70 Act Two

THE BOYS

WE'RE GONNA LIVE FOR –

Boys 4 & 5

THESE DAYS

Boys 1, 2 & 3

TONIGHT

HEATHER Old school teacher.

All Boys

TONIGHT

HEATHER Bloke at the Co-op.

The Boys

WE'LL REMEMBER, WE'LL REMEMBER

Boys 4 & 5

THESE DAYS

Zoe Forget all them! What about telling y'r MUM?

RACHEL Oh god she was a right dragon. Sorry.

HEATHER I know. TOTAL shock!

RACHEL I bet.

HEATHER No, for me. She said "I don't care who you marry as long as I get a

wedding". Organised the whole day an' then did the most brilliant speech saying she'd known I was gay from the moment she found

me first tattoo.

RACHEL No!

ZOE Eh speaking of which, 'Miss Ditchfield.' (Turns to RACHEL.) How

come this guy of yours hasn't popped the question yet?

RACHEL (Beat.) Jeff?

THE BAND 71

Zoe What's he waitin' for, after twenty-how-many years?!

RACHEL Well it's . . . (Finds a smile.) Time's never been quite right for a

wedding.

Zoe Well give him a shove!

HEATHER Yeah, doesn't he know all y' ever wanted to DO was get married?

(There's a slightly awkward beat.)

HEATHER Rach?

(Fortunately Czech Policeman Dave walks in to take back the towel

he gave Claire.)

RACHEL Officer. Are we okay to go?

Czech Dave No. You stay here, please, 'til I arrange paperwork.

RACHEL 'Paperwork'? Why do you need to do / paperwork – ?

Zoe (Checks time, side of mouth.) Guys we're gonna miss this

concert-t . . .)

HEATHER Oh look, crying out loud, it's only a statue! No-one's gonna

notice! And if they do, I mean god's sake, people who go round checking whether a statue's got genitals or not, THEY'RE the ones who want locking up! Not decent British women here on a cultural holiday! An' does it affect the value? No! The Venus De Milo's got no arms and she's in the bloody Louvre! (*Re.* CLAIRE.) Our friend here has probably done Prague a favour by snappin' off / his –!

CLAIRE (Explodes.) CAN WE NOT?!

(Everyone, shocked, backs off suddenly. Claire recoils as suddenly.)

I broke the statue. Big ol' Claire broke the statue.

(Beat. Others swap eyelines.)

RACHEL Claire?

72 Act Two

HEATHER (s.s.v., lost.) What's –?

CLAIRE (s.s.v.) Sorry.

Heather Hang on, Claire. You were the one making jokes / about –

Claire (s.s.v.) I know.

HEATHER Y'know? In the airport? 'Eating your partner'. On the plane?

'Should've booked two seats . . . '

ZOE (s.v., to Heather and Rachel.) It's us.

(Beat. Claire doesn't know why, either. She's as lost.)

It's 'cause it's us making the joke.

Claire (s.v.) It's not.

Zoe It's different. It is. (Beat.) Sorry, we shouldn't've. Claire, I think the

thing is –

Claire You all came to watch me once.

Music No. 10: SAID IT ALL / THE FLOOD

CLAIRE In Leeds, d'y remember? Some diving competition. You didn't tell

me you were comin', but I got t' the top of the ten metre board

and looked down an' you were just . . . just . . .

Boy 3

WHEN THE TEARS FALL AWAY

CLAIRE You'd all come.

Boy 3

AND THERE'S NO CONVERSATION

CLAIRE All clappin'.

Boy 3

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO BREAK