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Dramatic Publishing

Michael Tester's

MOST LIKELY TO:



The Senior Superlative Musical!

in Superlative Musical!



It's the Glee's
vs. the Goths
the Drama Queens
vs the Jocks



“Your theatre will be voted ‘Most Likely to
Have a Hit!’” —Newsday

Musical. Book, music and lyrics by Michael Tester. Cast: 7m., 10w., 1 either gender. With over 36 featured roles, the show can be done with as few as 12 actors or as many as 40 or more to cover a show choir, an a cappella glee club, dancing cheerleaders and more! It's the Gleebs versus the Goths, the Drama Queens versus the Jocks in a Senior Superlative showdown! Most Likely To has captured that lightning in a bottle known as the teenage drama queen. Set at a high-school awards ceremony, Most Likely To explores the trials and aspirations of teenagers through a thematic arc of song, sketch and monologue, allowing ample room for creative staging and flexible casting. The score ranges from pastiche to pop, emo to country western and includes soaring musical theatre anthems, rock, R & B and rap. “As escapist entertainment it's more than you bargained for, beginning with the title song ‘Most Likely to Survive.’ Songs like ‘The Hero of Guitar’ and ‘O.C.D. Over U’ come across with aplomb. In one of the best, ‘Emo Spelled Backwards is Oh Me,’ the Goth kids tease us about me-isms, [while] ‘The Best Years of My Life’ leads to the self-imploding myth of youth. A fun show to watch.” (TheatreLife.com.) Unit set. Approximate running time: 1 hour, 40 minutes. Code MH5.

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MOST LIKELY TO: The Senior Superlative Musical

Book, Music and Lyrics

by

MICHAEL TESTER



Dramatic Publishing

Woodstock, Illinois • Australia • New Zealand • South Africa

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MICHAEL TESTER

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“Produced by special arrangement with
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MOST LIKELY TO: The Senior Superlative Musical premiered at Manhattan's historic Players Theatre in August 2008, with the following cast:

Andrew J. Beck, Gina Marie Bilardi, Samantha Chastain,
Alexander Greif, Christopher Hlinka, Katie Hoffmann,
Lyle Colby Mackston, Lauren Renner, Sarah Sixt,
Melissa Rapelje, Joseph Wegmann, Jesse Ellen Zeidman.

Workshop productions included Dee Brown,
Amanda Costanos, Steven Liberto and Matthew Walsh.
(See Appendix G for full production history.)

All three original productions of *MOST LIKELY TO* were directed by Abbe Gail Gross.

THE SENIOR CELEBRITIES

(In Order of Appearance)

(36 featured speaking and/or singing roles
covered by as many actors, or as few as 12 with doubling)
(See Appendix C for suggestions)

VAL..... Most Studious, (Valedictorian)
SAL Most Likely To Use as a Lifeline, (Salutatorian)
SAM Most Overlooked, (Tech Crew)
KYRA..... Most Team Spirited, Brains & Beauty
ANASTASIA Most Photogenic, Best Dressed,
Ms. Senior Superlative
BRYAN Class Playa'
GABBIE ... Most O.C.D., (Bryan's girlfriend, Tabbie's twin)
TABBIE..... Most Dramatic, Most Popular, (Gabbie's twin)
THE PAPARAZZI Yearbook Photo Committee
ROSIE Almost Dramatic
SKYLAR Most Paranoid
LIZ Class Gossip
TIC..... Best Hair, (Goth Boy)
ELLE Best Hair, (Goth Girl)
TONY Most Athletic, (Summer's ex)
SUMMER..... Most Musical, (Tony's ex)
THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF GLEE... A Cappella Group
THE SORORITY SOUL SISTERS Show Choir
OLIVER Class Clown
LUCAS..... Most Likely To Think Outside the Box
MAHALIAH FRACTION Self-anointed Minister of Math
THE HAIR BAND Rockers
ENSEMBLE..... Extras as desired for: The Fraternal Order
of Glee, Ball Players, Knights of the Periodic Round Table,
Homecoming Court, Paparazzi, Rockers, Sorority Show
Choir, Thespian Society, et al.

THE PROGRAM

OPENING PROCESSION

“Most Likely To Survive” (Company)

“A Really Big Night!” (Kyra and Squad)

JOINED AT THE HIP

MOST O.C.D. (Bryan and Gabbie)

“O.C.D. Over U” (Gabbie)

CLASS PLAYA’

“The Best Years of My Life” (Bryan)

MOST TEAM SPIRITED/MOST PHOTOGENIC/

BEST DRESSED (Kyra, Ana and Company)

MOST DRAMATIC

“The Paranoid Song” (Skylar and Liz)

BEST HAIR (The Goths)

IT’S ABOUT TIME / IT’S ABOUT SPACE

MOST STUDIOUS (Val)

MOST ATHLETIC (Sal, Summer and Company)

BRAINS & BEAUTY

“Why Can’t We Be Both?” (Ana, Kyra, Liz, Val, Tony,

Lucas, Sal, Skylar, Tony)

THE TALENT FINALISTS

“All Hail the Drama Queens” (The Drama Club)

(Optional Intermission)

PART TWO

Entr’acte:

THE TALENT FINALISTS (cont'd)

MOST PARANOID	(Skylar and Liz)
“The Gleeful Medley”	(The Fraternal Order of Glee)
“You’ve Been Served”	(The Sorority Show Choir)
“The Over U Reprise”	(Tabbie)
CULT OF THE COOKIE.....	(Liz)
LIFE LINE	(Sal)
CLASS CLOWN.....	(Oliver)
MRS. JACOB’S CLOSET	(Lucas)
“Power to the Pi”	(Sal, Val, Mahaliah Fraction)
“Emo Spelled Backwards”	(Tic and Elle)
“Hero of Guitar”	(The Hair Band)
“My Gift”	(Rosie and the Paparazzi)

BEST ALL AROUND

“Why Can’t We Be Both Reprise”	(Tony and Summer)
“Best Years Reprise”	(Gabbie)
“Reprise of the Drama Queens”	(Company)
“Push Comes to Shove”	(Company)

EPILOGUE

“Before Me Now”	(Company)
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INCIDENTAL MUSIC

I	Overture/Entr’acte/Bows
II	Big Night Theme
III	Paranoid/Goth Theme
IV	ML2 Theme
V	Drama Queen Fanfare
VI	Hero Theme

AUTHOR'S NOTES

- While *Most Likely To* is not an interactive musical, the environmental nature of its ceremonial setting provides ample room for creative staging. As such, some characters can enter and exit through the audience, while others can literally set the stage, serve as ushers, take yearbook photos, interview audience members on the “red carpet,” or campaign for last-minute votes.
- Regardless of whether the set design consists of a simple curtain or an elaborate array of platforms and stairs befitting a Hollywood event, there should be no fourth wall.
- The name of the high school is never mentioned. As such, the school colors and letters (as represented on varsity jackets, sweaters and graduation gowns) should be as diverse as the casting.
- The actors are encouraged to explore histories among the characters. (See Appendix D)
- The key to the humor in the show is: “Truth plus timing.” The key to the pacing is: “urgency” (this is The Event in the student’s life).

MOST LIKELY TO: The Senior Superlative Musical

OPENING PROCESSION

SETTING: *A high school Senior Superlative Ceremony, here and now. A flagpole stands on one side of the stage, a lectern on the other; a “Senior Superlatives” banner flanks a table of trophies.*

**(Music Cue: Incidental I, Segue to Song #1:
PROLOGUE: MOST LIKELY TO SURVIVE)**

AT RISE: *VAL and SAL address the audience.*

VAL. Welcome to this year’s Senior Superlative Ceremony!
As class valedictorian, I am your host for this evening’s festivities.

SAL. And as your salutatorian, I am your co-host.

BOTH. “Val” and “Sal”? *(Attempt an awkward high-five.)*
And *these* are your nominees...

(In a rainbow of varsity jackets or sweaters, the COMPANY takes the stage.)

SAL. “Most Likely to Succeed”!

VAL. “Most Studious”!

SUMMER. “Most Musical”!

KYRA. “Most Team Spirited”!

BRYAN. “Class Playa’ ”!

(SAM steps forward to speak but is cut off.)

TABBIE & ROSIE *(Rivals)*. “Most Dramatic”!

COMPANY.

WE ARE KINDRED SPIRITS
SEPARATED FROM OUR TRIBE
TRAPPED IN A TEENAGE BODY
I AM MOST LIKELY TO SURVIVE—
ALL OF THESE—BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES,
SO GOES THE BATTLE CRY:
WILL I EARN MY MEDAL TONIGHT?
MOST LIKELY TO SURVIVE—

TONY. “Most Athletic”!

SKYLAR. “Most Paranoid”!

LIZ. “Class Gossip”!

ANASTASIA. “Best Dressed”!

(The director may opt to have additional characters announce their senior superlative nomination, ending with:)

OLIVER *(forms horns above SKYLAR’s head)*. “Class Clown”!

SKYLAR.

EXILED ON AN ISLAND, RIGHT BEHIND US NOW—

ROSIE.

THE PRESSURE’S ON—TO THE FUTURE,

TABBIE.

WE MADE IT THROUGH SOMEHOW—I WILL SURVIVE—

KYRA.

THIS RITE OF PASSAGE, AS THE ARROWS FLY—

COMPANY.

THESE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE,
I AM MOST LIKELY TO SURVIVE—

VAL. Four years of challenges in which teenagers who can't co-exist in the same cafeteria are expected to compete in an amazing race to maturity; cast adrift—in that ultimate of reality shows, *Survivor*:

COMPANY. *High School*.

GROUP 1.

WINNERS AND LOSERS IN A RACE OF ALSO-RANS
A COLLECTION OF REJECTIONS OF
WHO YOU MOST LIKELY THINK I AM...

GROUP 2.

WE ARE KINDRED SPIRITS...

GROUP 3.

EXILED ON AN ISLAND...

LIZ & SKYLAR.

WILL I EARN MY MEDAL TONIGHT
MOST LIKELY TO SURVIVE

SAL. Tonight, we honor the competition.

VAL. Who will win immunity?

SAL. Form alliances?

VAL. Carry the torch?

VAL & SAL. The votes are in; The Tribe—
COMPANY. Has spoken.

VAL. And now—to literally kick off the competition, your
choice for “Most Team Spirited” will present the rapping
of the rules.

(SONG #2: A REALLY BIG NIGHT)

CHEERLEADERS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
SKATER BOYS AND TOOLS
IT’S TIME KYRA JACKSON ROCKED
THE READING OF THE RULES
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
WHO IS SUPERLATIVE!
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT WHEN WE FIND OUT
WHO’S ON TOP
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
KYRA JACKSON’S
BACK IN ACTION,
DRIVING JOCKS INTO DISTRACTION,
YES, TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT, LIKE,
TONIGHT IS LIKE, A REALY BIG NIGHT!

KYRA (*spoken in rhythm*).

The faculty picked our categories
But the nominees are from the student body—
PENCILLED IN THE BALLOTS,

CHEERLEADERS.

“CIRCLE, DON’T ERASE”

KYRA.

RESULTS TABULATED NOW
WITHOUT FURTHER HASTE—

KYRA & CHEERLEADERS.

TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
WHO IS SUPERLATIVE
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT WHEN WE FIND OUT
WHO RULES THE HALL
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
WHO IS OUT OR IN
THE WHIRLWIND OF THIS WORLD WE LIVE IN,
WHO WILL WIN
TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT, LIKE,
TONIGHT IS LIKE A REALLY BIG NIGHT

KYRA.

CERTAIN KEY AWARDS WERE
ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE
LIKE, “MOST TEAM SPIRITED!”

CHEERLEADERS (*cheer*).

“Dance, Kyra, dance!”

VAL & SAL.

TO KEEP THE SURPRISE
ONLY THOSE WHO KNOW WHO’VE WON
ARE FROM THE HONOR SOCIETY OF ERNST & YOUNG

CHEERLEADERS.

AT THE CLIMAX OF THE SHOW STAY TUNED
AS WE CROWN
THE GRAND TITLE OF “BEST ALL AROUND”

ALL.

COLLEGE BOUND, COLLEGE BOUND

CHEERLEADERS. Tonight!

MOST LIKELY TO:

ALL.

TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
 WHO IS SUPERLATIVE!
 TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT WHEN WE FIND OUT
 WHO RULES THE HALL
 TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT THAT WE FIND OUT
 WHO'S BEST ALL AROUND,
 CLASS KING OR CLOWN,
 WHAT COMES AROUND GOES AROUND
 TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT, A REALLY BIG NIGHT
 BEHIND US NOW THE END IS IN SIGHT
 THE NIGHT OF ALL NIGHTS,
 LIKE TONIGHT IS, LIKE, A REALLY BIG NIGHT

KYRA. The envelope, please...“Class Playa’ ”? (*Passes envelope to ANA.*)

ANA (*opens envelope*).

TONIGHT IS YOUR NIGHT...

“Bryan!”

COMPANY.

TONIGHT IS YOUR NIGHT

TONIGHT IS LIKE YOUR REALLY BIG NIGHT!

**(Music Cue: Incidental II Segue. BRYAN watches
 KYRA as she exits.)**

JOINED AT THE HIP

BRYAN. Kyra Jackson is hot. ...Smokin'. Burnin'
 ...hhhhhot. *La Señorita caliente*. Kyra Jackson is so hot
 you have to wear flame-retardant jeans just to sit next to
 her in chemistry. Where you run the risk of

spontaneously combusting because Kyra Jackson is hot. Kyra Jackson: goddess of higher education; you leave me breathless to blow the blisters on my fingers as you pass my locker—because metal is a conductor, and Kyra Jackson is hot. Dude, Kyra Jackson is so hot she sets off the fire alarm as she passes, and I get blamed for it. But I can take the heat (*rapping*) the backdraft, the fire of desire that fans the flames of my affection for you: Kyra Jackson; the Sterno inferno of my youth; I hold a torch for the source of my scorch, and that of course would be you: Kyra Jackson; playin' with my thermostat.

(*KYRA crosses to set the next envelope on the lectern.*)

BRYAN (*cont'd*). One day I am going to fire up the nerve to blaze on up to you in SPF 100 and say: “Kyra Jackson, you are hot: would you text me?” And she will say:

KYRA. “Absolutely not.” (*Exits.*)

BRYAN. And even *that* will be hot! But such is the risk of orbiting too close to Kyra’s sun. But damn, if Kyra Jackson is so hot, why she gotta’ be so cold?

GABBIE (*offstage*). Bryan!?

BRYAN. Our next award is for “Most O.C.D.” which used to be a diagnosis, but apparently is now an award. Which goes to—(*opens envelope*)—“Gabbie.”

GABBIE (*enters*). Which I accept with humility and a surgical mask, kidding. You don’t have germs. Like my twin, Tabbie. We share the same looks, but not the cootie gene, thank you. But this is not about her. Thank you for voting *me* “Most O.C.D.” I thought for sure it would be “A.D.D.” Or “Best Singer”. So I combined them both into this little ditty that I dedicate to my boyfriend—who was just voted “Class Playa’ ”! I guess ’cause he’s so good at lacrosse.

(SONG #3: O.C.D. OVER U)

GABBIE (*staring at BRYAN*).

MY, MY, MY... MY SISTER IS OBSESSED WITH
 BROADWAY'S *WICKED*
 DADDY IS POSSESSED WITH
 BUYING HER TICKETS
 MAMA IS DRIVEN TO FEED ME LIES
 MY BROTHER WON'T BE UNTIL HE SEES ME CRY
 BUT I HAVE A CONFESSION,
 A CURSE AND A BLESSING, IT'S TRUE
 I.M. O.C.D. OVER U—

HAVE T.M.J., I HAVE A.D.D.
 TOGETHER WE'RE AS REAL
 AS THE WORLD YOU SEE ON MTV OR *GLEE*, GEE—
 I SUPPOSE I SHOULD FOCUS ON MY S.A.T.S
 PASS MY ROAD TEST AT THE D.M.V.

W.T.F? I gotta pee? LOL!

OMG I HAVE A CONFESSION,
 A CURSE AND A BLESSING IT'S TRUE
 I.M. O.C.D. OVER U,

I.L.O.V.E.Y.O.U. (*urgently exiting*)

T.T.Y.L! B.R.B.

BRYAN (*to audience, spoken in rhythm*).

Have you ever seen a film
 And found it a bit unusual
 Whether it be the movie *Grease*
 Or a classic, like *High School Musical*?
 They employ a convention,
 To deal with adolescent tension,
 When things go wrong,
 The hero spontaneously breaks out into song...

This is that moment. And... (*SAM hands him a cowboy hat and stool.*) It's a country song? (*He reluctantly switches from baseball to cowboy hat.*)

(SONG #4: THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE)

BRYAN.

MY GIRLFRIEND IS PSYCHOTIC,
MY BEST FRIEND IS NEUROTIC,
IF THERE'S AN ALLERGY I'VE GOT IT,
I JUST FAILED DRIVER'S ED
MY MOTHER IS A SHRINK,
MY OLD MAN LIKES HIS DRINK
I THINK THEY'VE BEEN DIVORCING FOR LIKE,
THE PAST TEN YEARS, IT JUST AIN'T RIGHT
WELCOME TO THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE
I'VE BEEN REJECTED FROM MY REACH
MY SAFETY AND MY TEACHER THINKS I CHEAT
SO SHE CHANGED MY SEAT
TEN FEET AWAY FROM KYRA JACKSON
IT JUST AIN'T RIGHT
WELCOME TO THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE—
WHOEVER SAID: THESE ARE THE GOOD OLD DAYS
LIKE MY GREAT AUNT IDA
DID NOT WORK AT TACO HELL FOR MINIMUM WAGE
WHILE EVERY CHEERLEADER DISTRACTS ME
I LIVE IN CONSTANT FEAR OF ACNE
AS KYRA JACKSON ATTRACTS ME
I JUST TRY TO PLAY IT COOL
BUT I'VE GROWN TWO FEET IN ONE YEAR
AND THAT WAS JUST MY EARS
STILL A JURY OF MY PEERS
HAVE VOTED ME THE NEXT DON JUAN
IT JUST AIN'T RIGHT
WELCOME TO THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE—

GABBIE (*returns*). Oh there you are, silly!

BRYAN.

K THRU' 12 / TEN TO LIFE

GABBIE. Why are you singing?

(BRYAN and GABBIE exit, as KYRA enters.)

KYRA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for voting a cheerleader “Most Team Spirited”—instead of “Most *Mean* Spirited.” ’Cause this year? We—*(gesticulates a cheer move with ANA)* Enthusiastic—Americans—were on a mission to break the serotype, by making it a point to reach out and touch each and every one of you!

ANA. And then use hand sanitizer. *(KYRA shoots her a look.)* What? Dancing out-loud takes lot more than just shaking your pom-poms! *(Realizes that didn’t come out right.)*

KYRA. Whatever. Anyway, the student you choose as “Most Photogenic” is... *(ROSIE furtively shuffles on from the wings holding her 8x10 in front of her face like she was in A Chorus Line.)* Lady Anastasia! *(ROSIE drops her photo from her face in disappointment and shuffles offstage.)* Who, as you might have guessed, was also voted our very own trophy girl: “Miss Senior Superlative (20--)!” *(ANA models with her trophy, striking poses while the Photo Club serves as PAPAZZI.)* And now for the classmate you chose as being “Most Dramatic” is... *(ROSIE once again shuffles on stage with her 8x10 as ANA hands KYRA a trophy. KYRA reads the name.)* OMG, “Tabbie!”

TABBIE *(enters)*. OMG, Kyra! I would like to thank the academy and, okay fine, my twin sister, Gabbie, for being the wind-machine beneath my wings. See you on Broadway! *(In Wicked, of course.)*

(TABBIE high-fives KYRA and ANA, who exit as ROSIE takes the stage.)