog,  
just a rocking all the time.  
You ain't nothing but a hound dog,  
just a rocking all the time.  
You ain't never caught a rabbit and  
you ain't no friend of mine."

INSTRUMENTAL to end

Kids are rocking and rolling all  
over the place, having a ball.

QUEENIE

(following dance)

How do you rockers like The Nutty  
Squirrels?

Pandemonium.

QUEENIE (CONT'D)

I thought so, come to the dance  
Saturday Night and hear them again.

More applause with yelling and whistles.

QUEENIE (CONT'D)

Thanks for auditioning, you'll pack  
the gym Saturday night. How long  
you been together?

THOMAS

About three weeks.

QUEENIE

Amazing, simply amazing.

THOMAS

What time you want us here?

QUEENIE

Dance starts at eight, I'll be here  
at seven.

THOMAS

We'll be setup and ready before  
eight.

EXT. TOOT'N TELL'UM DRIVE INN - LATER

Thomas' Chevy pulls into parking spot.

INT. TOOT'N TELL'UM DRIVE IN - CONTINUOUS

As the band walks in, the crowd begins to cheer. The OWNER  
escorts them to a booth.

OWNER

Your meal is on the house. This is  
the largest crowd since opening  
this Drive Inn.

THOMAS

Thank you Sir. How bout that you  
Nutty Squirrels.

BOBBY

Sir, just bring us whatever you'd  
like to serve. Okay with everybody?

All voice agreement.

CHUBBY

You know guys and gals, I'm the oldest here, been playing bass and guitar for over five years now. I think we should make a demo and try for a record deal.

BOBBY

Ya really think so, Chubby?

CHUBBY

Oh yeah, definitely.

BOBBY

How bout you Thomas?

THOMAS

Tell ya what my fellow minstrels, based on the response we got tonight, I say we have more than a fighting chance. Let's do it.

CHUBBY

All Right, I'll foot the recording expense and you can pay me out of future earnings.

THOMAS

That's mighty nice of you. I have a feeling you'll be reimbursed for your generosity real soon.

INT. THOMAS' BEDROOM - NEXT AFTERNOON

FACING CAMERA

THOMAS

Soon as I entered my bedroom last night, I began writing some mid-fifties songs with lyrics. Most rock 'n roll songs back then were based on 12 Bar Blues progressions with simple lyrics. So by two A.M., I had completed five new songs. The next morning I decided to stay home from school and penned five more. In a few months, Dick Clark's American Bandstand will debut on TV and a rash of rock'n roll bands will come out of the woodworks. The Nutty Squirrels will be an ideal name to fit the era.

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Now all we have to do is learn these new originals and select the best two for a demo forty-five vinyl record. Oh yeah in the mid-fifties we were just getting away from the big seventy-eight rpm diner plate size records.

PHONE rings.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Hello!

MARTHA

Hi Sweetie, I missed you at school today.

THOMAS

Hey there, Love. Yeah I've been really busy. Wrote ten new songs last night and today.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Really? Incredible, ten songs in less than twenty-four hours. I gotta hear them soon, okay?

THOMAS

Sure, I'm leaving in a few for our basement practice. I'll bring them with me.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Great, see ya soon... Love Ya.

THOMAS

Love you too Sweetie. Bye

FADE TO.

INT. BOBBY'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER

Everyone's ready to practice.

BOBBY

Martha says you been churning out some hit tunes, Thomas.

THOMAS

Hope so. Wanna try one right now?

Thomas places lyrics on Piano and starts playing & SINGING.

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt.  
I start to feel low down.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
But I start to feel low down

When the day turns to night."  
 (instrumental break)  
 REPEAT from beginning.

Song finishes.

BOBBY

Hey man, I dig it the most. We  
 gonna play it Saturday Night?

THOMAS

That's the best place to get a  
 crowd reaction, a live audience.

BOBBY

Why don't we do it slow like just  
 now and go into a fast rocking  
 instrumental on the end?

THOMAS

Fine by me. Lets try it.

Band does it again the way Bobby suggested.

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 Hey now the Blues Come Up  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 That's when I start to hurt.  
 I start to feel low down.  
 I make out fine in the daytime  
 When the sun is shinning bright.  
 I make out fine in the daytime  
 When the sun is shinning bright.  
 But I start to feel low down  
 When the day turns to night."  
 INSTRUMENTAL Uptempo.

BOBBY

Oh yeah, that one turned out to be  
 terrific, got another blues tune we  
 can play around with?

THOMAS

Yeah, here's one. A lot of blues  
 tunes start off with 'woke up this  
 morning.'

SINGS

"Woke up this morn-ning, You were  
 all over my mind.  
 Woke up this morning, you were all  
 over my mind.  
 Cause I think about you baby. I  
 think about you all the time."

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)

(band joins in)

"I went down to the corner.  
Thought I'd walk away my blues.  
Yea, I went down to the corner,  
Thought I'd walk away my blues.  
But when I turned to look around.  
You were a'walkin with me too.  
Play it Bobby."

Bobby plays a bottle neck slide blues guitar break.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

"Rode down to da roadhouse,  
Jes to ease my troubled mind.  
Yeah I rode down to da roadhouse,  
Jes to ease my troubled mind. And  
yeah I turned to that ole bottle.  
Cause I do it ever time."

Bobby plays another blues guitar break followed by Thomas on the tenor sax with Bobby laying fills.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

And when I woke up next morning,  
you were all over my mind.

BOBBY

Yeah, I like it, no I love it. Far  
out Jitterbugger.

Everybody clapping including Bobby's Mom standing on the basement stairs.

CHUBBY

I do believe we got both sides of  
our demo ready to be recorded on  
vinyl. I'll call Sunshine Records  
in Orlando and set it up to record  
Monday if that suits everyone.

Everyone approves.

BOBBY

By the way, Marilyn do we get paid  
for playing the dance?

MARILYN

You sure do Sugar, fifty cents a  
head.

CHUBBY

That should be enough for the  
recording.



MARILYN

I can hardly wait to make the record. And play for the dance.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - EVENING

Squirrels are set up thirty minutes early.

THOMAS

Think I'll play some piano jazz.

Martha, Bobby, and Chubby join him on stage. As the gym begins to fill the audience stands around the band stage, listening, some dancing to the music, all enjoying. At eight, Queenie takes the mike.

QUEENIE

Hello guys and gals. Welcome to our regular Saturday Night Dance and our new band the Nutty Squirrels. Much applause, yelling, and whistling.

QUEENIE (CONT'D)

So let's get ready to rock'n roll.

MARILYN

Our first song tonight was written just this week by our leader and Piano Man Thomas Galley. It begins as a slow blues and ends a fast paced rocker.

THOMAS

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt.  
I start to feel low down.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
But I start to feel let down  
When the day turns to night."

Martha does a fast drum roll and changes to fast beat. Rest of the band comes in with Thomas on sax. The instrumental goes on for several minutes for wild dancing. One couple gives a demo on fast dancing.

THOMAS FACING CAMERA:

We perform until eleven o'clock and I don't think any dancer stops except during our hourly ten minute breaks. It's a huge success. We are asked for autographs and when are we going to record our original songs so they can take us home with them. The Nutty Squirrels are in Seventh Heaven over the success of our first public appearance. It was a memory maker.

FADE TO:

INT. ORLANDO - RECORDING STUDIO - MONDAY EVENING

Set up and ready. ENGINEER raises hand.

ENGINEER

Nutty Squirrels take one.

THOMAS

(SINGING with piano only)  
 "Woke up this morn-ning  
 You were all over my mind.  
 I woke up this morning  
 You were all over my mind.  
 Cause I thinks about you baby  
 I think about you all the time."  
 (band joins in)  
 "I went down to the corner  
 Thought I'd walk away my blues.  
 Yeah, I went down to the corner  
 Thought I'd walk away my blues.  
 But when I turned to look around  
 You were a'walkin with me too."

Bobby plays his bottle neck slide guitar break.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

"Rode down to the roadhouse  
 Just to ease my troubled mind.  
 Yeah I rode down to the roadhouse  
 Just to ease my troubled mind.  
 Yeah I turned to that ole bottle  
 Cause I do it every time."

Bobby plays another blues guitar break followed by Thomas on the tenor sax with Bobby laying fills.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

"And when I woke up next morning  
 you were all over my mind."

All quiet.

ENGINEER

Hey, I think we got it on first take. Standby, I'll play it back for you.

CHUBBY

It's rare to lay a perfect track on first take.

THOMAS

I was thinking we were back in the gym having a ball.

BOBBY

Hey, I was too, how bout you Martha?

MARTHA

No, I was just trying my best not to lose timing.

CHUBBY

I was counting all the hundred dollar bills we gonna make on the record.

All laugh.

ENGINEER (O.S.)

Okay guys, here it comes.

Everyone smiles as the sound comes over speakers.

THOMAS (V.O.)

We had no idea just how good the recording studio could make us sound. We realize that we really do have something salable. The second song took two takes and it was just as good as the first. Little did we know, we were on the threshold of fame and fortune.

Music fades, studio owner YARDLEY enters.

YARDLEY

Say would you folks be interested in acquiring a booking agent?

THOMAS

Does the agent book local or worldwide?

(Thomas has experience with agents)

YARDLEY

Let me put it like this, the Nutty Squirrels are ready for the big time. How soon can you start traveling?

MARTHA

We're all high school seniors except the bass man, Chubby.

YARDLEY

The music business can be fast and furious and when opportunity comes knocking, it's like catching the brass ring on a merry go round. You can hire tutors to travel with you and complete your school work in time to graduate with your class next June. Opportunity is knocking and you better take advantage. You have the sound, the looks, personality, and a goofy name that kids can remember.

MARTHA

Gee, I don't know...

YARDLEY

When this record hits the radio stations you're gonna be in instant demand. It can cost you millions of dollars to procrastinate.

THOMAS

He's right Martha. I've read articles about really good young bands missing out by not taking advantage. They're known as One Hit Wonders.

MARTHA

Okay, lets get the booking person and become rich and famous.

BOBBY

Now ya talking, Martha.

YARDLEY

You young folks, here's my card if your parents need to call me.

THOMAS

What's your part in promoting us.

YARDLEY

I'll be producing all your millions  
of records.

THOMAS

What about Publicity Photos?

YARDLEY

I was making those while you were  
recording. Got some good one's too.

YARDLEY (CONT'D)

If you'll hang around a couple of  
hours, I'll press each of you a  
dozen copies to take home.

THOMAS

Oh yeah, thanks. You guys wanna go  
shopping for a couple of hours?

MARILYN

Hey listen, since we won't have to  
worry about buying demos we can use  
the dance money to shop.

BOBBY

What was the total again?

MARILYN

Three hundred forty-four dollars.

BOBBY

Let's go shopping.

INT. BOBBY'S BASEMENT STUDIO - THREE WEEKS LATER

The record makes number 12 on BMI's Top 100 List. AGNES Hall,  
manager and booking agent meets with Squirrels.

AGNES

Congratulations everyone, your  
record is flying off the record  
store shelves.

All applaud, some whistle.

AGNES (CONT'D)

We need to make some changes in the  
group okay?

THOMAS

Uh, what changes?

AGNES

Thomas you do the lead singing with both girls doing backup. (beat) We can replace Martha on drums. Martha and Marilyn should be dressed in short outfits and dancing with the songs.

THOMAS

But won't that take more practice rearranging the band, and the drummer where do we get a new drummer.

CHUBBY

I know one, who knows all our songs. My girlfriend Peggy can fit right in.

THOMAS

Well, what do ya say ladies. This new arrangement suit you.

Both agree, shaking heads.

AGNES

I have scheduled your first show in two weeks, that should give you time to rework the songs and routines.

BOBBY

Where's our first gig?

AGNES

Atlanta's Peachtree Theater, seats eight thousand.

MARILYN

What will we wear?

AGNES

Wardrobe will be here this afternoon to take measurements and produce three different changes for your first show.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. ATLANTA - PEACHTREE THEATER - EVENING

A local group, Atlanta Rebels opens show.

## ANNOUNCER

Are you cats ready to rock and roll?

Audience

Yeaaaaaaahhh!

First on tonight's really big show we have a red hot local group, your very own, Atlanta Rebels with Rock Around The Clock.

"One, two, three o'clock, four o'clock rock  
Five, six, seven o'clock, eight o'clock rock  
Nine, ten, eleven o'clock, twelve o'clock rock  
We're gonna rock around the clock tonight

Put your glad rags on and join me, hon'  
We'll have some fun when the clock strikes one  
We're gonna rock around the clock tonight  
We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight  
We're gonna rock, gonna rock it around the clock tonight

When, when the clock strikes two, three and four  
If the band slows down, we'll yell for more  
We're gonna rock around the clock tonight  
Rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight"  
We're gonna rock, gonna rock it around the clock tonight"

"Yeah, and when the clock chimes five, six and seven  
We'll be rocking up in seventh heaven  
Gonna rock around the clock tonight  
We're gonna rock, rock, rock 'til broad daylight  
We're gonna rock, gonna rock it around the clock tonight,  
yeah  
Oh, yeah  
Well, we're gonna rock around the clock  
Oh, we're gonna rock around the clock  
We're gonna rock, we're gonna rock around the clock tonight"

Applause and screaming.

## ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Way to go Rebels (beat) And now, from the radio, to your two eyes and ears, the hottest upcoming group in America... The Nutty Squirrels.

Applause and screaming.

Two cute girls dressed in gray tight fitted Squirrel costumes, displaying lovely bare legs, volley ball size peanuts run on stage, teasing audience.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Now wait a minute, we're supposed to have a rock and roll group called the Nutty Squirrels, not two Squirrels playing with peanuts.

Roaring laughter as Announcer chases girls off stage on left. Seconds later girls sneak up from right.

Audience yelling to turn around. He turns, chases girls off stage.

Curtain rises, band playing fast instrumental with Thomas at Piano. From stage-left girlie squirrels enter dancing to the beat. It's Marilyn and Martha. Audience is standing, dancing, yelling.

THOMAS (V.O.)

Following the opening, we do all our original songs and the over 8000 screaming teens go wild during the two-hour performance in Atlanta. We'll do the same show in Philadelphia and Chicago.

FADE TO:

INT. PHILADELPHIA - RANDOLPH THEATER - DRESSING ROOM - 9 A.M.

Thomas, Martha and TUTOR remain, others at TV Station.

THOMAS

I'm tired of studying Martha, let's take the final test for our diploma?

MARTHA

I'm with you.

TUTOR

I can give you the final right now.

MARTHA

Let's do it.

Tutor reaches in briefcase for tests.



TUTOR

You have one hour. Better use the restrooms now if it's been a while.

MARTHA

I'm good,

THOMAS

Me too.

TUTOR

Here's your tests, ready, go.

INT. PHILADELPHIA - TV STATION - CONTINUOUS

Talk show HOST interviewing Nutty Squirrels.

HOST

Which of you is the leader of the group?

BOBBY

That would be Thomas Galway, he's not with us. Thomas also writes most of our songs, words and music.

HOST

I understand all but two of you Nutty Squirrels are high school seniors. You plan to finish school?

MARILYN

Oh yes, we have a traveling tutor and plan to graduate with our class in June.

HOST

Tell me about your group, who does what?

MARILYN

Well, Martha and I are backup singers and dancers. Bobby here is our lead guitarist, Chubby, oldest in the group is bass man and his girlfriend Peggy is the drummer. Thomas is lead singer... plays piano, guitar, and tenor sax.

HOST

Well, sounds like this Thomas is a musical jack of all trades.

MARILYN

Oh, he's very gifted. Without him there wouldn't be a Nutty Squirrels band.

BOBBY

I who got Thomas interested in music. I taught him how to play guitar and he went from there to playing every instrument in our band. He's really good on piano and sax.

HOST

How many nights will you be at the Philly Pro Gym?

BOBBY

Just tonight and tomorrow.

HOST

There you have, The Nutty Squirrels with the number one record on rock and roll charts appearing this afternoon at four, tonight and tomorrow at eight at Philly Pro Gym.

Commercials follow, band leaves.

INT. RANDOLPH THEATER - DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Tutor stops test.

TUTOR

Times up, hand me your papers. I'll grade them, let you know the results shortly.

THOMAS

Oh we got 'm all right, didn't we Martha.

MARTHA

Of course, I finished and had time to go over answers.

THOMAS

I had time to go out and get burgers and fries.

MARTHA

Somebody's getting carried away.

Roaming Squirrels enter.

BOBBY

What's going on here? I didn't know we had a study session.

MARTHA

Wasn't a study session, we just finished our final test.

BOBBY

Shucks, I should-a stayed and tested too.

THOMAS

So what have you cats been up too?

BOBBY

We were interviewed, on local TV promoting our Philly gig.

MARTHA

I'm sorry we missed that. Sounds like fun.

MARILYN

Oh it was. They had a real cute young cameraman. Keep winking at me.

BOBBY

And I started to give him a wink upside the nose. (shows fist)

MARTHA

Bobby, it's just part of being famous.

Tutor enters.

TUTOR

I have your test results, you both passed with flying colors. Congrats you high school graduates.

Everyone reacts.

BOBBY

Can we take our final tests now?

TUTOR

If you like. We'll have to go where there's peace and quiet.

MARTHA

You and Marilyn stay here, rest of us can grab something to munch a bunch.

TUTOR

I'll get test papers.

EXT. RANDOLPH THEATER - STAGE DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Squirrels spotted by group of teens, now running toward them.

CHUBBY

Uh Oh, we better run or else.

Moving from yelling teens, they turn at next corner.

CHUBBY (CONT'D)

There, donut shop, quick, inside.

Cute CLERK NIKKI approaches.

CLERK

Can I help you?

CHUBBY

Is there a back door out?

CLERK

Yeah, straight back beyond the restrooms.

THOMAS

Better idea, let's fill a restroom and lock the door.

Crowd runs pass window. Some stop, peek through window, move on.

CLERK

(tapping restroom door)  
You can come out now.

THOMAS

Thanks a bunch, Miss?

CLERK

I'm NIKKI.

THOMAS

Thanks Nikki for helping us.

NIKKI  
(smiling)  
You're welcome, Nutty Squirrels.

THOMAS  
You knew us.

CLERK  
Oh yeah, you were on that TV just a  
while ago.

BOBBY  
You have a southern accent.

NIKKI  
I'm from Jacksonville, Florida.

BOBBY  
No kidding, so are we.

THOMAS  
We owe you, big.

NIKKI  
How bout some autographs?

They each sign a fresh clean apron.

CLERK  
This apron will never be worn  
again... Have a seat. I'll treat  
you to some sweets. Take that big  
booth in the rear.

CHUBBY  
How long was the final exam,  
Martha?

MARTHA  
One hour time limit.

CHUBBY  
Maybe we should stay here till the  
hour is up, then sneak back two at  
a time.

MARTHA  
Good thinking, Chubby.

THOMAS  
Next time we'll know better.

NIKKI

That's the price of fame. Better  
get used to it. You are now  
celebrities.

Sets sweets, hot/cold cups on table.

THOMAS

Nikki, what time do you get off  
work?

NIKKI

I'm off now, my replacement came in  
just before you entered.

THOMAS

Would you like to walk with Martha  
and me to Randolph Theater and be  
our guest for this afternoon's  
performance.

NIKKI

Would I?

THOMAS

Have a seat and join us.

INT. RANDOLPH THEATER - DRESSING ROOM - HOUR LATER

Bobby and Marilyn are grinning.

THOMAS

So you both are now grads, correct?

BOBBY

We're ready to receive our  
diplomas.

Martha gives both hugs.

THOMAS

Hey gang, this is Nikki, she's our  
special guest for the afternoon  
show.

Squirrels welcome Nikki.

MARTHA

She saved us from a gang of teenage  
fans.

BOBBY

So Nikki, are you into music?

NIKKI

Actually I've been taking voice and dancing for three years now.

BOBBY

Thomas, you thinking what I'm thinking?

THOMAS

Would you be interested in trying out for our group?

NIKKI

Are you kidding? I would love being a Nutty Squirrel.

THOMAS

Are you free to travel tomorrow?

NIKKI

I'm free right now!

THOMAS (V.O.)

Nikki, we discover later, is an excellent singer and dancer. Learned our songs and routines in time for next week in Chicago.

INT. CHICAGO - CONVENTION CENTER - AFTERNOON

Packed with teens, some adults. LOCAL BAND opens.

LOCAL BAND

"Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo, Ennie meanie and a miney mo, makes ya wanna go cat go-go-go."

Instrumental Break.

"Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo, Ennie meanie and a miney mo, makes ya wanna go cat go-go-go."

Instrumental Break.

"Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo, Ennie meanie and a miney mo, makes ya wanna go cat go-go-go."

Instrumental Break.

"Ennie meanie and a miney mo. Ennie meanie and a miney mo.

(MORE)

## LOCAL BAND (CONT'D)

Ennie meanie and a miney mo, Ennie  
 meanie and a miney mo, makes ya  
 wanna go cat go-go-go."

Instrumental Break.

## ANNOUNCER

Let's give it up for Chicago's very  
 own, Ennie Meanies.

Standing, cheering, whistling.

## ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

And now, from the radio, to your  
 two eyes and ears, the hottest  
 upcoming group in America... The  
Nutty Squirrels.

Applause and screaming.

Three cute girls dressed in gray tight fitted Squirrel  
 costumes, displaying lots of bare leg, holding volley ball  
 size peanut props, teasing audience.

## ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Now wait a minute, we're supposed  
 to have a rock and roll group  
 called the Nutty Squirrels, not two  
 Squirrels playing with peanuts.

Roaring laughter as Announcer chases girls off stage on left.  
 Seconds later girls sneak up from right.

Audience yelling to turn around. He turns, chases girls off  
 stage.

Curtain rises, band playing fast instrumental with Thomas at  
 Piano. From stage-left girlie squirrels enter dancing to the  
 beat. It's Marilyn, Martha, and NIKKI. Audience is standing,  
 dancing, yelling.

## THOMAS

With your permission we'd like to  
 begin with a jazzy uptempo number  
 we just recently put together,  
 called Chicago a GO-GO.

Peggy starts with fast drum intro. Chubby solos on bass.  
 Bobby adds his driving guitar, next Thomas wails the sax. The  
 girlie squirrels are dancing to the beat.



THOMAS (V.O.)

It's fun playing the windy city,  
great audience reception. Two hours  
later, we perform our song finale.

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt  
I start to feel low down.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
But I start to feeling low down  
When the day turns to night."

(instrumental break)

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt  
I start to feel low down.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
I make out fine in the daytime  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
But I start to feeling low down  
When the day turns to night."

(instrumental break)

BAND

(in unison)

We love you Chicago!

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. CHARTERED PLANE - IN FLIGHT - EVENING

Posh celebrity plane flying to Jacksonville.

MARTHA

Maybe we should buy one of these to  
transport us everywhere.

THOMAS

I'm thinking the same. I'll get our manager, Agnes to see about it.

NIKKI

This sure is a nice way to travel.

MARILYN

I love flying in this one, almost like being in a living room.

(beat)

THOMAS

Think I'll strum my guitar. Y'all feel like singing?

Reaches for acoustic guitar, checks tuning. Nikki humming, Thomas picks up the beat.

NIKKI

(singing)

"Oh Danny, will you miss me when I'm gone? Will you listen for me when I sing my songs. With notes'n words I'll sing for you, but more than this I can never do. Oh Danny, will you miss me when I'm gone?"

THOMAS

Nikki, that's really good.

NIKKI

You really think so, Thomas?

THOMAS

Absolutely, write those words down, add more lyrics.

BOBBY

Hey let me try.

Thomas passes guitar.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

"You, you, you, you make me blue, blue, blue. Can't get enough of you, you, you, my gal Suzy Q. Suzy, Suzy Q, I'm in love with you, you, you. Do you love me too, too, too? My Suzy Q.

Listeners applaud.

THOMAS  
Way to go, Bobby. Write down those words, add more.

CHUBBY  
Let me see that git'tar.

Bobby passes guitar.

CHUBBY (CONT'D)  
I got a woman, big and tall. Yeah I got a woman big and tall. Sleeps in a barn, in a mighty long stall.

PEGGY  
What! You want a knuckle sandwich, Chubby Smith?

(laughter)

COCKPIT - IN FLIGHT - LATER

Thomas talks with CO-PILOT

THOMAS  
We were discussing the possibility of buying a plane like this one.

CO-PILOT  
This one's for sale.

THOMAS  
Oh yeah, who do I talk to?

CO-PILOT  
Here's a business card. If you get the plane, you can hire the pilot and myself to fly for you?

THOMAS  
Write your names and numbers on back of card. I'll contact my business manager to set up purchase. By the way, have you flown to places in Europe?

CO-PILOT  
You name it, we've flown there.

THOMAS  
Our home base will be Jacksonville, Florida. Will that be a problem moving?

CO-PILOT

Not for me. I'm ready to leave the  
winters of Chicago.

THOMAS

Great, thanks for the info.

INT. JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA - HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

Thomas lifts phone. (beat)

AGNES (O.S.)  
Hello!

THOMAS  
Agnes, get a pen and pad.

AGNES (O.S.)  
Who is this?

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
It's Thomas, I want you to  
call a number and make  
arrangements to do a wire  
transfer for whatever price  
they tell you. I'm buying a  
big plane to fly us  
everywhere.

AGNES (O.S.)  
You're what?

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
You heard me. Write down this  
number, in Chicago, Murray  
Hill 5-9974.

AGNES (O.S.)  
Murray Hill 5-9974, I got it.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
I'm at the Imperial Hotel,  
Jacksonville, room 311, got  
that?

AGNES  
J-Ville, Imperial, 311, Got  
it.

Thanks Agnes, goodbye. (beat)  
I need a nap.

On bedspread, clothes on, shoes off.

DISSOLVE TO:

HOTEL ROOM [DREAM SEQUENCE]

Martha in wedding dress.

PASTOR (O.S.)  
Thomas, do you take Martha as your  
wife until death do you part?

THOMAS  
No! Forever.

PASTOR  
Not possible.

THOMAS  
That's unfair. I want her as she is  
now and forever.

PASTOR  
And that's unreasonable, Thomas. We  
live, grow older, and die. It's the  
natural order of things.

THOMAS  
Why must we grow old and wrinkled.  
I've tried, it's no fun. (beat)  
Wait a minute, I might be dying  
right now. I'm actually an old man  
with not much longer to live. I  
don't wanna die, I don't wanna die,  
I don't wanna die.

[END DREAM SEQUENCE]

KNOCKING on DOOR.  
Thomas, still groggy, staggers to answer.

MARTHA (O.S.)  
Thomas, you in there? Open the  
door, Darling.

Thomas opens, grabs Martha, kisses repeatedly.

MARTHA  
Thomas, you alright?

THOMAS  
I had a bad dream.

MARTHA  
Wanna talk about it?

THOMAS  
No, I'd rather forget it.

MARTHA  
You're squeezing me, Hon.

THOMAS  
Oh, I'm sorry.

MARTHA  
You've had a bad nightmare.

THOMAS  
Let's forget it.

MARTHA

Okay, you eaten anything today?

THOMAS

I drank some coffee.

MARTHA

Want me to order breakfast, some orange juice maybe?

She holds his hand to calm him.

THOMAS

No, let's just sit on couch.

MARTHA

You aren't sleeping enough.

Another door KNOCK. Thomas goes, signs for package.

THOMAS

Guess what, Martha? We are Flying Nutty Squirrels. The plane we flew here. It's now ours.

MARTHA

Wonderful, no busses taking forever to get us there.

THOMAS

And fly anywhere, no reservations.

EXT. FLYING SQUIRREL - IN FLIGHT - NIGHT

MARTHA (V.O.)

I spent the afternoon working with Thomas. By nightfall, he's good to go. Most of the band has left for our hometown, Beirman in a Taxi, Nikki is with Thomas and me.

THOMAS

You ladies ready to travel?

MARTHA

Yes, I have a rental car in the parking lot.

NIKKI

Thomas, You feel okay to travel?

THOMAS  
Oh yeah, it's only a twenty minute  
drive to Beirman.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEIRMAN - MARTHA'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Two girls conversing.

NIKKI  
How long have you and Thomas been  
sweethearts?

MARTHA  
Thomas says second grade.

NIKKI  
Really? That's so cute. It's easy  
to see you love each other.

MARTHA  
How bout you... Anyone special?

NIKKI  
I had Danny, we were going to be  
married. He was killed on a  
motorcycle. Drunk driver hit him.

MARTHA  
Oh Nikki, I'm so sorry. (hugs)

INT. THOMAS' HOME - NIGHT

Preparing for bed.

SPOOK  
(in mirror)  
Well, just look at Mister Big Shot.

THOMAS  
Haven't seen you in a while, Spook.

SPOOK  
Ya been too busy being Mister Big  
Shot.

THOMAS  
Yeah, life is good thanks to you.

SPOOK  
Making lots of money.

THOMAS

Yep.

SPOOK

Going places, doing things.

THOMAS

Yep again.

SPOOK

Ya wondered about your old self?

THOMAS

Yes, How'm I doing?

SPOOK

Not good, older and feebler.

THOMAS

And grouchier?

SPOOK

And that too, especially that.

THOMAS

I wanna thank you again for  
changing my life.

SPOOK

Enjoy it while you can. When your  
old self goes, you'll go also.

THOMAS

I will be with Martha in Heaven,  
right?

SPOOK

How many times has young Thomas  
prayed lately?

No answer

SPOOK (CONT'D)

How many times you been to church?

THOMAS

I think you know.

SPOOK

Good thinking. (beat) Tomorrow is  
Sunday. You know that?

THOMAS

To be honest, I haven't noticed.



SPOOK

You wanna be with Martha when ya  
dead'n gone?

THOMAS

You know I do.

Mirror is clear again.

DINNING ROOM - MORNING

Thomas enters. Surprised to see Martha and Nicki helping Mom.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Morning everybody. Didn't know  
three of my favorite ladies were  
down here.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Morning Mom, morning Dad

DAD

Morning Son, good having you back  
home.

MOM

Morning Thomas, I cooked your  
favorites... Pancakes, eggs, and  
spuds. You want coffee or something  
else?

THOMAS

Coffee's fine. Uh Mom, When does  
church start?

MOM

Eleven, as always.

DAD

You planning on joining us?

THOMAS

Been thinking bout it.

MOM

Is there a special reason for your  
desire to attend? It's been a while  
since you were a church goer.

THOMAS

We travel a lot, accidents happen.  
Ya never know.

DAD  
Well I think it's a wise decision.

MOM  
Yes, me too. We'd love having you  
attend.

A group hug, everyone.

INT. CHURCH - MORNING SERVICE - 11:45

Alter call, PASTOR. Organ playing.

PASTOR  
Is there anyone here, ready to  
accept Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Thomas - Martha, look at each other. Move from pew to alter.

PASTOR (CONT'D)  
Thomas and Martha have become  
famous in the eyes of the world.  
This morning, more importantly, in  
the eyes of God. (beat) Do you  
Thomas and you Martha accept Jesus  
as your Lord and Savior?

(together)  
We do.

PASTOR (CONT'D)  
You may now prepare yourselves for  
Baptism.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. THOMAS' HOME - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Nikki fixing Martha's hair, new Cadillac pulls in drive.

DAD  
Somebody just drove up in a  
Cadillac.

Thomas hands extra set of keys to father.

THOMAS  
And here's the keys to your brand  
new car, Dad.

MOM  
Where's my new car?

THOMAS  
Mom, you don't even drive.

MOM  
I can hire a chauffeur.

THOMAS  
You got one, Dad.

Mom gets group hug. Everyone leaves for spin in Cadillac.

INT. THOMAS' HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Thomas kneels at bed silently praying, rises.

SPOOK  
(from mirror)  
Amen!

THOMAS  
  
Spook, were you at Church today?

MIRROR  
I was and was I proud! You looked good in Baptismal wet hair.

THOMAS  
I feel like a new man.

MIRROR  
And you are a new man, a born again Christian. I'm proud of you Thomas.

THOMAS  
What about Martha?

MIRROR  
She's already in Heaven waiting for you.

THOMAS  
You here to tell me it's near?

MIRROR  
Oh no, old Thomas is doing well.

THOMAS  
Have you been to any of our shows?

MIRROR  
No, I'm only around when you need me.

THOMAS

You've been a wonderful Spook. I'll never forget.

MIRROR

Ah shucks, you embarrass old Spook.

THOMAS

Didn't think you could be.

MIRROR

I can't, just making sport...  
Someone's coming, gotta fade.

And he's gone before Dad enters.

DAD

Son I just want to say how proud of you and Martha. You made my day.

THOMAS

Thanks Dad, it made mine too. I feel like a different person.

DAD

And you are. Today you acquired the greatest insurance of all.

THOMAS

Yes Sir, I know.

DAD

And thanks again for the new car. Mama's out there sitting behind the wheel, pretending she's driving.

THOMAS

I gotta see that.

They leave bedroom, sneak outside, listen.

MOM

Get outta my way, slowpoke. (beat)  
Gertrude, you wanna ride in my new car? No you can't drive, it's a one woman Cadillac.

Two sneakers bursting with laughter.

THOMAS

Mom, you want me to teach you how to drive while I'm here?

MOM

No, just having fun. How long you  
been listening?

DAD

Since you mentally drove away. Come  
on inside Maw, leave the driving to  
us.

The three walk inside wrapped arm in arm.

INT. TOOT'N TELL'UM DRIVE INN - AFTERNOON

Thomas and Martha having lunch.

MARTHA

I think we should do a free show in  
the school auditorium while we're  
home.

THOMAS

Is that so?

MARTHA

Yes, to show our appreciation.

THOMAS

You forget we just bought an  
expensive plane?

MARTHA

No. Did you forget we have enough  
to buy another plane?

THOMAS

I'm just pulling your leg. Sure,  
let's do it. I'll rent a truck to  
move our equipment from the Flying  
Squirrel to the school.

MARTHA

You're such a sweet man, my lover.

THOMAS

I know.

MARTHA

Well! Maybe a tiny dash of conceit  
added.

THOMAS

Gimme little kiss, will ya, huh?

MARTHA

I don't kiss fellers full of themselves. (grins)

THOMAS

There goes my reason for living.

MARTHA

You're a nut Thomas Galway.

THOMAS

But a lovable nut, I'm told.

MARTHA

Guess I could give you that.

THOMAS

Martha?

MARTHA

Yeah Hon...

THOMAS

I wish we could just give up the band, stay here and live a peaceful life.

MARTHA

Really? After all our hard work getting to where we are? Now you want to hang it up?

THOMAS

I just want to be with you. Enjoy life... ourselves. Don't sweat it, be happy. Can ya dig what I'm saying.

MARTHA

No, not really. (beat) You do realize we now have others depending on us?

THOMAS

Oh yeah?

MARTHA

Oh yeah. The rest of the Squirrels, our manager, record company, millions of fans around the world. That's oh yeah! Gimme little kiss will ya, huh. (he honors that request)

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
May I have another?

THOMAS  
Sorry, gave out, that was the last one.

MARTHA  
Stingy, go get your truck and haul our stuff from the plane!

THOMAS  
How bout riding with me?

MARTHA  
Well if you insist, scared to ride alone.

THOMAS  
I insist and scared too.

MARTHA  
Get outta here, let's go.

EXT. AIRPORT - THE FLYING SQUIRREL - LATER

Thomas hires equipment movers.

THOMAS  
You'll be moving some expensive equipment so be extra careful.

Thomas and Martha board plane, sit in pilot's seats.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Where ya wanna go lady copilot, Mam?

MARTHA  
Jamaica, Mon. Ya know how to get there.

THOMAS  
Sure, piece of cake, just key in Jamaica and put in on autopilot.

MARTHA  
Autopilot will take off the ground?

THOMAS  
I don't see a 'take off' switch, you ravishing copilot.

MARTHA

Then I suggest we get outta the cockpit before you mess up something.

THOMAS

Oh ye of little faith.

MARTHA

No it's called smarts, woman's intuition, take ya pick.

THOMAS

Wonder how much trouble... Learning how to fly one of these.

MARTHA

I'd rather you not, flyboy.

THOMAS

I heard our truck horn honk. They must be through transferring.

EXT. PLANE PARKING AREA - CONTINUOUS

The pretenders leave cockpit, move outside.

THOMAS

You fellers get everything?

They nod yes, Thomas pays them, they leave.

INT. TRUCK - MOVING - DAY

Martha's humming.

THOMAS

Guess I'll have to pickup some unloaders when we get there or do you want us to do it?

MARTHA

Yeah-right!

Arriving at school auditorium, half a dozen high school boys are waiting for the truck. CHUBBY is with them.

SCHOOL YARD - CONTINUOUS

THOMAS

Hey fellers, what's up?



CHUBBY

They waiting on you to show up with Nutty Squirrel band stuff. Have any trouble getting it off plane.

THOMAS

Piece of cake, I watched Martha unload it.

Martha's shaking head, negatively.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

When's showtime?

MARTHA

Friday night, eight o'clock.

THOMAS

Okay, let's get this truck unloaded and on stage. We'll set up the equipment Friday afternoon after school.

INT. GALWAY HOUSE - THOMAS BEDROOM - EVENING

Thomas is reading. Phone rings.

THOMAS

Hello!

AGNES (O.S.)

Wanna go to London?

THOMAS

Sure, when?

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Got ya booked next Friday, Saturday in Paris, and Sunday in Rome.

THOMAS

You just put this tour together?

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Are you kidding? This is the first tour I began working on, a dream tour, three major cities in one weekend, you know better than that.

THOMAS

(laughing)

You don't take kidding well, do you, Agnes? I know how impossible it would be to work up a weekend tour including those cities. Can I borrow ya magic wand?

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Of course, for you Thomas, anything.

THOMAS  
How's our finances looking,  
Love?

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Well, record sales are  
through the roof, you made a  
whooper income on your first  
trip out, and big shots are  
calling me now. You have made  
the Really Big Time, Big  
Shot. Disney wants to make a  
full length movie about the  
Nutty Squirrels. Shall I  
continue or you had enough  
ear bopping.

THOMAS  
Agnes, you are amazing.

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
I know, ya ready to give me a  
raise?

THOMAS  
Nawh!

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Skinflint! (beat) Oh yeah, ya  
recording company is bugging  
me about recording again.  
They added on to the plant,  
hired more workers to keep up  
with the demand.

THOMAS  
I'm thinking about quitting  
the tours, starting my own  
recording company.

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
You what?

THOMAS  
You heard me.

AGNES (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Thomas, you're at the peak of  
your popularity, people would  
kill to be in your shoes, uh,  
uh this is totally insane.

THOMAS  
Agnes, calm down, you'll have a  
stroke. There's something you don't  
know.

Spook appears in bedroom mirror, frantic.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
I don't have but eighty more  
years to live.

AGNES (O.S.)  
Crazy, simply crazy, that's  
all I can say, you young  
whipper-boppers are simply  
off ya blooming rockers. Ya  
trying ta give me a stroke,  
Thomas Galway?

Spook is laughing uncontrollably in the mirror.

EXT. BEIRMAN HIGH SCHOOL GYM - AFTERNOON

Students gone for weekend, Squirrels setting up equipment.

MARTHA  
(hiding in closet)  
We should be out there helping,  
Thomas.

Receives a long kiss on her full red lips.

THOMAS  
Shhhhh.

MARTHA  
But...

Another kiss

THOMAS  
Shhhhh.

Martha gives up and joins in his whoo pitching.

MARTHA  
Have you heard I love you?

THOMAS  
Don't know, sing a few bars.

MARTHA  
One track mind, that's you.

THOMAS  
But just look where it took us!

MARTHA  
When are you going to marry me?

He wasn't expecting that. Long pause.

MARTHA (CONT'D)  
Well, cat gotcha tongue Sweetie?

THOMAS  
I'm trying to think of an  
appropriate answer.

MARTHA  
There's only three Sweetie; now,  
next year, never.

THOMAS

Martha, I have extenuating circumstances which prevent me from popping that most desirous question.

MARTHA

(laughing)

You're not making any sense Mister Galway.

THOMAS

You're just pulling my leg you little sneaky snake.

MARTHA

Sure feels good to get something on you, Mister Perfect.

Thomas cups her face in his hands, leans in and plants a long arousing kiss to her anxious lips.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Oh Thomas, I love you so much, and I want you, all of you.

THOMAS

And I, you my love but it's not right, not until we're married. Believe me when I say, it will be best for you and me, just be patient.

She takes him in her arms and gives the most assurance she can muster.

MARTHA

We gotta leave this closet right now, smooth lips.

They leave. The band runs through a few songs testing.

THOMAS

Okay I think we can go.

MARILYN

Do we have to wear the Squirrel outfits tonight?

THOMAS

Oh yeah, that's become our trademark, ladies.

(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I'll call some beauty shops and have three beauty fixer-uppers here to help you cute little tree runners out of squirrel costume after the opening number. Okay?

They okay!

INT. BEIRMAN HIGH SCHOOL GYM - NIGHT

Is full, mostly students, some parents. PRINCIPAL takes stage.

PRINCIPAL

Is everyone satisfied with the price of admission?

Applause with vocalizing

PRINCIPAL (CONT'D)

Our little heretofore slightly known town of Beirman has been put on the map and minds of teenagers around the world thanks to a world famous band of Nutty Squirrels who have come here tonight to perform for you and yours. Here now to begin the show is their announcer.

Standing, cheering, whistling.

ANNOUNCER

And now, from the radio, to your two eyes and ears, the hottest Rock and Roll group in America... The Nutty Squirrels.

Applause and screaming.

Three cute girls dressed in gray tight fitted, short legged Squirrel costumes, holding two volley balls attached and painted like peanuts run on stage, teasing audience.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Now wait a minute, we're supposed to have a rock and roll group called the Nutty Squirrels, not three Squirrels holding peanuts.

Roaring laughter as Announcer chases girls off stage on left. Seconds later girls sneak up from right.

Audience yelling to turn around. He turns, chases girls off stage again.

Curtain rises, band playing fast instrumental with Thomas at Piano. From stage-left girlie squirrels enter dancing to the beat. It's Marilyn, Martha, and NIKKI. Audience is standing, dancing, yelling.

THOMAS

With your permission we'd like to  
begin with a jazzy uptempo number  
we just recently put together,  
called Beirman a GO-GO.

Peggy starts with fast drum intro. Chubby solos on bass. Bobby adds his driving guitar, next Thomas wails the sax. The girlie squirrels are dancing to the beat.

From stage-left girlie squirrels enter dancing to the beat. Audience is standing, dancing, yelling.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Good evening Beirman High School!

Noisy cheering welcome!

THOMAS (CONT'D)

With your permission we'd like to  
begin with a jazzy uptempo ditty we  
recently put together, called  
Beirman A GO-GO.

Peggy starts with fast drum intro. Chubby solos on bass. Bobby adds his driving guitar, next Thomas is pounding the keys, Bobby follows Thomas with a rocking lead guitar, then Thomas comes back in wailing the tenor sax. Instrumental lasts eight minutes.

Big ending, band takes a bow.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Thank you... Thank you.

Waits for crowd to sit down.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

That my fellow Beirman Schoolmates  
was the same opening now at all our  
shows. We simply change the song  
title to fit the location. (beat)  
Slowing things down, here's a blues  
song we call, Blues Come Up When  
The Sun Goes Down.

Bobby starts with a bluesy soulful bottle neck slide guitar. Thomas comes in with vocal, with Bobby sliding fills, audience swaying arms to the tempo.

"Hey now the Blues Come Up  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 That's when I start to hurt,  
 I start to feel low down.  
 I make out fine in the daytime,  
 When the sun is shinning bright.  
 I make out fine in the daytime,  
 When the sun is shinning bright.  
 But I start to feeling low down,  
 When the day turns to night."

(instrumental break, slide guitar  
 lead, piano on fills.)

"Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
 When that ole sun goes down.  
 That's when I start to hurt,  
 I start to feel low down.  
 bluesy ending)

Crowd standing and applauding. Band follows with another uptempo instrumental featuring every member of the band.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Thank you everybody. Now  
 introducing the band is our  
 Announcer, Tim Johnson.

ANNOUNCER

As I call their names, each will  
 perform a solo. On piano, Thomas  
 Galway,  
 On guitar, Bobby Glowlers,  
 On bass, Chubby Charles,  
 Our drummer, Peggy Hastings.  
 And now the three you saw first,  
 our lovely singers/dancers,  
 Nutty Squirell-ettes, Martha Hall  
 (beat) Marilyn Masters (beat) and  
 Nikki McKenzie.  
 And there you have them the world  
 famous, Nutty Squirrels.

Crowd standing, clapping, cheering.

## THOMAS

(rocking 12 bar progression tempo)  
 "One, ah two, ah one two three  
 four.

Come on ever body get yore fast  
 feet a' moving." (girls repeat)  
 Come on ever body get your whole  
 self groovin." (girls repeat)  
 "Listen to the music let yo' self  
 go wild." (girls repeat)  
 "Come on and gimme a croc a dial  
 smile." (girls repeat)

Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills.  
 Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills.

"Come on ever body get yore fast  
 feet a' moving." (girls repeat)  
 "Come on ever body get your whole  
 self a' groovin." (girls repeat)  
 Listen to the music let yo' self go  
 wild." (girls repeat)  
 Come on and gimme a croc a dial  
 smile." (girls repeat)  
 Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills,  
 playing to an end.

Cheering crowd at conclusion.

## THOMAS (CONT'D)

Here's a brand new song written by  
 our singing/dancing Nikki on the  
 plane coming down to Jacksonville.

NIKKI  
SINGING

"Oh Danny, will you miss me, when  
 I'm gone? Will you listen for me  
 when I sing my songs?  
 With notes and words I'll send to  
 you, but more than this I can never  
 do. Oh Danny, will you miss me when  
 I'm gone."

Instrumental break, Thomas on Piano.



"Oh Danny, now that Summer, is all gone. Will you miss me, every time, you hear this song? Will all the times, I spent with you, be born again in our hearts anew, Oh Danny will you miss me, when I'm gone?"

Instrumental break Thomas on Piano.

When all the time we spent together, revive in pain to hurt forever. Oh Danny, will you miss me, when I'm gone, Oh Danny, will you miss me when I'm gone. Oh Danny, will you miss me when I'm gone.

FADE the ending of song.

THOMAS

It was a real treat for us doing the show for our town and high school. After the show we went down in the audience meeting, greeting, reminiscing. Everyone fell in love with Nikki and she just glowed at the attention and admiration given. Bobby, well what can I say, Bobby glowed with pride, so did Marilyn. Chubby, after so many years of trying to make it in music was now at the very spot he wanted to prove himself, his hometown. Peggy, well Peggy was a last minute choice and somewhat introverted at first, but just look at how she's blossomed. Next week our homecoming will be over and we'll fly to our first foreign engagements.

MARTHA

Thomas, let's sneak away for some time to ourselves.

THOMAS

Okay, lead the way.

EXT. JACKSONVILLE BEACH - NIGHT

A full moon and warm night, couple lies on beach blanket.

THOMAS

I like these swim suits you bought for us.

MARTHA

Thank you. We had fun tonight didn't we?

THOMAS

More than the law allows. You looking forward to England, Paris, and Rome?

MARTHA

Can hardly wait, you?

THOMAS

Yeah, but a little apprehensive. Wonder how they'll take us. British are funny, don't cha know, eh what!

MARTHA

We can leave an escape door open and head for the Flying Squirrel.

THOMAS

You know what? With all the millions of records we've sold over there I think this conversation is much ado about nothing.

MARTHA

And you know what? I can give you much ado about something.

She quickly finds his lips with hers and there's no need for talk until time to leave the beach.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. FLYING SQUIRREL - MORNING

Taking off with Nutty Squirrels painted on sides.

THOMAS

Martha, who had the plane painted?

MARTHA

You're looking at her.

THOMAS

Super, it looks professional. Take you long to paint it.

MARTHA

Yeah right, and a couple of  
Leprechauns helped me. Hey, I  
enjoyed our time on the beach.

THOMAS

Me too, especially the chilli dogs  
and lemonade.

MARTHA

What? Is that all you remember?

THOMAS

No, there was this really good  
looking girl from Ipanema so tall  
and tan and young and lovely passed  
by.

MARTHA

I should throw you overboard.

THOMAS

Martha my love, we're on a plane,  
not a ship.

MARTHA

You gonna take me shopping in  
Piccadilly Circus when we get  
there?

THOMAS

Of course my Sweetness, you name it  
it's yours.

MARTHA

An engagement ring.

THOMAS

Really?

MARTHA

Really. We don't have to get  
married anytime soon, but it would  
be nice to be engaged.

THOMAS

Let me think, is there anyone else  
I should give an engagement ring  
to?

MARTHA

As Peggy so rightly put it, you  
want a knuckle sandwich?

THOMAS  
I'd rather have a long luscious  
kiss.

MARTHA  
Sorry I'm all out for today.

THOMAS  
No kissie - no ringie!

And that's when woo pitching took on new meaning.

FADE TO:

INT. LONDON - HOUSE OF GRAWINS - LANTON STREET - MORNING

Thomas and Martha looking at rings.

CLERK  
May I be of assistance?

THOMAS  
Yes, do you have a carat diamond  
ring for under fifty-dollars?

CLERK  
I beg your pardon?

MARTHA  
Don't mind him, lady, he's just  
pulling your leg.

CLERK  
What! Pulling my leg?

MARTHA  
No - no, I don't mean literally,  
he's joking.

CLERK  
Well, I should hope so.

MARTHA  
Thomas, you behave now, language is  
different here, different meaning.

THOMAS  
I know, it's why I'm pulling her  
leg.

Clerk pretends she didn't hear.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
I wish to purchase a full carat  
ring with added sparkles.

CLERK  
Sir, we have some exquisite  
examples here.

Bringing out tray, small stones.

THOMAS  
Too small, try another.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Much larger.

Another tray presented.

Martha tries one on.

MARTHA  
Oh Thomas, this one's Heavenly.

THOMAS  
How much?

CLERK  
Twenty-three thousand, Sir.

THOMAS  
Marvelous, I'll take it.

CLERK  
And how will you be paying?

THOMAS  
With American dollars.

CLERK  
Fine, that will be Four thousand  
six hundred twelve dollars.

THOMAS  
Hey, that's almost twice what you  
quoted.

CLERK  
Yes, you were quoted British  
Pounds.

Thomas pays the clerk and they leave.

EXT. LONDON - HOUSE OF GRAWINS - CONTINUOUS

MARTHA

Can I put it on now, Thomas?"

Thomas kneels with ring box in hand. People stop, gather around to witness.

THOMAS

You Jewel of a Gal who stole my heart in Second Grade, You beautiful, wonderful Martha, will you accept this ring and be my Soulmate for Eternity?

MARTHA

Thomas Darling, you better believe it.

And a big kiss follows, as one TEENAGER screams.

TEENAGER

They're Nutty Squirrels, Thomas and Martha.

Other teens standing by are jumping up and down.

TEENAGER (CONT'D)

Oh Thomas, Martha, may we have your autograph, please?

MARTHA

Of course, you may.

They begin signing everything handed at them, caps, shoes, a brazier still attached. Much later they get a chance to flee.

INT. GRANGE HOLBORN HOTEL - MARTHA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lying on backs on bed recovering from time change.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Oh Thomas, this is the most beautiful ring in the world, thank you Sweetie.

THOMAS

So you don't want me to take it back for an exchange?

MARTHA

Over my dead body. (turns over and plants a really big kiss upon his lips)

THOMAS

Almost feels like we're married already.

MARTHA

We could pretend we are.

THOMAS

And?

MARTHA

And do what newly married couples do. (begins unbuttoning his shirt)

THOMAS

Martha, you have no idea what changes that would immediately make.

MARTHA

Tell me.

THOMAS

I can't tell you, please believe me I really want to. (beat) I was afraid buying the ring would lead to this.

MARTHA

Thomas, I am so, so confused. I know you love me, but you keep saying things that don't make sense.

She leaves the bed and then the room, immediately reenters.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

This is my room, I forgot for a minute.

He stands before her, brushes his lips to hers, her arms now around his neck.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

You may go Thomas, I need a cold shower.

THOMAS

I'll pick you up for dinner, okay?

MARTHA

Okay. (they kiss and he's gone)

Martha runs to bed, lies face down, begins beating with both hands.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. LONDON - INDOOR STADIUM - NIGHT

8000 seating, packed with youngsters.

ANNOUNCER

And now, the chart toppers around the world. From America, give a big London welcome to the Nutty Squirrels.

Cheering!

Standing, cheering, whistling.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

And now, from the radio, to your two eyes and ears, the hottest Rock and Roll group in America... The Nutty Squirrels.

Applause and screaming.

Three cute girls dressed in gray tight fitted, short legged Squirrel costumes, holding two volley balls attached and painted like peanuts run on stage, teasing audience.

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Now wait a minute, we're supposed to have a rock and roll group called the Nutty Squirrels, not three Squirrels holding peanuts.

Roaring laughter as Announcer chases girls off stage on left. Seconds later girls sneak up from right.

Audience yelling to turn around. He turns, chases girls off stage again.

Curtain rises, band playing fast instrumental with Thomas at Piano. From stage-left girlie squirrels enter dancing to the beat. It's Marilyn, Martha, and NIKKI. Audience is standing, dancing, yelling.

THOMAS

Hello London!

Big noisy welcome!



THOMAS (CONT'D)

With your permission we'd like to begin with a jazzy uptempo ditty we just recently put together, called London a GO-GO.

Peggy starts with fast drum intro. Chubby solos on bass. Bobby adds his driving guitar, next Thomas wails the sax. The singer/dancers, in short outfits shaking to the beat for five big minutes.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Thank you... Thank you.

Waits for crowd to sit down, they continue standing.

Bobby starts with a bluesy soulful bottle neck slide guitar. Thomas comes in with vocal, with Bobby sliding fills, audience swaying arms to the tempo.

"Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt,  
I start to feel low down.  
I make out fine in the daytime,  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
I make out fine in the daytime,  
When the sun is shinning bright.  
But I start to feel low down,  
When the day turns to night."  
(instrumental break, slide guitar  
lead, piano on fills.)  
"Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
When that ole sun goes down.  
Hey now the Blues Come Up,  
When that ole sun goes down.  
That's when I start to hurt,  
I start to feel low down.  
(bluesy ending)

Crowd standing and applauding. Band follows with another uptempo instrumental featuring every member of the band.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Thank you everybody. Now introducing the band is our Announcer, Tim Johnson.

## ANNOUNCER

As I call their names, each will perform a solo. On piano, Thomas Galway, (solo)  
 On guitar, Bobby Glowers, (solo)  
 On bass, Chubby Charles, (solo)  
 Our drummer, Peggy Hastings. (solo)  
 And now the three you saw first, our lovely singer/dancers Nutty Squirell-ettes, Martha Hall (beat) Marilyn Masters (beat) and Nikki McKenzie. And there you have them the world famous, Nutty Squirrels.

Crowd standing, clapping, cheering.

## THOMAS

(rocking 12 bar progression tempo)  
 "One, ah two, ah one two three four.  
 Come on ever body get yore fast feet a' moving." (girls repeat)  
 Come on ever body get your whole self groovin." (girls repeat)  
 "Listen to the music let yo' self go wild." (girls repeat)  
 "Come on and gimme a croc a dial smile." (girls repeat)

Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills.  
 Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills.

"Come on ever body get yore fast feet a' moving." (girls repeat)  
 "Come on ever body get your whole self a' groovin." (girls repeat)  
 Listen to the music let yo' self go wild." (girls repeat)  
 Come on and gimme a croc a dial smile." (girls repeat)  
 Bobby takes the lead on guitar,  
 Thomas plays fills on sax.  
 (Girls dancing to the beat.)  
 Sax takes lead, guitar fills,  
 playing to an end.

Cheering crowd at conclusion.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Here's a brand new song written by  
our singing dancing sweetheart  
Nikki.

NIKKI  
SINGING

"Oh Danny, will you miss me, when  
I'm gone?  
Will you listen for me when I sing  
my songs?  
With notes and words I'll send to  
you, but more than this I can never  
do. Oh Danny, will you miss me when  
I'm gone."

Instrumental break Thomas on Piano.

"Oh Danny, now that Summer, is all  
gone.  
Will you miss me, every time, you  
hear this song?  
Will all the times, I spent with  
you, be born again in our hearts  
anew, Oh Danny will you miss me,  
when I'm gone?"

Instrumental break Thomas on Piano.

FADE ENDING

THOMAS (V.O.)

Every time we make an appearance,  
record sales jump higher. We had to  
setup a secondary recording studio  
in London to get Nikki's song on  
vinyl to meet the demand. In Paris,  
our show drew even larger crowds of  
adoring fans. Rome, was the same.  
The Nutty Squirrels now way ahead  
of all others, including King Elvis  
in record sales. Needless to say,  
we fly home as very happy  
Squirrels.  
Soon after we land in Jacksonville,  
I begin looking for a home on the  
beach and find two for sale, side  
by side. Perfect I'm thinking. One  
for Martha and one for me. I make  
the purchase and call Martha to  
meet me at the two houses.

INT. JACKSONVILLE BEACH - MARTHA'S HOUSE - MORNING

Showing Martha around.

MARTHA

I love your beach home, Thomas.

THOMAS

It's not mine, Martha. It's yours.

MARTHA

You're kidding, right? Tell me this is a joke.

THOMAS

No joke and the house next door is mine.

MARTHA

You bought two houses on the beach, one for you and one for me?

THOMAS

That's about the size of it. You like?

MARTHA

Oh yes, but we'll need only one after we're married, Darling.

THOMAS

And then I'll move in with you and turn my house into a music practice house, or a nursery for our ten kids.

MARTHA

Whoa on the excess children. Two is a'plenty my sweet lover.

As they kiss Thomas gives a gasp and sinks to the floor.

MARTHA (CONT'D)

Thomas, are you alright?

THOMAS

Yeah, just had a fainting spell is all. Guess I've been trying to do too much here lately.

MARTHA

Maybe you should see a doctor.

THOMAS

Oh no, I'm okay, will you help me  
to the couch.

Sitting together, she holds him tight, worried.

THOMAS (CONT'D) (V.O.)

None of this will be remembered  
when my older self passes and my  
time here will be finished like it  
never happened. One minute, like  
just now, I'll be talking to Martha  
and poof, there won't be a next.  
All the money we've made with the  
band will disappear as though there  
were never any Nutty Squirrels  
formed at all. Oh it's so sad.

MARTHA

You sure got quiet all of a sudden,  
Darling, still feeling okay?

THOMAS

Just doing a little thinking.

MARTHA

About what, Sweetie?

THOMAS

About our band, how far we've come,  
how much money we've made... A  
fortune you know. Oh, success in  
general

MARTHA

And it's all because of you...  
never would've happened if my  
handsome feller hadn't got us off  
and running.

She leans over and kisses him on the cheek.

THOMAS

Thanks Honey, I needed that.

MARTHA

It seems so surreal, like a fairy  
tale. We can buy just about  
anything we want.

CLOSE THOMAS FACE

THOMAS (V.O.)

Except time, just about anything  
except our time together.

MARTHA

You know what, that last tour was a  
workout, I was dead beat when we  
finished one night in Paris.

Suddenly, He starts to shake uncontrollably. Martha tries in  
vain to calm him down. She runs to the kitchen, grabs a wet  
rag to apply to his forehead. He's shaking even harder and  
she's really worried.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. OLDER THOMAS HOME - NIGHT

He's having a heart attack. House keeper MARBELLA hears, runs  
to check on him.

MARBELLA

Thomas, what's wrong?

THOMAS

Pain in chest, up my left arm, I  
think I'm dying.

She grabs phone, dials 911.

MARBELLA

911, there's a man in cardiac  
arrest, 3244 Jones Ave. Get here  
fast.

Marbella works on his chest while waiting for ambulance. A  
SIREN is heard, attendants arrive, immediately go to work.  
Once stabilized, Thomas is transported to Lincoln Memorial  
Hospital. Meanwhile young Thomas is back to normal.

THOMAS

What happened, Martha?

MARTHA

Darling, I thought you were having  
a heart attack, dying. You were  
shaking and grasping for breath

THOMAS

I feel fine now. Don't worry, I'm  
okay.

MARTHA

You should call for a doctor's  
appointment first thing tomorrow.

CLOSE THOMAS FACE

THOMAS (V.O.)

There's nothing a doctor can do. My  
time is getting short.

INT. MIAMI - FOOTBALL STADIUM - EVENING

The biggest crowd ever, watching and screaming as the Nutty  
Squirrels perform on stage.

SOFT MUSIC BEGINS.

NARRATOR

Suddenly the stage is bare, the  
audience begins disappearing  
leaving empty seats. The short  
lived Nutty Squirrels are no more,  
not even a memory of just how great  
they were. Thomas feels no pain  
whatsoever, older Thomas died in  
his sleep. Young Thomas feels a  
flash of light and the sensation of  
floating upward. There's no body,  
only a Spirit. Instantly there's  
another Spirit with him.

MARTHA

Hi Thomas!

THOMAS

Martha, this place has such a  
peaceful feeling. Is this Heaven?

MARTHA

Some call it Purgatory, but yes  
you're in Heaven. I'm so glad we're  
together again. You Mom and Dad are  
here. I meet with them often.

THOMAS

I was sure they'd be here.

Another Spirit appears, one Thomas recognizes instantly.

SPOOK

Well Thomas I see you kept yourself  
true and made it.

THOMAS

Spook, is that you? I'll have to learn this mental telepathy communicating. How do you move around here?

SPOOK

You simply think, I'd like to see Mom and you with her.

THOMAS (V.O.)

I'm thinking I'd like to know who Spook really is.

SPOOK

Thomas, I'm your Guardian Angel

THOMAS

Well how about that Martha, let's visit my Mom and Dad.

NARATOR

And this is not the END, just the BEGINNING.

FADE OUT.