START TOMMY

(To BOB)

You got a manager, an agent, somebody?

BOB

My dad handles most of my stuff.

TOMMY

Tell him to call me.

BOB

What about?

TOMMY

Work out a deal.

BOB

That's OK--you can talk to me.

TOMMY

You sure?

BOB

Uh-huh.

TOMMY

OK. I'm gonna hire you on a trial basis for, let's say...three weeks, at a salary of 25 a week, then we'll see what happens.

(TOMMY puts hand out...BOB doesn't take it)

BOB

Oh. Gee. I don't think that's going to work.

TOMMY

Why not?

BOB

I was thinking I would come in as an equal partner.

TOMMY

Really.

BOB

Plus which I retain the publishing on anything I write, and we can work out a Favored Nations on any mechanical and ancillary rights.

TOMMY

Excuse me a minute.

END

(Another conference...BOB silently occupies himself with the GIRLS)

Forget it.

FRANKIE

wny

TOMMY

He wants a four-way split. In his fucking dreams.

FRANKIE

Tommy--

TOMMY

You think this kid is the golden goose? He's a one-hit wonder with his eye on the buck. There's a million of 'em out there.

NICK

Where?

TOMM

Where what?

NICK

The million guys, where are they?

JOEY

May I just say something?

TOMMY

No.

JOEY

OK.

START

CREWE

Is there a problem?

(BOB puts a restraining hand on TOMMY's arm to quiet him)

BOB

(Not angry)

Here's the problem. You said we could go with you, do some backups and you'd record us. That was—what—a year ago? So when are you going to record us?

CREWE

When you give me a hit.

BOB

I've given you ten hits.

CREWE

Ten songs. Not ten hits.

TOMMY

How do you know what's a hit until you record it?

CREWE

I've got the ears, baby, remember?

BOB

OK, then listen to this. Either you give us a date when you're going to record us--four songs, like you promised--or we're going down the hall and make a deal with people who keep their word.

CREWE

You know your problem, gentlemen? You've got an identity crisis. Maybe if you found yourselves a name, and a sound, little Bobby here would know who he's writing for.

BOB

You know what? Maybe you need to find yourself another group.

END

CCENE 20

A CONCERT

(TWO DRESSERS help EACH of the GUYS into a new, spiffy jacket, to go with a dance putine performed through the end of the number)

FRANKIE, BOB, TOMMY, & NICK

WALK LIKE A MA FAST AS I CAN WALK LIKE A MAN FROLYOU I'LL TELL THE WORLD FORGET ABOUT IT, GIRL

FRANKIE

BOB, TOMMY & NICK

AND WALK LIKE A MAN FROM YOU OO WEE OO WAH

ALK, WALK, WALK, WALK

OO WEE OO WALK LIKE A MAN LIKE A MAN

WALK LIKE A MAN LIKE A MAN

(The number ends to applause...the DRESSE'S help TOMMY and NICK off with their jackets...TOMMY and NICK exit leaving BOB and FRANKIE alone backstage)

Start

BOB

(To AUDIENCE)

That's the hat trick--three Number Ones in a row. Crewe's right--the stars are in alignment. And I'm thinking about the future.

(To FRANKIE)

Maybe we should make an investment.

FRANKIE

In what?

BOB

Us.

FRANKIE

What do you mean?

BOB

You got the voice. I got the songs.

FRANKIE

Yeah, so?

BOB

We make a partnership. I give you half of everything I write, you give me half of everything you record outside the group.

FRANKIE

Why would I ever record outside the group?

BOB

I dunno. Things happen.

FRANKIE

What about Tommy and Nick? I mean, Nicky is the one who really got me singing, and Tommy...I mean, we wouldn't be here if it weren't for him.

BOB

It won't cut into their share. I'd never do that.

FRANKIE

We gotta tell them.

BOB

Absolutely.

FRANKIE

Hey--if things work out, could we talk about a saxophone?

BOB

If things work out, we can talk about a whole horn section.

FRANKIE

OK, I'm in.

(NICK enters on the bridge)

BOB

Great. So should we have somebody draw up a contract?

FRANKIE

You mean like sign a piece of paper from a lawyer?

BOB

I guess.

FRANKIE

You wanna do this thing?

BOB

Yeah. I just, I mean--

FRANKIE

So we do it. You want a contract? Here--a Jersey contract. End

(FRANKIE puts his hand out...BOB takes it...the moment their hands meet, music introduction begins)

#16: DECEMBER '63 (OH, WHAT A NIGHT)

BOB

OH, WHAT A NIGHT

LATE DECEMBER, BASE IN SIXTY-THREE

WHAT A VERY SPECIAL TIME FOR ME

AS I REMEMBER, WHAT A NIGHT

OH, WHAT A NIGHT

YOU KNOW I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW OR NAME

BUT I WAS NEVER GONNA BE THE SATE

WHAT A LADY, WHAT A NIGHT

OH I, I GOT A FUNNY FEELIN'

WHEN SHE WALKED IN THE ROOM

YEAH, AND I, AS I RECALL

IT ENDED MUCH TOO SOON

TOMMY, NICK & TWO PARTY GIRLS

(Singing, under BOB)

OU WUNT N NITCUT

BOB

(To AUDIENCE)

It's a season of "firsts." John Glenn is the first American to orbit the earth. We go out on our first cross-country tour. The label's raking it in, so they send over some girls when we hit Chicago at Christmas. And that night, I rack up a personal first.

16. December '63 (Oh What a Night)

[Nov 2014]

Bob, Tommy, Nick, Barry, Francine, Lorraine, Mary (Joey, Hank, Norm, Crewe, band tenor, band bar, band bass)







