

SCRIPT TITLE

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EXT. BACKSTAGE AREA - CONT

Taylor watches as Margo shamelessly flirts with HAMPSTER, the obviously drunk, grungy lead singer of Poker Face. She laughs loudly and touches his shiny red pants.

Taylor's smile fades as he approaches.

TAYLOR
(uncomfortable)
What's so funny?

Margo seems annoyed by the interruption. Hampster swigs from an unlabeled bottle of Vodka. He speaks with a fake British accent.

HAMPSTER
Who are you?

TAYLOR
Taylor Lockwood. Producer of the show.
(awkward silence)
So, I heard about that gig you guys played upstate last week...

HAMPSTER
What about it?

TAYLOR
They said you bit the head off a live chicken?

HAMPSTER
Everyone's got to have a gimmick, mate. What? You a vegetarian?

TAYLOR
No. No, I just, um... what're you drinking?

HAMPSTER
Mineral water.

MARGO
Hampster was just telling me about his wardrobe. His pants are made of oil-based baby seal skin. Isn't that cool?

TAYLOR
Yeah, unless you're the baby seal. Uh, have a good show... Hampster. Margo...

Taylor moves to kiss her and gets the dreaded cheek turn. Margo and Hampster head off in the other direction. Margo uses one hand to check the condition of her hair, the other is wedged in Hampster's back pocket.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD, STAGE - LATER

The concert is a raging success. As "The Angry Vikings" finish their final song, the crowd goes wild. Taylor greets the band as they run off stage. Margo remains at the microphone soaking up the adoration.

It takes quite an effort from Poker Face's HEAD ROADIE to get Margo off the stage. He returns to stage-center and takes the mic.

HEAD ROADIE

Ladies and Gentlemen! Are you ready for Western Pennsylvania's regional band of the year?! Are you ready for the band that Spin Magazine called "really interesting"?! Are you ready to deal with the rock n' roll experience of a lifetime?! Please welcome Hampster McCall and Poker Face!!!

The crowd responds as if they were seeing the Rolling Stones.

EXT. BACKSTAGE AREA - CONT

Hampster is so drunk, he can barely walk. He sets his half-empty vodka bottle on the refreshment table and staggers onto the stage.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD, STAGE - CONT

We see Custodian Ed putting the finishing touches on his pyrotechnics plunger as Hampster grabs the microphone.

HAMPSTER

(into the microphone)

This song always makes me hungry.
It's called "Blow Me Away".

The crowd responds to Poker Face's signature tune. A Roadie runs out onto the stage and presents Hampster with a live chicken.

The first few chords of the song ring out. Hampster raises the bird over his head as he prepares to chow down.

Custodian Ed crosses himself and pushes the plunger.

There is a loud sizzle and a bright flash of light beneath the stage, but no pyro-technics.

Taylor makes eye contact with Custodian Ed. Ed shrugs and pushes the plunger again.

Hampster brings the chicken to eye level. He opens his mouth...

Two distinct, loud explosions! Two five foot sections of wood on either side of the stage go airborne. Like a volcano, flames shoot from each new hole.

Both the chicken and Hampster are startled. The chicken pecks him across the bridge of the nose and then grabs Hampster's tongue in it's beak. Hampster screams!

Taylor snatches Hampster's bottle of mineral water from the refreshment table and charges onto the stage. He tries to douse one of the fires only to find that the bottle contains Vodka! With the help of the vodka and the out-of-control wind machine, the fire spreads quickly across the stage.

Taylor rips down one of the curtains and tries to smother the fire. Soon the curtain is burning.

Hampster tries to extricate his tongue from the chicken but can't. He stumbles backward into Taylor and his oil-based seal skin pants go up in flames!

Taylor tackles Hampster and tries to rip his pants off. The chicken still won't let go!

Pandamonium as band and audience members scatter in every direction.

Custodian Ed watches the action with a proud smile on his face--now that's entertainment!

Billowing smoke from beneath the stage catches his eye. He drops to his belly and crawls beneath the stage.

ED'S POV: Flames licking at a huge pile of fireworks beneath the middle of the stage.

Ed crawls out from under the stage wearing a look of panic.

ED
Incoming!!!!

On stage: Taylor holds Hampster's flaming pants (Hampster is no longer in them). The chicken has now attached itself to Hampster's groin!

TAYLOR'S POV: Custodian Ed sprinting away at top speed.

TAYLOR
(realization)
Oh sh--

Taylor's sentiment is echoed as the entire stage goes up in what can only be described as a world-class fireworks display!