

### Synopsis: Just You and Me

*Just You and Me* opens with Tom McMillan and Rick Ellis, a folk singing duo, on a bus from Indiana to Boston circa 1965 as Rick is writing a song about Boston (*Boston-Short*). Tom asks Rick how long he intends to stay. Rick replies he will stay “as long as it takes” for fame and fortune, while Tom says he’s going to “learn my craft.” In Boston they attend an open mic at Grendel’s Coffee House. They sit waiting as a young heavy-set woman named Wendy Rosenberg sings a song inspired by a recent trip to Cape Cod (*Collage*). Tom and Rick follow and perform the song Rick wrote on the bus (*Boston*). Soon after, Wendy approaches Tom and Rick and asks if she could join and perform as a trio. Though Tom is thoroughly opposed, Rick eventually persuades him to “give it a try.”

The following day, Rick enters Wendy’s apartment where they hammer out the opening notes and verse to a song which they perform at Grendel’s the following week (*Just You and Me*). In the audience is Jeff Kaye who hosts a radio show called *Hootenanny*. He invites the three to perform “Just You and Me” on his show. The song becomes a major hit propelling them, now calling themselves Indiana, to national prominence including an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show.

Julian Goodman, president of NBC television, meets with his staff to discuss the network’s dismal Tuesday night ratings. One of his assistants, Leslie Stiles, suggests giving Rick Ellis his own hour long variety show. Goodman thinks it’s a good idea and dispatches Leslie to meet with Rick at Indiana’s next appearance which happens to be the Woodstock Music Festival in August, 1969.

Following Indiana’s set at Woodstock (*Graduation Day, Lost without You*), Leslie meets Rick backstage and suggests he meet Goodman at the NBC office in New York. Questioned by Tom, Rick assures him he has no interest in leaving the group though Tom is convinced Rick intends to betray them. Meeting Goodman in New York, Rick is offered his own weekly variety show which he readily accepts referring to Tom and Wendy as “deadwood.”

Back in Boston Wendy waits for Rick to return and is excited by the prospect of having their own weekly television show. Tom enters and together play a song Wendy wrote in anticipation of Rick’s announcement (*Friends*). Rick enters and tells them he’s decided to leave the group and do the television show himself. Wendy is devastated though Tom is not surprised knowing of Rick’s singular desire for fame and fortune.

Following their final performance as Indiana, (*Morning, We'll Meet Again*), Wendy expresses her love for Rick which he declines as he has become romantically involved with Leslie. Upon leaving Rick asks Tom to join him in California. Tom refuses choosing to stay with Wendy as Act I ends.

Act II opens with the premiere of The Rick Ellis Show. Rick enters and sings (*Here You'll Stay*). Following, he introduces Sammy Davis. Together they sing a big band arrangement of the song that launched Indiana's rise to stardom (*Just You and Me, big band*).

By 1980, Rick has become one of the biggest names in show business while Tom and Wendy struggle even to get a club date. They are, in fact, reduced to hosting the open mic at Grendel's, the coffeehouse where they first got started. Tom enters Wendy's apartment where they practice Wendy's latest composition, "Seasons" (*Seasons- 2 verses*). Tom becomes enraged when Wendy confesses the song is about Rick leading to a heated argument concerning their current financial and artistic situation. At Grendel's they open with a 1960's retrospective (*Do You Remember?*). However, at the end of their next song (*Seasons*), Wendy collapses and is rushed to a hospital.

Back in Hollywood Rick's agent, Mel, informs Rick what happened to Wendy and suggests he visit her as a way to boost his ratings. Rick agrees, flies to Boston, and feigns concern at Wendy's bedside while it's being filmed for future use on his show. Outside the hospital room there is a heated exchange between Rick and Tom revealing exactly what transpired at the meeting between Rick and Goodman. As Rick is about to leave for the airport he asks Tom for a song he could use on his show. The following week Rick introduces a new song (*Seasons, Big Band*) without giving attribution.

Tom, now 70, is looking through albums at a vintage record store. Tom takes an Indiana album to the cash register. The owner recognizes him as a member of Indiana and asks questions Tom about the group during which time it's revealed that Wendy passed away in 1995 and Rick in 2009. The final scene shows Tom as featured guest at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Woodstock music festival. When the moderator asks what he remembers most about Woodstock, Wendy and Rick appear as they were then and smile at Tom as the play ends.

Following the bow, Wendy, Rick, and Tom perform a song that was only mentioned in the show but not performed (*When Darkness Fell*).