

Life, you can't run and hide
Yes, life a roller coaster ride
And life with hope by its side
Will wash away the blues
Hope has the sweetest sound
Oh hope lifts you off the ground
And hope when it's finally found
Is too precious to lose

LAWRENCE

I've let the fear of striking out
Prevent me from playing the game

MARTY

I fear that when life gets hot
I will run away from the flame

MARY

Life

BARRY

You can't run and hide
Yes, life

ALL

A roller coaster ride
And life with hope by its side
Will wash away the blues
Hope has the sweetest sound
Oh hope lifts you off the ground
And hope when it's finally found
Is too precious to lose
Too precious, yes too precious and too priceless, yes too priceless
And too, too lovely to lose

ROGERS

(Shaking hands with BARRY)

Mr. Landis? William Rogers. Life Magazine.

BARRY

Hello, there.

(To BETTY LOU)

That'll be all, Betty Lou.

ROGERS

(Smiling at BETTY LOU)

Why, hello, again.

(She leaves, sobbing loudly)

What's wrong with her?

BARRY

It's her last day. Allow me to introduce Karen Sloan, she handles all our legal work.

ROGERS

(Shaking her hand)

Hello, Miss Sloan. I wouldn't think a place like this would keep you terribly busy.

KAREN

Something tells me it's going to pick up.

ROGERS

And this is George.

JACKSON

George Abraham Theodore Roosevelt Jackson, at your service.

BARRY

My, that's quite a name. Makes me feel like saluting.

JACKSON

I know it's a mouthful, but I'm proud of it. I hail from the Lone Star state of Texas, where we do things big! I can trace my family clear back to the Mayflower, you know.

BARRY

Really? I lose mine just outside of Poughkeepsie.

ROGERS

Get this. George works for Major League Baseball!

(KAREN drops her head in her hands)

BARRY

Um...would that be the Major League Baseball?

JACKSON

The one and only.

KAREN

Lovely.

JACKSON

Do you like baseball, Karen?

KAREN

Less and less....

JACKSON

It's my job to promote the sport throughout this great land. Naturally, when I heard about the Cougars I practically begged Billy boy to bring me along.

ROGERS

Look, I'm going to come straight to the point. This team of yours have apparently been wiping the floor with every team they've ever played, yet no one's heard of them. Who are they? Local kids? Ex-ballplayers? Are they even Americans?

JACKSON

Oh, they have to be Americans. Please tell me they're Americans.

BARRY

Mr. Jackson, I can assure you that the Baker City Cougars are nothing if not American!

JACKSON

Thank goodness. I think these boys are exactly what the country needs. American heroes filled with American values playing America's game. In Europe.

ROGERS

It's the story of the year. I could win a Pulitzer Prize for this! So where are they playing now? How can we get a look at them?

BARRY

Where...are...they? Well, that's not a terribly easy question to answer.

ROGERS

Why not? Are they in transit or something?

KAREN

Yes! They're in transit.

ROGERS

All right, well, you know their schedule. What's the next city they're supposed to play in?

KAREN

The next city...the next city they're supposed to play in. Well...I'm afraid I can't tell you that.

What?
ROGERS

That's right, we can't tell you.
BARRY

Can't tell us? Why not?
JACKSON

Why not?
(To KAREN)
BARRY

We can't tell you because we don't want anyone to see them yet.
KAREN

Exactly! No one can see them.
BARRY

Why not??!!
JACKSON

Why not?
(To KAREN)
BARRY

The reason you can't see them is because the Baker City Cougars intend to challenge the Major League All-Stars to a one-time, winner take all, championship game.
KAREN

There you go, a championship game. Now if that will be all....
(To JACKSON and ROGERS)
(To KAREN)
We're going to do what to who now?

That's right. A game, right here in Baker City.
KAREN

Well, I'll be a son of a....
JACKSON

What a great idea!!
ROGERS