

Extras
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INT. MEETING ROOM - DAY

A long table with chairs is in the middle of the room. On the furniture and close to a white board on the wall is a projector, projecting an image. A heavy metal band poses in the picture. A SINGER called MICHAEL (30) with long hair, also shown on the board, stands facing a middle-seated BUSINESSMAN (50) in a suit.

BUSINESSMAN
Hello, Michael. Please take a seat.

MICHAEL sits facing the BUSINESSMAN.

BUSINESSMAN
I understand you have a business idea for me?

MICHAEL
Yes. You know the prog band Tool?

BUSINESSMAN
Yes?

MICHAEL
They're latest album, it costs around £80 because it comes with all this stuff that you don't really need or want, and it sold well. SO, why not take things further and make a REAL killing?

The BUSINESSMAN puts his hand on his chin.

BUSINESSMAN
What are you saying?

MICHAEL
With MY new album, you have to buy a house and a car. How many fans do I have? Ten million? And almost all of them have left messages on my fan page saying how much they're looking forward to my new release. They're saying they'll do ANYTHING for it!

BUSINESSMAN
You're suggesting I build hundreds of thousands of new houses?

MICHAEL
Exactly! We find a medium sized island somewhere, make sure boats carrying supplies can reach it and let the sailors sort out the rest.

BUSINESSMAN
You sound like a cult leader...

MICHAEL
Not true at all. Look, I have
something to show you...

MICHAEL removes a disk from his pocket and hands it to the
BUSINESSMAN.

BUSINESSMAN
You want me to stick this in the
projector?

MICHAEL
Please.

The BUSINESSMAN gets up, takes the first disk out and
inserts the new one. Shown on the white board is an island
town with its own airport.

BUSINESSMAN
Is this real?

MICHAEL
Of course. Play the next slide.

The BUSINESSMAN presses a button on the projector. Now
showing on the board is a helicopter.

BUSINESSMAN
What's that?

MICHAEL
Say the jumbo jet gets shot down by a
fan misusing one of the rocket
launchers we sell them. We give
everyone helicopters, you can stick
them on top of the houses!

BUSINESSMAN
And the fans pay for that too?

MICHAEL
Yes!

BUSINESSMAN
I have to say I'm really surprised.
It's not all about the music?

MICHAEL
Don't you see? The houses, airport,
cars, rocket launchers and
helicopters enhance the music!

BUSINESSMAN

How??

MICHAEL

It's a concept album about living on a strange island.

BUSINESSMAN

You're crazy.

MICHAEL

Play the next slide.

A picture is shown of MICHAEL holding a huge amount of money in his arms. A man next to him holds just as much cash but his head has been cut off and replaced with the BUSINESSMAN'S.

BUSINESSMAN

I don't remember being there...

MICHAEL

You were very drunk. You were celebrating.

BUSINESSMAN

I see. How much money are you expecting us to make?

MICHAEL

Five hundred billion pounds.

BUSINESSMAN

Wow. Can I hear some of your latest music?

MICHAEL

Sure. Press the button again.

Prog music plays.

PROG LYRICS

Live the dream. Buy the luxurious house. Live on the beautiful island. Fly helicopters. Don't shoot the plane down.

BUSINESSMAN

I like it, it's catchy.

MICHAEL

It's in 17/8.

The BUSINESSMAN looks thoughtful.

BUSINESSMAN

Nice, nice. Will you be building all the houses and such before the album gets released?

MICHAEL

Of course.

BUSINESSMAN

It just sounds like a bit of a gamble, that's all.

MICHAEL

I have to come clean.

BUSINESSMAN

Yes?

MICHAEL coughs.

MICHAEL

All that stuff's been built already. If no one buys it we're both in deep trouble.

BUSINESSMAN

I'm sorry?

MICHAEL

You know when you said I was like a cult leader? It has been said. And if no one buys the album with all its extras, we're still going to be called cult leaders, just very, very, very, very poor ones.

The BUSINESSMAN smiles.

BUSINESSMAN

Your music IS catchy though...

MICHAEL

Exactly my thinking.

BUSINESSMAN

Is it all in 17/8?

MICHAEL

Some of it's in 21/8.

BUSINESSMAN

Wowee. May I ask what the album is called?

MICHAEL
'... in Happy Land.'

BUSINESSMAN
And your band name is called 'Let's
All Live...'

MICHAEL
Yes, put the two together and you get
'Let's All Live in Happy Land'. The
people with OCD won't be able to
stand not having the two parts of the
sentence together. They'll have to
buy the album and all it's extras!

BUSINESSMAN
Great! Let me just make a call to
find out if the average man is
willing to pay that much money for an
album and for them to change their
entire lifestyle...

The BUSINESSMAN retrieves his mobile from his pocket and
makes a call.

BUSINESSMAN
Hello, I'm phoning about the latest
Let's All Live album. Do you know
what people are saying about it?...
There have been multiple rumours
about its price?... Do you know if
people are willing to pay the
rumoured price?... Oh hell no?...

The BUSINESSMAN hangs up and looks grave.

BUSINESSMAN
Oh no.