

DISCONNECTED

ACT ONE

Scene One

[We open with Sam dressed in funeral blacks. We do not see anyone else, but sense that people are all around. Cue song 1: Good Bye.]

SAM

GOOD BYE
MUMMY GOODBYE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY
BUT I'LL TRY ANYWAY
GOOD BYE
MUMMY GOOD BYE
IT'S TOO HARD TO EXPLAIN
OR DESCRIBE ALL THE PAIN

AND THOUGH I KNOW YOU'RE GONE
YOUR MEMORY WILL LIVE
INSIDE ME FOREVER

I WILL SEE YOU IN THE SUNSHINE
AND I WILL SEE YOU IN THE STARS
AND I WILL HEAR YOU
EVERY NIGHT I LAY MY HEAD AND CLOSE MY EYES
YOU WILL WHISPER THAT YOU LOVE ME
AND I'LL KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT FAR
SO EVEN THOUGH YOU CANNOT BE HERE
I STILL KNOW YOU'RE IN MY HEART

AND MAYBE I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY TOOK YOU
AWAY
I WILL ALWAYS CLOSE MY EYES AND PRAY

SAM + ENSEMBLE
THAT I WILL SEE YOU IN THE SUNSHINE
AND I WILL SEE YOU IN THE STARS
AND I WILL HEAR YOU WHEN YOU WHISPER
THAT YOU ARE THERE INSIDE MY HEART

SAM
YOU ARE HERE INSIDE MY HEART

Scene Two

[The lights fade and the scene shifts to the interior of a small apartment. Sam is sitting in his bedroom alone, looking out a window. We hear a radio announcement from the radio on the table.]

RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT

News for this day, January 16, 1987. Chancellor McKinnon declares that the north and south of Middleton do have similar entitlements, but admits that North Middleton have better resources. Residents of South Middleton are preparing to stage a rally at the town centre, demanding that McKinnon meet them personally.

[Dad enters and switches off the radio.]

DAD

Sam, are you coming down? I thought we could have pizza for dinner.

SAM

No thanks, I'm not hungry.

DAD

Sam, you've got to eat something.

SAM

I know.

DAD

[Dad pauses, then...] Do you want to talk?

SAM

No.

DAD

Okay. Listen, I'll just leave some on the table.

SAM

Thanks Dad.

[Dad starts to climb up the stairs to Sam's room.]

SAM

Don't come in!

DAD

Dude, I'm worried about you.

I'm fine. SAM

That's what you say. DAD

That's what you say too. SAM

Ha. Good point. DAD

[Dad walks back to the kitchen.]

If you need me... DAD

... I know where you are. Thanks Dad. SAM

[Pause.]

I miss her too. You know that. DAD

I know. SAM

Okay. I'll leave the pizza on the table. Love you. DAD

Love you too. SAM

[Dad exits. Cue Song 2: Someone Who Understands Me.]

SAM
I KNOW HE'S TRYING
I KNOW HE WANTS TO MAKE IT BETTER
BUT WHAT IS THE POINT WHEN
EVERY MOVE IS DONE TO THE LETTER

NOTHING CAN CHANGE THE FAULT OF THE PAST
NO MAGIC, NO WISH, NO TRICK'S GONNA LAST
ALL THAT I WANT, YES ALL THAT I ASK FOR IS
SOMEONE TO FILL THE SPACE

ALL I WANT IS

SOME ONE, SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME
ONE WHO WILL SIMPLY JUST ACCEPT ME
AND SEE ME INSIDE
I'LL HAVE NO NEED TO HIDE AWAY
I'M LOOKING FOR THAT
SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS HOW I FEEL
JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF THE REAL DEAL NOW
SHOW ME SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME

EVERY MORNING
I WAKE AND WONDER WHY THIS? WHY ME?
IS THERE SOME MEANING
SOME HIDDEN PURPOSE THAT I CANNOT SEE

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, I CAN'T COMPREHEND
HOW LIFE CAN BE GOOD THEN SUDDENLY END
BUT I CAN'T CLOSE MY EYES AND I CANNOT PRETEND
THAT IT NEVER HAPPENED TO ME

ALL I WANT IS
SOME ONE, SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME
ONE WHO WILL SIMPLY JUST ACCEPT ME
AND SEE ME INSIDE
I'LL HAVE NO NEED TO HIDE AWAY
I'M LOOKING FOR THAT
SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS HOW I FEEL
JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF THE REAL DEAL NOW
SHOW ME SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME

AND EVERY EMOTION INSIDE
AND EVERY THING I'M TRYIN' TO HIDE
IS THERE SOMEONE WHO'S ONLY A THOUGHT AWAY?

ALL I WANT IS
SOME ONE, SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME
ONE WHO WILL SIMPLY JUST ACCEPT ME
AND SEE ME INSIDE
I'LL HAVE NO NEED TO HIDE AWAY
I'M LOOKING FOR THAT
SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS HOW I FEEL
JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF THE REAL DEAL NOW
SHOW ME SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME
GIVE ME SOME ONE WHO'LL REALLY HELP ME
SHOW ME SOME ONE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME

[Blackout.]

Scene Three

RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT

You're on NowFM on a totally awesome Thursday morning, February 5th 1987. To all those kids out there, have a radical first day back after the school holidays. But, if the rumours are true, the South side of Middleton might be home schooling their kids next year...

[Dad enters.]

	DAD
Come on Sam! You'll be late!	
	SAM
I'm not going!	
	DAD
Sam, we talked about this. You have to go. You can't stay at home.	
	SAM
Why not?	
	DAD
It's the law. I know it's bogus, but you have to go to school.	
	SAM
Well, why don't you go to work?	
	DAD
Touché.	
	SAM
I just need some more time.	
	DAD
I know the feeling.	
	SAM
I'm sorry Dad.	
	DAD
It's ok. Let's try again tomorrow, okay?	
	SAM
Sure.	
	DAD
You know where to find me.	

SAM

Thanks Dad.

[Dad exits. Paul, Georgia, JULIAN, and Casey enter wearing a school uniform and carrying their bags.]

PAUL

Did anyone see Sam these hols?

GEORGIA

Not since him mum carked it.

JULIAN

I don't blame him. I wouldn't want to leave home either.

CASEY

I think it's bogus. Locking yourself up. It doesn't make any sense.

PAUL

Casey! That's a bit mean.

CASEY

Not really Paul. It's just a fact. You have to move on. That's life.

GEORGIA

I guess we all deal with things differently.

JULIAN

Totally.

CASEY

In any case, Georgia, Sam's gotta come out sometime.

JULIAN

This is his place here. Call out to him.

CASEY

You do it Julian.

JULIAN

Fine.

[Julian looks up to Sam's apartment and calls out.]

JULIAN

Sam! Hey Sam! Are you coming to school? Sam!!

[Sam doesn't move.]

PAUL

Come on Sam! It's us!

[Sam walks to the window and looks out.]

GEORGIA

There he is! Hey Sam! Are you coming down?

SAM

Hey Georgia. Um ... no. I can't.

JULIAN

Sam, we're sorry about your mum. She was ace.

SAM

Thanks, Jules.

PAUL

Is there anything we can do?

SAM

No. Not really.

CASEY

Ok. Well, we gotta go. See you around.

SAM

Yeah, see ya.

[Sam closes his window.]

PAUL

Geez, Casey, could you be any more ...

CASEY

Honest? Realistic? Down to earth?

PAUL

Blunt.

GEORGIA

Short.

JULIAN

Tactless.

CASEY

Look who swallowed a thesaurus.

JULIAN

Why do we hang out with you?

CASEY

I'm the voice of reason – the one who cuts through the rubbish.

JULIAN

Casey, there's the voice of reason and then there's the voice of a sledgehammer.

CASEY

Sometimes you need a sledgehammer to get through. Trust me, I know.

PAUL

Yeah? How do you figure that?

GEORGIA

Paul – you're an airhead.

PAUL

Oh, right. You don't have a dad.

CASEY

Genius!

JULIAN

But that still doesn't mean you can be ... well ... mean.

[Cue Song 3: Get Over It.]

CASEY

I'm not trying to be mean, JULIAN. But Sam's got to face the real world, not matter how much it hurts.

LIFE ISN'T THE EASY RIDE
IT'S FULL OF TWISTS AND TURNS
BUT IF YOU STAND THERE AND CLOSE YOUR EYES
YOU'LL MISS THE LESSON TO LEARN

NOW I KNOW THAT IT'S HARD SOMETIMES
BUT IF DON'T LOOK OUT AND YOU'LL GET LEFT BEHIND

SO YOU'VE GOTTA GET OVER IT

PAUL/JULIAN/GEORGIA

GET OVER IT?

CASEY