

ERRATICALLY EPIC - THE MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by Drew Lane
Based on the book by Adam Wallace

ACT ONE

(SCENE 1)

[Cue Prologue. As the prologue ends, the curtains open. On stage we can see trees, bits of random staging like a wall, a bin of props, a rack of costumes, and the like. People are milling about, not really paying attention to the fact the curtain is now open. Suddenly one whips around and looks directly at the audience.]

JANE

[Realising.] Hey... Hey everyone... Uh, everyone...? *[Yelling]* PEOPLE!

[Everyone stops and looks at Jane.]

MARKUS

What is it Jane?

JANE

Look!

[Jane points out to the audience. Everyone turns and stares.]

MARKUS

ARGH!

JANE

ARGH!

EVERYONE

ARGH!

MR TEE TEE

What are you all waiting for? Let's get this show started! A-one, two, three, four!

[Cue song 1: The World Of Jackson Payne. People start grabbing costumes, props and the like, getting themselves ready for the show.]

ALL

HELLO THERE, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
ONE AND ALL, WE WELCOME YOU TO
SEE THIS HERE SHOW
ARE YOU READY TO GO?
DOO DOO, DOO DOO!

IT'S ALL ABOUT A HACK, NO-HOPER
A BOY WHO HASN'T MUCH TO GO FOR
YES, HE IS LAME
BUT WHAT IS HIS NAME?
OH OH, OOO OH!

YOU MIGHT THINK THAT WE ARE BEING MEAN
BUT YOU HAVE NEVER MET HIM SO
SIT ON BACK AND JUST TAKE IN THE SCENE
AND THEN YOU WILL KNOW-OH

IT'S THE WORLD OF JACKSON PAYNE
THE PAIN IS IN HIS NAME
HE SLIPS, HE SLIDES, TURNS OUT INSIDE
AND NEVER GETS THE BLAME
WHENEVER SOMETHING WEIRD IS GOING WRONG
YOU KNOW WHO'S IN THE FRAME
IT'S THE ONE WHOSE NAME IS JACKSON PAYNE

IS HE ACCIDENTALLY AWESOME? - UH, NO WAY!
NO WAY!
UH, NO WAY!
IS HE BLUNDERINGLY BRILLIANT? - UH, NO WAY!
NO WAY!
UH NO WAY!
IS HE DISASTROUSLY DARING OR FRANTICALLY FANTASTIC?
NO WAY, NO HOW, NO DICE, NO RICE, OH NO!
OH, WOAHH OH, OH!

PATRICK

REMEMBER ONCE HE STOMPED ON MY FOOT

ALL

OUCH!

TRACEY

REMEMBER ONCE HE STUCK HIS FINGER
DEEP IN MY EAR

ALL

DON'T LET HIM COME NEAR!
NO NO, NO NO!

ANDREW

ONCE HE TRIED TO GOUGE MY EYES OUT

SOPHIA

ONCE HE ACCIDENTALLY HIT MY
HEAD WITH HIS HEAD

ALL

WELL, THAT'S WHAT HE SAID!
YEAH EH, EE-YEAH

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE HE GOES OR WHY
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT'S AWRY
HE EVEN TRIED TO RUIN CHRISTMAS DAY
AND THAT'S WHY WE SAY-AY

IT'S THE WORLD OF JACKSON PAYNE
YOU WON'T FORGET HIS NAME
NO NEED TO TRY, YOU'LL SOON SEE WHY
HIS LEGACY REMAINS
DON'T BE TOO FOOLED BY NICE, BE SURE, THINK TWICE
THIS IS HIS CLAIM TO FAME
TIME TO MEET THE BOY CALLED JACKSON PAYNE
HIS NAME IS JACKSON ... PAYNE!

*[On the final note, the cast open up a corridor for
Jackson to be revealed, and... he's not there.]*

JANE

[Whispering to offstage.] Jackson? Jackson! It's your cue!

[Again, no one enters.]

MR TEE TEE

Has anyone seen Jackson?

ALL

No.

MR TEE TEE

Jane, do you know where he is?

JANE

How should I know?

MR TEE TEE

He's your brother.

JANE

That doesn't mean anything when it comes to Jackson.

MR TEE TEE

True. Ok everyone. That'll do for now.

[Everyone exits hanging up their costumes as they go. The stage is clear. After a bit, Jackson comes running on. He stumbles, trips, slides, falls, and then gets up and puts his hands dramatically up in the air.]

JACKSON

Ta daaaa! *[He looks around.]* Where is everyone? *[Looking out to the audience.]* Oh hi! Yes, I can see you. You didn't think I was blind, did you? My grandma is - bless her heart - but I'm not. And I can see that everyone has ... gone somewhere. Which means I'm late. Which means I missed the first round of auditions. But I can hear you ask, why would a kid like me want to try out for a show? Easy. See, acting on stage is where people overcome their problems. At least that's what everyone keeps telling me. They say things like...

[Random Kid 1 and the Stutterer enter.]

RANDOM KID

I knew a guy who stuttered..

STUTTERING PERSON

I...I... I... al ... ww ...www... wwwaayss .ss ...ss ... ss.. stutter!

RANDOM KID

...but when he acted, his speech was perfect!

STUTTERING PERSON

[In a Shakespearean voice] To stutter or not to stutter, that is the question!

[Random Kid 1 and Stutterer exit.]

JACKSON

And...

[Random Kid 2 enters with Twitcher.]

RANDOM KID 2

I knew a woman who had a twitch ...

TWITCHER

[Twitching] Stop looking at me!

RANDOM KID 2

...but when she acted, the twitch was gone!

TWITCHER

[Not twitching and in stage voice.] Now you can look at me all you like!

[Random Kid 2 and Twitcher exit.]

JACKSON

And...

[Uncle Marty enters.]

UNCLE MARTY

I knew a guy who had no legs, but when he acted he could walk! It was a miracle!

JACKSON

That's Uncle Marty. He believes in miracles.

UNCLE MARTY

I do!

JACKSON

He once told me that he saw a person who had been dead for 25 years walking down the street.

UNCLE MARTY

It was a miracle!

JACKSON

I told him that it wasn't a miracle. It was a zombie.

UNCLE MARTY

Zombies are real? No way! I have to tell everyone!

[Uncle Marty exits.]

JACKSON

Anyway, I can't see how being on the stage is going to help me be less clumsy. I do acting classes though, because I guess it would be kinda cool to be a world-famous superstar actor.

[Cue Song 2: World Famous.]

JACKSON

Yeah, that would be awesome.

I CAN IMAGINE MYSELF IN THE MOVIES
STANDING BENEATH THE LIGHTS
THE CAMERA'S ON ME, FOR THE WORLD TO SEE
AND I'M READY FOR THE FIGHTS

LIKE TACKLING ALL THE ZOMBIES
WHO WANT TO EAT MY BRAINS
AND WITH MY SAMURAI SWORD, I'D BE ADORED
AS THE ONE WHO SAVED THE DAY!

AND NO ONE COULD DENY ME
AND NO ONE COULD PUT ME DOWN

IF I WAS THE STAR IN THE MOVIES
I'D BE WELCOMED ALL OVER THE TOWN!

I'D BE A WORLD FAMOUS
OUTRAGEOUS
CELEBRATED GUY
I'D SIGN THE AUTOGRAPHS AND
TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS
'CAUSE I'M THE REASON WHY
EVERYONE WOULD BE THERE FOR ME
CALLING OUT MY NAME
IF I WAS WORLD FAMOUS
NOTHING WOULD BE THE SAME

NO MORE "CLUMSY JACKSON"
OR "STUPID JACKSON"
OR "HERE'S THAT JACKSON KID"
NO - I'D BE SUPER JACKSON
HANDSOME JACKSON
IN EVERYTHING I DID!

I CAN IMAGINE MYSELF IN THE MOVIES
DRESSED UP IN A TUX
I'M LOOKING OUT FOR SOME CROOKS ABOUT
'CAUSE THEY'VE STOLEN A MILLION BUCKS!

IM AN EXPERT IN KARATE
IN BOXING AND IN DANCE
AND WHEN I GET THE CREW, THEY'LL KNOW THEY'RE THROUGH
'CAUSE THEY HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE

AND WITH BOWS AND ARROWS FLYING
AND GUN SHOTS IN THE AIR
THE AUDIENCE WOULD OOH AND AHH
'CAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO'S THERE!

I'D BE A WORLD FAMOUS
OUTRAGEOUS
CELEBRATED GUY
I'D SIGN THE AUTOGRAPHS AND
TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AND
I'M THE REASON WHY
EVERYONE WOULD BE THERE FOR ME

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IF I WAS WORLD FAMOUS
NOTHING WOULD BE THE SAME
IF I WAS WORLD FAMOUS
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[Jackson's phone rings. He answers. Lights up on Johnny.]

JACKSON
Hello?

JOHNNY
Jackson! Where have you been?

JACKSON
I was late!

JOHNNY
Again.

JACKSON
Yeah, I know!

JOHNNY
Well, Mr Tee Tee is running a second round of auditions in fifteen minutes. Are you going to be there?

JACKSON
Of course! Er ... where's "there"?

JOHNNY
At the theatre!

JACKSON
Oh I'm already here ... Er ... There ... er ... at the theatre!

JOHNNY
Good! Don't go anywhere. See you soon.

[Jackson ends the call.]

JACKSON