

### **BERLIN**

Berlin: crystalline glittering center of European electronic style. The band is not playing in those clubs. David Bowie isn't here for you. For this band, Berlin is a symbol of what no longer is and the source of the best meth on the continent. But like the clubs, the band no longer commands the best drugs, and someone overdoses unceremoniously the first night.

THE TOUR ARRIVES IN BERLIN, DESPITE IT ALL. LAY THIS CARD OVER THE PREVIOUS CITY AND SAY WHO OVERDOSES.

1

### **HELSINKI**

Helsinki: bitterly cold, not all that wealthy, and inexplicably fond of rockabilly. Which nobody the band is prepared to indulge; they'll succeed or fail on stage with their own style. Mostly fail. The venue is cold, too, so much so that anyone who can possibly manage it wears gloves. The local police turn out to be as cold-hearted as their weather; someone on this tour has a prior record in these parts, and will not be rejoining the tour after their arrest.

THE TOUR ARRIVES IN HELSINKI, AS CLOSE TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD AS ANYONE WANTS TO COME. SAY WHO'S ARRESTED ON ARRIVAL.

2

### **PALERMO**

Palermo: the largest city on Sicily and not much of a rock and roll town. Inconveniently on an island. Best tour stop the band could get in Italy. Beggars can't be choosers. The food is great and the youth are pretty and maybe someone shouldn't have been flirting quite so hard with that doe-eyed kid who turned out to be someone important's child, huh? No hard feelings, though, just a broken limb as a reminder not to do that again.

THE TOUR ARRIVES IN PALERMO, DRUNK ON RED WINE AND FOOLISH OPTIMISM. SAY WHO'S LEG GETS BROKEN ON THAT FIRST NIGHT.

3

### **ZAGREB**

Zagreb: nobody's idea of a prestige tour stop. Someone had the bright idea that playing a Communist country would be good publicity, which it might be, but everyone was supposed to dump all their drugs and booze before crossing the border and there's a hatchet faced security guard riding along in the tour bus now. So of course it wasn't long before the obvious suspect mouthed off about freedom and got themselves kicked out of the country. There won't be a spot for them on the bus on the next stop, that's for sure.

THE TOUR ARRIVES IN ZAGREB, BRAVING THE COMMUNIST BLOC. LAY THIS CARD OVER THE PREVIOUS CITY AND SAY WHO WAS KICKED OFF THE TOUR.

4

### **AUDIENCE**

A roiled, chaotic sea of humanity. Well. Sea may be a strong word for the sparse attendance, sadly the new normal for this tour, but at least the few fans who showed up are loud. None louder than Charlie. Hopefully most of those fans bought tickets, although the rumor is that we're handing out more and more comps to keep it looking like we're really desperate. It's a good thing the lights on the stage keep the band from seeing how few people care these days.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE STAGE.

5

### **BACKSTAGE**

Less glamorous than the uninitiated expect. At any given venue, these are an anonymous maze of chaos and grey walls, with only the language of the signs to provide a hint of what city you're in. The noise rising from the Audience and the Stage are the best hint of a better world. Someone's passed out in a nook not designed for sleeping. They'll lose the ziplock baggie of pills in their hand if they're not careful.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE STAGE.

6

### **GREEN ROOM**

One bottle of the best booze the venue cares to afford, several bottles of the worst, and a couch that was used too hard a decade ago. A scented candle fails to combat the smells. In theory, the tattooed guard at the door bars anyone the band doesn't want here; in practice, the door is open to anyone with an appropriate bribe.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO BACKSTAGE.

7

### **ON STAGE**

If you're not on the stage, are you even alive? If anyone else is on the stage, are they stealing your thunder? Up close, you can see the wear on the boards and the stains where the ghosts of bands past pissed in the corners. It smells like rat shit and dead dreams. It's still the only place that matters in the whole entire world.

PUT THIS CARD IN THE MIDDLE OF EVERYTHING.

8

**SOUNDBOARD**

The soundboard is a little place of privilege within the chaos of the Audience. If it's poorly manned, the entire concert falls to pieces. A fan with a tape recorder can make their name in the community by gaining access. By its nature, it's the best place from which to listen. Sacred space, hotly contested. The fiercest fights are fought over the smallest stakes.

PUT THIS CARD NEAR THE AUDIENCE.

9

**TOUR BUS**

On the one hand, it's no private jet. On the other hand, it has the band logo on it and the door to the bedroom locks, making this one of the few semi-private places anywhere near the tour to get it on if you're not one of the privileged few who gets to share a hotel room. There isn't anyone assigned to clean up the whiskey bottles and the cigarette butts, so you can imagine how crusty the bus has become since the beginning of the tour. Patty is unlikely to see the deposit returned. Dana's stuck driving the beast.

PUT THIS CARD AT A DISTANCE FROM THE OTHER LOCATIONS.

10

**CAT**

I'm Cat, and the thing I know that nobody else does is that the story I'm writing for Rolling Stone isn't really interesting unless they fail. I don't think these schmucks need any help to fail, which is good, but I'm not above pushing a little bit if it proves necessary. And I'm pretty sure Starchild wouldn't react well if they found out about Morgan screwing around. I'd rather Jackie didn't get caught in the wreckage, though.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO BACKSTAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

11

**CHARLIE**

I'm Charlie, and I'm the reason the band exists. Look: you're nowhere without your fans, everybody knows that. Robin's amazingly talented and I love saying so, but if people like me hadn't recognized genius with the first album, the band wouldn't be having this wildly successful tour. I won a contest to be here, which proves I'm the most important fan there is -- sorry, Jackie, you're trash -- and I cannot wait until people start writing about me as the mysterious glamorous Muse I am.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE SOUNDBOARD AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

12

**DANA**

I'm Dana, and I get things done. I make sure the amps are on stage, I make sure the bus doesn't leave without someone, and I make sure Starchild has the right blend of powders and pills. I'm pretty sure Patty is getting angry about that last, but whatever, I'm a professional, I'm not going to get anyone killed. In the meantime, there are a few people tagging along on this tour who're willing to do a lot in exchange for access to the stars, so who am I to disappoint their pathetic little selves?

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO BACKSTAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

13

**JACKIE**

I'm Jackie, and this tour is the most fun I've had in ages. I owe Cat one for letting me tag along; it's so nice to hang out with my sibling again. And I'm learning so much: you would not believe how verbose Shannon gets when they're high out of their mind. Cat says I should keep the things I learn between us; I get that's the right thing career-wise but I keep thinking about how many followers I could pick up with just a few hints.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE GREEN ROOM AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

14

**JAY**

I'm Jay, and I wish I didn't owe Robin anything, but I do. I know I wouldn't be part of the band if I hadn't let Robin copy my test answers back in school. I'd be a session musician or a touring band member and that's just a pathetic life. So I keep pretending to be grateful, and in the meantime, getting with Morgan has been a nice unexpected benefit. I'd do almost anything to keep that a secret.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO ON STAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

15

**MORGAN**

I'm Morgan, and I've made horrible mistakes. Nobody can know that this last tour is costing me the rest of the money I inherited from my family. I can't let it end this way -- one way or another, I need to figure out a way to stop spending money on this before the end of the tour. Even if it winds up meaning that people hate me, but it'd be better if my hands are clean. In the meantime I'll just keep distracting myself with my little affairs.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE GREEN ROOM AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

16

**PATTY**

I'm Patty, and I'm managing a bunch of children. The band would never have succeeded without me, and they'd still be succeeding if they just listened to me. Shows what too much money will do to you, doesn't it? The immediate problem is the drugs, though. I like a good high as much as the next person, but that fucking roadie has basically opened a pharmacy backstage and it's not doing anyone any good. Especially Starchild, that arrogant idiot.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO BACKSTAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

17

**ROBIN**

I'm Robin, and I play a mean guitar. I also founded this band and I don't let anyone forget that. I suppose Rowan counts as a founder too, yes, but I'm the one standing front and center when we play. Who pays attention to the drummer? I deserve all the attention I get, or people like Charlie wouldn't keep telling me how marvelous I am. I like it when people know they owe me.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO ON STAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

18

**ROWAN**

I'm Rowan, and I'm too good for this. I founded this band, and I think I'm young enough to found another one if I wanted to. I'm damn sure good enough and I'm damn tired of Robin lording it over me. We came from the same womb but we don't have to be tied together all our lives. I do most of the hard concept part of writing our songs, even if I get help with the lyrics sometimes. I would do almost anything to be free from these idiots as long as nobody gets the idea I'm to blame. Reputation is everything.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO ON STAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

19

**SHANNON**

I'm Shannon, and I'm a cliché, and I hate it. You know the drill, right? The bass player is the steady one, the bass player lays down the rhythm so everyone else can look good, the bass player is boring. The bass player writes all the songs and has to lie about it for the sake of making Rowan look good. God, I hate my contract. God, I love being on stage.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO ON STAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

20

**STARCHILD**

I'm the Starchild, and I'm the star. Sure, Rowan and Robin founded the band and Rowan's the one who can write songs, but everyone comes to the shows to see me singing. I'm the only one who had the guts to really abandon my past life. There is nothing for me beyond the band. There is nothing for the band without me. I know my spouse Morgan understands that.

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE GREEN ROOM AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

21

**WHITNEY**

I'm Whitney, and they pay me to make them look good. They're not bright enough to know that's why they pay me, but it is. I don't get high before I go on stage, I don't sleep with fans -- well, not underage ones -- and I play well. And I am so tired of seeing no-talent idiots like Jay getting royalties for albums he barely plays on just because he went to school with the almighty Robin. I wonder what it would take for Jay to get fired?

PUT THIS CARD NEXT TO THE STAGE AND SPEAK YOUR TRUTH.

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