

Love Never Grows Old

written by

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FADE IN

EXT. SMALL TOWN - DAY

The town is multicultural, comprised of local residents, newcomers and passers-by. There is both an old world sentiment and a new-age vibe, but something else. A restlessness that goes deeper, into the very psyche of the soul.

The search for meaning is ongoing. Thus the attraction - from all walks and facets of life - of seekers seeking.

CUT TO:

A group of young people are walking and skipping as they travel down the town's road.

They're dressed like they materialized out of a scene from Jesus Christ Superstar, wearing casual and colorful clothing, hats, shoes etc, sauntering to a beat all their own.

One of the group starts to clap his hands, and a few of the others join in, until he spontaneously starts chanting Na Na Na Naaaa, Na Na Na Naaaaaaa.

Soon, they're all singing this Na Na Na chorus.

The camera begins to pull back away from the group, until we're in a studio loft apartment with a girl noodling on her guitar.

Cue What Is Now:

We hear the first plucked notes of What Is Now, which corresponds with the melody of Na Na Na Naaaa being sung by the group.

An interplay of camera scenes takes place between the group skipping and running through the streets, and the girl playing her guitar, until both the singing and guitar merge together.

This continues until What Is Now is complete, and the final chord morphs into the intro of Let Me Tell You My Story.

Here we meet one of the central characters, MAIN, who has walked into view. A guru-type figure, he apprises the group, and as his wont, starts to share his message.

Cue Let Me Tell You My Story:

MAIN

Let me tell you my story, it goes
like this, I know not to worry.
Another day goes by, and I just
have to smile.

Picking up on this idea, the group joins in.

GROUP

So if he says to you.

MAIN

If I say to you.

GROUP

He is not in a hurry.

MAIN

I am not in a hurry. Someone once
said to take this bread, and go
jolly.

The MAIN character points to a basket of fruit being sold by a local store. The group buys some, and MAIN begins to pass the fruit around, tossing it to some of the members.

MAIN (CONT'D)

Cause another day goes by, and I
just have to smile.

The group are also smiling now and dancing around. They spontaneously break out in a chorus, singing to MAIN.

GROUP

Ooooooh, I need your love. Yes,
oooooooooh, I need, I need your love.

The chorus repeats a few times, then the group continues singing 'yes I need your love' until the song fades out and the music stops, the MAIN character walking off into the distance.

This is our introduction to the GROUP as a whole, and we begin to see the interrelationships between its members.

Another guitar begins playing, as a Guy and Girl within the group are focused on, and their 'guardian angels' i.e. older and wiser friends begin giving them advice.

They first turn to the Guy.

Cue You Oughta Know:

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1
She's got a hold on you.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #2
You know it's true.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1
But she's wondering what you're
thinking of.

GUY
So what do I do?

GUARDIAN ANGEL #2
You oughta know oh oh, by now.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1 AND #2 ETC
Yes you oughta know oh oh, by now.

The Guy seems perturbed, and though he appreciates the advice, he's appears to be caught up in the throes of platonic and unrequited love.

Next the guardian angels turn their attention towards the Girl.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #2
And he says he loves you.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1
And you know for sure.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1 AND #2 (CONT'D)
But he's wondering what you're
thinking of.

GIRL
So what do I do?

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1
You oughta know oh oh by now. Yes
you oughta know oh oh, by now.

Different members of the group join in, as the Girl and Guy are 'passed' between them, individual members saying/singing 'who do you love?'.

Suddenly the music jolts into high gear, with a more electric and horns sound kicking things up a notch.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1 TO THE GIRL
I say, somebody's waiting for you.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #2 TO THE GUY
 And I say, that somebody's waiting
 for you.

The guardian angels bring the Guy and Girl together, all the while singing.

GUARDIAN ANGEL #1
 So who do you, yes who do you love,
 uh uv. Yes who do you, who do you
 love uh uv.

The music continues pulsating forward, towards a crescendo, when it finally stops, with the Guy and Girl looking at each other, on the precipice of becoming one.

The mood and the camera shift away, and focus on a different girl that appears to be on the outside looking in. She may want to belong, but part of her remains the steadfast and independent type, always somewhat trepidatious of joining in.

Some members of the group invite INDY GIRL to participate more, with good-natured cajoling, but she holds back.

Cue Day After Day:

GROUP MEMBER #1 (SINGING TO HER)
 So how does it feel, to be alone?
 Finding your way, day after day?

Another group member intercedes, playing the devil's advocate-ish part.

GROUP MEMBER #2
 She's happy and free, she's on her
 own. She's finding her way, day
 after day.

As the girl continues walking, different members of the group sing to her.

GROUP MEMBER #3
 I can see it in your eyes.

GROUP MEMBER #4
 I can feel in your heart.

GROUP MEMBER #5
 So it comes as no surprise, that
 you're finding a way, day after
 day.

One of the members of the group looks off in the distance, as though searching for something.

GROUP MEMBER #4

Sometimes we get what we need, so
far from home. It's finding a way,
day after day.

Then the group as a whole sings the closing chorus.

GROUP

Day after day aaayyyyy...

Again, the music stop and the group resumes its journey.

We gain a deeper insight into this girl, 'the trepidatious'
figure, as she continues to maintain her independence.

A more serious note is struck - no pun intended - and she
turns to the group as a whole.

Cue Heaven's On My Mind:

INDY GIRL

Whatever I may say, whatever I may
do.

She pauses, as if collecting her thoughts.

INDY GIRL (CONT'D)

Whatever I may think, I leave it up
you.

She looks up to the sky, then all around her.

INDY GIRL (CONT'D)

In your Name, in your Name. I will
remain, in your Name...

A deep, low C note sounds, as though from the depths,
signifying the meaning of her words. The low, rumbling
orchestration continues.

INDY GIRL (CONT'D)

The only thing I ask, is that you
never leave. This is my sole
request,
(pause)
please forgive me.

Then quite spontaneously, picking up on her tune, the group
joins in.

GROUP AND INDY GIRL (CONT'D)

In your name, in your Name. I will
remain, in your Name.

A guitar begins strumming as the final 'Name' is sung, extending the song. As this takes place, the group has now assembled in front of a large mural. It depicts a man and woman swimming in an ocean, and is entitled Elamor Nuen Vejece.

The music continues, the mural serving as the backdrop.

GROUP MEMBER #2
What happens when he's gone?

GROUP MEMBER #4
What will become of us?

GROUP MEMBERS #3 AND #1
How are we to know?

GROUP MEMBER #5
Have faith.

GROUP MEMBER #2
In God we trust.

The music pauses, as the time signature shifts from 4/4 to 3/4. One of the members of the group steps forward, taking center stage. She appears full of angst, and she isn't afraid to show it.

GROUP MEMBER #6
It isn't easy, to feel this way. So
please believe me when I say. This
is a church,
(indicating the group)
and we are a people,
(looking up)
to stand the test of time. Please
open the gates, so that we may
know,
(pause)
Heaven, on my mind.

The camera shifts to another member of the group, as he begins to sing in a gospel-revival manner and tone.

GROUP MEMBER #3
So if there is only, yes, if there
is just one way...I'm down on my
knees, and I'm ready to pray.

The whole group now joins in as a chorus.

GROUP
This is your church, and we are
your people.
(MORE)

GROUP (CONT'D)
 To stand the test of time. Please
 open the gates, so that we may
 know,

The focus shifts to the gospel revival singer again, but the group continues to sing along.

GROUP MEMBER #3
 Heaven...
 (slowly)
 Always on my mind.

There is a pause, then silence, as if to allow the words to sink in.

But by way of contrast, a couple of young men walk by. They have heard the singing, and they want to offer their counterpoint-of-view.

Cue Does The World As It Is Today Excite You:

GUY #1
 There's something out there.

GUY #2 (TO A GROUP MEMBER)
 Can you receive it?

GUY #1
 They don't believe it.

GUY #2 (A BIT EXSASPERATED)
 What can I do?

GROUP MEMBER #3 (RESPONDING)
 So much to consider.

GROUP MEMBER #4
 So many decisions, so many choices.

GROUP
 What are we here for?

MAIN
 That's all up to you.

The MAIN character has returned, walking back into the picture. The group turns its attention towards him, as they wrestle with these two choices - the MAIN character's message, and the world.

The MAIN addresses them, knowing how they feel.

MAIN (CONT'D)
Excite you? Excite you? Does it
excite you?

The group look amongst themselves.

MAIN (CONT'D)
Does the world as it is today,
excite you, excite you, excite you?

The group circles the MAIN character, intrigued. MAIN looks far off in the distance, as a woman, his partner, starts walking towards them.

One member of the group seems to have a realization - that MAIN knows more than he's letting on - and he wants to ask for it, for this knowledge.

GUY #2
What can you tell us?

The group pick up on this line of questioning.

GROUP MEMBER #3
Is there a secret?

GROUP MEMBER #4 (PUSHING FORWARD)
How can I help you?

GROUP
What can we do?

MAIN has his back to the group, but he now turns and faces them. He is ready to share what he knows. The group leans in, expectantly.

MAIN
It happens so quickly!
(snapping his fingers)
In just an instant. It will change
your point of view.

As if to drive the point home, MAIN repeats himself.

MAIN (CONT'D)
Excite you, excite you?
(looking at different
members of the group)
Does it excite you? Does the world
as it is today, excite you, excite
you, excite you?

A horn section plays a new refrain, until the song returns back to the chorus, and fades out to stop.

While this is going on, MAIN's partner has walked closer to the group, until she's reached them. She walks up to MAIN, and the group parts. A hush has fallen. Who is she? They wait, with baited breath.

Cue Love Never Grows Old:

PARTNER

Love, never grows old. Sometimes it
once in your life, to have to hold.

She places her hand on his shoulder.

PARTNER (CONT'D)

A love, always remains, ever-fresh,
ever-young, just as we too become
one.

Then she takes a few steps back, addressing the group.

PARTNER (CONT'D)

Love, love is a wonderful thing.
(pointing up into the
trees)

We're so happy you're here, the
birds often sing.

(pause)

Love in the summer, fall, winter
and spring. To have and to hold,
love never, ever grows old.

Then as mysteriously as she appeared, his PARTNER walks quietly away, and in a moment, MAIN joins her, the two heading off into the proverbial sunset.

The group is happy, and they disperse, quietly talking amongst themselves.

Cue Thank-you, One and All:

THE END

Credits