

Opening Number:

**PROM QUEENS UNCHAINED**

Music Keith Hermann, Lyrics Larry Goodright

Book by Stephen Witkin

**THAT SPECIAL NIGHT**

CINDY:

Oh Richie I was so proud of you in biology class when you described osmosis, it made me feel all porous inside. Which reminds me, with that big night only a week away I'll need to borrow your notes...

SHERRY:

Do you believe the way that slut Louise Blaine slinks around the halls in that positively scandalous outfit? By the way, if I catch you looking at her in that way at the prom you can forget about...

LOUISE:

Dear Daddy it's like I miss you more than your goatee missed your razor, more than my mother misses the point the prom will be like the loneliest place in the world without...

VENULIA:

Dear Governor, although I am aware that pardons are only for death row prisoners please consider my plight. I am a student at Robert Underwood High sentenced to one night at the prom...

ALL:

THAT NIGHT, THAT SPECIAL NIGHT  
IT'S THE NIGHT WE'VE WAITED FOR  
FIRST STEPS, TREADING LIGHTLY  
A NEW BEGINNING, AN OPEN DOOR

HOW SHALL I ASK HER  
WHAT WILL I SAY  
WILL SHE SAY YES  
WILL I SAY YES  
WHAT IF I'M STUPID

WHAT SHALL I WEAR  
WHAT KIND OF FLOWERS  
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL  
WHAT ABOUT DANCING  
I THINK SHE'S TALLER  
I'M GETTING CRANKY  
WILL I BE SHRINKING

ON THAT NIGHT, THAT SPECIAL NIGHT  
KNOWING WHAT, NOT KNOWING HOW  
AT LAST GETTING CLOSER  
THE WAITING'S OVER  
SOON TO BE NOW

HE DOESN'T LIKE ME  
IT'S ALMOST HERE  
I THINK SHE'S TALL  
HE LOOKS SO NICE  
CAN I AFFORD IT

WHO WILL BE THERE  
WHAT IF I KISS HER  
WILL HE KISS ME  
IT'S SO IMPORTANT  
WHY DO I WANT YOU  
I'M GETTING NERVOUS  
WHAT DOES IT MATTER

ON THAT NIGHT, THAT SPECIAL NIGHT  
WILL WE DO ALL THAT WE SAY  
IN TIME LOOKING BACKWARD  
WELL WAS IT MAGIC OR JUST OKAY  
WILL IT BE TOTAL DISASTER  
WILL DREAMS COME TRUE IN THE STARLIGHT  
CAN IT BE HERE ANY FASTER  
I PRAY FOR THAT SPECIAL NIGHT

I want song:

**THE FABULIST**  
 Music and Lyrics by David Spencer  
 Book by Stephen Witkin

**A MAN COMPLETE**

AGATHOPOLOUS:  
 YOU'RE CURSED!

AESOP:  
 I'M BLESSED!

AGATHOPOLOUS:  
 YOU'RE LOUD!

AESOP:  
 IMPRESSED?

AGATHOPOLOUS:  
 YOU'RE MAD.

AESOP:  
 I GRANT.

AGATHOPOLOUS:  
 HOW DO I SHUT YOU UP!

AESOP:  
 YOU DON'T. YOU CAN'T...  
 KNOW THAT SILENT SLAVE?  
 SAY GOODBYE TO HIM,  
 AS HE MAKES HIS GOODBYE TO LIVING  
 AT YOUR WHIM  
 I HAVE FOUND MY VOICE  
 AND IT FINDS REJOICING VERY SWEET.

(AESOP sings a fancy arpeggio...)

YOU CAN BLUSTER THREATS,  
 YOU CAN FLICK YOUR CANE;  
 IT'LL JUST MAKE ME TELL YOU WHERE TO  
 STICK YOUR CANE.  
 EVEN IF YOU STRIKE,  
 DON'T ASSUME I'M LIKELY TO RETREAT.  
 FOR I'VE ONE THING MORE  
 THAN A VOICE, YOU SEE.  
 MORE THAN ALL YOU'RE WORTH—

AGATHOPOLOUS:  
 WHAT?

AESOP:

A DESTINY!  
TO GO ON A QUEST TO BE A MAN COMPLETE!

AGATHAPOLOUS:  
What could make you anything but a complete fool?

AESOP:  
I'LL HAVE HEART, HEAD, HUMP,  
FINGERS, ARMS, LEGS, TOES—  
THOUGH I HAVE THEM ALREADY,  
SO IT'S MORE THAN THOSE.  
NO, IT'S WHAT THOSE MEAN  
WHEN INFUSED WITH A SPIRIT WHERE THEY MEET.  
AND THEY MEAN THE THING  
THAT I PLAN TO HAVE:  
ALL THE RANGE OF EXPERIENCE  
FOR MAN TO HAVE!  
AND I'LL STAKE MY CLAIM  
WITH A WOOF, WHOOP, WHINNY, BRAY AND BLEAT.  
AND THEY'LL ALL RESOUND,  
WHEN THE WORLD AWAKES,  
TO RECEIVE THE SOUND  
THAT AN AESOP MAKES,  
WHEN AT DELPHI I BECOME  
A MAN COMPLETE!

TO MAKE FRIENDS AND GO "HA," LIKE THE HYENA...  
TO MAKE LOVE AND GO "HOO" LIKE BROTHER OWL...  
TO REACH FOR ANY GOAL LIKE A WILD, UNFETTERED SOUL...  
IT LEAVES ME SPEECHLESS  
BUT NOTICE HOW WOLFISHLY I  
HOWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWL!!!  
I'LL NEVER SHUT UP!

I'LL BE GRAND AND GLIB WITH A TONGUE THAT'S FREE  
AND ENDEAVOR TO LIBERATE THE REST OF ME!  
AND I WON'T BE STOPPED  
THOUGH I'M BOPPED LIKE THE BEAST YOU LOVE TO BEAT.  
I HAVE WORDS, PRIDE, SCOPE AND IDEAS TO STATE  
AND A BAREBACK RIDE ON A STEED CALLED FATE  
TO BECOME, O DESTINY,  
A MAN COMPLETE!  
WHERE'S DELPHI???

Musical scene: The Fabulist

### HADES SEQUENCE (PT. II)

CHARON

SIT DOWN, DON'T TALK TO THE OPERATOR  
 KEEP YOUR HANDS INSIDE THE MOVING VEHICLE  
 STAY CENTER, DON'T FEED THE ALLIGATOR:  
 KEEP YOUR HANDS...IN THE VEHICLE.  
 ONE WAY, NO REFUNDS,  
 NO SECRET HIDDEN PASSAGES OUT,  
 NO SOUVENIR SHOPS.  
 ALL SOULS ARE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN  
 ANY EXITING AT UNDESIGNATED STOPS.  
 KEEP SEATED, STAY BEHIND THE LINE  
 AND WELCOME TO YOUR LAST ADDRESS.  
 THANKS FOR RIDING THE STYX EXPRESS!

PELAPHUS

The River Styx? Then you're Charon the Boatman?

CHARON

Back and forth. Back and forth. It'll be twenty-three trillion times next Funeral Pyre Day.

PELAPHUS

Aesop let's get out of here.

CHARON

"Tortoise And The Hare," Aesop? Oh my, the Lord Of The Underworld is going to like you. Now that you're down here, you'll tell him your little animal tales as his eternal slave.

AESOP

Slave? No! No way! We barely escaped from Babylon with our lives.

CHARON

What? YOU'RE NOT DEAD??! That means you're both half-dead. And you're on my barge. It's against the rules. (CHARON's ram's horn rings.) Ohhh, that's the Boss on the horn (HE picks up the ram's horn, speaks into it:) Yes, my Lord Of The Lapsed? ... Uh-huh. Uh-huh. (HE hangs up. To AESOP and PELAPHUS:) One of you must die.

PELAPHUS & AESOP (Shocked, weakly—)

Who?

CHARON:

Hades commands you must choose. One pitted against the other to see who has the life worth living.