II-6-96

CHUCK

We're outta here.

(He turns, snapping his fingers.)

Travisl Lyle! Let's go!

(The CROWD parts to reveal TRAVIS and LYLE getting an imprompty dance lesson from TWO GIRLS; when the guys catch CHUCK'S glare, they slow down and stop, self-conscious. After an icky silence:)

TRAVIS

Uh... could you maybe give us a minute here

(A few KIDS stifle snickers. CHUCK tries to save face by sneering:)

CHUCK

Losers

(He flips up the collar on his leather jacket and struts off, friendless.)

(As the CROWD disperses, GARVIN and BICKLE push WILLARD toward RUSTY, who is thrust forward by WENDY JO and URLEEN.)

WILLARD

Rusty, now here's the deal. I could throw a clean sheet over the front seat of the pick-up so we don't end up smelling like the dogs.

RUSTY

Uh-huh.

WILLARD

Daddy's suit kinda fits and I could roll up the pants legs with duct tape.

RUSTY

I love where this is going.

WILLARD

Mama could whip up one of those...

(Points frantically at his lapel.)

...croissants?

RUSTY

A corsage?

WILLARD

One of them.

RUSTY

You're painting a picture for me, aren't you? I see a rusty truck that smells bad, a taped-up brown suit, and me, wearing a corsage made out of God-knows-what.

H-6-97

WILLARD

Whaddya think?

RUSTY

Is there a dance in there someplace?

WILLARD

Yes, ma'am. You wanna?

RUSTY

Willard, I would love to!

(RUSTY and WILLARD exit leaving URLEEN and WENDY JO alone with GARVIN & BICKLE. The BOYS take a breath to speak to the GIRLS but...)

URLEEN & WENDY JO

Don't even think about it.

(They exit; the BOYS exit separately. Only SHAW and VI are left.)

VI

Shaw, you did a good thing this morning.

SHAW

I'm still not sure it was the right thing.

VI

I think it comes close

(Pause.)

I've missed you. I've missed us.

MUSIC 17: CAN YOU FIND IN YOUR HEART? (REPRISE)

SHAW

I HOPE YOU NEVER DOUBT THAT LOVE YOU IF THAT'S HARD TO FIGURE OUT SOMETIMES, WELL THEN, I APOLOGIZE BUT YOU ARE DEARER TO MY LIFE THAN YOU COULD EVER REALIZE IF I TRY TO MAKE AMENDS, CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO START? CAN YOU FIND IT IN YOUR HEART?

(She regards him, then crosses and embraces him. They hold onto each other, swaying, until finally:)

Shaw?

VI

Yes?

SHAW

VI

Ve're almost dancing.