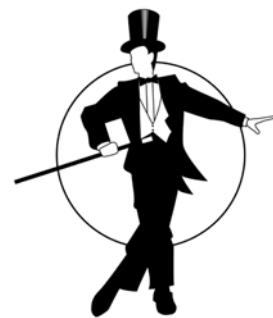


Back in the Dreamtime

Marty Durlin



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BACK IN THE DREAMTIME
A Musical Play About a 47th High School Reunion

by

Marty Durlin

CAST

EDDIE: Romantic. Stayed in the hometown, works in the family shoe store.
Dressed in western wear: boots, western shirt, bolo tie.

CHARLIE: Viet Nam vet, serious about the world. Wearing black T-shirt and jeans.

BILLY: Nerd in high school, now cool. Made money in new age products.
Expensive suit.

BEN: Climatologist, intellectual. Professor attire: blazer over casual shirt, jeans.

GAIA: New-Ager, organizes the reunion. Wears guru-like tunic and loose pants.

JOANNA: Cynic, recently divorced. Arrives late. Wearing cowgirl boots from the 1960s in mint condition.

CECELIA: Former beauty queen, married and divorced well. Dressed tastefully to show off her legs and other attributes.

MARTHA: Radical journalist. Casual dress, flat shoes.

THE CHEERLEADERS: CINDY, SANDY, and CANDY. They act as instigators.
Wearing mismatched cheerleading uniforms but with the same school colors.

Place

A small town in Western Colorado.

Time

August 11, 2012.

SONGS, ACT ONE:

1. *Anthem* (on tape, sung by high school choir)
2. *The Great 47th* – GAIA and CAST
3. *Who is that Old Guy?*-- ALL but JOANNA
4. *Oh My God we're Old* – ALL but JOANNA
5. *I'm Really So...* – GAIA, BILLY, CHARLIE, MARTHA, EDDIE
6. *Chickalacka Boomalacka* – CHEERLEADERS
7. *Senior Moment* – ALL but JOANNA
8. *Why Didn't We* – ALL but JOANNA
9. *I went into Shoes* – EDDIE
10. *Now I'm Cool* - BILLY
11. *If He Loves Me* – CECELIA
12. *We're Screwed* – ALL but JOANNA
13. *Back in the Dreamtime* – EDDIE, JOANNA and CAST

ACT ONE

Prologue

Setting: Cyberspace. As an echo of the past, we hear a high school choir singing the school song.

SONG: Anthem

*Hail to our dear old High
Where hearts beat strong and true
We have a will to win, a way to learn
In all we say and do
We hold our banner high
Beneath the Colorado sky
Oh hail to thee, sweet home of mine
And hail to our dear old High*

At Rise: The CHEERLEADERS come forward to address the audience. GAIA is sitting center stage with an open laptop. Other CAST members can either be onstage or enter when they first sing.

CINDY: It all started when Lindy--I mean Gaia--contacted us through cyberspace for a 47th high school reunion. It sounded crazy--all about numbers and planets. SANDY: But even though she's gone all New-Age-y and changed her name to Gaia, she's still one of us.

CANDY: So we wanted to support her. We wanted to cheer her on.

(They join GAIA, and line up behind her with arms extended in different attitudes, as if together they are a multi-armed Indian goddess. GAIA's hands are preparing to write an email)

SONG: *The Great 47th*

GAIA: (taps on keyboard) *Greetings, Earthlings.*

CANDY: Maybe something a little more--personal?

GAIA: (types) *Hello, Classmates.*

SANDY: That's better.

GAIA: (continues typing through the song)

Planets have begun

To dance across the sky

In synchronization

And all the numbers are beginning to align

A most auspicious sign

CHEERLEADERS: Awww-spicious!

GAIA: *Hello Classmates, through the ether*

Message from the stars

Telling us to reconverge

And mingle our memoirs

Urging us to merge our chi

And send it into space

A most expansive place

CHEERLEADERS: Exxxx-pansive!

GAIA: *Make your plans now - be sure to arrive
This year the class of '65 is 65!*

CHEERLEADERS: *Those of us lucky enough to be alive!*

GAIA: *It has the value
of the year that we were born:*

CHEERLEADERS: *Three!*

GAIA: *And that is why you have to listen to me—
We must reconvene, you must make the scene*

GAIA/CHEERLEADERS: *On August 11th, for the Great 47th Reunion!*

MARTHA: *(replying by electronic device, as they all do)
But fifty's the usual number we use
To get together to talk & drink booze
Retelling all the tales of oh so long ago
Each of us remembering a different scenario
However...
If you that this is the right way to go
I guess I might come just to witness the show*

CHARLIE: *I find your numerology rather spurious
Still I admit I am a bit curious
To see my friends
From so long ago
Before it's over
Before death--and you know
We're getting much closer
To apocalypse now
So if you're asking me to come
I'll get there somehow*

EDDIE: *Will Joanna be there? Will Joanna be there?*

JOANNA: *I've not decided if I'll be so bold to dare
I just got divorced and they will all think I'm there
to find another guy--in truth I'd rather die*

*plus I know that Eddie will be hovering nearby
All of these years he's been waiting for me
It's flattering but it makes me feel...creepy*

EDDIE: Will Joanna be there? Will Joanna be there?

*BEN/BILLY: Hey all, I'm coming
Just to see who's around
Check out what's happening
In the old home town
I'd like to see who'd like to see me
Take part in all of the festivities*

*CECELIA: I look really good
In fact I look great
So yes, I will attend--
And I don't have a date--*

Right now. Just so you know.

*CHEERLEADERS: Oh Gaia
We'll stand by ya
Forty-seven
Sounds like heaven
We are your gals
Your cheerleading pals
Candy! Sandy! Cindy!
And we knew you as Lindy...Gaia...*

*GAIA: Hello Classmates, heed my email
Note the date and time
We will come together
It will be sublime
The class of '65 will meet again en masse
A most illustrious class
I know you all care
Be there or be square*

CAST: On August 11th for the Great 47th Reunion!

EDDIE: *Will Joanna be there?*

CANDY: And don't forget to send in your bio! Martha's first.

MARTHA: For the past 20 years I've been editor of an alternative newspaper called Vox Pop, and before that I was in a band called Violet Ray. Two daughters, grown up and moved away, thank god. Oops, did I say that? I enjoyed being a mom, really. It was marriage I couldn't handle--two divorces. Oh, and I play the accordion.

CINDY: Thank you. *(checking her off)* Billy.

BILLY: Okay, here's how it went: right out of high school, I attended the School of Mines, engineering, then transferred to Stanford, computers, then University of Hawaii, botany. Founded a company at age 28, making lotions and creams with ethno-botanicals. Big hit. And after I started making money, strangely enough I stopped being a dweeb. Married and divorced a couple of beautiful women, who bore me a couple of kids who don't really like me, and I'm still making money hand over first. In terms of my hobbies--

CANDY: Cut to the chase, Billy--it's supposed to be a paragraph.

BILLY: *(offended)* I smoke a lot of pot. And I like to bake things.

SANDY: Good, fine, that's enough. Ben!

BEN: I'm a climatologist and I also have a doctorate in ecology, but I can't get an endowed chair at any university, no, I have to write grants all the time to support my research. Let's see, do you want the real story or the one that'll look good?

CANDY: Real story.

SANDY: One that'll look good.

(These lines are said simultaneously, as are the following)

END OF FREEVIEW

You'll want to read and perform this show!