

JUST A MEMORY

Story by

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Screenplay by

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EXT. MIDTOWN MANHATTAN STREET - NIGHTS

Dodge Diplomat Taxicab races thru streets.

Inside, JOSH GILMARTEN(22), average height and build, stars as Happy Rooney.

Josh, Sony Walkman headphones, listens, four-bar music cue to the song "Treat Me Rough," sings softly.

JOSH

When I was born, they found a...  
darn!

Josh hits the stop button and rewinds to intro.

JOSH (CONT'D)

When I was born, they found a, aw  
c'mon!

ITALIAN CABBIE(41), looks in the rearview mirror,

Josh hits stop button, rewind, intro.

JOSH (CONT'D)

C'mon kid remember the darn lyric!  
When I was born, they found a  
silver spoon, Argh!!

Josh throws Sony Walkman on the floor.

ITALIAN CABBIE

Hey kid, watch where you toss dat  
ting.

JOSH

Sorry, just frustrated.

ITALIAN CABBIE

You openin' a show tonight?

JOSH

(snarky)  
Can ya tell?

ITALIAN CABBIE

In dis neck of the woods? Easy as  
pie.

Josh lifts shade up, looks in front mirror, does hair.

ITALIAN CABBIE (CONT'D)

Can an old fuddy duddie of a cabbie  
give--

JOSH

--I would like to be left--

ITALIAN CABBIE

--Hey! I know you. You're dat kid!  
My son and I watch you all da time  
together on dat ol' show. Josh  
Gilmarten! Yer still swell in my  
book!

JOSH

Thank you. Now if can only remember  
these--

ITALIAN CABBIE

--It'll all come back in a flash.  
My Luca's never gonna believe his  
old man, so I need yer autograph!  
It would mean so much to da both of  
us.

Josh writes on a stained receipt: To the lovely Cabbie and  
his son Luca, best always, Josh Gilmarten.

Hands Italian Cabbie paper and pen.

ITALIAN CABBIE (CONT'D)

My kid'll go tru da roof when he  
gets a loada dis. Tanks fella.

Picks up Sony Walkman, takes out a pill bottle.

The taxi pulls over.

ITALIAN CABBIE (CONT'D)

And dis is it. Da Cort Theatre.  
Break a leg--

Hands Italian Cabbie crumpled hundred dollar bill.

JOSH

--With my luck, I probably will.

Josh gets out, shuts the door, turns away, pops a pill.

Italian Cabbie leans out the window.

ITALIAN CABBIE

Hey kid, take care of yerself.

Josh rushes to the stage door.

JOSH

No time.

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE/BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Backstage stage crew sets the stage, audience voices heard, opening night, "Who In The World is Roger Edens."

ALEX FARTHINGTON, twenties, Stage Manager, eighties mullet, diamond stud, left ear, black shirt, jeans, penny loafers, paces frantically, looks, taps Swatch watch.

Disheveled, Josh rushes past Alex.

ALEX  
Josh, where have--

JOSH  
Sorry.

ALEX  
Thirty minutes! I ought to report--

Josh half-waves.

JOSH  
--Thanks!

Josh disappears upstairs.

JOSH (CONT'D)  
(to self)  
Joshy you're slipping--

Josh pulls out a pill bottle, pops the lid, tosses few pills down his throat.

JOSH (CONT'D)  
--Yeah yeah, don't we all?

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE/BACKSTAGE - NIGHT