

WESTMAN, PART I

Part I consists of a series of songs that trace Westman's genealogy and life up to his adolescence.

WAITING FOR SOMETHING

The story opens with Judith, waiting for the thing that will come and take her away from her harsh life.

LOVE WILL SHOW THE WAY

Jesse appears and goes about convincing Judith that he is the choice and the chance she needs to take.

I'VE ALMOST, ALREADY FORGOTTEN YOU

The next morning Judith wakes up, looks at Jesse and realizes that he is not the one she was hoping for and tells him he must leave.

DADDY'S GONNA COME BACK

Jesse leaves but shortly thereafter, Judith realizes that she is pregnant. She has a daughter, Catherine. Judith can barely stand her daughter, who is left to grow up alone on the street. Catherine, a tough and scrappy girl, is nurtured by the belief that her father, whom her mother so wrongly sent away, will one day return.

YOU'RE GONNA BE SURPRISED

Catherine is convinced that great things lie in store for her, despite the fact that she is widely looked down on and ridiculed by the people around her.

IN YOUR EYES

Catherine's fortune changes when Roman, the richest man in town and much older than Catherine, looks at her anew one day and falls in love with her.

CIRCLE IN THE SAND

Roman takes Catherine to his mother, Plata, who goes about instructing her new daughter-in-law about the higher, abstract truths of life.

THIS CHILD

Roman and Catherine have a child, Westman. They sense that, one way or the other, this child will be special.

EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT

Vincent is one of Roman's stable hands: he is nasty, brutish and tall. He challenges Roman to a fight and scores an easy win, taking Catherine and Westman as his prize. Roman has to leave town to reestablish himself near where his parents have been staying.

WHEN I CAN'T BE WITH YOU

Roman says goodbye to Westman

I WILL CHANGE FOR YOU

Vincent woos Catherine with the ultimate "guy promise."

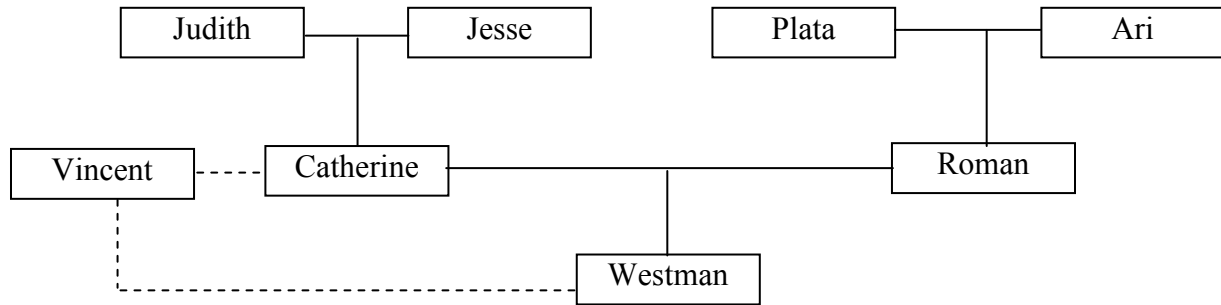
NOW AND HERE

Westman, age eleven meets his grandfather Ari. He is wise beyond imagining.

IT'S A GREAT BIG WORLD

Westman adolescence propels him into a creative burst of song, art, writing and exploration. Mother is cautiously delighted.

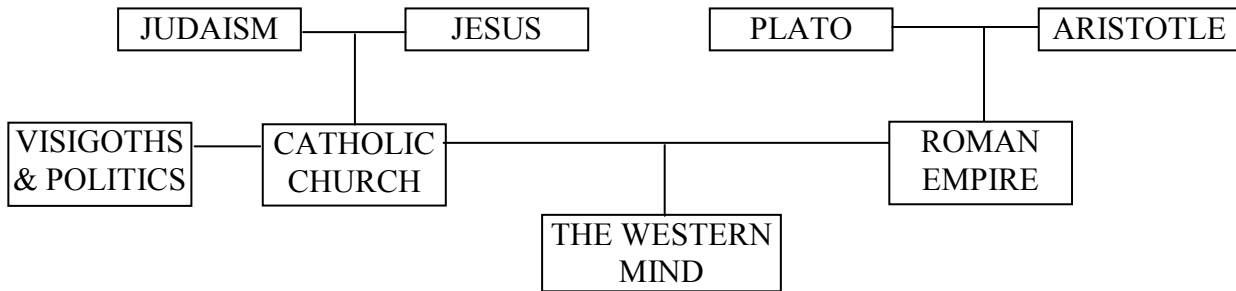
THE CHARACTERS



THE ALLEGORY

Judith, who is *Waiting For Somethin*, is Judaism
Jesse, with his message that *Love Will Show The Way*, is Jesus. (More completely, Jesse represents that entire Jewish messianic possibility.) Judaism rejects the Messiahs in *I've Almost, Already Forgotten You*. Their daughter **Catherine**, who knows that *Daddy's Gonna Come Back and You're Gonna Be Surprised*, is the Christian Church -- specifically Catholicism -- humble in origin, expansive in its realized aspirations. **Roman** is the Roman Empire, dramatically converted to Christianity *In Your Eyes*. The Western Mind, **Westman**, is the result of this union. And *This Child* seems to be something truly special.

Aristotle and **Plato** are the intellectual parents of Rome. Plato's message is that truth is an abstraction "out there," illustrated by the mathematical imperfection of a *Circle in the Sand*. Aristotle insists that the truth is *Now and Here*. Vincent, the **Visigoths**, deposes the Roman Empire to take *Everything You've Got* and then swears to Catherine *I Will Change For You*. He can overthrow a man/empire but not a woman/church. Roman is forced to leave his son and wife and restart his life *When I Can't Be With You*, as the Roman Empire moved to Byzantium. Westman's adolescent discovery that *It's A Great Big World (Who Knew?)* is the Renaissance.



PART II Westman's teens

Westman recently turned twenty years old. He has been aging one year per each of our centuries since he was ten years old in the year 1000. This explains the current situation. The West is now a rowdy, dangerous young man -- strong enough to do real harm, with only the beginning of the wisdom to control that capability. Ultimately, one can hope for progress, assuming that this youngster is smart enough to survive his most perilous years and grow into the wisdom that age can confer.

I asked Westman to describe for me the most interesting thing that happened to him during each of his previous ten years.

Century/ Age	Westman ...		Event	
10	is sent on a trip to a strange place		Crusades	
11	meets his grandfather		Aristotle rediscovered	
12	extracts a promise from Vincent to consult him in important decisions		Magna Carta	
13 and 14	starts to paint, write and sing meets Iberia		Renaissance US created	
15	fights with his mother/leaves to live with Vincent.		the Reformation	
16	learns that the world is a predictable place		Science	
17	fights with Vincent; moves out on his own. meets Madame Solé		Revolutions Global exploration	
18 19	in the day ... works and makes goods	at night ... worries and wonders	the day ... industry	the night ... uncertainty and relativity