

BACK TO THE FUTURE BEAT SHEET 8.2.09

beated by E.J. Kalafarski

1. Credits over montage of clocks. Marty enters Doc's lab, abandoned for days. He gets a call from Doc, "Where've you been all week?" Doc says he's been working, asks to meet at the mall parking lot in the middle of the night. Doc's clocks go off.
2. Late for school, Marty skateboards through Hill Valley: fitness centers, strip clubs, fast food restaurants, etc., set to Huey Lewis.
3. In the hallways of high school, Marty and girlfriend Jennifer encounter the vice principal, gives them tardy slips, makes it clear Marty's father is a loser.
4. Marty's band is rejected in auditions for the upcoming school dance, "Just too darned loud."
5. Walking home, Marty laments rejection to Jennifer, who reminds what Doc always says: "if you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything." Marty pines for an expensive 4x4. A woman interrupts them mid-kiss, gives him a flyer on the town clock tower, struck by lightning 30 years ago.
6. Marty arrives home, finds the family car totaled in the driveway. Inside, George's boss Biff strongarms George into doing his reports for him.
7. Dysfunctional family dinner. Lorraine recounts between glasses of vodka how she met George; George, distracted, watches a *Honeymooners* rerun.
8. Marty, in bed, gets call from Doc, reminding to meet at mall with a video camera.
9. Marty arrives to see Doc emerge from a car he has built into a time machine. After performing a trial run with Doc's dog, which Marty videotapes, Doc recounts how he got the idea 30 years ago for time travel's most important part, the Flux Capacitor, and absent-mindedly sets the destination time to this date. They refuel the DeLorean with plutonium, wearing radiation suits. The terrorists from whom Doc stole the plutonium arrive, shoot Doc, and chase Marty and the DeLorean through the parking lot. Marty evades them, accelerates to 88 mph, sending him through time.
10. Marty arrives in 1955, crashes into a barn. Escapes from shotgun-wielding owner.
11. Panicked and driving around, Marty finds his neighborhood has not been built yet. When the DeLorean stalls, he hides it behind a billboard.
12. On foot, Marty wanders through Hill Valley, very different now: full service gas stations, pogo sticks, jukeboxes, a functioning clock tower, the Four Aces play in the background. Encounters young George in a cafe. George is harassed by Biff, similar to 1985.

13. Marty follows George to the suburbs, finds him spying on girls undressing. Marty pushes George out of the way of traffic, is knocked unconscious.
14. Marty wakes in Lorraine's bedroom. Lorraine is amorous, Marty nervous.
15. Marty has dinner with Lorraine's family, watches the same *Honeymooners* episode George did in 1985. Marty asks where to find Doc's current address—when Lorraine comes onto him, quickly departs.
16. Arriving at Doc's house, Marty subjected to a mind-reading experiment by 1955 Doc. Doc is incredulous at Marty's story, runs out of house. Marty chases Doc to his garage, where he recounts Doc's story of getting the idea for the Flux Capacitor. Shocked, Doc reemerges.
17. During the night, Doc and Marty retrieve the DeLorean. Doc promises to get Marty home.
18. Rewatching Marty's videotape, Doc learns time travel requires "1.12 jigowatts" of electricity, panics—only lightning can produce that kind of power. Marty produces the clock tower flyer, which predicts a lightning strike at 10:04 on Saturday night, and Doc concocts a plan—"Next Saturday night, we're sending you back to the future." Marty learns that he has prevented his parents from meeting.
19. At the high school, Doc and Marty try to arrange a meeting between George and Lorraine, but Lorraine interested only in Marty. Marty remembers his parents are supposed to go to the dance on Saturday.
20. In the cafeteria, Marty tries to get George to ask out Lorraine. Discovers George is a writer, and George talks about his fear of rejection, similar to Marty's. When Marty is distracted by Biff harassing Lorraine, George disappears.
21. Marty chases George home. Adamant about not going to the dance, George mentions interest in science fiction, gives Marty idea.
22. In bed that night, George is visited by Marty in radiation suit, who convinces him he is an alien.
23. Next day, George finds Marty in town. George describes how an alien named Darth Vader demanded he take Lorraine to the dance. Marty and George find Lorraine in the cafe, where Marty tries to give George tips on asking her out. In the middle of his attempt, Biff enters and interrupts. Marty intercepts, punches Biff and runs out.
24. Outside the cafe, Marty pulls apart a boy's scooter, creating a skateboard. Biff and his gang chase down Marty by car, until Marty tricks them into driving headlong into a manure truck. Lorraine swoons, "he's an absolute dream." Biff covered in manure, swears revenge.
25. In his garage, Doc is rewatching the part of the videotape in which terrorists arrive. Marty tries to tell Doc what happens, but Doc refuses listen and interfere with future

history. Doc shows Marty a model of the town, explaining his plan to route the lightning from the clock tower down a cable to the DeLorean driving on the street. After an inauspicious demonstration, there is a knock at the door—Lorraine has followed Marty. She asks Marty to the dance on Saturday.

26. Helping George with laundry, Marty discusses his new plan. During Marty and Lorraine's date on Saturday, Marty will take advantage of Lorraine in the car, and George will arrive to save her. Marty shores up George's confidence, tells him, "if you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything."
27. Preparing clock tower, Marty and Doc discuss the future. Marty again tries to tell Doc about his death, but Doc refuses to listen—even good intentions can backfire drastically.
28. In cafe across the street, Marty writes a letter to Doc, warning of terrorists. Marty slips it into Doc's coat pocket while Doc bribes police officer.
29. Establishing shots of George at the dance.
30. Marty and Lorraine drive up to high school. Marty admonishes Lorraine for indulging in alcohol and cigarettes. Lorraine says he's beginning to sound like her mother.
31. The band at the dance takes a break. George realizes he is late for Marty's plan.
32. Lorraine tries to kiss Marty in the car, very awkward—Marty can't bring himself to play his part of the plan. Suddenly, Biff appears, pulls Marty out of the car—"You cost three hundred bucks damage to my car." Biff accosts Lorraine, his gang takes Marty away.
33. Biff's goons throw Marty into the trunk of another car. The band steps out of car, chases off the goons. Band's guitarist, Marvin, realizes Marty is locked in trunk.
34. George arrives at car, playing his part until he realizes Biff, not Marty, is in driver's seat. George stands up for Lorraine anyway, and Biff attacks him, starting to break his arm.
35. Marvin jimmies open the trunk, slicing his hand. Marty runs off to find Lorraine.
36. Marty arrives in time to see George—in uncharacteristic chivalry—knock Biff unconscious with a single punch. George and Lorraine walk off together.
37. Doc watches storm begin.
38. Marty tries to convince band to go back on. Marvin can't play, and the band can't play without Marvin, "Unless you know someone who can play the guitar..."
39. Marty takes over guitar for band, which plays a slow song. Dancing, Lorraine asks if George will kiss her, but another bully cuts in. Marty begins to fade. George suddenly cuts back in, kissing Lorraine and restoring Marty. When the song ends, Marvin convinces Marty to play one more. Marty plays "Johnny B. Goode" while

Marvin Berry makes a call to his cousin, Chuck. Dancers are shocked when Marty finishes the song like an 80s rock concert.

40. Backstage, Lorraine tells Marty George will take her home. They say goodbye, Lorraine mentions she likes the name “Marty.”
41. Doc wonders where Marty is as Marty pulls up. Marty tells Doc about the change in his father, but Doc waves it off. They set Marty’s destination time and say goodbye, when Doc finds letter in his pocket. Indignant, he tears it up—”I refuse to accept the responsibility!” In the stormy wind, a branch falls on the cable Doc has run from the clock tower to the street. Doc quickly climbs the 40-foot clock tower and throws down a rope to haul cable back up. Marty tries one more time to yell a warning up to Doc, but is interrupted by the 0:00 bell. Doc demands he leave, he’s got less than four minutes—Marty reluctantly drives off. Doc begins to climb across clock face to reconnect the cable. Clock ticks to 10:01.
42. Marty reaches his starting line, stops car to attach its lighting rod. He bemoans failure to warn Doc, then realizes he can set the time machine to return to 1985 ten minutes early. When he’s ready to go, the car starter fails again. Tensely struggles to start the car as time runs out. Finally, the car starts and Marty speeds off toward the clock tower.
43. Doc slips on clock, dropping the cable. Dangles forty feet in the air, the cable caught on his pant leg. 10:02. With the cable slipping, Doc finally catches it in his hand, relieved until he sees it is caught on the fallen branch. He pulls hard, disconnecting the cable at the street end as well. Marty accelerates toward the tower. 10:03. With DeLorean approaching fast in the distance, Doc connects the cable to the tower and slides down it forty feet to the street! In a frantic moment, as Marty hits 88 mph, Doc runs to street and connects the cable, just as the lightning strikes! In the silence after, Doc sees the DeLorean has vanished and whoops victoriously.
44. Match cut to clock tower in 1985. Three sonic booms as DeLorean reappears. Marty is ecstatic at his return, tries to drive off to warn Doc—but car stalls yet again. As terrorists drive past, Marty starts to run.
45. Marty arrives at the mall to see the terrorists gun down Doc. Watches himself drive off in the DeLorean and vanish as terrorists crash into a photo booth. He runs over to Doc, who appears dead. Doc suddenly sits up, unzips his radiation suit to reveal a bulletproof vest. He pulls out Marty’s letter, showing that he has taped it back together—”I figured, what the hell.”
46. Doc drops Marty off at his house, is heading for the future next. He drives off, disappearing in three flashes of light.
47. Marty wakes up next morning, shocked to find family having a cordial, domestic breakfast. George and Lorraine enter, athletic and in love, and George’s newly-published novel arrives—George takes opportunity to tell Marty, “you put your mind

to it, you can accomplish anything.” Marty finds Biff outside waxing the car, and a timid, cheerful Biff presents Marty with keys.

48. Marty finds a new 4x4 in garage. Jennifer appears and Marty kisses her, just as the DeLorean appears in driveway with three sonic booms. A futuristic Doc steps out, tells Marty he’s got to come back with him. “Where?” “Back to the future!” Doc refuels car with garbage, tells them something’s got to be done about their kids. They pull out of driveway and Marty notes that there isn’t enough road to accelerate to 88 mph. Doc laughs, roads? Where we’re going, we don’t need roads. DeLorean lifts off into sky, flies into the camera. Smash cut to credits.