1988: **Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny**

A multi-media *Scena*

Music: Robert Ely  
Libretto: Peter Scott-Presland
**Cast:**

Eric: Counter-Tenor or low Baritone (8va basso)  
*A gay man in his early 30s. Smart casual - check shirt, jeans, wispy moustache.*

Dame Jill Knight: Spoken (pre-recorded)

Speaker of the House of Commons: Spoken (pre-recorded)

**Instrumentation:** Piano
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny

PRELUDE

Bare stage with a washing line and a screen on which to project a slide show.

Lento  \( \dot{\text{C}} = 54 \text{c} \)

Piano

Pno.

Fade in slide rall.

Copyright © 2023 Robert Ely & Peter Scott-Presland
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 4

Poco più mosso
\( \text{= } 60 \text{c} \)

Fade in Parliamentry Hubbub
Thank you Mister Speaker. Many parents are concerned about the books in schools, so-called sex education books, which may corrupt our children.

There is shocking evidence in abundance that children are being encouraged to be gay and lesbian, some as young as five years old. This is paid for out of the rates, against the wishes of the parents.

There is a book called *The Milkman’s on his Way*. I will not shock the House by quoting from it. It shows intercourse in sordid detail between an adolescent boy and his adult male lover.

Haringey Council made a video, *How to become a lesbian in thirty-five minutes*. It was shown to mentally handicapped girls.
ERIC appears onstage, with a washing basket. He puts it down, cleans the washing line, and proceeds to hang some toddler clothes out on it. This is stylised, danced, and entirely innocent.

SCENE ONE

1. \( \text{Vivo} \) \( \text{p} \)
2. \( \text{legato e delicato} \)
DAME JILL: There has also been a deal of protest About Jenny Lives with Eric and Martin. It shows a little girl of six In bed with her father and his male lover, Both of whom are naked.

INSERT SLIDE:

DAME JILL: They all live happily together. It is terrifying to me That local councils have been promoting That kind of stuff. There is a pile of filth All paid for by the rates.
Lights more generally on Eric.

Allegro moderato

There I am on the right side of the photo,

Martin on the left with the skin-ny arms.
I hate that photo. It makes me look a por-ker with that double chin.
You can tell we're Danish;

we eat crisp-bread in bed, with a reckless disregard

for the viciousness of crumbs.
And Jenny wants some jam.

She's always wanting something. She's a

pain in the butt. I hate that girl.
It's all her fault we're in this mess now.

I was an average young gay man in Copenhagen.
Crui-sing round the bars, the In-time, and the

Central-hjornet, the Cozy Bar

and the Masken.
Dance 1: a cruising scene.

Eric standing on a street corner or in a doorway, waiting to make contact. Men go past and he rejects them. One he fancies, but this one rejects him.

Allegro vivo

\( \frac{1}{4} \) = 132c

Pno.

\( p \)

Pno.

\( p \)

Pno.

\( p \)

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 15
Then – bingo! – a connection.

Tempo Primo
\[ \text{\textit{j} = 104c} \]

Eric
\[ \text{\textit{mp}} \]

did - n't have a mous - tache in____ those
days. I was young and clean-cut and everyone wanted a piece of me. I never went home alone.

Then I met
Eric looked deep in my eyes and talked of love.

Insert slide
A moment of genuine passion, deep into the eyes. ERIC strokes MARTIN’s imagined chin.

He was so squeaky clean and certain, he offered calm where I had
Eric
known
only
adrenaline
and

Pno.

57

59

f

inconstancy

Pno.

60


Più agitato

At first he did not tell me

Pno.
he was married to a woman called Karen.

But when I found out,

that was cool.

I was content to be the other.
Eric

man in a triangle with a bisexual;

That was very hip, that was

Danish.

Rallentando
It left me time to pick up other men.

ERIC is remembering the times when he was there, the centre of attention in an orgy. He feels himself all over, remembering the many hands upon him.

and go to back-rooms.

Valse - scherzando

ERIC is remembering the times when he was there, the centre of attention in an orgy. He feels himself all over, remembering the many hands upon him.

and go to back-rooms.
I loved the bushes in the Orsted-parken,

The play-room and the dark-room at the S. L. M.

The voices whispering

in your ear.
Eric

smell of sweat, cum and baby oil.

Pno.

Hard, hard

Pno.

bodies you could only feel, not
see. Then back to Mar

But Karen threw a spanner in the
works.

The bitch

By spawning.
Eric I think she came off the pill without telling him, to get herself pregnant. It's what some women do to get what they want.
Eric

want.

That isn't Karen in the

Più mosso

\[ \text{\( \frac{J}{C} = 84c \)} \]

Eric

picture._

She's played by some model._

\[ \text{\( \frac{J}{C} = 84c \)} \]

Eric

By the time we took the pictures for the book
Eric Pno.
The real Karen had done a bunk.

I could'n't meet with Martin an-y-more.

Not the way I had beefore.
He had to baby sit, he had to go to clinics, he had to look for kindergartens; always something for the stupid brat.
Still, I saw him of course, 'cos

Eric

Eric

no-body gave him blow jobs like I did. He

Pno.

Pno.

wasn't going to give up fun completely for the
sake of any child.

We jogged along...

Poco scherzando

\( \frac{3}{4} \) = 116c

Poco scherzando

\( \frac{3}{4} \) = 116c
35

Eric

Pno.

com-modated...

I have

37

Eric

Pno.

al-ways been ac com-modat-ing.

40

Eric

Pno.

Growl

ord. mf

In bed and out of it. But

mp
Kar-en had-n't wrecked my life en-ough, she had to want a di-

And no, she did-n't want the wretch-ed girl.
Did I say her name was Jenny?

Cut-sie-woot-sie Jenny.

spoken aggressively

It makes me
Dance 2: A short dance of disgust and anger.

Allegro molto

\[ \text{Dance 2: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny} \]
Pno. 29

Dance ends

Pno. 37

Poco meno mosso

j = 126

ATTACCA

Eric

ATTACCA

Pno.

Why

ATTACCA

pp
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 40

**SCENE 3**

**Andante**

Eric

\[ \text{Andante} \quad \text{j} = 72c \]

Pno.

Kar-en could-n't take the girl is quite be-yond me.

**Andante**

Eric Pno.

That's what wom-en do, isn't it?

Pno.

Bring up chil dren,
Eric

Juggle with a home and a career,

Pno.

and everyone admires how they cope.

Accelerando

10

13

16
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 42

**Più mosso**

\( \dot{=} \, 112 \text{c} \)

But no, Kar-en had to get a

**Più mosso**

\( \dot{=} \, 112 \text{c} \)

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.

Eric

Pno.
Eric Pno. took him to the cleaners in the settlement: the Più agitato

32 \( \text{p} \) Più agitato

34 Più agitato

Più agitato

32 \( j = 126c \)

Più agitato

34 house and every thing, which she sold.

Eric Pno.
Selfishly, she wouldn’t take the girl. Left

Martin holding the baby.
He asked me if he could move in, he had no place of his own. And me, I’m soft as shit.
So I said yes.

That was fine for a year or two.

I still got out to the
lakes and the forest at Charlottelund,

where there's a lot of action;

the sauna at the Copenhagen Gay Centre.
If I have a high sex drive, I can't help it.
Dance 3: Celebrating the easy sexuality of the gay scene.

Lento, sensuale ed erotico

1. $\frac{3}{4}$ = 66c

4. $\frac{3}{4}$

6. $\frac{3}{4}$
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 51

Dance ends

Allegro moderato

But Martin starts to worry.

Allegro moderato

Scene 4

Eric
We are two gay parents, we have to set an example.

And if we are to be an example,
ample, we must be twice as good.

as well behaved, as patient.
Eric as any straights.

I am not a gay
Eric

par

ent.

Pno.

Eric

I did not choose this.

Pno.

Eric

Did Martin ask me?
Eric

mf

Did Kar-en ask me?

Pno.

mp

f

ERIC returns to the washing line.

Eric

No, they did not!

Pno.

f

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 56
He hangs more clothes.

Dance 4: Resentment and anger.

Vivo
\( \frac{\text{\textit{J}}}{90} \)

legato e delicato

molto marcato
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 60

Dance ends  Insert slide

poco a poco rallentando
You see! How I'm reduced to being a good little housewife.

You wouldn't believe how many clothes that
Eric

Crescendo in her knickers, jam down her tank top,

Rol-ling in the dirt. Un-be-lie-va-ble! Un-be-lie-va-ble!

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 62
Stringendo

Then a-

Poco scherzando

J = 112c

Eric

Pno.

long comes Martin's friend,

Suzanne Bosch.

"Let me write a book about you." She said. "We'll..."
show the world how gay men can be as normal as

everybody else."

I did not struggle for my liberation.

so I could be like all the
22 f
Eric
rest.

Pno.

ff

Eric
Pno.

What

mf
ever

Eric
Pno.

they say,

liberation is about sex.
The more sex you can have, the more liberated you are.

He stretches, reaching out in a gesture of freedom

Butスーピリートモルト

Rit. molto

But Su -

Misterioso

\( \dot{\text{d}} = 44 \text{c} \)

35

\begin{align*}
\text{Eric} & \quad \text{zanne} \quad \text{per-sua-ded} \quad \text{Mar-tin,} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{we}
\end{align*}

Misterioso

\( \dot{\text{d}} = 44 \text{c} \)

37

\begin{align*}
\text{Eric} & \quad \text{posed} \quad \text{for} \quad \text{stu-pid} \quad \text{pic-tures.}
\end{align*}

39

\begin{align*}
\text{Eric} & \quad \text{niente}
\end{align*}

\text{Insert slide}

\begin{align*}
\text{Eric} & \quad \text{ppp}
\end{align*}
Scene 6a
Poco allegro

Jenny loved to pose for pictures.

1

Poco allegro

Piano

5

Eric

Pno.
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 69

9

Eric

Pro-per lit-tle di-va, a real

Pno.

13

Eric

ma-dam,
al-ways the

Pno.

16

Eric

cen-tre of at-tend- tion.

Pno.
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 70

20
Pno.

24
Pno.

27
Eric
When me and Martin wanted

30
Eric
sex in the
morning, and I

Eric

Pno.

love sex in the morning,

Pno.

she was always pushing in.
Scene 6b

Lento - recit.

\[ \text{\( q = 54c \)} \]

Here we are another photo,

Lento - recit.

\[ \text{\( q = 54c \)} \]
Eric Pno.

waking up, getting excited.

Pno.

And it's 'Make my break-fast Dad-dy.' 'Come and play with me,

Eric Pno.

Dad-dy.' no thought for any-body

Pno.
else. You can't see it, but

underneath that duvet I have a massive erection.

Ritard. Attacca

Ritard. Attacca
Scene 6c

1. Allegro con moto

But Suzanne's story was so boring and bourgouis; going to the laundrette,
Mowing the lawn, Ten

Ding the garden. She was obsessed by po-

Ta - toes. Growing them,
Digging them up,

Eat -

'Mmmm!'

Makes a face

She even -

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 77
Eric Pno. had us giving potatoes as

Pno.

Dull, dull, dull, dull, dull, dull!

Pno.

Meno mosso

Meno mosso

35

39

43

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny
47. The most exciting thing I ever did.

51. was to mend a puncture in a tyre.

54. on my bicycle.
Scene 7a:

1. \textit{Lamentoso} \( \frac{3}{4} \) = 60c

Eric

Pno.

See?

5. She can't even let us cook a meal without... she wants to join...

Pno.

mf

7. in and let me tell you, her cooking's shit!

Pno.
Martin's trying to make Spaghetti Bolognese,

and what does she put in it? Sugar sprinkles.
15
Eric

Talking of presents, when it was my

Pno.

17
Eric

birth day all I wanted was to get

Pno.

18
Eric

wrecked: A bit of spliff, a bottle of good wine. But
20 **Più mosso** \( \frac{\text{j}}{} = 66c \)

Eric

Pno.

22 **Più mosso** \( \frac{\text{j}}{} = 66c \)

Eric

Pno.

We had to have jellies,

24 **Ritenuto** \( \text{mf} \)

Eric

Pno.

**Meno mosso** \( \frac{\text{j}}{} = 84c \)

Eric

Pno.

fair-y cakes and can dles, co-coa and fiz-zy.
Rallentando

Eric drinks, 'cause she was there.

Rallentando

Not even a bottle of Carlsberg!

Tempo primo \( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{\( \text{
It's not Jenny's birthday,
it's mine for Christ's sake!
And if I want to get
wrecked,
I bloody well

of

will.

Of

we rowed about it,

Martin and
Eric
me,
but

Eric
p

52

Pno.

56

thanks to Jenny we couldn't even

Pno.

60

Eric
row properly.

Pno.
From the pictures you'd think I was

ask ing 'One lump of two?'

And of course the little lim - pet has to
get in on it as well.

Look at her in the middle:

Poisonous brat!
Dance 5: Anger and resentment.

L'istesso tempo $\frac{\text{ff}}{132c}$

1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 91
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 93

Insert slide: Eric pauses to look at the picture
Scene 8:

1. **Moderato**

```

Shame, 'cos Martin has a really nice arse.
```

5. Eric

```
Not that I've had it for months.
```

8. Eric
Allegro e scherzando

11 $f = 104c$

Eric

15

Eric
trouble with Suzanne Bosche who wrote our book,

19 $mf$

everything has to be sweet-ness and light;

The
Even her queer bash-ers are middle class.

Real gays get skin-heads with swastikas and tattoos,
36
Eric
Bricks through the windows, D.

Pno.

40
Eric
M's in the guts. That would show young

Pno.

44
Eric
Jenny what it's all about.

Pno.

Insert slide
But no, we get Miss Judy Dench, Whose worst insult is

'Oh, you gays! Why don't you stay at home so the
rest of us don't have to see you?' Obvi-ously we are ter-rified,

NOT! Look at

me!
I'm bloody smiling!

He has finished putting out the washing. He looks at it, comes to a decision and tears the washing off the line.
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny

Scene 9

Andante moderato

Who-er met a queer basher

Attacca

old e-nough to be their mo- ther

molto delicato
To hell with it, I've had enough, I want a normal life. A normal gay life, with a disposable income to spend on clothes and...
Eric is going to clubs, fashionable restaurants, a gym membership and sex toys,
A small mews house that's a neglected Georgian gem which I can res- tore my self in an
I will help to gentrify.

I want to get bladered on a

Friday, Dance to six A. M.
Chill out in some calm cafe, where drugs may be available.
through a long lazy afternoon

with Carly Simons and

ERIC drops an E.

Brian Eno.
Dance 6: A clubbing dance, relaxing into a chill-out when he’s taken some meph.
Dance ends

Scene 10
Eric is back, he starts to fold up the washing.

Lento
\[ \text{Lento} \quad \frac{\text{L}}{\text{M}} = 54 \text{c} \]

Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 111
We were happy as we were, Martin and me,

we had a life of our own

before that wretched Jenny came to live with us.
I have the answer!

If Jenny could come to live, then Jenny can go!

Jenny can go, now!
28

Eric

To hell with sentiment!
Who is she to come into my

Pno.

Eric

31

life uninvited,

Pno.

Eric

35

almost whispered
Take it over,

Pno.
I have to destroy her, this atrocious infant, to save my self.

Jenny! Where are you
46

Eric

Dar - ling?

Un - cle E - ric's _ got a game for

Pno.

f

mf

50

Eric

you.

Pno.

p

52

Pno.
He unties the washing line and coils it in his hand.
He exits.

Would you like to play a

Meno mosso \( \frac{\text{j} = 72}{\text{pp}} \)

game? A little bondage game, Perhaps a little mild asphyxi-
1988: Eric Lives With Martin and Jenny - Page 119

Lento \( \frac{\text{c}}{= 44} \)

Subito allegro molto \( \frac{\text{c}}{= 132} \)

---

Eric

a - tion?...

---

Pno.

---

Subito allegro molto

---

Pno.

---

Ledo

---

Pno.
ERIC staggers back onto the stage with a very large doll caught round the neck in the washing line.
He raises it above his head, suspended in the rope. Triumphant:

Subito allegro molto

\( \dot{=} 132 \text{c} \)

Blackout