

STREET LIGHTS

Written by

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Series Pilot

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Writers Guild of America East Reg# 130891

SIDE # 1 for Hope & Spring

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - DAY

A well lit stage is empty. Hidden behind its partially opened curtain stands HOPE PEREZ (16) a beautiful Hispanic teenager with a chip on her shoulder, but would take a bullet for a friend, and SPRING JOHNSON (16) giddy but brilliant, a chronic "A" student. They prepare to go on stage.

HOPE  
Testing one, two --

SPRING  
-- Oh la, ooh la, oh la  
(Giggles)

HOPE  
What . . .what are you doing?

SPRING  
Mic check, Oh la, oh la, oh la

HOPE  
Spring --

SPRING  
If you stink you have a oh da

Spring laughs uncontrollably at her own joke.

HOPE  
Spring . . .are you done . . .can  
we do this?

SPRING  
(Still laughing)  
Yeah, yes, okay, I'm ready.

HOPE  
You sure?

SPRING  
(Gathering herself)  
Uh-huh, I'm good, I'm ready.

HOPE  
Alright, here we go.

Both girls walk onto the stage singing the intro to Star Spangle Banner as they face one another, lifting one arm towards the curtain's opening.

SPRING  
Oh say can you seeeeee

HOPE (CONT'D)  
Oh say can you seeeeee

Dazzy speeds through the curtain's opening on a skateboard. The girls watch him roll by, off the stage, falling into the seating aisle.

DAZZY (O.S.)  
Nothing's broken, but there's pain.  
Wait, no, there's definitely pain.

SPRING  
Dazzy you're gonna kill yourself,  
Hope talk to him --

HOPE  
(Frustrated)  
-- Yeah, Yeah, Yeah.

Hope goes back stage to widen the stage curtains as Spring stands at the edge of the stage endeavoring to reason with Dazzy.

SPRING  
I'm serious, Dazzy you need to let  
this skateboard thing go.

Dazzy looks for the skateboard amongst the aisles.

DAZZY  
I think that's the problem Spring,  
I can't hold on to it, it keeps  
letting me go!

Hope over hears Dazzy's comment and rushes to the front of the stage.

HOPE  
See that's what I'm talking about.  
It's always someone or something.  
Yesterday it was the, the --

SPRING  
The wind --

HOPE  
That's right, it was the wind. Even  
though we were inside where there  
is no wind. Today it's the  
skateboard's fault. Even though  
the skateboard cannot think, it  
does not throw you off of it.

(MORE)

HOPE (CONT'D)

It's you, it's all you, you are the problem, and now we're running out of time.

Spring goes back stage to grab her banana left over from lunch. Dazzy uses his skateboard as a cane as he walks up the stage stairs pretending to be a wounded old man. He limps over to Hope.

DAZZY

Aw, can you say that again, I don't hear too good in this ear, or is it this ear.

Hope stands staring at Dazzy then abruptly turns and walks backstage. Spring approaches Dazzy eating her banana. She plays mediator between Dazzy and Hope.

SPRING

Dazzy, Hope is upset because you may think we have time, but we don't have time, the time we had has passed, which is lost time, making it spent time, so this time, needs to be the right time, cause if we don't make time, then time will run out.

Dazzy calmly looks down at Springs banana, breaks off a small piece, puts it in his mouth, then looks up at Spring as he crews.

DAZZY

What?

Hope intervenes.

HOPE

What? What, you can't hear her either? It made perfect sense to me!

Dazzy hugs his skateboard as Hope and Spring close in on him from both sides.

SPRING

There's a lot at stake Dazzy.

HOPE

Do you think about that when you're flying around on your skateboard from hell.

SPRING

I mean, we want the grand prize  
right?

HOPE

Maybe that's not important to you,  
it's only \$5,000.

SPRING

Each.

HOPE

Not to mention that little thing  
called a recording contract.

SPRING

We all want that right? --

**SIDE #2 for Spring**

NT. SPRING'S DINNING ROOM - NIGHT

Loaded down with school materials while holding her phone in her mouth, Spring walks to the dinning room table when her PHONE RINGS. Frantically she endeavors to figure out what to let go first. Finally she drops everything onto the table, looks at the face of the phone and answers.

SPRING

Let me guess, you're calling about  
the debate? I know it's on Friday,  
and, yes, I will be ready.

CLASS MATE 1 (V.O.)

Why weren't you at the meeting  
today?

SPRING

Because you guys set it up for the  
same time I had rehearsal with  
Street Lights.

Spring hesitates but goes on to share.

SPRING (CONT'D)

And... we played around too much.  
But, you don't have to worry, I  
will be ready. Right now I've got  
to go.

(MORE)

SPRING (CONT'D)

Ms. Carr's giving a test tomorrow,  
and I've got to get an A in her  
class.

CLASS MATE 1 (V.O.)

Spring you always get A's. It's  
easy for you.

SPRING

Trish you have no idea. I gotta go.

CLASS MATE 1 (V.O.)

You need to chill, seriously?

SPRING

Trish I seriously gotta get off  
this phone, alright. Good-bye.

She gets her school materials together, and sits down to  
study her book. The PHONE RINGS again. She looks to see who  
it is.

INTERCUT - SPRINGS DINING ROOM/HOPE'S BEDROOM

SPRING (CONT'D)

Hey Hope, I can't...

Hope is in tears.

HOPE

I need to talk.

SPRING

Ok, you sound scared. What's wrong?

HOPE

Everything is out of control. Is  
anybody with you?

SPRING

No.

Springs phone beeps with another call.

SPRING (CONT'D)

Hope, hold on for a minute.

Spring takes the other call.

SPRING (CONT'D)

Hi Mom.

MS. JOHNSON

Hey Sweetie, listen they want me to work overtime again, and you know we can't afford for me to say no. Would you please take care of dinner tonight for you and your brother?

SPRING

Don't I always.

MS. JOHNSON

That's my girl. I'm so thankful I can count on you. Just throw together something simple, you know your brother will eat anything.

SPRING

Derrick!

MS. JOHNSON

What about Derrick, is he alright?

SPRING

Yeah, he's fine. Hope!

MS. JOHNSON

Hope?

SPRING

I hope I can find something for dinner. I'm sure I will. Ok Mom, I'll take care of it, I'm studying now, I better get back to it.

MS. JOHNSON

Okay, you sure you're okay?

SPRING

Yes, I'm fine, gotta go, talk to you later.

Spring returns to call with Hope.

SPRING (CONT'D)

Hope?

HOPE

I', glad I wasn't dying.

SPRING

Me too, cause I gotta go. I forgot to pick up Derrick. I'm sorry Hope, I wanna talk, but I just --

HOPE  
Spring, Breathe, it's ok.

SPRING  
Are you sure, can it wait till  
tomorrow? I would call you back  
tonight but you know --

HOPE  
Yeah.

SPRING  
Hope, are you sure?

HOPE  
And if I wasn't.

Spring's phone beeps again with another call. She looks to  
see who it is.

SPRING  
It's Derrick school. Hope --

HOPE  
Go, go, I'll survive till tomorrow.

SPRING  
Hope --

HOPE  
Take the call. I'll talk to you  
later.

SPRING  
Okay, bye.

Spring takes the incoming call.

SPRING (CONT'D)  
Hello -- I know, I know, I'm on my  
way now.

Holding on to her phone Spring quickly grabs her keys off the  
table, and heads for the front door.

SPRING (CONT'D)  
I can't believe I forgot Derrick.