NED SIDE 1:

SCENE 2 - DEWEY'S BEDROOM

The lights come up to reveal Dewey lying in bed in a room which looks like the cell of a mad man. Instruments, albums, filthy clothes, plates of rotting food, are all a part of this horror. PATTY and NED SCHNEEBLY, the same age as Dewey, burst into the cursed chamber.

START-----

NED

Do we have to do this now?

PATTY

Yes, he trashed the house again, I'm sick of it!

NED

He's lived here a long time.

PATTY

What does that mean? He's been here longer than me so I matter less?

NED

No, Patty-cake, of course not, it's just - we went to High School together, we were in a band together. He's my best friend.

PATTY

He's not your friend. He's a freeloader, Ned, and he never pays rent. He takes advantage of you. He's rude to me, and it's time he paid some rent!

NED

Waking him up in the morning is a bad idea. It's like using a beehive as a pinata — it's dangerous!

PATTY

You can't live your life letting people push you around. Go! Do it!

Ned crosses to Dewey.

DEWEY

(talking in his

sleep)

Yes, I understand guacamole is two dollars extra...

NED

Dewey.

(poking Dewey gently)

Dewey!

PATTY

Wake up, Dewey! Time to get up!

----END

She rips the covers off Dewey. He stumbles out of bed with a start.

Dewey

(seeing Patty)

Patty! What do you want?

PatTY

The rent.

DeWEY

You woke me for that?

PatTY

Yes, we woke you for that!!

DeweY

I am so sick and tired of being the guy everyone comes to for the money I owe them.

PattY

Well, sorry to disturb your beauty sleep, but we're going to work now, Dewey. You see, we work. I serve the Mayor of the city the whole city and Ned... Ned has the most important job there is!

DeWEY

Temping?

NED SIDE 2:

SCENE FIVE - THE APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM

The next morning, Dewey is listening to EDGE OF SEVENTEEN in his headphones when Ned enters, from the kitchen, taking off yellow rubber gloves.

Ned

Big plans today?

Dewey doesn't hear. Ned taps him on the shoulder.

NED (CONT'D)

Big plans today?

Dewey

Huge plans, Ned. Huge plans. Also, listen, I'm gonna be home really latetonight, so don't wait up for me.

Ned

Oh, I won't. I'm taking Patty to Applebee's.

Patty enters carrying the mail.

START-----

PATTY

Neddy Neddy Ned! You got a letter from Horace Green!

NED

Really?

PATTY

You never told me you sent in your resume.

NED

They never answered.

PATTY

Well, they've answered now! You deserve this, Ned. You deserve the best!

During this, behind her, Dewey freezes. He has literally turned to ice. Ned opens the letter.

NED

Whoa. Hello? Why would Horace Green pay me two thousand six hundred dollars?

PATTY

What? Why? You've never worked there.

DEWEY

Sure he did! He just forgot!

NED

I think I would remember if I'd worked at Horace Green.

Dewey laughs nervously.

PATTY

They've mixed up two letters. But they must want you for an interview. Call them! I have to go to work. I'm so proud of my Neddy bear! Call them.

As she exits:

PATTY (CONT'D)

Now!

NED

Oh, you mean now.

Ned searches for his phone in his pocket, in the couch etc. Dewey reaches for the check.

NED (CONT'D)

Have you seen my phone?

DEWEY

Yes. In your room.

Ned exits to his bedroom, Dewey reaches over the couch for the check. Ned re-enters.

NED

What are you doing?

DEWEY

Nothing.

NED

You've got my letter.

DEWEY

Yep.

NED

Give it back to me, I need to call them.

DEWEY

Why? Can't you use the money?

NED

It's not mine, Dewey. I didn't earn it.

DEWEY

So it's like a bonus. Spend it!

NED

And wind up in court for misappropriating funds? Dewey Finn: Financial Advisor! I don't think so.

Ned snatches the letter from Dewey and heads for the door!

DEWEY

I said to make it out to Cash!

Ned begins to have an asthma attack. Unsure of what to do, he begins to breathe into a rubber glove.

DEWEY (CONT'D)

Ned! Wait, sit! Breathe. Would you believe me if I told you I'd done a bad thing?

NED

Oh, so easily. So very easily.

DEWEY

You know I'm not the sort of guy who'd take advantage of his friends.

NED

Only because you haven't got any friends.

DEWEY

I promise you'd have done the same if you were me.

NED

How? If I were you I'd have jumped off a tall building long ago.

----END

22b. Mt Rock Underscore

Underscore begins, to mark the simple truth. This is where Dewey gives the game away...

DEWEY

Ned. If I tell you something, will you promise not to tell Patty?

NDD

Sure.

DDWEY

Don't say "sure" like that. It's not sure. It's not even likely. She's stronger than either of us. She's stronger than Washington. She's stronger than the sea.

NED

I said I won't tell her. So I won't tell her.

NED SIDE 3:

We are in Dewey's chaotic bedroom, where Dewey sits with his head in his hands. Patty comes in with Ned.

PatTY

What are you doing here?

DeWEY

I don't have any other place to go.

PatTY

Yeah, well find a place.

Dewey

Look, all I was

Patty holds up her hand to silence him.

PaTTY

I don't want to hear anything you have to say. I have never liked you and now you bring this mess on to our doorstep. Do you realize how serious it is? We're talking about children, Dewey! Young vulnerable children!

DewEY

But they were all

PaTTY

Don't you get it, you idiot? This is fraud! You can go to prison! What were you thinking?

DeWEY

I was just trying to pay the rent.

START-----

PATTY

Don't you dare blame us! You're delusional! I don't even feel safe with you around. You're sick! You should get help!

NED

Patty. That's enough.

PATTY

(to Ned)

I'm going. And when I get back I want him out of here!

She leaves and they are alone.

NED

She's right, Dewey.

DEWEY

She's a pain.

NED

She may be a pain, but she's right. You've done some really messed up stuff, but this is unforgiveable. Did you ever think about me?

DEWEY

You're not involved.

NED

Oh, no? I could lose my teaching license, Dewey. My license, the apartment. This could screw up my entire life.

DEWEY

Ned, I am so sorry.

NED

It's too late for that. I want you to move out. Me. Go. It's over. I loved playing music with you. It was the best time of my life, but maybe some people aren't born to be rock stars. Did you ever think of that?

----END