

ACT 1

2

scene 1 - Trevor's arrest

2

Empty stage. Soft colored lights sweep the stage and the audience, as ominous sounding music fills the theater.

A narrator steps onto the stage, standing at stage right.

NARRATOR

No one would have believed that in the early years of the twentieth century, new technology has eliminated the need for currency. The government mandated that a chip, injected into a person's hand, be used in place of currency. While most accepted this new form of currency, a small number of people, citing health concerns and privacy issues, refused. This group was immediately labeled a terrorist organization, forcing them to go underground, and forage their food and other items from dumpsters. They became known as the Dumpster Liberation Front. This is their story. This is Dumpster Diver the musical.

Music, a combination of synthesizers, keyboards, violins, drums, etc, shatters the silence.

Suddenly, while the music continues to play, signaling an ominous soundtrack, the sound of helicopters are heard as the Dumpster Liberation Front, a rag-tag group of dumpster divers, enter the aisles of the audience.

Spotlights scan the audience, as the music and the sound of helicopters continue.

The Dumpster Liberation Front is being hunted.

As the music kicks in, Dumpster Liberation Front, a rag-tag group of dumpster divers, storms the stage.

After 30-seconds of hiding in the aisles, the Dumpster Liberation Front, get onto the stage. A spotlight appears on them. All of the Dumpster Liberation Front exit the stage, and hide, crouching down on stage right.

Trevor and Faith remain on the stage, the spotlight on them.

The music stops. (The music continues at a lower volume.)

(CONTINUED)

The sound of helicopters continues, forcing Trevor and Faith to speak loudly.

TREVOR

(reaches into jacket, extracts disk)
Take the file.

FAITH

You're the one that created it.

TREVOR

I didn't know what they were planning to use it for.

FAITH

That's why you have to come with us.

TREVOR

They won't be looking for you. (beat) This is your chance to shut down Sorl Pharmaceuticals. They're the ones who killed your Dad.

Faith takes disk and pockets it.

FAITH

They won't believe a bunch of dumpster divers. They're calling us identity thieves. You need to go with us.

TREVOR

I'll catch up with you.

Faith runs to the Dumpster Liberation Front, joining them, as they crouch down on stage right, watching Trevor, and looking up at the helicopters above.

Trevor is standing as the helicopters searchlight bathes him in its white glow.

GUARD #1 and GUARD #2, with their weapons aimed, approach Trevor. Trevor opens his hands to show that he is surrendering.

SHELBY approaches Trevor. SHELBY circles Trevor, then stands beside the guards.

TREVOR

(facing audience, arms outstretched)
I never thought it would come to this. Every decision you make leads to another life..

SHELBY

Hand over the file.

TREVOR

Wait. I feel

TREVOR

A song rising in me.

SHELBY

Oh no. If you just bought food like everyone else, you wouldn't be singing all the time. That dumpster food's made you crazy.

The only thing rising in you is indigestion, from eating that dumpster'ed cheese.

song: ANOTHER LIFE

TREVOR

I never thought it would come to this. Every decision you make. Leads to another life. Was my choice a mistake.

(CONT)

I'm burning bridges behind me. I'm building new ones ahead. I've traded that life for this one. Been ridiculed instead.

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

SHELBY

We know, you're an identity thief.

TREVOR

It's your lies that cause me grief. Soon the world will know what you're about.

SHELBY

You're an info terrorist.

TREVOR

I'm dumpster diving, I insist. I found some tofu and a jar of sauerkraut.

SHELBY

We know you're leading a movement, that doesn't follow the rules.

TREVOR

That's not true. I'm a watchdog for freedom. The kind they don't teach at schools.

(CONTINUED)

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

The guards respond to the music by bouncing on their feet.

SHELBY

Hand me the file you've stolen. Or you'll be under arrest. Then taken for treatment. After you've confessed. To this other life. This other life.

TREVOR

The file is our evidence. The truth is our defense. We're couchsurfing. We're sleeping in tents. And we'll reach the radio. Then the whole world will know. Options overflow ...

TREVOR AND DLF

Another life. Another life.

SHELBY

You're an info terrorist.

TREVOR

I'm dumpster diving, I insist. An open hand, not a fist.

TREVOR AND DLF

We're free-cycling every day, all the food you're throwing away. Sometimes, it's stale but that's okay. Dumpster diving's here to stay. Dumpster diving's here to stay.

TREVOR

An underground community. You ridicule what you fail to see. A surrogate family. Another life.

SHELBY

You're brainwashed. It's called a cult. You're not acting quite adult. Oh, it's not your fault. It's another life.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
An underground community.

SHELBY

(overlapping)
You're brainwashed. It's called a cult.

TREVOR

(overlapping)
You ridicule what you fail to see.