

2-4-4

written by

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INT. MCDONALD'S KITCHEN - DAY

A twenty-year-old, brunette woman named ALLISON is cracking eggs in the kitchen. She is dressed head-to-toe in a McDonald's crew uniform. On her visor, there is a pin with the numbers 2-4-4 on it.

There are continuous beeping sounds in the background.

A COWORKER calls out.

COWORKER (O.S.)
AL! I need more Hotcakes!

INT. MCDONALD'S CREW ROOM - DAY

ALLISON TALKING HEAD

ALLISON
My name is Allison, I am the lead singer of the personally famous parody/cover band "2-4-4", the band is also known as, a.k.a "AL", also known as, a.k.a "Snack Wrap Attack", also known as a.k.a-

INT. MCDONALD'S CASH REGISTER - DAY

ROSEMARY, a curly blonde haired, happy-go-lucky teenage girl, is behind the cash register staring off into the distance. She, too, is in a McDonald's crew uniform and she has a 2-4-4 pin on her hat.

JAYNE walks by. Jayne is a kind-hearted woman in her early 60's, also in a McDonald's crew uniform with the same pin.

JAYNE
Rosemary, great job at practice yesterday. I can see you have greatly improved your timing from last practice.

INT. MCDONALD'S CREW ROOM - DAY

JAYNE TALKING HEAD

JAYNE
I am the proud band manager of 2-4-4. They are all just so talented.
(MORE)

JAYNE (CONT'D)
I love their little rendition of
"Hey Jude" by the Beatles. Although
they mess up the words a lot.

Layla, a brunette, twenty-year-old girl in a McDonald's crew uniform enters abruptly.

LAYLA
Jayne! How many times do I have to
tell you this? The lyrics are
supposed to be wrong! It's a parody
for goodness sake.

Layla sits down next to Jayne and steals her "talking head"

LAYLA TALKING HEAD (FEATURING JAYNE)

LAYLA (CONT'D)
I'm Layla the drummer, background
vocalist, parody song writer, co-
founder of 2-4-4 with Allie, and
well... eye-candy.

JAYNE
Oh yes! Layla is a very pretty
girl!

LAYLA
They know, Jayne.

EXT. MCDONALD'S PARKING LOT - DAY

ERIC (30) and JESS (29) stand outside before their shift starts. Jess is in a manager uniform and Eric is the maintenance man. They both have 2-4-4 pins on their shirts. Jess is carrying a bag.

JESS
Practice is at Layla's today right?

Eric nods his head and they walk into the building.

INT. MCDONALD'S CREW ROOM - DAY

JESS and ERIC TALKING HEAD

JESS
The band is my life. I play the
amazing instrument called the
kazoo. I've been playing for about
17 months now. I am the best kazoo
player in town.

Eric sits next to her with the most uninterested look on his face.

JESS (CONT'D)
I also play the Banjo for the band
so people say I am the most
talented band member.

ERIC
No one says that.

Jess gives Eric a death stare.

THE CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON ERIC'S UNINTERESTED FACE AS HE YAWNS.

JESS
Anyway, I was awarded forth best at
the Lehigh valley banjo competition
in 2009 but I still got it.

Jess pulls out a medal from her bag. The medal says "4th place" and has a picture of a banjo engraved into it.

Eric is sitting there and now staring into the camera.

ERIC
Hi. I'm Eric. I... well... I play
the tambourine.
(beat)
I'm just in this for the money.
Jayne says she's going to pay us
when we start playing gigs.

CUT TO:

EXT. MCDONALD'S DRIVE THROUGH - DAY

Jayne runs in-between cars to pick up the loose change on the ground. Cars are beeping at her.

INT. MCDONALD'S HAND-OUT WINDOW - DAY

Allison talks to a customer on the headset while Layla gives food out to the CUSTOMER at the window.

CUSTOMER
I was told you guys have the two
for four here, but I don't see it
on my receipt. Can I speak to your
manager?

LAYLA
(shouting)
JAYNE! THEY WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU!

Jayne grabs a desk sized calendar and runs up to the window.

Layla and Allison get excited about a possible gig.

JAYNE
(to the customer)
When do you want them? We can do
tomorrow at 4:45. Well, more like
4:53 because our Banjo player is
always a little late. You know, she
is the forth best banj-

The customer interrupts.

CUSTOMER
Excuse me? I don't know what the
hell you're talking about. Are you
the Manager?

JAYNE
Yes I am!

CUSTOMER
Then why don't I see the two for
four?

JAYNE
Well, you have to book them! So
tomorrow at 4:53?

CATHY, the main store manager walks up with a confused look on her face after seeing there is a hold up in the drive through.

CATHY
Jayne... I'm pretty sure they mean
the actual two for four deal.

JAYNE
Oh. We haven't had that in forever.
(sweetly)
Get with the times ma'am the world
is changing.

The customer looks very confused.

INT. MCDONALD'S CREW ROOM - DAY

JASON (another crew member) is on break in the background.

JAYNE TALKING HEAD

JAYNE

I have a little surprise for the band today.

Jayne giggles and gets excited

JAYNE (CONT'D)

A person named "Anonymous" booked us to play at Burger King across the street! The band is going to be so excited! Anonymous even got us these cute outfits to perform in.

Jayne holds up a Burger King uniform. Jason looks up and smirks at the uniform.

JAYNE (CONT'D)

They want us to play as loud as we can! They must love us.

INT. RESTAURANT EATING AREA - DAY

Cathy is wearing the general manager outfit with a name tag. She sits down at a table. There are customers eating in the background.

CATHY TALKING HEAD

CATHY

Yeah, I booked them to play across the street. This way it drives customers away from Burger King and bring them right to us.

INT. MCDONALD'S CREW ROOM - DAY

JAYNE TALKING HEAD

JAYNE

So excited! They requested that we do only Nickelback songs.

INT. RESTAURANT EATING AREA - DAY

CATHY TALKING HEAD

CATHY

Freaking. Genius.

INT. LAYLA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Layla and Allison get ready for the rest of the band to arrive for practice. They are both wearing jeans and matching plain black shirts. Allison is doing vocal warmups in the corner of the room facing the wall and Layla is setting up her drum set. There is a table full of snacks and soda bottles on the side.

The door to the garage opens and Rosemary enters. She is wearing similar jeans and a black tee shirt.

ALLISON

Hey Rosemary!

Rosemary always has a smile on her face and is just happy to be wherever she is.

ROSEMARY

Hey! I remembered my triangle this time.

LAYLA

Ayyy! Perfect because in the songs we are practicing today, you have a BIG solo.

ROSEMARY

Well, now I'm really glad I didn't forget my triangle.

CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON ALLISON SMILING IN A SARCASTIC WAY.

EXT. LAYLA'S DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Eric and Jess get out of their car. Jess is dressed in jeans and a black tee shirt. Eric is dressed in sweats. Jess is holding a fancy kazoo case and Eric is holding some old taped-together tambourine from the 70s.

JESS

This is so exciting!

Eric couldn't look more bored if he tried.

ERIC

(monotone)

Oh yeah, totally, I'm very excited.

JESS

Oh crumb! I forgot my banjo im going to be right back.

ERIC

Mkay.

EXT. FRONT OF LAYLA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

ERIC TALKING HEAD

ERIC

She always forgets her banjo. But I don't care anyway I'm only here for the food. Layla's mom always makes the best sugar cookies. Plus, the band makes Jess happy and when Jess is happy I'm slightly less miserable.

In the background, Jayne arrives with her desk sized calendar.

INT. LAYLA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Allison, Layla, Eric, Rosemary, and Jayne are all in the garage sitting around waiting for Jess to come. Layla looks at the time and it reads 8:08.

Jess enters with her banjo and is out of breath.

LAYLA

Good! Right on time. Let's start with "Sweet Apple Pie" then we can have a snack break.

Eric cheers for the snack break in the background.

LAYLA (CONT'D)

Then we will end with "Crisp & Ready".

Everyone obeys. They get up and takes position with their instruments.

EXT. FRONT OF LAYLA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

ROSEMARY AND JESS TALKING HEAD

ROSEMARY

I really like Layla's songs! "Sweet Apple Pie" sounds a little bit like "Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond but I'm sure it's just a coincidence!

JESS
That's weird! I always thought
"Crisp & Ready" sounded like "White
& Nerdy" by Weird Al.

ROSEMARY
Oh my goodness, I love that song.

Jess and Rosemary start dancing awkwardly and humming "White
& Nerdy"

INT. LAYLA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

JAYNE
Wait! Before we start, I have an
announcement.

Everyone stops what they are doing and Jayne grabs her desk
sized calendar

JESS
Jayne, have you ever thought of
getting a smaller calendar?

JAYNE
Why would I? You got to dream big,
Jess.

Eric nods his head sarcastically.

JAYNE (CONT'D)
Anyway! We have our first gig!

Everyone gets excited. Eric looks confused.

ERIC
(mutters)
Who in their right mind...

ALLISON
Oh my griddle! This is so exciting.

EXT. FRONT OF LAYLA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

ALLISON TALKING HEAD

Allison looks into the camera and is speechless. She shrugs.

ALLISON
Let's just hope Rosemary gets her
timing right. This gig could make
or break us.

EXT. LAYLA'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Jayne hands out a paper to everyone along with the Burger King Uniform.

JAYNE

Here is the sheet music for the songs we are going to play.

The only thing the paper says is "Nickelback songs" in size 40, Times New Roman font.

ALLISON

(to Layla) Uh-

Layla is typing something into her phone.

LAYLA

Already on it.

EXT. MCDONALD'S PARKING LOT - DAY

The band is all dressed up in their Burger King uniforms with their instruments in hand. Allie and Layla are struggling to get the drum set out of Layla's mom's minivan. They start to walk across the busy street with all of their equipment.

Cars beep frantically as the band starts to cause traffic.

JAYNE

Guys! They are cheering us on.

Jayne starts cheering at the cars.

ERIC

(sarcastically)

Oh yes... *that's* why they are blaring their horns.

As they continue across the intersection, Rosemary trips over her shoelaces and falls to the ground. Her triangle lands 3 feet in front of her. The rest of the band walks by, unbothered.

EXT. BURGER KING PARKING LOT - DAY

LAYLA TALKING HEAD

LAYLA

It's not that hard to walk. I don't understand how Rosemary even survived her 16 years of life so far.

END OF TALKING HEAD

All of the instruments are in position and Eric is helping to connect the Banjo amplifier. The set up is blocking the Burger King drive through.

THE CAMERA PANS TO THE BURGER KING WINDOW WHERE A COUPLE OF CONFUSED EMPLOYEES ARE LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW.

ALLISON

Alright guys! Let's start with Rockstar.

They all get into position. Jess has a kazoo in her mouth and a banjo in her hands. Jayne is standing on the side with her phone out. She tries to get her phone to record but is on the calculator app.

Layla yells from her drum set.

LAYLA

1...2...3...4...5... uh, GO!

Layla, Eric, and Rosemary start playing their percussion instruments off beat. The rest slowly join in.

They are just awful.

Two Burger King employees run into frame, STEVEN and JACOB.

STEVEN

What in the world...

The band continues to perform. More Burger King employees come out. Some look disgusted and some laugh and cheer the band on.

JACOB

(Yelling)

STOP! PLEASE JUST STOP!

Allison has a confused look on her face and stops singing. The band stops sporadically a few seconds later. Jess and Allison walk toward Steven and Jacob.

ALLISON

Hey, I know that was kind of a mess. Rosemary is horrible at keeping time. Did you want to hear *Photograph* instead?

CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON ROSEMARY

Rosemary is as happy as can be. She hits the triangle and giggles to herself.

JESS (V.O.)

Rosemary is the dancer for that song so you don't have to hear her below average triangle skills.

STEVEN

(laughing)

I would LOVE to hear *Photograph*.

Steven get on his knees and is in a pleading stance.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Please, I beg of you.

Jacob gives Steven a disappointed look.

INT. BURGER KING WOMAN'S BATHROOM - DAY

ALLISON AND JESS TALKING HEAD

Jess and Allie both have the biggest smile on their faces.

ALLISON

Oh my griddle, they love us!

A toilet flushes.

EXT. BURGER KING PARKING LOT - DAY

ALLISON

Okay, yeah let's do that then.

The girls walk back towards the rest of the band and 2-4-4 starts playing *photograph*.

A faint siren is heard in the background and starts getting louder and louder. A cop car shows up and parks the car.

POLICE OFFICER
We got some complaints and I am
going to ask for you guys to pack
everything up and go home.

ALLISON
What? Why? Who complained?

POLICE OFFICER
It was anonymous, sorry.

JAYNE
No that can't be right they were
the ones that booked us!

The police officer looks confused. Jayne looks upset.

LAYLA
It's okay Jayne-y they probably
called the police to protect us
from all of the fans.

THE CAMERA ZOOMS OUT TO SHOW AN EMPTY PARKING LOT AND THEN
PANS OVER TO MCDONALD'S ACROSS THE STREET TO SEE THE DRIVE
THROUGH LINE WRAPPED AROUND THE BUILDING.

INT. MCDONALD'S HAND-OUT WINDOW - DAY

Allison, Layla, and Rosemary are all near the window.

ROSEMARY
That performance yesterday went so
well.

LAYLA
Uh... sure it did.

A car comes up to the window and the screen says they ordered
an ice cream cone. Rosemary gets excited.

ROSEMARY
I'LL MAKE IT!

Rosemary skips over to the ice cream machine. She hands the
lopsided cone to Allison to give out the window.

Allison looking into the car and sees Steven from Burger
King.

ALLISON
Here ya go! Have a gre-

Steven throws the ice cream cone at Allison and drives away.

ROSEMARY

As Ariana Grande once said...
"Haters gonna hate, hate, hate,
hate, hate"!

LAYLA

Pretty sure that was Taylor
Swift...

Allison licks the ice cream off of her lips.

ALLISON

No, that was definitely Ariana.

CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON LAYLA'S CONFUSED FACE

FADE TO BLACK.

END