

**“FLASH, the musical”  
SYNOPSIS**

Ed, an ordinary man, drops his bag of groceries in a parking lot. Suddenly, he hears the voice of a mugger demanding his wallet. Confused, Ed tries to get his wallet out, but is not fast enough. His wife, Kelly, and his infant daughter, Sara, are on their way out when two gun shots are heard followed by a flash of light.

In a flash...

Ed’s family and friends appear asking him if he is ready for his life to flash right before his eyes (“Flash, the song” Track #1). With a slap, Ed finds himself trying to walk as an infant for the first time. In another instant, Ed begins to play tag with his third grade friends (“Party Pooper” Track #2). Ed remembers and relives the embarrassment of losing his pants in the fifth grade lunch line (“Eddie’s Underpants” Track #3). The flashbacks continue as Ed relives his crush on his hot student middle school teacher (“Miss Landers” Track #4), he and his buddies’ infatuation with growing breasts (“What’s Up?” Track #5), and Eddie getting pulled over for speeding while driving all his friends in his Pinto (“Freedom” Track #6). And finally, Ed and his friends graduate high school and realize that from here on life is going to be a bore (“Graduation Sunday” Track #7). Ed’s Mom and Dad appear between each flash back, and Ed pleads with them to explain what is happening.

Suddenly, Ed again hears the voice of the mugger demanding his wallet. As Ed tries to find the Mugger, Aras appears, asking Ed all kinds of questions that he cannot answer. Ed tries to explain who he is and why he does not need to see his life flash before his eyes (“Just” Track #8). Aras says she will help guide him through the flashes.

Angi’s dorm room appears with all of Ed’s now college-aged friends. As the room appears, Ed begins to feel tipsy and eventually very drunk. With Aras watching on, Ed’s friends try to tell him what to do with his drunken state, and Suzi’s promiscuous propositions (“Do As We Say” Track #9). A few days later, Kelly enters the dorm room, and Ed realizes that this moment is the first time he ever saw Kelly. It was love with her at first sight for Ed (“My Wife” Track #10).

The dorm room fades away and is replaced by a stone bench on campus. Kelly really needs to talk to Ed. It is four weeks later and Ed is going way too fast. However, Ed seems to know exactly what Kelly is going to say and pleads with her to make a new decision this time. Kelly tells Ed that even though this is his flashback and anything goes, he cannot change the past. Ed is shocked that Kelly can talk to him here, in the flashback.

After Kelly disappears, Ed confides in Aras that he really thought he was doing the right thing with Kelly back in college. How could he have been so wrong? Ed feels his whole life has been a series of mistakes. But Aras tries to convince him otherwise (“Why Am I Here?” Track #11). Surprisingly, Aras realizes that somehow, she is, in fact, his infant daughter, Sara.

A new flashback appears, and Ed is thrust into trying to find his first job after college (“We’ll Call You” Track #12). After many unsuccessful interviews, Ed gets a job offer from Mr. Despreton, his former little league coach and extreme admirer of Ed’s Mom.

The mugger’s voice demands the money now, or he’ll get it from Ed’s wife and daughter. Ed frantically searches for the mugger, but instead is met by his friends and family on he and Kelly’s wedding day. Ed is all worked up before the wedding too, and ends up hyperventilating (“Somebody Just Kill Me” Track #13). The Mugger’s voice interrupts once again, Aras calls, “Dad!,” there is a flash of light, and Act 1 ends.

Ed, Bruce, Kevin, and Andy are all out for their regular game of golf that somehow parallels their love lives (“Tee Off!” Track #14). A baby is heard crying, Ed’s nursery appears, and he is confronted by the responsibility of being a new Dad. As Ed rocks infant Sara, Aras appears and tries to tell him that he is and will be a great dad (“Baby’s Song” Track #15). Ed does not hear it.

The mugger demands the wallet. This time, Ed is afraid and too tired to fight. Ed’s friends and family appear to Ed and, for the first time, talk directly to Ed, and encourage him to keep moving forward. They try to convince him what a good friend he has been (“Only Our Friend, E.D.” Track #16). Instead, Ed becomes angry about their kidding (“Just, reprise” Track #17). Ed’s loved ones decide that Ed’s life has been pretty OK, and isn’t that OK (“It’s OK To Be OK” Track #18)? Ed seems to think this might be the best solution, just to sing and dance to the fact that mediocre might be just right. However, Aras cannot, and will not, believe Ed. She tries to convince him that his life has been much more than mediocre. Ed is too tired to fight anymore, and wants to just give in. Kelly, Mom, Dad, and Aras remind Ed of a family saying that gives him the strength to move on (“Be a Bit Braver” Track #19).

Ed becomes light headed and everyone helps Ed into a hospital bed (“Flash, reprise” Track #20). Kelly rushes in to his bed side. Ed cannot remember what happened, and he talks Kelly into telling him (“What Happened?” Track #21). It becomes apparent that this is not after the mugging, but instead another flashback. Ed has had a car accident and a young woman was killed. Ed did not want to relive this seminal moment, this immaculate failure. He hates himself and blames himself for her death (“Who Am I?” Track #22) Aras tries to convince him that it was just an accident. The dead woman is named Sara.

Ed reveals that he thinks that Kelly must be so disappointed in him, and, as a result, he has kept her an arms-length away. But now, after all the flashes, he admits to Aras just how much he misses Kelly (“I Miss Her Voice” Track #23). Kelly appears and Aras tells Ed to just tell her. Unfortunately, Ed knows that this is not really happening, and in the end, Kelly may never really know how much he loves her.

Aras realizes that there is one last thing that Ed must do. Aras brings the dead woman to meet Ed. After much resistance, Ed demands that the dead woman tell him how horrible this has been for her. In Ed’s

mind, he is now convinced that he is a loser. All the friends and family appear to confirm this notion ("Look At What You've Done" Track #24). However, the dead woman is confused. Though she hates the fact that she has died, she does not blame Ed ("I Don't Blame You" Track #24). Ed is shocked to hear that the dead woman does not blame him. As the dead woman disappears, Ed finally forgives himself, and begins to realize that his life has not been that bad.

The mugger's voice is heard again demanding his wallet. Ed's family and friends assure Ed that his life has been much more than mediocre. His life has been astounding. And they love him in just so many ways ("In So Many Ways" Track #25).

Ed is finally ready for what lies ahead. His friends and family slowly disappear. And as Ed returns to the moment of the mugging, he shouts at the top of his lungs, "Bring it on, you son of a bitch!"

The flash back is over, Ed is back in the parking lot, and Kelly rushes on with infant Sara telling Ed to quiet down. Ed is shocked and overjoyed to be alive, to have another chance at life ("Epilogue" Track #26). Ed caresses Sara, and passionately kisses Kelly. There is one last flash of light.