ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. ANDROID'S DUNGEON - FRIDAY AFTERNOON

BART & MILHOUSE stare brightly at some cardboard cartoon stand-ups. Milhouse hides behind one.

MILHOUSE

(in a deep heroic voice) Release all the hostages, Dr. Nohand, and then we'll talk about that sandwich you asked for.

Milhouse RUNS to the back of Dr. Nohand, laughing on his way over.

MILHOUSE

(Dr. nohand) No deal Spandex Pants! I don't need a sandwich when I've got delicious children to nourish my appetite of unspeakable evil.

Milhouse looks out from behind the cardboard.

MILHOUSE

You know, Bart, it's a lot more fun if you'd join in.

Bart looks bored. He shrugs his shoulders, and walks over to one of the display counters.

INSIDE DISPLAY CASE - LOOKING UP

Bart enters the frame and looks into the case. His eyes widen as he sees something. A soft yellow glow falls on his face. He puts his face to the

glass, and his nose gets squished against it.

Bart is in awe.

BART

I can't believe it. Hey Milhouse, come

here, quick. You've gotta see this.

MILHOUSE (O.S.)

What is it Bart? Is it one of those

naughty chess boards I keep hearing about?

BART

Just come here, QUICK!

Milhouse RUNS to the case, and enters the frame. He presses his face next to Bart's.

Milhouse is in awe as well.

MILHOUSE

Wow! Is that what I think it is?

Bart nods his head "yes."

MILHOUSE

It's beautiful.

Bart nods his head "yes" again.

PREVIOUS SHOT - STORE

Bart & Milhouse have their backs to the camera. The CBG walks in from the back room. He is eating a doughnut.

CBG looks annoyed.

CBG

Ah ah, there is to be no leaning on,
pawing of, or saliva dripping onto the
display case, please. Because of my
somewhat exaggerated allergies to all
known household products, I am motivated
to clean the glass BUT once a week.

CBG

And in light of the fact that I enjoy
having you candy-sweetened breaths fogging
up the display of my intensely overpriced
merchandise, I am going to have to ask
you to take your business elsewhere.

BART & MILHOUSE

Why?

CBG sighs.

CBG

It seems that the 30 seconds I purchased on channel ninety-two has proved to be inadequate. For this entire weekend has been dedicated to the Bettie Page meets Spiderman crossover comic series. Since it deals with Peter Parker's more than obvious obsession with domineering women,

it is not for the likes of two ten yearold children.

He starts to walk into the back room.

CBG

Now if you'll excuse me, I have to get

Ms. Page ready for her signing session.

Bart turns to Milhouse.

BART

This bites! Come on, Milhouse, let's go
to the one place where ostracized kids
and giant rats can live in peace, the
sewers! I found a condemned drainage
pipe we can crawl through. We may need
to grease ourselves up with some butter
first, though.

Bart & Milhouse walk out of the store, but we hold on the scene. CBG can be seen in the back room with a black wig on, and quickly applying lipstick. He is dressing himself as Ms. Page.

EXT. ANDROID'S DUNGEON - MOMENTS LATER

Bart & Milhouse are standing in the doorway, rubbing sticks of butter on their arms and legs.

JASPER & ABE walk up to the store. Jasper is carrying a bouquet of flowers. We follow them as they enter the store.

JASPER

That Bettie Page is one saucy dame. I hope she likes the flowers.

Abe is exasperated.

ABE

Bah, Spiderman, what a phony. Why I was spinning webs and scaling buildings in my underwear back in the days of the depression.

BACK TO BART & MILHOUSE

MILHOUSE

Bart, if we're going to play in the sewers, I should go to my house and get some food. My mom said that the delivery man doesn't like it when I'm home, so I'm not allowed to be back before supper time. Plus we really should bring something for the rats.

Bart smiles.

BART

Oh yeah, they'll probably want to gnaw on something soft.

As they get ready to go, a black stretch limo DRIVES past with some techno music PLAYING, and hundreds of pieces of paper flying around.

Bart & Milhouse look at each other, questioning.

BART'S P.O.V

A giant crowd of young girls is heading straight for them. There is a thick dust cloud surrounding the group.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Bart & Milhouse have to dive back into the doorway to avoid being trampled by the girls.

BART

Hey man, smells like a preteen oriented promotional gimmick.

A piece of paper flies into Bart's face. He peels it off and takes a look.

CU OF PAPER

The paper shows a picture of a shirtless teenage boy with big hair. There is a caption at the top that says:

HEY GIRLS, WIN A DREAM DATE WITH ME, COREY!

PREVIOUS SHOT

Milhouse is star struck.

BART

Dream date indeed. We'll see about that.

Bart laughs, and takes a pen out of his pocket. He writes his name on the dotted line.

INT. MOE'S BAR - MOMENTS LATER

FROM INSIDE LOOKING OUT OPEN DOOR

The limo drives by. The crowd of girls is still following close behind.

MOE is behind the bar, cleaning a glass.

MOE

Looks like some hot-shot movie star's comin' through town. Ah, a movie star, that'd be the life. Crackers and cheese eight times a day, no more girls slappin' ya in the face when ya try and talk to 'em. I'm tellin' ya Barn, I could really get used to being treated with respect and all.

BARNEY

Yeah, but you get over it.

Barney brings up a lava lamp from under the counter, opens the top, and CHUGS it's contents. He lets out a triumphant BELCH.

IN ANOTHER PART OF BAR

CAPTAIN MCALISTER and some SAILORS are at a table drinking beer.

Three SAILORS come out of the washroom. Two of them are holding the third up. He's obviously drunk.

SAILOR #3

What shall we do with him captain?

CPT. MCALISTER

Arrgh, soak him in oil 'till he sprouts

a flipper.

Sailor #1 points to another drunken sailor who's passed out at a table.

SAILOR #1

And him?

CPT. MCALISTER

Shave his belly with a rusty razor.

SAILOR #3

With pleasure sir.

EXT. PARK - DAY

LISA & JANIE are sitting on a bench sharing a copy of TEEN STEAM.

Lisa turns the page.

LISA

Look, it's Zach. His hobbies include conducting experiments in electromagnetism and helping the homeless.

Janie points to another boy.

JANIE

And there's Enrique. He helped fundraise to save the giant Redwoods in California.

Lisa turns the page and her expression melts.

LISA

And the cutest of them all, Bobby T.

His favorite party drink is Coca-Cola, and anything non-alcoholic.

LISA & JANIE

Wow!

The limo drives by, and they both look up.

The BG is black, and there is BATMAN type music, as a spinning newspaper gets closer to the camera. There is a bold headline at the top.

TEEN HEARTTHROB TO COME TO TOWN

In the bottom right corner is another, smaller headline.

"Dog speaks in Slavic after tongue transplant," says owner.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

KENT BROCKMAN is finishing his commentary for the news.

KENT

With the bank account of a teen-aged

Michael Jackson, and the good looks of a

modern-day Donny Osmand, teen idol Corey

Masterson is well on his way to becoming

as big as sliced bread.

KENT

His popularity among women both young and old, continues to skyrocket straight

towards the cosmos. Although still remains quite grounded with bakers and bread distributors, who vow to do whatever it takes to keep their product at the top.

THE COUCH

HOMER & Lisa are watching Kent's report.

Lisa looks extremely happy.

LISA

Oh, I know it's extremely unhealthy to idolize such a one dimensional character, who symbolizes the superficial ideals of our society and it's obsession with looks, but he's just soooo cute.

Homer looks sympathetic.

HOMER

Lisa, I think it's time your daddy told you the story of Beauty And The Beast.

Lisa rolls her eyes.

LISA

Dad, I know the story of Beauty And The Beast.

HOMER

Ah ah ah, it's about this very beautiful woman---I think her name was Sue---who decides to go to this traveling freak show that's come to her town. There, she meets this really stinky, ugly, halfman half gorrilla creature---he's the beast---and . . .

Something on TV catches Homer's eye.

TV ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Coming up next, watch some guy bunjy jump from the Golden Gate Bridge while riding his BMX bike, naked and on fire.

On Fox's "Drunken Bets Taken Seriously."

Homer keeps his eyes to the TV.

HOMER

... and then the prince kissed her, she woke up, and they all lived happily ever after. I hope you learned a valuable lesson today honey.

LISA

I---I guess so.

TWO WEEKS LATER

Another spinning newspaper.

COREY MASTERSON TO ARRIVE AT NOON

Again there is another, smaller headline at the bottom.

22 killed in ax slaying. Police blame the victims.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - MORNING

Lisa is sitting in her room, alone. She looks depressed. Suddenly, COREY BURSTS into her room riding a motorcycle. He's shirtless, of course. He stands up on his bike, and does a back flip off just before it CRASHES through her window. He lands on his knees in front of her, quickly checks his hair in her mirror, and giver her a smile. He speaks in a deep, manly voice.

COREY

Lisa, my love, I must have you. Although I'm twice your age, and I haven't even heard a single word that's come out of your beautiful mouth, I know in my heart that we were truly meant to be. Together, we can rule this town as husband and wife.

GIRLS (O.S.)

He's here, he's here! It's Corey.

Lisa is rudely pulled out of her fantasy. She RUNS to her window.

LISA'S P.O.V

There is a big crowd of girls gathered. Corey's limo turns the corner onto Evergreen Terr. Everyone is silent. The tinted windows are all rolled up,

Corey is nowhere to be found. Then, a window ROLLS down, and an arm, (not necessarily Corey's) pokes out, and gives three waves, then disappears.

EXT. EVERGREEN TERR. - CONTINUOUS

The crowd goes nuts. They're all SANPPING pictures, SCREAMING and fainting. The limo SPEEDS up, and turns the corner. Corey never shows his face.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Bart & Homer sit on the couch, watching TV. Homer is drinking a Duff. Bart sulks at the other end of the couch, not paying attention.

THE TV

ANNOUNCER

We now return to the 1986 classic "Death Carries A Can Of Beer." Starring Mexican singing sensation El Fernando, Gary Coleman, and The A-Team's John "Hannibal" Smith, George Peppard, as Police Chief Douglas Duggler.

BEHIND TV - ANGLE ON BART & HOMER Bart MOANS.

BART

Oh, why do we have to watch this sham of a movie? It's clearly a pathetic duplication of McBain's number one blockbuster "Take A Look At Your Lungs." Homer SIPS his beer.

HOMER

Quiet boy, I can't hear the machine gun.

Bart rolls his eyes, and sinks deeper into the couch.

THE TV

The scene shows EL FERNANDO and his son PEDRO in the room of a motel.

El Fernando has a can of beer in his hand.

EL FERNANDO

Pedro, have you been drinking my beer again?

Pedro looks at the floor.

PEDRO

No!

EL FERNANDO

Now don't lie to me son. We're on the run from the Fuzz, and that's all the beer I have left from that liquor store we knocked off. Now we've talked about this before, and nothing seems to have worked. There's only one thing that I can think of left to do, and that's for me to buy you your own case of beer. Then maybe you'll learn to take better

care of something that's yours.

PREVIOUS SHOT

HOMER (SOTTO)

Oh, I wish my dad had given me more beer when I was a kid. All he gave me was his stupid genes, and they don't even fit anymore.

Lisa & MARGE enter the living room.

Lisa is excited.

LISA

Quick dad, turn it to channel five.

They're about to draw the name in the

"Win A Date With Corey" contest. Oh,

I've been waiting for this moment all my

life.

Bart brightens up.

BART

That's right, I almost forgot.

Lisa fumes.

LISA

Bart, you didn't enter this contest, did you?

Bart smiles.

BART

I sure did! (with a mocking tone) Oooh,

Corey's such a dream package. Imagine

if I won a date with him.

ENTER DAYDREAM

Bart imagines his date with the teen idol. They sit at a table with candles and violins PLAYING. Bart is wearing a long blond wig, red lipstick, and big black eyelashes.

Corey POURS him a glass of wine, and takes his hand. He looks deep into Bart's eyes.

COREY

Bartina, you're the heppist chick this

Berg's ever known. What say we jam into

my limo, and leave this world behind?

He flashes a big, white-toothed smile.

Bart BATS his eyelashes.

BARTINA

I'm all yours sugar.

COREY

Boss!

END DAYDREAM

Bart LAUGHS hysterically.

LISA

Mom, That's not fair!

Marge walks to the TV, and changes the channel.

MARGE

Lisa, I think everyone gets a chance to enter.

ON TV - PAN IN

TROY MCLURE is standing in front of a big drum, holding a microphone.

TROY

Hi, I'm actor Troy Mclure. You might remember me from such public contest drawings as "Spend A Week With Jimmy Mule," and "Ten Fabulous Days Underwater."

TROY

Tonight, I'm coming to you live from the newly renovated Springfield Detox center, where teen heartthrob Corey Masterson has made a stop-over while on tour to promote his new fragrance "Stable Boy Sweat." As part of his philosophy of nurturing the unrealistic hopes of young girls across the country, Corey has agreed to take one lucky girl on an all-expense paid fantasy date at Springfield's own

celebrity eatery "Planet Hype." Who

will be the winner? Only the big drum

knows for sure.

COREY himself steps up to make the draw. He slowly puts his arm into the drum, flashing a painted smile. There's a long drum ROLL, and everyone is silent.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Lisa calls out to Corey in her mind.

LISA

Open your mind Corey . . . open your mind . . . open your mind.

THE TV

Corey pulls his arm out, and UNFOLDS the paper.

INT. JANIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Janie is sitting in front of her TV. She has her fingers crossed.

JANIE

Pleasepleasepleaseplease!

INT. MILHOUSE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Milhouse is doing the exact same thing.

MILHOUSE

Pleasepleasepleaseplease!

INT. RALPH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

RALPH is sitting on his couch, watching another show all together.

RALPH'S TV (V.O.)

Kids . . . can . . . rock . . . and

. . . roll!

INT. KRUSTY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

KRUSTY & SIDE SHOW MEL are watching the draw as well.

Krusty is really mad.

KRUSTY

That Corey Schmuck is gonna ruin my

Saturday morning audience. Mel, see if

you can get someone to work him over.

Let's see that Pretty Boy try and go on

a date when he's in a full body cast.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Lisa still has her eyes closed.

CU OF LISA'S FACE

A single drop of sweat rolls down the side of her face.

THE TV

Corey CLEARS his throat, and reads the name of the winner blankly.

COREY

The winner is . . . Lisa Simpson.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Lisa hears her name, and it ECHOES in her mind.

She passes out.

Bart HITS his fist on the side of the couch.

BART

Damn that blasted drum!

INT. JANIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Janie shakes her fists at her TV.

INT. MILHOUSE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Milhouse is also upset that he didn't win. In fact, he's CRYING.

INT. RALPH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Ralph is still watching his other show.

RALPH'S TV

... and I'm P.J Styles.

THE TV

TROY (LAUGHING)

Congratulations little girl. But the fun doesn't stop here. According to state by-law #115, and to avoid any preteen riots which may occur, contest rules require there to be a (chuckles) consolation prize. Since Corey's already left for his motor lodge, the fabulous Troy will do the honors.

Troy rolls up his sleeve, and pulls out another

name. He looks into the camera.

TROY

Bart Simpson, you're Saturday will be spent at the Springfield Coliseum, where you and one parent will be attending Reverend Connie S. Tupperman's Rockin' Religious Rendezvous, and Super Scripture Breakdown.

A man comes up to troy, and WHISPERS in his ear.

TROY

Oh, and I've just been informed, they'll be giving away free fish for the first five thousand in the door. So don't forget your filet knife.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Homer perks up when he hears about the fish.

HOMER

Woohoo! No more hanging out at the docks for me!

Bart GROANS, and hangs his head.

MARGE

Doesn't it seem a little strange that our children are always winning these

types of contests all the time? (with a suspicious tone in her voice) You know, sometimes it feels like our family is being documented.

Marge looks into the camera and frowns.

HOMER

What are you talking about Marge? I didn't win anything. I never win anything.

MARGE

Well honey, you might have had a chance to win this date with Corey, but you forgot to mail in your entry forms.

Marge points to a large pile of forms on the TV tray.

CU OF TV TRAY

All of the forms have Homer's name written on them.

Homer SLAPS his hand to his forehead.

HOMER

(annoyed grunt)

Lisa is still off in her own world.

LISA

Oh yes, Corey, yes. I do.

END ACT ONE -

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

We enter the scene as MARGE is in mid conversation with HOMER.

MARGE

... and the other day I saw her at the Supermarket, and she told me all about how her new boyfriend has lost all his will to work. She said that all he does is sit around the house reading Playdude and eating corn all day. It's so sad.

Homer looks lustful.

HOMER

Ummm, cornography!

Marge ignores him.

MARGE

So Lisa, do you have you thought about what you'll wear tonight?

LISA pulls a saucy number from under the table.

LISA

I think I'll go with the low-cut,

strapless look.

Marge frowns.

MARGE

Well honey, maybe you should dress a little more age appropriate. I know, why don't you try on the outfit I wore when I was in the 4H club?

A thought bubble appears over Lisa's head as she imagines herself wearing a pair of blue overalls, a straw hat, and a piece of hay sticking out of her mouth.

LISA

Um, I don't think so mom.

MARGE

I won first prize in the hog slopping contest.

Homer looks up from his breakfast.

HOMER

Ummm, hog slo . . .

Marge cuts him off.

MARGE

Oh Homer, once a week is enough. By the way, don't you have to go find Bart?

You two have that little rally to go to in . . . ah, five hours?

Homer perks up.

HOMER

Oooh, that's right, I better get in gear.

Homer gets up and RUNS out of the door. He has neglected to put on his pants though.

BEAT

HOMER (O.S.)

Marge, where are my . . .

MARGE

Just a minute Homer.

We stay with Lisa as Marge gets up to get Homer some pants. The camera moves in past her while she stares off into nothing, and up towards the clock hanging on the wall. The time is 1:00 pm.

MONTAGE - TO "ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DREAM YOU"

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CUT #1:

Lisa and Marge are in her room trying on some dresses. Lisa walks out of the closet sporting her first dress with a grin. It's pretty revealing, and Marge shakes her head "no." Lisa walks away dejected.

CUT #2:

Marge holds up a dress in a protective plastic. Lisa goes into the closet and tries it on. She comes out a second later wearing a white cat suit with red trim. It looks like it came straight out of the 80's. She's wearing matching elbow-length white gloves and a red hat. Marge likes it, but Lisa is not impressed. We move in past the two and

up to Lisa's Happy Little Elves clock. The time is now 3:00.

CUT #3:

Lisa & Marge have agreed on an appropriate dress; a black cocktail dress with a red bow in her hair. Marge is fixing the bow and brushing Lisa's hair. Lisa is staring at something O.S. We tighten on her face while she daydreams. Then we switch to Lisa's P.O.V to discover her looking at her Corey poster. The camera begins to tighten on this as the music fades away. The clock is now at 5:00, the date is at 6:00.

Lisa is excited.

LISA

Oh this is all so magical. This must've been what it felt like for Anne Boleyn when she heard she was to be married to King Henry VIII.

Marge looks worried.

MARGE

Remember honey, this is just a fantasy date. Fantasies are fine and dandy on lazy Saturdays when all the chores have been done, but if they start becoming a regular routine, they could end up running off and leaving your husban---oh---I---ah----what I'm trying to say is to just enjoy yourself and not to take it too

seriously. Okay?

A Car horn HONKS O.S. The limo has come to pick up Lisa for her date, but it seems to be a little early.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Marge & Lisa are standing in the doorway.

LISA

Okay mom, I'll try not to get my hopes up too much, but I did want to mention to you that my horoscope, although quite cryptically, said something about there being change in my life. Even though the school cafeteria did switch to using real catsup yesterday, I'm sure I'm allowed two changes within the same week.

They hug.

MARGE

You just have a good time.

With the limo horn still BLARING, Lisa quickly runs to the car and is greeted by a long-faced, grey-haired LIMO DRIVER. He opens the door for her, and she gets in.

INT. LIMO - MOMENTS LATER

Lisa discovers she is alone in the back seat. The tinted window into the front is up. She knocks on it. The glass ROLLS down.

LISA

Um, excuse me sir, but where's Corey?

He looks around.

LIMO DRIVER

You know little girl, that's a darn good question. As far as I can recall, master Corey was in the very spot you're sitting in right now. A lovely Asian executive in each arm, and a hot banana split resting comfortably on his groin. If he ain't back there, you might want to check the cracks of the seat cushions, that's where all my pocket change has been disappearing to lately. I'll go check under the hood for him, I've heard they'll sometimes crawl in there looking for warmth, and wedge themselves under the engine block.

Lisa LAUGHS nervously.

LISA

I don't think that's necessary, I'm sure
he'll be waiting for me at the restaurant.
So, how long exactly have you been driving
for Corey?

He scratches his head.

LIMO DRIVER

Well, as far as this old noggin goes back, I'd have to say since the day his mother and I brought the little scamp home from the hospital.

LISA

You're Corey's father?

LIMO DRIVER

Yeah, I guess I am. Well, off we go.

Lisa LAUGHS nervously again as the limo pulls away.

INT. NOISELAND ARCADE - CONTINUOUS

BART & MILHOUSE are playing a two-man video game called SUPER AMPUTEE BROS. Bart's player is using his prosthetic leg to beat a gang member who's wearing a leather jacket, and swinging a chain. Milhouse's guy is busy with an orderly who's wearing a white coat. They are fighting in the parking lot of a hospital. During the game, an old lady tries to walk by the screen, and Bart's player knocks her to the pavement.

Bart HITS buttons furiously.

BART

Quick Milhouse, grab her Handy Walker

man. Grab it now!

MILHOUSE

I can't, Bart! I lost my other arm when

I was fighting with the insane administra-

tor!

THE VIDEO GAME

Milhouse's player is attacked from behind by two hospital men. He FALLS to the ground, immobile.

PREVIOUS SHOT

MILHOUSE

Oh no, I've been sedated! I can't move!

BART

Hang in there Milhouse, I'm coming to get you.

Milhouse is dejected.

MILHOUSE

There's no point, it's game over. Game over man.

MILHOUSE

What are we gonna do now, huh? What are we gonna do?

Milhouse walks out of the frame and we follow him as he turns a corner. The scene is exactly like Terminator 2.

MILHOUSE'S P.O.V

He spots Homer at the entrance of the arcade showing SHERRY & TERRY a picture of Bart.

HOMER

Have you seen this boy?

Sherry & Terry shake their heads "no."

Milhouse runs back to Bart.

MILHOUSE

Hey Bart, you dad's scoping for you dude.

Check it out.

Bart looks over his shoulder and sees Homer talking with RALPH. Ralph is pointing in his direction.

HOMER'S P.O.V

RALPH

My dog's tail is this long.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Bart gets up and makes a run for it. Start dramatic Terminator 2 chase music.

INT. SERVICE CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Bart emerges from a door in the middle of the long white hallway. He does a double take and starts RUNNING. The scene switches to SLOW MOTION as Bart sees Homer turn the corner in front of him. Homer has a blank, glazed-over look on his face.

Bart SLIDES to a stop, and starts RUNNING in the other direction to a set of doors marked EXIT. He glances behind him to see if Homer's still there, and BUMPS into someone.

BART'S P.O.V - PANNING UP

He's surprised to see Homer standing in front of him. Somehow he's managed to be at the other end of the hallway. Again, Homer looks like he's staring through Bart. He has that non-blinking, spacy look. Homer blinks and comes back to normal.

HOMER

Oh, there you are. (he pauses) Okay

boy, it's time to meet your maker . . .

E.C.U OF HOMER'S EYES

HOMER (V.O.)

and go get some fish!

PREVIOUS SHOT

Homer puts his arm around his son as they start walking down the hall towards another set of closed doors. There is a bright light emanating from behind the doors, casting their shadows down the hall. Angelic music is PLAYING.

PREVIOUS SHOT - ARCADE

TIGHT ON BART - WALKING

BART

I guess you're right dad. Maybe it's

time I started owning up to my respons-

ibilities. You know, acting like more

of an adult.

We PULL back from the tight shot to find Bart walking out of the arcade by himself.

Bart's angry.

BART

Hey!

The camera SWINGS back into the arcade to reveal Homer playing a video game.

Homer LAUGHS.

EXT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - NIGHT

Homer & Bart arrive at the rally. They walk past a line of CHARACTERS hawking their merchandise.

GUY #1

Locusts, I got locusts here! Straight out of the Old Testament, and by the jarfull. Let 'em loose in your neighborhood just like Moses in the book of Exodus.

GUY #2

Genuine Sodom salt pillar. Formerly the wife of a guy named Lot. One hundred bucks solid, or five bucks per chunky bag!

GUY #3

Bibles, get yer red hot bibles! Only three hundred million left in print!

Homer RUNS up to the vendor.

HOMER

I'll take three please.

He walks away from the booth and starts to FLIP through one of them.

HOMER

Wait a minute, these aren't bibles, they're TV guides.

He turns back to the booth, but th guy is long gone.

INT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - MOMENTS LATER

Bart & Homer find their seats. The whole place is packed. Bart looks desperate. He pleads with Homer.

BART

Come on, Homer, let's get out of here, this is bullweavel. I can feel evil's seductive grip loosening.

HOMER

Just hold on boy! As soon as this thing's over, we'll go steal some blankets from homeless people.

BART

Now you're talking!

NED (O.S.)

Well if God didn't give little duckies webbed feet, if it isn't Homer Simpson and son.

HOMER'S P.O.V

Flanders is standing in the aisle with ROD & TODD.

ROD & TODD

Praise the Lord!

PREVIOUS SHOT

Homer frowns.

HOMER

Hey Flanders, come to kiss God's butt some more eh?

NED

Well sir, there's nothing wrong with scrubbing the Lord's back with the extra soft loofah sponge, if you know what I mean. But the truth is, the boys and I just can't get enough of Reverend Tupperman and his Incredible Israelite Acrobatics team. Why we've been to every one of his shows in this state, even that one that got broken up by those rowdy Promise Keepers.

HOMER

Yeah, well I guess you don't need to be here. After all, you're not the one who's been rootin' through the church garbage bins after every service.

He averts his eyes and LAUGHS nervously.

HOMER

That's one mystery we won't be solving any time soon.

The lights in the arena dim. Flanders and sons quickly takes their seats. An ANNOUNCER starts talking in a deep, impressive voice.

ANNOUNCER

In the beginning, the Earth was without

form, and covered in darkness. And then

God said "Let there be light!"

There is a barrage of cheesy LASERS and lights. Two giant pillars of fire SHOOT into the air at each side of the stage. Classical music starts PLAYING. It's Beethoven's 9th, choral section. The red curtain at the front of the stage parts like the red sea, and out comes the Rev. all pumped. He's wearing flashy pants, a Hawaiian shirt, a big golden cross on a chain, and sunglasses. The audience goes nuts. The whole thing is like a rock concert. Bart starts to pay attention.

HOMER

Bore---ing!

BART

I don't know dad, maybe we should give this thing half a chance.

Homer BLOWS a raspberry.

HOMER

Well you can, but as the bible says, and

I quote "he who has many fish is mightily

blessed." So you see son, a higher power

is at work here.

Homer RUNS off to get his fish.

EXT. PLANET HYPE - NIGHT

Lisa and the limo arrive outside Planet Hype. There is a huge crowd of fans and paparazzi waiting to see Corey. Everyone is SCREAMING. The driver gets out and OPENS Lisa's door. Flash bulbs SNAP like crazy. Lisa steps out, grinning from ear to ear.

C.U OF LISA'S FACE

LISA'S MIND

I'm a stranger in a strange land.

PREVIOUS SHOT

A moment passes before the crowd notices that Lisa's alone. The CHEERING and PICTURES suddenly die down. Someone in the mob says "hey, where's Corey?" Another person states "what a rip-off." There is silence.

Lisa looks uncomfortable.

Then a GUY with his hat on backwards and a camera around his neck comes RUNNING up.

GUY

Hey everyone, look across the street.

Alan Thicke is kissing a llama!

Everyone RUNS off, all excited. Lisa is left standing by herself. She walks into the restaurant.

INT. PLANET HYPE - MOMENTS LATER

She walks up to the snooty maitre'd.

LISA

Um, I'm Lisa Simpson, the contest winner.

Is Corey here?

MAITRE'D

Ah yes. Mr. Corey had some business to take care of, so he should be along shortly. In the mean time, feel free to gaze vapidly at our intriguing, yet useless collection of Hollywood memorabilia, most of which was stolen by our network of obsessed fans.

Lisa forgets her troubles for the moment, and starts to walk around. There are a bunch of display cases along the walls with various treasures in them. OTTO then comes out of the bathroom, wiping his hands on his pants.

OTTO

Yo, Lisa. Boy, you look pretty classy tonight. Who died, the President?

LISA

Not that I know of. I'm sort of on a date type thing. What are you doing here?

OTTO

Well, the bank foreclosed on my bachelor

pad again, so the owner here said I could sleep in the food prep. kitchen if I got rid of their rat problem. How could I say no!

Just then, a rat SQUEAKS from somewhere on the ground. Otto tenses. Then, a big grey blob SCURRIES across the floor, and Otto dives for it. The rat gets away.

OTTO

Clever girl.

He gets up off the floor.

OTTO

Come on Lisa, lets' take a tour.

They come to a case with a toilet in it. Otto bends down and reads the little plaque.

OTTO

Hey man, this was the toilet that Elvis died on.

OTTO

It says here that Pricilla put up quite a fight to keep it.

LISA

Wow!

Next, they come to a case with a bathtub.

LISA

Ohh, it's Errol Flynn's bathtub.

She takes a closer look.

LISA

But it seems to be missing a piece.

OTTO

For all we know, some cabby in New York could have it.

Next they come to a case with a mummy.

Lisa & Otto look confused. Lisa stops one of the EMPLOYEES.

LISA

Excuse me, sir, is this Boris Karloff's costume from his mummy movie?

EMPLOYEE

Actually, that's the mummified corpse of

Ramses II.

LISA

What's it doing here?

EMPLOYEE

Unfortunately, there was a shipping mix-up with the Sprinfield Natural History Museum.

INT. SPRINGFIELD NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Two SUITED MEN are standing before a display of three mummies, and a wax figure of Teen Wolf.

One of men SIGHS.

SUITED MAN

It's just not the same.

INT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - LATER

REV. TUPPERMAN is in the middle of a speech.

REV. TUPPERMAN

You know, there have been a lot of people in the past who said we'd outgrow the need for religion. They said that by the 21st century, monkey operated robots would eliminate the need for spiritual guidance. Ladies and gentleman, these naysayers said the very same thing about another so-called "fad," and that something goes by the name of Rock n' Roll!

BART

Amen!

REV. TUPPERMAN

Now many people today think of conformity, flavorless wafers, and total obedience when they hear the word religion.

COLLECTIVE AUDIENCE

Yes! Yes! Tell us what to do!

REV. TUPPERMAN

But if you actually take time to read
the bible, you'll discover that the most
important figures were rebels, freethinkers who refused to submit to
authority. Except for the authority of
God, which they obeyed unquestioningly,
even if it meant sacrificing their own
children.

The audience CHEERS.

ROD

Will you sacrifice us daddy?

NED

We'll see son, we'll see.

INT. PLANET HYPE - LATER

Lisa is sitting at her table with a sour look on her face.

Finally, COREY come up to the table and sits down. He is all out of breath.

In the presence of the subject of her crush, Lisa forgets all of her misfortune.

Corey looks her over, unimpressed.

COREY

You must be . . . ah . . .

He takes out a card and reads it.

COREY

Lisa.

Lisa begins to blush.

LISA

Yeah, that's me. What happened to you?

COREY

Oh, I just had to sneak through the bathroom window to avoid all those crazy people out in the front.

LISA

You mean the photographers?

COREY

No, the police investigators. So what's the deal with you anyway? I suppose you want a free bottle of that poison crap of a cologne they've got me hawking. Or maybe an autographed picture with 'your best friend' on it, huh?

A waiter walks by and Corey turns his attention to him.

COREY

Hey puffy pants, bring me and the chick here a couple of bloody Texas heifer pies, a bald eagle omelet, and a big pinch of Gumless Joe's chewing tobacco.

Lisa has a sick look on her face.

LISA

Actually, I---I'm a . . .

COREY

I'm not finished yet!

He turns back to the waiter.

COREY

And be quick about it buddy, I've been waiting here for two minutes already.

As the waiter walks away, Corey gives him a hard BOOT to the shins, while laughing like an idiotic child. the waiter keeps his composure and goes off limping.

Lisa groans and sinks into her seat.

INT. PLANET HYPE - LATER

Corey is eating his meat pie, while at the same time putting a big wad of tobacco into his mouth. He SWALLOWS the food, and SPITS his juice under the table. Lisa is watching all of this while she's stirring her fork around her pie. She tries again to bring up some conversation.

LISA

I like that suit you're wearing. It

must've been pretty expensive.

COREY

Not likely, I got this little number for free. Yeah, my Uncle owns a factory down in Mexico. he says that by having starving children work in there for pennies a day, he can afford to give me one of these babies every week. Pretty sweet eh!

Lisa has given up on her perfect date. She sinks even further into her seat.

INT. PLANET HYPE - LATER

Corey is sitting with his shirt done open and his feet up on the table. His pager starts BEEPING. He checks it, and gets up in a hurry.

COREY

Sorry kid, but I gotta split. It seems

my stock options in baby seal skins just
took a nose-dive 'cause of some bleeding
heart protesters. You know how it is.

Say, you wouldn't mind grabbing the check
there dollface?

Lisa is silent.

COREY

Well, I had a pretty good time I guess.

Be sure to check out my article in Perfect

Boys magazine coming out next month.

See ya!

Corey gets up and exits the frame.

The waiter comes back and gives Lisa the check.

INT. PLANET HYPE KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Lisa is now washing dishes in the back room to pay for all the food. She is fuming.

INT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - LATER

The Rev. is now going through the crowds of people.

REV. TUPPERMAN

I see a lot of sick people here tonight.

People with cancer.

We CUT TO a C.U of Dr. Nick.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Heart disease.

We CUT TO a C.U of CBG. He's eating three hotdogs at once.

REV. TUPPERMAN

People in wheelchairs.

We CUT TO a C.U of Cpt. Lance Murdock.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Troubled marriages.

We CUT TO a C.U of Jacques & Princess Kashmir. They both look at each other with contempt.

REV. TUPPERMAN

People who need help opening a can of

tuna.

We CUT TO a C.U of Ralph. He fumbles with a can opener before DROPPING it to the ground. He starts CRYING.

REV. TUPPERMAN

My children, I feel your pain, and I'm

here to help.

HANS MOLEMAN stands up and waves his hands.

HANS

Can you help me with the terrible pain

in my head?

The Rev. puts his hand to Hans' forehead, and pushes him violently. Hans falls down he stairs and lands on his face at the bottom.

HANS

No, now it's much worse.

C.U OF BART'S FACE

BART

I have seen the light.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LATER

Marge is busying herself some cleaning. Bart, now home from the rally, is sitting on the couch watching TV. Lisa comes through the door with an enraged

look on her face. Marge smiles.

MARGE

How did your little date go honey?

LISA

I quit life.

it would.

Marge goes up to Lisa and hugs her.

MARGE

I'm sorry it didn't go the way you thought

LISA

Oh mom, it was horrible, he was . . .

She sniffs the air.

LISA

What's that smell? Is something burning?

MARGE

Oh no, your father is just smoking some

fish in the garage.

INT. SIMPSON GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Homer is standing in the middle of the smoke filled garage, holding up a fish and blowing cigar smoke at it. He's having trouble standing.

HOMER

I feel light headed.

Homer passes out, and HITS the floor.

END ACT TWO -

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

The family is gathered at the table awaiting breakfast. BART is already dressed in his church clothes for once, with his new outlook on religion. LISA is still wearing the outfit she had on from the night before, too disillusioned to have bothered changing. MARGE is sitting down at the table with a smile on her face. HOMER is the one making breakfast this morning. He PLACES plates full of hot buttered pancakes in front of Bart, Marge, and his own place at the table.

Marge frowns.

MARGE

It seems that the person who needs a special breakfast the most has been neglected. Didn't you make any pancakes for Lisa, Homer?

LISA

That's okay mom, I wasn't planning on eating anymore anyway.

Marge looks sympathetic. She takes a bite of her food and makes a funny face.

MARGE

These pancakes taste a little funny.

Did you forget an ingredient? Maybe

baking powder or something?

Homer looks sly.

HOMER

Oh really? What do they taste like?

MARGE

Well, they taste a little . . . fishy to tell you the truth.

Homer smiles.

HOMER

That's because of all the fish I put in 'em!

Bart & Marge SPIT out their food.

Lisa looks relieved.

LISA

At least I don't have to suffer at the hands of this culinary experimentation.

HOMER

Oh don't worry honey, I know that you don't eat meat, so I made something special for you too.

Homer PUTS a huge plate of scrambles eggs in front of her.

Lisa is not impressed.

LISA

Dad, eggs are meat too. Where do you think they come from?

HOMER

From those little white cartons you get a the supermarket, duh!

Bart interrupts.

BART

Although I'll probably be regretting this a week from now, I did want to mention that it's almost time to get to church.

HOMER

Aww, do we have to?

Bart gets angry.

BART

Don't you take that tone with me, mister.

Now, go upstairs and suit up, or you'll
feel the sting of my badminton racket!

Homer hangs his head.

HOMER

Yes sir.

Homer & Marge go upstairs to get dressed.

Bart walks over to Lisa and puts his arm around

BART

Gee, I really hate to see my little sister down in the dumps like this. Is there anything I can do to cheer you up?

Lisa is suspicious.

LISA

What did you flush down the toilet this time Bart?

Bart looks stunned.

BART

I'm horrified that you would think the worst of your own flesh and blood.

BEAT

BART

But just to be on the safe side, you might not want to look in your dollhouse for a while. I think I've got just the thing to cheer you up.

He grabs her by the hand, and brings her into the living room.

INT. SIMPSON LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bart walks up to the TV and TURNS it on. The Itchy & Scratchy Theme is PLAYING. He RUNS back, and FLOPS onto the couch.

THE TV

The I & S title appears on the screen. Today's episode is "Shopping Maul." Scratchy walks through the local shopping mall, WHISTLING a happy tune. He walks into one of those specialty knife shops called "Sharp Things." Itchy, who is waiting for him in the store, THROWS a handful of lawn darts at him, but Scratchy bends down to pick up a quarter, and the darts FLY past him. Scratchy then heads on to the next store, a pet shop. He gets a gold fish in a little bag, and brings it up to the counter. Itchy is at the till. When Scratchy hands him the money, Itchy SLAMS his hand in the register. Scratchy SCREAMS. With Scratchy's hand still stuck, Itchy RUNS over to the fish display and gets a fish bowl with the label PIRANHAS written on it. He brings it back to the till and overturns it on Scratchy's head. It's a perfect fit. He SCREAMS again as the fish eat away the flesh of his face, leaving only a skull. Itchy then RUNS over to an animal cage with the label STARVING BEARS on it. He FLICKS the latch and points over to the poor cat, who is removing the fish bowl from his head. Scratchy SCREAMS one last time as the bears come CHARGING straight at him. While the bears are TEARING Scratchy's limbs from his body, Itchy walks to the door with a smile on his face, turns the OPEN sign to CLOSED, and walks out. THE END.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Bart bursts out in LAUGHTER.

Lisa is not impressed.

LISA

Are we meant to believe that they're selling starving bears in a neighborhood pet store?

Bart wipes a tear from his eye.

BART

Lisa, I'm surprised, you should know better than that. It's a cartoon, it's not supposed to be believable. Now let's get to church before we miss all the good opening hymns.

INT. SPRINGFIELD CHURCH - MORNING

The town has gathered for the Sunday service. REVEREND LOVEJOY is at the pulpit. He looks upset.

REV. LOVEJOY

Now some of you Christians might have been to see that Reverend Tupperman and his flashy spectacle of high explosives and expert knife throwers. Well let me just say, the Lord does not work in flashy ways. Sure there might have been a lot of floods, plagues and resurrections to go about, but they were only minor keys on the huge, theological tuba that is the bible.

ANGLE ON - CROWD

EVERYONE looks bored.

REV. LOVEJOY

I'm sure you are all familiar with the

Ten Commandments which Moses brought
down from atop the great mountain for
the Israelites to live by, but many of
you might not be acquainted with the
over two hundred other laws God wished
his children to obey, many of which deal
with the proper way to raise goats. So
today I will be going over some of those
laws taken from the books of Leviticus,
Deuteronomy, and Sirach, maybe with a
couple of psalms thrown into the mix.

He OPENS his bible, and CLEARS his throat.

REV. LOVEJOY

If anyone has a sore on his skin or a boil an inflammation which could develop into a dreaded skin-disease, he shall be brought to the Aaronite priest, and if the hairs have turned white and the sore appears to be deeper than the surrounding skin, he shall pronounce the person to be unclean. but if the hairs are not

white . . . ANGLE ON - CROWD Everyone is sinking into their seats. TIME CUT:

REV. LOVEJOY

... he shall pronounce the person

ritually clean. If the whole skin has turned white, he is ritually clean. But from the moment an open sore appears, he

is unclean. However, if the sore should

heal . . .

ANGLE ON - CROWD

Everyone is nearly asleep by now. Rev. Lovejoy TURNS a page.

TIME CUT:

REV. LOVEJOY

... donkey or cow has fallen down,

don't ignore it: help him get the animal

to its feet again. Women are not to

wear men's clothing, and men are not to

wear women's clothing, the Lord, your

God hates people who do such things. If

you happen to find a bird's nest . . .

ANGLE ON - CROWD - PAN IN TO BART

Bart is frowning. the service is just as boring as all the others. In the BG, Rev. Lovejoy can still be heard preaching.

BART

This isn't the way it's supposed to go.

I give religion a chance---find out it's half decent---and then I come out of the

whole thing better off than when I started--end of story!

BART'S P.O.V

The Rev. then MELTS into a blob on the floor, and reforms as MCBAIN, action star supreme. He is carrying a machine- gun in each had, and two bandoleers of ammo crisscross his bare chest. He is also wearing camouflage war paint on his face.

MCBAIN

Da violence you crave so much is not to
be found in da trenches of organized
religion. Only da crooked mind of a
traveling evangelist can reveal da truth
behind what it is you seek. Connie Tupper

MCBAIN

man is not afraid to give you what you want. He will tell you all about da wars, da stonings, da apocalyptic prophecies, da fun!

He COCKS one of his guns with his teeth.

MCBAIN

Go now, before it's too late. I'll cover you.

The pipe organ then TRANSFORMS into MARTIN LUTHER. There is a white light shinning down on him from above.

MARTIN LUTHER

Don't listen to him, Bart. You have a chance to really structure your life, and start getting it back on the right

track. You must . . .

His words are cut off as his body becomes RIDDLED with bullets. He SLUMPS to the floor in a pool of blood.

McBain gives Bart the goofy "T2" smile.

BART

You said it McBain! I'm outta here.

Bart JUMPS up and points to Rev. Lovejoy.

BART

You're nothing but a corrupt agent of an apostate, quasi-secular commercialized religionism!

Everyone GASPS.

HOMER (O.S.)

Give 'em hell boy!

Bart heads for the door, but pauses. He turns back.

BART

And by the way, your "No bathroom" rule really makes me sick.

EXT. SIMPSON BACK YARD - DAY

Lisa has gathered up all of her Corey posters and teen magazines and put them into the barbecue. She LIGHTS a match and holds it above the pile for a second.

LISA

From Hell's hand, I set fire to thee.

She drops the match, and the whole thing goes up in a PUFF of flame.

INT. SPRINGFIELD COLISEUM - DAY

Bart arrives at the coliseum. Everyone is packing up and getting ready to head out to the next town. He goes up to a GUY who's standing by a big piece of equipment with 'THE BIG UNIT" stenciled on it.

BART

Excuse me sir, do you know where Rev.

Tupperman is?

SURLEY MOVER

Sure kid, I saw him in the parkin' lot

bringin' a run over squirrel back from

the dead.

BART

Really?

SURLEY MOVER

Ah what do I care?

Bart walks away annoyed. He finds his way to a darkened hallway, and walks down it. He comes across the Rev's dressing room. Instead of a gold star on the door, there is a gold crucifix. Above it is the Rev's name, and a quote that says "Knock and it shall open." The door is already open a crack, so when Bart KNOCKS, it swings open.

BART'S P.O.V - PANNING THE ROOM

Inside the dressing room, there is all sorts of religious paraphernalia. Included are: an autographed picture of God, bottled holy water, a punching bag with the picture of the Pope on it, and the REV. himself on an exercise contraption called THE SKYWALKER. He is watching some other evangelist on TV, stealing from his act. He reads out loud as he write on a note pad.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Thou . . . shalt . . . not . . . steal.

He LAUGHS.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Amen to that!

BART

Hey man, I want to come with you.

The Rev. dose not even look in his direction.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Kid, if you can teach me a couple of yo-yo tricks, mix a mean Manhattan, and wow a crowd with a couple of pirouettes and battmen tends, then you're free to come along.

Bart smiles.

BART

You can count on me.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lisa is sitting in her room violently stabbing Bart's talking KRUSTY doll with a knife.

The doll is slowly dying.

KRUSTY

Hey hey, careful kid, I got alimony to pay!

The phrase repeats, then DIES out.

Marge walks by, and comes into her room, alarmed.

MARGE

Lisa, what on earth are you doing?

LISA

Oh, not much, just butchering them most convenient symbol I could find of the loathsomely soiled and aesthetically bankrupt wash-cloth that is the male species.

Marge walks up, and sits down beside her.

MARGE

That's sweet, dear, but you shouldn't throw out all your eggs just because a few of them go rancid. I mean, look at

your father . . .

Lisa interrupts her.

LISA

I am looking at him.

LISA'S P.O.V

Out Lisa's window, Homer can be seen walking up to the trash can in his underwear. He scratches his ass, and begins DUMPING out the can onto the lawn. Homer MUMBLES to himself as he digs through the trash. He picks up a bottle of spray cheese, and SQUIRTS it into his mouth.

HOMER

Oh, that's the stuff.

PREVIOUS SHOT

Marge looks to Lisa and smiles.

MARGE

You enjoy your stabbing honey.

Marge walks out.

INT. TOURING BUS - LATER

The Rev., Bart, and his ENTOURAGE are now on the road, heading to the next town. There is a little bobbing figure of J.C. on the dashboard. They are all sitting at a table, most of them playing cards. Rev. Tupperman himself is sitting reading a newspaper and getting his hair cut. They're all ignoring Bart.

BART

Wow, this is so exciting! I have so

much to learn . . .

He looks at his watch.

BART

... and so little time. Rev. Tupperman,

who is God, and what do you think his

bowling score might be? Tupperman looks up from his paper, and gives bart a look like he's crazy.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Listen kid, I think you've gotten a little confused since you've come aboard this bus, it probably has something to do with the Freon leaking from the air conditioner over there, but the religious groove only happens when I'm on stage. To tell you the truth, I'm not too sure I believe all the much in God to begin with.

REV. TUPPERMAN

I mean "I AM that I AM," common, what kinda response is that? And frankly, you've been nothing but a disappointment to all of us. Your yo-yo tricks would shame even a toddler, your Manhattans need more than a little work, and your dnacing style is clearly plagiarized from contemporaries such as Marthat Graham, Doris Humphrey, and Mary Wigman. Enough said.

One of the GUYS from the front comes to the back of the bus with a glass bottle in his hand.

GUY

Hey Connie, more Pace Thick n' Chunky.

REV. TUPPERMAN

Better make a pit stop.

EXT. RECKLESS DRIVER'S REST STOP - MOMENTS LATER

Half of the cars in the parking lot are improperly parked. The tour bus itself is parked lengthwise, taking up more than ten parking spaces.

Bart wanders off, not wanting to go back on to the bus when it leaves. He walks up a hillside and sits down on a rock. He looks up to the sky, and SIGHS.

BART

Well this is it big guy, here I am. I never really understood religion that well before all this happened, and now I can say that I'm even more confused than I was when I got mixed up in this crazy business. Look, I'll level with ya, I'm kind of disillusioned right now, and I was hoping that maybe you could tell me what I should do here? Whether I should head back home, or stay here? So if you could give me a sign, I'd sure appreciate it.

Bart waits for a moment. Then, something catches his eye O.F. He GASPS and looks over to see what's going on.

BART'S P.O.V

He sees a magnificent burning bush.

Bart's in awe.

BART

Gee, I had my doubts, but this is irrefutable proof. What else could it be?

Someone COUGHS

BART

Wow, God coughs!

He then looks down, and sees an old BUM leaning up against the bush with a cigarette in his hand. He's trying to put out his clothes, which have also caught on fire.

BUM

Wouldn't ya know, this girl's always catchin' fire, 'specially this time of year. Must be a dry heat.

Bart is really angry.

BART

Oh man! I can't take much more of this constant disappointment. Some miracle better happen fast, or I turn heathen!

BUM

What's the trouble son?

BART

Nothing a loser who lives under a bush could help me with.

BUM

You'd be surprised just what this loser knows. Why, I used to be a wee little nip just like y'self, all pie-eyed and full of yeast. I used to live in a wondrous time, a time when frozen chicken dinners were something to really get excited about, when there was a television program about a talking horse, and when America was still kickin' some commie ass! We expected it to last forever, we did. Now, gone like the sands in the hour glass, so are the days of our lives.

You just think about it.

Bart is utterly confused. He starts to back away.

BART

Uh, yeah, I will.

Bart thinks to himself.

BART

This is too weird, I'm going home.

EXT. FREEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Bart is now hitch-hiking back into Springfield. Several cars PASS him before CHIEF WIGGUM finally PULLS to the side of the road. LOU is riding shotgun.

CHIEF WIGGUM

Hey Bart, what are you doing hitch-hiking?

You know how dangerous it can be. I

better give you ride just to know you're

in safe hands. You might be in for a

cramped ride though, me and Lou here

just picked up a bunch of wanted murderers

trying to cross the state line. Ha,

they've done all the damage they're gonna

do. Isn't that right Dr. Hook?

Bart looks into the back seat where Dr, Hook and his friends are sitting. They all give Bart a big smile and wave. Bart GULPS.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LISA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Lisa is sitting on her bed, looking up at the ceiling. Bart walks in, and sits down on her bed. He's made it home safe and sound.

BART

Still pretty ticked off, huh sis? Well

you know what really ticks me off? How
I've found most people in this world are
just like a stereo made from Taiwan: it
may look all great and exciting, but
when it comes time to crank out the tunes,
you find the most important pieces
missing, or melted in some instances.

Lisa perks up a little.

LISA

Yeah Bart, I think I know what you're talking about. those flashy characters you meet along the road of life pander to our sense of fantasy and idealism without us appreciating the value of what we have around us.

BART

That's what I said.

LISA

You know, that makes me feel a little better.

She hugs him.

Just then, Homer walks by Lisa's room, all excited. He comes in carrying something.

HOMER

Hey kids, check out this way cool stereo
I just got.

He turns it on its side and reads something.

HOMER

Oooh, made in Taiwan, I sure got my money's worth.

FADE TO CREDITS:

HOMER (V.O.)

Wha..? Hey, this tape deck is just a sticker.

Homer PEELS the sticker off.

HOMER (V.O.)

Oooh, but the sticker is made in Mexico.

END ACT THREE -