

ROOFTOP SERENADE

written by

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ACT I

FADE IN:

INT. MILO'S ROOM - DAY

A black backpack is slammed on a table covered in music sheets, flyers, and an empty a snack wrapper.

Milo is wearing black pants, a white button up shirt and a black bomber jacket. He drops onto an unmade bed and sighs exasperated. A knock on the door. Milo only grunts in reponse.

The door opens and Kai sticks his head through the gap.

KAI

I take it, it didn't go so well.

Milo gives an exasperated groan as he drops backwards.

Kai opens the door and goes to sit next to Milo on the bed.

KAI (CONT'D)

What happened?

MILO

He didn't even listen to anything. Just one look at the sheet and...

He balls his hands up and imitates an explosion with his fingers

MILO (CONT'D)

Poof!

KAI

Poof?

Milo nods.

KAI (CONT'D)

So, prep time for the next attempt?

MILO

At this point, what will actually impress him?

Kai thinks for a moment, then pats Milo on the chest and gets up and walks toward the door. He turns his head back slightly.

KAI  
Let's go out tonight.

Milo sits up.

MILO  
(little disoriented)  
What?

KAI  
We'll go out. Give you some  
motivation.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE BAR - NIGHT

Kai and Milo walk from the streets towards the lit entry of a shabby looking bar. They laugh and talk excitedly.

KAI  
Are you ready?

Milo grins.

KAI (CONT'D)  
(Bumps into Milo  
playfully)  
You sure?

INT. BAR - CONTINUOUS

Kai spreads his arms out looking proudly at the scene before him.

KAI  
Welcome to paradise, my friend.

Focus on Milo's face as he looks around the place, the noise of the people and the music playing increases. He nods his head in satisfaction.

MILO  
So, this is your plan?

KAI  
(nodding)  
Everything art has to offer,  
you'll find right in this room.

Milo raises an eyebrow.

Kai pushes him mockingly and moves toward the small fold toward the group of chairs and small fold tables at one side of the room.

Milo and Kai sit down on two bar stools at the wall. They look around, then Milo leans in.

MILO  
Got anything particular in mind?

KAI  
(shrugs)  
Throw a dart in the dark, hope it sticks?

They look around again.

NICO carrying two beers and setting them down at a table with a group of five men. His dark shirt reveals just a tad more than a normal v-neck would. He grins at something the person sitting closest to him says, cocks his head provocatively and strokes the man's chin with one finger. He walks away before the man can move to get up with a threatening expression. The other men at the table laugh at him.

Milo looks at Kai leans over.

MILO  
Well... have at it.

Nico is leaning with his back against the bar, nodding to something the bartender tells him. Then something catches his attention, he gives curt response to the bartender, then grabs a tray and moves away.

Kai lowers the arm he had raised and waits for Nico to make his way to them.

Nico flashes a smile.

NICO  
Hello beautiful. What can I do for you?

KAI

Two beers and a tip-off.

NICO

Well that'd be extra.

Kai tilts his head, waiting.

NICO (CONT'D)

(grins)

What do you need?

MILO

Songwriters, singers and anything  
of the sort.

NICO

Well, I go for one out of three.  
But if you need a songwriter,  
singer and everything of the sort  
(he nods toward someone) might  
wanna ask him.

Kai and Milo turn in the direction Nico gestured toward.

JAMES is sitting on a windowsill leaning his head back  
against the glass his eyes closed. He is still except for his  
fingers tapping to the rhythm of the music.

Kai turns to Nico.

KAI

Is he wasted, or just weird?

Milo still looks at James.

NICO

Just weird.

Kai turns to Milo and cocks his head in a question. Milo nods  
and gets up.

From the bar stools at the wall, Milo can be seen as he walks  
to James and leans against the windowsill. James turns his  
head just slightly at the sound, but doesn't open his eyes.

Kai leans forward toward Nico.

KAI

So, one out of three?

NICO

Singer.

KAI

Any good?

NICO

The best.

Kai looks him up and down.

KAI

Tenor?

KAI (CONT'D)

Baritone.

Kai nods, then hands Nico a torn snippet of paper.

KAI (CONT'D)

The best is what we need.

Nico takes the paper, and raises his eyebrows at Kai.

NICO

Why is that?

Kai grins then just nods toward the piece of paper.

KAI

Come and find out.

Nico blinks for a moment, pondering. Then gives a short smile and shoves the paper in his back pocket and turns away.

Milo and James are leaning slightly toward each other, to make it easier to hear in the conversation.

MILO

I was hoping that'd be where you  
come in?

JAMES

Mh?

Milo looks at James, eyes hoping.

MILO

We are meeting tomorrow. Are you  
coming?

James looks at Milo for a while, scanning his face with a furrowed brow. Then sighs with an almost invisible smile.

JAMES

Mh. Fine.

Milo smiles. He hands James his phone.

MILO

I'll text you the address.

James takes the phone and types his number in.

JAMES

Was this just your way of getting  
my number?

He hands the phone back when he is finished. Milo sniggers.

MILO

Possibly.

James nods.

JAMES

Well, I'll have to remember  
that...

James lifts his hand slightly giving a sign to Nico, at the bar. Nico comes over.

JAMES (CONT'D)

A round of  
(looks at Milo  
eyebrows raised)  
Beers?

Milo smiles. Nico gives a short nod.

NICO

They trying to recruit you, too?

James looks at Milo in slight surprise, Milo laughs.

MILO

The flirting there was all Kai,  
though.

James gives a curt nod.

JAMES  
(to Nico)  
And?

NICO  
Got nothing better to do anyway.

JAMES  
Really? Well then.

James nods.

Milo smiles.

MILO  
Alright.

He pushes himself off the windowsill, one hand utilizing James' leg.

MILO (CONT'D)  
See you tomorrow, then.

James looks at Milo in curiosity as he walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. MILO'S ROOM - DAY

Nico looks around with a look of disgust.

NICO  
This the best you could find?

CUT TO:

Milo is sitting on the floor in front of a couch table, he rolls his eyes, then moves to the side to make space. James sits down beside him looking around the room.

CUT TO:

Kai sits opposite of Milo, he leans his elbow on the table.

INTERCUT

KAI  
So-

JAMES  
We have gathered here today...



Kai throws James a warning glance.

KAI

We were working on some songs to use at the Art-stage event. Milo has an in with a producer.

Milo grunts.

KAI (CONT'D)

But he wants something more.

MILO

He's just an ass-hat, really.

Kai looks at Milo with raised eyebrows. Milo closes his mouth.

KAI

So, we need something grand. To blow his socks off. What do you think?

Kai looks around

INTERCUT -

Nico sways his head from side to side, thinking.

James ponders for a moment, then leans forward.

JAMES

Define grand.

Kai shrugs.

KAI

Gigantic, breathtaking, unforgettable.

JAMES

And you have an idea for that?

Milo leans onto the table as well, now a little more eager.

MILO

Actually, I thought of orchestra. Orchestral music with a vocal pop-format. You know, make it even more dramatic.

James smiles.