

Thursday Adult Group

Life is a Highway!
A musical showcase based on PIXAR's CARS.

Cast:

Lightning McQueen	A race car driver.....	Chris
Sally/Sal	A lawyer.....	Amara
Doc	A judge/doctor.....	Vineet
Mater	A mechanic.....	Brenden
Phyllis	A hippie.....	Giovanna
Sarge	A veteran.....	Connor
Kori Turbowitz	A reporter.....	Terese
Chick Hicks	A race car driver.....	Rick

SCENE 1

[Cast enters singing "*Real Gone*" by Sheryl Crow.]

Well there's a new cat in town
He's got high-paid friends
Thinks he's gonna change history
You think you know him so well
Yeah you think he's so swell
But he's just perpetuatin' prophecy

KORI

Hi! And, welcome to Life is a Highway! My name is Kori Turbowitz. Let's talk racing! It looked like racecar superstar Chick Hicks was poised to finally get out of the shadow of his rival, "The King" Strip Weathers and win his first Piston Cup in California next week -

[Chick Hicks enters]

CHICK

The Piston Cup is mine, dude! It's all mine!

KORI

Yeah, but what he didn't count on was rookie sensation and fan favorite Lightning McQueen giving him a run for his money!

[Chorus]

Slow down, you're gonna crash
Baby you were screaming it's a blast, blast, blast
Look out, you've got your blinders on
Everybody's looking for a way to get real gone
Real gone
Real gone

[LIGHTNING MCQUEEN enters.]

LIGHTNING

Ka-Chow!

KORI

Lightning! Over here!

FANS

Lightning! How about a pose?

[Lightning strikes a few poses.]

LIGHTNING

Ka-Chow! Ka-Chow!

FANS

We love you Lightning!

LIGHTNING

And, I love ya back!

(Verse 2)

Well, we've been driving this road for a mighty long time

Paying no mind to the signs

Well, this neighborhood's changed

It's all been rearranged

We left that dream somewhere behind

KORI

Lightning! Quick question. Why did you fire your entire racing team?

LIGHTNING

Why? Why? Because, when you are as talented as I am you don't need a team!

KORI

But, aren't you concerned you won't win the upcoming Piston Cup race in California if you don't have a good team to help you?

LIGHTNING

Hmmm... NO! I am a one man show!

Slow down, you're gonna crash
Baby you were screaming it's a blast, blast, blast
Look out, you've got your blinders on
Everybody's looking for a way
To get real gone (uh uh uh uh)
Real gone (uh uh uh uh)
Real gone (uh uh uh uh)
Real gone (uh uh uh uh)
Uh

CHICK

Hey, Mr. One Man Show! Yo! Seriously. That was some pretty darn nice racing out there today - BY ME! Ha, ha,ha!

LIGHTNING

Whatever.

CHICK

Welcome to the Chick Hicks era, McQueen! The Piston Cup is mine! See you in California! Betcha I get there first!

LIGHTNING

I'll take that bet! No way you beat me to California! Route 66 here I come!

[Chick exits.]

KORI

Do you really think you can beat a racer the caliber of Chick Hicks without a good team behind you?

LIGHTNING

Of course I can! I am the best racer in the world! I don't need anybody! I was born to win! I was born to be wild!

[Lightning sings *Born to be Wild* by Steppenwolf.]

Get your motor runnin' Head out on the highway
Looking for adventure In whatever comes our way
Yeah, darlin' gonna make it happen
Take the world in a love embrace
Fire all of your pistons at once And explode into space
I like smoke and lightnin' Heavy metal thunder
Racing with the wind And the feeling that I'm under
Yeah, darlin' gonna make it happen
Take the world in a love embrace
Fire all of your pistons at once
And explode into space
Like a true nature's child
We were born, Born to be wild
Born to be wild, Born to be wild
Like a true nature's child
We were born, Born to be wild
Born to be wild, Born to be wild

[When Lightning is finished he/she sits up-stage as prison bars are rolled in front. We hear the sound of prison bars closing. MATER enters.]

SCENE 2

[MATER sings *Thank You For Being A Friend* then talks to Lightning.]

Thank you for being a friend
Traveled down a road and back again
Your heart is true, you're a pal and a confidant
I'm not ashamed to say
I hope it always will stay this way
My hat is off, won't you stand up and take a bow
And if you threw a party
Invited everyone you knew
Well, you would see the biggest gift would be from me
And the card attached would say
Thank you for being a friend
Thank you for being a friend
Thank you for being a friend
Thank you for being a friend
If it's a car you lack, I'd surely buy you a Cadillac
Whatever you need, any time of the day or night
I'm not ashamed to say
I hope it always will stay this way
My hat is off, won't you stand up and take a bow
And when we both get older
With walking canes and hair of gray
Have no fear, even though it's hard to hear
I will stand real close and say

ALL

Thank you for being a friend (I wanna thank you)

Thank you for being a friend (I wanna thank you)

Thank you for being a friend (I wanna thank you)

Thank you for being a friend (I wanna thank you)

MATER

Hey there, buddy.

LIGHTNING

Buddy? I'm not your buddy. I'm a prisoner!

MATER

Yeah. But, that don't mean we can't be friends.

LIGHTNING

Who are you? Where am I?

MATER

The name's Mater. And, you are in Radiator Springs! The happiest little town on Route 66.

LIGHTNING

Great.

MATER

You sure did make a mess of our fair city

LIGHTNING

Come on. It wasn't that bad. Was it?

MATER

Well, you trashed the grass, knocked over a light pole, left skid marks all over the place and destroyed a mailbox. Destroying a mailbox is a federal offense you know.

LIGHTNING

It is?

MATER

I don't know. Maybe.

LIGHTNING

Gosh. I was driving so fast I didn't even notice.

MATER

I bet. I never seen someone drive that fast in all my life!

LIGHTNING

Look. My name is Lightning McQueen. I am a famous racecar driver. I have to get to California to race in the Piston Cup. It's the most famous race in the world! You have to let me out of here!

MATER

Sure, I will!

LIGHTNING

You will!

MATER

Sure thing, buddy! Tomorrow I'll let you out and you will stand trial in front of the town and they will decide if you can go to your famous race or spend the next 10 years doing hard labor.

LIGHTNING

10 years?

MATER

Yeah. It's gonna be so much fun. Sleep well, buddy! See ya tomorrow!

[Mater exits as the set transforms into the courtroom and the prison bars are struck.]

SCENE 3

SARGE

Traffic court will come to order!

LIGHTNING

How long is this going to take? I have to get to California!

PHYLLIS

Where's your lawyer?

LIGHTNING

I don't know. Tahiti? He has a timeshare there.

PHYLLIS

If you have no lawyer, the court will assign you one, man. Hey, who wants to be this guy's lawyer?

MATER

I'll do it!

LIGHTNING

Oh, no!

SARGE

The honorable Doc Hudson is presiding. And, may Doc have mercy on your soul!

LIGHTNING

(Gulp!)

[Doc enters. The others take their places.]

DOC

I wanna know who's responsible for wrecking my town! I'm gonna put em in jail till they rot! I'm gonna...

[Doc sees Lightning and stops.]

DOC

Throw him outta here! Case dismissed!

LIGHTNING

Yes!

MATER

Shoot. I'm pretty good at this lawyer stuff!

[Sally enters]

SALLY

Sorry, I'm late.

LIGHTNING

Wow. She must be from my lawyer's office. Don't worry. He's letting me go.

SALLY

Letting you go?

LIGHTNING

Of course he is! Ka-chow! Now, what do you say you and I grab some dinner and-

SALLY

Hey, Mater. Hi ya, folks.

ALL

Hi, Sally!

LIGHTNING

You know her?

MATER

Sure! She's the town attorney!

SALLY

Come on, Doc. Make him fix the road. The town needs this.

DOC

No! I know their type. Race car driver. That's the last thing this town needs.

SALLY

Okay. I didn't want to have to do this... Fellow citizens!!!

DOC

I was afraid of this.

SALLY

It is our job and our pleasure to take care of the travelers on our beautiful stretch of the "mother road" – Route 66!

SARGE

Travelers? What travelers?

PHYLLIS

You can say that again. Business was bad before. Now, it will be even worse.

SALLY

And, how are we to take care of those travelers if there is not a safe road for them to drive on?

PHYLLIS

That's a good question, man.

SALLY

So, don't you think the person responsible should fix our road?

ALL

Yeah!

LIGHTNING

No!

SALLY

So, what do you want this racecar driver to do?

ALL

Fix the road!

SALLY

Say it again!

ALL

Fix the road!

SALLY

One more time!

ALL

Fix the road!

DOC

Order in the court! Seems like my mind has been changed.

ALL

Hooray!

[Group song "Route 66"]

Well, if you ever plan to motor west

Jack, take my way, it's the highway, that's the best

Get your kicks on Route 66

Well, it winds from Chicago to L.A.

More than two-thousand miles all the way

Get your kicks on Route 66

Well, it goes through St. Louis, Joplin, Missouri

Oklahoma City looks oh-so pretty

You'll see Amarillo, a-Gallup, New Mexico
Flagstaff, Arizona, don't forget Winona, Kingman, Barstow, San Bernardino
Would you get hip to this kindly tip
And take that California trip?
Get your kicks on Route 66

It goes through St. Louis, Joplin, Missouri
Oklahoma City looks oh-so pretty
You'll see Amarillo, a-Gallup, New Mexico
Flagstaff, Arizona, don't forget Winona, Kingman, Barstow, San Bernardino

Would you get hip to this kindly tip
Take that California trip?
Get your kicks on Route 66
Get your kicks on Route 66
Get your kicks on Route 66

SCENE 4

[KORI enters]

KORI

And now a Piston Cup update. It seems rookie sensation and Piston Cup hopeful,
Lightning McQueen has gone...missing! No one has heard hide nor hair from
McQueen since he sped off for California! I sure hope nothing bad happened to
him.

[KORI exits.]

SCENE 5

[Jimi Hendrix *Star Spangled Banner* plays as Phylis and Sarge enter.]

SARGE

Will you turn down that noise!

PHYLLIS

You gotta respect the classics, man.

SARGE

Respect! Don't talk to me about respect! That's what's wrong with these kids today!

PHYLLIS

Here we go again.

SARGE

That racecar driver ruined our town!

PHYLLIS

He's gonna fix it, man. You just gotta give him a chance.

SARGE

He doesn't deserve a chance! We didn't get "chances" in my day. In my day we were groomed to be men!

[Sarge sings *Stouthearted Men*]

You who have dreams, if you act they'll come true
To turn your dreams to a fact, it's up to you
If you have the soul and the spirit
Never fear it, you'll see it through

Hearts can inspire
Other hearts with their fire
For the strong obey
When a strong man shows them the way

Give me some men who are stouthearted men
Who will fight for the right they adore

Start me with ten who are stouthearted men
And I'll soon give you ten thousand more

Shoulder to shoulder and bolder and bolder
They grow as they go to the fore
Then there's nothing in the world can halt or mar a plan
When stouthearted men can stick together man to man

Oh, give me some men who are stouthearted men
Who will fight for the right they adore...

PHYLLIS

That was great, man. And, you are right.

SARGE

I am? I mean. Of course I am! You know, I think this is the first time you and I have
agreed on anything.

PHYLLIS

Yeah. It's nice.

SARGE

It is.

PHYLLIS

Except...

SARGE

Oh, here it comes.

PHYLLIS

Haven't *you* ever made a mistake, man?

SARGE

A mistake? A mistake? I... I... I guess so.

PHYLLIS

Sure. We all have.

SARGE

But, I don't think that racecar driver is *sorry* for his mistake.

PHYLLIS

Oh, I think he is, man. Deep down. And, if we give him a chance he may learn something. And, we might too. Like I always say. Mistakes are for learning.

[Phyllis sings "Livin In The Moment" by Jason Mraz]

If this life is one act, Why do we lay all these traps
We put them right in our path, When we just wanna be free
I will not waste my days Making up all kinds of ways
To worry about all the things That will not happen to me
So I just let go of what I know I don't know
And I know I'll only do this by
Living in the moment, Living my life
Easy and breezy
With peace in my mind
With peace in my heart, Peace in my soul
Wherever I'm going, I'm already home
Living in the moment
I'm letting myself off for all things I've done
I let my past go past, And now I'm having more fun
I'm letting go of the thoughts That do not make me strong
And I believe this way can be the same for everyone
And if I fall asleep
I know you'll be the one who'll always remind me
To live in the moment, Living my life

Easy and breezy, With peace in my mind
I got peace in my heart, Got peace in my soul
Wherever I'm going, I'm already home
I can't walk through life facing backwards
I have tried, I tried more than once to just make sure
And I was denied the future I'd been searching for
But I spun around and searched no more
By living in the moment
Living my life
Easy and breezy
With peace in my mind
I got peace in my heart, Got peace in my soul
Wherever I'm going, I'm already home
I'm living in the moment
I'm living my life
Just taking it easy, With peace in my mind
I got peace in my heart
I got peace in my soul
Oh, wherever I'm going, I'm already home
I'm living in the moment

SARGE

Okay. I'll give him a chance. But, just one.

PHYLLIS

That's the spirit, man!

SARGE

Come on. Let's go to Flo's for something to eat.

PHYLLIS

Cool! It's all you can eat Pancake Day!

SARGE

Race ya!

[Sarge carefully runs off]

PHYLLIS

Wait up, man!

[Philmore follows]

SCENE 6

[Kori and Chick enter.]

KORI

Still no sign of Lightning McQueen! Meanwhile, Chick Hicks was the first to arrive in California for the big race.

CHICK

It doesn't surprise me Lightning McQueen has gone missing. I won't be surprised if he doesn't show up at all. He's scared! And, who could blame him? I mean, look at me! I am racing! He knows he doesn't stand a chance at beating me! The Piston Cup is mine!

[Light change. Kori and Chick exit.]

SCENE 7

[Lightning enters with tools and begins working. Sally enters.]

[Sally checks Lightning's progress. Lightning is working.]

SALLY

How's it going?

[Lightning is startled.]

LIGHTNING

Ahh!

[Sally is startled.]

SALLY

Ahh!

LIGHTNING

You scared me.

SALLY

You scared *me*. Scaring you, I mean. Scared me. I mean, I scared myself. Scaring you. Uh, how's it going?

LIGHTNING

Have a look for yourself.

[Sally looks out.]

SALLY

(surprised)

Wow! You are doing a really good job.

LIGHTNING

Don't act so surprised.

SALLY

It's just that-

LIGHTNING

You didn't think I could do anything except drive fast and make trouble.

SALLY

Something like that.

LIGHTNING

I know how to work hard. I wasn't always a rich and famous racecar driver. It took work. And, perseverance. Preparation, perseverance and a positive attitude.

[Lightning chuckles to himself.]

SALLY

What's so funny?

LIGHTNING

The 3P's. It's a song my Dad used to sing to me. I haven't thought about that song in a long time.

SALLY

Sing it to me.

LIGHTNING

No.

SALLY

Why? Can't sing?

LIGHTNING

I can sing.

SALLY

Then sing it.

[Lightning and Sally sing 3P's.]

3P's By Rick Apicella

Preparation, Perseverance, and a Positive attitude!

Preparation, Perseverance and a Positive attitude!

Practice every day
No matter what they say
You have to work for what you get
And if you don't make it
your first time out
MOVE ON! It's on to the next

Be good to yourself
Get plenty of rest
And, always be on time
And, when your moment comes again
Stand tall and smile and shine!

Preparation, Perseverance and a Positive attitude!

Preparation, Perseverance and a Positive attitude!

SALLY

I like it.

LIGHTNING

I like it, too. It helped me get to where I am.

SALLY

And, where is that?

LIGHTNING

Radiator Springs I guess.

[They laugh.]

SALLY

Is that such a bad thing?

LIGHTNING

No. It's not. What made you move to Radiator Springs?

SALLY

I fell in love.

LIGHTNING

Oh. Rich lawyer?

[Sally laughs.]

SALLY

No. I fell in love with the town. And, it needed me.

[Sally and ALL sing ***Our Town*** by James Taylor]

[Movement/dance sequence for entire cast.]

Long ago, but not so very long ago
The world was different, oh yes it was
You settled down and you built a town and made it live
And you watched it grow, it was your town

Time goes by, time brings changes, you change too
Nothing comes that you can't handle, so on you go
You never see it coming when the world caves in on you
On your town, there's nothing you can do

Main street isn't main street anymore
Lights don't shine as brightly as they shone before
Tell the truth, lights don't shine at all
In our town

Sun comes up each morning, just like it's always done
Get up, go to work, start the day

You open up for business that's never gonna come
As the world rolls by a million miles away

Main street isn't main street anymore
No one seems to need us like they did before
It's hard to find a reason left to stay
But it's our town, love it anyway
Come what may, it's our town

[Lightning exits. Everyone else remains.]

SCENE 8

SALLY

Well, it's been two weeks, Doc.

PHYLLIS

He did a good job with the road. He even fixed the lights in my shop!

SARGE

He fixed the lamp post.

MATER

He fixed the mailbox! And, we went fishing together! He's the best best friend a
guy could ever have!

PHYLLIS

He even painted my fence, man! Electric pink! Far out!

SARGE

He even brought old glory back to me when it blew away in the storm. He's a good
young man. Patriotic!

SALLY

So, what do you say, Doc? Can he go to his race?

DOC

Maybe.

ALL

Maybe?

DOC

Tell him I want to see him.

[Everyone exits except Doc. Lightning enters.]

LIGHTNING

You wanted to see me?

DOC

You've done a good job of fixing our town.

LIGHTNING

Thanks.

DOC

And, you are free to go to your race.

LIGHTNING

Fantastic!

DOC

If...you are ready.

LIGHTNING

Ready?

DOC

If you want to win the Piston Cup you need to have focus! You can't drive like a wildman like you always do! You have to have a game plan! And, you have to have a team.

LIGHTNING

What do you know about racing? You're just a doctor. And, a judge. And, from what I hear, one heck of a baker.

[Doc holds out three medals]

DOC

And, a champion.

LIGHTNING

Three Piston Cup medals? Oh, my gosh. You're The Fabulous Hudson Hornet!

DOC

Once upon a time, kid.

LIGHTNING

You are the greatest race car driver who ever lived! You've won more Piston Cup Championships than anyone. I don't believe this! You have to tell me your secret to becoming a champion!

DOC

There is no secret! It's very simple. You can have all the talent in the world but you will never succeed unless you learn to be part of a team.

[Everyone enters]

DOC

That goes for racing. That goes for a community. That goes for life. It's always better when we are together.

[Doc sings "Lean On Me"]

Sometimes in our lives

We all have pain, We all have sorrow

But if we are wise, We know that there's always tomorrow

Lean on me, When you're not strong

And I'll be your friend

I'll help you carry on...

For it won't be long, Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride

If I have things you need to borrow

For no one can fill, Those of your needs that you won't let show

You just call on me brother when you need a hand

ALL

We all need somebody to lean on

DOC

I just might have a problem that you'll understand

ALL

We all need somebody to lean on

DOC

Lean on me, When you're not strong

And I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on...

For it won't be long, Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother, When you need a hand

ALL

We all need somebody to lean on

DOC

I just might have a problem that you'll understand

ALL

We all need somebody to lean on

DOC

If there is a load you have to bear

That you can't carry, I'm right up the road

I'll share your load, If you just call me

ALL

Call me

If you need a friend (Call me)

Call me (call me)

If you need a friend (Call me)

If you ever need a friend (Call me)

DOC

Call me

SCENE 9

[Big light change. Back to the racetrack]

KORI

Welcome to the 45th Piston Cup Championship race! My name is Kori Turbowitz.

Let's talk racing! The big story leading up to this historic race is, "Where is
Lightning McQueen?"

ALL

Look! It's Lightning McQueen!

[Lightning enters. The fans go wild! Kori enters]

KORI

Lightning! Where have you been?

LIGHTNING

I...

[Chick enters]

CHICK

Where ya been, McQueen? I've been a bit lonely. Not really! Ha! You don't look good, McQueen. Let's face it. You don't have it today. And, you know it. I'll be waiting for you at the finish line. Ha!

[Chick exits]

KORI

Lightning, where have you been?

LIGHTNING

Well, I kinda got sidetracked. With a lot of things. But, I'm here now.

KORI

Lightning, do you have what it takes to beat Chick Hicks today?

LIGHTNING

Well, I thought I did. But, this week I learned there is more to life than just racing. There is family and community and...love.

KORI

You don't sound the same, Lightning.

LIGHTNING

I don't feel the same. Maybe Chick is right. Maybe I don't have it today.

KORI

Best of luck today Lightning.

LIGHTNING

Thank you.

[Kori exits. Sally enters.]

SALLY

Hey, McQueen!

LIGHTNING

Huh?

SALLY

We didn't come all this way to see you quit!

[Everyone enters]

LIGHTNING

Guys! You made it!

MATER

We sure did!

PHYLLIS

If you can drive as good as you can fix the road-

SARGE

Then you can win this race!

MATER

Now, get out there, buddy!

SARGE

You can do it!

PHYLLIS

We're with ya, man!

DOC

You've got more talent than Chick Hicks ever had. And, with this team, you can't lose. No matter what happens. Now, get out there!

LIGHTNING

Ka-Chow!

[Cast sings *Life is a Highway* by Rascal Flatts]-dance sequence for the "Race"

Life's like a road that you travel on
Where there's one day here and the next day gone
Sometimes you bend, sometimes you stand
Sometimes you turn your back to the wind
There's a world outside every darkened door
Where blues won't haunt you anymore
Where the brave are free and lovers soar
Come ride with me to the distant shore
We won't hesitate
Break down the garden gate
There's not much time left today

Life is a highway, I want to ride it all night long
If you're going my way, I want to drive it all night long
Through all these cities and all these towns
It's in my blood and it's all around
I loved you now like I loved you then
This is the road and these are the hits
From Mozambique to those Memphis nights
The Khyber pass to Vancouver's lights
Knock me down and back up again
You're in my blood, I'm not a lonely man
There's no load I can't hold
A road so rough, this I know
I'll be there when the light comes in
Just tell 'em we're survivors
Life is a highway, I want to ride it all night long
If you're going my way, I want to drive it all night long
Life is a highway, I want to ride it all night long
If You're going my way, I want to drive it all night long
There was a distance between you and I
A misunderstanding once, but now
We look it in the eye
Oh!
There ain't no load that I can't hold

Road so rough, this I know
I'll be there when the light comes in
Just tell 'em we're survivors
Life is a highway
I want to ride it all night long
(Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah)
If you're going my way
I want to drive it all night long
A gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme, yeah
Life is a highway
I want to ride it all night long
If you're going my way
I want to drive it all night long
A gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme, yeah
Life is a highway
I want to ride it all night long
If you're going my way
I want to drive ya' all night long
A gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme, yeah

[Kori gives Lightning a medal and a silver cup] [Chick shakes hands with Lightning. Everyone celebrates.]

END OF PLAY