

**MIDDLE-OF-THE-NIGHT CALLS TO MUSICIANS:
FRED SCHNEIDER OF THE B-52'S**

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INT. FRED SCHNEIDER'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

FRED SCHNEIDER (66), musician and frontman for American new wave band THE B-52'S, lies asleep on his couch while an infomercial for a crappy product plays on his television.

After a beat, Fred's cell phone RINGS. His ringtone: The guitar intro from the B-52's 1978 hit single "Rock Lobster."

Fred stirs and looks around: "What time is it?" He gets his bearings, then searches for his phone. It's buried between two couch cushions. Still groggy, he digs it out and answers.

FRED SCHNEIDER

Hello?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)

Is... is this... Fred Schneider?

FRED SCHNEIDER

Yeah?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)

Fred Schneider of the B-52's? That Fred Schneider?

FRED SCHNEIDER

Who is this?

A long beat of silence passes. Then--

SUPER FAN (O.S.)

I'm a... I'm just a big fan.

FRED SCHNEIDER

Is this a joke? Did Kate put you up to this?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)

No, it's not a joke. Not at all.

FRED SCHNEIDER

Where did you get this number?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)

(ignoring)

Listen, I'm sorry, it's just that I have this... question. It's been nagging me forever.

Fred looks around, confused: "Am I still dreaming?"

SUPER FAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
*It's just one question. If you
 answer it, that'll be it. I'll
 never bother you again. I promise.*

FRED SCHNEIDER
 Okay, I guess? What's your
 question?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
It has to do with "Love Shack."

FRED SCHNEIDER
 (rolling eyes)
 Of course it does.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
*You start off the song with the
 lyrics: "If you see a faded sign at
 the side of the road that says
 fifteen miles to the...."*

Silence.

FRED SCHNEIDER
 Yeah?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
But then Cindy... you know, Wilson--

FRED SCHNEIDER
 I know who Cindy is.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
*Cindy cuts you off and finishes
 your thought: "Love Shack."*

FRED SCHNEIDER
 What is your question?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
*It's just that, I've always felt
 that maybe you were trying to tell
 us something else, but then Cindy
 purposefully changed the topic.*

FRED SCHNEIDER
 What?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
*Like you were trying to give us a
 warning or something.*

FRED SCHNEIDER
Okay, now I know Kate put you up--

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
(angrily)
I don't know Kate!
(calmer)
I apologize. It's just that this is something that's been bothering me for decades now.

FRED SCHNEIDER
You really need a hobby, pal.
(no reply)
I'm sorry. Listen, it's just a song lyric. If Cindy hadn't cut me off, I would've finished the lyric exactly as she did, with: "Love Shack." It's the title of the song, for crying out loud.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
So there's nothing else? That's it?

FRED SCHNEIDER
Why is this so important? You've been obsessing about this since 1989? Seriously?

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
Yeah. It's just that, and I know this is going to sound crazy but, I live out in the middle of nowhere and on one of the back roads there's literally a faded sign at the side of the road that says fifteen miles to the--

Fred looks like he's seen a ghost.

FRED SCHNEIDER
(deadly serious)
Love Shack.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
Right.

FRED SCHNEIDER
(hushed)
You found it.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
What's that?

Fred's demeanor changes. He's now panicked.

FRED SCHNEIDER
Nothing. Don't call here again,
okay? I don't know anything about
this, alright? Just leave me alone.

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
*Please, tell me! What do you know
about the Love Shack?*

Fred thinks a beat, closes his eyes, and says--

FRED SCHNEIDER
(whispers)
Only this. The original lyric,
before Cindy cut me off, was: "If
you see a faded sign at the side of
the road that says fifteen miles to
the Love Shack... turn around or
everyone will die."

SUPER FAN (O.S.)
I knew--

Fred hangs up. He's fidgety, nervous. After a beat, his phone
RINGS again. He answers it.

FRED SCHNEIDER
(screaming)
I said to never call here--

CINDY WILSON (O.S.)
Hey, Fred.

It's Fred's B-52's bandmate: CINDY WILSON (60).

Fred's eyes go wide, the color drops out of his face.

CINDY WILSON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
What's new?

THE END