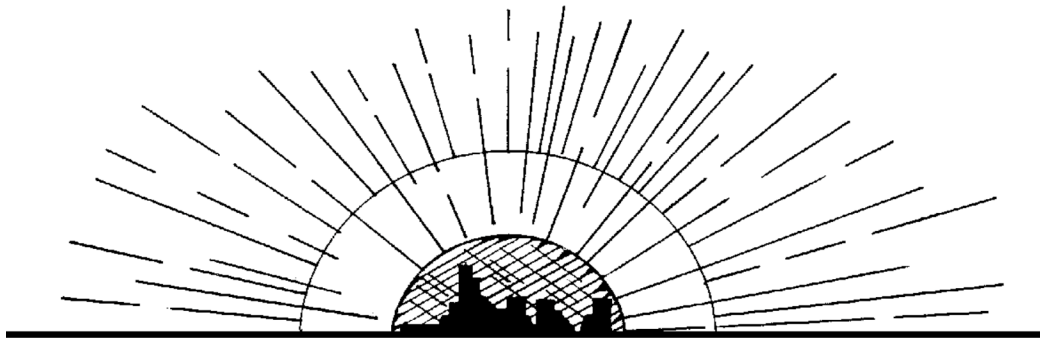


PERUSAL SCRIPT



Of Babylon

A MUSICAL ADVENTURE
A TALE OF THE FUTURE

Book by
C. Michael Perry & Susan Lewis
Music and Lyrics by
C. Michael Perry



www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com

© 1993 by C. Michael Perry & Susan Lewis
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that

OF BABYLON

being fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States Of America, the British Empire, including the Dominion Of Canada, and the other countries of the Copyright Union, is subject to royalty. Anyone presenting the play without the express written permission of the Copyright owners and/or their authorized agent will be liable to the penalties provided by law.

A requisite number of script and music copies must be purchased from the Publisher and Royalty must be paid to the publisher for each and every performance before an audience whether or not admission is charged. A performance license must first be obtained from the publisher prior to any performance(s).

Federal Copyright Law -- 17 U.S.C. section 504 -- allows for a recovery of a minimum of \$250 and a maximum of \$50,000 for each infringement, plus attorney fees.

The professional and amateur rights to the performance of this play along with the lecturing, recitation, and public reading rights, are administered exclusively through LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS without whose permission in writing no performance of it may be made. For all other rights inquiries may be made to the authors through LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS Any adaptation or arrangement of this work without the author's written permission is an infringement of copyright. **Unauthorized duplication by any means is also an infringement.**

FOR PUBLIC PERFORMANCE RIGHTS YOU MUST APPLY TO THE PUBLISHER OR YOU ARE BREAKING THE LAW!

The possession of this SCRIPT whether bought or rented, does not constitute permission to perform the work herein contained, in public or in private, for gain or charity. Proper prior application must be made and license granted before a performance may be given. Copies of this SCRIPT and all other rehearsal materials may be bought and/or rented from:

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
3877 W. Leicester Bay South Jordan, UT 84095
www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com
Printed in the United States Of America

Whenever this play is produced the following notice should appear in the program and on all advertizements under the producer's control: "Produced by special arrangement with Leicester Bay Theatricals, South Jordan UT" In all programs and posters and in all advertisements under the producers control, the author's name shall be prominently featured under the title.

NOTE: Your contract with Leicester Bay Theatricals limits you to making copies of this document for persons directly connected with your production. Do not distribute outside of your cast and crew. Following your performance run you must destroy all photocopies, preferably by shredding them. If we sent you the document in printed format, you must return that document to us. if we provided you with an electronic PDF file, simply trash that on your computer so that it cannot be recovered. The electronic document may only be on ONE computer -- it may NOT be duplicated. This is also a part of your contract with Leicester Bay Theatricals.

Of Babylon

A Musical Adventure

Book by
C. Michael Perry & Susan Lewis
Music and Lyrics by
C. Michael Perry

© 1993 by **C. Michael Perry & Susan Lewis**
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
Duplication Prohibited

For performance rights contact:
LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
3877 W. Leicester Bay South Jordan, UT 84095
www.leicesterbaytheatricals.com

OF BABYLON

A Futuristic Musical Fantasy

Musical Synopsis

#1	PROLOGUE -- OF BABYLON	Father, Jan & Chorus
#2	TELL A BOY	Father
#3	IF I COULD	Mai
#4	PEACE, MY CHILDREN	Father & Chorus
#5	THE SEARCH	Chorus, Jan & Mai
#6	OF BABYLON (Reprise #1)	Chorus, Jan & Mai
#7	THE CHASE	Chorus & Marc
#8	THE FOREST DREAM	Jan & Father
#9	I AM	Jan, Mai & Marc
#10	VOICES	Chorus, Jan, Mai & Marc
#11	WHERE DO FEELINGS COME FROM?	Marc
#12	I AM (Reprise #1)	Jan, Mai & Marc
#13	WE TRAVEL	Jan, Mai & Marc
#14	THE RIVER	Chorus, Jan, Mai & Marc
#15	LAMENT -- DISCOVERY	Mai & Jan
#16	MAN BUILDS	Jan, Father, Mai, Marc, & Chorus

PRODUCTION NOTES:

The show is designed to use slides and projections. As a multi-media production it can be staged on any stage. The slides should be abstract and colorful to the primitive but not to the obscure. Photos of real objects would be out of place. A bare stage would suffice, but a unit set with levels, ramps, stairs and a turntable, if possible, would be ideal on any stage. The lighting should be sharp and focused with bold colors, "Lines of light" and unusual lighting angles.

OF BABYLON

A Musical Adventure.

Book by C. Michael Perry & L. Susan Lewis

Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry

1M 2TB 1TG +chorus(8) and dancers(6).

Space setting.

The time: Man after he has all but destroyed his civilization. The survivors live in primitive tribal societies and worship the "Gods" who, as legend has it, dwelt of old in "The Place Of The Gods". A young boy sets out on his quest to become a man and finds the ruins of that forgotten and forbidden civilization. He learns and grows and begins to strike out with new hope to rebuild all that was so carelessly lost by his human predecessors.

Based on "By The Waters of Babylon" by Stephen St. Vincent Benet. 1 hr.

Cast Of Characters

1M 2TB 1TG + 14 Chorus

CHORUS -- (eight total) It signifies fear and ignorance. Tradition is not to be tampered with. Its purpose is much the same as that of the Greek chorus: echoing the tabus and timeworn traditions -- the voice of warning. The chorus is the antagonist. The chorus should be dressed in black floor length robes for the most of the play, but, as they join in on the final number they should remove the robes to reveal varied colored robes, capes, skirts, togas, etc., signifying their acceptance of Jan and their recognition of his fore-ordination.

JAN -- the boy -- 17 or 18 -- the protagonist. Foreordained to his task, he is right but unsure; intelligent but uneasy; brave but lacks conviction. He is enthusiastic but impatient. The characteristics of youth.

JAN, THE FATHER -- in his fifties. He knows of his sons foreordination. He is extremely wise and perceptive. He has groomed his son for the task of "rebuilding." He knows it must come slowly. He wishes that he was the one to fulfill the task but is grateful that his son will do it.

MAI -- Jan's sister -- 16 or 17. She loves her brother almost to the point of worship and he returns that love. She possesses the cold reason of the semi primitive mind. She knows that Jan has some special task to perform and she wants to be a part of it.

MARC -- about 17. An outcast of his people. Outwardly he is steeped in his tribe's ignorance and their superstitions. He is bitter towards his people but he still has a strong sense of loyalty. Inside he is loving, understanding, and he possesses a deep inner strength and a quest for truth.

THE FOREST PEOPLE -- (Six dancers) They are the physical extension of the CHORUS.

C. Michael Perry -- was born in Colorado and raised in Chicago. He found the theatre in High School and has made a living in Theatre, Film and Television since then. He has worked on over 25 major network television shows and some 300 commercials along with two feature films. He has performed in front of over 2000 live audiences from Utah to Italy in various plays and musicals. He has received acting awards for his many leading and supporting roles. He has directed over 40 shows on the Community, Educational and Professional level. He has choreographed over 50 productions. He has won awards for lighting and scenic designs in community theatre and continues to design shows at his own high school. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a BA in Theatre. He is the composer of over thirty musicals including "CINDERABBIT" for PBS, which won an Emmy Award and a "Best Of The West" Public Television award. He is also a playwright and lyricist for over 20 plays and award winning musicals that have been produced across the nation, many of which are published. Other works composed include, ENTERTAINING MARK TWAIN, FAUNTLEROY!, KEWPIE!, THE APPLE KINGDOM, OF BABYLON, TURN THE GAS BACK ON!, CURSES, FOILED AGAIN!, TOM SAWYER, ONSTAGE!, A CHRISTMAS MEMORY and THE MIRACLE OF MIRADOR.

He currently teaches theatre in high school where his Shakespeare Competition teams have taken 2nd, 1st, 3rd, 2nd and 1st places at the Utah Shakespearean Festival High School Shakespeare Competition over the last five years. His High School students bring home an average of \$30,000 to \$50,000 in University and College scholarships yearly.

He is a member of The Educational Theatre Association, The International Thespian Society, Christians In Theatre Arts, The Texas Educational Theatre Association, The Utah Theatre Association, Ohio Community Theatre Association, The American Alliance for Theatre In Education and The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). He has served as the President of the Theatre Guild Of Utah Valley in central Utah. He is President of Encore Performance Publishing of Orem, Utah -- a young and growing publisher of plays and musicals for amateur and professional markets. He makes his home in Orem, Utah with his wife Sharon, and daughters Jessica, Janalynn and Joelle and son Jon-Christopher.

OF BABYLON

MUSICAL #1A -- PROLOGUE

SEGUE TO

MUSICAL #1B -- OF BABYLON

(A spot comes up with the music on a bare black stage with a multi level unit set. The music is insistent, almost primitive. JAN, the father enters into the spot. Stage lights gradually come up during the following speech.)

FATHER: Babylon. Our forefathers destroyed themselves in Babylon. But how? Why? What is the place Babylon? We call it the Place of the gods -- a place called "Ne- ork." It has been dead for many years... many years. It is forbidden to go east to Babylon, to cross the Great River. Jan, my son,

(JAN enters)

he says he must go, that he must know. So he is leaving.

(To JAN)

You know it is forbidden to go east to the place Babylon. Goodbye my son.

(FATHER touches JAN on the breast and forehead and then gives Jan his "Bow and arrows." JAN crosses to another part of the stage.)

There are many dangers, many miles. He feels he must discover. He must know.

FATHER:

OF BABYLON, BY BABYLON,
OF BABYLON,

CHORUS:

BY BABYLON.
GO TO THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH AND WEST
THAT'S WHERE HUNTING'S BEST.
BUT TO THE EAST, GO NOT TO THE EAST
WHERE THE GODS REST.

FATHER:

BY THE WATERS OF BABYLON
IS THE PLACE OF THE GODS.

CHORUS:

IT'S FORBIDDEN TO TRAVEL ON
TO THE PLACE OF THE GODS.

FATHER: It is forbidden to go to any of the dead places except to search for metal; even then, he who touches the metal must be the Priest or Son of the Priest. Afterwards, both man and metal must be purified. These are the rules and the laws of our people. They were well made.

JAN:

MY FATHER IS PRIEST

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
It is for perusal purposes only.
LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

HE FOLLOWS EACH WORD AND DECREE.
 HE TELLS ME NOT TO GO EAST,
 YET HE KINDLES MY LONGING TO SEE.

As a boy, I was allowed to go to the Dead Places to search for metal, for I am Son of the Priest. I looked for the old books also but I found none. When I returned I always had meat and a warm place by the fire. But if I boasted of my adventures there, my father would punish me most severely, more than he would my older brothers. He taught me chants and spells for a Priest must know many secrets. Even above my brothers I was taught how to read in the old books and how to make the old writings. Knowledge made me happy. But most of all I liked to hear of the old days -- the stories of the gods --

ALL:

THE GREAT RIVER -- THE GREAT PEOPLE --
 ITS ALL DUST FROM THE GREAT BURNING.

JAN:

TO SEE THAT RIVER, PLACE AND PEOPLE
 SET MY MIND TURNING -- TO BABYLON

CHORUS:

BY BABYLON

JAN:

I TRAVEL ON TO BABYLON I GO.
 TO THE RIVER THAT DARKLY FLOWS

FATHER:

THROUGH THE PLACE OF THE GODS.
 HEAR THE WIND WHISPER WHAT IT KNOWS
 OF THE PLACE OF THE GODS.

JAN: I listened to the wind and asked myself many questions I could not answer. But it felt good to ask them.

Knowledge and lack of knowledge burned in me -- I wished to know more. I asked my father for his leave.

I TOLD HIM MY DREAMS OF GODS
 AND WASTE AND FLAME. HE SAID,

FATHER:

YOUR DREAMS ARE NOTHING
 TO PUT YOU TO SHAME.

JAN: But he did not want me to go. We fought for many days -- cried many tears. He begged me not to go east, but then he touched me on the breast and forehead and gave me a bow and three arrows and bade me goodbye.

He told me not to go east. I went fasting as is the law. I went east. My body hurt but my heart did not. I prayed and purified myself -- waiting for a sign -- I saw an eagle -- it flew east. Later, a white fawn passed me in the valley, heading east. I followed, waiting. A panther sprang upon the fawn -- I shouted -- the panther turned -- I shot -- he died in the middle of his spring. I knew that I was meant to go east.

CHORUS MEN:

TO THE WATERS CALLED OU-DIS-SUN.

CHORUS WOMEN:

FORBIDDEN!

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

MEN:

TO THE PLACE OF THE GODS.

JAN:

THROUGH THE FORESTS I LONG TO RUN --

CHORUS:

FORBIDDEN!!

JAN:

TO THE PLACE OF THE GODS!

AS ON THROUGH THE FOREST STILL,

I LISTEN FOR FOOTSTEPS TO FALL,

MY SPIRIT IS STRONG AS MY WILL.

WHY, THEN AM I FEELING SO SMALL?

THE GREAT RIVER,

CHORUS:

THE GREAT RIVER,

JAN:

THE GREAT PEOPLE,

CHORUS:

THE GREAT PEOPLE,

JAN:

THE GREAT PLACE OF THE GREAT BURNING!

TO SEE THAT RIVER

CHORUS:

TO SEE THAT RIVER,

JAN:

PLACE AND PEOPLE --

CHORUS:

PLACE AND PEOPLE!

JAN:

KEEPS MY MIND TURNING.

ALL:

THE GREAT RIVER, THE GREAT PEOPLE,

THE GREAT PLACE OF THE GREAT BURNING.

JAN:

TO SEE THAT RIVER, PLACE AND PEOPLE

KEEPS MY MIND TURNING.

TO SEE THAT RIVER, PLACE AND PEOPLE

OF BABYLON,

CHORUS:

BY BABYLON,

JAN:

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

TO BABYLON,
CHORUS:
 BY BABYLON,
JAN:
 TO BABYLON,
CHORUS:
 BY BABYLON,
JAN:
 OF BABYLON.

SEGUE TO MUSICAL #2 -- TELL A BOY

(The scene shifts back to JAN the father.)

FATHER: I know that a boy has a will of his own, and a yearning that never tires. I once had such a will, such a yearning. Jan, he knows he must follow this yearning, despite all counsel. And sometimes -- and mostimes, that which is forbidden is the most desirable thing to attain. A boy, to grow, must reach for the unattainable. My Jan is such a boy, as I once was. And he must grow in his own way, if the need be, but he will arrive as a man in his own time, not mine or anyone elses. But as his father I wish this weren't so.

TELL A BOY JUST WHAT TO DO
 HE'LL SAY YOU'RE A FOOL,
 WON'T TAKE YOUR ADVICE.
 BUT, GIVE A BOY A HINT OR TWO --
 HE'LL PAY THE PRICE.
 FOR A BOY MUST BE FREE TO LAUGH ON THE WIND,
 TO CRY IF THE WIND GOES AWAY,
 FREE TO LAUGH AGAIN ANOTHER DAY.
 TELL A BOY TO BE A MAN,
 HE'LL NEVER GROW UP, NEVER BE STRONG.
 BUT, TELL A BOY HE'S JUST A PUP --
 HE'LL PROVE YOU WRONG.
 FOR A BOY MUST BE FREE TO LAUGH ON THE WIND,
 TO CRY WHEN THE WIND GOES AWAY,
 BUT HE'LL LAUGH AGAIN ONE WINDY DAY.
 TELL A BOY TO WALK A MILE
 HE'LL KICK OFF HIS SHOES DETERMINED TO STAY.
 BUT TELL A BOY TO REST A WHILE
 AND HE'S ON HIS WAY;
 BUT A MAN KNOWS HIS SON
 MUST LAUGH ON THE WIND,
 MUST FLY, IF THE WIND FLIES AWAY,

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
 It is for perusal purposes only.
 LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
 Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
 Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

BUT, HE'LL COME AGAIN, COME HOME TO STAY.
 AND A MAN WITH A SON WHO LAUGHS ON THE WIND,
 HE KNOWS, WHEN HIS SON FLIES AWAY,
 HE'LL BE HOME SOMEDAY, BE HOME TO STAY.

SEGUE TO

MUSICAL #3 -- IF I COULD

(The music and scene shift now to MAI, JAN'S younger sister. She thinks that she is alone but FATHER is watching, pretending to be asleep.)

MAI: So much that glows. They burn the sky and bring light to the darkness. Stars. Such tiny lights so far away. Such says my brother, Jan. He says so many things -- is so wise. Some day I will find such wisdom. I will know all that Jan knows. I will touch the stars.

JAN: *(entering)* Mai!

MAI: Are you off to hunt?

JAN: No.

MAI: You carry your bow.

JAN: It is not for the hunt -- it is for my enemies.

MAI: You have no enemies here.

JAN: I am leaving, Mai.

MAI: Leaving? From home?

JAN: I will be back.

MAI: No -- you must not leave.

JAN: I've come to say goodbye.

MAI: Goodbye? How can one say goodbye to his own soul? No!

JAN: Mai -- I go in search of great things. Things I have never been able to dream. So much wisdom is out there -- so much to learn. Look, look out there. Remember the stars? Remember all I have seen? Look at them glisten and gleam from so far away. Look at them burn as hot as fire. When I come home -- I will know their secrets, Mai. I will know so much -- I will be able to touch the stars.

MAI: But Jan -- no one has touched the stars!

JAN: I will.

MAI: Can it be done?

JAN: Yes.

MAI: Then let me go with you.

JAN: I must do it alone, Mai -- alone.

MAI: But you cannot leave us.

JAN: I must. But I will come home again -- I promise you that.

MAI: Do not go.

JAN: I must.

(JAN kisses MAI'S hand and exits. MAI watches him go.)

MAI: Then, Jan, dear brother, I wish you good fortune. Such as I wish for myself.

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
 It is for perusal purposes only.
 LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
 Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
 Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

(MUSIC IN)

We have shared much, many dreams, many thoughts -- everything that has come to you. But now, now what am I to do? I have no truth, no destiny of my own. What will I do now that you have left me behind?

MY LIFE HAS WALKED AWAY
 LIKE THE STARS THAT FADE AND DIE
 AT THE BREAKING OF THE DAY -- OF THE DAY.
 THE SUNLIGHT IN THAT DAY
 MAKES ME SHINE, BUT, WHERE AM I
 WHEN MY SUNLIGHT WALKS AWAY?
 SO FAR AWAY ARE YOU,
 THE ONE I LEAN UPON.
 SO FAR AWAY ARE YOU, AWAY IN BABYLON.
 WHAT WHISPERED WORD HAS WON,
 WHAT VOICE HAS TURNED YOUR EAR?
 WHAT DREAM HAS SPOKEN OUT --
 YET KEPT ME HERE?
 I WISH THAT YOU WERE HERE TO SIT BESIDE ME,
 HELP ME, GUIDE ME.
 I NEED THE KNOWING FEELING OF YOUR VOICE.
 DEAR BROTHER, IT IS CLEAR TO ME
 IF YOU WILL NOT THEN WHO WILL
 GIVE US THE REASONS TO REJOICE? REJOICE!
 IF I COULD ONLY HELP -- IF I COULD ONLY BE THERE.
 IF I COULD ONLY SEE WHAT YOU WOULD SEE THERE.
 FATHER IS A LOVING MAN.
 MAYBE HE WOULD UNDERSTAND?
 IF I COULD ONLY WAIT FOR YOUR RETURN --
 BUT I CAN'T!

SEGUE TO MUSICAL #4 -- PEACE, MY CHILDREN

(On the words "But I can't" she kisses her sleeping FATHER and exits. FATHER awakens and he knows what has happened.)

FATHER:

PEACE, MY SON. GO, MY SON.
 LIVE MY SON TO TELL YOUR SON -- LIVE!!
 ON YOUR WAY TAKE TODAY;
 LEARN TO PRAY TO TRY YOUR WAY
 LOVE AND PATIENCE HOPE AND TRUTH

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
 It is for perusal purposes only.
 LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
 Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
 Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

BLOSSOM FORTH AND GROW IN YOUTH.
LEARN.

(The CHORUS joins the FATHER.)

FATHER:	CHORUS:
DAUGHTER GONE.	DON'T MY
PEACE TO HER,	SON. STAY, MY
LIFE TO HER.	SON. LIVE, MY
TELL THEM TO	SON TO TELL YOUR
LIVE!!	SON.
ON YOUR	NO.
WAY TAKE TO-	ON YOUR WAY
DAY; LEARN TO	COME WHAT MAY
PRAY TO	EVERY DAY A
TRY YOUR WAY.	SORRY DAY.

FATHER:
HOPE ETERNAL GUIDES YOU THERE.
ONE HAS GONE AND TWO WILL DARE LEARN.
PEACE MY CHILDREN.

SEGUE TO MUSICAL #5 -- THE SEARCH

(The scene shifts to MAI searching for JAN. The CHORUS is ominously everpresent.)

CHORUS:
A FOOL ALONE IS EASY PRAY.
WHY DON'T, (WHY DON'T)
WHY DON'T YOU, (WHY DON'T YOU)
RUN AWAY? (RUN AWAY)

MAI:
MY HEART HAS A QUEST.
MY QUEST LEADS ME ON
TO LEARN OF THE TRUTH I TREAD UPON.
MY BROTHER'S ALONE, ALONE FOR A WHILE,
BUT I'LL FIND HIM, I'LL HELP HIM
WALK THAT DISTANT MILE.

CHORUS:
A CHILD ALONE IS OFTEN WRONG.
WHY DON'T (WHY DON'T)
WHY DON'T YOU (WHY DON'T YOU)

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
It is for perusal purposes only.
LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

RUN ALONG? (RUN ALONG)

MAI: I have walked a long way, I have searched, but I do not find my brother. I'm sure he should not be far. But there are angry beasts in the forest. I smell them and it grows dark. If I don't find him -- what will become of me? I will lose my mind, my truth, even my soul.

(We now pick up JAN on the other side of the stage. JAN, MAI, and the CHORUS are all visible.)

JAN:

I MAY WALK A MILLION MILES TODAY
TO FIND THE TRUTH THAT I'M NOT TOO SURE
IS WAITING THERE FOR ME.
STILL MY SPIRIT LEADS ME EVER ON.
DID I DO IT BLINDLY?
WHAT'S AHEAD FOR ME TO SEE?

CHORUS:

A CHILD ALONE IS EASY PREY.
WHY DON'T (WHY DON'T)
WHY DON'T YOU (WHY DON'T YOU)
RUN AWAY.

MAI: Jan! Brother!

JAN: Mai -- so far from home. Why are you here?

MAI: To follow -- to live.

JAN: There is no wisdom in this. You must go home.

MAI: My home is here.

JAN: Mine is not. Mine is there -- back with our father, and you.

MAI: We will all make another there -- where you search.

JAN: No -- I need you Mai -- as our father does. Go to him and keep our home warm. I need you both to come home to when I return.

MAI: No! We will lose you.

JAN: I must go.

MAI: What is it you seek that takes you from home.

JAN: My destiny.

MAI: I will find it with you.

JAN: That cannot be.

MAI: Why?

JAN: I must find my own way -- all men must find their way.

MAI: And what of me?

JAN: You must return -- you are part of my home and that home makes destiny possible. It is as he leaves home that a man may discover his purpose, but it is when he returns that he is free to understand it.

MAI: How do you know this?

JAN: I cannot say.

MAI: But what of my destiny -- my quest? I must know of my life.

JAN: What must you know?

*No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.
It is for perusal purposes only.
LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS
Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

MAI: I must know where I belong.

JAN: I have told you

MAI: No brother, as it is with men -- so it is with women. Like you, I am my father's child. I must follow.

MY HEART HAS A QUEST.

MY QUEST LEADS ME ON

TO LEARN OF THE TRUTH I TREAD UPON.

ONCE YOU WERE ALONE, ALONE FOR A WHILE.

BUT, I FOUND YOU, I'LL HELP YOU

WALK YOUR DISTANT MILE.

JAN:

I MAY WALK A MILLION MILES TODAY

TO FIND THE TRUTH THAT I'M NOT TOO SURE

IS WAITING THERE FOR ME.

STILL, MY SPIRIT LEADS ME EVER ON.

DID I DO IT BLINDLY, WHAT'S AHEAD FOR ME TO SEE?

CHORUS:

A CHILD, A FOOL, BOTH VERY WRONG.

MAI:

MY QUEST LEADS ME ON.

JAN:

DID I DO IT BLINDLY?

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR ME TO SEE?

JAN:	MAI:	CHORUS:
I MAY	MY HEART HAS A	A FOOL!
WALK A MILLION	QUEST	A
MILES TODAY	MY QUEST LEADS ME	CHILD!
	ON	EASY PREY!
TO FIND THE	TO LEARN OF THE	
TRUTH THAT I'M	TRUTH I	
NOT TOO SURE	TREAD UPON.	
IS WAITING		
THERE FOR		A
ME. STILL MY	ONCE YOU WERE A-	CHILD A
SPIRIT LEADS		
ME	LONE,	LONE IS
EVER ON.	ALONE FOR A-	EASY PREY.
	WHILE.	
DID I DO IT	BUT I FOUND YOU,	
BLINDLY? WHAT'S	I'LL HELP YOU	WHY
AHEAD FOR	WALK YOUR	DON'T (WHY

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

ME TO	DISTANT	DON'T) WHY DON'T YOU (WHY DON'T YOU) RUN AWAY. WHY DON'T YOU (WHY DON'T) RUN A- (WHY DON'T YOU)
SEE?	MILE!	WAY? (RUN AWAY?)
WHAT'S A- HEAD FOR ME TO	I'LL HELP YOU WALK YOUR DISTANT	WHY DON'T YOU (WHY DON'T) RUN (WHY DON'T YOU) (RUN, RUN,)
SEE?	MILE!	RUN A- (RUN AWAY)
WHAT'S A- HEAD FOR	I'LL HELP YOU WALK YOUR	RUN, RUN A WAY, RUN AWAY!
ME	DISTANT	
TO	DISTANT	
SEE?	MILE!	

(At the end of the song MARC, a young man of the forest, jumps out at them, "spear" in hand, there is a long silence as they contemplate each other.)

MARC: Why do you enter the forest?

JAN: It is too large to go around.

MARC: Is there not enough food in your land?

JAN: We do not seek food. We merely travel.

MARC: You are travelling east.

JAN: We are lost.

MARC: I do not think so.

MAI: Think what you wish but let us pass.

MARC: I cannot. The Forest People are the guardians of the Great River. No one may enter our forest. If you are going east you must go around. The place called Ne-ork is forbidden to all tribes.

MAI: Ne-ork? What is it?

MARC: It is the ... Go! Turn back or I must kill you.

MAI: We go to Ou-Dis-Sun.

MARC: It is forbidden!!

MAI: Still, we are going!

JAN: Mai!

MARC: I cannot let you pass through the forest.

MAI: We will not turn back!

JAN: Mai!!

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

*It is for perusal purposes only.
LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS*

*Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.
Possession of this script does not grant production rights.*

(To MARC)

What would you have to gain by killing us?

MARC: It is forbidden to all the tribes to even think of ... the Great River ... let alone mention its name. To even look upon its waters is death.

JAN: Then why kill us when the waters of Ou-Dis-Sun will kill us for you? You called it Ne-ork. What does it mean?

MARC: I do not know. It is the name the gods gave it. There is a stone, on it is written, "Ne-ork." It is the Place of the Gods. All who have entered there have not returned.

JAN: You have seen Ou-Dis-Sun?!

MARC: No!!

(He tries to shut out the sound of the words)

JAN: Have you seen it?

(JAN grabs MARC'S spear and MARC shoves JAN to the ground and points his "spear" at JAN'S heart.)

Have you seen it?!

(MARC takes his "spear" away.)

You have!!

MARC: Yes.

JAN: Yet, you did not die.

MARC: I am waiting. I will die. I must. The gods have said it.

JAN: The gods? Did they tell you?

MARC: It is the word of my father, and his father, and his father...

JAN: The fathers of the forest must be ignorant and afraid.

MARC: They are brave men, strong men.

JAN: Then why aren't you dead?

(pause)

The fathers of the hills are wise. My father told me to find out for myself.

MUSICAL #6 -- OF BABYLON (Reprise #1)

JAN:

I TOLD HIM MY DREAMS
OF GODS AND WASTE AND FLAME.
HE SAID, "YOUR DREAMS ARE
NOTHING TO PUT YOU TO SHAME."

So I am here.

MARC: You have your fathers blessing to do what is forbidden?

JAN: Have I not said so? He is Chief Priest.

MARC: My father is also Priest, but he is not so bold. So blasphemous!

JAN: Your father is Priest of the Forest?

MARC: Have I not said so?

MAI: He does not support you in your quest?

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

MARC: No, his people...my people are content with their traditions. And I am not yet old enough.

JAN: His people?

MARC: I said "My People!"

JAN: We must pass. We have a long journey.

MARC: I will not kill you, you will die anyway.

JAN: You did not. Peace to you man of the forest.

MARC: Peace to you people of the hills.

MUSICAL #7 -- THE CHASE

(JAN & MAI exit. MARC hears noises behind him, turns, looks and exits. A chase in the form of a dance begins. The CHORUS sings as the FOREST PEOPLE dance. MAI runs on followed by JAN.)

CHORUS:

THIS EARTH, THIS SKY, THESE TREES ARE SACRED.

DO NOT REMAIN!!

OR YOU MAY STAY FOREVER.

THE LAW DEMANDS A RESTITUTION.

WE MUST OBEY OR WHAT ARE LAWS BUT DUST?

(The FOREST PEOPLE have overtaken JAN. MAI stops to offer futile assistance. The FOREST PEOPLE surround them.)

JAN: Stop!! Laws?! My people have laws as do you. Laws -- what are they? They rule people -- those who made them, made them to move dreams. Ideas for a better life. I have dreams -- let me speak to you of my dreams.

(JAN is beaten and left for dead as MAI watches horrified. MAI is then dragged away. After all have left, MARC enters.)

MARC: *(Half-sung)*

THE LAW DEMANDS A RESTITUTION.

THE LAW HAS LEFT BUT ONE SOLUTION.

I MUST OBEY AND TURN THESE LAWS TO DUST.

(MARC moves JAN to a place of safety, leaves him "food and water." JAN mumbles "Mai, Mai," MARC leaves. Scene shifts to the FOREST PEOPLE as they imprison MAI in a "cage" and leave. Scene shifts back to JAN who soon awakens and finds the "food" and the "water," but no MAI.)

JAN: *(Delirious)* Mai? Mai, are you there? Mai... please... I ... need...you.

(JAN leans back exhausted and is soon asleep. The scene shifts back to MAI, a captive of the FOREST PEOPLE.)

MARC: *(Entering)* Mai? Mai?

MAI: Jan, is that you?

MARC: No, it is Marc, of the forest.

MAI: Of the forest?

MARC: Yes. Sh, someone is coming.

(He hides. A MAN passes as if he is checking to see if all is right. MARC re-enters.)

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

MAI: Why are you here?

MARC: To help you.

MAI: Why?

MARC: Because you are in trouble. Stop asking silly questions. Just like a girl.

MAI: Why help me? These are your people.

MARC: I help you because you are in trouble. Now, be quiet while I release you.

(He does.)

There now. Hurry.

(She joins him. The SENTRY passes again.)

SENTRY: Who is.....? You!!!! Why are you here?

MARC: To repay a debt.

(MARC jumps out and kills the SENTRY after a short struggle.)

Quickly, someone else is coming.

(They exit and the scene shifts back to JAN. He is awake again, although delirious.)

MUSICAL #8 -- THE FOREST DREAM

JAN: Mai, I'm frightened. Help me. Oh, Father, Father, I can't go on!

(Half-sung)

I TOLD YOU MY DREAMS

OF GODS AND WASTE AND FLAME...

(JAN falls back again. FATHER appears in a spot. MAI & MARC return to JAN)

FATHER:

GO, MY SON.

PEACE, MY SON

LIVE, MY SON TO TELL YOUR SON, LIVE!

HOPE ETERNAL GUIDES YOU THERE.

YOU HAVE GONE WHERE NONE HAVE DARED --

NOW, LEARN!

(The FATHER disappears.)

JAN: I am grateful to you, Marc, for saving my sister and myself.

MARC: I am pleased to help someone, anyone who is not of my of the forest.

MAI: But you are of the forest.

MARC: I do not claim it anymore.

JAN: They are your people.

MARC: They are my people -- but I am not theirs.

JAN: That is true.

MARC: So I am free to go and I choose to go.

JAN: You are sure?

No productions may be mounted from this script. No unauthorized copies may be made or distributed.

It is for perusal purposes only.

LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

Production Rights must have been obtained and royalty paid before this play can be produced.

Possession of this script does not grant production rights.

MARC: I have no life behind me. All I have left is what is yet to be lived. I would like to come with you, for if I didn't die once maybe I won't die twice.

JAN: You are welcome, Marc, most welcome.

(MARC helps JAN to his feet.)

MARC: One thing first. My people are...

(smiles)

My people guard Ou-Dis-Sun. They say that they have been chosen by the gods. But, even they have never dared look at it. I know them well -- they will be after us. They have the wings of the eagle, the feet of the panther and the eyes of the gods. They are evil. They kill for the sheer delight of it. When I found your sister, it would only have been a matter of hours before...

JAN: And that is why we must go now. We must band together. A bond of friendship.

(He ties a leather thong about each person's wrist)

25 MORE PAGES TO END