

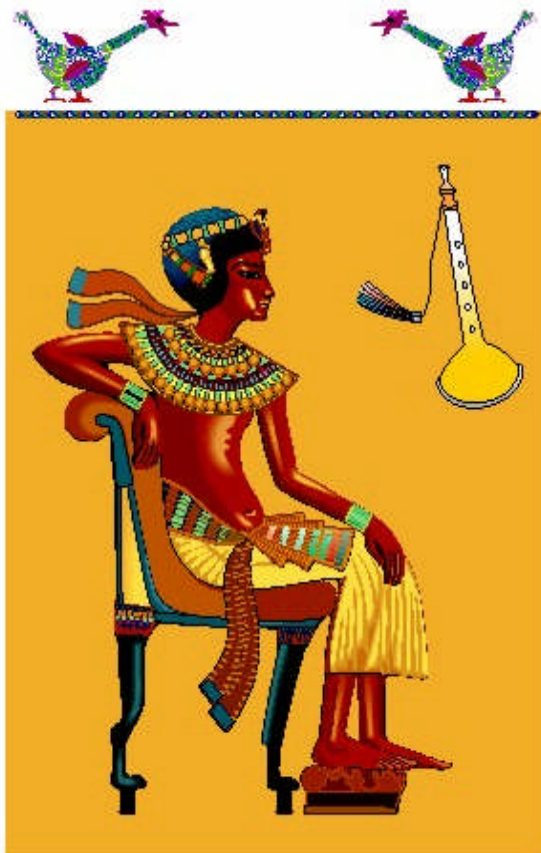
PLAYSTAGE

JUNIOR

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THE MAGIC FLUTE



A COMEDY PLAY WITH MUSIC

SET IN ANCIENT EGYPT

Written by

Stewart

Auty



Cast in Order of appearance:

First Lady in Waiting to the Queen of the Night

Second Lady

Third Lady

Tamino, an Egyptian Prince

Fearful Monster

Papageno, bird-catcher extraordinaire

Queen of the Night

Boy 1

Boy 2

Boy 3

Keeper of the Gates of Reason

Keeper of the Gates of Freedom

Priest of the Temple

Pamina, daughter of the Queen of the Night

Monostatos, chief slave of the Temple

Sarastro, High Priest of Isis

Old Woman (Papagena)

Sarastro's bodyguards (2) and various slaves, soldiers etc. (non-speaking)

17 speaking and unlimited non-speaking but singing parts.

THE MAGIC FLUTE

SCENE 1 – The Palace Gardens

Three Ladies in Waiting, dressed in black stand in a group. One (blonde) is reading a newspaper; the second (redhead) admiring herself in a mirror; and the third (glasses, studious looking) is filing her nails.

(SONG: Holding out for a hero)

**Where have all the good men gone and where are all the gods?
Where's the great white Hercules to fight the rising odds?
Isn't there a white knight upon a fiery steed?
Late at night I toss and I turn and I dream of what I need**

**I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the end of the night
he's gotta be strong and he's gotta be fast
and gotta be fresh from the fight
I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the morning light
He's gotta be sure and he's gotta be soon
And he's gotta be larger than life
Larger than life**

**Somewhere after midnight
In my wildest fantasies
Somewhere just beyond my reach
There's someone reaching back for me
Racing on the thunder and rising with the heat
It's gonna take a Superman to sweep me off my feet**

**I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the end of the night
he's gotta be strong and he's gotta be fast
and gotta be fresh from the fight
I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the morning light
He's gotta be sure and he's gotta be soon
And he's gotta be larger than life
Larger than life**

**I the mountains neath the heavens above
Out where the lightning strikes the sea
I can swear that there's someone somewhere watching me
Through the wind and the chill and the rain
and the storm and the flood
I can feel his approach like a fire in my blood**

**I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the end of the night
he's gotta be strong and he's gotta be fast
and gotta be fresh from the fight
I need a hero
I'm holding out for a hero till the morning light
He's gotta be sure and he's gotta be soon
And he's gotta be larger than life
Larger than life**

FIRST LADY IN WAITING

Oh that Tamino! I mean, he's so handsome!

SECOND LADY IN WAITING

But he'll never look at you. Not when I'm around!

THIRD LADY IN WAITING

You're both wasting your time! When he sees me, he'll realise that I'm the one for him.

FIRST LADY

We'll see about that! With my long blonde hair, and eyes of blue....

SECOND LADY

Long blonde hair? It's out of a bottle!

THIRD LADY

And blue eyes? They're contact lenses!

SECOND LADY

In any case, I hear he prefers redheads, just like me. Natural colour too. I'm the real McCoy! There's nothing false about me!

THIRD LADY

But looks are so superficial. I hear he's looking for brains more than beauty.

FIRST LADY

You can't see brains on a palace photograph. Tamino will need someone better than any plain Jane.

SECOND LADY

And that's why he'll choose me. You too can forget it.

THIRD LADY

But he's such a catch! Handsome and brave...

FIRST LADY

And let's not forget, very rich and powerful too.

SECOND LADY

He's got everything a girl could wish for – and he's a prince!

(Enter Tamino, running)

TAMINO

Help me! Help me! Someone help me please!

FIRST LADY

Whatever is the matter?

TAMINO

Don't let it get me!

SECOND LADY

But what is it? Why are you so afraid?

(Loud, threatening roar from offstage)

TAMINO

Did you hear that? I'm being pursued by a fearsome monster!

THIRD LADY

A monster? But you're Tamino!

FIRST LADY

Why don't you stand and fight?

TAMINO

Stand and fight? It's bigger than me! It's really scary! Help me! Ohhh!

(Tamino swoons and faints. Enter Monster)

THIRD LADY

Oh dear! It does look rather frightening! We need to do something.

FIRST LADY

Sometimes it's hard to be a woman.

(SONG: Stand by your man. *Monster joins in song and dance.*)

**Sometimes it's hard to be a woman
Giving all your love to just one man
You'll have bad times
And he'll have good times
Doin things that you don't understand
But if you love him
You'll forgive him
Even though he's hard to understand
And if you love him
Oh, be proud of him
Cause after all he's just a man**

**Stand by your man
Give him two arms to cling to
And something warm to come to
when nights are cold and lonely**

**Stand by your man
And show the world you love him
Keep giving all the love you can
Stand by your man**

**Stand by your man
And show the world you love him
Keep giving all the love you can
Stand by your man**

MONSTER

Where's that Tamino fellow hiding? I'm going to tear him apart, and have him for my supper!

THIRD LADY

Quick we must do something!

SECOND LADY

You're right! Let's run! Leave Tamino and save ourselves!

THIRD LADY

But he's the prince! A few minutes ago we all wanted to marry him.

FIRST LADY

His prospects don't look so good any more. We'll have to move on to plan 'B'. Run!

THIRD LADY

Wait! Let's not panic, ladies. Let me think about this.

(Monster advances, roaring, and threatening)

MONSTER

Tamino! Tamino! I'm coming to get you!

(Tamino comes round, looks up, and faints again)

THIRD LADY

The mirror! Pass me the mirror!

(First Lady hands over a newspaper)

THIRD LADY

You read the Mirror? We read the Daily Telegraph. We're sophisticated!

FIRST LADY

What good is a newspaper?

THIRD LADY

Not the paper you fool! The looking glass! The one you used to admire your self in a minute ago!

(Monster approaches Tamino, who is still lying on the ground)

MONSTER

There you are Tamino! It's dinner time!

THIRD LADY

Over here, Monster!

(She holds up mirror (looking glass), and Monster backs away. On seeing its reflection, it recoils in horror, finally backs away off stage with much moaning and groaning)

TAMINO

What happened? I've just had an awful dream, a nightmare! I was just about to be eaten by a horrible monster!

FIRST LADY

Well, don't worry, Tamino. We have saved you!

THIRD LADY

We? You were all for running away and leaving him! It took brains, not beauty to save him.

SECOND LADY

But we helped. Tamino, you should be grateful.

THIRD LADY

Huh! A dumb blonde, and a fiery redhead, with no fire! You two have no chance!

(Three ladies move to rear of stage. Enter Papageno, dressed in feathers, who struts and preens)

PAPAGENO

I heard them Tamino! They didn't save you! It was me, Papageno, bird catcher extra-ord-inaire! I killed the monster, and saved your life!

TAMINO

It was you? But the ladies said....

PAPAGENO

Take no notice! They are ladies in waiting. Simple servant girls to the Queen of the Night.

TAMINO

Well, I suppose I should be grateful to you.

PAPAGENO

Those girls were just trying to impress you.

TAMINO

But why would they want to do that?

PAPAGENO

You're a Prince! You've got prospects! That's why they are so interested in your welfare.

FIRST LADY

Not so fast, Papageno! We all know you're telling lies!

(A gag is tied around Papageno's mouth, and his hands are bound behind his back, and he is taken away to the back of the stage)

SECOND LADY

This should stop you from telling any more porkies.

FIRST LADY

I'd better explain. Porkies pork pies lies. It's rhyming slang. Get it? Please yourself!

THIRD LADY

He'll tell you no more lies, Tamino.

TAMINO

Oh, I don't know who to believe. What' that over there? *(Pointing at the table)*

THIRD LADY

It's nothing.

TAMINO

Let me see.

THIRD LADY

It's just a portrait of Pamina.

TAMINO

I think she's beautiful.

(Song: Isn't she lovely?)

**Isn't she lovely
Isn't she wonderful
Isn't she precious
As if she was made of gold
I never thought that love would strike at me
Seeing one as lovely as she
But isn't she lovely, my true love**

**Isn't she pretty
Truly the angel's best
Boy, I'm so happy
I feel just heaven blessed
I can't believe what I can see
This picture has shown her to me
But isn't she lovely, my true love**

**Isn't she lovely
Life and love are the same
Life is Pamina
The meaning of her name**

I can't believe what I can see

This picture has shown her to me

But isn't she lovely, my true love.

TAMINO

But tell me who she is.

SECOND LADY

Pamina is the daughter of the Queen of the Night.

TAMINO

Her beauty is beyond description. I must find her! She will be my bride!

FIRST LADY

Your bride - but what about us?

TAMINO

Well, I'm really grateful and all that, but, let's face it, you don't compare. Sorry, but life can be one long disappointment!

(Strange magic music. Enter the Queen of the Night.)

QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

So you think Pamina is beautiful? You know she's my daughter?

TAMINO

I did not know that. Where can I find her?

QUEEN

You'd like to marry her? It's about time she was off my hands.

TAMINO

Oh, thank you!

QUEEN

There's just one little problem to overcome. She has been taken prisoner by Sarastro, an evil and dangerous sorcerer.

TAMINO

I get it. All I have to do is rescue her, and I can marry her. Simple!

QUEEN

You will need help, Tamino. Ladies, release Papageno. He can go with you.

PAPAGENO

If it's all the same, I'd rather not go, if you don't mind. I have more important things to do.

QUEEN

You have no choice. It will be your penance for telling lies about killing the monster.

TAMINO

What could be more important than helping me?

PAPAGENO

Somebody to love. Can anybody find me somebody to love?

(Song: Somebody to Love)

**Can anybody find me somebody to love?
Each morning I get up I die a little
Can barely stand on my feet
Take a look in the mirror and cry
Lord what you're doing to me
I have spent all my years in believing you
But I just can't get no relief, Lord!
Somebody, somebody
Can anybody find me somebody to love?**

**I work hard every day of my life
I work till I ache my bones
At the end I take home my hard earned pay all on my own -
I get down on my knees
And I start to pray
Till the tears run down from my eyes
Lord - somebody - somebody
Can anybody find me - somebody to love?**

**Everyday - I try and I try and I try -
But everybody wants to put me down
They say I'm goin' crazy
They say I got a lot of water in my brain
Got no common sense**

**I got nobody left to believe
Yeah - yeah yeah yeah**

**Oh Lord
Somebody - somebody
Can anybody find me somebody to love?**

**Got no feel, I got no rhythm
I just keep losing my beat
I'm ok, I'm alright
Ain't gonna face no defeat
I just gotta get out of this prison cell
Someday I'm gonna be free, Lord!**

**Find me somebody to love
Can anybody find me somebody to love?**

QUEEN

Somebody to love? What romantic nonsense. That will have to wait.

FIRST LADY

Here, Tamino. Take this magic flute with you. When men hear it playing, evil can be removed from their hearts. *(She gives him the flute)*

TAMINO

But I can't play the flute.

QUEEN

That is of no consequence. The sound itself will be enough.

SECOND LADY

Papageno, you will need help too - take these magic chimes. They will protect you. *(She gives him the chimes.)*

PAPAGENO

Magic flute and magic chimes! We should take an army of soldiers, not lucky charms!

QUEEN

Good luck, Tamino. If you need motivation, remember, if you succeed, Pamina can be your bride.

(The Queen claps her hands and three young boys appear)

These boys will be your guides.

(Exit all apart from Tamino, Papageno and the three boys)

BOY 1

We will take you to the Temple for guidance.

BOY 2

The Priest will know what to do and where to go.

BOY 3

He will know where Pamina is being held captive.

(END OF SCENE 1)