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**ORU Chapel Transcript, TV ministry and Leroy Blackstock,
10-13-1972**

Oral Roberts

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TV ministry

Chapel 10/13/72 Oral Roberts

...hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen. Say God bless you to someone, then be seated. We thank this great choir and hope we will have them more often during the year. They have gone now to sit up at the top to be with us in the chapel. I have a great favor to ask of you today, in a real sense of the word you are the key to something that will go across the nation and Canada and other parts of the world. That is to be of great help to us on Tuesday, I'm sorry, on Wednesday, no, it's Tuesday, isn't it, Tuesday, yes. I'm nervous about it. You may think I'm kidding but I'm not. I'm very nervous about it. I shouldn't be, but I am. This will be the first time we've ever made an hour long TV Special from our campus and it will be made primarily right where we are today. And it will start on Tuesday morning. You will have to be here around 9:30 and you will go to about 12, and then that night from 6:30 to about 10:30, it's going to be tough. It will count as a chapel. There will be no chapel on Wednesday morning, but you will be going beyond the line and call of duty on this. I can assure you you will be making a contribution, that is, as we work together with our guest stars and all that we do, we will be doing something historic, not only the first time in this great building, but from our campus. We will be originating a special from ORU. And we really need you. There will have to be a commitment on your part, not just a promise but a commitment. We are going to reserve your place where you sit ordinarily in chapel and not let anybody have that seat. There's a great many people who want to be here, who have asked to be here and we have told those in our Holy Spirit class, the adults from the community and others, that we will reserve places up above where our students don't regularly sit in chapel. So you will have priority where you sit and if someone is in your place you will have to gently quietly tell them that is where

TAPE AVAILABLE

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you are supposed to sit. Then if there's room, there will be room for others. Now here is the lineup. You will be here at 9:30 in your place and just a few minutes afterwards this big curtain will open and we will tape a segment of the Trail of Tears, the drama of the Cherokee Indians, the drama which is played every summer at Tahlequah. The Trail of Tears in which hundreds and thousands of Cherokees lost their lives. As you know, we are in the heart of the Cherokee and Creek territory right here in Tulsa. And it's the greatest drama of its kind in the nation. The principle chief will be here, W. W. Keeler, also the Governor of Oklahoma will introduce the segment that we will tape. We will tape right on our stage. The green corn part of the Indian dance and the young woman who recites some of the history of the Indians coming from the Allegheny Mountains across Tennessee, the South, Arkansas, into Eastern Oklahoma, and you will see something in this that will probably carry in your heart forever.

There will be a person playing death, when the light shines on death you will see how that death is always inevitable, it's always near. When I saw the Trail of Tears at Tahlequah and saw death move in and move out and touch this person and touch that person I saw the inexorable rise of history and its inexorable fall, as death always touches the person when he goes. We hope to capture this on video tape. It will be a very difficult thing to do, but it will take a portion of the real history of the United States and show it to the country for the first time. And it will mean so much for you to be a part of this. And let's see, the next part in the morning, of that morning, we will unveil the Oral Roberts University Titan basketball team for the nation, with the coach and some of the players and Mayor LaFortune will be giving a little history of ORU. The basketball/history last year, going to the NIT and what is in store beginning on December 4th. I wish I knew what was in store December 4th.

Let me see, I was trying to think of something else, something I'm to do but I'm a little nervous this morning. I forget what I'm to do that morning. I'll be doing it anyway. And then we will break approximately at 12 o'clock and we work with Saga trying to work it out so everyone can be fed properly at noon and then we will not

meet back until 6:30 and the big events, all the big events other than what I said, will be at night. The, for the first time we will be presenting various singers and musicians, other than World Action Singers. I don't know--(applause). I feel the same way, you see before we've had to fly everybody to Hollywood. It's a tremendous expense to pick up lots of people and fly them across the country, but here we are here, thank the Lord. And that was a bright statement, wasn't it? But the World Action Singers will be backed up by this enormous University Concert Choir. I don't know if I'm using the correct words when I say Concert Choir, but anyway you know what I mean. It's that enormous group. Maybe this or some other, I don't know. Well I wish I did know, I'll just ask. Where's Mr. Eland or somebody in the Music Department. What's the, yes. The Concert Choir and Chamber Singers both, right? Will there be 100 of them? 48 in all? Be under 100, be under 100, all right, plus the World Action Singers and then there will be small groups that from the campus that will be featured from one to four to five to six that will be featured and then the first guest star is Mr. Roger Williams, one of the great pianists in this country. In fact, it will be an evening of tremendous entertainment and then our main guest star will be Billy Graham and he and I will have an interview together on the stage and I don't know exactly what will happen when Mr. number one gets here and Mr. number two and he (applause) I do believe it will be interesting though whatever happens. And let's see now, then we come to a tremendous set of numbers by the World Action Singers of songs that are now popular on the campuses of the United States. I believe the Chamber Singers and the Concert Choir will have some part in that too. Then when we come to the latter part, Richard is going to sing a song appropriate for my message. I'm going to say something in my sermon I've never said to the nation before and I am really a little nervous over it. The hour telecast is much different from the half hour. It is so much more difficult to make. One thing you will see is how long it takes. The set changes that have to be built and put into place, the light changes, some of the equipment breaking down, maybe some of us fluff what we

are supposed to do and we have to come back. So far in my sermon I've never had to redo a sermon. I've started and gone through with the whole thing, but on the others there are usually different takes and if something is not technically right, it isn't always the fault of the person performing. It can be something going wrong with the equipment. And some parts of it will be very tedious to you and I want to warn you and prepare you for it. Once it goes and you do the scene it's really exciting, but in between a setting up for a next scene and getting everyone ready, the blocking it out, well these terms I don't even understand myself. I just watch them do it. And then it comes my part and it may look to you like, say when I step up to preach it would be very easy because I've been preaching all these years, but in some strange way it's different. I know I'll have a minimum of 25 million viewers at primetime, most of whom are not in church, many of whom don't even know what God's all about and that's true in America today, there are lots of people in America who really don't relate to God anymore. And here I am, I'll only have 11 minutes in which to preach a major sermon, followed by a prayer which has to be short and has to get inside people. And I admit I worry about that a little. If I had an hour, you know, I could say everything I wanted to say. But to put it in 11 minutes and you don't have any recourse. You can't go back and say, I'm sorry, folks, I want 11 more minutes, I didn't get my thought across. I'm going back into my own life, into the founding of this university, things about the school, things about you and about myself and the work. We are going to try to showcase this to the nation, that there is a spot on this earth that's under God's authority and that's built on the Holy Spirit. It's a new thing for the nation. So I can't tell you how important it is to have you and then when I finish the sermon, then we will all join hands to pray. We ask people across America to join hands and that's when we hope, it would be possible for a million people to accept Jesus Christ in that one prayer if we can really get under God's anointing and not that you be praying out loud as you join hands, you will be silently praying from your heart, but you are reaching out to about 25 million human beings. Some of them your relatives

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and friends. Because we will be in every television area in the United States and Canada, plus some overseas countries. And after that prayer then the Singers, the combined group of singers gather in a fanale which was written especially by Ralph Carmichael for this television program. So it will be an original group of words and following that then I offer, I offer the Miracle of ORU. It is sort of an album of pictures and words, it's a magnificent thing, with the pictures of all the people on the telecast, the founding of the University, a copy of the sermon that will have to be inserted later because I don't have the sermon yet, and that's one reason I'm nervous. And we will be offering that to our friends. I'll be offering it twice, once in the middle break and then at the close and hoping to say something to somebody that will touch their heart. And then we always have this, whether we want to think about it or not, as much as we want to help people and give to them, somehow somebody somewhere has to help us because we have to pay NBC \$175,000 to come here and make this. We have to pay \$100,000 for newspaper ads, we have to pay over \$200,000 for television time, it's over a half million dollars. I don't have one of those dollars today, not a one of them. I am a little nervous. And I am trusting, believing with everything I know how, I'm saying that partly because I know you are trusting

End of Belt #1

for yours, you are trusting for your tuition, your board and your room and everything that you face, but likewise I'm trusting too. And believe me, your presence, your prayers, your understanding mean something. But they mean even more on this one. All day Wednesday, just your presence alone and your good thoughts and there will be times when it's funny, you will be laughing. Times when you will be clapping your hands, times you will be quiet and silent. You will just play it by the ear, by the heart, just simply be yourselves in the Lord. And but we are out here and I can tell you that in the midst of a Special it's the toughest assignment I've ever

had, but we get the greatest results through it and the final word about it is, I feel like that we've got to do something a little different in the Specials. I was led as much as my name is Oral Roberts to follow the format that we have followed which has had a great deal of entertainment and things of that nature in order to get people to tune us in. Secondly, in order to get TV stations to sell us time. It may have never occurred to you that up until we did that the TV stations would not sell primetime to us. In other words, I could preach, I ^{could} have all of you if I wanted to, have you sing and pray, they would not sell us one moment of time. But these big entertaining stars such as Jimmy Durante and others we have had, they get the door open and we were able to get maybe 20 minutes of the hour of preaching and sacred songs and prayers, but we have won the case. We've won the situation. We've won the television industry. We are going to be allowed to have more gospel on beginning with this one than we've ever had because they've already agreed to take this one. (applause) You sort of understand what that scripture means, be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. -That means that you have to know what to do at a certain time in order later on to do what's really in your heart. So beginning with this one and the ones to follow every three months you will see now more of the depth of my ministry, say, more of the songs that really have Christ. We will have more and more of the stars of this country who will be willing to give a word for the Lord, which was impossible before, so those others really served a purpose, and some of them that were on before have since accepted Jesus Christ and some of them are coming back on to give their testimony. So it's not all been a failure the way that we've had to work with them, because we introduced some of them to our Lord. I took two of them in our dressing room and they accepted Christ. One was Jimmy Rodgers, I don't know if you remember when he was on or not. And this boy is really serving the Lord now and there are others that have either turned to Him or they are in a period of making the change over to Jesus Christ. And we think we've had something to do with that. And we thank God for it. So Wednesday, students, faculty, chapel, students, students, I'm

nervous, students, faculty and staff for Wednesday, Tuesday. (applause) Well you come on down and put on this Special yourself if you think it's easy. I tell you, it does look so easy but I just wish it were and I never/^{am as}relaxed on the hour specials as I am on the half hours and that's my fault. I've got to overcome it and I hope you will help me. Maybe you will help me where I really feel at home. I'm not an actor and I know that and the hard part is that they will be changing scenery, getting cameras all in place and they call me over and turn the cameras on, say, OK, let's go. Well I mean, I just can't turn this on anytime I--it's tough and then I'll start. In about a second, I'm sorry, will you wait. They turn it back on, now will you start over. And as I say, I'm not an actor. What I feel it's got to be down here. So that hour special is the toughest thing I've ever done and I think you will find that the guest stars don't find it the easiest thing they've ever done too. When you see these things on TV it looks easy, but behind those scenes some real blood, sweat and tears. And on our part, prayer and fasting. This kind cometh not out except by prayer and fasting. (applause) So if I'm not eating on Tuesday, be sure I get the right--if I'm not eating right you will understand why. If I got it right, it's 9:30 to 12 noon, got that? And if you let us down, you dirty dog, you. No, I retract that. 9:30 to 12 and then 6:30 we start taping right on the dot at 7:00 but you have to be in your place at 6:30 and this place will be packed out. There are a lot of people in the city who want to be here and we will allow them to come as long as there's space, but after that no one else will be allowed in the building. And then you have to staff until 10 and one more thing, you can't be jumping up and running out. So pray for special matters. Well, there may be a time between tapes that you can run up but you've got to come back and fill that seat because there will be times the camera will be--(applause) Lord, I want you to bless this bunch, they need it. I'm trying to be serious. See, where was I? That seat here can't be vacant when you get back. Because they are going to be panning the crowd. There will be scenes, as I understand it, my sermon and prayer will be delivered somewhere over here. I'll be facing you. There will be cameras near me and cameras away on up there coming down over your head, side

and if there's a camera that happens to be taking you, don't ever look at the camera. That's right. They don't even want you aware of them because we are together trying to present a witness to this country. I don't know it's ever been done like this in America's history before, when we start with the Indians. You know, there's a real, a real thread of meaning in this Special. When you start with the Indians, you go into athletics which you know is sweeping this country, never before has this country gone so wild after athletics and then sweeping into Mr. Roger Williams and the field of music. Then the two evangelists who have drawn over the longest time the largest number of crowds and been before the most people throughout the world and then our own college kids who represent a new breed, a new kind of young man and woman in America. It has a lot going for it, doesn't it? To speak to people and it will be released later in other countries. We are right now on the verge of breaking into Europe, we haven't broken into Europe but one thing about the London Special, there are parts of the London Special I like very much and parts I thought was a little weak. I admit that, but it may be the one that will break it down for us in Europe and open up European television to us. And if it does it's sure worth everything we did to have the London Special. OK, let's see if there's anything else about that Special I can think about. If you think about it, pray. I'll be the one that needs prayer the most because most of them will know their parts and my sermon, I don't memorize my sermon, I just get thoughts in my heart and get up and turn loose. And so I don't have any lines out there, you know. But I'm sure others would feel that theirs is hard too. Yes. Oh yes, as for your dress, dress exactly as you are in chapel, your normal dress. Just exactly, in the evening and morning there is no difference. You come just like you are now. Yes. Why do I say I'm number two evangelist? I'm just proud to be that high. Well, in my heart Billy Graham is the number one, he really is. And he's really gracious. It takes a big man to do what Billy is going to do. First he dedicated the campus in 1967, I'm glad we are not taping today. Those cameras would never get repaired. But he's a very, he has had a love for me that I've never been able to be grateful for enough. He slipped into my crusade in the late forties in Florida just

a few months before he became well-known and told me later what happened in his own heart and he has an aunt who was miraculously healed through my ministry and this ministry has made an impression on Billy, as his has made on me, of course, and through the years he and I have had experiences through the years the public doesn't know about. I think that will be one of the interesting things as we will deal with some of the things that's happened to us as much as 20 years ago, even 22 years ago, when we first met and what happened at that time. And what each of us has done at a particular moment in the other's history. That happened to be the thing for that man. I know when I almost lost my life in Australia and he went a little later and the letter he wrote back to me, I may refer to that in the interview. It was a life-saver and another time when I had a great, I had a period of bitterness, oh maybe for a year in my life and part of it, it didn't have to do with him personally but had to do with something around him. Well why should I give away all my lines now, I'll just wait until Tuesday to go into all that. But I think this is a very fascinating thing between two men that should hold interest to the people of the country and I wanted to change the subject. Is there another question before we change the subject? Yes. Well I relate to the prayer, I don't relate to fasting, because fasting has to be something that each person feels and not imposed, though you wouldn't be imposing it, but you highly suggest it when you say that. So I respond to the prayer part but I would not respond to the fasting part. The fasting part has to be a very personal private thing that even most people wouldn't know about, that is, if it's going to be a fast of the Lord. So please don't be offended at what I say to you, I thank you for your thought, but I think our students understand that we believe fasting is a very personal private matter. What I was saying about fasting myself awhile ago was more rhetorical than otherwise. I was trying to make a point and thank you for that thought and I'm sure we will be praying. This program will come out the first week in December. Dr. there will be no classes all day Tuesday. (applause) And one dear brother here said, Oh no, I cannot miss my classes. Can we arrange for him to be in class by himself, Dr. Hayden? President of our Faculty, Senate here, Dr. Hayden,

will arrange for you to be in class between tapings all by yourself and we really appreciate this academic spirit that you carry which represents the deepest part of the scholarship leanings of this entire brilliant arrodite campus that we have gathered here from the upper strata of our society. And all the great graduate schools are hovering nearby hoping to get their first chance and it's just, you know--(applause)

End of Belt #2

Well I wanted to make a spiritual thought or two but you are determined I'm not going to do it, I can see that. We do have some folks here who need a word from the Lord. We have a very distinguished friend here, Mr. Leroy Blackstock, one of our great attorneys. Hello, Leroy. We want you to know you are welcome and come over here a minute, please. (applause) I'm sure that he will be very pleased to have you in on this. He is here for prayer today. Leroy, bless you. Does it bother you to stand before this group as much as it would a jury or less?

BLACKSTOCK: Well they look about as as some juries I've watched but they are cooperative too. I'm glad to hear that. They could probably do a better job than some of the juries I've appeared before.

OR: I agree to that. I hope you don't mind if I have the students join me in prayer for you because this is a serious matter we are dealing with now, isn't it? Would you say just a word about it?

BLACKSTOCK: I have appeared down here with Dr. Roberts today, a very dear friend of mine, whom I've known through the years and he's been an inspiration to me. I believe in the power of God to save lives and save illnesses and I am experiencing an illness in one of my eyes, in fact it's in both of my eyes. It will not effect my legal career but it may effect my reading ability which is very dear to a lawyer. And my wife and I, Virginia, who is also here thought that we would like to visit with Oral, Dr. Roberts and discuss this matter with him and pray together because

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of my great beliefs in his great ministry of healing in the Lord Jesus Christ. I'm delighted to be here and I believe in you and your organization.

OR: Well that means them out there, doesn't it?

LEROY: Indeed s do.

OR: And I think you will find that these young people are in tune with people when they have a need.

LEROY: Indeed they are, Dr. Roberts.

OR: And they know how to pray. If I were going anywhere on earth for prayer, I probably would just ask the group right here to help me pray. I have that much confidence in their prayers. I'd just like for you to tell us which eye is the worst?

LEROY: It's the right one, Dr. Roberts.

OR: Is Mrs. Blackstock, come on and stand by --Virginia, you come and stand by Leroy. We know each other as Leroy and Oral.

LEROY: We sure do. My wife said coming down here, Oral, it's all right for me to say that in this formal meeting, that if there is any place in the United States where a miracle has been created in all of Tulsa, the hard-fisted bankers and businessmen say that if there's a place in all of America where a miracle has been created or several miracles, it's the establishment of Oral Roberts University and I believe that very much.

OR: Well that's the theme we are going to have in the long-hour Special, the Miracle of ORU. Virginia, would you like to say a word?

VIRGINIA: I'm not the speaker of the family. But I do appreciate this opportunity for us to come here today and we have a lot of faith in you and your students.

OR: We had a word last night through our Chaplain from Governor Wallace. Do you want to give that word, well they talked directly to you, didn't they? You want me to give it. Well, I can't recall all of it. I'm nervous.

STAMPS: You are great.

OR: You want the whole mike in order to say something?

STAMPS: We heard from Governor Wallace yesterday, Mr. Gann is in touch with us, Jesse Gann is the Assistant for Governor Wallace. He spent all day day before yesterday in the with Vice-President Agnew and had a full day at the office and has virtually had no pain at all since the time of prayer. (applause) We had previously invited the Governor to come to campus as soon as he's able and Mr. Gann assures us that the Governor is looking forward to that and whether he comes walking or whether he comes rolling, we are going to have the Governor in chapel before the end of this year we hope. (applause)

OR: Leroy, we had through the Governor's request a prayer for him. We had a telephoned hooked up between his bedside and our student body and we had four students from Alabama who were here, two blacks and two whites to come up and individually pray for the Governor over the telephone which was amplified in his bedroom and then he spoke back to us. He prayed for our student body and he had been in pain day and night and has had virtually none. Most of the time he's had no pain since. He has not had what we call a complete healing to where he's walking but he's getting feeling in his legs and he is mostly without any pain and when I was there to see him face to face he was suffering until he was almost in tears. So we believe prayer has bridged part of this gulf. But the experience has been good for us, for all of us. It's touched all our hearts. Where are you from other than Tulsa? Are you an Oklahoman?

LEROY: Yes, I was born in El Reno, Oklahoma. I grew up in the oilfields up in Osage County, which is about 100 miles North of here right out on a prairie where my father was a pumper in the oilfield, a laborere.

OR: What part of Osage, near what town?

LEROY: It was West of Pawhuska, about 25 miles.

OR: Any student here near Pawhuska, or Ponca City? If so, would you just come down a moment and what other part of Oklahoma?

LEROY: El Reno, Oklahoma.

OR: That would be west of Ok City. Come down and stand with us as we pray, someone near Pawhuska or El Reno.

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LEROY: Maybe there's somebody from Shidler or Webb City, those are little towns actually where I graduated from high school.

OR: Well we've got them here from about everywhere.

LEROY: That's great.

OR: If you had been born in Asia or Africa, I think we could have called someone up to stand by you.

LEROY: That's wonderful.

OR: I think they will be coming. Is there anyone else, they are pointing and they are coming. OK, OK. Introduce yourself here. All right, and Leroy, if you will just take your glasses and put them in your pocket, we will anoint your right eye and we are all going to touch you in faith in our Lord Jesus. The students will touch someone or put your hand over your eye, over someone else's right eye, however you feel. Will you do that today, all of us join together. Let's join now. Father, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, who is very concerned about Leroy Blackstock, and is concerned about his eyes, particularly his right eye, who has said, I will come and heal him, in the name of Your Son, Jesus, we ask for a miracle, a miracle of restoration in your own way and in your own time, and we believe through Your Son Jesus, and everybody said Amen. Now the young lady here, would you just lead a prayer for Mr. Blackstock.

VOICE: Lord, we praise your name. We know you've taught us to keep your name holy, and Lord, we pray that you will be with this man and Lord, we just know and believe, we believe in your Word, we believe what you said, we believe in the power that's here on this stage right now, Lord. Lord, I know and I feel that Mr. Blackstock is going to experience your healing. Lord, I know that he's going to become a more blessed man. I know that he's going to experience your love and your power. And Lord, we give these things to you now. We lift them up to you with faith and we believe, Lord, and as we go from here we keep praising your name knowing and believing in all these things.

OR: Young man, you come and close the prayer now.

VOICE: Our Father, we thank you for the privilege of coming before you and we thank you for the power and the wonder of your Son and the power that you just released on this earth right now and we thank you that we can come to you in this power and that it's done, Jesus, in you. And just thank you for the victory and praise your name.

OR: I have an urge to have you come and pray for the doctors who may be working with him. We don't know who they are, but that God will be with the doctors too.

VOICE: Lord Jesus, we know that many miracles are done in medicine. Lord, we pray all the doctors whoever they may be, Lord, that they may see you, Jesus, see you in this miracle, Jesus. We just praise your name and we thank you for this healing. Thank you, Lord.

OR: Now, Leroy, will you take the mike and you pray for us and the reason we are asking that in St. James, the fifth chapter, the sixteenth verse, Confess your faults one to another and pray ye one for another that ye may be healed. That means the person who is sick as he prays for someone that he may be healed. We believe as you pray for us part of this healing will come back to you. So you just pray for us as we all join hands for our needs to be met.

LEROY: Our gracious heavenly Father, thou hast promised to answer prayer and that's why we are here. We do believe thy miracles. We have seen thy miracles. And we pray, our Father, a special favor on this great President, the servant of God, our Brother Oral. We pray for the faculty and we pray for these very wonderful young people of whom we are proud and whom we expect to take over and to carry thy message to all the parts of the world. We believe in you, oh Lord, we believe in these students. We thank you for the great witness which this great university is making in this city and nation and soon the world. We cannot fathom thy power, Lord, we are finite humans and we do not know what you can do, but you know that you do do it. We are thankful, oh God, that we could share a portion of this busy schedule, Virginia and I, of this great institution and the great favor which has been done to us today through this great president and our gratitude goes to them and to you, our God, for what you are doing for me and for all of us. Pray thy blessings on future success and future

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miracles in this thy place. May it become a hallowed place, Lord, which all will look for guidance and for healing. We thank you from the bottom of our heart and we bring this only in the name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.

OR: Stand right there now. Through the kindness of our Dr. Warren Hultgren, First Baptist Church, who happens to be Leroy's pastor, when Billy Graham preaches on Wednesday night here in this building, special seating will be kept for our students and all, so you can be in the meeting and we will make an announcement of that Tuesday. So you can have some priorities. Let's stand and sing, Something Good Is Going To Happen To You.