

OPEN ARTS ALL

KC @ Bat

A MUSICAL COMEDY
-THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES VERSION-

Book & Lyrics Music
Rocco Natale Zachary Kampler

Inspired by the poem *CASEY AT THE BAT*
By Ernest Thayer

Orchestrations by
Zachary Kampler

As newly adapted for the stage by
Rocco Natale

-Libretto-

Current Revisions
October 28, 2023

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SCRIPT BY ROCCO NATALE & ZACHARY KAMPLER

Characters

K.C.- The New Girl In Town
Prissy- The Popular Girl
Lolly- The Fashionista
Ramona- The Reporter
Henry- A student & Prissy's Brother
David- A World Record Guru
Ruth (as in *Babe Ruth*)
Jackie (as in *Jackie Robinson*)
Joe (as in *Joe DiMaggio*)
Mickey (as in *Mickey Mantle*)
Ty (as in *Ty Cobb*)
Toni (as in *Toni Stone*)
Dorothy (as in *Dorothy Schroeder*)

Instrumentation

Keyboard
Bass
Drums
Violin
Reed
Trombone

Sincere THANKS to...

The cast of the Cherry Lane Theatre Production: Alison Santiano, Sophia Georgas, Christina Keating, Daisy Gray, Lily Bartels, Sofia Degani, Bella Berrocal, Julia Bibeault, Natalie Anibal, Andrew Restieri & Patty Kohn.

Gratitude to Bob DeAngelo, Claire Kelly, Christina Kompar Kampler, Autumn Howard, Regina Perry, Jennifer Ambrogio Dunn & Tori Schuchmann and Westchester Community College.

Manhattan Theatre Club, Breanna Sensmeier, Kevin Paley, Jake Lloyd, Andrew Stauffer, Jaela Cheeks-Lomax, Audrey Roberts, Catherine Saraceno, Taylor Sumner.

Dani Weiner, Alex Stone, Sara States, Dontalle Sylvester, Kayla Leacock, Michael Busani, Kyle LeMaire

Brendan Kennedy at SPARC in Richmond, VA

John Dorf and YouthPLAYS.

Inside Broadway (Michael Presser, Abby Jones, Heather Edwards)

Chris Burney (2nd Stage)

Austen Leonne Horne, Madison Britton, Vicky Rose Fleisch, Sabrina Koss, Beckett Andrew, Dean Marchant, Jake Lloyd, Kathy Walker & Bryn Kummell

Big thanks to Mr. Thayer for the lyrics to "The Blog Song."

Scenes & Musical Numbers

- 1: Mudville Middle School
 - No. 0: Overture
 - No. 1: Mudville (Kids)
 - No. 1A: Mudville Middle
 - No. 2: Ten Thousand Lights (K.C.)
 - No. 2A: Mudville Middle: Be There
 - No. 3: Queen Of The School (Prissy)
 - No. 3A: Queen Of Practice

- 2: The Field
 - No. 4: Horrible, Terrible, Awful (Kids)
 - No. 4A: K.C.@Bat
 - No. 5: All Together Now (Kids)
 - No. 5A: Transition Into Blog-O-Sphere

- 3: Blog-O-Sphere/Mudville Middle School
 - No. 6: Take Me Out To The Ball Game (Kids)
 - No. 7: Ten Thousand Lights (Reprise 1) (K.C.)

- 4: The Field
 - No. 7A: Horrible, Terrible Awful (Reprise) (Prissy)
 - No. 7B: We're Gonna Lose

- 5: The Little League Championship- Dugout
 - No. 8: The Blog Song (Ramona)

- 6: The Little League Championship- Field

- 7: The Little League Championship- Dugout
 - No. 9: Better With You (K.C. & Prissy)
 - No. 10: Mudville 2.0 (Kids)

- 8: The Future
 - No. 11: Bows
 - No. 12: Exit Music

Authors' note

Dear Friends:

Welcome to Mudville!

A town made famous by Ernest Thayer's beloved American poem, *Casey At The Bat: A Ballad of the Republic, Sung in the Year 1888*, now reimagined for...whatever year this is. Mudville is a place not found on a map. It's the way we imagine the town we all grew up in- where everyone plays on the swings after school and games not only pass the time, but create friends for life.

This show was originally created out of the need for age-appropriate accessible material with flexible casting options for students of ours. For the authors, this musical has been a happy accident that over the years so many children have had the chance to participate in this new musical and find the moral in this important story.

The joy in this show is the innocence of the children. They're both sophisticated and childish. Wise and foolish. Just like real kids tend to be. Just like real adults seldom are. This story of America's favorite past time is larger than life, because little kids have big emotions.

To watch the material grow, deepen and take on a life of its own has been a privilege and as (now) grown up theatre kids, we are so pleased to be a part of your production in spirit.

We hope you hit a home run with your production! Play ball!

Sincerely,
Zach & Rocco

ACT ISCENE 1

PROLOGUE: MUDVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The "OVERTURE (NO.0)" ends.

"NO. 1: MUDVILLE"

RAMONA S. BARRY, age 12 leaps onto the stage. She addresses the audience as she writes her blog. Mudville Middle School.

RAMONA

A "Merry Mudville Morning" to all you Mole Rats! This is editor-in-chief Ramona S. Barry with your Mudville Middle School Daily! The blog that keeps you in-the-know on the what-the-what here at Mudville Middle. The grass is dead, the sun is sleeping in and absolutely nothing new is happening in our boring little town. Check back at lunch for my expose' on our cafeteria chicken nuggets: "ketchup or ranch...the great DIP-bate." Sigh and double sigh. If you have any news- any news at all-text, DM, tag me. This budding reporter is desperate for a scoop.

KIDS

WELCOME TO MUDVILLE
SPECIAL, WE'RE NOT
WINTER IS FREEZING
SUMMERS ARE HOT
THIS IS THE TOWN THAT
THE MAP FORGOT
LOOK AROUND, AND YOU'RE THERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE

PRISSY VON MISSY, the popular girl, enters with her lunch on a tray. She is followed by LOLLY who wants to be just like her.

PRISSY

Can you believe I got a "B+" on my "Macaroni Gettysburg Project"! I made Abraham Lincoln out of Spaghetios!

LOLLY

Doesn't Ms. McGillan understand you're the most popular girl in school?

PRISSY

It's like she sees past my natural auburn highlights, and judges me based on merit.

RUTH

So rude.

HENRY

(Changing the subject)

Want to go to the arcade after school?

JACKIE

We have baseball practice!

JOE

Besides, the arcade closed three years ago.

HENRY

THAT'S why the doors are always locked.

ALL

WELCOME TO MUDVILLE
DIRTY AND SMALL
WE DON'T HAVE A CLUBHOUSE
OR EVEN TOWN HALL
IF YOU LIKE BORING
THEN ALL IN ALL
LOUISVILLE CAN'T COMPARE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE

HENRY

We could drive to Soapsville. They have a mall.

DAVID

We can't drive anywhere.

LOLLY

We're in sixth grade.

PRISSY

Face it. There's nothing to do in this town.

DAVID

OUR TOWN WAS ONCE A LEADER

HENRY

A PLACE YOU'D LIKE TO EXPLORE

ALL

A NEIGHBORHOOD THAT ONCE WAS GREAT
BUT NOT ANYMORE
OHHHH

WELCOME TO MUDVILLE
DON'T BE NAIVE
MUDVILLE IS PRETTY
WHEN YOU CAN LEAVE
SANTA WON'T STOP HERE
ON CHRISTMAS EVE
LOOK AROUND AND YOU'RE THERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE
WELCOME TO NOWHERE

"NO. 1A: MUDVILLE MIDDLE"

The bell rings. The kids run off to class. Ramona sits onstage and types on her laptop.

RAMONA

How to cover a week of liverwurst school lunches? HMMMMMMMM. "It was the best of times...it was the WURST of times..."

K.C. enters. She is clearly lost.

K.C.

Excuse me. Can you tell me where Mr. Belzer's room is?

RAMONA

Down the hall, to the right, and past the statue of Obama made of Legos.

K.C.

Thanks!

K.C. starts to exit

RAMONA

Wait a minute. I haven't seen you before.

K.C.

It's my first day. I'm from New York.

RAMONA

Here I am worried about liverwurst and a story drops into my lap! A new girl at Mudville Middle? THAT'S newsworthy! Allow me to make your acquaintance. My name is Ramona S. Barry. I am the reporter, staff photographer and editor-in-chief for The Mudville Daily. You might have heard of us?

K.C.

Shaking her head

I'm sorry.

RAMONA

It just so happens we're the ONLY news source here at Mudville Middle. And I don't JUST mean we're the best! We're LITERALLY the ONLY.

K.C.

I see.

RAMONA

Around these parts, I'm known for my investigative reporting of the cafeteria goings on. The Mudville Sentinel even ran my expose, "Meatloaf Of LIES." You have a name?

K.C.

Oh, sorry! Kelli Connors.

RAMONA

Kelli Connors. That's got a nice ring to it. Anything you need, just let me know. I've got the scoop on this place.

K.C.

Thanks, Ramona. Are all the kids as nice as you?

RAMONA

It depends on what you mean by "nice." But they'll love you once they get to know you.

K.C.

How long does that take?

RAMONA

Ohhhhhhh three or four-

K.C.

Days?

RAMONA

Years. Give or take. We don't get many new kids in Mudville.

An idea hits Ramona
Of course, if the kids knew a little about you- I'm sure they would love you. It just so happens I have the perfect solution! I could interview you for my blog. You'd be famous!

K.C.

I've never been interviewed before.

RAMONA

You're in good hands! Not to brag, but...I read at an eight grade level. Name?

K.C.

Kelli Connors.

RAMONA

(Spelling it)

K-e-l-l-y

K.C.
(Correcting her)

I not Y.

RAMONA

Not Y? I?

K.C.

I not Y.

RAMONA

Hum. Kelli C-O-N-O

K.C.

N-N.

RAMONA

C-O-N-N

(A thought)

Too many letters. You got a nickname?

K.C.

My dad calls me "Princess."

RAMONA

A strong "no"

That isn't gonna work with this crowd.
You gotta know your audience, kid. How
about "Kels?"

K.C.

Rhymes with "smells."

RAMONA

Good catch.

K.C.

(Agreeing with her)

You gotta know your audience.

RAMONA

Kel-Con?

K.C.

Sounds like bug spray.

RAMONA

We need something sophisticated,
articulated...abbreviated. What about
K.C.?

K.C.

I love it!

RAMONA

A star is born! Age?

K.C.

Eleven and a half.

RAMONA

Eleven point five. Favorite food?

K.C.

Broccoli.

RAMONA

Ohhhhh. No. No. No. No. No. Try again.

K.C.

(Enthusiastic)

Tilapia.

RAMONA

I'm writing...fudge ripple ice cream.
Even serious journalists are allowed
artistic license.

K.C.

Then add rainbow sprinkles!

RAMONA

Now you're talking. The Mudville Mole
rats will eat that up! Favorite holiday?

K.C.

Thanksgiving.

RAMONA

Classic and understated. I like your
style. Finally- the big one: what do you
want to be when you grow up? Doctor?
Movie star? Social media conglomerate
influencer? I, myself, am going to be an
award-winning journalist.

K.C.

I'm going to be a baseball player! You know Soapville stadium?

RAMONA

Do I know Soapville stadium?! They're our rivals. They think they are better than us, just because they are better than us. They drove Mudville baseball right into the ground.

K.C.

How?

RAMONA

They started winning.

K.C.

Soapville Stadium is where I saw my first game.

(Music Starts)

RAMONA

Writing into her blog
I'll just skip the details and say
"baseball player."

K.C.

"NO. 2: TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS"

THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSANDS SEATS
WITH TWENTY THOUSAND FACES
WAITING FOR THE PITCH
WATCHING ALL FOUR BASES
THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSAND FANS
WHO ARE CHEERING AT THE SIGHT
OF THE GREATEST BASEBALL PLAYER
UNDER TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS

I NEVER LIKE TO DRAW
DOLLS ARE NOT MY THING
I CAN'T BUILD A ROBOT
BUT I CAN SWING
AND SINCE DAD AND I
ARE ALWAYS ON THE GO
HOME PLATE
IS THE ONLY HOME I KNOW

RAMONA

Writing into her blog
Sounds like you've moved around a lot.

K.C.

You get used to it.

RAMONA

Really?

K.C.

No.

THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSANDS CHEERS
FROM TWENTY THOUSAND FACES
THAT'S MY FAVORITE PITCH
SENDS ME ROUND THE BASES
THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSAND FANS
NOW HOME PLATE IS JUST IN SIGHT
AND I'M THE GREATEST PLAYER
UNDER TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS

I NEVER LIKED TO GOLF
GOT NO FOLLOW THROUGH
WANNA SEE A BALL FLY
INTO THE BLUE?
JUST DON'T BLINK OR YOU WILL MISS IT
MISS MVP
ONE DAY THEY WILL FILL THE STANDS
TO SEE ME

IT'S A DREAM
IT COULD HAPPEN
WITH A WAVE OF MY HAT
THEY WILL KNOW WHO I AM

(A realization)

K.C. AT BAT!

(With new found confidence)

K.C. AT BAT!

THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSANDS CHEERS
NO, TWENTY THOUSAND SCREAMING
IT'S A GAME TO THEM
BUT IT'S EV'RYTHING I'M DREAMING
THERE ARE TWENTY THOUSAND STRONG

AS THE BALL FLIES OUT OF SIGHT
AND I'M THE GREATEST PLAYER
UNDER TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS

RAMONA

You should check out our team, "The
Mudville Nine." We don't even have nine
players. We're not great at math, either.

K.C.

Are they good?

RAMONA

Being a serious journalist, I cannot
comment...but...off the record...they are
terrible.

The bell rings.

The little field, after school. Be there!

Ramona and K.C. exit, as
David, Prissy, Lolly, Ruth,
Jackie, Joe, Mickey, Ty, Toni,
Dorothy and Henry enter. David
is carrying a book

"NO. 2A: MUDVILLE MIDDLE BE THERE!"

DAVID

(Opening the book)

According to the Goodley Book Of World
Records, The world's smallest living
Chihuahua is named "Big Mittens." He was
born in Tucson Arizona to Mr. & Mrs.
Jason Knicknack who named the puppy "Big
Mittens" because his white feet looked
like the dog was wearing mittens.

LOLLY

I love mittens! They're like socks for
your hands!

JOE

Does that book have any useful records?

DAVID

Such as?

JOE

The world's largest pizza?

DAVID

(He flips the next page)

The world's largest pizza has a surface area of 15,000 feet and was prepared in Pisa, Italy, on February 23rd, 2021.

MICKEY

Did it have pepperoni?

DAVID

Doesn't say.

JOE

Now, that's a record I like!

PRISSY

(Dismissing him)

Oh please!

DAVID

Don't knock it! World records are very important, Prissy! Don't you want to be the best at something?

PRISSY

I'm already the best at everything.

DAVID

Not at-

(He turns the page)

"Long Distance Guava Tossing!" That record is held by Mrs. Calpurnia F. Tusselbaum of Jacksonville, Missouri.

LOLLY

I'd like to be the best at...anything.

DAVID

I'm sure we could find something, Lolly.

(He flips through the pages)

How do you feel about Kangaroo hopping?

LOLLY

Hops and skips confuse me.

DAVID
(A new page)
Coyote wrestling?

LOLLY
Sounds dangerous.

DAVID
Can you lift a cinder block...with your nose?

LOLLY
(Dismissing the idea)
I have a surprising lack of upper-body strength.

PRISSY
(Frustrated)
Lolly, what do I always say?

LOLLY
"Stop thinking. It wastes time."

PRISSY
Just do everything I say, and one day you may be perfect...like me.

HENRY
(To Lolly)
I would aim higher.

PRISSY
(To Lolly)
You're my sidekick.

LOLLY
(Hopeful)
Am I the best at *that*?!?!

PRISSY
(Hesitant)
Let's revisit this at your annual evaluation.

Lolly considers this for a moment. Ramona enters

TY
Any news Ramona?

PRISSY

News in this town? Ha!

LOLLY

Yeah. News in this town?! Ha!

PRISSY

Mudville hasn't made the news since 1983.

LOLLY

Yeah. Mudville hasn't made the news since 1983. Ha!

PRISSY

If you want news-

LOLLY

Yeah! If you want news-

PRISSY

Irritated at Lolly's repetition, she yells at her

Lolly!

RAMONA

It just so happens I have the scoop of the year.

TY

What is it?

RAMONA

You'll just have to read my blog.

JOE

Can't you tell us?

TY

Just this once.

RAMONA

I'm a journalist with integrity.

LOLLY

And a really severe overbite.

PRISSY

I don't believe you have any news.

RAMONA

I do so!

PRISSY

Prove it.

RAMONA

A good journalist never reveals a story prematurely.

PRISSY

You're not a journalist. You write a blog.

LOLLY

Yeah. You're not a journalist. You write a blog.

Prissy stares at her

Sorry.

RAMONA

Just this once. Mudville Middle has a new student!

LOLLY

Did Steven Kinley fail geometry again?

RAMONA

No. A new student. From New York City.

KIDS (EXCEPT PRISSY)

Ohhhhhhh New York City.

PRISSY

I don't believe it.

HENRY

(Asking Ramona)

How do you know?

RAMONA

I just conducted an exclusive interview. Ground-breaking...if I do say so myself. Take a look!

Ramona pulls out her phone.

The kids gather around

We're friends on FacePage.

TONI

Ohhhhh, she's pretty.

DAVID

No way!

DOROTHY

Does she have Instasnap?

LOLLY

What's her name?

RAMONA

Kelli Connors, but she goes by K.C.

DAVID

Imagine New York City! I've always wanted to see the Statue of Liberty!

HENRY

Rockefeller Center!

LOLLY

"The Big Artichoke!"

PRISSY

It's "The Big Apple!"

DAVID

(Reading from his book)

The world's biggest apple was grown by Mr. And Mrs. Eugene Missethwaite in Luften, Oregon-

PRISSY

(Yelling)

DAVID!

LOLLY

A bell rings. The kids go back to class leaving Prissy and Lolly alone onstage.

Don't worry, Prissy. I'm sure she's not nearly as pretty, or smart or gymnastically inclined as you are.

PRISSY

Obviously! There's only ONE Prissy Von Missy.

LOLLY

Isn't your mom named Prissy too?

PRISSY

(Screaming at her)

Go to class!

Lolly runs off

Well, well, Ms. Kelli Connors. Welcome to Mudville. Allow me to introduce myself.

"NO. 3: QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL"

I DON'T NEED TO MEET HER
TO KNOW I DON'T LIKE HER
I CAN TELL FROM HER SMILE
SHE'S THE WORST
I DON'T NEED TO MEET HER
TO KNOW SHE'S A LOSER
AND I RUN THIS SCHOOL
'CAUSE I WAS HERE FIRST

I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE PRINCESS OF SPECIAL
I'M THE RULER OF COOL
WHEN I WEAR A SWEATER
IT'S A GUARANTEED TREND
'CAUSE EVERYONE IS TERRIFIED
NOT TO BE MY FRIEND

I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE FAV'RITE OF ALL
I'M THE POPULAR MISSY
I'M THE BELLE OF THE BALL
EVERYDAY IN HOMEROOM
WHAT DO I SEE?
A GAGGLE OF MY MINIONS
PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO ME

[Ensemble Enters]

IT ISN'T MY FAULT
THAT I WAS BORN PRETTY
THAT I AM SO FUNNY
THAT I WIN EACH ELECTION
IT ISN'T MY FAULT

I RADIATE SUNSHINE
WHILE SO KIND-HEARTED WITH
MODEL COMPLEXION

I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE MASCOT AND MORE
I SING "FROZEN" AT THE TALENT SHOW
THE CROWD SHOUTS, "ENCORE"
YOU ASK ABOUT THE HONOR ROLL?
IT'S ALREADY MADE
I HAVEN'T TURNED IN HOMEWORK
SINCE THE SECOND GRADE...SECOND GRADE

I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
AND THE JOB SUITS ME FINE
A NOBODY FROM N.Y.C.
WILL HAVE TO RESIGN
TO THE CORONATED LEADER
WHO MAKES THIS DECREE:
I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL
I'M THE QUEEN
LONG LIVE ME

ENSEMBLE

SHE'S THE QUEEN OF THE SCHOOL

The scene transitions

"NO. 3A: QUEEN OF PRACTICE"

ACT ISCENE 2

THE FIELD.

Ruth, Jackie, Joe, Mickey, Ty, Toni, Dorothy Prissy, Lolly, Henry & David get ready to play ball. They warm up. They stretch. Lolly is singing musical scales as the others get into their equipment

LOLLY

Mi-mi-mi-mi-mi-mi-mi, re re re re re re
re, fa, so, la, ti.

PRISSY

What are you doing?

LOLLY

I'm warming up.

PRISSY

This is baseball!

LOLLY

I don't want to sprain my vocal chords.

DAVID

Why can't I play first base?

HENRY

Because you're terrible.

DAVID

So are you!

HENRY

But you're more terrible.

DAVID

Lolly...whose the most terrible?

LOLLY

You're both bad!

DAVID

Well, who asked you?!

HENRY

(Suddenly)

It doesn't matter who plays what. We're going to lose! We haven't won a game in years!

[Reciting]

*Roses are red
Violets are pink
We'll never win
'Cause we really stink*

LOLLY

You're a poet, Henry.

PRISSY

Don't encourage my *little* brother.

LOLLY

Do me!

HENRY

Hmmmm.

[Reciting]

*Lolly is funny
Lolly is sweet
But Lolly can't run
'Cause she's got two left feet*

LOLLY

Should I buy two left shoes? Maybe THAT'S why we always lose.

HENRY

We lose because we're terrible.

PRISSY

If you ask me, Henry, you're just being negative.

HENRY

It's true!

PRISSY

It may be true, young man- but it's a very immature outlook.

HENRY

What makes you think you're the boss of me?

PRISSY

I'm older.

HENRY

By two minutes!

PRISSY

Yes. And in two minutes- you'll see I'm right.

RUTH

Are we going to play or are we going to argue?

LOLLY

We usually do both.

RUTH

It was a rhetorical question! Now, if you ask me...

K.C. and Ramona enter. They all look at them

RAMONA

Oh. Don't mind us. We're just observing.

PRISSY

Ummmmmmmmmmmmmmmm this is a closed practice.

RAMONA

I'm a journalist, Prissy. I need to cover the story.

JOE

What story?

JACKIE

Is it about us?

MICKEY

Of course it's about us. And it won't be pretty!

LOLLY

We're not that bad.

HENRY

We really are.

PRISSY

And who are you-?

She turns to K.C. Silence.

K.C.

(Extending her hand)

Oh, I'm-

PRISSY

I know who you are.

K.C.

Then why did you ask who I am?

The kids are shocked that someone is standing up to Prissy. Gasp. They turn their heads slowly in unison toward Prissy

PRISSY

What did you say?

K.C.

I said: If you knew...why did you ask who I was?

HENRY

(Knowingly)

Uh oh.

PRISSY

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Prissy Von Missy.

RAMONA

Here we go!

PRISSY

I'm the class president, class secretary
and class-

HENRY

Clown-

PRISSY

-Valedictorian. You can't just walk into
my practice-

K.C.

YOUR practice?

PRISSY

Oh yes. Did I forget? I'm also the team
manager.

HENRY

(Whispers)

She ran unopposed.

RAMONA

Surprise, surprise.

PRISSY

(Rapid-fire)

I started this team.

HENRY

(Rapid-fire)

You didn't.

PRISSY

(Rapid-fire)

I feel like I did.

HENRY

(Rapid-fire)

Not accurate.

PRISSY

(Sing-song)

Henry!

K.C.

So, you're responsible for them.

PRISSY

I am.

K.C.

Do you win a lot of games?

PRISSY

...sometimes.

HENRY

Never.

PRISSY

(Beastly)

Henry!

HENRY

Not once.

DAVID

In five years.

LOLLY

That's a LONG time to lose. I mean, you would THINK in FIVE years we would win SOMETHING. But no. That's how bad we are.

DAVID

(A new thought)

It may very well be a Goodley World Record!

PRISSY

My teammates and I disagree about the state of our team.

"NO. 4: HORRIBLE, TERRIBLE, AWFUL"

HENRY

Oh, face it, Sis-

WE CAN'T CATCH A BALL
OR MAKE A PLAY
AT THE START OF THE INNING
WE CALL IT A DAY
'CAUSE THE PITCHER CAN'T PITCH
SO DITCH US TODAY 'CAUSE
WE'RE GOOD AT BEING BAD

LOLLY, HENRY, DAVID

WE ARE
HORRIBLE, TERRIBLE, AWFUL
THE WORST OF THE BEST
IS STILL BETTER BY FAR
THAN THE BEST OF THE WORST
OF US ARE

HENRY

WE CAN'T RUN A MAN
OR LOAD BASES
AT THE END OF THE INNING
THEIR TEAM IS ALL ACES
OUR CATCHER CAN'T CATCH
(Whispers a secret)
OR TIE HIS SHOELACES
(Back to regular volume)
WE'RE GOOD AT BEING BAD

KIDS

WE ARE
TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, AWFUL
THE WORST OF THE BEST
IS STILL BETTER BY FAR
THAN THE BEST OF THE WORST
OF US ARE

BASEBALL BALLET: During this musical interlude, the team shows K.C. their skills (or lack thereof). Henry throws a ball- we hear a glass window shatter. Lolly and David run into each other trying to catch a fly. Henry tries to bat and falls flat on his behind while Lolly gets hit in the head with a ball. Henry chases David across the stage with a bat. Prissy goes in for a catch and instead takes a phone call. David chases Henry across the stage with a bat. Lolly tries to throw the ball. It has stuck to her hand. She walks offstage confused. Prissy chases David and Henry across the stage with a bat.

Lolly gets up to bat, she is holding the wrong side of the bat, David comes to her aid. At the end, the team winds up in a heap center stage.

PRISSY

OHHHH EVERY TEAM HAS THEIR PROBLEMS-

DAVID

OURS ARE WORSE BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS WHICH IS WHY THE UMPIRE LAUGHS AT US WHEN WE TAKE THE MOUND

KIDS

HE KNOWS WE'RE HORRIBLE, TERRIBLE, AWFUL THE WORST OF THE BEST IS STILL BETTER BY FAR THAN THE BEST OF THE WORST OF US ARE

AND BELIEVE YOU ME IT'S QUITE A SIGHT TO SEE THAN THE BEST OF THE WORST OF US ARE

HENRY

We're hopeless.

PRISSY

Speak for yourself.

HENRY

I am speaking for myself- and yourself. Ourselves are hopeless!

PRISSY

(Rapid-fire)

Well, if we are: it's not MY fault. If you could all just follow my instructions.

LOLLY

(Repeating)

Yeah. You guys should follow her instructions.

PRISSY
(Rapid-fire)
We might win a game!

LOLLY
(Repeating)
Yeah. We might win a game!

PRISSY
(Rapid-fire)
It's not my fault that-

LOLLY
(Repeating)
It's not her fault-

PRISSY
(Beastly)
LOLLY!

LOLLY
Sorry.

PRISSY
As I was saying. It's not my fault that
they can't follow my impeccable
leadership!

HENRY
I think we should quit.

TONI
Quit?!

DAVID
No!

TONI
That would make us...quitters! And
quitters never win.

HENRY
(Beat)
They never lose either.

The kids begins to argue. K.C.
hands Ramona a ball. She grabs
a bat and runs offstage
saying:

K.C.
Give it all you got!

"NO. 4A: KC@BAT"

Ramona throws the ball
offstage. We hear the sound of
a bat cracking. The ball flies
through the air. The kids stop
arguing and turn their heads
to look. They are amazed.

RUTH
Wow!

JACKIE
Did you see that?

JOE
I'm talking...but I'm speechless.

MICKEY
That flew all the way to Soapsville.

TY
Where did it go?

TONI
How'd she do that?

K.C. enters. They stare at
her. Long pause. Silent.

RAMONA
They're stunned. That's not easy to do.

DOROTHY
What's your secret?

K.C.
...Hard work? Practice? Determination?

PRISSY
Ughhhhh! I should be impressed?

HENRY
(Rapid-fire)
All for K.C. as our new coach? Say 'Aye!'

K.C.

Oh, no...I couldn't...I mean...

(Aside)

Wow. On the one hand...

(Back to the group)

It's a flattering offer, but-

HENRY

(Rapid-fire)

You've got to!

DAVID

(Rapid-fire)

Please?

RAMONA

(Privately to K.C.)

Come on, kid. I thought this was your dream. Step up to the plate.

PRISSY

Whoa! This has gone far enough!

HENRY

Prissy, did you see that?

RUTH

She's amazing!

JACKIE

She could turn our team around!

LOLLY

I have to agree, Prissy. She's good! Like good. Like...really good.

PRISSY

Fine. Let's take a vote! All in favor of Baby Ruth over here say 'Aye'- but just remember-my mom will bake brownies!

The kids all say, "Aye."

Prissy walks up to Ramona

You better not put this in your blog!

K.C.

Okay team, gather round. Now if you want to start winning you have to work together. No more arguing.

JOE

There goes the one thing we're good at.

K.C.

That's about to change.

"NO. 5: ALL TOGETHER NOW"

THE BAD NEWS IS YOUR AWFUL
BUT AT LEAST YOU CAN'T GET WORSE
YOU'VE GOT TO WORK TOGETHER
IF YOU WANT TO BREAK THE CURSE

ALL TOGETHER NOW
WE CAN DO IT
ALL TOGETHER NOW
NOTHIN' TO IT
ALL TOGETHER NOW
ALL TOGETHER
NOW

DAVID & HENRY

TAKE THE PITCHER'S MOUND

K.C.

YOU PLAY SHORT STOP

DAVID & HENRY

TURN THIS TEAM AROUND

K.C.

PRACTICE NON-STOP

ALL BUT K.C.

K.C. SHOW US HOW

EVERYONE

ALL TOGETHER
NOW

ALL TOGETHER NOW

DAVID & HENRY

LOAD THE BASES

EVERYONE

ALL TOGETHER NOW

WOMEN
AND SLAM THE ACES

EVERYONE
ALL TOGETHER NOW

ALL BUT K.C.
WE CAN DO IT

EVERYONE
ALL TOGETHER
NOW

K.C.
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY: WORK!

KIDS
WORK!

K.C.
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY: WIN!

KIDS
WIN!

K.C.
'CAUSE WHERE WE'RE GOING--
IS NOT WHERE WE'VE BEEN
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY: FOUL!

KIDS
FOUL!

K.C.
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY: FLY!

KIDS
FLY!

K.C.
IF WE WORK TOGETHER

EVERYONE
THEN THE LIMIT IS THE SKY

ALL TOGETHER NOW
WE CAN DO IT
ALL TOGETHER NOW

NOTHIN' TO IT
ALL TOGETHER NOW

LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER—

DANCE BREAK: SIGNALS BALLET

K.C.
(Stagger entrances)
ALL TOGETHER NOW

K.C. & LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER NOW

K.C., DAVID & LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER NOW

K.C., DAVID, HENRY & LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER NOW

K.C., DAVID, HENRY, RAMONA &
LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER NOW

K.C., DAVID, HENRY, PRISSY,
RAMONA & LOLLY
ALL TOGETHER NOW

EVERYONE
OHhhh

COME ON MUDVILLE
LET'S GO MUDVILLE
COME ON MUDVILLE
THE MUDVILLE NINE

End of scene. Transition

"NO. 5A: TRANSITION INTO BLOG-O-SPHERE"

ACT ISCENE 3

BLOG-O-SPHERE/MUDVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

Ramona looks at the audience as she writes her blog. As Ramona speaks pictures of the kids playing baseball "scroll" on the walls of the set behind her

RAMONA

Dear Readers, in a stunning example of a turn around, "The Mudville Nine," Mudville Middle's very own little league team has come back with an unprecedented four-and-six season, thanks in great part to the leadership of the new team captain. When asked what she likes about working with her teammates, K.C. said...

K.C.

"I've never had so many friends. They've made me feel welcome in Mudville."

RAMONA

When asked to give her opinion of the team's turn around, team manager, Prissy Von Missy had this to say:

PRISSY

"No comment."

RAMONA

Be sure to log on daily for the latest scores.

Mudville Middle School. Lunch. Ruth, Jackie, Joe, Mickey, Ty, Toni, Dorothy, Lolly, David and Henry enter with lunch trays. David is reading his book and quizzing Lolly. Light cue.

DAVID

How do you feel about "under-water basket-weaving?"

LOLLY

I don't like when my fingers look like raisins.

DAVID

(A new page)

Can you juggle-?

LOLLY

YES!

DAVID

-laser printers?

LOLLY

No.

DAVID

(A new page)

Hmmmmmmmmmm. Do you think you could learn brain surgery?

LOLLY

Not this weekend. I have a piano recital.

DAVID

We're running out of options. You've declined every world record I've suggested.

LOLLY

(A new thought)

...maybe THAT'S a world record!

K.C. comes in with her lunch

K.C. come sit here.

K.C. sits

I've been thinking about my fastball.

K.C.

Lolly, you don't have a fastball.

LOLLY

Exactly what I've been thinking about. I can't play second base my whole life. I'm already twelve, these are my prime years!

Ramona enters

RAMONA

Attention! Attention! Normally, I would make you wait to read it on my blog.

JOE

What now?

RAMONA

Just the most important scoop of this young journalist's life!

LOLLY

Are you writing another article about cargo pants? How many times have I told you: they're never coming back.

RAMONA

The Little League Championship Games!

Ramona hands K.C. a letter.

MICKEY

What does it say?

K.C.

Reading the letter

"Dear Ms. Connors--"

TY

Who's Ms. Connors?

TONI

That's K.C.'s last name you twit!

K.C.

"It is my distinct pleasure to invite you and the Mudville Nine to The Little League Championship Games--"

The kids jump with joy and chant

KIDS

(Chanting)

Let's go, Mudville!

Let's Go!

Let's go, Mudville!

Let's Go!

DOROTHY

Who are we playing?

RUTH

Kewsey?

JACKIE

Topeka?

K.C.

Soapsville! Soapsville stadium! Twenty thousand lights!

RAMONA

It's amazing what a hard work can do.

ALL

"NO. 6: TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME"

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

TAKE ME OUT TO THE CROWD

BUY ME SOME PEANUTS AND CRACKERJACKS

I DON'T CARE IF I EVER GET BACK

DAVID

LET ME ROOT, ROOT, ROOT

FOR OLD MUDVILLE

IF WE DON'T WIN IT'S A SHAME

DAVID & HENRY

FOR IT'S ONE,

TWO,

THREE STRIKES YOU'RE OUT

AT THE OLD BALL -

LOLLY

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

RAMONA

TAKE ME OUT TO THE CROWD

K.C.

BUY ME SOME PEANUTS AND CRACKERJACKS

LOLLY

I HAVE BRACES. CAN'T HAVE CRACKERJACKS

K.C.

LET ME ROOT, ROOT, ROOT
FOR OLD MUDVILLE
IF WE DON'T WIN IT'S A SHAME

DAVID

FOR IT'S ONE,

DAVID & RAMONA

TWO,

DAVID, RAMONA & LOLLY

THREE STRIKES YOU'RE OUT

DAVID, RAMONA, LOLLY & HENRY

AT THE OLD BALL GAME

ALL

TAKE US OUT TO THE BALL GAME
TAKE US OUT TO THE CROWD

HENRY

WE'RE GONNA SHOW SOAPSVILLE WHAT MUDVILLE CAN DO

DAVID

WE'RE GONNA COME HOME WITH A TROPHY OR TWO

ALL

SO, LET'S ROOT, ROOT, ROOT
FOR OLD MUDVILLE
THEY'RE GONNA REMEMBER OUR NAME

DAVID & HENRY

FOR IT'S ONE,
TWO,
THREE STRIKES YOU'RE OUT

DAVID, HENRY, K.C., LOLLY

FOR IT'S ONE,
TWO,
THREE STRIKES YOU'RE OUT

ALL

FOR IT'S ONE,
TWO,
THREE STRIKES YOU'RE OUT

AT THE
OLD
BALL
GAME

The kids scream as Prissy
enters

LOLLY
Prissy, did you hear-

PRISSY
Of course I heard. I'm the first to know
everything.

MICKEY
Who wants to go to tell Ms. McGillan?!
She's going to be so excited!

The kids run off and leave
Ramona, K.C. and Prissy

RAMONA
Any chance our very own baseball hero
would give an exclusive interview?

PRISSY
Ughhhhhhhhhh I'm like REALLY busy, but
have Lolly pencil you in between my mani
and pedi.

RAMONA
As appalling as your feet
sound...gross...I meant...K.C.

Long pause. TOTALLY awkward

K.C.
Oh. Sure, Ramona. Well, I'm thrilled that
Mudville Middle School will finally be
representing our beloved town in
Soapsville Stadium. We're going to show
them just what the Molerats can do!

RAMONA
A star athlete and well-spoken! Is there
anything you can't do?

PRISSY

Ughhhhhh pull off bangs.

RAMONA

Just one more quote, and my article is complete.

Prissy gets ready to speak.

Ramona yells as she exits:

David! Any comment on the Mudville Nine???

Ramona is gone

PRISSY

You think you're SO special, don't you?

K.C.

Excuse me?

PRISSY

Just because you can hit hard and run fast and you're nice you think you're better than me.

K.C.

I don't think I'm better than you, Prissy.

PRISSY

I have good ideas too. Like- the uniforms were my idea, and I had the idea to practice on Saturdays. But...they're winners now, because of you.

K.C.

They're winners because of us. Why are you so...so...

PRISSY

What?

K.C.

Mean.

PRISSY

Mean?! ME?! I'm the most popular girl in school. Do you know ANY popular girls who are mean?

K.C.

I just wanted to make friends.

PRISSY

You didn't make friends. You stole them.
I wish you had never come to Mudville.

Prissy exits

K.C.

"NO. 7: TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS (REPRISE 1)"

THOUGHT THEY WERE MY FRIENDS

I WAS SUCH A FOOL

THOUGHT THEY REALLY LIKED ME

THOUGHT I WAS COOL

I WASN'T JUST EXCITED

TO HAVE MY DREAM

I WAS FINALLY A PART

OF A TEAM

ACT ISCENE 4

THE FIELD.

David is helping Henry into
his catcher equipment

DAVID

My dad kept all my brother's equipment!
Look! Leg guards!

David puts the leg guards on
Henry. They are massive on
him.

Chest protector!

David puts the chest protector
on Henry. Massive.

And finally...

(Drum roll)

Da Da Da Dummmm-

The helmet.

How does that feel?

HENRY

I can't move. What about you?

Lolly enters

DAVID

I'm in the outfield. All I need is-

David takes out a roll of eye
blacks and applies it to his
cheeks

There.

LOLLY

Can I borrow that?

She takes the blacks and
applies it to her lips as
lipstick. She pulls out a
mirror.

Hmmmmmmmmmm not my color.

HENRY

Sure. NOW I get an itch.

Prissy enters

PRISSY

Come on people! We've only got twenty
four hours! I want to see some umph!
Sprints! Lunges! Rotations!

She slaps Henry on the back.
He falls and cannot get up

TY

Where is K.C.?

Ramona enters

RAMONA

Ummmm hi guys.

LOLLY

Ramona, have you seen K.C.?

TONI

She should be here.

RAMONA

I have some news.

LOLLY

Good news or bad news?

RAMONA

Both.

PRISSY

Ohhh brother!

HENRY

What?

PRISSY

It's just an expression.

Ramona hands Prissy a note.
She reads it

DOROTHY

What does it say?

RAMONA

It's from K.C. She quit.

DAVID

Is this a joke?

RAMONA

I wish.

HENRY

But the championship is-

DAVID

TOMORROW!

LOLLY

I can't believe it! I won't believe it!

HENRY

My career cut short in the zennith of my youth!

LOLLY

This is the worst atrocity in the history of the world...no the universe...no...MY LIFE!!!

RAMONA

Now THERE'S a quote for the blog!

DAVID

What are we going to do? Prissy? What are we going to do?

They look to Prissy who doesn't know what to do

RAMONA

You'll think of something. I believe in you!

LOLLY

Wait. There must be a silver lining! We haven't heard the good news.

DAVID

Yeah! What's the good news?

RAMONA

Beat

It's Taco Tuesday.

They glare at her

I said I had good news and bad news. I never said they were related.

Ramona exits. Long pause

PRISSY

All right. Lolly- laps around the field. Go. David- fifty jumping jacks. Henry- four laps around the diamond. Let's go. Move, move, move. We've got a championship to win!

Beat. David runs off.

LOLLY

I don't understand! Why would she quit? This was her dream!

PRISSY

Lolly exits. Prissy thinks she is alone. She reads the note- "Please tell the gang how proud I was to be part of the team, and how much I miss them...even Prissy."

A beat. Ramona enters. She sees Prissy alone and tries to exit. Prissy catches her
Ramona, I have a question.

RAMONA

You cannot borrow my study guide. I worked really hard on that.

PRISSY

Not what I was going to ask...but let's circle back to that later. Have you ever said...let's say: only hypothetically...something to someone and you didn't mean to hurt their feelings, but you did?

RAMONA

I think I know what this is about. Is this because Lolly said you don't look good in orange?

PRISSY

What???? No.

A beat

Ramona, I know you think I'm perfect. Perfect smile, perfect hair, perfect grades-

RAMONA

And modest...

PRISSY

But I think I made a mistake-

RAMONA

Go on.

PRISSY

And I'm feeling...bad.

RAMONA

Uh huh...

PRISSY

And...I need a favor. Can you post an apology on your blog?

RAMONA

You are apologizing? Stop the presses!

PRISSY

Quote: From a certain manager to a certain coach...now estranged...Please come back. Your team misses you-

"NO. 7A: PRISSY'S APOLOGY"

I miss you.

I FEEL

HORRIBLE, TERRIBLE, AWFUL

YOU'RE THE BEST OF THE BEST

YOU'RE THE STAR IN ALL-STAR

YOU'VE MADE US AS GOOD AS WE ARE-

RAMONA

(Cutting her off-)

I'll run it in the evening edition.

PRISSY

Thanks, Ramona. You're a good friend. And for what it is worth: a good journalist.

Prissy starts to exit. Pause.
She turns around. Suddenly
furious:

What does she mean I don't look good in orange? I ROCK orange.

Yelling as she exits:

LOLLY! We need to talk!

She is gone. Henry's still on the ground.

HENRY

Ramona...a little help.

She helps him up. He removes his helmet

RAMONA

We just witnessed history, Henry.

HENRY

*Let's hope K.C. reads
The ev-en-ing news
If we don't have K.C.
We're gonna lose*

They smile at one another. He runs off. Blackout

"NO. 7B: WE'RE GONNA LOSE"

ACT ISCENE 5

THE LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP DUGOUT

The dugout of the Soapsville stadium. The kids all get ready for the game in their usual ways.

LOLLY

Mi-mi-mi-mi-mi-mi-mi, re re re re re re
re, fa, so, la, ti.

PRISSY

Lolly, I told you to stop that!

Long pause. Lolly decides it's time to stand up for herself

LOLLY

You're not our coach.

PRISSY

What did you say?

LOLLY

I said...you're not our coach. So, STOP. Stop telling me what to do. I can think for myself. Most of the time.

RUTH

Okay. Time out. We have to work together. Now more than ever.

DAVID

Let's face it-we're doomed.

PRISSY

Don't talk like that.

DAVID

It's true. K.C. was our best player.

JACKIE

Not just our best player-

LOLLY

Our coach.

PRISSY

I may not be the coach, but I am still the manager, and I demand that everyone stop being sad.

JOE

Can you demand that people stop being sad?

LOLLY

Without her, we're going to lose! That makes me sad.

MICKEY

Big time.

TY

AND we're gonna lose in front of all our friends.

MICKEY

Not just our friends-

LOLLY

-twenty thousand people in the stands! That's a LOT of people.

PRISSY

If we just pull together-

DAVID

Well, at least you're happy.

PRISSY

Excuse me?

DAVID

You never liked K.C.!

PRISSY

That's not true.

LOLLY

Everyone knows it.

PRISSY

Listen. I miss K.C. too. I admit that at first I found her- irritating, obnoxious and surprisingly threatening, but- If K.C. were here, she wouldn't want us to give up.

K.C. enters

K.C.

No, she wouldn't!

The kids go wild!

DAVID

You're back!

LOLLY

I knew she would come back!

TONI

She wouldn't leave us.

K.C.

"Once a mole rat-

KIDS

-always a mole rat!"

HENRY

After we win...we're picking a new mascot.

K.C.

Turning to Prissy

Well...can I play?

The kids go wild with shouts of "of course," "you know it," etc.

PRISSY

Quieting them down.

Hey! Hey! Hey! I'm still the manager!

The kids stare at Prissy.

K.C.

Well?

PRISSY

Trying to contain her joy to
have K.C. back!

I guess...like whatever...if you want
to...I mean...YES!

The kids go wild again.

K.C.

Thank you. And thank you for your post-

PRISSY

(Coyly)

I don't know what you're talking about.

Ramona enters

RAMONA

Alright, gang! Are you ready?

PRISSY

Ready as we'll ever be.

K.C.

Alright team, gather round.

RAMONA

Good luck, team! We're all rooting for
you!

K.C.

We've worked hard. So have they-

PRISSY

-so play hard-

K.C.

-play tough-

PRISSY

-play fair-

K.C. & PRISSY

-and give it all you've got!

"NO. 8: THE BLOG SONG"

The kids put their hands
together

ALL

Goooooooooooo MUDVILLE!

The kids run off. Ramona and
K.C. share a moment and a
smile. They run offstage.

ACT ISCENE 6

THE LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME (THE FIELD)

Ramona looks at the audience
as she writes her blog.

RAMONA

Hey, hey, hey Readers! This is Ramona S.
Barry coming to you live from Soapsville
Stadium with an up to the minute- play by
play- of today's game. Just the facts.

As Ramona narrates, we see the
kids in the field. The team
mimes the game behind her

The Mudville Nine started strong, but
Soapsville took the lead in the bottom of
the fourth. Lolly was no match for Matt
Parker's fast ball, and try as he might,
Henry couldn't catch the line drives of
Blake Avery. The prospects looked bleak
at the bottom of the eighth.

THE OUTLOOK WASN'T SUNNY
FOR THE MUDVILLE NINE THAT DAY
THE SCORE STOOD FOUR TO TWO
WITH ONE INNING MORE TO PLAY

BUT MATT LET DRIVE A SINGLE
TO THE WONDERMENT OF ALL
AND BLAKE, THE MUCH DESPISED
TORE THE COVER OFF THE BALL

THERE WAS EASE IN K.C.'S MANNER
AS SHE STEPPED INTO HER PLACE
THERE WAS PRIDE IN K.C.'S BEARING
AND A SMILE ON K.C.'S FACE

KIDS

COME ON MUDVILLE
LET'S GO MUDVILLE
COME ON MUDVILLE
THE MUDVILLE NINE

RAMONA

WHEN RESPONDING TO THE CHEERS
SHE LIGHTLY TIPPED HER HAT,

NO STRANGER IN THE CROWD COULD DOUBT
IT'S K.C. AT THE BAT

TWENTY THOUSAND EYES WERE ON HER
AS SHE RUBB'D HER HANDS WITH DIRT
FIVE THOUSAND HANDS APPLAUDED
WHEN SHE WIPED THEM ON HER SHIRT

AND THEN WHILE THE WRITHING PITCHER
GROUND THE BALL INTO HIS HIP
DEFIANCE GLEAMED IN K.C.'S EYE
A SMILE ON K.C.'S LIP

KIDS

COME ON MUDVILLE
LET'S GO MUDVILLE
COME ON MUDVILLE
THE MUDVILLE NINE

RAMONA

OH, SOMEWHERE IN THIS FAVORED LAND
THE SUN IS SHINING BRIGHT
THE BAND IS PLAYING SOMEWHERE
AND SOMEWHERE HEARTS ARE LIGHT

AND SOMEWHERE KIDS ARE LAUGHING
AND SOMEWHERE CHILDREN SHOUT
BUT THERE IS NO JOY IN MUDVILLE
MIGHTY K.C. HAS STRUCK OUT

Blackout.

ACT ISCENE 7

THE LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP DUGOUT

The dugout of the Soapsville stadium. The lights come up. K.C. is sitting center stage. Down and out. Prissy walks onstage slowly. She sits next to K.C. and puts her hand on K.C.'s shoulder. K.C. pulls away.

K.C.

We lost.

PRISSY

Yeah. We did.

K.C.

Because of me.

PRISSY

That's not true. We played because of you.

K.C.

You're just being nice.

PRISSY

(Realizing she has changed)

I know. This feels strange and unsettling.

K.C.

They're never going to want to see me again. I blew it.

PRISSY

Blew it? If it weren't for you we would never have made it to the championship!

"NO. 9: BETTER WITH YOU"

HENRY CAN PITCH NOW

DAVID CAN CATCH

LOLLY, WELL, SHE'S LOLLY...BUT THAT'S FINE

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY

YOU GOT YOUR DREAM

YOU LOADED THE BASES
YOU LED OUR TEAM

BETTER WITH YOU
THEY'RE SO MUCH BETTER WITH YOU
IT'S LIKE MAGIC THE WAY
YOU GET US TO PLAY
I'M JEALOUS-
AND THAT'S BRAND NEW
THEY'RE BETTER
THEY'RE BETTER WITH YOU

K.C.

BETTER WITH US
THEY'RE SO MUCH BETTER WITH US
WE'RE A TEAM, ME AND YOU
THE POWER OF TWO
AND NEITHER
SUPERFLUOUS

PRISSY

S.A.T Word!

K.C.

THEY'RE BETTER
THEY'RE BETTER WITH US

TRUTH BE TOLD
I'M HAPPY YOU'RE HERE
I COULDN'T DO IT ALONE

PRISSY

IF I WERE BEING HONEST
IT'S MORE FUN THAN
ON MY OWN

K.C. & PRISSY
BETTER WITH US
THEY'RE SO MUCH BETTER WITH US

K.C.

WE'RE A TEAM, ME AND YOU
STICKING LIKE GLUE

PRISSY
WE'RE A TEAM AND WE STICK LIKE GLUE

K.C. & PRISSY

THERE'S
NOTHING MORE
TO DISCUSS
WE'RE BETTER
IT'S BETTER WITH US

The girls hug as the kids
enter

DAVID

Well, THAT'S a sight I never expected to
see!

K.C.

I understand if-

PRISSY

(Intervening)

I'll handle this.

(Loudly)

LISTEN! Anyone who has a problem with
K.C. has a problem with me. And you don't
WANNA have a problem with me. K.C. is
part of this team just like everyone
else, and despite her split-ends, she's
the best we've got. So no one- and I mean
NO ONE- is gonna make her feel bad about
costing us the game!

LOLLY

What about her split ends?

PRISSY

(To Lolly)

Ughhh I know, right?

DOROTHY

So, we don't get a trophy. Big deal.

RUTH

Who needs a trophy?

HENRY

If you want a trophy, Prissy can give you
one of hers.

PRISSY

Sure! I have one for being smart, one for being pretty, one for being humble-

HENRY

The point is-

[Reciting]

*Who cares about winning
Or how the game ends
You don't need trophies
When you have friends*

PRISSY

Ramona Enter with David's
record book

I'm proud of you, K.C.

RAMONA

Hey hey hey mole rats!

JACKIE

We have GOT TO change that mascot!

RAMONA

You may not be bringing home a trophy,
but one of you is going home with a new
world record!

PRISSY

(Gushing)

Ughhhhh! What an honor! I don't have a
speech prepared, but-

RAMONA

Not you!

Ramona reveals a medal and
places it around Lolly's neck

Lolly- in five years, you have missed a
collective total of twenty-nine thousand,
two hundred and fifty three pitches. In
fact, in four hundred and seventeen games
you have only ever hit one ball-

LOLLY

-and that was purely by accident.

RAMONA
THAT'S a world record!

The kids applaud

LOLLY
I have so many people to thank! If I've learned anything this season, it's that there is no "I" in "team." Or in "baseball." Or in "alligator."

HENRY
Actually, there is an "I" in "allig--"

PRISSY
Let it go.

LOLLY
The point is. I couldn't have done this without all of you!
"NO. 10: MUDVILLE 2.0"

PRISSY
(Coughing)
Ah ah hum.

LOLLY
(Giving in)
...and you can pull off orange.

PRISSY
I know, right?

LOLLY
COME ON MUDVILLE

LOLLY, PRISSY & K.C.
LET'S GO MUDVILLE

ALL
COME ON MUDVILLE
THE MUDVILLE NINE

ACT ISCENE 8

EPILOGUE/FINALE

RAMONA

READ ALL ABOUT IT
MUDVILLE MAKES GOOD
NATIONAL COVERAGE
OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

HENRY

WE LOST BUT WE PLAYED

LOLLY

SO THEY THREW A PARADE

PRISSY

AND DADDY PAID THE BILL

ALL

HOME RUN FOR MUDVILLE
HOME RUN FOR MUDVILLE

K.C.

WE'RE HEROES TO MUDVILLE
WE PROVED THAT WE COULD
BETTER THAN HOME PLATE
I'M HOME FOR GOOD

ALL

ALL THE FANS SCREAM

LOLLY

FOR THEIR FAVORITE TEAM

PRISSY

LOSING'S QUITE A THRILL

ALL

HOME RUN FOR MUDVILLE
HOME RUN FOR MUDVILLE

The lights change. We are in
the future.

HENRY

Our team went on to play three more Little League Championships.

LOLLY

On our third try, we won.

PRISSY

Years later, when K.C. was starting catcher for The Philadelphia Cheese Steaks, the Mudville Nine would be there to cheer her on-

K.C.

-including her best friend, Prissy, who decided to stay in Mudville and coach the next generation of little leaguers.

LOLLY

One day, as Lolly was watching K.C. bat, she realized that scoring a home run wasn't so hard. If you apply the Parallel Axis Theorem where m is the mass of the bat, and l sub g is one half, you can predict the energy needed to hit the ball to its desired parabolic location.

The other kids look at her.
The music stops

DAVID

Lolly received a doctorate in Applied Mathematics from UC Berkeley.

Music back in

LOLLY

I was accepted to Princeton, but New Jersey was making some TERRIBLE fashion choices at the time.

RAMONA

David's interest in world records led him to own Mudville's most successful vintage record store.

DAVID

As predicted, Ramona S. Barry grew up to be a noted writer.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

She won a Pulitzer, a Nobel and a Guggenheim for her coverage of school gastronomy. Every year she takes a break from writing about food to cover the Little League Championships.

K.C.

Like Ramona, Henry also grew up to be a writer. He writes poems. His favorite poem is entitled, "Casey At Bat."

DAVID

WE'RE ONCE AGAIN A LEADER

K.C.

WE'VE GOT THE GREATEST TEAM

HENRY

COME ON DOWN AND EXPLORE

K.C.

UNDER TEN THOUSAND LIGHTS

ALL

THE LITTLE TOWN THAT COULD
AND WOULD
WHERE KIDS SET THE SCORE
OHHHHH

WELCOME TO MUDVILLE
VISIT AND FIND
THERE'S POWER INSIDE YOU
WHEN YOU SET YOUR MIND
A PLACE WHERE THE PAST
CAN BE LEFT BEHIND

MEN

KEEP ON GOING UNTIL

WOMEN

KEEP ON GOING UN

EVERYONE

KEEP ON GOING UNTIL
YOU GET TO MUDVILLE
HOME RUN FOR MUDVILLE
RUN HOME TO MUDVILLE
SEE YOU IN MUDVILLE

END OF PLAY

"NO. 11: BOWS"

OPEN ARTS ALLIANCE PERUSAL SCRIPT (C) NATALE & KAMPLER

"NO. 12: EXIT MUSIC"

OPEN ARTS ALLIANCE PERUSAL SCRIPT (C) NATALE & KAMPLER