

Dale

"THE PARTRIDGE FAMILY"

"WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MOBY DICK?"

#3340

June 23, 1971

Please insert the attached Revised Pages in your script dated April 28, 1971.

"WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MOBY DICK?"

CAST & SET LIST

#3340

CAST: SHIRLEY
KEITH
LAURIE
DANNY
CHRIS
TRACY
REUBEN

DR. WHELANDER
FLICKER
REPORTER
MAN'S VOICE
*
*
BEAR OWNER

ATMOSPHERE:

PHOTOGRAPHER (XX)
CAMERMAN (XX)

*
OTHER ANIMAL HANDLERS (XX)

SETS:

INTERIORS:

SHIRLEY'S BEDROOM (D)
UPSTAIRS HALLWAY (D)
PARTRIDGE GARAGE (D)
PARTRIDGE KITCHEN (D)
TURKISH STEAM BATH (D)
DANNY'S & CHRIS' ROOM (D/N)
PARTRIDGE LIVING ROOM (D/N)
RECORDING STUDIO (D)

EXTERIORS:

*
MARINELAND (D)

MUSIC #1 ("WHALE SONG" (D)) Scs. 20, 21.. P.B.# 148 AX *
Cut # 83
Time: 3:25

STOCK FOOTAGE:

WHALES (D)

"WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MOBY DICK?"

TEASER

3340

FADE IN:

INT. SHIRLEY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

1 SHIRLEY is sound asleep. After ESTABLISHING SHOT, the 1
alarm clock by the bed rings. She sits up half asleep,
then turns off the clock. She sits there a beat, eyes half
open, then lays down and goes back to sleep. From somewhere
outside, we hear strange, eerie, haunting sounds. *high whistling**
like the sound of a "foam" or "fog" machine.
Shirley opens her eyes, then bolts upright in bed, suddenly
very awake. She shakes her head to clear it, but the
sounds don't go away. A little frightened, she puts on a
robe and slippers and goes to the door.

CUT TO:

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - MORNING

2 KEITH obviously just got out of bed, as he's wearing 2
wrinkled pajamas and his hair isn't combed. He's tip-
toeing down the hall carrying a poised baseball bat. He's
also spooked by the sounds. As he reaches Shirley's door,
Shirley steps out. They both jump, startled at seeing each
other.

SHIRLEY

(after her heart
starts)

Keith, don't ever do that again!

KEITH

Me? Do what?

SHIRLEY

Walk down this hall.

(before Keith can
answer)

What's that sound?

KEITH

I don't know. I just hope it's
one of ours.

SHIRLEY

Well, it's not one of mine. Come
on, let's see what it is.

KEITH

You're kidding.

SHIRLEY

Oh? What were you doing out of bed?

KEITH

Uh, well...I was thinking more along the lines of sneaking out and running for help.

SHIRLEY

I doubt if it's a burglar. They usually don't sing on the job. Come on, let's see what's going on before it wakes the whole neighborhood.

KEITH

Good idea.

SHIRLEY

Let's go.

KEITH

Not that. I mean letting it wake up the whole neighborhood. Then we won't face it alone.

Shirley gives him a disgusted look, then leaves. Keith reluctantly follows.

KEITH

...I'm not cut out to be a hero.

CUT TO:

INT. GARAGE - MORNING

3

ANGLE ON DOOR

as it suddenly bursts open and Keith leaps into the garage with a poised baseball bat. Shirley is close behind him. Keith sees something, then lowers the bat. The CAMERA PULLS BACK TO INCLUDE DANNY sitting down with his feet propped up. He's listening to the record player.

KEITH

Danny!

DANNY

Keith...What're you doing up so early?

(sees bat and p.j's)

Don't tell me you just got back from a night baseball game.

3

SHIRLEY

Danny, what are you doing?

DANNY

Listening to an album of Laurie's.
I didn't play it in the house
'cause I didn't want to wake the
whole family.

SHIRLEY

So you came out here and woke the
whole neighborhood.

KEITH

What are those sounds, anyway?

DANNY

Not sounds, songs. It's whales
singing!

*

KEITH

Whales?

*

DANNY

Yep. Betcha didn't know whales
sang, did ya?

KEITH

(won't admit it)

Well..I figured it was either
whales or Wayne Newton.

SHIRLEY

This is all very interesting,
young man...but what are you doing
up at this hour listening to
whales.

DANNY

Well, Laurie just got the album
last night, so that's probably
why I dreamed about it. I get
some of my most brilliant ideas
in my sleep, you know.

KEITH

Yeah, I know. We all wish you'd
sleep more often.

DANNY

Thank you. Anyway, I was asleep
and it hit me. I came out here
to double check it.

SHIRLEY

Double check what?

DANNY

Those whales have very pretty voices, don't they?

KEITH

(sarcastic)

Oh, beautiful.

DANNY

Exactly! We're going to make a million dollars by cashing in on the ecology movement!

Shirley and Keith exchange puzzled looks.

DANNY

(continuing)

Don't you get it? The Partridge Family is going to be the first group to have a whale lead singer!

Danny grins proudly. Shirley and Keith are definitely surprised. On their expressions....

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. PARTRIDGE KITCHEN - THE SAME DAY

4 Shirley is cooking breakfast. Keith, TRACY and CHRIS are drinking juice. Danny is defending himself. 4

DANNY

I'm telling you it's a million dollar idea!

SHIRLEY

Danny, to be truthful, it's a terrible idea.

CHRIS

It's going to be awful crowded on the bus with a whale along.

TRACY

Yeah. Why don't we just bring my goldfish instead?

DANNY

The whale won't actually be with us, he'll be on tapes.

(to Keith)

What we do is record the whale's voice under water and then you write a song for us to sing to it. Then whammo! A million dollars!

KEITH

Great idea! And after the album of whales wailing, we'll make one with hummingbirds humming. Better yet, we'll do one with toads...then you can be the lead singer.

DANNY

Mom, are you going to let him talk to me like that?

SHIRLEY

Yes.

DANNY

Nobody appreciates my genius. Judy Collins recorded one song using whales in the background. We'll do a whole album. You have to think big.

4

CONTINUED

4

LAURIE enters and everyone exchanges good mornings. She goes to help Shirley fix breakfast when she sees her whale album on the counter.

LAURIE

What's my whale album doing down here? I left it in my room.

DANNY

Well, you were asleep, and I just borrowed it to make a million dollars.

LAURIE

Have you heard this album, Mom? It'll blow your mind.

SHIRLEY

I have, and it did.

Laurie doesn't get it.

SHIRLEY

(continuing)

He was playing it full blast at five this morning.

*

CHRIS

Danny wants to sign up a whale to sing with us.

LAURIE

(appalled)

What?

DANNY

It's a natural. Ecology's big these days. If we put a whale in the act, we'll cash in on it. Terrific idea, huh?

LAURIE

That...that's the worst idea I ever heard!

DANNY

(surprised)

I thought you liked animals.

4 CONTINUED (2)

4

LAURIE

I do! That's the point.

DANNY

I don't get it. You're the one
who bought the record.

*

LAURIE

(mad)

The man who made this record,
is a zoologist. He
didn't do it to become famous
or to make a million dollars.
I bet you can't even guess his
motives, can you?

*

DANNY

(stuck)

Uh...does it have anything to do
with Women's Lib?

SHIRLEY

He wanted to make people aware
of whales. I read the liner
notes.

KEITH

They're so big, they're pretty
hard to miss.

LAURIE

They're getting easier to miss
every day. They're almost extinct.

TRACY

They can't need a bath. They live
in the ocean.

SHIRLEY

Extinct means that the whales are
almost all dead, honey.

LAURIE

That's because we've slaughtered
them all. And I think it's crass
and disgusting to profit from
their plight. I don't want any
part of it.

SHIRLEY

(to Danny)

I agree with her.

KEITH

So do I.

DANNY

But I don't understand. My idea isn't going to hurt any whales. All I want to do is make a million bucks.

SHIRLEY

It's exploiting whales, Danny. We'd be using the fact that they're in trouble for our own personal gain.

DANNY

What do you mean, exploiting? I'm going to make some whale a star!

Everyone realizes Danny hasn't gotten the idea yet, and they all give him unsympathetic looks. Danny shrugs, then eats a piece of toast.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. TURKISH STEAM BATH - THE SAME DAY

5 The steam is very thick. Here and there we see an arm 5
or a foot, but the only person we really see is REUBEN.
He's suffering from a monumental hangover. A lesser
calamity wiped out Pompeii. Reuben isn't alone, as we
gather from disembodied groans from the steam. It's Sunday
morning hangover therapy time. A voice lets out a groan,
then another voice and another groan. Reuben is irritated.

REUBEN

(to voices; snapping)
Nobody likes a bunch of cry babies.
(whimpering)
Moans make my head hurt.

MAN'S VOICE

(groaning)
That you Reuben?

REUBEN

(suffering)
It used to be.

VOICE

Some party. My head feels like
I was hit with a club.

5

CONTINUED

5

REUBEN

You were.

VOICE

Why?

REUBEN

'Cause you were standing in the punch bowl.

VOICE

Oh. No wonder my toes are stuck together.

6

ANOTHER ANGLE

6

Danny enters the steam bath, wrapped in a towel, carrying a portable tape recorder.

DANNY

Mr. Kincaid? Mr. Kincaid?

7

BACK TO REUBEN

7

He recognizes the voice and he holds his head in his hands, almost crying.

REUBEN

Oh no.

VOICE

Who's that?

REUBEN

That's Delirium Tremens. Okay
Danny, how'd you find me?

DANNY

(brightly)

Oh, there you are. I remembered
you said you were going to a
party last night...so here I am.

REUBEN

(bitter)

Yes...here you are. Clever
little devil!

DANNY

I figured you'd have a terrific
hangover...

REUBEN

Wrong! It's not terrific.

7

CONTINUED

7

DANNY

I thought I'd cheer you up with
a million dollar idea. Listen.

Danny clicks on the tape. It's a recording of the whales.
Reuben and the Voices freak out with pain.

VOICE

It's the voice of Christmas Past!

DANNY

It's a whale. I'm going to sign
it up to be our lead singer.

REUBEN

Shut it off. It's making me sea-
sick.

(Danny does)

Good. Now I can tell you what I
think.... Get out.

DANNY

But Mr. Kincaid...you're crass and
commercial. I was counting on
that.

REUBEN

I may be crass and commercial,
but I also know a rotten idea
when I hear it. A singing whale
has got to be the silliest idea
I've ever heard.

Danny stands up, very indignant.

DANNY

Okay...if that's the way you feel.
But they laughed at Fulton.

REUBEN

They were right. How many steam
boats have you seen around lately?

Danny, very indignant now, turns and marches out.

REUBEN

(groaning)

A singing whale!

VOICE

(after a long pause)

Hey kid -- can it sing "Melancholy Baby"?

DISSOLVE TO:

8 OMITTED

OMITTED 8

INT. GARAGE - NEXT DAY

9 Danny is there with an Older Woman holding a cage with a 9
 myna bird in it, a Man with a seal and a Man with a bear.

DANNY

I'm sorry, but you people won't
do, either. My ad specifically
said I was looking for a whale.

BEAR MAN

Listen, kid. I've been in show
biz a long time, and I'm tellin'
ya, nothing attracts a crowd like
a dancing bear...and you're
looking at the best. Watch this.

The Bear Man begins clapping his hands and stomping one foot
rhythmically, like the Step Brothers.

BEAR MAN (contd)

Dance your feet off, Gentle Frank!

The bear just sits there, unmoving. Shirley walks in the
garage door and is quite surprised.

SHIRLEY

Danny!

Danny is surprised to see Shirley, and he's caught with his
hand in the cookie jar. Thinking fast, Danny begins
ushering the people out.

DANNY

That's it, everyone. Thanks for
coming over. You were all a
big help.

(to Shirley)

Boy, you know all the trouble I
was having in my biology class.
The school sure has come a long
way in Visual Aids.

Danny sees immediately that Shirley isn't buying it. He
gets a hangdog look, then hands a newspaper classified
section to Shirley. Shirley is very mad.

SHIRLEY

(reading)

"Wanted: One singing whale.
Must have talent. Others need
not apply." Danny Partridge!

9

CONTINUED

9

DANNY

I didn't know all those people
were going to show up with animals,
Mom. I thought it'd be just one
little whale.

SHIRLEY

Danny, how could you do this?

DANNY

It's a million dollar idea.

SHIRLEY

And everyone in the family told
you what we thought of your
million dollar idea. We will not
exploit whales, or bears, or even
people...for any amount of money.
Have I made it clear this time?!

Danny is hang-dogged. He's guilty as sin, and he knows it.

DANNY

I'm sorry, Mom. I was only trying
to help out, but I went about it
the wrong way. Where would I
find a singing whale, anyway?

LAURIE (o.s.)

(calling)

Danny....telephone.

10 OMITTED

OMITTED 10

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

11

Danny is on the phone and is very excited. The other
members of the family are in the living room, and they
can't help but be attracted by Danny's excited tone.

11

DANNY

(into phone)

No kidding? Outta sight. Yeah,
we'll be there tomorrow. 'Bye.

Danny hangs up, then turns to the others, smiling somewhat
smugly. Exactly the opposite attitude from the previous
scene.

3340
1st Rev. 6/23/71

NOTE: ALL REVISED

(13, 14, & 15)

11 CONTINUED

11

DANNY (contd)
(grandly, to all)
And you said it couldn't be done!

SHIRLEY
What couldn't be done?

DANNY
I just found a whale to sing in
our act!

Danny looks very smug, as everyone else exchanges
astonished looks.

FADE OUT:

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. MARINELAND - THE NEXT DAY

12 The family and Reuben are standing beside the outside 1
show tank. We can do a series of shots of porpoises and wha
doing their tricks...jumping through hoops, standing on thei
tails out of the water, etc. The family is thoroughly enjoyi
themselves. SHOTS of the kids brushing the whale's teeth,
giving him a fish..whatever is possible. With the family is
distinguished looking man, DR. WHELANDER.

TRACY

Boy, that's the neatest whale
I've ever seen.

DANNY

That's the only whale you've ever
seen. *

TRACY

That's true.

CHRIS

What's his name, Dr. Whelander? *

WHELANDER

That's Orky, Chris. *

REUBEN

You mean to tell me this thing
actually sings? *

WHELANDER

Yes. The strange thing is, we
don't know how they do it.
Whales has no vocal chords.

KEITH

No kidding.

CHRIS

Hey, maybe the porpoise is a
ventriloquist.

TRACY

(to Whelander;
indicating whale)

Where did you find a worm big
enough to catch him?

WHELANDER

We didn't catch him. About four
years ago a man called us, said
(more)

WHELANDER

(continuing)

there was a whale landlocked in a coastal inlet. He asked us to come and get him because he didn't want 'that thing' dying on his property.

LAURIE

(sarcastic)

He sounds like a nice man.

SHIRLEY

Dr. Whelander, do you know why Danny put that ad in the paper?

WHELANDER

I understand you want to make a record using the whale.

SHIRLEY

Well. To be perfectly honest, when Danny came up with the idea, the rest of us refused. We thought it was taking advantage of the plight of the whales.

WHELANDER

The fact that whales are almost extinct is the reason I want to do it.

DANNY

My reasons exactly.

WHELANDER

If enough people become aware of whales, well...maybe they'll do something to stop them from being slaughtered.

TRACY

It's a nice whale.

*

WHELANDER

Yes, and smart. They're the most intelligent animals next to humans.

*

DANNY

You're kidding!

*

WHELANDER

No. There are documented cases of whales and porpoises saving the lives of drowning swimmers. We repay them by killing them.

*

12 CONTINUED

LAURIE

It's pathetic that we have to
plead for the life of a grand
animal like that.

KEITH

But why do they kill whales?

WHELANDER

*

(bitter)

They kill them to make dog food.

KEITH

(can't believe it)

Dog food?

12 CONTINUED

12 *

SHIRLEY

It's hard to believe.

WHELANDER

Unfortunately, it's true. That's why Marineland wants to make the record. Any profits we receive will go to the New York Zoological Society. They're working to save the whale.

LAURIE

If our making the record can do anything at all to help the whale, I'm for it.

SHIRLEY

Okay. But if we do it, we should donate our profits to the whales, too.

DANNY

Great idea! Why don't we donate ten percent.

REUBEN

Better yet, five percent. We don't want to put them in a higher tax bracket. *

SHIRLEY

A hundred percent!

REUBEN

(out of the question)

A hundred percent?!

SHIRLEY

(smiling at Reuben)

I'm glad you agree.

Reuben starts to argue, but what can he say.

DISSOLVE TO:

13 & 14 OMITTED

OMITTED 13 & 14

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - A FEW DAYS LATER

15 The family is set up to play. Reuben and Whelander are standing by watching. There's an engineer in the control booth. We hear a tape of a whale singing. 15

15

CONTINUED

15

REUBEN

(to Whelander)

Have you ever been to a recording session before?

WHELANDER

No. I feel like a kid. I haven't been this excited since I captured my first moray eel.

REUBEN

Uh...yes. A lot of people say that.

Unnoticed by anyone, an oily old man enters the studio.. His name is E.J. FLICKER.

KEITH

(to Engineer)

Hold it. That's where we want to start.

The tape stops, and we hear it being re-wound a few feet. It stops, then we hear it being cued up.

ENGINEER

Okay, it's cued up. This is a take. Anytime you're ready.

KEITH

Okay...

(to family)

Ready...one, two....

FLICKER

'Scuse me. Are you the Partridge Family?

ENGINEER

Cut.

REUBEN

Sir, this is no time to ask for autographs. You're holding up a recording session.

FLICKER

That's what I aim to do.

(to Whelander)

Hi, Doc. Remember me?

WHELANDER

No. Should I?

15 CONTINUED (2)

15.

FLICKER

It's been about four years.
Name's Flicker, E.J. Flicker.
My friends call me Squint.

REUBEN

Look, this is no time for social
pleasantries. We have work to do.

The family comes over.

SHIRLEY

What's going on?

FLICKER

I understand you folks are making
a record with my whale.

LAURIE

Your whale?!

WHELANDER

(remembering)

You're the man who called us to
get the whale out of your inlet.

FLICKER

That's me...and that's my whale.

SHIRLEY

Mr. Flicker, what's this all about?

Flicker takes out a folded up newspaper and points to an
article.

FLICKER

I read in yesterday's paper that
you were making a recording with
my whale.

KEITH

How did that get in the paper?

DANNY

(guilty)

I told that reporter I was talking
off the record.

Shirley reacts to Danny's statement by getting a severe
headache.

15 CONTINUED (3)

15

WHELANDER

You keep referring to it as your whale. The last time I talked to you, you referred to it as "that thing".

FLICKER

That thing is my whale! I found it! And I don't recall releasing any recording rights on him.

It's suddenly very clear what Flicker is after.

SHIRLEY

I don't believe it.

WHELANDER

But it isn't your whale.

Flicker takes a document out of his pocket and hands it to Shirley.

FLICKER

My lawyer disagrees. That's why you can't make this record until we reach an understanding.

Reuben looks at document, then to Flicker:

REUBEN

How much?

FLICKER

Fifty percent.

DANNY

But it wasn't even your idea.

FLICKER

That's why I'm only asking for fifty percent. Fair is fair.

REUBEN

You're out of your mind if you think we're going to give you fifty percent.

FLICKER

In that case, me and my whale are going to take a walk
(turns to leave)
Keep in touch.

He leaves. Everyone is in a state of shock.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. DANNY'S & CHRIS' ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

16 Danny is laying on his bed. He's totally depressed. 16
After establishing, there's a knock on the door.

SHIRLEY (o.s.)

Danny, are you there?

DANNY

Yeah.

Shirley enters.

SHIRLEY
There you are. You look awful.
What's wrong?
I feel rotten.

*

*

SHIRLEY

Don't you feel well?
I feel rotten.

*

DANNY

I feel rotten.

SHIRLEY

(checks him for fever)
Oh no. Is it your throat again?

DANNY

No...my conscience. If I hadn't
put that article in the paper,
Mr. Flicker wouldn't have known
about the whale. I wish I could
disown myself.

SHIRLEY

Danny, that's not your fault.
You didn't know what was going
to happen.

DANNY

I know. Maybe that's not what's
really bothering me.

SHIRLEY

Oh?

DANNY

Mom...when I saw Mr. Flicker
yesterday, it was like seeing
myself in a mirror. And I
didn't like what I saw.

SHIRLEY

What do you mean?

DANNY

He doesn't care anything about that whale or any whale. He just wants to make money off of it. When I first got this idea, that's all I was interested in, too. He made me see what I'm really like...rotten.

SHIRLEY

I see. Danny, if you're so "rotten", why do you feel bad?

DANNY

'Cause I never even thought about the poor whales. I didn't care.

SHIRLEY

But you do now.

DANNY

Yes.

SHIRLEY

Then...maybe you're not so rotten after all. It's how you feel now that counts.

This makes Danny feel a little better.

SHIRLEY

(continuing)

And as far as you seeing yourself in Mr. Flicker..well, he's much older than you, and not nearly as handsome.

DANNY

(embarrassed)

Ahhh, Mom...

We hear a door slam downstairs.

REUBEN (o.s.)

(calling)

Shirley?

SHIRLEY

(calling)

Be right down.

(more)

16 CONTINUED (2)

16

SHIRLEY (CONTINUED)

(to Danny)

Come on. Maybe Reuben has some
good news for us.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

17 Reuben is pacing. He's frustrated, angry and depressed. 17
Shirley and Danny come down the stairs.

SHIRLEY

What'd you find out?

REUBEN

Nothing good. My lawyer says
that Flicker doesn't have a
case.

SHIRLEY

That's bad?

REUBEN

Yes. If Flicker insists on
taking this to court, he'll lose...
eventually. But a lawsuit can
drag out for years.

DANNY

But whales may be extinct by then.
If the record's going to do any
good, it has to come out right
away.

REUBEN

That's where Flicker's got us,
and he knows it. It looks like
we're going to have to give him
the fifty percent.

DANNY

(really miserable)

Boy, I really did it this time. I'll
never talk to a reporter again.

REUBEN

I know how you feel, kid. He
didn't even spell your name right.

Shirley is deep in thought.

17 CONTINUED

17

SHIRLEY

Reuben, could we arrange to cut the album tomorrow...at Marineland?

REUBEN

(surprised)

Well...I suppose we could, but why?

SHIRLEY

Because the press would be very interested in covering it.

She goes to the phone and begins to dial. Reuben and Danny are puzzled.

DANNY

(disappointed)

Mom...a publicity stunt?

SHIRLEY

I guess you might say that. Reuben draw up some release forms for Mr. Flicker to sign.

(into phone,
overly sweet)

Mr. Flicker, Shirley Partridge... Okay, "Squint", and you call me Shirley. We've decided to accept your generous offer. We're going to cut the album tomorrow at Marineland, and we're going to invite the press. We'd like you to be there. After all, it is your whale...Good. About one o'clock. See you then.

She hangs up. Neither Reuben nor Danny know what to think, and Danny is very disappointed.

DANNY

Mom...you have feet of clay.

Shirley smiles, as we

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. MARINELAND - NEXT DAY

18

SHOTS OF THE WHALES PERFORMING.

Everyone is there. The family, Reuben, a Recording Engineer, (more)

18

18 CONTINUED

18

Flicker, Whelander, and a TV REPORTER and CAMERAMAN.
Chris and Tracy are off watching the whale. Flicker is off
to one side, resplendent in his tuxedo and white sox.
Flicker is nervously pacing, then he starts over toward
Shirley.

19 CLOSE ON SHIRLEY & REPORTER

19

REPORTER

I'm ready any time, Shirley.

SHIRLEY

Good. And please...be brutal.

Flicker walks up.

SHIRLEY

(continuing)

Mr. Flicker, this is Mr. Dallard.
of ABC News.

*

They exchange greetings. The Reporter suddenly acts
very cynical and unsympathetic.

REPORTER

I've already filmed the introductory
part, explaining what you're
doing here. I'd like to get
right into the interview, okay?

SHIRLEY

Fine. Come on, kids.

The kids line up for the interview. The Reporter signals
the Cameraman, and he begins filming.

REPORTER

Okay, Sam, let's go.

(interviewing)

Mr. Flicker, I understand you're
the one who originally found this
great whale.

FLICKER

(the humanitarian)

That's right, I found him grounded
in my inlet...laying there like a
fish out of water. Most pitiful
thing you've ever seen.

REPORTER

That's when you called Marine-land.

LAURIE

Yes. He didn't want "that thing" dying on his property.

FLICKER

(jumps in to cover)

I sure didn't, 'cause I love animals. Wasn't for me, that magnificent beast wouldn't be alive today, starring on this record.

REPORTER

That's very noble of you, Mr. Flicker. I happen to be an animal lover myself. Are you, Mrs. Partridge?

SHIRLEY

An animal lover? I certainly am.

REPORTER

I know you claim to be making this album for humanitarian reasons, but in reality aren't you exploiting the whale?

SHIRLEY

(all innocence)

Whatever do you mean?

REPORTER

The fact is, you're making this record for commercial gain, isn't that true?

SHIRLEY

No, our fifty percent of the profits are being donated to the New York Zoological Society for the preservation of whales. The other fifty percent...well, I have no control over that.

REPORTER

Oh? Who does?

Everyone turns and stares at Flicker. Flicker is suddenly very uncomfortable.

19

CONTINUED (2)

19

FLICKER

Uhh...fifty percent! Am I making that much?

KEITH

Your lawyer insisted.

REPORTER

What are you going to do with your share, Mr. Flicker? Ten million viewers are watching who'd like to know.

DANNY

Twenty million! I told all my friends to watch.

FLICKER

(squirming)

Well, uh....I am a very humanitarian type person, and whales are certainly very high up on my list...

REUBEN

(aside to Shirley)

Second only to hoof and mouth disease.

FLICKER

....and whales are one of the things that makes this great country... uh, great. The land of the free, the home of the brave....

REPORTER

It is a great country, but what are you going to do with the money?

FLICKER

Uh, well...I do have to get the clutch in my car fixed.

SHIRLEY

I'll pay for it.

FLICKER

(stopped)

Oh. Well...of course I'm going to give my money...

(sick)

....to the whales. What else can I do? I mean, what else can any concerned American do? Uh, first thing in the morning....

19 CONTINUED (3)

19

REUBEN

Good news, Mr. Flicker! You don't have to wait until morning. I knew your generous nature, so I prepared the release forms. You can sign over your money in front of these ten million viewers.

DANNY

Twenty million.

LAURIE

We know, you told your friends to watch.

Reuben takes out some papers and a pen and gives them to Flicker. Flicker doesn't like it, but he's cornered. Since he's stuck, he decides to make himself look as good as possible. He straightens up and begins orating like a senator in a fillibuster.

FLICKER

Of course I'll sign.

(he does)

Yes, with one stroke of the pen I'm giving away thousands of dollars. But what is money when nature needs me? Now is the time for every man to answer the call of nature, for are we not all a part of it? Even my car clutch must fall second to the plight of the whale...

Flicker keeps droning on in b.g.

20 ANGLE ON SHIRLEY & DANNY

20

DANNY

Mom, you set this whole thing up with that reporter, didn't you.

SHIRLEY

Well, let's just say that we're both animal lovers.

DANNY

I'm sorry I suspected you of having feet of clay. You're all right. And you're sneaky, too.

20 CONTINUED

20

Shirley laughs.

FLICKER

...and if I can do my part to
make this a better world for
future generations, I say... So
be it! Now is the time for all
good men to come to the aid of
their environment...

Flicker's droning slowly fades out and is replaced by the
introductory bars of the weekly song. We do a very slow

DISSOLVE

EXT. MARINELAND - DAY

21 The music continues from previous scene into this one. 21
the family is now performing their song. It's sort of
an ecology song, in that it tells how beautiful nature
is. The whale song threads throughout the b.g. We
INTERCUT from the family singing to SHOTS of the whale
in the pool....to STOCK SHOTS of whales in the ocean...
to SHOTS of the family walking on a deserted beach, just
digging how pretty it is.

MUSIC #1 (TO BE ANNOUNCED)

FADE OUT

END ACT TWO

21 A MUSIC "WHALE SONG"

21

INSTRUMENTATIONSHIRLEY (VOCAL)
KEITH (GUITAR)"WHALE SONG"

by Marty Kaniger & Dan Peyton

:00	INTRO	GUITAR	
:25	SHIRLEY	WHALE SONG SOFT AND LOW	
:31		SING ME A STORY AS GENTLY YOU GO	
:38		WHALE SONG I HEAR WHAT YOU SAY	
:44		THIS MAY BE THE LAST TIME	
:47		YOU'RE PASSING THIS WAY	
1:02	SHIRLEY	SING ME A SONG	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:05		OF TIMES THAT YOU KNEW	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:08		WHEN THE WATERS WERE CLEAN	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:11		AND THE SEABIRDS THEY FLEW	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:15		THROUGH A SKY THAT WAS CLEAR	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:18		FROM THE SEA TO THE LAND	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:21		FREE FROM THE FEAR	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:24		AND DESTRUCTION OF MAN	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:30	SHIRLEY	WHALE SONG SOFT AND LOW	(GROUP: WHALE SONG--OOH'S)
1:36		SING ME A STORY AS GENTLY YOU GO	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:43		WHALE SONG I HEAR WHAT YOU SAY	(GROUP: WHALE SONG--OOH'S)
1:49		THIS MAY BE THE LAST TIME	(GROUP: OOH'S)
1:52		YOU'RE PASSING THIS WAY	
2:07	SHIRLEY	SONG OF THE WHALE	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:10		SO SWEET AND SO CLEAR	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:13		BUT NO SONG AT ALL TO THE	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:17		ONES WHO WON'T HEAR	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:19		AND IF PEOPLE DON'T LISTEN	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:23		AND IF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:26		MIGHT THE SONG OF THE MAN	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:30		BE THE NEXT SONG TO GO	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:35	SHIRLEY	WHALE SONG CONTINUE TO SING	(GROUP: WHALE SONG--OOH'S)
2:41		THERE'S A PLACE IN THIS WORLD	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:44		FOR EACH LIVING THING	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:48		SO LONG BUT JUST FOR A WHILE	(GROUP: SO LONG - OOH'S)
2:55		CAUSE PEOPLE WILL LISTEN	(GROUP: OOH'S)
2:58		AND I KNOW THERE'S A WAY	(GROUP: OOH'S)
3:25		FADE	

TAG

FADE IN:

EXT. MARINELAND - THE SAME DAY

22 Shirley, Reuben, Danny, Whelander and the Reporter.
The Reporter is getting ready to leave.

22

SHIRLEY

(to Reporter)

Thanks a lot, Jim. I appreciate
what you did for us.

REPORTER

Believe me, the pleasure was
all mine.

REUBEN

You both did that so well, it
seems like it should be illegal.
You were beautiful.

DANNY

But what if it hadn't worked?

WHELANDER

Well, I had a little back up
plan.

SHIRLEY

Oh?

WHELANDER

I was going to bill the old cheap-
skate for tending and feeding his
whale for the last four years.
Do you have any idea of how much
a whale eats?

SHIRLEY

(laughing)

Do I! I have five kids.

DANNY

(serious)

Mom...do you think it'll do
any good? I mean, do you think
it'll help the whales.

SHIRLEY

I wish I could say yes....
but I don't know, Danny.

22 CONTINUED

22

DANNY

Oh. I never knew a whale before.
Now that I've met one...I'd miss
him if he was gone.

23 ANGLE ON POOL 23
Keith, Laurie, Chris and Tracy are standing by the pool.
The whale has his head out of the water, and Laurie is
petting it, or feeding it a fish.

FADE OUT

THE END