



GIDGE

GIDGE is an outsider. Not because he wants to be, it just kinda turned out that way. Ever since he was a little kid, back in Adelaide, his father used to tell him to be more of a joiner. But even though he'd give it a red hot go, he'd always end up on the periphery. His teachers were the same, trying so hard to get him involved in the world. But they gave up on him too.

It's not like he didn't have friends, he was just never around long enough to keep any. It all started when his mother Elizabeth decided she needed a break from the family. But when that break turned into moving out and divorce, Gidge's father Robert pulled himself out of the bottle and told Gidge that God had called him to a higher purpose - to travel to remote towns unknown and preach the word of the Lord. At the time it sounded to Gidge like they were about to embark on a great musical adventure together - just like the Blues Brothers - but the road movie he was hoping for never happened and instead God's pathway felt more like a never ending trip to hell.

With every new community they would visit, Gidge was forced to try and make new friends. Not easy when you're a tall, white, city fella, who can barely string a sentence together. It didn't help that his Dad's religious mania grew more and more fervent. He would pull up stakes and decide to move on to some other town that desperately needed his guidance.

Thankfully, through all of the loneliness of isolation, Gidge has had one friend that has never left his side. His guitar. Its constant companionship and his love of yodelling activates him and gives him the glimmer of hope he needs to make it through each day... until, that is, he meets Robyn.

Now as they embark on their cross country journey together, Gidge will not only face some difficult truths about himself and his father, but he'll also discover that his love for others is more powerful than he knows, and that self-love (and maybe a bit of music) is all you need to find the pathway to redemption.

SCENE 1

INT. TAXI – NIGHT

Robyn pulls out the keys and starts the taxi. Music blasts out of the speakers loudly. She quickly turns it down.

She looks over to the seat where Mary sat. Now empty. She reaches down and releases the handbrake. Just as...

Gidge opens the passenger door. Bag and guitar in hand. He throws them into the back and gets in.

GIDGE

I'm coming with you.

ROBYN looks to him confused. He puts the seatbelt over his shoulder and clicks it in.

ROBYN
Huh?

GIGDE (*HAPPILY*)
Where you going?

ROBYN
Coober Pedy...

GIDGE doesn't get the hint.

GIDGE
Why we going there?

ROBYN
Out!

GIDGE
You know the way?

ROBYN
Out!

GIDGE
Okay.

GIDGE opens the door, but turns back to ROBYN before getting out.

GIDGE (*CONT'D*)
Maybe ill run over to that COPPA and let it slip where you're going.

ROBYN thinks.

ROBYN
Fuck you!!!

Cornered, she puts the car into drive and begins to move forward. Gidge closes the door with a smile as the police tape breaks across the windscreen. Casually she turns the car around, drives straight past the caravan and off into the night. MUSIC plays as...

NARRATION (V.O.)

There was this old saying that your father might not be who you think he is... but one thing is for certain, you will always know who your mum is...

(then)

Well, cos of my lying, dead, dumb, dog, bastard of a family. I knew fuck all.

SCENE 2

INT. TAXI/DIRT ROAD – MORNING

GIDGE is all smiles and high on adrenaline. Finally free from the confines of his controlling father, his anticipation for adventure bubbles with excitement. He winds down the window and leans out of it as the taxi floats over the corrugated road.

GIDGE
Wooooooo Hoooooo

ROBYN tries to ignore his exuberance. She just wants to get to Coober Pedy, find her dad, and get rid of this bloke as quickly as possible.

GIDGE (CONT'D)
You know how to get to Coober Pedy?

Robyn doesn't respond as she looks straight ahead.

GIDGE (CONT'D)
Well you just keep going down this road.

He nods in agreement with himself.

GIDGE (CONT'D)
What's there? (Coober Pedy)

Robyn continues ignoring him as she grabs her can bong from the cup holder. She uses her knees to steer the car as she packs it from a tin in her pocket.

GIDGE (CONT'D)
Do you have a boyfriend there?

Robyn shakes her head, concentrating on the road and her bong

GIDGE (CONT'D)
Do you want a boyfriend?

Robyn takes her eyes off the road for a moment to light the can bong. She drills it in one hit.

GIDGE (CONT'D)
Sorry I talk a lot... (a moments pause) Have you ever had intercourse?

ROBYN
COUGH! COUGH! Huh?

BANG!! The taxi hits the lip of the rise. All four wheels almost leave the ground. Gidge holds on for dear life, letting a little fart go.

GIDGE
You trying to kill me?

ROBYN
Yep. COUGH! COUGH!

Robyn puts the bong back down in the cup holder.

ROBYN (CONT'D)

Did you fart?

GIDGE

Yes... You shouldn't do that driving. You could lose concentration and crash.

ROBYN

You was going to kill yourself anyway.

GIDGE

You would die too.

Robyn ignores him, glancing down and at the dashboard. Gidge sees her do this.

GIDGE (CONT'D)

What are you looking at?

ROBYN

Nothing.

GIDGE

We have no fuel?

Robyn lets out a huff. He's annoying her more with every word.