

SCENE FOUR - DETENTION

(PRINCIPAL and TRACY are isolated in a spotlight.)

PRINCIPAL

Tracy Turnblad, once again your monumental hair-don't has seriously obstructed everyone's view of the blackboard. As Principal of Patterson Park High I condemn you, to three more days of detention!

(Lights up on TRACY in detention. Around HER are SEAWEED, LORRAINE, GILBERT, THAD, DUANE and STOOIE, asleep at HIS desk. LORRAINE is at the blackboard writing repeatedly, "I will not talk in speech class".)

TRACY

Detention! Is there no pity for a teen just trying to fit in?

SEAWEED

Maybe you oughtn't try so hard?

TRACY

Excuse me. You get detention just about every time I do, and I've never seen you complain.

SEAWEED

Oh but I do. This is my way of complaining.

(SEAWEED turns on a small transistor radio. MUSIC starts and he does a soulful little dance.)

#7 - Detention To Hop (Underscore)

It's how I use my blues.

DUANE

Use those blues, brother. You gotta use 'em or lose 'em.

TRACY

Hey, that move's swift.

SEAWEED

The man can dine me on a diet of detention so long as he don't starve me of my tunes.

(another step)

Here's a little something-something signified to say, "Hello, my name's Seaweed J. Stubbs, and what's yours baby?"

TRACY

That's unbelievable. Can I do that?

SEAWEED

I don't know. Can you?

(TRACY & SEAWEED dance together.)

TRACY

Hello. My name is Tracy Turnblad.

SEAWEED

Ow!

TRACY

Ow!

GILBERT

Not bad for a white girl.

SEAWEED

Ain't no black and white up in here. Detention is a rainbow experience.

(SEAWEED does another step)

TRACY

What's that step?

SEAWEED

Oh this? I call this one "Peyton Place After Midnight." I use it to attract the opposite sex.

(TRACY jumps in with HIM)

Fearless, girl. You really got it going on.

TRACY

This program's joining you already in progress.

(TRACY suddenly freezes with recognition.)

Oh, my God! I just realized who you are. You dance on Negro Day.

LORRAINE

Of course he does. His mom hosts the show.

TRACY

Your mom is Motormouth Maybelle, the DJ? That makes you like royalty! Negro Day is the best. I wish every day was Negro Day.

SEAWEED

At our house it is.

TRACY

Corny Collins is hosting the sophomore hop tomorrow night. If he saw me dancing like this with you, maybe he'd put me on his show.