

*BATBOY – the musical*

**Audition side 5: Bat Boy, Shelley, Meredith & Parker**

(The Parker living room. Over tea.)

BAT BOY: You know, I was reading the newspaper this morning.

MEREDITH: Is that right?

BAT BOY: Yes. And I noticed that, beginning tomorrow, the Reverend Billy Hightower is holding a weekend revival. And, as I have just finished the Bible again, it would mean so much to me if I could attend.

SHELLEY: Yes. That would be so cool. You could wear your new suit and I could wear my new dress. Oh my God. I can just see everybody's faces.

BAT BOY: I did think it would be a nice coming out for me.

PARKER: Actually, we were thinking that maybe we'd go away on a camping trip for the weekend. Just us? Alone in the woods?

MEREDITH: Wouldn't that be nice, Edgar?

BAT BOY: Oh, yes! But we can do that anytime. The revival is the social event of the season.

MEREDITH: Oh, Edgar, I just feel horrible telling you no, but it just isn't the right time for that sort of thing.

SHELLEY: But the way people talk about him, it's not fair.

PARKER: Shelley, this is not up for discussion right now.

BAT BOY: What is it that people... say about me?

PARKER: People can be very cruel. It doesn't mean anything about y...

BAT BOY: ...They say cruel things? Is that it?

MEREDITH: Some people...

BAT BOY: ...they don't know me.

PARKER: That's why they are so cruel.

MEREDITH: Edgar, this cannot happen just now. Let's just....can't we have a nice trip into the woods?

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SHELLEY: And when can it happen, Mother? Next week?

MEREDITH: I don't know...

SHELLEY: Next month?

MEREDITH: Perhaps.

SHELLEY: Next year for sure though, right?

MEREDITH: I can't say.

SHELLEY: Maybe never?

PARKER: Shelley...

SHELLEY: May I be excused?

MEREDITH: But you haven't finished your tea, dear.

SHELLEY: May I be excused?

MEREDITH: Yes, you're excused. (Shelley stomps off.) Edgar, I'm so sorry....

BAT BOY: They're saying horrible things about me!

MEREDITH: Oh, Edgar.

BAT BOY: It's torture to sit here idly while I'm being slandered in public. I can only imagine what they're saying.

PARKER: Edgar, we're not saying you can't go out sometime, just not right...

BAT BOY: I might as well as be in a cage. You must allow me to show myself.

MEREDITH: Oh, Edgar.

PARKER: No!

BAT BOY: Why not?

MEREDITH: Edgar, calm yourself, dear.

BAT BOY: Why not! Why not? Why not! WHY NOT!

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MEREDITH: Oh, I can't bear it. Thomas, can't we just let him go out. Once they meet him for themselves, they'll change their minds, don't you think.

PARKER: Well, no....

MEREDITH: Sure they will. He's so charming, and well-spoken. Once they see what a proper young man he is...

PARKER: No no no no no! Meredith, I'm afraid I have to put my foot down on this. I've given my word of honor.

MEREDITH: Well, surely that's not more important than...

PARKER: My word of honor, Meredith. This would humiliate me.

MEREDITH: But can't you see what this means to him?

BAT BOY: Please, Dr. Parker.

PARKER: I'm putting my foot down. None of us will attend the revival, and that's final.

MEREDITH: Fine, don't go. Shelley and I will go with Edgar.

PARKER: No. I'm putting my foot down.

MEREDITH: Edgar, I'm afraid we'll have to go without Dr. Parker, but Shelley and I will be there for you.

BAT BOY: Really?

PARKER: But I'm putting my foot down.

MEREDITH: Yes, dear. And the rest of us are going to the revival. It's settled.