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HIPPIE FLOWER POWER!



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A one act musical comedy celebrating the sixties

book by Craig Sodaro

music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur



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Contemporary Drama Service

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Hippie Flower Power!

**A one act musical comedy
celebrating the sixties**

book by Craig Sodaro
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CAST OF CHARACTERS

STARPETAL (also Judy): A senior; leader of “Flower Power” singing group

MOONBEAM: Starpetal’s friend

SUNFLOWER: Another friend

ROSEBUD: Another friend

PETE: A senior; leader of “Peter, Paul, and Harry” singing group

PAUL: Pete’s friend

HARRY: Another friend

MOLLY MCDONALD: Pete’s girlfriend

SHELLY: A senior; leader of the “Darnettes” singing group

NANCY: Another “Darnette”

DARLENE: Another “Darnette”

RHONDA: Another “Darnette”

DR. CORA CRISP: Principal of Valley Dale High School

MISS DIVINE: The choir teacher

TITUS DE LAW: Local sheriff

MAX KING: Famous record promoter

MISS FITZ: His secretary

CRUSHER: His nephew; a member of Big Mama’s Bikers

BRUISER: Crusher’s friend

BABS: Crusher’s girl

ROCKI: Bruiser’s girl

LESTER (also Sonny): One of the “Kooks,” a popular British duo

HESTER (also Clair): Lester’s partner

TRUDI FESSBUMP: First city councilwoman of Valley Dale

LUCY: A hippie

SHREDDY FREDDY: Her boyfriend

MAHARISHI: A mystic seeking nirvana

OLD WOMAN: Loves birds

OLE MCDONALD: Molly’s grandfather

GRANDMA MCDONALD: His wife

BIG MAMA: Chief of the biker’s gang

SETTINGS

There are four settings:

1. **Valley Dale High Main Entrance.** A door flanked by two pillars, steps leading up to the door. Trees may be used to balance the scene.
2. **Max King's Office.** A desk with a large chair behind it, platinum records hanging behind the desk, two phones on desk.
3. **City Park.** Two or three trees, a park bench, and a garbage can.
4. **McDonald's Farm.** Suggestion of a barn, center. Platform that can serve as a small stage, up left. Bales of hay here and there. Fence up right with trees (previously used) filling in background.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Scene One: Valley Dale High main entrance, a fall afternoon.

Scene Two: Max King's office, later that day.

Scene Three: City Park, that day after school.

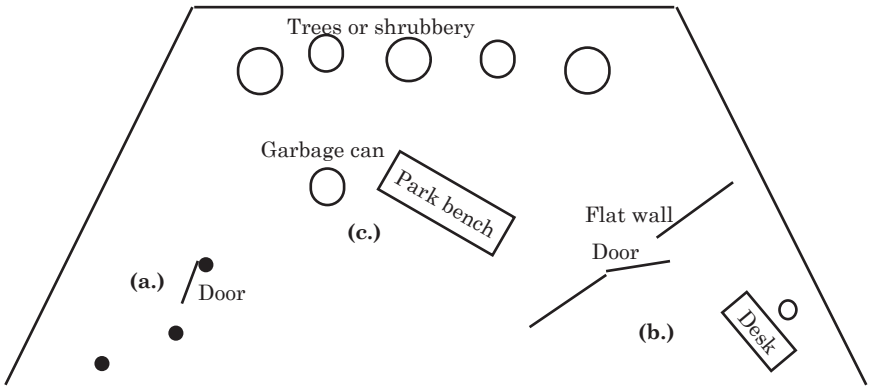
Scene Four: McDonald farm, the following afternoon.

Scene Five: Max King's office, the next day.

Scene Six: McDonald farm, the following afternoon.

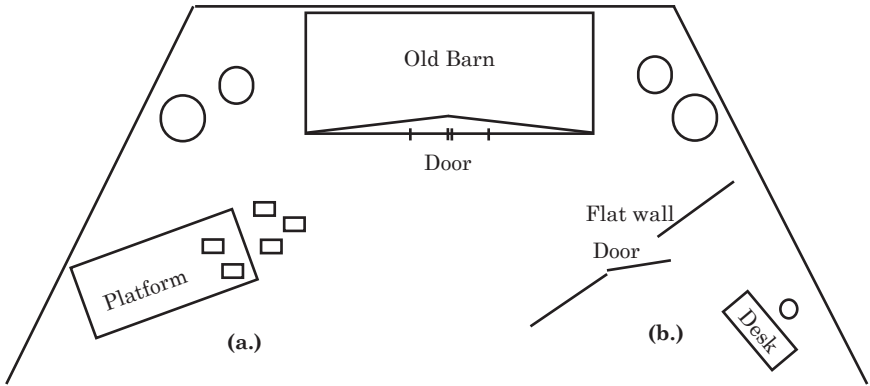
Scene Seven: McDonald farm, that night.

STAGE SETTINGS



- a. Scene one. This is the pillared entranceway to Valley Dale High. Trees or shrubbery in the background balance the setting. The garbage can and park bench are absent in the opening scene and also the wall flat and desk at Stage Left.
- b. Scene two. The only change is the addition of a wall flat, a desk, and a chair to represent Max King's office. This may be removed quickly for scene three. Nothing else needs to be changed.
- c. Scene three. Add the park bench and the garbage can.

STAGE SETTINGS



- a. Curtain opens scene four to reveal a farm setting. An old barn front, perhaps four feet deep, is seen Upstage Center. It has a functional double door. Stage Right from the barn is a platform with hay bales on it and lying beside it.
- b. Scene five opens with spotlights on Max King's office situated in the same location as in Act I.
- c. Scene six returns to the farmyard. Max King's office has been removed.
- d. Scene seven has the identical settings as scene three except the lighting has changed to suggest evening. The platform is now a stage.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Synopsis: The teens of Valley Dale High School want to stage a battle of the bands at the school auditorium. When their request is denied, the Flower Power kids try to get a permit to do their show in the city park. Again, the city bureaucracy thwarts them. They claim to be raising funds for their Hug-a-Tree Foundation and arrange to produce the Cornstalk Music Festival on Ole McDonald's farm. Thousands of people begin to arrive, including Big Mama's Bikers, who try to destroy everything. But all misunderstandings are sorted out and the festival competition is a huge success. A two-act musical comedy.

Setting: The setting of the play is in and around Valley Dale, a town somewhere in the heartland of the country between 1965 and 1969. The scene design should not be realistic but should reflect the color and patterns of the era.

Props and costuming are more important than the set in this show. The protest posters, the flower garlands, and the wild clothes of the sixties fit in well with a psychedelic backdrop (even tie-dyed fabric). Set pieces, with the exception of the schoolhouse pillars, can be painted in bright colors textured with psychedelic designs or tie-dyed patterns. Max King's office need only be suggested by a desk with phones and a few chairs.

Costumes: The Flower Power girls and the boys who join in their "protest" movement should wear regular school clothes initially, but as they move into their Cornstalk Festival, they may begin to wear more bizarre outfits. The girls might wear garlands around their necks and the boys tie-dyed shirts. Only the real hippies and the bikers wear the classic garb associated with their character station. The teachers, the law officers, and the bureaucrats should wear their traditional outfits, as should Grandpa and Grandma McDonald "down on the farm."

Classic "hippie" dress is tie-dyed shirts, beat-up jeans, a vest, lots of love beads, and sandals. Scruffy long hair will help, along with sunglasses and a tambourine. The classic "biker" look is leather pants, a leather vest, tattooed arms, and a bandanna in place of a hat.

Stage props:

Scene One: Placards reading “Flower Power” and “We Shall Overcome”; plaque between two pillars at school entrance; nightstick for Titus, the policeman.

Scene Two: Several gold or platinum records hanging behind desk; two dial telephones.

Scene Three: A park bench, garbage can, standing trees, two potted geraniums, sleeping bag, stick of incense, press releases.

Scene Four: A section of fence suggesting a farm yard; trees and bushes.

Scene Five: A desk, chairs and phones; poster — “City Park” is crossed out and replaced with “McDonald’s Farm.”

Scene Six: Two booths with banners — “Hug-a-Tree” and “Cornstalk Festival”; shovel; peace necklace for Maharishi.

Scene Seven: Cookies; two makeshift signs — “Down with Bikers” and “Big Mama Stinks.”

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SCENE ONE

1. *Flower Power!* (Prologue)

(A distant rhythmic drumbeat and a sitar are heard. The forestage is dimly lit. The curtain is closed. Spot up on a group of STUDENT PROTESTERS entering left. They are led by STARPETAL, MOONBLOSSOM, SUNFLOWER, and ROSEBUD. [Note: They may also enter from the back of the auditorium moving down the aisle to the stage.] They are moving in a slow procession carrying placards reading “Flower Power” and “We Shall Overcome” and are chanting in rhythm to the music. The four GIRLS move to Center Stage with other PROTESTERS behind them. PETE and other STUDENTS, attracted by the commotion, enter right.)

PETE: (He talks to STARPETAL, the leader.) **I don’t dig this. What’s going on, Judy?** (The PROTESTERS continue to chant “Flower Power” and “We Shall Overcome.” PETE shouts over the tumult.) **Hey Judy, are you all freakin’ out? What gives?**

STARPETAL: (Sung in a monotone) **My name’s not Judy. I’m Starpetal** (Pointing to her friend) **and this is Moonblossom.** (Pointing to other friends) **And she’s Sunflower, and meet Rosebud.**

MOONBLOSSOM: (Brightly) **We’ve got Flower Power!**

PETE: **Flower Power?**

STARPETAL: (Speaks.) **Dig it ...**

(Sings.) **There’s a feelin’ comin’ down like a west-bound train,
Rollin’ down a lonely track.
It’s movin’ right along through the midnight rain,
Ain’t stoppin’ and it ain’t turnin’ back.**

MOONBLOSSOM: **There’s a feelin’ in the air like a rush of spring,
Brother gonna blow your mind.**

SUNFLOWER: **It’s a-movin’ right along always doin’ its thing,**

ROSEBUD: **Now, Sister leave your troubles behind.**

SOLOISTS: **’Cause it’s bringin’ a message of love and peace
All across the land.**

**It’s a new revelaton, a sweet release,
Brother, Sister lend a hand!**

ALL PROTESTERS: **’Cause we got the power! This is the hour!**

We got the power! Flower Power! (Lights up full. The curtain opens to setting of Valley Dale High School. The name is on a stylized plaque between two pillars and above a door.)

STARPETAL: **There’s a feelin’ comin’ down like an old north
wind,**

1 Blowin' 'cross the United States.
2 **MOONBLOSSOM:** It's a-spreadin' good vibes from a-coast to
3 coast,
4 Time to open up the floodwater gates.
5
6 **SUNFLOWER:** There's a feelin' in the air like a shootin' star,
7 Crossin' an Aquarian sky.
8 **ROSEBUD:** It's a-cruisin' right along, been a-travelin' far
9 'Round the planet in the blink of an eye.
10
11 **SOLOISTS:** And it's bringin' a message of love and peace
12 All across the land. A hip celebration, a sweet release,
13 Brother, Sister lend a hand!
14 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** 'Cause we got the power! This is
15 the hour!
16 We got the power! Flower Power!
17
18 **SOLOISTS:** Can you feel it in the air?!
19 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
20 **SOLOISTS:** Can you feel it everywhere, now?!
21 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
22 **SOLOISTS:** There's a feelin' coming down!
23 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
24 **SOLOISTS:** Can you feel it all aroun', now?!
25 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
26 **SOLOISTS:** Come an' shout it everywhere!
27 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
28 **SOLOISTS:** Revolution's in the air, now!
29 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
30 **SOLOISTS:** Gotta keep a-truckin' on!
31 **PROTESTERS/STUDENTS:** Flower Power!
32 **SOLOISTS:** It's a brand new dawn!
33
34 **ALL:** Flower Power! Flower Power! Flower Power!
35 We're takin' a chance, there's no doubt about it!
36 Doin' the dance an' ridin' it out!
37 Takin' a stance, come rise up an' shout it! *(Music breaks.)*
38
39 **STARPETAL:** *(Speaks.)* What do we want?
40 **ALL:** *(Speak.)* Flower Power!
41 **STARPETAL:** *(Speaks.)* When do we want it?
42 **ALL:** *(Speak.)* Now! *(Music in)*
43
44 **ALL:** *(Sing.)* Flower Power!
45 *(Music out. A bell rings.)*

1 MOONBLOSSOM: (*Speaks.*) Oh, wow, there's the bell!
2 SUNFLOWER: Starpetal, lunchtime is over.
3 PETE: Yeah, we'd better get to class.
4 PAUL: Do we have ta? I gotta test in algebra, and I'm a real dunce.
5 HARRY: 'Sides, the air out here's a whole lot better than in there.
6 STARPETAL: That was heavy, Harry! Real heavy! If we walk back
7 into Valley Dale High we'll start breathing prison air again.
8 MOLLY: Valley Dale High's not a prison, Judy. Is it?
9 STARPETAL: Isn't it?! The moment we step through those doors, our
10 rights are trampled!
11 MOONBLOSSOM: Scuttled!
12 SUNFLOWER: Annihilated!
13 ROSEBUD: Obliterated!
14 STARPETAL: We want freedom!
15 SHELLY: Freedom from algebra tests!
16 NANCY: Freedom from homework!
17 DARLENE: Freedom from hall monitors!
18 RHONDA: Freedom from principals like Crunchy Crisp! (*CORA and*
19 *MISS DIVINE enter through doors as bell rings again.*)
20 HARRY: Speak of the (*CORA flashes daggers at HARRY, who catches*
21 *himself*) ... devil of a nice day out here, eh, Crispy, I mean Dr.
22 Crisp?
23 PETE: Uh oh!
24 CORA: Well, Miss Divine, it appears the entire student body is going
25 to be tardy for fifth period!
26 MISS DIVINE: I could just cry, Dr. Crisp!
27 PETE: Some of us want to get back to class.
28 MOLLY: But there are a lot of deadbeats blocking the way.
29 STARPETAL: Well, if it isn't the cave-in twins!
30 PETE: We're not caving in! We just want our education!
31 STARPETAL: This is your education, Pete! We're exercising our
32 freedom to protest in a democratic society!
33 CORA: If you don't get into this building right now, I am going to call
34 the police.
35 MISS DIVINE: Did you hear that? The fuzz!
36 STARPETAL: That little threat doesn't scare us! You can't throw the
37 entire school into jail for exercising their right to assemble.
38 SUNFLOWER: That's in the Emancipation Proclamation!
39 ROSEBUD: Constitution, Sunflower. Constitution.
40 SUNFLOWER: Well, I know it's there somewhere!
41 CORA: Miss Divine! Call Sheriff Titus DeLaw! He knows just how to
42 handle hooligans! (*CORA and MISS DIVINE exit through school*
43 *doors.*)
44 RHONDA: Gosh, are we in trouble now!
45 STARPETAL: It's worth it! You're standing up for your rights!

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