

MEDÜSA'S BÜLGE!: THE MÜSICAL

AN OUT OF STOCK PRODUCTION

By Nate Lopez



The following is the opening scene from the hip-hop musical, Medüsa's Bülge!: The Müsical, detailing the rise and fall of the 1980's hair metal band "Crime Rhino". Named after their first American hit, the musical was penned by the late avant-garde recluse, Gerb Utah. It was never performed, nor seen, until 53 days after his death; as per estate wishes.

The scene details the bands reaction to the unveiling of the album cover (pictured) for their, unbeknownst to them, last U.S. release with the original lineup. It begins with the narrator, Slash, introducing the scene. The band is lounging in the studio with male and female groupies. The band manager, Uwe Splunk interrupts with the album cover.

The scene is presented in its original form. All stage direction and composer notes are verbatim from Gerb's original manuscript.

CHARACTERS

Llewellyn Cork: Lead Singer, 25, Male

Sindee Torrance: Lead Guitar, 23, Female

Bort Malone: Rhythm Guitar, 23, Female

Corgie Dart: Drums, 21, Male

Dave Johnson: Bass Guitar, 48, Male

Uwe Splunk: Band Manager, 36, Male

Chorus: Male and Female Groupies

Slash: Narrator, Guns and Roses Guitarist, Female

ACT 1

SCENE 1

Scene opens on a stage decorated in black and white flowers. A single high-hat is heard playing a simple quarter note beat. SLASH enters from the stage left. She has a guitar slung across her back. This signifies the end of the good times. It's Crime Rhino's funeral. They just don't know it yet.

[SLASH]

When you're on top of the world
It's easy to say
I'll be here forever
I'll be here all day
But as saying goes
Life is just play
The Lord she giveth
Then She taketh away

SLASH exits stage right; pausing first to turn on the band's studio lights. The BAND, UWE and the CHORUS are revealed to be milling about in the studio frozen in time. The CHORUS hangs on the BAND. Male to male. Male to female. Female to female. Gender is fluid in the action. LLEWELLYN is set apart from the band. UWE and SINDEE are front and center. CORGIE and BORT are to the sides. DAVE is at the control boards.

Action starts once SLASH exits.

The high-hat morphs into a medium-fast beat. Treble heavy. The bass grows as the scene progresses. The audience needs to feel the growing realization that the band is done.

[MALE CHORUS]

You work too much, yo
Don't you know
That in this show
You need time to groooooow

[FEMALE CHORUS]

You worry and fret
And I'm willing to bet
There's still time yet
To play in the weeeet

[FULL CHORUS]

Cum see what we've got Mr. Man
Cum see what we've got Ms. Woman
Cum see what we've got, we'll show you man
Cum see what we've got...

[LLEWLLYN]

OH MAN

I'm not the heroine of my own story
The heroin stole all of my glory
1984 has passed we're onto eight six
I don't give a...
I don't care
Just get me my fix

[UWE]

The position that we find ourselves in presently
Can be described most evidently
That we are threatening to slip into irrelevancy
Unless we act professionally
I've got the art and it's unquestionably

[SINDEE]

A smirch on your vanishing credibility

[UWE]

A chance to etch our style permanently

[SINDEE]

A sign of the end, it's nothing more than kitschy

[UWE]

It speaks our message and says so eloquently

[SINDEE]

What? Is this what you think of our creativity?

[UWE]

You say you make art! I agree
But
This will satisfy your constituency!

[SINDEE]

Overruled! Send it back! Can't you see?
I want it gone! And you, boy, work for me!

[CORGIE]

STOP this stuff immediately
The last time I checked this was Democracy
But all we have here is Regency
There is no control, no Presidency
I know one thing, you don't speak for me
I'm my own me
I'M MY OWN MY ME
I'M MY OWN CORGIE

[FULL CHORUS]

Cum see what we've got Mr. Man
Cum see what we've got Ms. Woman
Cum see what we've got, we'll show you man
Cum see what we've got Mr. Man

[LLEWELLYN]

None of this matters, we're already dead
We're madder than hatters, don't bother to shed
A tear, that's no answer, just shoot up instead
We've written last chapter, don't end up ahead

[SINDEE]

Don't speak for you?
That's the bed you're lying on?
That's what we've come to?
That's the hill you're dying on?
If it wasn't for me
This band would be gone
I do the work
I'm brains AND the brawn
Despite what you think
You're not the one, you're the four
I'm the one the fans are clamoring for
You take up the back, I take up the fore
You give less. And I give more

[UWE]

None on my side?
That's the way it be?
A piece of me died
You don't care, I see

[CORGIE]

Take up the back?
Are you for real right now?
Pick up my slack?
Are you for real right now?
Ever since we were little
I stayed out of the light
Your ego's so brittle
I was afraid that I might
Put you in hospital
If I came out of the night
Now I see I'm just spittle
Nothing more than a blight
I'm guilty, no acquittal
No changes no fight
Do something? Do little!
You're nothing but spite

[UWE]

I've cleaned out the coffers
You're broke as a joke
You've nothing to offer
Not even a smoke

[UWE]

Crime Rhino is a thing of
the past

[LLEWELLYN]

(The show must go on, you can't
let it down)

[SINDEE]

Crime Rhino is a thing of
the past

You entered the race and
ended up last

(The night is upon, send in the
clown)

You're kingdom is
shattered, nothing but glass

(The goodwill is gone, we
cannot back down)

I'm done serving you I'm at
an impasse

(I'm done with applause, I'll see
you around)

Please do me a favor and
kiss my brown ass

Please do me a favor and
kiss my brown ass

(I'll get my hair-on, put myself
in the ground)

[BORT]

Don't go! Can't you see what we've got?

Together we're something apart we are not!

The band is the sum

Of each one of us

We make the crowd cum

When it's one and one plus

We can still be the band that knows how to
party

When take a step back and remember the
heartbeat

DAVE takes center stage. Hand raised. He continues to sing this through the rest of the scene.

[DAVE]

Crime Rhino

Crime Rhino

Crime Rhino

Is dead

[SINDEE]

What I said holds true
I'm your Superman
You're done, you're through
I'm outta here man

[UWE]

I made you breakthrough
I led the caravan
I just needed thank you
I'm outta here man

[CORGIE]

You're no ingénue
You're a nice guy sham
I've got work to do
I'm outta here man

[BORT]

The world's askew
It's not the game plan
Please don't eschew
Our group, our band

[LLEWELLYN]

Party at two
I've got more than a gram
We'll make a homebrew
That's the new plan

[FULL CHORUS]

Cum see what we've got Mr. Man
Cum see what we've got Ms. Woman
Cum see what we've got, we'll show you man
Cum see what we've got Mr. Man

The players leave until only DAVE is left onstage. He continues to sing. The music fades away to a single high-hat playing the quarter note beats. DAVE continues to sing as the set begins to fall apart. Fire consumes the recording studio. Cheers and chants of fans at a show play underneath and slowly morph into screams of the damned.

SLASH enters from the wings. She is sauntering; obviously pleased with the situation.

[SLASH]

When you're on top of the world
It's easy to say
I'll be here forever
I'll be here all day
But as saying goes
Life is just play
The Lord she giveth
Then She taketh away

Lights, fire and screams fade with spotlight on DAVE. It lingers, before finally fading to black. DAVE holds the final note for a beat past the light.

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The last living member of Crime Rhino, Dave Johnson, had the following to say when reached for comment, "I cannot comment on ongoing legal battles. The Rhino's day will come in court."

Currently, the Gerb Utah Estate has plans to open the musical in San Francisco, for a 6 week run starting in June. No parts have been cast yet.