

Third Draft
June 2007

Rebecca's Riot

by

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1 INT - SCHOOL BUS - LATE AFERNOON

Brisbane, Tuesday November 20th 1956. A high school bus is on it's way home - the kids are talking loudly and playing, a few are trying to read.

We see various shots of the kids with opening credits overlayed, and then settle on REBECCA who is reading a book.

REBECCA looks up and notices GRANT looking at her, she looks back down, then back up at him, he winks, she looks down embarrassed but thrilled and doesn't know where to look.

2 EXT - SUBURBAN STREET - LATE AFTERNOON

The bus pulls up, a few kids get off and then REECCA and TANIA get off, they are giggling

TANIA

Why didn't you wink back at him? - I would have

REBECCA

Yeah well I'm not as....

She stops abruptly, GRANT has got off and approaches her

GRANT

Are you going to the concert this Saturday night at the Stadium? - I am it'd be great to see you there

REBECCA

(Softly, in awe) Yeah.....

GRANT smiles and nods and walks away

REBECCA

He wants me to go to the concert.....he doesn't speak to me all year and he wants me to go *(they giggle excitedly and start walking)*..... but Mum and Dad will never let me

TANIA

You can't let an opportunity go by though

REBECCA

Oh.....but I'm too afraid to even ask - Dad'll hit the roof.....I'm not even allowed to have a boyfriend till I'm 21

TANIA

But he's not even your boyfriend -
don't worry about it just ask

REBECCA

But he won't let me

TANIA

This might be your only chance with
Grant.....and besides it's a once in a
lifetime concert - it's Frankie
Thornton - he's the best rock'n'roller
ever - it's his last concert before he
goes back to America - I'm going

REBECCA

How is it you can go?

TANIA

I dunno - my parent's just let me do
whatever I want

REBECCA

Oh you're so lucky - I wish mine would
.....I've got to go

3 INT - MORRIS'S HOUSE - EVENING

REBECCA is sitting at the dinner table with her Mum
and Dad, FRANK and BETH. FRANK and BETH have almost
finished their meals, REBECCA is making slow
progress. FRANK is drinking Coca-cola, REBECCA and
BETH are drinking water. BETH is watching FRANK and
tending to him, he finishes his drink.

BETH

More Coca-cola dear?

She tops up his glass from the bottle next to it,
FRANK finishes his meal and pushes his cutlery
together and sits back

FRANK

Beaut tea love - really hit the spot

BETH

Would you like some more dear, I cooked
some more in case you wanted it, did
you have a hard day?

FRANK

No I'm right, thanks love, *(turning to REBECCA)* What's wrong with you - you've hardly touched it

REBECCA

(Quietly) Nothing

FRANK

You got a port full of homework? - exams coming up

REBECCA

Yes....*(long pause, she takes a big laboured breath)*....Mother, Father.....there's a thing that some of my friends from school are going to - it's a music concert

FRANK

Is that that bloody thing at the Stadium

REBECCA

Yes

FRANK

It's a rock'n'roll concert isn't it

REBECCA

Yes

FRANK

No way in the whole wide world - I'm not having any daughter of mine going to that - all those bodgies and widgees together there you don't know what could happen - it's that evil black bloody music - you won't be going to that

REBECCA

But all my friends from school are

FRANK

Look I don't care two hoots what they're doing - if they told you to jump off a cliff would you do it? - of course not and you won't be going to this either

REBECCA

But Father

FRANK

No way in the world - you're allowed to go to certain pictures with your friends - but not a concert - and especially not a rock'n'roll one - not with any of your friends - and not even with me or your mother either

REBECCA

But Dad

FRANK

Look don't argue with me - I've just told you - and what your friends from school are doing there I don't know - it's a school night too

REBECCA

But it's the last concert before Frankie Thornton goes back to America

FRANK

Look I don't care what it is - the answer's still no

REBECCA

But Dad

BETH

Come on your father's spoken dear

REBECCA

Okay.....(*under her breath*) it's not fair

FRANK

And stop using that word "okay" - it's not even a proper word anyway - it's just two letters pushed together - it's another stupid bloody thing we got from the yanks - I thought we were fightin the japs - we should have been fightin the bloody yanks, of course some of us were, the lucky bastards - you're not gonna be turnin into one right before my eyes, you hearalright.....save the mangoes love - I'm gonna go down to the pub for an hour or so (*to REBECCA*) I'll see you before bedtime

FRANK gets up and walks to another room, BETH looks down, REBECCA is unhappy

REBECCA

Why do you always do everything he says

BETH

I don't dear

REBECCA

Yes you do - when am I ever going to be able to go to a concert?

BETH

When you're older you can go to all the concerts you like

REBECCA

There won't be any then.....when he's gone I'm gonna put on my Johnnie Ray record

LUAREL

(Pause) After you've done your homework.... (conciliatory) I'll help you with it

4 EXT - MORRIS HOUSE - NIGHT

We see the house - some time has passed

5 INT - REBECCA'S ROOM - NIGHT

REBECCA is standing at her dresser in her night dress, looking at some clippings from the Courier-Mail of various singers and concerts etc - the camera arcs around in front of her as she looks at them reverently - she is interrupted by a knock on the door - FRANK and BETH come in, also in the night clothes, she quickly lays the cuttings flat and turns around

BETH

Good night sweet heart

REBECCA

Good night Mother (they kiss)

FRANK

Good night (they kiss) Don't you go dreaming of too many rock'n'rollers

REBECCA
(smiles) No

6 EXT - SCHOOL YARD - LUNCHTIME

TANIA and REBECCA are sitting on a bench, other kids are running around, the boys are playing cricket, pretending to be various players from the 1950's Australian cricket team

TANIA
But you have to go - Grant wants to see you there

REBECCA
(Frustrated) I know

Long pause

TANIA
Why don't' you sneak out - that's what I'd do

REBECCA thinks, annoyed, but interested

REBECCA
How would I do that?

TANIA
Just climb out through your window - I do it all the time.....I'll meet you in your garden at 8 o'clock and bring a ticket for you - we'll go together

REBECCA
But what if I get caught

TANIA
You won't - all you have to do is make a believable cover.....when you're in English this afternoon pretend that you've got a head ache...

We see the scenes as TANIA describes them

TANIA
Go up to Mrs Watson - and she'll write you an exit pass to go to the sick bay - when you're in sick bay Mr Alexander will take your temperature and let you

lie down for the rest of the afternoon
- which is good because it will give
you more energy for tonight...he'll
then write a note for your parents -
make sure you give it to your parents
as soon as you get home. At tea time
just sit there quiet and disinterested,
your parents will let you go to bed
early and won't come into see you all
night. All you have to do is just sit
there and be as quiet as you can until
they let you go

7 INT - MORRIS'S HOUSE - EVENING

The family is sitting around the table having dinner

FRANK

What's wrong with you - you off your
tucker?

BETH

She's sick dear - a note came home from
Mr Alexander - she had to go to sick
bay today

FRANK

That's no good (*concerned*) you alright?

REBECCA

I don't feel very well....I'm not
hungry

FRANK

Probably just a tummy bug - you'll be
alright - it'll pass

REBECCA

I just need a good night sleep

FRANK

Not tonight you don't (*she looks up
alarmed*) remember I said I'd go over
all your homework with you tonight -
exam's comin up in two weeks - you
better get a crack on with your
revision - we'll start it together
after tea

BETH

Not tonight dear - she's not well

FRANK

Nonsense - it'll help her get better -
and besides you're always telling me I
need to spend more time with her (*turns
back to REBECCA*) - we'll start tonight
by goin over your school work

REBECCA is shocked - this segues in to a montage of
REBECCA and FRANK studying - REBECCA can see a clock
over FRANK's shoulder and we see it go from 7 to
7:30 to 8:00 throughout the montage - at 8:05 FRANK
looks up - hearing a scraping and rattling sound
from REBECCA's bedroom, we see TANIA outside the
window struggling to try and open it

FRANK

What's that sound - it's coming from
your bedroom

REBECCA

(*Nervous*) Ah....it's just a possum

FRANK

Beth can you go feed it somethin -
just get rid of it

BETH, who is in the kitchen, grabs a banana and
starts to walk out

REBECCA

No don't - I'm trying to discourage it

BETH turns back, REBECCA relaxes

FRANK

Go shoo it away then

BETH turns back again

REBECCA

No don't (*they both look at REBECCA*)
....I don't know why - I just don't
like it - it's vicious - it bites

FRANK

Well let me go see it then (*he stands
up*)

REBECCA

No don't....I don't want to hurt it

A knock on the door is heard - FRANK goes to answer it

8 EXT - MORRIS'S FRONT DOOR -EVENING

TANIA is standing there

TANIA

Hello Mr Morris - I was wondering is Rebecca there

FRANK

She's studying - what do you want - what are you doing out at night by yourself anyway?

TANIA

(A bit unsure)....I just thought she might want this....to help....with her studies (she passes him a book and then leaves hurriedly) bye

BETH joins FRANK

FRANK

Gee that girl worries me

They walk back to REBECCA

9 INT - MORRIS'S HOUSE - EVENING

FRANK

This is from Tania - she thought you might want it - don't know why - You've already got one *(he passes her the book and she starts flipping through it)* we'll keep going with arithmetic *(sits down again)* ...what set were we looking at again?

REBECCA finds the page with the ticket in, then snaps the book shut, suddenly looking up surprised

REBECCA

Sorry what was that?

FRANK

Pay attention - what set are we looking at

REBECCA

Sorry Father - I'm really not feeling well

FRANK

Here it is - set six

REBECCA

Can't I just go to bed

FRANK

No - we're going to work through this and then I want to look at your Geography.....there's going to be a report on the wireless at 9 O'clock all about the opening of the Olympic Games today - I thought we could sit down and listen to that together too

REBECCA is dumbfounded and truly pale now and doesn't know what to say - then eventually

REBECCA

(genuinely) I truly don't feel well
Father

FRANK

Nonsense - now let's get on with it.....in fact do both of these sets - the whole page, and then show them to me - I'm just going to sit in my chair and do read my wood working book - tell me when you're finished and I'll check it

She sighs, he walks away.

We see a close up of her maths exercises, and then her pen going to paper

10 EXT - MORRIS'S HOUSE - NIGHT

We see the house from the road

11 INT - MORRIS'S HOUSE - NIGHT

We see REBECCA working hard, a few pages full

FRANK is in his chair looking at a diagram in his book on how to make a combined kitchen chair/step ladder - he looks over to the kitchen - BETH is

baking a cake, she reaches up to try and grab something off the top shelf - her hem rides up as she stretches up, showing some leg - FRANK is watching this intently with his head on an angle

FRANK

I'm not so sure I want to make this now

REBECCA

Finished

FRANK

Let me have a look at them

Cut to FRANK standing next to her, having marked them all

FRANK

All right - well done good girl

REBECCA

Can I please go to bed now Father - I don't feel well

BETH

(passing by) Come on Frank - it's quarter to nine - it's almost her bedtime anyway

FRANK

Alright - we'll look at the geography tomorrow

REBECCA

(stands up and pushes her chair in)
I'll just go and do my teeth

REBECCA walks off for two paces and then comes back, quickly grabs the book TANIA brought her and walks off again, BETH watches her go

12 INT - MORRIS HOUSE BATHROOM - NIGHT

REBECCA is brushing her teeth, she looks at herself in the mirror, and then spits out

13 INT - REBECCA'S ROOM - NIGHT

REBECCA quietly shuts the door, and then leans against it and takes a deep breath - she then

quickly gets dressed and quietly slides her window up - she is just about to leave then she decides to stuff her bed with pillows - she does so and then climbs out the window

14 EXT - BRISBANE STREETS - NIGHT

We see REBECCA running through various streets to the concert

15 EXT - BRISBANE STADIUM ENTRANCE - NIGHT

REBECCA arrives at the stadium and shows an attendant her ticket, she is puffing

REBECCA
Can I go in please

ATTENDANT
Sure, but it's almost over

16 INT - BRISBANE STADIUM - NIGHT

She goes into what looks essentially like a large barn with raked seating on all four sides - it is a boxing and wrestling venue. The band is playing in the middle square, pushed to one end, with the surrounding three audience banks full. REBECCA is awestruck and walks along trying to take it all in as she looks for her seat.

There is a very restless mood - girls are screaming - both boys and girls are swaying and jiving in their seats, but everyone is seated with police walking up and down various aisles. Every now and again we see a few people who are trying to dance in the aisles being forced back into their seats by the police.

REBECCA finds her seat and sits down - and then starts getting concerned - looking around everywhere for Tania

REBECCA
(to herself) Tania....Tania.....

She cranes around for a while and then gives up. She sits and looks at the band with a slight smile, and then at the banks of people enjoying it, she turns back to the band and then the vision goes to slow

motion - we see her POV of band members playing, girls screaming, blokes dancing in their seats, intercut with a growing happiness on her face - it all becomes too much for her and she bursts into a joyous scream as the vision cuts back to real time. This is her moment - she feels she has joined the others around her, and belongs.

We see more of REBECCA screaming and happy, the crowd likewise and the band playing - and then there is a huge distraction in the audience and everyone looks over. A fight has broken out between a policeman and a young man DESMOND Duke

DESMOND

Stop it - I've done nothing
wrong.....you can't stop us, or the
management - it's our night - leave us
alone

The crowd starts booing, the band plays on and soon more disturbances occur - REBECCA looks on, as more scuffles break out - soon most of the crowd are standing up and yelling - REBECCA is getting worried.

By the back wall TWO YOUTHS start pulling some electrical cabling - there is a shower of sparks and half the lights in the venue drop out. There is screams and panic as people try and leave -REBECCA gets pushed around by the crowd movements.

Some fires start in the stand on the opposite side of REBECCA, and there is more panic - people start rushing wildly, REBECCA is knocked around, the band is still playing in the background under the screams and panic

17 EXT - BRISBANE STADIUM ENTRANCE - NIGHT

We see people bursting out on to the street - some are jitter-bugging whilst their friends clap a beat for them - others are rocking cars and causing trouble - there are more fights with the police

18 INT - BRISBANE STADIUM - NIGHT

A slightly scared and shaken REBECCA makes her way through the pandemonium to the exit

19 EXT - BRISBANE STADIUM ENTRANCE - NIGHT

REBECCA catches her breath in the fresh air and then walks on past the mayhem in the street - she gets about 50 yards down the street and sees a couple on the other side of the road talking, she glances as she walks, then stops and looks - she recognises GRANT with another GIRL - the GIRL puts her hands in GRANT'S and they walk off together - REBECCA just stares, shattered, and then continues on

20 EXT - REBECCA'S WINDOW - NIGHT

REBECCA climbs in her window

21 EXT - MORRIS HOUSE - MORNING

We see the house in the morning light

22 INT - MORRIS HOUSE - MORNING

They are all sitting having breakfast together

FRANK

What's wrong with you ? - you've been sittin there like a stunned mullet all mornin

REBECCA runs into her room, crying - BETH looks at FRANK unhappily - and goes in after her

FRANK

What'd I say?

23 INT - REBECCA'S ROOM - MORNING

BETH stands in the doorway

BETH

Are you alright?

REBECCA sniffs and nods 'yes', BETH walks in and sits on the bed next to her

BETH

.....wasn't the concert everything you hoped it would be?

REBECCA looks up at her

BETH

We heard your window - your father
wanted to come in and investigate but I
told him it was the possum.....I don't
do everything he says

They smile and hug

BETH

Just don't do it again

She smiles and nods 'no' - they hug again

BETH

Now tell me all about it.....

Fade out

kindle the Olympic flame, which will burn in its bowl until the Games end.

8 p.m.: First Olympic sporting event — the qualifying rounds of the basketball at Exhibition Hall.

'Rocker' riot in Brisbane

POLICE arrested eight teenagers when Brisbane's first rock 'n' roll riot stopped traffic in Albert Street, City, last night.

Police reinforcements were rushed to the Brisbane Stadium, when teenagers began rioting in the streets.

Trouble started in the stadium during a rock 'n' roll festival. Police had to quell several disturbances during the show.

Police said several youths tore down electrical conduit in the stadium.

As the crowd left the stadium about 10.30 several disturbances started. One group of teenagers abused police.

Tear uniforms

Several police had their caps snatched off and uniforms torn during struggles.

Police stopped and dispersed a yelling crowd of several hundred teenagers who were advancing up Albert Street towards Queen Street.

All traffic was stopped in Albert Street between the stadium and Queen Street soon after 10.30 p.m.

One youth smashed a bottle on a police car. A policeman was hit on the head by a stone.

Six youths and two girls were later charged at the City watchhouse on a number of charges, including disorderly conduct, assault, and obscene language.

Top world price

SYDNEY.—A world record price of 465 pence per pound was paid for super

mood of excitement, jams are more than likely.

Approaches to the stadium are expected to be filled with people by 9 o'clock.

4765 In teams

Final tally last night showed that the Games will be equal to the biggest ever. Sixty-eight nations (the same record number as at Helsinki in 1952) have sent 4765 team members.

As the final act of preparation, the flags of 68 nations were raised on flag poles arranged in a great circle on top of the Stadium grandstands.

They formed a magnificent spectacle silhouetted against the evening sky, above the hushed arena.

Rehearsal of the opening ceremonies yesterday went off successfully.

The massed bands of the armed forces, in scarlet tunics, manoeuvred through diagram marches.

A car arrived at precisely 3 p.m., and a military officer

ready now.

Even the pigeon ready—the thousand in the after the Duke of burgh declares the open.

In the time of the Games, the homi pigeons assembled f parts of Greece signal to people t Games had begun.

City excite

Outside the stadium city was restless with excitement.

As soon as darkne last night family strolled the main st see the illuminations. ston Street and Street carried ru crowds.

More than 70,000 are here now, and railways, and airlines Melbourne are still ing peak loads.

Hotels are long booked out, and a civ mittee has billette visitors in private h

NERVES "FINI

THERE was a before-the-battle atmosphere at the Olympic Village yesterday.

YOUR GAMES GUIDE

is on Pages 15 and 16

REFUGEES HERE SOON

CANBERRA. — All the 3000 Hungarian refugees Australia has offered permanent sanctuary will be either here or on the way by January 14.

The Immigration Minister (Mr. Townley) said this last night. The first plane load of 60 would reach Sydney on December 3.

In addition, the inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration had arranged to bring 2600 Hun-

I lunched with the Australian team there, sign an affidavit that nerves are "just fine petites are any guide.

You never saw prodigious mountain food disappear so q

Australia will fie greatest team. 320 c tors.

16 Medal

Team - members that the nation's best performance, si Medals at Helsinki. v ily be surpassed.

The optimists are ing of 16 medals th if everything goes. Maybe.

There was little training yesterday. T tralians did some work-outs, yarned, wrote home.

The Iron I

The most energetic ate at the village w Iron Man of Czechos Emil Zatopek, who endlessly around the baggy suit flapping a expressionless.

Marathon runners race apart.

THEM

POLICE WILL BE READY FOR RIOTING BY YOUTHS



is four sons—Peter, 10 (left), Rod-7, and Michael, 9 (right)—seated on r home at Frangipani Street, Inala, fire on Wednesday night.

POLICE had been unprepared for Wednesday night's "rock 'n' roll" riot, but would be ready if it occurred again, Detective Sub-Inspector Mahony (prosecutor) said in the Police Court yesterday.

Six men and two women were charged after a clash with police in Albert Street at the end of a Stadium concert.

William John McLune, 20, woodworker, pleaded guilty of having assaulted Detective Sergeant M. A. Hopgood, used obscene language, and resisted Constable A. V. Pitts.

"Set alight"

Sub-Inspector Mahony said the Stadium "bleachers" section was deliberately set alight by a gang of hoodlums. Police put the fire out before any great damage was done. Electrical wiring was pulled off the walls.

He said that after the concert hundreds of teenagers began "rockin' n' rollin'" in Albert Street, where

they clashed with police squads.

McLune used obscene language and when arrested threw himself to the foot-

path. McLune was fined a total of £13 or a month's jail. He was allowed 14 days to pay.

Miner fined

Charles Henry Jones, 18, coal miner, of Ipswich, pleaded guilty of having assaulted Constable M. V. Liddle, used obscene language, and behaved in a disorderly manner.

The prosecutor said Jones was arrested after he had jumped on the back of a detective who had arrested another demonstrator.

Jones was fined a total of £10 and allowed a month to pay.

Desmond Duke, 21, labourer, who pleaded not guilty to five charges, was remanded until November 29. He was charged with having assaulted and resisted Sergeant H. E. Warburton; assaulted Constable S. L. Hopper; and destroyed two police caps, each valued at £1.17.3.

Asked by Mr. Taylor whether he applied for bail, Duke shook his head, and walked to the Watchhouse cells.

Denies claims

Michael Charles Warren, 17, clerk, of Salisbury, was remanded until November 29 when he pleaded not guilty of having wilfully damaged Constable J. K. Mahony's wrist watch; behaved in a disorderly manner; and used insulting words.

His solicitor (Mr. J. T. Delaney) said Warren had a complete answer to the charge.

Warren was allowed £40 bail in his own bond.

Daniel Michael O'Connor, 21, meat worker, of Cannon Hill, forfeited £1 bail when he failed to appear on a charge of having behaved in a disorderly manner.

Noel Evan James, 17, clerk, also forfeited £1 bail when he failed to appear on a similar charge.

Forfeit bail

Mary McMillan Clarke, 17, calculator operator, of Clayfield, forfeited £1 Watchhouse bail when she failed to appear on a charge of having behaved in a disorderly manner in Queen Street.

Monica Smith, otherwise Frances Martin, 18, cake packer, forfeited £2 bail when she failed to appear on a charge of having used insulting language.

"Stops might close yard"

A BRISBANE ship repair yard would have to close if stoppages continued, Mr. J. H. Kemp told the Commonwealth Arbitration Court yesterday.

Mr. Kemp, A.U.S.N. Company workshop manager, said the ship repair yard had been singled out for stoppages.

There had been 28 days of stoppages since August 30, brought about by the men working at the yard, he said. If the stoppages continued it would mean the end of their livelihood for 100 dockers.

Before the court was an application by the Metal Trades Employers' Association for variation of the Ship Painters' and Dockers' Union award, so that shifts could be worked in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed for shifts under the Metal Trades Award.

"Stupid stops"

The Conciliation Commissioner (Mr. E. W. Tonkin) said the company had a good record and was building up a good business, but had been embarrassed by "unwarranted and stupid" stoppages. The men were cutting their own throats.

"NEED LONGER MEAL BREAK"

WITH the approach of automation we will have to think about increasing the meal break to one and a half hours," a union official told the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in Brisbane yesterday.

The official, Mr. T. Gordon, Federal secretary of the Ship Painters and Dockers' Union, said that the reasonable requirements of the men had to be considered.

Before the court was an application by the Metal Trades Employers' Association for a variation of the union's award for a meal break of no less than 30 minutes.

Mr. A. E. Grounds, for the Metal Trades Employers' Association, said it was hoped to get uniform meal hours and uniform starting times for the painters and dockers.

ed in with a 44-year-old yesterday of people I hardly cred help, now such sd. another e Housing the near ms to help were re- by Inala

Boys' Club, which has started an appeal.

Donations of cash or clothing may be sent to Mr. K. E. Brown, 101 Abella Street, Inala (telephone UY4756).

A public meeting of Inala organisations will be held in Mr. Brown's residence at 7.30 to-night to organise a week-end canvass to aid the Hatfields.

outstanding!"

BRITISH BEDFORD

we decided to standardise on very satisfactory service of the

write leave no doubt as to their job.

of a one-truck man, you can't be convinced Bedford is Austral-

BEDFORD LEADS: