



THE PRINCESS BLONDE

Book, Music and Lyrics by
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(ASCAP)

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THE PRINCESS BLONDE

IS DEDICATED TO
MR. ANDY LIBBY

THE PRINCESS BLONDE

CAST OF CHARACTERS

**9 males and 6 females
plus chorus**

CARLO GROZZI, an author in his 80's
CHARLES PERAULT, a ghostly author
PIERRE, a faithful valet
KING RAMPANT. The king of the Kingdom of Wish
QUEEN THISTLE, The Queen of the Kingdom of Wish
THE PRINCESS BLONDE (NO CINDERELLA, SHE!)
ROSE: A GOOD FAIRY
THORN: A BAD FAIRY
QUEEN ABANDONED (The Dowager Queen of the kingdom of Wonder)
THE UGLY PRINCESS WEED
RIQUET WITH THE TUFT
KING RAPTURE (The Runaway King of the Kingdom of Wonder)
PRINCE AMAZING (A skunk in Prince tights)
COOK #1 #2 #3
SOLDIERS/ DOUBLING AS MAGIC CREATIONS
THE HANDSOME PRINCE RIQUET (BIT)
THE BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WEED (BIT)
A COMPANY OF CITIZENS doubling as THE ANGRY CROWD

The Princess Blonde

Character Ranges

The image displays ten musical staves, each representing a character's vocal range. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The notes are as follows:

- Princess Pinhead:** A single note on the second line (D4).
- Fairy Thorn:** A single note on the second space (E4).
- Queen Thistle / Queen Abandoned:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a flat sign (E4b).
- Fairy Rose:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a sharp sign (E4#).
- Princess Weed:** A single note on the second space (E4).
- Gozzi:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a sharp sign (E4#).
- Riquet:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a sharp sign (E4#) and a flat sign (E4#b).
- Prince Amazing:** A single note on the second space (E4).
- Perrault:** A single note on the second space (E4).
- King Rampant / King Rapture:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a flat sign (E4b).
- Archbishop:** A single note on the second space (E4) with a flat sign (E4b).

ACT I

SCENE 1

Music #1: "OVERTURE"
(Orchestra)

A VENICE STREET. ALSO AN APARTMENT ON A RAISED PLATFORM. 1803

Music #2: "GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK"
(Gozzi, Crowd)

CARLO GOZZI races through the audience, trying to get to the apartment, set up on the platform.

A CROWD pursues him, waving programmes and/or throwing oranges.

CROWD
(sings)

TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE! SIMPLY UNBEARABLE!
WHAT A DISASTER, WE SAW ON THAT STAGE!
PITIABLE, PITIABLE! ALMOST UNWITTIBLE!
WE ARE THE AUDIENCE, NOW IN A RAGE!

STRUCTURE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND IN YOUR PLAY!
WE'RE THINKING OF HANGING YOU UP IN A CAGE!
YOUR WISDOM IN WORDS WAS NOT THERE ON THE PAGE!

OH SO MUCH, YOUR TRAGEDY LACKS!
WE WANT OUR MONEY! WE WANT OUR MONEY!
WE'RE NOT BEING FUNNY!
WE WANT OUR MONEY BACK, RIGHT NOW!

GOZZI almost makes it to the stairs, leading up to the platform. The CROWD cuts him off.

CROWD (CONT'D)

GO, GET YOUR GOLD FROM YOUR BIG, HIDDEN SACK
BEFORE WE ASSUME THIS BRUTAL ATTACK!
OH, HEAR WHAT WE SAY! WE'RE NOT TURNING BACK TONIGHT!

CROWD (CONT'D)

WE'RE NOT CHANGING OUR MINDS!
WE LEFT CHARMING BEHIND!
WE'RE NOT CHANGING OUR MINDS AT ALL,
AT ALL, TONIGHT!

The CROWD advances on him with a menacing air.

It seems, GOZZI is trapped. He trips, near the base of the stairs.

CROWD (CONT'D)

GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GOZZI, WE SAY,
BEFORE WE CUT ALL YOUR FINGERS AWAY,
SO YOU CAN'T WRITE ANYMORE LIKE TODAY, AND GLOAT,
THEN PUT IT RIGHT BACK IN OUR LAPS, DOWN OUR THROATS!
THIS IS TERRIBLE CRAP, WE MUST NOTE!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS THING, THAT YOU WROTE?
AND BEFORE WE GO HOME IN OUR BOATS,
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK,
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, NOW!

GOZZI
(sings)

BUT IT'S A TRAGEDY!

CROWD

NO KIDDING, YES!

GOZZI

ONLY A TRAVESTY!

CROWD

WITHOUT SUCCESS!

GOZZI

WITH A MYTHICAL ELEMENT!

CROWD

SIMPLY IRRELEVANT!

GOZZI

TWO LOVERS ARE TRAGICALLY PARTED!

CROWD
THE RENDEZVOUS BARELY GOT STARTED!

GOZZI
DIGS ON SOCIETY!

CROWD
FILLED WITH IMPIETY!

GOZZI
BUT SPLENDID VARIETY, IF YOU
HAD STAYED FOR ACT TWO!

CROWD
THAT WAS SOMETHING, WE COULDN'T GET THROUGH!
THAT'S WHY WE'RE COMING RIGHT AFTER YOU!
THE THEATRE SAYS THAT REFUNDS ARE DUE!

The CROWD makes "impresario" poses.

CROWD (CONT'D)
"GO TO THE PLAYWRIGHT, HE'LL MAKE IT ALL RIGHT,
BUT WE'RE CLOSING THIS SHOW, HERE, TONIGHT,
AS IF YOU DIDN'T ALL KNOW OF THIS BLIGHT..."

Then, the CROWD turns back onto Gozzi.

CROWD (CONT'D)
IT'S RANCID, OLD-FASHIONED AND BLOWS!
WE'RE BRINGING IN SOMETHING THAT SHOWS GREAT TALENT!
SO WANT US TO TRY?
'CAUSE SOMETHING SURE WENT AWRY.

SO GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, PLEASE,
BEFORE WE PUT ON THE SQUEEZE!

(raising the oranges)

WE'RE READY TO THROW MORE OF THESE!
SO GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK,
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, PLEASE!

*GOZZI breaks away and rushes up the
stairs, where PIERRE, his valet, opens the
door. Once GOZZI is through, PIERRE
slams the door.*

As GOZZI breathes a sigh of relief, the LIGHTS go dark on the crowd.

PIERRE

Monsieur Gozzi..

GOZZI

Quiet, Pierre. I'm running for my life.

PIERRE

At your advanced age?

GOZZI

Opening night. A disaster.

PIERRE

Princess Turandot?

GOZZI

Died in her spotlight, pitiful thing. She'll never see the light of another stage, again.

PIERRE

This is what every playwright thinks. Monsieur Shakespeare was booed many times, himself.

GOZZI

Not at ninety-plus years, by a crowd that...

GOZZI opens the door. In the darkness, we hear...

Music #2A: "GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK (II)"
(Crowd)

CROWD

(sings)

GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GOZZI!

GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GOZZI!

GOZZI

I'll never be able to leave here. Not without refunding their money. And how can I do that, if the theatre refuses my royalty?

CROWD

GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GOZZI!
GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK, GOZZI!

*PIERRE produces a bag of coins, which he
throws out the door. The chant outside
ceases.*

PIERRE

Fortunately, I always put money away. For emergencies.
No, no need for thanks, monsieur. The deed is done.
Good night. I'll see you in the morning.

PIERRE exits.

GOZZI begins to pack his bags.

GOZZI

Good night, dear Venice. We shall not meet again. You
do not understand the stories I weave. Perhaps...
Perhaps, I shall try Spanish Tragedy.

PERRAULT (OFFSTAGE)

Perhaps, you should try French Farce. Upon the French.

GOZZI

Who is that?

PERRAULT

A fellow author.

GOZZI

They've already rented my room to another author?
How rude.

PERRAULT

I have not been an author for one hundred years.

GOZZI

Who are you? Does my failure take on a persona, to
ridicule me?

PERRAULT

I wouldn't dare. I have been ridiculed, myself. You'll not find me an hypocrite, sir.

GOZZI

I do not find you at all. You are quite invisible.

PERRAULT

Something, we shall correct. Right away.

PERRAULT appears, clothed as a French aristocrat of the 1600's.

GOZZI

Now, I'm seeing things.

PERRAULT

I seldom go barging into other people's affairs.

GOZZI

You said, you're a writer.

PERRAULT

Was. In France, in the early Baroque Age. I died one hundred years ago, today, in this very town, in the estate, which this hotel occupies. I am here.

GOZZI

To point your finger and laugh.

PERRAULT

I am a gentleman, sir. On the one-hundredth anniversary of death, writers a permitted a return visit, for one day. But of course, at the very spot, where they died. I appear to you, because I found you interesting and the honor of your valet, extraordinary.

GOZZI

I am a worthless writer.

PERRAULT

You are a misunderstood writer.

Music #3: "BIG DIFFERENCE"

(Perrault, Gozzi)

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

(sings)

BIG DIFFERENCE! BIG DIFFERENCE! GRANDE DIFFÉRENCE!

BIG DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE!
A CONTRAST UN CONTRASTE!
SOME SAY, IT SOUNDS ABSURD.
SOME SAY IT SO, BUT WAY TO FAST,
AND THEY MEAN A DIFFERENT WORD!

BIG DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE,
GRANDE DIFFERENCE, THEY DARE!
SO FAST, THAT SOMETIMES THERE'S
DELUSION AND CONFUSION OF BOTH WORDS THERE.
AUCUN SENS QUE VOUS POUVEZ FAIRE!

BIG DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE!
VOUS NE COMPRENEZ PAS!
THE AUDIENCE IS FICKLE
AND WITH YOUR BEST, THEY CRY, "A BAS!"
AND THEN, YOU'RE IN A PICKLE!

BIG DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE,
GRANDE DIFFERENCE, NO START!
IF ON STAGE, THEY HEAR SOME FART,
THAT'S WHAT THE AUDIENCE TODAY WILL CALL ART.
AUCUN SENS QUE VOUS POUVEZ FAIRE.

PAS MAL? NOT BAD.
C'EST BON? THAT'S GOOD.
YOU KNOW, YOU'VE REALLY TRIED.
THERE'S NOTHING THAT'S IMPLIED.
DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU'RE A JERK.
IT JUST MEANS, IT DIDN'T WORK.

GOZZI

(sings)

A FAILURE! FIASCO!

PERRAULT
AND WHAT WORD IS MEANT BY THESE?
THE RIGHT WORD IS SO CONFUSING,
BUT YOU MUST WORK TO EARN YOUR FEES.

GOZZI
MISUNDERSTOOD OR JUST DESPISED?

PERRAULT
THE CONTRAST MIGHT LEAVE YOU SURPRISED
UNTIL YOU'VE REALIZED,
IT'S NOT THE WORD YOU MEAN.

PERRAULT (CONT'D)
But let's take another story. One of mine, which
disappeared. My story; your play.

*PERRAULT leads Gozzi out the door,
toward DSC. The scene will change in the
darkness behind them.*

GOZZI
What story?

PERRAULT
(sings)
OF A PRINCESS BLONDE, WHO LIVED IN FRANCE.

GOZZI
(sings)
A BLONDE, WHO LIVED IN FRANCE.

PERRAULT
OUI

GOZZI
IN FRANCE. OH DEAR.

PERRAULT
GOOD THING, NOT HERE.

GOZZI
HAI RAGIONE!
SO, LET US TELL OUR STORY.

PERRAULT
BIG DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE

GOZZI
HOW DO WE BEGIN?

PERRAULT
JE VAIS VOUS DONNER UN EXAEPLE,
AND LIKE ALL FAIRY TALES,
WE SHALL BEGIN WITH TIMING AMPLE.

PERRAULT & GOZZI
IL ETAIT UNE FOIS!

BIF DIFFERENCE, BIG DIFFERENCE,
AND NOW, WE BEGIN!

PERRAULT
MY STORY WILL BE DIFFERENT
TO THAT TRAGIC FIASCO WHICH NAMED YOUR SIN.

GOZZI
I SAY, WE MUST BEGIN!
YES, WE MUST BEGIN!

PERRAULT
AVANT L'AUDIENCE LAISSEZ!

PERRAULT & GOZZI
AVANT L'AUDIENCE LAISSEZ!

PERRAULT
Very well. And to our audience... What a nice crowd!

GOZZI
Do you want to do the honors?

PERRAULT
So I shall. Once upon a time!

*The lights flash full upon the stage, to
reveal:*

ACT I

SCENE 2

Music #4: "ONCE UPON A TIME"

(Perrault, Gozzi, Archbishop, Queen Thistle, Queen Abandoned, Fairy Thorn, Fairy Rose, Chorus)

TABLEAU: The stage is split. SR is the Kingdom of Wish, where QUEEN ABANDONED stands, ready for the christening of her two daughters. SL is the Kingdom of Wonder, where KING RAMPANT and QUEEN THISTLE prepare for the same, for their son. CS is a baptismal font, where the ARCHBISHOP stands. The CHORUS is gathered around. It must be noted, these are two separate days.

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

(sings)

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN TWO KINGDOMS FAR APART
BUT FOR THE SAKE OF STAGING, WE WILL PLACE THEM HEART TO HEART,
THERE WAS A KINGDOM WITH A GARDEN
(HOW THESE ROYALS LOVE THEIR GARDENS TO EXTREME),
IF YOU GATHER JUST EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN.

A garden appears in the Kingdom of Wonder. GOZZI pokes his head through a large bush.

GOZZI

(sings)

YES, I GATHER EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN.

PERRAULT

THERE WAS A KING, WHOSE NAME WAS RAMPANT.
HAD A THISTLE FOR A QUEEN.
THAT WAS THE WOMAN'S NAME, SIR,
IF YOU CATCH WHAT I MEAN.

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

THEY NEVER COULD BEAR A CHILD, YOU SEE.
AND SO IN THEIR CALAMITY,
THEY ADOPTED SOMETHING OTHER:
A GARDEN GREEN. SEE WHAT I MEAN? OH BROTHER!

THERE WAS EVERYTHING CONCEIVABLE, ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE,
IN THIS GARDEN THAT THEY GREW.
RUTABAGA, CANTALOUPE, PEAS AND PARSNIPS, MISANTHROPES.
THEY PRUNED, AND THEY PLANTED TO KEEP FROM GROWING WILD,
UNTIL AT LAST, THEY WERE BLESSED WITH A CHILD.

*QUEEN THISTLE carries her child over to
the baptismal font.*

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

BUT WE LEAVE THE KINGDOM OF WONDER.
STAGE RIGHT TO THE KINGDOM OF WISH.

ONCE UPON A TIME, JUST AS AT THE START,
THERE WAS A KING AND QUEEN, BUT THE KING COULDN'T FIND HIS HEART.
HE WANDERED FAR, AND HE WANDERED SO NEAR,
JUST TO GET AWAY FROM HIS QUEEN, I FEAR.

SHE BORE HIM A DAUGHTER, A BABY SO FAIR.
AND HE STILL LEFT HER, BUT WHAT DOES HE CARE?

(spoken)

Twins, even!

(sings)

NOW OUR TALE CAN START TO BEGIN!
TWO CHRISTENINGS, A DAY APART!
BUT AS I SAID, WE ARE STAGING THEM HEART TO HEART!

The Stage comes alive.

CROWD

(sings)

ALL ARE INVITED, WE ARE PROUD AND EXCITED!
DID WE MENTION, WE'RE DELIGHTED HERE, AS WELL?
WE ARE DANCING ON AIR! FOR OUR KINGDOM HAS AN HEIR!
FOR OUR KINGDOMS HAVE AN HEIR!

ARCHBISHOP

(sings)

ISN'T THIS WONDERFUL, ISN'T THIS FUN?
WE CHRISTEN THIS CHILD, AND THEN WE ARE DONE!
THEN, AS A KINGDOM, WE ALL ARE ONE!
OH, DOMINUS VOBISCUM!

CROWD

ET CUM SPIRITO TUO!

ARCHBISHOP

Let's get this over with! My feet are killing me!

(sings)

WHO SHALL BE NAMED GODMOTHER TO THIS CHILD?

FAIRY ROSE will come forward.

QUEEN THISTLE

(sings)

SHE IS GENTLE AND MOST WONDERFUL.
I HAVE KNOWN HER SINCE A CHILD.
POWERFUL AND THUNDERFUL,
SHE KEEPS US ALL BEGUILLED.
SHE IS SIMPLY EVERYTHING
THAT GOODNESS NEEDS TO BE.

SHE IS MAGICAL, PRACTICAL
AND OH SO VERY WONDERFUL.
LADY ROSE. LADY ROSE.

QUEEN ABANDONED

(sings)

SHE MAKES THE VERY STARS COME OUT AT NIGHT.
IN FACT, SHE MAKES THEM VERY BRIGHT.
SHE IS THE GOOD AND OPTIMISTIC
STARRY SIGHT WE NEED!

QUEEN THISTLE & QUEEN ABANDONED

SHE IS THE VERY SOURCE
OF EVERY SEED THAT GROWS.
HER KNOWLEDGE LIGHT. AND WITH HER MIGHT,
SHE KEEPS US SAFE WITHIN HER SIGHT.
FAIRY ROSE.

CROWD

FAIRY ROSE.

KING RAMPANT

And where's Thorn?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Late, as usual.

QUEEN THISTLE

And as usual, we'll have to start without her.

ARCHBISHOP

Enough chit chat, already! Tradition dictates, all christenings complete by Noon! The Sun is almost at the high point in the sky, out there

The ARCHBISHOP prepares to perform both christenings.

ARCHBISHOP (CONT'D)

(sings)

I BAPTISE THEE IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER,
AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE...

FAIRY THORN bursts in.

FAIRY ROSE

At last! They were about to start without you.

FAIRY THORN takes some time, stalking around the stage.

FAIRY THORN

(sings)

WHY WAS THE LADY THORN SO BLIGHTED?
JUST IGNORED AND NOT INVITED?
THE WORLD IS FULL OF OVERSIGHTED FOOLS,
SO HIGH-END BORN AND SO IMMUNE TO RULES.
AND NOW, YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK!

THORN turns on them all.

FAIRY THORN (CONT'D)

FOOLS, FOOLS, FOOLS,
DON'T YOU KNOW THE BASIC RULES?
WHAT YOU DID WAS VERY CRUEL,
AND YOU'LL PAY, THIS SORDID DAY!

QUEEN THISTLE

But you were invited, I swear!

FAIRY ROSE

You're just late again, Thorn. As usual.

FAIRY THORN

Well, bless my soul, and kiss a duck!

(sings)

THIS MAKES ME ANGRY, I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT.
AND PUNISHMENT COMES. YOU KNOW, YOU'LL SOW THAT.
YOU FORGOT TO HONOR ME IN A WAY I EXPECT,
TO INVITE ME HERE AS GODMOTHER ELECT!

FAIRY ROSE

(sings)

WHY YOU PRESUMPTIVE, ARROGANT TOAD!
WHO THE HELL WOULD MAKE YOU GODMOTHER OF ANYTHING?

FAIRY THORN

YOU STAND THERE, ROSE, WITH ALL YOUR GALL,
LIKE A THUNDERCLOUD AT SEA,
AND YOU DARE TO HUMILIATE ME!

FAIRY ROSE

YOU EXPECT TO HOLD AN HONOR, A POSITION OF PURE GRACE!
YOU WANT AN INVITATION TO STAND IN MY PLACE!
THERE'S NO CHANCE IN HELL, NO CHANCE IN HELL, NO CHANCE IN HELL!

ARCHBISHOP

Ladies, ladies, please! God is watching.

FAIRY THORN

Stay out of this, Your Sainthood. This is a private fight.
Why was I not chosen as Godmother?

FAIRY ROSE

You wouldn't know God if He fell on you!

ARCHBISHOP

Could we hurry up with the fight? It's almost Noon.

FAIRY THORN

Play along, Your Worship, and I'll throw you an altar boy later. My dear Queens and... er... King. How important was I to your youth?

QUEEN THISTLE

Very important!

QUEEN ABANDONED

But you are not the Godmother type!

KING RAMPANT

Nor will you ever be, I fear. Quite right, quite right.

FAIRY THORN

I see. And there is no chance, you'll change your minds?

ALL

No!

FAIRY THORN

Very well.

Music #5: "SILLY GIRL"
(Fairy Thorn)

FAIRY THORN (CONT'D)

(sings)

AND SO, THEY THROW THE BOMB,
EXPECTING I'LL RETAIN MY CALM.
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS STOIC, SILLY GIRL.
BUT THE DAM OF ENDLESS PATIENCE
PROMISES ITS FATE
AS TORRENTS OF RIGHTEOUS ANGER
BREAKS RIGHT THROUGH ITS GATE!

FAIRY THORN (CONT'D)

SILLY GIRL THAT I'VE BEEN,
THINKING KINDNESS WASN'T MORTAL SIN,
THINKING GOODNESS COULD EVER WIN,
BUT UNDERSTANDING BECOMES A MERLE.
I SHAN'T REMAIN THAT SILLY GIRL.

*And now, her introspection turns toward
the Queens -- her "persecutors."*

FAIRY THORN (CONT'D)

YOU HAVE WAITED ALL YOUR LIFE
TO BE QUEEN WITH ROYAL STRIFE,
TO ORDER ALL THE PEOPLE ABOUT YOU, SILLY GIRL.
SO YOU TOOK YOURSELF A HUSBAND,
AND YOU THOUGHT HE WAS YOUR KING.
THEN HE CAME INTO YOUR BOUDOIR,
AND HE DID A KINGLY THING!

SILLY GIRL, SILLY QUEEN,
OH HOW THAT KING COULD SWING!
WELL YOU KNOW, DEAR, WHAT I MEAN!
HE LEFT YOUR HEART AWHIRL,
AND YOU STAYED A SILLY GIRL!

AND FOR YOUR INSULT, I AM LEAVING YOU THIS CURSE!
ONE GIRL WILL BE BEAUTIFUL, BUT HER BRAINS WILL BE MUCH WORSE!
THIS BOY WILL BE COWARDLY AND UGLIER THAN SIN!
ALL CHILDREN YOU PRIZE WILL LIVE TO YOUR CHAGRIN!

SILLY GIRL!
SEE HOW YOU LIKE THIS PRIZE!
ONE THAT YOU CAN'T DISGUISE!
AND NOW, I'VE SAID MY PIECE,
AND SO THIS SONG WILL CEASE
ALONG WITH MY PRESENCE IN THIS HATED PLACE,
SILLY GIRL!

FAIRY THORN storms out with a flourish.

PERRAULT and GOZZI come forward.

GOZZI

Sounds pretty tragic to me.

PERRAULT

It's supposed to be tragic; it's a fairy tale. So, she cursed the boy to be ugly and cowardly. One of the girls, she cursed to be beautiful. And the other girl? Well, she turned out ugly anyway. Everyone believed that this was a backlash from the curses. Now, an important thing, I must remind you: Spells in fairy tales are not reversible. Not in the least. But a good fairy can always add the proverbial spoonful of sugar.

GOZZI

I've heard of that expression.

PERRAULT

Sir Richard of Sherman never lets us forget.

(beat)

Now, Fairy Rose had an idea, so she called the families to meet her in a cave.

GOZZI

An idea?

PERRAULT

Watch and observe.

(beat)

Oh? Not ready yet? Well, we'll watch in a moment, then. Cue the playoff.

Music #5A: "SILLY GIRL PLAYOFF"
(Orchestra)

The setting changes to:

ACT I

SCENE 3

A cave. There is a babbling brook. FAIRY ROSE is there, along with The QUEENS and KING.

QUEEN ABANDONED

This is the worst thing that ever could have happened.

FAIRY ROSE

You haven't seen some of her other spells. She's kept kindness for several years. However, it seems that now, she's finally snapped. I expect things will get a lot worse.

QUEEN ABANDONED

Worse than this?

FAIRY ROSE

Do you see this babbling brook?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Yes.

FAIRY ROSE

Queen Thistle's mother.

QUEEN THISTLE

My mother? My opinion about-it-all mother?

FAIRY ROSE

You ought to see, how it used to babble. Couldn't get a splash in edgewise. No one in the kingdom could sleep.

(to THISTLE and RAMPANT)

What have you named the child?

QUEEN THISTLE

Arugula.

FAIRY ROSE

We really need to talk about this gardening obsession..

Music #6: "ARUGULA"
(King Rampant)

KING RAMPANT

What would you have named such an ugly boy?

FAIRY ROSE

Potential?

KING RAMPANT

(sings)

PEPPERY LEAF, AND VERY DARK GREEN.
NOT PLEASANT TO LOOK AT, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
SERVED WELL IN A SALAD, BUT NO HERO IN BALLADS.
IN A GARDEN, IT'S CRUSHED UPON. VERY OBSCENE.

LEAVES AN ODD COLOR, ODD COLOR OF GREEN,
THAT OFTEN TURNS YELLOW, THE ODDEST YOU'VE SEEN.
AND ALL YELLOW LEAVES, YOU MUST TOSS AWAY.
NOT VERY RESPECTED, AND NOT VERY KEEN.

ALMOST A SQUASH, YOU VERY MIGHT SAY,
WHO WANTS ARUGULA ANY ODD DAY?

ALWAYS AROUND, ONLY GOOD IN FAIR WEATHER.
IT CAN BE COOKED. NOT MUCH, IT ACHIEVES.
SOME PEOPLE EMPLOY IT, BUT DAMN FEW ENJOY IT.
IT ALWAYS GETS DIRT ALL OVER ITS LEAVES.

NOBODY SEES IT. SOMETIMES THEY FLEE.
BECAUSE ALL ITS BLOSSOMS ATTRACT MANY BEES.
AND THAT WAS THE CHILD THAT WAS GIVEN TO ME,
CURSED BY A WITCH, WHO WANTED TO BE
A GODMOTHER!

ARUGULA, ARUGULA, UGLY AS SIN.
AND NOW I WILL STOP, BEFORE I BEGIN
ANOTHER TIRADE ON THE BAD LUCK WE'RE IN.
AND ANYONE WATCHING IS PROBABLY BORED.
OH WHAT THE HELL! IT'S ALREADY BEEN SCORED.

*What follows is a large orchestra ending,
which KING RAMPANT will attempt to cut
off.*

KING RAMPANT (CONT'D)

(ad lib)

Stop! No! (etc.)

The ORCHESTRA STOPS.

KING RAMPANT (CONT'D)

Don't show off. It's centuries before Andrew Lloyd Webber.

EVERYONE

Who?

KING RAMPANT

The audience gets it.

(beat)

Yes. I know.

QUEEN THISTLE

Arugula. Even if one says it soft, it's absolutely nothing like praying. Couldn't even sell it to Sir Stephen of Sondheim.

FAIRY ROSE

That's terrible.

QUEEN THISTLE

You don't have to put it to bed at night. I'm always holding my nose.

FAIRY ROSE

Because he messes his diaper?

QUEEN THISTLE

Because he looks like his diaper.

(to AUDIENCE)

Everyone, I'm holding a raffle! The prize is a treasure chest of gold! All you have to do is, take that child off our hands!

FAIRY ROSE

How can you be so heartless?

QUEEN THISTLE

It's not heartless. Whoever wins will never have debt again in life. They'll just have to regret it for the rest of their lives. Or at least, until it's eighteen.

FAIRY ROSE

And then?

QUEEN THISTLE

It's a fairy tale. Always need for trolls.

QUEEN ABANDONED

I feel the same way with my ugly daughter. And the beautiful one is dumber than a rock.

FAIRY ROSE

How is that possible?

QUEEN ABANDONED

She's blonde.

FAIRY ROSE

Et tu, Madame Brutus?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Sorry.

FAIRY ROSE

Sorry? No wonder your King left you! I'm about out of here, myself!

QUEEN ABANDONED

That hurt.

FAIRY ROSE

Good! And sorry doesn't cut it. For any of you!

Music #7: "GOODBYE, FAREWELL, I'M GONE"

(Fairy Rose)

FAIRY ROSE (CONT'D)

Try not to have any more children, will you? Nobody unborn is that desperate.

FAIRY ROSE (CONT'D)

(sings)

SHOULD BE ASHAMED AND TAKEN FROM YOUR THRONES!
BOTH BE BLAMED FOR BEING HEARTLESS ON YOUR OWN!
SHOULD BE NAMED IN ALL OF HISTORY
AS PARENTS OF THE BLISSTORY,
SHOCKING, SELFISH, HEARTLESSLY
INTERLOCKING TOP OF EVERY MYSTERY-TOPPING
INFAMY THERE IS!
GOODBYE, FAREWELL, I'M GONE!

YOU WERE BLESSED WITH ANSWERS TO YOUR PRAYERS
BUT OBSESSED WITH SELF-CENTEREDNESS, I SWEAR!
YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE A DREAM ANEW!
NOTHING WISHED SHOULD NOW COME TRUE!
EMPTY, AWFUL, AGNOSTIC
CONSTANT LOSS SHOULD BE EXPECTED,
JOINING FORCES WITH THE SCRIPTED
DELUGE OF DISASTER EVERY DAY!
GOODBYE, FAREWELL, I'M GONE!

I'M TAKING BACK EVERY BLESSING;
I'M PACKING IT IN A SACK.
YOU'LL BE LACKING FOREVER
AND NEVER GET A BLOODY BREAK!
YOU'LL EVEN BURN THE FINEST STEAKS.
STEW WILL BURN, FOR GOODNESS SAKE!

CAKES WILL FAIL! SO WILL SOUFFLES!
KNIGHTS SO BOLD WILL RUN AWAY!
AND HERE COMES THE AXE:
PEOPLE WON'T PAY THE TAX WHEN YOU CALL!
SO FAREWELL! TOO-DA-LOO!
GO TO HELL! THROUGH WITH YOU!
I'M SINGING AND RINGING THE BELL
AND GETTING THE HELL FROM THIS ROOM!
YOU'RE DOOMED! AU REVOIR!
GOODBYE, FAREWELL, I'M GONE!

*FAIRY ROSE starts out, but all the
ROYALS stop her.*

KING RAMPANT

Wait, Fairy Rose! Please!

FAIRY ROSE

Oh dear God, not the P Word.

QUEEN ABANDONED

Yes, please!

FAIRY ROSE

You too?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Yes!

QUEEN THISTLE

Please!

FAIRY ROSE

I heard you the first time.

QUEEN THISTLE

We're sorry! We spoke with great pride!

FAIRY ROSE

And a few other choice adjectives.

QUEEN ABANDONED

You brought us here, to discuss something?

FAIRY ROSE

I have yet to give my gift to your children.

KING RAMPANT

How do you improve on ugly?

FAIRY ROSE

You think Cleopatra was beautiful? Henry the Eighth? If he got any fatter, he could have posed as the feast. With an apple in his mouth. Not every Royal is handsome, beautiful. Some leaders aren't even smart. Only have to look to America to see that.

KING RAMPANT

I suppose, you're right.

FAIRY ROSE

Of course, I'm right. So what all of you need to do is...

Music #8: "COMPENSATE"

(Fairy Rose)

FAIRY ROSE (CONT'D)

(sings)

COMPENSATE, WHEN THINGS ARE NOT SO GREAT.
COMPENSATE, WHEN THERE'S NOT MUCH TO CELEBRATE.
COMPENSATE, LOOK FOR ANOTHER WAY.
COMPENSATE, WHEN IT SEEMS TOO LATE
FOR FATE TO HAVE ITS SWAY,
WHEN IT SEEMS BOTH FATE AND LUCK HAVE WALKED AWAY.

LOOK FOR THE HIDDEN BLESSING.
THE HIDDEN BLESSING, YOU JUST MIGHT FIND.
JUST TRY, WHEN IT'S DEPRESSING,
AND PAST PROBLEMS AREN'T ENSHRINED.
IF YOU CAN TRY CONFESSING
WHEN IT'S NOTHING BUT DEPRESSING,
YOU MIGHT LEAVE WHAT'S WRONG BEHIND.

COMPENSATE, WHEN IT'S PURE DISASTER.
INSTEAD PARTICIPATE, AND ACT A LITTLE FASTER.
COMPENSATE, WHEN THE FEAST IS NOT SO GREAT.
COMPENSATE, WHEN IT SEEMS TOO LATE
FOR FATE TO HAVE ITS SWAY,
WHEN IT SEEMS BOTH FATE AND LUCK HAVE WALKED AWAY.

(to Q. ABANDONED)

SO YOUR CHILD ISN'T ALL THAT YOU HOPED.
SO WHAT? SO WHAT?

(to K. RAMPANT & Q. THISTLE)

YOU THINK, IN SOCIETY,
LOOKS ARE WHAT MATTER THE MOST?
THEY ARE. SO WHAT?

(to all ROYALS)

WHAT I CAN GIVE THEM FOR SOCIETY
(TO EASE ANXIETY)
ARE BETTER THINGS THAN WHAT THEY'VE GOT,
WHAT THEY ARE NOT,
WHICH, I ADMIT, IS NOT A LOT.
BUT STILL, SO WHAT?

FAIRY ROSE (CONT'D)

INSTEAD COMPENSATE, TO MAKE IT BETTER FASTER.
COMPENSATE! NO DOOM'S AN EVERLASTER!
CHASE AWAY THE BAD STUFF
WHEN LIVING'S FOUL AND ROUGH.
STIFF UPPER LIPS CAN LEAD THE WAY!
IF YOU COMPENSATE, YOU REALLY COMPENSATE,
FOR DISASTER, ANY DAY!

KING RAMPANT

In other words, we should trade reality for wishful
thinking.

FAIRY ROSE

Need I remind you, this is a fairy tale? Reality doesn't
apply, but wishes do. Just look for hidden blessings in
disguise.

QUEEN THISTLE looks around.

QUEEN THISTLE

Nope. Don't see them.

KING RAMPANT

May I ask, what my son's hidden blessing would be?

FAIRY ROSE

It will be tough. His name is Arugula - a good,
distinctive name.

KING RAMPANT

Distinct for whom? A farmer?

FAIRY ROSE

Then why didn't you name him Poison Ivy? Or Weeping
Willow?

QUEEN THISTLE

We actually considered that one.

KING RAMPANT

We were weeping a lot.

FAIRY ROSE

I just bet you were. Good grief.

KING RAMPANT

So, what is your gift to our son?

FAIRY ROSE

First off, a new name. Tuft. Tuft With the Golden Curl.

QUEEN THISTLE

Golden Curl? Hair doesn't grow on trees, you know.

FAIRY ROSE

No kidding. Really? Is she always this bright?

KING RAMPANT

Only where she needs to be.

FAIRY ROSE

And I'm sure, we all know where that is. Very well, then.
(recites)

Oh hear me great Spirits,
Oh hear me quite well.
Though this is no way
To reverse the Thorn's spell.

This child will have more
Than beauty's fine dressing.
He shall now have
A most wondrous blessing.

Though he shall still
Be ugly as sin,
From this day forward,
New knowledge begins.

KING RAMPANT

That still makes him ugly, Rose.

FAIRY ROSE

You ain't, exactly, a Prince, yourself, honey. And when
the boy falls in love - reciprocated, mind you - he can
give his bride equal intelligence as a wedding present.

FAIRY THORN appears.

FAIRY THORN

When the boy falls in love? Oh, my sides are splitting. That's the funniest thing, I've ever heard! What's his real name? Don Quixote? What's hers? Desperate?

FAIRY ROSE

Nobody invited you.

FAIRY THORN

I don't require an invitation, anymore, Rose.

FAIRY ROSE

Get out.

FAIRY THORN

Make me.

FAIRY ROSE throws a bucket of water at Thorn.

FAIRY THORN (CONT'D)

Don't look now, but I think, you've got the wrong fairy tale.

FAIRY ROSE

Nah, that was Aqua Pura from Camelot. They bottle it there for twenty-nine pieces of silver. And it should take effect in five... Four... Three... Two...

FAIRY THORN disappears in a puff of smoke.

KING RAMPANT

Evil goes up in a puff of smoke?

FAIRY ROSE

You ought to see what goes up in politics. Especially when Camelot was around.

QUEEN ABANDONED

And my daughters?

FAIRY ROSE

Let's see... One is beautiful, but dumb. The other is bright, but ugly. I cannot reverse the spell, as you know. I can, however, change it, so that your ugly daughter who is bright can make any boy she loves handsome.

QUEEN ABANDONED

And the other?

FAIRY ROSE

Will always be popular.

QUEEN ABANDONED

It doesn't take magic to make stupid people popular.

FAIRY ROSE

That's what I can do. Take it or leave it.

*PERRAULT and GOZZI come forward.
The scene will change behind them.*

PERRAULT

And all of this comforted the poor Queen. As you might have expected, the child grew, and no sooner had he started to talk... Do you want to take it from here?

GOZZI

Don't mind, if I do.

Music #9: "MANY PRETTY THINGS"
(Gozzi)

GOZZI (CONT'D)

(sings)

MANY PRETTY THINGS,
COMPLIMENTARY PHRASES,
WORDS WITH LITTLE WINGS,
HE CHARMED WITH LUSCIOUS PHRASES.
ADJECTIVES ARRESTING,
MANY WERE JUST BESTINGS
OF ALL THE GREAT ATTESTINGS
OF HIS PLAUDITS USED BEFORE.

PERRAULT

Good.

GOZZI

PROFOUND AND VERY CHARMING,
EACH SENTENCE WAS A COUP.
CAPTURED ONE'S ATTENTION!
BEFORE THE BOY WAS THROUGH,
HE HAD ONE ALMOST PURRING
AND ALL OF THAT OCCURRING
BEFORE ONE'S TEA WAS STIRRING
BY A TEASPOON IN ONE'S HAND.

AND HE WAS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY
AND WAS FAMOUS. UNDERSTAND?
AND ALL FROM BEING UGLY,
AND NONE OF THIS WAS PLANNED.
JUST A HIDDEN BLESSING
FROM THE DRESSING OF A CURSE.
WHICH MEANS, ONE CAN MAKE BETTER
FROM WHAT SEEMS TO BE MUCH WORSE!

MANY PRETTY THINGS!
PROFOUND, HE CHARMED EACH WORD.
THE CENTER OF ATTENTION,
HE NEVER SEEMED ABSURD.
TINGED WITH PURE VERACITY,
HE HAD THE GREAT CAPACITY,
SAYING MANY PRETTY THINGS.

AND HE WAS HEARD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,
BOTH DISARMING AND QUICK-WITTED.
THE GIFT THAT FATE UNFURLED
WAS A PERFECT GIFT, THAT FITTED
A BOY UGLY AS SIN!
BUT THAT'S WHERE LUCK CAN SOON BEGIN.
WITH MANY PRETTY THINGS
TO MAKE A HEAVY GOING WIN,
SAYING MANY PRETTY, VERY WITTY, THINGS.

PERRAULT

And he was known as Riquet. Riquet With the Tuft.

GOZZI

Yes, I remember. The tuft of blonde hair.

PERRAULT

And as the princesses grew up, their imperfections grew with them. All the public talk was about the beauty of the elder and the rare good sense of the younger. The younger grew, visibly, uglier and uglier, and the elder grew, every day, more stupid. She either made no answer at all to what was asked her, or she would say something very silly. In addition, the poor girl was so unhandy, she could not place four pieces of china upon the mantelpiece without breaking one - all - of them.

Music #10: "HAVE A WIT, HAVE A GIGGLE, HAVE A BRAIN"

(Perrault, Gozzi)

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

(sings)

AND THE YOUNGER, GORGEOUS SISTER,
WITH HER BLONDE HAIR SILKY SMOOTH
GAINED HERSELF A GREAT NOBILITY,
THAT NO ONE COULD REMOVE.

MEN BECAME SO MESMERIZED
WITH HER BEAUTIFUL BLUE EYES
THAT THEY NEVER NOTICED
THAT HER BRAIN WAS UNDERSIZED.

HAVE A WIT, HAVE A GIGGLE, HAVE A BRAIN.
THAT IS IT. A LIFE WIGGLE. DON'T REFRAIN.
BEAUTY'S ONLY SKIN DEEP,
BUT BRAINS ARE SOMETHING YOU KEEP,
AND BEAUTY CAN BE QUITE A PAIN.

BUT THEN, THIS GIRL WOULD SPEAK
SOMETHING STUPID AND QUITE CRASS.
AND LIKE A DOOR THAT SQUEAKS,
THEY COULD NOT LET THIS PASS.

PERRAULT (CONT'D)

FOR HANDSOME MEN WILL SEEK
SOMETHING MORE THAN NOBLE CHEST.
IT'S IMPORTANT, WOMEN KNOW THAT
LIFE IS MORE THAN LEGS AND BREASTS.

HAVE A WIT, AND BE CLEVER, IF YOU DARE.
THIS IS IT, AND YOU'LL NEVER NEED TO SHARE.
BEAUTY'S FOR THE YOUNG,
SO SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW:
BRAINS DON'T ARRIVE IN PAIRS.

SO, IF A COMPANY OF STRANGERS GATHERS,
LATHERS 'ROUND YOU IN A CROWD ONE DAY,
BECAUSE THEY HAVE SIMPLY FOUND YOU
GORGEOUS AND FAIR, WITHOUT COMPARE.
IT WON'T LAST WHEN YOU SPEAK SILLY.
THEY WILL MOVE, WILLY NILLY,
TO ONE LESS FAIR.

GOZZI
(sings)

AND YOU'LL BE LEFT JUST STANDING THERE!

PERRAULT
SO HAVE A WIT, HAVE A GIGGLE, HAVE A BRAIN.

GOZZI
HAVE A WIT, HAVE A GIGGLE, HAVE A BRAIN.

PERRAULT
THAT IS IT. A LIFE WIGGLE. DON'T REFRAIN.

GOZZI
DON'T REFRAIN!

PERRAULT & GOZZI
BEAUTY'S ONLY SKIN DEEP,
BUT BRAINS ARE SOMETHING YOU KEEP,
AND BEAUTY CAN BE QUITE A PAIN.

PERRAULT & GOZZI (CONT'D)

HAVE A WIT, AND BE CLEVER, IF YOU DARE.
THIS IS IT, AND YOU'LL NEVER NEED TO SHARE.
BEAUTY'S FOR THE YOUNG,
SO SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW:
BRAINS DON'T ARRIVE IN PAIRS!

And by this point, the scene is shifted to:

**Perusal
Only
NOT FOR
PRODUCTION**

ACT I

SCENE 4

The Throne Room for the Kingdom of Wish.

QUEEN ABANDONED converses with her younger daughter, Princess Pinhead. The scene begins, mid-conversation.

QUEEN ABANDONED

And what happened to that hot prince, you were talking to yesterday?

PRINCESS PINHEAD

What do you mean, hot? It was freezing!

QUEEN ABANDONED

Hot looking prince.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Well, he did have a coat.

QUEEN ABANDONED

Pinhead, dear, please try to think before you speak.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Never mattered before.

QUEEN ABANDONED

When we kept you in that tower? You're right, it never mattered in the least, because nobody knew you were alive. Thank goodness. Except for your grandmother, of course.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Why did you let me out, then?

QUEEN ABANDONED

You grew.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Grew what?

QUEEN ABANDONED

I'm not quite sure. But I imagine, it was nothing useful. What I meant was, you're not a child, anymore. You're sixteen.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Sixteen what?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Who the hell knows? All right, dear. You are heir to the throne. Dear God.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Do you care?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Certainly not. I'll be dead when you take the job and laughing all the way through the Pearly Gates.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

They'll gate you up?

QUEEN ABANDONED

Great me up, is more like it. The Church will make me a Saint, for putting up with you all these years.

(beat)

I let you out, because it was your grandmother's will.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

But you hated her.

QUEEN ABANDONED

I said, it was her Will. Her Last Will and Testament, that I would have been disinherited of all her bloody fortune, if I disobeyed.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

But you're a Queen.

QUEEN ABANDONED

And the lawyer was an Archbishop. Can't argue with a guy, who has God on his side.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

You do.

QUEEN ABANDONED

Only when it's convenient, dear.

Music #11: "FOR THE REST OF YOUR MISERABLE LIFE"
(Queen Abandoned, Princess Pinhead)

QUEEN ABANDONED (CONT'D)

You need to leave.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Leave?

QUEEN ABANDONED

(sings)

FIND YOUR FAME AND YOUR FORTUNE AND YOUR PRINCE.
PAY YOUR DUES, LOOK FOR CLUES. I'M CONVINCED
THAT A HANDSOME, YOUNG FELLOW SHOULD WINCE
ONCE HE HEARD YOU, DEAR, EXPRESS YOURSELF.
HE MIGHT EVEN CLIMB THE HIGHEST SHELF!
EVEN WITH A DOWRY'S WEALTH FROM ME!

TAKE YOUR TIME. LOTS OF PATIENCE. FIND A MAN.
FIND A WELL THAT GRANTS WISHES, IF YOU CAN.
SELL YOUR STRENGTHS, AND FORGET 'BOUT RATHER THAN.
TAKE A TIP FROM SLEEPING BEAUTY.
OFFER UP YOUR SEXY BOOTY,
AND NEVER SPEAK A WORD, EXCEPT IN BED.

YOU MUST WHISPER. DON'T TALK LOUDER,
OR YOUR PRINCE WILL TAKE A POWDER, GLEEFULLY.
OR GIVE IT UP! WRITE IT OFF, CERTAINLY.
NOT A PRINCE WILL YOU SELL IN HISTORY,
FOR THE REST OF YOUR MISERABLE LIFE!

THOUGH YOUR BREASTS MIGHT BRING DESIRE,
HE WILL CALL HIS HEART A LIAR, CERTAINLY.
SO GO FIND YOURSELF A MAN,
IF YOU DARE, AND IF YOU CAN!

QUEEN ABANDONED (CONT'D)
FIND SOME GINK, WHO YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD WIN.
GET HIM HARD. SHARK THE CARDS, AND MAKE HIM SPIN.
POUR HIM DRINKS, FIVE OR SIX. DOUBLE GIN.
THEN LOOK SQUARE AND DIRECTLY INTO HIS EYES.
TAKE THIS FOOL BY SHEER SURPRISE.
THEN YOU SIMPLY HYPNOTIZE HIM INTO BED.

PRINCESS PINHEAD
(sings)

INTO BED?

QUEEN ABANDONED
OTHERWISE, MY DARLING DAUGHTER,
THAT'S THE END OF THIS HERE BARTER.
YOU'LL BE DROWNING IN DEEP WATER. THEN YOU'RE DEAD!
YOU'LL BE KEEPING ALL YOUR CHERRIES
AND COLLECTING BOYSENBERRIES,
FOR THE REST OF YOUR MISERABLE LIFE,
FOR THE REST OF YOUR MISERABLE LIFE!

PRINCESS PINHEAD
You never loved me! You only loved my sister!

QUEEN ABANDONED
Your sister? Weed? That ugly, arrogant egghead? I'd
say, you'd have to be out of your mind, if you weren't
already!

PRINCESS PINHEAD
No wonder, Father ran away.

QUEEN ABANDONED
That was a cheap shot.

PRINCESS PINHEAD
Not as cheap as you deserve.

QUEEN ABANDONED
So, you can form a complete thought, after all.

PRINCESS PINHEAD
Only when I'm angry.

QUEEN ABANDONED

So while you're gone, maybe you can find your father.
You can comfort each other.

PRINCESS PINHEAD

That's it. I'm leaving.

QUEEN ABANDONED

Can I have that, signed in blood?

PRINCESS PINHEAD

Farewell, mother! I will never see you again! Ever!

(beat)

Ever after!

(beat)

After before!

(beat)

Ever always!

(beat)

Oh hell!

PRINCESS PINHEAD storms out.

QUEEN ABANDONED

I should have tried insulting her, years ago.

Music #11A: "END OF ACT ONE"
(Orchestra)

The CURTAIN falls.

END OF ACT ONE.