

HACK, PUNT, TOOL

REVIVAL VERSION

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SCRIPT AND VOCAL SCORE

HACK, PUNT, TOOL

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SCENE 1.0 -- The World of the Hacker**Stories**

The stage is dark. A faint hum reminiscent of a machine room is heard from the stage. Shadowy figures begin to filter through the audience onto the stage. These are the SHADOW JACKS. They wander about the space, speaking to the audience in low voices, holding flashlights to their faces.

SHADOW JACK 0

... Once upon a time, there was a boy hacker, and a girl hacker ...
(pause)

SHADOW JACK 1

... There was a black square, a red square, and a yellow square ...

SHADOW JACK 2

... Thump! There was a cube fridge lodged in the president's lawn ...

SHADOW JACK 3

(overlapping)
... some read, "No toad sexing," while others read, "Toad sexing allowed" ...

SHADOW JACK 4

(overlapping)
... Don't touch that! It's a light sensitive biology experiment! ...

SHADOW JACK 5

(overlapping)
... "I'm just picking grass for my cow, Officer" ...

SHADOW JACK 6

(overlapping)
... "MIT, 1 -- Harvard-Yale, 0" ...

SHADOW JACK 7

(overlapping)
... "Beware the bane of Hartley Rogers/ Forcing voice and withered codgers" ...

SHADOW JACK 8*(overlapping)*

... “Spartans! Who is your professor?” They all shouted back, “Auroux! Auroux! Auroux!” ...

SHADOW JACK 9*(overlapping)*

... The officer smiled and said, “Miss Liberty looked real good up there. Get your stuff and get out of here, kids” ...

SHADOW JACK 10*(overlapping)*

... instead of “Industry, the Arts, Agriculture and Commerce,” it said, “Industry, the Arts, Entertainment, and Hacking!” ...

The SHADOW JACKS slip away into the darkness to reveal STORY JACK, an elegant, but deceitful-looking figure garbed in all black, grinning, as if they knows something no one else does. STORY JACK steps forward, attempting to affect a more trustworthy personality upon seeing the audience.

STORY JACK

Hi Everybody!

The World of the Hacker

SHADOW JACKS and AUDIENCE

Hi Jack!

STORY JACK

MY FRIENDS, MY FRIENDS,
COME CLOSER,
COME ALONG AND YOU WILL SEE
A WONDROUS PLACE,
A MARVELOUS REALM - THE LAND OF MIT!

BELOW THE WELL WAXED TILES,
B'YOND AISLES OF WELL READ BOOKS,
THERE LIES IN WAITING
SOMETHING GREAT:

INVIGORATING!

COME WITH ME, GO AHEAD, TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

STORY JACK gestures grandly around the space as different elements of the machine room become more clear.

STORY JACK

THIS IS THE WORLD OF THE HACKER:
A WORLD INTENSE AND EXTREME!
HEAR THE GENTLE HUM OF MACHINE ROOMS,
THE CLATTER AND THE HISS OF STEAM!

NOW DESCEND THROUGH THE SHAFTS,
FENDING DARK WITH A SPARK
OF YOUR HEADLAMP, TO MARK OUT YOUR PATH 'TIL
THE END!
CRAWL 'ROUND PIPES AND ALL TYPES
OF MACHINES, IN BETWEEN.
I WON'T LEAD YOU ASTRAY!
TRUST US, WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS!

SHADOW JACKS

MMM, MMM
CLATTER! HISS!

TSS...KSH...
TSS...KSH...
TSS...KSH...
TSS...KSH...
TSS...KSH...
TSS...

Lights grow brighter to reveal the SHADOW JACKS surrounding STORY JACK.

THIS WORLD IS RULED BY THE HACKER,
A CREATURE BOTH CUNNING AND QUICK,
WHO FLITS THROUGH THE NIGHT LIKE A SHADOW,
WITH EVERY ILLUSION AND TRICK.
GHOSTLY, LIKE MOSTLY A SPIRIT,
SO SILENT, TO HEAR IT'S UNLIKELY, I'D SAY.
BUT WHO ARE THESE ETHEREAL, SURREAL,
YET IMPERIAL "HACKERS" ANYWAY?

AHHH!
CUNNING AND QUICK!
LIKE A SHADOW...
...so mischievous!
GHOSTLY SPIRIT,
YOU WON'T HEAR IT.
WHO ARE THESE
HACKERS?

Hackers are anonymous technological pranksters,
engineers inspired to intervene with the everyday
monotony. In order to perform bold feats, hackers often
traverse MIT's more untraveled passageways, carefully
avoiding the diligent eye of the law, and often unearthing

KSH...
TSS...
(vamped)

locations hidden from the average passer-by!

STORY JACK turns with a flourish as low lights come up on the wall of a small tomb with two sign-ins on it.

(Note: this room will be visited in the second act by KEPLER and BILLY)

THIS PARTICULAR ROOM,	OOO...
IT IS CALLED A TOMB -	OOO...
A BLOCKED OFF CREVICE,	
FORGOTTEN, OUTCAST.	
SEE THE SHARPIE SCRAWLS ALONG THE WALLS,	AHHH...
SIGN-INS OF HACKERS OF THE PAST!	AHHH...

STORY JACK

“Sign-ins” are hackers’ signatures, personal markings that can be identified only by their truest friends.

Lights fade up on a wall containing the “Hacking Ethics.”

Here you can see a very special bit of literature: the “Hacking Ethics!” These are the guidelines to which we noble hackers adhere! Pay attention!

SHADOW JACK 11

The safety of yourself, of others, and of property should have highest priority!

SHADOW JACK 12

(overlapping)

Be subtle; leave no evidence you were there.

SHADOW JACK 13

(overlapping)

Brute force is the last resort of the incompetent.

SHADOW JACK 14

(overlapping)

Cause no permanent damage during hacks and while hacking.

SHADOW JACK 15

(overlapping)

If you find something broken, call F-IXIT.

SHADOW JACK 16

(overlapping)

Do not steal anything.

SHADOW JACK 17

(overlapping)

Do not drop things without a ground crew.

SHADOW JACK 18

(overlapping)

Sign-ins are not graffiti and should not be seen by the general public.

SHADOW JACK 19

(overlapping)

Never drink and hack.

SHADOW JACK 20

(overlapping)

Never hack alone.

SHADOW JACK 21

(overlapping)

Know your limitations and do not exceed them.

SHADOW JACK 22

(overlapping)

Learn how not to get caught, but if you do get caught, accept gracefully and cooperate fully.

SHADOW JACK 23

(overlapping)

Share your knowledge and experience with other hackers.

STORY JACK and SHADOW JACKS

And above all, exercise common sense.

STORY JACK

REMEMBER THE CODE OF THE HACKER,
AS YOU DREAM OF UNCHARTED NOOKS.
THESE ETHICS KEEP US SEPARATE
FROM CRIMINALS, VANDALS, AND CROOKS.

REFLECT ON THE LESSONS THESE FINE
WORDS CONVEY.
MAYBE YOU THINK THAT YOU'LL BE LIKE US
ONE DAY!

YES, THIS IS THE WORLD OF THE HACKER
OUR MAGICAL WORLD OF DEBRIS.
OUTSIDERS MAY JUST SEE THE SURFACE,

SHADOW JACKS

REMEMBER THE CODE
AS YOU DREAM OF
UNCHARTED NOOKS.
MMM,
MMM,
FOLLOW THE ETHICS.
AHHH!

MAYBE YOU THINK THAT
YOU'LL BE LIKE US ONE DAY!

THE WORLD OF THE
HACKER!
MAGICAL WORLD OF DEBRIS!

STORY JACK and SHADOW JACKS

BUT THIS IS THE REAL MIT!
THIS IS THE REAL MIT!

SHADOW JACKS exit.

STORY JACK

Hackers come and go, but they are never forgotten. We keep them alive by passing on their stories. Though you're not the most pantsful bunch I've seen, you've trusted me thus far, so perhaps I should share a bit of lore with you. Would you like to hear a story?

(waits for audience response and responds appropriately)

All right, then!

Our Story Begins

LEND AN EAR AND YOU'LL HEAR A STORY
THAT I DOUBT YOU'VE HEARD BEFORE.
THIS TALE TAKES PLACE BACK IN THE DAY,
WHEN THINGS WERE MORE HARDK0RE...

SCENE 1.1 -- The Institute

Lights come up on BILLY, an eager freshman, carrying his luggage. Though he is new to campus, BILLY exudes the experience of a high school graduate who has worked very hard for most of his life.

STORY JACK

Our story unfolds with a wee little frosh, ready and eager to begin his journey at this wonderful Institute. His mind was ready to be filled with knowledge, as many froshlings' minds are.

Lights fade down on STORY JACK. STORY JACK exits. CONNER BURTON, a nervous, overachieving freshman, enters, carrying a differential equations textbook, reading without looking up. CONNER bumps into BILLY and nearly drops her textbook.

CONNER

Oh! Sorry. Moving in?

BILLY

Yeah! My name's Billy Rogers!

Billy extends his hand for a handshake. CONNER turns the page without looking up.

CONNER

Billy? Conner Burton.

BILLY

You're tooling already?

CONNER

“Tooling”?

BILLY

Yeah! It's MIT-speak for “studying,” it's what everyone says!

CONNER

Whatever. I'm getting ready for the math placement diagnostic!

BILLY

Does that test count for anything? I thought no one even looks at that.

CONNER

Well, it's not for a grade or anything, but I want my advisor to be impressed! I have to really impress him if I want to take five-point-one-two this semester. I mean, I really can't wait, right? It really won't fit in the spring, right? I mean, with my current plan -- Do you have a plan?

BILLY

My academic plan?

I Want to Be Hardk0re

(music flourish)

I've got bigger plans,

(music flourish)

better plans.

THE WORLD IS COMPLICATED,
IT'S NOT WRITTEN IN A BOOK.
YOU HAVE TO GO DISCOVER IT.
LIKE, ACTUALLY GO OUT AND LOOK!
I WANT TO FIND THINGS NO ONE ELSE HAS SEEN,
IT'S THE SPIRIT TO EXPLORE -
DOWN IN THE DARK, IN THE TUNNELS AND THE STEAM -
I WANT TO BE HARDK0RE.
I'M NOTHING IF I'M NOT HARDK0RE!

The buildings here were built all at different times, and they don't fit perfectly together. It leaves lots of hidden spaces, just waiting to be found. Think of the possibilities!

THERE ARE SHAFTS THAT SHOOT UP MANY STORIES,
AND TOMBS ABOUND IN EVERY CRAG,
AND THE FINDER GETS ETERNAL GLORY,
FOREVER EARNING CHANCES TO BRAG!

Doesn't that excite you? Don't you just feel electric?

CONNER

Nope neutral, not charged at all. I can't focus when you --

BILLY

I just get this incredible feeling! I need to tell you! I need to tell everyone!

CONNER

You're going to sing again, aren't you...

BILLY

I am!

CONNER rolls her eyes and follows BILLY, still clutching her book.

WE IDOLIZE THE ARTIST,
EMBRACE THE AVANT GARDE.
WE ALL STRIVE TO BE NOTICED
AND HELD IN HIGH REGARD.
I WANT TO FLEX MY CREATIVITY,
SHOW THE WORLD I'M SOMETHING MORE,
PUSH OUT AGAINST EVERY BOUNDARY,
I JUST WANT TO BE HARDK0RE!
PLEASE GOD LET ME BE HARDK0RE!

The FROSHSOMBLE enter. (STORY JACK, formerly our narrator, is now a member of the FROSHSEMBLE, though STORY JACK will occasionally pop out to narrate.) The FROSHSEMBLE buzz about excitedly. Many of them are carrying backpacks or pamphlets from lots of freshman-y activities. RYAN, an especially froshy freshman, steps out of the FROSHSEMBLE toward BILLY, infected by BILLY's enthusiasm.

RYAN

And did you hear about the time there was a firetruck on the dome?

BILLY

Or when it looked like a giant pumpkin?!

RYAN

WHEN THEY HUNG A LOUNGE BENEATH THAT ARCHWAY,

UPSIDE-DOWN FOR ALL TO SEE!

BILLY

OR WHEN THE HARVARD / YALE BALLOON INFLATED,
IT SHOWED THEIR INGENUITY!

CONNER

I guess some of that stuff was pretty cool.

BILLY

I can't wait to come up with an awesome hack of my own!

RYAN

I can't wait to figure out how to get on the dome! How do they do it?

CONNER

I don't know, it must be magic!

Laughing, excited by each other's excitement, the FROSHSEMBLE dance around.

BILLY and FROSHSEMBLE

THEY FLY FROM ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP
AT NEAR THE SPEED OF LIGHT!
NO WALL CAN BAR THEIR PASSAGE,
THEY CAN LEAP FROM ANY HEIGHT!
I WANT TO JOIN THEM, LEARN THEIR EVERY TRICK,
I KNOW SOMEDAY I WILL SOAR!
I GUARANTEE, IT'S A CERTAINTY,
I'M GONNA BE HARDK0RE!
I SWEAR I WILL BE HARDK0RE!

BILLY

THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAN BEING HARDK0RE.
ALL I WANT TO BE IS HARDK0RE!

STORY JACK steps forward and pops into narration mode as the rest of the FROSHSEMBLE (less RYAN, and CONNER) wave goodbye to BILLY and exit.

STORY JACK

Though it may be difficult to find hackers, occasionally they come above ground. Our freshman happened upon one of these rare occurrences.

STORY JACK exits. COROT and TESS enter. COROT strolls along as TESS rolls beside him on a pair of robotic rocket boots, which are covered with dials and multi-colored lights. TESS's face is masked by a helmet and pair of goggles she is wearing, making her look almost insect-like. BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN see TESS and COROT and listen from a distance.

COROT

Tess, do you have time to go over the plans for the hack later today?

TESS

Sure! Oh! Corot, I'm thinking of using the old roof attachment design from freshmen year, but it's -- [too heavy to deploy quickly.]

BILLY

Excuse me, I couldn't help overhearing, but are you pulling...

(checks to make sure no one's looking, then drops to a whisper)

...a hack?

COROT and TESS turn to face BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN.

TESS

(taking off her goggles and helmet and scrutinizing BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN)

I don't think I've seen any of you before.

BILLY

I'm Billy. These are my friends, Ryan Putz and Conner Burton. We'd like to help you! I mean, if that's okay. We're really interested in this kind of stuff! Well?

COROT

(giving TESS a knowing look)

I don't know.

TESS

(giving COROT a knowing look)

We should test them.

COROT

A little “examination” never hurt anyone. Get used to it kids, welcome to MIT.

BILLY

(hesitantly)

Sure. What do you want us to do?

COROT suddenly becomes extremely presentational, over-enunciating and making exaggerated expressions. He is now in performance mode.

COROT

Question one! Name a hack!

BILLY

That’s easy. There was that police car on the dome.

COROT

Correct! You are sharper than I thought, good sir, I commend you.

(pointing to RYAN)

Question two. What was the *first* car hack?

RYAN

I don’t really --

TESS

Whispered to RYAN:

A Ford Model T.

RYAN

To COROT:

A Ford Model T!

COROT

Very good.

(turning to CONNER)

And when was it put up?

CONNER

What!? How am I supposed to --

TESS

Whispered to CONNER:

1924.

CONNER

(with a sigh)

1924.

COROT

Correct! Impressive work. Now the final question! Why do you think you have what it takes?

BILLY

To be a hacker?

COROT

(most grandly of all!)

Yes, to be a hacker!

Hardk0re, Part 2

BILLY

I CAN LEARN ALL THAT YOU CAN TEACH ME!

RYAN

DO THINGS NO ONE ELSE HAS DONE!

CONNER

RISE ABOVE THE STANDARD EXPECTATIONS!

BILLY, RYAN, CONNER

WE REALLY WANT TO JOIN YOUR HACK!

TESS

Aw, quit making them beg, Corot.

To the freshmen with a friendly, conspiratorial whisper:

If he gets too bombastic on you, just punch him.

TESS playfully punches COROT squarely in the arm.

COROT

(dropping out of performance mode)

Hey, don't tell them to punch their fearless leader! And by the way --

(turning to the freshmen and momentarily slipping into performance mode)

-- you all passed. Welcome aboard!

RYAN

Cool! What can I help with? When are we putting up the hack? Can I --

TESS

Chill, we haven't even had our first official meeting yet. By the way I'm Tess.

COROT

And I'm Corot.

BILLY

When is the first meeting?

COROT

It's Tuesday at midnight!

TESS

Don't be early!

TESS and COROT exit. BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN high five.

BILLY

My first hack! Yes! I'm in!

Hardk0re, part 3

I'M REALLY GONNA BE HARDK0RE!

I'M GONNA BE HARDK0RE!

Blackout.

Police Station**SCENE 1.2 -- Police Station**

Lights fade up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

And so our little freshman joined his first hack, and merrily returned to his dorm, his head filled with images of renegade banners, mysterious messages in skylights, and dreams of being the most hardk0re hacker of all time! Meanwhile, there was another group of people on campus. They wore all blue, had these funny octagonal hats, and held a radio in one hand and a doughnut in the other.

The lights fade down on STORY JACK and come up on a cluttered, brightly lit police station. Filing cabinets and desks are littered with important looking and unimportant looking paperwork. OFFICER BARRY CLAW, an older CP, sits at a desk, reading a copy of The Tech. An empty box of "Dunkin' Donuts" sits nearby. OFFICER FREY PACHINO types furiously at her desk. SERGEANT BRUCE E. SPRINKLES sits in a swivel chair facing an upstage window. CLAW grunts and checks the doughnut box.

CLAW

Hmm... We're out again...

(peers over his shoulder at PACHINO)

Hey, Officer Pachino, we're out of doughnuts.

PACHINO

(doesn't look up from her typing)

Well don't expect me to do anything about it, Claw! I have to type up this stupid incident report because of those rascals last night! If you had taken better notes, maybe I --

CLAW

I'm sorry, Officer Pachino... I didn't think they were doing much harm.

PACHINO

Of course they were! They were up to no good! There were five kids! They had backpacks!

CLAW

All I'm saying is you're making a lot of work for yourself... You could be getting more doughnuts.

OFFICER DEEDEE KALF, a sober-looking deadpan cop, enters. She is wearing a pair of dark glasses, which she will wear for the duration of the show.

PACHINO

Oh get your own doughnuts, Claw!

(grumbling to herself)

Well, at least there wasn't a hack.

PACHINO looks up to smirk at CLAW, then primly returns to typing.

KALF

I think you might be mistaken.

PACHINO

None of your sass, Kalf!

KALF

It's in Killian Court. It's plastered all over the Tech.

PACHINO

What!?

PACHINO scrambles over to CLAW and snatches The Tech from his hand.

CLAW

Hey! I was reading that!

PACHINO furiously skims the paper, flipping until she sees a photo of a hacked Killian court. PACHINO lets out an angry squeal and throws the paper back at CLAW. CLAW looks at the page that infuriated PACHINO.

Huh... I don't remember that being there...

KALF

I believe it went up this morning.

CLAW

But who could have done that?

SPRINKLES

(still facing upstage)

Those goddamn hackers...

Sprinkles Theme

(swiveling around to face forward)

That's who!

PACHINO

Claw, I told you they were up to no good!

SPRINKLES

Those hackers, they think they're so clever - snubbing their noses at the law, parading about rooftops in the dead of night! I've had it up to here --

(holding his hand up to the height of his head)

-- with those hackers and I've had it up to here --

(holding up his hand even higher)

-- with their hacks!

KALF

Sir, they're just pranks.

SPRINKLES

"Just pranks," Kalf? "Just pranks"?? They are a direct insult to the very badges we wear - to the vows we took when we donned these uniforms those many years ago!

SPRINKLES, PACHINO, KALF, and CLAW take off their hats and put them over their hearts.

Those hackers are endangering the well-being of this school by disobeying the law to put up their hacks,

(putting his hat back on his head)

but their crusade against justice will soon end, because they've picked a fight with Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles, and no one messes with Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles! No one! In the name of William Barton Rogers, something must be done!

Let's Get Those Fuckers

SPRINKLES

THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN,
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE.
WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED.
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD.
LET'S GET THOSE HACKERS,
THEY THOUGHT WE NEVER COULD.
LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

KALF

I HAVE A FINE IDEA TO ACCOMPLISH ALL OUR GOALS,
THE ONLY THING TO DO IS TO INCREASE ALL OUR PATROLS.

CLAW, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES

PATROLS?

KALF

PATROLS.
WE'LL TRIPLE OUR PATROLS.
THE MORE THAT WE CAN SEE, THE LESS THEY'LL WANDER FREE.
WITH ALL OF US WE'LL KEEP THEM IN CONTROL.

CLAW

BUT AS YOU KNOW THEY'RE CLEVER, THEY WILL BEAT THAT IN A SNAP
THE ONLY WAY TO DO THIS IS TO LAY SOME SORT OF TRAPS...

KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES

TRAPS?

CLAW

TRAPS.

PACHINO

QUICK! GET A CAMPUS MAP!

CLAW

THEY'LL GET TO EVERY DOOR, BUT THEY'LL FIND ALARMS IN STORE,
WHILE ROOFTOP SENSORS FILL IN EVERY GAP.

CLAW, PACHINO, KALF, and SPRINKLES

THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN,
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE!
WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED!
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD!
LET'S GET THOSE HACKERS!
THEY THOUGHT WE NEVER COULD.
LET'S GET THOSE HACKERS,
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD!

SPRINKLES

NO MORE CARS ON THE DOME,
OR COWS OR WORKING PHONES.
WITH SPRINKLES IN CHARGE, THEY
WILL MEET THEIR ULTIMATE END!

CLAW, KALF, and PACHINO

NO-O, DOME!
NO WORKING, WORKING PHONES!
THEIR ULTIMATE END!

PACHINO

THERE'S ONE LAST STEP TO GUARANTEE WE END THAT HORDE OF IMPS,
WE'LL BUILD A FLEET OF SELF-SUFFICIENT FIRE-THROWING BLIMPS!

CLAW, KALF, and SPRINKLES

BLIMPS?

PACHINO

BLIMPS!

CLAW, KALF, and SPRINKLES

WAIT, BLIMPS?!

PACHINO

YES, BLIMPS!
LAUNCH FIREBALLS FROM BLIMPS!
WHEN FLAMES COME FROM THE SKY, THE HACKERS' PLANS WILL FRY!
I THINK THOSE KIDS WILL FINALLY TAKE THE HINT.

CLAW, KALF, PACHINO and SPRINKLES

THEY'RE A MENACE AND A PLAGUE AND THIS SCHOOL IS OVERRUN,
'TIL NOW WE'VE BEEN OUTDONE!
WE'LL HUNT THOSE HACKERS DOWN AND GET THEM ALL EXPELLED!
THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD!
LET'S GET THOSE HACKERS,
WE'LL PUT THEM WHERE WE SHOULD!

SPRINKLES

LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS,
AND STAMP THEM OUT FOR GOOD.

Menacing Laughter. Blackout

SCENE 1.3 -- Secret Hacker Lair

Lights fade up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Often at MIT, it is difficult to tell the difference between modern art installations, hacks, and construction work. Though on the surface, some of these may appear similar, hacks are unique for the ingenuity, thought, and effort that go into making them what they are.

STORY JACK reintegrates with the FROSHSEMBLE. Lights come up on a meeting space. Many other members of the HACKSEMBLE are already present, and others enter as the scene progresses. COROT is sitting leisurely with a large, rolled up map in his lap. FARADAY and TESS are standing together scrutinizing a document. TENSOR is playing cat's cradle with a bit of string and PISTON is tossing a rugby ball nearby.

FARADAY

(carefully observing the document)

Uh huh, uh huh, yeah, yeah, this looks like it shouldn't take me too long to solder.

TESS

Thanks, Faraday. Just don't get too hosed.

FARADAY

Whatever.

TENSOR

If I move my finger here... wow I've never seen this knot before! Hey Piston, check it out!

PISTON

Tensor, I can't wrap my head around anything I can't tackle.

TENSOR

My 18.906 professor is going to love this when I show it to him. I need to draw a picture of this!

TENSOR reaches for a pencil to draw, but finds that his hands are tied up.

Oh no...

BILLY enters, looks around, and waves to COROT.

BILLY

Hey, Corot! Remember me? I'm here for the hack meeting!

COROT

Yeah, good to see you!

HUNTER, a judgemental-yet-motherly upperclassman, walks past BILLY, drinking milk from a half gallon container.

BILLY

To HUNTER:

Hi, my name's Billy!

HUNTER

(looking directly through BILLY)

What are you??

BILLY

Billy? I want to learn how to be a hacker!

HUNTER

You're froshy as hell!

HUNTER throws the milk into a nearby trashcan.

BILLY

I'm not froshy! Wait, what does "froshy" mean?

COROT

To everyone:

Let's get started.

RYAN

Hey Billy, over here!

Excited chatter buzzes through the room. BILLY sits with RYAN and CONNER. COROT snaps into performance mode.

Target: the Dome

Awesome prayer-meeting chords play under COROT's speech.

COROT

Good evening, fellow hackers!

(musical flourish)

I said: "Good evening, fellow hackers!"

(musical flourish)

From here on, HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS ad lib enthused responses as COROT pauses for their replies. Ad libs: "You go, Corot!" "Glory Hackeylluyah!" "I hope that we get to use dexion!" "So hardk0re!"

This is a thrilling time,

(musical flourish)

a time for everyone to hone new skills,

(musical flourish)

pushing our limits, setting new standards,

(pause)

doing something challenging!

(pause)

We won't just drop this hack down on the grass of Killian Court --

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

No way!

COROT

Our target --

COROT unfurls the map and pins it to the wall. The map is a map of MIT campus. The map is covered with colorful arrows and lines, making it look almost like a football play-board. COROT grandly points to the dome on the map.

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

The dome!

COROT

YES, THE DOME!

NOW LET'S BEGIN. LET'S THINK THIS THROUGH.

A HACK IS SO MUCH MORE THAN SOMETHING CLEVER ON A ROOF.

HACKS MUST BE SAFE, PREMEDITATED, DELIBERATED, CALCULATED.

TO MAKE THEM WORK, WE THINK BEFORE WE HACK.

TESS hands out packets.

TESS

I'VE GOT THE PLANS!

HACKSEMBLE and BILLY

BRAND NEW PLANS!

TESS

HERE, TAKE A LOOK!

TESS

WE'VE STARTED THE DESIGN,
AND IT'S AMBITIOUS BUT THOUGHT OUT.

HACKSEMBLE and BILLY

AHHH...

HACKSEMBLE and BILLY

THOUGHT OUT!

COROT

WE WANT THIS UP FOR HALLOWEEN -

NOW GRAB YOUR TOOLS AND YOUR CAFFEINE,

AND EVERYBODY MEET OUR BUILDING LEADS.

HACKSEMBLE and BILLY

MEET OUR BUILDING LEADS!

TESS

I'M HEADING UP THE DRAGON WING.

HACKSEMBLE and BILLY

OOO, DRAGON WING!

FARADAY

AND I'M IN CHARGE OF THE SCIENCE BOX.

HACKSEMBLE (less FARADAY), BILLY, and TESS

OOO, SCIENCE BOX!

COROT

WE STILL NEED A LEAD FOR THE SQUID NET,
SOMEBODY WHO'S AN EXPERT WITH ROPE...

ELECTRA and MAGS raise their hands.

... and bondage doesn't count.

ELECTRA and MAGS lower their hands.

TENSOR

You've roped me in. I can lead. You know I'll knot let you down!

The HACKSEMBLE groan. PISTON smacks TENSOR upside the head.

COROT

(shaking his head at the pun but smiling)

Thank you, Tensor.

TENSOR

(with a wink)

You bet.

COROT

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE --

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

HERE'S OUR CHANCE!

COROT

-- FOR HANDS-ON LEARNING.

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

HANDS ON SKILLS!

COROT

NOW DON'T BE SHY,
LOOK TO YOUR LEADS!
THEY'RE HERE TO HELP YOU OUT!

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

AHHH...

TESS

JUST ASK US ANY QUESTIONS, AND WE'LL HELP YOU FIND THE ANSWERS,

TESS, FARADAY, AND TENSOR

'CAUSE HACKING IS AN AWESOME WAY TO LEARN!

HACKSEMBLE (less FARADAY and TENSOR) and BILLY

WE WANT TO LEARN!

COROT

OKAY WE'LL LEARN --

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

TIME TO LEARN!

COROT

-- HOW TO DEPLOY!

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

WE'LL DEPLOY!

COROT

IT'S AN ART OF TACTICS, ART OF SKILL,
AN ART OF METHODS, ART OF WILL!
IT IS AN ART OF --

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

AHHH...

KEPLER, an extremely jaded upperclassman, enters. He is always a bit on edge and speaks with villainous enunciation. COROT stops in the middle of his

sentence, falters out of performance mode, and the music stops.

KEPLER

(sarcastically)

Oh, I'm sorry. I must be interrupting something important.

KEPLER stares at COROT, who meets KEPLER's gaze. KEPLER breaks eye contact to look around the room, smirking slightly.

Please. Carry on. Don't mind me.

KEPLER slinks out of the room.

RYAN

Who was that?!

TENSOR

So, that's Kepler. He's sort of an angst source and a happiness sink. Basically, he's a dick.

TESS

Hey, let's not get off track! Who wants to help me build?

HUNTER, PISTON, and several other members of the UPSEMBLE, who will later work on the Dragon Wing, raise their hands. BILLY hesitates and almost puts up his hand.

BILLY

I want to help, but I don't know... I mean, I've never done this before...

TESS

NO NEED TO FRET, EVERYONE STARTS SOMEWHERE.
ALL OF US HAVE SKILLS TO LEARN, SO NO NEED TO DESPAIR.

COROT

ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TRY
WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER, OUR HACK WILL FLY

HACKSEMBLE, COROT, BILLY, and TESS

TO OUR TARGET: THE DOME

COROT
OUR TARGET!

YEAH OUR
TARGET!

WE'RE READY,
LET'S GO PULL THIS HACK!

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

NOW LET'S
GO
PULL
THIS
HACK!

LET'S GO PULL THIS HACK!

COROT removes the map from the wall, and curls it up. He walks over to TESS as the HACKSEMBLE begin to filter out. Side conversations ensue as the HACKSEMBLE exit:

MAGS

To ELECTRA:

I have two psets due tomorrow. I'm gonna have to bang these out before we start the hack.

ELECTRA

(genuinely concerned)

Bang your psets? Now I'm jealous...

MAGS

(contemplatively)

We could have a threesome if you want, but somehow I don't think that's practical.

ELECTRA

I guess you're right... we might get paper cuts.

CONNER

To anyone who will listen:

Can we miss builds if we have psets?

PISTON

No! Stupid! Wrong! You're on pass/no record!

TENSOR

Most important equation you learn freshman year: $A = B = C = P$.

PISTON

Punt them until later.

CONNER

Punt?

PISTON

You are a freshman.

RYAN

To FARADAY:

Hey Faraday, can I help with the Science Box? It has a really cool name!

FARADAY

Sure. I'm kind of hosed anyway. My friend, you'll be helping me solder and if my body tries to go to sleep, light me on fire.

All of the HACKSEMBLE have exited by now.

COROT

So, Billy, what did you think of your first hack meeting?

BILLY

It was really cool! So epic!

HUNTER (*offstage*)

Fraaaaaaaaaw-sheeeeeeee!

BILLY

Hey!

COROT

Don't worry about it. See you at the build!

BILLY

See ya!

BILLY exits. COROT sits down, looking exhausted. TESS sits down next to COROT.

TESS

Hey, what's up? You're usually pretty excited after these meetings.

COROT

It's Kepler. I had a feeling he might show up, but I was hoping we wouldn't have to deal with him.

TESS

I thought that might be it.

COROT

I really hope he stays clear of us.

Blackout

SCENE 1.4 -- Construction Zone***Building***

Lights come up on a busy-looking build space. COROT is bustling around. TESS is waiting for her team to arrive. The rest of the HACKSEMBLE begin to enter. FARADAY and RYAN work on the the Science Box. TENSOR, ELECTRA, and MAGS work on the Squid Net. HACKSEMBLE help the three groups. During the song, the HACKSEMBLE produce rhythms with tools; these rhythms are unique to each build group but interweave to create greater textures. STORY JACK stands foremost, ready to narrate.

STORY JACK

By day, hackers may seem like ordinary MIT students, but at night, they transform into the creatures they truly are. They abandon their problem sets, sleep, and sanity to pour their souls into their real work.

HUNTER, PISTON, CONNER, STORY JACK, and other HACKSEMBLE assemble before TESS, ready to work on the Dragon Wing.

TESS

All right, team Dragon Wing! Here are the specs for what we're building.

(holding up a spec sheet)

Everybody grab a partner and some 2x4's! If you don't have experience, find someone who does.

Everyone divides up into freshman-upperclassman pairs. CONNER works with PISTON, and HUNTER works with STORY JACK. BILLY is left without a partner.

Hmmm... looks like we've got odd numbers - that's fine, you'll just work with me. Billy... right?

BILLY

Yup! And you're Tess! Right? Where do we start?

TESS

Grab that drill, and I'll show you how this all works.

BILLY picks up a drill, and brings it back to TESS. COROT approaches TESS. Lighting follows COROT.

COROT

HEY HOW'S IT GOIN'?

TESS

STARTING ON THE STRUCTURE NOW. IT'S GONNA TAKE A WHILE.

COROT moves to TENSOR who is laying out and tying ropes with ELECTRA and MAGS.

COROT

HEY HOW'S IT GOIN'?

TENSOR

TYING UP THE MID-SUPPORTS AND MAPPING OUT THE FRAME.

COROT moves to FARADAY and RYAN. Both are soldering. RYAN picks up and clumsily begins to use a pair of wire cutters.

COROT

HEY HOW'S IT GOIN'?

FARADAY

HEAT THE IRON, MELT THE SOLDER, CAREFUL WITH THOSE WIRE CUTTERS!

COROT stops to help FARADAY and RYAN. BILLY attempts to drill in a screw, but it just won't go in. He tries several times, each time making disappointed noises at the drill. Lighting shifts to BILLY and TESS.

BILLY

Hey Tess, this screw just won't go in. What am I doing wrong?

TESS

You're probably just not pressing hard enough. I bet you're stripping the screw. Here, let me show you how to do it.

TESS puts a new screw in place, and navigates the drill, still in BILLY's hand, to

the screw. She presses on the drill to demonstrate the proper amount of pressure.

You feel how hard you need to push? Now you try.

BILLY pushes in the screw.

BILLY

Thanks, Tess!

TESS

You're welcome.

MY FRIENDS ARE HERE AND ENERGIZED!

BILLY

I GET TO BUILD A HACK!

TESS

MORE PROGRESS IS MADE EACH TIME I COME BACK!

TESS and BILLY

THIS HACK WILL BE EXCELLENT! IT'S PURE AWESOMENESS!

TESS

I HAVE TRULY FOUND PARADISE.

BILLY

I'LL BE HARDK0RE, YES!

Lighting follows COROT.

COROT

All right, one week down. Let's see if we're on schedule.

HEY HOW'S IT GOIN'?

TESS

MAIN SUPPORTS ARE ALMOST BUILT.

HUNTER

I THINK IT'S BROKEN...

COROT

HMMM...

TESS

WHEN WE GET MORE PIPES, IT SHOULD BE EASY TO GET IT -

(add HACKSEMBLE GROUP 1)

DONE!

HACKSEMBLE GROUP 2

FINISHED!

HACKSEMBLE

YEAH!

BILLY, RYAN, and CONNER exit.

COROT

HEY, HOW YOU DOIN'?

TENSOR

WAITING ON THE ROPE WE ORDERED.

FARADAY

SLEEP IS FOR THE LUCKY!

ELECTRA

To MAGS:

WE'LL HAVE TO STAY UP LATE TO FINISH.

MAGS

To Electra:

YEAH, MAYBE ALL NIGHT.

Lighting shifts to TESS. BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN enter carrying a box full of pipes from a re-use pile.

RYAN

Hey everybody, check out these parts Billy found on re-use!

BILLY

To TESS:

You said we needed more pipes, right?

TESS

This is awesome, this is exactly what we need!

CONNER

Good, because Billy punted 8.01 in order to find them. He even punted recitation for --

BILLY

Can you help me carry them over to that corner?

BILLY, CONNER, and RYAN carry the pipes to the corner of the room.

TESS

THESE EXTRA MATERIALS ARE JUST WHAT WE NEED.
BILLY'S PICKING THINGS UP FAST AND TAKING A LEAD.
I CAN'T HELP BUT CATCH HIS EYE, EVERY NOW AND THEN...

BILLY and TESS make eye contact and are briefly illuminated by a pink spotlight.

...I REALLY HOPE I GET TO WORK WITH HIM AGAIN.

Lighting follows COROT.

COROT

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

TENSOR

THE ROPE WE ORDERED FINALLY CAME!

ELECTRA

IT'S REALLY THICK!

MAGS

I LIKE THE COLOR!

HUNTER

STRUCTURE'S DONE NOW!

RYAN

HEAT THE IRON!

TENSOR

START THE NETTING!

RYAN

MELT THE SOLDER!

PISTON

NO! IT'S CROOKED...

MAGS

I HAVE ROPE BURN.

CONNER

YES! IT'S EVEN!

FARADAY

SLEEPY TIME NOW!

FARADAY's head makes a soft "thuck" as he passes out on his table.

COROT

HEY, HOW YOU DOIN'?

RYAN

FARADAY JUST CONKED OUT,
SO I'M LOOKING FOR A LIGHTER.

COROT

What?! Don't do that!

RYAN

But he said --

COROT

No fire! But we do need to wake him up. He has to finish those circuit boards today. Let's go get him some more caffeine.

COROT exits with RYAN, and FARADAY is left asleep onstage. Lighting shifts to CONNER and PISTON, who are working on a frame. CONNER is holding a chemistry textbook, attempting to read. Some time during this scene, RYAN reenters with caffeine, which he uses on FARADAY like a smelling salt.

PISTON

To CONNER:

If you put down the five-twelve book, we can get this done faster.

KEPLER enters the build space. He looks around as if he smells something terrible.

CONNER

But we might have a test this week and --

KEPLER

Disgraceful. This looks like it was built by a third grader.

PISTON

Kepler. Out. Now.

KEPLER

You're not even using the proper tools. Pathetic.

PISTON

Leave.

CONNER

Hey! You're that guy from before, the one who...
(trailing off in fear)

KEPLER

(leering at CONNER)

The one who what?

CONNER

(stammering)

I ... nevermind.

KEPLER

That's what I thought. You're wasting your time here being a talking clamp. Good luck graduating.

KEPLER glares at everyone and everything and slinks off. ELECTRA and MAGS, who are in the process of tying each other up, turn to face CONNER.

ELECTRA

Sorry about him.

MAGS

(cheerfully)

He's got lots of problems.

COROT enters. Lighting follows COROT.

COROT

(checking his watch for the date)

There are no problems here.

THREE MORE WEEKS TO GO,
AND WE'RE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.
HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

CONNER

I'VE NEVER WORKED THIS HARD BUT IT'S REWARDING!

PISTON

TOLD YOU.

CONNER

YEAH, I KNOW...

COROT

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

FARADAY

HOLD THIS! DOES IT BURN YOUR HAND!?

RYAN

IT FEELS OKAY.

FARADAY

I WIN!

RYAN

IT'S OOZING SOMETHING...

FARADAY

OH...

TENSOR

NO...

HUNTER

SHOULD I REDO IT?

CONNER

WATCH OUT!

RYAN

OOPS... I LOST THE PART.

FARADAY

AGAIN?

PISTON

NO. DAMMIT. STUPID. BAD!

COROT

ONLY TWO MORE WEEKS TO GO?

WE NEED TO PICK UP THE PACE!

Lighting shifts to BILLY and TESS.

BILLY

Woah! It's already 3am?!

TESS

Yeah, time flies. Don't let me hold you here if you have to go tool.

BILLY

Nah, I only have half a pset left for the week, and besides, I'd rather be here with you. I mean, to build the hack.

TESS

Right.

(pause)

BILLY

Right.

(pause)

TESS

Let's take a look at the roof attachments. I'll go grab the plans.

BILLY and TESS turn away from each other.

BILLY

WAIT.

TESS

OH.

BILLY

WHAT'S THIS?

TESS

SUDDENLY, MY NEURONS WON'T CONNECT.

BILLY

BUT I KNOW --

TESS

COULD IT BE?

BILLY and TESS

WE ARE BOUND TO INTERSECT!

(walking towards each other, as if in a dream, in pink light)

YES! THIS IS OPTIMAL! I CHERISH THE THOUGHT!

Pink light switches to normal lighting. BILLY and TESS stand in the normal light for a few seconds, still in their romantic poses from the pink light section.

BILLY

Hey Tess, were we going to look at the plans?

TESS

Right!

ALMOST FORGOT.

Lighting shifts to COROT. SPRINKLES and KALF enter. SPRINKLES scours the room with his gaze.

SPRINKLES

What's all this hammering and to-do all about?

COROT

(performance mode)

Oh hello, Officers! We're just working on a project! Isn't it great when an art class gets you to use such practical skills, like construction and electrical engineering?

KALF

Let's move on, sir, they're just working on some art project.

SPRINKLES

There's something fishy about this "art project" of yours.

COROT

(as he jauntily walks SPRINKLES and KALF out of the build space)

Oh, Sergeant, art has always been controversial. Let's go outside and I'll tell you all about modern art. You may have seen some around campus! It often requires a lot of scrap metal...

Music slows and the HACKSEMBLE slowly, as if pulled by magic, exit, leaving BILLY and TESS alone, unsupervised. Lighting shifts to TESS and BILLY. BILLY begins to drill in a screw and then stops short. He glances up at TESS, then back at the screw, then back up at TESS. TESS notices BILLY out of the corner of her eye.

BILLY

TESS,
THIS SCREW IS NOT ... GOING IN.

TESS

HERE, LET ME SEE.

TESS bends over to examine the screw, putting her hand on BILLY's shoulder to let herself down and not letting go as she examines the screw.

I THINK THAT IT'S ... STRIPPED.

BILLY

I THINK I AGREE.

TESS

LET'S APPLY MORE ... PRESSURE HERE
TO DRILL IN THIS SCREW!

TESS switches the "stripped" screw for a new one.

Maybe we should screw together.

TESS places her hands on BILLY's, which are still on the drill. BILLY and TESS screw. Suddenly BILLY and TESS look up at each other and realize their faces are now at kissing distance.

It's in.

BILLY

And it feels perfect.

BILLY and TESS lean in towards each other as music begins to swell. At the last moment --

HUNTER (*offstage*)

Cookies! Chocolate-chip-monster-gingersnap-cookies!

HUNTER enters with a tray of cookies. The HACKSEMBLE enter and swarm the cookie tray. Ad libs: "Aw, yes!", "Mmmmm! Were these from scratch?", "These taste vegan. I think they're vegan. Whatever..." , "I'm feeling a little jittery."

To TESS and BILLY:

Stop crushing on each other!

To HACKSEMBLE:

Hey, want some cookies?

To TESS and BILLY:

But seriously, cut that out and have some cookies!

TESS

Hunter, we're just building the --

HUNTER

Listen.

(putting down the tray of cookies)

You're totally crushing on each other and I'm not going to pretend that I don't see it.

(grabbing some cookies and handing them to TESS and BILLY)

Seriously, stop while you're ahead. Don't even think about breaking the November Rule.

Upon hearing the words, "November Rule," HACKSEMBLE gasp and ad lib in frantic whispers: "The November Rule??", "Are they mad!?", "Insanity!", "They won't possibly survive!", "Cthulhu have mercy!"

BILLY

The “November Rule?”

Again, upon hearing the words, “November Rule,” HACKSEMBLE ad lib in frantic whispers: “No... No!!!”, “It can’t be so!”, “Not the November Rule!”, “It hurts to hear the words!!”

What’s the -

(pause)

What is... you know...

HUNTER

You mean... the November Rule!?

More frightened ad libs ensue. Someone screams. Someone faints.

Well, let me tell you...

The Novembat

THOUGH “MENS ET MANUS” MAY BE OUR DECREE
WHEN HEARD OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL,
HERE IT’S

HUNTER

“PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI”:
OBEY THE NOVEMBER RULE.
BEFORE NOVEMBER,
KEEP OFF THE FROSH.
ALL SKETCHY FEELINGS
MUST BE SQUASHED.
THE FOOL THAT BREAKS THIS
SACRED LAW SOON
FEELS CRUEL TOOTH AND
NAIL AND CLAW.

HACKSEMBLE

PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!

PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!

HUNTER

You see Billy, a freshman and an upperclassman shouldn’t even think of dating until November 1st! There are consequences for such actions.

BILLY

Oh, come on. It's not like some nightmare-horror-maw creature will come and devour our bodies and feast on our entrails if we --

HACKSEMBLE stare at BILLY.

-- is it?

HACKSEMBLE

PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!

HUNTER

THERE'S A CURSE THAT HAND-HOLDING BRINGS.
THE NOVEMBAT,

HACKSEMBLE

THE NOVEMBAT!

HUNTER

WITH GIANT LEATHERY
WINGS,
COMES TO INCREASE YOUR P-SET BLUES
BY FILLING UP
THE PRINTER QUEUES.

THAT'S SURE TO END
MOST AUTUMN FLINGS!

HACKSEMBLE

GIANT LEATHERY WINGS!

AH!
THE PRINTER QUEUES!

WILL END THEM!
YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE!

HACKSEMBLE

PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI! PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI!

BILLY AND TESS

OH NO,

WE'RE NOT,

HACKSEMBLE

OH NO,

THEY SAY,

WE'RE JUST GOOD FRIENDS.
 THAT'S NOT AT ALL
 WHAT WE INTEND.

THEY'RE JUST GOOD FRIENDS!
 INTEND, INTEND!

HACKSEMBLE

PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
 PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!

HUNTER

IF YOU HUG AND LINGER TOO LONG,

HACKSEMBLE

TOO LONG, TOO LONG, TOO LONG, TOO LONG!

HUNTER

THE NOVEMBAT,

HACKSEMBLE

THE NOVEMBAT!

HUNTER

WITH PUTRID STINKING MAW,
 IT'S BREATH WILL CAUSE COMPLETE
 SEDATION, YOU'LL LOSE THE SKILL
 OF INTEGRATION.
 THAT COULD BE THE FINAL STRAW!

HACKSEMBLE

IT HAS A MAW!
 INTEGRATION!
 YOU SUCK AT MATH!

HACKSEMBLE (female)

PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI!
 PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI!

HACKSEMBLE (male)

IT'S GONNA KILL YOU!
 WON'T LET IT, WILL YOU?!

BILLY AND TESS

YOU'VE GOT,
 IT WRONG,

HACKSEMBLE

OH NO!
 AH, AH!

WE'LL BE FINE,
WE HAVE NEVER
CROSSED THAT LINE.

YOU CANNOT HIDE!
IT'S GONNA EAT YOUR INSIDES!

HACKSEMBLE

PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!
PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI! PARETE LEGI NOVEMBRI!

HUNTER

IF YOU FUCK 'CAUSE YOU COULDN'T RESIST,

HACKSEMBLE

FUCK, FUCK, FUCK, FUCK, FUCK, FUCK, FUCK!

HUNTER

THE NOVEMBAT,

HACKSEMBLE

THE NOVEMBAT

HUNTER

WITH KNIFE-LIKE MURDEROUS GRIP,
WILL WHISK YOU TO THE GREEN
BUILDING ROOF,
AND DROP YOU WITH ONE KICK OF
HIS HOOF.
YOU'LL BE DESTROYED BY THIS

HACKSEMBLE

KNIFE-LIKE GRIP WILL KILL YOU!

IT'S REALLY REALLY TALL!

IT HAS AT LEAST ONE HOOF!

(add HACKSEMBLE (female))

LUSTFUL SLIP!

LUSTFUL, LUSTFUL SLIP!

HACKSEMBLE

PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI! PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI!
PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI! PA-RE-TE LE-GI NO-VEM-BRI!

HUNTER

So don't even fucking think about it!

HUNTER grabs some cookies, shoves them into TESS's and BILLY's respective mouths, picks up the tray and runs offstage with the HACKSEMBLE.

BILLY

(taking a bite of the cookie)

That was a lot to digest.

COROT enters.

COROT

Sorry for leaving you guys. How's it goin'?

TESS

(with a nervous chuckle, relieved that COROT didn't hear HUNTER's warning)

It's... going...

(regaining her composure)

Oh! Billy had an idea about the design of the roof attachments.

COROT

What's up?

BILLY

So you know the part here?

(pointing to a section of the diagram)

It's sturdy, but that's a lot of material. What if we tried something like...

(scribbling)

this!

COROT

No, then we'd have to worry about --

BILLY

I know, but check this out --

(scribbling more on the paper)

if you just take this length here --

BILLY scribbles a thing.

COROT

Huh, you know, that could work. Good job!

BILLY

Thanks!

KEPLER enters carrying his laptop, sits down in the shadows, and opens it, illuminating his face from below.

COROT

Hey! You should try designing a hack from scratch!

BILLY

I'd love to!

COROT

Once we're done with this hack, I can show you everything you need to know. Maybe we could even lead a hack together!

BILLY

That would be awesome!

TESS

We should take more measurements tonight if we want to implement the changes in time for Halloween.

COROT

Sounds great - and we can double check our other measurements while we're there.

(while exiting)

I'll grab everyone. I'll be back in a few.

COROT exits.

TESS

I'm gonna grab a sweatshirt.

(pausing to think)

Do you need anything?

BILLY and TESS say "I want to kiss you" with their eyes.

BILLY

Oh. Could I borrow a flashlight?

TESS

Sure!

BILLY

Thanks, Tess!

TESS exits. BILLY turns to look at the design plans again.

KEPLER

Pitiful. What kind of a hacker doesn't even have their own light?

BILLY

Excuse me?

KEPLER

(not looking up from his laptop)

You think Corot's so great. You'll learn.

BILLY

Look, I know who you are. I'm not going to listen to anything you say.

KEPLER

Glad to know. I hope you have a good time tonight. Stupid freshman.

BILLY

I guess everyone's right, I should stay away from you.

TESS enters, wearing a sweatshirt and carrying a flashlight.

TESS

Good thing I had an extra. Here.

Tempting the Novembat

TESS hands BILLY the flashlight. Their hands touch and they make eye contact. Before the moment can become romantic, the sound of a demonic bat is heard

overhead and the lights dim, signifying the presence of the NOVEMBAT. BILLY and TESS pause, look up in fear, and then immediately recoil. The presence of the NOVEMBAT dissipates. BILLY and TESS take a moment to look around and make sure that their lives are no longer in danger. The moment is broken by the entrance of the HACKSEMBLE and COROT. The HACKSEMBLE ad lib: "I can't believe we're going to the dome," "best view on campus," "It's gonna be cold, I didn't wear undergarments today..."

CONNER

I hope this won't take too long, I still have three problems left!

COROT

Don't worry, it's just a quick trip to take some measurements.

TESS

To COROT, under her breath:

Pretty big party for a few measurements.

COROT

To TESS:

Nah, it'll be a good learning experience.

To HACKSEMBLE, momentarily slipping into performance mode:

Electra, Mags, head out. Tensor, ready? Everyone, remember to stay together. Don't forget, exercise common sense.

KEPLER

(not looking up from his laptop)

Wouldn't it be nice if he took his own advice.

HACKSEMBLE turn to look at KEPLER. Most look confused; COROT raises an eyebrow but looks unsurprised.

COROT

Tess, can you take the lead? I'll catch up.

TESS nods. All but COROT and KEPLER exit.

Bring Down the Hack

COROT

Kepler, we need to talk. You need to stop --

KEPLER

I don't think there's anything to discuss.

COROT

EVER SINCE SOPHOMORE YEAR, I'VE PUT UP WITH YOUR SNEERING,
YOUR LURKING, YOUR SMIRKING - EVERY SINGLE DAY!
YOU SNARK AT THE TEAM, AND INSULT OUR ENGINEERING.
MY PATIENCE IS GONE, THIS BEHAVIOR'S NOT OKAY.

KEPLER

AW, WHAT'S NOT OKAY? TELLING YOU THE FACTS?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WON'T ADMIT

COROT

KEPLER!
STOP RIGHT NOW!

KEPLER

YOU LEAD HACKS FOR YOUR BENEFIT!

KEPLER

THE FROSH THINK YOU'RE A HERO,
IT'S SUCH A BIG MISTAKE!
QUIT YOUR PHONY ACT,
YOU'RE JUST A WORTHLESS FAKE!

COROT and KEPLER

YOU THINK I'LL BELIEVE YOU?!

COROT

I WON'T BELIEVE THE THINGS YOU
SAY
AT ALL!

KEPLER

WHAT A PHONY, WHAT A FAKE,
YOU'RE NOTHING!

I'M SURE YOU BELIEVE THAT
YOU'RE SO DAMN COOL.

YOU WANT THEM TO THINK THAT
YOU'RE SO HARDKORE!

KEPLER

YOU WANT THEM ALL TO LOOK YOUR WAY! BUT

COROT and KEPLER

IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT YOU!

COROT

BECAUSE KEPLER, YOU'RE WRONG!

KEPLER

YEAH RIGHT! YOU'RE DRAGGING FROSH ALONG,

COROT

I'M GIVING THEM A
CHANCE TO LEARN!

KEPLER

BECAUSE YOU WANT AN ARMY, ALL
MARCHING TO YOUR SONG!

KEPLER

THAT'S WHY YOU LEAD THIS HORDE, BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BE ADORED.
MASTER OVER ALL, YOU'RE THE "MIGHTY OVERLORD."

COROT

THAT'S NOT IT, KEPLER, THAT'S WHY YOU WOULD WANT TO LEAD,
ONLY YOU WANT THE PRAISE, ONLY YOU HAVE THAT NEED.
THIS HACK IS NOT FOR ME! IT'S FOR THEM ALL TO SEE
THAT HACKING'S A TRADITION UNIQUE TO MIT.

COROT and KEPLER

YOU THINK I'LL BELIEVE YOU?!

KEPLER

NOBODY CARES ABOUT YOUR GODDAMN HACK!

COROT and KEPLER

A REALITY CHECK IS

COROT

OVERDUE!
I'M NOT GONNA SACRIFICE THIS
HACK!

KEPLER

WAY OVERDUE!
HA! THEN YOU'LL SEE!

COROT and KEPLER

'CAUSE IT'S NOT ALL ABOUT YOU!

KEPLER

I'm telling you! No one cares!

COROT

Kepler, please. I just want everyone to have a good time and --

KEPLER

You only want what's best for you. These freshmen will learn who you are.

COROT

That's it. I give up, you're not even listening. I've told you for the last time that this is unacceptable.

COROT

YOU NEED TO LEAVE. NO MORE INTIMIDATION.
STOP SCARING THE TEAM, AND PUSHING US OFF TRACK.
I'M DONE WITH YOU, YOU'RE JUST AN AGGRAVATION.
PLEASE GO AWAY, AND STOP BRINGING DOWN THE HACK.

**SHADOW
JACKS**
(offstage)
OOO....

SHADOW JACKS

AHHH...

COROT exits.

KEPLER

Bring down the hack? Bring down the hack! Oh, I'll bring down the hack!

SHADOW JACKS (offstage)

(repeated under KEPLER)

BRING DOWN THE HACK.

KEPLER

THAT'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT THESE DAYS, HOW HUMBLE!
THIS STUPID HACK AND ALL THE GLORY IN STORE,
BUT IF YOU GOT CAUGHT YOUR PLANS WOULD START TO CRUMBLE.

AND NO ONE WOULD FOLLOW YOU ANYMORE.

(taking out his cell phone, dialing a number, and affecting a frightened persona as he speaks into the receiver)

Hello, Officer? Hi, I was just looking out the window and I saw some people on the roof of Building 10. I think you should send someone over right away.

(pause)

No, thank you, Officer.

(hanging up and dropping his act)

Your services are greatly appreciated.

Blackout.

1.5 -- Killian Court

Lights come up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Real hackers never get caught. No matter what watchful eyes are about, they always find ways of becoming undetectable, and what better way to become undetectable --

Lights fade up on Killian Court where ELECTRA and MAGS are strolling casually along the grass.

Distraction Tango

-- than to distract the detectors?

Lights fade down on STORY JACK. STORY JACK runs up to the roof to join the others. BILLY, TESS, COROT, and the HACKSEMBLE (less ELECTRA and MAGS) are stationed on the roof. They are obscured by shadows but may be seen as choreography requires. The sound of a police radio is heard from offstage. ELECTRA gives MAGS a knowing look. MAGS flashes seven fingers at ELECTRA.

ELECTRA

Definitely.

PACHINO (Offstage)

You of all people to pick up the phone! You can't even remember what building number? Is this even close?

CLAW (Offstage)

I think so,

CLAW and PACHINO enter.

though Boston gets pretty cold in October. I don't think anyone would be doing anything tonight.

ELECTRA holds up her arm to her mouth, suddenly taking a spy-like stance. She takes this pose whenever she speaks into her communication device.

ELECTRA

(into communication device)

FLUX TO MUSE, ALERT, WE HAVE SEEN SOME CP'S
OUTSIDE OF BUILDING THREE.
THEY'RE HEADING YOUR WAY, BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH.

ELECTRA and MAGS

WE WILL HOLD UP THE LAW.

ELECTRA and MAGS continue to watch the CLAW and PACHINO from a distance.

PACHINO

KEEP A LOOK OUT CLAW. I THOUGHT I HEARD A NOISE.
MUST BE SOME OF THOSE HACKERS!

CLAW

YEAH! ONE OF THOSE "DEPLOYS."

PACHINO

AS THEY SNEAK THROUGH THE NIGHT,
THEY SHOULD KNOW WE DELIGHT,

PACHINO and CLAW

IN UPHOLDING THE LAW!

ELECTRA and MAGS snap into distraction mode. They make exaggerated gestures and often speak loudly enough that people an unreasonable distance away can hear them. ELECTRA and MAGS move closer to the PACHINO and CLAW.

MAGS

MY DARLING, MY ANGEL!
YOUR EYES HOW THEY SHINE!
YOU MUST PRESS YOUR BODY TO MINE!

ELECTRA

SUCH AN INTIMATE FEELING,

TONIGHT I KNOW WE --

ELECTRA and MAGS

(surreptitiously to the audience)

WILL HOLD UP THE LAW!

PACHINO and CLAW approach the ELECTRA and MAGS.

PACHINO

OH, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
THEY'RE ACTING ODD, NO DOUBT.
WHY ARE THEY IN KILLIAN?

ELECTRA and MAGS make out.

CLAW

... THEY'RE MAKING OUT.

PACHINO

THOUGH THEY'LL TRY TO DISTRACT,
WE'LL SEE THROUGH THEIR ACT!

CLAW and PACHINO

WE'RE UPHOLDING THE LAW!

CLAW

Um... Excuse me?

ELECTRA

(opening eyes sensually)

What? Officers, I'm sorry, did you want something?

CLAW

Well, I didn't mean to intrude, but...

MAGS

(still on top of ELECTRA)

You're not intruding, we were just sharing an intimate moment.

CLAW

Whispered to PACHINO:

I don't know, they just seem to be sharing an intimate --

PACHINO

Whispered to CLAW:

Don't be so dense! It's a trick! I'm telling you, something's going on, something very strange.

MAGS

To ELECTRA:

Your breasts are amazing!

ELECTRA continues to make out with MAGS. A loud noise comes from the roof.

PACHINO

You hear that?

ELECTRA reacts immediately and smacks her hand against the wall in an attempt to repeat the sound.

CLAW

Are you sure it's not the intimate moment that --

PACHINO

Don't be ridiculous! I'm calling for back-up! ... And stop saying "intimate!"

ELECTRA and MAGS snap out of distraction mode. MAGS holds up three fingers. ELECTRA nods.

ELECTRA

(into communication device)

FLUX TO MUSE, THERE'S A
PROBLEM,
THEY'RE ONTO US NOW.
WE'LL KEEP THEM BUSY SOMEHOW.
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY HEAD
DOWN NOW,

PACHINO

(speaking into her radio)

Officer Frey Pachino to Sergeant
Sprinkles. Officer Frey Pachino to
Sergeant Sprinkles. Sprinkles, come in!
Sprinkles, come in!

AND TRY TO STAY LOW.

ELECTRA and MAGS

WE WILL HOLD UP THE LAW.

PACHINO

(speaking into her radio)

SPRINKLES, IT'S PACHINO!
IT'S URGENT I SWEAR.

CLAW

THEY'RE SURE TO BE HACKERS,
'CAUSE THEY HAVE FUNNY HAIR!

PACHINO

To CLAW:

THOUGH THEY'LL TRY TO SUCCEED,
IN THE END THEY'LL CONCEDE.

CLAW and PACHINO

WE'RE UPHOLDING THE --

ELECTRA and MAGS snap into distraction mode.

MAGS

LONG BAND RADIO WAVES!
THE WAVES ARE THE DATA
WE NEED FOR OUR CLASS,
AND NOW, WE'LL NEVER PASS!

ELECTRA

PLEASE STOP YOUR TRANSMISSIONS,
STAY FIFTY SMOOTS AWAY.

ELECTRA and MAGS

GO UPHOLD THE LAW
SOMEWHERE ELSE!

CLAW

HOLD ON, PACHINO,
THEY'RE DOING SCIENCE HERE.
WE SHOULD BE RESPECTFUL --

PACHINO

AND LET THEM DISAPPEAR?
NO, THOSE HACKERS ARE SLICK,
IT MUST BE A TRICK,
SO I'M TELLING YOU --

CLAW

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT,

CLAW AND PACHINO

WE'LL KEEP
UPHOLDING THE LAW!

SPRINKLES enters in a huff. KALF follows.

SPRINKLES

Where are they? Goddammit! I was drafting the plans for the blimp!

PACHINO

We got a tip and we headed here immediately, and when we got here we heard these noises coming -- [from the dome!]

MAGS

(cutting off PACHINO with inarticulate screaming that eventually forms coherent words)

Whaaaaaaaaaaaaat an exciting night! There sure are a lot of you! This is perfect, I was looking for a ride home.

CLAW

Oh, you should have said so earlier.

PACHINO

All right, fine, Claw, take her home.
(musical flourish)

MAGS

And I need four people to drive me.

(musical flourish)

I have a phobia.

Loud banging and fumbling is heard from the roof and CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES look up. The hackers are out of sight.

SPRINKLES

That's it! I'm going up there!

MAGS flashes a five at ELECTRA and runs over to CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES.

ELECTRA

(into communication device, temporarily out of distraction mode)

FLUX TO MUSE. PUNT!

MUSE, ARE YOU THERE? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

YOU'VE GOT TO GET DOWN!

ARGH! WHY AREN'T YOU ANSWERING?

GET OFF THE ROOF!

WE'LL TRY TO HOLD UP THE --

SPRINKLES attempts to step forward, but is caught by MAGS, who tangos with him to turn him around.

SPRINKLES

(leading)

DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME!

MAGS

(leading)

GAMES? PLEASE SERGEANT WE --

SPRINKLES

(leading)

YOU CAN'T MAKE ME DELAY!

YOU KNOW!

MAGS

(leading)

I KNOW?

PACHINO steps forward, but is caught by ELECTRA, who tangos with her to turn her around.

ELECTRA

(leading)

PLEASE! THERE'S NOTHING TO --

PACHINO

(leading)

HA! JUST LET ME THROUGH!

ELECTRA

(leading)

WHAT? AM I IN YOUR WAY?

ELECTRA and MAGS tango with SPRINKLES and PACHINO, respectively.

SPRINKLES

(leading)

YOU'RE A TRICKY ONE!

MAGS

(leading)

NAH, JUST HAVIN' FUN

SPRINKLES

(leading)

YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.

KALF

SIR, YOU'RE ACTING PARANOID AGAIN.

PACHINO

(as ELECTRA turns PACHINO around)

HEY STOP THAT!

ELECTRA

WHAT, I --

SPRINKLES

(as MAGS leads SPRINKLES closer to CLAW. MAGS grabs CLAW and forces him into a tango with SPRINKLES.)

I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING --

CLAW

HEY THERE, SERGEANT!

SPRINKLES

(throwing CLAW off. ELECTRA quickly takes CLAW's place.)

STOP THAT, CLAW!

PACHINO

(now tangoing with CLAW)

YEAH! THIS IS URGENT!

KALF

THIS IS SILLY, SIR.

MAGS

(leaning on KALF's shoulder)

YEAH, THERE'S NOTHING TO SEE!

PACHINO

(throwing CLAW off)

Claw!

MAGS

(running to tango with PACHINO)

Hey! How's it going, Officer?

PACHINO

(struggling with MAGS)

You're not going to trick me! Even if you don't have backpacks!

CLAW

(taking KALF's hand and beginning to tango with her)

Hey, Officer Kalf, would you like to join me?

CLAW begins singing his rendition of the orchestration.

KALF

(as CLAW dips her)

Officer Claw. I don't think this is proper.

SPRINKLES

You're not going to win!

ELECTRA

Oh, Sergeant, it's not about winning, it's about dancing!

PACHINO

Claw! Shut up!

SPRINKLES

Goddammit, I won't give up, so easily! Just... need... to... find... those... goddamn... hackers... where's... my... flash... light?

SPRINKLES breaks out of the tango and grabs his flashlight from his belt. SPRINKLES spotlights the hackers on the roof, who are now completely visible, and the rest of the stage goes dark. The hackers look fucked. STORY JACK runs frantically down from the roof and is illuminated just enough to be seen.

STORY JACK

Hey everyone! Just a moment, we're experiencing some minor difficulties, not to worry

--

OFFSTAGE CP

Hey! Who's that over there?

STORY JACK

I have to go! Oh, and if anyone happens to find you, remember, you are --

STORY JACK and AUDIENCE

-- on your way to Baker house!

STORY JACK runs offstage.

ELECTRA and MAGS

**HACKSEMBLE, BILLY,
COROT, and TESS**

**CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and
SPRINKLES**

WE WILL
HOLD UP THE
LAW, WE WILL HOLD
UP, WE ARE

HOLD
UP
THE

WE'RE UPHOLDING THE
LAW,
WE'RE UP

ALL

HOLDING UP,
HOLDING UP,
THE LAW!

Blackout.

SCENE 2.0 -- Police Station, Part Two***Sprinkles' Admonition***

Lights fade up on the police station. Papers have been shifted and on the wall are clearly depicted blueprints for fire-throwing blimps. The HACKSEMBLE, less ELECTRA and MAGS, trudge into the police station, led by SPRINKLES and followed by PACHINO. STORY JACK sneaks out of the lineup to narrate. Lights shift to focus on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Hi, everybody!

(pauses for audience response, repeat "Hi, everybody!" and ad libs as necessary)

Sorry for our brief interruption. When we left off, our hackers had just been snatched by the clutches of the law and taken to the campus police station. The hackers had no choice but to cooperate and see what punishment was in store for them!

Lights fade down on STORY JACK and come up on the police station. STORY JACK reintegrates with the FROSHSEMBLE.

SPRINKLES

Up against the wall!

PACHINO

(leering at the hackers)

You'd better cooperate!

SPRINKLES

Now, I know why you're here, you know why you're here, and I know you know I know why you're here so let's not waste anyone's time, shall we?

CLAW and KALF enter.

CLAW

(salutes SPRINKLES)

Mission accomplished, sir! The intimate couple is safely back at Baker House!

SPRINKLES

Claw, I asked you to bring those two back here!

KALF

Sir, we have our hands full here as it is.

SPRINKLES

Goddammit! But we... we... nevermind!

(regaining his composure)

Now then ...

YOU ASSUMED YOU WERE CLEVER, YOU'D NEVER BE CAUGHT.
YOU WERE COCKY, HOWEVER, I'M WINNING! YOU'RE NOT!
YES, YOU SURE HAD YOUR FUN, BUT I'M DONE ACTING NICE!
WHEN YOU TANGO WITH JUSTICE, YOU MUST PAY THE PRICE!

CLAW, KALF, and PACHINO

WHEN YOU TANGO WITH JUSTICE, YOU MUST PAY THE PRICE!

SPRINKLES

YOU'VE SCOFFED AT THE LAW AND YOU'VE SNEERED IN ITS FACE,
YOU'VE TRESPASSED, YOU OUGHT TO BE PUT IN YOUR PLACE!
DID YOU THINK YOU'D SNEAK BY? DID YOU THINK YOU'D SLIP THROUGH?
DID YOU ALL REALLY HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO?

CLAW, KALF, and PACHINO

DID YOU ALL REALLY HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO?

SPRINKLES

YET, WHATEVER HAS CAUSED YOUR UNLAWFUL DEBUT,
WHEN YOU BREAK THE LAW,

CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES

THE LAW WILL BREAK YOU!

CLAW, KALF, PACHINO

(under SPRINKLES)

AHHH...

SPRINKLES

How shall we punish you?

WE CAN MAKE YOU RAKE LEAVES OR PICK UP CIGARETTES,
 BUT EVEN THOSE TASKS AREN'T AS BAD AS IT GETS!
 WE CAN SEND YOU TO BATHROOMS AND MAKE YOU SCRUB FLOORS,
 CATCH RATS WITH YOUR HANDS AS JUST ONE OF YOUR CHORES!
 WE CAN STRIKE YOU FROM CLASSES AND HIKE YOUR TUITION,
 CANCEL YOUR RESEARCH WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION,
 AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO SHOW YOU WHAT THE PRICE IS,
 WE'LL IMPLANT YOU WITH PERMANENT TRACKING DEVICES,
 BESMIRCH ALL YOUR RECORDS, AND IF WE'RE COMPELLED,
 WE CAN TAKE IT MUCH FURTHER, TAKE IT MUCH FURTHER.
 Yes... that's it! The worst punishment of all...
 YOU'LL ALL BE EXP -- [ELLED!]

The office phone rings. SPRINKLES pauses and looks at the phone. He hesitates, unsure what to do.

KALF

This is a phone, sir.

The phone continues to ring. KALF waits for SPRINKLES to pick up the phone. After a moment, KALF picks up the phone and speaks into the receiver.

Hello?

(pause)

All right, we'll be over immediately.

To SPRINKLES, hanging up the phone:

Sergeant, a gas bypass in one of the chemistry labs failed and there was an explosion.

SPRINKLES

We have to take care of this... This is all hands on deck.

To the HACKSEMBLE:

I don't have time to deal with you right now but next time, you won't be so lucky! Now get the hell out of here, goddammit!

To the OFFICERS:

Come on, move! We have a school to save!

CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES exit. The HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, COROT, and TESS stand still for a moment, in shock from their luck. Blackout.

Escape! / Well Shit, That was Close

SCENE 2.1 -- Destruction Zone

Lights come up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Getting caught might make normal people get angry. Normal people might fuss and fight. Not hackers! Hackers use the elegant power of discussion and understanding.

Lights shift to the build space. ELECTRA and MAGS are waiting for their friends to return. The rest of the HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, COROT, and TESS return, amidst a flurry of angry muttering.

PISTON

Fucking bullshit! Why the hell were we caught? Shit!

STORY JACK

Hackers have a very loose definition of “discussion and understanding.”

STORY JACK reintegrates with the FROSHSEMBLE.

PISTON

I mean, what the hell?

COROT

Calm down Piston! This stuff happens all the time!

PISTON

No! It. Doesn't.

KEPLER enters, peering around the corner of a wall and lurking in the shadows. He smiles.

Wank, Wank, Wank

KEPLER

Ah, here they come. This will be fun.

FIRST THEY BEGIN WITH:

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

WHY WERE WE CAUGHT?
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN CAUGHT!
WHAT WENT WRONG, WHO'S TO BLAME?
SOMEONE IS AT FAULT!

KEPLER

THEN COROT SAYS:

COROT

CALM DOWN, GUYS, CALM DOWN!
THESE THINGS HAPPEN NOTHING WE CAN DO,
WE WILL TRY AGAIN.

KEPLER

THEN THEY ANSWER:

HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS

STOP THAT!
IT'S SOMEBODY'S FAULT,
THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS NOT!

PISTON

I KNOW WHO IT WAS.
I KNOW IT MUST BE YOU!
(pointing at ELECTRA and MAGS)

KEPLER

AND THEN IT'S TIME FOR THEM TO DEFEND:

MAGS

(pointing at TENSOR)
HEY, WE TOLD TENSOR THREE TIMES!

ELECTRA

To TENSOR:
SO HOW DID YOU NOT HEAR?

MAGS

WE WERE WARNING YOU

ELECTRA and MAGS

COPS WERE ON THEIR WAY!

MAGS

SO WHY WEREN'T YOU PUNTING?

HACKSEMBLE (less ELECTRA, MAGS, and TENSOR), BILLY, and TESS
THEY TOLD YOU COPS WERE COMING. CLEARLY IT'S YOUR FAULT!

(add ELECTRA and MAGS)

WHY WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?

KEPLER

THEN THEY'LL THROW MORE BLAME AROUND:

TENSOR

HEY! I WAS DOING
MY JOB I NEVER HEARD YOUR WARNINGS!

HACKSEMBLE GROUP

1

YEAH RIGHT!

PISTON

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT,
CP'S CAUGHT US HACKING!

HACKSEMBLE GROUP

2

YES IT IS!

TENSOR

IF YOU WERE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO BLAME,
TRY PISTON, SHE'S REALLY LOUD,
SHE GOT US CAUGHT!

COROT

CALM DOWN, GUYS! CALM DOWN!
NO USE YELLING OVER STUPID THINGS!
LET'S JUST TALK THIS THROUGH!

KEPLER

EVERYONE WILL JUST KEEP WANKING:

The HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, and TESS burst into angry ad libs: “Hey don’t look here --”, “Shut up!” “I never want to work with you again!” “I never want to work on another hack again!” “You should do your damn job!”, “It’s not her fault, she was trying!” “Quit getting so defensive!”

NOW HE’LL PICK A TARGET
AS THE CROWD DESCENDS
BUT NOW IT’S NOT THE DOME
THE TARGET IS HIS FRIENDS

COROT

Stop! This hack is tearing us apart. It’s not worth fighting over. Let’s just forget the hack.

KEPLER

HOW CAN THIS BE SO?
OR DID YOU JUST EXPRESS
A GENUINE CONCERN
ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS’ DISTRESS

COROT

I don’t want you guys to be mad at each other.

ELECTRA and MAGS exit. COROT also watches them silently. The rest of HACKSEMBLE begin to filter out.

KEPLER

WHAT HAVE I JUST DONE
I HOPED THAT I’D EXPOSE
YOUR SENSELESS DISREGARD
FOR EVERYBODY’S WOES
YOU DID NOT ACCUSE ANYONE AT ALL
OR STAB THEM IN THE BACK
YOU LISTENED TO YOUR FRIENDS
AND SACRIFICED THE HACK

COROT

I DIDN'T MEAN TO LET YOU DOWN.

KEPLER + COROT

I ONLY MEANT TO...

COROT

The hack is over. Please just go home. Get some sleep.

The rest of the HACKSEMBLE exit.

KEPLER

Did that really just happen?

KEPLER steps into the light. COROT sees KEPLER and COROT's face darkens.

COROT

(tired, exasperated)
What do you want now?

KEPLER

Corot. I called you in.

COROT

What?

KEPLER

It was me. I called you in.

COROT

Kepler. Why?

KEPLER

I thought...you would...nevermind.

KEPLER exits.

BILLY

So he was the reason we were caught! Maybe if we tell everyone, they'll --

COROT

(exhausted)

No, Billy.

BILLY

But you can't let him win!

TESS

Billy, I think you should leave.

BILLY

But the hack --

COROT

(exploding)

The hack is over! Go away!

BILLY looks to COROT, then to TESS, but is met with stern faces.

Just go away, frosh!

TESS

(coldly)

Billy, just leave.

BILLY hesitates and then exits. Fade to black.

SCENE 2.2 -- Back in the Day

Lights come up on KEPLER sitting on the ground, near tears, nervously rubbing his forehead. BILLY enters the same space as KEPLER but stops short when he sees KEPLER. KEPLER realizes he's not alone and wheels around to stare at BILLY.

BILLY

You.

BILLY and KEPLER stare each other down.

(suddenly fiery)

You called us in! It's your fault all this happened! It's your fault that --

KEPLER

Yeah, I called the CP's I told them where you were, I told them the fastest route to find you, I led them straight to you. Doesn't it feel good now that you have someone to blame?

(pause)

And you need something to feel good about right now. You do. You've lost your hack. You've lost your leader. Corot's abandoned the hack, and he's abandoned you. Typical.

BILLY

You don't know anything about Corot!

Kepler says "Don't I?" with his face.

Back in the Day

Lights fade up on COROT and TESS, still in the build space.

COROT

Why did this happen?

Lights fade down on TESS and COROT.

BILLY

(losing confidence)

How could you know anything about Corot?

Lights fade up on COROT and TESS.

TESS

When people get mad, they do stupid things.

COROT

It wasn't just them. Right before we went up to the roof... I talked to Kepler.

BILLY

(insistent)

How do you know Corot? Well?

KEPLER

He's my friend!

(pause)

Or at least he used to be.

COROT and KEPLER

We were best friends once --

KEPLER

-- back when he wasn't so self important.

COROT

-- back when stuff was simple...

KEPLER

We used to go hacking together all the time.

The lighting shifts to flashback mode. COROT and KEPLER crawl out of an interstitial space and brush the dust off themselves.

COROT

That tomb was awesome.

KEPLER

And we were the first ones there!

COROT

Hey, Kepler. What do you think it'll be like to be a hardk0re hacker?

KEPLER

We'll know how to do everything!

Lights illuminate the dome.

Like put a hack up there on the dome!

(pointing at the dome)

COROT

(laughing)

Dude, want to lead our first dome hack together?

COROT and KEPLER bro-clasp.

COROT and KEPLER

Hell yes!

Lights shift out of flashback mode.

COROT

We pulled some great hacks freshman year.

KEPLER

We never put anything up on the dome, but Corot and I did stuff everywhere else! Eventually we met Tess and she joined our adventures. With Tess on our side, we were an unstoppable trio!

COROT

Man, those were good times.

Lights shift to flashback mode.

KEPLER

Corot! Tess! I figured out an awesome way to deploy the hack we talked about last night!

COROT

I knew I shouldn't have told him it was impossible.

TESS

I guess nothing's impossible.

To KEPLER:

Is this what you were doodling in recitation?

KEPLER

(whipping a piece of paper out of his pocket)

Yeah, check it out! It requires cunning, stealth, and, of course, exactly three people.

KEPLER holds out the paper and COROT and TESS gather around in a semi-huddle.

TESS

Oh, nice! If we're coming from above, then I can modify the base to make it stronger!

KEPLER

We might even be able to get this hack up before Corot thinks of an idea for the next one.

COROT

Actually, I was out walking when I noticed --

KEPLER

Save it for next week, Corot.

TESS

Yeah, I'm stoked to get this one up!

COROT

(in performance mode)

And when the hack appears, the crowds will see the masterpiece and wonder to themselves, "Ah, how did such a grand -- [work come to be?]"

TESS playfully punches COROT in the shoulder and she and KEPLER laugh good-naturedly.

Ow!

KEPLER

And the best part is, no one will ever know it was us.

Lights fade back to KEPLER and BILLY and TESS and COROT in separate spaces.

COROT

We made a good team.

KEPLER

Then the summer after our freshmen year I took an internship in California --

COROT

And then he went off to that internship...

KEPLER

-- a really lame one too. I wound up just being another code monkey when all I really wanted was to be back on campus with Tess and Corot, going exploring and building hacks together as a trio again! When I finally got back to campus, there was a beautiful hack on the great dome. It was as if the Institute itself were welcoming me home.

Lights change to flashback mode.

COROT and TESS

Kepler!

TESS

TESS gives KEPLER a hug.
You're finally back!

COROT

COROT and KEPLER bro clasp.
Tell us about your adventures!

KEPLER

Later, I have something to show you first. There's something awesome on the dome!

COROT

(smiling)

You're talking about the hack? Do you like it? I led it.

Lights and music emphasize KEPLER's shattered state. Lights move out of flashback mode.

But when he got back, he started acting weird.

KEPLER

(sadly)

He led a dome hack without me, but worse, he hadn't even told me he was doing it. Not one email.

COROT

He stopped wanting to do stuff, spent less time with us...

KEPLER

Hacking was more important to Corot than I was, so if he even remembered to invite me to come along I'd just say --

COROT and KEPLER

-- "I'm busy tooling!"

COROT

That's what Kepler kept saying. He's spent a whole year being too busy for his friends!

TESS

Corot, I think he felt left out.

COROT

Well if he did, why can't he just say something?

KEPLER

To BILLY:

Why can't Corot learn to listen?

COROT

To TESS:

He's a pretentious jerk begging the world for attention.

KEPLER

He's just a pompous show-off who only cares about his own reputation.

COROT

Sometimes I just wish he would --

KEPLER

Why doesn't he just --

COROT and KEPLER

think!

Lights fade down on TESS and COROT.

KEPLER

After a while he stopped inviting me to do anything with him. It's been this way for a whole year. And earlier tonight, he told me to stay away from the hack all together. You're just a freshman. You're probably still happy and think that life is good or something stupid like that.

BILLY

Sorry that I'm not more depressed.

KEPLER

Don't be.

KEPLER glances around the build space and notices the plans for the design modification that BILLY had been drawing.

Are those the plans for the hack?

(observing the papers)

I'd know this roof attachment mechanism anywhere. Corot, Tess, and I designed this for the last hack we did together. It was a good design for freshmen to whip up, but I still remember it was heavy as hell. I guess they've finally figured out how to fix that...

(reluctant admiration creeps into KEPLER's voice)
and rather elegantly too...

BILLY

Actually, I made the modifications.

KEPLER

You did? That's pretty impressive.

(getting up)

Hey. I want to show you something.

BILLY hesitates.

It'd be unethical of me to go alone.

BILLY

You want to go hacking with me?

(getting up)

Where are we going?

KEPLER

You'll see.

BILLY follows KEPLER. Blackout.

A Tomb

2.3 -- A Tomb

A faint hum, reminiscent of a machine room is heard. BILLY and KEPLER enter a beautiful and eerie section of interstitial space, only illuminated by their own flashlights or headlamps. Along a tall wall are two sign-ins and a grate leading to the night sky is behind them. Lights fade up as the scene continues.

BILLY

What is this place?

KEPLER

Looks like no one else has found it. This tomb is my favorite place at MIT.

BILLY

I've seen those sign-ins everywhere. Who are they?

KEPLER

(indicating the sign-ins)

This is me. The other's Corot. We found this place the first night we went hacking without an upperclassman. We were just two freshmen who didn't know their 8.01 and wanted to take a study break.

(laughing softly)

This is the first time I've been in here in a while.

KEPLER looks around the room. BILLY watches KEPLER.

BILLY

Wow, back in the day you guys were so hardk0re!

There's More To Life Than Tooling

You've done so much epic stuff!

KEPLER

THAT'S NOT WHAT HARDK0RE MEANS,
IT MEANS, "I WAS DUMB, BUT I SURVIVED."
I'M SICK OF YOUR MANTRA,

STUPID, FROSHY KIDS,
 YOU ALL WANT TO BE HARDK0RE.
 YOU JUST WANT TO BE HARDK0RE.

(sighs)

Don't you see?

THERE IS MORE TO MIT
 THAN EARNING YOUR DEGREE.
 YOU COULD HIDE AWAY ALL DAY WITH DIFF E.Q.,
 BUT YOU'LL FIND THAT IN THE END,
 WORKING WITH A FRIEND
 IS THE FORMULA FOR LOVING WHAT YOU DO,

'CAUSE THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW.

BILLY

I think I see where you're going.
 IF YOU START TO FEEL BURNT OUT,
 YOU SHOULD PUNT, WITHOUT A DOUBT,
 BUT ANGSTING ALL ALONE WON'T HELP AT ALL.
 'CAUSE WHEN YOU'RE IN DISTRESS,
 YOU CAN DECOMPRESS
 BY SPENDING TIME WITH PEOPLE ON YOUR HALL.

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN PUNTING,
 AND THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW.

KEPLER

THERE IS MORE TO PULLING HACKS --

BILLY

-- THAN STORIES FROM THE JACKS!

KEPLER

Yeah!

KEPLER and BILLY

A HACK IS UP FOR JUST A FLEETING SPAN.
 THERE IS NO REAL MEANING

SPENDING HOURS ON MACHINING
IF YOUR TEAM'S NO CLOSER THAN IT FIRST BEGAN.

KEPLER

WHILE THE CROWDS MAY GAPE IN WONDER,
THERE ARE STORIES THEY'LL NEVER KNOW.

BILLY

'CAUSE THE REAL MAGIC HAPPENS ELSEWHERE
WITH THE ADVENTURES BEHIND THE SHOW.

BILLY and KEPLER

IN OUR TIME HERE AT THIS SCHOOL,
WE'LL HACK AND PUNT AND TOOL.
EVEN WHEN YOU'VE TURNED YOUR RAT AND JOURNEYED ON,
THEN LOOKING BACK YOU'LL SEE,
YOU'LL FIND YOUR HEART WILL BE
WITH THE PEOPLE WHO STAYED UP WITH YOU TIL DAWN.

The sun begins to rise through the grate.

BILLY

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN HACKING,

KEPLER

YEAH, THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN PUNTING,

BILLY and KEPLER

AND THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW.

KEPLER

Hey, you should sign in.

BILLY

Whoa, really? With you and Corot?

KEPLER

Yeah, a sign-in doesn't mean we own the place. Tombs are for everyone to explore.

KEPLER reaches into his pocket and pulls out a sharpie. He holds it out to BILLY.

BILLY

I haven't picked a sign-in yet.

KEPLER

(after a moment, gently)

How about a dragon wing?

BILLY takes up the pen, and scrawls a dragon wing on the wall.

BILLY

A part of a hack I'll never finish. Too bad it's almost Halloween.

KEPLER

Don't tell me you've never punted until the last minute.

BILLY

You're right! We could totally finish this - you could come help too! Then you and Corot--

KEPLER

(suddenly returning to his sullen self)

I have to go lab.

BILLY

But, Kepler. Are you really gonna let some stupid misunderstanding get in the way?

KEPLER

Go build your hack. I'll be fine.

BILLY

(as he's exiting into the wall)

Okay, guess you know best. You sure you'll be okay?

KEPLER

Get out of here, frosh.

KEPLER pauses and runs his hand along his and COROT's sign-ins. He then follows BILLY into the wall.

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE...

KEPLER quietly hums the rest of the phrase as the lights fade on the tomb.

Kepler's Theme

2.4 -- Reconstruction Zone

BILLY enters to find RYAN and CONNER glumly tooling with each other. The other members of the HACKSEMBLE are sitting, isolated, in sad, angsty corners. BILLY taps CONNER and RYAN on their shoulders.

RYAN

Billy, where've you been? We can't figure out the last problem of the pset.

BILLY

I can help you with it later, but first I need to go check on the Dragon Wing. I want to build --

CONNER

Billy, the hack's over - we need to concentrate on our psets now! We know you're very personally invested in this hack.

RYAN

Yeah, you can't drag us back into this just 'cause you want to impress Corot and Tess.

BILLY

No! I don't even know if they want to finish working on the hack, but I do. And I want you to be there with me! Come on!

BILLY starts to exit.

RYAN

Okay, okay! Hey, wait for us! Come on, Conner, let's give the pset a break.

CONNER

Oh, all right.

CONNER and RYAN follow BILLY and exit. Lights go down on HACKSEMBLE. Lights come up on the build space. BILLY, RYAN, and CONNER enter and stare at the tools, materials, and half-built components of the hack. The three freshmen look at each other, suddenly nervous.

Okay ... so what should we do first?

BILLY looks around the build space, at a loss for a moment. Then, with resolution, he walks over to the table with the design plans.

BILLY

Come on, we've got the plans, we can do this!

Rebuilding

BILLY, RYAN, and CONNER set to work.

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

RYAN

I THINK THIS FITS, BUT THEN AGAIN - OH NEVER MIND...

RYAN puts down what he's doing and picks up another set of tools and continues working.

BILLY

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

CONNER

GUESS IT'S WORKING, BUT I ALSO DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING...

BILLY

Keep working then...

HUNTER enters carrying a tray of cookies.

HUNTER

What are you froshbags doing around here. Didn't the hack end?

BILLY

For Corot, maybe, but we want to keep doing this.

HUNTER

What, so you think you frosh can just come in here and do all this even though you've never done it before?

BILLY

Yes we do! We're going to keep working on it because we three are a team!

HUNTER

Fuck that! We four are a team. Here, move over, Conner, let me hold that for you. Also, eat a goddamn cookie, you need your strength!

HUNTER, CONNER, and RYAN keep working, with slightly more confidence than before. ELECTRA and MAGS enter.

ELECTRA

HEY!

MAGS

WHAT YA DOIN'?

BILLY

FINISHING THIS HACK UP, DO YOU WANT TO HELP?

ELECTRA

WHY NOT?

MAGS

ALL RIGHT.

RYAN

Here, help me!

FARADAY enters.

BILLY

HEY, WHERE YA OFF TO?

FARADAY

SLEEP OR SOMETHING, DIDN'T THIS THING END, YOU NEED SOME HELP?

FARADAY, HUNTER, ELECTRA, MAGS, CONNER, and RYAN continue to work, with more confidence than before. As they work, some of the HACKSEMBLE slowly filter in and start helping, and others are dragged in by friends. MAGS and ELECTRA drag TESS back in. TESS and BILLY make eye contact briefly. A

pink light illuminates them which soon fades to a depressing blue. They turn away to keep working.

BILLY

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

HUNTER

DOIN' WELL.

FARADAY

HEY, WANNA HELP?

PISTON

OKAY.

RYAN

I THINK I'VE GOT THIS!

BILLY

HEY, LOOKIN' GOOD!

CONNER

THANKS!

BILLY

HEY, HOW'S IT GOIN'?

HEY, HOW YA DOIN'?

HEY, KEEP IT UP, NOW.

HEY, AWESOME WORK THERE!

HEY --

COROT enters. Everyone pauses their work as COROT surveys the area.

COROT

I'd like to help you... I mean, if that would be okay...

The HACKSEMBLE look to BILLY.

BILLY

I don't see why not.

COROT and BILLY shake hands.

COROT

Billy, I'm sorry I snapped at you. I got frustrated but you didn't. Thank you.

BILLY

No problem. And, hey, by the way --

(dropping to a whisper)

-- would you mind leading again? This is really tiring, and I have no idea what I'm doing.

COROT

(saluting BILLY with a genuine smile)

As you wish, captain.

BILLY

Hey everybody, our fearless leader is back!

The HACKSEMBLE cheer as underscore finishes. Blackout.

Corot's Return

2.5 -- Police Station, Part Three

Lights come up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Well, now, isn't that sweet. They're all building together, back to being friends again. How cute. Everyone was perfectly happy. Well, almost everyone...

Lights fade down on STORY JACK and come up on the police station. SPRINKLES is pacing up and down the room. CLAW is reading The Tech. PACHINO is sitting at a filing cabinet, filing papers. KALF watches SPRINKLES pacing.

KALF

Sir, you've been pacing for one hour and 19 minutes. You should really sit down.

SPRINKLES

Sit? How can I sit, Kalf? How can I sit?? It's been days since we caught those hackers, and not a sign of them.

KALF

Perhaps they've decided not to do it, sir.

SPRINKLES

Dammit, Kalf, I know they're plotting... I can smell it in the air...
(begins sniffing)

KALF

Sir?

SPRINKLES

If we hadn't needed to take care of that goddamn explosion, we would have had them all expelled!

CLAW

(turning from his newspaper)

Aw, Sergeant, don't get too depressed. Think of all those lives we saved. Or at least of all of those pieces of glassware. There sure was an awful lot of glassware.

SPRINKLES

That's not the point! We let those hackers get away!

CLAW

And all those tit-ration tubes, is that what they're called?

PACHINO

Sergeant, if I had had my way, we wouldn't have let them go, we would have locked them up in this office!

SPRINKLES

And left them here with all of our important files? That's such a stupid idea!

PACHINO

Sorry, sir, I just thought that maybe...

CLAW

Come to think of it, Sergeant, I think it's our job to go take care of safety and stuff like that. I mean, it sure was nice to catch those hackers but stopping that explosion made me feel all tingly inside and --

SPRINKLES

Don't you two have somewhere to be right now?

CLAW and PACHINO both look at the clock on the wall, at each other, then back at SPRINKLES.

CLAW

Yes.

SPRINKLES

Then what are you waiting for! Go! Out! Now!

*CLAW and PACHINO put down their respective papers and rush out the door.
Blackout.*

Claw Theme

SCENE 2.6 -- Deconstruction Zone

Lights come up on the build space. BILLY and TESS are building separate pieces, working nearby each other. BILLY and TESS sneak glances at each other until eventually, they catch each others' eyes.

BILLY

Hey Tess.

TESS

Hey Billy.

(pause)

Way to bring everyone back together. It's good to see Corot happy again.

BILLY

He's a good leader. He has a good energy for people to follow.

(pause)

TESS

I'm sorry if we hurt you.

BILLY

It's all right.

(pause)

Hey, Tess. I've been thinking a lot lately about hacking, and friends, and maybe now we should just be... just friends. Is that okay?

(holding out his hand and hesitantly moving closer to TESS)

Friends?

TESS

Friends.

BILLY and TESS shake hands once, and recoil almost immediately.

BILLY

See, we don't need to worry about "that rule" anymore.

TESS

Rule? Rule?? Please! We're past all that!

Platonic Friends Again**BILLY**

Right!
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE FRIGHTENED,
WE'RE PLATONIC AS CAN BE.

TESS

Yessire!
PEOPLE SHOULD BE ENLIGHTENED
WITH THE DATA POINTS REGARDING YOU AND ME...

BILLY

WHEN I SEE YOU MY HEART DOESN'T FLUTTER,
NO BUTTERFLIES IN MY CHEST!

TESS

That's best!
AND AS YOU GUESSED, IT'S THE SAME FOR ME, LIKEWISE!
YOU NO LONGER ARE THAT SOMEONE THAT I WISH I HAD CARESSED...

BILLY

OR CUDDLED...

TESS

OR EMBRACED...

BILLY

OR SQUEEZED...

TESS

OR KISSED...

BILLY

...AND EVEN IF WE KISSED THAT WOULD BE OKAY...

TESS

WE'D BE TWO PLATONIC FRIENDS

WHO KISS
IN A TOTALLY PLATONIC WAY!

The bloodcurdling screech of the NOVEMBAT echoes through the air. The lights flicker angrily, and a giant swooping shadow passes across BILLY and TESS. Upon hearing the noise, BILLY and TESS turn away from each other and stand back to back. The NOVEMBAT, a savage looking nightmare-horror-maw creature, scuttles on stage, crawling, dragging its massive bat wings behind it as it sneaks about, sniffing the air for the scent of romance. Eventually, appeased, it leaves.

BILLY

(excitedly)

I didn't hear or see anything! Did you?

TESS

(excitedly)

Nope!

YOU'RE THE KIND OF PAL I CAN COUNT ON
TO SAVE ME A MOVIE SEAT.

BILLY

Any day!

SO LONG AS THE SEAT YOU ACCOUNT FOR
IS A COUPLE ROWS AWAY!

TESS

Because we're friends.

BILLY

And that's okay!

TESS

WE'RE MORE LIKE BROTHERS THAN LOVERS.

BILLY

Right!

JUST LIKE ABEL AND CAIN!

TESS

EXCEPT NEITHER OF US COMMITS FRATRICIDE!

BILLY

I could never kill you,
BECAUSE I SEE IN YOU SOMEONE I'LL NEVER FORGET,
SOMEONE TO PICK ME UP WHEN I'M DOWN ON MY LUCK!

TESS

YES, I SEE IN YOU SOMEONE SPECIAL TO ME,
SOMEONE I JUST LONG TO F --

(taking a step too close to BILLY)

The NOVEMBAT shrieks and pounces on stage, carrying an oblivious offstage hacker with it, who falls onstage, screams and runs off. The NOVEMBAT snarls, gnashes its teeth, and begins to sniff at TESS, who immediately jumps away from BILLY. The NOVEMBAT gives TESS a look: "Watch yourself or the next one won't be a warning," and then slithers away with its hideous deranged laugh.

-- someone I just long to stand very far away from while talking about sports or the weather!

BILLY

I love the weather! I heard it was cloudy once!

TESS

Sometimes partly cloudy.

BILLY

And sometimes the clouds are so soft.

TESS

Sometimes two clouds are held apart by various unexplained weather patterns even though both clouds would rather hold hands...

BILLY

The clouds?

TESS

It's some really upper level course 12 stuff...

BILLY

Right.

NO MATTER WHAT WE HAVE WEATHERED,
WE'VE MANAGED TO REMAIN FREE!

TESS

I'M JOYFUL THAT WE'RE NOT TETHERED,
LIKE LOVERS CAN OFTEN BE.

BILLY

I've heard that some couples can't stand to be apart. When they are, they close their eyes and imagine each other!

TESS

We have a healthier relationship!
WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES, I SEE NOTHING,
JUST NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL.
NOT YOU AND I HOLDING HANDS...

BILLY

OR SNUGGLING BENEATH A BLANKET...

TESS

WITH NO CLOTHES ON.

BILLY

Let's close our eyes and not imagine it together!

TESS

Yes, let's!

TESS and BILLY close their eyes, and smile. After a long pause, they both open their eyes and smile at each other.

BILLY

IT'S GOOD TO KNOW IT,

TESS

WE'VE GOT SO MUCH TO SHOW IT,

BILLY and TESS

WE'RE PLATONIC FRIENDS AGAIN!

HUNTER (*offstage*)

I hope you stupid fuckers aren't making out! Come on, it's almost time to deploy!

BILLY

Right! Come on, Tess! Let's deploy. Like friends.

BILLY, and TESS exit. Blackout.

SCENE 2.7 -- Nightworks**Nightworks**

Lights come up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

No living being has ever witnessed a hacker deploy. Those who think they have are mistaken and those who actually might have are probably dead. Only hackers truly know how they get their works of art to the final location...

The lighting shifts to the HACKSEMBLE, BILLY, TESS, and COROT who are all dressed in sketchy, black, spy-like garb: goggles, trench coats, apertures, utility belts, the works. STORY JACK reintegrates with the FROSHSEMBLE. CONNER, TENSOR, ELECTRA, FARADAY, and HUNTER begin checking their communication devices.

ELECTRA

(into communication device)

This is Flux, check?

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Gotcha, this is Muse, check.

FARADAY

(into communication device)

This is Cage, check?

HUNTER

(into communication device)

Hear you loud and clear, this is Momma, check?

To CONNER:

Now you go Pre-Med!

CONNER

(into communication device)

This is Pre-med, check?

TENSOR

(into communication device)

I think we are ready to go!

COROT

To the HACKSEMBLE, in performance mode:

Tonight is the night. We've gone through a lot to get this hack to the final stretch, and I know that tonight, we'll show the Institute once more what we hackers can do! Now let's move out! Team surveillance, take the lead! Electra, Mags, careful with the Squid Net.

ELECTRA and MAGS

Got it!

ELECTRA and MAGS exit carrying Squid Net. CONNER, and HUNTER exit ahead of FARADAY, who yawns and lags behind.

COROT

Hey Cage, are you good to go?

FARADAY

I was up all night finishing my 6.005 lab, but I'll be fine.

(shouting and holding up a jolt can as he exits the stage)

Caffeine works wonders!

COROT

All right. Everyone, let's move.

The remaining HACKSEMBLE follow COROT. TENSOR is slightly ahead of the group, checking corners and intersections.

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Momma this is Muse, coming to the first zone. How does your area look? Over.

HUNTER appears, lit in a remote edge of the stage.

HUNTER

(into communication device)

This is Momma, phys-plant is cleaning a flooded bathroom on floor 1 and more plant is

waxing on floor 2 on those Zamboni things.

TENSOR

(into communication device)

What about floor 3?

HUNTER

(into communication device)

Clear. Momma says, come here! Over.

TENSOR

(jestering up with his finger)

Moving in the z-hat direction.

The HACKSEMBLE follow COROT up a level and HUNTER exits to move to her new location. CONNER appears, lit clinging to the side of the wall and peering through a set of thermal binoculars.

CONNER

(into communication device)

Muse this is Pre-med, there is a grad student approaching your location. Over.

TENSOR gives a signal for COROT to stop. The HACKSEMBLE and COROT press their bodies against the wall to avoid being seen. TENSOR watches the grad student (offstage) pass around a corner and nods to COROT.

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Informational. Wary eye of the grad student averted. Over.

CONNER

(into communication device)

Muse, this is Premed, I just checked the entrance to the secret shortcut, and it looks like some security cameras have been installed. Do not enter. Repeat do not enter until the area is cleared.

FARADAY appears, lit in a remote section of the lower level, near a wall.

FARADAY

(into communication device)

This is Cage. I believe I can handle those for you. Okay, Jolt, go time!

FARADAY takes a sip of Jolt and then plugs a cord protruding from his arm into the wall. He punches buttons on his computer wrist arm band. Cameras make a power-down noise.

Muse, this is Cage. You are safe to continue.

(flipping down an eye visor)

I'll keep an eye on the perimeter.

TENSOR nods to COROT.

COROT and the hackers push on a wall that's not budging.

COROT

It's not budging. Hey Piston, we need you!

PISTON

Stand back everybody! I'm gonna blow this door wide open!

She puts down the giant hack piece she's carrying, winds up, and charges over with a mighty war cry. Then she just leans over and blows on it gently. It opens.

Brute force is the last resort of the incompetent.

HACKSEMBLE follow COROT through a trap door. When they emerge on the other side, COROT holds up his hand for everyone to halt. He reaches in his pocket and throws powder across the room revealing lines of lasers.

COROT

Just as I thought.

RYAN

Lasers must be permeating into the secret chamber from the physics lab!

The HACKSEMBLE navigate their way through the laser field.

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Informational. We have emerged from the secret chamber with only minor photon damage. We're resuming our path to building 10.

CONNER

(into communication device)

This is Pre-med. My indicator light is blinking! My power is low! Over!

ELECTRA and MAGS enter, flying in a two-person flying device and wearing aviation gear and carrying the Squid Net.

ELECTRA

Not to worry! All tech men carry batteries!

MAGS

(opening up a trench coat to reveal an array of batteries)

And many tech women.

ELECTRA and MAGS fly away to deliver the batteries (offstage).

ELECTRA (offstage)

(into communication device)

Ready, ground crew?

CONNER

(into communication device)

Ground crew ready!

ELECTRA (offstage)

(into communication device)

Dropping to ground crew now!

A pair of batteries descends, slowly on a miniature parachute, down to CONNER, who receives the batteries and loads them into power suit, stowing the parachute in a pocket and issuing a thumbs up to the heavens. CONNER watches (above, offstage) as ELECTRA and MAGS land on the roof above. The HACKSEMBLE emerge onto the roof through a trap door on the top of the dome. ELECTRA and MAGS join the HACKSEMBLE on the roof, stowing away their flying device.

ELECTRA

Informational, this is Flux, we've landed on the roof with the Squid Net.

COROT

Everyone, stay low. The air smells different. Tess, do you smell that?

TESS

(sniffing the air)

It's ... it's the MIT weather machine! It's malfunctioning!

TENSOR

(into communication device)

We need someone to recalibrate the MIT weather machine. I think we're going to experience a fit of bad weather!

HUNTER

(into communication device, entering from another remote section of the stage)

Momma's got your back! I'll do it!

HUNTER sprints to the weather machine control panel as a strong, screeching wind begins to blow across the roof, nearly knocking the HACKSEMBLE down. HUNTER reaches the weather machine control panel, expertly presses buttons and pulls levers, and after a moment, the wind stops.

(into communication device)

This is Momma, the weather machine is all set.

TENSOR

Should be clear sailing from here.

RYAN

(looking up)

Hey look! There's a giant killer meteor headed straight for us! If we use our laser arm cannons, we could destroy it before it touches down!

RYAN aims his laser arm cannon towards the sky, ready to fire.

MAGS

Wait, Ryan. This problem is far too big for us. We should call F-IXIT. They'll know what to do.

(gets out a cell phone and dials F-IXIT)

Hello, F-IXIT? I happened to notice a large killer meteor headed for Earth.

(pause)

Yes.

(pause)

Yes.

(to RYAN and others)

They'll be on it right away.

(hangs up phone)

A giant burst of light fills the sky and a loud boom echoes through the air.

It's a good thing we were up on this roof.

Lights come up on the lower level where FARADAY is stationed, yawning.

FARADAY

...been up 44 hours... just need more caffeine...

(twitching)

...my good friend, Jolt, you'll keep me stay awake...

(reaching into his pocket, pulls out an empty can)

Oh... Empty.

(yawning)

Oh well... I'll be fine...

(face-desking into his control spy surveillance monitors)

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Cage, this is Muse. How is the perimeter?

FARADAY

(drowsily, into communication device)

Yup, all clear.

To himself:

... I should set an alarm ...

FARADAY falls asleep. CLAW and PACHINO enter.

CLAW

I guess the dorm rooms are getting less and less comfortable.

TENSOR

To COROT, giving a nod:

We have an all clear!

COROT

(spoken with the lights still on the CP's)

Okay, let's begin the set up.

CLAW

In fact, sometimes I think the administration is trying to stamp out --

FARADAY's communication device makes a beeping noise.

PACHINO

Hey! What was that?

(kneeling down to a now drooling FARADAY and listening)

CLAW

Is ... is it radioactive??

TENSOR

(into communication device)

Informational. Starting setup on the dome.

CONNER begins climbing up the wall onto the roof to join the HACKSEMBLE on the roof.

PACHINO

There are people on the dome! It must be those hackers! I'm radio-ing Sprinkles.

(whips out her radio and begins her transmission)

Officer Frey Pachino to Sergeant Sprinkles. Officer Frey Pachino to Sergeant Sprinkles!

SPRINKLES appears lit in a remote location.

SPRINKLES

(over radio)

Sergeant Sprinkles here. What is it Pachino?

PACHINO

(over radio)

We found a hacker and his friends are on the roof!

CLAW

Don't forget to tell him to alert the hazardous materials division! Look at all those blink-ily lights.

PACHINO

(ignoring Claw, over radio)

We'll meet you immediately!

SPRINKLES

(over radio)

They've given us no choice! It's time to activate the plan!

Lights go down on SPRINKLES. SPRINKLES exits.

PACHINO

Let's take him as evidence!

PACHINO attempts to pick up FARADAY, failing several times, and eventually hoisting him over her shoulder or dragging him along. Lights shift to KEPLER, who is tooling on his laptop.

KEPLER

This will take forever to compile... I have time to get dinner.

KEPLER gets up and bumps into PACHINO who is carrying or dragging FARADAY.

Sorry, Officer.

PACHINO

What are you doing up so late?

KEPLER

(in shock upon noticing FARADAY)

I'm an MIT student.

(pause)

I was just getting --

FARADAY's communication device makes a beeping noise interrupting KEPLER. KEPLER, CLAW, and PACHINO all fixate on FARADAY's communication device.

HUNTER

(into communication device as she joins the HACKSEMBLE on the roof)

This is Momma, just made it from the green building to the dome. Sorry I took so long, the zip-line was jammed.

PACHINO

Just getting a what?

CLAW

Do you need a ride home?

KEPLER

(desperately looking for an escape)

Uh... no... just getting... to a vending machine! I want a Pop-tart!

(exiting quickly)

CLAW

Maybe they should make dining mandatory.

PACHINO

Never mind him, we're on the brink of catching those hackers red-handed! Come on!

CLAW and PACHINO exit with FARADAY. KEPLER reappears.

KEPLER

No! I need to warn them!

KEPLER begins his journey to the roof, exhibiting his mad, l33t skillz. STORY JACK steps forefront, ready to narrate.

STORY JACK

With CP's in quick pursuit, the hacker undertook his perilous journey to the dome, fending his way through jungles of pipes, mazes of vents, ninja-ing his way across ledges and edges with the grace of a frickin' tiger! Nearly invisible, he travelled through long-forgotten passageways, knowing that he, alone, could bear the message that would save those up on the roof!

Lights fade down on STORY JACK. STORY JACK reintegrates with the FROSHSEMBLE.

SCENE 2.8 -- The Great Dome by Night

KEPLER bursts onto the roof, where the HACKSEMBLE are now working to set up the hack.

KEPLER

Corot!

(weaving through the HACKSEMBLE, looking for COROT)

Hackers on the Roof

COROT, COROT, YOU'VE GOT TO GET DOWN!
THE CP'S ARE ON THEIR WAY!
COROT, COROT, GET OFF THIS ROOF NOW!
THERE'S NO TIME TO DELAY!

The CP's -- they took Faraday hostage! They know you're up here!

COROT

No! You're the reason we were caught last time!
HE CALLED US IN. THAT JERK SOLD US OUT!
NOW HE WANTS US TO BELIEVE HE'S OUR SCOUT!
HE CALLED THE CP'S TO TELL THEM WHERE WE WERE,
AND NOW HE'S GOT THE NERVE TO CAUSE ANOTHER STIR!

HACKSEMBLE

KEPLER CALLED THE CP'S? WHAT?! ARE YOU JOKING?!
CAN'T BELIEVE YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN SHOW YOUR FACE HERE.
STOP GETTING IN OUR WAY, STOP YOUR PROVOKING!
LET US BE NOW, GO AWAY, YOU NEED TO DISAPPEAR!

HACKSEMBLE

KEPLER'S A BETRAYER,
SHOULD BE DETESTED,
DOING EVERYTHING HE CAN TO GET THIS
HACK TO FAIL.
NOW HE THINKS WE'LL TAKE WHAT HE HAS

COROT

STOP THIS RIGHT NOW, WE'RE
PISSED AT YOU ENOUGH
WE DON'T BELIEVE A WORD,
IT'S DONE, WE CALL YOUR
BLUFF.

SUGGESTED
AS TRUTH THAT WILL PROTECT US AND
WILL HELP US TO PREVAIL!

BILLY

I DON'T THINK KEPLER WANTS TO BRING THIS HACK DOWN LIKE YOU THINK.
HE COULD REALLY WANT TO HELP US GET AWAY.
IF HE IS RIGHT AND THE COPS ARE ON THEIR WAY,
ISN'T IT BETTER TO CHOOSE NOT TO STAY?

COROT

IGNORE HIM FROSH, HE'S JUST
TRYING TO SCREW WITH US.
HE'S A TRAITOR, THERE IS
NOTHING TO DISCUSS.

BILLY

PLEASE, COROT, LISTEN TO ME.
BE COOL AND THINK THIS THROUGH.
IF WE GOT CAUGHT WE'LL BE...
LISTEN TO ME OR

(add TESS)

YOU COULD CHECK TOO/TO

TESS

SEE IF CAGE IS STILL READY AT HIS POST,
IT WON'T TAKE TOO LONG, 30 SECONDS AT THE MOST.
IF HE IS THERE, WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR.
THIS HACK COULD BE ON THE LINE, IT'S AN EASY THING,

COROT	BILLY and TESS	KEPLER	HACKSEMBLE
IT'S A WASTE OF TIME AND I DON'T NEED TO PROVE THAT HE CALLED US IN. THAT JERK SOLD US OUT! THERE'S NO WAY THAT I'LL BELIEVE HE'S OUR SCOUT! HE CALLED THE	SO YOU SHOULD BE COOL AND THINK THIS THROUGH. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU SHOULD DO. JUST CALL UP CAGE. SEE IF HE'S THERE.	COROT, COROT, PLEASE LISTEN TO ME! I KNOW, I KNOW, I SCREWED THINGS UP BEFORE, BUT THOSE TIMES ARE	KEPLER CALLED THE CP'S. I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. WE CAN'T TRUST HIM. STAY OUT OF OUR WAY NOW. LEAVE US, JUST LEAVE IT.

CP'S AND
STABBED ME IN
THE BACK!

RESOLVE THIS NOW
YOU KNOW HOW.

THROUGH!
COROT, COROT,
PLEASE LISTEN
TO ME!

WE DON'T
FOLLOW
YOUR WHIM.

TESS

IF HE IS RIGHT AND THE COPS ARE ON THEIR WAY
PLEASE COROT, LISTEN,
CALL FARADAY

COROT

Fine, if that's what it takes to get on with this.

COROT speaks into his communication device.

Lead to Cage, what's your status?

CLAW, FARADAY, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES speak their upcoming lines offstage, as if coming from the communication device. CLAW's lines occasionally overlap the other CPs'.

PACHINO

Uh, oh, hey Lead, word up ... ! Everything's good down here, no police officers or anything...

COROT

You okay, Cage?

SPRINKLES

Goddammit, Pachino! That's not what they sound like!

CLAW

(overlapping with PACHINO and SPRINKLES)
Hello, hazardous materials division?

SPRINKLES

Give me that!

CLAW

I'd like to report a potentially radioactive item --

PACHINO

Quiet they'll hear if --

SPRINKLES

You be quiet --

CLAW

Well, if I stuck my finger in it, I --

SPRINKLES

Goddammit, Claw, it's not radioactive!

FARADAY (offstage)

Ugh... wha - where am -- What the -- !??? Ahhhhhh!

PACHINO

(over FARADAY's screaming)

Hey, he's getting away!

COROT turns off his communication device.

COROT

Punt! I'll stay and clean up!

KEPLER

I'll stay and help!

COROT

Everyone else, off the roof!

COROT

BILLY and TESS

KEPLER

HACKSEMBLE

WE NEED TO GET

OUT OF HERE.

GOOD THING

KEPLER HAD

LET'S GO, LET'S

GO

THEY'RE ALMOST

WE HAVE GOT TO

GO NOW,

QUICK LIKE A

SHADOW,

PUNT, GRAB	OUR BACKS.	HERE NOW!	THROUGH THE
WHAT YOU CAN	BUT WE'RE	LET'S GO, LET'S	NIGHT WE FLY.
AND GET OFF	ALRIGHT,	GO	GHOSTLY LIKE A
THE ROOF!	WE BLEND INTO	THEY'RE ALMOST	SPIRIT ,
WE'LL MEET ON	THE NIGHT.	HERE NOW!	YOU CANNOT
THE GROUND,	THE TIMING	I'M GLAD, YOU	HEAR IT,
BUT RIGHT NOW	MIGHT BE TIGHT,	COULD HEAR ME	AS WE SLIP AWAY
JUST GET DOWN!	BUT WE'LL GET	OUT.	
I GUESS YOU	OUT OF SIGHT.	I THOUGHT, I	WE GUESS HE
TOLD THE TRUTH	CLEAR OFF THE	THOUGHT YOU	TOLD THE TRUTH
BUT --	ROOF,	WEREN'T GOING	BUT --
	GET DOWN	TO.	
	RIGHT NOW!	CLEAR OFF THE	
		ROOF, GET	
		DOWN RIGHT	
		NOW --	

COROT, KEPLER, BILLY, TESS, and HACKSEMBLE

RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOT TO
GET OFF THE ROOF!

HACKSEMBLE disappear into the shadows and exit the roof, climbing down walls, disappearing into trap doors. ELECTRA and MAGS exit with their flying device. COROT and KEPLER remain and quickly and quietly begin to pack up supplies. They pack furiously for a few seconds in silence.

COROT

Kepler, what's going on?

KEPLER

(matter of factly)

CP's are on their way, I thought I made that pretty clear.

COROT

I mean, what's going on with you. You got us caught, but tonight you came to save us and now you're risking yourself --

KEPLER

(frantically picking up a piece of the hack)

You're welcome. Hey, where should I put --

COROT

Kepler, stop shutting me down! I want to know why you called us in! I tried including you, I tried leaving you alone, I did nothing wrong! What have I ever done to you?!

KEPLER

You led a dome hack without me!

COROT

What?

KEPLER

I know it might not make any sense, but it really hurt me. That summer I left and you led a dome hack without me -- it's like you forgot about me. You didn't even have the decency to tell me you were doing it. Dammit, I just sound dumb. Look, I don't know if you remember all of our adventures freshmen year, but I miss them.

COROT

Dude, I had no idea I hurt you so much. If I had known earlier... I'm just really sorry. Like really really sorry.

KEPLER

I'm sorry I called you in. I guess it's too late now.

COROT

No. It's never too late!

Counterbalance

Do you trust me?

KEPLER

(skeptically)

Trust you? Why?

COROT

Let's counterbalance rappel off this roof.

KEPLER

Counterbalance rappel? You mean you want me to jump off this building with you as my counterweight?

COROT

And I want to do the same for you. It'll be an adventure, like we used to have.

KEPLER

(contemplatively)

Well, we have to get down somehow --

COROT

And what better way to do it than this?

KEPLER

This is insane.

COROT bro clasps KEPLER's hand, echoing the handclasp in the flashback.

COROT and KEPLER

Hell yes!

COROT and KEPLER prepare to rappel. COROT and KEPLER take off their pants... to reveal a harness on top of another identical pair of pants. Actors should actually safety check each other out loud. They may also need to add extra dialogue here to fill time as they set up, for example: "This is a route the CPs probably won't be taking." "Also we won't have to pack the rest of this rope!" "I've always wanted to do this!" "Good thing I always wear my harness on top of my surprise pair of pants!" "Me too!" Please don't break the show...

KEPLER

Check my harness?

COROT

Doubled back? Looks good. Check mine?

KEPLER

Sweet, looks good. Let's lower the rope.

COROT and KEPLER lower the rope, making sure it's not tangled. Actors clip into pre-rigged rappel devices.

COROT

Clipped in and locked.

KEPLER

Clipped in and locked!

KEPLER

You ready?

COROT

Mens et manus, motherfucker!

COROT and KEPLER

AS WE FLY
THROUGH THE NIGHT TIME,

KEPLER

CONCEALED BY THE DARK,

COROT

WE BRAVELY EMBARK

COROT and KEPLER

ON OUR PATH REUNITED.
AS THE AIR
RUSHES BY ME,

COROT

ONCE AGAIN, I SEE
THERE'S MORE TO MIT,

KEPLER

JUST LIKE FRESHMAN YEAR,

COROT and KEPLER

FROM WAY UP HERE.

COROT

BACK IN THE DAY WE NEVER STOPPED TO FRET.

KEPLER

BUT NOW I CAN'T FORGET

COROT and KEPLER

HOW WE BOTH RUINED IT...

COROT

BUT LET'S NOT DWELL.

KEPLER

THE COPS ARE IN PURSUIT!

COROT

WE'LL HACK AS ONE

COROT and KEPLER

AND TAKE OVER THE INSTITUTE!

AS THE DOME

SOARS ABOVE US,

KEPLER

WE'RE A TEAM AGAIN,

COROT

AND WE'LL SCHEME AGAIN,

COROT and KEPLER

BUT BETTER THAN BEFORE!

HELL YEAH! WE'RE UNSTOPPABLE!

KEPLER

THOUGH WE MAY HAVE LOST HOPE,

COROT

AT THE END OF OUR ROPE,

COROT and KEPLER

WE WERE DUMB...
BUT WE SURVIVED!

COROT and KEPLER bro-clasp, pull down the rope, and exit.

SPRINKLES (offstage)

Fire!

A crescendo-ing whistling noise is heard, shortly followed by a thundering boom and bright glow of light from offstage. SPRINKLES, PACHINO, CLAW, and KALF enter on a fire-throwing blimp. KALF is wearing a pair of soot-covered rubber gloves and carrying a shovel.

One hacker may have escaped, but the others won't be so lucky! They've got to be up here somewhere! Search every nook and cranny! Kalf! Ready the flame thrower ...

PACHINO and CLAW begin to scour the roof, though it's very clear there are no hackers anywhere.

KALF

Sir, the roof is empty and we're out of bituminous coal. Also, our warning-fire-ball appears to have set fire to a piece of modern art.

CLAW

(squinting to see the offstage burning statue)

Huh, I always thought that was just black scrap metal...

KALF

I'm calling the fire department, sir.

KALF quietly dials the fire department under the following dialogue. SPRINKLES looks around and then collapses to his knees and lets out a wail.

SPRINKLES

But... but... but where are the hackers?!

PACHINO

Kalf's right! They're not here! They must have gotten away!

CLAW

(still looking at the statue)

You know, it looks kind of pretty with all the fire and stuff.

SPRINKLES

No! Once again they have slipped through my fingers! But one day ... one day, they shall be mine!

(shaking a fist at the sky)

KALF stows the shovel back in the blimp and removes her gloves.

KALF

Sir. Let's return to the station. We're not needed here.

KALF hoists SPRINKLES up to his feet.

SPRINKLES

Goddammit, Kalf! How could they have escaped me?

KALF

I'm not sure, sir.

SPRINKLES

We've tried to be reasonable! We've talked to them, we've told them the consequences, we built a goddamn blimp!

KALF

I know, sir.

SPRINKLES

And now the modern art is on fire! Look what they've made me do! They've made me look like a monster!

Let's Get Those Fuckers, reprise

(slowly)

I BECAME A COP SO LONG AGO AND SWORE THAT I'D PURSUE

THE TASK OF BRINGING JUSTICE TO THE WORLD THROUGH AND THROUGH...

(gasps. He finally gets it.)

BUT MAYBE I LOST SIGHT.

That's... that's it... we have lost sight... Kalf!

YES, NOW I SEE THE LIGHT!

CATCHING HACKERS IS NOT ALL WE SWORE TO DO!

We've allowed ourselves to become obsessed with catching those hackers, and in our obsession, we caused even more trouble than the hackers caused in the first place. Our priority should be to protect the school, and we're goddamn good at that, goddammit.

KALF

I've been telling you this all along, sir.

SPRINKLES

(ignoring KALF entirely)

It's a lucky thing I made this realization!

KALF

Never mind.

PACHINO

But, Sergeant! Hackers are criminals!

SPRINKLES

And if we catch them, we'll deal with them appropriately, but from now on, I'm going to remember with a more compassionate heart why I made that vow those many years ago.

PACHINO

I guess you're right, sir...

SPRINKLES

Of course I'm right, goddammit, I'm Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles! Come on, let's go! The night may fucking need us, goddammit.

SPRINKLES, KALF, CLAW, and PACHINO board the fire-throwing blimp and fly away into the night.

CLAW, KALF, PACHINO, and SPRINKLES

AWAY!

Blackout.

SCENE 2.9 -- The Great Dome by Day

Lights come up on STORY JACK.

STORY JACK

Halloween came and passed, and though there was no grand object on the dome to celebrate the festivities, most of the hackers had a good Halloween, nonetheless. There was partying, and far too much candy, and at least one of them slept through the entire day. Yet, for some, it was the morning after Halloween that was more special...

Lights fade down on STORY JACK. STORY JACK exits. The dome is illuminated, as if by moonlight. The sound of birds chirping is faintly heard. BILLY and TESS appear from behind the dome.

BILLY

(whispering)

Do you think anyone's down there?

TESS

Don't be so nervous. We're fine.

BILLY

(looking out at the skyline)

It looks so different than it did last night. It's so peaceful. It's like all of the hack, everything, just disappeared and left this instead ... like none of it ever happened.

TESS

Well, they do call it magic.

BILLY

(checking the time)

Man, I used to wake up at this time. You can almost see the sun coming up.

BILLY and TESS look out over Killian Court, watching the sky grow lighter.

Hey, Tess...?

TESS

Yes?

BILLY

I just realized what today is! It's November 1st!

TESS

That must mean --

TESS hesitantly reaches out her hand to grab BILLY's. They pause, then grab hands and close their eyes, waiting for the sound of the NOVEMBAT, which never comes. They open their eyes. Suddenly a burst of light illuminates the sky and the NOVEMBAT appears on a distant rooftop, partly shrouded by shadows, gnashing its teeth in indignant fury. The NOVEMBAT smiles its hideous smile and takes a step toward BILLY and TESS, but it recoils immediately, letting out a cry of pain as its flesh burns from the November sun. It shrieks and hisses as it slithers away, not to return for another year. STORY JACK enters.

*Dawn***STORY JACK**

AND THOUGH THE HACKERS' NIGHT WORKS
NEVER SAW THE LIGHT OF DAY,
THEIR EFFORTS WEREN'T WITHOUT PERKS.
AND MORE HACKS WERE UNDERWAY.

COROT enters.

COROT

HACKS HAVE A BEAUTY, NO ONE CAN DENY -
THERE'S A LESSON IN THERE TOO.

KEPLER enters.

KEPLER

LOOK PAST THE SURFACE, THERE'S MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE,
THE BEST STUFF IS OUT OF VIEW.

HUNTER enters. The rest of the HACKSEMBLE begin to filter in.

HUNTER

THERE IS MORE TO MIT THAN EARNING YOUR DEGREE!

FARADAY enters.

FARADAY

ALL THE JOLT YOU DRINK CAN'T REPLACE A GOOD NIGHT'S REST...

FROSHSEMBLE enter.

RYAN

THIS HACK WAS REALLY GREAT!

CONNER

AND THOUGH THE PSET WAS KIND OF LATE...

RYAN and CONNER

NO GRADES COMPARE WITH STORIES FROM OUR QUEST!

FROSEMBLE

'CAUSE THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING, DON'T YOU KNOW!

CLAW, KALF, and PACHINO enter.

PACHINO

IF YOUR DAY'S NOT GOING RIGHT,

KALF

THEN MAYBE YOU'VE LOST SIGHT,

CLAW

OF WHY YOU WORK ALL NIGHT.

PISTON enters.

PISTON

DO NOT BLAME THE FRIENDS BESIDE YOU.

TENSOR enters with ELECTRA and MAGS, who are holding a bit of rope.

TENSOR

THEY COULD TIE YOU UP REAL TIGHT...

SPRINKLES enters.

SPRINKLES

WE DIDN'T GET THOSE FUCKERS!

ELECTRA and MAGS

(patting SPRINKLES on the back)

BUT YOU HAD A GREATER GOAL!

KALF

WE NEED MORE BITUMINOUS COAL!

The HACKSEMBLE have all entered.

HACKSEMBLE

THOUGH OUR HACK WAS ALMOST
CAUGHT,
OUR WORK WAS NOT FOR NAUGHT.
THE HOURS WE SPENT ARE PRECIOUS
TO THE LAST!
ONCE YOU'VE TIED UP ALL THE KNOTS,
AND FINISHED ALL YOUR PLOTS,

COROT and KEPLER

THE NIGHT MAY BE ENDING,
A NEW DAY'S BEGUN,
I KNOW
WE WILL HACK AS ONE,
UNDER A BRAND NEW SUN.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO
GO IT ALONE.

JUST

ALL

SEE THE PEOPLE WHO STAYED UP WITH YOU 'TIL DAWN!

BILLY

Tess! I've been waiting all this time to tell you that I don't want to be just platonic

friends!

TESS

I don't either! I want to be so much more!

BILLY

Tess?

TESS

What is it Billy?

TESS and BILLY kiss.

COROT

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN HACKING,

KEPLER

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN PUNTING,

ALL (less BILLY and TESS if their mouths are occupied)

THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN TOOLING.

BILLY

I have a great idea for a hack!

TESS and BILLY kiss again, hardk0re.

ALL (less BILLY and TESS: their mouths are occupied)

DON'T YOU KNOW!

Blackout.

Bows

Exit

SCENE 0.0 -- Preshow**FEARLESS PRE-SHOW ANNOUNCER**

Welcome to the MIT Musical Theatre Guild's production of "Hack, Punt, Tool." Before we begin, we have a few ground rules for you to follow. I want you all to take out your cell phones. Take 'em out so I can see. Come on, I know you have 'em. Your mommies and daddies practically shove 'em in your diapers now-a-days. Good. Now, I want you to hold down that little red button until the phone turns off. Not silent, not pleasure-vibrate mode. Off. The last thing we want is to be in the middle of a scene and for your phat new ring-tone to go off like a flashing fucking beacon! We also ask that you refrain from photography. If we catch you using a camera, we will take it from you, delete the offending pictures, and give it back to you at the end of the performance. Enjoy the show.

A NOTE FROM THE WRITERS

The HPT writing team is excited to see what every new cast and crew will add to Hack, Punt, Tool! We want to encourage each new creative team to make the show their own. The directors and cast should feel no obligation to repeat what has been done in the past. Yes, we wrote it, but you're performing it, and you understand the show in more ways than we could have ever imagined!

As a creative team, you've got the same creative license you have with any show---to obey or deviate from the stage directions as much or little as you'd like so that the show meets your creative vision---so don't feel bound to decisions made in the past. Do you think the Novembat is totally stupid and shouldn't appear on stage? Do you think it's extremely important that the counterbalance rappel be a real rappel? (Plead with CAC real real hard.) Should the fire throwing blimp be bedazzled?!

Additionally, we encourage you to consider changing the character's gender from what is listed in the script to fit your directorial vision and casting pool. We especially encourage the use of gender neutral pronouns, which are in more common use at MIT now than when we wrote the show. If you decide to use the set of gender neutral pronouns "them/their/they," we suggest checking the lyrics to decide if you want to use "they is" or "they are" conventions.

THE WORLD OF THE HACKER

2

Story Jack, Shadow Jacks

Cue: Hi Everybody!

Mysterious, steady $\text{♩} = 90$

1 2 **STORY JACK** 3

My friends, my friends, come clo - ser. Come a -

4 5

long and you will see. A wond - er - ous place, a mar - ve - lous realm, the

6 7

land of M - I - T. Be - low the well - waxed ti - les. B'yond

8 *rit.* 9

aisles of well - read books. There lies in wai - ting some - thing great, in -

10 *a tempo*

vi - gor - a - ting. Come with me, go a - head, take a look for your self. _____

12 13

This is the world of the hack - er. A world in - tense and ex - treme. Hear the

14 15

gen - le hum of ma - chine rooms. The clat - ter and hiss of steam. Now de -

S/A

Mmm mmm Clat - ter! Hiss! Tss

T/B

Mmm mmm Clat - ter! Hiss! Tss

16 17

scend through the shafts, fend-ing dark with the spark of a head-lamp to mark out your path [#]til the end. Crawl round

SHADOW JACKS, GROUP 1
Tss Tss Tss Tss

SHADOW JACKS, GROUP 2
Ksh Ksh Ksh

18 19

pipes and all types of ma - chines in be - tween. I won't lead you a - stray!

Tss Tss

Ksh Ksh

20 21

Trust us, we're your friends. This world is ruled by the hack - er. A

S/A
Ah

T/B
Ah

22 23

crea-ture both cun-ning and quick, who flits through the night like a sha-dow, with

Cun-ning and quick. Like a sha - dow.

Cun-ning and qucik. Like a sha - dow.

32 33 34

blocked off crevice for-got-ten out-cast. See the sharpie scrawls a-long the walls, the sign-ins of hack-ers of the past.

Ooh Ah Ah

STORY JACK: "Sign-in's" are hackers' signatures, personal markings that can only be identified by their truest friends. Here you can see a very special bit of literature: the "Hacking Ethics!" These are the guidelines to which we noble hackers adhere! Pay attention!

VAMP 35 36

SHADOW JACK 11: The safety of yourself and others and of property should have highest priority.
SJ12: Be subtle, leave no evidence you were there.
SJ13: Brute force is the last resort of the incompetent.

37 39

SJ13: Cause no permanent damage during hacks and while hacking.
SJ15: If you find something broken, call F-XIT

40 42

SJ16: Do not steal anything.
SJ17: Do not drop things without a ground crew.

43 45

SJ18: Sign-ins are not graffiti and should not be seen by the general public.
SJ19: Never Drink and Hack

46 48

SJ20: Never Hack alone
SJ21: Know your limitations and do not exceed them.
SJ22: Learn how not to get caught, but if you do get caught, accept gracefully and cooperate fully.

49 51

SJ23: Share your knowledge and experience with other hackers.
ALL SHADOW JACKS: And above all, exercise common sense!

52 54

55

STORY JACK 56

Re - mem - ber the code of the hack - er. As you

S/A
Re - mem - ber the code as you

T/B
Re - mem - ber the code as you

57

58

dream of un - chart - ed nooks. These e - thics keep us sep - erate from

dream of un - char - ted nooks. Mmm

dream of un - char - ted nooks. Mmm

59

60

cri - min - als, van - dals and crooks. Re - flect on the les - sons these fine words con - vey. May - be

Mmm Fol - low the e - thics. Aaah May - be

Mmm Fol - low the e - thics. Aaah May - be

61

62

you think that you'll be like us one day! Yes, this is the world of the hack - er. Our

you think that you'll be like us one day! the world of the hack - er

you think that you'll be like us one day! the world of the hack - er

63 64

mag - i - cal world of de - bris. Out - sid - ers just see the sur - face, but

mag - i - cal world of de bris but

mag - i - cal world of de - bris but

65 66

this is the real M I T. this is the real M I T.

this is the real M I T. this is the real M I T.

67

this is the real M - I - T. this is the real M - I - T.

this is the real M - I - T. this is the real M - I - T.

OUR STORY BEGINS

3

Story Jack

Cue: All right, then!

STORY JACK

Lend an ear

and you'll hear a sto - ry, that I doubt you've heard be - fore. This

tale takes place back in the day when things were more hard - k0re!

I WANT TO BE HARDK0RE

4

BILLY: I've got
bigger plans. (*musical flourish*)
Better plans!

Billy, Ryan, Froshsemble

BILLY

The world is comp - li - ca -

- ted. It's not writ - ten in a book. You have to go dis - cov -

- er it. Like, act - ual - ly go out and look! I want to find things

no one else has seen, it's the spi - rit to ex - plore. Down in the dark, in the

tun - nels and the steam I want to be hard - k0re! I'm no-thing if I'm not hard -

Hack, Punt, Tool

BILLY: The buildings here were built all at different times, and they don't fit perfectly together. It leaves lots of hidden spaces, just waiting to be found. Think of the possibilities!

22 23 **VAMP** 27 28 29

8 k0re! There are shafts that shoot up man - y sto - ries, and

30 31 32 33 34

8 tombs a - bound in ev - ery crag. And the find - er gets e - ter - nal glo - ry. For - ev - er earn - ing

BILLY: Doesn't that excite you? Don't you just feel electric?

CONNER: Nope, neutral, not charged at all. I can't focus when you-

BILLY: I just get this incredible feeling! I need to tell you! I need to tell everyone!

CONNER: You're going to sing again, aren't you...

BILLY: I am!

35 36 37 **VAMP** 41 42

8 chan - ces to brag! We i - dol - ize the

43 44 45 46

8 ar - tist Em - brace the a - vant garde. We all strive to be no -

47 48 49 50

8 - ticed. and held in high re - gard. I want to flex my

51 52 53 54

8 cre - a - ti - vi - ty Show the world I'm some - thing more. Push out a - gainst eve - ry

55 56 57 58 59

8 boun - da - ry, I just want to be hard - k0re! Please God - let me be hard - k0re!

RYAN: And did you hear about the time there was a firetruck on the dome?

BILLY: Or when it looked like a giant pumpkin?!

60 **RYAN** 65 66

8 When they hung a lounge be - neath that arch - way,

Hack, Punt, Tool

BILLY

67 68 69 70

Up - side down for all to see! Or when the Har - vard Yale bal - loon in fla - ted it

CONNER: I guess some of that stuff was pretty cool..

BILLY: I can't wait to come up with an awesome hack of my own!

RYAN: I can't wait to figure out how to get on the dome! How do they do it?

CONNER: I don't know, it must be magic!

VAMP

71 72 73 76

showed their in - ge - nu - i - ty! 3 2

BILLY and FROSHSEMBLE

78 79 80 81 82

They fly from roof-top to roof-top, At near the speed of light. No

83 84 85 86

wall can bar their pas - sage. They can leap from an - y height.

87 88 89 90

I want to join them, learn their eve - ry trick. I know some - day I will soar.

91 92 93 94

I guar - an tee It's a cer - tain - ty, I'm gon - na be hard - k0re! I

BILLY

95 96 97 98

swear I will be hard - k0re! There's no - thing more than be - ing hard - k0re!

99 100 101

All I want to be is hard - k0re!

HARDK0RE, PART 2

Billy, Ryan, Conner

Cue: To be a hacker? Yes! To be a hacker!

2 **BILLY** 3 4
I can learn all that you can teach me,
5 **RYAN** 6 **CONNER** 7
Do things no one else has done. Rise above the stan - dard
8 **BILLY, RYAN, CONNER** 9 10 11
ex - pec - ta - tions, we real - ly want to join your hack!

HARDK0RE, PART 3

Billy

Cue: My first hack! Yes! I'm in!

8 **BILLY** 2
I'm real - ly gon - na be hard - k0re!
3 4 5
I'm gon - na be hard - k0re!

LET'S GET THOSE FUCKERS

Cue: "In the name of William

Barton Rogers, something must be done!

Sprinkles, Claw, Kalf, Pachino

1 3 4 **SPRINKLES** 5 6
They're a men - ace and a plague and this school is ov - er - run. 'Til
7 8 9 10
now we've been out - done. We'll hunt - those hack - ers down and get them all ex - pelled. The

11 12 13 14

law must be up-held! _____

Let's get _____ those hack-ers, They

15 16 17 18

thought we ne - ver could

Let's get _____ those fuck-ers, And

19 20 21 22

stamp them out _____ for good!

KALF

have a fine i - de - a to ac -

**CLAW, PACHINO,
SPRINKLES**

23 24 25 26

comp-lish all our goals, The on-ly thing to do is to in - crease all our pa-trols. Pa - trols? Pa-trols! We'll

KALF

27 28 29

tri - ple our pa-trols. The more that we can see, the less they'll wan - der free, With

30 31 32 33

all of us we'll keep them in con - trol But as you know they're cle - ver, they will

CLAW

**PACHINO, KALF
SPRINKLES**

34 35 36 37

beat that in a snap. The on-ly way to do this is to lay some sort of traps. Traps? Traps! - Quick!

CLAW PACHINO

38 39 40

Get a cam - pus map. They'll get to ev - ery door, but they'll find a - larms in store. While

CLAW

41 42 PACHINO, KALF 43 44

CLAW, SPRINKLES

They're a men-ace and a plague and this school is ov-er-run. 'Til

roof-top sen-sors fill in ev-ery gap. They're a men-ace and a plague and this school is ov-er-run. 'Til

45 46 47 48

now we've been out - done. We'll hunt-those hack -ers down and get them all ex-pelled. The

now we've been out - done. We'll hunt-those hack -ers down and get them all ex-pelled. The

49 50 51 52

law must be up - held! Let's get those hack-ers, They

law must be up - held! Let's get those hack-ers, They

53 54 55 56

thought we ne - ver could. Let's get those hack-ers, And

thought we ne - ver could. Let's get those hack-ers, And

57 58 59 60 **PACHINO, KALF, CLAW**

stamp them out for good! No more cars on the dome, Or

61 62 63 64

No cows or - wor-king phones. With Sprin-kles in charge they will meet their ul - ti - mate

65 66 67 **10**

end!

77 **PACHINO** 78 79 80

There's one last step to gua-ran-tee we end that horde of imps. We'll build a fleet of self-suf-fi-cient

CLAW, KALF, SPRINKLES **CLAW, KALF, SPRINKLES**

81 82 **PACHINO** 83 **PACHINO**

fi - re throw - ing blimps! Blimps! Blimps! Wait, blimps? Yes! Blimps! Launch

84 85 86

fi - re balls from blimps. When flames come from the sky, the hack - ers' plans will fry! I

87 88 PACHINO, KALF⁸⁹

think those kids will fin - ally take the hint. They're a men - ace and a plague and this

CLAW, SPRINKLES

90 91 92 93

school is ov - er-run. 'Til now we've been out - done. We'll hunt-those hack - ers down and

school is ov - er-run. 'Til now we've been out - done. We'll hunt-those hack - ers down and

94 95 96 97

get them all ex-pelled. The law must be up-held! Let's get those

get them all ex-pelled. The law must be up-held! Let's get those

rit.

98 99 100 101

hack-ers, We'll put them where we should. Let's get those

hack-ers, We'll put them where we should. Let's get those

SPRINKLES

PACHINO, KALF, CLAW

102 103 104 105

Ooh fuck-ers, And stamp them out for good!

fuck-ers, And stamp them out for good!

TARGET: THE DOME

10

Corot, Tess, Faraday, Tensor, Hacksemble

COROT: Good Evening, fellow hackers! *(pause)* I said, "Good Evening, fellow hackers!"

HACKSEMBLE: *Ad lib response*

COROT: This is a thrilling time!

HACKSEMBLE: *Ad lib response*

COROT: A time for everyone to hone new skills.

HACKSEMBLE: *Ad lib response*

COROT: Pushing our limits, setting new standards.

HACKSEMBLE: *Ad lib response*

COROT: Doing something challenging!

HACKSEMBLE: *Ad lib response*

COROT: We won't just drop this hack down in the grass of Killian Court-

HACKSEMBLE: No way!

COROT: Our target?

HACKSEMBLE: The dome!

Gospel Preacher Feel, Actors lead

9

Upbeat Gospel ♩ = 120

10 **COROT**
 Yes the dome! _____ Now let's be - gin. Let's think this
 11 12 13 14 15
 16 through _____ A hack is so much more than some-thing cle-ver on _____ a
 17 18 19 20
 21 roof. Hacks must be safe, pre - me - di-tat - ed, de - li - ber - at - ed cal - cu - la - ted, to
 22 23 24 25
 26 make them work, we think be - fore we hack. I've got the
 27 28 29 **TESS**
 30 plans Here, take a look. _____ We've star - ted the de -
 31 32 33 34
 S/A HACKSEMBLE
 Brand _____ new plans. Ah _____
 T/B HACKSEMBLE
 Brand _____ new plans Ah _____

35 36 37 COROT 38 39

sign and it's am - bi-tious but ___ thought out. We want this up for Hall-ow-een, ___ now

Thought out.

Thought out.

40 41 42 43 44

grab your tools and your caf-feine, and eve-ry bo-dy meet our build-ing leads.

Meet our build-ing

Meet our build-ing

45 TESS 46 47 48 49 FARADAY

I'm head-ing up the Dra-gon Wing. ___ And

leads. (Claps) (continue claps through singing) Oooh, Dra-gon - Wing. ___

leads. Oooh, Dra-gon Wing. ___

50 51 52 53 COROT

I'm in charge of the Sci-ence Box. ___ We

Oooh, Sci-ence Box. ___

Oooh, Sci-ence Box. ___

54 55 56 57 58

still need a lead for the squid net, Some - bo - dy who's an ex - pert with rope.

TENSOR: You've "ROPED" me in, I can lead. You know I'll "KNOT" let you down!

HACKSEMBLE: (groans at puns)

COROT: Thank you Tensor.

TENSOR: You bet!

COROT: And bondage doesn't count...

59 60 61 **VAMP**

62 **COROT** 63 64 65 66

This is your chance, for hands on learn - ing. Now
Here's our chance. Hands on skills!
Here's our chance. Hands on skills!

67 68 69 70 **TESS** 71

don't be shy, look to your leads! They're here to help you out. Just ask us an - y
Ah
Ah

TESS, FARADAY, and TENSOR

72 73 74 75 76 77

ques - tions ___ and we'll help you find the an - swers 'Cause hack - ing is an awesome way to learn.

We want to

We want to

78 79 COROT 80 81 82 83

O - kay we'll learn! How to de - ploy. ___ It's an

learn!

Time ___ to learn! We'll de - ploy.

learn!

Time ___ to learn! We'll de - ploy.

84 85 86 87 88

art of tac - tics art of skill, an art of me - thods, art of will. ___ It is an art of...

Ah

Ah

KEPLER: Oh, I'm sorry. I must be interrupting something important. Please, carry on. Don't mind me.

(Kepler exits)

RYAN: Who was that?!

TENSOR: So, that's Kepler. He's sort of an angst source and a happiness sink. Basically, he's a dick.

TESS: Hey, let's not get off track! Who wants to help me build?

BILLY: I want to help, but I don't know... I mean, I've never done this before...

89 90

91 TESS 92 93 94 95 96

No need to fret, eve-ry one starts some - where. All of us have

97 98 99 100 COROT 101

skills to learn, so no need to de - spair. All you need to do is try When we

Rubato

102 103 104 105 106 107 108

work to-ge - ther our hack will fly. to Our tar - get the dome!

HACKSEMBLE S/A
To Our tar - get, the dome!

HACKSEMBLE T/B
To Our tar - get the dome!

Upbeat Gospel ♩ = 120

109 110 111 112 113

Our tar - get! Yeah, our

Now let's go

Now let's go

114 115 116 117 118 119

tar - get! We're read - y, let's go pull this hack!

pull this Hack! Let's go pull this hack!

pull this Hack! Lets go pull this hack!

BUILDING

11

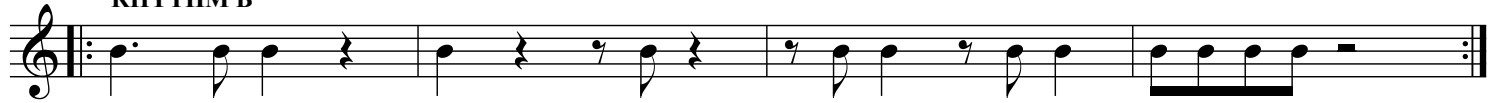
Corot, Tess, Billy, Tensor, Faraday, Hunter, Electra,
Mags, Ryan, Conner, Piston, Hacksemble

The following rhythm patterns are suggested rhythms to be included in the choreography of the actors in the scene.
Each rhythm could be assigned to a different group working on the hack.

RHYTHM A



RHYTHM B



RHYTHM C



Cue: (Lights Up)

STORY JACK: By day, hackers may seem like ordinary MIT students, but at night, they transform into the creatures they truly are.

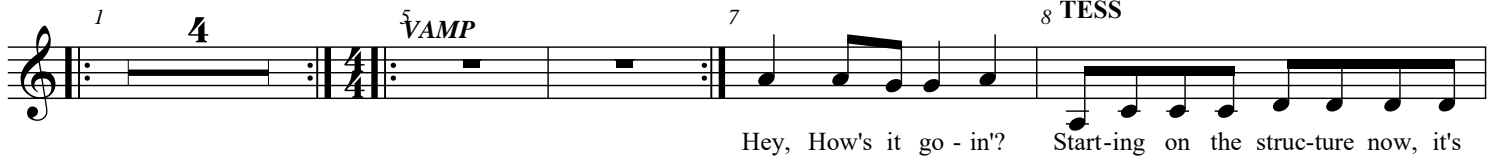
They abandon their problem sets, sleep and sanity to pour their souls into their real work.

TESS: All right, team Dragon Wing! Here are the specs for what we're building. Everybody grab a partner and some 2x4's! if you don't have experience, find someone who does. Hmm... looks like we've got odd numbers - that's fine, you'll just work with me. Billy... right?

BILLY: Yup! And you're Tess! Right? Where do we start?

TESS: Grab that drill, and I'll show you how this all works.

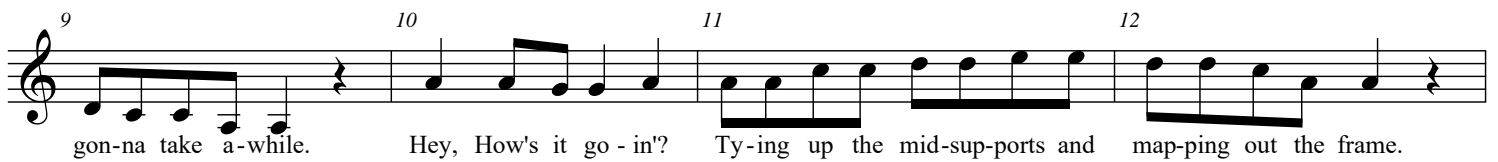
COROT



Hey, How's it go - in'? Start-ing on the struc-ture now, it's

COROT

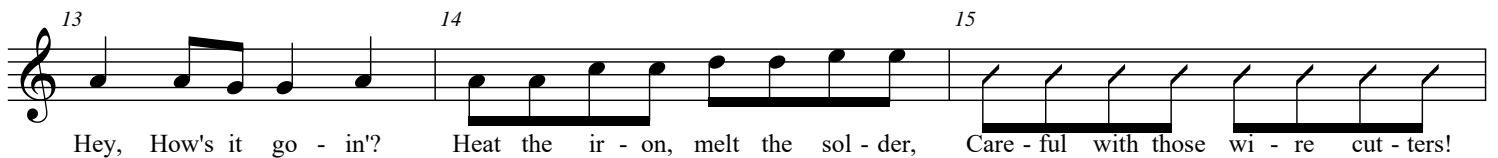
TENSOR



gon-na take a-while. Hey, How's it go - in'? Ty-ing up the mid-sup-ports and map-ping out the frame.

COROT

FARADAY



Hey, How's it go - in'? Heat the ir - on, melt the sol - der, Care - ful with those wi - re cut - ters!

BILLY: Hey Tess, this screw just won't go in. What am I doing wrong?

TESS: You're probably just not pressing hard enough. I bet you're stripping the screw.

Here, let me show you how to do it.

You feel how hard you need to push? Now you try.

BILLY: Thanks Tess!

TESS: You're welcome.

16 **3** 19 **VAMP** **2**

21 **TESS** 22 23 24

My friends are here___ and en - er-gized!

BILLY

I

25 26 **TESS** 27 28 29

More prog - ress___ is made each time I___ come

get to build___ a hack. ___

30 **TESS** 31 32 33 34 **TESS**

back. This hack will___ be ex-cel-ent! It's pure awe - some - ness! I have

BILLY

This hack will___ be ex-cel-ent! It's pure awe - some - ness!

35 36 37 38 39

tru - ly___ found pa - ra___ dise,

BILLY

I'll be hard - k0re, ___ Yes!

COROT: All right, one week down let's see if we're on schedule.

40 **VAMP** 41 42 **COROT** 43 **TESS** **HUNTER**

Hey, How's it go - in'? Main sup - ports are al - most built. I

44 COROT 45 TESS 46

think it's bro - ken. Hmmm... When we get more pipes it should be eas - y to get it

+HS 1 HS 2 WHOLE HS 48 49 50 COROT 51 TENSOR

done! Fi - nished! Yeah! Hey, how you do - in? Wait - ing on the rope we ord - ered

52 FARADAY ELECTRA 53 MAGS 54 55

Sleep is for the luck - y. We'll have to stay up late to fin - ish. Yeah! May - be all night...

RYAN: Hey everybody, check out these parts Billy found on re-use!
BILLY: You said we needed more pipes, right?
TESS: This is awesome, this is exactly what we need!
CONNER: Good, because Billy punted 8.01 in order to find them. He even punted recitation for-
BILLY: Can you help me carry them over to that corner?

56 **11**

67 **2** 69

70 TESS 71 72 73

These ex - tra ma - ter - i - als are just what we

74 75 76

need. Bil - ly's pick - ing things up fast, and

77 78 79

tak - ing a lead. I can't help but

80 81 82 83

catch his eye. Eve - ry now and then. I real - ly

84 hope I get to work with him — a - - - gain.

88 **2** 90 **COROT** 91 **TENSOR** **ELECTRA**

Hey, how's it go - in'? The rope we or - dered fina - lly came! It's

92 **MAGS** 93 94 **HUNTER** **RYAN**

real - ly thick! I like the col - or. Struc - ture's done now. Heat the ir - on.

95 **TENSOR** **RYAN** 96 **PISTON** **MAGS** 97 **CONNER** **FARADAY**

Start the net-ting! Melt the sol-der. No! It's crook-ed... I have rope burn. Yes! It's ev-en! Sleep-y time now!

98 **COROT** 99 **RYAN** 100

Hey how you do - in'? Fa - ra - day just conked out so I'm look - ing for a light - er.

COROT: What? Don't do that!

RYAN: But he said-

COROT: No fire! But we do need to wake him up. He has to finish those circuit boards today. Let's go get him some caffeine.

PISTON: If you put down the five twelve book, we can get this done faster.

CONNER: But we might have a test this week and-

KEPLER: Disgraceful. This looks like it was built by a third grader.

PISTON: Kepler. Out. Now.

KEPLER: You're not even using the proper tools. Pathetic.

PISTON: Leave

CONNER: Hey! You're that guy from before, the one who...

KEPLER: The one who what?

CONNER: I... nevermind.

KEPLER: That's what I thought. You're wasting your time here being a talking clamp. Good luck graduating.

ELECTRA: Sorry about him.

101 **7**

MAGS: He's got lots of problems

COROT: There are no problems here.

108 **2** 110 **COROT** 111 112 **CONNER**

Three more weeks to go, and we're a-head of sche-dule. Hey, how's it go - in'? I've

113 114 **PISTON** **CONNER** 115 **COROT**

nev - er worked this hard but it's re - ward - ing! Told you. Yeah I know... Hey, how's it go - in'?

116 **FARADAY** 117 **RYAN** **FARADAY** **RYAN** 118 **FARADAY** **TENSOR**

Hold this! Does it burn your hand!? It feels o - kay. I win! It's ooz - ing some-thing. Oh no...

119 **HUNTER** 120 **CONNER** **RYAN** **FARADAY** 121 **PISTON**

Should I re-do it? Watch out! Oops... I lost the part. A - gain? No. Dam-mit, stup - id bad!

122 123 **COROT** 124 125 **VAMP**

On - ly two more weeks to go? We need to pick up the pace.

BILLY: Whoa! It's already 3AM?

TESS: Yeah, time flies. Don't let me hold you here if you have to go tool.

BILLY: Nah, I only have half a pset left for the week, and besides, I'd rather be here with you. I mean, to build the hack.

TESS: Right.

BILLY: Right.

TESS: Let's take a look at the roof attachments. I'll go grab the plans..

126 2 128 2 130

131 **TESS** 132 133

Oh. Sud - den - ly, my

BILLY

Wait. What's ___ this?

134 135 136

neu - rons won't ___ con - nect. Could ___ it

But I know...

137 138 139

be? We're bound to inter-sect!
We're bound to inter-sect!

140 141 142

Yes, This is optimal, I cherish the
Yes, This is optimal, I cherish the

BILLY: Hey Tess, were we going to look at the plans?

TESS: Right!

143 144 145 146 147

thought! Almost forgot.
thought!

SPRINKLES: What's all this hammering and to-do about?

COROT: Oh, hello officers! We're just working on a project! Isn't it great when an art class gets you to use such practical skills like construction and electrical engineering?

KALF: Let's move on sir, they're just working on some art project.

SPRINKLES: There's something fishy about this "art project" of yours.

COROT: Oh, Sergeant, art has always been controversial. Let's go outside and I'll tell you all about modern art. You may have seen some around campus!

148

18

COROT: It often requires a lot of scrap metal...

166 168 169 170

Tess, This screw is not

171 TESS 172 173 174 175

Here, let me see. I think that it's stripped.

Go ing in. I

BILLY

176 TESS 177 178 179 180

Let's ap-ply more pres-sure here to drill in this

think I a - gree.

TESS: Maybe we should screw together

TESS: It's in.

BILLY: And it feels perfect.

(HUNTER interrupts)

181 182 183 184 185

screw!

THE NOVEMBAT

12

Cue: Well let me tell you...

Hunter, Billy, Tess, Hacksemble

Ominous, slow and steady

1 HUNTER 2 3 4 5

Though "Mens et Man-us" may be our de-cree, when heard out-side the school.

6 7 8 9 10

Here it's Pa-re-te le-gi No-vem-bri. O-bey the No - vem-ber Rule! Be - fore No-vem - ber -

HACKSEMBLE, S/A/T/B (Men 8vb)

Pa-re-te le-gi No-vem-bri. Pa-re-te le - gi No-vem-bri!

11 12 13 14

Keep off the frosh. All ske - tchy fee - lings must be squashed. The fool that breaks this

Pa - re - te le-gi No-vem-bri! Pa-re-te le-gi No-vem-bri! Pa-re-te le - gi No-vem-bri! Pa-re-te le-gi No-vem-bri!

15 16 17

sa - cred law, soon feels cruel tooth and nail and claw

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

HUNTER: You see Billy, a freshman and an upperclassman shouldn't even think of dating until November 1st! There are consequences for such actions.

BILLY: Oh come on, it's not like a nightmare horror maw creature will come and devour our bodies and feast on our entrails if we... is it?

VAMP 18

HACKSEMBLE

19 20 21

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

p

22 23 24 25

HUNTER

There's a curse that hand - hold - ing

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

mf

26 27 28

brings. The No - vem - bat with gi - ant leather - y wings,

The Nov - em - bat Gi - ant leather - y

The Nov - em - bat Gi - ant leather - y

S/A

T/B

29 30 31

Comes to increase your P set blues by fill-ing up the print-er queues. That's sure to end most

wings.

Ah The print-er queues. Will end them.

wings.

Ah The-print-er queues. Will end them.

wings.

32 33 34

aut - umn flings.

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri!

f Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri!

You're gon - na be late.

35 36 **BILLY (8vb) and TESS** 37

Oh no, we're not, we're

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri! Oh no. They say,

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri! Oh no. They say,

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri! Oh no. They say,

38 39 40 41

just good friends, That's not at all what we in - tend.

they're just good friends. Pa-re-te le-gi No-vem-bri!

they're just good friends. In-tend, in - tend. No-vem-bri!

they're just good friends. In-tend, in - tend. No-vem-bri!

45 HUNTER

42 43 44

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

46 47 48

hug and ling - er too long. The No - vem - bat with

Too long, too long, too long, too long. The Nov - em - bat

Too long, too long, too long, too long. The Nov - em - bat

49 50 51

pu - trid stin - king maw. It's breath will cause com - plete se - da - tion, you'll lose the skill of int - e - gra - tion.

It has a maw. Int - e - gra - tion.

It has a maw. Int - e - gra - tion

52 53 54 55

That could be the fin - al straw!

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri!

You suck at math! It's gon - na

Hack, Punt, Tool

56 57 **BILLY (upper line 8vb) and TESS** 58

You've got it wrong,

Par - et - e le - gi No - vem - bri! Oh no, Ah —

kill you! Won't let it, will you? Ah —

59 60 61 62

we'll be fine. We have ne - ver crossed that line.

You can-not hide. Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

You can-not hide. It's gon - na eat your in - sides.

63 64 65 66 **HUNTER**

If you

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri! Pa - re - te le - gi No - vem - bri!

67 68 69 *p*

fuck 'cause you could - 'nt re - sist. The No - vem - bat with

p Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck *f* The Nov - em - bat

Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck The Nov - em - bat

BRING DOWN THE HACK

14

Cue: Tess, can you take the lead? I'll catch up.

Corot, Kepler, Hacksemble

COROT: Kepler, we need to talk. You need to stop--
KEPLER: I don't think there's anything to discuss.

3 4 COROT

Ev - er

5 6 7 8

since soph-omore year, I've put up with your sneer-ing. Your lurk-ing your smirk-ing, eve-ry sing-le day! You

9 10 11 12

snark at the team and in sult our en-gin-eer-ing, My pa-tience is gone, this be - ha-vior's not o-kay.

KEPLER

Aw,

13 14 15

what's not o-kay? Tell-ing you the facts? I can't be lieve you won't ad - mit. you

16 COROT 17 18

Kep - ler! Stop right now!

lead hacks for your ben - e - fit, the frosh think you're a her - o it's such a big mi-stake.

19 20 21 COROT 22

You think I'll be -

KEPLER

Quit your phon - y act, you're just a worth-less fake! You think I'll be -

39 40 41 **COROT**

That's not it Kep - ler that's why

Ma ster ov - er-all ____ You're the might - y o - ver-lord. ____

42 43 44 45

you would want to lead. On-ly you want the praise, on-ly you have that need. This hack is not for me! It's

46 47 48 49

for them all to see that hack ing's a tra di tion u nique to M I T.

50 **COROT** 51 52 53

You think I'll ____ be - lieve you?! ____

KEPLER

You think I'll ____ be - lieve you?! ____ No - bo - dy cares ____ a - bout your

54 55 56 57

A re - a - li - ty check ____ is ov - er - due, I'm not gon - na sa - cri -

god - damn hack! A re - a - li - ty check ____ is way ov - er - due. Ha!

58 59 60 61

fice this hack 'cause it's not all ____ a - bout ____ you.

Then you'll see! 'cause it's not all ____ a - bout ____ you.

KEPLER: I'm telling you, no one cares!

COROT: Kepler, please. I just want everyone to have a good time and --

KEPLER: You only want what's best for you. These freshmen will learn who you are.

COROT: That's it. I give up, you're not even listening. I've told you for the last time that this is unacceptable.

62

4

66 67 68

COROT

You need to leave, no more in - ti - mi -

Oo

Oo

69 70

da - tion. Stop scar - ing the team and push - ing us off

71 72

track. I'm done with you you're just an ag - gra -

73 74 75

va-tion. Please go a-way, and stop bring-ing down the hack.

KEPLER: Bring down the hack?
 Bring down the hack! Oh, I'll
 bring down the hack!

76 77 78 79

Aah

VAMP

80 **KEPLER** 81

That's all you care a-bout these days, how humb-le! This

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

82 83

stu-pid hack and all the glo-ry in store. But

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

84 85

if you got caught, your plans would start to crumb-le. And

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

86 87 88 89

no one would follow you any more.

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

KEPLER: Hello, Officer? Hi, I was just looking out the window and I saw some people on the roof of buiding 10. I think you should send someone over right away. *(pause)* No, thank you, officer. *(hang up)*

KEPLER: Your services are greatly appreciated.

90 91 *VAMP* 92 93

Bring down the hack! Bring down the hack!

Bring down the hack! Bring down the

DISTRACTION TANGO

15

Electra, Mags, Pachino, Claw, Sprinkles, Kalf, Hacksemble

Cue: What better way to become undetectable -

STORY JACK: --Than to distract the detectors.

ELECTRA: Definitely

PACHINO: You of all people to pick up the phone! You can't even remember what building number? Is this even close?

CLAW: I think so, though Boston gets pretty cold in October.

CLAW: I don't think anyone would be doing anything tonight.

Tango ♩ = 140

7 8 **ELECTRA** 9 10 11

Flux to Muse, a - lert, we have seen some C P's out - side of buil - ding

12 13 14 15 **ELECTRA and MAGS**

three They're head - ing your way but there's no need to rush. We will hold up the

16 17 18

law.

PACHINO

Keep a look out Claw, I thought I heard a noise

19 **CLAW** 20 **PACHINO** 21

Must be some of those hack - ers! Yeah! One of those de - ploys. As they sneak through the night They should

22 23 24 25 26 **MAGS**

My

PACHINO and CLAW

know we de - light in up - hold - ing the law!

27 3 3 28 3 29 3 30 **ELECTRA**

dar-ling, my an - gel, your eyes how they shine! You must press your bo dy to mine. Such an

31 3 3 32 3 **a tempo ELECTRA and MAGS** 33 3 34

in - ti - mate feel - ing to - night I know we... will hold up the law.

35 **PACHINO** 36 3 37 3

Oh what have we here, They're act - ing odd, no doubt. Why are they in Kil - li - an?

38 **CLAW** **PACHINO** 39 3 40 3

They're ma - king out, Though they'll try to dis - tract, we'll see through their act.

41 **PACHINO and CLAW** 42 3

We're up - hol - ding the law!

CLAW: Um... excuse me?

ELECTRA: What? Officers, I'm sorry, did you want something?

CLAW: Well, I didn't mean to intrude, but...

MAGS: You're not intruding, we were just sharing an intimate moment.

CLAW: I don't know, they just seem to be sharing an intimate-

PACHINO: Don't be so dense! It's a trick! I'm telling you, something's going on, something very strange.

MAGS: Your breasts are amazing!

(loud noise)

PACHINO: You hear that?

CLAW: Are you sure it's not the intimate moment that-

PACHINO: Don't be ridiculous! I'm calling for backup! And stop saying "intimate!"

43 **VAMP** 4

PACHINO: *(over Electra's verse):* Officer Frey Pachino to Sergeant Sprinkles, Officer Frey Pachino to Sergeant Sprinkles. Sprinkles come in! Sprinkles come in!

47 **ELECTRA** 48 3 49 3 50 3 51

Flux to Muse, there's a problem, they're on-to us now. We'll keep them bu-sy some - how. You should

ELECTRA and MAGS

52 prob - ab - ly head down now, and 53 3 try to stay low. 54 We will hold up the 55 3 law.

PACHINO

CLAW

56 Sprink-les it's Pa - chi - no. 57 3 It's ur - gent I swear. 58 3 They're sure to be hack - ers 'cause

PACHINO

PACHINO and CLAW

59 they have fun-ny hair. 60 3 Though they'll try to suc-ceed in the 61 3 end they'll con-cede. 62 3 We're up-hol-ding the

Grand March

MAGS

63 Long band 64 rad - i - o waves! 65 3 The waves are the da - ta we 66 3 need for our class, and

ELECTRA

67 now we'll ne - ver 68 pass. 69 3 Please stop your trans - mis - sions, stay 70 3 fif - ty smoots a - way.

ELECTRA and MAGS

Back to Tango Feel

71 Go up - hold the 72 3 law 73 some-where else. 74

CLAW

Hold on, Pa - chi - no.

PACHINO

75 They're do-ing sci-ence here. 76 3 We should be re-spect-ful. And 77 3 let them dis-sap-pear? No! these 78 3 hack-ers are slick. It

CLAW

PACHINO and CLAW

79 must be a trick. 80 3 so I'm tel - ling you... 81 3 Yes, you're right 82 3 we'll keep up - hold - ing the law!

SPRINKLES: Where are they? Goddammit! I was drafting the plans for the blimp!

PACHINO: We got a tip and we headed here immediately, and when we got here, we heard these noises coming - [from the dome!]

MAGS: Whaaaaaaaaaaaat an exciting night! There sure are a lot of you! This is perfect, I was looking for a ride home.

CLAW: Oh, you should have said so earlier.

PACHINO: All right, fine, Claw take her home.

MAGS: And I need four people to drive me... *(musical flourish)* I have a phobia... *(loud noises on roof)*

SPRINKLES: That's it, I'm going up there!

Frenzied Tango ♩ = 160

111 **MAGS** 112 **KALF** 113 **ELECTRA** 114

Nah, just having fun. Sir, you're act-ing par-a - noid a-gain. What I...

SPRINKLES **SPRINKLES** **PACHINO** **SPRINKLES**

You're a trick - y one! You're hi-ding something. Hey, stop that! I

115 **CLAW** 116 **SPRINKLES** **KALF** 117 118

Hey there Sergeant! Stop that Claw! This is siHy sir!

PACHINO **MAGS**

know there's something! Yeah, this is ur-gent. Yeah, there's nothing to see!

PACHINO: Claw!

MAGS: Hey! How's it going, Officer?

PACHINO: You're not going to trick me! Even if you don't have backpacks!

CLAW: Hey, Officer Kalf, would you like to join me?

KALF: Officer Claw, I don't think this is proper.

SPRINKLES: You're not going to win!

ELECTRA: Oh Sergeant, it's not about winning, it's about dancing!

PACHINO: Claw! Shut up!

SPRINKLES: Goddammit, I won't give up so easily! Just... need... to... find... those... goddamn... hackers... where's... my... flash... light?

119 **22**

STORY JACK: Hey everyone! Just a moment, we're experiencing some minor difficulties, not to worry...

OFFSTAGE CP: Hey! Who's that over there?

STORY JACK: I have to go! Oh, and if anyone happens to find you, remember, you are:

STORY JACK and AUDIENCE: -on your way to Baker House!

(SPRINKLES spotlights hackers on the dome)

141 **4**

145 ELECTRA and MAGS 146 147 148

We will hold up the law. We will hold up we are COPS.

We're up hold - ing the law. We're up

HACKSEMBLE S/A

Hold up the

Hold up the

149 3 150 151 152 153

hold - ing up, hold - ing up the law!

hold - ing, up hold - ing up. the law!

hold - ing up, hold - ing up the law!

hold - ing up, hold - ing up the law!

~Intermission~

SPRINKLES' ADMONITION 16

Sprinkles, Claw, Kalf, Pachino

STORY JACK: Hi, everybody! Sorry for our brief interruption. When we left off, our hackers had just been snatched by the clutches of the law and taken to the campus police station. The hackers had no choice but to cooperate and see what punishment was in store for them!

SPRINKLES: Up against the wall!

PACHINO: You'd better cooperate!

SPRINKLES: Now, I know why you're here, you know why you're here, and I know you know I know why you're here, so let's not waste anyone's time, shall we?

CLAW: Mission accomplished, sir! The intimate couple is safely back at Baker House!

SPRINKLES: Claw, I asked you to bring those two back here!

KALF: Sir, we have our hands full here as it is.

SPRINKLES: Goddammit! But we... we... nevermind!

SPRINKLES: Now then...

1 *VAMP* 2 15 17 18 *VAMP*

19 **SPRINKLES** 20 21

8 You as - sumed you were cle - ver, you'd nev - er be caught, you were

22 23 24 25

8 cock-y, how-ev-er, I'm win-ning, you're not! Yes you sure had your fun, but I'm done act-ing nice, when you

26 27 28 29

8 tang - o with jus - tice you must pay the price!

CLAW, KALF and PACHINO

8 When you tang - o with jus - tice you must pay the price!

30 31 **SPRINKLES** 32 33

8 You've scoffed at the law and you sneered in it's face, you've

34 35 36

8 tres - passed, you ought to be put in your place! Did you think you'd sneak by did you

37 38 39 40

think you'd slip through, Did you all real-ly have noth-ing bet-ter to do?

CLAW, KALF and PACHINO

Did you all real-ly have noth-ing

41 42 43 SPRINKLES 44 45

Yet, what - ev - er has caused your un - law - ful de - but, when

bet-ter to do?

46 47 48 49 50

you break the law, the law will break you!

SPRINKLES: How We can make you rake leaves or pick shall we punish you?

CLAW, KALF, and PACHINO

The law will break you! Ah

51 52 53 54

up ci - ga-rettes! But ev - en those tasks aren't as bad as it gets! We can send you to bath-rooms and

Ah Ah

55 56 57

make you scrub floors, catch rats with your hands as just one of your chores, We can

Ah

58 59 60 61

strike you from class es and hike your tu - i - tion, can - cel your re - search wi - thout your per - miss - ion, and if

Ah Ah

62 63 64 65

that's not e nough to show you what the price is we'll im - plant you with per - ma - nent track - ing de - vic - es, be -

Ah Ah

66 67 68 69

smirch all your re - cords, and if we're com - pelled, we can take it much fur - ther, take it much fur - ther,

Ah Ah Ah Ah

70 71 72 73

SPRINKLES: Yes, that's it... the worst punishment of all...

You'll all be exp

SPRINKLES is cutoff by a ringing phone.

Ah

WANK, WANK, WANK**18***Cue: No! It. Doesn't.*

Kepler, Corot, Hacksemble

KEPLER: Ah, here they come. This will be fun.

4 **KEPLER** 5 6 **HS, BILLY, and TESS** 7

8 9 10 11 **KEPLER** 12

13 **COROT** 14 15 16

17 18 **KEPLER** 19 20 21

22 23 24 **KEPLER** 25

PISTON

26 27 28

fend. **MAGS** **ELECTRA** **MAGS**

Hey we told Ten - sor three times! So how did you not hear? We were warn ing you...

29 **ELECTRA and MAGS** **MAGS** 30 **HS, BILLY/TESS**

Cops were on their way so why weren't you punt-ing? They told you cops were com-ing.

32 33 34 35

KEPLER

Then they'll throw more blame a-round.

+E&M

Clear-ly it's your fault. Why weren't you lis-ten-ing?

36 37 38 **HS, Group 1**

TENSOR

Hey! I was do-ing my job. I nev-er heard your warn-ings! It's all your fault

Yeah right!
PISTON

39 40 **HS, Group 2** 41

TENSOR

Yes it is!

C P's caught us hack ing If you were look ing for some-one to blame, try

42 43 44 **COROT** 45

Pis ton, She's real-ly loud She got us caught! Calm down,___ guys, Calm down!___

46 47 48 49 **KEPLER** 50

Eve-ry-one will just keep wank-ing.

No use yel-ling ov-er stu-pid things. Let's just talk this through.

Vocal Score

Adlib Yelling: "Hey don't look here-", "Shut up!", "I never want to work with you again!", "I never want to work on another hack again!", "You should do your damn job!", "It's not her fault, she was trying!", "Quit getting so defensive!"

51 52 53 54 55 56

57 58 **5 KEPLER** 60 61

Now he'll pick a tar-get as the crod de-scends, but now it's not the dome, the

COROT: Stop! This hack is tearing us apart. It's not worth fighting over. Let's just forget the hack.

62 63 64 **VAMP** 65 66 **KEPLER**

tar - get is his friends. How can this be so? Or

ELECTRA: Find someone else next time.

MAGS: We're done with this!
VAMP

67 68 69

did you just ex - press a gen - u - ine con - cern a - bout your team's dis - tress?

71 72 **KEPLER** 73 74

What have I just done? I hoped that I'd ex - pose your sense-less dis - re - gard for

75 76 77 78 79

every-body's woes. You did not accuse an - y-one at all, or stab them in the back you listened to your friends and

80 81 82 83 84 **COROT**

sac - ri - ficed the hack. I did-n't mean to let you

85 86 87 **3**

down.

KEPLER **3**

I on - ly meant to _____

COROT: The hack is over. Please just go home. Get some sleep.

KEPLER: Did that really just happen?

90 **4**

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE 21

THAN TOOLING

Cue: *Wow, back in the day you guys were so hardk0re!*

Kepler, Billy

BILLY: You've done so much epic stuff!

Slow, Pensive Rubato

2

3

KEPLER

4

That's not what hard - k0re ____ means. It means "I was

Moving ♩ = 150

dumb, but I sur vived." I'm sick of your man - tra! Stu - pid frosh - y kids. You

all want to be hard - k0re! You just want to be hard - kore.

KEPLER: *(sigh)* Don't you see?

13

14

KEPLER

15

16

17

There is more to M I T than earn - ing your de -

gree. You could hide a - way all day with Diff E - Q.

But you'll find that in ____ the end. work - ing with a

friend. Is a for - mu - la ____ for lov - ing what you do. 'cause there's

more to life ____ than tool - ing don't you know. ____

BILLY: I think I see where you're going

34

35

36 **BILLY** 37 38 39 40

If you start to feel burnt out, you should punt with - out a doubt. But

41 42 43 44 45

angst - ing all a - lone won't help at all. 'Cause when you're in di -

46 47 48 49

stress, You can de - com - press. By spend - ing time — with

50 51 52 53 54

peop - le on your hall. There is more to life — than punt - ing, and there's

55 56 57 58

more to life — than tool - ing don't you know. —

59 **KEPLER** 60 61 **BILLY** 62 63 **KEPLER: and BILLY** Yeah! **BILLY**

There is more to pull - ing hacks than sto - ries from the Jacks. A

64 65 66 67 68

hack is up for just a fleet - ing span. There is no real

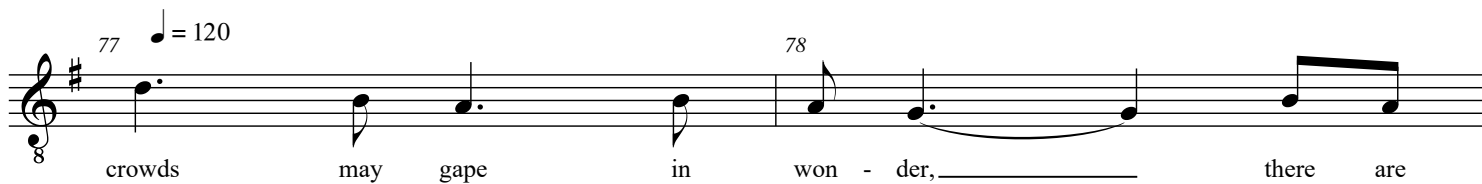
69 70 71 72

mean - ing — spend - ing ho - urs on ma - chin - ing. if your team's no clos - er

73 74 75 76 **KEPLER**

than it first be - gan. — While the

77 $\text{♩} = 120$



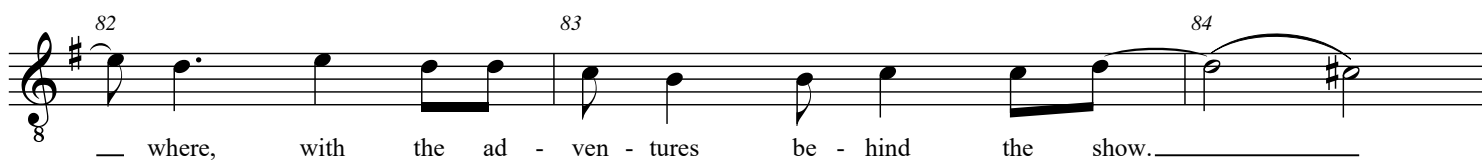
crowds may gape in won - der, there are

79 80 **BILLY** 81



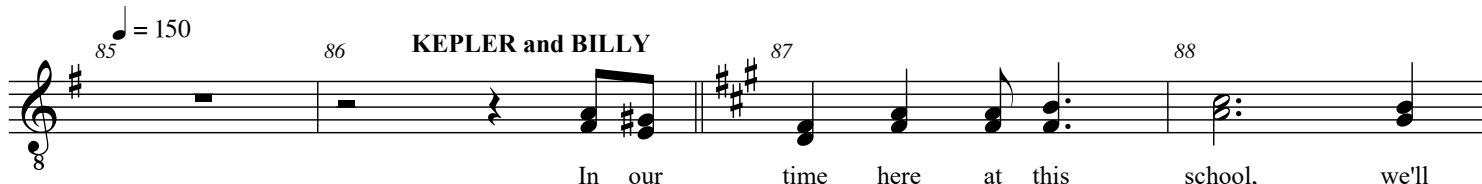
sto - ries they'll nev - er know. 'Cause the real mag - ic hap - pens else

82 83 84



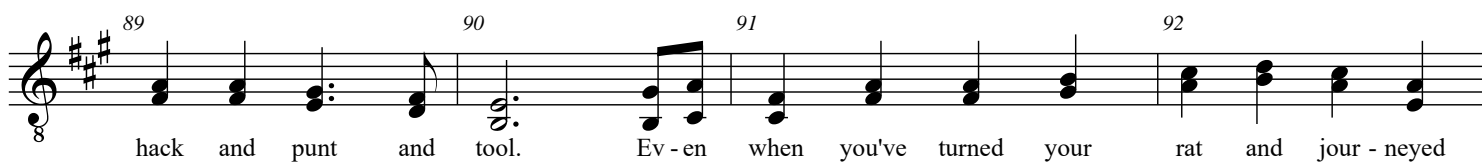
where, with the ad - ven - tures be - hind the show.

85 $\text{♩} = 150$ 86 **KEPLER and BILLY** 87 88



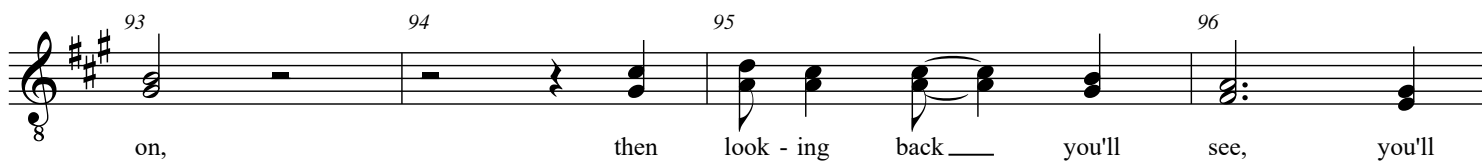
In our time here at this school, we'll

89 90 91 92



hack and punt and tool. Ev - en when you've turned your rat and jour - neyed

93 94 95 96



on, then look - ing back you'll see, you'll

97 98 99 100



find your heart will be With the peop - le who stayed up with you 'til

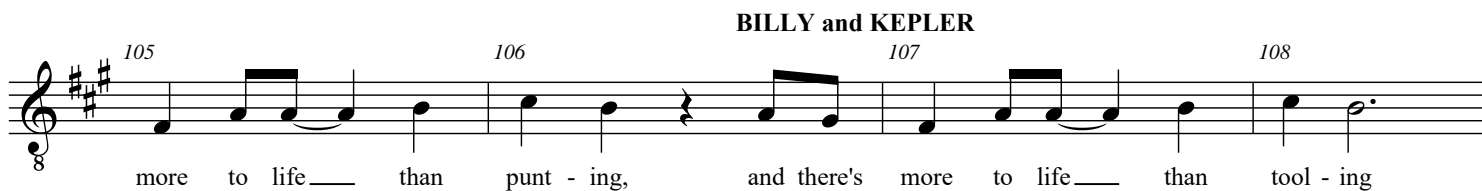
101 102 **BILLY** 103 104 **KEPLER**



dawn. There is more to life than hack - ing Yeah there's

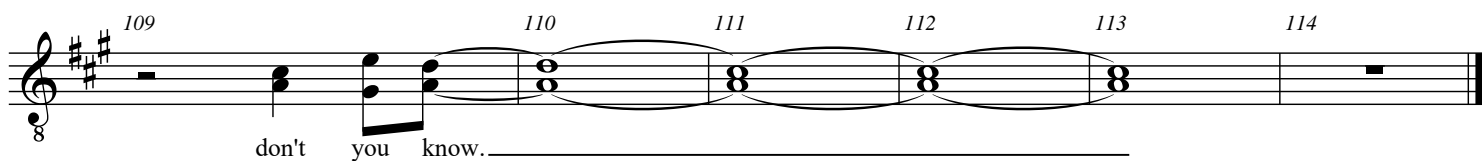
BILLY and KEPLER

105 106 107 108



more to life than punt - ing, and there's more to life than tool - ing

109 110 111 112 113 114



don't you know.

REBUILDING

23

Billy, Ryan, Conner, Hunter, Electra,

Mags, Faraday, Piston, Corot

Cue: Come on, we've got the plans, we can do this.

2 3 BILLY RYAN 4

Hey, how's it go - in'? I think this fits, but then a - gain

5 6 BILLY 7 CONNER 8

Oh, ne-ver mind. Hey, how's it go - in'? Guess it's work-ing but I al-so don't know what I'm do-ing.

BILLY: Keep working then...*Hunter enters***HUNTER:** What are you froshbags doing around here. Didn't the hack end?**BILLY:** For Corot, maybe, but we want to keep doing this.**HUNTER:** What, so you think you frosh can just come in here and do all this even though you've never done it before?**BILLY:** Yes we do! We're going to keep working on it because we three are a team!**HUNTER:** Fuck that! We four are a team. Here, move over, Conner, let me hold that for you.**HUNTER:** Also, eat a goddamn cookie,
you need your strength.

9 6 15 VAMP 2 ELECTRA MAGS

Hey! What ya do - in'?

18 BILLY 19 ELECTRA MAGS 20 RYAN: Here, help me. 21

Fin - ish - ing this hack up, do you want to help? Why not? Al - right!

22 3 25 BILLY 26 FARADAY 27

Hey, where ya off to? Sleep or some-thing, did-n't this thing end? You need some help?

28 5 33 BILLY 34 HUNTER FARADAY PISTON 35 RYAN 36 BILLY CONNER

Hey, how's it goin'? Doin' well. Hey wanna help? O - kay. I think I've got this! Hey, lookin' good! Thanks!

37 BILLY 38 39 40 41 (COROT enters)

Hey, how's it go - in'? Hey how ya do - in'? Hey, keep it up now. Hey awe-some work there! Hey...

PLATONIC FRIENDS AGAIN 26

Billy, Tess

Cue: Rule? Rule?? Please, we're past all that!

BILLY: Right! ² **BILLY** ³ ⁴ ⁵ **TESS**

There's no need ___ to be fright-ened. we're pla - ton-ic as ___ can be. Yessir-ee!

⁶ **TESS** ⁷ ⁸ ⁹ **BILLY**

Peop - le should ___ be en - light - ened. With the dat - a points re - gard - ing you and me... When I

¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹² ¹³ **TESS**

see you my heart ___ does - n't flu - tter. No but - ter - flies in ___ my chest. That's best! And as you

¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷

guessed it's the same ___ for me like - wise. You no long - er are that some - one that I wish I had ca - ressed.

¹⁸ **BILLY** ¹⁹ **TESS** ²⁰ **BILLY** ²¹ **TESS** ²² **BILLY**

Or cud - dled or em - braced. or squeezed or kissed... And

²³ ²⁴ **TESS** ²⁵ ²⁶ ²⁷

ev - en if we kissed, that would be o - kay! We'd be two pla - ton - nic friends who kiss in a

²⁸ ²⁹ ³⁰ **3** **TESS:** Nope! ³¹ **TESS** ³² ³³ ³⁴ ³⁵

to - tal - ly pla - to - nic way! You're the kind of pal ___ I can count on to

³⁶ ³⁷ **BILLY** ³⁸ ³⁹

save me a mov - ie seat. An y day! So long as the seat ___ you ac - count for is a

40 TESS 41 BILLY TESS 42 43 BILLY

coup - le rows a-way! Be-cause we're friends. And that's o-kay We're more like bro - thers than lov-ers. Right!

44 TESS 45 46 TESS 47 BILLY: I could f⁸ever kill you! BILLY

Just like A - bel and Cain. Ex-cept nei-ther of us ___ com-mits frat-ri-cide. Because I

49 TESS 50 51 52 TESS

see in you ___ some-one I'll nev-er for-get ___ some-one to pick me up ___ when I'm down on my luck. ___ Yes, I

53 TESS 54 55 56 57 TESS

see in you ___ some-one spe-cial to me, ___ some-one I just long to F...

TESS: -someone I just long to stand very far away from while talking about sports or the weather!

BILLY: I love the weather! I heard it was cloudy once...

TESS: Sometimes partly cloudy.

BILLY: And sometimes the clouds are so soft.

TESS: Sometimes two clouds are held apart by various unexplained weather patterns, even though both clouds would rather hold hands...

BILLY: The clouds?

TESS: It's some really upper level course 12 stuff...

BILLY: Right.

59 BILLY 60 61 BILLY 62 63 64

No mat - ter what we have wea - thered. ___ We've man-aged to ___ re-main

BILLY: I've heard that some couples can't stand to be apart. When they are, they close their eyes and imagine each other!

TESS: We have a healthier relationship!

65 TESS 66 67 68 69 70 TESS

free. I'm joy - ful that ___ we're not te-thered like lov-ers can of - ten be.

72 TESS 73 74 75 76

When I close my eyes ___ I see no-thing. Just no - thing, no-thing at all. ___

77 78 **BILLY** 79 80 81 **TESS**

Not you and I hold - ing hands. Or snugg - ling be - neath a blank - et. With no clothes on.

BILLY: Let's close our eyes
and not imagine it together!

TESS: Yes let's! (Pause)

82 **BILLY**

It's

83 **TESS** 84 **BOTH** 85 86 87

good to know it We've got so much to show it We're pla - to - nic friends a - gain!

HACKERS ON THE ROOF 28

Kepler, Corot, Billy, Tess, Hacksemble

8 9 **KEPLER** 10 11 12

Co - rot, Co - rot. You've got to get down, the C - P's are

13 14 15 16 17

on their way! Co - rot, Co - rot, Get off this roof now! There's no time to de - lay

KEPLER: The CP's- they took Faraday
hostage! They know you're up here!

COROT: No! You're the reason we were caught last time!

18 **3** 21 **COROT** 22 23 24 25 26

He called us in, that jerk sold us out. Now he

27 28 29 30 31 32

wants us to be - lieve he's our scout. He called the C P's to tell them where we

33 34 35 36 37

were. and now he's got the nerve to cause a - no - ther stir!

HACKSEMBLE

38 39 40

Kepler called the C - P's? What? — Are you jok-ing? Can't be - lieve you think that you can

41 42 43 44

show your face here. Stop get-ting in our way, stop — your pro-vok-ing. Let us be now, go a-way, you

45 46 47 48

need to dis-sap-pear! Kepler's a be-tray-er, should — be de-test-ed, Do ing eve-ry thing he can to

COROT

Stop this right now, we're pissed at you e -

49 50 51

get this hack to fail. Now he thinks we'll take what he — has sug-gest-ed, As

nough — We don't be - lieve a word, it's done, we

52 53 54

truth that will pro - tect us and will help us to pre - vail.

BILLY

I don't think Kepler wants to bring this

call your bluff.

55 56 57 58

hack down like you think, he could real-ly want to help us get a-way, If he is right and the

59 60 61 62 63

cops are on their way, is-n't it bet-ter to choose not to stay. Please, Co-rot list-en to me!

COROT

Ig - nore him frosh, he's just

64 65 66 67 68

Be cool and think this through. If we get caught we'll be... Lis-ten to me

try - ing to screw with us. He's a trai tor, there's is no - thing to dis -

69 **TESS** 70 71 72

You could check to see if Cage is still read-y at his post, it won't take too long, thir-ty

or you could check too.

COROT

cuss. It's a waste of

73 74 75 76

sec-onds at the most. if he is there we have no-thing to fear, this hack could be on the line, it's an

time _____ And I don't

77 78 79 80

ea-sy thing, so you should Be cool and think this through! You know what you should

BILLY

so you should Be cool and think this through! You know what you should

need to prove that he called us in. That jerk sold us

KEPLER

Co - rot, Co-rot, Please

81 82 HACKSEMBLE 83 84

Kep-ler called the C-P's, I can't be-lieve it. We can't

HACKSEMBLE

do. Just call up Cage. See if he's

do. Just call up Cage. See if he's

out. There's no way that I'll be-lieve he's our

lis-ten to me. I know, I know, I

Vocal Score

85 86 87

trust him. Stay out of our way now, leave us, just leave it.
there. Re - solve this now.
there. Re - solve this now.
scout. He called the C - P's and
screwed things up be - fore, but those times are through Co -

88 89 90 91

We don't fol low your whim.
You know how If he is right and the cops are on their way,
You know how
stabbed me in the back,
rot, Co-rot. Please lis - ten to me!

COROT: Fine! If that's what it takes to get on with this.

Lead to Cage, what's your status?

PACHINO: (offstage, via communication device) Uh, oh, hey lead, word up...? Everything's good down here. No police officers or anything.

COROT: You okay, Cage?

SPRINKLES: Goddammit, Pachino! That's not what they sound like!

CLAW: Hello, hazardous materials division?

SPRINKLES: Give me that!

CLAW: I'd like to report a potentially radioactive item -

PACHINO: Quiet, they'll hear if-

SPRINKLES: You be quiet-

CLAW: Well, if I stuck my finger in it, I-

SPRINKLES: Goddammit, Claw, it's not radioactive!

FARADAY: (offstage) Ugh... wha- where am - What the !??? Ahhhh!

PACHINO: Hey, he's getting away!

COROT: Punt! I'll stay and clean up!

KEPLER: I'll stay and help!

COROT: Everyone else, off the roof!

92 93 94 **18** 112 113 **TESS** 114

Please Co-rot list-en. Call Fa-ra-day. We need to get out of

BILLY

We need to get out of

KEPLER

Let's

115 116 117 **118 HACKSEMBLE**

We have got to go now, quick -

here. Good thing Kep-ler had our backs. But we're al - - -

here. Good thing Kep-ler had our backs. But we're al - - -

COROT

Punt, grab

go, Let's go. They're al-most here now.---

119 120 121 122

___ like a shadow Through the night we fly. Ghost-ly like a spi-rit, you ___
 right, we blend in - to the night The tim - ing might be
 right, we blend in - to the night The tim - ing might be
 what you can and get off the roof, we'll meet on the
 Let's go, let's go. They're al-most here now. ___ I'm glad you could

123 124 125 126

___ can - not hear it. As we slip a - way, we guess he told the
 tight But we'll get out of sight. Clear off the roof, Get ___
 tight But we'll get out of sight. Clear off the roof, Get ___
 ground, but right now just get down, ___ I guess you told the
 hear me out ___ I thought I thought you weren't go-ing to, ___ Clear off the roof, get ___

127 128 129

truth, but Right now we've got to get ___ off the roof!

___ down right now, Right now we've got to get ___ off the roof!

___ down right now, Right now we've got to get ___ off the roof!

truth, but Right now we've got to get ___ off the roof!

___ down right now, Right now we've got to get ___ off the roof!

COUNTERBALANCE

29

Corot, Kepler

Cue: No, it's never too late!

COROT: Do you trust me?

KEPLER: Trust you? Why?

COROT: Let's counterbalance rappel off this roof.

KEPLER: Counterbalance rappel!? You mean you want me to jump off this building with you as my counterweight?

COROT: And I want to do the same for you. It'll be an adventure, like we used to have.

KEPLER: Well we have to get down somehow...

COROT: And what better way to do it than this?

KEPLER: This is insane.

COROT and KEPLER: Hell yes!

KEPLER: You ready?

COROT: Mens et Manus, motherfucker!

4 5 VAMP 4 9 10 VAMP 4

14 15 COROT 16 17 18

As we fly ___ through the night - time! ___

As we fly ___ through the night - time! ___

19 20 COROT 21 22

KEPLER We brave-ly em-bark On our path re - u -

Con - cealed by the dark, On our path re - u -

23 24 25 26 27 COROT

ni - ted. As the air ru-shes by me, Once a -

ni - ted. As the air ru-shes by me,

28 29 30 31

gain, I see there's more to M I T from

Just like fresh - man year from

32 33 34 COROT 35

way up here. Back in the day we nev - er stopped to fret. **KEPLER**

way up here. But now I

36 37 38 COROT 39 COROT

How we both ru-ined it. But let's not dwell... We'll hack as

KEPLER

can't for-get... How we both ru-ined it. The cops are in pur-suit!

40 **COROT** 41 42 43

one And take over the In sti tute! As the dome

KEPLER

And take over the In sti tute! As the dome

44 45 46 47 **COROT**

soars a - bove us! And we'll

KEPLER

soars a - bove us! We're a team a - gain,

48 49 50 51

scheme a - gain, but bet - ter than be - fore. Hell yeah!

but bet - ter than be - fore. Hell yeah!

but bet - ter than be - fore. Hell yeah!

52 53 54 55 **COROT**

We're un - stop - pa-ble! At the

KEPLER

We're un - stop - pa-ble! Though we may have lost hope,

56 57 58

end of our rope, we were dumb, but

We were dumb, but

We were dumb, but

59 60 61 **2**

we sur - - - - - vived.

2

we sur - - - - - vived.

DAWN**31**Cue: *That must mean... (Novembat explodes)*

Whole Cast

STORY JACK

1 2 3 4

And though the hack - ers' night - works ne - ver saw the light ___ of day, ___ Their

5 6 7 8

ef - forts weren't with - out ___ perks. And more hacks were un - der - way.

COROT

9 10 11 12

Hacks have a beau - ty, no one can de ny, there's a less - on in there too.

KEPLER

13 14 15 16

Look past the sur - face, there's more than meets the eye. The best stuff is out of view.

HUNTER

17 18 19 20

There is more to M I T than earn ing your de

FARADAY₂₂

21 23 24 25

gree. All the Jolt you drink can't re - place a good night's rest. This

RYAN**RYAN
and
CONNER**

26 27 28 29

hack was real - ly great! And though the P - set was kind of late... No

30 31 32 33

grades com - pare with sto - ries from our quest! ___ 'Cause there's

34 35 36 37 **PACHINO**

more to life — than tool - ing don't you know. — If your

38 **KALF** 39 **CLAW** 40 41 **PISTON**

day's not go ing right, Then may - be you've lost sight. Of why you work all night. Do not

42 43 **TENSOR** 45

blame the friends be - side — you They could tie you up real tight...

SPRINKLES **ELECTRA and MAGS** 46 47 48 49 **KALF**

We did - n't get those fuck - ers! — But you had a great - er goal. We

50 51 52 **HACKSEMBLE** 53

need more bi - tu - min - ous coal! Though our hack was al - most

COROT and KEPLER

The night — may be

54 55 56 57

caught, our work was not for naught. The hours we spent are

end - ing. — A new day's be - gun — I

58 59 60 61

pre - cious to the last. Once you've tied up all the

know, we will hack as one, — un - der a brand new sun. — you don't have — to

