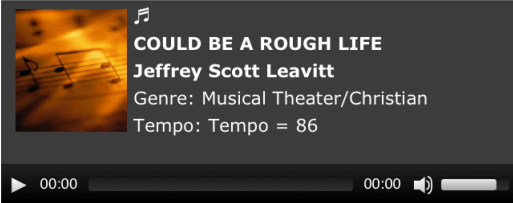


COULD BE A ROUGH LIFE



Verse 1

This poor boy is not aware
Of the mess that finds him here
Born in poverty and despair
Could be a rough life

Verse 2

Aila wants the best for him
But the future's looking grim
Odds are that he will sink not swim
Could be a rough life

Bridge

Is there hope in his world?
Maybe so, I don't know
What he needs is a miracle
Could be a rough life

(Instrumental Verse)

During the instrumental, Sivah walks slowly around the room, stopping to look at various worn-out items. She walks back to Aila and Gadias briefly, then again to gaze out of the small window.

Repeat Bridge

Verse 3

He will have to work so hard
To survive this rocky start
Always vigilant, on his guard
Could be a rough life

Tag (2x)

Could be a rough life

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Song's Backstory:

Gadias: Repentant Thief (newborn) Aila: Gadias' Mother Sivah: Midwife/Friend Note: The last line (Poor in spirit find their hope in Him) from "His Name Is Jesus" is intended to help lead the audience into this scene./-----/ |ACT 1 | SCENE 1 | STAGE RIGHT We leave the manger scene (Stage Left) after "His Name Is Jesus" concludes (lights down) and move to Stage Right (lights up). Aila and Sivah are together in a run-down room where Aila has just given birth to Gadias. They discuss their poverty and what might become of the newborn baby. /-----/ Dialogue: Sivah: Aila, how are you doing? Have you given him a name? Aila: I am tired, very tired. But he's beautiful. I'm thinking, Gadias. It means free spirit and visionary. That's what he will be...what I want him to be, anyway./-----/ Stage Directions: (Aila is seated and holding the baby. Sivah walks over to Aila and gently strokes the baby's head.) (Then Sivah looks around the room, picks up a broken vase, and sets it back down. She gazes out of the tiny window to the outside, slightly lowering and slowly shaking her head. 3. Could Be a Rough Life.)

Zimbra**jscottleavitt@epbfi.com**

SongU.com member Jeffrey Leavitt has shared their song evaluation with you

From : Shared Coaching Evaluation - DoNotReply
<songu@songu.com>

Sat, Nov 11, 2023 08:56 AM

Subject : SongU.com member Jeffrey Leavitt has shared their
song evaluation with you

To : Jeffrey Leavitt <jscottleavitt@epbfi.com>

Reply To : SongU.com Auto-Email Notification
<donotreply@songu.com>



Hi from SongU.com,

Jeffrey Leavitt (jscottleavitt@epbfi.com), wanted to share with you the feedback from their recent song evaluation by SongU.com Coach (#1683) on the song, "COULD BE A ROUGH LIFE". The coach's information and evaluation comments are below.

Coach Information

Coach #1683: Bio available at www.songu.com/coaching.aspx

Type of Evaluation: Comprehensive Evaluation

Date of evaluation: 11/10/2023

Note to Coach: This is a continuation of "The Man on the Middle Cross" musical. We leave the celebratory manger scene to a somewhat run-down "apartment" home, where we find Gadias - repentant thief (baby), Aila - Gadias' mother, and Sivah - midwife and friend. The last line of "His Name Is Jesus" is intended to transition the audience to this scene, indirectly referring to Gadias - "Poor in spirit find their hope in Him." Eventually - at the end of the musical.

EVALUATION FOR: COULD BE A ROUGH LIFE

LYRICS:

Grade: B+ Great title and idea! First four lines set up the story really well. In the second four lines, lines 2 and 3 are saying pretty much the same sentiment and they seem to already be the answer to the first line of the bridge. What else could you say in line 3 that gives more information? A bridge is the best place to take the emotion of the song up a notch so that the story progresses. To me, "what he needs is a miracle" takes the emotion up. So I encourage you to explore that as your fourth line with a perhaps a slight melody change there to convey the importance. And you might find another great third line to set up the miracle line. Or... you could always make the miracle line the third line and expand on it on line four to make it even more important. And I would also encourage you to keep your title only in the verses and not at the end of the bridge. Another idea to make this song even more creative is to write a different lyric for the first bridge and use the one with the "miracle" line after the instrumental to set up the last verse. That way you can get more of the story into the lyric. I'm not sure who is singing this, but depending on who that is would make a difference on how "Maybe so, I don't know" works in the song in the sense of does the singer's opinion have a bearing on the story? On the instrumental, you may have to decide what the walking around the room and the vase conveys and contributes to the story. Will an audience even be able to see the vase is broken? Is there any other way to portray the meager circumstances?

Grade denotes: Good. Better than much of what I hear in this category, but might not compete at a professional songwriting level.

MUSIC:

Grade: A Melody is so easy to remember and sing. Like an Andrew Lloyd Webber song. After listening the first time, I found the melody going through my head. That's a good sign!!!

Grade denotes: Excellent. Competitive at a professional songwriting level.

ORIGINALITY:

Grade: A Your whole concept of your musical is very original.

Grade denotes: Excellent. Competitive at a professional songwriting level.

COMMERCIAL VIABILITY:

Remarks: Commercially viable. I think this has a lot of potential. I encourage you to make sure your lyric is as emotional as possible and to include as much information as possible rather than repeating the same sentiments in the verses and bridge. In most cases, having the same lyric in all your choruses is the best option.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Both songs I've heard are creative, original and emotional. They show me a lot of natural talent. I look forward to hearing more of this musical. To me, the direction you are going in will work well for the venues you mentioned you were writing for. Thank you for sharing this with me. Very good work. Since the songu. website doesn't keep the recording of the songs in the stored evaluations, is it possible for me to go to your locker to hear the songs after I evaluate them, so I can see how they work from song to song? Best wishes to you!

----- END OF EVALUATION -----

We hope to see you "on campus" with us at SongU.com ;-)

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