

**ERIC GLAUBER**  
**SOUND DESIGN 1**  
**BOBRAUSCHENBERBERGAMERICA SCENE BREAKDOWN**

Scene 1: Title

Chicken comes on with a sign on it's neck of the title of the show.  
Very absurd scene – time and place n/a

Scene 2: What I Like

Scene explodes – many things happen at once. Hectic. Voiceover  
“Everything overlaps doesn't it?” - Very true throughout this play.

Scene 3: Bob's Mom

Bob's Mom enters and describes pictures projected inaccurately.  
Shows the oddity and lack of connection existing throughout the show.  
Time – night (crickets) place – her porch.

Scene 4: Our Town

Becker enters and talks about where he grew up. Sentimental.  
Reminiscent. Time and place seem to be similar as above.

Scene 5: Setting Out

Phil, The Trucker enters and discusses his work. His girlfriend  
enters as well. A girl on roller skates crosses the stage as Bob's Mom  
enters her porch again.

Music can be heard (softly) – a country song.

Scene 6: Falling in Love

Susan and Becker on stage – they kiss. Seems to be a passionate  
scene between the two – they love each other yet don't understand why  
they love on another.

Scene 7: The Triangle

Wilson enters and announces he is Susan's boyfriend – Susan says  
she doesn't love Wilson and she leaves. Sad scene, although slightly  
comical given the circumstances.

Scene 8: Making Noise

Allen enters in a shower cap and begins singing a song. Phil, Phil's  
Girl, Wilson, and Becker enter and sing back up. Susan then enters and  
sings as well. Very absurd scene. Seems almost dreamlike in it's flow  
and inconsistency.

Scene 9: Another Lover

Carl enters and dances to the song. Allen sings while Carl dances.  
Here we are given a note that many relationships exist among the

dialogue – but that even more can exit through bits of physical action and dances – “more lingering relationships”.

#### Scene 10: The Bathing Beauty

Phil and his girl are in a tub together. They discuss feeling ashamed and feeling other things like worried, vengeful, etc. Bob’s Mom then brings out a roast chicken and a picnic lunch begins.

#### Scene 11: Table Talk – The Stars

Allen and Susan discuss stars and science “There’s a great deal more space than time.”

Stars are out so perhaps more night sounds – celestial feeling – talking about space and stars.

#### Scene 12: Table Talk – The Dispute

Wilson talks to Susan about how she left him. All other characters exit during this scene – drawing focus to them. She says how she thought she loved him and apologizes for not really loving him. The scene is sad but still has a comical feel to it in the way they interact and communicate with one another.

#### Scene 13: Table Talk – A Couple Seeks Advice

Allen and Carl discuss their idea to get a chicken farm. Their lines overlap throughout the scene – showing their excitement but also the confusion between the two of them and what they are trying to accomplish. Scene ends with Susan in the bathtub and Bob’s Mom on stage alone.

The scene is disjointed and feels slightly chaotic.

#### Scene 14: Table Talk – Bob’s Mom’s Grandmother

Bob’s Mom gives a monologue about her grandmother and how she wanted all her pretty objects to smash and see how light would bounce off of the shattered surfaces. However they sold all her grandmother’s things and she never got the chance. “Art was not a part of our lives.”

Girl skates by on roller skates and people enter the scene again – as if the roller skater brings people on stage or controls the flow in some way.

#### Scene 15: Guy Talk

Phil and Susan begin to play checkers. As they do much action happens around them – people continue to enter and exit the scene – Allen and Carl bring out ironing board to iron – Phil’s Girl swings on a tire swing – Becker (the filthy derelict) sets up housekeeping inside his box.

They discuss stewardesses having affairs – discussing how times have changed.

When Susan goes to the bathroom everyone freezes and waits for her to come out – sound could “freeze” as well until we hear the toilet flush and her return.

#### Scene 16: Becker’s Movie

Becker gets a group together to read his movie. Bob’s Mom watches from inside her house. The film is strange and full of violence, rape, and other criminal actions. The characters seem to be rather evil – no one is sure how to respond at the end.

A very strange scene – sound could play sound effects as they read the play and give ambient effects to where they are in the film.

#### Scene 17: Line Dancing

Everyone does a line dance – it stops as suddenly as it began – everyone returns to his or her normal lives.

A strange way to express oneself so quickly and randomly-suppressed art perhaps?

#### Scene 18: Crazy For You

Wilson is mad at Susan – he confronts her here and says how although he loves her what she is doing will drive him insane and it isn’t fair – he storms out.

#### Scene 19: Dessert

Bob’s Mom brings out a cake – Susan during this scene begins eating compulsively. Becker and Susan have a similar conversation as Wilson and Susan. They discuss love and what it means for a man or a woman to be in love and how that differs.

#### Scene 20: Martinis

Music plays in this scene.

Phil’s girl and Phil end up licking gin off of plastic sheeting on the floor. A girl on roller skates rolls by. The stage is empty. An odd feeling to finally have the stage empty – perhaps the music playing cuts out here to define the silence even further.

#### Scene 21: Why does the chicken cross the stage?

A chicken crosses the stage cautiously and carefully. A voice over comes on. Silence until the chicken is almost on the other side of the stage. “Why does he cross the stage?”

#### Scene 22: The Universe

Music plays. All characters walk on as if walking on the moon.

Allen talks about how all we can ever see is the past – we can never see the present because of the way light travels over time. The scene ends with laundry falling from above.

Scene 23: The Laundry Opera

Carl dives over laundry as we hear an operatic aria.

Scene 24: Clean Sweep

Becker enters as a janitor – sweeping the laundry – as Bob’s Mom again inaccurately describes pictures of Bob and others from the past.

Scene 25: The Galaxy

Allen comes on with a ladder – he exists in different time and space – although interacting with those around him. Talks about the beauty of time and space – talks about the beauty of working in Los Alamos.

Newspaper boy’s bell is heard – Bob’s Mom comes in to pick up the newspaper.

Scene 26: Square Dance

Country music song plays. Everyone square dances while Carl calls out the moves.

Music cuts out into “ecstatic mode”. Wilson and Susan have an especially ecstatic duet.

Scene 27: The Assassination.

Gun-shots ring out as Carl falls to the floor.

Scene 28: Chicken Jokes

Phil tells chicken jokes to try to hide the sadness. He exits.

Scene 29: Welcome Speech

Carl gets up and welcomes everyone to an art exhibit. He describes how art is innately human and what we see in museums are how other people see the world. Even if we don’t agree with what other’s create we don’t allow it to ruin our experience in the museum. We accept that other people have different ways of seeing the world through art.

Scene 30: General Applause

Canned applause and bravos from the audience of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Cage concert at Carnegie Hall – continuing over the following scene.

Scene 31: Yard Sale

Bob’s Mom comes out and puts something down. A man comes in – looks at something – hands someone money and leaves with the object. Others do the same. Phil enters. He describes eating simply by a fire – in the woods – simplicity and beauty.

### Scene 32: The Beating

Allen enters and beats a garbage can with a baseball bat and exits – unsure about this scene – inquire further.

### Scene 33: The Marching Band

123 piece marching band – or one bagpipe player enter and march through the stage – everyone gathers to watch.

### Scene 34: The Dark Side

A Pizza Boy enters and talks with Susan and Allen. He says how he killed three people his sister, her husband, and his nephew with a knife. He gives a long speech about the murder and how if he forgives himself – he is forgiven. He is the captain of his own ship. “You run your own show.”

A newspaper boy’s bell bike is heard. Bob’s Mom comes out and takes the pizza.

### Scene 35: Lovers

Allen tells Carl he loves him. He is “good natured” and gives him delight.

Bob’s Mom comes out and Allen follows her back inside.

### Scene 36: Falling in Love

Carl talks to Phil’s Girl about how he fell in love with a soccer player. He says he fell in love with him because he reminded him of a friend from high school who reminded him of a guy he saw in a movie.

### Scene 37: Fidelity

Phil’s Girl talks about love and how she felt she shouldn’t be tied down to anyone at 19 and had affairs. When she found out he had affairs too she thought he was a jerk. Her and Carl go to get pizza.

### Scene 38: Eternal Love

Wilson and Susan talk. Susan says she does love Wilson. Strikingly similar scene to Allen and Carl’s before – he gives her delight.

### Scene 39: The Waltz

Music starts as Wilson and Susan perform a waltz. Allen discusses how we can predict planetary movements and other celestial acts – yet we cannot predict the human system – they are too complicated.

### Scene 40: Whitman

Becker speaks of Walt Whitman as people enter and clear the stage. The speech is much about humans and the human existence. Slight underscoring underneath perhaps? Or maybe silence.

Scene 41: Bob

An operatic aria faintly in the background? A man singing a love solo. Bob's Mom talks about Bob – he was a sweet boy. “He can see the beauty in almost anything.” “Art was not in our world”

A Newspaper boy's bike bell rings.

Scene 42: The Last Dance

Nighttime. Stars in the sky. Crickets. The music of Ibrahim Ferrer plays. Bob's Mom begins to dance. Everyone dances and leaves in couples. Bob's Mom and Becker alone – Becker then exits.

Crickets

Bob's Mom dances alone and enters her house.

Scene 43: The Final Moment

A man's voice says “OK! That feels good to me.”

NOTE: All the scenes happen sequentially after one another. The sound of crickets and the feeling of nighttime seems to not change. Although it may become less prevalent during some scenes – it appears we are not changing times of day or locations – although some of the characters may not think they are in the same location – nighttime outside is the main ambient sound throughout the play.