

MERRY LIVES SYNOPSIS



Welcome to Windsor High School, where the annual “VMB” – the Valentine Masked Ball – is three days away. The students have assembled to hear the results of the vote for VMB King and Queen of Hearts (“HEART BEAT”). A surprise: the Queen vote is a tie between best friends Allie Rogers and Megan Trent. On the King vote, a bigger surprise: the winner is self-adoring British transplant John Falstaff.

Losing King finalist and football captain George Page has another problem: stopping his freshman sister Anne from going to the VMB with senior biker dude Will Fenton. George thinks he can solve this by having his friend Oliver ask Anne. Oliver’s twin Olivia suggests they enlist the aid of Tess, manager of The Brewery campus coffee house and Anne’s go-to person for advice.

Megan and DC lead Merry Lives, the baddest rock band in Windsor. Merry Lives is rehearsing “SCORCH ME UP SALLY,” written by Megan and performed by DC. Then, DC debuts a song about the dream girl he can never find (“I AM YOURS”). Privately, Megan tells DC his dream girl is actually Anne Page, and convinces him to ask his BFF Tess to help make the match.

At The Brewery, Falstaff reveals to minions Nimmer, Post and Borden that he rigged the King vote. Nimmer and Post are aghast, but Falstaff just scoffs at Windsor (“I RULE”). Then Falstaff sets out to bed Allie and Megan. Nimmer and Post refuse to help, and Falstaff banishes them. They decide to retaliate by exposing Falstaff’s plan to Ford and George, boyfriends of Allie and Megan.

Covertly, Tess has been helping Fenton in his quest for Anne Page. But Fenton doesn’t do school dances, so Tess agrees to help George get Anne to go to the VMB with Oliver. Then Fenton tells Tess he’s asking Anne to the VMB after all. Tess is left to agonize over her own secret love ... for DC. Enter DC, with news that the girl of his dreams is Anne Page. Tess is “BROKEN.”

Megan and Allie receive simultaneous video Valentines from Falstaff that rip off Megan’s song (“SCORCH ME UP ALLIE”; “SCORCH ME UP MEGAN”). Megan wants Falstaff’s blood, publicly. Allie insists their revenge be in secret, because Ford is so jealous. They devise a plan: they’ll pretend to submit to Falstaff’s advances to lure him into a series of humiliations (“LEAD HIM ON”). Tess agrees to act as their go-between with Falstaff.

When Nimmer and Post rat out Falstaff to George and Ford, George laughs it off but Ford freaks (“CAUSE OF SUSPICION”). He decides to spy on Falstaff by pretending to be a new British exchange student. Thus disguised, Ford befriends Falstaff and learns of his “dates” with Allie.

Fenton asks Anne to the VMB (“YOU SEE ME”), but they are interrupted by George and company. George wants Anne to go with Oliver, Megan wants Anne to go with DC, and everyone is angry at everyone.

Based on information from his chats with Falstaff, Ford tries to catch Allie in the act. Each time, Allie and Megan manage to get rid of Falstaff before Ford arrives in a way that also gets their secret revenge. Ultimately: George decides Ford needs an intervention (“CHILL”); and Allie and Megan realize their revenge won’t feel complete until Falstaff’s misdeeds are exposed at a public trial at the VMB (“SCORCH ME UP ALLIE & MEGAN”).

The VMB really is a masked ball; no one is recognizable (“SCORCH ME UP SALLY”). Allie and Megan divert Falstaff with a faux seduction that leads Falstaff into his trial (“JUST DESSERTS/JUST DESERTS”). Falstaff ends up confessing all, including fixing the King vote. His sentence: community service, as Tess’s minion, starting with the VMB refreshment table.

The real King of Hearts is revealed (“I AM YOURS REPRISE”); Anne and Fenton proclaim their love; George and Megan relent. DC realizes that Tess is the girl of his dreams, and tells her (“I AM YOURS TESS REPRISE”). Allie and Megan offer to take over for Falstaff at the refreshment table. Why, Falstaff asks, would they forgive him his wrongs? Allie and Megan reply: if ever there was a night to make things right, “THIS IS THE NIGHT.”