

ORB3

JACQUES OFFENBACH

Robinson Crusoe

Opéra comique in three acts

Original libretto by Eugène Cormon and Hector-Jonathan Crémieux

English version by Don White

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CD1

ACT ONE

[1] Overture

Sunday afternoon in the Bristol home of Sir William and Lady Deborah Crusoe. Sir William reads aloud from the Bible, ignored by Lady Deborah, who threads the spindle of her spinning wheel, and Edwige, their niece, who is reading a Paris magazine. Their maid, Suzanne, is setting the table for high tea.

[2] Sir William

There is a story I'd like you to hear,
The parable told of the Prodigal Son;
One day he left all the friends he held dear
And went to a far-off land where he had none.

Lady Deborah

(commencing to spin) Now there you have a problem son,
Not a bit like Robinson –
An honest and goodhearted boy,
His mother's pride and joy.

Edwige

It says here we'll soon be wearing
Gowns that show our ankles *(lifting up her skirt)* so!

Suzanne

(leaning over Edwige's shoulder to see the illustration in the magazine)
Goodness me, it's rather daring!

Lady Deborah

The men would go quite mad, you know!
Round and round the spinning wheel flies,
Everything spins in front of my eyes,
Whirling round and round. Wheeling, reeling!

Edwige

I wonder if we'll ever see
Hemlines end above the knee?

Suzanne

In Rome the gowns they used to sell,
Showed your knees – and bust as well!

Edwige/Suzanne

That's why the Roman Empire fell!

Sir William

Soon all the Prodigal's fortune was spent.
None gave him comfort, no man gave him bread.
Back to the house of his father he went:
'Make me as one of thy servants,' he said.

Lady Deborah

Suzanne, go put the kettle on.

Edwige

Suzanne, have you seen Robinson?

Lady Deborah

I'm dying for a cup of tea.

Edwige

Where can that good-for-nothing be?

Lady Deborah

Perhaps as well a buttered scone.

Edwige

I wonder where he could have gone...

Lady Deborah

Just one, I have to watch my weight!

Edwige It's not like him to be so late! What should I do?

Lady Deborah Well...maybe two!

Edwige Where can he be? What's to be done? Well, Suzanne?

Lady Deborah Or even three... no, only one! Well, Suzanne?

Suzanne There's one thing no one understands
A maid has only got one pair of hands!

Edwige We'd better not have tea just yet,
If Robinson's not here his father gets so upset.

Suzanne We don't want to get him upset!

Lady Deborah Perhaps we won't have tea just yet...
We don't want Papa upset.

Sir William A woman's tongue, I have heard it said,
Could wake the dead, could wake the dead!
Not one word have you heard! Not a word,
Not one word, no, not a word I've read.
Papa knows best. Best give your tongues a rest.
Now back to that story I'd like you to hear...

Edwige Quiet now... He'll fall asleep again you'll see.

Suzanne Quiet now... His reading does the same to me!

Lady Deborah Quiet now...

Edwige Quiet now... We'll wake him up in time for tea.

Sir William The parable told of the Prodigal Son...
One day he left all the friends he held dear
And went to a far-off land where he had none.
He'll fall asleep again, you'll see. Quiet now!

Lady Deborah His reading does the same to me. Quiet now!

Suzanne Quiet now!

Lady Deborah Keep your voices very soft now.

Suzanne Not a whisper, not a cough now!

Edwige He's already dozing off now!

Edwige/Lady Deborah/Suzanne We'll let him sleep till tea. Quiet now!
Not a whisper, not a cough,
Keep your voices soft. Quiet now!
Till we wake him up for tea, better let him be.

Sir William A faraway land where he'd none.
A faraway land... ah...

As he yawns and dozes off, the Bible slips from his lap and wakes him up with a start.

Suzanne Where is that rascal son of mine?
He's late again, that's why we're waiting.

Sir William That boy can be so irritating!
(*to Lady Deborah*) And you're the one I blame!

Lady Deborah

My dear, can't you control your son?

Sir William

Excuse me, sir, he's your son too!

Lady Deborah

It's always so with only one.

Sir William

And that, my dear, is your fault too!

Lady Deborah

He never does a thing he's told.

Edwige

You're wrong, my dear, he's good as gold.

Suzanne

All boys his age do silly things.

Sir William

Well, just be glad he isn't twins!

When he comes through the door...

Wait till I see him! I'll give that boy what for!

He comes home late day after day.

No son of mine behaves that way!

Edwige/Lady Deborah

This part we'll ignore, we've heard it all before.

Suzanne

We know exactly what he'll say:

'No son of mine behaves that way!'

Robinson

(outside) Tra la la la!

Lady Deborah

I hear him in the garden!

Sir William

It's no use begging pardon.

Suzanne

Of course he can't refuse him.

Sir William

I refuse to excuse him!

He comes home late day after day.

No son of mine behaves that way!

No son of mine can behave in that way!

Edwige/Lady Deborah

We know exactly what he'll say,

Suzanne

We know he'll say 'No son of mine behaves that way!'

We know he'll say what he says every day!

Robinson enters, rapt in thought.

[3] Robinson

Voice of the sea, calling to me,

I hear you whispering 'come away, away!'

Over the sea, waiting for me,

Faraway lands of adventure I'll see.

Across the bay lies a three-masted schooner,

Her masts seem to reach to the sky.

She sails tonight, that three-masted schooner,

I know now when she goes, so must I! Ah!

Over the grey horizon where the trade winds blow,

Raging storms can't delay us, always onward we go!

We come at last to an uncharted island...

Shelter there by its clear crystal streams,

Although it has no name, I know it all the same...

This is my magic island that I visit each night

Secretly in my dreams.
 There in the bay lies a three-masted schooner,
 Her masts reach the sky! Her masts reach the sky!

Sir William
Robinson

You're very late! It's nearly eight!
 And you were worried? I would have hurried.
 I lost track of the hours...

Suzanne takes flowers from a vase and places them in Robinson's hands behind his back. He produces them and presents them to his mother.

As I gathered these flowers
 To give to you, Mama, so pardon me, Papa,
 Papa won't you forgive your unworthy son?

Sir William
Lady Deborah

That's quite all right, no harm done.
 Once he's kissed you, he can twist you
 Round his little finger.

Robinson

That's true. But what a teacher I had!
 I've seen you play the same disarming game on dad!

Lady Deborah

It's different for a wife,
 That's part of married life!

Robinson

You know I spoke in jest. Would I offend the best,
 The very best mother a son ever had?

Edwige
Robinson

What, not a word to spare for me?
 Something more precious,
 Now tightly close your eyes.

He takes a seashell from his pocket and holds it to Edwige's ear.

Can you hear it? Just listen!
 The waves upon the shore of some far paradise.

Edwige

I hear the sea there, I feel I'd be there
 If I opened my eyes!

Suzanne
Robinson

Hear the sea after tea! You're both keeping us waiting!
 All you think about is eating,
 Don't you ever have dreams? Dreams of gold, wealth untold,
 Dreams in which you are rich,
 Dreams of lands far away? What do you say?
 Tell me please.

Suzanne

Please don't tease, please don't tease!
 What's the use of dreaming dreams when you
 Know they will never come true?

[4] Sir William

All right! Sit down and take your places now.
 Yes, I'll say grace now.

Lady Deborah
Suzanne

When the master starts a fight...
 One that could last through the night...

Edwige/Lady Deborah

Suzanne/Sir William

Robinson can put it right.

Ah, what a charming boy!

No one could ever doubt him.

He has an air about him.

What would we do without him?

A sweet disarming boy!

He conquers you completely

By simply smiling sweetly.

Ah, what a charming boy!

Robinson

Just one word is all it takes to calm him,

Just one smile is all it takes to charm him.

Since I discovered I had this facility,

I've used it to the best of my ability.

Lady Deborah

He never does a thing he's told,

Or so I've always found.

Suzanne

The moment you begin to scold

He somehow wins you round.

Edwige/Lady Deborah

Whenever he does wrong, you can't stay angry long.

Suzanne/Sir William

Ah, it's true, no matter what you say

He always has his way.

Ah, it's true, so now you understand

We're putty in his hand.

Robinson

When I do wrong, they're not mad long.

Whatever they say I know they will give way.

Although they don't quite understand,

They're putty in my hand!

Sir William

Come on, Suzanne, come on,

It's getting very late. Is tea not ready yet?

How long now must we wait?

Suzanne

You can start when you like,

Sit down and go ahead,

But till Toby brings the ham

There's only buttered bread!

Lady Deborah

Perhaps he's lost his way.

Sir William

He'll lose his head one day.

Edwige

He isn't very clever at remembering,

He never gets things right.

Edwige/Lady Deborah/

He isn't very bright,

Suzanne/Sir William

Not slightly erudite!

He doesn't read or write,

A brainless neophyte!

Robinson You should all be quite ashamed!
Every day it's the same.
You say Toby's to blame.
It really is a crying shame
The way poor Toby gets the blame!

**Edwige/Lady Deborah/
Suzanne/Sir William** Ah, what a charming boy!
The perfect kind of friend, one
You know you can depend on,
You need a hand, he'll lend one.
Ah, what a charming boy!

Robinson Just one smile is all it takes to charm them.
Their pride and joy, that's me!
Their pride and joy, their darling boy, Ah, yes it's true.
My mother's pride and joy, and father's too!

**Edwige/Lady Deborah/
Suzanne/Sir William** Whenever Robinson does wrong
You know you can't stay angry long. It's true!
No matter what you say. It's true!
He always has his way. It's true!
So now you understand, we're putty in his hand!

Robinson I always get my way, it's easy to!
So now you understand, they're putty in my hand!

Toby enters carrying a package – the ham. Sir William studies his fob watch.

Sir William At last, young Toby! You're one hour and twenty-three
and a half minutes late. Explain yourself.

**Edwige
Suzanne** Oh, uncle, he's here now. Do let's sit down.
I'll take the ham!
(to Toby, meaningfully)
Did you see that splendid three-masted schooner in the port?
(passing a decanter) Port? Here you are, dear.

Lady Deborah Why are you so interested in the sea?
Sir William It's not the sea, father. It's what lies beyond it.
Robinson *(picking up the decanter)* Well, I think I'll have a little glass.
Lady Deborah *(aside)* Toby... It's all arranged...
Robinson Ah, I would love to travel.
Edwige Toby, I want to talk to you.
Robinson Yes, master Robinson.
Toby Travelling is much too easy these days.
All these young fellows running away to sea.
Lady Deborah You're right, dear. Remember that boy Jim Box?
Sir William Cocks.
Lady Deborah Surely not!

Edwige What happened to him?

Lady Deborah Ah!

Edwige Well?

Robinson He disappeared.

Toby Oh dear! Not on a three-masted schooner?

Sir William Probably.

Toby Oh dear!

Edwige What's wrong with you, Toby?

Toby I don't want to go.

Suzanne *(sharply)* Go where?

Robinson Nowhere!

Sir William Young people refuse to accept their responsibilities.
Running off to sea! A young man should marry, as I did, and raise a family, as I have...
work hard every day, as I do. Is there no room for spiritual, for lasting values... *(he holds up his Bible)* for this book?

Robinson I give you my promise, father, if I ever go anywhere, I'll read the Bible every Sunday.

Lady Deborah I like Sunday, because we're all together. Togetherness!

Sir William There's no such word!

Lady Deborah Then there ought to be! Togetherness! It's beautiful word!

[5] All
The family that's always apart
Is the kind you'll find that hasn't a heart.
The family that's all in one place
Is the kind that has a smile on its face.
The one kind you'll find can be unkind,
The other kind's the kind that's best.
The kind that's combined is the fun kind,
The kind that's got togetherness.
One kind's unkind the other kind's best,
The kind that's got togetherness.
The house where silence dwells in each room
Houses hearts as cold as the tomb.
The house that's filled with laughter and noise
Is a home that shares your sorrows and joys.
The one kind you'll find can be unkind,
The other kind's the kind that's best.
The kind that's combined is the fun kind,
The kind that's got togetherness.
One kind's unkind the other kind's best,
The kind that's got togetherness.

Our family's the kind that's best,
The kind that's got togetherness.
The kind that's full of kindness
Because we've got togetherness!

All exit except Robinson, who also holds Toby back. As Robinson speaks, Suzanne creeps behind a screen to eavesdrop.

Robinson I've spoken to the captain... we sail tonight!
Toby We?
Robinson You'll love it, Toby. Just think of it. South America!
Toby South America!
Robinson Can't you just see it? The tropics? The blazing sun beating down.
Strange animals! Snakes!
Toby Snakes!
Robinson Crocodiles!
Toby Crocodiles! A passage to South America must cost at least fifteen
Guineas.
Robinson I've paid it!
Toby How can I ever pay you back?
Robinson Gold! The gold of Eldorado! Enough to make even Suzanne happy.
Think of it!
Toby I have. I'm not going!
Robinson Why not?
Toby Suzanne would never forgive me.
Robinson She'll never forgive you if you don't go!
Toby What'll I tell her?
Robinson Nothing! I'll leave a note explaining everything. Go and get your things
and meet me at the port at nine o'clock. And – try not to be late!

He leaves. Suzanne creeps up behind Toby.

Toby Gold! Suzanne!
Suzanne Oh no you don't! I heard everything. You're not going to South America.
You're not going anywhere, and that's that!
Toby But Suzanne.
Suzanne You're not running away from me like all the others.
Toby Others?
[6] Suzanne My friend Tom was a dancing master,
He said, 'Let's do the wedding two-step'.
Tom moved fast, but I moved faster
The day I caught him at a new step.
The grass next door, it's said, is always greener,
Next door lived a Russian ballerina,
So I did what a girl should do.

Toby**Suzanne****Toby****Suzanne**

Now Tom's the same as her... a Sleeping Beauty too!

Poor Tom!

Poor Tom!

Poor Tom!

Take care! Let it be a lesson,

Faithless lovers, you've been warned. Beware!

Women can be hell

When they discover they've been scorned.

The men who cheat on their fiancées

Really do take awful chances!

Once you tell her you'll be true

She'll always keep her eye on you.

Next came Dick – very fond of hunting,

Hunting, Dick told me, was the one thing

For the man who's fond of sport.

But not the sort of sport I thought!

When Dick hunted deer, what did I find?

Dear Dick meant the two-legged kind!

So I thought I'd show him a thing or two.

I picked up his rifle. Aimed it at his breast.

Poor Dick expired... I never fired! A cardiac arrest!

Last of all was a man named Harry,

He told me frankly, 'I'm a miser'.

So when he said to me, 'Let's marry!'

He really should have acted wiser.

That same day he met a wealthy widow.

When they wed, do you know what I did? Oh! It

drove poor Harry raving mad

When I took him to court for all the cash he had!

When I took him to court for everything he had!

Take care! Let it be a lesson,

Faithless lovers, you've been warned. Beware!

Women can be hell

When they discover they've been scorned.

Never ask a girl to marry

If you're a Tom or Dick or Harry,

Once you tell her you'll be true

She'll always keep her eye on you!

It's so like a man to take what he can,

To steal a kiss and run away!

You give him your heart, then watch him depart.

I tell you, Toby, no Tom, Dick or Harry's
Going to marry me! Is going to marry me!

Toby runs out of the room as Suzanne bursts into tears. Edwige enters.

Edwige What's the matter?
Suzanne Robinson's going away... and he was going to take Toby with him!
Edwige No!
Suzanne Yes! Paid for his passage and everything!
Edwige I don't believe it!
Suzanne I heard it with my own ears!
Robinson We must stop him!

Lady Deborah and Sir William enter.

Lady Deborah Stop who, dear? What's that Toby been up to now?
Edwige Who's talking about Toby! It's Robinson. He's running away!
Suzanne Yes! On that schooner – tonight!
Sir William Never!
Lady Deborah My little boy!
Edwige We must stop him!
Sir William When a Crusoe makes up his mind there's no stopping him.
I knew this would happen sooner or later.

Lady Deborah Oh, my little boy! Who'd be a mother!
[7] **Edwige** There's got to be a way...
Suzanne A way to make him stay...
Lady Deborah/Sir William Alack, alas! Alas, alack!
Edwige Alases and alacks...
Suzanne Won't stop him in his tracks...
Lady Deborah/Sir William Alas, alack! Alack, alas!
Suzanne Even now while we chat His ship prepares to sail!

Lady Deborah Ah, what did we do wrong?
Papa, where did we fail?
Sir William Do the swallows protest
When their young leave the nest?
All When their young leave the nest,
You must untie your apron strings
And let him fly and try his wings.
Edwige/Lady Deborah/ And let him fly! And say goodbye!
Suzanne

Sir William Yes, let him try his wings.
Edwige/Lady Deborah/ Ah! fly away! Ah! unhappy day!
Suzanne He flies away, unhappy day, unhappy day!
Sir William One day the young must fly away. Fatal day!
His heart filled with dreams of the fortune he'll find.

Forgotten the loved ones he is leaving behind.
 For the first time you see how your fledgling has grown,
 Your boy is a man now, with a life of his own.
 Unhappy day!

Edwige/Lady Deborah/ Suzanne

There is no way to make him stay.

Ah! fly away! Unhappy day, unhappy day!

Sir William

His heart filled with dreams of the fortune he'll find.

Forgotten the loved ones he is leaving behind.

Ah, unhappy day!

Sir William bursts into laughter.

Edwige

What have I said?

Lady Deborah

I think he's lost his head!

Suzanne

It isn't any laughing matter!

Lady Deborah

How can you laugh?

Edwige

What's there to laugh about? How can you laugh?

Suzanne

Oh, I think you'll find he's lost his mind.

Sir William

I may be mad, but the idea I've had is this.

To stop him with a kiss.

Edwige/Lady Deborah/Suzanne

To stop him with a kiss?

Sir William

That's all it takes, just a kiss, nothing more.

Edwige/Lady Deborah/ Suzanne

Nothing more?

Sir William

I'm quite sure.

Edwige

What kind of kiss would keep him here?

Lady Deborah

None of this seems very clear!

Edwige/Lady Deborah/Suzanne

You'd better tell us your idea.

Sir William

(to Edwige, tenderly) Sometimes the words your lips refuse to say

Are words your heart repeats each day.

Robinson's the one you love.

Edwige

No, no, no! Do I love him? Do I love him?

[8]

I don't hear steeple bells,

I don't have fainting spells,

I'm not in love, no, no, not I.

Yet sometimes when we meet

And my heart skips a beat,

I often wonder why.

Could this be love? Could this be love?

If this is love, then I suppose I'm in love,

Yes, I'm in love. If this is love,

I must be in love!

Ah, now I understand

Why when I touch his hand

My pulse begins to quicken so.
How strange that you could see
All this, yet I should be
The last of all to know
I am in love, I am in love! I am in love
And never knew it was love. It's true, it's love!
I tried, but I can't hide that I'm in love.
I love him!
It's up to you. Make him stay with a kiss.
Yes, with a kiss!
You can stop him from leaving
With a love he can believe in.
Now it's all up to you.
What must I do?
If you love him and he loves you
Your heart will tell you what to do.
It's up to you!
To make him stay!
What must I do? What must I say?
Your heart will teach you how to say
The magic words to make him stay.
There is a way! To make him stay!
Is there a way?
With a kiss, with a kiss!
Even Samson went weak at the knees for the bliss
Of a kiss!
Think how Romeo killed himself
Rather than miss,
Miss a kiss!
Scheherazade told tales! Salome dropped veils!
For a kiss!
Think of all the trouble
That the Trojans went to, launching their ships
When Paris went to pieces
When Fair Helen pursed her lips!
What a kiss!
It's love that makes the world go round
So poets in the past have always taught.
But a kiss can bring it to a halt!
Love makes the world go round
So the poets always taught.

[9] **Sir William**

Suzanne/Lady Deborah

Sir William

Edwige

Lady Deborah

Suzanne

Edwige

Suzanne/Lady Deborah/ Sir William

Edwige

All

Lady Deborah/Sir William/Edwige/

Suzanne

Suzanne/Lady Deborah/ Sir William

Edwige

Suzanne/Lady Deborah

Sir William But a kiss can bring it to a halt!
Love makes the world go round
So the poets always taught.
But a kiss can bring it blundering, wondering, thundering to a halt!
One kiss can make him stay.

Lady Deborah And one kiss is so little to pay.
Suzanne A man makes up his mind.
Lady Deborah But a kiss will soon change it, you'll find!
All With a kiss, with a kiss!
Look what happened when Chloe gave one to Daphnis!
Yes, a kiss!
Even kings have been shown off their thrones over this!
For a kiss!

Lady Deborah/Sir William Think of Oedipus Rex!
Edwige/Suzanne Just a kiss!
Lady Deborah/Sir William Made him so complex!
Suzanne/Lady Deborah/ Sir William Cleopatra's kisses were so strong they went to Antony's head.
All So when he committed suicide...
She went inside and kissed a snake instead!

Sir William For a kiss!
All Things can happen like this, All because of a kiss!
Robinson (*outside*) Toby! Toby!
Sir William Come along, Deborah. I'm relying on you, Edwige.
Edwige I love him!
Sir William And you too, Suzanne!
Suzanne Oooh, isn't it exciting!

All exit except Edwige as Robinson enters.

Robinson I can't find Toby anywhere. What's the matter?
[10] **Edwige** Please hear me...let me speak.
But how can I begin? I don't know how to tell you.
Robinson Go on... go on.
Edwige No words seem to mean what I'm trying to say.
To say... to say... I love you!

Robinson You love me! Ah, my dear
Those are the words I want to hear!
And yet... I always knew.

Edwige (*embarrassed*) You always knew?
How could you know?

Robinson Ah, yes, it's true, I always knew.
Edwige You knew? You knew!
I always thought that if I fell in love, I'd know.

Instead love took me by surprise.
Where did the telltale signs of love begin to show?
On my lips, or in my eyes?
Robinson I saw it in your smile,
I knew it from your touch.
When you laughed, when you sighed,
When you whispered my name.
Ah, how many times I tried
To tell you I felt the same!
To take you in my arms this way,
Edwige, to kiss your lips and say,
I love you!
Edwige Yes, I am dreaming. And I dream I hear you say
The words of love I always dream I'll hear you say.
You love me, too. As I love you!
This love will be eternally
On my lips, dear, and in my eyes.
Robinson No, not a dream you're dreaming
Or am I only dreaming too?
Yes, a dream of paradise!
A land that's very near,
I know where it lies, Edwige, it's here,
I see it on your lips, dear, and in your eyes.
I do love you! I love you, I do.
Edwige I love you too... I do. I love you, I do.
If you love me then say That you won't go away.
Robinson Ah, have faith in my love. Believe in me, I beg you.
Though my heart tells me to stay,
In my head I hear voices
That say 'come away'
And I know I must obey.
Edwige You tell me that your love is true
And then the first thing you do
Is take my heart and break my heart,
Break my heart in two.
Robinson What can I say to explain this urge inside me?
What can I say to make you understand?
Edwige (Love, tell me there's a way to make him stay,
Love, tell me what to say to make him stay.)
Robinson No words you say can hold me,
My destiny has told me

[11]

When she calls I must go!
Shining brightly up above me
A golden star I see,
The brightest star in heaven
My star of destiny.
And it tells me I must follow
Wherever it may guide.
It may lead me to glory,
Where adventure waits for me
Until the day it points the way
Home to your side.

Edwige

The golden star that calls you
Deceives the one it calls to.
You hear it calling your name.
You think it offers glory.
It sets your heart aflame,
It tempts you like the moth
Is tempted to the flame,
Like the moth that must fly to the flame.
Star of night up above me
Please don't take him from me.
Let him see I am his destiny.
Although he hears you call, you know
I can never let him go!

Robinson

Shining brightly up above me
A golden star I see,
The brightest star in heaven
My star of destiny.
When you hear your name, you know
It is calling, you must go!

Sailors

(in the distance) Voice of the sea, calling to me,
I hear you whispering 'come away'.
Over the sea, waiting for me,
Far away lands of adventure I'll see.

Robinson

Do you hear? Siren song of the sea!

Edwige

Ah, now I see... it is too late!

Can no words and can no tears make you stay?

Robinson

Shall I go? Shall I stay? Only you can decide

If I follow my dreams or remain by your side.

And I swear, Edwige, whatever you say, I'll obey.

Edwige

I know that if you go I will lose you;

Robinson

Yet if you stay, I know I'd lose you too.
Our love would die, our love would die!
Although I love you and want you so,
Hear my plea, set me free, let me go.
Only you can decide, shall I stay here at your side. Or shall I go?

Edwige

Go! And follow your star
For who knows where it may guide you.
Go! And wherever you are
You know I'll be there beside you.
Go! Journeys soon begun
All the sooner are done.
So say goodbye. You know that I
Will wait for you.
Though it should be eternity, I'll wait for you.

Edwige/Robinson

Shining brightly up above you/me
A golden star I see,
The brightest star in heaven Your/my star of destiny.
And it tells you/me You/I must follow Wherever it may guide.

Robinson

It may lead me to glory,
Where adventure waits for me...

Edwige

It may lead you to glory! I'll wait for you...

Edwige/Robinson

Until the day it points the way
Home to my/your side.
Until that precious day,
That day you'll/I'll find your/my way,
And you/I come home.
Home to my/your side!

Edwige and Robinson embrace, then Edwige turns to the window, weeping. Toby enters – pushed forward by Suzanne.

[12] Robinson

Well, Toby, shall we go? What's the matter?

Toby

On second thought, I'm not the sort
Who is cut out to roam, I'd rather stay at home!
I know the sea would be an error
Terra Firma's fine for me.
I wouldn't be good company,
I'd always be unwell, I'd be as sick as hell,
My tummy's got the rummy notion
Ocean motion's not for me.
I'm not the sort who gets pedantic.
It's just the thought of the Atlantic.
I'd always think the ship would sink.

The thought of Davy Jones's locker
Is enough to turn me grey.
I know that I'd go off my rocker
Long before we left the bay.
I'm far too frail to face a gale,
Or even hail, while under sail,
I'd more than ail, my heart would fail!
I'd go to jail before I sail!
That's what I'd do so please don't ask me to,
And although you may beg me till you're blue,
I couldn't if I wanted to,
I'm just a coward, through and through!
One other thing you ought to know,
You see, Suzanne won't let me go!

[13] Robinson

Ah well, then on my own
Alone I'll seek my fortune.
Farewell to all the things I love.

Edwige

It's true you're really going,
This really is goodbye?
How long, my love, how long
Till we meet again?

Robinson

Goodbye!

Suzanne

How can you be so thoughtless,
Look at what you've done!
Stolen their dreams, broken their hearts! You, their only son!

Robinson

They will understand. Parents understand.

Edwige

How can they understand?

Lady Deborah/Sir William

(in the next room) Our Father in heaven above

Take good care of the son we love.

Lord above, hear our prayer,

We place him in your care.

Robinson

Our father in heaven above,

Take care of the ones I love.

Lord above, hear my prayer, I place them in your care.

Edwige/Suzanne/Toby

Our Father in heaven above

Take good care of the son they love.

Lord above, hear our prayer,

We place him in your care.

Sailors

(in the distance) Voice of the sea, calling to me,

I hear you whispering 'come away, away!'

Robinson

Edwige, goodbye. Keep remembering

I'll Come back to you, come back to you.
(Heart, take courage, you must not weaken now!)
Edwige, goodbye! Edwige, don't cry! I will return!

Edwige/Suzanne/Toby/ Robinson Shining brightly up above you/me
A golden star I see,
The brightest star in heaven
Your/my star of destiny.
And it tells you/me
You/I must follow
Wherever it may guide.
Until the day it points the way
The way home to my/your side.
Until that precious day,
That day you'll/I'll find your/my way,
And you/I come home to my/your side!

Suzanne consoles the heartbroken Edwige as Robinson leaves, watched enviously by Toby.

CD 2

ACT TWO

[1] Sea Symphony

Part of an island in the mouth of the Orinoco River. Six years have passed.

[2] **Robinson**

Six years and seven days,
Every day like a lifetime!
Uncrowned king of an island,
Its sovereign supreme.
As far as I can see, this land belongs to me,
My subjects only shadows
From half-remembered dreams.
An unseen company living in my memory.
I long for night time,
At night I spite time
Because at night I'm
Released from prison and set free,
Set free to take up the dreams I make up,
Until I wake and come back to reality.
Ah, how many times I've prayed
That night would never end;
Afraid my dreams might not come back again.
Afraid to close my eyes, afraid that I might see
No more dreams!

Ah, how empty life without a dream would be.
How empty life without a dream, ah!
My constant prayer is
The hope that there is
A ship, somewhere is
A ship that's on its way to me.
Ah, just a daydream, a hope-and-pray dream,
I know I'll stay here dreaming dreams of memory.
Other dreams, chill and haunting dreams
That make me wake with fright.
Dreams in which I live again
The horror of that night.
I see that raging storm again!
The winds of hell tear our sails.
All hope is gone, then I see
A ship with crimson sails! Shouts of joy as it draws near –
Joy soon replaced by fear!
For the flag it flies signifies a buccaneer.
Alas, all hope is gone, forgotten the storm.
Murder gleams in their eyes
As aboard us they swarm.
Their captain gives the word:
No prisoner to survive!
Lightning turns the night to day,
Like a torch it lights my way.
It illuminates the sea,
I hear it call, 'come to me!'
And then I know no more,
When I awake I see
The sea has carried me
To this Godforsaken shore,
And here I'll be till eternity
Longing for night time.
At night I spite time
Because at night I'm
Released from prison and set free,
Set free to take up the dreams I make up,
Until I wake up, wake up and see reality.
How empty my waking world seems
Compared to the world of my dreams.
Ah, how empty, ah, how empty life would be

Without a dream.
 How empty my waking world seems
 Compared to the world of my dreams.
 Ah, how empty life would be without a dream.
 How endless, how friendless,
 My life without a dream.

Friday enters carrying a basket of fruit, which he sets down at Robinson's feet. Robinson opens his father's Bible. Friday sits at his feet.

[3] Friday Read me a story, master!
Robinson My father would never believe it! Me reading the Bible...
 and to a savage who's never heard of God!
Friday God? I know God. Me and God very good friends.
Robinson No, Friday, I don't mean a stone idol in the middle of the jungle.
 I mean the real God.
Friday That's right, master, Saranha!
 In the long ago, Friday speak to Saranha.
 Naughty thing to do, Saranha taboo!
 I say 'scuse me, God, tell me, Mister Saranha,
 Tell me if you can, why did you make man?
 And I wonder what will the idol's answer be.
 Maybe God forgot – he not answer me.
 Friday go away, and he think a day or two,
 Friday look around, and the answer's found, see!
 God's plan everywhere, in sea, on land, in air.
 See the humming bird, like a tiny dart,
 It's just a tiny part of God's creative art.
 The sea a thousand colours in its shimmering lagoon;
 Gold to match the sunlight, sometimes silver like the moon,
 Or grey when God not feelin' good. Everything sublime, very nice to see,
 But a waste of time unless God make me!
 Very soon I go, call again on Saranha,
 And I think that he happy to see me.
 We don't say a thing, I just sit with Saranha
 'Cause he understand I know what he planned. At the holy place, Friday
 stay for quite a while, On the idol's face, Friday see a smile.
 Then it's time to go. I say, 'Goodbye, Saranha!'
 One thing strike me odd, so I say to God,
 'Ah, if you made all this – then who on earth made you?'

Robinson closes his Bible and heaves a sigh.

Robinson Oh Friday!
Friday What's the matter, master... have you got a pain?

[4] **Robinson** A pain that fills my heart when I remember Edwige.
Friday Tell me the story of Edwige.
Robinson Of Edwige?
Friday Tell me, master!
Robinson You wouldn't understand.
Friday I'll try, I promise! Tell me!
Robinson Poets may try but their odes never start,
For words aren't enough to capture her.
Friday Words aren't enough to capture her!
Robinson Artists may sigh, but they quickly lose heart,
For no colour is a match for her.
Friday No colour is a match for her!
Robinson No artist could attempt to paint her picture,
Only nature's colours could depict her.
To match the cloudless azure of her eyes,
Just catch the blue of summer skies.
Friday The blue of cloudless summer skies!
Robinson To match the colour of her eyes.
A shining golden ray of sun is not as fair.
Friday No, is not as fair!
Robinson The brightest gold's the golden shimmer of her hair.
Friday Golden is her hair!
Robinson Ah, if you knew her, ah, if you saw her, You'd adore her.
Friday Adore her! Yes, I'd adore her!
Robinson One day you'll see...
Friday One day I'll see.
Robinson Just how sweet love can be.
Friday Sweet love I'll see.
Robinson Sweet as the flowers in springtime.
Friday Sweet as the flowers in spring.
Friday/Robinson A love that's true is sweet, so
Don't let it go, never let it go.
Don't let it go, don't let it go,
No, don't let it go!
Robinson Just speaking of the one you love
Can make your heart beat faster.
Say her name and your heart's aflame.
Friday Her name sets you aflame!
Robinson In dreams you believe she is near you.
Friday She is near you!
Friday/Robinson You'd say her name and she would hear you.

Robinson You wake, but she's no longer there.
Friday You'll find her, master, don't despair.
Robinson I practise speeches every day,
The words I always meant to say. I love her.
Friday You love her. Ah, please go on!
Tell me the rest!
(Now comes the part I like the best!)
Go on! Tell me more!
[5] **Robinson** One day you'll fall in love,
You'll fall in love with someone.
Friday I'll fall in love with someone.
Robinson Don't think you'll never love,
One day along will come one.
Friday Yes, one day I'll love someone.
Robinson You'll see with different eyes.
Friday/Robinson The world becomes a paradise.
Robinson Once love has called your name...
Friday/Robinson You will never be the same!
Robinson You're twice the man you ever were
Because you fell in love with her.
Friday Yes, twice the man you ever were
Because you fell in love with her!
Robinson Yes, love can make a hero of a man, I say,
Love makes you feel that way.
Yes, you'll find out one day.
Friday Yes, love will make me feel that way one day.
Robinson One day, Friday, you'll know exactly what I mean,
Yes, one day love will find you,
Yes, one day I'll remind you
That when love has called your name
You'll never be the same.
Friday Yes, love will come, someone will come,
I'll be in love!
One day I'll fall in love,
I'll fall in love with someone.
Robinson You'll fall in love with someone.
Friday I'll find someone to love,
One day along will come one.
Robinson Yes, one day you'll love someone.
Friday I'll see with different eyes.
Friday/Robinson The world becomes a paradise.

Friday Once love has called my name.
Friday/Robinson I/You will never be the same.
 You're twice the man you ever were
 Because you fell in love with her.

Friday When love calls me.
Robinson Calls your name...
Friday Life will never...
Robinson Be the same.
Friday/Robinson That happy day love calls your name.
Robinson On your way now, there's work to be done.
 Go, search the ocean, keep watch for a sail.

Friday Ah, one day it may come
 And take my master away!

Robinson Ah, my friend – that longed-for day!

Friday Poor Friday, left alone.
 One day I'll see just how sweet love can be,
 Sweet as the flowers in springtime,
 Sweet as the flowers in spring.
 Ah, love that's true is sweet as the flowers in spring.

Friday watches Robinson till he is out of sight, then shakes his head.

Flowers in spring? Love? Sometimes I don't understand him at all, at all,
 at all!

[6] Entr'acte

Another part of the island. A jungle clearing ringed with stone idols. In the centre, a huge stewpot bubbles over a fire. Suzanne and Toby are led in by cannibals.

Suzanne Now look what you've got us into!
Toby Well, it wasn't my idea to come and look for Robinson,
 and it wasn't my fault we were attacked by pirates, either.

Suzanne Well, you could have done something.
Toby I did, we got away from the pirates, didn't we?
Suzanne And walked straight into these natives – and we've lost
 Miss Edwige. Oooh, I am hungry.

Toby (*looking into the stewpot*) Well, dinner's on!
Suzanne (*tasting the stew*) Ugh! Needs more salt.

On these words a witchdoctor leaps out from behind the stone statue, making Suzanne drop the spoon and hide behind Toby.

Witchdoctor It certainly doesn't. One grain more and it would be quite ruined.
Suzanne (*to Toby*) He speaks English!
Witchdoctor Of course I speak English. I went to school in Bristol.

Suzanne Bristol! That's where we're from!

Witchdoctor You never are! I don't suppose you know Crockford Street?

Suzanne Know it? We live just round the corner... Edgware Gardens!

Witchdoctor Well, what a small world we live in. You must know the Crusoes.

Toby Know them... we work for them!

Suzanne You know, you don't look as though you come from Bristol.

Witchdoctor (*removing his mask*) Allow me to introduce myself. Jim Cocks, at your service.

Toby Jim Cocks! (*to Suzanne*) The one who disappeared. (*to Jim*) Oooh, your mother's so worried about you. How did you end up here?

Jim Ran away to sea – ten years it is now – got shipwrecked. I've been working here ever since.

Suzanne Working for who?

Jim The Tamayos... the local tribe. I'm their chef.

Toby Their chief?

Jim No, their chef. It was either a case of being their chef or their dinner.

Suzanne They're not cannibals!

Jim Whenever they get the chance they are! They were going to eat me! Well, I wasn't having that, so I said, 'look, eat me, and then what do you do? It's back to fruit and nuts, isn't it? But let me do the cooking and I guarantee you the finest cuisine you'll ever get your teeth into: Yorkshire pudding, toad in the hole, shepherds pie – with real shepherds! And there you are! I've never looked back!

Toby What's on the menu tonight?

Jim Hotpot.

Suzanne (*looking into the pot*) It's not much of a hotpot... there's no meat in it.

Jim Oh... that's added later.

Suzanne (*producing a notebook and pencil*) I'd love to have the recipe!

[7] Jim You take a gallon of water and an onion or two.

Suzanne/Toby You take a gallon of water and an onion or two.

Jim And though it's sad, I'm afraid I'll have to add both of you.

Suzanne/Toby And though it's sad he's afraid he'll have to add – me and you!

Jim You walked in like lambs to slaughter,
(*to Toby*) You're a silly nincompoop!

Suzanne You're a silly nincompoop!

Toby I'm a silly nincompoop!

Jim You're not the only one in hot water, But you're also in the soup.

Suzanne/Toby Yes, we're really in the soup!

Jim Take an onion, gently fry it,
If you watch I'll show you how. Were you ever on a diet?

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Suzanne

Jim

Toby

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

Toby

Suzanne

Toby

Suzanne

Toby

Jim

Suzanne/Toby

Jim

You're on someone else's now!

Can't our sins be overlooked?

I'm afraid your goose is cooked!

Can't you give us any tips?

It's too late, you've had your chips.

Ah! And as you stew,

Please remember that I do sympathise.

And as we stew,

We'll remember that you do sympathise.

It isn't only the onions bringing tears to my eyes.

It isn't only the onions bringing tears to his eyes.

Though it's not very nice I'm sure,

Ending up as plat du jour,

I give you my solemn promise

When I stew the two of you,

I swear I will make a

Really ravishing ragout of you.

If you want to get your own back

Let me make a small suggestion.

What's your suggestion?

Make sure that you give them indigestion!

Indigestion!

A suggestion!

Indigestion!

What a sauce!

They were all once vegetarian,

But a man can't live by bread,

Said a passing Presbyterian,

So they ate him instead!

Oh, what a horrid thing to do!

And to a missionary too!

To end up as a barbecue!

We're really in a pretty stew, true!

That's true!

That's true! Still!

Though they devoured him

That preacher left his mark on the place.

Though they devoured him

That preacher left his mark on the place.

And now before they eat anyone

They always say grace!

Suzanne/Toby And now before they eat anyone
They always say grace!

Jim As you simmer, think of England.
No, your life's not been a waste.
Once again we'll show the Empire
That the British have good taste!

Suzanne/Toby As we simmer, think of England.
No, our life's not been a waste.
Once again we'll show the Empire
That the British have good taste!

Suzanne You're joking! You're not really going to stew us are you?

Toby Are you?

Jim I wish there was something I could do... but... I'll tell you what, though.
I'll settle for one of you. They'll never know the difference. You make up
our mind which one it's going to be and let me know. Now I can't say
fairer than that, can I? (*He exits.*)

Suzanne One of us!

[8] Oh, hold me, Toby! Oh, Toby, hold me!

Toby Ah, Suzanne, no need for fear. Suzanne!

Suzanne Oh, Toby!

Toby Your Toby's here, Suzanne!

Suzanne Oh, Toby!

Toby Suzanne!

Suzanne/Toby As death approaches, we'll be brave,
Without reproaches face the grave,
The way the English should behave,
There's still a chance we could be saved!

Suzanne We can be free if we can see
A way to agree a plan, we can!

Toby Don't think of me but you go,
Do go while you can, Suzanne.

Suzanne And leave you in the frying pan!

Toby Suzanne!

Suzanne Oh, Toby!

Suzanne/Toby As death approaches, we'll be brave,
Without reproaches face the grave
As death approaches, we'll be brave,
Yes, we'll be very grave.
As death approaches!

Toby I should have told you long before we married
I've been unlucky all my life.

Suzanne Until the day you told me
That you'd agree to be my wife.
Ah, Toby dear, don't think I'm sorry that we met,
We've had such happy times, I've only one regret.
Ah, remember the dreams we dreamed,
The plans that we planned,
And all the schemes we schemed
As we dreamed, hand in hand?
The dreams we hoped would come true,
True for me, true for you.
Ah, now they've gone!
A little house beside the sea,
A little cottage of our own,
A little nest where we could be
So happy being all alone.
And in a while, a year or two,
We'd like a little company.
That's easy too, 'cause what we'd do
Is begin a little family.

Toby Yes, a little family!
We'll start with a girl who'll look like you,
How very pretty she will be.
Let's hope that she doesn't look a bit like me!

Suzanne Like you?

Toby Like me!

Ah, and then we'll have a little boy.

Suzanne I think we'll call him Toby too!

Toby A life of bliss...

Suzanne A life of joy...

Toby Our life together, me and you.

Suzanne/Toby Don't look in books or study themes
The wise philosophers propound,
It's lovers' hopes and lovers' dreams
That make the world go round.

Toby The dreams we dreamed are over
And I'm the one to blame.

Suzanne If I could live life over
I'd love you just the same.

Toby This never would have happened
If you hadn't married me!

Suzanne If we'd never been married

How unhappy I'd be –
You mean so much to me.
Toby You're saying that to cheer me.
Suzanne It's true, I love you dearly.
Toby I've failed you and you hate me.
Suzanne How could you underrate me?
Toby I love you more than you love me.
I've always known, it's plain to see.
Suzanne You dare say that to me!
Ah, you've got a cheek,
How dare you speak that way to me!
[9] Toby I can't think why I married you!
Suzanne You know I never wanted to!
Toby I should have listened to Mama!
Suzanne A mother's boy, that's what you are!
I wish I'd never married you,
I can't think why I wanted to.
You took the best years of my life,
You need a mother not a wife!
Toby I wish I'd never married you,
The minute that you say 'I do'
The lovely creature that you've wed
Becomes a nagging shrew instead!
Suzanne/Toby Ah, the day you say you'll honour
And you'll obey, it's too late, mate,
For you're a goner!
Ah, yes, you are done for, lover,
Too late to run for cover now!
Toby She's feminine and kittenish
Until she's got the ring on
Then bosses you around, you wish
You'd never put the thing on!
Suzanne You'd have more fun in prison,
All a man gets married for is
To find someone to listen
To his string of boring stories!
My eyes are open, now I see...
Suzanne/Toby I wish I'd never married you,
I can't think how you got me to! Ah!
Suzanne I wish I'd never married you,
Oh, what a crazy thing to do!

Toby When poets say that love is blind
They mean that love's out of its mind!
I wish I'd never married you,
I never even asked you to!
A little kiss, a look so arch,
Then suddenly the Wedding March!

Suzanne/Toby Ah! The poets can't have meant it,
Wherever love came from it wasn't heaven sent it!
I wish I'd never married you.
I won't forget all the things you said,
I wish I'd wed someone else instead.
I wish I was dead!

Jim (*returning*) Well, have you made up your mind?
Suzanne If you're going to stew us, get on with it... but I refuse to be stewed in
the same pot with him! (*She turns her back on Toby.*)

*Edwige is led on by the cannibals, her hair decorated with tropical flowers.
Suzanne and Toby are pulled behind one of the idols by Jim. Man Friday, unseen
by the others, creeps on and hides behind one of the other idols.*

Suzanne Oh, Toby! It's Miss Edwige! (*to Jim*) What are they going to do with her?
Jim Oh dear, she's a blonde!
Suzanne What's that got to do with it?
Jim There's a Tamayo legend that a white goddess will cross the sea to become
the bride of Saranha.
Toby And is she going to be stewed, too?
Jim No – worse. When the sun goes down, the bride of Saranha will be
burned at the stake...
Suzanne/Toby Oh, no!
[10] Cannibals Prepare, prepare! Make the goddess ready,
Garland her with flowers,
Prepare the chosen bride of Saranha!
When darkness falls,
The light has turned to night,
Then Saranha will wed the bride
Who stands by his side.
Goddess from over the sea
Tonight you will be
The one the gods prophesied. Yes,
you'll be his bride!
The flames will light the sky

And in the flames you will die!
 Build the branches high!
 Flames will light the sky!
 Prepare, prepare! Make the goddess ready,
 Garland her with flowers,
 Prepare the chosen bride of Saranha!
 Prepare her for her wedding day!
 Hurry, no more delay!
 Her wedding day is today!
 Saranha! God who sees all, Saranha!
 He who sees! Saranha! God who knows all, Saranha!
 He who knows!
 Many moons ago was prophesied
 How across the blue and endless sea
 Comes a goddess who will be your bride,
 Saranha, your bride to be!
 White as moonlight, Saranha!
 White as moon, white as dove wings, Saranha!
 White as clouds in the sky.
 Golden as sunlight is her hair,
 Golden hair, skin so fair!
 Saranha's bride is here, she is here!
 The forest sing! The forest trying to say,
 So happy for god on his wedding day.
 See your bride, goddess you adore,
 At your side for evermore!
 A queen of love! A goddess of love!
 Prepare, prepare! Make the goddess ready,
 Garland her with flowers,
 Prepare her for her wedding day!
 Her wedding day!
 (to Edwige, aside) Please don't make a fuss,
 They think that you're a goddess.
 Just play along, pretend that you are.
 The whitest flower growing in the forest,
 The whitest cloud above,
 The whitest plumage of the whitest dove,
 In shame would hide
 So dark beside,
 Beside the beauty of this goddess of love.
 To love her from afar

[11] **Jim**

Friday

Jim/Cannibals

Edwige

Would be enough for me.
No one ever saw such beauty before.
The flowers in my hair,
The smile on my face,
Will hide the despair hiding there, in my heart.
Not even to share
One final embrace,
I know he's somewhere and there is my heart.
Ah no, if I could only see my love once more.

Friday

I hear her speak and my heart ceases beating,
I know this is love!
My heart grows weak as my brain keeps repeating,
Ah, so this is love!
I hear her speak. So this is love.
Ah, what can I do? I can't let her die.
What can I do, what can I do?

Suzanne

The god Saranha is claiming his bride, alas, ah!
All hope is gone, no way out can I see!
My poor Edwige, all hope for us has flown.
Take heart, Edwige, you know you're not alone
My poor Edwige, my poor Edwige.
All hope has flown! Take heart, Edwige!
Take heart, you're not alone.
The god Saranha is claiming his bride, alas, ah!

Edwige

All hope is gone, no way out can I see.
Ah, where are you now? Near or far?
Where are you now? Are you near, are you far?
Somehow I know my love is near me, can hear me.
Ah, my love, where are you, ah!
Where is he, ah! When will I see him, ah!
Where can he be?

Toby/Jim

See already they prepare to light the funeral pyre!
I can't look, no I don't dare to, have they lit the fire?
Now they prepare the funeral pyre.
Yes, they'll start to light the fire!
There's nothing I can do!
Already they prepare to light the funeral pyre. Yes, the fire!
The god Saranha is claiming his bride. Alas, ah!
Now all hope is gone, no way out can I see.

Cannibals

Great god Saranha waits to claim you
As his loving bride, as his bride.

Friday
Suzanne
Cannibals

He claims you as his bride.
In the flames you will become his bride.
The god Saranha is claiming his bride.
His loving bride, his loving bride.
Now he is ready to claim his bride-to-be.
You are his bride-to-be!

No, nothing I can do.
No way out can I see.
Now darkness is falling,
For his bride Saranha is calling.
He calls, you must go!
Night falls! Go, no more delay!
He calls, you must go!
Go, no more delay!

[12] Edwige

Take me away to the one I adore,
The one that my heart knows I've been waiting for.
Take me to where I can be evermore
With the one, the only one that I adore!
Diamonds! Diamonds and pearls in my hair.
Music! Music is ringing out
Filling the air with singing and bringing out
Twinkling stars who wish they were me!
Lovebirds join in the chorus of love.
Angels are happy for us in heaven above,
Because we're in love, and I feel so heavenly!
Take me away to the one I adore,
The one that my heart knows I've been waiting for.
Take me to where I can be evermore,
With the one, with the one I adore!
An orchestra is playing,
A thousand violins.
All the world is whirling and swaying
As a waltz beings.
Ten thousand dancers dancing,
Then one by one they're gone.

CD 3

ACT THREE

[1] Entr'acte

Robinson's cabin in a clearing beside the lagoon. As Edwige sleeps, Friday fans her with a palm leaf.

[2] Friday

A perfume fills the air
 Dawn is breaking, waking flowers
 From evening slumber.
 Songbirds everywhere,
 Hush! Hush! My love is sleeping there.
 The rest of my life I'd gladly forego
 For just one tender glance.
 The rest of my life I'll love her if only
 She will give me the chance.
 Now sunlight fills the room
 Banishing the gloomy night
 Of frightening shadows.
 Songbirds everywhere,
 Hush! Hush! My love is sleeping there.
 The orchid that blooms only once then dies,
 The whitest pearl beneath the bluest sea,
 The colours of a bird of paradise,
 All suddenly seem commonplace to me.
 The rarest treasures hang their heads in shame
 At the mention of her name, her name.
 They envy her beauty.
 Caressing breezes blow
 To and fro to fill the room
 With haunting perfume.
 Songbirds everywhere,
 Hush! Hush! My love is sleeping there.
 Yes, I love her!

Robinson enters the hut, noisily throwing down his rifle. Friday signals him to be quiet.

Friday

Shhh, master! The goddess is sleeping!

Robinson

Goddess! What are you talking about, Friday?

Friday

Friday very brave. Friday rescue white goddess from Tamayos, just like master rescue me – with firestick! (*He leads Robinson across to the bed and proudly discloses Edwige.*) Look!

[3] Robinson Ah, no! My eyes are playing tricks on me!

Friday Speak softly, master. Quietly!

Robinson Am I mad? Am I dreaming? Edwige, it's you!

Friday Edwige?

Robinson Edwige!

Friday The one you've told me of?

Robinson The only one I love, Edwige!

Friday Edwige!

Robinson Yes, my Edwige!

Friday My master's beloved! Ah, no hope for me.

Robinson Edwige! This must be what bliss is,
To shower her with kisses,
To hold her in my arms once again.
Once more my arms around you,
My love, now that I've found you
I promise that I will,
That I, until I die, will
Love you forever, yes, and never let you go!

Friday Look, master, she's waking.

Robinson This must be a dream!

Edwige (*waking*) In my dreams I dreamed I
Could hear his voice and it seemed I
Could reach out and touch him,
The sound of his voice was so near me.
Ah! Dreams are deceiving,
I wake up believing
I'll open my eyes and I'll find paradise.

Robinson Don't you know who I am?

Edwige Ah, no! Am I still dreaming?

Robinson Edwige!

Edwige I hear your voice, I can't believe that it's true,
How can it be you? It's you, it's you!

Robinson It's me, really me, beside you here.

Edwige I'm afraid! Is it true? Can it be? Is it you?

Robinson Not a dream, really me that you see, your beloved!
But tell me how you found me here.
No! First of all tell me you love me!

Edwige Now I know this is paradise!

Robinson Edwige!

Edwige Robinson! Yes, this is what bliss is,

Bliss is what this is.
 You back in my arms once again.
 With my arms around you,
 Love, now that I've found you
 I promise that I will,
 That I, until I die, will
 Love you forever and never let you go!

Robinson

Yes, this is what bliss is,
 Yes, bliss to be holding you in my arms
 Once again, once again.
 I've found you, my love, I've found you.
 You know, my darling, that I love you still,
 And that I always will love you forever
 And never let you go!

Friday

Yes, this is what bliss is.
 Bliss is what this is.
 Back in his arms once again.
 By love reunited. My love unrequited. I know
 that I will love her till I die.

Love her forever, but she will never know
 I love her. Were she mine
 I know that I would love her forever
 And never let her go!

[4] Robinson

You came here on your own?

Edwige

Oh, no! Suzanne and Toby
 Have helped me look for you.

Friday

There, waiting in the garden,
 Still shivering with fright.

Edwige

And Jim Cocks is here too! Jim Cocks!

Robinson

Jim Cocks!

Friday

They're coming, master!

Robinson

Now we'll give them a fright!

(to Edwige) Don't let them see you here!

(Edwige hides behind a screen as Suzanne, Toby and Jim enter.)

Suzanne/Toby/Jim

Ah, take pity on us! Ah be merciful, do!

Suzanne

If you knew all the frenzy and fuss we've been through,

Toby/Jim

Yes, the fright and the frenzy and fuss we've been through,
 So please have mercy on us, do!

Suzanne/Toby/Jim

Please do!

Robinson

The family that's always apart
 Is the kind you'll find that hasn't a heart.

Suzanne/Toby/Jim

It seems to me, though maybe I'm wrong.

I know the voice that's singing that song.

Robinson

The family that stays in one place

Is the kind that has a smile on its face

Suzanne/Toby/Jim

Ah, I know that song! Ah, it's Robinson!

Robinson

It's me, it's Robinson!

Edwige/Friday

Ah, it's Robinson!

All

One kind's unkind, the kind that's best's

The kind that's got togetherness.

Our family's the kind that's best,

The kind that's got togetherness.

Happy day, happy day!

Edwige/Suzanne/Friday

A filled-with-joy-and-laughter kind of day.

Happy day! A happy-ever-after kind of day.

Yes, filled with joy and laughter!

Yes, happy ever after!

Happy day, happy night,

Happy ending in sight, happy day!

Robinson/Toby/Jim

A filled-with-joy-and-laughter day,

Happy day, today, happy day!

A happy-ever-after day, happy day, today!

A joy-and-laughter, happy-ever-after,

Happy day, happy night, happy end in sight!

Happy day!

Edwige

I can't believe we're together again!

Robinson

But how did you find me?

[5] **Edwige**

I had a dream, a dream of you,

And in my dream you called my name.

Was it a dream that you dreamed too?

And did I seem to do the same?

Two dreams that we shared

Although so far apart,

Dreams that we shared

Because we share one heart.

Ah! Tell me that you dreamed it too...

Now I know that dreams come true!

I had a dream, a dream so clear,

And in my dream I came to you.

It was that dream that brought me here,

My dream had told me what to do.

And now we're together,

Robinson

Suzanne

Toby

Friday

[6]

Hand-in-hand at last,
 No time for dreams,
 The time for dreams is past.
 I'm wide awake and holding you...
 Now I know that dreams come true!
 Now you're here this hateful island is a paradise again.
 Come, I'll show you your new kingdom.
 (*to Friday*) You look after our guests, Friday.
 Friday? I've never heard a name like that before!
 Maybe his mother was frightened by a calendar.
 Not mother – master give me.
 I break a Tamayo taboo!
 I run away, but natives capture me!
 All is lost, no way out I see!
 Then the sound of firestick we hear!
 Natives frightened, all disappear!
 White man with knife come, I think I'm dead
 But white man cut my ropes instead.
 'Don't be afraid, I am your friend.'
 He say my troubles at an end.
 He asks my name. No name I say.
 So master give me one that day!
 I have a name, I like my name,
 Because my name is all my own
 And no one has a name the same!
 You know my name, it's famous name,
 And it's my own! Yes, mine alone!
 For master tell me that my name is quite unique.
 A name that everyone can speak!
 For people say it once a week!
 But master make me very sad.
 He give me name just temporarily
 (It's not my proper name, you see!)
 He'll take me to Reverend one day,
 Dip my head in water, he say!
 Then the name he give me is dead,
 He'll give me Christian name instead!
 This whole procedure very strange!
 To be a Christian name must change?
 Won't go to church! Don't want new name!
 I want to keep my name the same!

I have a name, I like my name,
 Because my name is all my own
 And no one has a name the same!
 You know my name, it's famous name,
 And it's my own! Yes, mine alone!
 For master tell me that my name is quite unique.
 A name that everyone can speak!
 For people say it once a week!

Suzanne

Well, I think it's a very nice name. And I think you're very nice, too.
 Here we are all together again, and we owe it all to you, Friday.
(She kisses Friday on the cheek.)

Toby

(pulling Suzanne away) Suzanne! Have you gone out of your mind! You
 kissed a... a... black man!

Suzanne

Yes, I did! And I'll do it again! *(She kisses Friday on the other cheek.)*

[7]

When I was small my mother always
 Taught me wrong from right.
 She used to say, 'there's no halfway,
 There's only black and white.'
 For black is wrong and white is right
 I was always told,
 But Friday here is my idea
 Of black that's good as gold!
 How could Friday be Good Friday,
 Is it a black or white time?
 Black as ink or white or pink,
 You can tell in the light
 But you can't when it's night,
 No, we're all alike at night time.
 Those who judge a book by its cover
 Haven't got an ounce
 Of insight, inside, they'll discover's
 All that really counts.
 Coloured skin's not a sin,
 God made you, Friday too.
 And in the end that's all that counts!

Jim

Well, all we've got to do is find a way to get back to England.

Friday

(throwing himself at Suzanne's feet) Don't leave Friday behind!

Suzanne

Of course we won't leave you behind, you'll come with us.

Jim

Yes, Friday, old chap, you'll love England. There's nowhere like it on earth.
 It's got everything... cities, glorious countryside, the theatre, Shakespeare,
 the people... no troubles, no cares...

Suzanne How long have you been away?
Jim Ten years.
Toby It's changed a bit since then...
Jim (*to Friday*) Don't you listen to them, old son...
[8] There's no place like England We're taught so in schools. We once ruled
the waves...
Suzanne Now we just waive the rules!
Jim We don't pay the dentist Or doctor, you see...
Toby That's why they call England The land of the free!
Jim No one has to work.
Friday No one has to work?
Jim Not a single soul.
Suzanne They pay you not to work.
Friday Pay me not to work?
Toby Living on the dole!
Jim Working can be fun.
Friday Working can be fun?
Jim Doing as you like.
Suzanne You join a union.
Friday Join a union?
Toby Then you go on strike!
Jim Then every five years
Put an X by a name...
Toby The name doesn't matter,
Each party's the same!
All There's no place like England
As you'll soon begin
To learn when you get there,
If they'll let you in!
Jim The British are friendly,
Reserved and sincere...
Suzanne If you're being murdered
They won't interfere!
Jim They're animal lovers;
A kitten, a pup,
Is lavished with love...
Toby It's their kids they beat up!
Jim The British are sportsmen,
It's best in their view
To be a good loser...
Suzanne So that's all they do!

Jim It's playing the game
That's important we're taught...

Toby But cheating the taxman Is our national sport!

Jim At church every Sunday
They sing hymns of praise...

Suzanne Then curse and blaspheme
For the other six days!

Friday It's unique!

Suzanne It's England!

Jim Its mountains, its moors!

Friday It's unique!

Suzanne It's England!

Toby It's licensing laws!

Jim An English July...

Suzanne With snowdrifts this high!

Jim I'm so grateful Great Britain
Is my habitat.
It's England I swear by...

Suzanne And often swear at!

All There's no place like England,
The land we love best,
So why did we leave it?
Well, haven't you guessed? Although we love England
The reason we roam;
We'd rather be homesick
Than sick of home!
(Robinson rushes in, followed by Edwige.)

Robinson Quick! The pirates have come ashore for fresh water and supplies. This is our chance to get back to England.

Jim What! Six of us against a whole crew of cut-throats! We wouldn't stand a chance!

Toby And if they don't get us, the cannibals will!

Robinson That's a risk we'll have to take. This is what we'll do... *(They all gather round him.)*

Beside the lagoon. The pirate ship is anchored in the bay; a longboat is drawn up on the beach. The pirates and their women are drinking and dancing. The pirates' muskets are stacked beside them.

[9] Pirates It's time to take a liquor break!
Six months at sea, no wonder we
Want beer or shandy, rum or brandy,
It's the same to me!
No time to lose, roll out the booze!

Desperate men never say 'when'!
I'd sell my soul to drink a whole
Barrel of ale! We'll drink tonight until we're tight!
Yes, we'll keep drinking
Till we're stinking!
Drink until we cannot stand up!
Come on, my lads, drink up, my lads,
Drink up, drink up!
We'll drink until we're tight!
We're getting drunk tonight!
We'll keep drinking till we're stinking tonight!
A pirate's life is 'ard,
Condemned to roam the sea.
Shunned and despised by gentlefolk
And by society.
We're decent blokes at 'eart,
We're just mischievous elves.
Robin Hoods who just rob the rich,
Then keep the lot ourselves!
Crossbones flying above!
It's the life that we love!
Sailing into a scrape!
Ready to loot and rape!
It's time to take a liquor break!
Six months at sea, no wonder we
Want beer or shandy, rum or brandy,
We'll drink tonight until we're tight!
Desperate men never say 'when'!
Fill me up again, then
Sleep until we're sober
Then start all over again!
Then drink all night
Until we're tight all over again! Men!
We'll drink tonight until we're tight!
We'll keep drinking till we're stinking!
We'll drink tonight until we're tight,
Tonight, all night tonight!
We'll get drunk tonight! We may stay tight
And never be sober again! We'll drink tonight!
(Robinson enters, acting as if he were crazy.)
Don't take me away, don't take me away!

Robinson

Will Atkins Don't take him away – that's a new one!

Robinson I'm not leaving my treasure!

Will Atkins Treasure, matey? What treasure's that, then?

Robinson Gold, diamonds, rubies...

Will Atkins There's nothing like that on this island.

Robinson Oh, yes there is! The treasure of Saranha!

Will Atkins That great statue in the jungle? Is that where it's buried?

Robinson Yes.

Will Atkins Well, there's a sure way to find out. *(to Robinson)* Now you wait here...
Ahaa!
(The pirates rush off, led by Will Atkins. Robinson signals to the others, who come out of hiding and collect the muskets.)

Robinson Do you know who that was? Blackhearted Will Atkins. It's thanks to him I've been marooned here for six years.

Edwige And he's the one who captured the ship we were on.

Toby Is there really any treasure buried there?

Robinson Not any more!

Jim What do we do now, Captain Crusoe?

Robinson Now we... Listen!...

[10] *(in the distance)* Tamayos are we, everybody knows
There is no escape from Tamayos.
There is no escape, everybody goes
In the cooking pot of the Tamayos!

Jim That song! The Tamayos!
(in the distance) That song! Close behind us!
The Tamayos!

(Will Atkins rushes in, terrified. He throws himself at Robinson's feet.)

Will Atkins The cannibals! Can't you 'ear!
Don't let them get me! They're coming 'ere!
Please save me, I'm too young to die!

Pirates *(rushing in)* Don't let us die!

Cannibals Tamayos are we, Tamayos!
It's too late to flee
When you see Tamayos.
We are Tamayos, Tamayos!
Far too bellicose to oppose, Tamayos!

Robinson *(to Will Atkins)* What, rescue you...

Robinson/Toby/Jim ...and not your crew!
We're off! We're on our way! You can stay!

Friday In the long ago, Friday speak to Saranha,
Very happy he, he like what you do.

You set me free, so now he rescue you!
 There's no time to waste, let's make haste!
 No time to waste, we've got a lot to do.
 Friday go and bring the master's things,
 The souvenirs of many years.
 Your island left behind you,
 You'll have them to remind you. (*exits*)

Robinson Come on, my friends, it's time we were leaving.
Will Atkins You can't leave us behind!
Pirates Have pity on us, do!

Edwige/Robinson/Suzanne/Toby No, no, no, no, why should we pity you?
Will Atkins Have pity on me, do!
Pirates Have pity on us, do! Have mercy, do!
Friday (*running in with Robinson's possessions*)
 Here's the treasure that we found here.

Suzanne Oh, let me see! Tiaras, lavalieres!
Toby Much better than the usual kind of souvenirs!
 Diamond solitaires, we'll be millionaires!

Suzanne We'll lead a life of lavish luxury
 With servants of our own!

Toby The elite, we don't eat...
 (*crooking his little finger*) Instead we sup!

Suzanne People who never do The washing-up!
Edwige Promise you'll be mine forever And tell me that you care.
Robinson Every hour that we're together I'll love you more, I swear.
Friday Come on, it's time that we were gone!
 No more delay, we should be on our way!
 The Tamayos will soon arrive,
 They like to eat at half past five!

Will Atkins/Pirates Have mercy, do, take us with you!
Robinson You left me here to die,
 You laughed and sailed away.
 I need your help, that's why I'm saving you today.
 (*to Will Atkins*) As captain of the ship That waits to carry us
 Away tonight, you have the right to marry us!

Edwige/Robinson You have the right and so tonight
 You'll marry us!

Others The wedding rites will be tonight, How glorious!
Edwige Diamonds! Diamonds and pearls in my hair.
 Music! Music is ringing out, filling the air
 With singing and bringing out

Twinkling stars who wish they were me!
Happy at last with the one I adore,
You are the one I have been waiting for,
Take me to where we can be evermore,
For evermore!

Others Happy at last with the one you adore,
He is the one you have been waiting for.
Yes, where you can be evermore!

All I hear the sea calling to me,
I hear it calling me, 'come away, away!'
Over the main, home once again,
Home again, never to roam again!

Pirates Calling, calling, away, away!
Sailing, sailing, home again,
Never to roam again!

