## "THE STREET PIANO KID"

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EXT. WEST BONANZA ROAD, LAS VEGAS, NV - DAY

A 2020 Hyundai Ioniq negotiates its way through medium-size TRAFFIC on this early Monday morning in mid-August.

INT. HYUNDAI IONIQ - DAY

MARISOL BERMUDEZ (45, tough, no-nonsense) drives; oldest daughter LORELEI (15, bold, intuitive) rides shotgun...and grips her laptop for dear life.

Lorelei watches the lidded coffee cup in the car's beverage holder...for dear life.

Marisol keeps her eyes on the road.

MARISOL

Lorelei, your dad's already briefing your brother and sister as we speak.

LORELEI

Got it.

MARISOL

I'm not joking.

A nodding Lorelei grits her teeth and eyeballs Marisol.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

When you get home, I wanna know how your school day went.

LORELEI

Don't worry, Mom. I will.

MARISOL

I want you to tell me the whole truth...and nothing but the truth.

LORELEI

Mom...

Lorelei refocuses her attention on the lidded coffee cup.

MARISOL

I'll never forget the time you were in kindergarten.

LORELEI

That was ten years ago!

MARISOL

You told the teacher a monster had followed us all the way from Los Angeles to Las Vegas.

LORELEI

Mom...I apologized to everybody involved...everybody...even that homeless guy who camped out at Dad's convenience store.

MARISOL

Uh huh...

LORELEI

I did!

EXT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Marisol's Hyundai pulls into the parking lot of a vast, sprawling Eisenhower-era structure.

Lorelei's mother speeds into the first empty parking space she finds.

INT. HYUNDAI IONIQ - DAY

Lorelei hangs onto her laptop and unfastens her seat belt.

MARISOL

Come home smarter than you were this morning.

LORELEI

I'll try.

Marisol shoots her oldest daughter a dirty look.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I will.

MARISOL

That's better!

Lorelei and Marisol trade fist bumps.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Now to get those UNLV football players I work with to do the same thing.

The twosome bump fists one more time before Lorelei jumps out of the car.

LORELEI

Mom, I love you!

MARISOL

Well...uh...I love you, too!

Lorelei closes the door and heads for the building.

Marisol eyes the coffee cup...and finds the lid's fallen.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Damn cup!

She takes a sip, then sets the cup back into place.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Lorelei and FIFTEEN OTHER STUDENTS engage in AD LIBBED chit chat from their desks in World History class as teacher LARRY DORISH (65, motivational) watches from in front of his desk.

LARRY

Everybody...calm down.

The chit chat continues...

LARRY (CONT'D)

Class...

...and continues.

LARRY (CONT'D)

People...

Larry takes a whistle from his shirt pocket.

He toots the whistle...and gains attention...for a while.

MAANSI MODI (15, witty; an Asian Canadian) breaks the silence.

MAANSI

Once a coach...always a coach.

Larry's class explodes in laughter.

He blows his whistle again.

Once the student silence comes back:

LARRY

Good one, Maansi.

Maansi receives approving looks from two of her classmates: MARY ELIZABETH "MARYBETH" HENERY (15, a bit playful, White) and KACEE NAULLS (15, bashful, Black).

LARRY (CONT'D)

Anyway, class...what I wanted to say was: This year, I'm offering you students an extra-credit assignment.

Lorelei's eyes light up. A few other students perk up, too.

MARYBETH

I hope it's good, Mr. Dorish.

LARRY

Don't worry, Marybeth. It'll be GRRRREAT!

Kacee and some classmates laugh. She covers her mouth.

JACKSON SHEARSON (16) raises his hand.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Jackson...what's your question?

**JACKSON** 

Does it involve cereal?

Laughter breaks out in Larry's class again.

It stops when Larry shoves his whistle toward his mouth.

LARRY

(pockets his whistle)
This one's all about appreciating
all cultures and their important
contributions to society...just
like it says in the course catalog.

KACEE

Well...it could involve cereal...

Jackson nods...a few classmates laugh.

LARRY

Anyway...here's what I want you to do for extra credit: Bring some world culture to the Las Vegas community.

Larry's students AD LIB their agreement with him.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Who's got some ideas?

Students eyeball each other...Lorelei raises her hand.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Lorelei, let's hear your idea.

LORELEI

Let's bring street pianos to Vegas.

Larry's mouth flies open.

Lorelei receives withering looks from students around her.

MAIN TITLES APPEAR OVER ACTION.

Kacee looks mortified...Marybeth grits her teeth...Maansi pretends to choke herself...JOSH PEET (15) thrusts a finger toward his open mouth.

Josh wags that finger at Lorelei.

JOSH

Lorelei...Vegas is too cool for street pianos.

Applause rings out from a few students.

LORELEI

You got a better idea, Josh?

Lorelei catches Josh's deer-in-the-headlights look.

MAANSI

As long as it involves cereal...

And the class breaks out in tremendous laughter.

EXT. BERMUDEZES' HOUSE - NIGHT

This abode in Vegas' Meadows area is a modern, one-story house with a two-car garage.

INT. BERMUDEZES' DINING ROOM - NIGHT

In this busy-looking, almost-cluttered space, Lorelei and Marisol sit and eat alongside the rest of the family: Lorelei's dad CESAR "JAY" (45, dogged) along with sister ELVIRA (13, confident) and brother ALBERT (11, searching).

ALBERT

I made a new friend at school.

Cesar raises his fork in jubilation...Marisol breathes relief...Elvira and Lorelei nod.

CESAR

You did it, Albert! Congratulations!

MARISOL

(between bites)

What's his name?

ALBERT

Emersyn...Emersyn Browning.

ELVIRA

Wow!

CESAR

Son...first chance you get, if it's all right with his folks, he can stay and have dinner with us.

LORELEI

(points to Albert)
Yeah! He'll like Mom's chocolate cheesecake...with extra chili powder.

Marisol looks embarrassed.

ALBERT

Actually...Emersyn's a girl.

Albert draws funny looks from Cesar, Elvira, and Marisol.

ALBERT (CONT'D)

She spells her first name with a Y instead of an O.

Lorelei beams.

MARISOL

(eyeballs Lorelei)

All right, Smiley...your turn.

LORELEI

I thought it was Elvira's turn.

ELVIRA

Thanks, Lorelei!

Lorelei's smile grows.

ELVIRA (CONT'D)

Guess what?

MARISOL

What?

ELVIRA

The music teacher at Hyde Park Middle School's letting me teach some of her students guitar.

Marisol looks flabbergasted.

CESAR

C'mon, everybody! Let's raise our glasses and toast Elvira!

Four Bermudezes raise their glasses.

Marisol (the exception) continues to sit in puzzlement.

LORELEI

Mom...judging by the sound of things, Elvira came home smarter than she did this morning.

When Marisol hoists her glass at last, all five family members click their drinking utensils.

CESAR

To Elvira...and Albert!

Albert, Cesar, Elvira, Lorelei, and Marisol drink up.

Now eight eyes stare Lorelei down.

LORELEI

Mom...Dad...Elvira...Albert...Mr. Dorish gave our World History class an extra-credit assignment.

MARISOL

What kind?

LORELEI

We've gotta do something that brings world culture to Las Vegas.

Cesar's and Marisol's peepers light up.

ALBERT

Whatcha gonna do, Lorelei?

LORELEI

(stands up)

I want to...bring...street pianos to the Las Vegas area!

Albert looks stunned...Cesar shakes his head "no."

Elvira buries her head in her hands...Marisol gives the whole thing a "thumbs down."

MARISOL

There's just one word for putting pianos on the streets around here: "Vandalism."

LORELEI

Mom...it worked in Reno.

MARISOL

That's Reno.

Lorelei sits back down.

LORELEI

I also went online and found out about this artist from England...Luke Jerram.

ALBERT

Luke who?

LORELEI

(between bites)

He was washing his clothes one day in Birmingham--

ELVIRA

Alabama? USA?

LORELEI

Nope...England. UK.

(takes a sip)

Anyway...Luke noticed how the customers at the laundromat he was washing his clothes at weren't interacting with each other.

Elvira's is a slow nod.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

He just wanted to bring people together...so he decided to put a piano in that laundromat.

Marisol shakes her head sideways.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I thought it was cool...and I just wanted to do the same thing here...bring people together.

CESAR

Lor...seems like the Raiders and the Golden Knights do the same thing. Bringing people together.

Albert and Marisol AD LIB their agreement with Cesar.

CESAR (CONT'D)

Especially since the Golden Knights won the Stanley Cup in 2023.

ELVIRA

Dad...don't forget about the Aces!

CESAR

Uh...you're right, Elvira. Great basketball team. They bring people together, too.

MARISOL

(takes a bite)

Lorelei...listen to your dad.

Lorelei furnishes her own slow nod.

LORELEI

Another thing I found out online: Out of America's twenty-five largest cities, Las Vegas is the only one that's never had a streetpiano exhibition.

Marisol gives Lorelei a "so what?" look.

ELVIRA

Hate to tell you this, Lorelei...but...I smell an F.

A peeved Lorelei points to her sister.

ELVIRA (CONT'D)

A great big F.

CESAR

Lor...listen to us.

LORELEI

Dad, I'm listening.

CESAR

If things had worked out for bringing street pianos to Vegas, we would've had 'em already.

LORELEI

If Reno could do it...we can, too.

Marisol grabs her plate and leaves the table.

CESAR

Think, Lorelei...think about why we've never had street pianos around here.

Now Lorelei grips her plate and departs from the table. Cesar jumps out of his seat to follow her.

INT. THE PIANO BAR AT HARRAH'S - NIGHT

CUSTOMERS fill every seat in this upbeat, casual, somewhat-intimate space.

CESAR (V.O.)

First of all, Vegas is a city of professional entertainers...well, I like to think so.

They watch BOBBY COTTON (29) and WESTON "SONNY" WEBSTER (32) try their best to preside over a digital grand piano each.

A table for eight forms a ring around the two pianos.

CESAR (V.O.) (CONT'D)

They're not gonna sit still for a bunch of amateurs.

Table occupants TRISTAN MURPHY (30) and MERRILLEE WIMBISH COTTON (31; Bobby's wife) sit, watch, and drink.

TRISTAN

God! How long they been together?

MERRILLEE

It's their first time together.

Merrillee catches Tristan's confused look.

MERRILLEE (CONT'D)

Bobby and Sonny have the same manager. She thought it was a great idea to put 'em together.

A few other drinkers storm out of the place.

TRISTAN

They oughta fire her.

Tristan downs his drink.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Sonny and Bobby wrap up a tune in a place that's now half full of patrons.

Merrillee and a few other customers applaud...Tristan looks ready to throw up.

BOBBY

(into his piano mike)
All right, everybody! Who's got a
song they'd like us to play?

At one end of Tristan's and Merrillee's table, MARK-PAUL and TIFFANI KRAUSE (both 20s) raise their hands.

SONNY

(into own piano mike)

Uh...yes, Mark-Paul?

MARK-PAUL

When are the Twins coming back?

Bobby and Sonny eye each other in confusion.

BOBBY

We don't know that one.

TIFFANI

Kim and Tamara!

The remaining customers applaud.

SONNY

Oh! Those Twins!

TRISTAN

Damn...right!

SONNY

They'll be back next week! They're on tour!

A new round of clapping kicks in.

**BOBBY** 

But, seriously...who's got a song they'd like us to play?

Nobody in the crowd responds...until Tiffani raises her hand once again.

SONNY

Okay, Tiffani. Whatcha wanna hear?

TIFFANI

Do you two know "Mustang Sally?"

BOBBY

Do I? Let me tell you--

Tiffani's mouth hangs open while many customers laugh.

Merrillee turns to Tristan.

MERRILLEE

I should've known.

BOBBY

But, seriously...here she is!

Bobby pounds out the opening bars to "Mustang Sally."

Sonny sits dumbfounded at his own piano.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

(adding vocals)

Mustang Sally,/Guess you'd better slow your Mustang down.

Bobby glowers at his so-called partner.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Sonny, aren't you gonna play along?

SONNY

Bobby, I don't play "Mustang Sally" in that key!

Sonny's alleged partner stops the music.

**BOBBY** 

Let's hear your key!

Sonny bangs out "Mustang Sally..." but in a different key.

SONNY

(singing, too)

Mustang Sally,/Guess you'd better slow your Mustang down.

Bobby tries as best as he can to play the tune in Sonny's favorite key.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Mustang Sally, now, baby,/Guess you'd better slow that Mustang down.

BOBBY

You've been runnin' all over town now.

SONNY

Guess I'll have to put your flat feet on the ground.

In the back of the room, ANOTHER CUSTOMER shakes his head "no" and staggers his way out.

IRATE CUSTOMER

(along the way)

They oughta...fire those two!

EXT. HARRAH'S - NIGHT

Sonny hurries his way out through the front entrance; Merrillee and Bobby (the two hold hands) try to follow.

BOBBY

Will you wait a damn minute?

Sonny stops in his tracks.

SONNY

Bobby, we should gone with my stuff!

BOBBY

That isn't what we worked out!

Bobby and Merrillee catch up to Sonny.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

We were gonna go half and half!

SONNY

Yeah? Well, my half's stronger than your half...by far!

**BOBBY** 

My half's got more comedy than yours!

SONNY

You call that comedy?

The two pianists point at each other.

When it looks to be Fisticuffs Time, Merrillee steps in between the two men.

MERRILLEE

C'mon, you two! Chill out!

Bobby and Sonny continue to glower at one another.

MERRILLEE (CONT'D)

You look like Cardi B and Nicki Minaj...or Taylor Swift and Katy Perry.

The two men turn to the lone woman.

MERRILLEE (CONT'D)

Well...you sure don't look like Will Smith and Chris Rock.

Merrillee watches Sonny and Bobby point at one another...and the two men's expressions soften.

EXT. BERSAGLIO STREET - DAY

A 2022 Volkswagen Passat tools southbound on this street in the Siena Golf Club neighborhood.

INT. VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT - DAY

It's the Bermudez family's other car.

Cesar drives...Marisol rides shotgun...Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert strain to look comfy in the back seat.

MARISOL

(nudges Cesar)

Jay, you sure this is the right street?

CESAR

Ask Lorelei.

LORELEI

It's the right street.

Cesar pulls into the driveway of...

EXT. ELLIOTTS' HOUSE - DAY

...an impressive one-story, two-car-garage house whose front yard teems with palm trees.

The Five Bermudezes jump out of the VW and stroll toward the house's front door.

MARISOL

(to Lorelei)

You're lucky the laundromat we wash our clothes at's letting us do this.

LORELEI

It worked for Luke Jerram.

First Bermudez to the front door rings its doorbell.

INT. ELLIOTTS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Spacious...well-furnished...comfortable.

When she HEARS the doorbell ring, SUZANNE LEE ELLIOTT (mid 40s) rises from her seat on a sofa to open the front door.

Husband JUSTIN ELLIOTT (early 40s) jumps up from the same sofa when Cesar, Marisol, Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert enter.

SUZANNE

Come on in! You must be the Bermudez family!

CESAR

Yep. That's us.

JUSTIN

You texted us about the piano we're trying to get rid of.

Lorelei wears an ear-to-ear smile.

SUZANNE

Follow us!

Suzanne leads her hubby and their five guests to:

INT. ELLIOTTS' SECOND BEDROOM - DAY

Four adults and three children gaze out at an object disguised by a tarp in this sparsely-decorated room.

Good thing the bed's gone.

Its old mattress stands erect along one wall, though.

MARISOL

Mrs. Elliott--

SUZANNE

It's okay. Call me Suzanne.

MARISOL

Suzanne...before we take the cover off...is anything gonna crawl outa there that we don't know about?

Suzanne shakes her head sideways...Cesar shrugs...Lorelei grits her teeth.

JUSTIN

No. It's all good.

Marisol gestures Lorelei and Cesar into following her to the tarp-covered object.

The threesome strain to remove the cover when:

ALBERT

We wanna help!

ELVIRA

Yeah!

Elvira and Albert join their sister and parents in lifting the tarp off said object: A 1950-59 spinet piano.

JUSTIN

How do you like it?

LORELEI

Mr. Elliott...can you give us a few minutes?

JUSTIN

Okay. But call me Justin.

Six heads nod at Justin.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Elvira, Albert, and Lorelei cram the piano's bench to deliver a six-handed, one-keyboard rendition of a recent rock tune.

Cesar and Marisol look impressed...Justin and Suzanne breathe sighs of relief.

The three children bow...the four adults applaud.

SUZANNE

Justin and I bought that for our kids...but they got tired of it.

JUSTIN

They got tired of trying to be piano players.

LORELEI

We'll be glad to take it!

Suzanne and Justin clap again.

SUZANNE

Think what an addition that piano's gonna be when you bring it home.

LORELEI

Actually...we're putting it in a laundromat.

SUZANNE

Say...what?

**CESAR** 

Lorelei's telling the truth.

Justin looks confused.

LORELEI

Well, it worked for Luke Jerram.

JUSTIN

Luke who?

Albert strides over to Justin.

ALBERT

You got about two hours?

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

A U-Haul truck pulls into a parking space in front of the second building north in a small shopping center.

The sign in front says: "LAUNDROMAT."

Lorelei climbs out of the truck's passenger side and Marisol jumps from the U-Haul's driver's side.

The twosome look relieved to find the Volkswagen Passat in a nearby parking space...next to a beat-up, bright red 2002 Ford Explorer.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

Cesar, Elvira, and Albert join with SIX OTHER CUSTOMERS in washday chores on this Sunday afternoon.

Four big-screen TVs show VIDEOS...but nobody pays attention.

Some customers listen to their MP3 players or cell phones...yet no real customer interaction takes place.

RAMONA SEGUI (45, grumpy) mops the aisle between the washers and dryers when Cesar opens the front door while Marisol and Lorelei wheel that spinet piano into the laundromat.

MARISOL

See that, Lorelei?

LORELEI

I know, Mom: It pays to work out.

Ramona tosses her mop to the side and carefully jogs to the front door.

RAMONA

You wanna get that thing outa here?

Lorelei's mouth flies open...mother and oldest daughter stop in their tracks.

LORELEI

But we talked to the two owners here, and they let us--

RAMONA

I don't care if they brought Elvis back from the dead! Get that thing outa here!

MARISOL

Hell, no!

A few customers gaze at the combatants...Albert, Cesar, and Elvira rush over to Lorelei, Marisol, and Ramona.

CESAR

Marisol...Lor...is everything all--

RAMONA

(wags finger at Cesar)
GET OFF MY CLEAN FLOOR!

MARISOL

Cesar, Ramona won't let us bring this piano into the laundromat.

LORELEI

Never mind that it's for a school extra-credit project.

Now the other customers crowd around Ramona and the Five Bermudezes. Some gaze at the Fifties piano.

RAMONA

You got ten seconds to get that piece of trash outa here!

Marisol and Lorelei shrug before they grab hold of the piano.

Elvira turns to Albert.

ELVIRA

Lorelei's gonna get an F.

ALBERT

Unless she finds another laundromat.

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

Lorelei and Marisol drag that spinet toward the U-Haul truck when a 2015 Dodge Durango skids into a parking space.

JORGE CASTANEDA (early 40s; the driver) and his brother ROBERTO CASTANEDA (late 30s; the passenger) jump out of the Durango and sprint, arms waving, toward the U-Haul.

JORGE

Stop! Whatcha two doin'?

Marisol and her eldest daughter stop and eyeball Jorge.

MARISOL

Jorge, we're so damn glad to see you and Roberto!

LORELEI

Ramona wouldn't let us put this piano inside the laundromat.

Roberto shakes his head "no."

LORELEI (CONT'D)

She's piano-intolerant.

Jorge chuckles.

ROBERTO

Lorelei, you go ahead and help your mom bring that piano back inside.

**JORGE** 

Yeah. We ain't gonna let you get no F on that extra-credit project.

Marisol grins...Lorelei beams.

ROBERTO

And when Jorge and I get inside, we're gonna have a talk with Ramona.

LORELEI

Thank you both...and Mom.

Jorge, Marisol, and Roberto AD LIB their acknowledgement.

MARISOL

One more second...and I would gone full MMA on Ramona.

LORELEI

(nods at the Castanedas)
Besides...a mop handle's no match
for a raised leg.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

TWO OR THREE NEW CUSTOMERS join Albert, Cesar, Elvira, and the other folks when Roberto holds the front door for Jorge, Lorelei, and Marisol...who guide the 1950s spinet inside.

No sign of Ramona.

Once Roberto shuts the front door:

ROBERTO

Put it on that back wall.

LORELEI

Got it!

Marisol, Jorge, and Lorelei shove that piano onto the back wall...and cause looks of puzzlement among some customers.

Elvira, Albert, and Cesar cheer...Roberto comes over and looks satisfied.

MARISOL

Jorge...thank you and Roberto so much for letting us do this.

LORELEI

You don't know how much it means.

JORGE

Hey, it's no big deal.

ROBERTO

Yeah. You're very welcome.

Jorge and Roberto shake hands with Lorelei and Marisol. Cesar, Albert, and Elvira rush over to do handshakes with the laundromat's two owners.

The Bermudezes go back to laundry chores...the Castanedas head for the manager's office.

Ramona returns from the women's restroom...only to cringe.

TOSHIRO YAMADA (12) wanders over to the piano; he checks its sides...his mother MIYOSHI (40s) saunters behind him.

MIYOSHI

Son...what are you doing?

TOSHIRO

I'm lookin' for the power cord.

Miyoshi shakes her head sideways.

EXT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

STUDENTS file inside on this Monday in early September.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Just before World History class begins, Jackson, Josh, Kacee, Maansi, and Marybeth crowd around a seated Lorelei.

**JACKSON** 

(to Lorelei)

So...you still gonna go through with it?

JOSH

Even if it ain't cool?

LORELEI

Are we in Nevada?

Lorelei's inquisitors shake their heads "yes."

Marybeth and Kacee still look skeptical...Maansi smirks. And Lorelei catches the three girls' expressions.

MAANSI

Lor, whatcha looking at?

LORELEI

I've heard you three play the piano before...at assemblies and stuff.

KACEE

Yeah, but...

LORELEI

All the way back to Hyde Park Middle School. And all three of you wipe the floor with me.

Marybeth's look becomes a grin.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I've seen your YouTube videos, Marybeth. You're grea...awesome. You're awesome.

MARYBETH

(points at Lorelei)

See? You almost said "great!"

The two boys stare Marybeth down.

LORELEI

I would athought you and Kacee and Maansi would jump at being able to play street pianos.

KACEE

Well...I don't know...

LORELEI

Kacee...you play beautifully.

Now Josh and Jackson give Kacee the evil eye.

KACEE

Well...uh...thanks.

LORELEI

And Maansi, I remember going online and finding out your birth city of Montreal had pianos out in the streets when you were a toddler.

Maansi's mouth flies open.

MAANSI

I'm...bus...ted.

Josh stares at Maansi...but she puts her hands in front of his face.

MAANSI (CONT'D)

I banged on one of those street pianos up there in Montreal.

The other students file into the room...slowly but surely.

MAANSI (CONT'D)

It got to the point where my folks broke down and sent me to the best piano teacher they knew.

**JACKSON** 

Maansi...put your hands down.

Maansi does exactly that...when Larry strolls in and catches the conversation.

LORELEI

(to Maansi)

Wait'll you try the piano at the Decatur Boulevard Laundromat.

LARRY

A piano in a laundromat?

Lorelei's classmates scramble to their rightful seats while Larry gravitates to his own desk.

LORELEI

It's just a test balloon, Mr. Dorish...to see how customers react. How they interact.

Josh eyeballs Lorelei.

JOSH

Hate to tell you this...but that idea's all wet.

Most classmates laugh.

LORELEI

Luke Jerram didn't think so.

JOSH

Luke who?

LORELEI

Josh...see me after class.

LARRY

Think I'd like to get in on it, too, Lorelei.

The students bust out in laughter again.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Bobby and Merrillee join with FIVE OTHER CUSTOMERS in doing the washday thing on this Monday evening.

The four TVs show A DIFFERENT PROGRAM EACH...but nobody pays any attention.

One person listens to music on a smartphone...another tries to read today's "Las Vegas Review-Journal."

Merrillee watches her husband gaze at the 1950-59 spinet.

BOBBY

Sorry, Merrillee. I just can't help it.

MERRILLEE

It's all right...go ahead.

Bobby walks over to the piano...sits down...eyes his wife.

BOBBY

This one's for you, honey.

She blows him a kiss before he strikes up "Dedicated to the One I Love" or a similar song.

By the time Bobby reaches the song's twelfth bar, it's 5:00 PM...and all four TVs now show TONIGHT'S NFL FOOTBALL GAME.

Everybody else but Merrillee converges on Bobby.

He stops the music.

Bobby turns around...and eyeballs the converging customers.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I found a coupla dead keys.

EXT. BERMUDEZES' HOUSE - NIGHT

An SUV passes by.

INT. ELVIRA'S AND LORELEI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Busy-looking...well-furnished (maybe even cluttered).

In a closed-door jam session, Lorelei sits on her bed and strums her ukelele; Elvira sits at her own bed, where she shreds on her electric guitar; and an erect Albert fiddles away on his violin.

Their song comes to an end...and the threesome set their instruments aside, then high-five it.

LORELEI

That's how we sound when we all work together!

ALBERT

Yeah!

**ELVIRA** 

You know it!

Elvira and Lorelei reach underneath their beds and pull out an electronic keyboard each...when all three children hear A KNOCK on the door.

ALBERT

C'MON IN!

Albert's sisters slide their keyboards back under their beds when the bedroom door opens...and reveals Cesar and Marisol.

CESAR

You kids are on fire tonight!

LORELEI

Thanks, Dad!

Cesar trades high fives with the three youngest Bermudezes.

Marisol notices an up-to-date Las Vegas street map on the wall...a map festooned with a hundred (or so) pins.

She gestures Lorelei to her side.

MARISOL

You wanna explain all the pins on the wall?

LORELEI

You bet.

Elvira, Cesar, and Albert crowd around Lorelei and Marisol.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

All the pins on the map stand for a landmark in Greater Las Vegas.

MARISOL

Uh...huh.

LORELEI

And each pin also stands for a place where a street piano can go.

ELVIRA

That's more street pianos than Los Angeles had back in 2012.

Lorelei's is an enthusiastic nod.

LORELEI

And they only had thirty.

MARISOL

(arm around Lorelei)

You realize some of them are gonna clash, don'tcha?

LORELEI

Well...it worked for Tilburg, the Netherlands.

MARISOL

That's Tilburg.

LORELEI

The year Luke Jerram ran his "Play Me, I'm Yours" street-piano tour through Tilburg, 2011, they placed a hundred one street pianos there.

ALBERT

Wow...

LORELEI

And the people of Tilburg had only two weeks to enjoy 'em.

CESAR

That's just like giving a cable network a week to run a "Law and Order" marathon.

Marisol keeps her arm around Lorelei.

MARISOL

So...how long are you gonna keep those pins on the wall?

LORELEI

Until they let us place street pianos around here.

Marisol breathes a heavy sigh.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Don't worry, Mom...I'll fill up the holes...and then I'll stick a poster where the holes used to be.

MARISOL

And I've got one more question.

LORELEI

Okay.

MARISOL

How many pins represent casinos?

Lorelei grits her teeth.

Marisol removes her arm from around her oldest daughter.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

Sonny, Miyoshi, Toshiro, and EIGHT OTHER CUSTOMERS wash their clothes here. Miyoshi catches sideways glances at Toshiro, who doodles around on the piano...and finds a dead key.

TOSHIRO

Mom, I can't get it to work!

MIYOSHI

Toshiro, why not find another key like it?

A few customers look annoyed.

Sonny and the man alongside him, MARKUS STUBBS (30, optimistic, Black), don't as they stand at their respective washers.

Toshiro looks up from the keys in confusion.

**MARKUS** 

(to Toshiro)

One that works!

TOSHIRO

Okay! Thank you!

MARKUS

Any time!

Toshiro plays a similar key an octave away from the dead one...Miyoshi nods in satisfaction...Markus and Sonny eyeball each other.

SONNY

You come here often?

MARKUS

No...I just heard about it the other day. Bobby Cotton wrote about it on his Facebook page.

Sonny does a doubletake...

SONNY

Bobby and I have a dueling piano act!

MARKUS

Hey...I heard about it.

...then watches the clothes spin around in his washer.

MARKUS (CONT'D)

How's it going?

SONNY

Don't ask.

Markus shrugs before he looks at the clothes tumble around in his own washer.

SONNY (CONT'D)

But if Bobby and I split up...you can have his spot.

Toshiro ends his piano doodling and runs to his mom's side.

Sonny, Markus, and a few others applaud...a couple more customers sigh in relief.

MIYOSHI

Son...keep working at it.

Toshiro shakes his head "yes."

SONNY

Markus...you wanna try it?

MARKUS

Nah. That's okay. Some other time. (checks his washer)
This cycle's about to end.

Sonny strolls to the Fifties piano...and launches something by Billy Joel or a similar artist.

He grimaces when he realizes four or five of the keys he wants don't make a sound.

But Sonny plows on...while Ramona (cleaning supplies and all) emerges from the women's restroom to sneak a peek.

Ramona cringes.

Toshiro, Miyoshi, and Markus watch as, one by one, the seven remaining customers converge on Sonny.

FRANK and MONA PIUROWSKI (both late 60s) grab a newly-shocked Sonny by his armpits...and lift him off the bench!

FRANK

(to Sonny)

Don't ever play that song again!

MONA

Yeah! We almost got divorced by it!

SONNY

MARKUS!

Markus rushes over to help...but Ramona approaches him and shoots him the evil eye.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Kacee, Lorelei, Maansi, and Marybeth eat at a table in the middle of a space crowded with OTHER STUDENTS.

MARYBETH

So, Lorelei...you still got that piano in that laundromat?

LORELEI

(through her bites)
Is spaghetti pasta?

Maansi and Kacee crack up.

KACEE

Is it getting played?

LORELEI

Well...it's getting used.

MAANSI

Is that "used" like a real piano...or is that "used" like a piece of unwanted furniture?

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

The spinet's fallboard is closed...several light jackets (as well as some empty pop bottles) rest atop the instrument.

Even the bottom panel now sports some graffiti!

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Kacee shudders.

Maansi studies her own dessert...

MAANSI

I've heard of mystery meat...but mystery dessert?

MARYBETH

Well...that does take the cake.

...and eats it at last. (She likes it!)

Lorelei takes a bite of salad when A RINGTONE emanates from her pants pocket.

Kacee's, Marybeth's, and Maansi's eyes turn to Lorelei.

LORELEI

(into her cell phone)

Hello?

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

Cell phone in one hand and purchases between her legs, CHERYL HERCHMAN (52, a bit of a smartaleck) sits on one of the many sofas in the courtyard of this offbeat shopping center...an attraction built from recycled shipping containers.

CHERYL

(into phone)

Are you the real Lorelei
Bermudez...the girl who put a piano
in a laundromat?

INTERCUT - PHONE CONVERSATION

LORELEI

Well, I'm her...but I had help in moving that piano into that laundromat. My mom and one of the laundromat owners.

CHERYL

Well, I'll be...I'm Cheryl Herchman, and I'm from the Clark County Artists Guild.

Cheryl looks out at SHOPPERS who walk across the courtyard.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

And we've been going over the proposal you emailed us about sticking pianos on the streets of our beloved Sin City.

LORELEI

I tried to be as thorough as possible. Didn't wanna leave anything out.

CHERYL

And we appreciate that...are you busy tomorrow night? We'd like to talk popup pianos with you after the guild meeting.

LORELEI

You bet.

Marybeth, Kacee, and Maansi gaze at Lorelei.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

As long as Mom, Dad, and my brother and sister can come along, too.

Marybeth looks fit to be tied...Cheryl's is a wide smile.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

It's like my mom says: "The family
that kickboxes together stays
together."

KACEE

(whispers to Maansi)
That's a good thing to know.

EXT. FINDLAY HONDA - NIGHT

A modern-looking blue-and-white building in Vegas' Centennial Hills area.

INT. FINDLAY HONDA SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

It's the third Tuesday in September...Cheryl stands across from Albert, Cesar, Elvira, Lorelei, Marisol, and TEN ARTISTS GUILD MEMBERS. (All fifteen sit in chairs.)

Member paintings decorate this Subaru-themed room.

CHERYL

And don't forget...on the last Saturday this month, it's "Art in the Park" over at Bruce Trent Park.

Some artists nod.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Starts at ten, ends at four...but you oughta come around nine. Parking spots fill up fast.

A few members AD LIB their acknowledgement.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Any other business before we wrap it up tonight?

CHELSEA NGUYEN (30s) raises her hand.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Chelsea, what would you like to add?

CHELSEA

How long are we gonna keep meeting at a car dealership?

CHERYL

Until a better place comes along...although that nudist colony in Henderson looked promising.

The conference room roars with laughter.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Any other business?

Dead silence.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Well then, let's hear it one more time for our guests...the Bermudez family!

Solid applause fills the room as CCAG members eye Marisol, Cesar, and their progeny.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

And this meeting is adjourned. Help yourselves to the rest of the refreshments in the back.

While most of the artists go to a table in the back of the room to enjoy snacks, Cheryl motions the Five Bermudezes to her side.

CESAR

Cheryl, how do you feel about putting these chairs in a circle?

CHERYL

You read my mind.

Marisol, Lorelei, Elvira, Cheryl, Cesar, and Albert grab a chair each and arrange the six chairs into a circle of sorts.

The three adults and the three children sit down.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

So...it's the first time in my life I've met a family of kickboxers.

ALBERT

Actually...Mom's the real kickboxer in the family.

ELVIRA

When she isn't the strength-and-conditioning coach of UNLV's football team.

Marisol looks embarrassed.

MARISOL

I thought were gonna talk about street pianos.

Cheryl nods...Lorelei's eyes light up.

CHERYL

Well...anyway...Lorelei, you've laid out quite an ambitious proposal...

LORELEI

Thanks, Cheryl. I just didn't wanna leave any neighborhoods behind.

CHERYL

And we appreciate that.

All eyes turn to Lorelei.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

I can't help but ask, though: Out of the hundred and twenty-seven places you've proposed for street pianos in the Las Vegas area...how many places are casinos?

Chelsea wanders over to the confab.

MARISOL

(to Cheryl)

Same question I asked her.

Lorelei holds up her index finger for all to see...and stuns Marisol and Cheryl.

LORELEI

But it's attached to America's tallest freestanding observation tower.

Cesar and Albert applaud.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Had to be very careful with the Fremont Street Experience...what with all the casinos there. Glad they've got three outdoor stages.

Chelsea moves closer to the circle of sorts.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Main thing is: I just wanted to do something to help bring people together...before we human beings blow ourselves off the Earth.

Cheryl and Chelsea shake their heads "yes."

LORELEI (CONT'D)

And show that Vegas can have street pianos and still be a cool city.

CHELSEA

Now that's dope!

Six sets of eyes stare at Chelsea...who covers her mouth before she slinks away.

CHERYL

So...here's the bottom line...

Lorelei, Marisol, Albert, Cesar, and Elvira hold hands.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

We're taking a big chance...but we'll be glad to do it...as long as we can put twenty-five of 'em in the area instead of the hundred and twenty-seven you first proposed.

Cesar shakes his head up and down...Elvira and Albert look gleeful...Marisol grins.

And Lorelei's mouth flies open.

Lorelei's reaction peeves Marisol.

MARISOL

All right, family! Huddle up!

All five Bermudezes jump up from their chairs to form a huddle in the middle of the room.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

(eyes on Lorelei)
Look, Cinderella: It ain't no
sports car...it's a carriage. And
it'll still get you to the ball.

CHERYL

(shouts toward huddle)

No gossip!

Chelsea tries to sneak a peek at the huddle.

EXT. "WELCOME TO FABULOUS LAS VEGAS, NEVADA" SIGN - DAY

The second Friday in April...TWO MOVERS (men in their 20s) lug a 1910-19 upright piano (brightened with painted stars in all sorts of colors) toward the famous sign's posts.

The two men chain the piano to a post.

EXT. BELLAGIO FOUNTAINS - DAY

TWO MORE MOVERS (men in their 40s) fasten a water-themed 1970s studio piano to the fence between the sidewalk and the fountains...and strive not to fall into the water.

EXT. ALLEGIANT STADIUM - DAY

A THIRD DUO OF MOVING MEN (both 30s) bring a 1920s grand piano painted in (what else?) the Raiders' colors of silver and black as close to the front entrance as possible.

EXT. THE PARK ON THE LAS VEGAS STRIP - DAY

ANOTHER PAIR OF MOVERS (a man in his 30s and a woman in her 40s) secure a 1900-09 upright piano (painted to look like the "Yellow Brick Road") to a post at the "PARK MGM" entrance.

Both movers click their heels a la Judy Garland.

EXT. DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - DAY

A FIFTH TWOSOME (a pair of women in their 30s) do the honors: They affix a candy-cane-themed 1920s upright piano to a palm tree...then high-five each other.

EXT. STRAT HOTEL, CASINO, AND TOWER - DAY

TEAM SIX (a man in his 50s and a man in his 40s) gazes upward at the nation's tallest freestanding observation tower...only to realize their sky-blue-painted 1960s studio piano is about to roll into the street.

EXT. MOB MUSEUM - DAY

When PAIR SEVEN (a woman in her 20s and a man in his 20s) place a 1910s upright to the right of the front entrance, A CROWD lines up along Stewart Avenue...to try out a piano that features fake bullet holes.

EXT. NEON MUSEUM - DAY

Yep...AN EIGHTH TEAM toils here. Its two men (40s) scramble to find a place to bolt down a 1980-89 spinet painted in psychedelic colors.

EXT. OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT - DAY

Team One prepares to secure an 1880s upright (one whose music rack features an old-fashioned landscape painting) outside the old adobe fort...only to take the piano inside the fort...and then outside again.

EXT. MADAME TUSSAUDS LAS VEGAS - DAY

Team Two wrestles with another Seventies studio piano...but this one sports an Elvis Presley theme.

EXT. PINBALL HALL OF FAME - DAY

Next up for Team Three: The two men shove a 1910s upright piano against the front facade...about ten feet from the front entrance.

This piano's made up to resemble...a pinball machine.

EXT. THE BIG EDGE - DAY

Team Four's next assignment: Fasten a 1930s spinet piano and its weird sculpture to <u>this</u> unusual sculpture...a landmark made out of canoes.

EXT. BURLESQUE HALL OF FAME - DAY

Team Five sticks a 1920-29 upright (it's been transformed into a see-through piano) on the sidewalk between Main Street and the BHOF entrance.

One mover threatens to go topless...but her partner gestures her out of it.

TEAM FIVE MOVER #1

Aw, come on!

TEAM FIVE MOVER #2 What in Hell were you thinking?

EXT. ZAK BAGANS' HAUNTED MUSEUM - DAY

For Team Six, it's an 1890s upright painted into a Halloween tribute...the two men fasten the piano inside the fence next to the "THE HAUNTED MUSEUM" sign.

And they shudder.

INT. LORENZI PARK PAVILION - DAY

Team Seven bolts a green-themed 1920s upright to a post...much to the delight of PICNICKERS inside the pavilion.

EXT. BLISS DANCE SCULPTURE - DAY

Team Eight secures a 1900-09 upright made to look like Liberace's old silver nickelodeon piano...then the two men try to pose like the dancer in the sculpture.

EXT. T-MOBILE ARENA - NIGHT

Ramona and OTHER VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS FANS pour out of the facility...she fumes when she spots the piano attached to the nearby Bliss Dance Sculpture.

EXT. LAS VEGAS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM - NIGHT

Team One fights to secure a dinosaur-themed turn-of-the-Twentieth-Century upright piano to one of the pillars of the front entrance.

EXT. SUNSET PARK - NIGHT

Team Two fastens to a fence a 1950s studio piano that's drenched in red, orange, green, and blue.

Visitors Justin and Suzanne look surprised.

EXT. SPRINGS PRESERVE - NIGHT

After the two men in Team Three bolt a butterfly-themed 1950s spinet in place next to the front entrance, they try to make like butterflies.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - NIGHT

The duo in Team Four chain a garden-influenced 1900-09 upright piano in place, then rest on the piano's bench.

So much for rest: SHOPPERS OF ALL AGES converge on the piano...and the two movers flee.

Josh and Jackson pass by...only to look floored.

EXT. FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE - MAIN STREET STAGE - NIGHT

The two men from Team Six transport a golden upright from the 1870s to a spot to chain the piano down.

EXT. CLARK COUNTY MUSEUM, HENDERSON, NV - NIGHT

The women of Team Five chain a bluebird-themed upright piano from the 1900-09 era to the tree near the front entrance.

Miyoshi and Toshiro stroll out of the museum as it closes for the night...but he sprints to the piano and she chases him.

EXT. ALIANTE LIBRARY, NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV - NIGHT

Team Seven's movers wrestle a book-themed 1940s spinet into place close to the front entrance.

EXT. LION HABITAT RANCH, HENDERSON, NV - NIGHT

The eighth twosome place a 1950-59 spinet next to the "LION HABITAT" sign.

This piano uses a (duh!) lion motif.

EXT. NORTH LAS VEGAS CITY HALL, NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV - NIGHT

Bobby, Merrillee, and Sonny lug a pinstriped upright piano from the 1920s into a sidewalk spot between the parking lot and this medium-rise Obama-era structure.

The two men and lone woman collapse from exhaustion.

Once they come to:

BOBBY

We're pianists...not piano movers.

SONNY

Yeah, Bobby...that'll teach us to...volunteer to move one of these.

MERRILLEE

You guys...we've still gotta chain that thing to that pillar.

Sonny and Bobby slump again.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

THE COURTYARD'S PACKED WITH PEOPLE OF ALL AGES!

Cheryl beams alongside two just-as-ecstatic women: JULIETTE WYMAN (73, a stylish Briton with a bit of punk rocker in her) and GERALDINE PAUL (84, laid-back; Las Vegas' mayor).

Kacee, Maansi, and Marybeth (all three wear T-shirts that say "NEVADA MUSIC ACADEMY") pose with THEIR MOMS AND DADS.

A giddy Toshiro (camcorder in tow) holds hands with Miyoshi.

Lorelei trades high fives with Marisol, Cesar, Elvira, Albert, Larry, and AILEEN DORISH (65; Larry's wife).

AILEEN

(pointing to Lorelei)
You're the one...you did the impossible...you slew the dragon.

LORELEI

And I had plenty of help!

A CAMERA CREW from each of Vegas' newsgathering TV stations catches footage.

Markus shoots the breeze with GLEN "BUCKY" HARRIS (76, glib; New York accent).

**MARKUS** 

Bucky, this is really cool! I'm still wondering why we've never had these here in Vegas before.

Bucky and Markus gaze out at the garden-themed piano, then at each other.

BUCKY

Us.

**MARKUS** 

Huh?

BUCKY

Us...us piano-lounge veterans.

Cheryl strides to a podium not far from the courtyard piano.

CHERYL

(into podium mike)

Give yourselves a hand, everybody!

The throng erupts in applause.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Welcome to Downtown Container Park...the launchpad for the Las Vegas area's street-piano art exhibit...better known as "Make a Play!"

The cheering kicks back in as Larry turns to Lorelei.

LARRY

Did you think that name up?

LORELEI

Nope.

Cheryl adjusts the podium mike to her liking.

CHERYL

For the next six weeks, we get to show the world that America's most exciting city can have those colorful outdoor pianos on its streets, too!

Sonny, Bobby, and Merrillee clap along with the crowd...but BRANDON WIMBISH (17; cousin to Merrillee and Bobby) doesn't.

BRANDON

Why'd you bring me here?

MERRILLEE

'Cause your folks are too drunk and too stoned to.

Brandon grimaces.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Maansi looks fired up...Lorelei remains even more so.

CHERYL

(still at podium)

We couldn't have done this without all the dedicated, highly-talented artists who decorated these pianos...all the businesses and the local organizations that sponsored this exhibit...

Elvira and Albert rub their hands in glee.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Let's give a shout-out to the Clark County Artists Guild, Community Arts Advocates of Nevada, and the Mighty 4 Arts Foundation.

Chelsea, Frank, Mona, and Tristan eye each other as they clap with the other spectators.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

But it took a teenager to put a bug in everybody's ears.

Cesar, Aileen, and Larry look on in anticipation.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

We wouldn't be here this morning if it weren't for the efforts of a sophomore at Western High School...Lorelei Bermudez!

Lorelei's mouth flies open...her hand clutches her chest...her siblings and parents cheer...Aileen, Jorge, Larry, and Roberto do, too.

Suzanne and Justin jump for joy.

And Brandon, Jackson, Josh, Kacee, Maansi, and Marybeth stare at her as if she were a zombie.

Bobby, Bucky, Mark-Paul, Sonny, Tiffani, and Tristan look some kind of shocked.

Kacee breaks the trance by cheering for Lorelei.

AILEEN

Larry...that's the Warrior Way.

Larry nods as the whole place erupts in applause.

SAME SCENE - STILL LATER

Juliette stands at the podium.

JULIETTE

(into mike)

Congratulations, Las Vegas...congratulations for stepping up.

Most of the audience claps.

JULIETTE (CONT'D)

Because you stepped up, all twentyfive of America's twenty-five largest cities have now launched a street-piano exhibit!

Through the applause, Markus and Bucky nod away.

JULIETTE (CONT'D)

Now...let's give the middle finger to everybody who said that Vegas was too cool to put pianos out in the streets!

Now the courtyard explodes in pandemonium!

MARISOL

(to Cesar)

Damn!

SAME SCENE - LATER YET

Geraldine takes her place at the podium.

GERALDINE

(into mike)

It's good to be the mayor!

At least half the folks applaud.

GERALDINE (CONT'D)

In fact...it's great to be the mayor...and it's because I get to come to an outing such as this and say: "Let the music begin!"

The pandemonium is back!

SERIES OF SHOTS

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

TWO UNLV MUSIC PROFESSORS launch "Make a Play" by taking the park's 1900s upright through a classical duet.

SIX NEVADA BALLET THEATRE DANCERS twirl and glide around the old upright while AN ACCOMPANIST offers an airy piece.

Toshiro joins with many other spectators in catching it all with camcorders, still cameras, and cell phones.

Marybeth plays her best classical selection...her parents cross their fingers.

Maansi comes up with a modern rock tune...her folks shrug.

Kacee pounds out a 1980s rock/R&B song...and makes her father and mother proud (and dumbfounds Josh and Jackson).

Geraldine jumps into the act...with a 1960s folk song.

Juliette weighs in with a semiclassical number.

Cheryl tickles out a show tune.

Bucky delivers a piano-lounge standard.

Next up to bat: Markus...who plays a John Legend song.

It's 1960s rock for Bobby and Sonny, who share the same piano bench...and trade places in midsong.

It works to perfection...Tristan, Tiffani, Merrillee, and Mark-Paul applaud.

Albert goes with one of his piano exercises...a surprise to Marisol, Lorelei, and Cesar.

Elvira bangs out something by Adele or Taylor Swift (or a similar artist).

Lorelei plays a tune by Lady Gaga (or a like artist).

Marybeth and Maansi look bug-eyed...an applauding Kacee catches their expression.

Jackson and Josh stand there openmouthed.

The Two Dorishes, Two Elliotts, and the four remaining Bermudezes lead the way as the courtyard explodes in kudos.

## END SERIES OF SHOTS

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK PARKING LOT - DAY

In the stroll toward their vehicles, Cesar, Cheryl, Juliette, and Marisol whoop it up with Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert.

CHERYL

Kickboxers, indeed!

Ramona heads for her beat-up, bright red 2002 Ford Explorer while she watches the four adults and the three children.

MARISOL

Jay, think about it: We were hoping to raise a family of athletes.

Cesar shakes his head "yes."

MARISOL (CONT'D)

We even named our son after Albert Pujols...and you were named after Cesar Cedeno.

Juliette looks confused.

ELVIRA

Juliette...they were a couple of baseball greats.

JULIETTE

I'll make sure to Google them when
I come back to the hotel.
 (pulls out her phone)
Never mind.

While Juliette pulls up a search engine on her smartphone, Cesar eyeballs Marisol.

CESAR

We're raising a trio of fine musicians. And that's good enough for me.

LORELEI

Don't worry, Mom...we still love to work out.

ALBERT

(flexing his muscles)

Yeah!

Markus and Bucky hurry over to the confab...Ramona opens her SUV's back door to pull out an AR-15.

MARKUS

(points to Lorelei)

You're the one!

The procession stops in its tracks when Lorelei and Markus trade high fives.

LORELEI

Well...I'm one of them.

BUCKY

But you lit the fuse, Lorelei!

MARISOL

(hugs Lorelei)

Bucky's right. You <u>did</u> light the fuse.

BUCKY

Just like on "Mission: Impossible."

Albert, Cesar, Cheryl, Elvira, Lorelei, Marisol, and Markus stare in confusion at Bucky.

Juliette looks up from her phone at Club Confused.

JULIETTE

It was a television series long before it became a cinema franchise.

Several heads nod.

Ramona sticks the gun back in her SUV and closes the Explorer's back door.

**MARKUS** 

Hey, everybody! Let's celebrate!

CHERYL

You pick the place, Markus.

Markus' deer-in-the-headlights look continues.

EXT. SEAFOOD RESTAURANT AT GOLDEN NUGGET - NIGHT

This one's part of the Fremont Street Experience.

INT. SEAFOOD RESTAURANT DINING ROOM - NIGHT

CUSTOMERS occupy two out of every three seats in this establishment whose interior screams class.

Albert, Bucky, Cesar, Cheryl, Elvira, Juliette, Lorelei, Marisol, and Markus dine at back-to-back tables toward the rear of the room.

Cheryl beams at Markus.

CHERYL

Good call...great call.

MARKUS

Hey, thanks!

Most of Markus' tablemates AD LIB their agreement.

CHERYL

(to Juliette)

So...you've actually worked alongside Luke Jerram.

MARISOL

Not a day goes by where Lorelei doesn't sing Luke's praises.

LORELEI

Mom...

MARISOL

(takes a bite)

It's true!

JULIETTE

Marisol, I sing Luke's praises, too.

(takes a swig)

I worked with him on many a "Play Me, I'm Yours" installation.

Several heads nod.

JULIETTE (CONT'D)

Things went along swimmingly...until the coronavirus pandemic hit.

BUCKY

Yep.

JULIETTE

2020 was the last year for "Play Me, I'm Yours."
(takes a bite)

JULIETTE (CONT'D)

I missed the show terribly...the interactions, the smiles on people's faces...

MARKUS

That's the truth...I'll never forget when they had street pianos in Reno.

Juliette's eyes light up.

MARKUS (CONT'D)

Not a single frown on anybody's face when they had the street pianos out there.

**ELVIRA** 

Hey, I heard that!

Albert nods as he chews his food.

JULIETTE

I just wanted to get back to all that...so, after the pandemic came to an end, I moved here to the United States to help with streetpiano exhibits in various cities.

CESAR

We're glad you did, Juliette.

JULIETTE

My pleasure.

CHERYL

(to Juliette)

Talk about taking the plunge...you left a country that's had three women as its prime minister to move to a country so afraid to elect a woman as its president.

Bucky grimaces.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

A country that led the world in deaths from CO--

BUCKY

Marisol...I understand you're a coach for UNLV's football team.

Cheryl looks embarrassed.

ALBERT

Yeah! She's the strength-and-conditioning coach.

MARISOL

Yep...you're darn tootin'.

BUCKY

Let's hear it straight from the source: How're the Runnin' Rebels looking as they get ready for this upcoming season?

MARISOL

Last Saturday, we had our spring game, and...

Juliette breaks out her cell phone to Google away.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

I'll tell you: If we had twenty Randall Cunninghams, twenty Keenan McCardells, twenty Charles Dimrys, and twenty Todd Liebensteins, we could rule the Mountain West.

Now the back-to-back tables break out in laughter...and Juliette dives into her search effort.

EXT. "WELCOME TO FABULOUS LAS VEGAS, NEVADA" SIGN - DAY

A HUGE CROWD OF SPECTATORS camps around the iconic sign on this Sunday afternoon.

Lorelei, Elvira (both wield camcorders), Albert, Marisol, Cesar, and a camcorder-wielding mom named ELLY MAY RAWLINGS (45; Louisiana brogue) stand closest to the 1910s upright...a piano Elly May's daughter DONNA MAE (11, bubbly) plays.

Donna Mae wraps up Elvis Presley's "My Wish Came True."

DONNA MAE

(singing, too)

My wish came true/To my surprise,/When you stood there before my eyes.

The star-laden upright's music rack stands off to the side...and folks get to see the hammers and strings.

DONNA MAE (CONT'D)

And when my heart/Started beating fast,/T'was then I knew/I found true love at last.

Donna Mae tickles out an elaborate ending that sets off tremendous applause.

She jumps up from the piano bench...and:

DONNA MAE (CONT'D)

(takes a bow)

Thank you kindly!

ELLY MAY

Hey, that's mah daughter up there!

DONNA MAE

(walks toward crowd)

Anybody else wanna give these eighty-eight keys a workout?

No takers for the moment as Donna Mae trades high fives with Elly May and others (and the videotaping stops).

LORELEI

(pointing to Elly May)

You look familiar...Mom and I saw you on TV.

ELLY MAY

And Donna Mae and Ah saw you on TV.

Marisol and Elly May shake hands.

MARISOL

You're Elly May Rawlings...the marketing director for the Las Vegas Aces.

ELLY MAY

And you're that trailblazin' coach...Marisol Bermudez. Strength coach for UNLV's football team.

MARISOL

You've got a much better team than I've got, I'll tell you that.

ELLY MAY

Wail...Ah like your team, too.

Kacee (notebook in tow) strolls over to Lorelei, Elvira, Donna Mae, and Albert.

KACEE

Donna Mae, that was beautiful.

DONNA MAE

Why, thank you, Kacee!

KACEE

It'd be an honor...it'd be way cool if I could get autographs from all four of you.

ELVIRA

I can go for that!

ALBERT

Aw, why not?

Kacee opens her notebook to the first clean page she finds. She produces a pen...Albert, Donna Mae, Elvira, and Lorelei scribble away.

DONNA MAE

(looking up to Lorelei) Thank you for doing this!

LORELEI

You're welcome! And thank you for being a part of it!

The five youngsters AD LIB further chit chat...Cesar, Elly May, and Marisol take a stroll...A YOUNG MOTHER and HER PRETEEN SON walk to the piano to take on a nursery rhyme.

**CESAR** 

Kids'll sure surprise you.

ELLY MAY

You're preachin' to the choir, Cesar.

CESAR

Between us, we've got four really talented kids.

Marisol's is a slow nod.

ELLY MAY

If you thought Donna Mae's piano playin' was somethin'...you should hear her play the harp.

MARISOL

Huh?

ELLY MAY

That's her main instrument. That's the horse she's really bettin' on.

**CESAR** 

On second thought, Elly...if you ever get a chance to hear Elvira play the guitar, Lorelei play the ukelele, and Albert play the fiddle, well...

MARISOL

(to Elly May)

I read your bio...is it true you were named after a TV character?

ELLY MAY

Too darn true. Mah sister was, too.

The two women and sole man stop in their tracks.

MARISOL

What's her name?

ELLY MAY

Pebbles. She still lives and works back home in Shreveport, Louisiana.

Cesar tries to suppress his laugh...

ELLY MAY (CONT'D)

Good thang Mama got her tubes tied up...'cause if she'd brought a son into the world, she woulda hauled off and named him Bamm Bamm.

...but he cracks up.

EXT. STRAT HOTEL, CASINO, AND TOWER - DAY

In this afterschool session, Miyoshi, Markus, Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert watch Toshiro doodle around on the 1960s studio piano.

TOSHIRO

There. I'm done.

Toshiro's audience claps.

LORELEI

Miyoshi, do you play the piano?

MIYOSHI

I'm sorry to say I don't.

LORELEI

That's okay. Just glad you and Toshiro stopped by.

Markus looks floored.

MARKUS

(gesturing to Lorelei)

You got a minute?

LORELEI

Uh...okay.

Lorelei and Markus huddle up a few feet away from their four colleagues...but Albert and Elvira saunter toward the huddle.

**MARKUS** 

Since this thing's all about getting people to interact with each other and with this artwork...you wanna get 'em to actually touch a piano key.

Lorelei's is a slow, slow nod. She snaps her fingers.

LORELEI

Got it.

The oldest Bermudez kid turns to Miyoshi and Toshiro.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

You mind if I show you something?

Toshiro rubs his hands in glee.

MIYOSHI

I'm willing.

Lorelei shows Toshiro and Miyoshi middle C as Markus, Elvira, and Albert crowd around the threesome.

LORELEI

Miyoshi, go ahead. Hit that note.

Miyoshi plays middle C on the sky-blue-painted piano...Toshiro watches with eagle eyes.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Good! Now go two white keys to the right. It's an E.

Lorelei points to the E to the right of middle C...Miyoshi plays that note.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Very good!

Now Lorelei points to the F and the G to the right of middle C. Miyoshi plays those two keys, too.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Now...put 'em all together.

Miyoshi plays those four notes while her son does the same thing an octave or two away.

ALBERT

(to Toshiro and Miyoshi)
Guess what you two played?

Toshiro and his mom eyeball each other.

ELVIRA

You both played the first four notes to "When the Saints Go Marching In."

**MARKUS** 

Congratulations! You did it!

All six participants trade high fives.

## MONTAGE SEQUENCE

EXT. ALLEGIANT STADIUM - DAY

At the 1920s grand piano, Lorelei shows the C-E-F-G exercise to FIVE RAIDERETTES. All stand erect.

One of the cheerleaders nails the exercise...then sits down and fires off a hard-rockin' tune.

EXT. THE BIG EDGE - DAY

The other four Bermudezes cheer when Elvira shows the same exercise to ONE OF HER CLASSMATES.

EXT. BELLAGIO FOUNTAINS - DAY

AN ELDERLY MAN receives the C-E-F-G lesson from Albert.

The old student aces the test...and high-fives it with the young teacher.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

On this washday, Lorelei, her siblings, and their folks look shocked to find graffiti all over the 1950s spinet.

EXT. PINBALL HALL OF FAME - DAY

Elvira, Lorelei, and Albert work with Chelsea...who learns the first four notes of "When the Saints Go Marching In."

EXT. FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE - MAIN STREET STAGE - NIGHT

Frank, Merrillee, Mona, and the Family Bermudez join A HUGE CROWD in watching Sonny (on the golden upright) and Bobby (on an electronic keyboard) conquer the venue.

Tristan, Tiffani, and Mark-Paul watch here, too...all three look ecstatic.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

When she walks into the room, Lorelei gains a standing ovation from fellow students and Larry.

## END MONTAGE

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - NIGHT

IT'S CROWDED!

Spectators (some on the park's sofas, others in folding chairs, others seated on the ground, others erect) watch NANCY MCGILLICUDDY (57, philosophical; New York accent) finish a country song at the park's 1900-09 upright.

The applause is strong...especially from Elly May, Donna Mae, and Bucky.

Nancy jumps up from the piano, grabs a mike at center stage, and addresses the audience.

NANCY

(into mike)

Well, folks, that's it...that's my memory of the 2017 Route 91 Harvest Music Festival.

Nancy strolls back and forth.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I really lucked out...I coulda been one of the sixty people who died...or one of the four hundred thirteen who got wounded on October first, 2017.

A hush falls over the courtyard.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I crawled underneath the first car I could find.

Some spectators chuckle.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Now it's your turn. Who's got a piano-related memory they'd like to share with us tonight?

Dead silence...for a little while.

The Elliotts turn to the Bermudezes.

LORELEI

You go first. It's okay.

Nancy grabs a second mike from the piano as Justin and Suzanne raise their hands.

NANCY

Keep those hands up...I'll get right over there.

Suzanne receives the second mike from Nancy, who hangs onto the first microphone.

Justin and his wife stand up if previously seated.

NANCY (CONT'D)

Now...go ahead and tell the folks who you are...and tell your story.

Suzanne shares the second mike with her husband.

SUZANNE

(into second mike)

Hi, everybody...I'm Suzanne.

JUSTIN

(into second mike)

And I'm her husband, Justin.

SUZANNE

We recently went to Harrah's and saw the Twins play.

Wild applause rings out.

JUSTIN

When Kim and Tamara Pinegar got done playing that night, they autographed our T-shirts.

SUZANNE

We'll never wash those T-shirts ever again.

Nancy grimaces...despite the renewed applause.

EXT. ALLEGIANT STADIUM - NIGHT

Sonny and Bobby preside over the silver-and-black grand piano. Gathered around it: Merrillee, Mark-Paul, Tiffani, ROMA FIAT (50s), and Roma's husband ALLEN GOODMAN (50s).

Good times reign as "Mustang Sally" wraps up.

BOBBY

(adding vocals)

All you wanna do is ride around, Sally.

MARK-PAUL, MERRILLEE, TIFFANI

(singing backup)

Ride, Sally, ride!

SONNY

(also singing)

All you wanna do is ride around, Sally.

MARK-PAUL, MERRILLEE, TIFFANI

Ride, Sally, ride!

The two pianists bring the tune to a wild ending...and trigger applause from their five-member audience.

ROMA

Great job, you two! I knew you had it all along! That's why I put you two together!

**BOBBY** 

Thanks, Roma...but you and Allen coulda sung along with us.

ALLEN

But we're not really singers!

Tiffani points to herself while she eyes Allen and Roma.

TIFFANI

Hey, when it comes to singing, I'm chopped liver...but I still sang!

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - NIGHT

Nancy (first mike still in hand) interviews Mona and Frank, who share the second mike.

MONA

(into mike)

Anyway, Nancy, my parents gave me the choice of playing piano or playing softball.

FRANK

(into same mike)

I was dating Mona at the time...and Title Nine had just become law. And her folks couldn't wait to get her out on that diamond.

In the audience, Cesar, Elly May, Marisol, and Marybeth nod.

MONA

Hey, Frank...that piano player we saw playing at the laundromat oughta be here tonight.

NANCY

A piano in a laundromat?

EXT. ALLEGIANT STADIUM - NIGHT

Allen, Mark-Paul, Merrillee, Roma, and Tiffani watch Sonny and Bobby trade places on the piano bench.

SONNY

Who's ready for some "Proud Mary?"

ALLEN

Bring it on!

Bobby and Sonny pound their way into "Proud Mary..." but a few bars into the intro, that beat-up, bright red 2002 Ford Explorer speeds into the lot.

It stops...a front window opens...that AR-15 sticks out...a barrage of shots rings out.

ROMA

LOOK OUT!

The volley of lead continues until Tiffani, Sonny, Roma, Merrillee, Mark-Paul, Bobby, and Allen slump to their deaths.

The Ford speeds out of the lot...screaming tires and all.

EXT. BERMUDEZES' HOUSE - NIGHT

Cesar's Volkswagen Passat pulls into the driveway...one by one, Cesar, Marisol, Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert jump out of the car.

MARISOL

Jay...aren't you gonna stick your car in the garage?

CESAR

Nah. I'm too pumped up over all those stories Nancy and Co. told tonight.

LORELEI

Me, too...great time tonight.

ELVIRA

(hugging Lorelei)
And it never woulda happened without you.

ALBERT

Elvira's telling the truth.

Marisol unlocks the front door...a happy husband and three exuberant children file in.

INT. BERMUDEZES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Just as busy-looking and well-furnished as the dining room.

Albert, Lorelei, Elvira, Marisol, and Cesar (all seated someplace) gaze with glee at the big-screen TV.

INT. "13 ACTION NEWS" STUDIO - NIGHT

Weekend anchors CURTIS GREENE (40s, Black) and STACIA RIVERS (40s, White) preside from a state-of-the-art set where a GIF of the Las Vegas skyline plays behind them.

CURTIS

Good evening. I'm Curtis Greene.

STACIA

And I'm Stacia Rivers.

CURTIS

Tonight's top story: Seven people were killed in a drive-by shooting a couple of hours ago at Allegiant Stadium, one of the sites of the "Make a Play" street-piano exhibit.

INT. BERMUDEZES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

As they watch the news, Cesar shudders...Albert's mouth flies open...Elvira shakes her head "no."

STACIA (V.O.)

An anonymous citizen reported the incident to Crime Stoppers. The citizen noticed a beat-up Ford Explorer speeding away from the stadium parking lot and heading eastbound on Al Davis Way...

Marisol seethes.

Lorelei grits her teeth and sprints from the room.

INT. ELVIRA'S AND LORELEI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lorelei flings the door shut and heads for her bed, where she sits and stares into space.

She buries her head in her hands when she hears A KNOCK on the door.

But she doesn't answer.

MARISOL (O.S.)

I'd like to come in.

Lorelei strolls to the door. She opens it.

When Marisol enters, she studies Lorelei's face.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry this happened.

Lorelei's is a slow, slow, timid nod.

Mother reaches out to oldest daughter...the twosome embrace in the warmest of hugs, with Lorelei burying her head in Marisol's embrace.

INT. BERMUDEZES' DINING ROOM - DAY

Marisol, Cesar, and their three children pick at their breakfast on this Sunday morning.

LORELEI

Somebody had to ruin it for the people of Las Vegas.

ELVIRA

Again.

A few heads nod.

MARISOL

Yeah...I remember when that Stephen Paddock went on that rage and killed those sixty people at that Route 91 Harvest Music Festival.

Cesar forks some eggs, lifts the fork to his mouth, and...

MARISOL (CONT'D)

What if he hadn't followed that up by killing himself?

...sets the fork back on his plate.

CESAR

Marisol...

ALBERT

Don't worry, Dad. We can take it.

Albert, Lorelei, and Elvira push their plates away.

MARISOL

Lotta people around here are still shook up by what that nut did at that festival.

ALBERT

But who'd have it in for all those folks at Allegiant Stadium?

Four sets of eyes stare Albert down.

CESAR

Come to think of it, Albert...Ramona at the laundromat didn't like Lorelei and your mom bringing that piano in.

Lorelei pushes her plate back toward her.

LORELEI

(taking a bite)
She's piano-intolerant.

ELVIRA

Maybe she's piano-player-intolerant, too.

Albert shrugs.

EXT. ALLEGIANT STADIUM - DAY

Curtis watches A DIFFERENT "13 ACTION NEWS" CAMERA CREW than the one from the "Make a Play" kickoff shoot footage of the murder scene...grand piano and all.

Police barricades seal off the area around the piano.

Marisol, Cesar, Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert stand a safe distance from the news crew.

Elvira and her sister break out their camcorders to grab footage when EMERSYN BROWNING (11), her father BARRETT (late 40s), and her mother CAREY (early 40s) stroll to the area to meet the Bermudezes.

**EMERSYN** 

Hi, Albert.

ALBERT

Hi, Emersyn...Mr. and Mrs.

Browning...

Barrett, Carey, Cesar, and Marisol trade AD LIBBED greetings.

BARRETT

Did we come at a bad time?

MARISOL

No...you're fine.

CAREY

Emersyn was hoping to get a chance to play here this afternoon. **EMERSYN** 

Yeah.

CESAR

They must've put the barricades up late last night.

BARRETT

This was the only "Make a Play" site our daughter hadn't been to.

Lorelei and her sister stop taping. The twosome join in the conversation when Curtis approaches the two families.

ALBERT

Em, you would've loved it.

LORELEI

And that's the truth.

Emersyn and Elvira shake their heads up and down.

CURTIS

Hi, everybody. I'm Curtis Greene from "13 Action News."

The Bermudezes and Brownings perk up.

CAREY

We watch your news every night.

Members of both families shake hands with a beaming Curtis.

CURTIS

Mr. and Mrs. Bermudez, is it all right if I interview Lorelei?

All eyes turn to Lorelei, who looks stunned.

**CESAR** 

It's all right.

MARISOL

Take your time.

ELVIRA

Take the bull by the horns.

For Lorelei, a fiery look replaces that stunned one.

LORELEI

It's on!

Applause breaks out from members of both families.

ALBERT

Now that's the real Lorelei!

LORELEI

I've got some choice words for whoever killed all those people.

EXT. LAS VEGAS CITY HALL - DAY

Wednesday...A FEW PEOPLE file inside this impressive, sevenstory building from the Obama years.

INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER AT LAS VEGAS CITY HALL - DAY

Impressive inside, too...what with theater-type seating (PEOPLE in every other seat) and two large-screen monitors above where Geraldine and SIX CITY COUNCILMEMBERS (three men, three women) handle today's meeting.

In the front row, Juliette and Cheryl flank Lorelei...

LORELEI

(in a whisper)

I'm lucky the principal let me take today off from school.

CHERYL

(whispers to Lorelei)
You're not the only one who's
lucky.

JULIETTE

We're sunk without you two here.

...as the piano movers from Team Two stand at a long table (two computer monitors on it) to testify in front of the councilmembers and Sin City's mayor.

TEAM TWO MOVER #1

(into first mike)

I wasn't too cool with them bringin' in them street pianos here.

Some councilmembers nod.

TEAM TWO MOVER #1 (CONT'D)

When other cities did it, they had vandalism and all that stuff. I read where in Denver, they set one of them pianos on fire.

TEAM TWO MOVER #2

(into second mike)

And I read where piano wire's made out of copper...and drug addicts take copper items and sell them to get more drugs.

Cheryl's is a slow nod.

TEAM TWO MOVER #1
But, hey...we're movers. It's a job...and we went on and did it.

TEAM TWO MOVER #2 You've gotta make a buck somehow.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #1 I heard Jerry Lee Lewis used to set pianos on fire.

Geraldine eyeballs City Councilmember #1.

GERALDINE

True...he did...but whoever set that piano on fire in Denver didn't love a piano.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Tristan stands before the Vegas City Council.

TRISTAN

(into first mike)

When I heard they were gonna put pianos out here on the streets, I was afraid the professionals were gonna dominate the scene...

Bucky and Markus nod at each other from midroom seats.

TRISTAN (CONT'D)

It's the nonprofessional musicians that've been getting their kicks in. Matter of fact, the only two pros I saw got killed at Allegiant.

A buzz emerges from civilians and lawmakers alike.

TRISTAN (CONT'D)

I wasn't there when they got killed. I was at the Lion Habitat.

Tristan snaps his fingers.

TRISTAN (CONT'D)

I forgot to mention I saw Bucky Harris and Markus Stubbs at the "Make a Play" kickoff. So that makes four pros I saw.

Wide smiles form on Markus' and Bucky's faces.

SAME SCENE - EVEN LATER

That irate customer from Harrah's makes his case.

IRATE CUSTOMER

(into first mike)

Take those pianos off the streets!

They're too much trouble!

(points at lawmakers)

In fact...they oughta fire whoever put 'em out there!

Cheryl, Lorelei, and Juliette eyeball each other...the Team Two men stare each other down...Geraldine looks puzzled.

SAME SCENE - STILL LATER

It's Miyoshi's turn to plead her case.

MIYOSHI

(into second mike)

Ever since "Make a Play" began, my twelve-year-old son Toshiro has immersed himself in learning the piano. He's found a new interest.

Miyoshi points to her T-shirt...which says: "VEGAS STRONG."

MIYOSHI (CONT'D)

We withstood the mass shooting of 2017...we can withstand this, too.

Most of the spectators cheer.

SAME SCENE - LATER YET

Juliette and Cheryl sound off.

CHERYL

(into first mike)

I don't get it...are we gonna shrink every time a tragedy happens around here?

City councilmembers eyeball each other.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

Yes, I understand the need to establish and maintain safety...and with that in mind, why not keep the Allegiant Stadium "Make a Play" site shut down...and replace it with another site?

Bucky, Lorelei, and Markus applaud.

JULIETTE

(into second mike)

Cheryl's correct.

Juliette smiles at Cheryl, then turns her attention back to the mayor and the councilmembers.

JULIETTE (CONT'D)

To quote that old song: "One bad apple don't spoil the whole bunch."

Geraldine's nod is enthusiastic...the six who make up Las Vegas' City Council look befuddled.

GERALDINE

I'll tell you councilmembers about it later.

SAME SCENE - MINUTES LATER

Lorelei takes the stand.

LORELEI

(into first mike)

I've been to all of the streetpiano sites here in the area since "Make a Play" began last month.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER #2

Ms. Bermudez, how did you manage to visit all twenty-five sites?

LORELEI

It wasn't easy...but me and the rest of the family planned carefully.

Cheryl and Juliette nod.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

There are lots of reasons to keep "Make a Play" going...especially the smiles on people's faces.

The irate customer frowns from his seat in the back.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I met a man at the Park on the Las Vegas Strip who took piano lessons as a boy...only to quit when he graduated from high school.

That frown turns into a grumble.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

He told me that "Yellow Brick Road" piano inspired him to take lessons again...so he could learn all the songs from "The Wizard of Oz."

Cheryl points to Juliette.

CHERYL

See that?

JULIETTE

Like a safety pin in a punk rocker's ear.

Juliette observes Cheryl's grimace.

LORELEI

So, in conclusion...if you shut down "Make a Play," you wipe smiles off people's faces...and you end up letting the killer win.

Most of the spectators break into strong applause.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - DAY

Stacia (mike in hands) and the "13 Action News" camera crew responsible for some Allegiant Stadium footage stand next to Lorelei, Juliette, and Cheryl as people head for the exits.

Stacia's interviewees look fit to be tied...they're livid.

JULIETTE

This was one bollocks-ed up decision, you can believe that.

CHERYL

The City Council was deadlocked...until Mayor Paul cast the deciding vote to shut the street-piano exhibit down.

STACIA

(points mike at Lorelei) What are your thoughts on the council's decision?

LORELEI

(into mike)

We took a shot...oops. I mean at least we tried.

Cheryl, Stacia, and Juliette nod.

STACIA

Juliette, do you care to make a public statement about this?

JULIETTE

I would...but what I've got to say is more suitable for Netflix than a broadcast television station.

EXT. DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - DAY

In an afterschool session, Albert, Barrett, Carey, Cesar, Elvira, Lorelei (she shoots video footage), and Marisol watch Emersyn play that candy-cane-themed 1920s upright piano.

The youngest Browning finishes her tune...and triggers heartfelt applause.

BARRETT

Great job, Emersyn!

Emersyn jumps off the piano bench and takes a bow.

CAREY

You're really coming along on that piano!

**EMERSYN** 

Well, thanks!

Albert and Emersyn lock arms.

ALBERT

You know...our offer still stands.

CESAR

You know...both our families getting together for dinner.

LORELEI

Amended to include Mr. and Mrs. Browning.

Carey and Barrett fist-bump each other.

ELVIRA

Emersyn, you like chocolate cheesecake?

**EMERSYN** 

Yeah!

LORELEI

With extra chili powder?

Emersyn's mouth flies open.

MARISOL

You didn't hear it here.

Emersyn and Albert eye each other.

**EMERSYN** 

Albert...why don't we do a duet?

ALBERT

Good idea.

Still arm in arm, the two eleven-year-old pals saunter to the piano...where they bat out something lively.

A museum employee named DEE DEE LYNCH (70s) strolls out of the building through the front entrance.

Waving her arms frantically, Dee Dee stops at the crowd around the old upright.

And the music stops.

DEE DEE

Hey! Didn't you kids hear?

All four children feign confusion.

DEE DEE (CONT'D)

They've shut the street pianos down!

Lorelei comes clean...she raises her hand.

LORELEI

Dee Dee, I was there at City Hall.

DEE DEE

You're all gonna have to leave.

**EMERSYN** 

If they've shut the street pianos down, why's this one still here?

DEE DEE

It's just a matter of time before they come get it.

The two movers from Team Five (tools and all) stroll toward the piano.

EXT. NEON MUSEUM - DAY

Pianists Markus and Bucky give the 1980s spinet a real workout with a barnburner of a duet...when the two movers of Team Eight (with their tools) march into the space.

Team Eight Mover #1 whistles at Bucky and Markus...in vain.

TEAM EIGHT MOVER #2

STOP!!

The pianists' duet ends...the two musicians eye the movers.

BUCKY

Hey, we were cookin'!

TEAM EIGHT MOVER #1

We came to get the piano.

**MARKUS** 

It just isn't right.

TEAM EIGHT MOVER #2

We gotta take this thing outa here.

Markus and Bucky jump up to guard the psychedelic spinet.

BUCKY

Over my dead body!

**MARKUS** 

Mine, too!

One of the movers pulls out a cell phone.

MARKUS (CONT'D)

Bucky, we've all gotta go sometime.

Bucky shakes his head "yes."

MARKUS (CONT'D)

(pointing to himself)
And besides...we're always the
first people who get killed in
movies and on TV shows.

The two movers stare at each other.

EXT. THE PARK ON THE LAS VEGAS STRIP - DAY

The music rack of the "Yellow Brick Road" piano rests in back of the instrument while Tristan...positions his bicycle so that one wheel rests atop the old upright's keys and the other wheel rests on the concrete.

He steps back, admires his work, and breaks out his cell phone to snap a photo.

The man and woman who make up Team Four (both carry their tools) stop by the 1900-09 piano.

The male in the duo observes the bike on the piano.

MALE TEAM FOUR MOVER Tristan, that's kinda cool.

Tristan looks surprised.

MALE TEAM FOUR MOVER (CONT'D) I saw you on the news. You painted one of the street pianos.

TRISTAN

(pockets his phone)
Yeah...the one in Sunset Park.

FEMALE TEAM FOUR MOVER Too bad nobody'll get to hear it anymore.

TRISTAN

I know.

FEMALE TEAM FOUR MOVER Or this one...or any of the others.

The movers watch Tristan take his bike off this landmark's turn-of-the-Twentieth-Century piano.

TRISTAN

Goodbye, "Yellow Brick Road."

Tristan blows a kiss toward the ancient upright before he jumps on his bike.

The two movers watch him ride off...then they look at each other in a world of chagrin.

EXT. ZAK BAGANS' HAUNTED MUSEUM - DAY

Miyoshi and Toshiro coax a nursery rhyme out of the Halloween-themed 1890-99 upright when the men in Team Six stop by.

OLDER TEAM SIX MOVER You two are gonna have to leave.

YOUNGER TEAM SIX MOVER Yeah. We're moving the piano away.

Toshiro and Miyoshi close the piano lid...

OLDER TEAM SIX MOVER Thank you for cooperating.

...and recline on it.

YOUNGER TEAM SIX MOVER Don't you two know there's a killer on the loose?

The two movers try to rouse this mother-and-son duo...a duo who hang on for dear life.

MIYOSHI

(tries to look upward)
John Lewis...I hope you're looking
down on us from up there. We're
trying to create good trouble.

TOSHIRO

Mom, didn't you tell me all trouble was bad?

The movers unhand Miyoshi and Toshiro...then eye each other.

EXT. OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT - DAY

Chelsea, Cheryl, Elly May (with her camcorder), Juliette, and SEVERAL OTHER VISITORS watch Donna Mae (dressed up like Laura Ingalls from "Little House on the Prairie") pound out a rag at that 1880s upright piano.

Sure enough...it sounds like a real saloon piano.

Its music rack stands off to the side...so everybody gets to see the hammers and strings at work.

Donna Mae brings the rag to an end...and brings out the crowd's applause.

She takes a bow, then trades high fives with Elly May.

ELLY MAY

Great job on those keys!

DONNA MAE

Thank you kindly, Mom!

Mother and daughter high-five it again when Chelsea makes it a threesome.

CHELSEA

Love your playing, Donna Mae!

DONNA MAE

Why, thank you, Chelsea!

It's high fives for Chelsea and Donna Mae.

ELLY MAY

(eyes on Chelsea)

So...you're the one who painted this thang.

CHELSEA

Guilty as charged.

Now Elly May and Chelsea do high fives.

DONNA MAE

CHELSEA

Anyway...I was watching a "Gunsmoke" rerun one afternoon...and they showed the Long Branch piano.

Juliette and Cheryl walk over to make it a quintet.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

And that was my inspiration.

JULIETTE

I've been checking the "Make a Play" Website...and Donna Mae, I must congratulate you on your videos. Very innovative.

Donna Mae smiles wide while she points to Elly May.

DONNA MAE

It's all Mom's doing.

A nodding Elly May flashes her own smile.

CHERYL

(to Donna Mae)

I love how you dress up in costumes when you play...like when you wore a fancy tuxedo to play the Bliss Dance Sculpture piano.

CHELSEA

Yeah! The one that looks like Liberace's old silver nickelodeon.

ELLY MAY

But without the marimba and stuff.

Some heads nod.

DONNA MAE

Speaking of Liberace...what would you like to hear next?

CHERYL

Just go ahead and do your thing.

With a nod and a wave, Donna Mae goes back to the 1880s piano...and comes up with a jazzy tune whose arrangement would've made Liberace himself proud.

Team One's two movers (tools in tow) stride toward the piano.

TEAM ONE MOVER #1

Kid...show's over.

DONNA MAE

Nuh uh!

TEAM ONE MOVER #2

We're hauling the piano away.

Donna Mae's alarmed spectators rush over to the piano.

CHELSEA

Can't you guys wait?

TEAM ONE MOVER #1

No!

Team One Mover #1 taps Donna Mae on the shoulder...but she continues to play.

Elly May shakes a fist at him.

Cheryl tries to lift the music rack off the ground (rack's too heavy for her)...Juliette and Chelsea assist her.

The threesome now hold the rack aloft.

CHERYL

(to the movers)

BACK OFF!

With the music rack as a shield, the three women charge toward the two men.

EXT. MOB MUSEUM - DAY

It's tight...but Kacee, Maansi, and Marybeth manage a sixhand, one-keyboard rendition of a current rock tune at the 1910-19 upright...the piano with the bogus bullet holes.

The threesome's parents watch in admiration...Josh and Jackson do, too.

JOSH

Jackson, I gotta admit...this beats our extra-credit project to Hell.

The song ends...the applause begins.

**JACKSON** 

So much for "Cereals around the World."

JOSH

Especially after a next-door neighbor gagged on farina.

The woman and the man in Team Seven (yep...with their tools) stroll toward the piano.

MARYBETH

Hey, audience, what do you wanna hear from us?

FEMALE TEAM SEVEN MOVER

Dead silence.

MAANSI

We don't know that one!

MALE TEAM SEVEN MOVER We're taking the piano! Step aside!

KACEE

It's just not fair!

The two movers stride closer to the piano...but Jackson and Josh team up with their three classmates and the three classmates' dads and moms to guard the old upright.

EXT. CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER/CASINO CENTER BOULEVARD - DAY

This is a modern, sprawling series of twelve-story towers.

INT. CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER BOOKING AREA - DAY

SEVERAL POLICE OFFICERS lead not only Barrett, Bucky, Cesar, Jackson, Josh, Markus, and Marybeth's, Maansi's, and Kacee's fathers to get booked...but also Albert and Toshiro.

Right behind them, SOME MORE OFFICERS lead Carey, Chelsea, Cheryl, Elly May, Juliette, Kacee, Lorelei, Maansi, Marisol, Marybeth, Miyoshi, and Kacee's, Maansi's, and Marybeth's mothers for booking.

ANOTHER GROUP OF OFFICERS leads Donna Mae, Elvira, and Emersyn to face the booking process.

SOME SOON-TO-BE INMATES watch it all from benches...and flash confused looks.

MAANSI

Well, Lorelei, you wanted to bring people together.

LORELEI

Yeah, I did...but this isn't what I had in mind!

ONE MORE COP escorts...Geraldine, of all people!

And the confusion from the benches grows stronger.

EXT. LVMPD HEADQUARTERS/MLK BOULEVARD - DAY

A striking five-story building.

INT. LVMPD HEADQUARTERS LINEUP ROOM - DAY

A Plexiglas partition separates Brandon, his mom SAMANTHA "SAM" WIMBISH (40s), and his dad DAVE WIMBISH (50s) from lined-up subjects Cesar, Barrett, Bucky, Josh, Jackson, and Markus.

The three seated Wimbishes take instructions from police detectives DWAYNE MCGRAW (40s, Black) and PETE SHETTLES (30s, White)...who stand alongside them.

DWAYNE

Now...I want you three to concentrate...study these six men in front of you.

Sam, Dave, and Brandon nod.

PETE

(to the Wimbishes)
Which one of these is the Allegiant
Stadium killer?

Dave, Sam, and their son gaze at the six faces out in front...four angry faces and two puzzled ones (Markus and Cesar show puzzlement).

PETE (CONT'D)

Make absolutely certain.

BRANDON

It ain't them.

Brandon's folks shake their heads up and down.

DWAYNE

Are you sure?

SAM

Detective McGraw, when that SUV whizzed by us on Dean Martin Drive, we did see an arm stickin' out.

DAVE

But it wasn't no dude's arm.

Pete motions Markus, Josh, Jackson, Cesar, Bucky, and Barrett to walk out of the room.

BUCKY

See that? We didn't do it!

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Sam, Brandon, and Dave (still seated) now observe seven new subjects across the partition: Maansi, Marybeth, Lorelei, Kacee, and Elvira...along with Donna Mae and Emersyn!

Marybeth and Maansi smirk...their five lineup colleagues look some kind of shocked.

Dwayne turns to Brandon, Sam, and Dave.

DWAYNE

Did any of them do that drive-by shooting at Allegiant Stadium?

DAVE

No, no, no, no, no!

PETE

Are you sure, Mr. Wimbish?

DAVE

Damn right!

BRANDON

In fact, Detective Shettles, I know one of them.

PETE

Which one?

Brandon points to Lorelei...Pete looks gleeful.

BRANDON

She's not old enough to drive yet.

SAM

Ain't none of 'em up there old enough to drive yet.

PETE

Well, Mrs. Wimbish...you just never know.

Dwayne stares Pete down, then turns to the seven on the line.

DWAYNE

It's all right. You may go.

Donna Mae, Elvira, Emersyn, Kacee, Lorelei, Maansi, and Marybeth stroll out of the room.

Along the way:

MARYBETH

This feels like one of those reality shows on MTV.

KACEE

No, Marybeth. It's much worse.

DONNA MAE

We'll have to kiss college goodbye.

Lorelei and Elvira grimace.

**EMERSYN** 

So this is what they mean by the school-to-prison pipeline.

SAME SCENE - STILL LATER

Chelsea, Cheryl, Geraldine, Marisol, Juliette, Elly May, Carey, and Miyoshi line up for Sam, Pete, Dwayne, Dave, and Brandon when LVMPD detective SERENA CASTRO (50s) strides into the room.

SERENA

Pete...Dwayne...call it off.

Dwayne's is a slow nod.

ਸਾਸ਼ਰ

You pulling my leg, Serena?

SERENA

Pete, I'm your superior...and before you make little Albert and little Toshiro, or anybody else, line up, listen up!

PETE

Okay...Detective Castro. Oops...I mean Captain Castro.

Serena, Pete, and Dwayne huddle up.

SERENA

None of these people we lined up is the Allegiant Stadium killer. I ran a make on every last one of 'em.

**DWAYNE** 

I understand.

SERENA

None of 'em owns a 2002 Ford Explorer...beat-up or otherwise. Bright red or any other color.

Sam, Dave, and Brandon rise from their seats to join the huddle.

SAM

Why's Mayor Geraldine Paul up there in the lineup?

DWAYNE

We'll find out at the funeral.

BRANDON

Which one?

Dave counts up to seven.

Serena breaks out of the huddle to gesture the eight women in the lineup out of the room.

Six of the eight women breathe relief.

Juliette and Cheryl seethe.

CHERYL

(to Marisol)

We could've used your kickboxing skills at Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort.

MARISOL

Yeah...but UNLV would've fired me and turned around and hired a different strength-and-conditioning coach for its football team.

Elly May's nod is slow.

EXT. WOODLAWN CEMETERY - DAY

Brandon, Sam, Dave, and OTHER RELATIVES join Lorelei, Elvira, Albert, Marisol, Cesar, Cheryl, Geraldine, Juliette, Bucky, Markus, Miyoshi, Toshiro, Tristan, and A PASTOR (a woman in her 40s) around the casket that holds Bobby's body.

PASTOR

Father, we commit Robert's body to the Earth, from which our bodies were originally created, and we rejoice in that fact that his spirit is even with You, the Father of spirits.

Some people shed tears...Brandon frowns due to the beer on Dave's breath and the whiskey on Sam's own breath.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

We anticipate the day when spirit and body shall be united again at the coming of the Lord, and we find great comfort in knowing we shall forever be together with the Lord.

Still others seethe.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

We thank You, Father, that in the days, weeks, and months to come, these realities and the abiding presence of Your Spirit will strengthen, sustain, and comfort Robert's friends and family.

Brandon casts a withering glance at Lorelei.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

In Jesus' name, amen.

Some people try to comfort those around them.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

Those of you who are able to attend...we conclude the celebration of Merrillee Wimbish Cotton's life at this time tomorrow at this same spot.

Dave, Sam, and their son break down in heavy tears.

PASTOR (CONT'D)

After listening to an album by Aaliyah, Robert and Merrillee decided to purchase plots alongside each other.

Markus and Tristan nod.

EXT. WOODLAWN CEMETERY ACCESS ROAD - DAY

Participants trudge toward their respective vehicles.

Marisol, Lorelei, Elvira, Cesar, and Albert stroll alongside Juliette, Geraldine, and Cheryl.

LORELEI

Bobby and Merrillee really knew something...to think about Aaliyah dying in that plane crash in 2001 at age twenty-two.

JULIETTE

It just goes to show how precious life really is.

MARISOL

I remember when Aaliyah died...when I found out about it on the news, I hit the roof.

**CESAR** 

Boy, I remember that, Marisol! We were dating back then...and you were so angry about her death that we had to call off our night out.

Albert and Elvira look stunned.

CESAR (CONT'D)

Took you a month to grieve.

CHERYL

Mayor Paul...I read you used to be a folk singer.

ELVIRA

(to Geraldine)

You were? Did you play guitar?

GERALDINE

I sure was a folk singer, Elvira. And I can still polish off some guitar licks.

JULIETTE

And, Geraldine, I know you're a fine pianist.

GERALDINE

Well...thank you, Juliette.

The five adults and the three children move out of the way when a car passes by.

GERALDINE (CONT'D)

I got to thinking of my singing days when I stopped by the Springs Preserve...and I saw all those people trying to play that piano with all the butterflies on it.

ALBERT

Wow!

GERALDINE

I had a change in heart about voting to take the pianos off the streets here in Las Vegas...so I joined with the other folks to try to stop the movers.

ELVIRA

So that's why you got arrested.

Geraldine and Marisol nod.

GERALDINE

I had to take my licks.

CHERYL

Talk about taking your licks!

GERALDINE

I had to...after all, nobody is above the law. Nobody.

The three youngsters and five grown-ups stop in their tracks.

MARISOL

(points to Geraldine)

And that's why you're still mayor.

GERALDINE

I tried to tell that to Donald Trump when he came to town...that nobody's above the law.

CHERYL

It figures.

GERALDINE

I couldn't get him to see the sign.

ALBERT

Did you use sign language?

GERALDINE

No, Albert...I took an old door and painted the words "NOBODY IS ABOVE THE LAW" on it. And brought it to his campaign rally here in Vegas.

The eight of 'em walk on.

**CESAR** 

You still got the sign?

GERALDINE

I'm afraid not, Cesar...some MAGA ran over it with his truck.

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Closing time...Ramona's the only soul in the place.

She finishes her cleaning, then opens the Elliotts' old spinet from the top.

Ramona's next move: She goes to a toolbox, removes a pair of pliers from the toolbox, and...snips some piano wire from the instrument's lower register.

It's a struggle...but she succeeds.

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - NIGHT

Ramona sets the toolbox down, locks the laundromat's front door, and takes off in that beat-up, bright red 2002 Ford Explorer.

Another vehicle chases after the Explorer once the SUV leaves the parking lot.

EXT. CLARK COUNTY MUSEUM, HENDERSON, NV - DAY

Frank, Mona, Albert, Cesar, Elvira, Lorelei, and Marisol watch FELICITY KELLY (29) and STELLA BAUERS (30) bang out a movie theme (if not a Broadway tune) on that bluebird-themed 1900-09 upright piano...one whose hammers stand exposed.

Lorelei shoots video of the whole thing.

FRANK

Mona, I'm surprised they didn't take down both the street pianos here in Henderson.

MONA

It's like they say, Frank:
"Whatever happens in Vegas..."

Stella's and Felicity's number ends with a bang...Lorelei's fellow spectators clap...the oldest Bermudez child stops taping, then applauds.

LORELEI

(to Felicity and Stella)
Great job of playing!

Felicity and Stella bow.

CESAR

It's great to hear you play.

STELLA

Well, uh, thank you.

FELICITY

It really means a lot to hear that from you.

Marisol strolls over to the two pianists.

MARISOL

I remember watching you two on the news a few years ago.

Stella and Felicity eyeball each other.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

You worked at that club over on Sammy Davis Jr. Drive...and you two and the other showgirls picketed the club for better pay and better working conditions.

FELICITY

That was us.

Stella nods.

STELLA

I'm Stella.

Marisol and Stella shake hands.

FELICITY

And I'm Felicity.

Felicity and Marisol engage in their own handshake.

MARISOL

It's nice to meet you both in the flesh...up close and personal.

FELICITY

Speaking of up close and personal...

(to Lorelei)

I saw you on the news not long ago.

LORELEI

Oh, my gosh...let me shake your hand, too, Felicity.

It's handshake time for Lorelei and Felicity. Then the former pumps hands with Stella.

FELICITY

I think I can help you find the Allegiant Stadium killer.

ALBERT

You can?

ELVIRA

You can?

STELLA

(eyes on Felicity)
You didn't even tell me!

Lorelei does a doubletake.

The spectators and Stella move closer to Felicity.

FELICITY

The night of the murder, I saw a beat-up SUV tool out of the stadium parking lot...I was gonna try out their grand piano.

(slow nod)

I took off and went home.

STELLA

Felicity, you didn't even tell me!

FELICITY

But, Stella...you told me you're more into uprights than grands.

STELLA

I can change...

LORELEI

Felicity...was that SUV bright red?

Felicity's nod is a slow, slow one.

ELVIRA

(to Albert)

Now we're getting someplace!

Mona turns to Felicity.

MONA

Was it a Ford Explorer?

Felicity stares into space...

LORELEI

Did you see a blue oval on the back or the front?

...then exhibits a slow nod.

FELICITY

Come to think of it...my folks used to have a Ford Explorer.

Now Cesar shakes Felicity's hand.

CESAR

Hey, thanks. Thanks a bunch.

FELICITY

You're welcome, uh--

**CESAR** 

Cesar.

MARISOL

And I'm Marisol.

Stella stares her fellow showgirl down as Felicity and Marisol shake hands again.

ELVIRA

And I'm Elvira...Lorelei's sister.

ALBERT

And I'm Albert...Lorelei's and Elvira's brother.

Albert and Elvira do handshakes with Felicity...who continues to receive Stella's staredown.

STELLA

And you didn't even tell me!

Stella points to Felicity, yet turns her attention to the Bermudezes and the Piurowskis.

STELLA (CONT'D)

You should hear Felicity play the pipe organ.

FRANK

She can?

STELLA

Uh...when Phil Maloof was still alive, he threw a big party at his mansion, and he invited all us showgirls to dance.

Some heads nod.

STELLA (CONT'D)

Well, during a break, Felicity wandered off and found the six-manual organ they used to have inside Chicago Stadium.

Lorelei breaks out her camcorder to resume taping.

LORELEI

Stella...would you mind starting over...for YouTube?

STELLA

How about TikTok instead?

MONA

As long as Stella's got an Evelyn Wood version of the story.

STELLA

Who's Evelyn Wood?

Now Felicity stares Stella down!

EXT. ALIANTE LIBRARY, NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV - DAY

Cheryl, Geraldine, Juliette, Justin, Suzanne, and A FEW OTHER VISITORS watch DEMI DRUMMOND (13; say "DEM ee") play a 1900-19 song on that book-themed 1940s spinet.

Demi's outfit: An old-timey shirt-slacks-bow tie-derby hat-arm garter getup.

JUSTIN

(to those around him)
That's our niece on those keys.

SUZANNE

Yeah...you should hear her play guitar. She's studying under Elvira Bermudez.

Geraldine, Juliette, and Cheryl nod...others look confused.

JUSTIN

Lorelei's sister.

SUZANNE

And a classmate of Demi's.

CHERYL

You're kidding.

Demi's number ends...strong applause begins.

DEMI

Thank you, everybody...that was my tribute to Max Morath.

Demi bows...then she, Suzanne, and Justin trade high fives.

GERALDINE

Demi, I remember when Max Morath had his own TV show. It was called "The Ragtime Years."

DEMI

He sure did. I went online and found it.

CHERYL

He did?

(to Demi)

You did?

JULIETTE

I'm on it.

Juliette takes out her smartphone to do some research on Max Morath and "The Ragtime Years."

Suzanne and Justin turn to Geraldine.

SUZANNE

I'm surprised the suburbs kept their street pianos out there. JUSTIN

Good thing they did.

SUZANNE

What happened?

GERALDINE

Well, when I asked the mayors of Henderson and North Las Vegas if they were gonna take their street pianos down, they said "no."

Demi's uncle and aunt shake their heads "yes."

GERALDINE (CONT'D)

And then they both gave me that old saying: "Whatever happens in Vegas..."

JUSTIN

But we're glad something's still out here for people to enjoy.

GERALDINE

I made a mistake by voting to take our pianos down back in Vegas.

JUSTIN

Stuff happens, Ms. Paul. It happens to all of us...we're only human.

Justin and Geraldine catch Suzanne's nod.

GERALDINE

I'm gonna go ahead and put the street pianos back out there in Las Vegas.

(breaks out her phone)
I'll make sure Lorelei gets the news.

Juliette puts her own phone away, then joins Cheryl in eyeballing Demi.

JULIETTE

I must say, Demi, I thoroughly love your outfit.

DEMI

Well, thanks, Juliette.

CHERYL

(pointing to Demi)

Now...if we can get you and Donna Mae Rawlings together...

Demi's mouth flies open.

CHERYL (CONT'D)

She loves to wear costumes when she plays the piano, too.

JULIETTE

I just finished downloading a few photos of Max Morath.

Juliette watches Demi nod...and Cheryl sneak a peek at Juliette's downloads.

CHERYL

(nodding at Demi)

And all you need to top off the look is a cigar.

DEMI

I'd stick a cigar in my mouth...if I didn't have a reputation as the biggest fitness enthusiast at Hyde Park Middle School.

Cheryl and Juliette shrug.

EXT. "WELCOME TO FABULOUS LAS VEGAS, NEVADA" SIGN - DAY

Team One lugs that star-laden 1910-19 upright back to its original place.

Result: An observing Cheryl does a happy dance.

EXT. BELLAGIO FOUNTAINS - DAY

Courtesy of Team Two, the water-themed 1970s studio piano returns to its old spot...and the movers again fight to stay away from the water.

EXT. THE PARK ON THE LAS VEGAS STRIP - DAY

Team Four brings the "Yellow Brick Road" upright piano from 1900-09 back...in front of A WAITING CROWD.

## EXT. DISCOVERY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM - DAY

Dee Dee watches Team Five fasten the candy-cane-themed 1920s upright back into its old place...then trades high fives with the two women.

EXT. STRAT HOTEL, CASINO, AND TOWER - DAY

The men of Team Six gaze up at the tower...and SOME PASSERSBY prevent the sky-blue-painted 1960-69 studio piano from rolling into the street.

EXT. MOB MUSEUM - DAY

Team Seven puts that 1910s upright (the one with fake bullet holes) back into its previous spot.

The two movers shrug when they realize they're all alone.

EXT. NEON MUSEUM - DAY

The movers of Team Eight fasten the psychedelic spinet from the 1980s to a different spot than before.

Juliette and TWO OR THREE OTHER FOLKS snap pictures with their cell phones.

EXT. OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT - DAY

The men in Team One place that 1880s upright piano just outside the fort...while Tristan waits to place his bike on the instrument's keys.

EXT. MADAME TUSSAUDS LAS VEGAS - DAY

Bucky and Markus (both in Elvis costumes) watch as Team Two wrestles the Elvis-themed 1970s studio piano into place.

EXT. PINBALL HALL OF FAME - DAY

Team Three's movers put the 1910s pinball-themed upright piano a few feet away from its old spot.

The two men walk off...only to return to finish the job when Nancy walks toward the place.

EXT. THE BIG EDGE - DAY

Team Four fastens that weird-looking 1930s spinet piano to a different spot at this unusual sculpture.

Once the two movers finish, Miyoshi and Toshiro enter.

EXT. BURLESQUE HALL OF FAME - DAY

Team Five places the see-through 1920s upright piano back in its old spot on the sidewalk.

When the movers walk off, Stella and Felicity sprint out of the museum...and sit down at the piano's bench to play something raucous.

EXT. EAST CHARLESTON BOULEVARD - DAY

A 2019 GMC pickup truck pulls into the parking lot of...

EXT. ZAK BAGANS' HAUNTED MUSEUM - DAY

...where the members of Team Six fasten the Halloween-themed 1890s upright piano back into place.

INT. GMC PICKUP TRUCK - DAY

Elly May (dressed like the Wicked Witch of the West) sits in the driver's seat...Donna Mae (in her Glinda the Good Witch costume) reclines in the front passenger seat.

EXT. ZAK BAGANS' HAUNTED MUSEUM - DAY

When these two movers finish their work, Donna Mae and the now-camcorder-wielding Elly May sprint to the piano, where daughter plays and mother records.

INT. LORENZI PARK PAVILION - DAY

A NEW GROUP OF PICNICKERS watches Team Seven put the greenthemed 1920s upright into its old spot.

EXT. BLISS DANCE SCULPTURE - DAY

The men of Team Eight secure the 1900-09 silver nickelodeon upright piano to its old spot...then try again to pose like the dancer in the sculpture.

The movers move out...Barrett, Carey, and Emersyn move in.

EXT. LAS VEGAS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM - NIGHT

Soon as Team One bolts the dino-themed 1900-09 upright piano into its prior spot, Demi, HER PARENTS, Justin, and Suzanne scurry to the instrument.

EXT. SUNSET PARK - NIGHT

Maansi and her parents come out of hiding just in time to sample the red-orange-green-blue 1950s studio piano.

EXT. SPRINGS PRESERVE - NIGHT

Kacee and her folks find the butterfly-themed 1950s spinet. Just like that, Kacee sits down and hits a glissando...the intro to a lively tune.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - NIGHT

A HUGE CROWD joins all three Henerys to watch Team Four finish fastening the garden-themed 1900s upright piano to its previous place.

First up to play: Marybeth...who flexes her arms in triumph.

EXT. FREMONT STREET EXPERIENCE - MAIN STREET STAGE - NIGHT

Team Six fastens the golden 1870s upright to its former spot on the stage in front of ANOTHER BIG CROWD...a group that joins all five Bermudezes.

Cesar and Marisol lead the cheers as Lorelei, Elvira, and Albert emerge from the crowd to give the piano a whirl.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Larry's all smiles at his seat at the teacher's desk.

In front of him, Josh and Jackson give their classmates a briefing on the duo's own extra-credit project.

JOSH

Okay...maybe my next-door neighbor choked on farina.

**JACKSON** 

But we interviewed a dude who swears by this cereal from Germany.

Some students nod.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

I think it's Vitalis Knusper muesli flakes plus almonds.

Larry perks up.

LARRY

Jackson, that's a new one on me...when I was a teenager, Vitalis was a hair tonic.

Maansi and some other classmates bust out in laughter.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

To tell her story, Lorelei uses a TV hooked up to her laptop.

LORELEI

Anyway...what you're seeing is us...me and my brother and sister and parents...around the piano outside the Burlesque Hall of Fame. Just before we all got arrested.

Marybeth, Kacee, and Maansi shake their heads "yes."

Josh raises his hand...Lorelei points to him.

JOSH

Did Luke Jerram ever get arrested?

LORELEI

I don't know, Josh, but I <u>do</u> know this: Now that the pianos are back on the streets of Las Vegas itself, the smiles on people's faces have come back, too.

Lorelei shuts the video OFF and takes a bow...a round of applause erupts.

LARRY

Great job, all three of you!

On the way to her seat, Lorelei trades high fives with students in her path.

INT. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Larry's students file out of his classroom.

When Lorelei reaches the hallway, Brandon meets her.

BRANDON

You're the girl I wanna see.

LORELEI

What can I do for you, Brandon?

She moves forward...he walks backwards in disgust.

STUDENTS hustle to get out of Brandon's way.

BRANDON

Let me tell you something: If you hadn't come up with those damn street pianos, my cousins would still be alive today!

LORELEI

Now just wait a minute!

Brandon and Lorelei stop in their tracks.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I didn't send anybody to their deaths!

BRANDON

But it was your idea--

LORELEI

It wasn't my idea to spring a killer loose at Allegiant Stadium!

Both students grit their teeth.

INT. BERMUDEZES' DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Marisol, Elvira, Cesar, and Albert chow down at dinner.

Lorelei's plate remains full while she stews.

CESAR

C'mon, Lorelei. Don't let Brandon upset you.

ALBERT

Yeah. Don't let him get to you.

The other four family members observe Lorelei's timid nod.

She still refuses to eat.

MARISOL

I made your favorite dessert.

A smile crosses Elvira's face.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

Chocolate cheesecake...with extra chili powder.

Not a rise from Lorelei.

ELVIRA

Lorelei...it hurts to see you this way. You worked hard on getting those street pianos out here.

Elvira rises from the table to hug her sister...

MARISOL

Elvira's right.

...who gets up herself to complete the embrace.

MARISOL (CONT'D)

We're proud of you...no matter what Brandon says or what that killer still out there does.

LORELEI

That's it!

Lorelei and Elvira return to their respective seats.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

I'm gonna see if I can't find the killer myself!

Four sets of stunned eyes stare back at Lorelei.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

Don't worry...I love those procedural shows as much as anybody else in this house!

CESAR

Yeah...but...

LORELEI

We all know a beat-up, bright red 2002 Ford Explorer was the vehicle involved in the shooting. And that the killer's a female.

Those eight bewildered eyes continue to stare Lorelei down.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

And I've still got some choice words for that killer.

ALBERT

Count me in, Lor.

CESAR

(taking a bite at last) Albert, that's dangerous.

ALBERT

But, Dad...we're the family that kickboxes together.

Marisol's stunned look becomes a smile.

MARISOL

And we're gonna pitch in and help Lorelei solve this crime.

ELVIRA

Yeah...five of us and one of them.

CESAR

Even if one of 'em has a gun.

Cheers fill the dining room...and Lorelei digs into her food.

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

On this washday Saturday, Marisol's Hyundai Ioniq pulls into the parking lot...where that bright red, beat-up 2002 Ford Explorer rests.

INT. HYUNDAI IONIQ - DAY

Front-seat passenger Cesar watches Marisol turn the car around...back seaters Lorelei, Albert, and Elvira stare back at the SUV.

MARISOL

It's time we found a new laundromat.

Four heads nod back at Marisol...

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

...as the car heads toward Decatur Boulevard.

Ramona peeks out from the front entrance.

EXT. BLISS DANCE SCULPTURE - DAY

Elvira (with her camcorder), Albert, Cesar, Marisol, Stella, and A FEW OTHER SPECTATORS watch Felicity and Lorelei pound out something bluesy on the silver 1900s upright piano.

Jorge and Roberto stroll into the space.

Lorelei and Felicity finish their tune...and trigger a hearty round of applause.

The two pianists wave back at their fans.

LORELEI

Thanks, everybody!

JORGE

(to Lorelei)

Thank you!

ROBERTO

Jorge is right, Lor...you sound better than ever.

Lorelei looks at Roberto...

LORELEI

Thanks...but I couldn't sound worth a heck without Felicity.

FELICITY

And I couldn't sound worth beans if it weren't for Lorelei.

...then trades high fives with Felicity.

Elvira turns her camcorder off.

JORGE

Hey, Roberto...ain't that the old upright piano Liberace used to have in his museum?

ROBERTO

Nope.

STELLA

It doesn't have the marimba in it.

Roberto and his brother nod.

MARISOL

Roberto...while you and Jorge are out here, we've got something to tell you.

Lorelei jumps up from the piano bench to join the other four Bermudezes, who congregate around the Two Castanedas.

CESAR

Guess what we saw in the laundromat parking lot yesterday?

ELVIRA

We saw that beat-up, bright red Ford Explorer.

ALBERT

The one they've been talking about on the news.

Jorge gulps.

ROBERTO

Uh oh...

Felicity and Stella move toward the group of seven.

**JORGE** 

We know who owns it.

ROBERTO

All too well.

Jorge and his brother eyeball each other.

**JORGE** 

And we'll be talkin' with her in the morning.

ROBERTO

How 'bout right now instead?

Roberto pulls out his cell phone to make the call.

INT. LORENZI PARK PAVILION - NIGHT

SPECTATORS fill every seat at every picnic table while Nancy (a mike in her hands) stands alongside Elly May (in overalls; she holds a second mike) near the green-themed 1920-29 upright piano to address the crowd.

ELLY MAY

(into second mike)

Ah so wanted to punch out that mover who put his grubby hands on mah precious li'l' Donna Mae at the Ol' Las Vegas Mormon Fort.

At one of the closest picnic tables to the piano: Donna Mae (in her own overalls), Justin, and Suzanne.

Demi, her folks, Aileen, and Larry sit at an adjacent table.

DONNA MAE

Mom, it's all good!

Some spectators chuckle.

NANCY

(into first mike)

No telling what I would done to that mover myself.

ELLY MAY

Ah wanted to go WWE on him, Nancy...but there's this thang better known as "job security."

Lorelei, Albert, Elvira, Cesar, and Marisol react from a middle table.

NANCY

All so true, Elly May.

ELLY MAY

Ah so darn wail remember what happened with Becky Hammon.

MARISOL

(points at Elly May)
Yeah! That! That suspension!

A puzzled Cesar eyes Marisol.

CESAR

Honey...I thought you wanted to go full MMA on that mover.

MARISOL

Nope...that was Ramona.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Nancy looks out at a now-bigger, standing-room-only crowd.

NANCY

(into first mike)

Now...we're gonna try something here tonight.

A buzz emerges from Nancy's remark.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I want five people to come up who've never touched a piano key in their lives. Raise your hands if that's you.

The Dorishes gaze at each other...

LARRY

Aileen, I'm busted.

AILEEN

Me, too, Larry.

...then they raise their hands.

NANCY

Aileen...Larry...c'mon up.

Larry and Aileen stroll toward the piano as Marisol, Cesar, and Elly May lift their own hands up.

NANCY (CONT'D)

You, too, Marisol...Cesar...Elly.

Cesar, Elly May, and Marisol join Aileen, Larry, and Nancy at the old upright.

Suzanne and Justin gaze at an access road...

EXT. LORENZI PARK PAVILION - NIGHT

...where a beat-up, bright red Ford Explorer tools along.

INT. LORENZI PARK PAVILION - NIGHT

Justin climbs out of his seat to address the Three Drummonds.

NANCY

Now...here's what I want you five to do...

Some of the five nod.

NANCY (CONT'D)

I want you to go to the piano...find a key...put your finger on the key...and when I say "play," you hit that key.

LARRY

Sounds like fun.

NANCY

And you keep pressing that key until I say "stop."

MARISOL

(claps her hands)

Let's do it!

Aileen, Cesar, Elly May, Larry, and Marisol turn to face the keyboard. Each person finds a key to press.

JUSTIN

(to the Drummonds)

Aunt Suzanne and I might need to leave early.

DEMI

But we're having fun, Uncle Justin.

JUSTIN

Look over there.

The Elliotts and the Drummonds look at the beat-up SUV...which pulls into a parking space.

Nancy eyeballs the five experimenters at the piano.

NANCY

Play!

Cesar, Marisol, Aileen, Larry, and Elly May hit a piano key apiece...repeatedly.

Albert, Donna Mae, Demi, Elvira, and Lorelei look excited.

DONNA MAE

Go, Mom!

LORELEI

You go, Mom and Dad!

NANCY

Stop!

All the pounding stops...applause takes over.

When the clapping dies, Suzanne taps Justin on the shoulder.

SUZANNE

False alarm.

JUSTIN

Huh?

SUZANNE

That's not the SUV the police are after.

JUSTIN

But it's a Ford Explorer.

SUZANNE

Yeah...but that one out there's a 2007 Explorer, not a 2002.

Justin's mouth flies open.

SUZANNE (CONT'D)

The front end on a 2007 Explorer is different from the front end on a 2002 one.

Justin breathes relief...Demi does, too.

EXT. RAMONA SEGUI'S HOUSE - DAY

On this Monday afternoon, Pete and Dwayne jump out of their unmarked police car; the two detectives approach a small, unbecoming house in Vegas' Cultural Corridor.

Pete looks gleeful: That beat-up, bright red 2002 Explorer rests in the driveway.

PETE

This is it, Dwayne! Paydirt!

DWAYNE

I sure hope you're right.

Dwayne knocks on the front door...no response.

He tries again...nothing happens.

A third attempt yields nothing, too.

PETE

Here...let me try it.

Dwayne steps aside...Pete jogs toward the front door, raises his leg, and...

**DWAYNE** 

Don't do it, Pete!

A shrugging Pete turns around to eye his partner.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

We're gonna do this right.

Dwayne motions his partner to his side.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

You wanna get us busted for breaking and entering...when nobody's home?

Pete grimaces as he and Dwayne walk back to their car.

PETE

Dwayne McGraw, you're no fun!

DWAYNE

You've been watching those "Lethal Weapon" movies too many times.

Pete wags his finger at Dwayne.

EXT. NEON MUSEUM - DAY

Ramona (in a pirate costume topped off by...a hockey goalie's helmet) sits at the 1980s spinet. Its hammers stand exposed.

A toolbox rests by her side while she uses pliers to cut the psychedelic piano's first A string.

That young mother and preteen son from the session at the "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas, Nevada" sign stroll toward the spinet...and watch Ramona.

PRETEEN BOY

(to Ramona)

Hey, uh...whatcha doin'?

RAMONA

(deep, mannish voice)

I'm tuning the piano.

MOTHER

With a pair of pliers?

Ramona shakes her head "yes."

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Let me see the rest of your kit.

RAMONA

You asked for it.

The boy and his mom watch Ramona open that toolbox.

The laundromat worker pulls out...a handgun.

RAMONA (CONT'D)

(aims gun)

Back off...back off...and there won't be no trouble.

Mother and son back away from (as well as watch) Ramona.

When the twosome turn their backs on Ramona...BANG! BANG!

INT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

Dwayne and Pete converse with Roberto and Jorge.

The 1950s spinet's still there...but now, it's an eyesore.

DWAYNE

We're trying to track down a Ramona Segui...and we've found out she's a custodian here.

ROBERTO

Not anymore.

PETE

Did you two fire her?

**JORGE** 

Nope. She quit.

PETE

We stopped by her house on North Tenth Street yesterday afternoon, but were unable to reach her.

DWAYNE

Does Ms. Segui still live there?

Jorge and Roberto shrug.

PETE

Mr. Castaneda...and Mr. Castaneda...did she leave you any sort of forwarding address?

ROBERTO

Jorge...I think we'd better talk to Ramona's sister.

**JORGE** 

(wags finger at Roberto)
I'd rather drink gasoline.

EXT. DECATUR BOULEVARD LAUNDROMAT - DAY

Dwayne and a puzzled Pete stroll back to their police car.

PETE

What's a piano doing in a laundromat, of all places?

DWAYNE

Well, when they interviewed Lorelei Bermudez on TV, she said it was a test balloon.

PETE

Huh?

DWAYNE

To see if people here would dig street pianos.

PETE

But it's inside a laundromat!

Pete opens the left front door...Dwayne the right front door.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Both detectives fasten their seat belts.

DWAYNE

Pete...remember how John the Baptist paved the way for Jesus?

Pete cringes.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Okay...remember how Willie Thrower paved the way for Marlin Briscoe, who paved the way for James Harris, who paved the way for Vince Evans, who paved the way for...

Now Pete starts the car, then pulls it out of the lot.

DWAYNE (CONT'D)

Doug Williams, who paved the way for Warren Moon, who paved the way for Randall Cunningham, who paved the way for Rodney Peete, who paved the way for Michael Vick, who--

PETE

Can't you just cut to Patrick Mahomes and Jalen Hurts?

EXT. RAMONA SEGUI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Cesar's Volkswagen Passat and Marisol's Hyundai Ioniq rest across the street, his car in front of hers.

Not a single light burns inside the house.

INT. VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT - NIGHT

Driver Cesar and passenger Elvira gaze at Ramona's abode...

INT. HYUNDAI IONIQ - NIGHT

...as do front-seat passenger Lorelei, driver Marisol, and back-seat occupant Albert.

Marisol examines that lidded coffee cup in her cup holder.

Albert turns to the Hyundai's back window when a 2019 Chevy Impala pulls up in back of the Ioniq.

INT. CHEVY IMPALA - NIGHT

Maansi (from the back seat) looks out at her driver mother and front-seat passenger father.

MAANSI

A good old-fashioned stakeout...just like on TV.

Mr. and Mrs. Modi stare at each other, then at Maansi.

EXT. RAMONA SEGUI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Two more vehicles pull in behind the Chevy.

SAME SCENE - TWO HOURS LATER

Still no light inside the residence...and no sign of Ramona.

Cesar jumps out of his car to approach Marisol's vehicle.

INT. HYUNDAI IONIQ - NIGHT

Marisol rolls her car's left front window down.

MARISOL

(to Cesar)

Whatcha think, Magnum?

CESAR

Let's all go home. We've got three kids who've got school tomorrow.

MARISOL

Sounds like a plan.

The football coach watches her husband take a few steps toward his own vehicle...but he comes back to hers.

**CESAR** 

Honey...did you mean Tom Selleck's Magnum or Jay Hernandez's Magnum?

And Marisol raises her car's left front window.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

It's the Saturday before Memorial Day...and the yard's full of PEOPLE...happy, fired-up people!

Many enjoy refreshments...most shoot the breeze...the TV camera crews from the "Make a Play" kickoff are back for more footage...and the podium's back, too.

Markus and Bucky duet at the garden-themed 1900s upright...a piano whose music rack now rests out of harm's way.

The instrument now sports a tinny, honky-tonky sound...a shock to Cheryl and a delight to Barrett, Carey, and Emersyn (she wears a 1950s Frank Sinatra-style suit and fedora).

CHERYL

(to the Brownings)
That piano didn't sound like that last time I was here.

CAREY

Blame us.

BARRETT

Yeah...me and Carey and Emersyn put thumb tacks in the piano's hammers.

Cheryl's nod is a slow one.

**EMERSYN** 

Dad told me he and Mom did this when they were in high school.

CAREY

Barrett and I fell in love with the way the piano at the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort sounds.

BARRETT

Just like on one of those old Westerns on TV.

**EMERSYN** 

Don't worry, Cheryl. We'll take 'em out when the party's over.

Bucky and Markus end their tune...and set off applause.

BUCKY

Well...you've cleaned us out.

**MARKUS** 

Now...who'd like to take over? Don't be afraid!

No takers yet...Tristan rides his bike toward the old upright as the two piano-bar pros move off the bench.

TRISTAN

(jumps off his bike)

Hope you don't mind.

Tristan puts one wheel on the piano's keys and places the other wheel on the ground as Bucky's mouth flies open.

**MARKUS** 

Bucky...it's still artwork.

Markus and Bucky watch Tristan pull out his cell phone for a bike-on-a-piano photo.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Mona and Frank turn to Juliette.

MONA

Glad to know you, Juliette.

FRANK

By the way...do you happen to be related to Bill Wyman...of the Rolling Stones?

JULIETTE

Can't say I am...but I'd kill to be one of his relatives.

A tuxedo-clad, derby-hatted Donna Mae sits at the piano, Emersyn plugs her guitar into an amp, and Demi (in a 1910s suit-slacks-bow tie-vest-top hat outfit) finishes setting up her drums.

And casually-dressed Elvira plugs her bass into another amp.

DEMI

Elvira, I thought you were gonna suit up.

ELVIRA

I didn't have anything suitable.

Elvira pulls a baseball cap out of her jeans pocket, then sticks the cap on her head.

DONNA MAE

(watches Elvira)

You look suitable enough to me!

Donna Mae catches Elvira's big smile.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK BRONZE TREEHOUSE - DAY

Ramona (now dressed like a mime) carries a trombone case into the tall structure.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

Barrett, Carey, Chelsea, Cheryl, Elly May, Juliette, Justin, Miyoshi, Suzanne, Toshiro, the four remaining Bermudezes, and the other two Drummonds look excited as Demi, Donna Mae, Elvira, and Emersyn rip into Elvis Presley's "Burning Love."

JUSTIN

(to those around him)
That's Demi's real
instrument...those drums.

Emersyn starts it out on guitar; four bars later, Donna Mae adds piano chords and Elvira contributes bass lines...and on the song's eighth bar, Demi jumps in with a drum fill.

Then:

DONNA MAE

(adding vocals)

Lord Almighty!/Feel my temperature rising./Higher, higher,/It's burning through to my soul.

Aileen, Bucky, Frank, Larry, Markus, Mona, and Tristan dance in place...Geraldine and Nancy nod their approval.

DONNA MAE (CONT'D)

Boy, boy, boy, boy,/You're gonna set me on fire./My brain is flaming./Don't know which way to go.

Jackson, Josh, and Maansi look floored... Kacee and Marybeth look ecstatic.

DONNA MAE (CONT'D)

Your kisses lift me higher,/Like the sweet song of a choir./You light my morning sky,/Burning love.

Jorge and Roberto high-five it...so do Felicity and Stella.

Lorelei bumps fists with Cesar, Marisol, and Albert.

SAME SCENE - A BIT LATER

Dwayne, Pete, and Serena join the audience while Stella and Felicity take to the garden-painted piano.

DWAYNE

You know...it's so nice to be able to take time out like this.

SERENA

That's the truth, Dwayne...now that the FBI and the Clark County Sheriff's Department have joined the case.

Serena and Dwayne notice Pete's holstered gun. Both cringe.

PETE

Well...you just never know.

The two showgirls, arm in arm, face their audience.

STELLA

Me and Felicity picked just the right time to tell you this.

FELICITY

Stella and I have decided to become dueling pianists!

Kudos ring out from the crowd.

INT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK BRONZE TREEHOUSE - DAY

Ramona opens her trombone case...and yanks out...her AR-15.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

Felicity and Stella face the keyboard.

FELICITY

Stella, whaddya say we start out with "Ain't No Mountain High Enough?"

STELLA

Diana Ross's version?

FELICITY

How about the one by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell?

STELLA

Thought you'd never ask!

The two buddies pound out a lively four-bar intro when...a barrage of shots rings out from the bronze treehouse.

TRISTAN

Not again!

Some people scream...many try to flee (most of them in a crouch)...Stella and Felicity hide under the piano.

Geraldine and Nancy try to hide behind the podium.

NANCY

Those aren't fireworks, that's for damn sure.

Other spectators conceal themselves in front of (or behind) sofas and ottomans.

INT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK BRONZE TREEHOUSE - DAY

A cringing Ramona throws her gun down...she's out of bullets.

EXT. DOWNTOWN CONTAINER PARK COURTYARD - DAY

PARAMEDICS tend to wounded (or dead) spectators...UNIFORMED LVMPD OFFICERS check out the scene.

Felicity and Stella remain under the old upright...but now, Albert, Cesar, Elvira, Lorelei, and Marisol lie in front of the twosome.

Aileen, Cheryl, Dwayne, Geraldine, Juliette, Larry, Nancy, Pete, and Serena stand close by.

Quiet takes over at the courtyard.

Lorelei slithers over to Nancy.

LORELEI

You still got your cordless mike? I wanna try something.

Nancy's mouth flies open.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

If I try it from the podium, I might get shot.

Nancy yanks her cordless mike from her pants pocket.

NANCY

(hands mike to Lorelei)

Make sure the batteries aren't dead.

Lorelei checks the mike for sound...she's in luck.

LORELEI

(into mike)

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE?

Pete sprints over to Lorelei.

PETE

Lorelei, are you crazy?

Lorelei backs away from Pete.

LORELEI

KILLER...COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP...RIGHT NOW!

Nobody stirring...yet...until Ramona saunters out of the bronze treehouse (raised hands and all).

A steamed Marisol jumps up, barrels toward Ramona, raises a leg to kick the killer, and...walks away from Ramona without doing violence.

MARISOL

Forget it.

Lorelei hands the mike back to Nancy as two police officers handcuff Ramona.

LORELEI

Ramona, why'd you do it? Why'd you have to spoil it for all those people...even if you're so doggone piano-intolerant?

RAMONA

I sucked at piano...that's why.

LORELEI

What you did was selfish...killing those seven at Allegiant Stadium...those two outside the Neon Museum...and no telling how many you just got through killing--

Cheryl and Juliette move in on Ramona.

RAMONA

I just wanted to do something better than my stuck-up sister!

CHERYL

You know what, Ramona? I hope they put you in a cell block with nobody but Taylor Swift fans and Alicia Keys fans and Lady Gaga fans!

Some spectators chuckle.

JULIETTE

(wags finger at Ramona)
And I hope the Ghost of Christine
McVie haunts you for the remainder
of your life!

The officers escort Ramona from the park to read the killer her rights.

Survivors trickle back to the courtyard as Larry, Geraldine, and Aileen stroll over to the group around Lorelei.

LORELEI

I didn't even mention all the vandalism Ramona caused.

AILEEN

Hey, that's all right.

LARRY

(nodding at Lorelei)
Even with all the blips in the
project, you've pulled it off.
You've earned yourself an A.

LORELEI

Thanks, Mr. Dorish.

Larry and Lorelei shake hands.

LORELEI (CONT'D)

And I had plenty of help...in fact, Cheryl and Juliette and Mom and Dad and Albert and Elvira and all those movers and painters...

ELVIRA

Mr. Dorish...you oughta give Lorelei an A plus.

ALBERT

Plus plus plus plus plus.

GERALDINE

Larry, the children are right.

Applause breaks out around Geraldine.

GERALDINE (CONT'D)

In fact...why don't we extend "Make a Play" for another week...or two?

CESAR

That'll work!

The cheering heats up!

MARISOL

Way to work it...way to make all of us proud! Way to come home smarter than you were this morning!

LORELEI

Hey...I had plenty of help.

FREEZE FRAME as Lorelei and Marisol trade high fives.

FADE OUT.

## THE END