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**CAMP
MUSICAL**

The New Family Musical

Music, Book & Lyrics
by Michael Lancy

CAMP MUSICAL
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Characters

It's 1961. There is a charm and innocence to every character.

MISS KIRKLE: Summer camp is her life, and she has taught the good things about camp life to hundreds of girls over many summers. She has a sweet but 'official' tone to her voice that gives just a hint of an 'upper crust' background and progressive education.

KROCK: A good-natured, no nonsense rock. Miss Kirkle's long-time assistant director and friend. Probably drives a New York taxi in the off-season.

THE GIRLS (a happy mix of tweens and teens).

HALEY: Sweet, positive, loves life and the concept of boys.

TRACY: A bit of a tomboy prankster. She loves this old camp and doesn't like the idea of boys messing it up.

JANET: Quiet, but not shy. She's very smart and her round glasses emphasize she's kind of a bookworm who loves to read, and keeps a yellow journal.

CINDY & PATTY: Sisters from Cincinnati, who dress and act alike even though they are not twins.

KIM: A physical fitness buff, she thinks exercise is the cure for any problem. She's from the South and knows someone who knows Elvis.

MIM: Tracy's assistant troublemaker. She loves to have fun and has a very contagious and very funny high-pitched laugh.

HEATHER: A very early environmentalist. She loves the idea of bugs, and birds, and trees.

DAISY: The most adventurous of the group. She can pitch a pup tent in less than 2 minutes – learned how on her family's ranch in Arizona.

OTHER GIRLS: Can be added as chorus, or as some of Tracy's crew of pranksters.

THE BOYS (also tweens and teens)

At first, there is a real mystery why ALL the boys are 'faking' various British dialects.

DAVY: Very upbeat and a bit of a showman. He's the obvious leader of the boys.

PHILIP: Sarcastic but not mean, he knows he's funny. Acts like he's Davy's second in command.

KEITH: Really kind of 'out there' in a cosmic universe sense. Probably joins a hippy commune after college. When he talks you can't understand a word he says.

TONY: Rarely says a thing, but you know he's probably up to something. Seems like a bit of a skeptic. He's a little worried that his voice is changing.

BOBBY: The shyest and smallest of the boys. Likes everyone and everything. He's usually smiling.

EXPANDING THE CAST: It is important that it appears there are many more girls than boys. So, more girls can be added as 'chorus' roles, if needed for the larger scenes. If more boys' parts are needed, it should be limited to only a few.

There is a boys' DOUBLE CASTING idea explained later in the script that most producing groups would probably want to use for reasons that will become obvious.

Scene One

IT'S THE SUMMER OF 1961.

AS THE LIGHTS SLOWLY FADE UP WE HEAR THE PEACEFUL MORNING SOUNDS OF SUMMER FOREST BIRDS, AND AN OLD RADIO TUNING IN A FEW RADIO PROGRAMS OF THE EARLY SIXTIES: A SNIPPET OF FLOYD CRAMER STYLE PIANO MUSIC, A BRIEF PASSAGE OF KENNEDY'S 'GOING TO THE MOON' SPEECH, AND FINALLY A NEW HAMPSHIRE MORNING DJ.

IN THE DISTANCE THE SUN IS RISING BEHIND THE GREEN NEW HAMPSHIRE HILLS. WE ARE IN THE "QUAD," THE CENTER OUTDOOR GATHERING AREA OF CAMP TALL TIMBERS, SURROUNDED BY: THE MAIN LODGE UP CENTER, THE GIRLS' CABIN CENTER LEFT, DECORATED WITH FLOWERS AND GIRL STUFF, AND ANOTHER 'PLAIN' CABIN DOWN RIGHT WITH A BROOM LEANING AGAINST THE FRONT DOOR. THERE ARE A COUPLE OF WELL-USED PICNIC TABLES, WOOD CHAIRS, A FLAG POLE, AND A TREE STUMP WITHIN THE CENTER AREA.

THIS LOOKS LIKE A GREAT OLD PLACE.

THE DJ FINISHES WITH A WAKE UP CALL TO THE GIRLS AT CAMP TALL TIMBERS AND AS THE TUNE HE AS CHOSEN BEGINS TO PLAY, FROM OFFSTAGE WE HEAR A HEARTY YAWN COMING FROM SOMEONE WHO'S HAD A REALLY GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.

SONG: It's Another Great Day at Camp!

DAISY, DRESSED IN A PINK 60s STYLE BATHROBE AND CANVAS SHOES, ENTERS SLEEPILY FROM THE GIRLS' CABIN, STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT VERY SATISFYING YAWN. SHE STOPS IN THE CENTER OF THE STAGE, LOOKS AROUND AT ALL THE BEAUTY, AND SINGS SWEETLY.

DAISY: Good Morning Camp.
 Time to start a new day of fun.

 Think I'll take a walk out in the morning sun.
 It's a new day,
 It's a great day

HALEY ENTERS.

HALEY: Good Morning Camp.
 Can't wait to begin another day.
 Maybe take a boat ride...

JANET ENTERS.

JANET: Or, write a play.

All THREE: It's a new day,
 It's a fun day,
 It's another great day –
 At Camp.

TEMPO CHANGES TO FUN AS THE THREE GIRLS HEAD OFF RIGHT TOWARD THE SHOWERS. OTHER GIRLS NOW ENTER, ALSO WITH BATHROBES AND TOWELS.

GROUP 1: It's another great day at camp.
GROUP 2: It's another great day at camp.
TRACY: Who's the best at tug of war?
(DOES A TOWEL TUG OF WAR WITH MIM)
HEATHER: Catch a lightning bug in a jelly jar.
ALL: Gonna shout "Hey! It's a Great Day."

GROUP 1: It's another great day at camp.
GROUP 2: It's another great day at camp.
CINDY & PATTY: We'll canoe across the lake,
KIM: Gonna run and exercise until I ache!

ALL: It's a great day...
(ECHO) It's a Great day ...
It's a great day...
(ECHO) It's a Great day ...
It's Another Great day ...
At Camp!

DANCE/ACTION BREAK AS MORE GIRLS HEAD OFF TO AND SOME GIRLS COME BACK FROM THE SHOWERS, GOING ABOUT THEIR MORNING ROUTINE. KIM LEADS SOME OLD-FASHIONED MORNING CALISTHENICS. BY THE END, ALL THE GIRLS ARE DRESSED AND ONSTAGE.

ALL: It's a great day...
(ECHO) It's a Great day ...
It's a great day...
(ECHO) It's a Great day ...
It's Another Great day ...
At Camp!

BY THE END OF THE SONG THE SUN IS NOW UP FULL WHITE, AND AS DAISY AND HEATHER RAISE THE FLAG THEY SNAP A SALUTE ON THE LAST BEAT OF MUSIC. ON THE APPLAUSE, MISS KIRKLE, THE ENERGETIC LONG-TIME CAMP DIRECTOR, AND HER STALWART ASSISTANT KROCK ENTER BRISKLY FROM THE MAIN LODGE UP CENTER.

MISS KIRKLE: Good Morning Girls.

GIRLS: (CHEERY UNISON) It's a Camp Tall Timbers Gooooood Morning, Miss Kirkle!

MISS KIRKLE: Yes it is. And, you all sound bright as a flash bulb this morning.
(TO KROCK) What do you think, Krock?

KROCK: I think, it's going to be a great day at Camp Taaaaall Timbers. (THE GIRLS CHEER)

MISS KIRKLE: We'll have morning announcements in just a few minutes, so in the meantime girls, you can just continue what you were doing.

THE GIRLS DO JUST THAT. KIRKLE NODS TO KRUNK AND THEY CROSS DC FOR A SECRETIVE CHAT.

MISS KIRKLE: So, what's the latest?

KRUNK: Julio called as they were leaving the train station. He said the roads back up the hill were bad, but thought they should be here within the hour. (TAPS HER WATCH)

MISS KIRKLE: Hmmm. Hope this turns out okay.

THEY BOTH LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND CROSS THEIR FINGERS FOR LUCK.

KRUNK: What'll they do if it doesn't. Close us down?

MISS KIRKLE: Well, that's one possibility.

HEATHER: (STUDYING SOMETHING WITH A BIG MAGNIFYING GLASS)
Hey, Miss Kirkle. Take a gander at this.

KIRKLE AND KROCK EXCHANGE HOPEFUL LOOKS AS KIRKLE CROSSES TOWARD THE GIRLS, PAUSING AT HEATHER WHO IS INSPECTING A BUG.

KIRKLE: Let's see, Heather. Another new butterfly for your collection?

HEATHER: Not just another butterfly, Miss Kirkle. This is an Aphrodite Fritillary – very rare for these parts. (A COUPLE OF OTHER GIRLS TRY TO LOOK THROUGH HEATHER'S MAGNIFYING GLASS AT THE SAME TIME AS MISS KIRKLE)

MISS KIRKLE: Oh. It's very beautiful.

HEATHER: (SMILES PROUDLY) Thanks.

DAISY STANDS, PULLS A SMALL SNAKE FROM A PAPER SACK AND HOLDS IT UP FOR MISS KIRKLE.

DAISY: Look what I found Miss K. (EVERYONE JUMPS BACK. TO THE GIRLS) Holy cow, don't wig out, it's not poisonous.

MISS KIRKLE: (UNRATTLED) There's good news. Ah yes, just a little Garter Snake – Thank you, Daisy. (LOOKS AT KROCK) Krock will take care of that for you.

KROCK GIVES HER A GLARE, BUT THEN TAKES THE SNAKE GINGERLY FROM DAISY AND WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING TOSSES IT OFF INTO THE WOODS. MISS KIRKLE CROSSES BY KIM WHO HAS HER TRANSISTOR RADIO UP TO HER EAR AND IS JOGGING IN PLACE.

KIM: Elvis is King, Miss Kirkle.

MISS KIRKLE: Yes he is, Kim. (NOTICING CINDY AND PATTY'S MATCHING HAIR BOWS) Cindy, Patty? Very nice choice in Polka Dots today girls.

THE GIRLS LOOK UP FROM THEIR CARD GAME.

CINDY: Thanks, Miss Kirkle. Our...

PATTY: ...Mom sent them up ...

BOTH: ... Air Mail.

MISS KIRKLE NOTICES TRACY AND MIM ARE WHISPERING TO EACH OTHER.

MISS KIRKLE: Tracy, Mim – what are you up to?

TRACY: (BIG SMILE) Nothing, Miss K.

MIM: (BIG SMILE) Nothing, Miss K.

MISS KIRKLE: Just remember girls, “actions cause reactions.”

TRACY: We’re counting on that, Miss K.

MISS KIRKLE: Un hunh.

TRACY AND MIM SHARE A DEVILISH SMIRK. MISS KIRKLE STOPS BY JANET WHO IS READING A PAPERBACK & MAKING NOTES IN HER JOURNAL.

MISS KIRKLE: And, what is our girl Nancy Drew up to today, Janet?

JANET: (SOFTLY) She’s solving a murder at a place called the Lilac Inn.

KIRKLE: Hmm, is it scary? (JANET NODS ‘YES’) You’ll have to give us one of your reviews tonight at Campfire.

JANET: (SMILES) I’m writing it now, Miss Kirkle. (SHOWS HER JOURNAL)

MISS KIRKLE: (CROSSING TO CENTER) Now, girls – may we have your attention a moment please, for morning announcements.

SHE GIVES KROCK A LOOK AND KROCK HOLDS UP TWO CROSSED FINGERS FOR LUCK. THE GIRLS ALL TURN THEIR ATTENTION TO MISS KIRKLE, SOME GATHERING IN CLOSER.

MISS KIRKLE (cont’d): Krock and I have just a few quick reminders about today – (HINTING) – a very special day for Camp Tall Timbers – a day that we know you are ALL looking forward to

MOST OF THE GIRLS GROAN IN UNISON.

MISS KIRKLE: (UNDAUNTED) I will regard that ‘sound’ as just (SING SONG) mis-directed enthusiasm.

TRACY: (NOT QUITE UNDER HER BREATH) ... or not!

(MIM AND SOME OF THE GIRLS STIFLE LAUGHS)

MISS KIRKLE: Thank you, Tracy. I can always count on your special ... wit.

TRACY MOUTHS ‘YOU’RE WELCOME.’

MISS KIRKLE: Now, as I was starting to say, today is going to be a very special day. And, I know we all want to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.

TRACY AND MIM MOUTH ‘OR NOT,’ AS OTHERS AROUND THEM STIFLE AGAIN.

ONE GIRL TRULY DOES SEEM EXCITED.

HALEY: Miss Kirkle?

MISS KIRKLE: Yes, Haley.

HALEY: What time exactly are they supposed to be here? (SHE LOOKS AT HER TIMEX)

MISS KIRKLE: Well, as we all know, Tall Timbers Time is usually very precise, but with the rain and all, Julio could only estimate picking them up at the train station and having them up the hill in the camp station wagon by nine.

KROCK TAPS HER WATCH.

MISS KIRKLE: (LOOKS AT HER WATCH). Oh, my goodness, that's, that's so soon!

SHE LOOKS AT KROCK WHO NODS 'YES IT IS.' HALEY LOOKS PLEASED AT THAT ANSWER. DAISY STROLLS UP TWIRLING A WESTERN ROPE.

DAISY: Holy cow, Miss Kirkle. Do they have to come?

MISS KIRKLE: Now, Daisy. We have gone to a lot of trouble to make sure that ...

HEATHER: Daisy's right, Miss Kirkle. We all think this idea is a real drag.

MOST OF THE OTHER GIRLS AD LIB AGREEMENT WITH HEATHER, ESPECIALLY TRACY AND MIM.

HALEY: Speak for yourself, Heather. And, as a 'woman of science' YOU should be more open-minded.

OTHER GIRLS AD LIB DISAGREEMENT, AS HEATHER LOOKS AT HALEY THRU HER GLASS AND TRACY AND MIM MIME SLITTING HER THROAT HALEY JUST SHRUGS THEM OFF AS KROCK WAGS HER FINGER AT TRACY AND MIM.

MISS KIRKLE: Now, girls... (RAISING HER VOICE A BIT) Girls! (THE GIRLS GET QUIET. THEN, REGAINING HER CHEER) This is 1961, a time of great enlightenment. (LISTS A FEW MODERN MARVELS) President Kennedy has sent a man into space, just this summer. And, now we have Hi-Fi Stereophonic record players, radios with built in alarm clocks, TV dinners, Tang, the Electric Toothbrush, and soon I hear we will have Color TVs that are this big! (SHOWS 12" OR SO AS A HUGE SIZE WITH HER HANDS)

GIRLS AD LIB GENERAL OOS AND AHS, COOLS AND WOWS.

MISS KIRKLE: (cont'd) Girls, today is filled with great new opportunities, for everyone! (NOW ALMOST LIKE A SPEECH) And, Krock and I, and the owners of our camp, who are very modern and progressive thinkers, have decided that for our last session this summer we shall have a "grand experiment." (SHARES A RAISED EYEBROW WITH KROCK. AS SHE CONTINUES WE CAN TELL JUST SLIGHTLY THAT SHE'S NOT COMPLETELY CONVINCED HERSELF) Yes girls, this summer Camp Tall Timbers, for the first time in 50 years – is turning co-ed. (SHE ALMOST FORCES A GREAT BIG SMILE) For the first time, we will have campers who are — boys.!!

THERE IS A BRIEF UNIMPRESSED SILENCE.

DAISY: (SHAKING HER HEAD) Holy cow.

HALEY BREAKS THE SILENCE BY APPLAUDING, UNFORTUNATELY SHE IS THE ONLY ONE. THE OTHERS JUST STARE HER DOWN.

MISS KIRKLE: Now, we have had plenty of discussions about this in preparation for today.

KIM: (JOGGING IN PLACE) But, it really doesn't seem like such a good idea. We love it here, and Boys will scuz up everything!

OTHER GIRLS AD LIB AGREEMENT.

MIM: Boys are always breaking things.

CINDY & PATTY STEP FORWARD IN UNISON.

CINDY: Boys are ...

PATTY: ... grody!

CINDY: Boys pick ...

PATTY: ... (A BIT OF A PAUSE) their noses.

GIRLS LAUGH, AND SAY 'GROSS', ETC.

OTHER GIRLS LAUGH AT THIS AS MISS KIRKLE TRIES TO GET THEM BACK TO ORDER. JANET LOOKS UP FROM HER BOOK, STEPS SLIGHTLY FORWARD AND SAYS SOMETHING WE CAN'T HEAR. KIM NOTICES AND WHISTLES LOUDLY TO STOP THE RACKET.

KIM: (TO JANET) What?

JANET: (SOFTLY) Boys are too loud.

ALL THE GIRLS EXCEPT HALEY AGREE WITH THAT, LOUDLY. JANET HOLDS HER EARS AND GOES BACK TO READING.

MISS KIRKLE: (STEPS TO THE CENTER OF THE GIRLS) Alright, girls.

King's X! (THE GIRLS CALL A TRUCE) Krock and I have told you all about these boys before, and they are not at all as you describe. They were referred by one of our most successful former campers, all top students from a very prestigious school, Saint Regis Preparatory Academy. Let me assure you girls, they are ... refined young gentlemen.

KIRKLE'S WORDS ARE SOFTENING THEM UP A BIT.

MISS KIRKLE: (cont'd) And, just like Haley said, we have to keep an open mind about this. So, where's our Camp Tall Timbers spirit? (THE GIRLS SORT OF AGREE WITH THAT. SHE LOOKS AT HER WATCH) Right. Now, they'll be here very soon, and we still have a lot to prepare, including sprucing up their new cabin. So, Krock (SIGNALLING TO KROCK) will lead the way. Now, c'mon everybody – it's a new day for Camp Tall Timbers, so let's get started!

SONG: Let's Get Started Today

AS KROCK DIRECTS THE CLEAN-UP AND DECORATING ACTION, MISS KIRKLE HEADS BACK TO THE MAIN CABIN. MOST OF THE GIRLS JUST GO ALONG AT FIRST, ACCEPTING THEIR FATE THAT THE BOYS ARE COMING. BUT, EVENTUALLY THEY BECOME MORE POSITIVE AND MORE 'INTO IT' AS THE SONG CONTINUES.

KROCK: Let's get started today.
Cause we know something will come our way.

TRACY: It could be bad.

HALEY: It could be good.

KROCK: So, let's not make it harder than we should.

KROCK: Oh, let's get started today.
Cause when you're ready then
'Come what may!'
So, chase your cares away,
And, let's get started to day.

KROCK: Sometimes you get to take it up high.
Sometimes you're stuck down low.
But, when you're tryin' 'Do or Die!'
Look at how far you'll go.

ALL: So, let's get started today.
Cause when we're ready then
'Come what may!'
So, chase your cares away,
And, let's get started today.

ACTION/DANCE BREAK. THE GIRLS FIX UP THE BOYS CABIN, SWEEP THE PORCH, ETC. TRACY AND HER 'GANG' ARE SEEN SNEAKING INSIDE THE CABIN WITH 'SUSPICIOUS' ITEMS INCLUDING ONE BIG BAG CLEARLY MARKED 'FLOUR.' AT THE END OF THE DANCE BREAK THERE CAN BE EITHER A 'STOMP' STYLE COMPETITION PLAYING VARIOUS CANS, BUCKETS, MOPS, ETC. OR A TRADITIONAL TAP BREAK CHALLENGE.

BY THE END OF THE SONG, HALEY AND A FEW GIRLS HAVE HUNG A BANNER THAT READS "WELCOME BOYS!" OVER THE FRONT PORCH OF THE BOYS' CABIN, AND TRACY, MIM AND THEIR 'HELPERS' JOIN IN INNOCENTLY FOR THE LAST CHORUS.

ALL: Sometimes you get to take it up high.
Sometimes you're stuck down low.
But, when you're tryin' 'Do or Die!'
Look at how far you'll go – Oh!

Let's get started today,
Cause when we're ready then 'Come what may!'
So, sing out strong, you can't go wrong.
It's as simple as starting with "A".

So, chase your cares away
And let's get started today (started today).
So, chase your cares away,
And lets get started today

(Let's get started to.. let's get started to...)
Let's get started today!

AFTER THE SONG.

KROCK: That looks really fab, girls.

KIM: Made in the shade. (Meaning: That was easy)

HALEY: No sweat.

TRACY AND MIM: We can hardly wait for them to get here.

MISS KIRKLE RUNS OUT OF THE FRONT DOOR OF THE MAIN LODGE WEARING BINOCULARS AROUND HER NECK.

MISS KIRKLE: They're coming, they're coming! I just spotted the station wagon rounding Dog Leg Bend. Krock, can you go down to the bus area and bring them all up when they get here?

THE GIRLS REACT PRO OR CON AS KROCK HEADS OFF CENTER RIGHT.

DAISY: (SHAKING HER HEAD, COILING UP HER ROPE) Holy cow.

MISS KIRKLE: Now, remember girls. These Saint Regis boys are refined young gentlemen. So, be sure to be your best! Now, then – who would like to give the official Camp Tall Timbers welcome?

SIMULTANEOUSLY THE GIRLS ALL PUSH HALEY FORWARD AS MISS KIRKLE PULLS A PIECE OF PAPER FROM HER POCKET.

MISS KIRKLE: (cont'd) Ah, good – Haley. Now, here are a few words of welcome you can ...

HALEY: (PULLING A FOLDED PAPER FROM HER POCKET) Oh. I already have a speech prepared, Miss Kirkle.

MISS KIRKLE: Well. How thoughtful.

TRACY: (SARCASTIC) And, we have something prepared, too. (GIVING MIM AND THE OTHER GIRLS WHO HELPED HER DURING THE SONG A KNOWING LOOK).

TRACY JUST GRINS.

MISS KIRKLE: And, remember girls, "It's not what you say..."

GIRLS: "... It's how you say it."

MISS KIRKLE: Alright girls, let's all get into our 'welcome' positions. (THE GIRLS ALL SCURRY UPSTAGE, JUST LEFT OF CENTER LEAVING ROOM FOR THE BOYS TO ENTER FROM UP RIGHT. MISS KIRKLE FIXES THEIR HAIR AND ADJUSTS ANYTHING THAT'S OUT OF PLACE) Remember, I'll count you in, "One, two, three..." and then we all say ...

GIRLS: (IN CHEERIO UNISON WITH A HIGH SWEEPING GESTURE ON THE WORD "TALL") Welcome, to Camp Taaaalllllll Timbers!

MISS KIRKLE: Excellent, girls! Just perfect. Now, don't forget to ...

KROCK ENTERS FROM RIGHT CARRYING A FEW DUFFLE BAGS WITH SORT OF A BEWILDERED SMILE ON HER FACE. SHE LOOKS BACK IN THE DIRECTION SHE CAME, AND CROSSES TO MISS KIRKLE UP CENTER.

KROCK: Uh, Miss Kirkle. The boys are here, but ... (SHE GESTURES OFF RIGHT. THE BOYS BEGIN TO ENTER)

MISS KIRKLE: (TURNING TO THE GIRLS) Alright girls, here we go. Ready? One, two, three ...

GIRLS (IN MOSTLY CHEERY UNISON) Welcome, to Camp Taaaalllllll –

KIRKLE AND THE GIRLS ARE CUT OFF IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR WELCOME BY GETTING A FIRST LOOK AT THE FIVE BOYS WHO HAVE STOPPED IN A CLUMP... THEY ARE COVERED WITH THICK MUD, LITERALLY FROM HEAD TO TOE. EVERYONE JUST STARES AT THEM IN SHOCK AND SAYS NOTHING.

AFTER A MOMENT, WITH HER EYES STILL FIXED ON THE BOYS, HALEY NEATLY FOLDS HER SPEECH AND PUTS IT BACK IN HER POCKET. TRACY AND HER CREW STIFLE LAUGHS.

DAISY: Holy cow.

MISS KIRKLE: (INCREDULOUSLY, TO KROCK) What, happened!?

KROCK: Julio says the station wagon got stuck in the mud down by the stream, and the Boys had to get out to push. When the wheels started spinning in the mud, I guess it ... sort of ...

THE BOYS ALL NOD, YOU CAN TELL THEY ARE NOT TOO HAPPY. A BIG CLUMP OF MUD FALLS OFF THE SMALLEST BOY'S HEAD AS HE NODS.

MISS KIRKLE: Well, uhm. (CROSSING TO THE BOYS BUT NOT GETTING TOO CLOSE. THEY JUST STARE AT HER, MAKING HER VERY UNCOMFORTABLE) I'm Miss Kirkle, the – uhm, camp director. And, this is Krock. She's in charge of all the cabins, including yours. (THE BOYS IN UNISON TURN AND GLARE AT KROCK. (KROCK SMILES AND WAVES. THE BOYS DON'T REACT AND TURN BACK TO KIRKLE IN UNISON. KIRKLE CLEARS HER THROAT) So, Boys – uhm, why don't you go put your things in your cabin, and then all head down to the showers whenever you can, (CORRECTING) but soon, (CORRECTING AGAIN) I mean, very soon. Krock (GESTURING TO HER) will show you the way.

KROCK: I might have to break out the fire hose. This way, boys.

KROCK LEADS THE WAY AND THE BOYS SLOG UNCOMFORTABLY DOWN RIGHT TO THEIR CABIN. THEY ARE MUTTERING TO EACH OTHER BUT WE CAN'T MAKE OUT A WORD.

MISS KIRKLE: (CALLING AFTER THEM, A SMALL ATTEMPT AT HUMOR)
Try not to get things too dirty in there.

THE LAST BOY (DAVY) STOPS AND JUST GLARES BACK AT HER, THEN ENTERS THE CABIN AND SLAMS THE DOOR BEHIND HIM. THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE MUFFLED BOOM FROM INSIDE AND CLOUDS OF WHITE POWDER PUFF FROM THE WINDOWS. THE BOYS SLOWLY AND MENACINGLY EMERGE, NOW COVERED WITH FLOUR ON TOP OF THE MUD, PAUSING AS A GROUP JUST OUTSIDE THEIR CABIN.

TRACY & MIM: (DOING A FAKE VERSION WITH BIG GESTURES) Welcome to Camp Taaaaaaaalllll Timbers!

THEY AND THEIR GANG BURST OUT LAUGHING. THEN THE REST OF THE GIRLS DO, TOO. DAVY LOOKS AT THE OTHER BOYS THEN STEPS FORWARD ANGRILY AND THROWS DOWN HIS BAG. THIS CUTS THE GIRLS LAUGHING OFF ABRUPTLY.

DAVY: (IN A BRITISH ACCENT?) Get em, boys!

EN MASSE THE BOYS RUSH THE GIRLS WHO ALL SCATTER EVERY-WHICH-WAY. COMPLETE AD LIB PANDEMONIUM ENSUES AS A WILD UNDERSCORE OF 'ANOTHER GREAT DAY AT CAMP' PLAYS UNDER THE RIOT. KROCK AND MISS KIRKLE SCRAMBLE AROUND MADLY TRYING TO KEEP THEM ALL FROM KILLING EACH OTHER (NOT LITERALLY).

BLACKOUT ON THE LAST STING OF THE UNDERSCORE.

****DIRECTOR'S NOTE: If you have enough boys, and you want the boys to look really covered with mud and flour, you will probably want to DOUBLE CAST so that there is a set of MUDDY BOYS and a set of CLEAN BOYS. It's a real audience pleaser when the MUDDY BOYS take their own curtain call, and it will also save on time between Scene 1 and 2.

At the very least, you should consider having 'clean' versions of Tony and Keith since they are on early in Scene 2.

Scene Two

The Next Morning.

THE MUSIC AND THE PEACEFUL MORNING SOUNDS REMIND US OF SCENE 1. JUST AS BEFORE, DAISY YAWNS, AND STROLLS TO CENTER. SHE IS JUST ABOUT TO SING WHEN ...

TWO BOYS (TONY AND KEITH) BURST FROM THEIR CABIN AND PUT A BIG LAUNDRY SACK OVER HER, AND THEN RUN BACK INTO THEIR CABIN, LAUGHING LIKE MENACES. DAISY JUST STANDS THERE A MOMENT, AND THEN, WITHOUT REMOVING THE SACK, HEADS BACK INTO HER CABIN.

MISS KIRKLE AND KROCK ENTER IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVERSATION, AND TAKE THEIR MORNING ASSEMBLY POSITIONS.

MISS KIRKLE: Well, I hope this idea works. Yesterday was a monumental disaster. I was so distracted this morning I poured salt and pepper in my coffee. I drank almost half a cup before I noticed anything.

KROCK: I know what you mean. (KROCK NODS AND POINTS TO HER TWO DIFFERENT COLORED SOCKS)

KIRKLE: (WITH A LITTLE LAUGH) Oh, goodness. (LOOKS AROUND AND THEN AT HER WATCH) The girls aren't even up yet. If we can't find a way to make peace between the 'tribes' then I'm afraid we might have to call this whole thing ...

DURING THE LAST PART OF THE ABOVE, TONY AND KEITH SNEAK OUT FROM BEHIND THEIR CABIN WITH 2 LAUNDRY BAGS, INCHING CLOSER TO KIRKLE AND KROCK.

KROCK: (SUDDENLY TURNING TOWARD THE BOYS) Don't even think about it! (THE BOYS FREEZE.)

TONY: (SNAPS HIS FINGERS) Rat Boogers!
(*THE BOYS RUN BACK TO THEIR CABIN.*)

MISS KIRKLE: Like I was saying ... And, why are they all talking in those phony British accents? (SHAKING HER HEAD) Are you sure these boys are from St Regis Prep?

KROCK: That's what the letter from the parents said. (SHOWS LETTER ON HER CLIPBOARD BUT DOES NOT ACTUALLY READ IT) 'Five boys from St. Regis will be arriving'

MISS KIRKLE: (SHE CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT) Hmm.

SHE BLOWS HER WHISTLE AS KROCK AUTOMATICALLY COVERS ONE EAR. THE GIRLS ENTER FROM THEIR CABIN, THEY LOOK TOTALLY EXHAUSTED. DAISY AND HEATHER EXHAUSTEDLY RAISE THE CAMP FLAG AND DO A HALF-HEARTED SALUTE.

KIRKLE: (SEEING THE EXHAUSTED GIRLS) Oh, my word. So, how many midnight raids did they run last night?

THE GIRLS ALL HOLD UP 3 FINGERS.

KROCK HEADS OVER TO THE BOYS' CABIN AND BANGS ON THE WALL.

KROCK: Come on outta there, or I'm comin' in after you! (SHE SMILES AT THE GIRLS)

THE BOYS EMERGE, CLEAN BUT IN A BAD MOOD. THEY LOOSELY GATHER OPPOSITE THE REST. THEY ARE: DAVY, KEITH, PHILIP, TONY, & BOBBY.

MISS KIRKLE: Good morning everyone.

THE GIRLS: (TIRED, HALF-TRYING) It's a Camp Tall Timbers Goooooood Morning, Miss Kirkle!

THE BOYS JUST SNICKER.

KROCK GIVES THEM THE EVIL EYE.

TRACY: Miss Kirkle, why don't the boys have to say "Good Morning"?

OTHER GIRLS AD LIB AGREEMENT, THIS WAKES THEM UP A BIT.

MISS KIRKLE: Well, I'm sure the boys are still adjusting to

PHIL: Because, there's nothing bloomin' "good" about it.

DAVY: We never have to get up this early.

OTHER BOYS AD LIB ANGRY AGREEMENT.

KROCK: I happen to know that you're first class in Summer Session starts at 8:00 am sharp. (BOYS LOOK AT HER WEIRDLY)

PHIL: You are seriously daffy!

KROCK STARTS TOWARD HIM MENACINGLY BUT KIRKLE STOPS HER WITH A GESTURE THAT TURNS INTO A WIDE ARC.

MISS KIRKLE: Uhhmm, why don't we all have a Camp Tall Timbers 'fresh start,' and get to know each other again – yesterday is the past, and today could be the start of something truly ...

TRACY: ...unpleasant? (MIM AND A FEW OTHERS AGREE)

MISS KIRKLE: Uhhh (WAGGING A FINGER AT TRACY, THEN BACK TO DAVY) ... why don't we start with... Davy. Davy, take a big camper step forward and tell us your name and something about you.

DAVY (MUTTERING) Not xactly sure what a camper step is, but here goes (HE DOES A COOL DANCE MOVE ENDING WITH A JUMP/STOP.) Me name's Davy, I like ta sing and dance.

THE GIRLS LAUGH.

DAVY: Hold on. What's so crackin' funny?!

MISS KIRKLE: (INTERRUPTING) Now, Daisy – you match Davy.

DAISY: (FAKING AN ARISTOCRATIC ACCENT) My name is Dorothy, and I like to go sailing.

GIRLS LAUGH AGAIN, AND THE BOYS LOOK AT EACH OTHER LIKE THE GIRLS ARE ALL NUTS.

KROCK: You mean your name is Daisy, and you like to go rowing.

DAISY: (KEEPING THE ACCENT GOING) Same difference. (Meaning: That's what I said.) (SHE TURNS WITH AN AIR AND RETURNS TO THE GIRLS)

HALEY STEPS FORWARD.

HALEY: Miss Kirkle, why don't we just do what we always do on First Day – the Name Game.

GIRLS AGREE, BOYS LOOK WORRIED, AS THE MUSIC INTRO STARTS.

MISS KIRKLE: That's a very good idea.

HALEY: Cool. I'll start —

SONG: The Name Game

AS EACH PERSON INTRODUCES THEMSELVES, THEY INVENT A RHYME AND GESTURES TO GO ALONG WITH THEIR WORDS.

HALEY: My name is Haley,
I shower daily. (MIMES SHOWERING)
I sometimes play the Ukulele.
(MIMES PLAYING UKULELE)
Haley is the name ...
Aren't you glad I came?
And, that's how I play the Name Game.

NOW THE GIRLS, KROCK AND MISS KIRKLE REPEAT THE KEY WORDS AND TRY TO REMEMBER ALL THE GESTURES THAT GO WITH THEM.

GIRLS, KIRKLE & KROCK: Haley, daily, ukulele!
That's how we play the name game.

DAVY STARTS TO GO BUT PHIL JUMPS OUT FIRST.

PHIL: My name is Phil,
Ain't that a thrill?
Some people say I'm 'such a pill.'
Philip is the name,
Aren't you glad I came?
And, that's how I play the Name Game.

GIRLS, KIRKLE & KROCK: Phil, thrill, such a pill.

ALL: Haley, daily, Ukulele!
ALL: That's how we play the Name Game.
PHIL: (SPOKEN) I feel like a bloomin' Mousekateer!

HALEY WAVES TO HIM, AND HE DEFINITELY LOOKS AT HER. NOW THAT THEY SEEM TO HAVE IT, MISS KIRKLE AND KROCK STEP TO THE SIDE. AS

EACH NEW PERSON STEPS FORWARD AND DOES THEIR THING, THE OTHERS TRY TO MEMORIZE WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

TRACY: Tracy, chasey, Outer Spacey!
HEATHER: Heather, feather, How's the weather?
CINDY/PATTY: Cindy, Patty, Cincinatti!
TONY: Tony, boney, likes Baloney!

DAISY: Daisy, hazy, call me crazy.
JANET: Janet, fan it, Martian planet.
KEITH: (UNINTELLIGIBLE) Keith (PRONOUNCED 'Keef'), beef,
plays a thief.
BOYS: Keef, beef, plays a thief! (TRANSLATING FOR HIM)
ALL: That's how we play the Name Game.

KROCK (SPOKEN): Allright girls, let's show the boys how to do a little square dancin'!

DANCE BREAK. THE GIRLS START SHOWING THE BOYS SOME BASIC SQUARE DANCE STEPS, BUT THE BOYS SEEM TO CATCH ON UNUSUALLY QUICK, AND JOIN IN WITH SOME VERY SHOW STYLE MOVES OF THEIR OWN. SOON THEY ARE ALL SQUARE DANCING LIKE PROS.

KIM/MIM: Kim, Mim, like to swim.
BOBBY: Bobby, hobby, knees are knobby.
ALL: That's how we play the Name Game.

DAVY: My name is Davy,
My hair is wavy,
On my mashed I want some gravy.

Davy is me name.
I'll never be the same!
Cause, now I can play the ...

BEHIND DAVY EVERYONE HAS ASSEMBLED INTO A SEMI-CIRCLE. DAVY POINTS TO HALEY WHO STEPS FORWARD AND EVERYONE NOW TRIES TO REMEMBER EVERYONE ELSE'S NAME RHYME AND GESTURES. FUN, AND FUNNY AS NOT EVERYONE REMEMBERS EVERYTHING PERFECTLY.

ALL: Haley, daily, Ukulele.
Phil, thrill, such a pill!
Tracy, chasey, Outer Spacey.
Heather, feather, how's the weather?

Cindy, Patty, Cincinnati.
Tony, boney, likes baloney.
Daisy, hazy, call her crazy.
Janet, fan it, Martian planet.

BUILDING ENERGY AS THEY NEAR THE END OF THE GROUP.

(UNINTELLIGIBLE) Keef, beef, plays a thief.
Kim, Mim, like to swim.
Bobby, hobby, knees are knobby.
Davy, wavy, wants some gravy!

ALL ARE LAUGHING AND OUT OF BREATH, THEY DID IT!

ALL: And, That's how we play
The Name Game..
Oh, yeah!

AFTER THE SONG THEY ARE ALL LAUGHING, CALLING EACH OTHER BY NAME. THEN...

MISS KIRKLE: Now, see wasn't that a lot of fun?

THE BOYS AND GIRLS SUDDENLY NOTICE THEY ARE HAVING A GOOD TIME AND ABRUPTLY STOP INTERACTING, ALL MUTTERING NOT WANTING TO LOOK TOO ENTHUSIASTIC AS THEY MOVE BACK TO THEIR 'SIDES' OF THE STAGE, NOT QUITE LIKE JETS AND SKARKS BUT THAT'S THE IDEA. PHIL AND HALEY REMAIN AN EXTRA BEAT SMILING AT EACH OTHER. .

KROCK: (REPEATING KIRKLE FOR EFFECT) Wasn't that a lot of fun?!

PHILIP: (SNAPPING OUT OF IT AND BACK INTO BEING A SMART ALECK)
Oh, yeah. Bordering on Fun-tastic!

KROCK: All right, I've gotta ask. (TO THE BOYS) When are you knuckleheads gonna stop faking those goofy British accents? We don't know what con you're running, but it's time to drop the act.

GIRLS AGREE, BOYS LOOK PUZZLED.

DAVY: I assure you Miss Krock –

KROCK: Just 'Krock,' no 'Miss' ...

DAVY: Uhm, yes. Well, as I was saying, "Krock", we're not "faking" anything. I'm from Manchester.

THE REST OF THE BOYS QUICKLY NAME THEIR HOMETOWNS IN ENGLAND.

PHIL: Chiswick.

TONY: Beaconsfield.

BOBBY: Harpenden.

KEITH: (UNINTELLIGIBLE) Dartford-Kent.

BOYS: (ROUTINELY, TRANSLATING FOR HIM) Dartford-Kent.

KROCK: (CROSSING HER ARMS IN DISBELIEF) Oh, reaaaally!?

BOBBY: (HOLDING UP 2 FINGERS) Scouts' honor. (Meaning: It's the truth.)

MISS KIRKLE: (CROSSING BETWEEN KROCK AND THE BOYS) Uhm, aren't you boys from the St. Regis Boys Preparatory Academy, in New Jersey?

THE BOYS LAUGH LOUDLY.

PHIL: Lady, we are from the St. Regis hotel, on Broadway, in New York City.

KIRKLE AND KROCK ARE STUNNED.

DAVY: That's where we've crashed. (Meaning: We're staying there.)

BOBBY: Wif a few a the parents.

KEITH: (UNINTELLIGIBLE) 'Til the show goes on tour.

TONY: (TRANSLATING FOR HIM) Til the show goes on tour.

KIRKLE AND KROCK: 'Show'?

THE BOYS LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND THEN ALL SAY IN UNISON AS IN THE SHOW.

BOYS: Ol-li-ver!

THEY ALL PUSH BOBBY FORWARD AS IN THE SHOW.

BOBBY: (AS OLIVER, HOLDING OUT AN IMAGINARY BOWL) Please, sir.
I'd like some more.

BOYS: (IMITATING BUMBLE) More????!!!

THEY ALL LAUGH AT THEMSELVES.

MISS KIRKLE AND KROCK ARE SPEECHLESS.

DAVY: (CROSSING TO THEM, NICELY) Didn't ya get me auntie's letter? She lives here in the States. She use ta go here in the old days and heard that you were lookin' for some boys this summer. An' well, we was due our vacation an' all, so she thought this might be... fun. (HE SMILES)

THE BOYS ALL ROLL THEIR EYES OR SMIRK SARCASTICALLY. THE GIRLS ALL SEEM TO LIKE THIS IDEA, FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

TRACY: Oh, this is good. (MIM AGREES)

MISS KIRKLE: (CLEARING HER THROAT) Ahem! You boys are all from England, and you're in the cast of Oliver, on Broadway?

THE BOYS ALL NOD "YES." KIRKLE LOOKS ACCUSINGLY AT KROCK WHO QUICKLY PULLS OUT THE LETTER FROM HER CLIPBOARD.

KROCK: (SKIMMING THE LETTER FRANTICALLY, THEN SHE SEES HER MISTAKE) Ooops.

MISS KIRKLE: (QUICK RECOVERY) Well ... it seems as though there's been a bit of a misunderstanding, boys. You see, this is the first summer Camp Tall Timbers is accepting any boys, and WE weren't expecting the cast of a Broadway show. We were expecting some refined young gentlemen from a very distinguished preparatory ...

PHIL: (STEPPING FORWARD, FAKING OFFENSE) Hold on a minute. Are you sayin' we're not ... refined? (HE WIPES HIS NOSE)

TONY: (STEPPING FORWARD, FAKING OFFENSE) Are you sayin' we're not ... gentlemen?

BOBBY: (INNOCENTLY) Are you sayin' we're not ... young?

MISS KIRKLE: Uh, no – we’re not saying any of that, we’re just saying, uh – we’re just saying ... (A DESPERATE LOOK TO KROCK WHO JUST SHRUGS)

HALEY: (STEPPING FORWARD) We’re just saying ... (PROMPTING THE REST OF THE GIRLS)

GIRLS: Welcome to Camp Taalllllllllll Timbers!”

TRACY: Yeah, (WITH AN EVIL SMILE) ... welcome!

THE GIRLS APPLAUD. EVEN TRACY NOW ENCOURAGES MIM AND HER GROUP TO AGREE. KIRKLE AND KROCK DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT TO DO, SO THEY JOIN IN THE APPLAUSE.

END OF PREVIEW.