

Act 1

Scene 1

THE OPENING

#1 - Magic To Do

L5 w/ music

At rise, the stage is filled with smoke and in total darkness except for moving hands. The hands are illuminated by a light curtain consisting of ungelled flashlights focused directly upwards mounted on the stage floor which keeps the stage in virtual darkness, so that the writhing hands exist in a strange macabre limbo.

An orchestral vamp is accompanied by a low, crooning vocal wail.

Then, from the center of the rotating hands, the face of the LEADING PLAYER appears and is hit by a spotlight. HE crosses the light curtain and moves downstage to the audience and sings.

As the song progresses, we can see a bare stage populate. Their costumes are of an undetermined period. But TH... a troupe... a theatrical caravan of some kind.

One by one, THEY come through the light curtain, and finally, THEY all come forward and join in the song.

MICS ON
1, 3-6, 9-17

L6 As flats move

ALL

WOO...
WOO...
WOO...
WOO...

LEADING PLAYER

L7 "Join us"

JOIN US, LEAVE YOUR FIELD TO FLOWER
JOIN US, LEAVE YOUR CHEESE TO SOUR
JOIN US, COME AND WASTE AN HOUR OR TWO
DOO-DLE-EE-DOO
JOURNEY, JOURNEY TO A SPOT EX-
CITING, MYSTIC AND EXOTIC
JOURNEY THROUGH OUR ANECDOTIC REVUE

L8 "Magic"

WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO, JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MIRACLE PLAYS TO PLAY
WE'VE GOT PARTS TO PERFORM, HEARTS TO WARM

Spots → MEG → AVAULT → GIA → KEY → DVD

(LEADING PLAYER)

KINGS AND THINGS TO TAKE BY STORM
AS WE GO ALONG OUR WAY.....

FASTRADA

INTRIGUE, PLOTS TO BRING DISASTER

BERTHE ^{GIA}

HUMOR, HANDLED BY A MASTER

^{LOVE} TWO GIRLS

ROMANCE, ~~SEX~~ PRESENTED PASTORALLY

LEADING PLAYER

DEE-DLE-EE-DEE

LEWIS

ILLUSION, FANTASY TO STUDY

CHARLES

BATTLES, BARBAROUS AND BLOODY

LEADING PLAYER

JOIN US, SIT WHERE EV'RYBODY CAN SEE

(The remaining PLAYERS step through the light curtain)

ALL

L9 "Magic"

WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO, JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MIRACLE PLAYS TO PLAY
WE'VE GOT PARTS TO PERFORM, HEARTS TO WARM
KINGS AND THINGS TO TAKE BY STORM
AS WE GO ALONG OUR WAY....

(The song develops into a dance of sorts. It involves all kinds of things that PLAYERS have ever done to attract and hold an audience)

WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO, JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MIRACLE PLAYS TO PLAY
WE'VE GOT PARTS TO PERFORM, HEARTS TO WARM
KINGS AND THINGS TO TAKE BY STORM
AS WE GO ALONG

Mute for
dance
break
(up when Meg spins)

WOMEN 1, MEN 1

WE'VE GOT
MAGIC TO DO
JUST FOR YOU

MEN 2

OUR WAY
WE'VE GOT
MAGIC TO DO

WOMEN 2

MAGIC TO DO
MAGIC TO DO
MAGIC TO PLAY

L10 After "way"

L11 As Meg spins

L12 spin ends & walk up

L13 "Magic"

(WOMEN 1, MEN 1)

WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO
JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO
JUST FOR YOU

(MEN 2)

JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO
JUST FOR YOU
WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO

(WOMEN 2)

WE'VE GOT FOIBL
AND FABLES
TO PORTRAY

ALL

AS WE GO ALONG OUR WAY...

HEY...

(After the song, the music continues under)

#1a— Magic Underscore #1

LEADING PLAYER

This evening, for your entertainment pleasure, we present our
miraculous tale. A stunning example of ...

A PLAYER

Magic!

A PLAYER

And merriment!

LEADING PLAYER

You will witness acts of --

A PLAYER

Lust!

A PLAYER

Murder!

A PLAYER

Holy war!

LEADING PLAYER

And a climax, ladies and gentleman, a climax justly famous throughout the civilized
world!

(A PLAYER jumps onstage from a hidden platform on the side of the stage. HE has a
lighted torch in his hand)

Not now...later...

#1b— Magic Underscore #2

(The PLAYER with the torch goes. The LEADING PLAYER continues)

(LEADING PLAYER)

Our tale today concerns the firstborn son of Charlemagne...and is entitled...

(The PLAYERS pull out a large cloth, which has been concealed in one of their costumes. It reads: PIPPIN: HIS LIFE AND TIMES)

PLAYERS

Pippin!...

OTHER PLAYERS

...His Life and Times!

LEADING PLAYER

But, before we begin, let me assure you that what you are about to see is the true life story of Pippin. You see there have been many misconceptions about Pippin...one that he was...

A PLAYER

A hunchback...

LEADING PLAYER

Or that he was...

A PLAYER

Enormously tall...

LEADING PLAYER

Or that he was...

A PLAYER

Left-handed, except for bowling...

LEADING PLAYER

But I beg you, cast all previous misconceptions aside, and accept what we enact for you today.

(Pause)

The life of Pippin begins...

(There is a slap and a cry. A WOMAN PLAYER is raised in her arms)

Pippin, as a child, showed tremendous thirst for knowledge...

(The WOMAN PLAYER is lowered, and the SMALLEST PLAYER is raised, reading a small book)

Immersed in these pursuits, the years went by quickly.

(The PLAYER is lowered and PIPPIN is raised above the book. HE looks out at the audience and smiles as HE)

L24 "Pippin"

Spot Sign

MICS off 3+4,9

L25 "Life"

Spot Theo

S3

MICS off 6, 11-12
14-17

MIC ON 7

L26 walls open

MIC OFF 7
MIC ON 2

(LEADING PLAYER)

Charlemagne sent Pippin to the University of Padua...

CHARLEMAGNE

...and the faculty of the university granted him the special title of scholar of the house.

LEADING PLAYER

Pippin replied to this offer in his own deeply moving words...

(The LEADING PLAYER pulls the cloth away. PIPPIN is revealed. All mics off, but 1+2)
applauds, but it is a silent applause, and only ONE of the PLAYERS

He may be a little nervous. This is his first time playing this role.

PIPPIN

Could I have some more lights, please?

LEADING PLAYER

Well, he's not *that* nervous.

(The LEADING PLAYER claps his hands and a spot light hits PIPPIN)

PIPPIN

Thank you. Gentle tutors ... respected members of the faculty ... I'm very grateful for the knowledge that you have given me. But I'm afraid what I'm looking for can't be found in books.

LEADING PLAYER

And Pippin made a promise...

(Underscore begins)

Corner of the Sky

PIPPIN

I promise not to waste my life on commonplace, ordinary pursuits. You see I know there is something...

LEADING PLAYER

Something fulfilling? Completely fulfilling...

PIPPIN

Yes. That's it. Something completely fulfilling. And I'm going to find it... I'm not exactly sure what I want to do...or where I want to go...

EV'RYTHING HAS ITS SEASON

EV'RYTHING HAS ITS TIME

SHOW ME A REASON AND I'LL SOON SHOW YOU A RHYME

(PIPPIN)

CATS FIT ON THE WINDOW SILL
CHILDREN FIT IN THE SNOW
WHY DO I FEEL I DON'T FIT IN ANYWHERE I GO?

RIVERS BELONG WHERE THEY CAN RAMBLE
EAGLES BELONG WHERE THEY CAN FLY
I'VE GOT TO BE WHERE MY SPIRIT CAN RUN FREE
GOTTA FIND MY CORNER OF THE SKY

EV'RY MAN HAS HIS DAYDREAMS
EV'RY MAN HAS HIS GOAL
PEOPLE LIKE THE WAY DREAMS HAVE OF STICKING TO THE SOUL
THUNDERCLOUDS HAVE THEIR LIGHTNING
NIGHTINGALES HAVE THEIR SONG
AND DON'T YOU SEE I WANT MY LIFE TO BE
SOMETHING MORE THAN LONG...

RIVERS BELONG WHERE THEY CAN RAMBLE
EAGLES BELONG WHERE THEY CAN FLY
I'VE GOT TO BE WHERE MY SPIRIT CAN RUN FREE
GOTTA FIND MY CORNER OF THE SKY

SO MANY MEN SEEM DESTINED
TO SETTLE FOR SOMETHING SMALL
BUT I WON'T REST UNTIL I KNOW I'LL HAVE IT ALL
SO DON'T ASK WHERE I'M GOING
JUST LISTEN WHEN I'M GONE
AND FAR AWAY YOU'LL HEAR ME SINGING SOFTLY TO THE DAWN:

RIVERS BELONG WHERE THEY CAN RAMBL
EAGLES BELONG WHERE THEY CAN FLY
I'VE GOT TO BE WHERE MY SPIRIT CAN RUN FREE
GOTTA FIND MY CORNER
OF THE SKY...

L29

L30 Apprise

#3 — Magic — Scene Change

(After the song, EVERYONE applauds. THEY go to PIPPIN and slap him on the back and congratulate him, ad libbing 'Well said' ... 'Bravo' ... 'Good luck', etc.)

LEADING PLAYER

(to PIPPIN)

Not bad for your first time! Not bad at all!

(Music begins, and the PLAYERS move off, taking PIPPIN

JOURNEY — JOURNEY TO A SPOT EX-

CITING, MYSTIC AND EXOTIC

JOURNEY — THROUGH OUR ANECDOTIC REVUE

(The music continues. As it does the LEADING PLAYER performs a trick where HE makes a red scarf disappear in his hand. HE then points to down to the center of the stage; as HE does, a spot light hits the center of the stage, and the LEADING PLAYER crosses to the light and begins to pull what seems to be the same red scarf out of the

As it gets larger and larger one sees it is attached to the palace portal, which now entirely out of the floor, magically and majestically.)

The royal court of Charles the Great...

(HE bows to the audience and squeezes out his own s

Act 1

Scene 2

HOME

(PIPPIN addresses the audience)

PIPPIN

The first day I was home from Padua my father sent me a horse. The second day he sent me a falcon. The third day I went hunting. And on the fourth day, my father finally came himself.

(There is a flash of fire, and CHARLEMAGNE appears)

LEADING PLAYER

Enter... Charlemagne.

CHARLES

This part is to be portrayed by an actor of enormous power.

Spots include/switch to Eleni

Mic off 2

L31 *snap*

+31.5

Spots Emma

L32 "Royal court"

Spot Pippin

Mic on 2

Mic on 3

Spots visible shot to Kev

L33 Kev enters