

ACT II – SCENE 1

Vince Fontaine voice: Welcome back to the house of wax, the big 15. We are playing the best and you can forget the rest. We're trying a newcomer from Memphis Tenn. The young and talented Elvis Presly. He'll never get anywhere with a name like that.

Song: Hound Dog

VINCE: Don't forget, only two more minutes 'til the big Hand-Jive dance contest. (*Cheers and excited murmurs from the CROWD.*) So, if you've got a steady get her ready.

RIZZO: Hey, Danny, you gonna be my partner for the dance contest?

DANNY: Maybe, if nothing better comes along.

RIZZO: Drop dead!

JAN: Danny, Danny!

DANNY: Yeah, that's my name, don't wear it out.

JAN: How did the track tryouts go?

DANNY: (*Nonchalantly.*) I made the team.

JAN: Oh, wonderful!

KENICKIE and CHA-CHA DEGREGORIO enter.

CHA-CHA: Jeez, nice time to get here. Look, the joint's half empty already.

KENICKIE: Ahh, knock it off! Can I help it if my car wouldn't start?

CHA-CHA: Jeez, what crummy decorations

KENICKIE : Where dya think you were going, American bandstand?

CHA-CHA: We had a sock-hop at St. Bernadette's once. The Sisters got real pumpkins and everything.

KENICKIE: Neat. They probably didn't have a bingo game that night.

(KENICKIE walks away from her and she trails behind him.)

(VINCE coming up to MARTY)

VINCE: Pardon me, weren't you contestant in the Miss rock and roll universe pageant

MARTY: Yes, but I got disqualified coz I had a hickey on my neck

RIZZO: Hey, Kenickie, where ya' been, the submarine races?

KENICKIE: Nah. I had to go to Egypt to pick up a date.

RIZZO: You feel like dancin'?

KENICKIE: Crazy.

JAN: Oh Doody, would you get me some punch?

DOODY: Whatsa matter? You crippled?

(DOODY starts off, JAN STICKS HER TONGUE OUT AT DOODY)

VINCE: I'm Vince Fontaine. Do your folks know I come into your room every night? Over WAXX, that is! *(Vince laughs.)* I'm gonna judge the dance contest. Are you gonna be in it?

MARTY: I guess not, I ain't gotta date!

VINCE: What? A knockout like you? Things sure have changed since I went to school... last year. Ha-Ha!

(MARTY STARES AT HIM DUMBLY FOR A FEW SECONDS, THEN STARTS LAUGHING. DOODY SONNY AND DANNY ARE DRINKING AND SMOKING IN A CORNER)

DOODY: *(Pointing to Cha-Cha)* Hey, ain't that the chick Kenickie walked in with?

VINCE : Exactly one minute to "Hand-Jive" Time!

(Excited murmurs and scrambling for partners takes place on the dance floor)

DANNY *(Walking over the RIZZO and KENICKIE)* Hey, Rizzo. I'm ready to dance with you now.

RIZZO: Don't strain yourself... I'm dancin' with Kenickie.

KENICKIE: That's alright, Zuko, you can have my date. *(He yells.)* Hey, Cha-cha! Come 'ere.

(CHA-CHA Walking over.)

CHA-CHA: Yeah, whattaya want?

KENICKIE: How'dja like to dance this next one with Danny Zuko?

CHA-CHA: The big rod of the T-Birds? I didn't even know he saw me here.

DANNY: (*Giving CHA-CHA a dismayed look.*) I Didn't.

VINCE: Okay, alligators, here it is. The big one... (*Drum roll.*) ...the Hand-Jive Dance Contest. (*Kids cheer*) Let's get things under way by bringing up our own Miss Lynch.

(*MISS LYNCH comes up to the mike*)

MISS LYNCH : Thank you, Vince. Before we begin, I'd like to welcome you all to "Moonlight in the Tropics." And I think we all owe a big round of applause to Patty Simcox and her committee for the wonderful decorations. Yay, Patty!
(*Mixed reaction from CROWD*)

CHA-CHA: They shouldda got real coconuts

MISS LYNCH: Now, I'm sure you'll be glad to know that I'm not judging this dance contest. (*A few kids cheer.*) All right. All right. I'd like to present Mr. Vince Fontaine.....(*Kids cheer as she looks around*) Mr. Fontaine?...uh...

VINCE (*Necking with Marty, yells to MISS LYNCH*) Comin' right up!

MISS LYNCH : As most of you know, Mr. Fontaine is an announcer for radio station WAXX. (*VINCE, on the bandstand, whispers in her ear.*) ...huh.... (*Uncomfortably.*) "Dig the scene on big fifteen." (*Cheer goes up.*) Now for the rules! One: All couples must be boy-girl.

DOODY: Too bad Eugene

(*The kids laugh.*)

MISS LYNCH: Two: Anyone using tasteless or vulgar movements will be disqualified.

RIZZO: (*Loud to KENICKIE*) That's leaves us out

MISS LYNCH: Three: If Mr. Fontaine taps you on the shoulder, you must clear the dance floor immediately...

VINCE: (*Grabbing the mike from MISS LYNCH.*) Only thing I wanna say is enjoy yourselves, have a ball, coz like we always say at big 15, "If you're having fun, you're number 1" And some lucky guy and gal is gonna go boppin' home with a stack of

terrific prizes. But don't feel bad if I bump yuzz out, 'cause it don't matter if you win or lose, it's what ya' do with those dancing shoes. So, okay, cats, throw your mittens around your kittens... and AWAY WE GO!

Song #19 - Born To Handjive

VINCE does JACKIE GLEASON pose. During the dance, couples are eliminated one by one as VINCE FONTAINE mills through the crowd, tapping each couple.

BEFORE I WAS BORN, LATE ONE NIGHT

...

BORN TO HAND-JIVE!

(part way through, SANDY is replaced by Cha-cha. The kids stand around in a half circle and clap in time. VINCE FONTAINE pulls MISS LYNCH onto the dance floor and tries to hog the spotlight from DANNY and CHA-CHA. At the end of the dance, MISS LYNCH, out of breath, returns to the bandstand, VINCE FONTAINE right behind her.)

MISS LYNCH: My goodness! Well, we have our winners. Will you step up here for your prizes? Daniel Zuko and... and...

CHA-CHA: Cha-Cha DiGregorio.

MISS LYNCH: *(Taken aback at having to repeat the first name.)* Uh... Cha-Cha DiGregorio.

CHA-CHA *(Grabbing mike)* : They call me Cha-Cha 'cause I'm the best dancer at St. Bernadette's.

RYDELL KIDS: Boooooooooooooooooo!

MISS LYNCH: Oh... that's very nice. Congratulations to both of you, and here are your prizes: two free tickets to the Twi-Light Drive in Theatre... good on any week night.

(Kids cheer.)

MISS LYNCH: A coupon worth ten dollars off at Robert Hall.

(Kids boo.)

And last but not least, your trophies, prepared by Mrs. Schneider's art class. *(Cheers and applause. MISS LYNCH presents DANNY and CHA-CHA with two hideous ceramic nebbishes in dance positions, mounted on blocks of wood).*

VINCE: (*Grabbing mike from MISS LYNCH.*) Weren't they terrific? C'mon, let's hear it for these kids!

(*Kids cheer.*)

Only thing I wanna say before we wrap things up is that you kids at Rydell are the greatest!

KENICKIE : Friggin' A

VINCE : That's all folks.

(*Band plays slow instrumental. Couples leave, one by one. As the lights change, Sandy enters*)

SANDY

Song #15 - Hopelessly Devoted to You

MY EYES ARE NOT THE FIRST TO CRY.

...

HOPELESSLY DEVOTED TO YOU.

----- Revisions -----

Revision

6

Change Vince script to refer to Elvis,
add Hound Dog, eliminate Roger.