

BASILTUNG
A Country Western Love Rock Musical

ACT ONE (excerpt)
Scene Three (cont.)
The Brass Rail bar, the
place is lively with
folks. KRIS and GRAM are
having a deep
discussion.

(RANDY enters excitedly.)

RANDY

Hey Kris, is it true? Are we heading to Austin?

GRAM

Now, hold on there Randy. Don't come barging in on us.

(to audience)

Drummer.

RANDY

Oh, my apologies Lord Gram. I didn't realize you own the stage.

(to audience)

Guitar player.

GRAM

Hey, ol' Basiltung here was giving me his history of the world lesson and if you think he's lost his mind, wait until you hear this one.

RANDY

History of the world? I just want to know if we're heading to Austin for The King of Country show.

KRIS

Gram, you're just a victim of your own ignorance. You'll see.

RANDY

Kris, did you get picked? How'd the demo go?

KRIS

It went just fine and isn't that the real reason I asked you all to meet up here. I'll tell you all about it once we saddle up to the bar.

VOICE EFFECT

Red red red red red red red red redneck.

(The music and crowd noise resumes in the background.)

GRAM/RANDY

What the hell was that?

KRIS

You know damn well what it was. Now let's go have a cold one and I'll teach you boys how beer was invented before bread.

(KRIS, GRAM and RANDY walk towards the bar and the whole place comes alive. **3. Boys 'Round Here/The More I Drink.**)

KRIS

WELL THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE DON'T LISTEN TO THE BEATLES
RUN OLE BOCEPHUS THROUGH A JUKEBOX NEEDLE
AT A HONKY-TONK, WHERE THEIR BOOTS STOMP
ALL NIGHT

GRAM/RANDY

What?

GIRLS

That's right

KRIS

YEAH, AND WHAT THEY CALL WORK, DIGGING IN THE DIRT
GOTTA GET IT IN THE GROUND 'FORE THE RAIN COME DOWN

GRAM

TO GET PAID

RANDY

TO GET THE GIRL

KRIS

IN YOUR 4 WHEEL DRIVE

GRAM/RANDY

A country boy can survive

ENSEMBLE

YEAH THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE
DRINKING THAT ICE COLD BEER
TALKIN' 'BOUT GIRLS, TALKIN' 'BOUT TRUCKS
RUNNIN' THEM RED DIRT ROADS OUT, KICKING UP DUST
THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE
SENDING UP A PRAYER TO THE MAN UPSTAIRS
BACKWOODS LEGIT, DON'T TAKE NO SHIT
CHEW TOBACCO, CHEW TOBACCO, CHEW TOBACCO, SPIT

KRIS

Aw heck

GRAM/RANDY

WELL THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE, THEY'RE KEEPING IT COUNTRY

KRIS

AIN'T A DAMN ONE KNOW HOW TO DO THE DOUGIE

GIRLS

YOU DON'T DO THE DOUGIE?

KRIS

NO, NOT IN KENTUCKY
BUT THESE GIRLS 'ROUND HERE YEP, THEY STILL LOVE ME

GRAM

YEAH, THE GIRLS 'ROUND HERE, THEY ALL DESERVE A WHISTLE

RANDY

SHAKIN' THAT SUGAR, SWEET AS DIXIE CRYSTAL

KRIS

THEY LIKE THAT Y'ALL AND SOUTHERN DRAWL

KRIS/GRAM/RANDY

AND JUST CAN'T HELP IT CAUSE THEY JUST KEEP FALLIN' FOR THE

ENSEMBLE

BOYS 'ROUND HERE
DRINKING THAT ICE COLD BEER
TALKIN' 'BOUT GIRLS, TALKIN' 'BOUT TRUCKS
RUNNIN' THEM RED DIRT ROADS OUT, KICKING UP DUST
THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE
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GIRLS

OOH LET'S RIDE

GIRL 1

Through the country side

GIRLS

(throughout)

OOH LET'S RIDE

GIRL 2

Down to the river side

KRIS

HEY NOW GIRL, HOP INSIDE

ME AND YOU GONNA TAKE A LITTLE RIDE TO THE RIVER

LET'S RIDE

LAY A BLANKET ON THE GROUND

KISSING AND THE CRICKETS IS THE ONLY SOUND

WE OUT OF TOWN

Have you ever got down with a

VOICE EFFECT

Red red red red red red red redneck.

KRIS

Do you wanna get down with a

VOICE EFFECT

Red red red red red red red redneck.

KRIS

GIRL YOU GOTTA GET DOWN WITH THE

ENSEMBLE

BOYS 'ROUND HERE
DRINKING THAT ICE COLD BEER
TALKIN' 'BOUT GIRLS, TALKIN' 'BOUT TRUCKS
RUNNIN' THEM RED DIRT ROADS OUT, KICKING UP DUST
THE BOYS 'ROUND HERE
SENDING UP A PRAYER TO THE MAN UPSTAIRS
BACKWOODS LEGIT, DON'T TAKE NO SHIT
CHEW TOBACCO, CHEW TOBACCO, CHEW TOBACCO, SPIT

(Music breaks down, KRIS, GRAM and RANDY see
the local drunk CHARLIE at the end of the
bar.)

KRIS

Hey boys, is that Charlie down there?

RANDY

Sure looks like him. Let's go see.

GRAM

Man, the last he was in here we couldn't get him off that damn
karaoke machine. Remember?

KRIS

Boy, do I remember.

(Segue to **The More I Drink.**)

KRIS

HE WAS SITTING AT THE BAR, SIPPIN' ON A REGULAR COKE

GRAM

YEAH WE WERE DRINKIN' AND SMOKIN'

RANDY

MAKIN' HIM THE BUTT OF OUR JOKES

KRIS/GRAM/RANDY

MAN, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? WHY CAN'T YOU JUST HAVE A FEW?

CHARLIE

I WOULD IF I COULD, BUT IT'S PROBABLY BEST THAT I DON'T

'CAUSE THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK
YEAH, I'M THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVER AND A DANCIN'
MACHINE

I GET LOUD, I GET PROUD, AND IT GETS WORSE
WELL, IF I HAVE ONE, I'LL HAVE THIRTEEN
NAW, THERE AIN'T NO IN-BETWEEN

'CAUSE THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK

A COUPLE OF COLD ONES, AND SOMEBODY HANDS ME A SHOT
HELL, EVEN BUCK-TOOTH AND BOW-LEGGED WOMEN START LOOKIN'
HOT

AND PRETTY SOON I'M BUMMIN' CIGARETTES AND SWEET TALKIN'
SOME BIG BRUNETTE

YEAH, ONCE I GET ON A ROLL, AIN'T NO TELLIN' WHERE I'LL
STOP

'CAUSE THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK
YEAH, I'M THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVER AND A DANCIN'
MACHINE

I GET LOUD, I GET PROUD, AND IT GETS WORSE
WELL, IF I HAVE ONE, I'LL HAVE THIRTEEN
NAW, THERE AIN'T NO IN-BETWEEN

'CAUSE THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I
DRINK, YEP YEP

(brief guitar solo, CHARLIE expounds)

Hmm, that's what I'm talking about.

CHARLIE

MAN, IF I HAVE ONE, I'LL HAVE THIRTEEN
AND THEY CAN'T GET ME OFF THE KARAOKE MACHINE
THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK, YEAH
THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK, THE MORE I DRINK

(CHARLIE exits. KENT BASILTUNG enters and a couple of GIRLS rush up to him.)

GIRL 1

Oh Mr. Basiltung, have you heard from Jared? Do you know when he's coming back from Afghanistan?

GIRL 2

You must be so proud of him. He truly is a genuine hero.

KENT

Yes, I'm very proud of him girls. He's everything a father could ever ask for. Unlike my other son...

(gesturing towards Kris)

Who can't even last at a job let alone mortal combat.

GIRL 2

(giggling to Girl 1)

I hear he can sure last at other things.

GRAM

Hey Kris, aint that your pa down there talking with them girls.

KRIS

Sure does look like him. I can't imagine him being here for a good time. Let's just hope he aint here for a long time.

(KENT makes his way over to Kris.)

KRIS

Pa, what's up? Where's Ma? Everything alright?

KENT

I saw Jared's truck out front and knew you'd be in here raising hell as usual. What's this about you punching out of work early today? Clyde told me you left nine cylinders on the bench and it pushed his whole timeline out for the weekend.

KRIS

Aw heck, he'll get over it. There's only so much of that boring assembly work you can do in one day. Besides, I've got great news. I've been selected as a contestant for The King of Country Hour. And if they make me a finalist, me and the band could be heading down to Texas in a few weeks.

KENT

King of Country? Boy, haven't I taught you a damn thing about integrity? You don't just leave someone hanging the way you did. Now get your butt back to the factory and finish your quota. I gotta get home to your Ma cause you know she aint been herself since Jar left. Why, if you just had an inch of your brother's common sense, maybe we could all get on as the good Lord intended it to be.

(KENT exits.)

GRAM

Ya see Kris, I knew we should have mentioned we were punching out. Man, this whole day is turning into just about one big turd. And you can't polish a turd. You better hope you make them finals because we're all at our wits end.

KRIS

Okay, Okay, I get it. Trust me, there aint nobody in this here town who wants to break out of this here prison more than I do. And there's no way I'm headin back to that fool of a boss. I told him on Monday that we'd be leaving early today. It aint our problem if he only hears what he wants to hear.

(to bartender)

Suzie, I'll have a one n' one please.

SUZIE

That'll be Rolling Rock and Comfort, I recall?

KRIS

Si, Si, señorita.

GRAM

Make it two of those Suzie.

RANDY

Three.

SUZIE

Hey Randy, did you see your wife on the way in here? She was looking for you and didn't seem real happy about it.

RANDY

Oh shit, that's right. I was supposed to meet her at the mall to help pick out a dress for the dance tomorrow. She must be having a conniption. I better get going.

KRIS

Now hold on partner, don't you wanna hear about us making the big time? You know, Austin Texas could be right around the corner if I'm selected. And we only have til midnight tomorrow to snag more votes. We gotta get the word out and I need everyone at the dance tomorrow night to call in and vote for me.

(SUZIE serves them their drinks.)

KRIS

Okay boys. Think where man's glory most begins and ends, and say my glory was... I had such friends.

(THEY toast to their good fortune.)

GRAM

That's pretty good Baze, where'd you hear that one?

KRIS

Why that's Billy Butler, one of my favorite poet's from across the pond.

RANDY

Yee-ha Kris. This is excellent news. Wait until I tell Lisa. She won't mind me coming here once she knows.

(LISA enters, she is extremely angry.)

LISA

Randall Peterson, what in God's creation are you doing in here? You was supposed to be helping me pick out a dress. You got some nerve. For cryin out loud, I was waiting in Dillard's parking lot for over an hour. I should have known you'd be in here up to no good.

RANDY

Now honey, wait a minute.

LISA

Wait a minute? Wait a minute? Boy, do you got mud in your ears? I just said I was waiting an hour. I need to find a dress for the dance tomorrow night and all you want to do is put a drink in your hand.

RANDY

Lisa darling, hear me out. Kris and the band, we may be going to the finals. You know, The King of Country. This is big, big news.

LISA

King of Country? The only thing Kris Basiltung is good for is the king of controversy. You know I don't like you hangin out with him when you aint playing. Why is it every time he calls your name you come runnin like a dog in heat? I'm telling you right now I'm done. D O N E, done.

KRIS

Now sister just hold...

LISA

Don't you sister me you big womanizer. Randy, I mean it. I am so through with this. You either put that beer down and come with me or else it is over. For good.

RANDY

Now Lisa, you listen to me. I just stopped here to get the news about Kris and I'm gonna finish this here beer if you like it or not. Don't you be threatening me. A man's gotta do what he's gotta do.

LISA

A man's gotta do what he's gotta do. Well, I know what I'm gonna do and that's walk straight out that door. And I won't be coming back this time.

(LISA turns around to leave.)

LISA

(to herself)

Son of a bitch.

RANDY

Woman, I just told you. I'll be sitting here working on this beer so don't let that door hit you on the way out.

LISA

Ugh.

(LISA exits.)

GRAM

Now what kind of animal was that?

RANDY

Shut up Gram.

KRIS

Wow, that's some firecracker you got there Randall Peterson.
C'mon let's do another shot. She'll cool off once she gets home.

GRAM

Sounds like a plan. Especially after a day like today. Woo wee.

RANDY

(guzzling his beer)

Uh, sorry fellas, I really gotta get going.

GRAM

C'mon Randy. You just got here.

RANDY

Gram, you have no clue. Why, once I pulled up in the driveway and my whole damn drum kit was laying in the front yard like a bunch of lawn ornaments. Lord knows what she's brewin up for me right now.

GRAM

Yeah, but what happened to a man's gotta do?

RANDY

I know, I know... But the fact is all this man wants to do is love her. She's the light of my life. Aside from losing her temper now and then, Lisa really is a good woman. And I'll tell you what, it aint so bad having a little excitement now and then.

(RANDY confesses his love for Lisa.

4. Firecracker)

RANDY

WHEN I LOOK IN HER EYES IT AIN'T NO SURPRISE
SPARKS START A FLYIN LIKE THE 4TH OF JULY
SHE GETS ME SO HOT, MY HEART STARTS A POPPIN'
WHEN WE GET TO KISSIN, THERE AIN'T NO STOPPIN'
WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE SHE AIN'T NO SLACKER
MY LITTLE DARLIN IS A FIRECRACKER..

ACT ONE (excerpt)
Scene Three (cont.)

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