

Jules

(Sample Script)

E.K.Productions Musical

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JULES

Story Outline:

Set in the 1950's, when rock 'n roll was at its peak, Jules, who is known as the best dancer in town and one really rockin' babe, needs a dance partner. Big Jim, who is a bit of a shark, will go to any length to have Jules partner him at the local dance competition.

Now Jules has an admirer, Thaddeus Wortimer Higgabotton, who is somewhat of a 'Dweeb.' To save Jules from Big Jim, he must overcome his low self-esteem and prove that even 'Dweebs can be cool' and become the man he needs to be.

It is a boppy and humourous show with simple costumes, easy props and with the great message that unique is cool!

This is a show that enables the entire school to be involved for a rocking good time!

Main Characters:

Jules: A well liked and popular person, who can sing and dance like a dream. She is admired by everyone and all the boys would love to take her to the dance.

Big Jim: Has a huge ego problem. He thinks he is the greatest gift to the human race. He also thinks that he's a snappy dresser but in truth has no fashion sense at all.

Thaddeus Wortimer Higgabottom: At the beginning of the show, he is your typical DWEEB. He speaks as though he has a cold. He has poor posture and very low self esteem. By the end of the show, he is totally cool. Walks and talks with a positive and a very cool attitude.

Jules' Friends:

Peg and Sheila: These girls have forthright and bubbly personalities. True and supportive friends to Jules.

Toots and Shirl: These girls just follow the crowd. They always repeat, in unison, everything Peg says.

Barbie: Is a dreamer and fantasises a great deal. She over emphasises every few words. Uses lots of hand actions.

Big Jim's Gang:

Dogga/Stinga/Bluey: Your genuine Aussie guys, trying to look cool and be part of a gang. Overall fairly nice guys, but they are afraid to stand up to Big Jim.

Ken: Is the pretty boy of the group. Always concerned with his looks and forever combing his hair.

The Predator: He is known as the toughest and meanest kid in town. There is a big build up to The Predator's entrance. Every time his name is mentioned, it is stressed and over emphasised. The Predator doesn't speak but merely grunts. The others in the gang appear to understand what he is saying. He walks with a cool swagger. *(For comical reasons, the person playing the part of The Predator should be in prep or grade one, or very small in stature.)*

Margie Heapworth: A girl with, 'attitude', who wants nothing more than to be Big Jim's partner and win the dance competition.

Minor Characters:

Narrator

Cavemen

Couples waltzing

Ballet dancers

Bush dancers

Parents

Punks

Dancing Guy

Dancing Gang & Chorus

Back Vocals for Thaddeus

Compere

Judges at dance competition

Boys who won't dance with Jules

Costumes:

Girls: full skirts, tops, scarves, flat shoes, bobby socks. Hair in pony tails.

Boys: jeans, plain tee shirts, flat shoes, dark jackets. Hair slicked back. The Predator could wear dark sunglasses.

Big Jim: Needs to wear very loud clothes, sports jacket, loud tie, pants.

Thaddeus: (*As the DWEEB*) skivvy, woollen vest, pants that are a little too short, bow tie and braces, reading glasses frames.

(*As Cool Stranger*) white tee shirt, jeans, flat shoes, dark jacket, sunglasses, hair slicked back.

Minor characters: dress according to their role.

Props:

Main Street: in front of the local café. A prop of café front, a street sign, a seat.

Dance competition: A banner stating 'Dance Competition', a table with punch bowl and cups, balloons, winner's cup or trophy.

Suggestion: Before the actual production of Jules, the chorus line or choir could sing a selection of well-known Rock 'n Roll hits. Some of the chorus could dress up as some of legends of the fifties.

Large Poster for Dance Competition

Jules

1.

Curtains closed: *(Narrators comes on opposite ends of stage in front of curtains. With cheeky confidence they get in centre stage and begin the show.)*

Narrator 1.: Hey *(name of Narrator 2.)*! Looking good!

Narrator 2.: Thanks *(name of Narrator 1.)* You're looking pretty cool yourself!

Narrator 1.: *(Proudly and with swagger, Turning up his collar to look cool.)* Yeah! I know!

Narrator 2.: *(Swishing her skirt.)* I feel like I've stepped back in time.

Narrator 1.: I know just what you mean. It's all about the grooves and the moves.

Narrator 2.: It's all about the music! **(Curtains Open:)**

(Narrators go and stand at each end of stage.)

Narrator 1.: Because music has been a part of life ever since mankind began beating on hollow objects and found that they could create a sound. Not only that, they liked it!

(Two cavemen enter carrying clubs and one caveman begins beating on a log.)

Caveman 1. *(In a deep gruff voice.)* What are you doing?

Caveman 2. *(Similar voice.)* I'm hitting this hollow log with a stick and making noise.

Caveman 1. What are you going to call it?

Caveman 2. I think I will call it a drum.

Caveman 1. That's cool. *(Cavemen exit stage.)*

Narrator 2: Music progressed from there and with it so did the movement that people liked to term dance. There were dances such as the waltz.

(Waltzing couples enter stage counting.)

Couple: One, two, three. One, two, three.

Girl: *(Crossly)* Hey you're stepping on my toes.

Boy: *(Snaps back.)* Well please stop trying to lead. *(They stomp off stage.)*

Narrator 2.: The ballet.

(Ballet dancers flit on stage, do some simple little steps and flit off stage again.)

Narrator 1.: And bush dancing.

(Bush dancers enter stage, yeh hahing and doing the heel toe polka.)

Bush dancers: Aussie, Aussie, Aussie! Oi, Oi, Oi! *(then exit.)*

Narrator 2: All through time, music has continued to grow and change and with each generation, parents have worried about their children's taste in music.

(Parents and children enter. Parents are prep/one children dressed as adults. The children are older students dressed as punks and carrying a CD/Tape player. They pretend to be listening to heavy metal music and begin shaking and dancing madly. The parents are not impressed.)

Father: I just don't know what to make of Junior these days.

Mother: I'm worried. They call that music and that jiggling about dancing?

Together: (*Shaking their heads.*) It wasn't like that in our day!
(*Parents and children exit stage.*)

Curtains close. (*Narrators move to centre stage.*)

Narrator 1.: Now we would like to take you back to a time, a time when being cool meant listening to the King, Elvis Presley. A time when dancing meant you did Rock 'n Roll, the Jive, and the Twist.

Narrator 2.: It was the fifties, a time in which we had the birth of television and our singing idols were people such as Chubby Checker and Johnny O'Keefe.

Narrator 1.: It is here in the 1950's, in the quiet picturesque country town of (*name of chosen town*) that we find Rock 'n Roll alive and well. Jules, the hero of our story, is one little babe who can really dance. In fact, she's so good that Big Jim, who's a bit of a shark, desperately wants Jules to be his partner.

Narrator 2.: Will Jules succumb to Big Jim's greasy charm? Will Big Jim have his way and make a fortune from Jules' dancing talent? Well....

Together: We're not going to tell. You'll just have to stay and find out.
We at (*name of school*) are proud to present "Jules".

Jules

4.

Curtains Open: Cafe *(Dancers already in position to sing opening song.)*

Song: Welcome to Rock 'n Roll

(A couple of the kids come on stage and start sticking up posters on the curtains and along the side stage walls. The posters are advertising the Big Dance Off Competition. Some of the kids who have been singing and dancing approach and read the posters.)

Guy: Hey guys, listen to this. "Calling all Rock 'n Rollers, come and join in the Big Dance Off! Rock around the clock and dance til you drop. The last couple chosen will go on and have a guest appearance in the hit TV show "Grandstand".

Girl: Wow! Wouldn't that be peachy. Being on "Grandstand".

Guy: I bet if we all practised enough, any of us could have a shot.

Girl: Maybe we could come up with a fab routine for all of us.

Dancing Guy: I've got some cool moves I've been working on. I call this The Slug.
(Does the Worm.)

Girl: Seriously, who on earth is ever going to want to do something like that?

Dancing Guy: Well, what about this one? *(Does the Shuffle/Floss)*

Girl: Oh brother. So uncool!

Guy: Hey, let's tell the others and meet up after school and work out what we can do.

(Chorus members exit stage, except Dancing Guy.)

Dancing Guy: Don't worry feet, you're just ahead of your time. *(Dances off stage with some cool moves Eg: Moon Walk)*

(Jules and her friends enter stage giggling and talking.)

Peg: Jules, you know you're the best dancer at school, in fact, the whole of *(Name of town. Eg: Cohuna)*.

Toots and Shirl: *(In unison)* Yeah! The whole of *(name of town)*.

Jules: *(A little embarrassed.)* Oh girls, I know I'm good, but I'm not that good.

Sheila: No one could keep up with you at the school dance last week.

Jules: Well...I'm not sure if that's true. The truth is girls, that I just love to dance. If I had my way I'd be dancing all night long.

Song: I Just Want To Dance. *(Chorus members enter stage, join Jules and her friends, dance, sing and exit after song.)*

Barbie: Oh Jules! You're such a good dancer. You should be on TV. Just think, you could be rich and famous and then you'd go to Hollywood and make movies and marry a movie star and live in a fantastic mansion and.....

Girls: *(In unison.)* Snap out of it Barbie!

Peg: *(Points to the large poster at the side of stage.)* Did anyone see the notices up all around town and in the newspaper about the big dance competition. It's on in a couple of weeks?

Toots and Shirl: Yeah! A couple of weeks.

Sheila: First prize is a guest appearance of that TV show 'Grandstand'. Wouldn't it be exciting? Imagine being on TV in front of millions of people!

Peg: *(Gives Jules a nudge.)* You should enter Jules. You'd be a sure thing.

Toots and Shirl: Yeah! A sure thing.

Jules: *(A little doubtful.)* Well....Maybe... *(She brightens up.)* And you're right. It would be exciting being on television but I'd have to find a partner.

Barbie: Oh Jules! All the boys will want to dance with you because they all know what a fantastic dancer you are and they'd just love to be your partner because, you're just so wonderful at.....

Girls: *(In unison.)* Snap out of it Barbie!

(Margie Hepworth enters. She too, reads the poster. She approaches the other girls.)

Margie: Hi girls. I suppose you've seen the poster for the big dance off. I hope you haven't got your hopes up that any of you might win. I mean, really. *(She struts off stage. Jules friends are very annoyed.)*

Shelia: Oh that Margie Hepworth gets under my skin.

Peg: Who does she think she is?

Toots & Shirl: Yeah, who does she think she is?

Jules: I think, she thinks, she's got a very good chance at winning the dance competition. And you must admit she is pretty good at the Twist and the Lindy Hop.

Sheila: Maybe so, but we still think that you're the better dancer Jules. *(Friends all nod in agreement.)*

(Thaddeus Wortimer Higgabottom enters the stage. He walks in with his head down and low self-esteem. Peg sees him and tells the other girls.)

Peg: Don't look now girls, but here comes that Thaddeus Wortimer Higgabottom! What a Dweeb!

Toots and Shirl: Yeah! What a Dweeb!

Sheila: He's looking this way Jules. *(Smirks a little.)* I think he's got a crush on you.

Jules: Shh girls! He can't help the way he is. He's just a little...unique that's all. And unique can be cool... *(She looks over and Thaddeus is wiping his nose on his sleeve, then says doubtfully)* ... sometimes.

Peg: He's coming this way! Let's leave Jules and Thaddeus alone girls. *(Cheekily.)* They might want some time by themselves.

Toots and Shirl: *(Giggling)* Yeah! By themselves!
(Girls exit stage leaving Jules and Thaddeus on stage.)

Jules: *(In a desperate tone.)* Girls don't you dare leave me by my.... *(Thaddeus walks over to Jules.)* Oh hello Thaddeus.

Thaddeus: *(Sneezes and wipes his nose.)* Hi Jules. I just wanted to tell you how great I thought you were at the school dance last week.

Jules: Oh thanks Thaddeus but I didn't even see you at the dance. Where were you all night?

Thaddeus: Well....Actually...I was hiding behind a door most of the time because Dogga and Stinga were after me.

Jules: *(Puzzled.)* Why?

Thaddeus: I accidentally sneezed all over their new blue suede shoes. I really wanted to ask you to dance, but there was such a line of guys waiting and I kept getting pushed to the back of the line.

Jules: *(Sighs)* Oh Thaddeus. You really do have to learn to stand up for yourself. *(Dreamingly)* Be confident, be assertive. Be manly. *(Thaddeus tries to look confident, assertive and flexes his muscles to be manly, without great success. Jules gives him a pitying sort of look.)* Well, maybe not all at once. Thaddeus, I've got to run. *(Jules starts to exit stage and then pauses.)* Thad! I think you've got more potential than you realise. *(Jules exits stage.)*

Thaddeus: *(Walks towards front of stage.)* Jules is some girl. She's not only a terrific dancer but she's beautiful, smart, kind. Oh yeah, she sure is some girl. But she doesn't even know I exist. If only I could tell her.
(Boys enter and overhear Thaddeus. They shake their heads in sympathy and go forward to give him support. They join in the chorus of the song.)

Song: I Wish She Were Mine *(Sung by Thaddeus and boys on stage.)*

One of the boys: Thaddeus mate, we know exactly how you feel.

Other boy: It's hard when others put you in the "Dweeb Box" and even harder to get out.

Thaddeus: Yeah, you're right fellas. Maybe this is as good as it gets.

(Thaddeus and boys exit stage.)

(Enter Big Jim's Gang. Dogga, Stinga, Ken and Bluey. They are talking about stirring Thaddeus at the school dance. Ken is combing his hair.)