

P. NOKIO: A HIP-HOP MUSICAL

Book and Lyrics by

Psalmayene 14

Music by

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CHARACTERS

P.NOKIO: A video game character. Same actor also plays PERFORMER #5

G.PETTO: A video game designer. Same actor also plays PERFORMER #1/HONEY CAGE

GRAFFITI FAIRY: A fairy with magic graffiti power. Same actor also plays PERFORMER #4/KID #1

MACHINE MASTER: G.Petto's despicable boss. Same actor also plays PERFORMER #3/FOX

CRONY: Machine Master's faithful assistant. Same actor also plays PERFORMER #2/CAT/KID #2

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PROLOGUE

Lights and music fade in as all performers enter. The performers are wearing a mix of clothes that reflect Hip-Hop fashion and style from the past to the present. There are three live video screens on stage. Performers do a series of tableaux and then do Hip-Hop based movement as they perform the following, direct address to the audience:

PERFORMER #1

If you're ready for the show
 Called P.Nokio
 Somebody say, "Oh Yeah!"
 (Audience says "OH YEAH!")
 Say, "Oh Yeah!"
 (OH YEAH!)

PERFORMER #2

If you know where you're from
 And don't suck ya thumb
 Somebody say, "That's Right!"
 (THAT'S RIGHT!)
 Say, "That's Right!"
 (THAT'S RIGHT!)

PERFORMER #3

If you're here
 With clean underwear
 Somebody say, "You know it!"
 (YOU KNOW IT!)
 Say, "You know it!"
 (YOU KNOW IT!)

PERFORMER #4

And if you can't deny
 That you've told a lie
 Somebody say, "Oo-ooo-oo!"
 (OO-OOO-OO!)
 Say, "Oo-ooo-oo!"
 (OO-OOO-OO!)

PERFORMER #5

Here we go!

PERFORMERS #1,2,3 & 4

Here we go!

PERFORMER #5

Here we go!

PERFORMERS #1,2,3 & 4

Here we go!

ALL
This be the show about P.Nokio

PERFORMER #5
P

PERFORMER #1
To the dot

PERFORMER #2
To the N

PERFORMER #3
To the O

PERFORMER #4
To the K

PERFORMER #5
To the I

PERFORMER #1
To the O

ALL
O! Right now you're far from
Nantucket

PERFORMER #1
This Pinocchio ain't no puppet

ALL
He's computer generated

PERFORMER #5
He's so cool but not sedated

ALL
The setting is Hip-Hopia

PERFORMER #4
So that's where we'll be rockin' ya

ALL
See here, here, here, here
The birds and the bees
They don't live in trees

PERFORMER #3
Here they break dance
And they produce beats

PERFORMER #4
And the beats that they make
Are sweeter than honey

PERFORMER #1
And here, street credits
Are what we use for money

PERFORMER #5
Instead of walking down the street
We diddy-bop

PERFORMER #2
We have boom boxes here
The size of city blocks

PERFORMER #3
And we don't use oil for energy

ALL
We just pump the music
Of Public Enemy

PERFORMER #5
We could go on and on
About this world

PERFORMER #1
But we'll just max
And let the story unfurl

PERFORMER #4
And at the end, if you want
You can stand and applaud

PERFORMER #1
And give an ovation
And say, "Oh Lawd!"

ALL
But for now, just watch
And pay attention
As you enter a new dimension
For now, just watch
And pay attention
As you enter a new dimension
Now, just watch
Pay attention
As you enter a new dimension

The sound of rain fades in over the music as all performers, except Performer #1, exit. The music fades out.

SCENE 1

The modest, but chic, home of G.Petto. Performer #1 puts on a hat, glasses, a vest and Afrocentric beads. His look is Hip-Hop bohemian. He is now **G.Petto**. He speaks to the audience...

G.PETTO

Now that you know where we are, allow me to introduce myself. I'm G. G.Petto. I'm a video game designer here in Hip-Hopia. This is my humble, yet chic, abode. It's basically a work studio with the essentials I need for survival: bed, kitchen, bathroom. I live here all by myself. No wife, no kids. Now I must admit, sometimes I do get lonely and wonder what it would be like to have some company around here. You know, someone I could talk to, or eat with, or just kick it with. But whenever I do get lonesome I just throw myself into my work. Speaking of which my latest creation is just about complete.

(G.Petto turns on the computer and we see **P.Nokio** on the video screens)

I've been working on him for years. This is going to be my best one yet. He'll be able to rhyme and dance like no other video game character in Hip-Hopia. He'll almost be real. This is going to be revolutionary!

(Checks his watch)

Uh-oh, my boss The Machine Master, will be by any second to approve the design. Now all that's left is to give him a name. Let's see... he looks like a... Jerome! No. Filipe! No. Eugene! No. P... P. P. P what?

(Audience responds

P.Nokio!)

P.Nokio! That's exactly what he looks like. P.Nokio. Thanks! But his nose looks a little long. I'll shorten it up a bit.

(G.Petto types on his computer keyboard as we see P.Nokio's nose change in size on the screen)

(MORE)

G.PETTO (CONT'D)

Now that's too short. I'll make it a little longer... That's too long... Too short... Too long... Short... Long... Uhhh! Perfect.

(Door bell rings)

Must be The Machine Master, and not a beat too soon.

G.Petto exits to answer the door and music begins as **Graffiti Fairy** appears. She goes to the computer and, using her magic spray paint can, conjures P.Nokio to life as P.Nokio emerges from the computer screens and is now on stage. P.Nokio, hearing voices approaching, takes the lamp shade off of a lamp and puts it on his head, posing as a lamp. Graffiti Fairy exits and G.Petto, **Machine Master** and **Crony** enter. Crony is holding an open umbrella over Machine Master.

G.PETTO (CONT'D)

This one is a little different from the last character I created but, if I do say so myself, I think you're going to be highly impressed with this design, sir.

MACHINE MASTER

Well let's see it then.

(G.Petto goes to the computer and sees that all 3 screens are blank. He types, trying to find P.Nokio.)

Crony?

CRONY

Yeah boss.

MACHINE MASTER

It's not raining in here.

CRONY

My bad boss.

(Crony closes the umbrella)

MACHINE MASTER

What's the problem G.Petto?

G.PETTO

The computer is just warming up, sir. You know these things can be a little temperamental.

(He bangs on the side)

MACHINE MASTER

Well, make it snappy. I haven't got all day. It's already 10 o'clock and I've got four other designs to reject.

G.PETTO

They weren't to your liking?

MACHINE MASTER

I haven't seen them yet. But I'm sure I'm going to hate them.
(Crony laughs)

G.PETTO

Oh.
(He frantically types)

MACHINE MASTER

So you mentioned this one is a little different from the last one you made?

G.PETTO

That's right. This one is on a whole 'nother stratosphere.

MACHINE MASTER

Whole 'nother stratosphere huh? Well, I hope you didn't get too ambitious G.Petto. Remember, most who try *don't* make it to the top of Mount Everest. Stay grounded. Stay safe. Stay profitable. It's simple: the trick is to duplicate whatever sold well before. Copy *don't* create. Copy. I've invested more Street Credits in you than any other designer in Hip-Hopia and I expect to get a healthy return, plus some. Now, show me whatcha got.

G.PETTO

(Noticing his new "lamp")
It's still not pulling up sir.

MACHINE MASTER

(Not noticing G.Petto's interaction with the lamp)

G.Petto, how long is this going to take?