**DEAD GUY OPRY**

**ACT I AUDIO SCRIPT**

**UPDATE 9-21-21**

**ACT I**

**Scene 1**

**A1S1-1**

SFX: Fade in typing

 JARED

 Some folks believe that when you die, you go to Heaven

 Some folks think it’s better up there

 Some folks’ll say that when you’re dead, you’re dead and

 There’s just no gettin’ past the fact you ain’t goin’ nowhere

 I don’t believe no belief beats another

 I don’t think thinkin’ ‘bout it’s gonna pay

 I had my life, and if I had my ‘druthers

 There’d be something more than nothing on its way

 ‘Cause nothin’ makes a really long day…

SFX: Typing fades out

**A1S1-2**

 JARED

 Well I don’t care ‘bout nothin’ minus nothin’

 And the old Grim Reaper’s quite the special friend

 And if I may be bold, if the story be told

 I just don’t wanna know how the story ends

 Charlie Brown’s gonna kick the football

 Broken hearts are maybe gonna mend

 But deep down in your soul, where the light ain’t gonna go

 You don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 You don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 It’s gonna end

 Well we kinda got the Cliff notes, but without the when or how

 We kinda try to redefine just what the law will allow

 JARED/ANGEL

 We kinda got a show to do, before we take a bow

JARED

The curtain’s gonna drop but it ain’t droppin’ now

 I don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 JARED/ANGEL

 You don’t really wanna know how the story ends.

 B-U SINGERS

 We just don’t wanna know how the story ends

 JARED

 You don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 Let’s just pretend…

SFX: Typing fades in, rises, and reaches a crescendo with MUSIC, then fades

**Scene 2**

**A1S2-1**

SFX light over INTRO: TV airing NASCAR race

 MACK

 I like NASCAR and beer

SFX: Fridge door opening, beer top popping

 The only exercise I get is gettin’ it from here…

SFX: Fridge door closing

 To here.

SFX: Sitting in recliner

MACK (SPOKEN)

 (Heavy sigh)

 MACK

 I like NASCAR

 Them guys is great

 Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

 MACK/B-U SINGERS

Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

SFX: Racing fades

**A1S2-2**

 ELENORE

 I like knitting, it helps relax my mind

 I ain’t kidding

 Sometimes it’s the only peace I find

 Just a needle and some thread

 And cigarettes and magazines

 And I’ll be the happiest country girl you never see

**A1S2-3**

SFX: Racing fades back in

 MACK

 Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

 w/B-U SINGERS

Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

 MACK

 I like NASCAR and beer

 I kinda like to lose myself in anything that ain’t right here

 Elenore she cooks real good, but she ain’t no fun bein’ with

 And our boy’s less like a boy

 Than like a little bitch

SFX: Racing fades out

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shhh Mack! Willard’s in his room…he’ll hear ya!

**A1S2-4**

 MACK

 I can’t believe he ain’t screechin’ at one of his stupid video games

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 You know, like Immoral Wombats or Assassin's Cream or something like that

 ELENORE

 But you bought him that computer ‘cause he was drivin’ you insane

MACK (SPOKEN)

 Little shit kept wantin’ to change the channel from NASCAR

 MACK

 I traded all that whinin’ for “BOOMS” and “KA-POWS”

 MACK/ELENORE

 But he sure is quiet now

**A1S2-5**

SFX: Racing fades back in

MACK

 I like NASCAR, and NASCAR likes me

 Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go…I gotta pee

SFX: Racing fades out

**A1S2-6**

SFX: Getting out of recliner

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 (Sigh as he rises)

SFX: Door closing

SFX: Belt buckle, zipper

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 (Grunt, sigh)

SFX: Peeing

SFX: Peeing fades

SFX: Buckle, pants zipping

SFX: Toilet flushes

SFX: Door opening

SFX: Typing rises lightly

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 I wonder what he’s *doing in there*

 MACK

 I know I’ve heard that sound before

 Like squirrels in the attic

 But that can’t be it

SFX: Typing rises

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Wait a minute…is that…? Nah…

SFX: Typing rises

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 I’ll be damned!

 MACK w/B-U SINGERS

 Goddamn it Elenore!

 I think Willard’s in there goddamn typin’!

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shut the front door!

 ELENORE

That’s not like him at all!

 MACK w/B-U SINGERS

 I said Goddamn it Elenore!

 I think our boy’s in there goddamn TYPIN’!

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 I know, I heard you, I said

ELENORE

That’s not like him at all

MACK/ELENORE

 Not like him at all…

SFX: Typing fades

**A1S2-7**

 MACK

 Well we ain’t real educated, ain’t had too many chances

 ELENORE

 Our fam’ly tree ain’t exactly overrun with branches

 MACK

 It was one thing when that gizmo was more like a toy

SFX: Typing rises

 MACK/ELENORE

 I just don’t know what’s got into our little boy

 ELENORE

 Maybe he’s just playin’, pretending like he’s writing

 MACK

 I hear what you’re saying, that has to be it

 ELENORE

 He’s sure doing it quickly, no way he could have learned

SFX: Typing fades

SFX: NASCAR crash, explosion

 TV ANNOUNCER (Spoken)

 Oh my! He went right into the wall!

SFX: NASCAR fades

 MACK

 Dammit, I just missed the part where the guy crashed and burned

SFX: Typing rises

 ELENORE

 There has to be an explanation

 MACK/ELENORE

 Let’s bring this mystery to an end

SFX: Typing rises

 MACK (SPOKEN WHISPER)

 All right…on 3…

 One…Two…Three!

SFX: Door being flung open

SFX: Typing stops abruptly

SFX: Laptop slamming shut

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Fuck a bird!

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shut the front door!

WILLARD/JARED

 I can’t believe I fucking lost my fucking capo again!

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 What the fuck’s a capo?

**Scene 3**

**A1S3-1**

SFX: Typing fades in with lyrics

 JARED

 Sometimes all you’ve got are the memories

 Sometimes the future’s in the past

 Sometimes lookin’ back’s the only way to see

 Questions that were better left unasked

SFX: Typing fades out

**A1S3-2**

SFX: Barroom chatter bgd fades in

 MC (SPOKEN)

 Ladies and gentlemen…Nashville Stage is proud to present Originality Records

recording artist Jared Whaley!!

SFX: Applause, cheering

JARED

Come with me to a time, things were dandy and fine

 And every sin we sinned was forgiven

 ANGEL (yelled from crowd)

 We love you Jared!

 (whoops and laughter)

 JARED (cont)

 Man those were the days, just relaxin’ in the rays

 Lookin’ back, it sure seemed like Heaven

**A1S3-3**

SFX: Applause and cheering rise

 JARED/BAND

 Now that was livin’

 Now that was livin’

 JARED

 Sowin’ wild seeds with an imaginary need

 JARED/BAND

 Now that was livin’

 Now that was livin’

 JARED

Playin’ with matches just ‘cause I like the heat

 JARED/BAND

Now that was livin’

 Now that was livin’

 JARED (w/BAND “Oohs”)

 Walkin’ on a razor just ‘cause I like to bleed

 Drinkin’ mind-erasers till I turned into a dream

 JARED

 Some may say I missed it, but I didn’t

 JARED/BAND

 ‘Cause I was livin’

**LEAD BREAK**

 JARED (w/BAND “Oohs”)

 Walkin’ on a razor just ‘cause I like to bleed

 Drinkin’ mind-erasers till I turned into a dream

 JARED

 Some may say I missed it, but I didn’t

 JARED/BAND

 ‘Cause I was livin’

 Now that was livin’

 That was livin’

 Man I was livin’

 BAND

 Doo do do-do do do doo…

SFX: Wild applause, cheering rises then fades

**A1S3-4**

SFX: Typing fades in

 JARED

 Sometimes all you got are the memories

 Sometimes reminiscin’ is a blast

 Sometimes there’s that moment that changed everything

 Questions that you wished you’d never asked

SFX: Typing fades

SFX: Bar chatter rises

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 Hey! What’s your name?

SFX: Bar chatter fades

ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 My name’s Angel.

Jared laughs

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 Really?

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 What?

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 What?

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 WHAT?

**A1S3-5**

 JARED

 Angel…that’s freakin’ perfect

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 Perfect?

 JARED

 Well I’m guessin’ that it’s meant to be ironic

 ANGEL

 ‘Cause I like drinkin’ and smokin’ and lovin’ all night too?

 JARED

 Good God in Heaven, I think you’ll do

 ANGEL

 I’ve got both your CDs, will you sign ‘em?

 JARED

 I’ll sign anything that you want me to

ANGEL

 I love your music and your style, but what really makes me smile

 Is your first tattoo

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 His first tattoo?

 BYSTANDER-FEMALE (SPOKEN)

 His first tattoo?

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 His first tattoo?

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 It’s on his first CD, see?

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 I’ll be damned. It says “My First Tattoo.”

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 In fancy letterin’ like that.

 BYSTANDER-FEMALE (SPOKEN)

 Oh that’s just priceless.

 JARED

 My first tattoo

 B-U SINGERS/BYSTANDERS

 His first tattoo

 BYSTANDER-MALE

 In fancy letterin’ like that

 JARED

 My first tattoo

 B-U SINGERS/BYSTANDERS

 His first tattoo

 JARED

 It’s a weird one

 ANGEL

 I’ve got one too

 B-U SINGERS/BYSTANDERS

 She’s got one too

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 She’s got one too?

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 Imagine that.

 ANGEL

 I’ve got one too

 B-U SINGERS

 She’s got one too

 B-U SINGERS/BYSTANDERS

 She’s got one too

 BASS SINGER

 She’s got one too

ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 But it’s a titty-tat

 BYSTANDER-FEMALE (SPOKEN)

 Whaaat??

**A1S3-6**

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat

 She gotta titty-tat

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 It says “My First Tattoo” too!

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat

 BYSTANDER-MALE (SPOKEN)

 In fancy letterin’ like that!

 B-U SINGERS

 She gotta titty-tat

 BYSTANDER-FEMALE (SPOKEN)

 That’s priceless!

 JARED

 Well she’s easy on the eyes, and she just showed me her breasts

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat, she gotta titty-tat

 ANGEL

 Maybe later on I’ll show you the rest

 B-U SINGERS

 Not just her titty-tat, she gotta titty-tat

 JARED/ANGEL

 Well loneliness is desperate

And desperation messes with your mind

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat, she gotta titty-tat

 JARED/ANGEL

 You know you can’t resist it

 Fate finds its own place and time

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat

 DRUNK AT BAR

 (a la Tweety Bird)

 I tink I taw a titty-tat

 B-U SINGERS

 Titty-tat, she gotta titty-tat

She gotta titty-tat

**A1S3-7**

SFX: Barroom bgd low

SFX: Typing fades in low

 JARED

 Sometimes all you’ve got are the memories

 I know things now I wish that I’d known then

SFX: Typing fades out

ANGEL

When you’re ready to go, I’m here waiting you know

 JARED (SPOKEN)

Just gotta get my gear together

SFX: Typing quickly fades in, then stops.

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 God-DAMMIT!

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 Jared, honey, what is it??

 JARED

 I can’t believe I fuckin’ lost my fuckin’ capo again!

**Scene 4**

**A1S4**

 NORVILLE (SPOKEN)

 Just the usual trim today Mack?

SFX: Getting into barber chair

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Yeah, whatever it is you always do Norville. Just do that.

 NORVILLE (SPOKEN)

 Gotcha.

SFX: Typing on laptop

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Son, if you could keep that typin’ to a dull roar I’d appreciate it.

SFX: Snipping of scissors

SFX: Bgd typing fades with vox

NORVILLE

 Hey Mack, your boy’s sure actin’ goofy

 Like some kind of un-dead court stenographer

 MACK

 Fuck a bird, Norville, this shit’s gettin’ spooky

 What the hell’s a court stenographer?

 NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

 MACK/NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

SFX: Typing rises slightly

 NORVILLE

 Hey Mack, have ya seen just what he’s writin’?

 It could all be just gobbledy-gook

 MACK

 He’s huggin’ the damn thing when he’s not typin’

 And slams the fucker shut when I try to look

 NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

 MACK/NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

 NORVILLE

 Maybe it’s just a phase, like zits or masturbatin’

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 What the hell?

 MACK

 He’s yellin’ shit out in a weird voice though

 NORVILLE

 Aw, hell, you didn’t tell me that

 Definitely Satan

 MACK

 Norville, what the fuck’s a capo?

 NORVILLE (SPOKEN)

 You mean like a mafia thing?

 MACK

 It’s just weird that’s all

 MACK/NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

 NORVILLE

It’s just weird that’s all

 MACK/NORVILLE

 It’s just weird that’s all

 It’s just weird that’s all

SFX: Typing rises then stops. Laptop slams shut.

 WILLARD/JARED

 Almost every dime I get from that music shit’s recoupable!

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 See there Norville? That’s the kind of shit I’m dealin’ with.

 NORVILLE (SPOKEN)

 Damn buddy, that’s weird…

**Scene 5**

**A1S5-1**

JARED

 Goddamn it Angel, a vacation’s just not do-able

 Almost every dime I get from that music shit’s recoupable

 ANGEL

 But your CD’s climbin’ up the charts, you’re on the radio

 JARED

 But what the record label spent getting me there was just a loan

 If ya don’t know much about the music biz

 I’m gonna help you out, I’m gonna clue you in

 It’s recoupable, recoupable

 All the money they spend on your great big hit

 Comes off the top, you don’t get shit

 Till they recoup it all, recoupable

 ANGEL

 So you’re damned near rich and famous

 But not so much with the rich

 This ain’t what I expected

 And I can sure be a bitch

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 Angel! We’ve been married six months and every time we fight you always

start cleaning your damn gun!

 ANGEL (SPOKEN, LAUGHING)

 Daddy says always keep it clean. You never know when you might

 need it.

SFX: Revolver chamber spins

 JARED (SPOKEN)

 Well it makes me nervous.

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 Tough titty.

**A1S5-2**

 JARED

 If ya don’t know much about the music-biz

 All the promises, all they love they give

 Is recoupable, damned recoupable

 ANGEL

 Don’t whine so much about your heavy load

 I know what you do when you’re on the road

 THAT’S recoupable, recoupable

 JARED

 Angel, what happened? We were so meant to be

 You were love’s embodiment, my reason to breathe

 ANGEL

 Jared, I’m sorry I just had this fantasy

 I didn’t expect so many hurdles

 JARED

 Won’t you come with me tonight to the show at The Thirsty Turtle?

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 That’d be nice.

 JARED

 If ya don’t know much about the music biz

 Not a dime I get from playin’ gigs

 Is recoupable, so they don’t get it all

 ANGEL

 I won’t worry ‘bout the state we’re in

 I won’t shed a tear, ‘cause I got him

 Someday we’ll have it all, misery’s recoupable

 JARED/ANGEL

 Soon we’ll (he’ll) play arenas and the money’ll roll in

 JARED

 And I’ll be the man you dared to dream of

ANGEL

 Jared, won’t you play that song you wrote for me back when?

JARED (SPOKEN)

 Speechless?

 ANGEL (SPOKEN)

 That’s the one.

JARED

 Anything for you, love

**A1S5-3**

JARED

 I could write a song, clean as a summer breeze

 Soft as a baby’s cheek, fresh as mornin’ dew

 And I could write a song about your Angel smile

 How you’re the girl that I just can’t believe is true

 But I just write the words, the music’s you

 And words don’t even have a clue

 ‘Bout how you make me feel

 I might as well be speechless

 I could write a song, maybe make ya cry

 With little thoughts that I just conjure into view

 I could write a song about a lover’s wish

 A song might get a kiss, might write about that too

 But I just write the words, the music’s you

 And words don’t even have a clue

 ‘Bout how you make me feel

 I might as well be speechless

 JARED/ANGEL (w/B-U SINGERS)

 There’s a part of my heart always been achin’

 Empty, waitin’, I think for you

 And I just die when I look into your eyes

 JARED

And see what justice words could never do

 But I just write the words, the music’s you

 And words don’t even have a clue

 ‘Bout how you make me feel

 I might as well be speechless

 ANGEL

 ‘Bout how you make me feel, might as well be speechless

 JARED/ANGEL/WILLARD

 Might as well be speechless

Last line of SPEECHLESS segues into:

**Scene 6**

**A1S6-1**

SFX: Dining table (cutlery, etc.), stops abruptly as Willard sings last line

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Well fuck a bird

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shut the front door

 WILLARD (SPOKEN)

 More taters please.

MACK

 Goddammit Willard, you ain’t ever sung before

 WILLARD

 I don’t know what you’re talkin’ ‘bout

 Please, could I have more?

 ELENORE

 He’s an only child, so I can’t say for sure

 MACK/ELENORE

 But is this something normally endured?

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Norville says it might be just like zits or masturbatin’

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 What?

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 That’s what I said

 MACK

 Goddamn it Willard, you’re gettin’ weirder every day

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Where’s that remote?

SFX: Turns up racing

MACK

 Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

 MACK/B-U SINGERS

 Go straight take a left take a left go straight

 Take a left take a left go straight

SFX: Racing fades

**A1S6-2**

 WILLARD

 Guess what? I’m gonna be on the radio

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 They got a radio freak show?

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Mack, be nice!

 WILLARD

 It’s a field trip Monday morning we might get to say hello

 ELENORE

 Honey, that’s great, I can’t wait to hear your voice

 MACK

 I’d use the non-cussin’ one if you’ve got a choice

**A1S6-3**

 ELENORE

 I seen that DJ from the radio at the courthouse just the other day

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 That’s right, they got that big murder trial startin’, don’t they?

 MACK

 They shut down the Thirsty Turtle

 I guess that singer had some sorta name

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 I think it was Jason or Jerry or somethin’

 They say his wife shot him right in the head

 WILLARD/JARED

 Jared Whaley’s who you’re talkin’ about

 And if you get me a thumb drive

 I’ll get this shit out there

**A1S6-4**

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 What the fuck’s a thumb drive?

WILLARD/JARED (SPOKEN)

 Shit. A little doo-dad looks like a thumb. Goes in a computer. So you can transfer files to another computer, since we ain’t got no damn internet…

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Damn, boy. That’s some nerdy shit there.

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shut the front door.

 WILLARD/JARED

 Well I ain’t done too much talkin’

 Since I got shot in the noggin

 But I really got a lot to say

 I gotta lotta aggravation

 At this fuckin’ situation

 At the cards that I’ve been dealt to play

 I’m at fat kid in a Redneck House

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 You’re just big-boned, like me and your mama

 WILLARD/JARED

 Fat kid in a Redneck House

 MACK (SPOKEN)

 Elenore – you see what’s goin’ on here, don’t ya?

 ELENORE (SPOKEN)

 Shut the front door!

 MACK

 Well I really ain’t no genius

 But you kinda got me thinkin’

 Things are kinda fin’ly makin’ sense

 Ya started actin’ creepy

 Like a zombie on the TV

 ‘Bout the time that feller met his end

 That country singer done possessed my boy

 MACK/ELENORE

 That country singer done possessed OUR BOY

**A1S6-5**

 WILLARD/JARED

 I guess that maybe in about a little while I’ll have forever

 Til then I got more important things I gotta do

 Gotta write my story down

 ‘Cause I’m all about the truth

 Gonna use the tools I’m given

 Gonna be a fat kid on the NEWS

 MACK

 That country singer done possessed my boy

 MACK/ELENORE

 That country singer done possessed our boy

 WILLARD/JARED

 This country singer done possessed your boy

 MACK

 What the fuck’s a capo?

**A1S6-6**

 WILLARD/JARED

 I don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 You don’t really wanna know how the story ends

 MACK/ELENORE

 We don’t really wanna know how the story ends

WILLARD (SPOKEN)

 Somebody tellin’ a story? Cool!

 JARED

 Let’s just pretend