Noah Side from *Capriccio Radio* By Lawrence Rinkel Directed by Tony Tambasco April 2023 BACCA Arts Center, Lindenhurst, NY

NOAH

My parents think I'm this ugly skinny freak who dyes his hair and writes this weird music nobody understands. It's like my mom's always going, "Why don't you have a game of one-on-one with Brandon. That's why we put up that net." Well, screw you, mom. Why don't any of you listen to my music? And then my dad gets all mad when I don't join in their stupid sports talk at dinner. Like I'm supposed to be Superjock Brandon who's all about who won the game and what coach said about his swing and let's watch some moron getting himself killed doing 200 miles an hour on NASCAR! Don't they understand, if I'm not saying anything it's 'cause I've got this whole world racing around my head and I've got to write down what I'm hearing after dessert. And they'll never know because they don't give a crap about me. I hate my family. I hate my brother, I hate adults. OK, most adults. Not you. Oh, shoot! I told myself, "Don't get yourself all worked up; he doesn't care about your pathetic life story." It's just that, I've been listening to you so long — I sorta think of you as a friend.