

SIDES FOR BATBOY, REV. HIGHTOWER – Pgs. 59-60

REV. HIGHTOWER. All right, let's bring it down, let's bring it down. I know there's someone out there Someone who needs healing. I can feel your distress. You've got a sin... within! Step forward! Let the Holy Ghost heal you! The Holy Ghost is commanding you! He's putting a fire under your seat now. There's a fire under your seat. Mmmm now, feel it. No fear. Who wants the healing? *(Bat Boy, Meredith, and Shelley enter in their Sunday Best. They stop just inside the entrance. The congregation gasps. Bat Boy Steps forward.)*

BAT BOY. I want to be healed.

REV. HIGHTOWER. *(Staring at him in horror.)* Oh, my Lord. Oh, Jesus, Son of God.

CONGREGATION. *(Whispering.)* I can't believe it! He showed up *here?* We had an agreement.

REV. HIGHTOWER. Now hold on, hold on. Let's bring it down, bring it down. *(To Bat Boy.)* You've got something bad in you, don't you, son?

BAT BOY. Yes.

REV. HIGHTOWER. And you want the healing.

BAT BOY. Yes. I do.

REV. HIGHTOWER. Well, come on down!

CROWD. Oh my Lordy! This can't be happening./ I'm going to faint. *(etc.)*

REV. HIGHTOWER. Come on down, come on down! Well, look at you! You've got a hunger, don't you son? It's eating you up. It's gnawing a hole in your soul.

BAT BOY. Yes.

REV. HIGHTOWER. Are you ready for the healing? Are you ready for the healing?

BAT BOY. Yes. *(Bursts into tears.)* Yes! Yes! *(The preacher lays a hand on Bat Boy's head. He closes his eyes, deep in concentration. Suddenly he opens his eyes and takes his hands off of Bat Boy's head.)*

REV. HIGHTOWER. *(Quietly.)* I hear the Holy Ghost talking to me. He says there's someone in this room who doesn't want this boy to be healed. Can that be right? Is there someone here tonight who does not want healing for this boy?

BAT BOY. *(To congregation.)* I know... *(Clears throat.)* I know you hate me. But I have to believe that it's because you don't know me. If you could see me... I mean, if you could really see me the way I see all of you...