

SONG BOOK – Peter de Bermingham

Peter de Bermingham

The Musical - based on a true story
words and music by Robert Salisbury



He opened the market. His name lives on...

Peter's struggle to open a market place, shows us that where we are born influences what we do and what we do influences who we love.

Act I

L'arrivée des Normans

Scenes #1 - 9 [page 4 -58]

Running Time Approx: 1 hour 30 Minutes

Act II

England Rebels

Scenes # 10 -16 [page 59 -95]

Running Time Approx: 1 hour

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Synopsis

Born to a poor English family, Peter is adopted by the French speaking Baron of Dudley. He is raised a Norman and upon manhood, sets off to war, where he meets with a violent end at the hands of his arch enemy Lord Oolighan.

Five years later he astonishes all by returning, only to witness his Mother's untimely death and commit to her final wish for him to marry the village beauty: Aedilthyrd. Complications arise as Peter falls in love with his surrogate sister, Lady Nicole.

Despite his connections with the ruling elite, Lord Oolighan blocks Peter's plan to open a market place and sell arms, on the basis that he is English. Peter finds himself stuck between the 'us' and 'them' of a world in which being English means being second class.

Peter is forced to decide whose side he is on, when his hot-headed brother Richard the Red attempts to kill his adoptive father: the Baron of Dudley.

Through Peter we see that the forces of love, loyalty and identity, in a multicultural society, were as challenging a thousand years ago as they are today. This true life legend, shows how one man set his village on the road to becoming England's second city: Birmingham

The Songs

ACT I

| | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Halley's Comet - sung by CHOIR | Page 4 |
| 2. Christmas Morning - sung by WULFWIN, MOTHER, CHILD PETER | Page 6 |
| 3. Albion pt 1 - sung by CHILD PETER | Page 11 |
| 4. Welcome to Dudley Market - sung by CHILD PETER, LALIQUE & MARKETEERS | Page 15 |
| 5. We're The English - sung by VILLAGERS | Page 17 |
| 6. Oh We'll Fight the Fight - sung by KNIGHTS | Page 20 |
| 7. We Took Jerusalem - sung by KNIGHTS | Page 21 |
| 8. Totally Evil - sung by OOLIGHAN | Page 22 |
| 9. Let The Devil Take My Soul - sung by WULFWIN & CHOIR | Page 25 |
| 10. Swear Allegiance to the King - sung by LALIQUE, GARIMOUND & VILLAGERS | Page 28 |
| 11. Deeper Strength Within - sung by MOTHER & PETER & RICHARD | Page 32 |
| 12. There's A Dark Stain On This Flag - sung by PETER | Page 33 |
| 13. I Want To Take This Baronate - sung by SUTTON & VILLAGERS | Page 34 |
| 14. No One Controls Me - sung by RICHARD, PETER, BOSKER & KETELBURT | Page 38 |
| 15. You're The Devil Peter in Disguise - sung by AEDILITHRYD | Page 40 |
| 16. Who Is That Over There? - sung by PETER & NICOLE | Page 42 |
| 17. To Be An Englishman - sung by PETER & BARON | Page 46 |
| 18. Ma Cherie Nicole - sung by BARON | Page 53 |
| 19. One Day - sung by NICOLE & CHOIR | Page 56 |

ACT II

| | |
|---|---------|
| 20. When The Fighting Begins - sung by SUTTON, RICHARD & VILLAGERS | Page 60 |
| 21. Is It Me? - sung by AEDILTHRYD | Page 62 |
| 22. On Crystal Night - sung by SUTTON, BARON, BARONESS, NICOLE, OOLIGHAN | Page 66 |
| 23. Let's Fool Around - sung by BARONESS, | Page 68 |
| 24. Peter de Bermingham - Oh Son of Mine - sung by BARON, PETER & CHOIR | Page 69 |
| 25. Who Are You Loyal To? - sung by BARON, PETER & RICHARD | Page 71 |
| 26. Sweet Lullaby - sung by AEDILITHRYD & BOSKER | Page 77 |
| 27. She Has Beaten Me - sung by AEDILTHRYD | Page 89 |
| 28. Forever - sung by PETER & NICOLE | Page 89 |
| 29. Birmingham Finale [I Live in Brum] - sung by CAST | Page 94 |

The Cast

THE ENGLISH [All men have beards and mustaches, except PETER]

de Bermingham Family

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------|
| PETER | Peter de Bermingham. Well spoken, moderate, smart, shrewd. | [Tenor] |
| CHILD PETER | 10 years old, races horse, scruffy clothed. | [Soprano] |
| RICHARD the RED | Peter's fiery, red headed, younger brother. | [Tenor] |
| MOTHER | Peter's Mother. Grey haired at the end. | [Soprano] |
| WULFWIN /SPIRIT | Peter's Father - Drunk. Defeated. Plays Spirit all in White. | |

Villagers of Bermingham

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| AEDILTHRYD | Red and black dress. Big red hair. Bosomy, clinging, desperate. | [Mezzo Soprano] |
| BOSKER | Happy Bard of Brum, cynical villain – Singer/Drummer. | [Tenor] |
| KETELBURT | Village idiot. Stutters. Insightful. Gentle soul. Side-kick to Bosker. | |
| VILLAGERS | Nameless English villagers. | |

Other English

| | | |
|---------|--|------------|
| COMETUS | Off stage Narrator. Never seen. The wise voice of an an old Druid. | |
| SUTTON | Former Lord of Dudley Castle. Trimmed mustache. Wanting revenge. | [Baritone] |

FREE MARKETEERS 3 Market stall holders.

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| MERILDA | Nicole's Lady in Waiting. English. Earthy, motherly, realistic. | |
| GARIMOUND | English scab. No mustache. Becomes fatter with time. Always eating. | [Baritone] |

THE NORMANS [French accents. Men shaven, with short hair.]

Dudley Castle

| | | |
|----------|---|-------------|
| BARON | Gervace Pagnell. Best ruler possible. Hen pecked. | [Tenor] |
| BARONESS | Odolina Baroness of Dudley. Corrupt, selfish, transvestite. | [Contralto] |
| NICOLE | Blonde hair & dress. Slim, frustrated. Lady Nicole Godiva of Mercia | [Soprano] |
| LALIQUE | Lawyer to the Baron. Crouching, skinny, secretive, cunning. sneak. | [Alto] |
| OOLIGHAN | Evil. Lord of Warwick. Long blonde hair. Waxed pencil mustache. | [Tenor] |
| NORMANS | Norman Knights who help Oolighan attack Peter. | |
| SENTRIES | Guards at the gates of Dudley castle. Faceless. | |

KING King William. Beard.

OTHERS

| | | |
|----------|--|------------|
| SIGMUND | 7ft giant. Dane. Blonde mustache, goatie. Blacksmith. Oolighan's friend. | [Baritone] |
| SARACEN | In Jesus Christ's cave. Stripey smock. Head band. Mustache. | |
| SARACENS | Lying dead or dying on the battlefield. To be knifed by Peter. Mustache. | |

ALBION Horse, chestnut with white head. Baron's horse given to Peter.

NOTES:

When Norman's meet they dip head and raise hands to chest, fingertips touching.
Lady Nicole, is related to Leofric, Earl of Mercia, whose wife was Lady Godiva.

ACT I

L'arrivee des Normans - 1066 AD

OPENING MUSIC: Flute Solo [Tempo 90.]

COMETUS

Hear me now, an old man. Tell yeah, the legend of Peter de Bermingham. Whose reputation shall live beyond his year. But who's story begineth in that most historic year, of 10-66.

CURTAINS OPEN.

SCENE #1: BIRMINGHAM MANOR. EXTERIOR. Before Dawn Starry sky. Snow cover. Snowing.

FX: Howling wind. Owls Te--wit Te-wooning.

ENTER HALLEYS COMET upon fanfare. Pans slowly across sky from left to right of stage. Stops. Hovers.

HALLEYS COMET - sung by VILLAGERS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------|
| A | C | D | F |
| There's a bright star in the sky, | | Turning dawn into day-light, | |
| A | C | D | F F7 |
| A comet with a fiery tail, | | An omen of misfortune... | |
| F | A | | |
| Or a chance to make things right. | | | |
| C | D | F | A |
| Halley's... Comet.. | | Cometh... | |

FX: Wooden door clatters open. Crunching of feet in snow.

ENTER CHILD PETER runs to centre stage from indoors. Stares up at the star. FX: Halley's Comet.

CHILD PETER

Wow!

Star descends from comet, lands in CHILD PETER's hands. Rise into dawn sky, merges with Halleys Comet.

MOTHER [off stage]

Peter?

ENTER MOTHER

CHILD PETER

Mom. Look!

MOTHER

Dear Lord!

ENTER BOSKER, KETELBURT & VILLAGERS & drunken WULFWIN, who yanks at PETER's ear.

WULFWIN

What the Bloody hell are you yelling about?

PETER

Ah! Get off!

The STAR disappears. It stops snowing.

CHILD PETER

Merry Christmas Mom.

CHILD PETER hands Mother a wooden comb, which she runs through her hair.

MOTHER
Oh Peter its lovely.

CHILD PETER
One day I'll give you one made of gold.

ENTER GARIMOUND on horse drawn dray. VILLAGERS gather around.

GARIMOUND [*Rings hand held bell*]
Oh Yey! Oh Yey! Oh Yey! This Christmas Day in the year of our Lord 10-66, I hereby announce the crowning of King William of England. Long live the King!

PUZZLED RESPONSE

VILLAGERS
Long live the King. [subdued]

WULFWIN
Who is he?

GARIMOUND
Bastard son of Robert, Duke of Normandy. The one they call William the Conqueror. Word is, he burnt every village round London before they agreed to crown him.

VILLAGERS
Woo! [disapproval]

WULFWIN
Bloody foreigner.

GARIMOUND
And courtesy of your new Baron of Dudley, free coal!

WULFWIN
For uz?

GARIMOUND and VILLAGERS unload the sacks of coal from the dray.

KETELBURT
Now we can k-keep warm!

VILLAGERS
[*Mutterings of approval.*]

BOSKER
What happened to Lord Sutton of Dudley?

GARIMOUND
Relieved of his position. And he's one of the lucky ones. Most of your English Aristocracy, [gestures throat cut].

WULFWIN
Bloody Normans.

BOSKER
Who do they think they?

GARIMOUND
You'll find out soon enough. He is on his way.

WULFWIN
Who is?

GARIMOUND starts to leave

GARIMOUND
Can't stop. News must travel north.

WULFWIN

Garimound! Gary!

GARIMOUND
[Calling as departs] Merry Christmas!

EXIT GARIMOUND ON HORSEBACK

BOSKER
Yeah and Merry Christmas to you. Ye fat bastard! Excuse the French.

CHILD PETER
What's gonna happen Dad?

WULFWIN
Nothing. Its politics. Doesn't matter who runs the country?

BOSKER
[sings to Child Peter] Its Christmas Day! Merry Christmas young Peter!

CHRISTMAS MORNING - sung by BOSKER, MOTHER & VILLAGERS & BARON

| | |
|---|---|
| BOSKER | |
| D | C# |
| As I woke up on Christmas morning | Robin sang a cheer full song |
| D | C# |
| The children can't contain their joy | Because its Christmas Day |
| In wintertime as snow is falling | Barns across the shires are calling, |
| Families gather round the fire, | For feast on Christmas Day, |

MOTHER [*women sing as they pass the food about*]

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| F | G |
| Plum pudding, bandy sauce, | Turkey roast and ham of course, |
| F | G A |
| Fowl, quail, partridge pie, | Ale and cheese and bread of rye, |

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| | BOSKER [Jig] | |
| [Quiet] | Its wintertime and Jack is out | Our relatives and friends about, |
| [Loud] | Singing songs and telling tales, | Because its Christmas Day. |
| | Psalms of joy and bells are ringing | Dancing deep into the night, |
| | Come beat the drum and strum the lyre, | Behold its Christmas Day |
| | Fill your guts and ne'er you stint, | With meat as tender as the mint, |
| | Rosemary on herbal crust, | Is quite delightful its a must.. |

| | | |
|-------|--|---|
| | BOSKER | |
| | Jester toast the ol' wassail, | With strawberry wine and tanks of ale, |
| WOMEN | Plu.....mb | pu.....dding |
| | Bang the table, slap the floor, | Because its Christmas Day. |
| WOMEN | and Bra.....dy | Sauce. |
| | All on Christmas Day. | |

ALL
All on Christmas Day.

FAST JIG - violin - Sig. 6/8 Vivace

| | |
|--|---|
| | WOMEN |
| | Plumb pudding and Brandy sauce.... |
| (Bells in D major descending octave) | |
| | WOMEN |
| CHILD PETER | Son of God, Save us from sin. |
| Christ was born on Christmas morning, | Holy spirit, welcome in. |
| A bright New Year will soon be dawning... | |
| MEN | WOMEN |

All on Christmas Day,
ALL
All on Christmas Day.....

Because its Christmas Day.

FX: Sound of horses approaching. VILLAGERS stop to watch foreigners appear.
ENTER BARON, LALIQUE and KNIGHTS

LALIQUE
Who is in charge here?

WULFWIN
That'd be me. Wulfwin, master of Bermingham manor.

LALIQUE
Zee Baron wishes to make an announcement.

BARON [*makes himself prominent*]
Please excuse my poor English. My name is Baron Gervace Pagnell. I come from Calais, in Normandy. From today, I replace Lord Sutton in charge of Dudley Castle and estate.

VILLAGERS
Huh. [disquiet]

BARON
Have no fear. We are not here to conqueror, we come to liberate. To free you. We bring liberty for everyone, huh? Vive L'Anglaterre!

VILLAGERS are silent

LALIQUE
[Whispers to BARON] Long Live the King.

BARON
Long Live the King!

VILLAGERS
Long Live the King. [some unenthusiastic clapping].

BARON
You English like to clap. [claps alone.] I like to clap too, non.

WULFWIN
Did he say he's got the clap? [followed by awkward silence]

LALIQUE
Food M'Lord.

BARON
We bring you some French food, Huh? Merry Christmas.
LALIQUE removes a sheet from his cart, revealing a mountain of expensive food and drink

VILLAGERS
[Incredulous] Woah!

WULFWIN
That for us?

BARON
Mai certainement. Help yourself.
VILLAGERS begin climbing on and removing all the food.

WULFWIN
God Bless ye Baron! Hip! Hip!

VILLAGERS
Hooray!

ENTER OOLIGHAN making a scene.

OOLIGHAN

And my name is Lord Oolighan, the new owner of Warwick Castle. I will rest over there.

WULFWIN

That's my house.

OOLIGHAN touches MOTHER

OOLIGHAN

I will need a woman too.

WULFWIN

Oi! That's my wife!

OOLIGHAN pushes WULFWIN back

OOLIGHAN

I am your Lord and Master. Which means I can do whatever I want!

WULFWIN [rolling up sleeves]

Right I've had enough of you!

OOLIGHAN kicks WULFWIN to the floor, puts his boot over his neck and sword to his throat. The NORMAN KNIGHTS draw their swords. The villagers stand still in shock.

OOLIGHAN

Listen up English! You will surrender your weapons to me. Tomorrow I return. To search your homes, your barns, your land. If I find any weapons, you die!

BARON

Oolighan! Alle vous.

OOLIGHAN

En moment. [*regurgitates loudly*]

OOLIGHAN lets his spits drip onto WULFWIN's face

OOLIGHAN

Joyeux Noël à tous! Ha, ha, ha,

SIGMUND

Hss, Hss, Hss...

BARON

Oolighan! Vite!

OOLIGHAN

D'accord. Ya! Ya! Ya!

EXIT OOLIGHAN, SIGMUND, BARON and KNIGHTS on horseback. WULFWIN stands.

MOTHER

Who was that, Wulffie?

WULFWIN

I don't know. But it weren't Father Christmas.

CHILD PETER

One day, I'm gonna kill that man.

WULFWIN

Shut up!

WULFWIN slaps PETER to the floor. All look to the sky to see the star finally exit over the horizon

END OF SCENE #1.

SCENE #2: FIELDS OUTSIDE DUDLEY CASTLE. EXTERIOR. Daytime. Sunshine.

COMETUS

As the spring arrived and the way of Norman Law enforced itself, Peter's prowess on a horse came to the fore.

DAWN - the SUN emerges for Race Day. ENTER CHILD PETER, WULFWIN, MOTHER, BOSKER, KETELBURT, BARON, LALIQUE, GARIMOUND, SIGMUND, VILLAGERS. WULFWIN drinking is with his wife (MOTHER). CHILD PETER tends the horse ALBION.

FX: Dogs barking/ horse hooves clopping/ birds singing.

WULFWIN

Come to try Wulffie's famous parsnip ale ave ye?

SIGMUND

I would rather drink my own piss. If you win the race, Lord Oolighan will kill you.

WULFWIN

If I lose the Baron will kill me.

SIGMUND

Drink this. No one will expect a drunken man to ride a horse.

WULFWIN swigs at wine.

WULFWIN

Bloody hell. That's good. What is it?

SIGMUND

French wine. Enjoy.

SIGMUND signals OOLIGHAN and leaves WULFWIN with flagon of wine

OTHER SIDE OF STAGE

OOLIGHAN

I'll wager 100 schillings that with me riding Black eye I can beat Albion.

BARON

Done. Wulfwin shall be my rider. He has the Saxon spirit in him.

OOLIGHAN and BARON shake hands

OOLIGHAN

The only spirit in him is that which he drinks.

BARON

Hmm. Laliq!e!

LALIQUE

Yes M'Lord.

BARON points out WULFWIN to LALIQUE, who crosses to WULFWIN, where MOTHER and CHILD PETER are broaching WULFWIN

MOTHER

You drunk already? I thought you were riding Albion today.

LALIQUE and GARIMOUND approach

LALIQUE

Wulfwin?

WULFWIN

I've got no money?

LALIQUE

The Baron sends a message. If you win against Lord Oolighan, he will wipe your debt clean.

MOTHER

What if he doesn't?

LALIQUE

Better hope he does.

LALIQUE departs. WULFWIN attempts to mount ALBION, but falls drunkenly to floor, where he lies.

WULFWIN

Oh fiddle faddle!

CHILD PETER

Quick. Dad. Get up!

Hunting Horns

HOUND

Riders! Mount up!

MOTHER

Drunken fool!

OOLIGHAN approaches on his horse BLACKEYE with SIGMUND en tail.

SIGMUND

Looks like we just won ourselves 100 schillings.

OOLIGHAN and SIGMUND depart

MOTHER

What are we going to do?

CHILD PETER

Leave it to me.

CHILD PETER mounts ALBION and trots to the starting line

GARIMOUND

Change of rider for Albion. Peter the boy, replaces Wulfwin. Last bets.

OOLIGHAN

You're putting a child against me?

BARON

Not afraid are you?

OOLIGHAN

How say we double our wager, 200 schillings?

BARON

Done.

OOLIGHAN

Ya!

LORD OOLIGHAN settles Blackeye alongside ALBION

VILLAGERS CHOIR

C+b C+g# Fm

***He's too young to be racing with the men. He's only ten.
He's only a boy! He's only a boy!***

Hunting Horns.

***Lets bet on the boy, Lets bet on the boy. Hes never lost one yet
If you don't put a schilling on it, You are bound to regret.***

GARIMOUND

Last call! 10-1 on Albion.

***He's a winner, Light as a feather,
Its a dead cert, its a winner,***

***Fast as – a darting swift.
You can't lose, Its a gift.***

GARIMOUND

Line up, line up!

[Horns]

C

(fast horse racing commentary)

They're off!, Galloping like the wind.
Every horse out to win. Blackeye leads. Albion going strong.

VILLAGERS [Clarinets]

**You must ride, to win the race. Clear the debt, save our face.
Come on Peter, Come on Peter.
Whip her hard, kick inside, Don't hold back, but start to ride,**

And as they come up to the turn,
Albion takes the lead, ridden by the boy.
With Blackeye, on her tail.

**Come on Peter, Come on Peter
The Baron's put his gold on you, Pee-tah, Pee-tah,
Your father told him you can't lose,
Peter, Peter, Peter, Peter....**

F#major!!![Horns...]

ALBION - sung by CHILD PETER

| | | | | | |
|---------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|
| | B | Abm | E | B | F# |
| [sings] | Albion..., | Albion..., | Let your spirit free... | | |
| | E | B | F# | E B | |
| | Win this race for me.. | No one's gonna catch you, | | | |
| | B | Abm | E | B | F# |
| | Albion..., | Albion..., | Run like the wind set free. | | |
| | E | B | F# | E B | B-A |
| | They'll never catch you and me, | Even though they try to.. | | | |
| | G | A | D | D7 | |
| | And when you're galloping like the breeze, | | | | |
| | E | E7 | A | F# / F#-- | Ab - Bb |
| | Blackeye will never catch up with you.. | | | | |
| | B | Abm | E | B | F# |
| [sings] | Albion..., | Albion..., | Fleet of foot run free... | | |
| | E | B | F# | B | F# B |
| | When you charge like a spirit free... | he ain't gonna catch me. | | | |
| | B | Abm | E | B | F# |
| | Albion..., | Albion..., | All my life's been pain... | | |
| | E | B | F# | E | B B-A |
| | You let me live again.. | When I'm riding with you. | | | |
| | G | A | D | D7 | |
| | And when we gallop like the breeze, | | | | |
| | E | E7 | A | F# / F#-- | Ab - Bb |
| | No one can ever catch up with me.. | | | | |
| | B | Abm | E | B | F# |
| [sings] | Albion..., | Albion..., | strong on foot, fly free.. | | |
| | E | B | F# | E | B |
| | Your set my spirit free | We are gonna win too. | | | |

HOUND

And as they approach the finishing stretch, its Albion in the lead.
Albion in the lead, with Lord Oolighan on Blackeye coming up strong.

OOLIGHAN

Careful you don't fall boy!

OOLIGHAN elbows CHILD PETER off his horse.

CHILD PETER

Oowffff!!

VILLAGE CHOIR

Oooooo!!

HOUND

And the boy's down! Peter is off his horse! Albion is out of the race!

VILLAGE CHOIR

Boo.....!!! Foul play! Foul Play!...

HOUND

And Lord Oolighan wins, ridding Blackeye!

LALIQUE

'E 'as lost.

BARON

But he can ride. Nes pas.

MOTHER pours a pale of water over WULFWIN to wake him

WULFWIN

Woah! [splutters]

MOTHER

The race is over.

WULFWIN

Did I win?

CHILD PETER approaches on ALBION. OOLIGHAN approaches on horseback.

FX: Music TOTALLY EVIL

OOLIGHAN

Too bad you fell boy.

CHILD PETER

Ye push me off and everyone know it!

OOLIGHAN

Don't be a sore loser.

CHILD PETER

He cheated! He's a cheat!

OOLIGHAN

Hold your tongue!

WULFWIN

I apologize ye Lordship. I'll give 'im a whippin' later.

OOLIGHAN

No need. I shall do it myself. Your belt.

OOLIGHAN dismounts. WULFWIN hands belt to OOLIGHAN. MOTHER tries to intervene.

MOTHER

No!

OOLIGHAN

Right boy, I'm going to whip you as hard as I can.

MOTHER

You can't!

PETER

Mother!

OOLIGHAN

Lip me would ye! [whip]

Take that! [whip]

Cry you wretch! [whip]

Cheek me now!

CHOIR

Flog him till he learns!

Whip him till he pleads!

Beat him till he bleeds!

Silence as OOLIGHAN breathes heavily and flogs. Stops whipping.

CHILD PETER
You're just a girl!

OOLIGHAN
Scum!

OOLIGHAN starts to draw his dagger. CHILD PETER dive-tackles his legs and bites on his leg

OOLIGHAN
Arrgh!

BARON and LALIQUÉ and GARIMOUND approach.

BARON
Oolighan! Enough!

GARIMOUND seizes Lord OOLIGHAN's arm

OOLIGHAN
Unhand me you fat pig!

GARIMOUND
Do as you're told Oolighan. *[Garimound controls OOLIGHAN]*

OOLIGHAN
Lord Oolighan to you!

GARIMOUND
M'Lord.

BARON
Your winnings. It was a close race.

BARON hands OOLIGHAN a sack of coins

OOLIGHAN
I beat him.

BARON
So we saw.

OOLIGHAN
Your love of peasants will be your undoing. Goodday.

BARON
Oolighan.

OOLIGHAN returns WULFWIN's belt. Clicks his heels, departs. BARON helps CHILD PETER to his feet.

BARON
What is your name?

CHILD PETER
Peter, son of Wulfwin.

BARON
You are a remarkable horseman? How do you like Albion?

PETER
She's bostin' M'Lord.

BARON
Go ride her. She is yours for the day.

PETER
Thank you M'Lordship.

CHILD PETER runs away to ALBION

BARON
Wulfwin, I shall cover your debts-

WULFWIN
Oh thank you M'Lord.

BARON
If... Peter comes to live with me, at Dudley Castle.

WULFWIN
Live with you?

BARON
He will be well cared for.

LALIQUE
It is an opportunity for the boy.

GARIMOUND
He'll be well fed.

LALIQUE
Educated like a Norman.

BARON
And this ...

FX: Baron holds and rattles coins rattle in pouch in front of Wulfwin.

MOTHER
He's not yours to trade!
Mother attempts to accost the Baron. WULFWIN slaps her down.

WULFWIN
Get out of it woman!

MOTHER
I'll not let you!

WULFWIN
Tis a deal! *[Takes the bag.]*

BARON
Lalique, take the boy to Market.

BARON exits. Mother struggles with LALIQUE for PETER. GARMIMOUND tears her away.

LALIQUE
Control your wench! Or Garimound will assist.

GARIMOUND
Yeah. *[Munching on something]* What with?*[to Lalique]*

MOTHER lashes WULFWIN as CHILD PETER is led by GARIMOUND, LALIQUE to opposite side of stage.

MOTHER
Peter! Oh Peter I love you!

CHILD PETER

I'm coming home Mom!

EXIT ENGLISH VILLAGERS with WULFWIN dragging MOTHER

GARIMOUND, LALIQUE & PETER watch DUDLEY MARKET set up.

THE NORMANS THEME – Bass notes E-Eb-E G/E-Eb-E B /E G/E G as they walk to Dudley Market.

Enter the MARKETEERS 1-2-3, carrying, pushing things. [Noise of the market]

WELCOME TO DUDLEY MARKET - sung by MARKETEERS 1,2,3, LALIQUE and CHILD PETER

LALIQUE

[sings] D G E
Je m'appelle Lalique, **Mai D'accord... Je suis unique,**
 F# B E F#-G-G#-A
I control the money from the market place, **Lawyer to the Baron, I'm his Legal Ace.**

Je m'appelle Lalique. **lawyer fantastique.**
 GARIMOUND
A shaker within Politics n those who preach, **There's a lot of opportunity within my reach**

That's why they call me Lalique **They say I have a mean streak,**
 GARIMOUND
If you have a need, to get things done, **Better pay him off, or I'll be trou-ble-some.**

That's why they call me Lalique. **I'm as clean as a squeak.**
 [GARIMOUND]
I create the law, in this Baronate, **Always got a rare steak upon-his-plate.**

GARIMOUND LALIQUE
And I'm Garimound, **He's very Rotund,**
I love roast pig, or rack of lamb **A lickle bit of mustard on a leg of ham, Mmm....**

LALIQUE [sings]
The English always complain, **They say the law is a pain,**
All we try to preach is civility, **[GARIMOUND lip-synchs SOPRANO]**
Work shall set you free. Arbeit Macht Frei!

LALIQUE
 Have you ever seen Dudley Castle before, Peter?

CHILD PETER
 I've never seen anything like it..

GARIMOUND [*Rings hand held bell*]
 Oh Yey! Oh Yey! Oh Yey! I pronounce Dudley Market: open!

C MARKETEER 1
We're the Free Marketeers!
 G MARKETEER 2
We're the Free Marketeers!
 D MARKETEER 3
We're the Free Marketeers! I'm free!

MARKETEER 1
 E B E B E B E B
Come and get ye fresh apples. And ye Hens and sows! An ye Milking cows!

MARKETEER 2
 D A D A D A D A
All things gold are bought and sold. Kettles are black. And a Riders hat.

MARKETEER 1
 E B E B E B E B
Ye mutton n pork and ye spade and fork, And Ye working tools for ye April fools,

MARKETEER 3
 D A D A D A D A
Herrings n sole for ye old king coal, And Bellows of leather n a hat n feather,

LALIQUE
 E B E B E B E B
If it can be traded, its brought here, to Dudley market, this is where you'll find it.

CHILD PETER
 D A D A D A D A
Must be busiest place in whole of England, never seen anything like it.

MARKETEER 1 MARKETEER 3
 E B E B E B E B
Welcome all to Dudley Market, If you got a need then we'll supply it,

MARKETEER 2
 D A D A D A D A
We wheel n deal, from far around, To bring you gifts that can't be found.

MARKETEER 1 MARKETEER 3
 E B E B E B E B
The only place where you can make it, Its better than sloggin in the fields,

MARKETEER 2
 D A D A D A D A
If you've the itch to make it rich, Then bring your stock and flog the lot,

LALIQUE
 E B E B E B E B
If it can be traded, its brought here, to Dudley market, this is where you'll find it.

CHILD PETER
 D A D A D A D A
Must be busiest place in whole of England, never seen anything like it.

LALIQUE
 C#m La piece de resistance, les forgerons!

LALIQUE holds up a metal weapon

CHILD PETER
 What do they do?

LALIQUE
 They make everything from metal.... Armour, Daggers, Swords, .and weapons Pierre, make money.

CHILD PETER
 Whoa... Who are we fighting?

LALIQUE
 We just sell them weapons. Us Normans, Pierre, we are a civilized people. We believe in:

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|
| C#m | LALIQUE Fraternité! | MARKETEER 1 Brotherhood! |
| C#m | LALIQUE Egalitie! | MARKETEER 2 Equality! |
| C#m | LALIQUE Liberté!! | MARKETEER 3 [Baritone] Freedom! |

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Fm | CHILD PETER Am I free to go home? | MARKETEER 1 U-uh. | MARKETEER 2 Non | MARKETEER 3 Never |
|----|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|

LALIQUE
 C#m You know Peter I control ziss marche.

CHILD PETER
 Are you rich?

LALIQUE

Beyond your wildest dreams.. Money can buy anything!..Anyone!. Anytime! Anywhere!

ENTER BARON

BARON

Ah Peter, how do you like our market?

CHILD PETER

I wanna open a market in Bermingham and be rich like you.

LALIQUE

Only a Nobleman can start a Market, Peter.

CHILD PETER

When I grow up, I'll be a Nobleman.

BARON

Then you must start by calling yourself Pierre.

ENTER BARONESS as singing from off stage is heard.

CHORUS ENGLISH [From off stage]

d – a– b – a E – f#–g – f#–e– d – a

We're the English! The men who'll have revenge

d – a– b –a E – f#–g – f#–e– d –a

We're the English! One day they will repent

a– d –a

We're the English...

BARONESS

What are you going to do about that lot.

BARON

We must be patient. Learn to get along. It will take time.

CHORUS ENGLISH [From off stage]

d – a– b – a E – f#–g – f#–e– d – a

We're the English! The men who'll have revenge

d – a– b –a E – f#–g – f#–e– d –a

We're the English! One day they will repent

a– d –a

We're the English...

BARONESS

Go out there and kill someone!

BARON

We're trying to win their respect.

BARONESS

Respect! They must fear you. Oh my Mother was right, you are too weak. I should never have married you.

BARON

You want to rile that lot!

BARONESS

Fine! Then we return to Calais!

BARON

England is our home now...

BARONESS

But I am French! Just because your first wife was English. And will I never forget it! How ever did you persuade me to live 'ere! In Dud-lay. My sister lives in Paris!

CHILD PETER start Handclapping, singing a song to himself

CHILD PETER [Playing Hand clap]
a – d, g# -d, e – g# -a,
**Normans, Normans, everywhere,
Try to catch you if they can,**

**Hiding, listening under stair,
Dirty sneaky Nor-man!**

BARONESS
Why is he here?

BARON
I just thought-

BARONESS slaps BARON's face. EXITS crying.

BARONESS
How dare you! Just because she gave you a child!

BARON
No! Odolina!
BARONESS exits in a crying fury.

LALIQUE
I will attend M'Lord.
LALIQUE EXITS. BARON crouches down to talk with a sniffing CHILD PETER

BARON
Pierre. Listen to me. I will take good care of you. Treat you like my own son.

CHILD PETER
I don't want to be your son! I want to go home.

CHILD PETER runs off.

END OF SCENE #2

SCENE # 3: HOLY LAND. JERUSALEM. Foot of Mount Olives. 1099. Exterior. Twilight

COMETUS talks as PETER swings a sword around in the silhouette.

Peter grew older at Dudley Castle. Learnt French, the codes of a Knight,
How to handle a sword, how to fight. And as he became a man,
He joined the Baron, on Crusade, to capture... Jerusalem!

ENTER the KNIGHTS singing the War March. PETER joins KNIGHTS Marching around the stage. to indicate their journey. as they sing

OH WE'LL FIGHT THE FIGHT sung by KNIGHTS

KNIGHTS [sing]
**Oh we'll fight the fight till we win the war,
We shall follow just-like-sheep, [baa...]** **Though we don't have faith in the cause at all,
With our conscience fast-a-sleep. [zzz...]**

[KNIGHTS hum tune]

COMETUS
*While the hot blood of English rebels is spilt, under Norman suppression,
Turks invade the Holy Land. Pope Urban declares War on Terror.
' Spill not the blood of Christ, for it floweth in each Christian.
But not in the Muslim. So kill him! '*

KNIGHTS [sing]
**Oh the Pope told us it was cool to kill,
Forty thousand in-fan-try,** **Only Christian blood you must never spill,
Kill every Muslim that-you-see.**
**For we will win the War.
For the Saracen enemy,** **If we must kill them all,
For Christendom to be free.**

COMETUS
After 6 months travel the Crusaders land in the Holy Land.
And as the Druids foretold a terrible price was paid.

WAR SCENE. Bright Daylight. CRUSADERS stand one side of the stage, whilst a cluster of SARACENS appear at the other. They stop and look at each other, silently. Then charge. all screaming.

CRUSADERS
ARRRRGGGHHH!

SARACENS
YEEEEEEAAAHHH!

CRUSADERS & SARACENS fight, with swords, knives, clubs, on foot, until one-by-one the SARACENS are down. Music ends. PETER steps into the shadows. OOLIGHAN & SIGMUND survey the SARACENS. Light shines on Peter. He is covered in blood. He looks at his bloodied dagger. Then at Oolighan.

SIGMUND
What shall we do with the wounded?

OOLIGHAN
Let me show you.
OOLIGHAN kneels down by a wounded and groaning SARACEN, whose head he lifts with his hand.

OOLIGHAN
If they are breathing....

OOLIGHAN withdraws his knife and slashes the SARACENS throat.

OOLIGHAN
Kill them. English Peter. I thought you'd die by now. Maybe I put you up front once more. Here.
Spare no one.

OOLIGHAN hands his bloodied knife to PETER and with SIGMUND and CRUSADERS departs.

PETER circles bodies, stabbing. Blood splatters on to him. MUSIC. He stops to examine his dagger. Licks blood from blade. WULFWIN sits up amongst the dead. Dressed in white smock & white face mask.

WULFWIN
Peter! I'm bleeding.

PETER
A! [hyper-ventilating] Father?

WULFWIN
I'm shivering. Help me!

PETER rushes to WULFWIN, but thunder and lightening strikes & EVERYONE sits up with WHITE MASKS. PETER freezes. Thunder & Lightening. Bodies lie down. WULFWIN not there. Just another dead body.

LIGHTS appear in the sky. MUSIC. PETER watches lights. They fade. Music stops. SOLIDERS march onto opposite side of stage taking one SARACEN hostage

COMETUS over humming of tune WE TOOK JERUSALEM.

COMETUS
After 6 months and 50,000 lives lost in battle, the Crusaders took Jerusalem.
What else was there to do? But find the Holy Cross...

KNIGHTS form circle around SARACEN, kick & punch him as they sing and pass him round

WE TOOK JERUSALEM - Marching Band style.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CRUSADERS | | |
| F [a -g# - a- c-a -f] | C [a -g# - a- c-a -f] | |
| We took Jerusalem, | We slain the Muslim, | |
| Bb [f -f - f-c] | C7 [e -e - e - b] | F [c -g# -a -f] |
| And though they fought, | Our onslaught, | They couldn't win, |
| F [a -g# - a- c-a -f] | C [a -g# - a- c-a -f] | |
| We took the capital, | Their Golden Temple, | |
| Bb [f -f - f-c] | C7 [e -e - e - b] | F [c -g# -a -f] |
| We scaled the walls | kicked down the doors | And we were in... |

OOLIGHAN removes his SWORD and slices off SARACENS head, which CRUSADERS kick like a football.

| | | | |
|--|----|---|---------------------------|
| Bb | F | C | F |
| Janus stood above the crowd, | | Head on his sword which he waved around, | |
| Bb | F | C | |
| Lost his footin' dropped it to the ground, | | We just fell about... | |
| F | | C | |
| [CROWD] La, la, lar, la, la, la... | | La, la, lar, la, la, la... | |
| Bb | | C7 | F |
| [1] Oh praise Allah! | | [2] Oh ce la vie, | [3] Oh glory be... |
| F | | C | |
| [CROWD] La, la, lar, la, la, la.... | | La, la, lar, la, la, la... | |
| Bb | | C7 | F |
| Oh praise Allah! | | Oh ce la vie, | Oh glory be... |
| Bb | C7 | F | G# |
| Oh praise Allah! | | Oh ce la vie, | Oh glory be... ' |

OOLIGHAN notions SUTTON, who then leaves the CRUSADERS and walks over to PETER

SUTTON
Pierre! Lord Oolighan calls you.

PETER follows SUTTON carrying his bloodied dagger. SUTTON and PETER walk to where OOLIGHAN and SIGMUND are interrogating SARACEN.

SIGMUND

Where is it? The Holy Cross, Talk! (punches SARACEN)

SARACEN
Urgh!

OOLIGHAN
Where have you hidden it? Muslim!

SIGMUND
Better talk Muslim. [slaps his face]

OOLIGHAN
Take off iz robe. You two, search the cave.
PETER & SUTTON search cave, whilst SIGMUND takes robe off SARACEN.

PETER
This is ridiculous.

SUTTON
What do you mean?

PETER
As if we're going to find the cross that Jesus died on.

SIGMUND
Talk damn you! [Shakes him]

OOLIGHAN
You are a filthy, filthy, dirty man. Who wipes his arse with his hand. Is it hot enough?
OOLIGHAN touches the iron on the SIGMUND's hand.

SIGMUND
Arrrrh!!!

OOLIGHAN
Now, where is it?

SIGMUND takes a minute to compose himself, then restrains the SARACEN on the floor.

TOTALLY EVIL - sung by OOLIGHAN

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| I walk through the air, without a care, Long flowing locks I'm debonair, I'm totally evil, You want to test me, | I care for no man, I'll split you open, | You'll be broken, |
| I'm totally serious, If you don't tell me, | Your life means nothing, I will skewer you, | Hang you up and cure you. |
| I'm totally evil.... A natural killer. | I'm your worst nightmare, I'm so spiteful, | Its delightful. |
| I'm totally evil... | | |

SARACEN
I don't know!

OOLIGHAN presses the iron, sizzling onto the SARACEN's face for several seconds.

SARACEN
Arrrrhhhh! [FX: siiizzzzle]

OOLIGHAN
Oh yes.... Very attractive.

SARACEN

Nella cava! [points to cave] Nella cava!

OOLIGHAN

It wasn't hard, was it?

PETER & SUTTON drag a wooden cross from a hidden nook in the cave.

SUTTON

Its here! The Holy Cross!

PETER digs his sword into the cross.

PETER

How long ago was Jesus crucified?

SUTTON

About a thousand years.

PETER

This timbers fresh....

OOLIGHAN pushes them aside and chops into the timber with his sword. All men peer into the timber.

OOLIGHAN

Who cares if its the cross?

PETER

That's right its meaningless. Because this is just about killing.

SUTTON

No. Pierre no. Its about Jesus.

OOLIGHAN

Fuck Jesus. Its about Us and Them. You have said your last lie Muslim. Bend him over!

SIGMUND holds the SARACEN. OOLIGHAN picks up the hot iron.

OOLIGHAN

Help him. Sutton! Pierre!

SUTTON helps SIGMUND as the SARACEN struggles. PETER doesn't help.

PETER

He doesn't know!

OOLIGHAN

Damn you Pierre! Help them!

PETER

What use is a dead man!

OOLIGHAN

Why did we have to bring the English with us? You Muslim sympathizing scummy little shit!

OOLIGHAN lifts his tunic and brands the SARACEN's bottom. FX: Hiss of burning skin

SARACEN

Aragh! [burning noise -Tsssss.....]

PETER dives at OOLIGHAN, who drops poker. SARACEN flops to floor. SIGMUND grabs PETER.

OOLIGHAN

Whose side are you on?

PETER

Not yours!

OOLIGHAN picks up the hot poker and presses on PETER's chest

FX: Hiss of burning skin

But all is lost

Ab Bb
I failed you

And I'm to blame

Ab G F# F E Eb
My friend.

EXIT SUTTON, assuming PETER dead. ENTER UFO in sky followed by WULFWIN's SPIRIT, carrying silver sword. He appears from sky and descend to Peter's side

LET THE DEVIL TAKE MY SOUL - sung by WULFWIN's SPIRIT and CHOIR Sig: 4/4 Tempo: 140
WULFWIN's SPIRIT

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| A | | | |
| 4/4 140 | I never got to te you, | how sorry I am, | |
| | When the Baron came to take you, | I should have made a stand, | |
| A | C | D | E |
| | I'd let myself, be weakened | in Spirits and in wine. | |
| A | C | F | E |
| | Now I embrace the devil | To give you a second time. | |
| C | | D | |
| | <i>Peee-Tarr... I abandoned you</i> | <i>Pee-Tarr... When you needed me...</i> | |
| A | | | |
| | <i>Let the devil take my soul</i> | <i>Take my soul...</i> | |
| C | | D | |
| | <i>Pee-Tarr... Can you forgive?</i> | <i>Pee-Tarr... Now I let you live...</i> | |
| A | | | |
| | <i>Let the devil take my soul</i> | <i>Trade my soul!</i> | |

Lays sword upon PETER, who then sits up.

The Baron he had spotted you,
He's been a better father,
After war you'll return,
In Bermingham you'll find yourself,

And knew what you could be,
Than I could ever be,
To find me dead and gone,
the heir apparent son

Pee-Tarr... My gift to you
Let the devil take my soul
Pee-Tarr... In return.
Let the devil take my soul

Pee-Tarr... Damascus steel..
Pee-Tarr... Oh Son of Mine!
Pee-Tarr... Let the devil take my soul..
Pee-Tarr... Son of Mine...!

| | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------|
| 3/4 68 | Am | Am(#7) | Am7 | D9 |
| | Oh I mistreated you.. | | My own flesh and blood... | |
| | C | D | Esus4 | E E7 |
| | Let you slip | | Away from me... | |
| | Am | Am(#7) | Am7 | D9 |
| | Lord... give me the strength | | to let you live, | |
| | C | C(#7) | E | E7 |
| | Oh my dear son | | can you forgive? | |

WULFWIN offers hand to help PETER stand.

| | | |
|---------|--|--------------------------|
| A | | G |
| 4/4 120 | I always knew, you gonna be a | Better man than than me. |
| A | | G |
| | Its hurts me now to think of you as anything but free... | |

| | | | | |
|---------|--|---|----------------------------------|-----|
| | <i>PETER</i> | | | |
| 4/4 90 | A | C | G | D |
| (choir) | <i>Don't give me your phoney lies,</i> | | <i>Its me you're talking to</i> | |
| | A | G | D | D-A |
| | <i>If you're waiting for a sign</i> | | <i>You know what you can do.</i> | |

WULFWIN,s SPIRIT

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| C | D | E |
| <i>Pee-Tarr...</i> | <i>I'm so sorry I hurt you...</i> | |
| C | D | E |
| <i>Pee-tar.</i> | <i>I'll do anything for you....</i> | |

120

PETER

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | Eb -3 beats- You make it hard for me... | C - 4 beats- To my... | Eb I hope that | C you can see... | Eb You left me... | C |
| | | | DEVIL | | | |
| 110 | D Welcome.. | C To my... | A World... | Shit! shit! shit! shit! | | |
| | D Caught | C between | A Two worlds... | Shit! shit! shit! shit! | | |
| 100 | F Father... | C I was so helpless... | | G You neglected me... | D I hope that much you see, | |
| | | WULFWIN,s SPIRIT | | | | |
| | Peter | | | I know how you feel,. | | |
| | F | C | | G | E | |
| | I understand you hating me, | | | But listen to my appeal. | | |
| 3/4 68 | Am | Am(#7) | Am7 | D9 | | |
| | Oooo I am so weak, | | I let you down... | | | |
| | | C(#7) | E | E7 | | |
| | Destitute | | in my misery... | | | |
| | Am | Am(#7) | Am7 | D9 | | |
| | You were my first... | | Didn't disappoint at all, | | | |
| | C | C(#7) | E | E7 | | |
| | Oh my dear son, | | Can you forgive me... | Before I go to hell... | | |

SPIRIT [WULFWIN] rises into sky in vegetative state. UFO lights move then disappear. PETER watches, then collapses in exhaustion.

ENTER ALBION, sidles up to PETER's body. NEIGHS and sits next to his body. Fades to darkness, except spotlight on PETER and ALBION.

END OF SCENE #3

SCENE # 4: EXTERIOR - BIRMINGHAM. Autumn - Leaves yellow, brown and honey falling to stage.

ENTER BOSKER, KETELBURT, carrying boxes. RICHARD, AEDILTHRYD & VILLAGERS

BOSKER

I couldn't sleep last night for thinking of sex. Sex, sex sex! What do you think it means?

KETELBURT

It means you're not getting any.

BOSKER

Anyway my cocks bigger than yours.

KETELBURT

But my cocks harder

AEDILTHRYD

Let me see Bosker.

BOSKER

There you go Dilly. Big un ain't it?

BOSKER and KETELBURT open their boxes, in a ring, releasing two cocks to fight.

AEDILTHRYD

Call that hard. Yours is running away. Must be a chicken.

BOSKER & KETELBURT

Squark! Squark! Squark! Squark! Squark!

AEDILITHRYD

Give us a song Bosker!

HEY DILLY DILLY - sung by BOSKER with harmonies by KETELBURT. Lute/Guitar

[Fast Waltz]

BOSKER

A D E E/F# A

Now I've been a courtin', to find me a wife,

E

One that is fair and won't cause me no strife,

D A E

And as luck would 'ave it, I've found one that fits,

D A E A

She pretty as Venus, and got great big --

AEDILITHRYD

Bosker!

BOSKER

Teeth... [as Aedilthryd leaves to Ketelburt] Do you think I'm wasting my time?

EXIT AEDILITHRYD as ENTER LALIQUE and GARIMOUND march into Birmingham

VILLAGERS

Croak! Croak! Croak! Croak!

GARIMOUND

Oh Yey! Oh Yey! [*ringing handbell*]

LALIQUE

Never mind that.

RICHARD

What foul and pestilent wind brings you ere, today?

LALIQUE

You might not be so cocky when you find out. Garimound!

SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO YOUR KING - sung by GARIMOUND, LALIQUE, RICHARD, BOSKER, KETELBURT

GARIMOUND

BBB D A B BBB C# D B x 2

**By order of The King
We need to audit you
Your assets to purloin,**

LALIQUE

Unless you part with coin,

RICHARD / BOSKER / KETELBURT

LALIQUE

B+B + (D) BBB

What do you keep?

(urrgh!)

F#+B (E) BBB

How many sheep?

(arrgh!)

F+B (F) BBB

How many cows?

(errh!)

E+B (F#) BBB

How many sows?

(arrgh!)

GARIMOUND

How many fields have you?

How many Horses too?

(We are poor)

How many leagues have you?

How many partridge too,

(We need more)

LALIQUE

B+B + (D) BBB

How many men?

(urrgh!)

F#+B (E) BBB

Under your hand?

(arrgh!)

F+B (F) BBB

Tied to the land,

(errh!)

E+B (F#) BBB

Under command,

(arrgh!)

LALIQUE + GARIMOUND

A B C# DE F# G

Swear Allegiance To Your King!

GARIMOUND

G D F# G E

Kneel down or you'll swing...

Richard / Bosker / Ketelburt go down on their knees and clasp hands together in prayer.

RICHARD / BOSKER / KETELBURT

B D E G B F# B (x4)

William The Conqueror, He'll look after ye, A king and a very fine man.

Harold took it in the eye, Now its time to say goodbye, William is a very fine man,

Workin' hard in the field, payin' out all the yield, Lord what a very fine plan,

And though we never chose to be ruled by you, You Norman bastards make us look a fool,

If England's ever gonna be united, Even if we have to sin, We will never give in,

GARIMOUND

(RICHARD, BOSKER, KETELBURT)

G

Bm

You're poor little village has not any food,

We have no food, and we want more...

A

Bm

So don't get scheming or thinking up no good,

Oh goodness me that just won't do...

LALIQUE

G
Do you want to die?

Bm

As if we do, as if we do.

A
You are on your own,

Bm

We're on our own, we're on our own...

A G –
You are all alone.

(F#)

Bm

*Who will come and save us, because we are all a,
we are all a-lone...*

LALIQUE
You owe 25 schillings.

GARIMOUND
Tut, tut, tut, tut.

RICHARD
We shall pay twice next time.

LALIQUE
We will be back next week. You had better pay. Come Garimound.

GARIMOUND wags a finger at the Villagers. EXIT LALIQUE and GARIMOUND

BOSKER
That Gary's a scab.
EXIT BOSKER & KETELBURT, leaving RICHARD alone to fetch his KESTRAL from cage.

RICHARD [calling as they leave]
Anyone who'd deals with them's a scab!

COMETUS
Twas said that Peter died in shame, by Crusaders on return.
And for 5 more years, he was not seen, and no one spoke his name.
As winter drew and darkness fell, crops did fail with blight.
But for Bermingham a saviour came, a gallant returning Knight.

KESTRAL swoops to take food.

RICHARD
Here! Kes! [whistles] Come on, Kes.[whistles].

PETER enters stage right disguised in cloak. He stops, watches RICHARD working bird with scraps of meat. Then approaches. PETER moves and branches make a noise.

RICHARD
Is someone there?

PETER [emerges from hiding]
[whistles in reply.] Still training Kestrels I see...

RICHARD
Who are you?

PETER [Removes hood]
Do you not know your own brother?

RICHARD
Peter? Peter! You live! [RICHARD embraces PETER] Tis said you'd died in battle.

PETER
Merely a wound. You have grown!

RICHARD
You look well.
PETER wipes his clean shaven upper lip.

PETER
Come. Take me to Father.

RICHARD
You don't know? The bastards killed him. He was trying to visit you.
ENTER BOSKER & KETELBURT

BOSKER
Master!

RICHARD
Bosker! Ketelburt! Look its my big brother, Peter. Alive!

BOSKER
Peter?

KETELBURT
G-golly.
PETER becomes lost in thought. All others but RICHARD, KETELBURT and BOSKER freeze.

SARACEN [OFF STAGE]
Arrragghhh!!!! [burning noise - Tsssssssss.....]

RICHARD
Peter? You alright?

BOSKER
His hands shaking. All there iz he?

KETELBURT
Maybe iz a g-g-ghost?

RICHARD
Don't be a wazzock! Peter!

PETER stops his shaking hand with other hand

PETER
Oh, travel weary.

RICHARD
You stayin' long Peter?

PETER
For good. From now on we are the "de Bermingham" family.

RICHARD
A 'sir's' name. Uz? Tis not the English way...

PETER
I plan to open a market here in Bermingham. We sit between Dudley and Warwick castle, all roads from Lichfield to Worcester cross nearby. If we open, they will come. We shall be the busiest market in England.

RICHARD
Here? Them Normans' been playing with your head.

BOSKER
What d'ye think Ketelburt?

KETELBURT
I don't know.

BOSKER

He says, we're barely a string of houses and the Norman's wouldn't allow it. Only a Norman can open a market.

RICHARD

You're not a Norman are you Peter?

ALL stare silently at PETER, who puts his finger over his upper lip, imitating a mustache.

PETER

What do you think?

ALL

Ha ha ha ha...

RICHARD slaps his back and they laugh

BOSKER

Goodday to you Master Peter, Master Richard.

KETELBURT

Master.

PETER

Bosker, Ketelburt.

EXIT BOSKER and KETELBURT walking away.

RICHARD

You know there's a war brewing don't you?

PETER

You will fight in no war.

RICHARD

Not even for an English King.

PETER

For no man!

RICHARD

You are one of them!

PETER

How dare you! You don't know anything! Now father has gone, I am master of this manor.

RICHARD

I'll tell you what I do know! While you've been living in luxury at Dudley Castle, we've been brutalized and starved.. by your bloody maggoty Norman friends. ... So don't come here come talking your fancy ideas about markets!

MOTHER

Richard! Whose there?

RICHARD

You best see Mom. She's sick.

PETER and RICHARD walk into MOTHER's room, where she lies on bed, attended by AEDILTHRYD.

PETER

Mom.

MOTHER [frail]

Peter? Is that you, Peter?

PETER

I am home Mom. I've missed you so much.

MOTHER

Peter.... you're back.

PETER

Mom..

MOTHER taps AEDILTHLYRD's hand as she feed water to MOTHER.

MOTHER

Thank you love. Which do ye value most, [coughing] ... Truth or Loyalty?

RICHARD

Take it easy Mom.

MOTHER

Be loyal to your blood Peter. Marry Aedilthryd. She's a good girl. It will keep the village strong. [coughs]. Promise me... Marry her.

PETER

I will. [*PETER's in shock. He shakes his head.*]**DEEPER STRENGTH WITHIN** - sung by MOTHER, RICHARD and PETER

[62 bpm]

MOTHER

[talks] Cm Ab Bb G6 G
Peter your eyes, always twinkled from a far,
 Cm Ab Bb G6 G
Even as a child, you had the magic of a star.
 Cm Bb Ab G
 [sings] **I'm not sure why, you were gifted to begin,**
 Bb Fm G Cm
But I recognized... a deeper strength within.

PETER

Ab Cm Ab Cm
Hold on.... Mama... Hold on....

MOTHER

[sings] Cm Ab Bb G6 G
Peter take heed, Your father he was wrong,
 Cm Ab Bb G6 G
Its not where you're from, But where you belong.
 Cm Bb Ab G
Promise me, you'll take this girl, and make of her your wife,
 Bb Fm G Cm
In time... She will save your life.

PETER

Ab Cm Ab Cm
Hold on.... Mama... Hold on.... Mother

RICHARD

MOTHER & PETER

[sings] Cm Ab Bb G6 G
I always knew, we'd be together once again,
 Cm Ab Bb G6 G
Its all I live for, to hear your voice again,
 Cm Bb Ab G
I'm not sure why, you were gifted to begin,
 Bb Fm G Cm

But I recognized... a deeper strength within.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|------|---------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| MOTHER | | | | | | | |
| Cm | Ab | Bb | G6 G | Cm | Ab | Bb | G6 G |
| Oh Richard... hair burnished by the sun, | | | | You were always my wild one... | | | |
| Cm | Bb | Ab | G | Bb | Fm | G | Cm |
| And Peter..... I know you will succeed, | | | | | | | |

PETER & RICHARD

C#
Hold on.... **Mama...** **Hold on....**

[MOTHER dies dropping from her grip the wooden comb PETER gave her for Christmas as a boy]
 AEDILTHRYD cries, lays English Flag over MOTHER. PETER's shaky hand picks up wooden comb.

RICHARD
 Who sends this spirit that kills us? Norman bastards!

AEDILTHRYD
 She starved Peter. Help us.
PETER hands wrapped gift to AEDILTHRYD, then walks out with ENGLISH Flag from MOTHER's bed.

THERE'S A DARK STAIN ON THIS FLAG - sung by PETER clutching the English Flag.

CHOIR
 Humming the tune. [Eng Horn]A C G A
AEDILTHRYD opens gift. Inside GOLDEN COMB. PETE unfurls English flag and holds up.

PETER
 a – b-c – e – d – b -c
There's a dark stain on this flag, (clutching the red cross)
 a – b-c – e – d – b -c
The blackest feeling I've ever had,
Deep in my heart, There's a knot in my throat
 d – e– d – c – d – c – b -G
 e– d – c – d – a– c – e– d – c -d
A yoke on my country....
 [Trombo.] E6 E Am....
MOTHER!!!!!! (Screams and falls to knees on fallen autumn leaves.)

END OF SCENE #4

SCENE # 5. WOODS near BERIMINGHAM. Springtime. Lighter clothing. FX: birds, running steam.

COMETUS

Spring! And England comes alive. The music of youth, the sound of love, pours out from the sky,
The flowers that bloom, the hearts that swoon, and the birds and bees that multiply.
Peter sets to marry Aedilthyrd, while Richard battles with his demons...

ENTER Mein Blut [singing off stage at first]

WE'RE THE ENGLISH - sung by MEIN BLUT (*RICHARD, BOSKER, KETELBURT, SUTTON*)
Drums and whistle.

CALL

**We're the English,
We're the English,**

**Ne'er let it be said,
We're strong and proud**

**We're the English,
We're the English,**

REPLY

**And we will over come
We'll kick out all the scum.**

**that,we're well bred,
and we sing aloud, coz,**

**And we will over come
One day our time will come,**

**Here come the Saxons,
We'll take the Normans,**

**The Angles and the Jutes,
We'll run those Frankies through**

ALL SOLO

**We'll nail them to,
We'll chase them down,
We'll sever their heads,
We'll rape the beds,**

**the English Cross,
the Roman Fosse
with a Saxon Sword,
of the Norman Lord,**

Whooaaa....

**They'll wish they'd never come,
They'll wish they'd never come,
E -I -O – U -They'll wish they'd never come here,**

SUTTON

Mein Blut! (*Salutes: beats right arm across chest and raises left arm in fist.*)

ENGLISH

Mein Blut! (*Salutes*)

RICHARD [Drunken]

As master of Bermingham I put me men and all me services to you sire.

SUTTON

You are a good man, Richard the Red.

RICHARD

Must be 'ard seein' ye family 'ome full e bloody Normans. Hey Ketelburt?

KETELBURT

I-I dun know.

BOSKER

He said, Dain't worry sire, we'll git Dudley Castle back fe ye.

I WANT TO TAKE THIS BARONATE - sung by SUTTON

BASS LINE E DC B x repeat

SUTTON

Now listen men... Gather round.

Em

Bm

[SINGS] **I want, to take, this Ba-ro-nate,**

We shall be free...

C

F#

Its my right, by birth and blood,
 Em Bm
Pagnell, stole it, from my clan,
 C F#
And now he thinks, he's quite the man,
 Em Bm
So pick, a date, Let's set our course,
 C Bm
And seize the castle, by force...

From tyranny,
They shall retreat...
To Normandy,
One summer's day...
The sun will shine and everything is fine.

ENGLISH

C Am
But what shall we be, when we rule,
 G D
We're tired of being everyone's fool,
 C Am C Am
We want to be-in-charge, Make-it-large,
 G D
We'll not be mucked around, with an Englishman back on the crown,

You will be free...
One day you will be...
... One summer's day you'll find...
The sun... will.... shine....

SUTTON

Its ripe to take, this Ba-ro-nate,
its time the English Earls rebelled,
Pagnell, shall lose, his confidence,
When I stake his head upon my fence,
Its time to take this Baronate,
So let's seize his castle, By force.....

We shall be free...
From tyranny,
They shall retreat...
To Normandy,
One summer's day...
The sun will shine and everything is fine.

ENGLISH

C Am
And we'll all drink wine, when we rule,
 G D
No longer being taxed like a fool,
 C Am C Am
When we take control, Of the Dudley coal,
 G D
And the money that we make, we will spend, to make us rich,

You will be free...
One day you will be...
... One summer's day you'll find...
The sun... will... shine...

ALL

Em Bm
We're off to take this Ba-ro-nate
 C Bm
To seize the castle, by force...
 ALL
Hurrah!

Mm, mm, mm,...
Mm, mm, mm...

RICHARD

So when do we strike M'Lord?

SUTTON

What weapons have we?

KETELBURT

I-I-don't know

BOSKER

He said none. Oolighan took 'em years ago. But we've got sticks.

KETELBURT and RICHARD sword fight with sticks

SUTTON

This isn't Robin Hood you know.

KETELBURT

He won't be b-b-born for another hundred years.

SUTTON

For the village idiot, you are most wise. We'll need metal weapons. Do we know any Blacksmiths?

RICHARD

Sigmund the Dane, but can't get him to do anything for us now. He's under Lord Oolighan's control. If he don't do as he's told, he don't get no coal.

BOSKER

He won't even repair our farm tools.

ENTER PETER. To which SUTTON is surprised. An awkward meeting.

RICHARD

Peter! What are you doing here? You know Lord Sutton, don't you. From Crusade. You must be such good friends...

BOSKER

Master, come.

RICHARD

What?

BOSKER & KETELBURT lead RICHARD away. PETER & SUTTON look at each other silently.

SUTTON

Pierre, I could have sworn you were dead. Have you no scars?

PETER

What is all this?

SUTTON

Your brother Richard is very passionate.

PETER

My brother's a fool and you know it.

SUTTON

Come Pierre-

PETER

My name is Peter. [pause] As you were once Lord Sutton of Dudley. What are you now? A Rebel?

SUTTON

What about Lord Oolighan? If he finds you...

PETER

If I find him.

SUTTON

I hope we can be friends.

SUTTON slaps PETER's arm, then rejoins the other men.

SUTTON

We go! Mein Blut! (*Salutes: beats right arm across chest and raises left arm in fist.*)

ENGLISH

Mein Blut! (*Salutes*)

MEIN BLUT EXIT singing

BOSKER

FE, FI, FO, FUM, I smell the blood of an Englishman! (drum roll)

ALL

**Whoa!!!..... (crescendo),
We're the English We're faithful strong and true,
We're the English So be careful what you do,**

**We'll run them through, with a Saxon Sword,
We'll rape the beds, of the Norman Lord
We'll slit their throats, from ear to ear,
Take AN-Y-MAN!!!!, (spoken) who spills-my-beer, (slow triplet in 4 part harmony)**

**When God came down to England, He sanctified our soul,
When God first met a Norman he said, you're an arsehole,**

**Eng-land! [clap-clap-clap] x 3
Eng-land!**

ENTER AEDILTHRYD as the men's singing fades.

AEDILTHRYD
What's the matter Peter?

PETER
Nothing.

PETER and AEDILTHRYD lie on grass. PETER parts her robe, and buries his head into her chest.
ENTER RICHARD, looking perplexed, with BOSKER & KETELBURT someway behind.

AEDILTHRYD
Master Richard.

RICHARD
Dilly.

PETER
I must go. [Peter gently pushes Aedilthryd away.]

RICHARD
Going to see the Baron, are you? ... He took you away from us!

PETER
The Baron is my father. He will help us.

RICHARD
He's the enemy Peter. Can't you see it!

PETER
You're drunk!

NO ONE CONTROLS ME sung by RICHARD and PETER
4/4 128bpm

| | |
|---|--|
| RICHARD | <i>BOSKER & KETELBURT</i> |
| Gm | Cm D |
| You're such a sucker... | |
| Gm | Cm D |
| Blind as a lover.. | <i>What's he saying?</i> |
| Cm | Gm |
| They brainwashed you in their school | <i>Oooo...</i> |
| Cm | D [PETER] |
| Compromised you like a fool | <i>What would you know?</i> |
| Cm Bb Ab Gm F | D7 |
| Your no longer English any more... | <i>What did he say?</i> |
| Gm | Cm D |
| I gotta a plan see... | <i>Won't you listen to me?</i> |
| Gm | Cm D |
| Restore our dignity... | <i>I wanna help, seriously.</i> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Cm Our problems solved in one go, Cm Elimination with a fatal blow, Cm Bb Ab Gm F England for the English once again...</p> <p>Gm We'll use violence Gm We wanna change things, Cm And the vacuum left, when they are gone, Cm Will be free for us, to carry on.... Cm Bb Ab Gm F Come join Mein Blut and you will soon be free...again!</p> | <p>Gm But beware! D D7 That's us!</p> <p>Cm D Ooo not me Cm D Act peacefully, Gm</p> <p>D [PETER] You're such a fool! D7</p> |
|---|--|

Peter seizes Richard by both arms to face him. Richard shrugs off Peter's hold

| | |
|--|---|
| PETER | |
| <p>3/4 68 Em D [slow] Richard I see terrible things. C If you keep on pushing the wrong way, Then my worst fears, maybe right.</p> | <p>C D Em A painful end in sight, D C Em BOSKER & KETELBURT C D Bm His worst fears, maybe right.</p> |
| <p>4/4 128 A Bm Push it! Push it! Push it! A Bm Don't! Push it! Push it! Push it! Push it!</p> | <p>A Bm Don't! Push it! Push it! Push it! Push it! A C#m D - C# - B - A - F# Don't! Bull- shit! Li-ar. Pants on fire....</p> |
| PETER | |
| <p>3/4 66 Am[+a] Am(+g#) Am[+g] Am [+f#] I had a dream... F From miles around,</p> | <p>Gm [+g] Gm(+f#) Gm [+f] Gm [+e] That we opened the door.. Eb G A Thousands came to trade... E7 [BOSKER & KETELBURT] To gold!!!</p> |
| <p>4/4 128 Dm C Bb Am G We can turn this village into gold...</p> | |
| RICHARD | |
| <p>64 [reggae] Am No one controls me, Am No one can hold me... back Dm Coz I'm flying in the sky tonight, Dm Like the Kestrel I will fly Dm C Bb Am G Looking down on Normans just like you...</p> | <p>Dm E Oh Yeah, you're so smart. Dm E No one controls him! Am E E7 That's what he said.</p> |
| <p>[Reggae] Dm Am No one!.... No one!. [No one can control him] No one controls me... Dm C# Cause I'm the favourite bird in sky</p> | <p>Dm Am Dm Am [128] A [A G# F# E - A G# F# E A G# F# G#] A Amaj7 Ooooooo</p> |
| <p>[slows] Am E7 No one Controls me...</p> | |

Exit RICHARD in hurry.

AEDILTHRYD
Not called Richard the Red for nothing.

PETER
He's out of control.

AEDILTHLRYD
You do look and sound like them.

PETER
I never chose to leave Bermingham.

AEDILTHLRYD
You been raised with too many riches. Are there a lot of pretty women at Dudley Castle? When we marry, will you be taking me to live there?

PETER
Of course not.

AEDILTHLRYD
Coz I'll be needing dresses and jewels, now that I'm gonna be a lady. Innit?

PETER
We will be living in no castle.

AEDILTHLRYD
You know given yourself a sirs name, de Bermingham. Well, after we marry, will I be called, Aedilthryd de Bermingham?

PETER
I have to go.

AEDILTHLRYD
Sounds so grand.

PETER
There's someone I must see.

AEDILTHLRYD
You going to Dudley Castle? Can I come with you? I'll do me buttons up.

PETER
No.

AEDILTHLRYD
What! I should show cleavage to the Baron? Is that how the ladies do it? I hear that the Norman women are real slutty. Peter! I'll have your supper ready for when you come home. Something warm for you...

PETER kisses AEDILTHLRYD then EXITS.

YOU'RE THE DEVIL (IS IT ME?) sung by AEDILTHLRYD

AEDILTHRYD
Music Bm
You're the devil Peter, In disguise,
D
You're a hard man, Whose been bitten twice,
Em Em+f# Bm
Like a man possessed, your makin' love to me,

Bm
But there's a kindness too hidden in your soul,
D
A tenderness that you can't control,
Em F#m Bm

A purer man I've not met, Honestly

G D+e

If your heart wasn't broken

(by someone)

Gm D+e

Would you catch me if I fall

(If I need you),

G F E D C# [Music stops.]

If I opened up my heart....., And let you deep inside.....

EXIT AEDILTHLRYD.

END OF SCENE #5

SCENE # 6. DUDLEY CASTLE. BLACKSMITHS BARN. Men working the iron with hammers

FX MUSIC OR WAR

NORMAN BLACKSMITHS are making swords. [Starts with rhythmic clanging banging metal from metal workshop]

IRON STEEL - sung by Norman BLACKSMITHS in French.

We pump the flames, till we melt the ore,
Nous pompons les flames jusqu'a ce que le metal soit fondu.
Till the iron flows, to the mould,
Jusqu'a ce que le fer coule dans le moule.
Then we dip our cast in the waters cool,
Puis nous trempons notre produit dans l'eau froide
And we wash away the slag.
Et nous enlevons les scories

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| E | | A | | E | A |
| Iron steel... | <i>Good n hot</i> | Iron steel... | <i>Good n hot</i> | The best sword in the land. | |
| Acier en fer | <i>Bien chaud</i> | Acier en fer | <i>Bien chaud</i> | La meilleure epee du pays | |
| <i>Iron steel...</i> | <i>Good n hot</i> | <i>Iron steel...</i> | <i>Good n hot</i> | <i>Ber-ming-ham, En-ger-land!</i> | |
| Acier en fer | <i>Bien chaud</i> | Acier en fer | <i>Bien chaud</i> | Ber-ming-ham, En-ger-land! | |

APPROACH OF A HORSE. Blacksmiths stop work. ENTER MAN IN THE MASK who charges through slashing at the Blacksmiths.

MAN IN THE MASK
Ya! Ya!

SMITHIES
Arrgh!!

The Smithies fall to the sword and the MAN IN THE MASK escapes on horseback.

EXIT MAN IN THE MASK on horseback.

END OF SCENE #6

SCENE #7: OUTSIDE DUDLEY CASTLE. Nicole is resting, while Merilda frets.

NICOLE

Come Merilda, I shall teach you some steps, that are the fashion in Normandy. Give me your hand.
I shall lead.

MERILDA and NICOLE pair up to dance.

MERILDA

Tell me Ma'am, what are the men like in Normandy?

NICOLE

Most of them as annoying as they are here in England.

BOTH

[Laugh]

PETER appears behind a tree. He observes unnoticed, whilst the girls dance.**WHO IS THAT OVER THERE?** -sung by PETER staring at NICOLE.

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----|
| Bb | | Eb | Ab | Bb | |
| Who is that, | | ov | - er | there? | |
| Bb | | Eb | Ab | Bb | |
| Dressed in white, with | | flo | - wing | hair | |
| Ab | Cm | | Cm+f# | | Fm |
| She is the most | beautiful thing, | that I have ever | seen | [spoken] | |
| | Fm | | | | |
| | She is wonderful, | Beautiful, | | | |
| | Bb | | | | |
| | Alluringly, | Beautiful, | | | |
| | Ab | | | | |
| | Enticingly | Beautiful | | | |
| | C+g# | | | | |
| | So pul - chri tu - din-al | | | | |
| Ab | | Bb | | | |
| She's so stun - ning | | So radiant | | | |
| Cm | | Fm | | | |
| Like a rain-bow | | She shines | | | |
| Ab | | Bb | | | |
| She's exquisite | | So precious | | | |
| Cm | | Fm | | | |
| A de-li-cate | | Heroine | | | |
| Ab | Bb | Cm | Bb6 | Bb | |
| I didn't know that a girl, | | could be so pure | | | |
| Ab | Bb | Cm | Bb6 | Bb | |
| If this is love at first sight, | | I don't want the cure | | | |
| Ab | Bb | Ab | Bb | | |
| And all at once, | | my life has changed, | | | |
| Ab | Bb | Ab | G F# F E Eb | | |
| And I feel light, | | And strange - | | | |

SONG stops for ENTRY of HIGHWAYMAN - wearing Mask and brandishing short sword.

HIGHWAYMAN

Whoa! What is it 'ere I see?

NICOLE

Who are you?

HIGHWAYMAN

I'm the Man in the Mask.

MERILDA

Don't kill us. Here! [Offers her necklace, which the HIGHWAYMAN snatches.]

NICOLE

Merilda!

MERILDA

Best do as he says, Ma'am.

NICOLE

You're nothing but a wostrel. Now be off with you before I have your head on a stick.

HIGHWAYMAN

Feisty one, ain't che? Now get your clothes off. [*waves sword at neck of Nicole's dress.*]

NICOLE

You shall have to kill me first.

HIGHWAYMAN

So be it. [*Swirls his sword.*]

Highwayman slashes Nicole's dress with a swipe of his sword.

NICOLE

Argh!

MERILDA

Look I'm taking my clothes off.

NICOLE

Why are you doing this?

Both ladies strip off and stand in under garments. HIGHWAYMAN points sword at NICOLE's chest.

HIGHWAYMAN

Coz I luv killin' Now open ye top.

PETER steps into the clearing, unarmed.

PETER

What have we here?

NICOLE

Thank heavens..

HIGHWAYMAN

Who're you? [*pointing his sword at PETER.*]

MERILDA

Please save us!

PETER [*Peter displays his hands, showing he is unarmed*]

Just a traveller passing. Now, I believe she was about to show us something.

HIGHWAYMAN

[*Dirty laugh*] Ha, ha, ha. Yeah. Come on lady, let the man 'ave a look.

NICOLE

Aren't you going to save us!

PETER [*Peter adopts a casual pose*]

I would do as he asks, if I were you.

HIGHWAYMAN slashes his sword.

HIGHWAYMAN

Get em out.

NICOLE
Really! You beast.
NICOLE opens her top.

HIGHWAYMAN
Oh, nice.

PETER leaps onto the HIGHWAYMAN and wrestles his sword off him. Then whips him with it.

HIGHWAYMAN
Arggggh!!
EXIT HIGHWAYMAN is a hurry, clutching wound. MERILDA & NICOLE redress themselves

MERILDA
Oh thank you! You saved our lives.

NICOLE
You let him degrade me!

PETER
You have nothing to be ashamed of.

NICOLE
I think you should leave!

MERILDA
I think you're wonderful.

NICOLE
Tu et une bounder!

PETER
The name is Peter. I'm afraid you have the better of me..

NICOLE
Come Merilda! We shall take our leave.

MERILDA
She is in shock.

PETER
May I know your name!

NICOLE
I hope never to set eye on you again. Merilda!

PETER
But...

EXIT NICOLE & MERILDA

Song continues... WHO IS THAT OVER THERE? -sung by PETER

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|---------------------|
| Bb | | Eb | Ab | Bb |
| Who is she? | | over there. | | |
| Bb | | Eb | Ab | Bb |
| Making me | | float on air | | |
| Ab | | beautiful.... | | to me..... |
| | | beautiful... | | beautiful... |
| Ab | Cm | Cm+f# | Fm | |

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| She was the most magical sight, | A fellow's dream, |
| Fm She's arrestingly, | Beautiful, |
| Bb Dazzlingly, | Beautiful, |
| Ab Attractively, | Beautiful, |
| C+g# Its in-di-spu-ta-ble | |
| Ab She was stun – ning | Bb Radiant |
| Cm Like a rain-bow | Fm that shines.. |
| Ab Her explicit | Bb Glistening aura |
| Cm Aureola | Fm Divine |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PETER Centre stage. | |
| Ab Bb Cm | Bb6 Bb |
| I didn't know that my heart, | could rule my brain, |
| NICOLE | |
| Ab Bb Cm | Bb6 Bb |
| Resulting from one glance, | a new paradigm, |
| PETER & NICOLE | |
| Ab Bb | Ab Bb |
| Priorities, | Have re-arranged, |
| Ab Bb | Ab G F# F E Eb |
| My pounding heart | Inflames |

PETER walks towards the entrance to DUDLEY CASTLE Knocks on gate..

MUSIC: THE NORMANS THEME Bass notes E-Eb-EG E-Eb-EB E G E G

GARIMOUND
Who goes there?

PETER
Pierre goes there.

GARIMOUND
But you're dead.

PETER
Then his ghost.

GARIMOUND opens the gates. He is drinking ale and as fat as ever.

PETER
Whoa... Garimound. You have lost weight.

GARIMOUND
I'm on the turnip diet. (BRRP!) Excuse me.

BARON
Who is there?
ENTER BARON & LALIQUE
PETER

Father!
BARON stands in shock as PETER greets him.

BARON
Pierre? My boy! You live! All these years, I thought you dead. *[They embrace.]* Let me see you. You look well. Where have you been?

PETER
Everywhere...

BARON
Tis great news. Oh! Your return is propitious. Your sister Nicole has returned from Calais, you probably don't remember her, she was a child when you first came to Dudley. Well, well, there are great things afoot Pierre. We are about to enter a joint venture with the House of Warwick. Tell him Laliq.

LALIQUE
Lord Oolighan has secured control of all iron ore in Mercia. We control the coal.

BARON
And together they make metal. And metal makes money. Think of it Pierre. Everything, from a horse shoe to a sword sold exclusively through the House of Dudley and Warwick. You have been away what, 5 years? Without the cost of war people are growing rich. And they are buying everything made of metal.

LALIQUE
Or steel, to be precise.

BARON
Quite right Laliq. Some Baron's are armed to their teeth with it.

LALIQUE
Especially those with rebellious subjects.

BARON
You must join us, be apart of The House of Dudley. Laliq will show you how. But come, we must prepare the West Wing for you. My son is home.

PETER
My home is in Bermingham now.

BARON
(it takes a while for the reality to set in, then he is crestfallen)... I see.

PETER
Father, I need your help...

TO BE AN ENGLISHMAN - sung by PETER [holding a paper Petition] and BARON

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| PETER | | | | |
| A | G | G | A | |
| Will you help me start a market, | | In my hometown Bermingham | | |
| A | G | G | A | |
| I ask you as a father | | to lend a helping hand | | |
| D | C | B | G | |
| Will you take my Petition | | And present it to the King, | | |
| D | C | B | G | A |
| Without your help father, | | I won't secure a thing.. | | |

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| G+sus4 A+sus4 | |
| Coz its hard... | To be an Englishman |
| G+sus4 A+sus4 | |
| And I'm asking you... | To do what you can |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|
| BARON | | | |
| Let me tell you honestly | | Be forthright as I can | |
| All existing markets, | | Belong to noblemen, | |
| If I were to propose this, | | They wouldn't understand, | |
| Why don't you come and work for me, I will lend a hand, | | | |

G+sus4 A+sus4
I know its Hard...
G+sus4 A+sus4
But you're my son...

To be an Englishman
I'll do what I can

PETER

I visited my home town
The villagers were starving
You came here from Normandy
If you want longevity,

And it left me with disgust,
And they've been taxed too much,
And you think you've got it sussed,
Equality is a must,

G+sus4 A+sus4
I 'm telling you ...
G+sus4 A+sus4
Don't forget

About the Englishman
This is Eng-land

BARON

Don't see me as a foreigner,
I love your English customs
If you see me as the enemy,
I'm your greatest fan,

Coz my home it is here.
And I even drink your beer.
Then you couldn't be more wrong,
This is the place where I belong,

G+sus4 A+sus4
I know its hard... To be an Englishman
G+sus4 A+sus4
But understand, I'm doing what I can.
D C B A sus4 A D
To be..... An English Man! [sudden stop]

PETER

Its because I'm English isn't it?

LALIQUE

If markets were free, everyone would open one. It would end up like a competition.

BARON

Pierre we all want freedom. But there is a system. It provides peace and prosperity. But only if you play within the rules.

PETER

Your rules. Your prosperity. In Bermingham they are starving. Yet still they are taxed.

BARON

Shall I tell you what is taxing me. This!

BARON hands a small box to PETER, which he opens.

PETER

My God!

BARON

The eyes belonged to my tax collector. Delivered to me courtesy of English Rebels who call themsevles *Mein Blut*. Do you know any of them?

PETER

Good Lord no!

LALIQUE

There is talk... that your brother, *Richard the Red*, is one of them.

PETER

He would never-

FX: Smashes fist on table

BARON

HE IS ONE OF THEM! You will bring me proof.. [*Baron gathers his composure*]
What happened Pierre? I thought you were one of us...

PETER

And I thought you were my father...

PETER exits to meet GARIMOUND who escorts him from Castle.

GARIMOUND

Beautiful day, ain't it Pierre?

PETER

My world has fallen apart Gary.

GARIMOUND

I've lost nearly [strains] 4 pounds thiz week.

PETER

And it makes all the difference.

GARIMOUND

If you add herbs, turnips can be quite tasty. [Farts!] Oops.

END OF SCENE #7

SCENE #8: SIGMUND's MANOR- Aston. Exterior. Sigmund The Dane is working.**SIGMUND THE DANE** sung by SIGMUND [with VILLAGERS at side of STAGE for song only]

FX: Hammers and metal clanging.

| SIGMUND | | VILLAGERS | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Bm | A | G | g-g#-a-a#-b-c-c#-d-c#-c-b-a#-a-g |
| Now I'm a modest man.. | Not born to wealth or distinction | That's true.. | |
| Bm | A | G | g-g#-a-a#-b-c-c#-d-c#-c-b-a#-a-g |
| I'm neither Norman, Celt, | Roman Pict, nor Anglo-Saxon. | So true. | |
| A+9 | A | A +Eb | A |
| But if they were a party, | Somewhere in the district, | | |
| A+9 | A | A+Eb | A |
| I think its true to say.. I'd never, ever, ever be excluded | | a-e | d-a |
| | | He's deluded. | |
| | | a-e | d-a |
| | Because they like me.. | We hate him. | |
| C | | | |
| I'm Sigmund the Dane, Everybody knows my name, | | | |
| D | | | |
| Performing tricks, With my metallurgics! | | | |
| E | A | | |
| Iron can be fashioned into shields and swords, | | | |
| D | G | | |
| I've customers a plenty, From crooks to Lords, | | | |
| F | a | c | F7 |
| Everything of metal, then they come to me... | | | |
| D | Eb | D | C B G |
| Supplied in a veil of secrecy... | | We have no choice, | |
| | | He's our Blacksmith you see. | |
| I'm Sigmund the Dane, Blacksmithie's my game, | | | |
| If your horse needs a shoe, I can fashion that too | | | |
| I arm Nobility with, Mace and Hook | | | |
| Made an Iron Maiden for a terrible crook, | | Arrgggghh!!! | |
| But don't try to court me with blan-dish-ments | | He forgets your favours, | |
| I only work for bullion or gold du-cats, | | But never your debts.. | |
| I'm untouchable see, | | Unfortunately... | |
| Coz everybody needs me. | | He's got no friends... | |
| I'm in with the law, | | Corrupt as they come... | |
| don't pay rent at all.... | | Terrible bore.. | |
| Everybody loves me..... | | No they don't! | |
| Now that's what I call fame.. | | | |
| I'm Sigmund!.. Blacksmith!.. The Dane.... | | | |

PETER ENTERS on ALBION. Sigmund is busy. FX: Horsehooves.

SIGMUND
Pierre. I heard of your return.

PETER
Sigmund.

SIGMUND
Let me refresh you.
SIGMUND busies himself with goblets and wine. Peter picks up a tool in the making.

PETER
Tis a fine looking tool you make.

SIGMUND

Always call for arms. *[offers flagon of wine to Peter.]* To thine health.

PETER

[They both drink.] Wine! Truly, you are in demand.

SIGMUND

Its my Danish steel.

SIGMUND takes a finger of white powder, shows PETER, flicks into furnace giving off flash. PETER takes a handful of the white powder.

PETER

Magnesium, for cleaning the furnace. You should be a jongleur, with a trick like that.

SIGMUND

So you know about metal.

PETER

What do you know about Damascus Steel?

SIGMUND

Hardest steel known to man. No one knows how to make it.

PETER

I do.

SIGMUND

You? Where'd you learn that?

PETER

Damascus.

SIGMUND

What brings you?

PETER

The people of Bermingham do starve. Thought you not once of charity?

SIGMUND

Fact is, soil's always been poor in Bermingham.

PETER

Fact is, I own this land.

SIGMUND

Your father, under seal of blood did promise this land to me and my family - in perpetuity.

PETER

And he has past away.

SIGMUND

I work for Lord Oolighan. Not you. Besides, I'm more worried about this Man in the Mask, he's very nearly killed every Blacksmith in Warwick.

PETER

Which is why you are so busy. What say I lend you four hard working men, for your apprentice. That I teach you the secret of Damascus steel, and together we make the finest swords in England.

SIGMUND

Dangerous talk I don't need.

PETER

But you need my land.

SIGMUND

What devil have you turned into?

PETER

From now on Dane, you manufacture for Bermingham. Teach you well those I assign you.

SIGMUND

Cross Oolighan an' you shall have a date with death.

Peter mounts his horse.

PETER

We must all die one day. Betwixt time, teach you well those I assign you. Tell Oolighan I insist you work only for Bermingham.

PETER gallops off on ALBION.[Blast of ALBION music] SIGMUND calling after him.

SIGMUND

I'll be damned if I do! Damned if I don't!

END OF SCENE #8

SCENE #9: DUDLEY CASTLE. Interior. NICOLE, MERILDA, BARON & BARONESS are in the hall.

NICOLE looks forlornly out of the window.

COMETUS

That which revolve around power, do liveth in Wealth and War.
While failure in both can lead to death, only love can offer more...

MERILDA

Ma'am. Come fit thy body into this French shawl, that his eyes might dilate as they glance upon the prize.

NICOLE

Avert thine eyes, lest his surprise be in my disappointment at his bidding.

BARON

To be married, is good for the Future.

MERILDA

For the Family.

BARONESS

For the Fortune.

NICOLE

And for the Female? What if she find displeasure in her suitor?

MERILDA

Is he not handsome and tall?

BARONESS

To say nothing of his nobility at all.

NICOLE

Why such a thoroughbred is he? Shall you have me marry a horse!

BARON [To heavens]

Mon Dieu, I pray he win her heart.

NICOLE

But what if I choose someone else?
[ASIDE TO AUDIENCE] What they don't know is that I have a secret admirer.

BARON

Who could you possibly mean?
[ASIDE TO AUDIENCE] 'What she doesn't know is that I know she does.'

NICOLE

Papa. You know there is no one.
[ASIDE TO AUDIENCE] 'He is English and has proposed to me.'

BARONESS

Never forget you are a Noblewoman dearest.
[ASIDE TO AUDIENCE] What she doesn't know is that I had him castrated and thrown into jail.

NICOLE

How could I ever forget.

BARONESS

Which means you must marry a Norman.

BARON [sings – MA CHERIE – to Music Box – Dancing Figures]

MA CHERIE NICOLE sung by BARON

AA7+ A11

**Ma Cherie Nicole,
Tu es tres jollies,
Since you were born, you ave lived
Here with me....**

**Ma belle Nicole,
Tu es tres jollies,
Et maintenant
you ave come of age,**

F#m + e- d - c

Oh Nicole, I warn you of those amorous Englishmen!

**I assure you Nicole,
Men want more than your kiss,
Woman should be chaste,
Not remiss...**

**Ma petite Nicole
You are everything to me...
We are different from them
Can't you see**

Oh Nicole, could it be true? Things our people say?

**Ou est elle, Nicole?
If he is English I find,
You are driving me out,
Of my mind...**

BARONESS

You will marry Lord Oolighan of Warwick.

NICOLE

But he is so old!

BARONESS

He is the only Norman in Mercia with a castle and lands equal to ours.

NICOLE

I shall never marry him!

EXIT NICOLE [sobbing]

BARON

Merilda, attend.

MERILDA

M'Lord.

Exit MERILDA. BARONESS massages BARON's shoulders.

OUTSIDE LALIQUE and OOLIGHAN are talking.

LALIQUE

I thought you said Pierre died in battle? He was here last week.

OOLIGHAN

Pierre? Alive?

LALIQUE

He will ruin all our plans. Already the Baron is grooming him to take my position in the House of Dudley.

OOLIGHAN
Where is he?

LALIQUE
In Bermingham. What if he were next in line to the House of Dudley?

OOLIGHAN
Well, you're the Baron's lawyer. Don't you know?

LALIQUE
The Baroness controls everything. And she is hiding something.

OOLIGHAN
Yes. I think there is more to her than meets the eye.

ENTER GARIMOUND who opens the door for LALIQUE & OOLIGHAN to ENTER.

BARONESS
Lord Oolighan!

OOLIGHAN
Baroness, Baron.

BARON
Etes-vous bien?

OOLIGHAN
En bonne santé. I bring news of Aelfric's demise.

GARIMOUND
He killed his wife, mother and sister as well. *[They all look at Garimound busy with a chicken leg]*
Everyone's talking about it.

BARON
Damn it Ooligan! We are no longer at war with the English. We are trying to win their Hearts and Minds.

OOLIGHAN
You wanted him silenced.

BARON
Could you not have reasoned with him?

OOLIGHAN
What can I say to a man who would give his life for what he believes?

BARON
Bring him round to our way of thinking.

OOLIGHAN
You mean torture him?

BARON
No.

OOLIGHAN
As long as we live here, we will have to suppress them. This is not our country.

LALIQUE
Technically is it.

OOLIGHAN

Garimound is the only Englishman here. Aren't you Gary?

GARIMOUND

[Chokes and coughs up food] Excuse me. Pork scratchings, caught in me throat.

KNOCK at the door. ENTER NICOLE and MERILDA

BARON

Ah! Nicole! Come. This is Lord Oolighan of Warwick.

OOLIGHAN

I am charmed to meet you, Lady Nicole. [*Kisses her hand*]

NICOLE

Lord Oolighan [*curtseys*] I must make it perfectly clear. That I will not under any circumstance marry with you.

BARONESS

Nicole!!... Merilda, take her away!

MERILDA

Ma'am.

EXIT: MERILDA and NICOLE.

BARON

I apologize. She is.. eh.. 'ow you say?

OOLIGHAN

A virgin.

BARON

Not used to men.

OOLIGHAN

She is an angel. And I will be honoured to take her.. as my wife.

BARONESS

Alors il est fait.

BARON

Once the dowry has been paid. All four hundred pounds.

OOLIGHAN

You shall have your dowry by the light of the next full moon. La Nuit de Crystal.

BARON

Did you know Pierre is alive?

OOLIGHAN

It is miraculous. He is like a son to you, non?

BARON

He is ...

OOLIGHAN

In view of our arrangement. May I ask if he is the legal heir to the House of Dudley?

BARONESS

I assure you, he has no claim to the House of Dudley.

OOLIGHAN

Eh bien. I propose a toast. A la Nuit de Crystal.

BARONESS / LALIQUE / BARON
La Nuit de Crystal.

OOLIGHAN
Baroness. Baron. [bows]

BARON
Come, I will escort you. I am thinking of allowing Pierre to start up a new market in Bermingham.

OOLIGHAN
There can be no more markets. You have Dudley, Geoffrey has Worcester, I have Warwick.

BARON
Of course not.

BARONESS
It is a stupid idea. Who would ever go to Bermingham for a market?

OOLIGHAN
Who would ever go to Bermingham for anything. Ha, ha.

EXIT OOLIGHAN & BARONESS laughing, BARON and LALIQUE.

ENTER NICOLE and MERILDA.

NICOLE
Tell me Merilda, honestly, is Lord Warwick, by repute, not a cruel man?

MERILDA
Your father would never compromise you, with someone cruel.
[ASIDE TO THE AUDIENCE] "Though a crueler man never existed."

NICOLE
Oh I am so envious of you Merilda. You are free to marry whomever you love.

MERILDA
Forgive me. If I did not know you so well, I would say that you pine for another.

NICOLE
C'est mon chevalier vetu en armor resplendissant ...[Merilda looks blank] My knight in shinning armour.

ONE DAY- sung by NICOLE & [MERILDA]. Harp intro - A chord arpeggio.

| | | | | |
|--------|--|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | NICOLE | | | |
| CHORUS | D F-F-G | | D G-G-F x4 | |
| VERSE | Dm | F | G | F |
| | One day, | One day... | My knight will appear | |
| | Dm | | | |
| | That day, | | Is drawing near, | Tell me more.. |
| | Dm | C | Bb | F F A |
| | Can not wait, to turn the page, | | But when he comes.. | To come of age..... |

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| CHORUS | NICOLE & MERILDA | | | |
| | D F-F-G | | D G-G-F x4 | |
| VERSE | Oooo.. | | When will he come? | |
| | Dm | F | G | F |
| | Mama says, | What does she say, | She has found me someone, | |
| | Dm | F | G | F |
| | Papa says, | | He's blue blooded Norman, | He sounds hot. |
| | Dm | C | Bb | F F A |

What my heart needs, is someone to love.. She who dares... Will win.
 CHORUS
NICOLE & MERILDA
Ooooo.. When will he come?
 VERSE
 Dm F G F
I have heard What have you heard? Men can be cruel,
 Dm F G F
Always they fight, To prove they can rule, You're so right?
 Dm C Bb A
But I won't marry any man that they choose.. You can't lose Its my choice!

CHORUS D
Ooo... One Day I'amour... [Bop-Bar! Bop! Bar! x 2]
And One day he'll come...
 F-F-G D G-G-F x4
Oooo.. that day I'amour

REFRAIN NICOLE MERILDA
Please, come into my life... Yes
I have but one wish, Tell
Is that he'll love me true, Oh
NICOLE & MERILDA
We've been dreaming of the day and he will soon appear,
 NICOLE MERILDA
Then he'll love me.. And I will love him too,
NICOLE & MERILDA
Our true love is amour, That's why I'll love him so...

Merilda and Nicole practice dance moves together.

KNOCK AT DOOR. GARIMOUND enters with PETER, carrying sword wrapped in cloth. NICOLE stops.

NICOLE
 You!

PETER
 What are you doing here?

Enter BARON

BARON
 Pierre! Meet your sister, Nicole! Isn't she beautiful.

NICOLE
 Pierre? This is my brother?

PETER
 Nicole from Calais?

BARON
 Yes, my daughter Nicole. She has finished her education and is now to live in England. I believe you met briefly as a child. What a fine woman she has grown into?

NICOLE
 I thought he was dead Papa.

PETER
 Quite alive thank you.

BARON
 She is an outspoken young lady.

NICOLE

Papa would have me marry any old man, so long as it enhanced his fortune.

PETER

I sympathize with your position.

NICOLE

How could you understand. You are free to marry whomever you desire. Have you met someone you love, Pierre?

PETER

I believe I have...

BARON CLAPS HIS HANDS

BARON

Well, leave us now Nicole, we have mens' talk.

MERILDA locks arms with NICOLE excitedly and leads her out of the room

MERILDA

Come Ma'am.

NICOLE

Hm!

EXIT NICOLE and MERILDA

BARON

Much has changed Pierre.

ENTER LALIQUE.

Ah, Lalique.

LALIQUE

M'Lord. Pierre. [*hands scroll*] Our agreement with Lord Oolighan for the services of Sigmund the Dane.

BARON

Listen Pierre, Sigmund works only for us.

PETER TEARS UP THE CONTRACT

PETER

Not any more.

BARON

Forgive me Pierre, but your poor little village hardly qualifies to make arms.

LALIQUE

Only the Duke may recognize a Trading House.

PETER

Have you consulted the Duke about my Market yet?

BARON

I'm afraid not.

PETER

Why!

BARON

Lord Oolighan has blocked all suggestion.

LALIQUE

Il Veto Infitum.

PETER

Then the Duke will not be interested in this.

PETER unfurls the cloth revealing a silver sword. Swings sword around. Hands to BARON.

BARON

Intriguing markings.

PETER

Let me show you what it can do. Hold up your sword.

FX: Sword from scabbard. BARON removes a sword from his side. PETER swipes at it, cutting it in two.
FX: Swords Clashing and one breaking.

BARON

Mon Dieu! From where did this weapon come?

PETER

I made it. Tis made of Damascus steel: the hardest steel known to man. Which I did learn of during my time in the Holy Land.

BARON

You use your time wisely. I see a healthy demand for such a weapon. We could make them in Dudley and trade through the House of Warwick. What say you Lalique?

PETER

I shall make and trade them myself.

BARON

Impossible.

LALIQUE

Only Lord Oolighan may sell arms in Mercia.

PETER

I would very much like to meet Lord Oolighan.

BARON

Of course! You are friends from Crusade. No doubt you will have much to talk about.

PETER

When may I meet him?

BARON

Soon. For next week, we are to hold a banquet in honour of my dearest Nicole's return. Lord Oolighan shall attend.

PETER

I look forward to it.

BARON

Now about Sigmund-

PETER

Be sure to tell Lord Oolighan.

BARON

Pierre?

PETER

The name father, ... is Peter. Peter de Bermingham... Au revoir.

EXIT PETER bowing to the BARON, then LALIQUE

END OF SCENE #9

END OF ACT 1 - INTERMISSION

ACT II

England Rebel

SCENE #10: BIRMINGHAM. EXTERIOR.

ENTER Mein Blut meeting with their salute, a fist to across the chest. WHO'LL BE OUR MARTYR.

SUTTON

Mein Blut! (*thumps chest with one fist across chest*)

MEIN BLUT

Mein Blut! (*thumps chest with one fist across chest*)

WHEN THE FIGHTING BEGINS sung by SUTTON

SUTTON CHORUS (pizzicato)

Bm G
When the fighting begins, There'll be no need for rank [Hoo! Ha!]

E F# sus 4 F#
Let the Battle begin, And let it stank!

Bm G
Let rebellion ensure, The English are back

E F# sus 4 F# [F# Arr..]
But beware what you do Lest you end on the rack,

C G
Who will volunteer... for a dangerous mission,

Ab Bm
Richard the Red, Could this be your position?

C G
Who shall we honour... as Rebel starter.

Ab Bm
Richard the Red, Could you be our martyr.

[G bass]F G F G
When the Baron's deposed, there'll be rewards for all,

F G F G
And you'll not take orders, from them any-more

C C+b C+a C+g
Who.... is the star of our Alma Matar...

RICHARD

Bb F
I'll do it for.... Do it... For

C C+b C+a C+g

RICHARD

Him.... Oh.. I was just a child...

SUTTON

If you succeed, I'll grant your Market Charter.

RICHARD

Bb F C
Why did you go..... And leave me so..... Peter...

BOSKER

Who goes there?

ENTER OOLIGHAN.

OOLIGHAN

Go away... fetch me Sutton.

SUTTON

Lord Oolighan. You join us at last. Mein Blut!

OOLIGHAN
Keep your blood. I don't mix mine.

SUTTON
Leave us..

The MEN disperse leaving OOLIGHAN and SUTTON to talk in private.

OOLIGHAN
You are pathetic. An English noblemen -playing rebel with the peasants.

SUTTON
Remember this is your plan.

OOLIGHAN
I need a more substantial dowry. The Baron is a greedy man. You'll get it back, when you have killed him. But first I must marry his daughter.

SUTTON
How much?

OOLIGHAN
Six hundred.

SUTTON
Six hundred pounds!

OOLIGHAN
A small price to regain your family home. Or don't you want to live in Dudley Castle?

SUTTON
Alright!

OOLIGHAN
I shall need it by tonight. And give me at least one night with Nicole. [OOLIGHAN eyes Sutton]
You're a fool Sutton. You'll not be long in this life.
EXIT OOLIGHAN on horse. BOSKER and RICHARD approach SUTTON

BOSKER
Should we trail him M'Lord?

SUTTON
No. Leave him. When the time is right, we'll see to him. Mein Blut!

ALL
Mein Blut!
EXIT SUTTON

COMETUS
The trade in arms, goes back as long as the trade in charms...
But when leaders vie and plot, to win the arms of men who have nothing to their name,
Beware the man who plays the game, for when he takes aim, he shall win the lot.

KETELBURT, BOSKER are making swords, clanging metal rhythmically. ENTER PETER with mustache

BOKSER
Bad news Peter. Oolighan's men came. They're took Sigmund. If he talks, we'll hang.

PETER
They'll be after the secret to Damascus steel.

KETELBURT

H-how fair you with Lord Lichfield? D-did he buy any swords?

PETER

Without Lord Oolighan's approval, he'll not buy. Worry not men. I'll find a way to sell them. Just keep making those swords.

BOSKER

Its costing us all we got.

PETER

Tonight is the full moon. The Baron is holding a special banquet. I will talk with him...

AEDILTHLRYD drifts away from action. Sings to Audience as men mime.

AEDILTHLRYD *[To audience]*

He tells me he is busy. That he is away on business. But I know better. I know he's gone to see her...

IS IT ME - sung by AEDILTHLRYD

[speak] B D E B

I know what you're thinking...

[sings] Bm

Is it me you see, When you sleep at night,

D

Is it me you kiss, When our lips press tight,

Em Em9 Bm G F#

Is it me your thinking of now, Is it me,

Bm

Or is there someone else, Who commands your mind?

D

Is she good to you, Is she sweet and kind?

Em Em+f# Bm GGEF#

Does she do the things I do for you, Good as me...?

G D+e

You can do what you want with me,

Gm D+e

I'll let you do what you want, *(touch me),*

G F E D

One more chance, One more touch.

C# G+ A6 A

Is all I'm asking for of you... For all Time...

Bm

Is it me you need, When the night time falls,

D

Is it me you touch, When your hunger calls,

Em Em7 Bm GGEF#

Is it me down on my knees now, Is it me,

Bm

Does she stroke your hair, Does she scratch & bite?

D

Does she haunt your dreams all through the night?

Em Em7 Bm GGEF#

Did you word her name so softly, next to me?

G D+e

You can do what you want with me, *(hurt me)*

Gm D+e

I'll let you do what you want, *(For all time),*

G F E D

One more chance, One more touch.

C# G+ A6 A

I'm begging please, for you... *(hurt me)* For all Time...

Bm
Is it me you need, When you sleep at night,
 D
Is it me you kiss, When our lips press tight,
 Em Em7 Bm GGEF#
Is it me your thinking of now, Is it me, (Is it me you're thinking of now),
 Bm
Or is there someone else, Who commands your mind?
 D
Is she good to you, Is she sweet and kind?
 Em Em+f# Bm GGEF#
Does she do the things I do for you, Good as me...? (you're thinking of now),
 G D+e
You can do what you want with me, (touch me)
 Gm D+e
I'll let you do what you want, (kiss me),
 G F E D
One more chance, One more touch.
 C# G+ A6 A
I'm begging please, for you... For all Time...

Bm
Is it me you see, When you sleep at night,
 D
Is it me you kiss, When our lips press tight,
 Em Em7 Bm GGEF#
Is it me you're thinking of now Is it me?

AEDILTHRYD
 Touch me Peter. Hold me. Like you mean it. Like I'm her.

PETER
 What's got into you?

AEDILTHRYD
 She is in your heart. Deny it! If I can not have your heart. I cannot live.

CHORUS [to tune of Halley's Comet]
 A C
And she knows your heart better than yourself,
 D F
No matter what you say, you know – she's right.
 A C
And before its even dawned on you,
 D F
She's already thought - it - through

AEDILTHLRYD
 Look at me. Tell me you love me.

PETER
 This is madness...

AEDILTHLRYD
 Say it!

PETER
 Is it enough that I marry you?

AEDILTHRYD [*Bursts into tears.*]
 Aaa!

AEDILTHRYD
 F A
I'm the woman who reads your mind...
 C D A

Tell me, Peter, Is it true?

PETER
A C
Before it even dawned on me.
D F
It was plain for her to see...

AEDILTHRYD
F A
I'm the woman who can read your mind...
C D A
Your the devil if you don't...
C D A
And the devil when you do..

EXIT PETER in a rush, as AEDILTHRYD' breaks down to weep.

BOSKER
Don't cry Aedilthryd.

AEDILTHRYD
He loves someone else.. You don't know what that feels like. *[crying]* A! A! A!

BOSKER
Misery.

The sound of a posse arriving. ENTER LORD OOLIGHAN, SIGMUND, LALIQUE and GARIMOUND. OOLIGHAN's theme.

GARIMOUND
Where is Pierre?

RICHARD
If you mean my brother Peter, he is away. Here's your money.
RICHARD hands money to LALIQUE to count.

LALIQUE
Twenty Five schillings M'Lord.

OOLIGHAN
They owe fifty.

GARIMOUND
Tut, tut, tut, tut.
GARIMOUND wags a finger at the Villagers.

RICHARD
We'll pay thrice next year M'Lord.

OOLIGHAN
There are other ways to pay?

RICHARD
We'd pay you with a feast, but I'm afraid we're fresh out of frogs legs.
OOLIGHAN draws his sword and brings it to RICHARD's throat.

OOLIGHAN
Remind this bolshie Berminger, the penalty for threatening a nobleman?

LALIQUE
Death M'Lord.
OOLIGHAN pushes RICHARD to the floor.

OOLIGHAN
You! Where is Peter's bride to be?

KETELBURT
I's just the v-v-village idiot sir.

OOLIGHAN
Hold him still.

GARIMOUND holds KETELBURT as OOLIGHAN slices off KETELBURT's ear.

KETELBURT
Arrrggggghhh! My ear!

VILLAGERS
Huh!!!

GARIMOUND
Hi, hi, hi. A present.
GARIMOUND gives the ear to KETELBURT.

RICHARD
You saw that Lalique! Arrest him!

LALIQUE
I saw nothing.

OOLIGHAN
Bring me the girl! Or else..
SIGMUND hold's KETELBURT again and OOLIGHAN puts his knife over KETELBURT's other ear.

RICHARD
Never!!
ENTER AEDILTHLRYD running from indoors.

AEDILTHLRYD
Don't! I'm here!

OOLIGHAN
Ah....So you are Pierre's bride. A pretty one. And what's this? A golden comb.
OOLIGHAN takes the golden comb from AEDILTHLRYD's cleavage.

RICHARD
If you lay finger on that girl..

SIGMUND [Stands over RICHARD]
You'll what?

AEDILTHLRYD
No master! Don't!
BOSKER hits RICHARD over the head, knocking him out.

BOSKER [Pulls Richard back]
Sorry Master!

OOLIGHAN
Anyone else? ... Good. Amund the girl. Let's go.

EXIT LALIQUE, GARIMOUND, SIGMUND, OOLIGHAN and AEDILTHLRYD crying

VILLAGERS throw water over RICHARD, to revive him.

BOSKER
Sorry Master. We'll get them one day sire.

RICHARD
My blood we will. Come on.

RICHARD, BOSKER, KETELBURT walk out of the village, into the woods, where they are joined by others making their way to the meeting of MEIN BLUT and SUTTON.

RICHARD, BOSKER and KETELBURT
Meine Blut!

SUTTON & REBELS
Mein Blut!

RICHARD
We must attack. Tonight!

SUTTON
Alright. Gather round men..

THIS CRYSTAL NIGHT - sung by SUTTON, OOLIGHAN, BARONESS, BARON, MEIN BLUT, NICOLE

SUTTON

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Em | Bm | |
| This Crystal Night, | We'll instigate, | <i>We shall be free...</i> |
| C | F# | |
| While the Baron's party | Congregate, | <i>From tyranny,</i> |
| Em | Bm | |
| A plan to seize | control of power, | <i>They shall retreat...</i> |
| C | F# | |
| The Norman end has | come the hour, | <i>To Normandy...</i> |
| Em | Bm | |
| As stars shine bright, | We'll dull our swords, | <i>One summer's day...</i> |
| C | Bm | |
| On the throats of lusty | Frenchmen and Lords. | <i>The sun will shine n we will feel just fine</i> |

MEIN BLUT

| | | |
|--|----|--|
| C | Am | |
| By the light of the crystal moon, | | <i>You shall be free...</i> |
| G | D | |
| We'll take Lalique for a ride, | | <i>One day you will be...</i> |
| C | Am | C |
| We will make him dig, A great big hole, | | <i>One summer's day...you'll find...</i> |
| G | D | A |
| When he pleads on his knees, we will bury him A-live! | | <i>The clouds will open up and sunshine</i> |

ENTER THE BARON & BARONESS [side of stage]

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BARON | OOLIGHAN |
| Em | Bm |
| Tonight, our fortunes, shall | arise, |
| BARONESS | |
| C | F# |
| Nicole's marriage is | quite a prize. |
| BARON | |
| Em | Bm |
| With Lord Oolighan's | e-state, |
| C | F# |
| We have much to | celebrate, |
| BARONESS | |
| Em | Bm |
| So raise your glass, | and with a boast, |
| BARON & BARONESS | |
| C | Bm |
| To Crystal Night I offer | a toast |

ENTER OOLIGHAN

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| OOLIGHAN | BARON |
| C | Am |
| The Baron, must, be | quite-a-fool, |
| G | D |
| If he thinks, I'll share, | all-I-rule, |
| C | C |
| When I strap, that virgin | To my bed. |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>G D I'll fill young Nicole <u>ENTER NICOLE</u> NICOLE Em I'd always hoped, C But can I choose, BARONESS Em To be in cahoots, C The thought of it just, NICOLE Em If only Pierre was C Papa would let me</p> | <p>A full of dread Bm that I would wed, F# Who shares my bed, Bm On Oolighan's side, F# swells my pride. Bm Nor-man Bm Marry him,</p> | <p><i>The stars... will shine... bright...</i> BARON & OOLIGHAN <i>We shall be rich...</i> <i>And pow-erful...</i> <i>Plans we have made...</i> <i>Boun-tiful..</i> <i>This Crystal night</i> <i>The stars will shine...</i></p> |
| <p> ALL Em La Nuit, de Crystal C Bringing our fortune</p> | <p>Bm Comes at last, Bm At last.....</p> | <p>Bm F# B At last.... Chante!</p> |

DOWN COMES THE CURTAIN

END OF SCENE #10

SCENE #11. DUDLEY CASTLE. Interior. The BARONESS is alone in her hall.

Enter PETER briskly. BARONESS smiles and approaches, touching his body.

PETER
Has Lord Oolighan arrived yet?

BARONESS
Oh Pierre. Always in such a hurry.

PETER
I must meet him. [*Peter checks the sword at his side*]

BARONESS
You're such a beautiful man. I'm not your Mother you know. I'm a woman. [*She lays her hands over her breasts*] With needs. [*She lays her hands over his crotch*]

PETER
What are you doing! [*recoiling*]

LET'S FOOL AROUND – Sung by Baroness Pagnell. Piano + Saxophone + Double Bass.

| | |
|--|--|
| BARONESS | |
| Its late at night, Everyone is elsewhere, | You're in my home, We're all alone, |
| Would you mind if I, Loosen up you belt, | Check out your style, Lay-back-a-while, |
| The moon is shining, I have the feeling Let the lion baby Rrrr.... Rrrr..... | the stars do shine, That you could be mine, Out of the pound, Let's fool around. |
| Let me touch you Baby, I need a man who can, | You ain't no child, Drive me wild, |
| Lets de robe you, Put my hands upon it. | Take hold of your sword, Oh my Lord, |
| The moon is shining, The wolves are howling baby, Take off your clothes Grrr.... Grrr..... | the winds are getting high, And they sigh, Lay down on the ground, Let's fool around. |
| Oh I am so hot, You know I'm needy | As hot as I can be, for your body baby. |
| Longing for your touch, Come on closer baby | Feel you deep inside, Lets go for a ride, |
| The moon is shinning, See my pussy strutting, If she likes you, Purrr... purr..... Purrr... purr..... | the air is sweet, down the street, she will make a sound, Let's fool around, Let's fool around, |
| G G G F# F D | |
| Oh give it to me baby.... (progressively higher) | |
| Oh nail me to the floor... | |
| Oh do it to me dirty... | |
| I want more!..... (show stopping high note held) | |
| Well what do you say baby? | |

Light fades to darkness.

BARONESS

Don't tease me baby. Just put your hands... here!

PETER

Arrgh! You're a man!

BARONESS

Just some of me baby. Just some of me. Come 'ere!

ENTER BARON in a temper.

BARONESS

Later Pierre.

EXIT the BARONESS

PETER

M'Lord, I must plead with you for more iron ore and coal.

PETER de BERMINGHAM - OH SON OF MINE - [sung by BARON] Sig: 4/4 Tempo: 140

BARON

A

**Try to listen closely now,
Everything you own today**

A C

Your brother's had too much to say,

A C

I need to find out where he is?

I'll try to make this clear

Could easily disappear,

D E

And too much planned to do,

F E

And what he is up to?

C

Pee-Tarr... I treated you

A

de Bermingham... Peter de Bermingham

C

Pee-Tarr... I trusted you..

A

de Bermingham... Peter de Bermingham

D

Pee-Tarr...

Like a son...

Oh Son of Mine!

D

Pee-Tarr...

My second son...

Oh Son of Mine...!

A

Now I know you've got some anger,

And your brother talks of treason,

A C

If you value your own skin,

A C

Tell me of his Mein Blut plot,

Rebellion on your mind,

wants a King of his own kind,

D E

Better tell me where he lies,

F E

If you don't wanna die,

C

Pee-Tarr... Before you go.

A

de Bermingham... Peter de Bermingham

C

Pee-Tarr... I need to know.

A

de Bermingham... Peter de Bermingham

D

Pee-Tarr...

I need to know...

Oh Son of Mine!

D

Pee-Tarr...

Where's your bro..

Oh Son of Mine...!

3/4 68

Am Am(#7)

Oh I treated you..

C D

Gave you everything

Am Am(#7)

Oh introduced you

C C(#7)

And I can still

Am7 D9

like my own flesh and blood...

Esus4 E E7

You have today...

Am7 D9

To everyone you know.

E E7

Take it all away....

A G
 4/4 120 Its too late now to save his soul, to question or complain.
 A G
 Richard's neck is in the noose, And already takes the strain
 4/4 90 A C G D
 (choir) Come now Peter, don't be shy, I know its hard for you,
 A G D D-A
 But if you don't divulge the truth, You know what I will do.
 C D E
 Pee-Tarr... Am I getting through... to you...
 C D E
 Pee-Tarr... Be careful what you do!

120
 Eb -3 beats- C - 4 beats- Eb C Eb C
 You've made it hard for me... I hope that you can see... You've made it hard for me...

PETER CHOIR
 110 D C A
 Welcome.. To my... World...
 Shit! shit! shit! shit! shit! shit!
 D C A
 Caught between Two worlds...
 Shit! shit! shit! shit! shit! shit!

CHOIR & BARON
 100 F C G D
 Peter... Peter... I raised you from a boy
 I've watched you grow and I hope you know, My heart is in the right place.
 Peter Peter I know how you feel,
 F C G E
 Its time for you to make a choice, this time its for real!

3/4 68 Am Am(#7) Am7 D9
 Oh I made you.. What you are today...
 C(#7) E E7
 Now have you gone Thrown it all away...
 Am Am(#7) Am7 D9
 I raised you since you were just a child...
 C C(#7) E E7
 So as you can see This is hard for me...

ENTER RICHARD breaks into Norman side of stage [Crashing Noise]

WHO ARE YOU LOYAL TO? - sung by RICHARD, PETER and BARON

RICHARD
 B – F# B-E G A Bm
 I'm here to kill, And the one I'll hurt... Is you.
 B – F# B-E G A Bm
 Your blood I'll spill, Twas ordained that .. I should do.

PETER
Richard!

BARON [Circles Peter]
 E-F#-G x4 F#-G-A x 4
Pierre you must make a stand, It's not hard to understand
 B – F# F#-B -F#
That knife in his hand...
 E-F#-G x4 F#-G-A x 4
Or are you bound up with this fool, If so the gallows wait for you,
 [RICHARD] **I am here to kill It is god's will**
 B – F# F#-B -F#

**After all, I've done for you,
I shall fulfill**

PETER

B – F# B – E

He's here to kill,

B – F# F#-B - F#

That knife, in his hand,

G A Bm

What the hell am I to do...

G A Bm

Makes my blood run cold

E-F#-G x4

Richard have you lost your mind,

[BARON]

B – F# F#-B -F#

This – man. Is – our -friend,

F#-G-A x 4

You're really in deep shit this time,

My life is in your hand

RICHARD

E-F#-G x4 F#-G-A x 4

Have you just gone round the bend, He's a Norman, Not our friend.

B – F# B-F#-B -F#

To think I did this just for you,

[PETER]

For me!

BARON

G A Bm

So Peter, what's it... to be...?

RICHARD

G A Bm

Are you loyal to me...?

BARON and RICHARD sword fight and circle PETER.

CHOIR CHANT

Bm

Du bist meine familie, mein blut, mein land. (x repeats chant)

BARON (sung on top of chant)

Regarde cette delusion,

Veux-tu etre comme lui?

Toujours en guerre,

Cherchant la paix.

Pierre ecoute ta conscience,

Ou est ta fidelite, ta loyaute.

CHOIR CHANT [slow - echo - distant]

Bm

Du bist mein blut

D

Du bist mein blut

A

Du bist mein blut

D

Du bist mein blut

A

meine familie,

A

mein bruder,

E

mio cuoree

A

mio canzone

E

Du bist mein blut

E

Es ist wahr

E7

Du bist mein blut

E

Es ist wahr

A

mein land.

A

Du bist mein blut

A

mia amore

A

Du bist mein blut

SPOT LIGHT ON PETER

PETER

A G#

Deep in the night,

Bm Bb

He appears in your sight,

A - C - G A - C - G [clashing of swords]

Who are you loyal to....? It can only be one

A - C - G A - C - G [clashing of swords]

Who are you loyal to....? It can only be one

A G#

Once in your life,

B Bb

You must decide, Either way, win or lose,

A - C - G A - C - G [clashing of swords]

Who are you loyal to....? It can only be one

A - C - G A - C - G [clashing of swords]

Who are you loyal to....? It can only be one

G F#

Like a leopard from the dark,

A Ab

He's the man in the mask,

G F#

You'll be challenged to choose,

B A Ab

PETER slowly draws his sword...

CHOIR

Bm G G# A

Who are you loyal to....

F#m G Eb E

Who are you loyal to?

E A D G
To who are you loyal? To whom are you loyal?

C F D
Who are you loyal to?

PETER

Bsus4 A C G (power chords) fade....

I... don't... know.... Who should I be loyal to?

B heart beat bass + straight beat
To who? To who? To who?

To who? (music stops) [TOTAL DARKNESS]

BARON / RICHARD / PETER

A6

Murder!

ENTER GUARDS rush in to corner and surround PETER and RICHARD.

BARON

Seize them!

GARIMOUND

You're going nowhere. Drop it.

RICHARD

You can still live.

RICHARD throws his sword to the ground. GUARDS rush and seize PETER & RICHARD.

ENTER NICOLE & MERILDA

BARON

You are no longer my son. Take them to the dungeons.

NICOLE

Papa!

MERILDA

[Cries]

GARIMOUND

Come along.

PETER

What did you expect from me?

GUARDS drag PETER & RICHARD out.

Curtain falls to Big orchestral sound - "who should I be loyal too" riff on guitar.

END OF SCENE #11

SCENE #12. DUDLEY CASTLE Dungeons. PETER, RICHARD in chains, behind bars. Dusk. Lit by flames.

RICHARD
If only I could see Merilda once more.

PETER
Listen. Someone approaches. Nicole!

NICOLE appears with candle light and keys to open door.

NICOLE
Quick! Use this key.

NICOLE passes key to PETER, who unlocks chain keeping him to floor.

RICHARD
My God. She loves you.

PETER
She's my sister.

RICHARD
She's not ye sister and the Baron ain't ye Dad. What part don't ye get?

PETER
Here.

RICHARD
Admit ye love her.

PETER
Its not working.

NOISE OF FOOT STEPS

GARIMOUND [off stage]
Bum-di-bum bum-bum.....

NICOLE
Its Garimound.

RICHARD
Leave key and go.

NICOLE
I'm sorry Richard, it was the only one I could get.

PETER
Damn it!

RICHARD
Go!

GARIMOUND [off stage]
Bum-di-bum bum-bum.....

RICHARD
Meet me at the Lickeys, by the sound of the Kestrel.

PETER
Richard...

RICHARD
Go!

PETER and NICOLE exit. Pause in corridor.

NICOLE
I'm not really your sister...

PETER
I know.

NICOLE
Kiss me.

PETER plants a kiss upon NICOLE's cheek. She responds by embracing and kissing on the mouth.

NICOLE
Oh Pierre.. do you love her?.

PETER
It's not a case of love.

NICOLE
Isn't it? Isn't that what all its about? ... I will runaway to Calais. Unless...

PETER
Nicole! ...

NICOLE
Yes.

PETER
Call me Peter.

NICOLE
Goodbye Peter.
NICOLE rushes back into the Castle.

PETER
Bye.

EXIT PETER.

BARONESS and GARIMOUND are in the dungeon. TWO GUARDS wait outside.

BARONESS
Where is Pierre?

GARIMOUND
Let me take him downstairs, to the torture chamber. I'll make him talk.

BARONESS
No. Go look for Pierre. Leave two guards outside.

GARIMOUND EXITS

BARONESS [circling Richard]
You know you could be useful to me... [*she walks her fingers up his chest*] Maybe I will show you how to love, Norman style.

RICHARD
You're too old, too fat and you're French.

BARONESS
Ha! Your ironic English whit. But first I want you to kill my step-daughter.

RICHARD
Nicole?

BARONESS

Yes. Then I want you to kill my husband.

RICHARD

[breathes heavily] I'll kill the Baron for you now.

BARONESS

No. It must be Nicole first. She is too young for Lord Oolighan. He needs a woman, who is experienced.

RICHARD

You think he's gonna marry you?

BARONESS

[Quietly] Do this and I will smuggle you to safety. Do we have a deal?

RICHARD

Deal.

BARONESS

Eh bien. Guards! Unlock this prisoner.

ENTER two guards, who unlock RICHARD's shackle. BARONESS

BARONESS

Come.

BARONESS and RICHARD leave the cells and walk up stairs followed by GUARDS

BARONESS

Stay close. [To GUARDS]

BARONESS notions GUARDS to leave, but stay close.

BARONESS

Hide here. I will be back shortly. If you move I will have the guards kill you.

RICHARD hides behind drapes. BARONESS enters main hall, joining BARON, MERILDA and NICOLE

BARONESS

How is Lord Oolighan?

BARON

He'll recover.

NICOLE

You cannot keep me captive forever. Besides, I can not marry Lord Oolighan, for I love another.

BARON

Do you love someone else? Nicole?

BARONESS

The marriage goes ahead.

NICOLE

Its not fair!

BARONESS

Go to your room. I will talk with you soon.

NICOLE

Huh!

EXIT NICOLE. BARONESS strokes BARON's back and shoulder.

BARONESS

Why don't you rest darling. It will soothe your mind.

BARON

[exhails heavily]....Perhaps.

EXIT BARON. BARONESS waits for all clear, then ENTERS corridor and signals RICHARD, hiding.

BARONESS

Psst! Come.

ENTER RICHARD from hiding.

BARONESS

I shall divert the guards. Wait ten minutes, then go to Nicole's room and kill her.

RICHARD

What about a weapon?

BARONESS

You have strong hands. And don't try escaping. I will post guards on all exits.

RICHARD hides behind curtain. TOTALLY EVIL theme plays. BARONESS walks back into Main Hall.

BARONESS

I'm totally evil.... Ha, ha, ha, ha.

ENTER MERILDA into corridor. RICHARD appears from hiding.

RICHARD

Merilda!

MERILDA

Oh Richard!

RICHARD and MERILDA embrace and kiss

RICHARD

The Baroness has asked me to murder Lady Nicole.

MERILDA

What! Wait for me. I must give something to the Baroness. I will return.

RICHARD and MERILDA kiss

RICHARD

You are too sweet.

MERILDA

And I addicted to you.

RICHARD hides. MERILDA exits corridor and ENTERS the Hall

MERILDA

Ma'am. This present has arrived from Lord Oolighan.

MERILDA hands a present to BARONESS, who opens it, to find the Golden Comb inside.

BARONESS

A golden comb.

GARIMOUND and GAURDS enter corridor and notice drapes move.

RICHARD [from outside room]

English scab!

GARIMOUND

At least my Mother doesn't starve to death.

MERILDA

If there is nothing else, Ma'am.

NOISE of a struggle as GARIMOUND uncovers RICHARD.

BARONESS

What is that?

BARONESS Enters the hall.

GARIMOUND

We found him trying to escape M'Lady.

MERILDA

A! [speechless]

BARONESS

Imbecile!

RICHARD

She's plotting to murder you Baron!

GARIMOUND and GUARDS struggle to silence RICHARD

BARONESS

Take him to the dungeons!

GARIMOUND

Do you need a confession Ma'am?

BARONESS

No. Just torture him!

MERILDA

No! Why must you torture him? No!

BARONESS

Silence!

RICHARD

Merilda!

EXIT GARIMOUND and GUARD's with RICHARD. BARONESS keeps hold of MERILDA as she cries.

MERILDA

No! No. Don't torture him. Please.. [Hysterical]

BARONESS

Come child. I'm sorry about all that. Let me see your hair. Turn around. What beautiful hair you have.

BARONESS stands behind MERILDA combing her long hair with GOLDEN COMB.

BARONESS

Beautiful silky hair.

BARONESS withdraws knife. Grabs MERILDA's hair, yanks down, pulls head back. Slits throat.

MERILDA

Ur!

MERILDA slumps to floor, dead. FX: TOTALLY EVIL Theme

BARONESS

I'm totally evil.... Ha, ha.

END OF SCENE #12

SCENE #13. DUDLEY CASTLE. Exterior. Morning. Gallows are prepared. VILLAGERS, BOSKER, KETELBURT, AEDILTHRYD, in front of rostrum. SUTTON, OOLIGHAN & BARONESS behind.

BABY cries, her Mother is frantic. AEDILTHRYD approaches her and hums a lullaby to soothe her.

SWEET LULLABY - Quick Waltz - Sung by AEDILTHRYD, BOSKER, KETELBURT & VILLAGERS

AEDILTHRYD

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| G | There, there baby there... | D | Dry your eye, |
| D7 | Go to sleep my child, | G | Don't you cry. |
| D7 | Mmm | G | Mmm |

OOLIGHAN hands the Golden Comb to BARONESS, they talk over humming.

OOLIGHAN
For you Baroness.

BARONESS
You're making me blush Lord Oolighan.

AEDILTHRYD

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| G | D7 | G |
| I - will - sing | Sweet Lullaby | |

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Sing-sing-sing | A lullaby |
| Sing-song-sing | A melody, |
| You've no need to see this, | So baby close your eyes.. |
| I will sing you a Sweet Lullaby, | |

BOSKER

| | | |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|
| Verse 1. | G | D |
| | Our world woz full of laughter, | But now it'd make ye cry |
| | D7 | G |
| | Since the Normans said hello, | Our Freedom said goodbye, |
| | G | G7 |
| | So when we start Rebelling, | And they question us why? |
| | G | D7 |
| | Reply Sing-song-sing.. Sweet Lullaby. | |

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Chorus | G | D |
| Everyone! | Sing sing sing, | a lull- a - by, |
| | D7 | G |
| | Sing-sing-sing | Sweet melody, |
| | G | G7 |
| | If we all sing together | We shall over come, |
| | G | D7 |
| | As we Sing-sing-sing, | Sweet Lullaby. |

| | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Verse 2. | We all know war is pointless, | And poverty is wrong, |
| | In equality of riches | We have suffered for too long, |
| | So though they have the power, | They will never take our song. |
| | If we Sing-sing-sing... sing along.. | Everyone! |

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chorus | G | D |
| | Sing sing sing, | a lull-a-by... |
| | D7 | G |
| | Sing song sing, | a mel-o-dy... |
| | G | G7 |
| | Coz notes are more than music, | O they will set you free, |
| | G | D7 |
| | If you Sing-sing-sing, | Sweet melody |

GARIMOUND

The murder of Merilda of the House of Dudley.

KETELBURT

He's no M-murderer!

VILLAGERS

Boo....

GARIMOUND

Shall ye burn at the stake, till ye breathe nay more.

GARIMOUND holds up a flaming torch.

BOSKER

Scandalous!

KETELBURT

Outrage!

VILLAGERS

Boo!

[Repeat ad lib]

BARONESS steps up on to stage.

BARONESS

Do you have anything to say, before I light this fire.

RICHARD

This is wrong... No one would burn someone. Not alive.

BARONESS

I will say a prayer for you.

RICHARD

Get me out of here! [shouts] I wouldn't kill her. [weeps] I love her.

RICHARD struggles with ropes. GUARD hands jug of fuel to GARIMOUND, who tosses it onto wood.

BOSKER

How could ye do it? To yer own k-kind.

KETELBURT

S-s-scab!

GARIMOUND

Who said that?

ALL

SCAB! SCAB! SCAB!

Drum roll silences crowd. GUARD hands torch to GARIMOUND. An arrow strikes his ankle. Drops torch.

GARIMOUND

Argh!

ALL

Hurrah!

OOLIGHAN pounces onto stage, picks flaming torch. Arrow hits OOLIGHAN. He drops torch. Retreats.

OOLIGHAN

Argh!

GUARDS look but can't see bowman.

CROWD

Hurrah!!

BARONESS picks up torch, tosses onto pyre. Wood goes up in flames. Watches gleefully. PETER emerges from hiding with loaded bow. 3rd arrow hits BARONESS. She topples into flames. Drops Golden Comb. BOSKER picks it up. RICHARD grabs hold of BARONESS. Pulls her to him in embrace. They burn.

BARONESS

Argh!

GUARDS attempt to save BARONESS, but flames too fierce. GUARDS fire arrows at PETER.

FX: Solitary note. Cast fall silent as RICHARD and PETER's eye meet.

RICHARD

Do it!

PETER shoots arrow into RICHARD's heart.

RICHARD
Merildaaaaa!!!!!

CROWD
Huh! [in-take of breath]

FX sound of crackling wood burning. FX Dong of deep bell.

RICHARD drops BARONESS. Both dead they burn. GUARDS, GARIMOUND & CROWD leave, one-by-one.

IN CHRIST WE PAY - sung by WULFWIN & MOTHER & CHORUS
[4/4 Tempo 90.] CHORUS Bass on C dropping to Bb

CHORUS [Liturgically]

Riccardo è morto,
È passato nel mondo
Tutti i suoi
È andato al cielo

Riccardo se n'è andato,
dello spirito
peccati sono puliti
Riposi in pace,

PETER collapses to his knees.

COMETUS

To understand one's mortality, is the mark of a man. But to feel the pain for the death of one you love.. there is no greater woe. When the good die young, even the God's themselves cry.

ENTER SPIRIT [WULFWIN] & MOTHER in WHITE. They look on RICHARD & PETER.

FX: Thunder and Lightning and torrential rain arrive.

PETER

Richard! Oh Richard. Forgive me! [*screams at top of voice*]

BLACKOUT.

END OF SCENE #13

SCENE #14. WOODS, near BIRMINGHAM. PETER [long beard and moustache] wanders, looking at clouds. Light thunder rumbles.

COMETUS

By the time of the next full moon, Peter was reduced to hiding in the woods, an outlaw, his only source of comfort, the memory of the only woman he had ever truly loved.....

PETER

[whistles like a bird]

KESTRAL flies over head.

COMETUS

They say, that when the sun chases shadows across the ridge of Beacon Hill, and Kestrels hover overhead, the voice of Richard, can be heard, calling... calling... [two tone whistle] Pee-ta, [two tone whistle] Pee-ta.. calling for his brother, through the whistle of the wind and song of the bird.

SFX: Kestral whistling.

NICOLE

[Off stage] Peter! Peter!

PETER

Nicole? Nicole!

ENTER AEDILTHRYD with food in swaddling bag. Bowl of broth, metal spoon and bread. PETER looks around, confused.

AEDILTHLRYD

Peter.

PETER

Aedilthryd!

They embrace.

AEDILTHLRYD

I have brought you food.

PETER & AEDILTHLRYD huddle beneath the tree. Peter unravels swaddling & eats from metal bowl

AEDILTHLRYD

You are hungry.

PETER

[eating] Hmm... Have we sold any arms?

AEDILTHLRYD

No Peter. Geoffrey of Worcester sent a messenger, there is a death sentence on anyone who trades with Bermingham. The men will make no more swords. There's no market for them.

PETER

But they must.

AEDILTHLRYD

Lets run away Peter. Just you and me. Start a new life. The two of us.

PETER

No. My home is here, in Berimigham. I will make things work.

AEDILTHLRYD

Ye can't hide here forever. In the rain... Peter... They'll find you. And kill you. Take me away Peter. To the sea. Far away were the sun is hot. Like you told me. It sounds so beautiful. I've never seen the sea. Oh Peter, I don't want you to die...

PETER turns away

AEDILTHLRYD

Can I ask ye something?

PETER
What?

AEDILTHLRYD
I mean ye won't get angry if I ask ye?

PETER
Ask me what?

AEDILTHLRYD
Ye do luv me don't ye?

PETER
Love! How can I think of love? At a time like this...

AEDILTHLRYD
You're still thinking about that Lady whisface...
PETER stops eating

PETER
Don't ever call her that again!

AEDILTHLRYD
Who is she anyway? Stuck up tart! What d'you care about her for? Ain't I good enough for ye? Not French enough for ye? Want me to speak all Lar-di-dar! "*Voulez vous coucher avec moi?*"

PETER walks away

AEDILTHLRYD
Don't go Peter! Please don't go. I didn't mean it.
AEDILTHRYD walks after PETER. He shrugs away from her.

Peter! She's your sister, I respect that. Peter! ...
PETER walks off. The rain begins to stop.

Stay in this wood too long, an the Spirit's 'll haunt ye, like they did ye Dad.... Peter! PETER!!
AEDILTHLRYD breaks down and sobs

I love you. [into her hands]
AEDILTHLRYD wipes her eyes and pulls herself together.

If you want her. She's in Bermingham now! Waiting for you!

AEDILTHLRYD kicks PETER's food things, EXITS in hurry. PETER watches her leave. Sits thinking.

ENTER SUTTON

SUTTON
I knew you'd be here. Your sister's in danger. She has returned from Calais and will marry Lord Oolighan, tonight. After which she will be murdered.

PETER
What makes you so sure?

SUTTON
I planned it.

PETER
You?

SUTTON

Forgive me! I should have stood by you, in the cave. I should have stood up to him. But I am weak. A coward.

PETER

Your admission shows courage.

SUTTON

Lord Oolighan plans to marry into the House of Dudley, then have them all killed. I was to inherit my old home, Dudley Castle. But no more... If we are to confront him, we must act now.

PETER

I must visit Bermingham first.

EXIT PETER and SUTTON.

END OF SCENE #14

SCENE #15: BIRMINGHAM. Exterior. Dusk. BOSKER & KETELBURT

BOSKER

Couldn't sleep last night for thinking about sex. Sex, sex sex. What do you think it means?

KETELBURT

I think it m-m-means. You're not getting any.

ENTER PETER

BOSKER

You mustn't stay Peter, Lord Oolighan is due any moment. He's vowed to burn the village and kill everyone, if we don't hand you over.

PETER

Give every man a sword

KETELBURT

All our new swords g-g-gone. Sigmund took them..

ENTER AEDILTHLRYD. She runs into PETER's arms and falls to his knees clinging to his legs.

AEDILTHLRYD

Oh, I lied. Peter! You must leave! He'll kill you.

PETER

Hide her... I'll be in my manor.

PETER exits to his manor, while SUTTON takes AEDILTHLRYD away sobbing

ENTER OOLIGHAN, SIGMUND, LALIQUE, GARIMOUND & 2 GUARDS carrying burning torches.

OOLIGHAN

Assemble your villagers!

VILLAGERS enter and congregate. AEDILTHLRYD watches the men from a hiding vantage.

OOLIGHAN

Read them their rights.

GARIMOUND

Oh Yey! Oh Yey!

OOLIGHAN

Shut up you fool! Laliq.

LALIQUE

By order of the Duke, you are charged with hiding a wanted criminal.

OOLIGHAN

Enough! Perhaps a demonstration of our resolve? ... Sigmund burn this home.

SIGMUND

M'Lord.. Ha, harr...

SIGMUND throws a burning torch onto a straw roof. The building begins to burn.

OOLIGHAN

If you do not produce Pierre, I will burn this entire village and kill each and everyone of you!

PETER steps from the manor

PETER

Goodday Lord Oolighan!

OOLIGHAN

Ah! At last. Peter de Bermingham. Hero of the peasantry. I shall have your skin for my saddle.

PETER
Why so many men?

OOLIGHAN
You're a dead man Pierre.

PETER
You couldn't beat me as a child and you can't beat me now. You are a coward. Afraid to face me man-to-man.

OOLIGHAN
Very impressive Pierre. You 'ave a big mouth.
FX: PETER swings his sword.
And a big sword.

FX: OOLIGHAN draws his sword
Which I have too.

FX: GUARDS withdraw their swords. GUARDS surround PETER.
No! Leave him to me.

OOLIGHAN lunges at PETER. They sword fight a while until PETER's sword is cut in two.

OOLIGHAN
What a pity your sword wasn't made in Bermingham.

PETER edges towards those carrying flaming torches. Removes a handful of white powder from his pocket.

PETER
You want to know the secret to Damascus steel?

OOLIGHAN pauses. PETER tosses magnesium into flaming torches. WHITE flash blinds everyone. PETER knocks OOLIGHAN to ground. PETER rises with his sword.

ALL
Oh!

PETER
Rather bright isn't it?

OOLIGHAN grabs AEDILTHLRYD and puts a knife to her throat.

OOLIGHAN
Drop your sword or I shall slit her throat.

AEDILTHLRYD
[Screams] Peter!

OOLIGHAN
You want me to kill her! Drop your sword.

AEDILTHRYD
Peter, please.

PETER
Here!

PETER throws sword at SIGMUND. Charges him. They fight on floor. OOLIGHAN pushes AEDILTHRYD away. Stabs at two on ground. PETER whistles. Kestral attacks OOLIGHAN's face.

OOLIGHAN
Arrrgh! [*clutching his eye*]
OOLIGHAN stabs out wildly and stabs SIGMUND who drops his sword and lets PETER go.

SIGMUND
Ya!!!
PETER grabs the sword on the floor and waves it towards SIGMUND and OOLOGHAN.

OOLIGHAN

Guards!

GUARDS & VILLAGERS fight. VILLAGERS win. OOLIGHAN escapes. PETER stabs SIGMUND

SIGMUND

Arrrh!

GUARDS surrender.

PETER

Anyone else? Arm yourself men.

PETER approaches GARIMOUND

PETER

You are a disgrace. You just don't listen. Ketelburt! Take his knife.

KETELBURT takes GARIMOUND's knife

PETER

Cut off his ear.

KETELBURT

W-w-what?

PETER takes knife from KETELBURT, slices GARIMOUND's ear off. Gives to GARIMOUND

PETER

Next time maybe you'll listen to your conscience.

SIGMUND runs away.

PETER

Give me a bow.

BOSKER hands PETER a BOW. PETER loads aims fires. SIGMUND falls. LALIQUE & GUARDS step back.

PETER

Lalique.

LALIQUE

You were acting in self defence, which is not a crime. I will report as much.

PETER

Then you are as blind as you are evil. Now get your sorry French ass back to Normandy, where it belongs. Because if I ever see it here again. I will kill you. MOVE! I hope you guards, know whose side you are on. Go! Go!

LALIQUE recoils sharply. Then EXITS with GUARDS followed nervously by GARIMOUND.

BOSKER

Peter, I heard the King is to visit Dudley today. In view of your plans. Maybe you ought to visit Dudley, before Lord Oolighan gets there. I believe this is yours.

BOSKER hands the Golden Comb to PETER.

PETER

How extraordinary. Thank you Bosker. I owe you.

ENTER ALBION making a noise. ALBION rises onto her hind legs and neighs.

PETER

I must go. Come on Albion. Ya!

EXIT PETER on ALBION to **ALBION REPRISÉ**

END OF SCENE #15

SCENE # 16. DUDLEY CASTLE. PETER stands at the gate to Dudley Castle.

PETER knocks on the Gate to Dudley Castle, but it doesn't open.

PETER
Open this gate!

PETER sits dejectedly. ENTER NICOLE.

NICOLE
Peter.

PETER
Nicole? [Rising]

NICOLE
I was captured. Brought back, to marry Lord Oolighan.

PETER
Will you?

NICOLE
I would rather die.

NICOLE and PETER embrace and kiss.

NICOLE
Kiss me once more.

NICOLE and PETER kiss. PETER holds a paper petition.

PETER
I must present this to the king. Tis my only chance. But they won't [kicks *on gate*] let me in!

NICOLE
I shall get you in. Face the gate and don't turn around.

PETER
But how?

NICOLE
When I whistle, knock on the gate.

PETER turns his back on NICOLE. NICOLE strips naked.

NICOLE
No looking back. [whistles]

PETER knocks on gate. GARIMOUND appears, followed by GUARDS.

An old trick my grandmother taught me.

GUARDS and GARIMOUND start whistling.

GARIMOUND
Oh my God!

SENTRIES
Whistles. Whoooo!

More Guards appear. Trumpets announce the coming of the King. THE KING appears at the top of the Castle. PETER turns around to see NICOLE naked.

NICOLE
I said don't look!

KING
Who are you my dear?

NICOLE

I am Lady Nicole your majesty.

The BARON appears at the top of the Castle.

BARON

Nicole! Put some clothes on!

NICOLE covers up.

KING

And what causes you to parade so immodestly?

NICOLE

My friend has something to ask you, your Majesty.

KING

Mm.. Open the gates, let them in.

The GATES open, PETER and NICOLE enter. To be met by the KING, BARON, and ALL.

PETER

Your Majesty. My name is Peter de Bermingham. I would like the freedom to open a market in my village.

PETER holds out his Petition. Which the KING accepts.

KING

Since you are tenacious enough to come before me, I shall grant your market.

PETER

No your Majesty. It is not the Market I wish for. But the freedom to open one. I want you to make it the free right for all in England, including the English, to open a market, when they so desire.

ALL

[Murmurings of shock.] Huh.

KING

So you want me to relinquish control over trade.

PETER

No your Majesty. All markets would be happy to pay dues to the Crown. More freedom to trade will mean more revenue for your Majesty.

KING

Hmm.

ENTER LALIQUE

LALIQUE

I would be failing in my duty if I did not point out that this young man is not of Noble birth and therefore cannot be the holder of a Royal Charter for a Market place.

NICOLE

But I am, your Majesty.

KING

Oh?

NICOLE [turning to Peter]

My full title is Lady Nicole Godiva Pagnell, daughter to the Baron of Dudley.

BARON

I can vouch for her credentials.

KING

I think we can all vouch for her credentials. Do you intend to share this title, by marriage to this man?

FOREVER - duet sung by PETER & NICOLE with CHORUS

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| NICOLE | | CHORUS |
| Is it me, you love? Or am I wasting time? Dreaming that you care, When your heart is cold, | | <i>Yes he cares... Oooo....</i> |
| Is it me , you love? Or is there someone who, Is frozen in your heart, Is tearing me apart, That's what you do.. | | <i>He loves you... You can melt his heart. Ooooo....</i> |
| I'm a man of this world, And I know for love I have to fight, But one thing is sure, In the deep of the night, | | [cymbal crescendo] I long to hold you tight.. |
| PETER | NICOLE | |
| Its true... That I | <i>Yes he loves, loves you, loves you Love you</i> | <i>Could it be true Yes its true....</i> |
| <i>That you love me?</i> | | |
| But I don't know what to say, For everyone I've loved.. Is taken away... | | <i>Yes he loves, loves you, loves you Oooo....</i> |
| As a man of this world The thought of losing you gives me a fright, If you were taken away.. Please try to stay, | | [cymbal crescendo] I long to be holding you tight.. |
| PETER | | |
| If its me Please tell me now... Don't leave me on my own, Don't abandon me here now, I need to know.. | you love | <i>It could be Yes he loves you so.... He'll always loves you so.... Oooo....</i> |
| PETER | | |
| I'm a man of this world, Without you I could not carry on, Its time to say, That you'll never stray | | [cymbal crescendo] NICOLE & PETER By your side, is where I belong... |
| NICOLE | | PETER |
| Its you So tell | I love Me now. | <i>My heart it beats for you... Please tell me now.... its true...</i> |
| NICOLE | | PETER |
| I will wipe away your tears, NICOLE & PETER | | All throughout the years, |
| We will live as one, in love. Forever.... we will be..... in love..... | | Forever ... we will be..... in love..... |

PETER and NICOLE kiss and embrace.

SHE HAS BEATEN ME sung by AEDILTHRYD in ragged dress. Moves to centre stage.
[to tune of **Halley's Comet**] sung by CHORUS, NICOLE, PETER

| | |
|--|---|
| AEDILTHRYD | |
| This black demon bewitched my love, Disguis'ed as a snow white dove! With root of herb and snip of tail, Turn the witch to clay... | This potion will prevail, She's a bitch! A Witch! Know your name.. |

AEDILTHRYD
 Bb Eb Ab Bb
Look at her, o-ver there?
 Bb Eb Ab Bb
Broke this heart, and stripped me bare,
 Ab Cm Cm+f# Fm
She has killed me, With a blunt knife,

Fm Bb
She has beaten me, cheated me, Stole from me, took from me,
 NICOLE

PETER
My love for you will never die..
 NICOLE
One touch of you and I feel fine..
 PETER
There's only one thing I can see,
That is for you to be with me....

ADELTHRYD
 Ab C+g#
She's been a crook to me, Total damn bitch to me.
 PETER

But I Love.....you.....

ADELTHRYD
 Ab Bb
I will a-Ve-enge... Have re-ve-enge...
 PETER

With all my heart.... With all my soul,

ADELTHRYD
 Cm Fm
I will kill her with my hands...
 NICOLE

Whatever it takes.... Take me now...

ADELTHRYD
Arrrrgh!!!

Aedilthryd launches herself at Nicole. They roll around on the floor fighting.

PETER
Never a dull moment. [To the audience] Come. Stop it! Stop it!

PETER drags Aedilthryd off Nicole.

AEDILTHRYD
 She 'az bewitched you Peter. She's a witch! She needs burning at the stake! Dunk her in the moat!

PETER
 It's over, Aedilthryd. I do not love you.

PETER draws AEDILTHRYD into his arms and hugs her.

AEDILTHRYD
 Oh Peter, say you still love me.

PETER
 No. No.
[Peter has his arm around Aedilthryd. Peter points in an arch, encompassing the audience, over music...]

COMETUS
 Look around you.... do you notice?
 The sun still shines... The grass, still green...
 And the leaves on the trees, Still rustle in the breeze,
 The birds they sing, Flowers still grow..
 And for all our troubles..Life simply carries on....
 Love is sweet. And like all sweet things,
 It tantalizes... then disappears.

AEDILTHRYD
 You're right... You're not good enough for me. Bosker! Bosker!
ENTER BOSKER
 BOSKER
 Yes my sweet!

PETER
How did you get here?

BOSKER
It wasn't easy. [Jewish sounding]

AEDILTHLRYD
Come here ye Barmy Bard of Bermingham.
AEDILTHLRYD draws BOSKER into her chest. The embrace

CAST
Arrhh....

BOSKER
I'm in clotted cream heaven.

PETER gets down on one knee and holds NICOLE's hand. They face each other.

PETER
Will you, Nicole, marry me.

NICOLE
If my father will allow?

PETER
If he is still my father?

BARON
I am and I do.

PETER
I shall love you with every beat of my heart.
PETER hands the GOLDEN COMB to NICOLE. STAR APPEARS IN SKY. MUSIC STARTS.

HALLEYS COMET reprise - sung by CHORUS, NICOLE, PETER

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| Our future's in the sky tonight, | Stark against a coal black night, | |
| Five hundred years, Shall we reign... | To burn the eternal flame. | |
| Bermingham's the name... | | |
| NICOLE | PETER | ALL |
| Peter... | Nicole... | I love you.... |

ENTER LORD OOLIGHAN to the tune of TOTALLY EVIL

OOLIGHAN
Your Majesty! [full dramatic bow] This young man has taken liberty with my fiance. I demand justice.
A duel to the death.

ALL
[Deathly surprise] O!!

KING
Is this true?

PETER
For her liberty, your Majesty, I would offer my life.

KING
So be it. Here as a Nobleman I grant you my sword.
GUARDS hand the KINGS sword to OOLIGHAN. PETER has no weapon.

OOLIGHAN
You can't beat the system Peter.
THE BARON withdraws his sword and hands it to PETER.

BARON

Here, you may have mine. It is one of your own.

OOLIGHAN

To the death. En garde!

GAURDS & GARIMOUND withdraw swords to guard KING while OOLIGHAN and PETER sword fight. PETER slices the KING's sword in half and pins OOLIGHAN with the tip of his sword

KING

Good God! He sliced my sword in clean half.

PETER

Open your legs.

OOLIGHAN

What are you going to do, make love to me?

PETER puts the blade between OOLIGHAN's legs.

PETER

I shall forgive you.

OOLIGHAN

I knew you didn't have the balls for it.

PETER pulls the blade upwards, between OOLIGHAN's legs.

OOLIGHAN

Arrrrrhhh!!!

PETER

You are forgiven.

GUARDS & SIGMUND rush to OOLIGHAN's side, as he lies on the floor clutching his crutch.

GUARD

He's bleeding badly.

PETER

He's a bleeding nuisance.

KING slow claps

KING

Oh Bravo! That was splendid!

OOLIGHAN slumps to ground. PETER holds his sword by blade, offers to KING

PETER

My apologies for breaking the royal sword. May I humbly offer you my own.

The KING picks up the sword and swings it.

KING

Remarkable!. From where did you get such a weapon?

PETER

I made it your Majesty. And would be honoured to make them for the Kingsmen.

KING

I have the feeling that you are going to become a very rich young man.

LALIQUE

Your Majesty, will recall that marriage does not strictly make one a nobleman.

KING

Have you forgotten to whom you speak?

LALIQUE

But Norman law states that -

KING

I am the law! Let he who hath no love of England, leave these shores and leave those of us who breath its fresh liberal air, walk its lush green fields, be free, to jest and to drink, to love our women, raise our children, and talk of days of old, till night has come.

Tis no life to live where the heart cannot rest nor the mind speak. For therein shall the soul search the eternal shore.

Lo, I did conquer this nation, as promise'd me, by Kind Edward, understand I well, his reason. For to live on this island, is to love all life has to offer. To be English. To love unstintingly ones family, to feather well ones home, be humble in your words, yet loud in your actions and honest your dealings.

The spirit of England rains like manna from heaven. Free! for all who wish to catch it. It demands nothing but an open heart. Lo yield'th enough to fill the largest mind or sate the deepest desire. It touches Kings, yet quenches the thirst of the weakest lamb that hath walked the thorny mile.

I am by birth of Normandy. Today a King... but what is more... I am an Englishman!

ALL

Hooray!

PETER

Long Live the King!

ALL

Long Live The King. Hooray!

KING

By the power vested in me, as defender of the faith and King of all England, I hereby grant Peter de Bermingham a Royal Charter to make arms, to operate a market, ..and do anything else he should so desire. And so on and so forth...

PETER

Thank you Your Majesty.

COMETUS

So began the legend of Peter de Bermingham, whose family reigned for 500 years. Their tombs can be seen today on the site of Peter's old house, in St. Martin's church. And if you ever want to see old Cometus... you know where to find me.... I'll be waiting...

BOSKER and AEDILTHLYRD hold hands alongside PETER and NICOLE. PETER slashes at OOLIGHAN's cloak and removes a planted mask from OOLIGHAN's cloak

PETER

Your Majesty. If I may. I thought as much. He! is the Man in the Mask.

ALL

[*Sharp intake of breathe*] Huh!

BARON

Oolighan! He has murdered five of my Blacksmith, your Majesty.

PETER

The evidence!

HOLDING up the MASK

OOLIGHAN

Its not mine. [croaks] I've been framed..

Where do you come from?
Where are you going?
What do you want to do with your life?

If you neglect it
You will regret it,
You only get one chance in this life.

All the love in the world, couldn't change how I feel To live in Brum,
I live Brum, For Birmingham, Is where I am.

I live in Brum... Cometus... gave us the... City of Trees
Home of the... Birth of the... Land of the Free

[Soprano Call] Birmingham Birmingham Birmingham, In Birmingham,
[Tenor Reply] *Birmingham* *Birmingham* *Birmingham* *in Brum,*

In Bir-ming-ham Bir-ming-ham Birmingham
Bir-ming-ham *Bir-ming-ham* *Birmingham*

[Slow]

All the Joy... In the world... lives here.. And I...
Was born.. In the heart of Eng-land Bir-ming-ham, Birmingham!

Come to me... Everyone, Come and see... Everyone,
Come along... Everyone, And you will see,

All the world like a laugh in the Midlands,
For everyone here, ha ha ha,, Is having fun, ha, ha, ha
That's how we live in Birmingham,

Ber-ming-ham.. *My love,*

How many times must I tell you, I don't want to live here anymore, Brum....

Far and wide have I travelled now I don't want to leave you anymore...
My home town, your home town, My home town, your home town and Love....

My home town, My home town, My home town... of Ber-ming-ham...
My home... Your home... Town

ENTER CAST enter. Singing and clapping with the audience to song. CAST bows as

CURTAIN CLOSES

END OF SCENE #16

END OF ACT II

THE END
