

Batter Up

A Musical About Baseball In Two Acts

Book, Lyrics & Music
by
Chuck Puckett

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Setting

The locker room and ball field of the Mudville Nine.

Time

Present Day.

Cast of Characters

Casey Carmichael. A good man, a great baseball player, and a rotten gambler. He owes big time for bad bets. He loves Alice Fowler, the owner's daughter.

Skipper Martin. Team rep and Casey's buddy. A serious person.

Wanda May Jones. Skipper's girlfriend and a big flirt.

Alice Fowler. The boss's daughter and Casey's betrothed.

Perhaps a little spoiled, but a good woman at heart.

Devon Fowler. Team owner. He is fair and tough, but begrudges every dime he has to spend. He's also a little dyslexic.

Colonel Sanders meets Ted Turner.

"Whiskers" McDonald. The team manager, an old geezer. "You shoulda been there when..."

Sally Carmichael. Young runaway girl who wants to be a batboy. An extremely independent type, won't take help from anybody. Fairly complicated person for her age, and just happens to be Casey's niece.

Joey Walker. A boy who idolizes Casey. Head batboy. He also is the most derisive voice keeping Sally from being accepted.

"Teddy Bear" Owens. Bookie/gangster to whom Case owes a large sum of money. Thinks he's anything but a Teddy Bear, but really a bit of comic character.

"Boo-Boo" MacGruder. Teddy Bear's muscle. Large, slow and large.

Catfish Beauregard. The pitcher. It's his real name. Mama named him that so's he'd be a baseball player, which he is.

Phillippe Rodriguez. Short, fast, second base. A ladies' man.

"Inyo" Carver. "In yo' face" all the time. Got an attitude.

"Shortstuff" Dixon. The shortstop.

Homer Post. Batboy and Joey's sidekick.

Other Mudville Players. As cast.

Batpersons. Cecil/Cecilia, Jack/Jacqueline, Oscar/Oscar, Billy, Leroy, Marvin.

"Tex" Barker. Game Announcer

Shelley Rogers. Color Commentator. Also does on field interviews

Umpire

Opposing Team's Catcher
Policeman
Mudvillians

Musical Numbers

Act I

Scene 1.

"Batter Up". Casey, Whiskers, Chorus

"We Can Do It". Casey, Mudville Nine

"You're My Necessary". Casey, Alice

Scene 2.

"Wanda May (And Wanda May Not)". Skipper, Mudville Nine

Scene 3.

"Bull Pen". Catfish, Inyo, Casey, Mudville Nine

"No Place Like Home". Chorus

Scene 4.

"A Deal You Can't Refuse". Teddy Bear, Boo-Boo, Casey

"What Money Won't Buy". Casey

Scene 5.

"Any Old Country Boy". Soloist, Mother Soloist

Scene 6.

"Casey At the Bat". Chorus

Act II

Scene 1.

"And In the End". Casey

Scene 2.

"I Guess It's Okay". Skipper, Wanda May

Scene 3.

"If a Girl Could". Bat Boys

"If a Girl Could (Reprise)". Bat Girls

Scene 4.

"No Strike Zone". Fowler, Team

Scene 5.

"And in the End" (Reprise)". Casey, Alice, Sally, Joey

Scene 6.

"Casey At the Bat (Reprise)". Chorus

"No Place Like Home (Finale)". Chorus

Scene Synopsis

Act I

- Scene 1. In the locker room during a pennant game.
- Scene 2. Locker room the next day before the next game.
- Scene 3. On the ball field before and during the game.
- Scene 4. Locker room after the game.
- Scene 5. Locker room the next day before the next game.
- Scene 6. Ball field at the end of the game.

Act II

- Scene 1. Locker room that night.
- Scene 2. Locker room the next day.
- Scene 3. Ball field, later that day.
- Scene 4. Locker room shortly after.
- Scene 5. Locker room that evening.
- Scene 6. Ball field the next day.

ACT I

SCENE 1

1.1-1: Overture

The Locker Room of the Muddville Nine. The lockers have a bench in front of them and one to the side. There is some disarray: clothes on lockers, etc. To one side of the lockers there is a garish "shrine" that holds a baseball bat. The name "Bertha" is inscribed above the bat. SOUND: crowd noises rise and fall and an ANNOUNCER'S voice comes from the small radio on top of the lockers. Pacing nervously in front of the benches is DEVON FOWLER the team owner. He is dressed in an expensive suit. JOEY HARRISON follows right in his footsteps, echoing his gestures. FOWLER stops and shouts and looks at the radio whenever the announcer mentions bad news.

TEX BARKER, ANNOUNCER

A swing and a miss!

FOWLER

My Grandmother's Pajamas! What's wrong with that idiot? I pay him enough so's he should be able to at least hit the ball once in a while.

JOEY

Yessir.

FOWLER

And it's not like this was an exhibition game. Doesn't that idiot know this is a pennant game? Muddville in the pennant, and Skipper Martin skipping around like he was playing sandlot ball back in- wherever the heck he comes from.

BARKER

Martin gets two strikes.

FOWLER

Grandma's Girdle! Two and oh.

JOEY

Mr. Fowler, sir?

FOWLER

Yeah, what is it Joey?

JOEY

Why are you down here in the locker room, sir?
I mean, you own the place. Couldn't you get a
good seat?

FOWLER

Joey, the Muddville Nine has been the Muddville
Nothing for ten years now. For ten years, ever
since I bought this two-bit outfit, they ain't
done a doggone thing. Now, for the first time,
they're doing something. And I'm just too
nervous to watch.

**SOUND: a crack. FOWLER & JOEY look
at radio, but...**

SHELLEY ROGERS, CO-ANNOUNCER

It's going, it's going, it's going-

BARKER

It's going foul.

FOWLER

Foul! Phooey! What's wrong with that boy?

JOEY picks up bat from "shrine"

JOEY

He ain't Casey Carmichael, that's all.

FOWLER

Nobody ain't Casey Carmichael, son. There ain't
nobody like that somebody nowhere, no-when, no
way. They broke the mold on Casey Carmichael.

BARKER

A swing and a miss.

ROGERS

That's all for the Skipper.

FOWLER

He's out?! Out? What am I paying these clowns
for? Who's up next?

BARKER

That brings up Catfish Beauregard.

JOEY

Catfish!

FOWLER

Just great! Down a run, bottom of the ninth,
nobody on and the pitcher's up to bat. Grandma!
Where are you?

**SALLY enters, dressed as a boy.
She wears a scruffy shirt and a
baseball hat pulled low down to
her ears and wears a back pack.
She listens to FOWLER & JOEY**

JOEY

If Catfish gets a hit, we still got a chance,
Mr. Fowler. Casey comes up right after him.

FOWLER

If Catfish gets a hit, I get religion. But
let's hope for the best. You got Casey's bat?

JOEY holds up the black bat

JOEY

Right here. Bertha B. Boomer.

JOEY starts out, FOWLER stops him

FOWLER

Not yet, Joey. You know how he is about Bertha.

JOEY

Yeah, I know how he is about Bertha.

**JOEY takes a rag from his pocket
and shines the bat**

ROGERS

Beauregard is facing one of the best pitchers
in the league.

SALLY

Is that really Casey's bat?

FOWLER

Who are you, boy?

SALLY

Name's Sully. Sully Car- son. My name's Sully
Carson, sir.

JOEY

How'd you get in here? Nobody can get in here.

SALLY

Nobody said a thing to me, I just walked in. Is that Casey's bat?

JOEY

You're not supposed to be here.

BARKER

There's the windup-

FOWLER

Listen, kid, you shouldn't be roaming around the stadium. You need to come back some other-

SOUND: a loud crack

FOWLER (CONT'D)

What happened?

BARKER

Catfish got a hit!

ROGERS

Whatta hit!!

FOWLER

Catfish got a hit?

FOWLER hugs SALLY

Catfish got a hit!

JOEY and FOWLER begin dancing around SALLY.

JOEY & FOWLER

Catfish got a hit! Catfish got a hit!

BARKER

Beauregard is safe on first.

JOEY & FOWLER

He's safe on first!!

FOWLER

What's it gonna be? Catholic, Methodist, Buddhist? I said I'd get religion!

BARKER

That brings up Casey Carmichael.

JOEY & FOWLER run in place, looking at each other

JOEY & FOWLER

That brings up Casey Carmichael!

SALLY

Is that Casey's bat?

JOEY

Of course this is Casey's bat!

SALLY

Ain't he gonna need it?

FOWLER

Well, of course he's gonna need it, it's his bat. His bat! Grandma's Carbcuncles! Get wings, boy, get moving.

JOEY

Yessir!

JOEY runs out

SALLY

I guess I better get going, too.

FOWLER

Wait a minute. Don't move a danged inch! You must be good luck. Here's a twenty. Stick around 'till this is over, kid. Maybe I'll get you an autograph.

SALLY

Don't want an autograph. I want a job.

FOWLER

Whatever. Just don't move.

FOWLER becomes intent on the radio. SALLY wanders over to the lockers, looking at each in turn. She examines the Bertha shrine.

BARKER

Carmichael swung and missed, Shelley. That's oh and one.

FOWLER

COME ON CASEY, CASEY COME ON.

CROWD (OFFSTAGE)

COME ON CASEY, CASEY COME ON. COME ON CASEY.

ROGERS

Another strike. Maybe this isn't Bertha's day,
Tex.

CROWD

COME ON CASEY, CASEY COME ON.
COME ON CASEY, CASEY COME ON.
COME ON CASEY, COME ON, COME ON CASEY, COME ON,
CASEY, CASEY, CASEY COME ON-

BARKER

There's the windup- the pitch-

**SOUND: a loud crack, and the CROWD
goes wild**

ROGERS

That one's outta here, Tex! Muddville wins it!

FOWLER

We won! That ties the series, two to two to
two. Here, kid, here's another twenty. You want
a job? You got a job! Grandma's got new shoes!

**JOEY runs in carrying Bertha. He
crosses to Bertha's shrine, but
FOWLER grabs bat as he goes past,
then kisses the bat**

FOWLER (CONT'D)

Money in the bank!

**Muddville NINE & CROWD swarm in,
CASEY is on the CROWD's shoulders**

A FAN

He did it!

CASEY

Everybody did it.

FAN 2

Yeah, but you hit it, Casey.

CASEY

Now, ya'll. I was proud to do my part.

LADY FAN

And your part is winning the game!

CASEY

Aw, it's just a real an honor to play baseball
here in Muddville, folks.

FAN 3

Nobody but Casey.

FAN 4

He's the batter around here.

1.1-2: "Batter Up"

FAN 1

SINCE DEAR OLD ABNER DOUBLEDAY
PICKED UP A BAT AND BALL

FAN2

AND FACED NINE MEN OUT IN A FIELD
AND KNOCKED ONE TO THE WALL

CHORUS

NOT SINCE THEN HAS THERE BEEN A MAN
A MAN WHO DOES WHAT CASEY CAN
WHO KNOCKS 'EM TO THE GRAND-STAND
MISTER CARMICHAEL, STEP UP HERE
LET'S GIVE THIS MAN A HAND!

BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
I BETCHA'LL NEVER CATCH A BETTER BATTER UP

FAN ENSEMBLE

TELL ME WHO WOULD DARE DENY
HE'S A SLAMMER WITH A HAMMER KIND O' GUY?
WHO COULD DARE DENY?

**CATFISH pantomimes winding up a
pitch, CASEY pantomimes batting**

CHORUS

NONE OF US AND HERE IS WHY:
THERE'S THE MAN WHO HAS THE BALL
HE'S A BURLY KIND OF HURLER WITH THE BALL
STANDS UP STRAIGHT AND TALL
THERE'S THE PITCH (WHAT A PITCH!)
THAT'S ALL! (THAT'S ALL?)
THAT BALL IS OVER THE WALL

BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
I BETCHA'LL NEVER CATCH A BETTER BATTER UP

CASEY

DON'T BELIEVE THAT I'M SO GREAT
I JUST MANAGE MY ADVANTAGE AT THE PLATE
I'VE JUST GOT TO WAIT

TILL THE PITCH IS TRUE AND STRAIGHT
THAT'S THE TIME WHEN I WILL SWING

MUDDVILLE NINE
HE CAN STING YA WHEN HE SWINGS HIS MIGHTY SWING

CASEY
WHEN IT'S TIME TO SWING
THAT'S THE TIME

CHORUS
THAT'S THE TIME

CASEY
I'M KING!

CHORUS
HE'S KING!
AND TIME FOR MUDDVILLE TO SING:

BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
(BATTER, BATTER, BATTER, BATTER, BATTER UP)
JUST LISTEN TO THE CHATTER 'BOUT THE BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
(BATTER, HE'S THE BATTER, HE'S THE BATTER UP)
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, BATTER UP, AIN'T NO BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, BATTER UP, AIN'T NO BETTER BATTER UP

MUDDVILLE NINE
HE'S THE BEST ONE OF THE BATTERS
AIN'T NO BETTER BATTER, BROTHER
WE'RE NOT BITTER 'CAUSE HE'S BETTER
THERE JUST AIN'T NO ANY OTHER

WHISKERS
(**spoken**)
Now wait a minute!
(**paces, thinking**)
WHAT ABOUT OL' JOE DIMAGGIO?

CHORUS
OKAY BUT NOT COMPLETELY UP TO SNUFF

WHISKERS
HANK AARON HE WAS MIGHTY GOOD AT HITTING

CHORUS
BUT HANK HE DIDN'T HIT 'EM QUITE ENOUGH

FAN
MICKEY MANTLE, HE COULD SWING A BAT

CHORUS

BUT DEFINITELY NOT IN CASEY'S WAY

WHISKERS

WHAT ABOUT THE BABE?

MEN take hats off

CHORUS

WHAT ABOUT BABE RUTH?
WHEN BERTHA B. IS BOOMING
CASEY BLOWS 'EM ALL THE WAY

BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
THERE'LL NEVER EVER BE A BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
(BATTER, BATTER, BATTER, BATTER, BATTER UP)
(BATTER UP, BATTER UP, AIN'T NO BETTER BATTER UP)
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY BETTER BATTER UP
BATTER UP, HE'S THE BATTER UP
(BATTER, HE'S THE BATTER, HE'S THE BATTER UP)
(BATTER UP, BATTER UP, AIN'T NO BETTER BATTER UP)
THERE'LL NEVER EVER BE A BETTER BATTER UP!

TOWNSPEOPLE exit cheering

FOWLER

We're mighty proud of you, Carmichael. This means Muddville is going to play in the championship for the first time ever. Heck, I might even watch the next game.

CASEY

I wouldn't start counting my chickens yet, Mr. Fowler. We still have to win the pennant, and that's still at least two games down the road.

FOWLER

Oh, I'm counting my chickens, Casey. I'm counting my chickens, and my eggs and my money. But mostly I'm counting on you!

He slaps CASEY on the back

FOWLER (CONT'D)

Come on, Joey. You, too, kid. What's your name?

SALLY

Sully.

FOWLER

Well then, Sully. And Joey. I'm gonna treat both of you to something real nice.

JOEY

Like what, Mr. Fowler?

FOWLER

When my grandma wanted to give me a reward, she always fixed pickles and sauerkraut.

JOEY

What did she do for punishment?

They exit.

CATFISH

If you ask me, we gotta settle down and take this here thing one step at a time. Slow-like.

SKIPPER

I hope you don't mean as slow as your fast ball, Catfish. We'll be waiting 'till the second coming.

INYO

I for one ain't waiting on nothin'. I want that pennant now.

CASEY

Inyo, you want everything now.

INYO

Why wait? You end up dead if you wait.

PHILLIPE

You end up dead if you don't wait. I'm with Inyo: rather end up dead with a pennant flag flying over my grave.

SHORTSTUFF

(sung to "On Top of Old Smokey")

HERE LIES POOR PHILLIPE
PENNANT FLAG AT HIS HEAD
HE'S NEVER PLAYED BETTER
TOO BAD HE IS DEAD

PHILLIPE

You best stick to baseball, Shortstuff.

SKIPPER

There isn't going to be a pennant flag unless there's a pennant game, you guys.

(MORE)

SKIPPER (CONT'D)

And the way contract negotiations are going, there might not be any more pennant games.

CASEY

Whaddaya mean, Skipper? I'd a bet ten dollars to a ginger snap ya'll had a contract all worked out, ready to sign.

CATFISH

Yeah, Skip. You're the team rep. You ain't got us a dadblamed contract?

SKIPPER

Hey, don't look at me. It's Fowler's fault. Everything was all set. Salary, pension, free agency. All the details. Just needed to dot the T's and cross the I's. Then Fowler got his signals crossed instead.

LEFTY

And?

SKIPPER

And now that so and so wants to tie everybody into a long term contract. No free agency, mandatory drug testing. They even want a piece of our endorsements.

PHILLIPE

Ain't nobody gonna get my endorsements but me!

INYO

The only endorsement you got is when you sign over your alimony checks.

SHORTSTUFF

For three wives.

PHILLIPE

Okay, maybe they can have that endorsement.

INYO

If I ever *had* any endorsements, I'd for sure never let Fowler get his grubby hands on 'em.

LEFTY

Why's he being so stubborn?

CASEY

Muddville's finally on the map. He wants to keep it that way.

SKIPPER

You got it, Casey. Anyway, the other side is starting to balk. And if they do, we're gonna walk. Out.

SHORTSTUFF

Skipper, you gotta do whatever it takes to get this worked out.

CATFISH

This here's the pennant.

INYO

Yeah, the pennant, man!

TEAM crowds in on SKIPPER.

CASEY

You bet! Doesn't come around many times for most fellas. This is our throw of the dice, maybe our one chance.

SKIPPER

Listen, guys. I'm doing all I can. I'm not skipping anything this time.

CASEY

We know you are, Skip. I'm sure everything's gonna be hunky-dory.

CATFISH

Uh, what makes you so sure, Casey? Skipper has been known to be less than a hundred percent.

CASEY

Fellas, I'm going to let ya'll in on the secret of my success. The same thing that keeps me hitting homers is what's gonna win this pennant.

INYO

Batting practice?

CASEY

No.

SHORTSTUFF

Lifting weights?

CASEY

Nope.

SKIPPER

I know, I know! Wheaties!

CASEY

No. Positive thinking. The power of positive thinking. I tell you, it can work miracles!

CATFISH

That's what we need alright.

CASEY

Just repeat after me: "We can do it, don't you doubt it."

LEFTY

We can do it?

CATFISH

Don't you doubt it?

1.1-3 : "We Can Do It"

CASEY

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

CASEY & SKIPPER

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

ALL

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN WIN THIS THING.

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT , DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN WIN THIS THING.

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD PITCH

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD SWING

ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD HIT

WE CAN WIN THIS THING.

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT , DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN WIN THIS THING.

**They march around picking up bags,
bats, gloves, etc.**

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

(ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD PITCH)

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

(ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD SWING)

WE CAN DO IT , DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

(ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GOOD HIT)

WE CAN WIN THIS THING.

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

WE CAN DO IT, DON'T YOU DOUBT IT

All except CASEY march out.

WE CAN WIN THIS THING
WE CAN WIN THIS THING
WE CAN WIN THIS THING!

**TEDDY BEAR OWENS and his muscle,
BOOBOO MCGRUDER appear in opposite
doorway. SKIPPER is last out**

SKIPPER

We can win this thing, can't we?

CASEY

Positively!

SKIPPER exits

TEDDY BEAR

That'd do Muddville proud.

CASEY cringes as he sees who it is

TEDDY BEAR (CONT'D)

How's it goin' wid my number one baseball
investment?

CASEY

(looking out the door)

Keep it down, Teddy Bear. You want to ruin my
reputation?

TEDDY BEAR

I don't want to ruin nothing of yours, Casey.
Like I said: you're like an investment wid me.
A man don't do nothing to harm his investments.
Ain't that right, BooBoo?

BOOBOO

What's that, boss?

TEDDY BEAR

Whatever I say, you lunthead.

BOOBOO

Yeah, right, boss.

CASEY

What do you want, Teddy Bear? I'm kinda busy.
We have got a pennant race going on.

TEDDY BEAR

So I hear, so I hear. You fellas gonna get any
kind of bonus out of this game, Casey?

CASEY

Bonus?

TEDDY BEAR

Yeah, bonus. You know, a little extra cash.
Like the kind you owe me. No wait. That'd be a
lot of extra cash.

CASEY

Listen, Teddy Bear, I'm good for the money.

TEDDY BEAR

Not yet you ain't.

CASEY

But I will be. Just wait a little while.

TEDDY BEAR

I been waiting a while, Carmichael. A long
while. I'm getting a little impatient. I do not
enjoy being impatient and the BooBoo here don't
like it neither, do you, BooBoo?

BOOBOO

Like what, boss?

TEDDY BEAR

When I get impatient.

BOOBOO

I don't have a problem with it. It's you that
don't like to be impatient, boss. Like you
always say, "I do not enjoy being impatient."

TEDDY BEAR

No, no, BooBoo. I mean when I'm impatient.
That's when you do not like me.

BOOBOO

I like you fine, boss. You're a swell guy.

TEDDY BEAR

Go stand outside, BooBoo.

BOOBOO

Sure thing, boss.

(starts out)

Say, are you feeling impatient, boss? I would
not like that.

TEDDY BEAR

Out!

BOOBOO exits

TEDDY BEAR (CONT'D)

Look, Teddy Bear Owens is all for the hometown boys. Mr. "Chamber of Commerce", that's me.

CASEY

Mister Chamber of Horrors.

SKIPPER enters, goes to his locker

TEDDY BEAR

Whatever. Hey, I want Muddville to win the pennant. I want 'em to win the World Series, the Super Bowl and the Publisher's Clearing House. And I know they can do it, as long as you stay healthy. You feeling healthy, Casey?

CASEY

So far.

TEDDY BEAR

Good. Let's try to keep it that way. Maybe you ought to think about taking vitamins or something, huh? See you later.

He exits

CASEY

Yeah, later.

SKIPPER

What did that creep want, Casey?

CASEY

Nothing. I guess he just wanted to congratulate us. Like everybody else.

SKIPPER

You should stay away from his kind. He's nothing but trouble.

CASEY

You wouldn't believe the trouble.

SKIPPER

Something wrong, man? Can a buddy help?

CASEY

Listen, Skipper, there's a lot on my mind, okay? Five'll get you ten that-

**ALICE FOWLER and WANDA MAY JONES
stick their heads in the door.**

ALICE

Is everybody decent?

WANDA MAY

Is anybody decent?

CASEY

Alice! What are you doing here?

ALICE

Can't a fiancee' come see her fiancee' in his own locker room?

WANDA MAY

Especially when her old man owns the joint.

CASEY

Did you watch the game?

ALICE

Was there a game? Wanda May and I've been out getting had our nails done. Of course, we watched game, you silly man! What does that make your average, 400?

CASEY

425. But who's counting?

WANDA MAY

You, on the other hand, need some batting practice. Whaddaya mean striking out like that? Everybody was about to have a heart attack.

SKIPPER

Hey, sorry. I didn't want to ruin Casey's big finish, that's all. You know me: "Skip" straight to the main event.

WANDA MAY

Oh, believe me, I know all too well how you skip straight to the main event.

SKIPPER

Wanda May!

ALICE

I'll say one thing: you guys certainly know how to keep a pennant race exciting. Four games, and each team takes turns winning by one little ol' point.

CASEY

You only need one little ol' point to win. Why waste 'em?

WANDA MAY

Speaking of points, you could score a few by taking me out to celebrate. You know how I love to dance.

SKIPPER

I need to go see Mr. Fowler, Wanda May. You remember: contract negotiations? My paycheck?

WANDA MAY

You know I haven't forgotten your paycheck, baby. Let's go find Alice's daddy. *Then* have some dinner.

CASEY

He was taking Joey and that new kid out to eat. I bet to his favorite place.

SKIPPER

Come on, Wanda May. We're surely gonna celebrate now.

WANDA MAY

Really? Where?

SKIPPER

Down at Grandma's Diner. Ever had sauerkraut and pickles?

WANDA MAY

Not when I was sober.

She makes a face and they exit

ALICE

I guess the contract stuff's not going too well, huh?

CASEY

It's been better. I thought for sure everything was gonna work out real swell, but it looks like your old man was playing with loaded dice.

ALICE

Daddy? I don't think you should blame Daddy. He's just trying to be fair.

CASEY

That's not what the guys think, Alice. Your dad is playing hardball.

ALICE

That ought to make it easy for you. You're the ball player. Daddy's just a businessman.

CASEY

Alice, your daddy's got fifty million dollars.

ALICE

A million here, a million there. Who's counting?

CASEY

Pretty much every guy on the Muddville Nine. Your dad's got plenty of dough.

ALICE

None of y'all are exactly hurting for money.

CASEY

Money can get you hurt in places you don't even want to think about.

ALICE

What?

CASEY

Nothing. Alice, let's don't talk about the contract. We promised we wouldn't.

ALICE

Sorry I brought it up. I don't want to be the one Daddy blames if you ever did strike out.

CASEY

I just don't want to lose my concentration, that's all.

ALICE

You? Lose your concentration? Not likely. I've never met a more single-minded individual in my whole life. When you're in the batter's box,

She assumes a batter's stance

ALICE (CONT'D)

staring down the enemy, waiting for the pitch. It's like the only thing in the whole world is you and the pitcher, like you're frozen in that one moment.

CASEY

That's just how it is. That's exactly how it is. Gee, Alice. I never knew you paid that much attention when I was at bat.

ALICE

Paid attention? Casey, it's exactly that- that *fierceness* about you that I love so much.

(MORE)

ALICE (CONT'D)

It's scary. Now, if I could ever get you to pay that much attention to little ol' me-

CASEY

You know, I couldn't stand it if anything ever came between us.

ALICE

Then you better do something about what's between us right now.

CASEY

What?

ALICE

About six feet.

They embrace.

ALICE (CONT'D)

That's better. I hate anything that keeps me away from you. I've kind of gotten used to you, Casey Carmichael.

CASEY

So you've got me all figured out, huh? Better watch out. I might surprise you some day.

ALICE

Surprises are lots of fun.

CASEY

You know, I can knock a baseball from here to next Tuesday, but it wouldn't mean a thing unless you were there to see it.

1.1-4: "You're My Necessary"

I CAN'T THINK ABOUT TOMORROW
OR THE DAYS THAT LIE BEYOND
THEY'D BE EMPTY, THEY'D BE COLD
A DESERT WITH NO SUN

ALICE

NOT TOMORROW OR THE NEXT DAY
OR 'TIL TIME HAS TURNED AROUND
WILL WE EVER LOSE EACH OTHER
OR EVER BE WITHOUT

BOTH

EACH OTHER

YOU'RE MY NECESSARY
ONE AND ONLY ONLY ONE

ALL THE LOVE I CARRY
IN MY HEART IS FOR YOU ALONE
YOU'RE MY NECESSARY ONE AND ONLY ONE

CASEY
NOW I'VE GOT YOU AND I NEED TO
TELL YOU JUST HOW MUCH I NEED YOU
'CAUSE I NEED YOU LIKE THE WATER AND THE AIR

ALICE
IT IS YOU MY HEART WILL SING TO
WHOM MY LOVE I'LL ALWAYS BRING TO
AND I NEED TO KNOW THAT YOU'LL BE THERE

BOTH
YOU'RE MY NECESSARY
ONE AND ONLY ONLY ONE
ALL THE LOVE I CARRY
IN MY HEART IS FOR NO ONE
BUT MY NECESSARY ONE AND ONLY ONE

ALICE
I'M A WAVE WITHOUT AN OCEAN
JUST A WASTED BIT OF MOTION
WITHOUT YOU I'D JUST KEEP TURNING 'ROUND AND 'ROUND

ALICE (CONT'D)
I'M AN END WITH NO BEGINNING
LIKE A COMPASS ALWAYS SPINNING
WITHOUT YOU TO KEEP MY FEET ON SOLID GROUND

BOTH
YOU'RE MY NECESSARY
ONE AND ONLY ONLY ONE
ALL THE LOVE I CARRY
IN MY HEART'S FOR YOU ALONE
YOU'RE MY NECESSARY ONE AND ONLY ONE

INCOMPLETE WE'D BE
IF YOU WERE WITHOUT ME
OR ME WITHOUT YOU, AND SO
STAY CLOSE TO ME
AS CLOSE AS CAN BE
SO YOU'LL KNOW THAT I NEED YOU
AND I'LL KNOW THAT YOU KNOW, THAT

YOU'RE MY NECESSARY
ONE AND ONLY ONLY ONE
ALL THE LOVE I CARRY
IN MY HEART IS FOR NO ONE
BUT MY NECESSARY ONE AND ONLY ONE
MY NECESSARY ONE AND ONLY ONE

BLACKOUT

1.1-5: Scene Change - "We Can Do It"