

WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE THE WORLD PREMIERE?

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-It is a full 1,000 words (5%) shorter than the original. The new estimated run time is 1:07 for act one and :45 for act two. That includes about 63 minutes of music and 49 minutes of scenes.

-The moral of the story is now “long after life’s gone, love lives on” instead of “live and live on.”

-Franklin Mills is no longer a Long-Term Recovery Unit, but a Rehabilitation & Recovery Center, allowing for patients of all ages, a wide array of diagnoses, and humor based on their need for medication (new #5).

-The show was originally cast for 55. It now calls for 14-20.

-DAISY now has pink hair, which becomes part of the plot, and SAM no longer has tattoos (not part of the plot).

-The plot no longer begins at a college fraternity, but instead at SAM’s gig as a singer/songwriter.

-Several main characters have been eliminated, including VIVIAN, CHARLOTTE, NURSE, DR. EDWARDS, GUNDERSON, PAULA, OSWALD, THOMAS, GENO, TANNER, and BOBBY. New characters were added, such as AMY, FRANK, MARY JANE, SOPHIA, and WEMBLEY. AMY, H, DENISE/ALICE, LARRY, DIRK, MARY JANE, & NANCY are now distorted stereotypes. NANCY is now the Center Director. H is the pharmacist.

-Several songs changed: #2 Anything & Everything, #5 The Other Side, #6 The End, & #13 Custodial School Crush were replaced by #2 The New Beginning and #5 One Stop Shop, #6 Nothing to Lose, and #7 Onward & Upward (*#13 Head Over Heels and #15 Nothing But Perfect also moved to Act 2*). The majority of songs have undergone major revisions. 90% of the original score is being re-orchestrated (to be completed: early 2020)

-The new show has much more humor and adult language than the original.

-PASTOR JACK now sets the tone in 1-1 by saying “scars only mask happiness, if we let them,” which becomes a main theme.

-DIRK and LARRY have much larger roles in the new rendition (including more singing). DIRK is responsible for SAM’s car crash (instead of ELIZABETH) & LARRY gets caught kissing NANCY, which becomes a significant part of the plot.

-There is no longer a fictional Miracle Treatment. Instead, Sam has a realistic bone infection in his left arm that is resistant to normal antibiotics, so they are forced to seek an expensive and recently-approved drug.

-NANCY no longer wants to meddle in SAM and DAISY’s relationship after losing out on a job, but instead out of jealousy that they are getting the attention and adoration she believes she has earned.

-The Franklin Mills patients no longer try to raise money for the treatment; but rather they fight for the freedom for all to love who they want to love.