Spotting a Song Assignment | Joe Gregorio

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *We’re Gonna Die, We Need A Plan*

**Scene Number:** Act 1, sc. 3

**Character(s) singing the song:** Good Guys

**Page number**: 1-3-21

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

The Good Guys complain about their situation as they hunt for feathers, with Red Riding Hood going over the top and ending other characters’ lines with gloom and doom. Brick Pig convinces the others they have to make a plan, and when they finally listen, he can’t come up with one.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

It’s so dark here.

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

That’s what I thought.

**Purpose:** Action

**Suggested Structure:** ABABC

**Suggested Progression:** Problem/Solution

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: We’re going to die here.

B: We need food.

A: We’re going to starve.

B: A cookie!

C: What we really need is a plan.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No.

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Who**needs rescuing today?, Did someone say rescue?*

**Scene Number:** Act 1, sc. 3

**Character(s) singing the song:** Prince Charming, possibly Damsels

**Page number**: 1-3-24

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Prince Charming sings about his many positive attributes, woos Damsels,

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Did someone say rescue?

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

I am kinda good-lookin’, aren’t I?

**Purpose:** Character (inflame conflict w/Sleeping Beauty) and/or Exposition (some characters meet Prince Charming)

**Suggested Structure:** AABA

**Suggested Progression:** Problem/solution

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: You in distress? I’m your guy!

A: I’ve saved many damsels before; I can save you too!

B: There are many ways I could save you. They are…uh…

A: Nevermind that! You in distress? I’m your guy!

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** Possibly – Damsels might “ooh” and “aah” at certain moments.

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Not All That Charming*

**Scene Number:** Act 1, sc. 3

**Character(s) singing the song:** Sleeping Beauty, Damsels, possibly Prince Charming

**Page number**: 1-3-26

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Sleeping Beauty points out some of Prince Charming’s flaws. The Damsels agree.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Look, Prince, you know, you’re really not all that charming.

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

And for a prince, he kinda has a high voice.

**Purpose:** Character (inflame conflict, give Prince motivation to go with Good Guys to get the book back from Big Bad Wolf)

**Suggested Structure:** AABA

**Suggested Progression:** Geography

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: Look at his face and hair. Not charming.

A: Look at his arms and listen to his voice. Not charming.

B: Look at yourselves. You deserve someone charming.

A: Look at his personality. Not charming.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Get Yourself A Happy Ending, Turn Over A New Leaf, Happily Ever After, Just Do Good.*

**Scene Number:** Act 1, sc. 4

**Character(s) singing the song:** Mother Goose

**Page number**: 1-4-33

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Mother Goose attempts to convince Big Bad Wolf to change his ways and sell him on the value of doing good.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Look, isn’t what you’re after, is [sic] a nice happy ending?

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

If you turn over a new leaf, you too will live happily ever after.

**Purpose:** Character (Mother Goose tries to convert Big Bad Wolf to her point of view – also, Little Big Bad Wolf learns something about Mother Goose’s philosophy that starts to change him)

**Suggested Structure:** AABA

**Suggested Progression:** Problem / solution

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: You want a happy ending.

A: But you keep doing bad things.

B: Bad things make people unhappy.

A: If you try doing good things, you’ll get that happy ending.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *What Would Mother Goose Do?*

**Scene Number:** Act 1, Sc. 5

**Character(s) singing the song:** Good Guys

**Page number**: 1-5-38

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

The Good Guys despair of ever finding their way. Brick Pig tries to pluck up the Good Guys’ courage by appealing to their knowledge of Mother Goose. They think they’ve found a solution and are willing to try it but can’t even think of a tune to sing, so they just trudge on.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Okay, I admit it.

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Let’s just go to the Castle and get this over with.

**Purpose:** Point the story forward (via characters hashing out their viewpoints)

**Suggested Structure:** ABCBA

**Suggested Progression:** Viewpoint

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: We’re lost / hungry / doomed.

B: What would Mother Goose do?

C: She would try a few things…and then sing!

B: Let’s do what Mother Goose would do!

A: We can’t even think of a tune. Let’s just get this over with.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Learn Your Lesson, A New Story, Now’s Your Chance*

**Scene Number:** Act 2, sc. 1

**Character(s) singing the song:** Mother Goose

**Page number**: 2-1-1

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Mother Goose tries patiently to teach Little Big Bad Wolf, hoping he’ll eventually change his nefarious ways. To illustrate kindness, she frees him from his chains.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

If I escaped…

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Now’s your chance.

**Purpose:** Conflict de-escalation (defuse tension between MG and LBBW); Character development (LBBW starts to change)

**Suggested Structure:** AABA

**Suggested Progression:** Problem / solution

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: You’re stuck being evil.

A: It feels bad to you.

B: It’s possible to change; you don’t have to be this way.

A: Look at me – if you do good, you can do anything.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** Possibly, yes – underscored (by intro / coda in music, perhaps)

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Your Life Story, Stop Me*

**Scene Number:** Act 2, sc. 2

**Character(s) singing the song:** Big Bad Wolf, Little Big Bad Wolf

**Page number**: 2-2-4

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Big / Little Bad Wolves argue over the book and the direction of BBW’s life.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Nothing can stop me now!

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Try to stop me…everything else.

**Purpose:** Conflict (inflame conflict between BBW / LBBW)

**Suggested Structure:** ABABC

**Suggested Progression:** Viewpoint (perhaps? Tough to answer this one.)

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: (BBW) Nothing can stop me!

B: (LBBW) Do you really want this to be your life story?

A: (BBW) If you try to stop me, I’ll destroy you with everything else.

B: (LBBW) You don’t need to go down this road. It’s not too late to change.

C: (Both, each to the other) You are making a huge mistake.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Why Not Me?, What Really Counts, What’s Right With Me*

**Scene Number:** Act 2, sc. 4

**Character(s) singing the song:** Chicken Little

**Page number**: 2-4-10

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

Chicken Little is upset that the Good Guys don’t ever believe in him. However, he has a pull-yourself-up-by-the-bootstraps moment and resolves to show them that he can accomplish good and impressive things. (Think something like “Defying Gravity”.)

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

I could’ve helped…

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

I pick…rescue!

**Purpose:** Character change

**Suggested Structure:** AABA

**Suggested Progression:** Problem/solution

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: They think I’m too small and weak.

A: They think I can’t make a difference in their stories.

B: They’re looking at the wrong thing!

A: They don’t realize that what counts is what’s on the inside – and I am more determined than any of them.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** No

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *I Got It! I Got it! You Take It!*

**Scene Number:** Act 2, sc. 6

**Character(s) singing the song:** All except Mother Goose, Chicken Little, and Little Big Bad Wolf

**Page number**: 2-6-14

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

This is a musicalized chase scene: The characters in turn take temporary possession of Mother Goose’s Book – some want it, some don’t. The Good Guys are frightened by the Bad Guys but determined to get the book back

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Looking for this, my little ones?

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Yes we do! Yes we do!

**Purpose:** Heighten conflict

**Suggested Structure:**

Uncertain, actually.

**Suggested Progression:**

I’m not sure if this will apply here.

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

I’m not sure this one would actually have traditional stanzas. I think it might be more free-form, along the lines of a musical scene.

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** Yes – a number of lines would probably be spoken, whispered, shouted, etc. over top of some underscoring.

[I know this one seems poorly thought-out; however, it struck me 1) as the perfect opportunity to deliver a high-energy, high-stakes scene through music, and 2) that I really don’t know how to approach organizing the structure of a musical scene. This is something that I just don’t think I have the skill yet to do…and I’d love to learn how to do it better.]

**Working Title(s) of the Song:** *Good Guys Always Win*

**Scene Number:** Act 2, sc. 6

**Character(s) singing the song:** Full company

**Page number**: 2-6-24

**1-3 sentence narrative version of the lyric:**

The characters sing about and celebrate what they learned.

**First line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

Hello, my goslings!

**Last line of dialogue which this song replaces:**

And for once upon a time, even the Bad Guys joined in the celebration.

**Purpose:** Resolve conflict, point story toward its ending, and show the end of character arcs (LBBW’s character arc in particular)

**Suggested Structure:** ABABCAB

**Suggested Progression:**

That’s a tough call. This is more of a verse/chorus – verse/chorus – bridge – verse/chorus type of structure, and it’s more or less the

**Description of the purpose of each stanza (i.e., each A, each B or C)**

A: Mother Goose – It’s like I said, it pays to do good.

B: All – Because good guys always win!

A: Chicken Little – Sometimes it takes them a while, but good guys will do what’s best for the little guy.

B: All – And little guys help the good guys win!

C: Bad Guys (except LBBW) – Maybe this doing bad deeds thing isn’t the best way to live.

A: LBBW – That’s right, and you can change. Plus, if you do good for others, they will probably do good for you.

B: All – So good guys always win!

**Do you think some dialogue will be included during this song?** Possibly. I imagine it could be helpful to have some underscored dialogue, but most if not all would be sung.