STEVEN SATER

But I know
There's so much more to find—
Just in looking through myself, and not at them.

Still, I know
To trust my own true mind,
And to say: "There's a way through this..."

On I go,
To wonder and to learning—
Name the stars and know their dark returning.

I'm calling,
To know the world's true yearning—
The hunger that a child feels for everything they're shown.

You watch me—
Just watch me—
I'm calling,
And one day all will know...

You watch me—
Just watch me—
I'm calling,
I'm calling,
And one day all will know...

(Melchior's song concludes. As he rejoins the Boys in their recitation, the lights shift back to the classroom.)

BOYS AND MELCHIOR:

 \dots multa quoque et bello passus, dum conderet urbem \dots

men. Now, if you please: "inferretque deos Latio . . ." The following seven lines of Pious Aeneas' journey. From memory.

(The Boys begin scribbling. Herr Sonnenstich steps away. Moritz taps Melchior's shoulder.)

SPRING AWAKENING

MORITZ (Sotto voce): Melchi, thank you.

MELCHIOR: It's nothing.

MORITZ: Still, I'm sorry. You didn't need to—

MELCHIOR ("Not to worry"; ironic): Think what Aeneas suffered.

MORITZ: But I should have known it. "Multum ille." It's just ...

I didn't sleep all night. In fact, I, uh, suffered a visit from the most horrific, dark phantasm...

MELCHIOR: You mean, a dream? . . .

MORITZ: A nightmare, really. Legs in sky blue stockings, climbing over the lecture podium.

MELCHIOR: Oh. That kind of dream.

MORITZ ("Indeed"): Have you ever suffered such . . . mortifying visions?

MELCHIOR: Moritz, of course. We all have. Otto Lammermeier dreamt about his mother.

MORITZ: Really?!!

MELCHIOR: Georg Zirschnitz? Dreamt he was seduced by his piano teacher.

MORITZ: Fraulein Grossebustenhalter?!

HERR SONNENSTICH (Suddenly, grabbing Moritz by the ear):
Moritz Stiefel. I need hardly remind you that, of all our
pupils, you are in no position to be taking liberties. I will
not warn you again.

(Moritz nods—absolutely petrified. An intense alt-rock guitar riff. Herr Sonnenstich freezes. The world around Moritz comes to a halt as concert-like light finds him. He turns out in song:)

MORITZ:

God, I dreamed there was an angel, who could hear me through the wall,

As I cried out—like, in Latin: "This is so not life at all. Help me out—out—of this nightmare." Then I heard her silver call—

She said: "Just give it time, kid. I come to one and all."

She said: "Give me that hand, please, and the itch you can't control,

Let me teach you how to handle all the sadness in your soul.