

Watch-Out World.

A YA Music-Driven Ensemble Dramey

Half-Hour Pilot

by
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TEASER

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - NIGHT

The Harvest Moon Dance RAVES under the vigilant eye of **PRINCIPAL COMSTOCK** and awkward **PARENT CHAPERONES**.

On stage, in front of the closed curtain but off to the side, is out & proud **DJ, PARKER**, 17. Completely in his element spinning club music and dancing.

ON STAGE, BEHIND THE CURTAIN -

The "*Non-Objects*", an all-girl rock band, anxiously waits to shake-up the world with their first-ever public performance.

ALLY BAILEY, 17, fierce-talent & determination. Lead-singer & guitar. A serious chip on her shoulder about proving herself.

BELLE, 17, refined, intellectual, Italian. Plays Cello. Belle is a closed book.

KIRA, 17, the old-soul Earth-Mother, plays keyboard. Beneath the surface she's deeply sad.

SID, 16, is the band's little sister. Confidently gay, spiky blue hair. A powerful drummer with serious stage-fright.

At this very moment Sid's in a near-hyper-ventilating panic:

KIRA

Sid. Deep breaths. In through your nose, out through your mouth.

Sid changes her breathing:

ALLY

Go to your Billie Eilish happy place.

Sid smiles:

BELLE

It's not like the entire school is out there waiting for us to crash-n-burn so they can torture us about it for the rest of our lives. Oh wait, they are.

SID

Dick. Ooh, getting mad helped.

BELLE

You're welcome. Keep your eyes closed. You'll be fine.

Ally receives a text: *"Mom-dalorian: Is he there?"*

Ally opens the curtain:

ALLY'S POV -

DANCING TEENAGERS. She scans the ADULTS. Nope:

ALLY

(hopes outloud)

Come-on, Dad. Where are you?

CUT TO:

INT. OUTLAW RADIO - PRODUCER BOOTH - NIGHT

Producer **PAIGE**, 31, is star-struck by swaggering charmer, **ZACH BAILEY**, 42, (Ally's Dad), who's in the DJ Booth jamming the final chords of his 90's hit:

INT. DJ BOOTH -

Zach sings the last lines to Paige through glass:

ZACH

(sings)

All I want is every moment with you.

One more kiss. One more chance. One more glance into your eyes.

DJ CODY, 26, a legend in his own mind, grabs his mic:

DJ CODY

This is, Outlaw Radio. Live streaming our One-Hit-Wonders You Thought Were Dead, Countdown. I'm Cody Reed. And that was, number ten, Living On Love, performed live by, Scoundrels' ex-co-frontman, Zach Bailey. Welcome Zach.

ZACH

Thanks, Cody. Good to still be alive, and chasing a comeback.

DJ CODY

A comeback!? Oh, you're serious.

DJ Cody halts Zach's response with a finger:

DJ CODY
Stick around for the wild story
behind the rivalry & bad-boy antics
which split-up The Scoundrels.

DJ Cody taps a button on his console, lifts-off his headphones, puts-up his feet:

DJ CODY
Google-stalked you, man. Back in the
90's you & Ethan were livin' large:
cash, coke & bow-chicka-bow-wow.

Paige panic-gestures through the glass: *"WE'RE LIVE STREAMING."*

The guys are oblivious. Paige grabs a Sharpie and paper:

ZACH
Got some regrets. We tried to bring
people together in a time, like
today, when there was so much
mistrust & anger. I also had a
daughter, Ally. She's a terrific
musician. And unlike me, an
incredible lyricist.

DJ CODY
Oh that's right, you wrote the
music and Ethan wrote the lyrics.

ZACH
Yeah. We had a great dynamic. Once.

Paige holds up a note, "LIVE STREAMING!" They don't see it:

DJ CODY
You gotta tell the story about that
insane day when you went from being
on top of the world to imploding
The Scoundrels, and your marriage.

ZACH
Kid, that's not who I am anymore.
(to himself)
Aw man, how'd I wind up here.

Zach slings his guitar, knocks Cody's feet off the desk:

DJ CODY
Watch-it, has-been.

ZACH

What-cha-gonna do about it, pre-school.

Cody NUT-PUNCHES ZACH. Zach crumples, manages to WHACK Cody with his own boom-mic. They tangle like kids:

PAIGE

(yells through the glass)
We're Live Streaming! Live streaming!

Cody lunges for the control panel. Paige yanks open the door:

PAIGE

You idiots probably just got me fired.

ZACH

He started it.

CODY

He started it.

Zach receives a text: "Gwen: Where TF are you? Ally's first show is NOW!"

ZACH

Shit, gotta run? Paige, I know we just met but, I'll make this up to you.

As Zach dashes out:

PAIGE

You mean that?

ZACH

Probably not.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - ON STAGE - NIGHT

Ally, scans the gymnasium one last time, jerks the curtain closed. She feels let-down, but what else is new:

KIRA

Sorry, sweetie.

Ally receives a text: "Mom-dalorian: I'm on my way."

Ally texts back: "Mom, no. It's okay."

COLE, 18, an angsty-outcast who hates crowds, weaves through the backstage CROWD, strides purposely toward Ally:

BELLE

Heads-up Ally. Toy-Boy commin'-in hot --

KIRA
And extra angsty.

Ally's happy to see her guy, the one guy she can depend on:

ALLY
Cole? Look at you, braving the crowd just to see me, and you haven't burst into flames.

Cole dodges Ally's kiss:

ALLY
Okay?... You alright?

COLE
Yeah... no. Not for a while.

ALLY
This curtain's about to open. I'll find you after. We'll talk.

COLE
Ally, I've been chasing moments to be with you since tenth grade.

ALLY
Best moments of your life. Plus one giant first for me - you taught me how to drive, and survived.

COLE
That's kinda my point. I'm always there for you. It's my birthday.

Ally cringes. She totally forgot:

COLE
Jasmin remembered.

Cole gestures to Artist/Activist **JASMIN** backstage, with her, "you never deserved him", expression:

COLE
We've been hanging out. More than hanging out, and --

ALLY
(gut-punched)
Yeah, I get it. We're done. That's cool. Get off my stage.

COLE
It's always all about you.

Cole walks off:

BELLE
Buh-bye, Toy-Boy.

SID
Oh, Ally?

KIRA
You okay?

ALLY
Yeah, Fine. I'm fine.

DANCE MUSIC fades off:

PARKER (O.C.)
Alright party people, it is time to
be dazzled by Clark High's break-out
Girl-Power band: *The Non-Objects!*

LOW EXPECTATION APPLAUSE. Curtains SCREECH as they open.

Sid breathes out, closes her eyes, tight.

DJ Parker glides in with his iPhone camera, focuses on Ally,
as she steps up to the mic:

ALLY
(hurt and betrayed)
Hey... we're the Non-Objects. We're
excited to play our very first show,
for you.

In the crowd:

TIMMY DOOGAN
(heckles)
Are ya sure? Bring back the DJ. I
wanna dance.

ALLY
Bite me, Timmy Doogan. Everyone
knows you can't dance.

The CROWD LAUGHS. Doogan knows it's true:

ALLY
(fueled by rage & betrayal)
Ladies, no boy will ever love you,
better than you can love yourself.

GUFFAWS from guys in the CROWD.

Ally turns to her band:

ALLY
Bad-Boy Brain.

Belle and Kira unanimously urge, "NO":

SID
Been nice knowing ya.

Sid, eyes closed, SMACKS HER DRUMSTICKS TOGETHER:

SID
One. Two. Three.

Ally, Belle & Kira join Sid in jamming the first chords of a defiant, fed-up, anthem:

ALLY
(fierce & sarcastic)
Bad-boy wants it. Bad-boy needs it,
Bad-boy's gotta get it, get it now.

Boy, I'll give it all to you, if
you let me hold your heart.

Bad-boy's gotta get it, get it now.

Boy, I wrapped my love around your
kiss, but you left me standing here
feeling like an idiot.

Ally pours her heart into the song as Parker films her.

Principal Comstock stomps toward the **LIGHTING TECH**:

ALLY
Bad-boys take, take, take.

Boy now I see you got nuthin' for me.
Nuthin' I need. Bye bye bad-boy. Go
fuck yourself.

GASPS from the crowd then... **CHEERS!**

POW - POWER & LIGHTS CUT-OUT ON STAGE.

Curtains slam closed. Backstage Safety Lights snap on.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - ON STAGE - NIGHT

Ally and the Non-Objects know they're in deep shit.

Parker pushes in through the curtain:

PARKER

Wow! That was... Epic! So much effing swaggering confidence. Completely magnificent! I'm uploading this to You-Tube right now!

Parker dashes out as Principal Comstock confronts Ally:

PRINCIPAL COMSTOCK

Hope you're proud of yourselves ladies. That vulgar display just bought you two weeks detention.

ALLY

Worth it.

PRINCIPAL COMSTOCK

Three weeks. And, you're banned from ever performing on school property, again.

The girls are shocked and pissed, mostly at Ally:

BELLE

Thanks, Ally.

ALLY

I'll fix this. I promise.

DANCE MUSIC cuts back in.

TIME CUT:

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - 30 MINUTES LATER

The dance is basically over.

Zach (guitar case over his shoulder) dashes in.

The stage curtain is closed. He rushes toward backstage.

BACKSTAGE -

No one. Zach pulls out his phone as he scrambles out.

EXT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

A three-story brownstone & former fire-station. Closed for the night.

Zach hops out of an Uber with his guitar, dashes up to the cafe window, looks in:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

Welcoming. Homey. Ally sits with her band on the small stage, (built around the Firefighter's Pole). No longer angry, they're feeling ENERGIZED:

BELLE
The crowd really did love us.

KIRA
Yeah they did.

Ally's Mom, **GWEN**, 38, wears her cafe uniform as she delivers smoothies to the girls. She's self-assured & authentic.

Zach enters like everything's okay:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

ZACH
Hi, Gwen. Girls. How'd it go?

ALLY
(pumped)
We just totally got banned for life after one song.

ZACH
(proud)
What song? That's spectacular --
(off Gwen's scowl)
-- and nothing to celebrate.

Gwen grabs his ear, yanks him back toward the door:

ZACH
Ow. That's my ear. My ear.

GWEN
We need to talk.

Zach sneaks a thumbs-up to Ally and the girls but they're disappointed in him too:

EXT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

Gwen tugs him back out the front door, let's go:

ZACH
Ow, ow-ow ow.

Gwen closes the door so the girls can't eavesdrop:

GWEN
You knew I had no one to cover the cafe. We agreed you'd be there. Now they have no place to play for an audience.

ZACH
I get it. I blew it. Again. But look, she's over it.

GWEN
She's not. Ally needed you to be there, to show you how good she's become. To prove to you she's worth ten minutes of your time. She's so talented and determined it breaks my heart.

ZACH
What happened to you?

GWEN
You. You happened to me, to us.

ZACH
You stopped believing in me.

GWEN
(lies)
I never stopped believing in you.
(truth)
Your family should've been more important to you than your ego.

ZACH
I know that now.

GWEN

If you did, you would've shown up for our daughter. Ally deserves better. Zach, we love you, but, after ten years of showing up when it's convenient for you, and making her take a back seat to your "comeback", I've realized we don't need you. I'm setting you free.

As Gwen steps back inside:

GWEN

Go, find your comeback. Just go.

Gwen shuts the door, locks it.

Zach walks away. He receives a VOICE MESSAGE from Ally:

ALLY (VOICE)

Our one-song-show already has 2000 hits on YouTube.

Zach clicks the link - his eyes light-up with love & pride:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - MOMENTS LATER

Ally sits on stage with her band. A TEXT from Zach:

ZACH (VOICE)

NON-OBJECTS rock! So do you, kid.

EXT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

Zach's phone RINGS. It's "Paige". He answers:

ZACH

Paige, sorry I messed up your show. It was great meeting you. I'll apologize my butt off to your Station Manager in the morning.

PAIGE'S VOICE

Your segment went viral. Off the charts numbers, comments wanting to know more, about you. They want me to build a Web-Cast series around your comeback journey. We'll stream it on the station's web-page.

ZACH

Really?

PAIGE'S VOICE

I just made margaritas. Feel like
being naughty?

ZACH

Only always.

EXT. MOBILE-HOME VILLAGE - SUNRISE

A faded tour bus: *"THE SCOUNDRELS Living On Love Tour"*

Taped across the door: *"LOT EVICTION: FINAL NOTICE"*.

SAUL, 40, a lovable mama's-boy in a rumpled suit, **KNOCKS**:

SAUL

Zach? Yo, Zach? In there buddy?
(rehearses bad news)
I need to cut you loose. As a client.
Not as my friend.

Paige drives up with Zach. He hops out with his guitar:

ZACH

Thanks for the lift, and the
hangover.

Paige tugs Zach down by his shirt collar, kisses his forehead:

PAIGE

You're kinda charming, in an old lost
dog sorta way. Looking forward to
following you around with a camera.

Paige tucks cash into his shirt pocket:

PAIGE

For last night's segment. Call you.

Paige drives away. Zach, feeling inspired, grins at Saul:

SAUL

So, you're a dirty-dirty gigolo now?
Ten-percent of that is mine.

Saul stiffens as Zach hugs him:

SAUL

Okay-okay. Get off. We need to talk
about last night's radio train wreck.

ZACH

The radio station asked Paige to create a Web-Cast series around my comeback.

SAUL

You're shitting me? Do we get paid?

Zach shrugs then rips the *Eviction Notice* off of his door:

SAUL

Just how broke are you?

ZACH

Can't worry about that now.

SAUL

Seems like you definitely should be.

INT. ZACH'S TOUR BUS HOME - MORNING

Unintentionally retro-90's. "*THE SCOUNDRELS*" memorabilia.

"1998 *Billboard Hot-100*" cover: "*Song & Wedding of the Year, Living On Love.*" The cover photo shows happy newlyweds, Zach & Gwen, with Best Man, ETHAN, and, Saul.

More photos reveal the story of Zach's & Gwen's baby girl, Allison, (Ally), growing-up (with a sparkly pink guitar) into a confident, musical teenager.

Zach digs through a pile of clothes for a shirt:

ZACH

I'm in real trouble with Gwen & Ally.

SAUL

I heard. Ally texted me. That's part of the reason I came to talk.

ZACH

I've never seen Gwen so, serious. Have to go make peace with her.

SAUL

Ally also sent the link to her one-song show. She's incredible. A natural, ya know.

ZACH

Better than I was at her age.

SAUL
Lightyears better.

Zach scowls at Saul while pulling on a plaid shirt:

SAUL
Ditch the plaid. It's grown-up time.

A METALLIC CLUNK jolts the tour bus. POWER CUTS OUT.

RUMBLE of a HYDRAULIC LIFT as the back of the bus raises up.

EXT. ZACH'S TOUR BUS HOME - MORNING

Zach & Saul stumble out as a MENACING TOW-DRIVER approaches.

Saul sheepishly points to Zach.

The Driver smacks a "*Removal Notice*" onto Zach's chest:

TOW-DRIVER
Fratelli's Impound. If you want to
reclaim this beast.

As the Driver returns to his rig, Zach scrambles back into the tour bus. Saul follows.

INT. ZACH'S TOUR BUS HOME -

The tour bus lurches forward, tosses Zach's stuff.

Zach grabs his guitar, the plaid shirt, and the photo of YOUNG ALLY with her first guitar.

Saul grabs the "*Living On Love*" gold record.

EXT. ZACH'S TOUR BUS HOME -

Zach and Saul leap out as the old tour bus is hauled away:

ZACH
Still have that fold-out couch?

SAUL
No. No way. You're a terrible house guest.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - MORNING

Busy with CUSTOMERS coming & going.

Running the coffee counter by himself is, **NANDO**, 26, an artist and an unflinchingly dependable guy.

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - SECOND FLOOR - MORNING

This cozy space is home for Ally and Gwen. The Firefighter's Pole drops through an opening in the living room floor.

KITCHEN -

Gwen, with shower-wet hair & boxers, pours a green smoothie then hustles into:

FAMILY BATHROOM -

Gwen finds Ally with her arms tangled in a *NON-OBJECTS* tee as she struggles to pull it on over her tank-top:

ALLY
(through tee-shirt)
Morning was created to punish me.

Gwen helps Ally untangle herself:

GWEN
At least you didn't get suspended.

ALLY
Yeah, detention is way more fun.

Gwen battles Ally for the eyeliner. Gwen wins:

ALLY'S BEDROOM -

Musician's lair. Too many clothes - not enough floor-space.

Ally steps in, grabs her school bag, walks out.

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - MORNING

Buzzes with REGULARS.

Gwen & Ally emerge from the stairs behind the small music stage, (built around the Firefighter's Pole):

GWEN
Nando, where's Mona?

NANDO
No show.

Gwen throws on her apron, steps behind the register so Nando can focus on the espresso machine.

Ally grabs a bus-tray, goes to work cleaning tables:

GWEN
(pretend calm)
Okay. If she's not here in three minutes, I'll hunt her down and --
(to customer)
Good morning, Officer Pete. Two doubles?

Gwen writes **OFFICER PETE'S** order on two cups. Rings him up:

GWEN
Be safe out there.

Next customer is **SCHOOL-TEACHER MOLLY**:

GWEN
Molly, triple soy cappuccino? Go wrangle those fourth graders, smart-stuff.

ANGLE ON ENTRANCE -

Zach enters with Saul. They get into line.

Ally ignores Zach's offer of a hug, greets Saul with their secret hand-shake:

ALLY
Hey, Zach. Uncle Sully.

SAUL
Super-star.

ZACH
Again, I'm really sorry about last night.

Ally shrugs:

ALLY

Your loss. It was epic. Where were you, Saully?

SAUL

Angel, not even you could get me to step into High School again.

Saul's cell RINGS. He checks the display:

SAUL

Holy hell, it's, Ethan?

Saul accepts the call:

ZACH

Put that narcissistic, greed-driven, back-stabbing, butt-face, on speaker.

Saul already did:

ETHAN'S VOICE

Hey, Zach. Miss you too, buddy.

ALLY

Uncle Ethan, it's Ally.

ETHAN'S VOICE

Allison? Damn, when did you grow up?

ALLY

While you weren't here.

ETHAN'S VOICE

Ouch. Well, I'm back now and I'd love to see you. Do the fun Uncle thing.

ZACH

What do you want, Ethan?

CUT TO:

INT. ETHAN'S WAREHOUSE LOFT - KITCHEN - MORNING

Urban Hipster cool.

ETHAN, 39, a life-long bad-boy with bed hair, boxer-shorts, grabs stuff out of the fridge for a breakfast-in-bed tray for two. Deep down Ethan has a heart of gold:

ETHAN

Heard you've been living in our old tour bus.

ZACH'S VOICE

Not any more.

ETHAN

Guess who just bought our old venue,
Club Renegade? Me. Holding auditions
today? Wha-do-ya-say?

CUT BACK TO:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - MORNING

Zach BOILS, but before he can reply:

ALLY

My band, the Non-Objects, will
audition.

ZACH

Oh, hell no.

SAUL

I'll drive you.

ETHAN'S VOICE

Non-Objects. Cool name, Ally.

ALLY

We're on YouTube.

CUT TO:

INT. ETHAN'S WAREHOUSE LOFT - KITCHEN -

Ethan carries his tray toward the Bedroom Area:

ETHAN

I'll check it out. So listen, Zach,
our old label is putting together a
90's Legends of Pop Tour. They want
The Scoundrels. It's comeback time,
baby. What you always wanted. You
got nuthin' to lose, especially
after last night's live-streaming
disaster.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE -

Zach PRETEND-STRANGLES Saul's phone:

ETHAN'S VOICE

You can thank me for getting you that One Hit Wonder gig. I know the station owner.

CUT TO:

INT. ETHAN'S WAREHOUSE LOFT - BEDROOM AREA -

SUZY, 36, a free-spirited artist, sits-up, charmed by the sight of Ethan delivering breakfast.

Ethan sits, fakes keeping the tray all for himself, fails to deflect Suzy from grabbing her juice:

ETHAN

Three months. Twenty-two cities.
Five-figure payday, spilt 50-50.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE -

SAUL

He'll do it.

ZACH

If you apologize for ditching me to write TV theme songs, instead of finishing our album, which would've proved we were more than one-hit-wonders.

ETHAN' VOICE

Oh, let it go.

Zach grabs Saul's phone, ENDS THE CALL:

SAUL

Don't! You know you have to do it, right? This isn't just about you.

Belle enters, *Non-Objects'* tee-shirt. She bee-lines to the counter and her crush, Nando:

BELLE

Nando, have you ever had an intensely passionate dream about someone, then wonder if they could feel what you were feeling at that exact moment?

Nando blushes. STEAMED MILK ERUPTS from his pitcher:

ALLY
Down girl.

Gwen scowls as Zach & Saul reach the counter:

SAUL
Good morning, remarkable lady.

GWEN
Saully.

Zach hands Gwen all the cash from his shirt pocket:

ZACH
Meant to give this to you. I don't
want to be "free" of you or Ally.
I'm in. All the way. Sorry, I'm a
little short this month.

GWEN
(heard it all before)
Uh huh.

Nando delivers two coffees:

NANDO
Gentlemen. Your usual.

Zach reaches for his coffee, Gwen blocks his hand:

GWEN
Nine-fifty.

Zach is broke. Saul sighs, eye-rolls, then pays.

MONA, 30, urgently enters wearing her "*Bus Driver*" uniform:

ZACH
Mona. Still bowling?

MONA
Lick my ball.

SAUL
Love a woman in uniform.

MONA
Never gonna happen, Mama's boy.

Mona reaches the counter:

GWEN
Don't tell me you can't work today.

MONA

I feel terrible, honey. Got the call this morning. Metro Bus re-hired ten drivers. Full benefits. Had to say yes.

GWEN

(loving)
Go. We're no longer sisters.

MONA

Love you to the moon.

Quick, over the counter hug, Mona heads for the door:

ZACH

(to Gwen)
I'll do it. Whatever you needed Mona to do, until you find someone else.

ALLY

Yes! Mom, say yes.

GWEN

I'd rather be short-staffed. We'll be fine.

NANDO

No, we won't.

ZACH

Come-on, you said, Ally deserves better. So do you. Let me try.

Gwen grabs Zach's ear, pulls him to the end of the counter:

ZACH

Ow! Ow! Ow!

GWEN

(whisper-scolds)
If I say yes, and you become a real part of this cafe', you'll be taking on real parental responsibilities.

ZACH

You got it. Whatever you and Ally need.

GWEN

Ally needs an adult, not an accomplice. I can't always be the bad cop?

ZACH

But you're kind of a natural.

Gwen slugs his shoulder:

ZACH
Ouch. Okay. I can be the bad cop.

GWEN
I've got cafe' errands to run.

Gwen hangs her apron around Zach's neck:

GWEN
One day. One chance.

ALLY
Yes!

SAUL
And, he's also homeless.

GWEN
Seriously? Third floor loft/storage
room. Do not get comfortable.

Gwen exits with Ally, Belle & Saul, as CUSTOMERS file in.

Nando refuses to fist-bump Zach:

ZACH
Jeeze, you too Nando?

NANDO
Greet the customer, write their order
on the correct cup size for me, ring-up
the orders. Repeat. I'll do the rest.

ZACH
Easy-peazy.

A **YOUNG SUIT**, on his phone, is first to the counter:

ZACH
Hi, welcome. What can we brew for you.

YOUNG SUIT
(into the phone)
That's nobody. Just the coffee guy.
Hey, wait.
(to Zach)
Didn't you used to be somebody?

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Ally, Belle, Sid & Kira strut the hall, totally owning their notorious status:

ALLY
(conspiratorially)
So, we're all in for the audition?

BELLE
I'm drivin'.

SID
When we get caught, I'm saying you
guys abducted me.

Ally pulls Sid into a walking hug:

KIRA
We'll kick this audition's ass.

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL - MEDIA LAB - DAY

Parker stands guard by the door.

His adoring friendship with Ally is obvious as he helps her pull-on her, *NON-OBJECTS*, tee-shirt over her existing tee-shirt and gets tangled:

ALLY
Ugh. What is it with me & tee-shirts?

BELLE
Ally, this audition. I need you to know, it's not just you up there. It's all of us. Together.

ALLY
Sorry about last night.

DRUMSTICKS KNOCK on the Media Lab door.

Parker, unlocks the door for Sid and Kira:

KIRA
Whoo. Sistahs!

Parker cautiously shuts the door fast:

PARKER

Shhhh...

Kira & Sid quickly pull on their band tee-shirts too.

Belle grabs her cello. Kira finds her keyboard case. Ally picks-up her guitar. Sid twirls her drum sticks, drops one:

SID

Crap. That's a bad sign.

Parker, opens the side-door out to the parking lot:

PARKER

Go. Go. Go. Non-Objects rule!

Sid and Kira step out, hoping to not be spotted.

Ally skips to the door, ruffles Parker's hair:

ALLY

Thank you, Mister Parker.

PARKER

Just be you. Let your guard down like you did last night. They'll see how amazing you are, you all are.

Ally, touched by Parker's insight, skips outside:

PARKER

Ally? What're we made of?

ALLY

Stardust. Love you, buddy.
(to the girls)
I'm driving.

EXT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - DAY

Belle low-fives Parker as she steps outside.

They load everything into Belle's hatchback which is graffiti-painted with the "NON-OBJECTS" logo:

KIRA

Tonight, our legend begins.

SID

Or ends. Abruptly. Again.

Ally shoves Sid into the car:

ALLY

We're gonna be awesome. Plus, don't forget the owner is my Uncle.

The girls pile in. CHEER as the hatchback SPUTTERS away.

EXT. FRATELLI'S IMPOUND LOT - DAY

Zach's tour bus waits inside the fence.

Zach stands at the bullet-proof walk-up window.

MAMA FRATELLI, 60's, pushes paperwork into the tray:

MAMA FRATELLI

Past-due lot rental, towing & storage, comes to forty-two-hundred. Cash.

ZACH

Do you take --

MAMA FRATELLI

Cash only.

ZACH

There any way I could --

MAMA FRATELLI

Cash. Forty-two-hundred. Or pay the one-eighty tow fee, sign the title over to me, and walk away clear.

Zach has maybe two-hundred in his wallet.

His CELLPHONE RINGS:

ZACH

It's my ex-wife. Hold that thought.

CUT TO:

INT. GWEN'S CAR - MOVING - DAY

Gwen, on her phone, worried/irritated:

GWEN

Zach. Ally and her friends ditched school. She's not answering her phone. I called Nando, he says she's not there. She's up to something.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRATELLI'S IMPOUND LOT - DAY

GWEN'S VOICE
Know anything about an audition?

ZACH
That little sneak is auditioning for
Ethan. Don't worry, I know exactly where
they are. I'll bring her home.

MAMA FRATELLI
What's it gonna be.

Zach signs-over the title, drops two-hundred on the counter:

ZACH
She's all yours.

Zach makes a call as he dashes out to the street.

EXT. CLUB RENEGADE - DAY

A warehouse road-house. Definitely in a murderly part of town.

Ally & the girls, cling to each other as they lug their
instruments across the street:

KIRA
Brought my taser, pepper-spray and
kicking shoes. Don't make eye-
contact. Don't talk to anyone.

SID
I might actually throw-up.

ALLY
Sid, breathe.

Sid breathes: in through her nose, out through her mouth.

Club Renegade's red double-door entrance is plastered with
years of local Rock & Roll Show-Bills.

Ally leads the way inside.

INT. CLUB RENEGADE - DAY

A hip, underground feel.

A **FOLK BLUES BAND** auditions for Ethan and a **SMALL CROWD**:

SID
There's a crowd. You never said
there'd be a crowd.

The **BOUNCER** stops Ally and the girls:

BOUNCER
Whoa, ladies. I.D.'s.

ALLY
We're here for the audition. Ethan
invited us.

BOUNCER
Sure he did. Band name?

ALLY
Non-Objects.

The Bouncer nods to **HARTLEY**, 20'S, she's a Type-A hard-ass
with an iPad.

Hartley directs Ally and her band to the scuffed & beaten
Back Stage doors.

Hartley & Ally lead the way through. Belle tugs Sid along.

ACCESS HALLWAY -

HARTLEY
(sarcastic)
Look at your cute little tees. What's
a, Non-Object? Wait, I don't care.

Hartley stops outside of the Green Room:

HARTLEY
One song. One chance. If Ethan likes
you, you get a callback. You're up
next.

SID
Next?

Hartley pushes open the Green Room door for the girls.

GREEN ROOM -

A curtain separates the Green Room from the main stage where
the Folk-Blues band finishes their audition.

The walls, doors, and even the old refrigerator are tagged with paint-marker autographs:

ALLY

Legendary.

SID

Oh my gahd, what if Ethan hates us? I might never recover from that level of rejection. I'll have to work at the grocery store the rest of my life.

Sid really focuses on deep breathing:

KIRA

Can I slap her?

ALLY

Sid, we've got you.

Sid nods, breathes and explores the room.

Belle finds "*Wolf Alice*" autographed on the fridge:

BELLE

"*Ellie Rowsell*" played here.

Belle opens the fridge, GHASPS, it's loaded with Celsius Drink:

KIRA

Now this is Rock & Roll.

Ally finds "*Miley Cyrus*" autographed on the ceiling:

ALLY

Dudes, look, Miley Cyrus.

SID

Miley Cyrus stood where we're standing?

KIRA

Ally, look, "*The Scoundrels*."

BELLE

Your Dad played here?

ALLY

This is where he and Ethan were "discovered."

EXT. CHURCH STREET - DAY

Saul stops his car fast. Zach leaps in. Saul takes off:

INT. SAUL'S CAR - MOVING FAST - DAY

SAUL
Just want you to know, if we have
to kill Ethan, I'm in.

INT. CLUB RENEGADE - GREEN ROOM - DAY

Ally reveals a pair of sunglasses painted-over flat-black.
She puts them on Sid:

SID
But I can't see anything.

KIRA
Duh.

BELLE
Exactly.

SID
Ohhh. Awesome.

ETHAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
Up next, the Non-Objects.

Sid tries to bolt. Ally & Belle catch her.

Ally knows how to fire-up Sid's confidence:

ALLY
Why did we form the Non-Objects?

SID
To bring girl-power music to the world.

ALLY
What's our scariest challenge?

SID
Believing in ourselves.

BELLE
What are we?

SID
A kick-ass girl-power band.

BELLE
Louder.

SID
A KICK-ASS GIRL-POWER BAND!

KIRA
Fuck yeah, bishes.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. CLUB RENEGADE - MAIN STAGE - DAY

SMATTERING OF APPLAUSE as Ally leads the way out on stage.

HECKLER

The baby-sitters are here.

Ally guides Sid to the drum-set that's already in place.

Belle positions her cello.

Kira sets-up her keyboard and her iPhone to record the audition.

Ally slings her guitar, steps up to the mic.

As Ethan happily hops up on stage, no one notices **Zach & Saul arrive. Saul holds Zach back from stopping the audition.**

Ethan hugs Ally:

ETHAN

Allison Bailey. Time flies.

ALLY

Hey, Uncle Ethan.

ETHAN

So good to see you again. And on stage no less.

(to all the girls)

I gave Ally her first guitar.

ALLY

It was pink & sparkly. I put a unicorn sticker on it. Played that guitar to pieces.

ETHAN

Let's see what you can do.

Ethan hops off stage, joins Hartley and the Bouncer:

ETHAN

So, I take it, "Non-Objects," means you're no one's objects?

ALLY

Exactly. Our music is our message.

ETHAN

What have you come to say? What's
the Non-Objects' music all about?

BELLE

Unconditional love. Empowerment.

SID

(discovering her confidence)
Girl-Power!

Ally, Belle & Kira give Sid "You go, girl" expressions:

ALLY

Definitely Girl-Power. Love connects
hearts & minds.

ETHAN

Heard that. Impress me.

ALLY

This first song began as a letter from
my younger self to my Dad the day he
left.

HECKLER

Ut oh, daddy issues.

ETHAN

Hey, shut-up.

Ally turns to her band:

ALLY

Airplane Rides.

Kira begins a soft keyboard melody which playfully builds:

ALLY SINGS

(passionate, raw)
With you, falling felt like flying.

Always over too soon, airplane
rides.

You let go, now flying feels like
falling, falling, falling without
you.

You let go. Why can't I let go of
believing in you.

I miss me, I miss you, I miss
airplane rides.

(MORE)

ALLY SINGS (CONT'D)

I don't need you, to catch me.

I don't need you, to fly.
Just need you, to be here to share
airplane rides.

A moment of silence then... hey, not bad APPLAUSE.

Tears well-up in Zach's eyes. Pride. Regret. Excitement for just how good Ally and the girls are:

ETHAN

Nice. Okay. I'm listening. Play that wild tune you posted on YouTube.

Ally turns to her band, winks:

ALLY

Bad-Boy Brain.

Sid SMACKS HER DRUMSTICKS TOGETHER:

SID

One. Two. Three.

ZACH STEPS TOWARD THE STAGE. His first time as the Bad Cop:

ZACH

Audition's over.

ALLY

Zach!? What're you doing here?

ZACH

You ditched school. Your Mother's crazy-worried. You're grounded. Pack-up girls. Taking you home.

ALLY

Peh. No. I'm not letting you take-out your grudge against Uncle Ethan on us. Sid, hit it.

Sid winds-up, but...

ETHAN

Wait, Ally. Ladies. You're definitely invited back, when you're all eighteen.

The girls GROAN.

Ethan rushes at Zach. Before Zach can throw a punch Ethan GRABS HIM INTO A BEAR HUG - Zach resists, mostly:

ETHAN
Missed you, man.

ZACH
Get off. We're not friends.

ETHAN
Yeah, we are.

Ethan holds on. Zach pulls away:

ZACH
Why are you even back?

ETHAN
To save this boring town. I'm gonna build the number one club for emerging musicians. Plus, past mistakes have a way of becoming soul-eating regrets.

ZACH
You mean like that time you got greedy, took the TV Theme Song gig all for yourself. Left me behind with an unfinished album?

ETHAN
Yeah, that, and other things. Hope you'll let me make it up to you.

ZACH
I don't think so.

Zach steps-up on stage. Tries to help Ally with her guitar but she refuses:

ALLY
This is my life, Zach.

ZACH
I know. Somebody's gotta keep you from making the same mistakes I did. From now on I'm, Dad. "Zach" is out.

ALLY
I'm not calling you, Dad. It's too weird. What do you want from me?

ZACH
The chance to be the father I never was.

ALLY
That's a hard-pass. I'm driving home
with Belle.

ZACH
Nope.

Zach HOISTS ALLY OVER HIS SHOULDER, carries her off stage, as
she PITCHES A TANTRUM:

ALLY
Put me down! You can't be serious.
Put. Me. Down!

EXT. CLUB RENEGADE - DAY

Battered STEEL DOORS KICK OPEN.

Saul and the girls follow as Zach carries Ally across the
street to Saul's car, (behind Belle's car):

ALLY
Gahd, put me down!

Zach sets her down next to Saul's car. He's in the street, in
the bus lane:

ZACH
Lying, ditching school, driving to
this, murderly part of town, for an
audition, is just so, so...

ALLY
Bold? Courageous? Daring?

ZACH
Selfish. And irresponsible.

ALLY
Look who's talking.

A Metro Bus approaches. Headed right for Zach:

ZACH
Maybe I'm just not ready for you to
learn that life is hardest on
dreamers.

ALLY
Oh please, I learned that years ago
when you abandoned us.

The bus isn't slowing down:

ZACH

Allison, you're the dream I should've been fighting for this whole time. From the moment you were born, you owned my heart. It hurt too much to know I was failing you and your Mom.

Zach is about to get squashed:

ALLY

Duh. Zach, watch out!

ALLY SAVES ZACH FROM THE METRO BUS AS IT FLASHES PAST:

ZACH

Sheesh! Thanks. Was Mona driving?

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - LATE AFTERNOON

Nando is alone behind the counter. Business is slow.

Zach ends a cellphone call as he and Ally enter:

ALLY

(re: Zach's call)
So, how mad is she?

ZACH

Ah, more than a little.

ALLY

Perfect.

NANDO

How'd it go.

ALLY

We didn't tare the roof off but we did okay.

ZACH

Better than okay. They were astounding.

Gwen enters, makes a bee-line for Ally:

GWEN

Grounded 'til you're 30, young lady.

Zach moves to leave:

GWEN

You're grounded too, mister.

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - THIRD FLOOR LOFT - NIGHT

Water DRIPS from the skylight into a pail as Zach shifts huge boxes of coffee cups off of the old guest-bed.

Gwen delivers a stack of towels & sheets:

GWEN

This is your last second chance
with Ally.

ZACH

I don't know how to be a Dad.

GWEN

You did great today. Plus, you have
us to keep you in line. Ally's more
like you than you know.

ZACH

Yikes. She's also as incredible as
you. I've never known how to be
just your friend, because you'll
always be my "one".

GWEN

Don't use-up all the hot water.

INT. ALLY'S ROOM - NIGHT

She's under the covers but too excited to sleep. She receives
a TEXT: "*Parker: Heard you wowed 'em! What're we made of?*"

Ally texts back: "*Stardust. Thanks for existing.*"

INT. GWEN'S COFFEE CAFE - MORNING

Gwen & Ally emerge from behind the small music stage.

Zach is already hard at work behind the counter with Nando:

ZACH

Mornin' ladies.

Ally watches Zach crush oatmeal raisin cookies into a mug,
add coffee, then chomp a spoonful:

ALLY

Gross. What're you, nine?

ZACH

Did your homework, right?

ALLY

Try not to over-do the parenting.
It's your second day.

Belle enters, beelines to the counter & Nando:

BELLE

Nando, last night I dreamed I swam
naked into your golden brown eyes.
What do you think that means?

ALLY

That it's time to go.

GWEN

Straight home after school.

BELLE

After detention.

ALLY

It's band practice night. Dad,
nope, not calling you Dad. Zach,
you, Mom and Nando can be our
audience.

Gwen puts on her apron as Ally & Belle head out:

ZACH

(epiphany)
What if they had a bigger audience
than just us?

GWEN

No.

ZACH

Could be brilliant for business.

Gwen thinks about it as new CUSTOMERS enter:

INT. CLARKE HIGH SCHOOL - LUNCH ROOM - DAY

Ally and the girls eat lunch, contemplate their next move.

Parker sets his lunch tray down across from Ally.

Ally receives a TEXT: *"Zach: Invite some friends to practice tonight."*

ALLY

Parker, think anyone would come to my
Mom's coffee shop to watch us play?

PARKER

Only everyone. You guys are official.

INT. GWEN'S FIRE-HOUSE COFFEE CAFE - NIGHT

Non-Objects' music gear is set-up on the stage.
Saul hangs a newly printed "NON-OBJECTS" banner.
The cafe is doing great business. All TEENAGERS.
Gwen helps Nando behind the coffee counter.
Zach works the YOUNG CROWD taking drink orders.
Ally and the girls mingle with Parker and friends.
Zach returns to the coffee counter:

GWEN

Zach, this is incredible?

ZACH

Wasn't supposed to be this many people.

ALLY

Mom! Can you believe this crowd.
Wish us luck.

GWEN

Go get'em, baby girl.

CHEERS as Ally and the girls take the stage:

ALLY

Wow. Welcome to the Fire House Cafe'.
We're the, Non-Objects.

APPLAUSE. Gwen & Zach stand together:

ALLY

First song I ever learned is the
love song my Dad wrote for my Mom.

Ally & the girls play, LIVING ON LOVE:

ALLY

Hold tight. Live for love, and your
love will live on.

No two hearts know how much time
they'll have together.

(MORE)

ALLY (CONT'D)

Hold tight. Live for love, and your
love will live on.

All I want is every moment with you.

One more kiss. One more chance. One
more glance into your eyes.

Zach & Gwen share proud smiles.

Zach's PHONE RINGS. It's Ethan. Zach answers:

ZACH

What, Ethan?

ETHAN'S VOICE

Legends Tour team-up is now or never?
Six weeks. Five-figure payday. Then
back home.

ZACH

Not letting go of my comeback dream was
the 2nd biggest mistake of my life.

ETHAN VOICE

What's your first.

ZACH

Scrambling for chump-change when I
should've been providing for Gwen and
Ally. I'm in. But then I'm out for good.

END PILOT