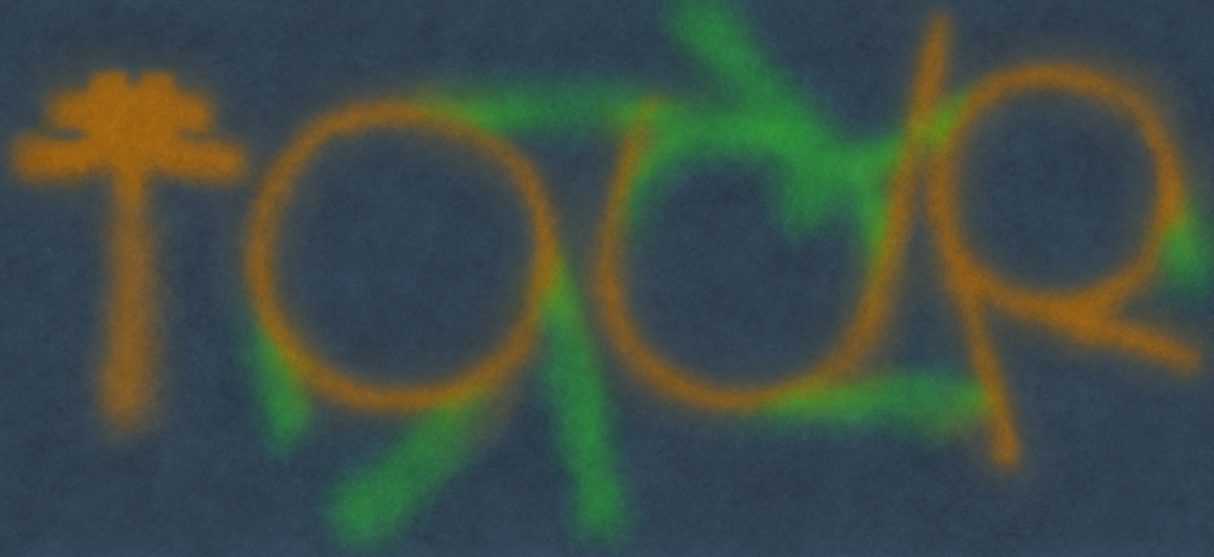


# DIRECTOR'S SCRIPT



Book, Music, and Lyrics  
by **D. Q. PHAM**

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TOUR

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A Musical

by

D. Q. Pham



# SYNOPSIS

*Tour* is about finding your impact. The matter surrounds a physicist tackling her education and fighting for the prospects that follow. Though her mind values the magnetic paces ahead, dreams do not electrify. So, she may need to reconnect working circuits and disconnect from those that crossed the field lines.

Quark enters the University as a physics student, dreaming of working at an accelerator. Professor Boson connects her to magnetism. However, their opposite charges never attract but an instance of perhaps, identical. Лептоны takes charge of Quark's livelihood each time Quark gets cut down by Boson; he has the power to fail anyone and even defund institutions. With the introduction of this musical thesis, Quark acquires the circuits to bring unharnessed energy to the Accelerator.

## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Character	Vocal Range	Gender	Age
<u>QUARK E</u> A physicist.	Mezzo-Soprano – Soprano	Woman	Adult
<u>ЛЕПТОНЫ</u> (leptonia) A doctoral advisor.	Alto – Mezzo-Soprano	Woman	Adult
<u>BOSON GAUGE</u> A physics professor.	Bass – Baritone	Man	Adult
<u>ATOM</u> An individual that makes up for everything, even by doubling.	Tenor	Man	Adult
<b>Ensemble</b>			
- STUDENTS	- RESEARCH ASSISTANTS	- PROFESSORS	
- ENGINEERS	- POLITICIANS	- TECHNICIANS	

## NOTES ON ATTIRE & COSMETICS

Performer portraying Quark: In the emergence era of co-op research, she would fit in with generally a blouse, a belted skirt, and close-toed heels. She eventually lugs around her sentimental green helmet, attached to a lanyard around her neck.

Performer portraying Лептоны: She soils her science gear when she is working, but when she is not, she wears much more dull clothes. She dresses up as a rancher near the Desertron. She wears her orange helmet at the Accelerator.

Performer portraying Boson: He fits in anywhere. He is suited to take on a tenure. He is beyond well-dressed for the Accelerator to demonstrate his reign. In that case, he hardly sleeps.

Performers portraying engineers: The orange clothes and safety gear are for nanoscience.

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

№	Title	Location	Character (s)
1.	Hard Run	University	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ BOSON ATOM students
2.	Centration	Office	QUARK BOSON research assistants
3.	G	Conference Hall	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ professors
4.	Fuse	Conference Hall	QUARK
5.	Super Collide	Desertron	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ engineers
6.	Electronegativity	Debate Chamber	QUARK BOSON ATOM politicians
7.	Electroforming	Magnet Factory	QUARK ATOM engineers
8.	Preon	Magnet Factory	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ
9.	Exchange Particle	Accelerator	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ BOSON technicians
10.	Hadron	Accelerator	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ BOSON technicians
11.	Magnet-Guided	Accelerator	QUARK BOSON technicians
12.	Meson Decay	Accelerator	QUARK ATOM technicians
13.	Synchrotron	Accelerator	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ technicians
14.	Strong and Weak	Accelerator	QUARK BOSON
15.	Pion	Accelerator	QUARK
16.	Catch Electrons	Accelerator	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ BOSON technicians
17.	Beyond Baryons	Accelerator	QUARK ЛЕПТОНЫ technicians

## SCENES & SET DESIGNS

Scene   Page	Location	SET   props
I   i 8	Administration Building	UNIVERSITY BANNER   DESK   schedule   physics textbook notebooks   pens
I   ii 10	Lecture Hall	DESK with magnets (6+), box with magnet inside, field line diagram, packet, pen   CHALKBOARD WITH FIELD LINE DIAGRAM
I   iii 14	Laboratory	DESK with magnets (6+), box with magnet inside, field line diagram, packet, pen
I   iv 18	Office	DESK with box with magnet inside, field line diagram, packet, pen   booklet   packets
I   v 22	Conference Hall	PACKETS ON THE GROUND
I   vi 26	Desertron	OPERATOR'S CONTROL
I   vii 29	Debate Chamber	OPERATOR'S CONTROL   stack of cash
I   viii 32	Magnet Factory	WORKSTATIONS   form   pen   magnets   metals wooden board   circuits   batteries
I   ix 37	Accelerator	ACCELERATOR BACKGORUND   BARRIER   CHAIRS   CHALKBOARD FOG MACHINE   chalkboard eraser   QUARK's id
II   i 44	Accelerator	ACCELERATOR BACKGROUND





ACT I

## 1. HARD RUN

SCENE i

*[Administration Building]*

*(QUARK enters, likely coming from a train.  
She wanders around, quickening her pace.)*

*(ATOM enters, staffing himself.)*

**ATOM**

QUARK. CONGRATULATIONS.

*(Handing a schedule to QUARK.)*

**QUARK**

*(Examining the schedule.)*

I KNOW HIM FROM SOMEWHERE. BEAMS... WHAT'S WITH MY  
MEMORY.

**ATOM**

BOSON GAUGE. HE'S THE BEST. A CHILD PRODIGY.

*(Exiting.)*

*(QUARK rushes around. She bumps into ЛЕПТОНЫ,  
knocking over all ЛЕПТОНЫ's belongings.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

NO CONTROL! YOU СУКА!

**QUARK**

AN ACCIDENT!

*(Quark picks up ЛЕПТОНЫ's belongings but one thing.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

I AM GOING TO BE LATE! YOU HEAR ME? RESEARCH GROUP.  
LIFE OR DEATH. ДЕРЬМО (der'mo)! DOCTORAL... OVER... IN  
MATTERS OF SECONDS.

**QUARK**

*(Holding ЛЕПТОНЫ's belongings.)*

I HEAR YOU. NOW WILL YOU TAKE ДЕРЬМО' (der'mo).

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

YOU NEW HERE? YOU SEEM... OLD. DOCTORAL? YOUNG ADULTS.

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

WE SHOULD CATCH U—

**QUARK**

Go!

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

YOU ПИЗДА' (pizdá) MADE ME LATE!

*(Running off.)*

*(ATOM rushes in, bewildering QUARK. He picks up the remaining thing.)*

**АТОМ**

LEVIATHAN! YOU DROPPED SOMETHING!

*(Rushing after ЛЕПТОНЫ.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

IT'S ЛЕПТОНЫ (leptonia)!

SCENE ii

*[Lecture Hall]*

*[A field line diagram is written on the chalkboard.]*

*(BOSON, ATOM, STUDENTs push in the chalkboard.)*

*(QUARK, ATOM, and STUDENTs gather.)*

*(BOSON paces.)*

**STUDENT**

NEUTRONS!

*(BOSON dismisses the answer.)*

**STUDENT**

PHONONS!

*(BOSON dismisses the answer.)*

**STUDENT**

MUONS!

*(BOSON dismisses the answer.)*

**STUDENT**

BOSON?!

*(BOSON is taken off guard.)*

**ATOM**

*Borons... Theory!*

**STUDENTs**

Hmm.

**ATOM**

That's it!

**STUDENTs**

*(Bursting out laughing.)*

*(BOSON feels disappointed.)*

*(QUARK sticks out.)*

Hmm.

**QUARK**

POS-TIVE. NEG-TIVE.

**BOSON**

WELCOME TO THE CONTOUR. LET IT FLOW-OW.

*(STUDENTs set up the laboratory.)*

**STUDENTs**

`LECTRICITY!

**BOSON**

DO BUILD YOUR N-EST.

**STUDENTs**

WITH 'LECTRONICS!

**BOSON**

DO THEY ATTRA-ACT...

**STUDENTs**

SO MAGNETIC!

**BOSON**

ATTENTION.

**QUARK**

YOU WOULD LET ME...

**STUDENTs**

IT'S EXCLUSIVE!

**QUARK**

BUILD MYSELF IN YOUR...

**STUDENTs**

NO EXPER-ENCE!

**QUARK**

LA-BRA-TOR-Y?

**STUDENTS**

SESSION IS FULL!

*(BOSON nods. He pushes the chalkboard out,  
revealing magnets on a desk.)*

SCENE iii

*[Laboratory]*

**STUDENTS**

THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK...

**BOSON**

PERFORM A CONTROLLED EXPER-MENT. FORCE. ATTRACTING.  
USING FERROMAGNETS. PERMANENT DIPOLES. REMOVE FIELDS  
OUTSIDE. DISCIPLES. ADVICE. DON'T REDUCE TO ZERO.  
SPON-TANE-OUS RAC-TION. TRY COBALT NAMESAKE. ELECTRONS.  
UNPAIRED. PARTNER UP.

**STUDENTS**

DEAR!

*(Scattering.)*

*(Each STUDENT grabs a magnet.)*

**STUDENT**

*(Pointing a magnet to another STUDENT.)*

COMPASS FACES...

**STUDENTS**

ATTRACTION HERE!

*(A different STUDENT directs their magnet to  
another STUDENT.)*

**STUDENT**

YOUR FRIDGE RUNNING?

**STUDENTS**



HA CAUSE MAGNETS!

**ATOM**

*(Reaching for another STUDENT.)*

YOU SEE, MAGNATE.

**STUDENTs**

STILL THE BORON!

*(BOSON takes two magnets. He extends one to QUARK.)*

**BOSON**

NEED A PARTNER?

**STUDENTs**

RATHER WORK 'LONE!

**QUARK**

I WOULD BE HONOURED.

*(Accepting the magnet.)*

**STUDENTs**

OH INDUCTANCE!

**QUARK**

SAY, WE'RE 'TRACTED.

**STUDENTs**

A LITTLE FORCED!

**BOSON**

REPEL!

*(Each pair of STUDENTs distance themselves, forming magnetic formations with electrifying dances.)*

*(The world has completed some revolutions as time whizzed by in the delightful classes that QUARK and BOSON have together.)*

*(Eventually, ЛЕПТОНЫ enters. She feels silently intrigued by the experiments.)*

*(QUARK feels distracted by ЛЕПТОНЫ. She seems to be repelling away from BOSON.)*

*(Once the experiment concludes, ЛЕПТОНЫ confronts BOSON. She hands BOSON a paper. She departs.)*

*(BOSON reads the paper.)*

*(STUDENTs stop dancing and focus on BOSON.)*

**BOSON**

I HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THE NEW LA-BRA-TOR-Y...

**STUDENTs**

PLEASE DO NOT GO! WE'LL ALL MISS YOU. CELEBRATION.

*(BOSON stays silent.)*

**STUDENTs** (cont.)

PROFESSOR'S SPEECHLESS.

*(Setting up Office.)*

THINK IT OVER!

*(BOSON waves STUDENTS off.)*

WE WILL REPEL!

SCENE iv

*[Office]*

*(QUARK hands BOSON a booklet.)*

**BOSON**

*(Reading the cover.)*

ÉTUDE THÉORIQUES DES SUSCEPTIBILITÉS MAGNÉTIQUE  
MOLECULAIRES.

**QUARK**

I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE MY THESIS BEFORE YOU'D LEAVE  
FOR YOUR DESTINY IN LAB.

**BOSON**

*(Revealing a box.)*

I THOUGHT I'D NEVER ASK THIS OF YOU...

*(Opening the box to reveal a magnet.)*

WILL YOU BE MY PERMANENT COLLABORATOR?

*(QUARK is caught off guard. She notices an  
incorrect field line diagram on the desk.)*

**QUARK**

THE FIELD LINES HERE, CROSSED.

*(BOSON looks through QUARK's thesis.)*

**BOSON**

OP-SITE CHARGES REPEL.

**QUARK**

THAT WAS THE... RESULT OF... THE... EXPERIMENT.

*(BOSON swipes a pen over QUARK's thesis.)*

*(QUARK builds rage.)*

*(BOSON builds remorse.)*

**BOSON**

THE OPPOSITES SHOULD ALWAYS ATTRACT-ACT.

*(Pleading to an unmoving QUARK.)*

REACT. CONNECT. YOU ARE NOTHING BUT STEEL. MAGNET. I  
AM. NEG-TIVE ENDS POSITIVE.

*(Falling in shambles.)*

End contour. End contour. End contour. End contour. End contour.  
End contour. End contour. End contour.

**QUARK**

THE FIELD LINES SHOULD NEVER BE CROSSED!

## 2. CENTRATION

*(BOSON throws a packet, full of electronic problems, at QUARK.)*

*(QUARK picks up the packet. She realizes the problems are elementary. She begins solving.)*

*(RESEARCH ASSISTANTS march in. They carry packets behind themselves. They surround QUARK.)*

*(BOSON directs RESEARCH ASSISTANTS to throw a packet at QUARK.)*

**BOSON**

'TIL END, PROFESSOR, OF ALL LECTURES, LA-BRA-TOR-IES.

*(RESEARCH ASSISTANTS hold and slur "concentration" as choruses.)*

COULD YOU CONCENTRATE? STUDENT. OH YOU INFUR-ATE.  
SENIOR. HAVE YOU DETER-RATE? CONCEN-

**BOSON**

**RESEARCH ASSISTANTS**

-TRATE

*(RESEARCH ASSISTANTS individually throw a packet at QUARK.)*

*(QUARK gradually kneels, in agony.)*

*(BOSON feels sickened. He stops RESEARCH ASSISTANTS. He levels with QUARK.)*

**BOSON**

ALWAYS, A TRUE FRIEND, WHO WILL LISTEN, EXPERIMENT.  
RIGHT NOW, A SAVIOR, PROVIDES METHODS, HANDS OUT  
TECHNIQUES. BEYOND CENTRATION. NARRATE. OH DEAR  
APPRENTICE. GERM-NATE. WOMAN WHO'VE GROWN WISE.

*(QUARK, still on her knees, hands the packet  
to BOSON.)*

*(BOSON strikes pen ink over the packet. He  
hands the packet to QUARK.)*

*(QUARK looks at the packet and to BOSON.)*

**QUARK**

YOU'VE CROSSED IT.

*(BOSON grabs a book. He throws the book in  
QUARK's face.)*

*(QUARK falls back, unconscious.)*

*(BOSON and RESEARCH ASSISTANTS march off,  
taking Office.)*

3. G

SCENE v

*[Conference Hall]*

*(PROFESSORS wander in. They pick up and read the packets surrounding QUARK.)*

**PROFESSOR**

THESE GRADES DO NOT FIT THE CURVATURE.

**PROFESSOR**

I Q IS LEFT TO BE DESIRED.

*(QUARK sits up.)*

**PROFESSORS**

SUCCESS. THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE NOT.

**PROFESSOR**

LET B'S...

**PROFESSORS**

IN TRASH BINS OF HISTORY.

**PROFESSOR**

OH F'S...



**PROFESSORS**

YOU MIGHT AS WELL KILL YOURSELF.

*(Leveling with QUARK.)*

GRAD PROGRAMS ARE EXCLUSIVE. DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES  
FOR MASTER'S.

*(Picking up the remaining packets.)*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ rushes in.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

SORRY I'M LATE. SORRY I'M LATE. SORRY I'M LATE. WOAH I  
KNOW YOU!

*(Rushing to QUARK.)*

THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE. SERVICE NABBED THE  
RESEARCH GROUP.

**PROFESSORS**

WHAT'S GOING ON?

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

MY WING'S. WHAT'S GOING ON OVER HER. LADDER. SHE WON'T  
NEED TO SOAR THE SKIES. GET OUTTA HERE.

*(PROFESSORS leave.)*

WHY SEE INVISIBLE?

**QUARK**

GEE-E... NORMAL PEOPLE ASK NAME FIRST.

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

FAILURE... ЦИВИЛИСТ (tsivilist) DON'T HAVE THIS MUCH.

**QUARK**

IT'S BEYOND JUST AN F.

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ rushes out.)*

*[The room darkens.]*

#### 4. FUSE

##### QUARK

SO CONFUSED. REFUSE. DIFFUSE.

*(Rapping her hand around her head. She words the prefix to sound closer to "I".)*

IN-...

*(Wording the word to sound close to "feel".)*

FUSE.

*(Placing her hand on her heart.)*

SO ELECTRIFYING!

*(Standing tall and confident.)*

NOW IS THE PERFECT TIMING.

*(Placing a hand on her temple.)*

YET, THE WOUND HAS LEFT ME STATIC.

*(Looking up. She is once more confident. She states this assertively to herself.)*

THUNDER LATER! CHARGE YOURSELF TO FLOW LIKE LIGHTNING!

*(Bringing herself back to reality.)*

THUNDER...

*(Shedding a tear.)*

NOTHING LIKE OVERCURRENT. RAIN OFF EXCESS HEAT.  
END MY FIRE.

*(Flinching.)*

ZAP. BREAKER OUT OF ALL THE CURRENT. POSITIVE.  
NEGATIVE. SO IMBALANCED... MUST KEEP FEELINGS GROUNDED...  
LIGHTNING... SHORT CABLE THAT SUFFUSE. SURE AM UNABLE TO  
REFUSE... RESISTOR. LIMITER. CURRENTLY CAN'T. CLIPPING.  
YOUR POWER RATING IS PROFUSE. SWEATING.

*(Placing her hand on her heart.)*

SENSORS DETECT MY HEART BEATING. HERE GOES NOTHING.  
SOMETHING. ELECTRIFYING...

## 5. SUPER COLLIDE

SCENE vi

*[Desertron]*

*[The lights reveal an operator's control.]*

**QUARK**

IT VEXES ME. I'M ON THE VERGE OF DISCOV-RING THE FATHER  
OF ALL ETERNITY... IT VEXES...

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ elegantly tiptoes in, clad in a  
rancher's uniform. She brings in the  
festivities.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

HOWDY... HOWDY. HOWDY. WELCOME TO THE CIRCUIT!

*(Speaking before QUARK interjects.)*

I know what you're about to say! Can you touch these colourful  
buttons that will propel protons, smashing them into a  
graphites' nucleis, producing neutrons with pions, negative and  
positive, taking those positivities and focus them into a beam  
so they would, excuse my language, decay... I say you cannot lil'  
bachelor.

**QUARK**

THEY BECOME NEUTRINOS. I HAVE MY MASTERS.

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

WELCOME TO THE ENERGY! FREE ENERGY. POSITIVE! IN THE  
HEARTLAND... OF SCIENCE INNOVATION! WHERE NOT ONLY DOES  
EVERY MATTER EXIST, BUT MATTER! WHERE THE LAWS OF  
PHYSICS... BREAK THE LAWS THAT HUMANS DRAW.

**QUARK**

CONTACT TENSION?

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

IGNORE THAT ONE, NOW. WELCOME TO THE MAGNETIC  
ATTRACTION. YOUR DATA WILL SURE TO BE...

*(ATOM enters, protesting.)*

NEGATIVE!

*(Cantering off.)*

**ATOM**

THEY ARE SHUTTING IT DOWN!

**QUARK**

DID SOMEBODY GET BEAMED?

**ATOM**

EVEN WORSE... WE ARE LOSING FUNDING!

**QUARK**

WHAT UNKNOWN FORCE DRIVES THIS? WHAT BREAKS THE BOND  
BETWEEN UM...

*(Questioning ATOM's identity.)*

**ATOM**

ATOM...

**QUARK**

MOLECULES!

*(BOSON slyly enters.)*

**BOSON**

IT VEXES ME...

**QUARK**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

**BOSON**

FEEDING THE UNKNOWN FORCE.

*(Pickpocketing a stack of cash from ATOM.)*

**ATOM**

KIDS' MEAL FUND!

## 6. ELECTRONEGATIVITY

SCENE vii

*[Debate Chamber]*

*(BOSON throws the stack of cash at the void.)*

*(POLITICIANS leap out and fight for the stack like dogs fighting over a bone. They set the debate. They focus on ATOM.)*

### **POLITICIANS**

WHERE IS THE MONEY IN THA-AT?

*(Grabbing ahold of ATOM, upside down.)*

WHERE IS THE MONEY IN THA-AT? WHERE IS THE MONEY IN THA-AT?

*(Dropping ATOM and focusing on the operator's controls.)*

WHERE IS THE MONEY IN THA-AT? WHO GON' BE PAYING FOR THA-AT? WHAT IS OUR DIVVY ON THA-AT? WHERE A TOWN SHANTY PLACE THA-AT. WHEN WORLD RIVALRIES START THA-AT.

*(QUARK defends the operator's controls.)*

WHY NO EXPLOITING WITH THA-AT! HOW WE FIND MONEY FOR THA-AT? HOW WE FIND MONEY FOR THA-AT? HOW WE FIND MONEY FOR THA-AT?

### **BOSON**

BRING IT BACK.

*(Taking the stack back from POLITICIANS.)*

BRING IT TO ME IN MY LAB.

*(Pointing to QUARK.)*

**BOSON** (cont.)

ADDRESS CONGRESS FOR THESE HACKS. NO LONGER PAID WITH  
YOUR TAX.

*(Handing the stack back to ATOM.)*

MORE IN TREASURY RELAX. BE FULL HA-MIL-TO-NAN 'TIL  
TAPS.

*(POLITICIANS feel puzzled by the phrase.)*

NONE MORE PA-TRO-DIC WOLF PACK! SO WHY NOT JUST DEFUND  
THAT!

**POLITICIANS**

*(Taking apart the operator's controls.)*

MO—... NEY... MO—... NEY... MO—... NEY... MO—... NEY...

**BOSON**

*(BOSON focuses on QUARK.)*

TIT FOR TAT. WHERE'S WORK AT? LOST BRASS TACKS.  
BUREAUCRAT. DID I CROSS THAT?

*(QUARK points out what has become of the  
operator's controls.)*

*(BOSON turns around. He is shocked at what  
is before his very eyes.)*

**QUARK**

NO PROGRESS. BUT INSTEAD. UNDER DEBT. POOR MINDSET.  
WHERE YOUR SCI-TISTS?



**BOSON**

JUST... HIRED... LEP-TON-YA...

*(ATOM mocks QUARK as though BOSON has a sick burn.)*

*(POLITICIANS grab ahold of QUARK.)*

**BOSON**

FAILED WHAT YOU PUT TO THE  
TEST.  
NEVER WILL GIVE IT A REST.  
ALL YOU DO IS PROJECT.  
YOU WILL DE-FIN-LY BE  
BESTED.

**POLITICIANS**

A-  
WARDS...  
LE-  
GA-... CY...

*(QUARK is thrown out of the debate chamber.)*

**POLITICIANS**

*(Half of POLITICIANS sing "board" and the other half sing "lord".)*

BOARD/LORD... OF... SCI-... TY...

*(BOSON victoriously holds what is left of the operator's control.)*

*(BOSON and POLITICIANS leave.)*

*(QUARK ends up alone.)*

## 7. ELECTROFORMING

SCENE viii

*[Magnet Factory]*

*(ATOM and ENGINEERs march in.)*

*(ENGINEERs set up the surroundings as a facility to build magnets. Much of the supplies are metals.)*

### ENGINEERs

*(Addressing QUARK.)*

CONFORM.

*(ATOM hands a form to QUARK.)*

FILL THIS FORM.

*(QUARK quickly signs the form.)*

COME WITH US. WORK WITH US.

*(QUARK hands back the form.)*

YOU'RE WELCOME. JUST HARD WORK.

*(QUARK joins in with ENGINEERs. QUARK is given her helmet.)*

**ENGINEERS** (cont.)

HEART ON FIRE. MIND ON ICE. CONFORM. CONFORM.

*(Sitting at their workstation.)*

CONFORM. CONFORM.

*(ATOM sits down. He starts testing magnets with the metals.)*

CONFORM. CONFORM.

*(Seating QUARK next to ATOM.)*

CONFORM. CONFORM.

**QUARK**

*(Addressing ATOM.)*

YOU HEAR ME? IS IT CLEAR? TOGETHER. NOW'S HELPFUL.

*(Trying to hold back the internal cubicle she is trapped in.)*

IN THE MOOD. TO FIGHT YOU...

**ATOM**

STAY PATIENT. THAT'S YOUR ROLE.

*[The metals combust.]*

*(A supervising ENGINEER steps in.)*

DIRECTOR. I'M SORRY. FORGIVE ME. FORGET ME.

*(Focusing on QUARK.)*

SAVE YOUR LIFE. SAVE YOUR LIFE.

**QUARK**

FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT. FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT.

**ENGINEERs**

DE-... FORM...

*[Blackout.]*

*(ATOM and ENGINEERs depart with all but  
QUARK's workstation.)*

## 8. PREON

*[The entire facility brightens.]*

*(QUARK rests at the workstation.)*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ tiptoes in.)*

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

QUARK E. P. H. D.

*(QUARK stays unresponsive.)*

REMINDER TO CONQUER...

*(QUARK stays unresponsive.)*

COMRADE?

**QUARK**

I CANNOT FACE THE WORLD.

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

SO... DOES... MY... LAB. SE-... CLU-... DED... BUT... U-... NIQUE.  
WE'RE... RE-... CRUI-... TING...

*(Pulling out a wooden board from underneath the workstation. She grabs the circuits and batteries. She forms these materials into a circuit workbench.)*

I'LL... GIVE... YOU... A... PRE-... VIEW... LET'S... EX-... PER-... MENT.

*(Performing much of the procedure.)*

*(Gradually, QUARK joins in to fix some of ЛЕПТОНЫ's errors.)*

HY—... PO—... THE—... SIS...

**QUARK**

*(Intently looks at ЛЕПТОНЫ.)*

WHERE... IS... IT... GOING?...

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

*(Earnestly acknowledging it.)*

LET'S DIVIDE AND CONQUER.

**QUARK**

LET'S...

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

THERE BE LIGHT...

*[The circuit workbench lights up the incandescent light.]*

*(QUARK and ЛЕПТОНЫ intimately hold their gazes.)*

*[Blackout.]*

SCENE ix

*[Accelerator]*

*[A barrier hides the Accelerator. There are chairs.]*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ, BOSON, and PROFESSORS wander or sit. Some PROFESSORS shake hands. Some PROFESSORS carry refreshments.)*

*[Fog disperses from a lower section. There is a boom.]*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ and BOSON remain unstartled.)*

*(Sitting PROFESSORS and some upright PROFESSORS applaud.)*

*(The rest of PROFESSORS tremble.)*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ, BOSON, and PROFESSORS sit.)*

*(QUARK strolls backwards in. She pulls a chalkboard. She turns only her head towards the fog, keeping her grip on the chalkboard.)*

*[The fog disperses, revealing a chalkboard eraser.]*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ heads to pick up the chalkboard eraser.)*

*(QUARK drops her grip. She turns, revealing her torso. She feels embarrassed. She grabs the chalkboard eraser out of ЛЕПТОНЫ's hand. She places her free hand on the helmet on her chest, with a lanyard holding her helmet. She bows to ЛЕПТОНЫ.)*

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ places her hand on her helmet and bows.)*

*(QUARK erases the chalkboard and writes, "PIECE".)*

### **ЛЕПТОНЫ**

*(Simultaneously extending her right arm.)*

PEACE...

*(QUARK writes, "of a magnetic quadruple.")*

*(Simultaneously extending her left arm.)*

WITHIN HER HEART CHAMBERS...

*(QUARK draws an "X" within the center of the lower right-half of the chalkboard. She writes, "is here".)*

IS NOT QUITE THERE.

*(QUARK draws a circle that touches the "X". The circle encompasses the whole chalkboard. The circle's center is directly in the middle of the chalkboard.)*

*(PROFESSORS stand up.)*



**ЛЕПТОНЫ** (cont.)

SO, LET'S SETTLE FOR THE REST OF THE MIND.

## 9. EXCHANGE PARTICLE

### BOSON

*(Standing up.)*

THIS CANNOT STAND.

*(Promptly sitting down.)*

### ЛЕПТОНЫ

*(Placing her hand to her chest.)*

YOU STRUCK A CHORD IN MY HEART.

*(Clearing her throat and extending her arm.)*

ИЗВИНИТЕ (izvinite), A CORE IN THE UNIVERSE.

*(PROFESSORS applaud.)*

*(Some PROFESSORS raise QUARK high up on their shoulders.)*

*(BOSON bolts out.)*

*(Some PROFESSORS remove chairs and return.)*

### QUARK

HEY BUILDERS. I MUST-A SAY... THERE'S TIME FOR  
LOLLYGAGGING. THERE'S SPACE JUST TO REST EASY.

*(ЛЕПТОНЫ attempts to direct PROFESSORS to set  
QUARK down.)*

HEY BUILDERS. SHE DOES DECLARE. I MAY BE FUN AND SHE'S  
NOT. BUT SHE'S STILL YOUR GUARDIAN.

**PROFESSORS**

CONGRATULATION-ION-IONS! TO THE NEW TECHNICIAN-IAN!

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

ALL. ПРИВЕТ (privet)! PARDON ME. SHE DIDN'T FINISH  
THIS LADDER.

*(PROFESSORS let QUARK down. They leave to  
uniform as ENGINEERS then stand at attention  
behind the barrier.)*

HEY QUARK E. I MUST REMIND... THAT LADDER'S AN ILLUSION.  
WE COMRADES JUST SAW YOU SOAR.

*(PROFESSORS leave to uniform as ENGINEERS  
and stand at attention behind the barrier.)*

**QUARK**

*(Consoling herself.)*

YOU. MATTER. ACT NORMAL. THERE ARE CLOUDS TO LAND  
BELOW. BUT NO ROOM TO BREATHE ABOVE.

*(BOSON enters with an ID.)*

**BOSON**

DON'T... GIVE UP. I WILL JUST SAY... EXCHANGE PARTICLE.

*(Pinning the ID onto QUARK.)*

WELCOME TO THE CONTOUR.

*(Heading behind the barrier.)*

*(QUARK feels stiff by the ending remark.)*

HEY. CAREFUL. I MUST-A STATE... LET'S BE MODEST ON ENTRY.

**ЛЕПТОНЫ**

REVEAL TO US WHAT WE GOT!

*[The barrier opens to reveal the beauty of  
the Accelerator.]*

**QUARK**

I MUST SAY...

**COMPANY**

CONGRATULATION-ION-IONS!

**QUARK**

NO WORDS. I AM LEFT SPEECHLESS.

*(Putting on the helmet.)*

*End of Act*





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