

GBV CAN'T GET INTO THE ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME BY JARRED HODGDON

EXT. ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME - DAY

ROBERT POLLARD, a man immediately recognizable as the iconic leader of the famous rock group Guided by Voices, stands outside the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with his old college pal, JOE.

ROBERT POLLARD

Now, Joe. When we get to the front, please don't make a big deal about me being Robert Pollard of the iconic rock band, Guided By Voices.

JOE

Sure thing, Robert.

Robert Pollard and Joe saunter up to the entrance and confront TICKET WOMAN.

ROBERT POLLARD

Hey, man. The two of us want to get into the museum.

TICKET WOMAN

Sure. Two tickets comes to forty-eight dollars.

Robert Pollard pulls some twenties out of his pocket, is handing them over, then--

ROBERT POLLARD

Y'know. I'm Robert Pollard of Guided By Voices.

(sings)

"Parallel lines on a slow decline..."

Ticket Woman stops short of grabbing the cash.

TICKET WOMAN

Wait. Did I hear you say you say Guided By Voices? Hold on.

(checking clipboard )

I'm sorry, sir. It says here, Guided By Voices can't get into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

ROBERT POLLARD

You don't understand, we just want to come in as visitors--

TICKET WOMAN

--look, it's not up to me. You're on the list. Heck, maybe you should be in here. I dunno, haven't heard your music. Perhaps if you keep at it, make a few more records, in a few years--

ROBERT POLLARD

--Hey, man. G.B.V. has put out more than thirty albums, we got more than a thousand songs.

(sings)

"C'mon. C'mon. The club is open."

TICKET WOMAN

That could be it. But the R and R, H of F is really about recognizing quality, not quantity.

Robert Pollard swells with offense, Joe extends his arm.

JOE

I got this, Robert. Ma'am, I'll have you know. Some of Roberts songs are pretty good.

ROBERT POLLARD

Thanks.

(double-take)

Hey. Some?

JOE

Sorry. You know you're an acquired taste.

A SECURITY GUARD arrives.

SECURITY GUARD

Something the matter here?

TICKET WOMAN

Thank god you're here. This guy, Guided By Voices, wants to get in but it says right here they can't.

Security Guard looks at the clipboard.

SECURITY GUARD

Sir, I'm going to have to ask you to leave. This list is clear. Guided By Voices can't get into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

ROBERT POLLARD

It doesn't matter, man. I'm here as myself today not Guided By Voices!

JOE

That's right! Robert has a prolific solo career. Like thirty solo albums and side project bands like the Circus Devils.

SECURITY GUARD

Oh! So you want to get in as solo Robert Pollard?

ROBERT POLLARD

Yes! Yes! I have cash to pay!

(sings)

"The closer you are, the quicker it hits ya."

Robert Pollard shoves a wad of cash forward. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's MANAGER arrives.

MANAGER

Hey! I'm the Manager. Is this a hullabaloo goin' on here?

SECURITY GUARD.

No, ma'am. We have this guy Robert Pollard here trying to bribe us to get into the Hall of Fame.

MANAGER

I should throw you out of here on cause! That's not the way to make it, hit songs and cultural relevance are the mode of entry to these hallowed halls.

TICKET WOMAN

This fella seems like he diarrheas out music but we never heard of him or his band, Guided By Voices.

ROBERT POLLARD

Hey, G.B.V. is very influential! And we had big songs too.

MANAGER

Really?

ROBERT POLLARD

The song Hold On Hope did very well  
for us when it appeared on the  
Scrubs soundtrack.

MANAGER, TICKET WOMAN, SECURITY GUARD

Ohhhhh.

ROBERT POLLARD

What? Oh what?

MANAGER

That's called the Zach Braff, indie  
influencer factor. It creates  
disruptive statistical anomalies.  
Trust me, you won't be seeing The  
Shins in here any time soon.

JOE

Hold On Hope. That's one of your  
good ones, Robert.

Robert Pollard throws his cash on the ground - stomps on it.

ROBERT POLLARD

Dang it! I just wanted to come in  
here with my old college buddy and  
look at rock and roll memorabilia  
like any other regular old tourist.  
But I ain't like anyone else!  
Guided By Voices has the most and  
bestest songs! We've been crafting  
epic records for four decades, just  
next door in Dayton. You Cleveland  
pricks are too stupid to recognize  
genius!

Robert Pollard flips them all off. Exits.

JOE

Sorry for his temper. He really  
does have a couple good songs.

Joe shrugs and chases after Robert Pollard.

SECURITY GUARD

What a prick!

TICKET WOMAN

He'll never make it into the Rock  
and Roll Hall of Fame with an  
attitude like that.

BLACKOUT