FOREVERMORE – A MUSICAL

Score, Lyrics and Book by:

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videos/?ref=page\_internal

CAST OF CHARACTERS

**The ARDENT**

PRINCESS DIANNA – Mid-Twenties (Black or White, but must be the opposite race of Nobelus), (soprano) strong and capable Princess. Holding together her people as a beacon of hope.

QUEEN OLIVIA – Late Forties/Early Fifties, (mezzo) Visually Impaired due to being imprisoned by the Counselor. A wise and proud nationalist, never trusting or showing her true feelings.

COURT OF THE PRINCESS – Annabelle

Cordelia (Both mid-twenties)

ARDENT SOLDIERS – 3 TO 5 (double role)

ARDENT TOWNSPEOPLE – 3 TO 5 (double role)

**The INTREPID**

KING NOBELUS – Mid-Twenties (Black or White, but must be the opposite race of Dianna), (tenor) Newly crowned King but is the voice of a new generation & wants to take his country into a new direction.

KING – Early Forties. See above, appears in Daughter’s bedroom scenes.

DAUGHTER (12/13 yrs old)– Nobelus’ daughter

COULSELOR TAVARIUS – Early Fifties, (baritone) King Nobelus’ trusted counselor, who plots/schemes to take over the Intrepid and rule both countries to satisfy his vengeance.

PAGE – Mid-twenties assistant to Tavarius, (tenor) almost a court jester. He has a good heart and is the comic relief. He has a severe crush on Princess Dianna.

INTREPID SOLDIERS – 3 TO 5 (double role)

INTREPID TOWNSPEOPLE - 3 TO 5 (double role)

THE OLD GUARD – 5 TO 10 (double role)

DANCERS – 5 (double role)

SETTINGS

WOODS

WOODS WITH SPRING

CASTLE (including DUNGEON/TOWER/LAIR)

HANGING TREE

**ACT ONE**

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CURTAIN UP

**ACT 1 SCENE 1 - GIRL'S BEDROOM**

Breakdown - GOOD NIGHT PRINCESS - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HczaHz8wrQ8>

*TIME PERIOD – Medieval*

*LIGHTS UP on a girl’s bedroom. A 4 poster bed with elegant sheets. An oval mirror on the back wall.*

*An inter-racial DAUGHTER (12) sits on her bed with her back to the door, arms folded.*

*KING (40) KNOCKS on her door, enters from STAGE LEFT. Behind him are two GUARDS, both armed with swords, stand at attention.*

KING

Are you ready to talk?

*She turns away from him.*

KING (CON’T)

Your teacher told me you and your friends skipped your history class again.

DAUGHTER

It’s so boring.

KING

It’s important. When I was your age, girls didn’t even go to school. You are lucky to even be there.

DAUGHTER

I don’t care!

KING

You have to care! You are the Princess. As it stands, you don’t know the first thing about our people. You have to set an example, and know our people’s history in order to lead them in the future.

DAUGHTER

What if I don’t want to lead?

*The King sits on the bed beside her.*

KING

That’s not your decision. You need to learn your role and how history is important to you and your future. Long ago in a far-away land, a King and Princess of two bordering countries were at war for many years.

DAUGHTER

Nobody cares! Learning about what happened years before I was born with people I’ve never met is pointless.

KING

You need to learn this, and will stay in this room until you do, understood?

*After an uncomfortable pause…*

DAUGHTER

Fine.

*Daughter pouts on the bed.*

KING

Now, on the border of both countries, there was a natural spring of pure, clean water. Each country claimed ownership. Eventually they started a war over it.

*Lights up on* a younger KING NOBELUS (25), STAGE LEFT. *Dressed in leather and tough fabric, purposeful yet noble.*

KING (con’t)

The young King of the Intrepid people was newly crowned, desperate to stop the war that consumed his people for so long.

*Lights dim on King Nobelus, Lights up on* TAVARIUS (55), *dressed in dark, flowing robes and a headpiece, almost like horns. An evil sight.*

KING (con’t)

His Counselor, a servant to the King’s family for decades, offers counsel and wisdom, but often clashes with the new King’s progressive ideology.

*Lights dim on Tavarius. Lights up on* *PRINCESS DIANNA (25), STAGE LEFT. Dressed in a once regal dress, now torn and worn from years of struggle.*

KING (con’t)

The Princess of the Ardent, strong and wise beyond her years. A fighter, the light of her nearly defeated people.

*Her light DIMS, light up on* QUEEN OLIVIA (50). *Dressed in a dark colored floor length, long sleeved dress. Blind, her eyes covered with a grey cloth.*

KING (con’t)

Like the natural spring that caused all the friction, the Queen flowed her wisdom and fighting spirit into her daughter. She was taken by the Intrepid, and held in their cold, dark dungeon.

*Her light dims.*

DAUGHTER

Do I have to listen to…

KING

Yes. Get comfortable. Sit back. The backdrop is set. The players named. This...is history.

Song 1 – **OVERTURE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziutt5R5e0s>

*LIGHTS UP on the SPRING – the natural water source claimed ownership by both the ARDENT and INTREPID.*

*LIGHTS UP on TWO OPPOSING SOLDERS, standing across from each other.*

Song 2 – **FREEDOM** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IjyfQY91Ro>

*THUNDER and LIGHTNING slam the senses with sound and light.  
The opposing ARDENT and INTREPID soldiers slam into each other, are joined by more BLACK and WHITE SOLDIERS from both sides.*

*MEN and WOMEN alike fight to the death. They SCREAM as their swords CLASH.*

COMPANY

FREEDOM!  
WE'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR OUR   
FREEDOM!   
WE'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR OUR  
KINGDOM  
WE HAVE TO HAVE OUR PRECIOUS   
KINGDOM!   
WHAT WILL WE DO WITHOUT OUR   
FREEDOM!   
WE'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR OUR   
FREEDOM!   
WE'RE ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR OUR   
KINGDOM!   
WE HAVE TO HAVE OUR PRECIOUS   
KINGDOM! THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY.

THIS IS HOW THE STORY GOES...  
INTREPID. ARDENT. JUXTAPOSED.

OUR COUNTRIES FIGHTING ALWAYS HAVE.

OVER A SPRING? WE HAVE TO LAUGH

IT'S USELESS!

INTREPID WOMEN

THE ARDENT'S ARMY'S LOST AND ALL BUT FALLEN.

COMPANY

USELESS!

ARDENT WOMEN

THEIR QUEEN IS CAPTURED AND HER PEOPLE SULLEN.

COMPANY

THE ARDENT FIGHT TO STAY ALIVE.   
THEIR PRINCESS STILL THEIR BURNING PRIDE.

INTREPID'S NEW KING IS IN THE MIX

SINCE BOTH HIS PARENTS DIED, YOU KNOW...   
HE'S DIFFERENT!

INTREPID WOMEN

HE WANTS THIS WAR TO END, HE'S SICK OF FIGHTING.

COMPANY

DIFFERENT!

**INTREPID WOMEN**

**HIS FATHER'S LEGACY IS STILL TOO MIGHTY.**

COMPANY  
FREEDOM!  
WE HAVEN’T SEEN OUR FAMILIES   
FREEDOM!   
CONTINUOUS TRAGEDIES  
KINGDOM!  
(ARDENT) HOW CAN WE FIGHT WITH NO FOOD?   
KINGDOM!   
(INTREPID) THEY’RE NO MATCH FOR OUR BROOD   
FREEDOM!   
(ARDENT) INTREPID SPIES ALL AROUND  
FREEDOM!   
(INTREPID) BLACK MAGIC PUTS THEM DOWN   
KINGDOM!   
(COMPANY) OUR DIFFERENCES ABOUND   
KINGDOM!

(COMPANY) THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY

*PRINCESS DIANNA emerges from the crowd. All the ARDENT bow to her. The INTREPID do not.*

DIANNA

I DON'T KNOW   
WHERE ALL THIS WAR AND

SENSELESS FIGHTING LEADS   
I DON'T KNOW

A LIFE OF PEACE, SERENE TRANQUILITY   
I JUST DON'T KNOW   
THE WAY TO RE-ENFORCE MY PEOPLE'S NEEDS   
I…JUST...WANT…

*Dianna recedes back within the crowd. The COMPANY takes over.*

COMPANY

FREEDOM!  
KILLING IS ALL WE KNOW   
FREEDOM!   
HOW CAN OUR CHILDREN GROW?  
KINGDOM  
(INTREPID) OUR LEADER’S NEVER CARED   
KINGDOM!   
(ARDENT) WHAT CAN I DO I’M SCARED!   
FREEDOM!   
(INTREPID) GUERILLA TACTICS KEEP US DOWN   
FREEDOM!   
(ARDENT) WHO CARES WHO WEARS THE CROWN?   
KINGDOM!   
OUR FUTURE’S BURIED UNDERGROUND   
KINGDOM!

THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY.

*LIGHTS DIM.*

**ACT 1 SCENE 2 ARDENT CASTLE**

Breakdown – **The Dream** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYpnQU7QaEY>

*LIGHTS UP on the bedroom scene.*

*NOBELUS and DAUGHTER sit on the bed.*

KING

So as the Intrepid and Ardent battle, the Ardent are almost broken. Only one thing keeps them fighting.

DAUGHTER

What’s that?

KING

The heart of an army is only as strong as its leader. For the Ardent, their heart was the Princess. Fearless and inventive. Tenacious, yet loving. There has never been a greater leader.

DAUGHTER

Even better than you?

KING

She teaches me to this day.

DAUGHTER

How does she do that?

KING

There are great, strong women throughout history that inspire people every day to follow their dreams. To push back against tyranny. To trust and forgive…without resentment. Women like that are special indeed.

*LIGHTS DIM on the bedroom set.*

*LIGHTS UP on the ARDENT CASTLE.*

*The castle is in bad shape.  Curtains torn, holes in walls. Once a formidable structure, now in ruin.  The ARDENT CREST rests high on center stage.*

*Princess Dianna finishes cleaning up after a remembrance ceremony with the two remaining members of her COURT - ANNABELLE (23) and CORDELIA (24).*

*They arrange desks suitable for children, as in a school.*

ANNABELLE

Where do you want the lesson books, m'lady?

DIANNA

Place them on the shelf. The students will need them for tomorrow’s lesson.

CORDELIA

Dianna, Princess and ruler of the Ardent and her Armies. And now…schoolteacher.

DIANNA

War may take our teachers, but the knowledge still must flow as seeds for our youth.

ANNABELLE

The remembrance ceremony of your Father’s passing was short this year.

DIANNA

Not many are left to attend. This war has taken so much. My father. Our family castle. Its walls crumbling from so many battles. Then the Intrepid stole my mother away.

ANNABELLE

They will pay for taking our Queen.

DIANNA

Will they? Our scattered army hangs on by a thread. Our people starving, dying of thirst. Depending on those brazen few who sneak into the Intrepid Spring to steal water and berries.

ANNABELLE

Who could be so fearless?

DIANNA

Still…(looks to the Ardent Crest). As long as our crest flies high, so does hope. We will survive.

CORDELIA

You are the light that leads us, m’Lady. Where do you find your strength?

ANNABELLE (to Dianna)

Some would say Queen Olivia, since you both fight all the time.

CORDELIA

Annabelle!

DIANNA

She’s right! (beat) When I was young, I saw what our country was. We lived in a dream. Not as it is now. Peace and prosperity. It was a magical place.

ANNABELLE

This war has gone on for so long, I’ve never known peace.

CORDELIA

My Father parished in the fighting when I was young. Then my brother years later. I will never forget my Mother’s face when she received word…

DIANNA

That is the reason for the trust we have built with our people. Solid as steel because everyone has felt that loss. The peace I had as a child was built by my family, and my people will live that again. I will not rest until I see that dream alive again.

SONG 3 THE DREAM – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKKoj7wIuq8>

DIANNA

SO LONG AGO WHEN I WAS YOUNG

WHEN PEACE WAS ALL I’D EVER KNOW

I’D DREAM A FUTURE CRYSTAL CLEAR

I COULDN’T WAIT TO GROW

TO CARRY ON TRADITIONS OLD

TO TEACH OUR PEOPLE TO BE STRONG

WE’D LIVE AS ONE, PROSPER UNTIL

IT ALL WENT WRONG

(mini-break)

THE WAR WAS CAUSED BY NATRUAL SPRINGS

THAT FORCED THE ARDENT UNDERGROUND

COUNTLESS LOSSES

AND FAMINE ALL AROUND

DISEASE AND CHAOS FILLS THE AIR

MY FATHER GONE MY QUEEN IN CHAINS

I HAVE TO ACT

MY CHILDHOOD DREAM REMAINS

DON'T TELL ME IT'S FOOLISH DREAMING.   
THE DREAM IS PURE RIGHTFULLY SO

ARDENT CHILDREN NEED THEIR DREAMS

THAT’S THE DEBT I OWE

ADD DREAM SEQUENCE *Lights UP on TWO KINGS in regal clothing, each standing holding various gifts.*

KING #1

Take my hand, and I will give you whatever you desire.

KING #2

Clearly I am better suited for you, and will shower you with gold and jewels.

DIANNA

What are your thoughts about developing trade skills for wounded soldiers and arts and civics programs in our schools?

*Both KINGS stammer and trip on their words.*

*Dianna pushes them away.*

*The LIGHTS DIM.*

DIANNA

YOU MENTIONED KINGS WHO TREAT THEIR QUEENS

WITH RICHES AND PROSPERITY

BUT SKILLS AREN’T TRADED OR BOUGHT WITH GOLD

DEVELOPMENT IS KEY

MY PARENTS SOWN A LOVING SEED

OF PEACE BUT FAILED TO HELP IT GROW

I’LL SEE IT THROUGH

OUR PEOPLE WILL KNOW PEACE

DON'T TELL ME IT'S FOOLISH DREAMING.

THEIR TRUST IN ME BEGS ME TO TRY

FAILURE’S NOT AN OPTION HERE

I WOULD RATHER DIE

*The LIGHTS BRIGHTEN.*

*Dianna stands on a desk, as several ARDENT CITIZENS gather around her.*

DIANNA

Today I can officially announce that the war is over. The suffering is over. Our Queen has been released. Our people…are free!

*The crowd CHEERS.*

*The LIGHTS DIM and the CROWD disperses.*

*Annabelle and Cordelia lie down on make shift beds, Dianna heads to the door.*

*Peeks around the corner.*

DIANNA

NOW GO TO SLEEP AND DREAM, MY DEARS.   
REST YOUR HEAD AND HOPE TO LIVE IN DREAMS   
IN DREAMS WITH MY TRUST  
  
LIVE TO DREAM WITH TRUST  
LIVE TO DREAM WITH TRUST

**ACT 1 SCENE 3 - INTREPID CASTLE**

*Newly crowned KING NOBELUS (African American - 25) and COUNSELOR TAVARIUS (55) enter stage left.*

*The castle is cold, yet strong and sturdy. A symbol of INTREPID success.*

*The INTREPID CREST rests on the back wall.*

*Nobelus packs clothes into a satchel.*

TAVARIUS

King Nobelus, please reconsider your delay of the execution of the Ardent Queen. Your father certainly would not have.

NOBELUS

I may be a newly crowned King, but I am not my father. She will better serve us alive than dead.

TAVARIUS

Beg your pardon, your greatness.  My own Guard watch over her in her cell. Her sight has diminished, she is not long of this Earth. We must take out the tattered Ardent while we can. I have sprung a trap at the Intrepid Spring that will certainly cause the end of the Ardent once and for all. You must see it!

NOBELUS

Have you ever killed anyone, Counselor?

TAVARIUS

Killing is the duty of soldiers and spies.

NOBELUS

So the answer is no?

*Tavarius stands silent.*

*Nobelus approaches. Stands before him.*

NOBELUS

Some men have lived in the dark so long, they cannot see the light. Ready my horse. My Guard will ride with me to the Intrepid Spring.

TAVARIUS

I must recommend more troops, King Nobelus. I can create a spell, cast it to crush the Ardent, kill the Queen! It ends tonight!

*Nobelus stops, faces Tavarius and approaches him.*

NOBELUS

I am King, and it ends when I say it ends. Understood? Go now!

*Tavarius nods, exits.*

*The lights lower and dim, a spotlight on NOBELUS.*

**SONG 4** **MY RESOLVE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UGxrZEApE8>

NOBELUS

MY PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEMAND ALL

THEY CAN FROM ME.   
AS LEADER I MUST GIVE THEM ALL I CAN   
BUT THEY MUST SEE

I AM A MAN   
BEFORE A KING

INTREPID SENSE OF PRIDE  
AND HONOR WILL  
NOT HAVE ME DAMNED

MY LEGACY WON'T TAKE  
AWAY MY SENSE   
OF WHO I AM

I AM A MAN  
BEFORE A KING   
SO LONG THIS WAR   
THE ONLY THING

MY RESOLVE TO CROSS MY HEART   
AND HOPE TO DIE   
I WILL CHANGE MY DESTINY   
AS I WONDER WHY

WHY MY PEOPLE CLOSE THEIR MINDS   
WITH THEIR BLINDING PRIDE,

I WILL NOT LEAD THEM AS MY FATHER HAD   
THAT IS WHY HE DIED.

*The LIGHTS EXPLODE with color and light.*

*INTREPID TOWNSPEOPLE are all around.*

My resolve  
To throw away the past  
And freshen up at last  
Our country so obsessed  
With victories  
With maintaining   
The hierarchy so obscene

*Old pictures of Nobelus’ Father and Mother, and various trophies are taken and thrown onto the ground.*

To Rebuild  
Our people and our creed  
So all our future seed  
Can live a life  
That’s free  
Free to be  
Whatever they now want to be

*Nobelus stops a YOUNG BOY from digging a hole.*

*Hands him a book. The BOY reads.*

My resolve   
To be my own man  
Change everything I can  
So our future   
Becomes our destiny

*NOBELUS hands out scrolls to INTREPID MEN and WOMEN.*

And still  
MaINTain INTREPID pride  
Build the country from inside  
Let the people choose   
Give them their own say  
That’s…  
  
My resolve  
My resolve

*NOBELUS makes his way around the stage, stopping at various stations where INTREPID MEN and WOMEN engage in a variety of skilled crafts.*

*Utilizing scientific tools, reading and studying Chemistry and Math, all ages and sexes alike.*

Expanding skills and crafts  
Cast away the witchcraft  
The time is now  
For change  
Expand our range  
To rearrange   
For opportunity  
  
To evolve  
With science and the sun  
Education for everyone  
To let them live their dreams  
Expand beliefs  
Provide relief  
Even if it means…

*The LIGHTS around Nobelus dim.*

*MILITARY MEN in armor pass by and scold him with their scowls.*

My resolve  
Can make me look a fool  
A legacy so cruel  
I have to try  
There’s nothing left to lose

*A small NURSERY slides in STAGE LEFT. NOBELUS places his hand on a CHILD’s head as he looks into a crib.*

*All the INTREPID TOWNSPEOPLE gather around NOBELUS.*

If I fail  
At least I’ll know  
I will plant the seeds to grow  
The future   
that the youth has solved  
Its…

*They bow and kneel to Nobelus.*

My resolve  
My resolve  
My resolve  
My resolve

**ACT 1 SCENE 4 – DAUGHTER’S BEDROOM**

*LIGHTS UP on the BEDROOM SCENE, KING and DAUGHTER sit on the bed.*

Breakdown – My Resolve - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flPhtACm2Xs>

DAUGHTER

So they both wanted change. Why couldn’t they just order it?

KING

Because legacy isn’t something that can be just wished away. There would be consequences.

DAUGHTER

Where is the King’s Mother and Father?

KING

They died from the war. The King was raised by his Father, a wise and powerful man, but set in the old ways. Just like Tavarius.

DAUGHTER

It sounds like the King needs a new Counselor. He’s a weasel!

KING

(laughs) You see what he wants you to see.

**COUNSELOR'S CHAMBER** -

*Tavarius' chamber has CURTAINS covering all the walls. A few tables. The INTREPID CREST on high. Not much else.*

*Tavarius's assistant PAGE (20) sits at table, SNORING in a deep sleep.*

*Tavarius enters STAGE LEFT.*

TAVARIUS

Page!

*Page jumps up, pretends to sweep with an imaginary broom.*

*Stops when he notices the actual broom is against the wall.*

*Tavarius stomps around, thinking.*

*Page grabs the broom, sweeps up a pile of dirt into a dust pan.*

TAVARIUS

Nobelus ordering me around is near its end. I will have my vengeance. Put things back to the way they were.

*Page shrugs, dumps the dust pan on the floor.*

*Tavarius watches Page as he COUGHS, brushes the dust off himself.*

TAVARIUS

Not that, you silly fool! I either reach Awakening, or have my beloved. Either way…It's my time.

*Page winces, then stops to think.*

*Shrugs.*

*Page raises the curtains, revealing a STAGE. A group of JAZZ DEMONS dressed in evil zoot suits play their instruments to a slow, swinging jazz beat.*

**SONG 5** **MY EVIL PLAN** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulDiB7dLSiU>

*As Tavarius sings, Page eagerly follows him around the stage.*

*Above them on a screen, images of HUMAN SHADOWS and LIGHT act out Tavarius’ lyrics.*

*Tavarius as a young boy, holds his arm out.*

TAVARIUS  
AS A YOUNG CHILD

I HAD THE MARK

WHICH LEGEND FORTOLD

WOULD FEED OFF THE DARK

IT MADE ME SO ANGRY

SO CLEAR TO SEE

THAT CHANNELLING HATRED’S

THE WAY TO BE

*Tavarius grabs Page. Sings to him.*

I WILL UNLEASH MY EVIL PLAN

SO FULL OF VENGEANCE JUST AS I AM

EXPLOITING MAGIC THROUGH SORCERY

EXPLOITING ALL FOR MY OWN NEEDS

CAN ONLY LEAD TO

EVIL DEEDS

*The SHADOWS above the stage show Tavarius and Olivia holding each other.*

AS A YOUNG MAN

I FOUND A LOVE

WITH YOUNG QUEEN OLIVIA

PURE AS A DOVE

*The SHADOW OLIVIA leaves SHADOW TAVARIUS for an UNKNOWN SHADOW KING.*

SHE MARRIED ANOTHER

SPURNED ME COLD

IGNITING REVENGE

A HUNDRED FOLD

*SHADOW TAVARIUS stomps in anger, waves his arms with fury.*

CHURNING AND STIRRING

INSIDE ME IT GROWS

A SORCERER’S MAGIC

DARKER THAN CROWS

MY EVIL DEEDS

WORSE THAN THE NEXT

MY EVIL DEEDS

ARE JUST WHAT I NEED

TO REACH AN EVIL

AWAKENING

*SHADOW TAVARIUS approaches SHADOW OLIVIA, takes her hand.*

*She leaves with him, arm in arm.*

IF QUEEN OLIVIA

CAN FINALLY FORGIVE

MY EVIL NATURE

SO WE CAN LIVE

OUR LIVES TOGETHER

ONLY US TWO

MY VENGEANCE WOULD

LEAVE ME TOO

*SHADOW TAVARIUS POUNDS his fist in his hand, stets an ultimatum.*

THAT IS THE ONE THING

I’D NEED TO STOP

ALL OF MY SCHEMING AND

ALL OF MY PLOTS

THOSE ARE MY TERMS

NO COMPROMISE

IF I DON’T GET THEM

THEY WILL DIE

I WILL UNLEASH

MY EVIL PLAN

THE PLAN IS BRILLIANT

JUST AS I AM

OLIVIA’S PRIDE

CAUSES MY MISERY

IF SHE RELENTS

IT’S JUST WHAT I NEED

IT’S THE ONE THING

THAT SAVES THEIR CREED

**ACT 1 SCENE 5**

LIGHTS UP on t*he BEDROOM SCENE. King now at the window. Daughter, standing now, curious yet confused, fidgets with a stick.*

DAUGHTER

You said vengeance is for the weak, but Tavarius doesn’t seem weak.

KING

Tavarius worked his whole life on reaching a stage in sorcery known as The Awakening. If he destroys something so pure, evil will surround him from all sides, his power would then be unstoppable. Still, instead of coming to terms with his pain and moving on, he extends it by seeking vengeance. That makes him weak.

DAUGHTER

But he can use magic, and dark spells.

*King grabs a stick resting on the window.*

*Attacks Daughter with a strike to her head.*

*Daughter blocks and dodges King’s attacks with supremely trained skill.*

*King stops his advances.*

KING

Everyone has power within themselves to cause change. Dark magic and fear was Tavarius’. As a Princess, you have to learn to recognize that power in everyone you meet. Always be ready. If you let them, they’ll use it against you.

DAUGHTER

It scares me.

KING

Sometimes people fear change because of the unknown. When in reality, it’s the unknown that changes people’s fear.

*LIGHTS DIM on the BEDROOM SCENE.*

**INTREPID WOODS – INTREPID SPRING**

*Dianna creeps through the forest carrying an empty bucket and a basket of berries.*

*Sees the natural Intrepid Spring, unprotected. Checks the woods all around – no one there.*

*Places the basket of berries down. Climbs under the fence with the bucket toward the Spring.*

*Two INTREPID GUARDS surround Dianna.*

*Dianna unsheaths her sword, ready to fight.*

*NOBELUS enters STAGE LEFT, watches from afar.*

SOLDIER #1

Another Ardent prisoner? This is too easy!

SOLDIER #2

You Ardent aren’t the smartest bunch!

DIANNA (to Nobelus)

Call off your men, or watch them die.

*The Intrepid Soldiers draw their swords.*

*Nobelus stands back, leans against a tree.*

NOBELUS

This I have to see!

*The Intrepid Soldiers move in for the attack.*

*Dianna is a master with her sword, quickly disarms Soldier #1, smacks him in the butt with the flat, dull side of the sword.*

*Engages Soldier #2, tenaciously out duels him as he falls to the ground.*

*Nobelus LAUGHS, claps his hands.*

*Dianna stands her ground.*

NOBELUS

Wow. That was…humiliating!

DIANNA

Your clothing is too regal for a field general, King Nobelus.

NOBELUS

And you are?

DIANNA

Princess Dianna of the Ardent.

*Nobelus takes a bow.*

NOBELUS

Pleasure to meet you finally. I’ve heard you are a scrapper.

*Dianna lunges to him with her sword.*

DIANNA

Let me take my berries and a bucket of water from the Ardent Spring, and I’ll let you all walk out of here.

*Nobelus points at the Spring.*

NOBELUS

Ardent spring? That’s the Intrepid Spring.

*Dianna stands her ground.*

DIANNA

Ok. Draw your sword. I out-duel you, I take my berries and bucket of water and go. You out-duel me, you can kill me.

NOBELUS

Quite an offer from the Princess. You came here by yourself? At night? Where is your Guard?

DIANNA

You killed them. Just before you took the Ardent Queen prisoner. I need this food and water for my people. I’m not leaving without them.

*Nobelus stops for a beat, then slowly draws his sword.*

NOBELUS

You have a deal, M’Lady.

*Nobelus bows to Dianna.*

*They slowly circle in toward each other.*

*They STRIKE! Their duel is a choreographed and rhythmic dance. Spinning and dodging, they duel across the stage. Dianna gives up ground, then Nobelus.*

*The two Intrepid Soldiers watch in amazement, swords out and ready to strike.*

*As the fight intensifies, Nobelus overpowers Dianna with his strength, she falls back. Her sword goes flying. She lies there, defeated.*

*Nobelus stands over her with his sword at her neck.*

DIANNA

Do it. Come on!

*Nobelus sheaths his sword. Walks away.*

NOBELUS

Take your berries. Get your water and feed your people.

*Stunned, Dianna gets up. Refusing to dust herself off, rushes Nobelus. Pulls a dagger from her side, holds it to his throat as the Intrepid Guards arm themselves.*

*Dianna takes Nobelus’ sword.*

DIANNA

(to Soldiers) Drop your swords! I’m going to end this war right here.

*The Soldiers drop their swords.*

NOBELUS

What are you doing? Pick up your swords!

*The Soldiers pick them up.*

DIANNA

Drop them or he dies!

*The Soldiers drop them again.*

NOBELUS

You’re both fired if you don’t pick up those swords!

*They move to pick them up.*

*Dianna and Nobelus SHOUT at them to drop or pick up the swords.*

*They finally just throw the swords down and stare at them, arms crossed.*

NOBELUS

Enough! (to Dianna) Kill me. You know as well as I do that the war won’t end, and the Intrepid will wash over your country and burn everything to the ground.

DIANNA

You’d like that, wouldn’t you? WOULDN’T YOU?

NOBELUS

No.

DIANNA

I’m sorry, did you say “No?”

*Nobelus pushes the sword away. Walks for a moment.*

NOBELUS

I’m sick of this. All of it. The constant fighting. The anger between our peoples. The pointless battles where we slaughter the Ardent to only see them ambush us again and again. For what? (pointing to the Spring) For that?

DIANNA

You won’t get off that easy. You had my Father killed. Imprisoned our Queen. Robbed her of her sight.

NOBELUS

No I didn’t! I kept her alive. I passed up advances, could have killed your Queen and crushed your army months ago, and you know it.

DIANNA

If you want peace so bad, why keep the war going?

NOBELUS

Because winning the war was my Father’s legacy, and it died with him. It was never mine. Besides, I would lose all negotiating power. You know that even better than your Queen.

*Nobelus turns his head and looks at Dianna. Smiles.*

NOBELUS (CON’T)

You have your Mother's passion. And her strength.

*Dianna drops her guard. Seductively approaches Nobelus. Rests her hand on his shoulder.*

DIANNA

Really? You think so?

*She puts his blade back up to his neck.*

NOBELUS

I'm thinking you may be stronger...

*Nobelus backs away. Walks by her.*

*Grabs her bucket of berries.*

NOBELUS (con't)

We’ll escort you back.

*Dianna is stunned. Confused.*

DIANNA

What are you doing?

NOBELUS

Trying to escort a Lady home. Look, if we’re going to have peace between our people, we should probably get to know each other first. Coming?

*Dianna slowly walks to him. Holds his sword up, keeping Nobelus at arm's length*.

They exit STAGE RIGHT.

Breakdown – Learning to Love - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dpW6xG0J0mc>

*Nobelus and Dianna enter STAGE RIGHT, stroll through the woods. Stop and sit on a large LOG.*

*Dianna still has his sword.*

*ADD POSSIBLE MARRIAGE HERE, TO JOIN BOTH COUNTRIES AND ACHIEVE PEACE.*

DIANNA

So besides the cease fire, you’ll release my Mother, and ask for nothing in return?

NOBELUS

I want two things. An exchange of information between our people. No secrets or intelligence. Just…

DIANNA

An introduction?

NOBELUS

Yes, exactly!

DIANNA

And the second thing?

NOBELUS

Dinner, at your castle. With your Queen as the guest of honor. I’ll have my men begin rebuilding it at once.

DIANNA

You're not as horrible as I've heard. I still…don’t trust you.

NOBELUS

You will. Just like I know you'll love me once you get to know me.

DIANNA

*(laughs*) Love you? I barely like you. Barely.

NOBELUS

You like me enough to give me my sword back.

*The MUSIC stops.*

*Dianna holds up the sword.*

*Looks at it. About to hand it over.*

*Puts it back down*.

DIANNA

No.

NOBELUS

Yes you do.

DIANNA

No, I don't.

NOBELUS

Do too.

DIANNA

Pretty sure no.

NOBELUS

We shall see, M’Lady.

**SONG 6 LEARNING TO LOVE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zjl5YrEWig>

NOBELUS  
You will be mine  
BECAUSE i’M STRONG  
  
DIANNA  
If that’s your play  
Then you are wrong

*She folds her arms, turns away from him & crosses her legs.*

NOBELUS  
I am a King  
I get my way  
  
DIANNAI’m not your Queen  
I get my say  
  
NOBELUS  
You are a feisty one  
I’ve heard  
  
DIANNA  
Your quaint ideas  
Are quite absurd  
You think you’ll win  
My heart this way?  
  
NOBELUS  
I think it’s clear   
That I just may.

*DRUMS start, an upbeat tempo.*

DIANNA

It’s not that clear, King.

NOBELUS  
No one has ever  
Used that tone  
while i am sitting  
on my throne

DIANNA  
Well you should speak  
A little less  
And listen more  
Is my fair guess  
  
NOBELUS  
You’re unlike anyone  
I’ve met  
  
DIANNA  
I’m not your normal dame  
I bet

NOBELUS  
You are so strong   
And full of sass

DIANNA  
If you don’t like it  
Kiss my…

*Nobelus covers her mouth.*

NOBELUS  
Oh hey, the chorus!  
  
NOBELUS/DIANNA  
Learning to Love  
Is no fairy tale for us  
All our feelings and emotions  
Are consequential notions

*Nobelus tries to take his sword.*

*Dianna denies him*.

Learning to Love  
Is an exercise in trust  
The give and take   
the life we make  
Serves everyone   
but mostly us  
  
**NOBELUS**  
I find you challenging  
And wise  
Beyond your years  
To my surprise  
  
**DIANNA**I’m glad you see  
The world I know  
to help our

people’s future grow  
  
**NOBELUS**Here’s my sincere   
apology  
sometimes I can cause   
agony  
  
**DIANNA**  
Well your condolences   
Are fine  
I’m sure in time   
I’ll give you mine

*Nobelus reaches out his hand.*

*Dianna begrudgingly gives him his sword.*

**NOBELUS/DIANNA**Learning to Love  
TEACHES SOMETHING ABOUT US  
WE WIL LEARN TO GROW TOGETHER  
AND COEXIST FOREVER  
  
Learning to Love  
WILL SET BOUNDARIES FOR US  
APPROPRIATE   
COMMUNICATE  
ALLEVIATE   
THE TENSION  
  
All of these new feelings  
Have left us rocked   
And reeling  
Brazen and yet shy but  
The only question left is  
Why?  
We don’t know   
We’re…  
  
Learning to Love  
FOR OUR PEOPLE AND FOR US  
WE’LL DISPELL ALL THE RUMORS  
AS IT STRENGTHENS ALL OUR FUTURES  
  
Learning to Love  
Is an exercise in trust  
The give and take   
the life we make  
Serves everyone   
but mostly us

*They exit STAGE LEFT*.

**ACT 1 SCENE 6 INTREPID/ARDENT SPRING**

*Both ARDENT and INTREPID TOWNSPEOPLE meet at the Spring.*

*The Ardent huddle between themselves STAGE RIGHT, the Intrepid STAGE LEFT.*

*A WOODEN PLATFORM has been built just above the spring.*

ARDENT WOMAN #1

(to another woman) Rumor has it that Princess Dianna never returned last night and was captured by the new Intrepid King Nobelus. She was out getting food and water for Ardent children. Can you believe that?

ARDENT WOMAN #2

This is a horrible, horrible day.

INTREPID MAN #1

(To another man) I saw King Nobelus talking to the Ardent Princess in a wagon over the hill. They’re going to announce the Ardent surrender. The war is over!

INTREPID MAN #2

This is what you call another Intrepid victory!

*King Nobelus ascends the platform. Addresses the gallery.*

NOBELUS

Intrepid. Ardent. Thank you for joining me today for this historic announcement. As we move toward a prosperous future for the Intrepid people, standing in front of what we know as the Intrepid Spring. Pure, clean water that gives the Intrepid people life, knowledge and continuous prosperity. There is one word that symbolizes all our future – Intrepid and Ardent alike.

INTREPID MAN #1

Victory!

INTREPID MAN #2

Domination!

NOBELUS

Diversity.

*The men shoot confused looks at each other.*

INTREPID MAN #1

(to Intrepid Man #2) Did he say Absurdity?

NOBELUS

On this day, we will usher in a new era. It is my pleasure to introduce the woman I have begun formal courtship. She is tough, strong, and beautiful. She embodies everything the Intrepid hold dear, without losing an ounce of her own sacred heritage. She is…(drum rolls) Princess Dianna of the Ardent.

*Dianna ascends the steps. Stands in front of the drop dead silent crowd.*

ARDENT WOMAN #2

This is a horrible, horrible day!

INTREPID MAN #1

This is what you call another Intrepid victory?

DIANNA

My Ardent people. Today I announce sweeping changes that begin at this very moment. The war is at an indefinite cease fire. Borders and trade will be opened immediately. The rebuilding of Ardent lands will commence at once. King Nobelus and I will lead both countries in joint leadership, ensuring the exchange of knowledge and culture move forward without delay.

NOBELUS

As a gesture of good faith, the Intrepid Spring will be opened for all Ardent people to use freely.

DIANNA

We have decided that it should be you, the Ardent and Intrepid people to give the spring a new name.

ARDENT WOMAN #1

And lose who we are for peace? Never! I’ll never drink from that spring!

*Both peoples begin to argue and not understand what is happening.*

*Nobelus takes Dianna’s hand, escorts her down the platform. Exits STAGE LEFT.*

**SONG 7 WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO PROVE?** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZXuvwcJMlE>

ARDENT WOMEN

HOW CAN SHE STAND   
ALONE WITH THAT MAN?   
HE TOOK MOTHER QUEEN AWAY.   
THEY'RE DIRTY AND COARSE,   
THEY SMELL LIKE A HORSE.   
HER MIND MUST HAVE GONE ASTRAY.

INTREPID WOMEN

I DON'T UNDERSTAND   
WHY HE HOLDS HER HAND.   
THEY ARE SO WEAK AND MALIGNED.

TO LOVE SUCH A PRUDE,   
RIGHTEOUS AND RUDE.   
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIS OWN KIND?   
  
  COMPANY  
WE JUST DON'T KNOW   
WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO PROVE?

ARDENT

YOU TOOK OUR QUEEN!

INTREPID

YOU KILLED OUR KING!   
WE HAVE BOTH PAID   
MUCH MORE THAN OUR MEANS

ARDENT WOMEN

NO ONE IS RIGHT   
THAT'S WHY WE FIGHT   
IT SEEMINGLY NEVER ENDS.

YOUR KING’S WAR  
HAS MADE THE ARDENT GIVE UP MORE  
OUR PAST ISOLATION SERVED US FINE  
WE ALL FEEL  
WHY IS IT US THAT HAS TO MOVE?

COMPANY

WE JUST DON'T KNOW  
WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO PROVE?

INTREPID  
WE FEEL THE SAME  
IT’S SUCH A SHAME  
WE WANT TO BUILD A WALL  
  
TO KEEP ALL YOU OUT  
WITHOUT A DOUBT  
THE ARDENT WOULD PAY FOR IT ALL  
  
INTREPID PRIDE  
HAS KEPT US ALL SO STRONG INSIDE  
THAT STRENGTH IS WHAT MAKES US WHO WE ARE  
WE ALL FEEL  
WHY IS IT US THAT HAS TO MOVE?  
  
WE JUST DON'T KNOW  
WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO PROVE?

*The LIGHTS DIM on everyone except Tavarius, who stands UPSTAGE RIGHT. He watches them argue and bicker.*

TAVARIUS

This discord is welcome, but it will not last. The tension will fall. Any optimism will simply not do. If soured, it can be used as a weapon against them.

**ACT 1 SCENE 7 ARDENT CASTLE**

*Inside the Ardent Castle, showing signs of being rebuilt by ARDENT/INTREPID Soldiers.*

*Nobelus, Dianna, Olivia and Tavarius sit at a large table eating dinner.*

*Page stands by Tavarius, gazes lovingly at Dianna.*

*Queen Olivia is BLIND, her eyes covered by a cloth.*

*TENSION hangs in the air. Uncomfortable silences broken up by silverware against expensive plates.*

NOBELUS

Are you pleased with the repairs to your castle, Queen Olivia?

OLIVIA

They are fine, King Nobelus.

DIANNA

Nobelus ordered Intrepid troops to rebuild the South wall. It should be completed by morning.

OLIVIA

Are they the same troops that obliterated that wall in the battle? They made it much easier for the Intrepid assassin to sneak in and kill my husband.

*Tavarius drops his chalice.*

TAVARIUS

Dear Queen, unfortunately the tides of war bring out the worst in all of us.

OLIVIA

Or reveal what was truly hiding there all along. Would it be possible for someone to get me more water?

TAVARIUS

Page! Bring the Queen some water. At once!

*Page runs, grabs the water, runs to the Queen.*

*Fills her chalice.*

*Runs to Dianna.*

*Fills her chalice.*

*Grabs another glass. Places it by Dianna. Fills it.*

PAGE (softly)

I was moved by your words at the spring, Princess.

DIANNA

How kind of you.

PAGE

You are an inspiration to many.

TAVARIUS

Page! Do not speak to the Princess.

PAGE (to Dianna)

Perhaps more than you realize.

TAVARIUS

Page! Quiet!

*Page stands there like a tennis ball boy at Wimbeldon.*

NOBELUS

Forgive me, Queen Olivia for asking. Where is your servant staff?

OLIVIA

They’re dead. They were called to defend the castle during an Intrepid attack. Bricks and fences can easily be mended. Families of the fallen cannot.

*Nobelus gets up, comes over to Olivia.*

*Kneels to her left side*.

NOBELUS

Your statement is as wise as it is true. I can apologize for what happened to you and your people during my Father’s reign, but that would ring hollow. I can, however, make amends. Dianna and I will, together. (grabs Dianna’s hand) For both our people.

*Olivia calmly chews her meal.*

*Takes a drink.*

*Wipes her mouth with a napkin.*

OLIVIA

My time in your dungeon may have darkened my eyes, but I see clear. Still using the same Intrepid tricks that failed years ago, only now on the Princess. Sounds like your Counselor needs new material.

*Olivia nudges Nobelus away from her.*

*She stands, moves away with her cane.*

*Dianna grabs her arm to guide her.*

*Olivia pushes Dianna’s hand away, moves away to the far end of the table.*

*Nobelus stands in frustration.*

DIANNA

(to Nobelus) Let me talk to her. Meet me tomorrow for our walk in the garden?

NOBELUS

Of course, Princess. I will check on the status of the repairs at the Ardent front gate.

*He bows, exits with Tavarius and Page STAGE LEFT.*

*As Page exits, he can’t stop gazing at Dianna.*

*Walks into the table.*

*Trips, almost falls.*

TAVARIUS

Page!

*Page exits STAGE LEFT.*

OLIVIA

I’m the blind one, yet I can see their villainy as if it were the sun.

DIANNA

Stop it! Nobelus could have killed me at the Spring, and you at any time while imprisoned. He wants change for all our people, and so do I! (Olivia laughs) The time I’ve spent with him has lightened my soul, opened my eyes to the possibilities of our future.

OLIVIA

Who’s future? Our peoples…or yours?

DIANNA

For both!

OLIVIA

Wrong. (beat) He has changed you.

DIANNA

So? It changes nothing about what our merger can do for our people. That’s what’s most important.

OLIVIA

You are not acting like it.

DIANNA

The war is over, Mother. Because WE stopped it. Together. Improvements are being made, our people are being fed.

OLIVIA

It's a trick. Planted by his Counselor to cloud what you see.

DIANNA

What I see is that Nobelus ordered you freed. And you still doubt him?

OLIVIA

Have you thought of how our Ardent people are reacting to this merger?

DIANNA

They aren’t getting killed! When is my life mine to live?

OLIVIA

Never. You know that better than anyone. It is that sacrifice that makes us who we are.

DIANNA

No it doesn't!

OLIVIA

I forbid you to see him. You will change your ways for the good of our people.

DIANNA

No I won’t!

OLIVIA

It has been decided. You will change. Understood?

**SONG 8 - I'M NEVER GOING TO CHANGE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAb7zqxw9PU>

*Dianna moves away from Olivia.*

*Gazes off in thought.*

**OLIVIA**  
SEVERAL TIMES A DAY  
I HEAR CHILDREN IN THE STREET  
SCARED LOOKS ON THEIR FACES  
TORN SHOES UPON THEIR FEET  
I HAVE CRIED...  
  
OUR PEOPLE I HAVE SEEN   
YET HARDLY EVEN KNOW  
FOR THEM WE SACRIFICE  
 OURSELVES AND ALL WE KNOW.  
NOW DECIDE!

**DIANNA**  
MY ANSWER IS...

*Dianna turns and moves to Olivia, gets in her face.*

NO, I'M NEVER GOING TO CHANGE!

OLIVIA

I SAY YOU WILL.

YOU CAN’T TURN YOUR BACK ON US NOW.

DIANNA

NO, I'LL NEVER RE-ARRANGE  
PRIORITIES  
THE WAY I SEE THE WORLD           
THE WAY I SEE HIM                      
THE WAY HE MAKES ME FEEL.    
  
 OLIVIA  
CLEARLY YOU ARE WRONG  
YOU WERE ALWAYS BORN TO LEAD  
YOUR TIME YOU WASTE WITH HIM  
IT'S YOUR PEOPLE YOU SHOULD LEAD  
THEY WILL DIE.  
      
OUR TWO COUNTRIES FIGHT AND THERE'S   
TENSION AND THERE'S HATE  
THIS IS ALL A ROUSE  
WE BOTH CAN SEAL OUR FATE  
IN THE NIGHT.  
  
GO MAKE IT RIGHT.  
  
DIANNA

NO, I'M NEVER GOING TO CHANGE

OLIVIA

I SAY YOU WILL. YOU CAN’T TURN YOUR BACK ON US NOW.

DIANNA

NO, I'LL NEVER THINK IT’S STRANGE  
WHEN LEARNING  
THE THINGS HE SHOWS ME           
THE THINGS I SHOW HIM                      
THE WAY WE BOTH FEEL.

OLIVIA

YOU DON’T KNOW THE WORLD  
YOU DON’T KNOW HIM  
YOU DON’T KNOW WHAT’S REAL.

*Dianna and Olivia argue. HARD. Both YELL over each other and get in each other’s faces…*

*Dianna pushes the table.*

DIANNA  
I WAS ALWAYS STRONG  
THE WOMAN THAT I AM  
NEVER NEEDED MEN  
TO THINK OR UNDERSTAND  
BUT WHEN I SEE HIS FACE  
I KNOW THAT I CAN BE  
STRONGER FOR HIM AND FOR ME.  
  
NOW THAT WE HAVE SPOKEN  
ALL THERE IS TO SAY  
I'LL JUST TAKE MY THINGS AND   
I'LL BE ON MY WAY  
ON MY OWN

OLIVIA

DIANNA NO…

DIANNA

WHAT YOU FAIL TO SEE AND WILL  
NEVER REALLY KNOW  
AN OPEN MIND IS KEY  
IT WILL CAUSE YOUR HEART TO GROW  
WITH YOUR SOUL  
  
NOW I MUST GO.  
  
         NO, I'M NEVER GOING TO CHANGE

OLIVIA

I SAY YOU WILL. YOU CAN’T TURN YOUR BACK ON US NOW.

DIANNA

NO, AND IF I AM ESTRANGED   
FROM EVERYTHING  
THEN THAT’S THE WAY IT IS           
THE WAY IT SHOULD BE                      
THE WAY YOU MAKE ME FEEL.

OLIVIA

THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD  
THE WAY YOU SEE HIM  
YOU CAN’T KNOW IT’S REAL.

You are EXILED! You can NEVER return!

*Dianna takes her things, exits STAGE LEFT.*

**ACT 1 SCENE 8 WOODS**

*Dianna walks out of the castle toward the main gate.*

DIANNA

Exiled to a man and country I hardly know. We’ve come so far. Will he even want me now that I’m exiled? Our plans are ruined.

**SONG 9 HOW COULD I KNOW?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Gd1gg7L6H8>

DIANNA

SO HERE I AM.   
IT'S DO OR DIE.   
WITH EVERY STEP I TAKE  
I LEAVE THEM WONDERING WHY   
  
MY PEOPLE'S LOVE   
IS ALL I'VE KNOWN?   
HIS LOVE FOR ME IS STRONG.   
IS IT THE ONLY REASON I HAVE GROWN?   
  
HOW COULD I KNOW?  
  
THIS GENTLE MAN   
PLANTED A SEED.   
I CAN'T BE WHO I WAS  
BEFORE MY HEART WAS FREED.   
  
I MUST BE STRONG,   
I CANNOT LIE.   
TO LIVE A SHALLOW LIFE   
I WOULD RATHER DIE, BUT   
  
I DON'T KNOW   
 IF UNITING ALL  
WOULD CAUSE ANOTHER COUP.   
I DON'T KNOW   
IF EXILE MEANS   
IT’S TOO LATE TO PURSUE   
A COMPROMISE   
THAT PLEASES ALL   
AND MAKES OUR DREAM COME TRUE.

HOW COULD I KNOW?

I WILL GO ON.   
I WILL DECIDE.  
BUT WITH EITHER FATE I CHOOSE   
MY HEART IS STILL THE ONE   
THAT'S LEFT BEHIND...   
  
INSIDE…   
  
THE CONFLICT STIRS AND STIRS.   
WHY CAN'T I MAKE A STAND?   
DECIDE ONCE AND FOR ALL -  
MY PEOPLE OR THIS MAN.  
  
I DON'T KNOW   
IF I SHOULD LEAVE   
AND SPEND MY LIFE WITH YOU.   
I DON'T KNOW   
IF I CAN FIND   
THE STRENGTH TO SEE IT THROUGH.   
I DON'T KNOW   
IF WHAT MY HEART   
IS TELLING ME IS TRUE.

*Dianna almost breaks down in tears. Covers her mouth with her hand.*

HOW COULD I KNOW?

*Dianna kneels on the castle wall. FIGHTS the tears.*

*LIGHTS UP on the bedroom scene.*

*King and Daughter stand by the window.*

*King flips a coin in the air.*

Breakdown – How Could I Know? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxbFzOpzzbg>

DAUGHTER

Why is The Princess sad? She should trust her feelings.

KING

Trust is a tricky thing. How can you trust something you’ve never felt? Or trust someone you barely know?

DAUGHTER

Maybe she felt it in her heart.

*King hides the coin.*

*Holds out both hands & shakes them for her to choose.*

KING

The thing about trust, is it’s tough to gain.

*Daughter chooses King’s right hand.*

*King opens both hands, empty.*

*Pulls the coin out of Daughter’s ear.*

KING (CON’T)

It’s even tougher to keep. Everyone you meet. Everyone…will be put to the test. Never forget that.

**ACT I SCENE 9 – ARDENT CASTLE GATE**

*Nobelus holds a scroll as workers repair the Castle Gate walls by candle light.*

*Tavarius slithers around him.*

TAVARIUS

Did you see her? The disgust still in her eyes. After all we’ve done.

NOBELUS

There was no disgust in Dianna’s eyes, Counselor.

TAVARIUS

I meant the Queen. Her disrespect is intolerable.

NOBELUS

(Nobelus looks at the scroll, watches the repair work) She was held in our dungeon for a long time. She lost her King and her sight to this war, and holds us responsible. Her mistrust is valid.

TAVARIUS

No, it makes perfect sense. She is using Dianna as a spy, to get past our defenses. Lure us in, make us complacent. Then when we are relaxed…she STRIKES at our hearts!

*Nobelus drops the scroll. Gets in Tavarius’ face*.

NOBELUS

Stop it! You discredit Dianna at every turn. Every chance you get. It stops now!

TAVARIUS

How many Guard did you take when you met Dianna at the Spring? Two of your best troops, and more within shouting distance. How many did the Princess have? Her army scattered to the winds, she climbs through enemy lines to get water from a heavily guarded Intrepid Spring…alone. Sounds too good to be true, even for your…true love.

NOBELUS

She said her Guard were killed and she was getting food and water for her people…

TAVARIUS

Open your eyes, King! My Ardent spies confirmed her plans. What are we doing? (points to the Ardent walls being rebuilt) Rebuilding Ardent lands. Released the imprisoned Queen Olivia. Feeding and clothing our sworn enemy. When we are finished…she will have aligned her pieces for the final strike against you. Once she gets you alone…Checkmate.

*Nobelus stops, realizes the weight of Tavarius’ theory.*

*Dianna approaches them.*

DIANNA

Nobelus, I need to speak to you. Alone.

TAVARIUS

(laughs) Pawn to King, your highness!

DIANNA

What?

*Nobelus leads Dianna away from Tavarius and the castle wall.*

NOBELUS

What is it, Dianna?

DIANNA

The Queen…cast me into exile.

TAVARIUS

You see? It’s starting! Just as I foretold!

NOBELUS

Dianna, why are you with me?

DIANNA

You know why!

NOBELUS

Tell me. I’m with you because you are the strongest woman I’ve ever met. But there’s a softness to you. You make everything clear. Now, why are you with me? The real reason.

DIANNA

Because…we share a vision for our people.

NOBELUS

That’s it?

DIANNA

No.

NOBELUS

Then what?

DIANNA

Because I never thought a man would treat me the way you do. Not a possession, but a companion. An equal. That is unheard of, no matter what country you live in.

NOBELUS

So there is no ulterior motive?

*Dianna shoots a look directly at Tavarius.*

*Eyes back at Nobelus.*

DIANNA

I have been nothing but honest with you. And you still don’t trust me?

NOBELUS

I have information that casts doubt on that trust.

*Dianna gets in Nobelus’ face.*

DIANNA

Information? You and I shared our intentions. I assure you, they are true. If you refuse to believe in what we are doing for our future, and for our people’s future…

NOBELUS

Don’t you mean your people’s future?

TAVARIUS

It is our generosity that lifted your people from a most certain doom.

NOBELUS

Counselor! (to Dianna) I need you to tell me the truth…

DIANNA

I have! And it’s still not enough. And it never will be. The courtship is off. The only thing you will have besides your information…is your pride.

*Dianna exits STAGE RIGHT.*

*Tavarius watches the scene unfold.*

*Nobelus waives his arm. Two INTREPID TROOPS rush to him.*

**TRANSITION** : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdMZjOPx9jQ>

NOBELUS

Gather our men. We are departing all Ardent lands immediately. (to 2nd Troop) Order all borders closed. Double the guard at the Intrepid Spring. (looks around) There is nothing for me here.

*Nobelus exits STAGE LEFT.*

*Tavarius creeps to DOWNSTAGE CENTER.*

*A LIGHT above him ILLUMINATES HIM. WIND blows.*

**SONG 11 - TAVARIUS MARCH** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3BeaNpos3U>

TAVARIUS

Nobelus, DIANNA noble and great  
YouR PLAN HAS FAILED, TOO LITTLE TOO LATE  
LeaderS of NOTHING and FAILURE to scores  
OLIVIA’S FAILURE IS NOW BOTH OF YOURS  
  
ALL OF YOUR TALKING AND ALL OF YOUR SONGS  
I’LL BURY THEM ALL AND RIGHT ALL YOUR WRONGS  
YOUR PAIN NOW SURROUNDS ME FROM ALL THREE SIDES

you have awakened the greatest of prides   
  
No one can see  
what being evil means  
to me  
  
I will stand free  
OLIVIA cowering on   
HER knees.  
  
I deserve all and I'm willing to take  
all that I can for my future's sake.  
Conjure the Old Guard  
That’s what I’ll do  
HIS Father’s militia…will come for you  
  
The Old Guard so evil your Father knew  
He had them banished to protect you  
They’ll Kill all your soldiers, burn all your lands  
i hope my dear queen will now understand

No one can see  
what being evil means  
to me  
  
I will stand free  
AS I WATCH INTREPID AND ARDENT   
FLEE.

*Page assists Tavarius with a back pack of potions.*

*Tavarius punches the air with THUNDER, and from the trees, TWO OLD GUARD SOLDIERS emerge, TALL, DARK and ominous, all in BLACK.*

*They chase Page around the stage.*

*Another BLAST from TAVARIUS' hands, the SOLDIERS stop, stand at attention.*

*Page collapses in exhaustion.*

TAVARIUS

One thing is certain, one thing is clear  
The Old Guard will bury all you hold dear  
when they are conjured, i’ll be their guide  
Unleash their fury until all have died

No one can see  
what being evil means  
to me  
  
I will stand free  
my VENGENACE DELIVERED   
AND GUARANTEED.

*TAVARIUS CASTS A SPELL.*

*Another BLAST from Tavarius' hands, several OLD GUARD SOLDIERS emerge from the trees.*

**TAVARIUS** (CON'T)

ARISE! ARISE! ARISE! ARISE! Cast my vengeance onto them Forevermore!

*They exit STAGE LEFT and STAGE RIGHT.*

ACT TWO

**SONG 11 REPRISE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9nhFcyUTa4>

*LIGHTS UP on BEDROOM SCENE.*

*King sits on the bed as Daughter stands by the window.*

KING

So Tavarius reaches Awakening, conjures the Old Guard, has both the Intrepid and Ardent armies beaten, scattered and on the run, the King barely keeping them together. The Princess is unaware of it all, still in exile. Both countries are now under Tavarius’ savage rule. His word is law, The Old Guard patrols the streets, keeps the citizens in fear. The Ardent Queen cast back into the cold, dark dungeon.

DAUGHTER

What about the Page?

KING

Well…Page lives in his own little world…

*LIGHTS DIM on the bedroom scene.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 1 INTREPID CASTLE**

*A large MIRROR FRAME hangs CENTER STAGE illuminated from above.*

*A DRUM ROLL rises...*

*PAGE enters the stage.*

*Stands in front of the mirror.*

PAGE

Ladies and Gentlemen. Please welcome the most important character in the musical. In ANY musical. Ever presented on the stage. EVER!

*Page quickly darts behind the curtain.*

*The MUSIC RISES in anticipation to...*

*PAGE falling onto the stage from behind the curtain.*

*Page limps towards DOWNSTAGE CENTER.*

*Arms raised.*

*Milks applause from the IMAGINARY CROWD.*

*Stands in front of the mirror.*

PAGE (CON’T)

Thank you, everyone. You shouldn't. Please. Stop. It's embarrassing. For you, I'm sure. And now for the entertainment portion of the evening. I bring to you...Nobelus and Dianna-the Act I recap!

*Page brings out two PUPPETS, one resembles Nobelus, the other Dianna.*

DIANNA PUPPET

Live…to trust…I guess…me?

NOBELUS PUPPET

My Resolve to cross my heart. Hope to die. Stick a needle in Tavarius’ eye. Or somewhere else…

DIANNA PUPPET

Oh, look, it’s Nobelus Puppet.

NOBELUS PUPPET

Hey, you’re Dianna Puppet. I almost killed your mother.

DIANNA PUPPET

Ew, gross! Hey, you’re not so bad.

NOBELUS PUPPET

I know, I’m so awesome.

*The Nobelus puppet goes in for the kiss.*

*Dianna stops him.*

DIANNA PUPPET

Nobelus Puppet, I know we had a huge fight and all, but I just don't feel the same about you as I did in Act I.

NOBELUS PUPPET

What do you mean? That was 20 minutes ago. What happened during the intermission?

DIANNA PUPPET

Well, I've developed feelings for someone much stronger and more masculine than you.

NOBELUS PUPPET

Who is this fool?

*Page drops the Nobelus puppet, and brings up the Page Puppet.*

PAGE PUPPET

You guessed it!

DIANNA PUPPET

I'm so glad we're finally alone.

PAGE PUPPET

Me too. He’s so boring!

DIANNA PUPPET

I can't control myself!

PAGE PUPPET

I know, you have a hand up your...

*Slams them together in a sloppy kiss.*

DIANNA PUPPET

What will you do about Tavarius? He took over everything.

*Page switches Dianna Puppet with Tavarius Puppet.*

PAGE

He didn’t take over this!

TAVARIUS PUPPET

No one can see what being evil means to me!

PAGE PUPPET

No one can see…what…hitting you in the face means to me!

*Page Puppet beats up Tavarius Puppet.*

*Just as the real TAVARIUS enters behind him!*

*TAVARIUS watches him for a moment. Not at all amused.*

*Page notices him in the mirror. Pulls the puppets behind his back.*

PAGE

Um...Hey Tavarius. Why are…you...doing here?

TAVARIUS

Enjoying the matinee.

*Tavarius holds out his hand. Page hands him his puppet.*

PAGE

I made that with all the love and respect in the kingdom. Your kingdom. Sir...King. Crap!

TAVARIUS

Will you knock it off! There is much to be done. We have Nobelus and his little band of soldiers on the run, and we still have not found Dianna’s hiding place. Clean up this mess now, and get to work on the potions!

PAGE

Right away, Supreme Leader, sir.

*Tavarius leaves.*

*Several DANCERS enter. Start cleaning up.*

PAGE

Clean up this mess! Knock it off! Stop jumping into the moat wearing my suit of armor! I shouldn't have to deal with this...this...

DANCER

Nonsense?

PAGE

Yeah! Nonsense! He’s not special at all. I am. I mean...after all...I'm a Page.

**SONG 12 - THE PAGE SONG** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFMkJmUtmWo>

DANCER

Did you know Wikipedia defines a Page as a sheet of paper?

PAGE

What-a-who-dia?

DANCER

Another definition is someone employed as an attendant of a person who holds serious rank.

PAGE

Rank? I don’t smell!

*The music stops.*

*The Dancer shakes his head. Moves off STAGE RIGHT.*

*The music starts, the DANCERS start dancing, a comical jig.*

I’m…a…Page  
Commander in Chief  
Of comic relief  
The unknown seeker of fame  
Not for myself  
Ok, for myself!  
It’s mine to claim  
I’m a Page  
  
I’m tired  
Of Page do this!  
Page do that!  
Tavarius must chill  
I’ll punch him out  
And throw him out  
And write him out of my will

DANCERS  
You don’t have one!

PAGE

That's because notaries haven’t been invented yet…

I’M MUCH STRONGER THAN I SEEM  
THE COUNSELOR’S BIDDING CAN BE MEAN  
IT TAKES A MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS  
TO CHANGE WHAT PAGE MEANS TO OUR LAND…(wrong note)

*The music STOPS.*

DANCER

You sang the wrong note!

PAGE

Aw, turn the page!

*Music STARTS.*

I’m…the…Page!  
This song in C  
A simple key  
Just like me you say!  
  
As Tavarius schemes  
I will post meme’s

*(Two of the DANCERS hold up boards that have popular MEMES on them)*

PAGE

MY LIFE I’D GIVE  
TO BE PAGE  
  
I WILL WIN DIANNA’S HAND  
OUR WEDDING WILL HAVE A COOL BAND  
NOBELUS WILL RAISE UP HIS GLASS  
“THANK YOU PAGE, YOU’RE SUCH AN..."

*(misses the cue)*

*Music STOPS.*

DANCER

Why can’t you sing it right?

PAGE

I sing left handed.

I’m…the…Page  
For levity  
The way it should be  
My dreams will live all day  
I will come through  
Like heroes do  
The one who owns the stage  
Who makes the difference  
Wins the day  
Who’s running out of things that rhyme with A  
Who hopes this song ends sometime today!

*The music stops.*

Finally!.

I’m...The...Page!

*All the DANCERS kneel and applaud Page.*

*The DOORS behind them open with a CRASH.*

*The DANCERS scatter as Tavarius and THE OLD GUARD SOLDIERS enter.*

**SONG 13 - THE OLD GUARD** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dn1pCfJHVec>

*Tavarius sings as the Old Guard Soldiers march in formation around him.*

SOLDIERS

REVEAL   
THE SHROUD  
RELEASE  
THE OLD GUARD

TAVARIUS  
THE OLD GUARD   
ESPECIALLY BRUTAL  
KILLING ALL   
FOR MY OWN APPROVAL  
FOLLOW ORDERS  
WITH NO QUESTION  
EVEN OFFER  
WICKED SUGGESTIONS  
  
THE OLD GUARD  
WANTS THINGS TO BE  
THE OLD WAY  
LIKE THEY USED TO BE  
IN A TIME  
WHEN RULERS WOULD RULE BY THE SWORD  
A TRULY MENACING HOARD.  
  
SOLDIERS  
REVEAL   
THE SHROUD  
RELEASE  
THE OLD GUARD  
  
TAVARIUS  
NOW THE WORLD I KNEW IS GONE  
NOW IS THE TIME TO MOVE THINGS ALONG  
TAKE OVER ALL THAT I CAN  
FINALLY STAND ALONE AS THE MAN  
  
THE OLD GUARD  
THEY ARE THE ONES  
WHO RAPE AND KILL  
AND PILLAGE FOR FUN  
THEY ARE THE ONES  
WHO UNDERSTAND  
THIS IS HOW IT MUST BE IN OUR LAND  
  
SOLDIERS  
REVEAL   
THE SHROUD  
RELEASE  
THE OLD GUARD  
  
TAVARIUS  
Years of oppression  
Have fueled my obsession  
And poisoned my cruel mind  
I’d lie in wait while   
my anger’s greatness  
Would amplify with time

*The lights DIM. The OLD GUARD SOLDIERS fade into the darkness.*

*Tavarius stands DOWNSTAGE CENTER, a sole spotlight illuminates him.*

TAVARIUS

Evil begets evil   
The Ardent had said  
Their King never saw  
What he created instead  
  
He took my beloved  
His eyes then did see  
That vengeance had killed him  
And vengeance was…  
Me.  
  
SOLDIERS  
Reveal   
the Shroud  
Release  
The Old Guard

TAVARIUS

Page. Wait here for my return. We attack Nobelus and his Army at dawn.

**ACT 2 SCENE 2 HANGING TREE**

*From STAGE LEFT, Tavarius’s PERSONAL GUARDS lead Queen Olivia to the Hanging Tree.*

TAVARIUS

(*to Guards*)

Leave us. (*to Olivia*) There are those that believe that love is the strongest of all emotions. There is only one that is stronger. Vengeance.

OLIVIA

You took my husband. You took my sight. And now my country. Your feelings of unrequited love should have died long ago.

TAVARIUS

It doesn't work that way.

OLIVIA

I know how it works. Erasing history and replacing it with your own. Because you couldn’t win your love…and they could.

TAVARIUS

Don’t you understand what The Awakening is? All my life I’ve had this path to greatness before me. I’ve reached a level of malevolence only the darkest of men whisper about in secret. More powerful than anyone alive. And I’d give it all up for you.

OLIVIA

I want nothing to do with you.

*Tavarius approaches Olivia, holds her bound arms in his hands. Strokes her face.*

TAVARIUS

Leave with me now. I will cast a spell to shut down the Old Guard and walk away. Nobelus and Dianna can have a chance for the country they want. Spare both our people from my wrath and let them live in peace forevermore. You'll give them their dream, and give me mine.

OLIVIA

And if I refuse?

*Tavarius turns away from Olivia.*

TAVARIUS

You know what I'll have to do...

*The LIGHTS dim as the spotlight illuminates Olivia.*

*Dianna appears in a mirror at the RIGHT CENTER of the stage.*

*Several ARDENT appear in another mirror at the LEFT CENTER.*

**SONG 14 WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKGtpKcAsio>

*Olivia sees her Ardent people ILLUMINATED HIGH STAGE RIGHT.*

OLIVIA

MY PEOPLE LIVE  
ONLY IF I BURN  
ALL THAT I AM   
CONDEMNED

LEAVE WITH THIS MAN  
TO LIVE A LIFE UNTRUE  
TO NEVER SHARE

WITH THEM

MY HEART NOW TRIES  
TO ANSWER AS IT CRIES

WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?  
AND WILL MY HEART EVER MEND?  
WILL I DRAW MY LAST BREATH  
KNOWING MY FOOLISH PRIDE PASSES WITH MY DEATH

*Olivia sees Dianna ILLUMINATED HIGH STAGE LEFT.*

MY STUBBORN WAYS  
PRACTICED AND SO COLD  
ALWAYS SO HARD  
TO SHOW  
  
JUST HOW MY LOVE FOR YOU  
CONFLICTED WHO I AM  
AND CAUSED OUR BOND  
TO SLOW

*Olivia turns swiftly toward the ARDENT CITIZENS*.

BUT THE ARDENT THEY DESERVE TO HAVE  
A LEADER THAT WILL FIGHT  
AND SACRIFICE THEIR LIFE FOR ONE AND ALL  
MY DUTY CALLS  
  
WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?  
RESOLVE THE THINGS LEFT UNSAID  
CAN I HELP WIN THIS FIGHT  
OR IS MY FUTURE DARK JUST LIKE MY OWN SIGHT

*Both Dianna and The Ardent Citizens go dark*.

I SEE IT’S HERE  
NO ESCAPING NOW  
I FACE IT WITH NO TEARS  
MY EYES DEFY SOMEHOW

I GAVE MY DAUGHTER STRENGTH   
LIKE THE CLOUDS GIVE THE RAIN  
FOR MY PEOPLE  
I JUST HOPE IT’S NOT IN VAIN

WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?  
AND WILL MY HEART EVER MEND?  
WILL I DRAW MY LAST BREATH  
KNOWING MY FOOLISH PRIDE PASSES WITH MY...

*SPOTLIGHTS illuminate Tavarius with TWO GUARDS.*

*The Guards grab Olivia, bring her before Tavarius.*

*Olivia stands before him as the notes count down. Shakes off the Guards grasp. Slowly reaches up to Tavarius' face. Briefly caresses his cheek.*

*Olivia slaps Tavarius HARD across the face.*

*As the guards grab Olivia and take her away, Tavarius shoots her one last look.*

*Turns, and marches off.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 3**

*LIGHTS UP on the BEDROOM SCENE.*

*King sits on the bed, as Daughter defiantly marches around her room.*

*Clutches a DOLL with a white-knuckled grip.*

Breakdown – Will I See You Again? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUHePTBdWSE>

DAUGHTER

Why? Why did Queen Olivia have to die?

KING

Because she knew if she gave in, she would abandon all that she was.

DAUGHTER

But she would have saved her people!

KING

Queen Olivia was a beacon of hope and pride for her people. If she turned her back on everything for them, she would destroy what she built her whole life.

DAUGHTER

She was wrong! Selfish and wrong!

*Daughter throws her doll hard against the wall.*

*Nobelus watches Daughter stomp around.*

*After a beat…*

KING

Ok let’s say Queen Olivia agreed to go with him. Tavarius decimated both armies, had both countries locked in fear, reached Awakening to just…leave.

DAUGHTER

He said he would if she would go with him.

KING

And you said you wouldn’t skip your history class again.

*Daughter folds her arms.*

KING (con’t)

People will use you. Manipulate you. Use every angle to get what they need from you. If you show your anger, react immediately without thought, you’ve already lost.

*King approaches her, kneels before her.*

KING (con’t)

You need to start thinking in terms outside of yourself. Nobility isn’t about castles, or titles. It’s about doing what is best for others with no thought of yourself. Understand?

*LIGHTS DIM on the BEDROOM SCENE.*

*LIGHTS UP on…*THE HANGING TREE

**SONG 15 THE HANGING TREE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnhcm_OLrLY>

*Sullen and worried, INTREPID WORKERS clean up after Queen Olivia is taken down from the Hanging Tree.*

**COMPANY**  
When the sunlight is dying  
What would we see?  
More people crying by  
The Hanging Tree  
  
WE don’t know who’s coming  
Who will it be?  
If WE don’t do the cleaning  
The nEXT could be me  
  
Things they were changing  
From bad to good  
WE never liked the killing  
And never would  
  
NOBELUS’ changes  
Made US feel  
That we could find a way  
To a Peace that’s real.  
  
Now WE know that  
OUR eyes will see  
More people dying  
On the Hanging Tree

*Page enters STAGE LEFT as WORKERS clean.*

PAGE

(to Worker #1) What’s wrong?

WORKER #1

I thought my time on the Hanging Tree was over.

PAGE

What do you mean?

**WORKER #1**  
Killing ain’t no business  
Ain’t no way to win  
Killing Queen Olivia  
An unbridled sin  
  
When the sunlight is dying  
What would we see?  
More people crying by   
The Hanging Tree

*Page becomes irate.*

PAGE

Whaaaat?

*The music starts again, now faster.*

PAGE

ALL OF THIS KILLING  
STOPS RIGHT NOW  
TAVARIUS WILL SEE  
I WON’T ALLOW  
  
TO KILL HIS BELOVED   
SURELY MEANS  
THE COUNSELOR IS CRAZY  
TRULY OBSCENE  
  
I WILL NOT SIT BY AND  
WATCH OUR PEOPLE DIE  
NOBELUS WILL TRY TO FIGHT  
TAVARIUS WILL KILL HIM  
YOU KNOW WHY  
  
THE OLD GUARD IS BACK NOW  
BREAD TO KILL  
TAVARIUS WILL LEAD THEM  
BY HIS WILL  
  
TELL EVERYONE IN TOWN   
ALL YOU CAN  
WE NEED TO STAND TOGETHER  
AND FORM A PLAN  
  
IF WE REMAIN DIVIDED  
YOU WILL SEE  
WE’LL ALL BE SWINGING  
*(BEAT)*  
FROM THE HANGING TREE  
NOT ME!

**ACT 2 SCENE 4 – woods**

*Dianna folds clothes by a small shack.*

*Page enters STAGE LEFT.*

*Dianna pulls a sword on him as he approaches.*

*She stands down when she sees Page.*

DIANNA

How did you…

PAGE

I followed you after you were exiled. I kept your secret.

DIANNA

If Nobelus sent you to convince me to return, he is as foolish as the Queen.

*Dianna begins to walk away.*

PAGE

The Queen is dead.

*Dianna stops. Slowly turns to look at him. Stunned.*

PAGE

Tavarius killed Queen Olivia at the Hanging Tree and will send The Old Guard out to destroy all that remains of the Intrepid and Ardent armies at dawn.

DIANNA

And Nobelus?

PAGE

He is doing all he can to keep both armies together.

DIANNA

Even after I…

PAGE

Even after you left.

DIANNA

Why did you come here?

PAGE

Your people need you. Nobelus needs you. Your exile has to end.

DIANNA

Should it?

PAGE

If it doesn’t, Tavarius will erase all that you and Nobelus wanted to create.

DIANNA

Nobody believed in our vision.

PAGE

Nobelus did. Both sides were coming around.

DIANNA

They were not. I’m not going back. Leave now and tell no one I am here.

*Page turns and starts walking away. Then stops, turns.*

PAGE

Your Mother didn’t learn to be noble during peacetime…Queen Dianna.

*Page exits STAGE LEFT.*

*Dianna moves DOWNSTAGE CENTER.*

**SONG 16 – EMERGENCE**

DIANNA

QUEEN DIANNA

IT’S STRANGE TO HEAR HIM SAY

WHAT’S STRANGER STILL

I’VE REALLY LOST MY WAY

MY PEOPLE FALLEN

MY QUEEN AND SOON MY MAN

WHAT CAN I DO

THERE IS NO SAVING PLAN

HOW CAN

ALL THE STRENGTH I USED TO HAVE

EXILED…

LIKE ME IN MY OWN LAND

MY TRUST

IN MY QUEEN HAS BEEN MISPLACED

NOW I CAN’T TELL

THAT TO HER FACE

BUT TRUTH BE TOLD

I’VE NOTHING TO LOSE NOW

NOBELUS STILL TRIES

TO MAKE IT RIGHT SOMEHOW

THAT DREAM OF YOUTH

CLEAR AND SHINING BRIGHT

WE’LL GIVE OUR LIFE

TO SEE THAT DREAM TAKE FLIGHT

WE CAN

BE A CHAMPION FOR OUR LANDS

WE WILL

UNITE THEM WITH OUR HANDS

OUR DREAM

OF SERENE TRANQUILITY

WILL LIVE AND THIS

IS OUR RESOLVE

**ACT 2 SCENE 5 - WOODS**

*Nobelus and various ARDENT/INTREPID soldiers sit exhausted in the woods.*

*Tension hangs in the air.*

Two SOLDIERS slowly enter STAGE RIGHT.

NOBELUS

Soldiers, report.

INTREPID SOLDIER #1

We were unable to find food.

ARDENT SOLDIER #2

The battle must have drove the animals off.

NOBELUS

They will return by morning.

INTREPID SOLDIER #1

Morning? We haven’t eaten in days.

ARDENT SOLDIER #1

There may not be many of us left by then!

INTREPID SOLDIER #2

Do not speak to your King like that!

ARDENT SOLDIER #1

He’s not my King. I’m Ardent.

INTREPID SOLDIER #2

You don’t have a King. Or a Queen, either!

*They get in each other’s faces, argue.*

*All the SOLDIERS begin to argue, push each other.*

NOBELUS

Soldiers! Stop! Stand down! Stand down.

ARDENT SOLDIER #1

Why are we listening to you? Ever since you came, you’ve ruined everything.

INTREPID SOLDIER #2

No, it’s Nobelus who stopped the war.

ARDENT SOLDIER #2

Yeah, great job!

ARDENT SOLDIER #1

It’s you! You are the reason we’re here!

INTREPID SOLDIER #2

It’s you! You and your disobedience!

ARDENT SOLDIER #1

It’s you!

INTREPID SOLDIER #2

It’s you!

**SONG 17 – IT’S YOU!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlcmR84xefM>

COMPANY

It’s You!

ARDENT SOLDIER

The man of the hour

The one with the power

The one who leads the way

COMPANY

It’s You!

ARDENT SOLDIER

EXCEPT YOU FAILED

OUR ARMY DERAILED

WHAT WOULD FATHER SAY?

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

INTREPID SOLDIER

YOU’RE INCORRECT

SHOW SOME RESPECT

We haven’t lost to fear

COMPANY

It’s You!

INTREPID SOLDIER

Our King has grit

Your Princess quit!

At least our Leader’s here!

INTREPID SOLDIERS

Nobelus is standing tall

ARDENT SOLDIERS

No he’s not he let us fall

INTREPID/ARDENT SOLDIERS

Maybe we should end it all!

COMPANY

It’s You!

INTREPID SOLDIERS

YOU ARE THE ONE

THE PRODIGAL SON

THE MAN TO GIVE US PEACE

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

INTREPID SOLDIERS

YOUR QUEEN WAS FAKE

AND DID PARTAKE

IN KEEPING SEPARATE SIDES

**COMPANY**

IT’S YOU!

ARDENT SOLDIERS

WE MUST OBEY

IS WHAT YOU SAY

BUT WE DON’T FEEL THAT WAY

**COMPANY**

IT’S YOU!

ARDENT SOLDIERS

THE MAN WHO WON’T

CAUSE WIN YOU DON’T

YOU’VE MADE OUR STRESS INCREASE

INTREPID SOLDIERS

Nobelus is standing tall

ARDENT SOLDIERS

No he’s not he let us fall

INTREPID/ARDENT SOLDIERS

Maybe we should end it all!

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

NOBELUS

I’M NOT A CLOWN

WE MAY BE DOWN

NOW WE HAVE TO STAND

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

NOBELUS

WE MUST UNITE

TO WIN THIS FIGHT

AND TAKE BACK OUR HOMELAND

INTREPID SOLDIERS

Nobelus is standing tall

ARDENT SOLDIERS

No he’s not he let us fall

INTREPID/ARDENT SOLDIERS

Maybe we should end it all!

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

NOBELUS

You must obey!

ARDENT/INTREPID SOLDIERS

Is what you say!

We don’t have a chance

ARDENT/INTREPID SOLDIERS

IT’S YOU!

WE JUST GOT CREAMED

WORSE THAN IT SEEMED

A TORRID CIRCUMSTANCE

IT’S YOU!

NOBELUS

THIS ALL MUST END

WE’RE ON THE MEND

WE HAVE TO WIN RIGHT NOW!

COMPANY

IT’S YOU!

WE THINK NOT

IT’S ALL FOR NAUGHT

NOW WE DISAVOW

NOW WE’RE NO LONGER IN THRALL

NOW THE WRITING’S ON THE WALL

MAYBE WE SHOULD END IT ALL!

IT’S YOU!

*Queen Dianna enters to her THEME.*

ARDENT SOLDIER

(*to Soldiers)* Kneel!

ARDENT SOLDIER #2

No! She was exiled.

DIANNA

My exile has ended.

ARDENT SOLDIER

How did you find us?

DIANNA

How could I not? Building fires where the smoke can be seen from the next hill? Patrolling the perimeter out in the open. I’m surprised The Old Guard hasn’t killed you already.

INTREPID SOLDIER #1

How do you know about the Old Guard? They weren’t conjured until just after you left. I say she’s working with Tavarius!

*Some of the INTREPID TROOPS yell in agreement.*

NOBELUS

Enough! Dianna’s exile was legitimate, just as her return is.

DIANNA

I am here to help our people and unify our countries. And to offer my apologies…to a wonderful, caring man.

*Dianna holds Nobelus’ face in her hands.*

NOBELUS

It is I who should apologize for not trusting you.

DIANNA

You were under the spell of a snake. I will never leave again. You know what we have to do?

*Nobelus nods his head.*

ARDENT SOLDIER

We’ve already lost against the Old Guard.

DIANNA

Brute force won’t beat them. Cunning and deceit will.

ARDENT SOLDIER

You think you’ve come back to be our savior?

DIANNA

No. I’ve come back to be your Queen.

*The lights DIM.*

*LIGHTS UP on the* **BEDROOM SCENE.**

*King and Daughter stand and face each other.*

KING

So the King leads both Intrepid and Ardent armies into battle against the dreaded Old Guard in the woods. But it was a distraction.

DAUGHTER

What was their plan?

KING

The Princess has been battling superior forces for years, and knows how to beat them. A small band of unified Ardent/Intrepid soldiers snuck into the Intrepid castle, lead by the Princess. She wanted Tavarius to pay for what he has done.

**ACT 2 SCENE 6 - TAVARIUS’ LAIR**

*Tavarius stands at a table, reviewing battle plans.*

*Two OLD GUARD soldiers stand guard against the wall.*

TAVARIUS

Something is not right. The Old Guard should have crushed them by now. Every advancement opportunity is not taken by their paltry forces. Not right indeed.

**SONG 18 DISDAIN** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z04qted2KcI>

*Dianna emerges from the shadows.*

*The Old Guard soldiers immediately arm themselves.*

*Dianna unsheaths her sword. In a stunning display, she takes on both Old Guard soldiers. Kills one swiftly. Dodges and moves away from the other, then dispatches him through the chest.*

*Turns to Tavarius, who holds up his hand toward Dianna.*

*She is frozen in place, unable to move.*

*Tavarius walks up to her, hand still holding her frozen.*

*He samples her armor with his fingers, wrinkles his nose.*

*Dianna tries hard to break free, she fails.*

DIANNA

Not like this, coward! Just you and I. Sword to Sword. You killed my mother, you owe me the chance to…

TAVARIUS

I owe you nothing! Vengeance is mine, and it is almost fulfilled. Killing you would be too easy. I can’t make you a martyr. I have plans for you.

DIANNA

You are disgusting. When I drive my sword through you, you’ll still feel only disdain.

TAVARIUS

Really? I’d like to see that!

*Tavarius snaps his fingers.*

*Dianna is released from her invisible prison.*

*She lunges at Tavarius with a fatal blow.*

*Tavarius again holds up his hand. An invisible force field blocks it.*

*Dianna doesn’t back down.  
  
They slowly circle each other.  
  
Get closer with every rotation.*

TAVARIUS

You are as strong as they say, but my disdain is never ending. Condescending. Infuriating!

DISDAIN   
WILL CAUSE YOUR LOVE TO FALL   
DISDAIN   
THE CAUSE OF IT ALL.

DIANNA

What we’ve built here cannot be undone.

TAVARIUS

Oh, but it can. The Old Guard will leave both countries in ruin.

DIANNA

You took my mother’s sight, but she saw you clear as day.

TAVARIUS

Stop it!

*Tavarius shoots an energy blast from his hand at Dianna.*

*She rolls out of the way.*

*Slices Tavarius’ leg with her sword.*

DIANNA

DISDAIN   
EXPOSES WHO YOU ARE   
DISDAIN   
DEFINING YOU BY FAR   
DISDAIN   
THAT YOU HAVE CLEARLY SHOWN   
DISDAIN   
IS FELT BY YOU ALONE

*Tavarius falls to one knee.*

*Dianna grabs him, her sword to his throat.*

DIANNA

Well, Tavarius. Any more tricks up your sleeve?

*Tavarius takes out a small vial of sleeping potion, throws it at Dianna.*

TAVARIUS

SLEEP, I MUST TAKE YOU AWAY.  
  
DIANNA  
NO, I WON'T FALL!

**Tavarius**  
SLEEP, YOU ARE TIRED, DAYLIGHT FADES.

**DIANNA**  
I WILL STAND TALL!

**Tavarius**  
RELENT!  IT WILL NOT BE A SIN.

**DIANNA**  
THE ROOM IT SPINS!

**Tavarius**  
REPENT! FOR TONIGHT I WILL WIN!

*Dianna falls to the floor.*

*Tavarius laughs, carries Dianna out. OLD GUARD TROOPS take her.  
    
Tavarius moves to leave.*

*Stops.*

*Turns and openly gloats DOWNSTAGE CENTER.*

TAVARIUS

DISDAIN   
WILL CAUSE YOUR LOVE TO FALL  
DISDAIN  
THE CAUSE OF IT ALL!

*Tavarius exits STAGE LEFT.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 7 TAVARIUS' DUNGEON -**

*Dianna lays on the floor.*

*Tavarius enters with TWO OLD GUARD SOLDIERS.*

*Dianna bolts up, the SOLDIERS hold Dianna back as she charges at Tavarius.*

DIANNA

You bastard! When our people learn of what you have done, they will rise up and kill you!

TAVARIUS

They will do nothing, as they are frozen with fear. My vengeance is nearing completion. Your unified armies are being wiped out by the savage Old Guard. Nobelus has been captured, and is being led to a dungeon as we speak.

*Dianna steps back.*

DIANNA

You lie!

TAVARIUS

Guards!

*The Old Guard soldiers throw open the door. Nobelus is there, bound and gagged, tries to SCREAM.*

*Dianna SCREAMS in horror.*

TAVARIUS (con’t)

My spies told me about your plan. To keep the Old Guard at bay, while you and your little band break off to sneak into my castle and kill me.

*Dianna scowls at him.*

*Tavarius’ eyes never leave her as he holds up a dagger.*

TAVARIUS

I killed your Father with this dagger. He took my beloved, so I took his life. I wanted to kill Nobelus in front of you, or you in front of him. Then I thought…what would be an even worse fate for the Princess? (Hands her the dagger) Kill yourself. King Nobelus will be dead by morning, so it’s either that, or you will rot in this dungeon forevermore. Your King is gone. Your Queen is gone. Your plan is gone. The choice is yours.

*Tavarius and the troops exit stage left.*

**SONG 19 FOREVERMORE** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PpimvRQHB4>

DIANNA

TIME  
SEEMS TO TAKE FOREVER  
TO TRY   
KEEPING US TOGETHER   
  
TRY AS YOU MIGHT AND YOU FAIL

THE DREAM  
A TRUST WITHOUT SURRENDER   
A WORLD   
UNITED IN IT'S SPLENDOR

TRY AS YOU MIGHT AND YOU FAIL   
OUR TRUST CAN PREVAIL

WHEN THE NIGHT TURNS TO DAY   
IT WILL LIVE FOREVERMORE   
OUR TRUST WILL LIVE   
CHANGING EVERYTHING.

TIME TURNS THE DAY   
DREAMS LIVE AND FLOW   
TEARS FALL AWAY   
LOVE WILL LIVE ON IN TIME...

*Dianna takes the dagger.*

*Holds the blade to her heart. Her breath races as she readies the blade.*

*About to strike...*

*Throws it against the wall in defiance.*

TIME  
SEEMS TO TAKE FOREVER  
TO TRY   
KEEPING US TOGETHER

TRY AS YOU MIGHT AND YOU FAIL   
OUR LOVE WILL PREVAIL

DIANNA

WHEN THE NIGHT TURNS TO DAY  
WE WILL LIVE FOREVERMORE

*Dianna kneels DOWNSTAGE CENTER as the music fades out. The lights dim and go dark.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 8**

*LIGHTS UP on the BEDROOM SCENE.*

KING

Can you see how difficult the everyday choices we make are? This castle, all the land. It’s nothing if you don’t have a sense of who you are and where you come from. And especially who you can trust.

DAUGHTER

How will I know who to trust with spies everywhere?

KING

Trust takes time. It won’t be easy, and you will be disappointed more than once.

DAUGHTER

Does it get easier when I get older?

KING

No. It gets harder.

DAUGHTER

Can’t you give me anything to look forward to?

KING

The story isn’t over yet. The King and Princess are placed in the dungeon…

**INSIDE THE DUNGEON**

*Nobelus and Dianna are each in their own dungeon chamber. A stone wall separates them.*

*Nobelus pounds the wall in defiance.*

NOBELUS

Dogs! You will pay for this!

DIANNA

Nobelus!

*Dianna and Nobelus run to the wall that separates them.*

NOBELUS

Dianna. You okay?

DIANNA

Looks like we have Tavarius right where we want him.

NOBELUS

(chuckles) I never had the chance to hold you in my arms, and dance.

DIANNA

I’ve never danced with anyone.

NOBELUS

Neither have I!

*They laugh.*

DIANNA

My wish would be to have my first and only dance with you.

**SONG 20 DANCE OF DEATH** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdcGMEoi3Ho>

**DIANNA**  
WE STAND HERE NOW TO FACE THE NIGHT.  
LOCKED IN THIS CELL, NO WAY TO FIGHT   
MY FINAL WISH TO HOLD YOU TOO  
JUST ONE LAST TIME TO KNOW IT’S TRUE.  
  
**NOBELUS**  
DIANNA, PLEASE, I WISH THIS CANNOT BE.  
WE BOTH TRIED TO MAKE OUR PEOPLE FREE.  
IF WE CANNOT LIVE AND WE MUST FALL.  
MY LOVE, THIS WE MUST DO FOR US ALL IN THIS...

*As in a dream, the wall between them rises up. They both reach for each other and embrace.*

NOBELUS

DANCE OF DEATH  
MY LAST BREATH  
WILL CONTAIN  
YOUR SWEET NAME.

DIANNA

IF WE MUST BE THE ONES WHO DIE  
FOR OUR TRUE LOVE  
OUR PEOPLE’S FREEDOM HAS A CHANCE   
IF THEY CHOOSE TO FIGHT.

NOBELUS

YES THIS IS TRUE. THEY MUST GO ON.  
FIND THEIR OWN WAY TO SING THEIR OWN SONG.  
IN THIS TIME NOW, WE’LL SEAL OUR FATE  
ENSURING LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLE’S SAKE

DIANNA

DANCE OF DEATH  
MY LAST BREATH  
WILL CONTAIN  
YOUR SWEET NAME.

NOBELUS

AS LEADERS WE MUST STAND AND GET IT DONE

DIANNA

WE’VE SACRIFICED SO MUCH, WE’LL BE THE ONES.

NOBELUS

YOUR BEAUTY AND YOUR STRENGTH, TWO ARDENT JEWELS.

DIANNA

YOU’VE PROVEN THAT YOUR LEGACY IS TRUE.

NOBELUS

WHAT CAN WE DO?

DIANNA

NOTHING LEFT TO TRY!

NOBELUS

CAN'T STAND AND FIGHT.

DIANNA

NOWHERE LEFT TO HIDE.

NOBELUS

THERE HAS TO BE A WAY.

DIANNA

WE CAN BOTH LIVE

DIANNA/NOBELUS  
THERE'S NONE.  NOW IT'S MY LIFE I WILL GIVE...

NOBELUS            DIANNA   
DANCE OF DEATH        I NEED YOUR LOVE, TO HELP ME THROUGH THE DARKNESS  
 MY LAST BREATH TO SETTLE ALL MY FEARS, ALLEVIATE THE SADNESS  
WILL CONTAIN I NEED YOUR LOVE, TO GET ME BACK TO YOU      
YOUR SWEET NAME. I WANT IT TO BE TRUE, I NEED YOUR LOVE

*Tavarius emerges from the darkness between them, pushes them away from each other.*

  Tavarius     
TIME IS RUNNING SHORT I HOPE YOU DIE FAST.  
WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT,   
BRINGS CLOSER MY GRASP  
TO ONE THING YOUR LOVE   
COULD NOT POSSIBLY GIVE -   
A CLOSURE TO VENGEANCE AND  
POWER!  
FOR MY NAME TO LIVE...  
FOREVERMORE!

*Nobelus and Dianna dance.*

*They stop DOWNSTAGE CENTER, hold each other.*

NOBELUS/DIANNA

DANCE OF DEATH  
MY LAST BREATH  
WILL CONTAIN  
YOUR SWEET NAME.

*Nobelus and Dianna separate, return to their cells. The wall returns between them from above.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 9 INTREPID CASTLE**

*UPSTAGE RIGHT, Tavarius approaches an OLD GUARD SOLDIER.*

TAVARIUS

I demand an update on the fighting. Has their Army been defeated?

OLD GUARD SOLDIER

Sire, the Intrepid and Ardent townspeople have joined in the fighting. They are pushing us back!

TAVARIUS

What? (Tavarius looks around) Take Nobelus and Dianna to the Hanging Tree immediately!

*DOWNSTAGE LEFT, Nobelus and Dianna are brought to the Hanging Tree.*

*Tavarius stands in between Nobelus and Dianna. Both are tied up under the tree, nooses around their necks. Their hands bound behind them.*

*Page and four OLD GUARD soldiers stand at the ready.*

TAVARIUS

Martyrs or not, it's over. Now, my vengeance will cost you. Page, drop the trap door beneath them both.

*Page doesn’t move.*

TAVARIUS

Page, drop the trap door beneath them.

*Page holds firm.*

PAGE

Can’t make me!

TAVARIUS

Page, do it now!

*An Old Guard soldier enters the door frame.*

SONG 20 - Freedom Reprise - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=60L_rSE8WBU>

*Page pushes the Old Guard soldier out of the door frame. Closes and locks the door.*

*The Old Guard soldiers in the room throw off their cloaks. They are Ardent/Intrepid soldiers.*

*One of them cuts down Nobelus and Dianna, as the others fight Tavarius. They are no match for him.*

*Page ducks and runs, tries to avoid the energy blasts in the battle, Tavarius dispatches the Ardent/Intrepid Soldiers with energy blasts from his hands, smoke and explosions knock them down.*

*Now armed, Nobelus and Dianna circle in on Tavarius.*

*Tavarius unsheathes his sword.*

TAVARIUS

I will have my vengeance!

*Tavarius fights Nobelus with his sword from STAGE RIGHT, blasts Dianna with energy blasts to STAGE LEFT. She dodges and moves away from them.*

*Just as Tavarius has Nobelus beaten, Page slaps Tavarius with a broom, knocks him off kilter.*

*Tavarius is just about to blast Dianna, she evades him and Page again hits him with the broom.*

*Tavarius grabs Page, lifts him up for a fatal blow.*

*Nobelus and Dianna strike together from both sides, stab Tavarius with their swords.*

*Tavarius drops Page, falls to the ground.*

*Tavarius dies.*

*The Intrepid/Ardent Soldiers enter. They TOPPLE the Hanging Tree.*

*Nobelus and Dianna hold each other.*

*INTREPID and ARDENT TOWNSPEOPLE congratulate them.*

*Page stumbles to the forefront.*

*Dianna approaches him.*

DIANNA

I’ll never forget what you did for me. For us.

*Nobelus approaches Page.*

NOBELUS

For all of us.

*Nobelus shakes Page’s hand.*

*Kneels before him.*

*Dianna, the SOLDIERS and TOWNSPEOPLE also kneel.*

*The lights DIM.*

**ACT 2 SCENE 10**

*LIGHTS UP on the Bedroom scene.*

*Daughter faces King on the bed.*

KING

So now you see the importance of history?

DAUGHTER

I do. I’ll never skip my history lesson again.

KING

If you’re strong enough to make history, you also have to have the strength to preserve it. Others will use it for their own gain. That’s why trust is so important. The one you will have to trust the most, is in that mirror.

*Daughter walks to the mirror. Sees her reflection.*

DAUGHTER

So do the King and Queen live happily ever after?

KING

They do. And they raise a beautiful, strong daughter.

*Daughter realizes the story was about Nobelus and Dianna, her Mother and Father.*

DAUGHTER

That was you and Mother?

*King Nobelus smiles. Nods.*

DAUGHTER (CON’T)

You said the story took place in a time long ago and far away?

NOBELUS

A place as far away as my life was then, before I knew what it truly is to be a Father.

*LIGHTS DIM on the bedroom scene.*

*LIGHTS UP on the SPRING.*

*INTREPID and ARDENT CITIZENS and SOLDIERS are all around, dressed in fine clothing. Celebration is in the air.*

*Nobelus and Dianna enter.*

*Page stands before them.*

PAGE

The people have decided. Henceforth, the spring shall be called…Forevermore Spring, as it will provide for all our newly unified people Forevermore.

*The CROWD cheers.*

**SONG 21 CHANGE THE WORLD** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oInpBZu44qg>

NOBELUS

ALL MY LIFE, SO SHELTERED   
THE MAN I WASN'T MEANT TO BE   
YOU WERE THERE TO GUIDE ME   
AND SHOW ME WHAT I HAD TO SEE.

DIANNA

ALL MY LIFE SO HOPELESS   
A VOICE WITHOUT THE URGE TO SING   
YOU WERE THERE AND GAVE ME   
THE CHANCE TO DO A NOBLE THING.

NOBELUS

CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES

DIANNA

WITH A LOOK FROM YOUR EYES.

DIANNA/NOBELUS

I WILL TAKE YOUR HAND   
AND THEY ALL WILL UNDERSTAND   
I WILL STAND WITH YOU AND   
CHANGE THE WORLD   
  
WILL THERE COME A DAY   
WHEN PEOPLE SAY   
WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?

DIANNA

I WOULD SEE THE FACES   
THE LIVES OF PEOPLE FALL AWAY   
THEY HAD FOUGHT IN ANGER   
SO THEY COULD SEE A BETTER DAY

NOBELUS

EVERYDAY I WONDERED   
COULD ALL THE HATE AND FIGHTING CEASE   
NOW I SEE IT CLEARLY   
THAT OUR TWO SIDES MAY LIVE IN PEACE

DIANNA

CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES

NOBELUS

WITH A LOOK FROM YOUR EYES.

DIANNA/NOBELUS

I WILL TAKE YOUR HAND   
AND THEY ALL WILL UNDERSTAND   
I WILL STAND WITH YOU   
AND CHANGE THE WORLD   
  
I WILL MARRY YOU   
IN MY HEART I'LL KNOW IT'S TRUE   
I WILL STAND WITH YOU AND   
CHANGE THE WORLD   
  
WILL THERE COME A DAY   
WHEN PEOPLE SAY   
WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?  
  
JOINING HAND IN HAND AS ONE   
OUR FUTURE NOW HAS JUST BEGUN   
TWO LIVES NOW JOIN EMBRACED   
ALL IS DONE.

NOBELUS

NO MORE SUFFERING NO MORE WAR   
JUST LEARNING AND DISCOVERING  
 IT’S CLEAR TO ME MY DESTINY  
I NEEDED YOU TO STAND AS KING

DIANNA

ALL MY PEOPLE’S ANGUISH   
THE FEAR AND PAIN THEIR EYES COULD SEE

NOW THAT YOU'RE BESIDE ME   
THE FEAR IS GONE THEIR HEARTS NOW FREE

DIANNA/NOBELUS/COMPANY

CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES   
WITH A LOOK FROM YOUR EYES  
  
I WILL TAKE YOUR HAND   
AND THEY ALL WILL UNDERSTAND   
I WILL STAND WITH YOU   
AND CHANGE THE WORLD   
  
I WILL MARRY YOU   
IN MY HEART I'LL KNOW IT'S TRUE   
I WILL STAND WITH YOU AND   
CHANGE THE WORLD   
  
WILL THERE COME A DAY   
WHEN PEOPLE SAY   
WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?

*Nobelus/Dianna are married, exit STAGE RIGHT.*

*The CAST exits STAGE LEFT.*

*As the lights dim, LIGHTS UP on the bedroom scene.*

*Daughter is now asleep in her bed.*

*Nobelus pulls the covers over her shoulders. Kisses Daughter on the head.*

*Heads toward stage left to exit.*

*Nobelus stops. Turns to his Daughter, bows to her as he does to Dianna.*

*Exits stage left.*

**END**