

WEDDING TRAIN

an Atrainplay by
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songs by
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(DAVID and JUSTIN board the A train,
each carrying a copy of the Racing Form.
They are deep in discussion.)

DAVID

No, he's not. You're crazy.

JUSTIN

Yes, he is.

DAVID

Bugs Bunny is not gay.

JUSTIN

He's totally gay. I mean, come on, how many times did he wear a dress in those cartoons, huh? How many times did he put on a dress with big boobs and a blonde wig and bright red lipstick?

DAVID

He was undercover.

JUSTIN

What?

DAVID

He dressed like that to get away from Yosemite Sam or Elmer Fudd. He did it to save his life. That doesn't make him gay.

JUSTIN

Bugs Bunny was a total queen. He'd get into a dress at the drop of a hat.

DAVID

No, he's just, you know, the artistic type. That always just makes you seem gay.

JUSTIN

What about all the times he kissed Elmer Fudd?

DAVID

Aw, this is stupid, Justin. Just because he kissed Elmer Fudd a couple times, or kissed Yosemite Sam or . . . or the Tasmanian Devil . . . or that big orange monster in the tennis shoes Oh my god! Bugs Bunny's gay?!

JUSTIN

I told you.

DAVID

Wow. It's just I had a really good feeling about betting on What's Up Doc in the sixth race.

JUSTIN

Hey, doesn't mean he's not fast.

DAVID

(pause)

What about Daffy Duck?

JUSTIN

No. Oddly, he's straight.

(The train pulls into the next station and TANYA, wearing a wedding dress and carrying a bouquet, darts onto the train. She stops and looks back out the door and down the platform.)

TANYA

Come on, close the doors! Close the doors! Yes!

(The train begins to move again and Tanya collapses onto the bench, crying.

Justin and David stare openly at the weeping bride, who finally dries her tears and looks up to notice them.

Long pause)

DAVID

Hey. Nice dress.

(Tanya bursts into tears again. Justin hits David.)

JUSTIN

David!

DAVID

What, I was trying to say something nice.

JUSTIN

And in this situation you thought “nice dress” was the way to go?

DAVID

Oh, I’m sorry. I guess I don’t know the proper greeting when a runaway bride jumps on your subway car. What are you so upset for?

JUSTIN

I’m not . . . ! That’s my ex-girlfriend.

DAVID

You’re kidding.

JUSTIN

No, look, just . . . don’t talk.

(Tanya is drying her tears again as Justin approaches her.)

JUSTIN

Tanya?

TANYA

What? Oh, my god. Justin! What are you . . . ? Ah, . . . hi.

JUSTIN

Yeah, hi. What’s up? Are you okay?

SONG: “Hey, It’s a Neurotic World”

(Tanya laments her mental state and how always makes a mess out of her life. She envisions a fraud of a marriage, and that she'll end up living alone with dozens of cats.)

TANYA

So, how about you? How've you been?

JUSTIN

Me, uh, . . . I'm fine. You know, . . . keeping busy and . . . all that.

TANYA

Yeah? Good. That's good.

(pause)

You look great.

JUSTIN

Thanks.

(slight pause)

So do you.

TANYA

You don't have to say that.

JUSTIN

No, really you do. You look terrific. As always. Radiant. And it's not just the dress.

TANYA

Thanks.

JUSTIN

But . . . what's going on?

TANYA

I don't know if I can talk about this with you.

DAVID

You can talk to me, if you want.

(Justin stares at David, but Tanya responds.)

TANYA

I . . . I just needed a place to think for a bit, you know? Things have been pretty crazy for the last few months and . . .

DAVID

You're under a lot of pressure. You're supposed to make all these decisions. Everybody wants something from you.

TANYA

...yeah.

DAVID

Yeah, I've been there.

TANYA

Really? You're married?

DAVID

I was. Man, was that a mistake.

JUSTIN

If I pay you, will you shut up?

DAVID

What? I didn't say, "Marriage sucks."

JUSTIN

David!

TANYA

I don't know how I got here. I just stepped out into the courtyard to get a little fresh air, a moment to myself. And suddenly I'm running down the block and four bridesmaids are chasing me. It's just it's been one thing after another. There's questions and more questions. What sort of flowers do we want, what kind of music, which photographer, where to register, what china pattern, silver pattern, or font on the invitations. And then there's the family. Each one of them is crazier than the last.

JUSTIN

You don't like his family?

TANYA

No, my family. His family is great. People that normal and well adjusted are so rare they should be pandas. My family, . . . well, you remember. It's all, "Don't make me sit next to Aunt Sylvia," or "Your father's new wife is a painted whore."

JUSTIN

Then where are you going?

TANYA

I don't know. Maybe the beach. Look out on the water. Or throw myself in it.

JUSTIN

Do you . . . I mean . . . I could go with you. If you want.

TANYA

Oh, I don't know where I'm going. I should call Mark or something. He'll be worried. He doesn't deserve this. Oh, I feel like such a bitch.

JUSTIN

Hey, no, no, don't say that. You're under a lot of stress. It's natural. And, you know, if you decide to go back, I'm sure he'll understand.

TANYA

I don't understand. Why should he?

DAVID

I almost took off before my wedding.

TANYA

Really?

DAVID

Yeah. It wasn't anything about commitment or not sleeping with anyone else ever again or stuff like that. Basically, I didn't think I was good enough for her. I thought she was just about perfect, and I was about as far from it as possible.

TANYA

That's just what I've been thinking! Mark's so amazing. I mean, he's a prince, I think, and I don't know what he sees in me. I've ruined every relationship I've ever been in. Hell, I never thought Mark and I would get this far. I assumed I'd wreck us long before our wedding day. So, instead I'm doing it on the wedding day.

DAVID

You're not wrecking anything. Just take a cab back to the church.

JUSTIN

Maybe she doesn't want to go back, David.

DAVID

(to Justin)

She's just scared.

(to Tanya)

Don't worry. So the wedding's a little late. Wouldn't be the first one. Mark'll be glad to see you.

TANYA

Not when I tell him I'm pregnant.

(silence)

Mark's starting med school in the fall and we said we'd wait a couple years before kids.

(slight pause)

See? I screw up all my relationships.

JUSTIN

That's not true.

TANYA

I messed ours up.

JUSTIN

No, you didn't.

TANYA

I left you.

SONG: "Win, Place, Show"

(Justin admits life isn't always a sure thing, and that he and Tanya didn't make it, but he tells her to take a chance.)

Music Vamps.

JUSTIN

(spoken)

You did the right thing. I mean, things between us were good – maybe it was love – but we wanted different things. How about Mark? Do you love him? Do you guys want the same things?

TANYA

Yeah. Yeah, we do.

JUSTIN

Then David's right. Hard as that is to believe. You should go back to that church.

(slight pause)

You've got this light around you. Always have. I know that sounds corny and sentimental, but it's true. And you should share it.

TANYA

But I'm still scared.

DAVID

But that's natural.

JUSTIN

Life's a gamble.

They singing again.

(David and Justin encourage Tanya to get in the game and play to win. Finally convinced, she sings along with them.)

TANYA

Could you lend me some money for a cab?

JUSTIN

Yeah, here. Consider it a wedding present.

(Justin holds out some money, which Tanya takes and then she darts off the subway car. Before the doors close, she stops and tosses Justin her bouquet. Then she's gone.)

DAVID

(pause)

Nice flowers.

JUSTIN

Yeah.

DAVID

You still love her.

JUSTIN

(a brief beat)

No.

DAVID

Uh-huh.

(slight pause)

Aqueduct's the next stop. You still want to go?

JUSTIN

Yeah. How 'bout you?

DAVID

I'm putting twenty dollars on What's Up Doc to win.

JUSTIN

Then these are yours.

(Justin tosses the bouquet of flowers to David as they exit the train.

End of play.)