



#### A MELODRAMA

35 pence

The only correct and authorised edition

Barratt and Robinson Piano used exclusively

Arse et Labor

## The Players

CHRIS SINGLETON vocals, piano, synths, organ and guitars

JANE FRASER vocals

STELIOS KALISPERIDES lead guitar and percussion

MICHAEL KIRKLAND saxophone, organ and backing vocals

ZANE MAERTENS bass

BEN WOOLLACOTT drums and backing vocals

# Additional Performers

PETE WHITFIELD	violins and violas on 'In Your Garage', 'Iceberg', 'David Bowie' and 'Anyone Can Be a Star'
SIMON TURNER	cello on 'In Your Garage', 'Iceberg', 'David Bowie' and 'Anyone Can Be a Star'
ANDRE CANNIERE	trumpets on '1975' and 'Anyone Can Be a Star'
JOHN GIBBONS	gospel vocals on '1975', 'Corinthians II' and 'Anyone Can Be a Star'
ANDY FLEET	piano on 'In Your Garage'

String arrangements on 'In Your Garage', 'Iceberg', 'David Bowie' and 'Anyone Can Be a Star' by Pete Whitfield.

#### **Brownpaper Records**

## ACTI

## In Your Garage

Lenny and Sarah form a rock band in a garage in South Dublin, and do questionable things when the rest of the group are on a ciggie break.

Life was easier, love was lovelier Hanging around in your garage The tunes were secondhand Nobody liked the band Banging away in your garage

You only loved me for a minute; You didn't love me all that long You only touched me for a moment; You only loved me for a song

The days were sunnier, sex was sexier It was ever so nice in your garage Do you remember when I came round again? We did it twice in your garage

You only loved me for a minute; You didn't love me all that long You only touched me for a moment; You only loved me for a song

Bang bang, you're gone Well I know you know, you turned everybody on! I'm watching you go go, to the sound of a solo

I only touched you for a minute; I didn't touch you all that long I only loved you for a moment; I only loved you for a song

### Boots of Leather

Sarah tires of life in a garage band and decides to pursue a singing career across the water. Leaving Lenny at a leisure centre, she breaks up the band and departs for London.

She left me standing at the leisure centre Good job I didn't have a gun Bye bye – it was fun She said she had to go across the water She had to go across the sea For some shit, or something, on TV

She said nothing lasts forever Get yourself some boots of leather Walk yourself to somewhere special Don't you get so fucking clever

She said you got to find yourself a distraction You got to find a thing to do Oh no – you're so cruel I met a guy, he said his name was Jesus He said his dad was pretty cool He's alright; but nothing like you

She said nothing lasts forever Get yourself some boots of leather Walk yourself to somewhere special Don't you get so fucking clever

Oh man I got high alright; I was off my head Me and you and a difficult Jew And the things you said

And I know and I know and I know it's nearly over

### Iceberg

Never too good at accepting rejection, Lenny decides to pursue Sarah across the Irish Sea. Terrified of flying, he gets the ferry to Holyhead; mid-way through the voyage he becomes rather seasick. Arriving in London by overpriced Virgin Train, he is dazzled and confused by the burning lights of Piccadilly.

I don't like to fly so I'm all at sea
I still don't know what you wanted from me
I've got a thousand little voices trying to tell me
I got the last train down from Holyhead
To follow up on the things you said
They didn't really make much sense to me

I'm an iceberg, I will cut you open, I will bring you down When you see me, don't you know I'm broken? Turn yourself around

With your funny voice and your long black hair I still don't know what you were doing there And I still can't shake you off, I can't escape you Now I'm hanging out in London town With a twisted love for the underground And I'm staring at the burning lights of Piccadilly

I'm an iceberg, I will cut you open, I will bring you down When you see me, don't you know I'm broken? Turn yourself around

Life's really just a dirty conversation A combination of chance and decision I'm staring at a picture of you on your hands and knees I'm an iceberg, I will cut you open, I will bring you down When you see me, don't you know I'm broken? Turn yourself around

# Corinthians I

A Greek Chorus in Lenny's head tells him that Sarah believes love, and certainly his love for her, is pointless. Obsessed with finding her and convincing her otherwise, he ignores the wise advice of the Greek Chorus and ploughs on with his search of London.

Love is empty

Love is viciously unkind

Love is angry

Love shoots you down

Love is turning tricks for what you've already found And still you want to feel it

Oh

# All You've Got to Do is Go to Bed

Meanwhile, Sarah arrives at a TV studio on an industrial estate in East London and auditions to be a Pop Singer on a slightly jaded reality TV show called 'Anyone Can Be a Star.' Afterwards she is approached by a svengali called Bill, who offers to be her mentor on the show.

I can make you a big star Take your money or life It's a cynical world and I'm a cynical guy All you've got to do is go to bed with me All you've got to do is go to bed It's a sex and money machine Well I know what you want

I can talk to the right people I can make a call or two I've got nothing to hide And you've got nothing to lose

And you know what I need

All you've got to do is go to bed with me All you've got to do is go to bed It's a sex and money machine Well I know what you want And you know what I need

It's a strange sort of fairytale, making love in your car It's a strange sort of fairytale Don't you worry about that – I'm going to make you a star

All you've got to do is go to bed with me All you've got to do is go to bed It's a sex and money machine Well I know what you want And you know what I need

### Mr Lighter

Sarah accepts Bill's offer to be her mentor; he insists that spicing up her image a bit would play well with a conservative TV audience. After days of petitioning from Bill she permits him to act as wardrobe consultant and for the next round of auditions, she is wearing significantly less clothing.

Do you know the key? I've been looking everywhere He'll show you the back door Where they hide With all the dirt and all the grease left behind

Mr Lighter, Mr Lighter than myself He'll sell you a ticket, sell you a cruise So you don't have to be yourself

I've got all things you desire In my pocket I've got dreams for sale I've got colour, I've got freedom in my hands Don't you want to feel it, said the man

Mr Lighter, Mr Lighter than myself He'll sell you a ticket, sell you a cruise So you don't have to be yourself

### ACTII

#### 1975

Unaware that by now Sarah has made it to the semi-finals of 'Anyone Can Be a Star', Lenny looks for Sarah in a wide range of London toilet music venues, hoping to find her on stage. He finds no sign of Sarah but does get asked to play a few songs at an open mic night. His music is dismissed by a rock critic in the crowd as being too '1975.' Lenny responds by writing a song about not liking modern life all that much and missing Sarah. Despite a strong guitar intro and some nice harmonies, nobody hears it.

She said I sounded dated
I thought I sounded fine
New stuff is overrated: I don't like modern life
It isn't in, it's the sweetest sin
It's solid gold, it's fuching old

But you give me a feeling I cannot hide You make everything sound like 1975

I get these dirty feelings, I get these dirty thoughts And when I see you darling I know what I have lost It kills the time, it's so sublime You're in my head, not in my bed

But you give me a feeling I cannot hide You make everything sound like 1975

It's a strange sensation, feeling alive I want to touch you like it's 1975

But you give me a feeling I cannot hide You make everything sound like 1975

## This Stuff

Lenny continues to roam the streets of London looking for Sarah. Tired and drunk he questions his sanity after seeing a picture of himself and Sarah on a giant TV screen at Euston Station. It's a photo of Sarah's old garage band which has been wheeled out for the emotional intro to her performance in the 'Anyone Can Be a Star' semi-finals. Lenny reminisces about his past to a passing Network Rail customer service representative.

I was a small town boy I was a fucked up kid For all the things you know You don't know what you did

This ain't no walk in the park, it's a terminal life It's a shot in the dark, this stuff is suicide This ain't no rock 'n' roll, this ain't no work of art This is the strangest love – she said it's in my heart

I was talking to you I was drinking you in Oh you hit me so hard It must have been a good sin

This ain't no walk in the park, it's a terminal life It's a shot in the dark, this stuff is suicide This ain't no rock 'n' roll, this ain't no work of art This is the strangest love – she said it's in my heart

Darling won't you come and see All the things I'll never be? I'm a shining light, a fantasy – of you and me

This ain't no walk in the park, it's a terminal life It's a shot in the dark, this stuff is suicide This ain't no rock 'n' roll, this ain't no work of art This is the strangest love – she said it's in my heart

# Clip Joint (Soho)

Accidentally walking into a Masonic Lodge in Central London, Lenny encounters a judge who suggests that Sarah might be hanging out at a nice place he and his fellow Freemasons frequent. Sadly it turns out to be a clip joint. Lenny gets beaten up by a bouncer for not paying for half a lap dance and some watered-down alcohol.

I went down to the Freemasons For some brotherly love I got me a funny handshake From a right-wing judge He said I know a place Where all my brothers like to go They got beautiful women and Man, does the alcohol flow

If you're feeling kind of low You can always love yourself in Soho

We went down to the basement
A Chinese hostess said hello
The floor was so sticky
The lights were turned down low
There were girls in bikinis selling martinis
To guys from the city who said they were pretty
And gave them some paper to stay a bit later
And sit in the corner and do them a favour

If you're feeling kind of low You can always touch yourself in Soho

Yeah you know I'm feeling so empty As I watch you giving them plenty You won't know how I could have loved you But I've got cash and I'm going to touch you

I've got some change in my pocket But I'm not really sure it's enough There's a dude at the exit and Jesus he looks pretty tough The bill is obscene, I'm not even drunk, I'm all on my own, where's that Freemason punk? I'm getting messed up in Soho

If you're feeling kind of low You can always fuck yourself in Soho

# Corinthians II

Badly beaten and lying on a Soho pavement, the Greek Chorus in Lenny's head implore him once again to leave foolish notions of love behind. Lenny blacks out on a tabloid newspaper with a picture of Sarah's face on it.

Love is angry Love screws you up Love it's killing you but How you still want that stuff And if you ever feel it Oh

#### David Bowie

When Lenny wakes up, he sees a vision of David Bowie, who tells him that purchasing a Ziggy Stardust outfit would help matters no end. The pieces of the puzzle all start to fall into place: Lenny realises that Sarah is singing in the semi-finals of 'Anyone Can Be a Star.' He jumps on a train to East London.

Station to station, oh she left you in a mess She's living in the city, but she ain't no suffragette If you know how to want You should know how to get

I wanna talk like David Bowie I wanna look like you don't know me I wanna be the stardust in your eyes

We used to be so sexy Yeah we used to have the lot Now we ain't got no money And the future ain't so hot Big society bullshit is all that we got!

I wanna talk like David Bowie I wanna look like you don't know me I wanna be the stardust in your eyes

Dave you told me you would always listen Staring at me from my television Where did you go? Where are all those heroes? I could use them to bring me up to zero

I wanna talk like David Bowie I wanna look like you don't know me I wanna be the stardust in your eyes

## Anyone Can Be a Star

Dressed as Ziggy Stardust, Lenny successfully blags his way into the 'Anyone Can Be a Star' TV studio; he then storms the stage and performs a song about the vacuous nature of fame and reality TV. Sarah joins in, opining that since participating in the show all anyone has been doing is talking dirty to her. Defying convention, and in a surprise reverse strip tease, she starts to put a load of clothes on, live on national TV. As the song ends, Sarah and Lenny are arrested for subverting the more conventional route to stardom. And as the curtains close, they are escorted by two armed officers into the back of a police van.

I've got a little secret I think that everybody knows Anyone can get famous For taking off their clothes

Hey you, nobody cares who you are 'Cos anyone can be a star Anyone can be a star

Tell the press that you're 17 When you're going on 24 And don't forget to thank Jesus When you're picking up the award

Hey you, nobody cares who you are 'Cos anyone can be a star Anyone can be a star

Don't you talk about freedom Don't you even try Cos there's nothing they can't sell you And there's nothing you won't buy

Everybody's talking dirty to me, Everybody's talking dirty to me