

THE MANNEQUINS

A Musical By Drew Lane

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ACT ONE

[The scene opens in a large department store. There are various displays and "sale" signs. To one side is a storage cupboard. Scattered about the stage are mannequins, held in pose. Cue: 1. We Can (Come Out At Night)]

ALL

WE JUST STAND HERE ALL DAY LONG
BARELY MOVE AN EYE
PEOPLE PASS BUT THEY DON'T KNOW
THAT WE ARE ALIVE

SO WHEN THE EVENING FALLS
AND THE WORKERS SHUT THE DOORS
THE LIGHTS GO OUT
SO THAT'S WHEN WE
START TO MOVE ABOUT!

[The mannequins begin to move, spreading throughout the entire store.]

WE CAN DO EVERYTHING WE WANT TO DO
IT'S TRUE
WE CAN BE EVERYTHING WE WANT TO BE
YOU SEE!
WE CAN PRETEND WE'RE ANYWHERE
FROM PARIS TO LA
HERE IN THIS DEPARTMENT STORE
AT NIGHT WE GET AWAY

WE CAN SEE ANYTHING WE WANT TO SEE
FOR FREE

WE CAN TRY ANYTHING WE WANT TO TRY
HERE'S WHY!
NO ONE'S HERE TO STOP US
NO ONE TO TELL US "NO"
WHEN WE COME OUT AT NIGHT
WE'RE READY TO GO!

EVERY SINGLE DAY
WE SIMPLY HAVE TO WAIT
WE CAN NEVER LET CUSTOMERS KNOW
YET EVERY SINGLE NIGHT
WE GET OUR ONE RESPITE
AND WE ARE FREE TO LET OUR COLOURS SHOW!

WE CAN GO ANYWHERE WE WANT TO GO
YOU KNOW
WE CAN DREAM ANYTHING WE CAN TO DREAM
WE'RE FREE
NO ONE'S HERE TO STOP US
NO ONE TO TELL US "NO"
WHEN WE COME OUT AT NIGHT
WE'RE READY TO GO!
WO-AH OH!

WHEN WE COME OUT AT NIGHT
WE'RE READY TO GO!
LET'S GO!

[The mannequins move freely about the stage, some looking in mirrors, some chatting to each other. ELLIE is staring out of the storefront window. MAX approaches her.]

MAX

What's happening Ellie?

ELLIE

Oh, nothing much.

MAX

What are you staring at?

ELLIE

The world.

MAX

Yup, it's interesting. But nothing like in here.

ELLIE

I know, Max. In here is so...

MAX

Brilliant! It's brilliant, ain't it?

ELLIE

That wasn't what I was going to say..

MAX

What do you mean?

ELLIE

Oh, I don't know.

MAX

Come on Ellie, we've been through this before. We're mannequins!

[Cue: 2. Everything You Want.]

We can do anything we want – in this department store. This is our world! It's got endless possibilities! Just take a look around. What do you want with the world, when everything you could possibly want is here?

[He sings.]

YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK OUT THERE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE
JUST TAKE A LOOK AROUND, YOU'LL SEE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE

WHATEVER YOU CAN DREAM OR HOPE
IN THIS PLACE WE'LL MAKE IT FLOAT
NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR US TO DO
JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES AND MAKE A WISH
AND FOR A NIGHT, YOUR SPECIAL GIFT
WILL COME ALIVE, IT'S ALL HERE FOR YOU!

ALL (-ELLIE)

YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK TO FAR
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE
JUST TURN AROUND AND HERE YOU ARE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE

MAX

OUT THERE ARE GRUMPY PEOPLE
YOU SEE THEM EVERY DAY
RUNNING AND NEVER LIVING
FOR WHAT CAN COME THEIR WAY

ALL (-ELLIE)

OUT THERE ARE GRUMPY PEOPLE
YOU SEE THEM EVERY DAY
IN HERE IT'S ALL SO PERFECT

WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO CHANGE?

YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK OUT THERE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE
JUST TAKE A LOOK AROUND, YOU'LL SEE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE

YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK TO FAR
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE
JUST TURN AROUND AND HERE YOU ARE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE
EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS HERE!

MAX

So, come on girl. Give us a smile.

[Ellie gives a half hearted smile.]

MAX

There you go!

[To everyone.]

Come on everyone! Tonight it's Summertime!

[They all cheer.]

Time to get your summer threads on!

[Everyone exits except for Ellie, who waits behind. VANESSA notices. Cue: 3. In The Real World.]

VANESSA

Are you coming Ellie?

ELLIE

In a moment.

VANESSA

We're going to get the beach balls out!

ELLIE

I promise I won't miss it, Vanessa.

VANESSA

Awesome! See you soon!

[VANESSA exits.]

ELLIE

EVERY DAY I LOOK OUT THROUGH THE WINDOW
WATCHING LIFE GO BY

AND EVERY DAY I WISH THAT I KNEW
WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE OUTSIDE

THERE'S A PART OF ME
THAT DOESN'T FEEL COMPLETE
AND MORE AND MORE I FEEL
THAT SOMETHING'S CALLING ME

INTO THE REAL WORLD
OUT INTO THE REAL WORLD
I'D BE A REAL GIRL
I'D BE ALIVE

IN THE REAL WORLD
I'D BE A FREE BIRD
AND NOTHING WOULD KEEP ME
CAGED UP INSIDE
I WOULD FLY

FLY AWAY FROM THIS CONCRETE AND MIRRORS
FLY AWAY FROM THE SALES AND THE SIGNS
I WOULD LIVE THE DAY NOT JUST SPECTATE IT
AND I'D KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE ALIVE

I WOULD BREATHE AND I'D TOUCH AND I'D TASTE IT
I WOULDN'T LET A MOMENT TO WASTE
I WOULD RIDE ON THE WIND, AND I'D DANCE IN THE RAIN
AND FEEL THE SUN ON MY FACE

OUT IN THE REAL WORLD
OUTSIDE OF THIS 'HERE' WORLD
I'D SAY 'LOOK AT ME WORLD'
WATCH ME TAKE FLIGHT

AND WHEN I AM THERE WORLD
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT I'M HEARD
AND NEVER WOULD I WISH I WAS BACK HERE AGAIN
I'D BE FREE
IN THE BIG WIDE WORLD!

VANESSA
[Off.]

Come on Ellie!

ELLIE
[Sighs.]

I'm coming!

[She exits. Cue: 4. Summertime. Everybody runs on with their summertime gear: shorts, bathers, zinc cream, beach balls, beach towels, etc. It's all very colourful!]

ALL

IT'S SUMMERTIME
TIME TO HIT THE BEACH
IT'S SUMMERTIME
YOU CAN FEEL IT IN THE HEAT
IT'S SUMMERTIME
THROW YOUR CARES AWAY
IT'S SUMMERTIME
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY

VANESSA

COME GATHER EVERYBODY
AND JOIN IN WITH THIS SONG
FORGET YOUR TROUBLES THEN
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T GO WRONG

JUST TAKE MY HAND AND I WILL
SHOW YOU TO THE BEAT
WE'LL DANCE BENEATH THE STARS
WITH THE RHYTHM IN YOUR FEET

MAX

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT
IT'S TIME TO PLAY
JUST REMEMBER
THIS IS OUR HOLIDAY

ALL

IT'S SUMMERTIME
TIME TO HIT THE BEACH
IT'S SUMMERTIME
YOU CAN FEEL IT IN THE HEAT
IT'S SUMMERTIME
THROW YOUR CARES AWAY
IT'S SUMMERTIME
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY

LOUISE

THIS IS YOUR MOMENT
SO DON'T LET THE MOMENT GO
YOU GOTTA TAKE YOUR CHANCE
AND LET IT OVERFLOW

LATINO RHYTHMS, MUSIC
CAN'T YOU HEAR THE DRUMS?
COME DANCE YOUR CARES AWAY
BEFORE THE NIGHT IS DONE

MAX

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT
IT'S TIME TO PLAY
JUST REMEMBER
THIS IS OUR HOLIDAY

ALL

IT'S SUMMERTIME
TIME TO HIT THE BEACH
IT'S SUMMERTIME
YOU CAN FEEL IT IN THE HEAT
IT'S SUMMERTIME
THROW YOUR CARES AWAY
IT'S SUMMERTIME
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY

IT'S SUMMERTIME
TIME TO MAKE THE MOVE
IT'S SUMMERTIME
GIVE INTO THE GROOVE
IT'S SUMMERTIME
THROW YOUR CARES AWAY
IT'S SUMMERTIME
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY
AND SUMMER'S HERE TO STAY!

[Ellie enters, dressed not in her summer outfit, but in "normal" clothes – human clothes. She's carrying a bag – she looks like she's going somewhere.]

LOUISE

Ellie, why aren't you in your summer clothes?

VANNESSA

Come on! You're missing all the fun!

ALL

Yeah, that's right ... etc ...

ELLIE

Sorry guys, I'm just not in the mood.

[She starts to walk across the stage.]

MAX

Are you going somewhere?

[Ellie stops.]

What have you got in the bag?

ELLIE

Nothing. Just... stuff.

MAX

Come on Ellie, give it to me.