

Butterflies

“A Musical Play”

by

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This play is presented in quite an unusual format. This is not because the author didn't "know how to do it right," but because the format suited her needs to present this play in the most "do-able" fashion possible for aiming it at stage and screen. Total freedom is granted the performing theatre company or screen play producer to change anything necessary to adapt the play to their needs.

This play is self-published.

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Dedication

This play is dedicated to my Father, Edward Guettler, who just recently passed away in his sleep at his very active age of 94. He had me clowning when I was still in diapers, and we clowned together my whole life. We entertained very sick children at hospitals in Chicago, handicapped children at a camp close to home, churches, nursing homes, and whatever opportunity came along.

I love you, Dad!

Dawn

Note:

*Due to vast similarities,
butterflies and moths are portrayed in this play by clowns and mimes.*

Cast Of Characters:

Male Auguste Hobos:

Trickster and The Performer

Female Auguste Hobos:

Sunshine and Beautiful

Male White Face Clowns:

Romeo and Glutton

Female White Face Clowns:

Judy and Tina

Male Mime:

Brandon

Female Mines:

Juliet and Annie

Female Mixture of Clown Breeds:

The Kid

Non-Clown Characters:

Female MC, Male MC, The Magician, and The Janitor

Butterflies

The excitement has left the tent to become a part of everyone's dreams in this town, from the very young to the very old. However, the magic is still there, because there's just something about clowns. The performance is over, but, as long as the tent still stands, an occasional visitor of any age peeks in to get a last glimpse of the clowns.

The scene is always the same. They're a low-budget clown company that travels from town to town. The smell of hay permeates the tent. There's a stage, and bleachers in the surrounding grass. Tonight is almost spooky for being so quiet.

The Magician peeks in to make sure no one is there. She sneaks onto the stage. Her attire is sleek and elegant. She is dressed in black from head to toe. Under her flowing duster are fitted pants and a sparkly top. She is wearing high-heeled boots and a very wide brimmed hat. Her eyes are attractive, but also dark and evil. Her walk is rhythmic, as if she were dancing.

She looks around and gets excited about the balloons lying on the floor.

[Magician:] "Aha!"

She does an evil laugh. Grabbing two balloons, she begins to sneak out.

The Old Man walks in with much effort and comes face to face with The Magician. She looks deep into his eyes before she leaves. This would normally scare the daylights out of anyone, but he's just too tired to react. He struggles to make it to a bale of hay and takes a seat.

Everyone who has ever been in the company is a descendant of those who performed before. Females have the same name as their mothers, and males have the same name as their fathers. The new generation takes over as the old generation goes on their way. This is one of those transitional nights. The parents have left, and their children are ready to take over. It's different this time though, since one breed of clowns has no offspring to take over the position.

The Old Man is the only Hobo in the company. There used to be others, but

they are long gone. He is still hoping for a little interaction with someone before he leaves. He's lonesome and wants to tell his stories. His last performance was his favorite. A little boy held out his hand, and asked him why he was so sad. The Old Man didn't reply, but gently patted the boy's hand.

The ritual begins as the band plays the Blues. The clowns walk to the slow and steady beat of the tambourine, as if in a trance. They are all dressed in green suits. They eat, pick up a balloon off the floor, and then go to sleep. Glutton gets back up to eat some more food. He's quite disappointed at the small amount left, but finishes it off and goes to sleep.

[Female MC sings:] “He’s wearing gray today. It’s nothing new. Tattered and frayed on the sleeves, his needs are few. He wears his life on his face. Nothing came easy. Hands frozen by years of toil now have no one to be pleasing. He sings his tune, a song of despair. So many souls in his life who no longer are there. He’s wearing gray today, just biding his time. Not knowing why he’s the one always left behind. Gray in his hair. Gray in his heart. Hardened by so many years falling apart. Singing his song when he’s wearing gray, he dwells in his own special place. Lost in memories of the past, a tear falls down his face. No one left to tell his tale. They all left him behind. All he knows is locked inside, the secrets no one knows or cares to find. He’s wearing gray today. Nobody’s left to care. He feels the need to share his grief, but no one knows he’s there.”

Juliet is the last to come in. The Old Man smiles at her, holding out his hand. Juliet gets scared and backs off. Careful to avoid The Old Man, Juliet goes to eat, but nothing is left. She sleeps.

The Old Man takes off his suit and shoes and lays them out neatly on the floor as if he was wearing them. A low bell rings as Female MC helps The Old Man go on his way.

The Janitor puts out more food and tries to clean up the mess, careful not to step on any of the clowns as they sleep.

Female MC and Male MC are one in the same. One-half of their character is female and the other half is male. Which side of their character comes out is dependent on the situation at the time.

[Male MC:] “Wake up! Wake up! We have work!”

He runs around the stage nudging all the clowns. They roll back and forth groaning. Then it is quiet except for a little snoring. Male MC takes a piece of food

and flashes it back and forth under Glutton's nose.

[Male MC:] "Wake up, Glutton! Wake up!"

[Glutton:] "Food! Alright!"

Glutton springs up as Male MC teases him by not giving him the food.

[Glutton:] "Ah, come on! I'm hungry! You have no idea how hungry I am!"

[Male MC:] "OK, here you go."

Male MC jerks the food away, laughing. He then gives it to Glutton.

[Glutton:] "You're mean!"

[Male MC:] "Yeah, well, we have work to do. Let's get going."

[Glutton:] "Alright."

Glutton takes off his green suit and tosses it on the floor. The green suit had hidden a very colorful clown suit underneath. He pops his balloon.

All clowns of a new generation start off with a balloon. The balloons are created by the parents at the time of conception. Mystically, popping the balloon tells the offspring everything they need to know to take over their parents' job. This includes what acts they are destined to perform and how to do it. It also includes instinctive information to be passed on about their social lives.

Glutton goes to get some food.

Male MC tickles Beautiful. She slaps at him and goes back to sleep. Male MC tickles her again, and she laughs.

[Beautiful:] "Stop it!"

She shoves Male MC away.

[Male MC:] "Well, wake up!"

[Beautiful:] "Let me stretch! I need to figure out what I'm doing."

[Male MC:] "You don't know?"

[Beautiful:] "Well, just give me a second! I was sound asleep, you know."

[Male MC:] "Beautiful, do you know your act? Are you able to do this?"

[Beautiful:] "I am."

[Male MC:] "Well then let's get going."

[Beautiful:] "Give me one sec!"

Beautiful pops her balloon as Male MC watches.

[Beautiful:] “Oh, now I know what to do. I’m pretty sure I can do this. I’ll be right with ya.”

Male MC shakes his head.

[Male MC:] “May sunshine guide our way.”

Male MC goes to Juliet and gently strokes her face.

[Male MC:] “Come on, Juliet. It’s that time.”

Male MC helps Juliet get up. She pops her balloon, takes off her green suit, and drops it on the floor.

Juliet is fashioned after the Luna moth. She is beautiful and delicate, dressed in neon lime green. She’s a mime, but wears a coat with tails and ballet shoes. Instead of pants, she wears a flowing skirt. Her mouth is not highlighted. She never speaks, but is an incredible ballerina.

Male MC nudges Judy twice. Juliet timidly nudges her once. Judy sits up in a frenzy, and Juliet jumps back.

[Male MC:] “Get up!”

[Judy:] “Yo’ Mama!”

[Male MC:] “We have work to do.”

[Judy:] “I’m tired. Leave me alone.”

[Male MC:] “Alright. I guess we’ll just leave you behind.”

Judy jumps up and jabs her finger repeatedly into Male MC’s chest.

[Judy:] “You’re gonna leave me behind? Well, I’ll tell you what!”

Judy stops jabbing Male MC and starts to primp.

[Judy:] “You need me! I make this show. Leave me behind? Ha! Yeah, right.”

She rips off her green suit in a fury and pops her balloon.

[Male MC:] “Well, I guess we woke her up!”

Juliet silently giggles into her hand.

Judy goes to Tina and kicks her.

[Tina:] “Ouch! What’s that all about, Judy?”

[Judy:] “Come on, Tina. Just get moving. We have work.”

[Male MC:] “Wake up, kids! We need to go!”

[Male MC:] (*Whispering to Juliet,*) “Every season they get harder and harder to wake up.”

The clowns slowly get up, prompted by the others. They groan and stretch. All the green suits come off, revealing clown suit after clown suit. The stage explodes with color. Even the mimes are dressed in neon pastels. The green suits are tossed

all over the stage, glittered with all the popped balloons.

Romeo sees Juliet in her new outfit and can't take his eyes off of her. She peeks up at him once in a while, but sees him looking at her and puts her head down. It's aggravating her a bit, since she would really like to stare at him for a few moments too, but he won't stop looking at her. She's much too shy to get into any real eye contact at this point. Plus, she's a mime and he's a White Face clown, but the attraction lingers on.

The clowns get their suitcases from backstage. The suitcases are beat up and full of decals from all the places their ancestors have been.

They all line up to leave. Male MC grabs Glutton from the food, Brandon butts in behind Annie, and they all file out.

Glutton is driving the clown car and doesn't know how to drive stick. The car bounces down the road.

[Judy:] "Look out!"

[Romeo:] "Stay on your own side of the road!"

[Glutton:] "I thought I was!"

[Judy:] "I don't want to die."

[Trickster:] "Meet your maker, Mama!"

[Judy:] "Who taught you how to drive anyway?"

[Glutton:] "I did!"

[Judy:] "Well, go figure."

[Glutton:] "I'm *so* confused."

[Judy:] "And you think you're alone in that thought?"

The car comes to a screeching halt with noisy brakes, and everyone screams. The car starts back up, taking off like a race car.

An older couple, George and Bertha, are driving and encounter the clown car. This wouldn't be so unusual, except for the fact that the clown car is not a real car. The car looks like a car, but is made of cardboard, 2X4's, and lawn mower wheels. There are quite a few car parts under the hood, as if someone was actually going to put in a motor. There is no motor. The car rolls, but it's sure not going to run. For some unknown reason, the clowns don't seem to understand the situation. They love to take it out joyriding. Someone does sound effects as two clowns push the car down the road, and they think this is all perfectly normal.

[Glutton:] "Get out of the way!"

[George:] “What are you driving?”

[Bertha:] *(calmly)* **“I think they’re aliens, George.”**

[Romeo:] “Are you insane?”

[Glutton:] “No.”

[George:] “Get that thing off the road!”

[Bertha:] “I wonder if aliens understand English, George.”

[George:] “Obviously not, Bertha. They can’t drive either!”

[Romeo:] “Look out!”

[Trickster:] “What are you doing?”

[Judy:] “Good heavens!”

[Glutton:] “Hang on!”

There is a crash. Everyone screams! Glass and metal bounce on the street. Glutton hit a light pole, and missed George and Bertha by inches.

[Bertha:] *(As the clown car drives off)* **“Oh, my. I really think they are aliens, George!”**

[George:] “Maybe so, Bertha. Maybe so.”

[Judy:] “Nice job, Bozo!”

The clowns are in a hurry to get to their performance. Glutton burns rubber to get to there in time. In the tent the bleachers are filled with parents and starry-eyed children expecting a night of fantasy.

Everyone claps with excitement as the car enters the tent. Male MC runs onstage.

[Male MC:] “Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen! We’re here to entertain you, so sit back and have fun. Let’s bring on the clowns!”

The audience applauds with gusto, and the circus music begins.

Glutton gets out of the car and checks out the damage. The driver’s door is dented in, and the window is cracked.

[Glutton:] “This thing needs some work!”

He slams the door shut.

[Glutton:] “Now, where’s the food?”

The car door won’t open. Judy vigorously tries to open the door.

[Judy:] “Let me out of this thing!”

Judy keeps trying to get out, pounding on the door.

Each performance begins with the all the clowns entering the stage through the car. The excitement in the audience dwindles to nothing while Glutton is busy

eating, and the others can't get through the car. Male MC encourages the audience to clap as he glares at the car. There isn't a whole lot of response.

Trickster and The Performer are the only ones performing, since they were just pushing the car. They run out of things to do. Trickster tosses his juggling balls to The Performer. When The Performer throws them back, Trickster juggles them all. He receives a little audience response.

Trickster throws the balls to The Performer again. The Performer doesn't catch one of the balls and chases it around the stage.

Finally, Judy bangs the car door open and falls out on the floor. She stands up, brushing herself off, and gains her composure. She walks onstage. All the other clowns pile out of the car, tripping and falling over each other. They run to their places and begin their acts. The audience gets excited again!

The band is getting a kick out of this whole situation. They are excellent musicians, but during performances they play one piece over and over. They've been doing it for years, and it bores them to death. This is the worst start to a performance that they've ever seen, and they're loving every moment of it.

As clowns perform, certain acts are featured. Tina goes first and does a mime routine of being stuck in a box. Judy is next and makes a variety of balloons for the clowns to eventually take out to the audience. Romeo produces a bouquet of flowers from his sleeve. He waves Juliet over, bends down on one knee, and presents the flowers to her. Her eyes light up as she takes them, and they stare into each other's eyes for a few moments.

The clowns go into the audience taking the balloons Judy made, as well as a stash of pre-made balloons. The audience is ecstatic! Suckers and treats are passed out, along with a fun handshake from a clown.

As the clowns return to the stage, Trickster is the next featured act. He signals Glutton over and holds out an apple. Glutton's eyes light up, and he runs to Trickster. Trickster squirts him in the face with his flower. Trickster backs off just a touch, thinking he may just have made a mistake.

Glutton licks the liquid from his face.

He holds out his arms as he comes towards Trickster.

[Glutton:] "Yum! Honey! Give me more!"

Trickster runs to Sunshine in a panic.

[Sunshine:] "What happened out there, Trickster?"

[Trickster:] "Glutton wants me, Sunshine!"

[Sunshine:] "Well, we can fix that."

Male MC leaves the stage.

Sunshine preps, adjusting her hair and clothes. She walks up to Glutton in a

sexy gait and tries to hug him. Glutton pushes her away. She walks back to Trickster in a sexy stride.

[Sunshine:] “You’re on your own, Honey!”

Beautiful calls a young girl onstage. She draws black highlights around the girl’s eyes, and paints a red mouth smile. The girl returns to the audience as Beautiful basks in the glory of applause. She continues to bow long after the applause is over.

[Beautiful:] “Where’s MC? I told him I could do this. Question me, will he!”

Everyone ignores her. She arrogantly prances off to the back of the stage and continues to perform.

Sunshine pretends to sew herself into a knot, being able to control her limbs with an imaginary thread as she sews. She sews her hand and is able to make it go back and forth as she pulls and releases the thread. She sews her feet one at a time with the same results. She controls her head to nod with a stitch. The finale is making her whole body confine to a ball when pulling the stitch, and relax to normal when she lets the thread loose.

Brandon does a mime act of pulling an invisible rope. The rope gets the best of him as he falls on the floor, but he continues on to finish his act.

The Performer does an amazing act. He dances while juggling a dozen colorful scarves in the air. A torch lights and, one by one, the scarves disappear into a puff of smoke. The audience goes wild with excitement!

[Beautiful:] “You are really good! Can you teach me some things?”

[The Performer:] “Oh, really! You ask me now?”

[Beautiful:] “Well, later then?”

[The Performer:] “Whatever. I’m sure I could teach you something, but will you want to learn it?”

The Performer laughs. Beautiful returns to the back of the stage.

Male MC enters.

[Beautiful:] “There he is! Didn’t I tell you I could do this?”

All clowns stand still watching Male MC. He walks quickly to the back of the stage and grabs Beautiful’s arm.

[Male MC:] (*Whispering*) “We need to have a talk.”

[Beautiful:] “What for? I did good out there!”

[Male MC:] “We need to talk!”

Male MC escorts Beautiful front and center and addresses the audience.

[Male MC:] “Thank you so much for coming! That’s our show. May sunshine bring out the very best in you! Goodnight now.”

Male MC and Beautiful exit the show waving. The audience claps. It was a strange performance, but, all-in-all, it was entertaining. All clowns go to the car to exit, which is their usual route, but they look at the dent in the door. All but the clowns riding in the car and the men pushing leave the stage.

The audience creates a strange blanket of sound as they leave. They whisper to each other, wondering if what they saw was the real show or a series of mishaps. The circus music dies out, and the lights dim.

[Judy:] “Who’s driving now?”

[Glutton:] “Me!”

[Judy:] “You again? You don’t have a clue how to drive stick!”

[Glutton:] “Yeah, well, I’m driving, and that’s that!”

Glutton pompously walks right up to Judy as she cowers.

[Judy:] (*Meekly*) “We can try this again.”

[Glutton:] “You want to try keep to quiet this time?”

[Judy:] “Don’t even start with me!”

Sunshine and Tina get in the backseat. Judy gets in and takes her time moving to the passenger side. Trickster and Romeo hang out behind the car.

Glutton reaches into the car.

[Glutton:] “How do you put the seat back?”

[Judy:] “I don’t think it goes back that far!”

The others laugh as the seat goes back and Glutton gets in.

[Glutton:] “OK! And we’re off!”

The car backfires and doesn’t start.

[Judy:] “Great driving skills, Glutton!”

[Glutton:] “Come on baby!”

[Sunshine:] “Go, baby, Go!”

[Judy:] “And we’re waiting!”

[Sunshine:] “It’s hot in here!”

[Tina:] “I’m scared. I want to get out!”

[Glutton:] “Just hang on!”

[Sunshine:] “Yeah, we’ll be moving soon. Maybe.”

The car starts and slowly moves forward with Trickster and Romeo pushing

from behind.

[Sunshine:] “Where are we going?”

[Judy:] “Probably not too far!”

[Tina:] “I’m feeling trapped in here!”

[Glutton:] “Just relax. I know what I’m doing.”

[Judy:] “And when did this revelation take place?”

[Glutton:] “I’ve always known what I’m doing.”

[Judy:] “Yeah, like going right to the food!”

The others laugh.

[Glutton:] “You can do it better?”

[Judy:] “Any day!”

The band is having fun trying out some new material. The Janitor is doing his chores. Just as he finishes, he hears clanking noises from outside. He looks out.

[Janitor:] “Oh, my gosh! What are you guys up to now? Try not to spill oil on the floor! Please?”

The men push the car in with much effort. They open the hood, and Trickster pulls out a distributor cap with the wires attached.

[Romeo:] “What is that?”

[Glutton:] “It looks like an octopus!”

[Romeo:] “What does it do?”

[Brandon:] “It probably eats seaweed!”

All the men laugh.

[The Performer:] “Does anyone *really* know what it’s for?”

All the men think hard for a moment.

Then Trickster raises his finger.

[Trickster:] “Watch this!”

He rips off the wires and puts a pencil in the cap.

[The Other Men:] “Oh, Yeah!”

The ladies come in for a little lunch. The men gawk and whistle at the ladies as they work on the car. The ladies ignore the men as they stand around chatting and laughing.

[The Performer:] “Um, um, um! Good evening, ladies!”

[Brandon:] “Oooo! Looking good, mamas!”

Beautiful responds with a sexy pose.

[Annie:] “Don’t you get tired of the guys gawking at us?”

[Beautiful:] “Ha! Never! They can gawk all they want. I rather enjoy it.”

[Tina:] “You would! They make me really uncomfortable.”

[Judy:] “It’s part of their heritage ladies. Live with it.”

[Sunshine:] “We look so good, they just can’t help themselves.”

[Annie:] “They look just like us!”

[Tina:] “Right. If they looked as good as we do, we’d be gawking at them!”

[Judy:] “You got that right, honey.”

[Annie:] “Don’t tell me those guys are trying to fix the car!”

[Sunshine:] “They are.”

[Annie:] “Do they know what they’re doing?”

[Tina:] “It sure doesn’t look like it.”

[Judy:] “Have you ever known these guys to know what they’re doing?”

[Tina:] “Not me!”

[Annie:] “Me either!”

The men have been pounding out the car door for quite some time. The last hit is a bit extreme, and glass clinks all over the floor.

[The Performer:] “Oops!”

They pour two quarts of oil into the car.

[Beautiful:] “So, Sunshine. What’s the story with Trickster and Glutton?”

[Tina:] “Yeah, the big lug keeps chasing Trickster all over the place.”

[Sunshine:] “Trickster had honey in his flower.”

[Beautiful:] “Well that explains that!”

[Judy:] “Does Trickster know what’s going on?”

[Sunshine:] “I don’t think so. He thinks Glutton wants him.”

[Tina:] “I think Sunshine would like some of Trickster’s honey.”

[Sunshine:] “Yeah, right!”

[Tina:] “Maybe a little honey do?”

All the women giggle.

Inside Judy's suitcase was a very used piece of sheet music. It was brownish yellow and breaking apart at the touch. She takes it to Female MC.

[Female MC:] "This is a legacy from your female ancestors. This song has been performed by the females in this company for generations. It looks like puzzle pieces right now, but we can fix it up."

Judy and Female MC spent hours taping the music together and got good copies made.

The ladies all got a copy of the song, and have been rehearsing for quite some time. They are ready to give it a whirl.

[Judy:] "Hey Ladies! Are we looking good or what?"

[Sunshine:] (*Primping*) "I know I am."

[Judy:] "Well then, let's do it."

[Annie:] "It will drive them crazy."

[Sunshine:] "That's for sure!"

The band begins to play the Blues tune with stripper type percussion. The ladies strut it out as they sing.

"Mystery, mystery, in every step that we take. A fantasy with every move that we make. We're looking so good. We're showing just what we should. The fantasy's there for anyone who's aware."

Beautiful fights her ways to the front and sings, **"It's a beautiful thing!"**

"We don't flaunt, we don't taunt, but we get just what we want. We don't play the game, but we still drive them insane. Mystery in every step that we take. A fantasy with every move that we make."

The men come out on the floor to strut around like the women. The women continue to sing, laughing at times, as the men make total fools of themselves.

"We watch what we say. We hold our listeners at bay. Choose our words with great thought, as if each phrase had been bought. We've got style, we've got grace, and we're keeping with the pace. We're looking so good, we're never misunderstood. Mystery in every step that we take. A fantasy with every move that we make."

All the men except Trickster go back to the car to watch. Trickster struts with the women as they retake the floor and continue to sing.

"Strutting it out! Strut it out! Making every step count. Demanding respect, with confidence in each step."

Trickster pretends to pass out on the floor from excitement. Beautiful steps over him as the ladies let her upfront to lead the last line.

“It’s a beautiful thing!”

Beautiful bows much too graciously while the others glare at her. Then they all go to eat.

Juliet comes in and sits on a bale of hay with her head hanging low.

Glutton runs to Trickster with his hands held out yelling, **“Honey!”**

Trickster gets up and runs outside, closely followed by Glutton.

The men throw their tools up in the air.

[Romeo:] “Well, it’s fixed.”

They make no attempt to start the car. Pushing the car backwards, they manage to get it out of the tent with great effort.

[Tina:] “What’s the matter with Juliet?”

[Judy:] “Didn’t you see her drooling all over Romeo after he gave her the flowers?”

[Tina:] “Oh, that’s her problem.”

[Judy:] “Yeah. Then he just ignored her. Mixing breeds is not allowed. He’s a white face, she’s a mime, but love is love, and that girl’s in love! Maybe something good will come out of all of this.”

[Tina:] “Oh, my.”

[Judy:] “Men. They’re only out for one thing. I’d sure like to find one that wants more than my fruit.”

[Tina:] “You and me both.”

The guitar starts out strumming a single string repeatedly, as the bass player finds his way to a good walking line. The drummer joins in, and the accompaniment to a Rock tune is set in action.

Juliet anxiously looks up at Judy as she walks closer.

[Judy:] “Juliet? Are you OK, sweetie? I know how you feel. Come here.”

Judy holds Juliet’s hands as she sings.

“Every time I see your face and imagine the touch of your embrace, you’re driving me crazy. What can I do to make you see that I need you to come and talk to me. You’re driving me crazy. Dream, I dream of an incredible night.”

All the women sing, **“Stark raving mad!”**

“I can't even say a word, I stutter and stammer and sound absurd. You're driving me crazy. Muscles that tremble and knees that shake just foil every move I attempt to make. You're driving me crazy. What am I doing here? I feel so insecure.”

Judy gets into the song as the other women participate, dancing and having fun with the lyrics. Juliet takes a seat and watches.

“You are there, everywhere, haunting me, why don't you see that I'm here wanting you? Walk with me, take my hand, show me that you understand, and then say that you are wanting me too.

I even bought the cologne you wear to put on a shirt and pretend you're there. You're driving me crazy. I would like to be sane again so how can I make this nightmare end. You're driving me crazy.

Could it be that you care, and you wish you could be there by my side every day. Nervous like I am too. Scared to call, and if you do you don't know what I am going to say. Should I call, could I speak, nerves go wild, I feel so weak. How I'm wanting to try. Give me strength. Set me free. Make a choice. What will it be? Will you have me, or will you make me cry? What am I doing here? I feel so insecure.

You are there, everywhere, haunting me. Why don't you see that I'm here wanting you? Walk with me. Take my hand. Show me that you understand, and then say that you are wanting me too.

I've no control over how I feel, but I know that my love for you is real. You're driving me crazy. Could you feel the same way for me, or should I give up and leave you be. You're driving me crazy. What am I doing here? I feel so insecure. I dream of an incredible night.”

All the women sing in harmony, **“Stark raving mad!”**

The women giggle as the song ends.

[Tina:] “I've yet to understand men, much less be able to guess what they're thinking.”

[Beautiful:] “Oh, I can read them like a book.”

[Judy:] “Is that a fact?”

[Sunshine:] “I don't understand this. Romeo knows the rules.”

[Beautiful:] (*Primping*) “He'd look at me long before he looks at

her. Juliet's dreaming!"

[Sunshine:] "Yeah. Right."

[Judy:] "That was mean! Would if it were you?"

[Beautiful:] "It would never be me. I don't just know the rules. I follow them!"

Male MC walks in. He paces for a while. Eventually Beautiful enters in an anxious fury. She's has a towel on her head.

[Male MC:] "Well, it's about time!"

[Beautiful:] "I was washing my hair! What's the problem?"

[Male MC:] "You confronted me on stage during a performance."

[Beautiful:] "You didn't think I could do my act, and I did just fine."

[Male MC:] "So? Isn't that your job?"

[Beautiful:] "Yeah, but you didn't think I could do it."

[Male MC:] "Don't you know that when the audience quits clapping it's time to quit bowing?"

[Beautiful:] "I did!"

[Male MC:] "Don't lie to me. You kept bowing long after the applause quit."

[Beautiful:] "That's not true. Why are you picking on me? You always pick on me. You think I'm stupid."

[Male MC:] "That's not why we're here."

[Beautiful:] "Why then? Didn't I do good with my act?"

[Male MC:] "Yes, and thank goodness. It was just totally inappropriate to call me out on stage during a performance."

[Beautiful:] "I wanted to make sure you saw me. Where were you?"

[Male MC:] "I saw you. You did alright."

[Beautiful:] "Alright? I was great! Didn't you hear them clapping for me?"

[Male MC:] "Not for as long as you did!"

[Beautiful:] “So?”

[Male MC:] “You just don’t do that!”

[Beautiful:] “As if someone noticed?”

[Male MC:] “I don’t care if anyone noticed. It was inappropriate.”

[Beautiful:] “Appropriate, inappropriate. What’s the difference?”

[Male MC:] “Oh, my gosh.”

[Beautiful:] “This is so clear to me now. I know what you’re up to.”

[Male MC:] “And what’s that? My mind’s spinning from this conversation.”

[Beautiful:] “You hate me and want me to fail.”

[Male MC:] “In plain and simple English, don’t ever confront me on stage again during a performance. And keep the bowing down to a minimum. Can you do this?”

[Beautiful:] “I can do anything!”

[Male MC:] “Well then, do *that!*”

[Beautiful:] “Oh, OK. Why didn’t you say that before?”

[Male MC:] “Oh, my goodness!”

[Beautiful:] “I’m so glad we had this talk.”

Beautiful hugs Male MC and leaves. Male MC shakes his head and leaves too.

Romeo comes onto the stage. He paces, stroking his hands through his hair. Male MC comes in from the other side.

[Male MC:] “What’s wrong, Romeo?”

[Romeo:] “Juliet’s driving me nuts!”

[Male MC:] “Different breeds, eh?”

[Romeo:] “That’s the problem. Why couldn’t she be white face?”

[Male MC:] “All clowns are supposed to stick to their own. It causes problems and has disastrous consequences.”

[Romeo:] “I know. Why is she filling my mind?”

[Male MC:] “I don’t know, but I’d let it go.”

[Romeo:] “I can’t! She’s just so beautiful, and I know she wants me.”

Male MC leaves with his hands up in the air.

[Male MC:] “I would just leave it alone! Please, just leave it alone!”

Brandon, Trickster, and The Performer come in drinking apple cider that’s much too ripe. Juliet comes in, sits down, and adjusts her toe shoes. The men put the apple cider on the floor as Romeo hides behind them. They all watch Juliet.

The band begins to play a very erotic Blues tune.

Brandon, Trickster, and The Performer sing in harmony, **“Temptation.”**

Juliet dances amazing ballet, as Romeo watches and quietly sings.

“The darker the night, the more I must fight, to keep temptation outside my door. The feeling runs deep. It won’t let me sleep. Temptation’s knocking hard on my door. Please go away. I don’t want you to stay. Leave me alone. I won’t give in any more.”

Juliet leaves as the men sing, **“Temptation.”**

Romeo dances while he sings.

“I try to be good and do as I should, and yet temptation knocks at my door. I turn him away. He begs me to stay. He keeps on knocking hard at my door. Please go away. I don’t want you to stay. Leave me alone. I won’t give in any more.”

The ladies come in and surround Romeo.

Gawking at the ladies, the men sing, **“Temptation. Temptation.**

Temptation. Why can’t you just leave me alone? Temptation.”

The ladies aggressively taunt Romeo and try hard to get him to dance with them.

They dance around him as he sings.

“I’m feeling so weak. I haven’t had sleep. Temptation’s coming inside my door. I ask him to leave. He will not concede. The battle’s raging here on the floor. Please go away. I don’t want you to stay. Leave me alone. I won’t give in any more.”

The men sing, **“Temptation. Temptation. Temptation.”**

The music ends as Romeo crosses his arms in front of him.

[Romeo:] “Stop it!”

Everybody but Judy freezes.

Judy seductively approaches Romeo.

[Judy:] “Problems, Romeo? Won’t you let me help you?”

[Romeo:] “Thank you, but I don’t need your help.”

[Judy:] “Hey. I’m a white face, and I’m right here. Let me help you!”

[Romeo:] “Just leave me alone. Please?”

[Judy:] “Well then. Have it your way, but all you have to do is ask.”

[Romeo:] “Yeah, yeah, yeah.”

Judy flirtingly twiddles her fingers at Romeo as she leaves.

[Judy:] “Later, Romeo.”

All the other women leave as they whisper, and gossip. We can’t hear everything, but we catch a few phrases like **“Juliet”** and **“He’s possessed!”** The ladies basically just threw themselves at Romeo. The men usually entice the women. It’s quite unusual for the women to go this far to get a man’s attention. And then they get turned down? They are a little miffed at the situation!

Romeo sits on a bale of hay, holding his head. He’s frustrated and lost in thought. He doesn’t notice as Brandon, Trickster, and The Performer begin to party with the apple cider.

[Trickster:] “Hey, did you guys see Beautiful’s act today? How many times can she bow without us boys getting excited?”

[The Performer:] “I was right there. If I wasn’t laughing so hard I would have done something about it.”

[Trickster:] “Yeah, me too!”

Brandon’s wondering why Romeo hasn’t joined the party.

[Brandon:] “Romeo?”

The Performer and Trickster sing, **“Hey, Ro-me-o!”**

Romeo springs up to save face in front of the men.

[Romeo:] “Ah. You guys got some brew?”

[The Performer:] “Of the finest kind, Dude!”

[Romeo:] “Well, bring it on!”

Romeo takes a seat and gulps down a good swig of cider.

Glutton comes running in with his arms in the air. Trickster sees him coming. He stands up and starts running.

[Glutton:] “Honey! Honey! Honey!”

The others laugh hysterically at the whole situation, but rather enjoy not filling in Trickster with information that he should have figured out himself.

[Brandon:] “So, Romeo! Are you a bit distracted lately?”

[The Performer:] “Yeah, man. Better watch out who you offer flowers to.”

[Romeo:] “Her? She’s a mime.”

They drink more cider. Trickster sneaks back in and has a seat with the men.

[The Performer:] “Trickster. How’s your honey?”

They all laugh. They gulp down some more cider, and Trickster begins to relax.

[The Performer:] “Romeo, who’s your pick for the big fiesta?”

Romeo thinks for a slight moment.

[Romeo:] “Hmmm. Well, I’m still looking.”

[Trickster:] “I haven’t decided either.”

[The Performer:] “Ha! I thought you’d want Glutton!”

[Trickster:] “Oh, really!”

All men laugh.

[The Performer:] “I think I just might take on Beautiful.”

[Romeo:] “No one’s gonna to fight you for that one.”

[Brandon:] “I didn’t know we had a choice.”

[Trickster:] “Let’s make a pact. If anyone doesn’t like who they end up with, we’ll switch. OK?”

[The Performer:] “I don’t want Glutton!”

Everyone laughs.

Brandon and The Performer say, **“I’m in!”**

[Romeo:] “As if anyone would want someone *you* don’t want?”

[Trickster:] “I have great qualities and high expectations!”

The men laugh and gulp down more cider. They are getting a little blitzed and begin to slur words.

Juliet is wanting to dance but sees the men. She hides as she listens to their conversation.

[Romeo:] “Hey, if anyone’s got qualities it’s me. I have a great act that entices the ladies. I can *dance*. Just watch me.”

He spins around and falls on his face. The others laugh.

[Trickster:] “You can dance with me any day, Romeo. As long as

you bring the brew.”

They all laugh.

[The Performer:] “So, what about this mime?”

[Romeo:] “She’s a different breed.”

[The Performer:] “Yeah, so, what about her?”

[Trickster:] “She’s gorgeous. She fills the stage with color. She’s extraordinary!”

[The Performer:] “Yeah, and she’s a mime!”

The other men pass out on the floor, leaving Romeo on his own.

[Romeo:] “Here I was, trying so hard to stay professional during the performance, and she didn’t help me one bit. I was so distracted. One more performance like that and my flowers are going to wilt!”

Juliet coyly approaches Romeo. She catches him quite off guard as he jumps back.

[Romeo:] “Oh. My gosh! It’s you!”

Romeo sobers up immediately, but brings the jug with him.

[Romeo:] “Have you been listening?”

Juliet shakes her head, “Yes.”

[Romeo:] “Oh. Wow. I’m not prepared for this. You caught me at a really awkward moment here.”

She takes his hand.

[Romeo:] “My goodness, but you’re beautiful!”

She hangs her head.

[Romeo:] “No. Really! You are the most beautiful thing I’ve ever seen in my life!”

She let’s go of his hand and turns away.

[Romeo:] “What? What’s wrong?”

She does a couple of dance moves, and then holds out her arms to Romeo.

[Romeo:] “I can’t dance with you!”

She hangs her head down.

[Romeo:] “I love you! Something’s so wrong with this. We should be together!”

Romeo drinks some cider. He softly strokes Juliet’s chin and nervously attempts to kiss her. She steps back.

[Romeo:] (*Slurring his words*) “What’s wrong now? Don’t you

love me?”

She shakes her head, “**Yes.**”

[Romeo:] “Well then. Let’s dance!”

Romeo does a couple of moves, spins around, and passes out on the floor. Juliet gets on the floor and kisses him. She sees The Janitor coming and disappears into the night. The Janitor shakes his head at all the men passed out on the floor. He steps over them as he cleans.

Male MC enters the stage.

[Male MC:] “Where is everybody?”

He sees the men on the floor and nudges them. They just groan.

[Male MC:] “Oh, great! We have a gig to get to, and our prince charmings are all passed out on the floor. Where is everybody else?”

Glutton comes onstage and goes right to the food.

[Male MC:] “Where is everybody?”

Glutton answers with a mouth full of food.

[Glutton:] “I think they’re all sleeping.”

[Male MC:] “Well, go wake them up!”

[Glutton:] “OK, OK!”

He grabs up some food.

Male MC nudges Romeo.

[Male MC:] “Wake up!”

[Romeo:] “Leave me alone. I don’t feel so good.”

[Male MC:] “We have a job to get to.”

[Romeo:] “Later, dude. Later.”

Male MC nudges him a few more times.

[Male MC:] “Now. Doggone it. Wake up!”

[Romeo:] “Give a guy a break, man. My head’s hurting here!”

[Male MC:] “Every time. Every time it gets worse. I’m getting so tired of all this!”

Romeo is suffering. He rubs his head.

[Romeo:] “OK. OK. I’m awake. Now, what did you want?”

[Male MC:] “We have work! We have to go!”

[Romeo:] “Work? Well, why didn’t you say so?”

Male MC just shakes his head.

Romeo rouses up the other men, receiving the same aggravation that he gave Male MC. The other clowns fill the stage from all entrances like they are sleep walking.

Juliet keeps looking at Romeo, but turns away when he looks back at her.

The clowns grab their suitcases from backstage and stand in line. Brandon butts in behind Annie. Male MC pulls Glutton away from the food and leads as they file out.

The Janitor puts out food at the new location. The clowns file in and put their suitcases backstage. They eat and make themselves to home, chatting amongst themselves.

Obsessed with thoughts of Romeo, Juliet comes in and falls asleep on a bale of hay. She wakes in a dream to hear Renaissance music, and she begins to dance. Judy, Annie, and Tina's voices swirl through the air, describing the dream as it unfolds.

“Lost, lost in a dream, hoping that he will find me. Night, so warm and serene. Vibrant colors entice me. My footprints linger in soft sand.

Blooms glitter with dew, sweetest fragrance releasing. Vague, the shadows of blue, soft, white satin embracing. I feel the touch of his warm hand.

I turn to see him, and he's gorgeous as the first time that we met so long ago, in a dream. He lifts me up, and in the ecstasy I'm felling lighter than the air. He pulls me close, and it's a fantasy come true. I feel his body pressing close to me. He speaks to me so softly saying things that make me very weak.

Racing though my mind I try to answer him, but words do not come easy to me now. I feel his heart is beating just as fast as mine is, as he holds me close to him. He holds me safely in the power of his arms. We stare into each other's eyes, and he just takes my breath away.

We sit and talk together softly of our fondest fantasies and our desires. He is my fantasy, and all my wishes do come true when I am

by his side. He says he waits for me each night in his own dreams. My vision seems so real as we speak of the finer things in life.

Is this just a dream? Dream in the night. How am I to find him if it's not a dream, or is there any chance that we will meet? We can't remember where we live, or who we are, but all this seems so very real. I get excited at the thought he might be there awaiting me somewhere. He takes my hand, holding it tight, and asks me if I want to dance.

Spinning through the flowers, perfume surrounds my head. Gown's flowing free. Moon shines a beam down on me.

I feel so elegant and graceful as he lifts me up in free and open air. His loving hands caress my waist as breezes blow against my face and through my hair. He holds me close, and I am filled with such desire. I can't believe this night. And then he kisses me with gentle lips so lightly touching mine.

Hearts that beat together beating now as one, while we cling to each other hard and fast. Erotic pleasures that I've never known before have come to me this very night. I want so much as he is reaching for my soul, possessing me with all his strength and might. I'm feeling whole with all the power he has given me tonight.

Spinning through the flowers, perfume surrounds my head. Gown's flowing free. Moon shines a beam down on me.

He clings to me as if, without me, he would have no reason to exist at all. I feel his muscles tremble as he holds me closer, and he says that he must go. This night is ending much too fast. Oh how I wish this night would never end. Just put your loving arms around my waist and lift me in the air.

Lift me in the air, embrace me like you did before, and tell me I'm the one you love. I cannot stand that you are leaving me, and what if I can't find you anymore? He pledges he'll be there, but I must look for him. All I must do is dream of him again. Give me a soft kiss on the lips, and then a gentle wave goodbye.

Lost, lost in a dream, knowing that he can find me. Night, so

warm and serene. Fading colors are pining. My footprints linger in soft sand.”

Juliet wakes to find a balloon on her lap. She tosses it on the floor and dances into the darkness.

The Kid limps onto the stage in a green suit. She picks up the balloon with a bit of difficulty and throws it on the floor in a rage. She stomps on it until it pops. She eats some food, and then goes to sleep.

The next performance is coming up, and everyone’s a little nervous about the clown car.

Brandon trips onto the stage and looks around to see if anyone saw him. He has a seat and watches for Annie, who amazingly trips in too. She composes herself, and sees Brandon watching her. She bolts out of sight.

[Brandon:] “Yeah! What a Woman!”

He eats some food and leaves to go look for Annie.

Juliet comes onstage and watches compassionately from there as The Kid wakes up. She struggles to take her green suit off, finally tossing it across the floor. Juliet tries to hug her.

[The Kid:] “Get away from me!”

The Kid eats as Juliet hangs her head and leaves. The Kid gets done eating and leaves too.

Female MC and Judy walk across the stage.

[Female MC:] “Why am I feeling bad vibes about this next performance? Is the car OK? Where is it?”

[Judy:] “You know who was driving last time?”

[Female MC:] “Who?”

[Judy:] “Glutton, the Bozo!”

[Female MC:] “Aha! How bad is it?”

[Judy:] “Well, it won’t start!”

[Female MC:] “Oh, my!”

[Judy:] “And the guys worked on it!”

[Female MC:] “Well, that explains that!”

Judy and Female MC leave, and all the men push the car onstage.

[Romeo:] “Does MC know the car won’t start?”

[Glutton:] “I don’t think so. Do you think she’ll notice?”

[Romeo:] “Well, yeah! It’s the opening act! It’s how we get onstage!”

[Glutton:] “There’s a whole lot of ways to get onstage.”

[Romeo:] “Yeah, well, how many ways are there to get offstage?”

All the men laugh.

The lights come up as Female MC enters.

[Female MC:] “Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen! We’re here to entertain you, so sit back and have fun. Let’s bring on the clowns!”

Trickster enters in a panic, chased by Glutton yelling, **“Honey!”**

The audience cheers! The circus music starts as all the other clowns enter through the car. Sunshine grabs an apple and gives it to Glutton.

[Glutton:] “Food!”

[Sunshine:] “Now, you leave my man alone!”

Glutton just walks away eating.

Trickster is astounded!

[Trickster:] “Your man?”

[Sunshine:] “Yeah? So what.”

[Trickster:] “Well. OK then!”

[The Performer:] (*In a singy voice*) “Trickster’s got a honey. Trickster’s got a honey.”

[Trickster:] “You are embarrassing me!”

The other clowns laugh while the excitement in the audience has dwindled. They stare, not understanding what is going on.

Throughout the performance, The Kid follows Trickster and tries to copy his juggling act. Trickster ignores her, and occasionally gets disturbed by her following him around. Juliet tries to help her. She ignores Juliet, or just pushes her away.

Some acts are featured.

Romeo produces a bouquet of flowers. Juliet approaches Romeo, but Tina beats her to the punch. Juliet stops and watches. He bends down on one knee and presents the flowers to Tina. She curtsies and goes back to where she was. Juliet stares at Romeo. Romeo looks at Juliet for a moment. Juliet runs to the back of the stage and continues to perform while she keeps glancing at Romeo. Romeo occasionally glances at her.

Clowns go out into the audience for one-on-one interaction. Beautiful

approaches a little girl who starts screaming. Beautiful tries to talk to her and gets closer. The girl screams louder yet! The Performer grabs Beautiful's arm and whispers to her to leave the girl alone. Beautiful doesn't understand but just follows behind The Performer.

When they return to the stage, other acts are featured while Female MC leaves. Beautiful is the next featured act. Her act is nothing special. She very graciously takes a bow, but doesn't go past the applause this time. She arrogantly prances off to the back of the stage, flaunting past The Performer. Male MC comes in.

A flash of lightning causes the stage lights to blink, shortly followed by a loud crash of thunder. The circus music fades out, except for the drummer who gets a nudge from the lead guitar player to stop and the bass player who continues on in a trance. After a few moments, the drummer hits the bass player with a stick. The bass player ends on the most totally wrong note, as the drummer drops his stick which hits cymbals and drums on the way down.

The Magician enters with an explosive magic trick. She walks through the smoke and stares at the clowns with her deep, black eyes. There is a loud thunder crash. The clowns are terrified! She steps out in her contagious and familiar rhythm, using her magic wand as a dancing cane. The drummer picks up on her rhythm, playing along on wood blocks.

She lunges at Romeo and points her wand at him.

[Romeo:] "She's after me!"

Glutton, Beautiful, and The Kid think this is funny and nervously giggle.

The Magician chuckles as the clowns cower together behind Romeo. She points and lunges at them. They scream while she laughs. Thunder crashes, and dark organ music begins, totally enhancing the experience.

Romeo sings, **"Grim Reaper. Grim Reaper. Reaper's after my soul. Wants to bury me in a deep dark hole."**

The Magician sings, **"Come with me tonight. Come with me tonight. Look into my eyes, if you can stand the sight. I'm looking for your soul. Come with me tonight."**

Romeo sings, **"Reaper's after my soul. Wants to bury me in a deep dark hole. Trick or treater. Needs no disguise. She's here to take me, right in front of your eyes."**

The Magician boldly points at Romeo. He tries to get into the car, but the door won't open. He panics, and finally swings the door open in a fury. He jumps into the car, slams the door, and keeps trying to start the car.

The Performer hits Trickster in the arm.

[The Performer:] “Come on! Let’s push!”

[Trickster:] “What?”

[The Performer:] “The car won’t start!”

[Trickster:] “Oh, yeah!”

Trickster and The Performer push the car offstage, as Romeo keeps trying to start it. Glutton, Beautiful, and The Kid giggle. Trickster and The Performer cautiously sneak back onstage.

All the clowns sing, **“Grim Reaper is after my soul. She wants to bury me in a deep, dark hole.”**

The Magician goes after everyone, including people in the audience, as she sings, **“Come with me tonight. Come with me tonight, and let’s all play in a deep, dark hole. And I’ll keep you warm. Just give me your soul!”**

All the clowns sing, **“Reaper’s after my soul. Wants to bury me in a deep, dark hole.”**

Glutton and The Kid giggle. The Magician does an evil laugh.

[The Magician:] “I’ll be back!”

She disappears with a puff of smoke and a loud thunder crash.

A few moments of quiet pass as the clowns stand petrified. The audience stares. They are nervous, and no one makes a sound.

Romeo peaks out onto the stage.

[Romeo:] “Is she gone?”

Male MC checks the exit.

[Male MC:] “It’s all clear!”

Everyone breathes a sigh of relief. The audience is wondering if this was actually part of the show. If so, it sure wasn’t what they expected to see.

The circus music starts up again, and the performance slowly continues, gaining momentum as it goes, with featured acts taking place. The audience response is minimal, as if they are clapping just to be polite.

It’s The Kid’s turn to be featured. She is obviously nervous with this being her first performance. Let’s not mention that she’s already nervous from the Grim Reaper experience. She goes to the front and closes her eyes for a second to gain her composure. She throws one ball in the air and catches it. She throws two balls up and catches those. Feeling confident, she tries to juggle three balls and the balls fall to the floor. The Kid crawls around the stage to collect the balls.

[The Kid:] (*Screaming at Juliet*) **“This is your fault! Look at me! I’m a freak!”**

She stands up, glares at Juliet, and runs offstage crying. Juliet and the other clowns just stand there, except Male MC who is shaking his head.

The rest of the acts are featured, with The Performer’s act last. The Performer bombs for a second, but recovers and still pulls off a good performance.

Beautiful walks up to The Performer saying, **“Ha! And you’re so good. Did you catch my act?”**

He grabs her, twists her around in a few dance moves, and then tilts her backwards as if they are kissing. Beautiful is stunned. She starts smiling, and primping.

[Beautiful:] **“I didn’t know you cared!”**

He hands her a balloon, and she tosses it towards the back of the stage.

[Male MC:] **“Thank you so much for coming! That’s our show. May sunshine bring out the very best in you! Goodnight now.”**

Juliet stays onstage. Everyone else waves at the audience as they exit. No one in the audience responds. The circus music fades out, as the audience quickly and quietly leaves.

Juliet stands alone. The Kid walks across the stage in a rage, ignoring Juliet. Juliet kneels with her arms open as The Kid leaves. Female MC enters as a low bell rings.

Juliet crosses her arms on her chest and hangs her head as Female MC sings, **“Singing her song when she’s wearing gray, she dwells in her own special place. Lost in memories of the past, a tear falls down her face.”**

The Magician comes in and watches. Judy, Annie, and Tina enter from the other side and stay just inside the entrance, avoiding The Magician.

The band has experienced similar situations before, of a member leaving before their time. They have a special song written for such occasions. They begin the slow introduction to a heavy Rock tune as Juliet dances.

Female MC sings, **“Scared and alone.”**

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing, **“Scared and alone!”**

The music becomes more and more frenzied, as does Juliet’s dancing, while her short life flashes before her. Clowns come and go. They stand around and chat

while they eat. Juliet dances from a distance, pleading with the others to show her a little attention, compassion, or forgiveness. They cannot see her. Sunshine and Beautiful enter first.

Female MC sings, **“Demons come to my room late at night. They're watching. They want me. I feel them. I can't see. I tremble. I fall through the dark holes. Would someone please help me? I need to be set free. Demons come to me throughout the night.”**

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing in harmony, **“They haunt me. I feel them. I can't see. They're haunting my room late at night. So frightened, I am so scared and alone.”**

Sunshine and Beautiful leave as Romeo, Trickster, and The Performer enter. Romeo feels a strange presence that distracts him. He looks around occasionally, but continues on, talking to the men. They are eventually joined by Brandon and Glutton.

Female MC sings, **“My demons will not let me sleep. I'm dying. I'm done with the crying. They haunt me. I'm guilty. Forgive me. Scared and alone.”**

All the men leave except for Glutton, who sticks around to eat. The Old Man and The Kid come in holding hands. He tickles her, and she laughs. They play tag, as Juliet dances around them.

“Demons speak to me throughout the night. They're lying. They know that I'm dying. Coercion. Undaunting perversion. They play me so clearly, like they see right through me. Evil demons affect what I say.”

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing in harmony, **“Uncaring. Unfeeling. Unsharing. These demons will blow me away. Please help me! I need you! Scared and alone.”**

“Scared and alone. Come by me. I'm here now. You'll find me. The demons will leave me if you will forgive me. Scared and alone.”

The Old Man takes The Kid's hand, and they walk out. Juliet gives up. She quits dancing and stands with her arms crossed over her chest and her head hanging low.

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing, **“Scared and alone!”**

The band is ecstatic! They've never performed this for a Mime before, but it was amazing to them to see her dance through their music!

Juliet finds herself face to face with The Magician who takes an intimidating pose. Judy, Annie, and Tina leave. Juliet stares into the Magician's eyes for a moment. The Magician softly touches Juliet's cheek, and then slowly walks out backwards watching Juliet.

A low bell rings as Female MC sings, **“She feels the need to share her grief, but no one knows she's there.”**

Juliet takes off her outfit and shoes, laying them neatly on the floor as if she was wearing them. She dances backwards offstage, holding out her arms to Female MC.

Romeo is pacing the floor. Male MC walks in and watches for a moment.

[Male MC:] “You miss her, don't you.”

Romeo steps back in surprise, and takes a second to respond.

[Romeo:] “More than you could imagine.”

[Male MC:] “At least you have The Kid.”

[Romeo:] “She's not mine.”

[Male MC:] “Oh. Really?”

[Romeo:] “You don't believe me?”

[Male MC:] “Who else could be her father?”

[Romeo:] “Maybe Trickster? She follows him around all the time.”

[Male MC:] “I thought it was because he could juggle.”

[Romeo:] “Maybe so, but it sure wasn't me.”

[Male MC:] “In any case, you're going to have to let Juliet go.”

[Romeo:] “You still don't believe me, do you? I see the consequences. That Magician scares the death out of me and seems to be after me. I didn't do anything wrong!”

[Male MC:] “She's supposed to have insight into all of this. That's why I'm having such a hard time believing you.”

[Romeo:] “It hurts to know you don't trust me. I've never lied to you. I have no clue who did this to Juliet, but he betrayed me too.”

[Male MC:] “I'm sorry.”

[Romeo:] “Thank you.”

[Male MC:] “You know it's about that time, and you're going to

have to pick someone for the fiesta.”

[Romeo:] “I know. I’ll just take it any way it comes.”

[Male MC:] “Good for you. You take care now, my man.”

[Romeo:] “I will.”

Male MC leaves. Romeo goes out the other way, bumping into Brandon who surprisingly remains vertical. He then trips, falling out onto the floor. He looks to see if anyone saw him. Annie enters, tripping in also, but is still standing. Composing herself, she sees Brandon on the floor and begins to run back the other way.

Brandon gets up.

[Brandon:] “Wait!”

He chases her with gusto! Grabbing her arm, she turns towards him.

[Annie:] “I’m so embarrassed!”

[Brandon:] “Oh, don’t be. I trip all the time.”

[Annie:] “Oh, yeah?”

[Brandon:] “It’s a fact.”

[Annie:] “Well, what do you want from me?”

[Brandon:] “What do I want? I love you!”

[Annie:] “That’s not possible.”

[Brandon:] “We’re two of a kind.”

[Annie:] “I find that hard to believe.”

[Brandon:] “Well, I fell on my face right before you got here.”

[Annie:] “You did?”

[Brandon:] “I’m always behind you in line. Haven’t you noticed?”

[Annie:] “Maybe. Well. I wasn’t sure.”

[Brandon:] “I’m always looking at you. I can’t take my eyes off of you!”

[Annie:] “I just thought you couldn’t believe how clumsy I am.”

[Brandon:] (*Laughing*) “It’s just part of your charm. So, what are your favorite things to do, Annie?”

[Annie:] “I like walking and talking.”

[Brandon:] “That’s funny. I like giggling and gawking.”

[Annie:] “What’s so funny? You don’t like walking and talking?”

[Brandon:] “What’s funny is that it rhymes. I think *we* rhyme in a way. You compliment me, and I hope I compliment you!”

Brandon takes Annie’s arm and they walk to the music while they sing, tripping over anything and each other’s feet. Actually the tripping happens a lot, and they have to hang on to each other for support.

[Brandon:] “Walkin’.”

[Annie:] “Talkin’. Gigglin’.”

[Brandon:] “Gawkin’.”

[Both:] “Walkin’. Talkin’.”

[Annie:] “Walkin’,”

[Brandon:] “and talkin’,”

[Both:] “that’s what I like to do.”

[Brandon:] “Walkin’.”

[Annie:] “Talkin’.”

[Brandon:] “Walkin’.”

[Annie:] “Talkin’.”

[Brandon:] “Walkin’,”

[Annie:] “and talkin’,”

[Both:] “that’s what I like to do.”

[Annie:] “Gigglin’.”

[Brandon:] “Gawkin’.”

[Annie:] “Gigglin’.”

[Brandon:] “Gawkin’.”

[Annie:] “Gigglin’,”

[Brandon:] “and gawkin’,”

[Both:] “that’s what I like to do. Walkin’. Talkin’. Walkin’ and talkin’, that’s what I like to do. Walkin’ with you is what I like to do. Talkin’ with you? Yeah, I like that too!”

The song ends. They end up onstage as all the females come running in for the fiesta. Annie breaks free from Brandon’s arm in pure embarrassment, and joins the women.

[Brandon:] “Wait! Where are you going? I love this woman!”

Brandon chases Annie as she hides behind the other clowns.

The big fiesta is about to begin. Romeo takes Tina’s hand. Trickster sees

Glutton looking around. Trickster goes for the first female he sees, who happens to be Beautiful. Glutton heads for Judy, but Judy runs to Romeo. She takes Romeo's hand, sending Tina to Glutton. The Performer and Sunshine start out together. Trickster and The Performer nod to each other and trade partners.

Brandon approaches Annie.

[Brandon:] "Don't worry! It's OK!"

He takes her hand.

The band begins to play an erotic tune. Romeo and Judy lead the dance as the others join in. Throughout the song, couples go to the side one by one. The men blow up two balloons, one pink and the other blue. The women toss the balloons to the back of the stage.

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing, **"Temptation. Temptation."**

All the clowns chant, **"Charming stimulation, tantalizing harmony. Inspiration, provocation, fiery intrigue. Thrilling incantations charm illusion into flames. Banish apathy inciting marvelous refrains."**

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing, **"Temptation. Temptation. Temptation."**

The men sing, **"Come to me now. Experience magic. Trances that will entice you. Let me take away your pain. Come, come to me now. Anticipating what we need. Sharing. Let your spirit soar. Lie by my side. Come closer. We will experience mystic trances throughout the night. Anxiety gone. Come to me now."**

All the clowns chant, **"Fascination, scintillation, magic remedies. Mystical enchantment and enticing melodies."**

The women sing, **"We sing the chant, the harmonies flowing. Haunting melodies piercing right through my soul. The sweet lyrics ease my fear hid deep in my soul. Two hearts embracing through the night. Sing the music. Melodies entwine. Caring. You hold me tight. Sweet music. You are my reason for being, giving, giving me life. My reason to live, giving me life."**

All the clowns chant, **"Charming stimulation, tantalizing harmony. Inspiration, provocation, fiery intrigue. Thrilling incantations charm illusion into flames. Banish apathy inciting marvelous refrains."**

Everyone sings, **"Blend night into day. Feel. Linger. Caressing**

hours in the day. Caring, sharing. Sharing what we need. Our voices soar. Stay by me. Sing as the harmonies sweet entwine, and flow through the skies. Sweet song of delight be mine again.”

Judy, Annie, and Tina sing, **“Temptation. Temptation. Temptation.”**

A low bell rings. The clowns take off their suits and shoes. They lay them out on the stage as if they were wearing them. They leave one by one. The stage is filled with color, but it’s extremely eerie and quiet!

The Janitor comes in to set out food and pick up the suits. He moves slower, occasionally looking around into the bleachers.

[The Janitor:] “Is anyone there?”

There’s usually somebody peeking in to get a look at the clowns. He thinks someone is listening, so he begins to talk to them, whether they are there or not.

[The Janitor:] “I have been serving these ungrateful vagabonds for years. Every time we get a new cast, they get worse! Messier. More demanding. I don’t get paid much. Mostly room and board, plus a few expenses. Sure not enough to do all this. A little appreciation would be nice. I try not to complain, but every once in a while it just gets to me. These clowns have no clue. You’d think they could pick up after themselves? They eat like there’s no tomorrow! Well, for them there probably isn’t, but I’m still here, and I have to pick up all their garbage. I serve them. I wash their car. Their car! You know, you can only drive a manual transmission so long without knowing how to work the clutch. Not a one of them knows how to drive it, and they don’t know how to do any maintenance either. This thing drips oil all over, and who has to clean it up? Me!”

(Whispering) **“I have to tell you. That car isn’t even real!”**

“How can it leak oil? I think I finally have it fixed. At least it runs now, as long as someone does sound effects and they push it. I take very good care of my own car. It’s in the shop for an oil change every five thousand miles. My dad taught me that. He had this job before me, and now here I am, following in Dad’s footsteps.”

He begins to leave with the suits, but stops to add, **“I guess its destiny, and they do need me here. I just wish they weren’t so messy. They’re so messy!”**

The Magician waits for The Janitor to leave. She sneaks around, checking to see if anyone else is there. She picks up two balloons, doing an evil laugh.

[The Magician:] “These babies are mine!”

All the clowns enter as new clowns in their green suits. Two clowns are missing. One is Beautiful, and the other is Brandon. The clowns each take a balloon. They lie down and go to sleep, except for Glutton. He goes back for more food. Disappointed at the few bits left, which he eats, he lies down too.

Female MC and The Kid come in.

[Female MC:] “Wake up, kids! We need to go!”

They all wake up, stretching.

Female MC says to The Kid, **“Wow! That was easy!”**

The clowns take off their green suits and toss them on the stage. Their new clown suits, which were hidden underneath, light up the stage with mixtures of their parents’ suit colors, but in the most extraordinary way! Everything is so shiny! The stage is glistening and exploding with color! They pop their balloons. They grab their suitcases from backstage, stand in a line, and follow Female MC off to their first performance at a new location.

The car is bouncing down the road with The Performer and Tina pushing from behind.

[Glutton:] “Look out!”

[Romeo:] “Stay on your own side of the road!”

[Judy:] “I thought I was!”

[Glutton:] “I don’t want to die.”

[Trickster:] “Meet your maker, buddy!”

[Glutton:] “Who taught you how to drive anyway?”

[Judy:] “I did!”

[Glutton:] “Well, go figure.”

[Judy:] “I can’t find the clutch!”

[Glutton:] “It’s right under your left foot!”

[Judy:] “Oh. My *left* foot?”

[Glutton:] “Yeah!”

[Judy:] “There it is! What’s it doing there?”

They all laugh as the car comes to a screeching halt, with very noisy brakes.

[Glutton:] “You said you could drive a manual transmission.”

[Judy:] “What’s a manual transmission? I just said I could drive stick!”

Male MC enters the stage with The Kid by his side, and the audience goes wild with excitement!

[Male MC:] “Welcome Ladies and Gentlemen! We’re here to entertain you, so sit back and have fun. Let’s bring on the clowns!”

The circus music begins.

Male MC doesn’t need to encourage the audience to clap. The noise of applause is deafening as the car enters the stage. Judy is driving, Glutton is in the passenger seat, and Tina and Trickster are in the backseat. The Performer and Romeo are pushing. The car backfires and stops. The passengers get out, and Sunshine and Annie come through the car. They begin their acts.

Some acts are featured, which are surprisingly fantastic!

Romeo produces a huge bouquet of flowers. He waves Judy over, bends down on one knee and presents the flowers to her. She accepts the flowers and is almost too gracious when the audience applauds.

[Male MC:] “Oh no! Not again!”

He is relieved to see that the performance continues without a hitch.

Clowns go out into the audience for one-on-one interaction. The new clowns have spent much more time than their parents did preparing for the event. Extraordinary balloons are passed out, and everyone gets a treat. The interaction is so personable that even the shyest of children is waiting to be approached by a clown.

Trickster comes front and center and signals Glutton over, offering him an apple. Glutton’s eyes light up, and he runs over. Trickster squirts him in the face with his flower. Trickster backs off just a touch, thinking he may just have made a mistake, but all is well, as Glutton laughs. Trickster teases Glutton a bit with the apple, but then gives it to him. Glutton licks the honey off his face as he goes to the back of the stage to eat the apple.

The remaining acts are featured, which are more incredible than the first acts! The Performer is last. He does the same act his father did, but it’s much more colorful and dynamic! The audience goes wild with excitement!

Male MC and The Kid walk front and center.

[Male MC:] “Thank you so much for coming! That’s our show.

May sunshine bring out the very best in you! Goodnight now.”

Male MC and The Kid wave as they leave. Trickster and Annie wave and leave through the car. The circus music dies out.

The audience doesn't want to go. The applause has died down, but they are all recanting the performance experience and want to see what happens next.

Judy, Glutton, Tina, and Sunshine stand around the car. The Performer and Romeo hang out behind the car.

[Glutton:] “Who’s driving now?”

[Judy:] “I guess it’s me.”

[Glutton:] “You? You don’t have a clue how to drive this thing!”

As she jabs her finger into his chest, **“Yeah, well, I’m driving and that’s that! Are you going to be quiet and let me concentrate?”**

[Glutton:] (*Laughing*) “We’ll all be concentrating on your driving!”

Everyone laughs.

Sunshine and Tina get in the backseat. Glutton stands behind Judy as she looks in the car.

[Judy:] “How do you put the seat back?”

[Glutton:] “So, you can’t get in?”

[Judy:] “Someone just put the seat up too far! It’s not funny. Think about it. Are *you* in there yet? Can *you* get in?”

[Glutton:] “Let me see this thing.”

Glutton gets the seat back, takes the passenger seat, and Judy gets into the driver’s seat.

[Judy:] “OK! And we’re off.”

[Glutton:] “Well, it’s about time.”

Trickster and The Performer begin to push the car offstage.

[Tina:] “Whoopee!”

[Sunshine:] “Put the pedal to the metal, Mama!”

[Tina:] “Ride on!”

[Judy:] “What side of the road should I be on?”

[Glutton:] “You sure you don’t want me to drive?”

[Judy:] “No, I’ve got it covered. We’re OK.”

[Glutton:] “That’s a matter of opinion.”

Evidently George and Bertha moved to this town after their first encounter

with the clown car.

[Tina:] “Look out!”

[Sunshine:] “Oh, good maneuver, Judy!”

[George:] “Hang on, Bertha!”

There is a crash. Everyone screams! Glass and metal bounce on the street. Bertha is a bit distraught.

[Bertha:] “Oh, my. It was the aliens again, George.”

[George:] “I think you’re right, Bertha.”

[Bertha:] “Do we have insurance, George?”

[George:] “Yes, Bertha, and we’re going to need it this time.”

Sirens are heard in this distance.

[Judy:] “Is everyone OK?”

[Tina:] “We’re all in one piece.”

[Sunshine:] “Drive on, Mama!”

[Tina:] “Where are we going?”

Judy thinks for a moment.

[Judy:] “I really don’t know!”

Well, maybe George and Bertha are having nightmares. But, for everyone else, the excitement has left the tent to become a part of everyone else’s dreams in this town, from the very young to the very old. The magic lingers on, because there’s just something about clowns.