

Arlyn & Bellamy

A Musical Play in One Act

Book, Music & Lyrics by

Jonathan Talmadge

Inspired by "The Frog Prince" by

the Brothers Grimm



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Author's Note

Please note that every part in "Arlyn & Bellamy" can be portrayed by either a boy or a girl. At Opening Act we strongly believe in casting according to ability, and not letting other external factors (race, gender, appearance, etc) have undue influence.

Since our founding in the summer of 2012, Opening Act Theatre Company has produced "A Little Bit of Kindness", "Our Troubles Are Over", "Gruff", "Keeper of The Stories", Nobody's Perfect", "The Artisans & The Dragon", "The Journey of The Noble Gnarble" and "Unsung Heroes." There is one actor who appeared in every single one of those shows, and this was our first production without her.

"Arlyn & Bellamy" is dedicated to Josie Norman, Opening Act MVP, with love and respect. We know that wherever her path takes her, she will travel upon it with style and grace.

Good luck and Godspeed, Josie. Thanks for everything.

Jonathan Talmadge

December 12, 2015

"Arlyn & Bellamy" premiered at Mattawan Elementary School on December 12, 2015. Arlyn was played by Leah Farmer and Bellamy was played by Eliana Hapner. The production was directed by Jonathan Talmadge and choreographed and produced by Angela Talmadge.

Cast of Characters

Arlyn Bryant: A Kid Bellamy: A Frog

Flo Bryant: Arlyn's mother.

Bob Bryant: Arlyn's father.

Perry: A pizza maker.

Haleigh: Doo Wop Crew/Hornet Bailey: Doo Wop Crew/Hornet Doo Wop Crew/Hornet Kailey: Queenie/Quentin: A Storyteller/Hornet Valencia/Valentino: A Storyteller/Hornet Michelle/Marcelle: A Storyteller/Hornet Winnie/Winston: A Storyteller/Hornet A Storyteller/Titan Gina/Gino: A Storyteller/Titan Shannon: Debbie/Dennis: A Storyteller/Titan Olive/Oliver: A Storyteller/Titan Yasmin/Yuri: A Storyteller/Titan A Storyteller/Titan Cynthia/Caesar: Eartha/Earle: A Storyteller/Titan Lennon: A Storyteller/Titan

Zara/Zane:
Uma:
Tanner:
Phoenix:
A Storyteller
A Storyteller
A Storyteller
A Storyteller

Scene

A Storyteller/Titan

Mattawan, MI - A Front yard, a Pizza Parlor, a Baseball Field, a House

Time

About six months ago.

Justice:

Songs

	Song Title	Sung by	Script Page #	Vocal Track #	Instrumental Track #
1.	Kind of a Normal Story	Company, Arlyn Bellamy, Michelle, Winnie	1	1	11
2.	Bring Me My Ball	Arlyn, Gina, Doo Wop Crew, Company	3	2	12
3.	Let's Be Friends	Bellamy, Shannon, Debbie, Yasmin, Valencia, Company	7	3	13
4.	When You Make A Promise	Mrs. Bryant, Mr. Bryant, Arlyn, Olive, Queenie, Michelle, Winnie, Doo Wop Crew, Company	15	4	14
5.	Bug Buffet	Perry, Bellamy, Doo Wop Crew, Company	19	5	15
6.	I Love Baseball	Arlyn	25	6	16
7.	A Base Hit	Gina, Shannon, Winnie, Debbie, Company	27	7	17
8.	A Base Hit (Reprise)	Arlyn	31	8	18
9.	Slumber Party	Company	32	9	19
10.	Finale	Arlyn, Bellamy, Company	35	10	20

How to read this Script

Lines

The words under the names in the middle of the page in CAPITAL LETTERS are spoken by that character. If you are playing that part, those are your lines. When you are in a play, you need to memorize your lines. There is no way to do this other than hard work. One way to make it more fun is when you are saying the words over and over again to get them to stick in your head, try saying them in silly voices or with different accents. Doing this can also help your acting because you may discover an interesting way to say the line.

Please say the lines exactly the way they are written. When performing plays, it is usually considered disrespectful to change the words or make up your own.

Cues

The line before your line is called a **cue**. You need to memorize this as well, not because you are going to say it in the play, but because you need to know what to listen for so you can say your line at the right moment. In a play, you usually don't want pauses in between lines. Learn your cues really well so that you can speak instantly after the person before you is finished.

Stage Directions

There are many sentences inside parentheses. (This sentence is inside parentheses.) These are **Stage Directions**. These words are not spoken by the actors on stage. They are there to help everyone know where to go and what to do while they are talking or singing or listening. Sometimes directors will decide they need you to do something different than what the Stage Directions say. This is okay.

Sometimes Stage Directions will tell the actors what emotion they should have when saying a line. Experienced actors who have been in many plays usually ignore these kinds of Stage Directions, but less experienced actors find them very useful. It is okay to follow these kinds of Stage Directions, but it is also okay to make your own choices as long as your choices make sense for your character and the scene.

Setting & At Rise

At the beginning of every scene are SETTING and AT RISE. SETTING explains what the stage is supposed to look like. Some plays have different **sets** that change from scene to scene and some only have one set that is used for the whole play. Though the script might describe the set a certain way, your directors might decide to make the scenery different than what it says in the script. This is okay.

AT RISE explains what is going on when the scene begins.

Page Numbers

At the top right corner of every page are two numbers, like this:

1 - 5

The first number is the SCENE number, the second number is the PAGE number. So the above example would be from Scene 1, page 5.

Songs

At the beginning of every song, on the left, above the first music staff of the song, there is a rectangle that has the song title and song number, like this:

Song #5 "Ludington March"

On the right is a circle that has the CD Track numbers listed. There are two CD Tracks for every song. The Vocal Track number is the version of the song that has Fergus McGillicuddy demonstrating how to sing the song. The Instrumental Track just has the music, with no voices.

Track Vocal #5 Instr. # 15

We find that when you are learning the song, it is useful to practice singing along to Fergus, but once you have it down, it is useful to practice without him.

A musical **Staff** means it is time to sing. Here is an example of a musical staff:

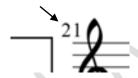


The name of who is singing is usually on the top of the staff at the beginning of the measure.



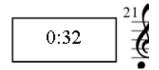
If it says "COMPANY", that means everyone in the play. If it says, "CHORUS", that means everyone in the play except the principal characters. If it says a character's name, just that person is singing.

You will also see $^{\text{little numbers}}$ at the beginning of every staff on the left side of the page.



These little numbers are **measure numbers**. They are a useful way for everyone to know what part of the song you are singing. If the Music Director says "We are starting at measure #21 of "We Are The Storytellers" on page 10, you can find that quickly and be ready to sing, "We've got a web to weave today,".

Also, on the left side of all the musical staffs is a time.



This will help you to find that spot in the recorded music, in case you need to find a moment in the middle of the song that you need to practice. For example, measure #21 of "We Are The Storytellers" is 0:32 seconds into the song.

RULES

This is an Opening Act Theatre Company play. At Opening Act we have some rules that help us to have good shows and good experiences. Please remember that this is a group project and we all need to care about each other and make good choices not just for ourselves, but for everyone involved in our play.

- Follow Directions
- Listen
- Keep Your Body to Yourself
- Use Kind Words
- Actors never tell other actors what to do
- Respect The Work
- Play Right
- Do Your Best

Scene 1

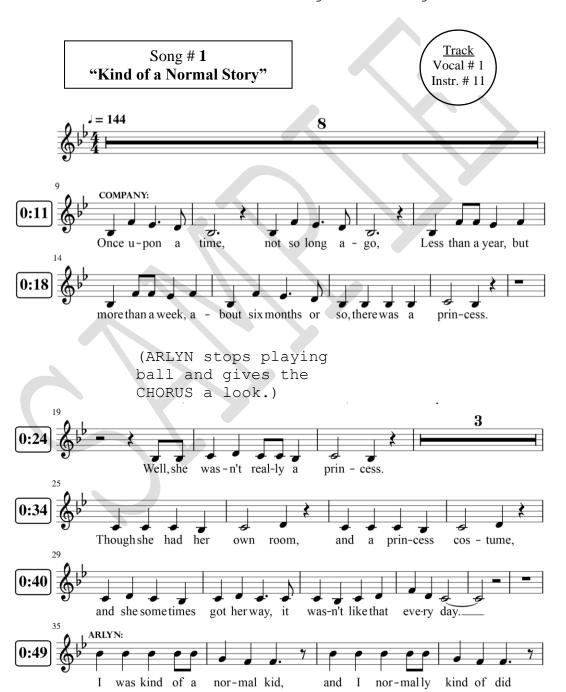
SETTING: The front yard of ARLYN'S house.

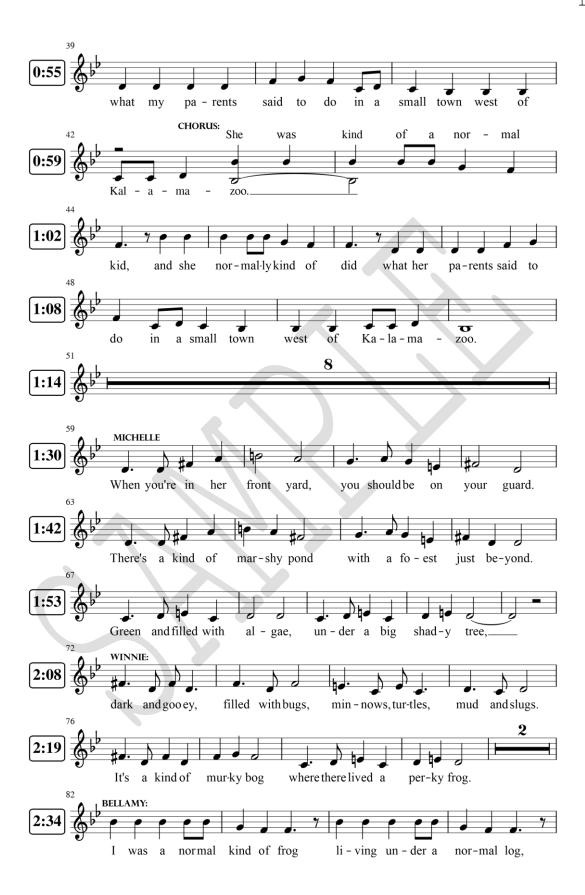
It is a big grassy front yard with a medium sized pond in the middle.

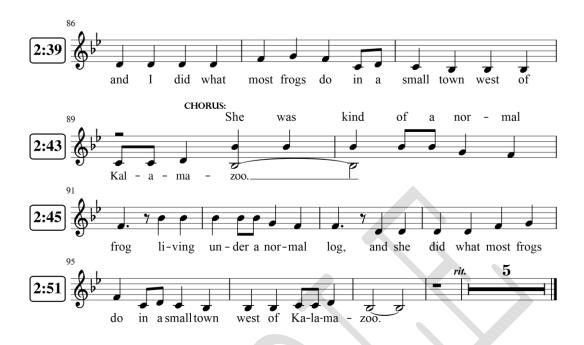
AT RISE: ARLYN is playing with a baseball

in her yard. The CHORUS enters

and begins to sing.



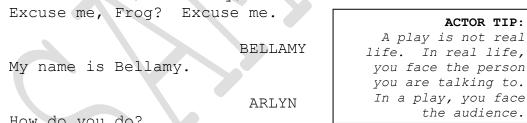




(ARLYN throws her ball in the air and it lands in the pond.)

ARLYN

Oh no! My ball! I lost my ball in the pond! I might get stuck in there. gooey and wet. (To Bellamy)



How do you do?





BELLAMY

What can I do for you?









BELLAMY

I will be glad to help you.

ARLYN

You will?

BELLAMY

But I want something from you.





Wait! You are asking for a lot, here. Can we boil it down to the bare essentials, just to get started?

BELLAMY

Alright. I'm sorry. It's just that I've never had a friend before.



ARLYN Ok, fine. We'll eat some food. Can you get my ball now?

BELLAMY

I'm not done.







(aside)

Pathetic.

(to Bellamy)

I like to play baseball. Do you like baseball?

BELLAMY

Sure!

ARLYN

Do you know how to play?

BELLAMY

(really excited)

No! Not even a little bit!

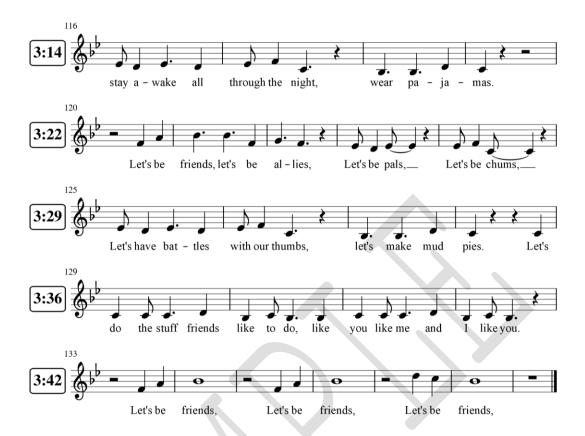
ARLYN

Great. Can you get me my ball now?

BELLAMY

One more thing:





(aside)

I don't want to do any of those things. I don't want to be friends with a frog. But I do want my ball. Ah, who cares? I'll tell her what she wants to hear, she'll get my ball, and I'll have what I want. It's not like she can force me to be her friend.

(to BELLAMY)

Fine, Barnaby,

BELLAMY

Bellamy.

ARLYN

I'll be your friend.

(They shake hands)

BELLAMY

I'll get your ball.

(BELLAMY jumps in the pond and retrieves the ball. She gives it to ARLYN.)

Thanks, sucker!

(ARLYN runs away laughing.)

BELLAMY

You're welcome, sucker!

(aside)

I love that we already have nicknames for each other!

(BLACKOUT)

(END OF SCENE)

ACTOR TIP:

During rehearsal, when a scene or a song is over, some actors think it is okay to start talking to each other.

DO NOT START TALKING.

When the song or scene is over, close your mouth and get in place **silently** for the next part of the play. If you are not sure what is next, wait quietly for your director or stage manager to tell you what is next.

Scene 2

SETTING The Poola Cheesa Cooler Pizza

> Pavilion. It is a pizza restaurant Center stage there is a table with

four chairs.

AT RISE ARLYN enters with her parents, MR. &

MRS. BRYANT. PERRY the Pizzaneer

welcomes them.

PERRY

Hello and welcome to Poola Cheesa Cooler Pizza Pavilion. My name is Perry. I will be your Pizzaneer this evening.

Table for three?

MRS. BRYANT

Yes, thank you.

(PERRY leads them to the table center stage. As they are sitting, BELLAMY pops up, also sitting at the table. The other characters don't notice her at first.)

MR. BRYANT

What kind of pizza should we get?

ARLYN

Pepperoni and pineapple.

BELLAMY

Do you have grasshoppers?

(ARLYN and her PARENTS are surprised.)

PERRY

Excuse me?

BELLAMY

Hi, I'm Bellamy.

MR. BRYANT

Arlyn, is this frog a friend of yours?

ARLYN

Sort of?

ACTOR TIP:

Perry is very proud of her Pizzeria. She is loud and friendly.

ACTOR TIP:

Start saying your line as soon as the person who says your cue is finished talking. There should usually be no pauses between lines.

MRS. BRYANT

Can you introduce us?

ARLYN

Mom, Dad this is Beyoncé.

BELLAMY

Bellamy.

ARLYN

This is my mom and dad, Flo and Bob Bryant.

MR. BRYANT

It's a pleasure to meet you. How did you two become friends?

BELLAMY

I helped her get her ball out of the pond.

MRS. BRYANT

How kind of you.

ARLYN

Can I talk to you for a second?

(ARLYN and her PARENTS step away from the table. BELLAMY stays seated, then walks over to where the three of them are talking. They don't notice.)

ARLYN

This frog is crazy. I don't want her eating with us.

MR. BRYANT

I thought you were friends.

ARLYN

I only said that to get my ball. I didn't mean it.

MR. BRYANT

Excuse me?

My ball went in the pond. I didn't want to get wet, so I promised Bartholomew-

BELLAMY

Bellamy.

ARLYN

Will you go sit down?

(BELLAMY returns to the table.)

I promised the frog I wou

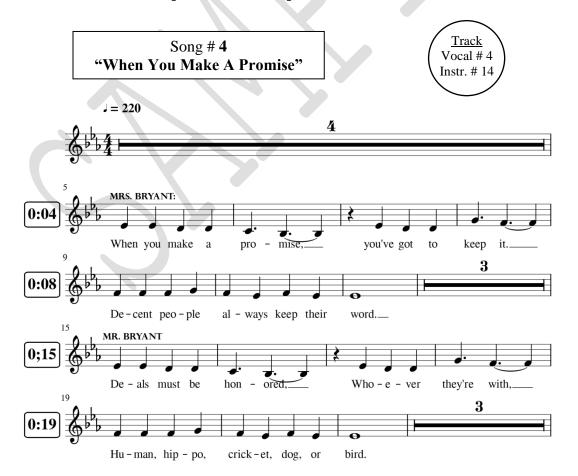
ld eat a meal with her, play a game of baseball with her, and have a slumber party with her. But I didn't mean it. And I don't think I should have to. She's a frog.

MRS. BRYANT

Are you kidding me?

MR. BRYANT

Is this our daughter talking like this?

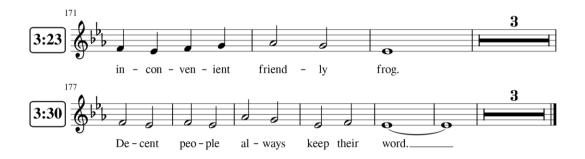






ARLYN (to Doo Wop Crew) Who asked you?





You can stay.

BELLAMY

Oh, good. I just have one problem. Pardon me? Perry? (PERRY approaches the table.)

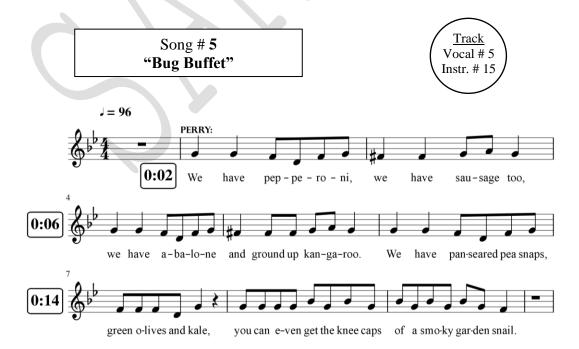
I am on an insect-only diet, and it looks like your menu doesn't accommodate my needs.

PERRY

Insect only.

BELLAMY

Yes, just about anything with six legs is good for me.



Snails don't have kneecaps.

MRS. BRYANT

Quiet, dear, she's on a roll.



I can top your pie with spi-nach, much-rooms, on - ions, or blue cheese,



like down in the vil - lage Green-wich I can serve Wa - sa - bi peas.



You can have it made with ba - con. I can serve your food with hugs,



but you are mis-ta-ken, to think, sir, you can eat, sir, a piz-za made with bugs!



BELLAMY

Why not?

PERRY

Why not? Because they are bugs. Nobody eats bugs.

BELLAMY

I'm somebody. I eat bugs.

PEERY

You're a frog. People don't eat bugs.

BELLAMY

That's simply not true.



treat, sir, treat, sir, made with

Bug buf-fet! bug buf-fet! The en - tire____ globe is a de-li-cious ar - ray!

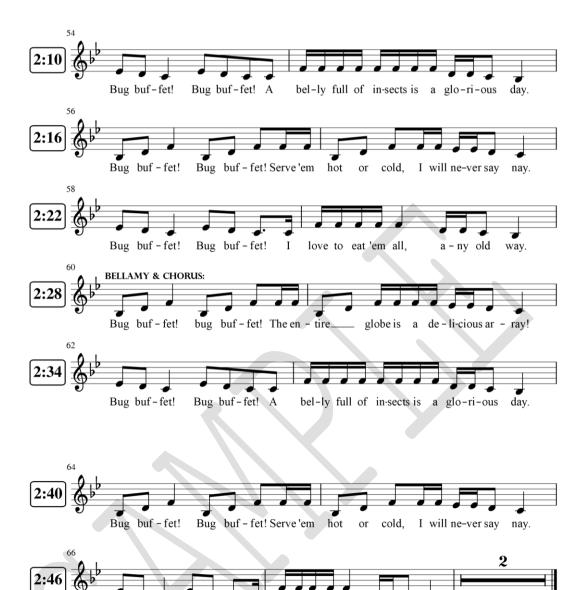
crick-ets,

51

J = 80

real-ly quite a treat, sir,

eat it slow-ly.



(MR. BRYANT gives PERRY some money from his wallet.)

Bug buf-fet! Bug buf-fet! I love to eat 'em all, a-ny old way.

MR. BRYANT

Perry, I need you to go across the street to the pet store and buy some crickets. We need one small cricket pizza and one large pepperoni and pineapple. Keep the change.

PERRY

Yes, sir!

(PERRY exits.)

ARLYN

Dad, why are you doing this?

MR. BRYANT

Bellamy is our guest. This is how you treat guests.

BELLAMY

Thank you, Bob. Thank you Flo.

MRS. BRYANT

You are welcome.

BELLAMY

Thanks, pal.

ARLYN

Hmmf.

(BLACKOUT)

(END OF SCENE)

ACTOR TIP:

When you are waiting backstage for your cue, you must never talk. Actors backstage must be Super Silent Secret Ninja Spies. Who don't talk. Or make noise.

Also: When you say, "SHHHH!" to someone else, you are:

#1- Making Noise Yourself.

-and-

#2 - Telling Another Actor What to Do, which is never okay.

Your job is to be quiet. Let the adults tell other people to be quiet.



Scene 3

SETTING The Baseball Field. There is a

bench stage left, with a bat leaning on it and a home plate stage right. If the rest of a baseball diamond were in place, second base would be house right.

AT RISE ARLYN and BELLAMY enter, wearing

baseball caps and gloves.

BELLAMY

I'm excited! I have never played baseball before.

ARLYN

But you know the rules, right?

BELLAMY

There are rules? What's this thing?

ARLYN

That's the bat.

BELLAMY

Doesn't look like a bat. Bats are furry and they fly around.

ARLYN

Yeah. This kind of bat we use to hit the baseball.

BELLAMY

Oh, I see.

(BELLAMY puts a baseball on the ground and starts whacking at it like she's trying to pound a stake into the ground.)

ARLYN

No, no. Not like that. Oofta.

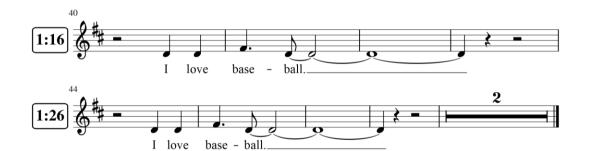
BELLAMY

Do you like baseball?

ARLYN

No. I love it.





(HALEIGH, KAILEY, & BAILEY enter. They are also wearing baseball caps & gloves. They are on the same team as Arlyn)

HALEIGH

Hey, Arlyn, who is this?

ARLYN

This is Beauregard.

BELLAMY

Bellamy. I'm a frog.

BAILEY

You're a frog.

BELLAMY

I'm here to play babesall!

KAILEY

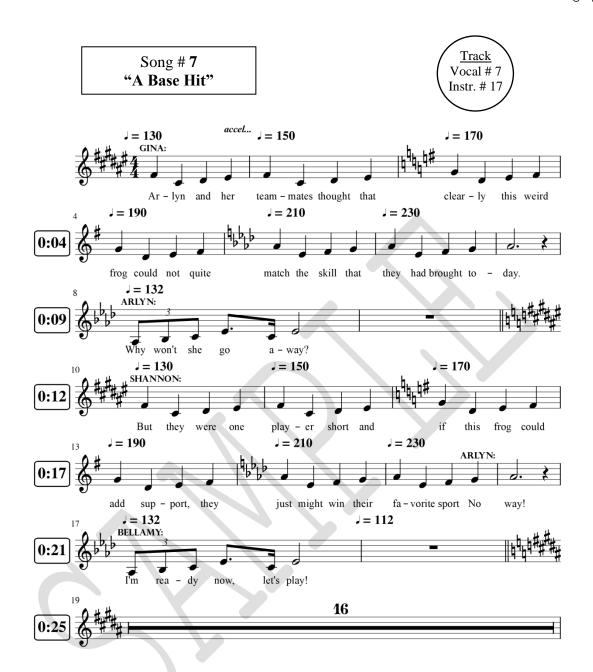
You mean baseball?

BELLAMY

That's what I said.

BASEBALL TEAM

Oofta.



VALENCIA

Hey, batter, hey batter, hey batter, Swing!

BELLAMY

Why is she yelling that?

ARLYN

It's what you do. You yell stuff. To psych them out.

BELLAMY

Hey, spectator, hey spectator, hey spectator, Eat that hot dog!

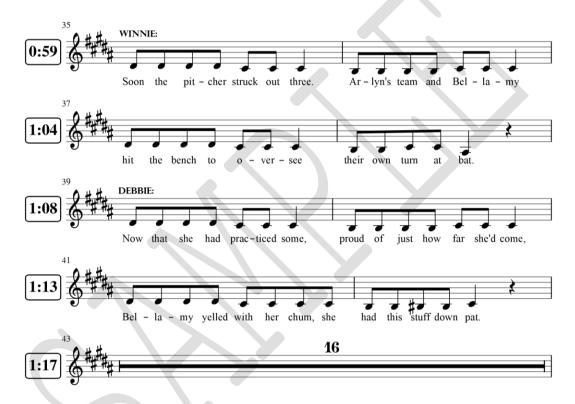
No, you goofy frog, you yell stuff at the other team!

BELLAMY

Ohhhhh! Hey kid standing in the dugout, hey kid standing in the dugout, hey kid standing in the dugout, Spit out those sunflower seeds!

ARLYN

Oofta.



QUEENIE

We need a pitcher, not a belly itcher.

BELLAMY

What's a belly itcher? You mean a rash?

ARLYN

(ARLYN demonstrates by scratching her own belly.)

No, you know, a belly itcher.

BELLAMY

Wouldn't that be a belly scratcher?

No, it's not supposed to make sense. Just forget it.

BELLAMY

What's wrong with scratching your belly anyway? Is that against the rules?

ARLYN

Could you stand, like, over there please?

BASEBALL TEAM

We need a pitcher, not a belly itcher!

BELLAMY

We need an umpire, not a pancake!

ARLYN

Oofta!





BELLAMY

Arlyn, I'm sorry I didn't score any points. When you said to steal a base, I thought I was supposed to pick it up and run away with it.

ARLYN

I know. It's alright. Hey, you got on base. That's not nothin' That's somethin'.

BELLAMY

It is?

ARLYN

(Shaking hands)

Good game, Bellamy.

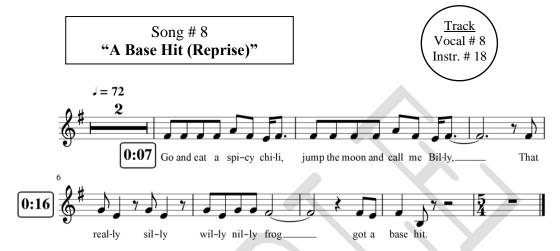
BELLAMY

Thanks!

See you tonight?

BELLAMY

You bet, Sucker!



(BLACKOUT)

(END OF SCENE)

Scene 4

SETTING Arlyn's house. The living room.

AT RISE We hear a doorbell. Mrs. Bryant

answers the door.

MRS. BRYANT

Hello, are you here for your sleepover?

BELLAMY

Yes, I am!

ARLYN

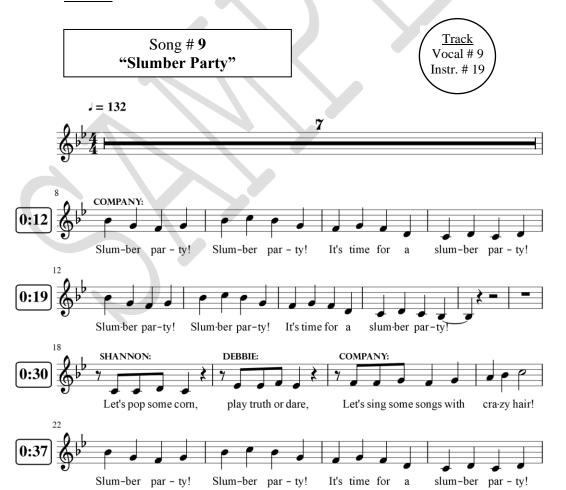
Bellamy!

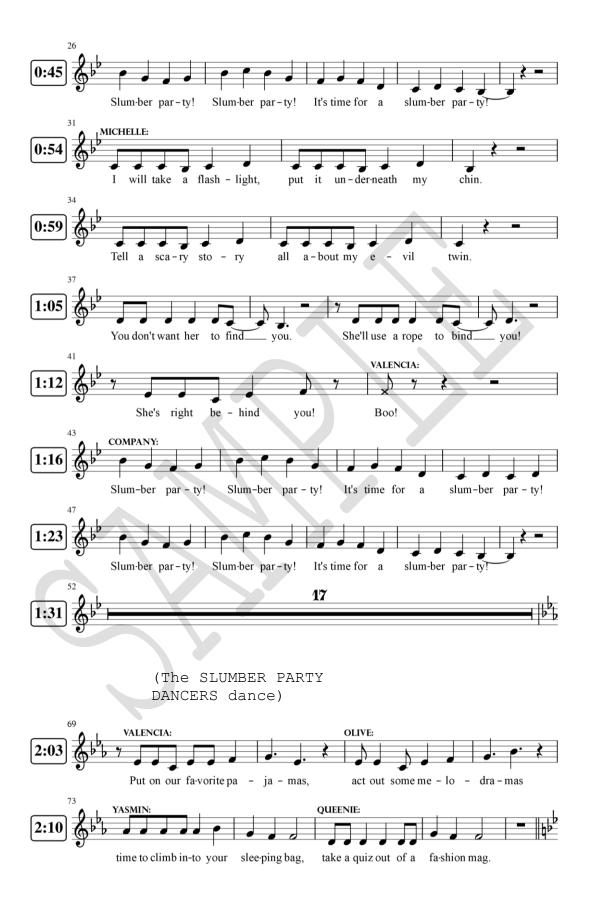
(They hug.)

What do you want to do first?

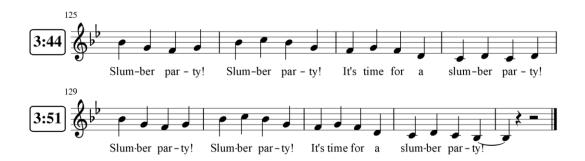
BELLAMY

What don't I want to do?









Bellamy?

BELLAMY

Yeah?

ARLYN

This is really fun.

BELLAMY

Yeah.

ARLYN

I was really mean to you. I'm sorry.

BELLAMY

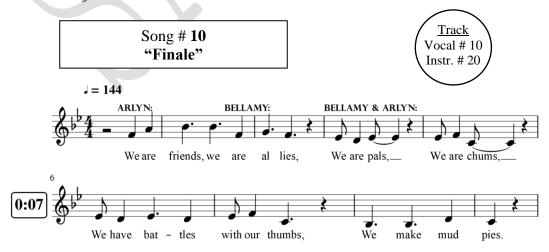
"Sucker" isn't a nickname, is it.

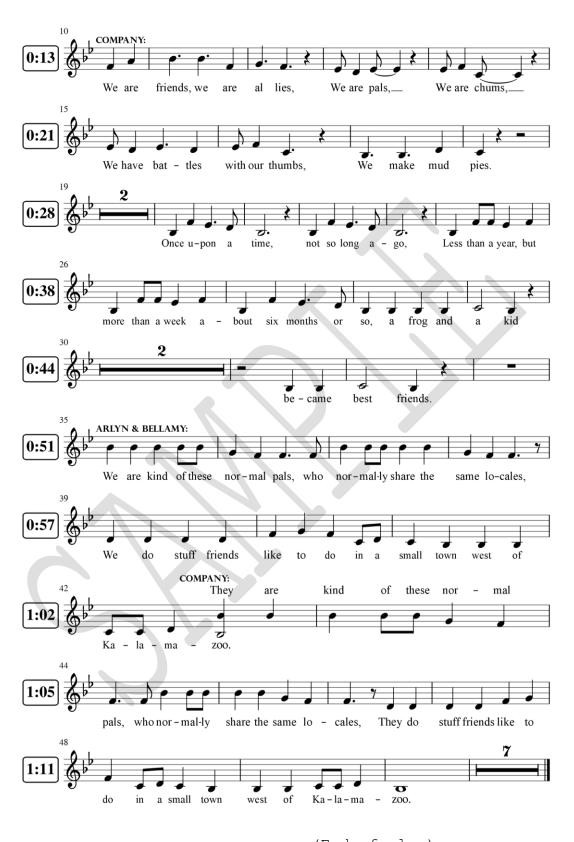
ARLYN

For us it is.

BELLAMY

Sounds good.





(End of play)