

JUST THE TEN OF US

"Smoke Gets in Her Eyes"

written by

James Larry Sanders Jr.

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CAST

GRAHAM LUBBOCK.....BILL KIRCHENBAUER  
ELIZABETH LUBBOCK.....DEBORAH HARMON  
MARIE LUBBOCK.....HEATHER LANGENKAMP  
CINDY LUBBOCK.....JAMIE LUNER  
WENDY LUBBOCK.....BROOKE THEISS  
CONNIE LUBBOCK.....JO ANN WILLETTE  
J.R. LUBBOCK.....MATT SHAKMAN  
SHERRY LUBBOCK.....HEIDI ZEIGLER

GUEST CAST

SMOKEY ROBINSON.....HIMSELF  
TOMMY.....TOM DREESEN  
DANNY.....JOHNNY DARK  
PIANIST.....JOE SAMPLE

COLD OPEN

INT. CONCERT HALL

THE FAMILY IS SITTING IN THE FRONT ROW OF A THEATER, WAITING FOR SMOKEY ROBINSON TO RETURN TO THE STAGE

ELIZABETH

It was so nice of Danny to get us  
these tickets.

MARIE

I know! I haven't been to a concert  
since we lived in New York.

CINDY

I can't wait to see Smokey! I've never  
seen a bear sing before.

WENDY

Cindy?! It's not Smokey the Bear, it's  
Smokey Robinson!

CINDY  
(disappointed)

Smokey Robinson? Aww, I wanted to see  
the bear. I even brought the hat.

CINDY PULLS OUT A CAMPAIGN HAT AND PUTS IT ON.

CONNIE

Oh, for Pete's sake!

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen, Smokey Robinson!

SMOKEY TAKES THE STAGE TO A CACOPHONY OF APPLAUSE. THE FAMILY  
RISES TO THEIR FEET.

SMOKEY

Hello, Eureka!

THE APPLAUSE CONTINUES AS "DRIVING THROUGH THE FAST LANE"  
BEGINS

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

*I like to slow down long enough  
To call the girl I'm dreamin' of  
But too much highway's stretchin' out  
ahead*

DISSOLVE TO:

THE APPLAUSE BEGINS AS SMOKEY ENDS HIS SECOND TO LAST SONG.  
AFTER A FEW SECONDS, THE APPLAUSE WANES AS SMOKEY SPEAKS.

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

Thank you, everyone. It's been great  
performing for you all, and I'd like  
to wrap things up with something  
special. What would you all think  
about someone coming up on stage and  
doing a little song with me?

THE AUDIENCE ERUPTS

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

Uh, let's see.

SMOKEY POINTS TO CINDY IN THE AUDIENCE AND STARTS LAUGHING

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

Ha ha ha. Hey you, in the front row,  
did you get your Smokies confused?

CINDY POINTS AT HERSELF AND MOUTHS "ME?"

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

Yeah. How about coming up and doing a  
little "cruisin'" with me?

THE AUDIENCE EXPRESSES APPROVAL, MOST OF THE FAMILY GETS EXCITED, BUT GRAHAM STANDS UP IN CONCERN.

GRAHAM  
(concerned)

Wait a minute, Mr. Robinson. What do exactly do you mean by "cruisin' "?

ELIZABETH

Graham! It's Smokey Robinson, he just wants Cindy to sing with him.

GRAHAM

Oh. Carry on.

GRAHAM SITS DOWN, AND CINDY MAKES HER WAY UP TO THE STAGE. HER SISTERS CHEER HER ON.

WENDY

Way to go, Cindy!

CONNIE

Knock 'em dead!

CINDY APPROACHES SMOKEY. SHE TAKES HER HAT OFF AND PLACES IT AGAINST HER CHEST. SHE LOOKS OUT ON THE LARGE CROWD BEFORE HER, AND STARTS TO GET A LITTLE NERVOUS.

CINDY

Uh, Mr. Smokey, sir. I...I'm not sure I can do this. I've never sang in front of this many people before.

SMOKEY

Do you ever sing in front of anyone, at all?

CINDY

Oh, every week at the pizza place.

THE OPENING BARS OF "CRUISIN'" BEGIN TO PLAY

SMOKEY

Do they like it when you sing?

CINDY

Oh, yeah.

SMOKEY

Well, all a bigger crowd means is that  
more people will like you.

CINDY

But Daddy said if more people like me,  
I'll just attract weirdos.

SMOKEY

Listen. You're gonna do fine.  
Everyone's going to love your singing,  
and no weirdos are going to follow you  
home. Just wait for me to point to  
you, and that's when you'll begin your  
part, but first:

*Baby, let's cruise, away from here  
Don't be confused, the way is clear  
And if you want it you got it forever  
This is not a one night stand, baby  
So, let the music take your mind  
Ooh, just release and you will find*

ROLL CREDITS

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

*You're gonna fly away  
Glad your goin' my way*

(MORE)

SMOKEY (CONT'D)

*I love it when we're cruising together  
The music is played for love  
Cruising is made for love  
I love it when we're cruising together*

SMOKEY POINTS AT CINDY. CINDY BEGINS LOOKING NERVOUS, BUT QUICKLY BEGINS GAINING CONFIDENCE.

CINDY

*Baby, tonight belongs to us  
Everything's right, do what you must  
And inch by inch we get closer and  
closer  
To every little part of each other,  
ooh, baby, so  
Let the music take your mind  
Just release and you will find*

CINDY IS FULLY "IN THE ZONE"

CINDY/SMOKEY

*You're gonna fly away  
Glad your goin' my way  
I love it when we're cruising together  
The music is played for love  
Cruising is made for love  
I love it when we're cruising together  
Cruise with me, baby  
Cruise with me, baby*

FADE TO BLACK.

ACT I

INT. LUBBOCK GIRLS' ROOM

THE GIRLS ARE GETTING READY FOR BED

MARIE

I still can't believe you got to sing  
with Smokey Robinson, Cindy!

CONNIE

Yeah, sure beats doing a duet with a  
bear in a hat, doesn't it?

CINDY

Yeah, I guess. I probably didn't sound  
too good up there, though.

WENDY

Are you kidding?! It was amazing! And  
Smokey was alright, himself, I guess.

CINDY

You really think so?

WENDY

Cindy, let me put it this way. If you  
were on Star Search, you would have  
won it all on the first day, and Ed  
McMahon would've had to run back to  
Johnny.

CINDY

Wow! I must be the best Lubbock Babe  
of them all.



WENDY

Well, let's not go crazy, now.

MARIE

All I know is, with Cindy on our team,  
there's no telling how far we can go.

CONNIE

Just as long as she doesn't have to  
sing any big words.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

GRAHAM IS WATCHING TV, LAUGHING ALONG WITH THE AUDIENCE AND  
PUMPING HIS FIST

GRAHAM

You tell 'em, Arsenio! Woof! Woof!

Woof! Woof! Woof!

A KNOCK IS HEARD AT THE DOOR, GRAHAM TURNS THE TV OFF

GRAHAM (CONT'D)  
(annoyed)

Now who can it be at this hour?

GRAHAM GETS UP AND WALKS TO THE DOOR. HE OPENS IT UP TO FIND  
TOMMY, A LOCAL RESTAURANTEUR DRESSED IN A TUXEDO.

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

What do you want?

TOMMY

Oh, hello, sir. Is Cindy home?

GRAHAM  
(highly suspicious)

Excuse me?!

TOMMY

Well, I own Tommy's Steakhouse up in Arcata, and I was wondering if she'd like to perform at my restaurant.

GRAHAM

Yeah, sure.

GRAHAM WAVES HIS ARMS AROUND IN DERISIVE DISBELIEF

GRAHAM (CONT'D)  
(deranged and disbelieving)

"Tommy's Steakhouse in Arcata"

GRAHAM GRABS AND LIFTS TOMMY BY THE COLLAR OF HIS TUXEDO

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

You don't think I know what you're really up to, you creepazoid?!

TOMMY  
(frightened)

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

GRAHAM

I've done some pretty nasty things to boys who come after my daughters, just imagine what I'd do to a grown man!

TOMMY

Mister, I'm serious, I just wanted to offer her a gig at my restaurant.

GRAHAM

I'm serious, too. Serious about throwing you into a trash compactor.

(MORE)

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

You'd better give me one good reason  
real quick why I shouldn't do it.

TOMMY

Uh, uh...because you don't have a  
trash compactor?

TOMMY SHRUGS

GRAHAM

You know way too much about our  
household.

CINDY CONVENIENTLY COMES DOWN THE STAIRS

CINDY

Daddy? What's going on down here?

GRAHAM

Uh, just some light horseplay between  
men. Go back to bed.

CINDY

Why are you holding Tommy up in the  
air?

GRAHAM

(stunned)

What?! You know this guy?!

CINDY

Yeah, we see him at Danny's.

GRAHAM

Oh! So you've been stalking my  
daughter for a while now!

CINDY

Daddy! He's Danny's brother, he runs a  
steakhouse in Arcata!

GRAHAM

What?!

TOMMY  
(out of breath)

That's what I've been trying...to tell  
you.

GRAHAM PUTS TOMMY DOWN

GRAHAM

All right. State your case, but make  
it snappy.

TOMMY

Cindy, how would you like to perform  
at my restaurant Saturday night?

CINDY

Well, I'm already performing at  
Danny's on Saturdays with my sisters.  
Would Friday be okay?

TOMMY

No. It has to be Saturday. That's the  
only day my pianist works.

GRAHAM GETS IN TOMMY'S FACE

GRAHAM  
(threatening)

The only day your what works?!

TOMMY  
(defensive)

My pianist. You know, someone who  
plays the piano.

GRAHAM BACKS OFF

GRAHAM  
You're on thin ice, buddy.

TOMMY  
What is Danny paying you?

CINDY  
Fifty dollars a night for the four of  
us.

TOMMY  
Tell you what I'll do: I give you  
that, and quintuple it!

CINDY  
Quintuplets?! I'm not ready to be a  
mother!

TOMMY  
No. It just means I'll pay you five  
times what you're making now. How does  
two-hundred-and-fifty dollars a night  
sound?

CINDY  
Wow! My sisters would love that!

TOMMY  
Not your sisters. I just want you.

CINDY  
(apprehensive)

Oh, geez. I don't know if I could do that. We've always performed together.

GRAHAM

Well, hold on a second.

GRAHAM TAKES CINDY ASIDE

GRAHAM (CONT'D)

Don't you see? You'll go to his place, and your sisters will keep performing at Danny's. Between the four of you, you could make us a fortune!

CINDY

You really think so?

GRAHAM

I do! I think it's time for Cindy Lubbock to start a solo career.

CINDY

Yeah!

CINDY TURNS TO TOMMY

CINDY (CONT'D)

I'll do it!

TOMMY

Great! I'll see you Saturday!

TOMMY LEAVES AND CLOSES THE DOOR

CINDY

Wow, you sure warmed up to him fast.

GRAHAM

Let's just say it helps to know what  
he was planning to pay you for.

FADE TO:

INT. LUBBOCK GIRLS' ROOM

CONNIE, MARIE, AND WENDY ARE JUST GETTING INTO BED

MARIE

Where's Cindy?

WENDY

She's gotten lost before, but never in  
our own house.

CINDY ASCENDS INTO THE ROOM

CINDY

Guys! You won't believe what happened!

CONNIE

You finally found Waldo?

CINDY

No, I'm still looking for him! You  
know Tommy, Danny's brother? He  
offered to let me sing at his  
steakhouse Saturday for two-hundred-  
fifty a night!

WENDY

Are you kidding?!

CONNIE

I never took you for a good  
negotiator.

MARIE

What do we do about Danny, though? He still expects us perform on Saturday.

CINDY

Oh, you can still perform for Danny. Tommy just wants me.

THE OTHER GIRLS GET OUT OF BED

CONNIE/MARIE/WENDY  
(indignant)

Excuse me?!

CINDY  
(confused)

What's wrong?

MARIE

Oh, I don't know, just a little issue of you abandoning us!

CINDY

I'm not abandoning you, I'll still perform with you from time to time. Like Genesis and Joan Collins.

CONNIE  
(livid)

Sweet mother of Mary! How on God's green earth do you confuse Joan Collins with Phil Collins?!?!?!?

WENDY

Oh, forget about Phil Collins, Connie! We've got a bigger issue here!



CINDY

I don't understand why you're all so  
mad at me.

MARIE

Cindy, Danny is paying for the four of  
us to sing, not three. Thus, no Cindy,  
no Lubbock Babes.

CINDY  
(defensive)

But I've been given a great offer  
here! A chance to make our family more  
money, and I have a chance to strike  
out on my own.

WENDY

What makes you think you can strike  
out on your own?! You just confused  
the star of Dynasty with the singer of  
Sussudio!

CINDY

They're both from England, aren't  
they?

CONNIE/MARIE/WENDY

Ugh!

MARIE

Let me put this in terms you'll  
understand;

(MORE)

MARIE (CONT'D)

if you go off and perform by yourself,  
I'm going to tell everyone in town  
about your little Chap Stick habit.

CINDY

\*gasps\* My secret shame...

WENDY

Well, what's it going to be?

CINDY

No! This is a big opportunity for me,  
and I'm not going to respond to  
threats of blackmail.

CONNIE

Of all of the words in the dictionary  
for the moron to learn, she just had  
learn that one.

CINDY

And that's another thing. You all keep  
calling me names like moron, and  
idiot, and how I have more body mass  
in my chest than in my head. You don't  
think it hurts to be constantly  
reminded that I'm a little...

CINDY PAUSES A MOMENT

CONNIE

Slow?

CINDY

Yeah! You don't think I know that  
already?!

CONNIE

MARIE

No.

Uh-uh.

WENDY

News to me.

CINDY

Well, I'm getting sick of being  
insulted. And I'm sick of being held  
back! I'm sleeping downstairs,  
tonight; and I'm going to perform at  
Tommy's whether you want me to or not!

CINDY WALKS DOWNSTAIRS IN A HUFF

END OF ACT I

ACT II

INT. DANNY'S PIZZERIA - BACKSTAGE

DANNY IS ON THE PHONE

DANNY

Is this Tommy? Yeah, it's Danny. I've  
got a bone to pick with you, brother!

CONNIE, MARIE AND WENDY APPROACH AS DANNY TALKS ON THE PHONE

DANNY (CONT'D)

You better believe it's about Cindy!  
You pilfered a fourth of my act!

DANNY LISTENS FURTHER TO HIS BROTHER AT THE END OF THE LINE

DANNY (CONT'D)

What do you mean I can have her the  
rest of the week?! This is the only  
night of the week she can perform!

DANNY PAUSES AGAIN TO LISTEN TO HIS BROTHER

DANNY (CONT'D)

(whiny)

Well...I'm going to tell mom!

DANNY HANGS UP

DANNY (CONT'D)

(speaking to the girls)

I can't believe my own sibling would  
betray me like that.

CONNIE

Tell us about it.

DANNY

And of all the nights for your sister  
to bolt for my brother's la-dee-da  
steakhouse, it had to be junior high  
night.

MARIE

Junior high night?

DANNY

Yeah, grades six through eight get  
half-off.

TEENAGE BOY 1 (O.S.)  
(annoyed)

When are the babes coming out?!

DANNY

Uh oh. Looks like they're getting  
restless. Let me take care of them.

DANNY LEAVES TO PACIFY THE CROWD

MARIE

Well, let's look on the bright side.  
At least we still have a gig.

CONNIE

But without our main attraction.

WENDY

What do you mean? I'm still here,  
aren't I?

MARIE

Come on, we've got to stick together.

We're going to do fine out there.

CUT TO:

INT. DANNY'S PIZZERIA - DINING ROOM

DANNY TAKES TO THE STAGE TO A CACOPHONY OF BOOS

DANNY

Hey, hey, let's settle down here. The

Babes will be out here in a minute.

TEENAGE BOY 2 (O.S.)

You suck, old man!

DANNY

Just a quick reminder, tonight anchovy

pizza is half off.

TEENAGE BOY 1 (O.S.)

Gross!

CUT TO:

INT. DANNY'S PIZZERIA - BACKSTAGE

DANNY (O.S.)

And tonight only is pies and pies

night, with every purchase of a large

pizza, you get a free cream pie at no

extra charge.

WENDY

Cream pies?

CONNIE

Oh no, Danny's making desserts, again.  
This can't possibly end well.

MARIE

I bet Cindy is standing there in that  
hoity-toity steakhouse just laughing  
and laughing.

CUT TO:

INT. TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE - BACKSTAGE

CINDY IS SITTING BACKSTAGE IN TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE WAITING TO GO ON, BITING HER NAILS AND LOOKING APPREHENSIVE. TOMMY SOON APPROACHES HER.

TOMMY

Hey, Cindy!

CINDY  
(frightened)

Eeeeeek!

TOMMY  
(taken aback)

You okay, Cindy?

CINDY  
Uh, yeah, I'm okay.

TOMMY  
Are you sure?

CINDY  
Well, I've never sung on stage all by  
myself before. I've always had my  
sisters with me.

TOMMY

Well, siblings are overrated, anyway.  
Hey, come here and peek through the  
curtain with me.

CINDY COMES OVER TO THE CURTAIN WITH TOMMY AND LOOKS THROUGH  
THE CURTAIN

CUT TO:

INT. TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE - DINING ROOM

THE WHOLE OF THE DINING ROOM IS SEEN FROM CINDY'S  
PERSPECTIVE. THE PIANIST IS ON HER LEFT, A VIOLINIST IS ON  
HER RIGHT, BOTH OF WHOM ARE PLAYING A JAZZY NUMBER; WITH THE  
PATRONS ENJOYING THEMSELVES IN THE MIDDLE. ALL ARE UNAWARE  
SHE'S PEEKING IN WITH TOMMY.

TOMMY (O.S.)

You see, you're not going to be alone  
at all. You've got Joe, our pianist;  
and we've got somebody playing violin,  
tonight.

CINDY (O.S.)

Violin?! We're not playing anything  
sad, are we?

TOMMY (O.S.)

Oh no, we want people to have a good  
time here. What do you think this is?  
An Arby's?

CINDY (O.S.)  
(disappointed)

Aww. I like Arby's.

CUT TO:



INT. TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE - BACKSTAGE

CINDY AND TOMMY PULL OUT OF THE CURTAIN

TOMMY

So, do you think you can go out there?

Just for one number?

CINDY TAKES A DEEP BREATH

CINDY

Yeah. I think so.

TOMMY

Great! I'll get on the mic and

introduce you.

CUT TO:

INT. TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE - DINING ROOM

THE PIANIST AND VIOLINIST END THEIR SET, AND TOMMY ANNOUNCES  
CINDY'S ARRIVAL

TOMMY (O.S.)

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a very

special guest performing with us

tonight. Please welcome, from just

down the road in Eureka: Cindy

Lubbock!

THE CROWD STARTS POLITELY APPLAUDING AS CINDY TAKES THE  
STAGE. SHE LOOKS OUT ON THE CROWD, AND FREEZES FOR A FEW  
SECONDS.

CINDY

(scared)

Tommy...help...

TOMMY (O.S.)  
(whispering loudly)

Just do what they do on The Brady  
Bunch and imagine they're all in their  
underwear!

CINDY PAUSES, AND GETS MORE NERVOUS

CINDY  
(frightened still)

Why are they all wearing briefs?!

TOMMY (O.S.)

Okay, forget the underwear. Just look  
at Joe as he starts playing the piano.  
He'll play you on. Good luck.

JOE THE PIANIST BEGINS PLAYING SOME OPENING NOTES. CINDY  
LOOKS AT HIM, AND THE VIOLINIST. SHE MANAGES ENOUGH COURAGE  
TO BEGIN.

CINDY

*Woah, my love, my darling  
I've hungered for your touch  
A long, lonely time  
And time goes by so slowly  
And time can do so much  
Are you still mine?  
I need your love  
I need your love  
God speed your love to me*

*Lonely rivers flow  
To the sea, to the sea*

(MORE)

CINDY (CONT'D)

*To the open arms of the sea, yeah*

*Lonely rivers sigh*

*Wait for me, wait for me*

*I'll be coming home, wait for me*

*Woah, my love, my darling*

*I've hungered, hungered for your touch*

*A long, lonely time*

*And time goes by so slowly*

*And time can do so much*

*Are you still mine?*

*I need your love*

*I need your love*

*God speed your love to me*

THE ASSEMBLED CROWD APPLAUDS PROFUSELY, WITH THE PIANIST GIVING A SMALL SALUTE TO CINDY. SHE SMILES TO HERSELF.

CINDY (V.O.)

Wow. I really did well...and none of my family was here to see it.

CINDY STARTS FEELING BAD

CINDY (V.O.)

Oh, geez. This doesn't feel right at all. \*sigh\* I hope my sisters are doing okay.

CUT TO:

INT. DANNY'S PIZZERIA - BACKSTAGE

CONNIE AND WENDY RETREAT BACKSTAGE FROM A DELUGE OF BOOS FROM THE ADOLESCENT AUDIENCE. JUST THEN A PIE TIN FLIES THROUGH THE CURTAINS, MISSING THE TWO.

TEENAGE BOY 2 (O.S.)

These pies suck!

WENDY

I've never seen an audience this angry before.

CONNIE

All I did was tell off that kid who wanted Marie to take her top off.

WENDY

Look, I'm sure Danny's taken care of him.

CONNIE

Are you kidding? All he did was talk about the restaurant's zoning, and then he ran off.

WENDY PAUSES A SECOND

WENDY

Do think Marie was able to calm down the audience?

JUST THEN, MARIE RUNS BACKSTAGE, COVERED HEAD TO TOE IN CREAM PIE FILLING, WITH A PIE TIN SITTING CROOKED ON HER HEAD LIKE AN ALUMINUM BERET.

MARIE

(screaming)

I hate teenagers!

WENDY

What happened to you?!

MARIE

I was just trying to reason with them,  
then I talked about forgiveness and  
humility, and the next thing I knew...

MARIE HOLDS BACK TEARS

MARIE (CONT'D)

...I was being massacred with  
meringue!

CONNIE

Actually, that's cream, not  
meringue...

MARIE GIVES CONNIE AN ANGRY LOOK

CONNIE (CONT'D)

...never mind.

MARIE

We have got to get Cindy back!

WENDY

And why should we want a traitor back  
in our midst?!

MARIE

Because I shouldn't be the only  
covered head-to-toe in white, viscous  
goo!

CONNIE

Viscous! That's how you know it's not  
meringue...

MARIE THREATENS CONNIE WITH HER FIST

CONNIE (CONT'D)

Never mind.

FADE TO:

INT. TOMMY'S STEAKHOUSE - BACKSTAGE

CINDY HEADS BEHIND THE CURTAIN TO SMATTERING OF APPLAUSE.  
TOMMY IS WAITING FOR HER.

TOMMY

That was really good, kid. I think  
we've got our Saturday night act lined  
up for here on out.

CINDY

Uh, Mr. Tommy, sir. There's something  
I need to tell you.

TOMMY

Oh, no. You're not one of those  
Jehovah's Witnesses, are you?

CINDY

A Joseph's Whatness?

TOMMY

Uh, forget I said that. What do want  
to tell me?

CINDY

Well, you've got a nice place here,  
and I had a nice time.

(MORE)

CINDY (CONT'D)

But...I miss singing with my sisters.  
It's just not the same without them.

TOMMY

I see. Well, what about if I invited  
them to sing here, too...no, Danny's  
already pretty mad at me. You know  
he's never forgiven me for stealing  
his Fifty-Eight prom date from him. I  
guess I should give you back.

CINDY

Thank you, Tommy. Maybe I'll see  
around some time...bye.

CINDY RELUCTANTLY WAVES GOODBYE AND WALKS OUT THE EXIT

TOMMY

There goes the best singer Arcata's  
ever seen...well, I guess I better  
call up my second rung.

TOMMY GETS ON THE PHONE

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I wonder if Toni Tennille's available.

FADE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

THE ROOM'S LIGHTS ARE DIMMED. GRAHAM AND ELIZABETH ARE ON THE  
COUCH WATCHING TV, AND FEELING A BIT FRISKY.

ELIZABETH

Oooh, Graham. What gotten into you?

GRAHAM

Nothing out of the ordinary.

ELIZABETH

You're usually not this frisky unless  
you're watching Love Connection.

GRAHAM

Eh. I guess I should come clean, I'm  
imagining Chuck Woolery's head on  
Johnny Carson's body.

ELIZABETH GIVES AN INCREDULOUS LOOK AT GRAHAM

ELIZABETH

Graham...

CONNIE, A STILL PIE-COVERED MARIE, AND WENDY WALK THROUGH THE  
FRONT DOOR AND TURN THE LIGHT ON

WENDY

(exhausted)

Hi...yee.

ELIZABETH AND GRAHAM GET UP TO GREET THEIR DAUGHTERS

ELIZABETH

Girls? Are you okay?

GRAHAM

Why is Marie covered in custard?

CONNIE

Actually, it's not custard, it's  
cream...

ELIZABETH

(interrupting)

Who cares what it is, Connie! What  
happened?



MARIE

I was ambushed!

GRAHAM

By who? Marc Summers?! By the way, you still got some crust in your hair.

ELIZABETH

Hey, wait a minute. Where's Cindy?!

WENDY

She went off to graze in greener pastures.

GRAHAM

Wendy. What have I told you about making fun of your sister's weight!

ELIZABETH

Graham, please. What greener pastures?

MARIE

She went to perform at Tommy's Steakhouse in Arcata.

ELIZABETH

(unhappy)

Tommy's Steakhouse?! You're saying she just abandoned you?!

CINDY WALKS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR

CINDY

Hi.

ELIZABETH

(livid)

Cynthia Ann Lubbock...

CINDY  
(concerned)

Uh, yeah, mom?

ELIZABETH

Don't "yeah, mom" me, missy. Do you  
have any idea what you've done?!

CINDY  
(guilty)

Yes, I do; and I feel terrible about  
it.

ELIZABETH

Well, allow me to make you feel more  
terrible. You deserted your sisters.  
You signed a deal without telling any  
of us about it first. And you took off  
several miles from where we thought  
you were!

CINDY

Well, Tommy gave me a ride back.

ELIZABETH

And let's add taking rides from  
strange men to the charges. Not to  
mention letting your poor sister,  
Marie, get creamed by the audience.

CINDY

Huh? What's that on Marie?

CINDY FLICKS HER FINGER ON MARIE AND TASTES THE PIE FILLING  
THAT SHE IS STILL DONNING

CINDY (CONT'D)

Mmm, chocolate!

ELIZABETH  
(angrier)

Cindy! Stop tasting your sister!

CINDY

Mom! The steakhouse was Dad's idea!

ELIZABETH

Excuse me?!

CINDY

Tommy offered two-hundred-and-fifty  
dollars to perform. And Dad told me to  
take it, he even drove me over there.

ELIZABETH TURNS HER HEAD TOWARDS GRAHAM, HER FACE SEETHING  
WITH ANGER. GRAHAM PAUSES AND SMILES IN HOPES OF DISARMING  
HER.

GRAHAM  
(conciliatory)

Hi, honey. Want a foot rub?

ELIZABETH

Graham...how could you?!

GRAHAM  
(nervous)

He was offering a lot of money. I was  
thinking about our daughters' future.  
I thought it would help our finances.  
I...I...

ELIZABETH  
(interrupting)

...broke up The Lubbock Babes!

GRAHAM

Aww, don't put it all on me. Cindy was the one who agreed to it.

ELIZABETH

With your approval! Someone throws some cash in front of you, and you turn into...Yoko Ono?!

GRAHAM

(whiny)

Why do you have to make it sound so bad?

ELIZABETH

Cindy, I'll deal with you later.  
Graham, to the kitchen!

GRAHAM

Good, I need a beer, anyway.

ELIZABETH

No beer for you, mister. All you're getting tonight is a six-pack of marital law.

ELIZABETH GRABS GRAHAM BY THE EAR AND PULLS HIM INTO THE KITCHEN

CINDY

You all must be really mad at me, huh?

WENDY

You could say that.

CINDY

I really feel bad about it. I didn't realize how much I would miss singing with you.

THE OTHER THREE LUBBOCK BABES REMAIN SILENT

CINDY (CONT'D)

Come on, I've learned my lesson. Do you think there's one more spot in the Lubbock Babes lineup?

THE OTHER THREE PAUSE, LOOK AT EACH OTHER, UNTIL MARIE BREAKS THE SILENCE

MARIE

Oh, Cindy! We can't say mad at you, our dozy diva!

MARIE GIVES CINDY A BIG HUG, REFUSING TO LET GO

CONNIE

Are we really letting her off the hook, that fast?

WENDY

Just give them a minute. Marie's just starting to rub off some of that crust on Cindy.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II