RACHEL & JONAH: A CONSENSUAL LOVE STORY

Written by

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CHARACTERS

Rachel

Jonah

Rebecca

Josh

Referee

Berkshires Counselor

Ricki

Nyack Counselor

Nyack Camper (Little Amichai)

Agam Shark

Jon

ENSEMBLE

Palmer Campers
Berkshire Campers
Nyack Campers

SCENE ONE

(Sun rises on Roo Day at Camp Ramah New England. From offstage we hear 2 groups of campers chanting.)

SONG #1: "MAYBE TODAY"

PALMER ENSEMBLE

PALMER

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

BERKS

PALMER ENSEMBLE

PALMER

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

BERKS

PALMER ENSEMBLE

NIV

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

GESHER

PALMER ENSEMBLE

NIV

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

GESHER

PALMER ENSEMBLE

NIV

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

GESHER

PALMER ENSEMBLE

NIV

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

GESHER

(The 2 groups of campers enter, standing on opposite sides of the stage.)

PALMER ENSEMBLE

UP AT SIX WITH PALMER KICKS SETTING UP FOR ROO

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

ON OUR WAY TO PALMER DAY GETTING PUMPED WOO! WOO!

ALL

THE RIVALRY
OF THE CENTURY
IS COMING TO A HEAD

PALMER ENSEMBLE

BERKSHIRES

BERKSHIRES ENSEMBLE

PALMER

ALL

IS GOING DOWN WE'RE GONNA KNOCK 'EM DEAD YEAH WE'LL BE

GLORIOUS!
VICTORIOUS!
THAT WILL BE US TODAY
WE'LL BE
GLORIOUS!
VICTORIOUS!
THAT WILL BE US TODAY
TODAY

(JONAH and JOSH, campers from Berkshires, step forward.)

JOSH

Hey Jonah, you ready for an epic day of flag football?

JONAH

I guess.

JOSH

THOSE PALMER KIDS ARE GONNA LOSE WE'LL ROUGH 'EM UP AND MAKE 'EM BRUISE AND WHEN THEY START TO CRY WE'LL LAUGH AT THEM AND SHOUT "BUH-BYE!"

JONAH

Yeah I guess.

JOSH

Dude, what's up with you today?

JONAH

I'M SORRY BUT I DON'T AGREE
THIS RIVALRY'S TOO MUCH FOR ME
IT ALL SEEMS SO PATHETIC

Why do we have to be cruel to be athletic?

JOSH

What do you mean dude?

JONAH

MAYBE TODAY'S THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNITE OUR RAMAH COMMUNITY MAYBE TODAY'S THE OPPOR...

JOSH

Dude, that's pathetic. Ugh, what's wrong with you!?

(We switch over to RACHEL and REBECCA, campers from Palmer.)

REBECCA

Rachel, what's wrong? You don't look excited at all for the dance competition.

RACHEL

I don't know Rebecca. Something feels different this year.

EVERY KAYITZ
THE SAME OLD SPIEL
I FEEL LIKE A SONG ON REPEAT
EVERY DAY THE SAME PEOPLE
SAME OLD REGIEL
AND CAMP DOESN'T FEEL COMPLETE
BUT TODAY AT YOM ROO
THINGS ARE GONNA CHANGE

AND RAMAH IS GONNA OPEN THE DOOR TO NEW EXPERIENCES, FUN. PLUS A WHOLE NEW RANGE OF PEOPLE WHO ARE SO MUCH MORE THAN WHAT'S BEEN HERE BEFORE

REBECCA

Um, we're not here to make friends.

FOR THE PAST FORTY YEARS THEY BEEN COMIN' HERE **COMPETING IN THESE GAMES** CAUSE THEY ARE BERKSHIRES AND WHEN THEY GET HERE WE'RE GONNA RIP OFF THEIR UGLY LITTLE SMIRK TEARS WILL NOT BE AN OPTION FOR US WHEN THEY GET BACK ON THEIR BUS AND IF YOU START MAKING CONNECTIONS THERE WILL BE TOO MANY EXCEPTIONS WHEN THEY BREAK THE RULES AND WE'RE THE ROOS SO WE'LL BE...

ALL

GLORIOUS! VICTORIOUS! THAT WILL BE US TODAY WE'LL BE **GLORIOUS!** VICTORIOUS! THAT WILL BE US TODAY GLORIOUS! VICTORIOUS! THAT WILL BE US TODAY

WE'LL BE **GLORIOUS!** VICTORIOUS! THAT WILL BE US TODAY TODAY

RACHEL & JONAH MAYBE TODAY'S THE **OPPORTUNITY TO** UNITE OUR RAMAH COMMUNITY MAYBE TODAY'S THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNITE OUR RAMAH COMMUNITY MAYBE TODAY

SCENE TWO

A-Side Flag Football Ball Game

JOSH

Alright Jonah, we need our star player today. And remember, it's gonna be so much fun when we beat them.

(RACHEL and REBECCA enter, watching the game from the sidelines.)

REBECCA

This game is gonna be so hype.

RACHEL

(disappointed)
Yeah, whatever.

REBECCA

(singing/chanting)
When it comes to Ramah camps
If you ever had to choose
The choice would be obvious
We're the...
Ooh, they're starting!

REFEREE

Alright boys, I want a nice friendly game.

(The REFEREE blows their whistle! The game begins. JOSH is playing very competitively but JONAH's head is not in the game.)

JOSH

Dude, get your head in the game. We gotta win this.

(JONAH is running when a player from PALMER purposefully knocks into him. JONAH falls to the ground, but the game continues and no one notices - except RACHEL.)

RACHEL

Oh my gosh did you see that? I think Avi knocked him over on purpose.

REBECCA

Hilarious!

RACHEL

(annoyed)

Ugh, really Rebecca!?

(RACHEL races over to JONAH.)

RACHEL

Hey! Are you okay?

(RACHEL helps pull JONAH up.)

JONAH

Yeah, I just...

(RACHEL and JONAH make eye contact. An awkward and romantic beat passes.)

RACHEL

Here, come on, we need to get you to the Marp.

(They walk in the direction of the Marp. The game disappears.)

JONAH

Hey, you know we aren't supposed to be near each other.

RACHEL

Oh, cause you're from Berkshires? (scoffs) The rivalry is stupid anyway.

JONAH

Right!? Why do we need to hate each other just because we're from different camps? We're both Ramah camps anyway.

RACHEL

Yeah! Oh my gosh. I thought no one else agreed with me.

(They have arrived at the Marp.)

We're here at the Marp.

JONAH

Oh, it doesn't hurt anymore. (sighs) But I really don't want to go back to the game with all that screaming and shouting.

RACHEL

Do you want to come to this quiet little place by the lake? It's nice and peaceful, and we won't have to worry about any of our friends' bad sportsmanship.

(JONAH laughs.)

JONAH

That'd be nice.

(They walk across the stage and enter the B-Side Amphitheatre.)

RACHEL

Welcome to the B-Side Amphitheatre.

JONAH

It's really beautiful here.

RACHEL

I told you.

JONAH

Hey, I didn't get a chance to thank you for helping me....um...sorry, what's your name?

RACHEL

Oh, I'm Rachel.

JONAH

I'm Jonah.

RACHEL

It's nice to meet you.

JONAH

You too.

RACHEL

Thanks for finally understanding.

JONAH

Finally understanding what?

SONG #2: "NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER ALL"

RACHEL

DAY AFTER DAY
THE SAME OLD REFRAIN
DON'T MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE OTHER SIDE
DON'T EVEN THINK OF CROSSING THAT LINE
AND YOU'LL BE FINE

BUT I WAS ALWAYS SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING MORE WHAT IT WAS - I WASN'T SURE BUT THEN YOU CAME AND CHANGED THE GAME NOW I KNOW WHAT I'VE BEEN YEARNING FOR

WHY CAN'T WE LOVE SOMETHING THAT'S DIFFERENT OR OTHER?
PUT ALL THE HATE ASIDE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER?
I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO AGREES
IT MAKES NO SENSE TO TAUNT AND TEASE
NOW I CAN FINALLY SEE
WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER ALL

JONAH

DAY AFTER DAY
THE SAME OLD GAME
WINNING IS THE ONLY GOAL
JUST BE QUIET AND PLAY YOUR ROLE
DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD

AND ALL MY BERKSHIRE FRIENDS EVER TALK ABOUT IS HOW WE'RE THE BEST RAMAH AROUND AND IT'S FILLED WITH HATE SO I COULDN'T WAIT TO FINALLY FIND SOMEONE WITH COMMON GROUND

WHY CAN'T WE LOVE SOMETHING THAT'S DIFFERENT OR OTHER?
PUT ALL THE HATE ASIDE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER?
I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO AGREES
IT MAKES NO SENSE TO TAUNT AND TEASE
NOW I CAN FINALLY SEE
WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER ALL

JONAH

I have a crazy idea.

RACHEL

What?

JONAH

Why don't I stay here with you?

RACHEL

A Berkshire kid staying at Palmer? That is pretty crazy. But crazy is working for me today.

JONAH

Then it's settled. I'm not getting back on that bus.

TRUTHS NEED TO BE SPOKEN WALLS NEED TO BE BROKEN HEARTS NEED TO BE OPEN TODAY

JONAH & RACHEL

TRUTHS NEED TO BE SPOKEN WALLS NEED TO BE BROKEN HEARTS NEED TO BE OPEN TODAY

WHY CAN'T WE LOVE SOMETHING THAT'S DIFFERENT OR OTHER?
PUT ALL THE HATE ASIDE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER?
I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO AGREES
IT MAKES NO SENSE TO TAUNT AND TEASE

RACHEL

AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA STAY WITH ME

JONAH

YES NOW YOU'RE GONNA STAY WITH ME

JONAH & RACHEL

AND NOW I CAN FINALLY SEE
WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER ALL

JONAH

Can I hug you?

RACHEL

Yes.

SCENE THREE

Parking Lot

BERKSHIRES COUNSELOR

Alright Berkshires! Back on the bus! (Pause) Is Sarah here?...

JOSH

Oh my gosh, we already know everyone's here. Let's just go back. Get away from this stupid place.

BERKSHIRE CAMPERS

Yeah!!!

COUNSELOR

Okay, whatever. Driver, let's go.

(BERKSHIRE CAMPERS bus moves around the stage.)

COUNSELOR

5 more minutes 'til we reach Berkshires.

JOSH

Hey Jonah...Jonah? Jonah!? You guys...I think we left Jonah.

COUNSELOR

Oh sh-

(The bus slams to a halt and everyone falls forward.)

SCENE FOUR

Palmer B-Side

(JONAH is lying in a hammock.)

JONAH

Huh. I actually really like this place. The trees, the...

(RICKI enters and confronts JONAH.)

RICKI

Hey! Why aren't you in chug? You do know ditching is breaking camp rules.

JONAH

Oh...um...

RICKI

What edah are you in?

JONAH

Gesher - I mean Nivonim!

RICKI

You don't go here, do you?

SONG #3: "BANISHED"

RICKI

I DO NOT KNOW WHO YOU ARE BUT I KNOW YOU'RE NOT ONE OF MY CAMPERS SO YOU ARE BANISHED

JONAH

Banished? What does that mean?

RICKI

OFF YOU GO TO NYACK TO WATCH SILLY LITTLE CAMPERS 'CAUSE YOU ARE BANISHED

JONAH

I'M BANISHED

RICKI

YOU'RE BANISHED

JONAH

NO NOT BANISHED!

RICKI & ENSEMBLE

(whispered)
BANISHED
BUH-BYE!

(JONAH and RICKI exit. RACHEL comes running on.)

RACHEL

Hey Jonah, how's the hamm... Jonah? Where'd he go?

(REBECCA runs in.)

REBECCA

You tried to sneak that boy from Berkshires in, didn't you?

RACHEL

What are you talking about?

REBECCA

Ricki just found him. Sent him off to Nyack.

RACHEL

No, not Nyack!

SCENE FIVE

Ramah Nyack

(A group of little campers sit in a circle around a NYACK COUNSELOR. JONAH also sits in the circle.)

NYACK COUNSELOR

Alright my young friends, gather around, it's...

NYACK CAMPERS

...storytime!!!

(JONAH gets up in a huff and marches to the other side of the stage.)

JONAH

2 weeks at Nyack and endless storytime. All I can think of is Rachel, alone, without me.

(A NYACK CAMPER enters holding an envelope.)

NYACK CAMPER

Mr Jonah, a letter came for you.

JONAH

Really!? Maybe it's from her!

(JONAH rips it open.)

SONG #4: "RAINBOW UNICORN RIVER"

JONAH

(reading)

Dear Jonah, it's Rebecca...

(REBECCA appears on the opposite side of the stage.)

REBECCA

...I'm Rachel's friend. She desperately needs you to help her. Ever since you've been banished she's been sick in the Marp and she says only you can make her feel better. Come back as quickly as you can. Sincerely, Rebecca.

(REBECCA exits.)

JONAH

I have to go back.

I CAN'T SIT HERE DAY AND NIGHT WONDERING IF SHE'LL BE ALRIGHT EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ENEMY I CAN'T LEAVE HER THAT'S NOT THE MAN IN ME

But how do I get back to Palmer?

NYACK CAMPER

Mr Jonah...Mr Jonah I have a way.

JONAH

Tell me little Amichai.

NYACK CAMPER

WITH AN OPEN HEART
AND A CLEAR BLUE SKY
YOU CAN SUMMON THE POWER
THAT'S DEEP INSIDE
AND REVEAL
THE MAGICAL, MYSTICAL
RAINBOW UNICORN RIVER!

JONAH

That doesn't sound real.

NYACK CAMPER

I pinky promise Mr Jonah, it's real.

JONAH

Okay, where do we go?

NYACK CAMPER & ENSEMBLE

TO THE NYACK KAYAK SHACK TO THE NYACK KAYAK SHACK

TO THE NYACK KAYAK SHACK TO THE NYACK KAYAK SHACK

(JONAH opens the shack and finds the kayak.)

JONAH

It's real.

NYACK CAMPER

I told you Mr Jonah.

JONAH

I'll miss you Little Amichai.

NYACK CAMPER

Safe journey Mr Jonah!

(JONAH begins to pull out the kayak and gets ready for his journey.)

JONAH

THE ROAD TO PALMER'S A TUMULTUOUS ONE SO THE ONLY THING TO DO IS TAKE THE NYACK KAYAK OF MAGICAL FUN SO THAT I CAN BE WITH YOU THE RAINBOWS AND UNICORNS WILL LEAD THE WAY TO THE MARP WHERE MY LOVE LIES I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE RULES BY HER SIDE I'LL STAY WHILE MY BOAT ON THE RAINBOW FLIES

(The kayak lifts into the air.)

THE KAYAK FLIES!

(JONAH paddles as he flies across the stage.)

COME ON DELIVER
RAINBOW UNICORN RIVER
COME ON DELIVER
BRING TO ME LOVE

JONAH & ENSEMBLE

COME ON DELIVER
RAINBOW UNICORN RIVER
COME ON DELIVER
BRING TO ME LOVE

(JONAH arrives at the entrance to Ramah Palmer.)

JONAH

Look, the train tracks!

ENSEMBLE

Shhhh!

(The music stops. Long pause.)

ENSEMBLE

Ok we're good, let's go.

JONAH & ENSEMBLE

BRING ME TO MY LOVE!

SCENE SIX

Ramah Palmer - The Marp

(JONAH runs into the Marp and sees RACHEL lying on the bed sleeping.)

JONAH

Rachel! I'm here to save you!

(RACHEL is fast asleep. She looks lifeless.)

Rachel? Oh no. Oh no no no! I'm too late. I came all this way for nothing.

(JONAH starts crying.)

I need sugar.

(JONAH runs to the Chadar Ochel. He finds a box of Kedem Grape Juice bottles.)

The Shabbat dinner grape juice! Exactly what I need.

(He starts chugging it. He throws the bottles to the floor. He starts to stumble around the stage, drunk off the sugar.)

Yes! Rachel's not dead. I see you...in the Agam! I'm coming for you!

(He dives into the agam. RACHEL begins to awaken from her slumber. Meanwhile, the AGAM SHARK swims up behind JONAH, snapping its jaws and smiling.)

Rachel? Is that you?

(RACHEL hears JONAH and yells from the shore.)

RACHEL

Jonah! You're here!

(She notices the AGAM SHARK attacking JONAH.)

Oh my goodness, it's the Agam Shark! I'll save you Jonah!

(RACHEL dives in and saves JONAH, dragging him to the beach.)

JONAH

You saved me.

RACHEL

You came back.

JONAH

Of course I came back. I took the Nyack Kayak.

RACHEL

The what now?

JONAH

Nevermind.

(At this point, all the commotion has attracted the FULL CAST to the beach.)

REBECCA

What is going on here?

RACHEL

Jonah came back.

REBECCA

I see that.

(JOSH bursts in.)

JOSH

Where is our camper!?

REBECCA

Who are you?

JOSH

I'm Josh, from Berkshires.

REBECCA

You're not welcome here.

JOSH

Well when you kidnap my best friend, I can go anywhere I want around here.

REBECCA

Kidnapped? That's not what happened.

JOSH

What do you mean?

JONAH

Josh, I chose to stay. For her.

JOSH

For her!? You betrayed us!

(FULL CAST starts yelling at each other. JON arrives to break up the fighting.)

JON

STOP!!!! Why can't you all just get along? Think about it. These two have brought us all together. Maybe it's for a reason.

SONG #5: "FINALE"

JON

MAYBE TODAY'S THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNITE OUR RAMAH COMMUNITY

JON, RACHEL & JONAH

MAYBE TODAY'S THE OPPORTUNITY TO UNITE OUR RAMAH COMMUNITY

JONAH

What do you say Josh?

JOSH

Alright, fine.

RACHEL

Rebecca?

REBECCA

I'm in.

ALL

THE RIVALRY
OF THE CENTURY
IS COMING TO AN END
BERKSHIRES, PALMER
ARE JOINING HANDS
TODAY WE'RE ALL BEST FRIENDS

(NYACK CAMPER enters.)

NYACK CAMPER

Oh Mr Jonah, I love a happy ending!

ALL

TOGETHER WE'RE GLORIOUS!
VICTORIOUS!
THAT IS US TODAY!
TOGETHER WE'RE GLORIOUS!
VICTORIOUS!
THAT IS US TODAY!
TODAY
BUH-BYE!

END OF PLAY