

OUR TIME DESERVES A LOVE SONG

written by

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FADE IN:

INT. THEATRE - NIGHT

A MAN (55), stands amidst a full, seated audience. He looks toward the dimly lit stage.

MAN

What inspired you to write  
"LOVE SONG"?

STAGE

On a stool, guitar on his lap, sits ADAM STEIN (50). His graying hair pulled into a long ponytail, compliment his piercing blue eyes. He laughs quietly.

ADAM

Wow. You are a fan. That song  
was never officially released.

His band stands patiently behind him as Adam stares toward a spotlight, contemplating his answer.

INT. BACKSEAT - CADILLAC - DAY

Through shaggy hair, sixteen year old Adam's piercing blue eyes stare out the window as the car passes a sign, "WELCOME TO CAPE COD".

OLDER ADAM (V.O.)

I was sixteen.

He rustles uncomfortably, mashed between the door and a mountain of clothes, personal belongings and his guitar. He gives up and closes his eyes.

The car radio crackles as someone scans the stations.

EXT. BOURNE BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The shiny, new Cadillac, sporting NY plates, drives on to the bridge draped with a large "SPIRIT OF '76" flag.

INT. CADILLAC - CONTINUOUS

As he drives, BART STEIN (40), handsome and clean cut, shoots an annoyed look toward JULIE STEIN (25), Playboy bunny type, as she plays with the radio.

BART

Will you *please* just pick a station?

JULIE

Ooooh! I love this song.

Julie turns up the volume, oblivious that she's totally annoying. She sings off key and moves closer to Bart.

JULIE (cont.)

Only you. . .cared when I needed  
a friend. . .

She mumbles a few words incoherently then confidently blurts out the next line.

JULIE (cont.)

GOD BLESS YOU! You make me feel  
brand new.

Adam covers his ears. Bart quickly turns off the radio. Julie pouts. Relieved, Adam uncovers his ears.

ADAM

That song makes me gag. I'd  
never write a sappy song like  
that.

BART

That's cus you've never been in  
love. Someday love songs will  
make sense to you.

Julie kisses Bart on the cheek and snuggles in.

BART (cont.)

Some girl will come along and. . .

Julie secretly touches Bart's crotch, his voice cracks.

BART (cont.)

she'll awaken your . . .soul.

Adam rolls his eyes and stares out the window.

INT. CADILLAC - DAY

Bart turns onto Falmouth Heights Road.

JULIE

Are we almost there? I gotta pee.

As they near the Falmouth Harbor and Island Queen Ferry, Adam sees a man, a woman and small boy walk excitedly toward the boat.

For a brief and dreamy moment the man looks like a younger version of Bart who picks up his son, now a younger version of Adam and grabs his wife's hand.

As they pass, Adam looks out the back window and watches the family walk away, the boy waves.

Bart pulls into the driveway of a charming Cape Cod. Adam's mother LIZA (40), an older version of the woman he pictured moments ago, opens the front door.

She's plain but pretty, hair in a haphazard ponytail and wearing paint splattered overalls.

BART

I forgot how beautiful it is here.

Julie gives him a sideways look. Bart doesn't notice.

BART

Stay here Jules.

JULIE

But I gotta peeeeeeeeeee.

Bart and Adam get out of the car.

EXT. LIZA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Liza's face lights up when she sees Adam but quickly fades when she sees that Julie is in the car.

LIZA

I can't believe you brought her.

ADAM

Hi Mom.

Flustered, Liza's focus returns to Adam. She hugs him.

LIZA

Hi baby. I'm so glad you're here.

A Golden Retriever with a tennis ball in his mouth pounces on Adam.

ADAM

Ozzy!

Ozzy drops the ball at Adam's feet and play begins. With Adam now preoccupied, Liza glares at Bart.

BART

What? She wanted to come. She's never been to the Cape.

LIZA

Not my fault she never strayed from the trailer park. I don't want her here!

BART

Can't we get passed this? It's been two years for Christ's sake!

Adam coaxes Ozzy out of the yard, to the sidewalk then away from the house. He watches the scene as he walks down the street.

Julie gets out of the car doing a "pee-pee dance". Liza waves her arms angrily as she argues with Bart (MOS).

EXT. SIDEWALK

Adam takes in his surroundings.

TWO BOYS around his age approach on bikes. Adam's ripped jeans and KISS shirt are a complete contrast to these boy's preppy attire. They glare at Adam.

BOY #1

Kiss sucks!

BOY #2

Long haired faggot!

They laugh as they ride away.

GIRL (O.S.)

Don't sweat them retahds.

A rainbow appears in a stream of water from a hose held

by MARY SULLIVAN, teen beauty with blue eyes, red hair, freckles, in a bikini top, cut off shorts, small gold cross around her neck and thick New England accent.

MARY

You evah see em live?

ADAM

What?

MARY

Kiss. You evah seen em live?

The water creates a mist around her. Her skin glistens.

ADAM

Umm. No. You?

MARY

I wish. I nevah get off the Cape.

ADAM

That sucks.

MARY

Yeah. You visiting?

Adam watches as Mary moves the water to another section of the garden, decorated with a large statue of Jesus.

ADAM

No. I live here, with my Mom.

MARY

No suh. I nevah seen you before.  
Hey, is that your dog crapping in  
my yahd?

ADAM

Oh shit. I'm sorry. Ozzy NO!

Ozzy drags his butt across the grass. Adam is mortified. Mary laughs uncontrollably and accidentally squirts Adam with the hose, making her laugh harder.

He can't help but laugh with her but stops abruptly when he sees Bart's Cadillac pull up. The window rolls down.

BART

There you are. Jules and I are leaving.

Mary watches as Adam approaches the car.

BART

You should go back to the house. Your Mom is pretty upset.

In the passenger seat, Julie has a noticeable pee stain around her crotch and mascara streaks down her face.

ADAM

Okay. See ya Dad.

BART

This is for the best son. I'll talk to you soon.

Adam steps back as the Cadillac pulls away. He watches until it disappears around the corner.

MARY (O.S.)

Family drama, huh?

He turns around. She's right behind him.

ADAM

Yeah. I gotta go.

MARY

Come by tomorrow? Same time?

ADAM

Sure. Yeah.

He half waves then he and Ozzy head down the sidewalk. At the corner he turns and watches Mary pick up the sprayer, aiming it at the dog poop. He smiles.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Subtle smile still on his face, Adam sits at the kitchen table staring into space.

Liza watches him in fascination as she sets the food on the table. She waves a plate of food under his nose in an attempt to break his trance. It works.

LIZA

Wow. Where were you?

He snaps to and picks up his fork. Liza sits.

ADAM

Sorry. I'm just tired. It's been a long day.

LIZA

I know it's a big change from city life but you'll get used to it. Remember how much you loved visiting Nana every summer?

ADAM

I was a kid, Mom.

LIZA

Well it's gotta be better than living with your playboy father and Silicone Sally.

Liza's faces flushes and her hands begin to shake. With sadness, Adam watches as she stabs her food with a fork. He stands up and grabs his plate.

ADAM

You mind if I eat in my room?  
I'm really tired.

Too consumed in her own stress to notice she's upset him, Liza nods. Adam leaves, she doesn't flinch until his bedroom door slams.

A moment later, loud electric guitar music screeches from Adam's bedroom. Liza puts her head in her hands.

EXT. MARY'S YARD - DAY

Adam watches from behind a tree as Mary prunes back a beautiful rose bush. She glances up, aware that he's there but plays it off like she doesn't see him.

She pretends to prick her finger on a thorn.

MARY

Owww! Oh. . .oh no. . .blood. . .

Mary falls to the ground in dramatic fashion. He and Ozzy run over to her. Ozzy gets to her first and licks her face repeatedly. She playfully fights him off.

MARY

Ugh. Ozzy stop.

ADAM

You okay? Are you bleeding?

She sits up, wiping off dog slobber.

MARY

I'm fine. It was a joke. I saw you hiding. I wanted to see what you'd do.

ADAM

Well, I came to your rescue.

He helps her up.

MARY

So you did. Thanks.

Their eyes lock, they both get flushed. Mary nervously picks up the pruner and gets back to work.

ADAM

You wanna go for a walk?

Mary sadly looks up at a window in her house.

MARY

I can't.

Adam looks at the window, unsure of what's going on.

ADAM

Family drama?

MARY

Yeah. After school special kinda stuff.

He laughs then tries to change the subject.

ADAM

So what's your favorite Kiss song?

Mary looks at Adam. There is an unspoken understanding between them. She smiles.

MARY  
Detroit Rock City.

ADAM  
Me too!

They continue to talk (MOS) as if they're the only two people in the world. They don't notice cars drive by, kids on bikes, people walking their dogs. . .

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

The room is set up like an art studio. Liza balances the phone on her shoulder and talks while she paints.

LIZA  
He's not here.  
(listens)  
I don't know where he goes  
Bart. He takes Ozzy and they  
leave the same time every day.  
(listens)  
For a couple weeks now I guess.  
(listens)  
No I don't think he's doing  
drugs!

EXT. MARY'S YARD - DAY

Mary and Adam sit on the grass, facing each other.

ADAM  
I used to do drugs. I got in  
some trouble. That's why I got  
kicked out of my school. . .  
and my house.

MARY  
I got in trouble too. That's  
why I can't leave my house.

Mary glances up at the window.

ADAM  
Ever again?

Her eyes get teary. She stands up and makes herself look busy by pulling some weeds. Adam sadly watches.

ADAM

I have something for you.

She looks at him, he holds out two tickets. "KISS - DESTROYER TOUR - CAPE COD COLISEUM - JULY 11, 1976".

Mary is speechless. She holds one of the tickets and stares at it.

ADAM

Is there any way your Mom would let you go.

MARY

No.

She looks up at Adam and smiles deviously.

INT. ADAM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Band posters cover the walls, clothes cover the floor.

Adam, in a Kiss t-shirt and jeans, rifles through a drawer and pulls out a different Kiss shirt. He shoves it into his backpack along with a few other items.

EXT. SIDEWALK - MARY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Adam stands in the shadows, trying to appear nonchalant.

From the darkness, Mary appears. She quickly sneaks over. Their faces light up at the sight of each other. He looks at the IZOD alligator on her shirt.

ADAM

I brought you something.

He holds out the Kiss shirt. She smiles, rips off her shirt, she's braless, and puts the Kiss shirt on. Adam is shocked. She tosses her shirt into the bushes.

MARY

Okay. Let's go.

She grabs his hand and they run down the street, laughing like kids.

EXT. SIDEWALK - MARY'S HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

Hand in hand Adam and Mary approach her house but stop before they're in eyeshot. They're both disheveled and look exhausted. She looks deep into his eyes.

MARY

I had the best time tonight.

ADAM

Me too.

MARY

I have something to tell you and  
. . .I don't know how.

ADAM

What is it? Just say it.

MARY

I'm leaving tomorrow. My mother  
is sending me away, to a convent.  
I've known for a while but was  
too scared to tell you.

Obviously, not what he expected. He's heartbroken and speechless.

MARY

I'll never forget tonight, or you.

At the same time they reach for each other and kiss.  
It's a long, passionate first and last kiss.

After a few moments, Mary forces herself to break away.  
She reaches in the bushes, grabs her Izod shirt and  
quickly changes. She hands Adam the Kiss shirt.

ADAM

Keep it.

She smiles sadly as she slowly walks backwards toward  
her house, their eyes locked one last time.

MARY

I love you.

She turns and disappears into the darkness. Adam stares  
toward a streetlight. A tear rolls down his face.

OLDER ADAM (V.O.)

I love you too.

INT. THEATRE - NIGHT

Adam stares toward a spotlight, a tear rolls down his face. He strums his guitar and looks out into the audience. He's got everyone's attention. He sings.

ADAM

We didn't have much time together  
My heart and soul are hers forever  
My first love - I can't forget her  
I wrote this for you. . .

Because our time deserves a love song  
Even though it didn't last long  
You said I love you  
And then you were gone

Because our time deserves a love song  
Even though it didn't last long  
You said I love you  
And then you were gone

Adam tapers off, ending the song. A moment of quiet is followed by applause. Adam waves to the audience graciously as he exits the stage, followed by his band.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

This concludes Storytellers  
through Music with our special  
guest, Adam Stein. Thank you.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is dimly lit by candlelight, which shines on a cross that hangs on the wall.

A NUN removes the cross that hangs from her neck and places it on top of her dresser. She takes off her habit, revealing her graying but still red hair.

She opens a drawer and pulls out a brush that lay on top of an old Kiss t-shirt. She closes the drawer.

FADE OUT