

© “There are billions of stars, planets Venus and Mars,
but there’s only one Earth ”

K*U*B*E

©(Kids Uniting for a better Earth)

Presents:



© “MOTHER EARTH STRIKES BACK”

©Libretto and Music:- © TED HAMILTON PUBLISHING PTY LTD

© “We can all make a difference”

©“The character of a nation is disclosed by the value it places on the creative
education and social inclusion of its children”

Cast of characters:-

Jason: A Teenage boy

Aphrodite (Aphie): A teenage girl (First People descent)

Fang-u: A Celestial Serpent fro the Dreaming – guide to the Humans

Mother Earth: An attractive, First People Woman - Custodian of the Earth

The “THE TOXICS”: Personifications of the bad habits of Humans - (AKA “WAYS”:

Threxx: Destroys life indiscriminately for pleasure - the Ultimate Bully-boy

Carbo Man: Fossil fuel and fluorocarbon guzzler... Loves smog and effluent

Uzee-once-a: Uses everything just once and then throws it away- including
Marcel Maggot

Waste-a-lot: The vampire of voltage - devours all energy sources

Marcel Maggot: Inhabits and delights in the piles of human waste and is in love
with Uzee-once

Bonezee: Poisons the Earth and the Seas; creates “Hot Spots!”

Greedee: A flaw in Humans: A mirror with little feet, - Green in colour

Mum: Jason’s mother/possible dual role for Mother Earth

Jelly-Fish: Mother Earth’s messenger/minder

Newzzee and Mikee: The blabbermouth twins - newspaper and microphone

Whiskey: A Whiskey Bottle: Attorney for the Kids and all non-recycled trash.

Confucius: Chinese philosopher of -“The Way”and FANG-U’S mentor;
Friend and advisor to Zeus

Zeus: king of the Olympian Gods

Hera: Wife to Zeus

Hermes Pan: The Herald of the Gods and son of Zeus

Poseidon: God of the Sea and Brother to Zeus

Apollo: God of Music and Son to Zeus

Feature players:,

Cohee, Jelly-Fish, First People Elder, Maori Chief, American Indian and the “Trashees” played by the chorus.

Stage Sets/ Film Locations

Mount Olympus: Home of the Greek Gods - Zeus and Hera

Jason’s home in suburbia and Aphie’s backyard

Low lying tree-house in Jason’s backyard

Fairground: “Masters of the Game”

Gnosis: The Realm of Knowledge and Learning ... Many backdrops throughout the journey

Den of the “THE TOXICS” - Side show alley carnival spot

List of songs in order of appearance:

- (pg.12) “UNEASY” – (The Feeling of the Times) – duet - Jason and Aphie
- (pg.14) “Hot Spots”: Full ensemble of Kids
- (pg.21) “We Can All Make A Difference”: Fang-u, Jason and Aphie
- (pg.26) “Earthless”: Bonezee – Rapp
- (pg.40) “No - ifs, Ands, Buts or Maybes”: Entire cast in a SAMBA
- (pg.42) “Masters of the Game”: (The “THE TOXICS” March)
- (pg.47) Make Believe a Fariy Tale (APHIE)
- (pg. 55) “It’s Good To BeThe King”: (Threxx)
- (pg. 57) “You’re A Bully”: (Jason in a duet with Threxx)
- (pg. 65) “Respect” : Fang-u and cast
- (pg. 71) Reprise: “No ifs, Ands, Buts or Maybes” : (Samba Cast)
- (pg. 74) “GET IT!”: Mother Earth’s Rap/ Cast
- (pg.75) “Mother Earth’s Refrain” Mother Earth’s solo
- (pg. 81) “Greedee’s Tango”: Jason and Greedee
- (pg.84) “Building Bridges” : Hera and cast
- (pg. 86) “The River of Human Kindness”: M-E & Cast
- (pg.91) It’s Just a girl thing: Aphie
- (pg.95) The Dream: Jason and Aphie & Cast
- (pg.90) We Will Change Your Mind (Rock Anthem -Group)

16 original songs; three raps; one instrumental tango

“Mother Earth Strikes Back”

Open with a film shot of Zeus riding his pet eagle AQUILA. They zoom over the earth which discloses scenes of human devastation. Cut to Shot of Hera and Poseidon watching the Olympus News a large TV screen discloses ...A figure of Hermes- holding his Caduceus and wearing his winged helmet - appears on the screen and announces:

Hermes Pan:

Good evening... This is the Mt Olympus Earth-News and I’m Hermes Pan... *cut back to Zeus flying on Aquila, the voice over continues over scenes of planetary devastation from pollution....*

The Human affairs bureau has reported that humans continue to damage Earth and seem unable to agree on how to cure their chronic problems of Polluting the Earth, Bullying, drug abuse and their propensity for social violence...

The matter has been referred to The council of Demigods for suggested remedies... that could be dire for the Humans... and maybe us too!...

C.U Caduceus (leans in confidentially) Don’t shoot me!... I’m only the messenger

Cut to Zeus landing on Mt. Olympus

Zeus dismounts from AQUILA , pats him and storms into a shot of Hera and Poseidon watching the news screen..THEY RISE TO GREET HIM. Zeus storms past them and sits on his throne and promptly rises

ZEUS:

How many times do I have to tell you to keep your wet arse off my throne!

Poseidon shrugs . Zeus goes into a rant

ZEUS:

The humans are running amok ,their “BAD Habits”are getting the best of them!.They seem hell-bent on destroying the Earth!

Poseidon

Earth!..What about my rivers and seas they use as rubbish dumps

C.U Zeus: rolls his eyes at Hera

Zeus

“Poseidon.....Without the Earth there are no rivers or seas”

Poseidon

Humph..we’d be better off without the humans.... the Boss should give us a new batch... start again!

Hera:

You two are always interfering with the humans, why don’t you just leave them alone?

Zeus:

We can’t just sit by and let them destroy the EARTH! Anyway, who are you to talk about me leaving the humans aloneHow about you and your little indiscretions at the Bacchanalian orgies...HmMMM.

Hera:

They were with equals Darling; your little flings were with peasants. Maybe one of your little Demi-god bastards could fix things for us.

Poseidon:

Too much info....I’m outa here, time for swimmies.

Poseidon adjusts his snorkel and exits with the sound of his fins clapping. He is watched by a silent Zeus and Hera - nodding with each clip-clop. Hera wryly comments

Hera:

He’s your brother

Zeus raises his hand enough, and walks away to his console and opens his notebook

Zeus:

The problem is we have to change the minds of the humans, but only they can do that... So I’ve got to find a way to get ‘em to do that

Hera

Get some help? Call Confucius, he's master of the Way...

ZEUS:

Now that's a good idea!

Zeus consults his directory of gods- blows into his conch shell....waits then speaks....

ZEUS:

Hey Confucius, **(Zeus Waits and listens) (chuckles)**...Yes, I'll give her your regards....Con... I need your help with the humans... I need a new way to guide them...**(pauses and Waits)**...You are!...**(Waits)** alright! **(Zeus hangs up the conch phone)**. Says he's already on it, guiding his Chairman and the politburo... and he'll keep us in the loop

Hera

How about calling on Mother Earth. She's been here longer than anyone else **(holds up a cell phone)** Tweet her,

Zeus:

I'll summon her!

Zeus thrusts his arms forward and a Zap with a huge puff of smoke rises from the floor... Mother Earth emerges spluttering and waving away the smoke.

MOTHER EARTH

...Enough with the smoke! **(Mother- Earth adjusts her attire. She does the full strut toward him and presents herself)** You Zapped?

Zeus:

You're such a ham. **(Mother Earth takes a small bow)**

Mother Earth:

Well...a gal's got to show some style...what do you want?

Zeus:

I have a job for you.

Mother Earth: (droll)

Not another earthquake is it?

Zeus:

NO, NO, NO! It's the humans... they don't seem to be getting the message.

Mother Earth:

...About?

Zeus:

The environment! They talk a lot about it, but They're confused about the natural damage you create.... and the damage they create

Mother Earth:

AAAAAnnd – **(gesturing for more info)**

Zeus:

At the last Demi-Gods meeting - didn't you suggest to the "**Biga Boss**" that we send the humans an adjustment package because of the damage they were doing to you ! - Well...You were right. They need to be taught a lesson, so I need you to come up with a plan!

Mother Earth:

Have you cleared this with the " Boss? " **(she points up)**

Zeus:

Leave-a- the bossa- to me... The humans are damaging YOU, so I thought you should address it, for US. The way they're going they could blow everything up and take us with 'em... Then you would be out of a job..yes?

Mother Earth:

MaybeBut Zeus my Dear... Humans are unpredictable and dangerousso there's a compensation package in this deal ..right?

Zeus:

What are you a unionist ? **We** don't get Royalties from all of these films and stories about us! Why should you? **(Punches his fist into his hand for emphasis)** Take - one - for - the - team!

Mother Earth:

I've taken plenty for "the team"... Okay, I get it... I'll do it ... But!....On one condition

Zeus:

And - that- is? **(Zeus gestures with a give it to me).**

Mother Earth

No interference from you **(Hera applauds....Zeus glares at Hera, and she confronts Zeus**

Hera:

Earthies right! ..Build a bridge to the humans. **Teach 'em, don't punish them**

Mother Earth:

I get a free hand to run the game... I'll call you when it's done

Zeus:

Compensation package... free hand ...building bridges...running the game... Okay!... Start running!

Cut to: Jason's backyard treehouse. Our star JASON is in his backyard retreat. There are huge posters of boy things, and on a very large TV screen there's a picture of Confucius and a dragon....Jason is lying on his stomach pulling on a string tied to a bowl that is inching toward him. He is being eyeballed by a sceptical cat.

Mother: (off-stage V.O.)

"Don't forget to feed the cat".

Jason:

"I am Mum (to himself) Here kitty, kitty. **(The cat warily approaches his bowl of food**

Jason:

Come get your dinner Mr Cat.**(The cat takes another step and bang...He is hurled three feet in the air and over the side of the tree-house by stepping on a sprung tray)**

Cat:

Meeeeooooowwww!|

Jason rolls on his side crying with laughter.

CUT TO:

The cat flying past Jason's Mother as she enters the tree-house.

Jason:

HI! MUM **(Mother walks to the edge and looks for the cat)**

Mother:

Okay mister you're grounded for a week...tormenting the cat is not okay!...Since you seem to be looking for something to do. How about some chores... While I'm out, put out the garbage, and don't forget to separate all of the recyclables into their correct bins; water the plants, and finish your homework assignment.

(She points to the computer image of the celestial serpent)

Mother:

"Myths of the Dreamtime,Celestial Serpents and Dragons...Aren't you supposed to be working on an environment and bullying project?"

Jason:

I am! That's my research!They're part of it...They're supposed to be guardians of the Earth... our spiritual guides something like that

Mother:

They're supposed to be wise... hopefully, some of it will rub off on you... Let me know how it turns out. **(Heads to the door)** and about the cat... we'll discuss that with your father...I'm sure he'll have something to say. **(Mother exits. Cut to the cat as he pops up and sits on the ledge)**

Jason: (to the cat)

See what you've done...Grounded, because you can't take a joke.

Jason hops to the ground. He jogs to the rubbish bag, picks it up and feigns a basketball trot, and hurls the garbage bag toward a huge bin. It hits the side spilling several objects on the ground. (CU of several household trash) Jason just leaves

them there and whips a slingshot out of his pocket, loads and fires a shot at a bird as it buzzes past.. Jason turns on the hose and sprays it on everything in sight including over the neighbour's fence. Cut to: A beautiful teenage girl.- She calls out loudly.

Aphie (off stage)

Hey! (Jason drops the running hose and bolts to his tree-house)

Cut to: Aphie, the neighbour we heard call out, is clambering over the fence and enters Jason's tree house.

Jason:

You can't come in here!

Aphie:

Oh really! You nearly drowned me with that hose stunt, which you left running and I turned off AAAND how about that slingshot at a defenceless bird. I heard your mum getting down on you for tormenting your cat... that's a lot of brainless stuff for one little brain.

Jason:

Who are you calling brainless?

Aphie:

One guess... and it isn't the cat?

Jason:

Who are you anyway?

Aphie:

We've just moved in next door. You might have noticed, if you hadn't been so busy "terrorising" the neighbourhood. **(Throughout this we can see that JASON is entranced by her)** My name's Aphrodite.. my friends call me Aphie, but you can call me Aphrodite.

Jason:

Aphrodite?... That's a stretch. You're named after a "Greek" Goddess!

Aphie:

Glad you noticed...She's a rel...

Jason:

Must be a distant one...(**extends his hand**) I'm Jason

Aphie: (slaps his hand away)

of the Argonauts, I presume ...

Jason:

Of course...Fearless warrior who found the Golden Fleece (**Aphie eyeballs him.**)

Aphie:

more like the dickhead who found trouble!

Jason:

Hey!Hey!...You're in my man cave - uninvited - so enough with the bossy – bitch- thing...okay

Aphie:

Oh Really!.. it's you that needs to change (**short intro and Aphie sings to Jason**)

“The Feeling of the Times”

© words and music: Ted Hamilton

1st Verse:

Aphie) If we can fly to Mars and drive electric cars

You'd think we'd find a way to get along

There must be an answer why we can't all be friends

Like Dylan said, it's blowing in the wind

2nd Verse:

Jason sings)

(Jason) they say that we can't change; we're all a little strange

The problem lies within our DNA

Some say its like a virus, there's nothing we can do

(Aphie)Well if that's true, then we can say hooroo

Chorus: **(TOG).**

Uneasy is the feeling of the times

Accepting all the changes that we have to overcome

(Aphie)Political correctness is just dumb

(Jason)A man who was your dad is now your mum

3rd Verse:

UFO'S that roam just looking for a home

When they see us they quickly turn and run

We're building bigger armies they claim it's for defence

But common cause don't make much common-sense

Chorus:

Uneasy is the feeling of the times

Searching all the faces for a way between the lines

They're scared because their being's on the run

And living on the moon don't sound like fun

4th Verse:

some people shop around then lay their bodies down with strangers in those silly TV games Some promote their anger some break all the rules they make up the "people-hood" of fools

Uneasy is the feeling of the times.

It seems our nature never wants to win

We do it so much better if we re-a-lise

Together we can keep the dream alive - the dream alive. The dream alive

**CODA: repeating “uneasy” (then three times) feel uneasy, I feel uneasy, I feel
Uneasy**

An image flashing on Jason’s open lap-top is an SOS – EARTH red alert!!!....Jason and Aphie move toward it and peer at it intently. As they do a shimmering presence fills the screen. It is Mother Earth...her voice crackles)

MOTHER EARTH:

“This is Mother Earth calling her children...Help! ...My children, I need your help!”

The screen flashes the SOS-EARTH! Signal ...

Jason:

Hey! Where’s my serpent!...She took my Serpent!..See! She’s a virus

Jason angrily presses THE DELETE button on his pad and suddenly lights dim... effects happen and Jason and Aphie disappear into the screen.. Aphie’s voice echoes WAIT!!!!!!.

A pulsing tempo begins over an SOS signal. A driving contemporary dance/vocal cast enters into a skate board rink. The accompanying film footage will disclose the “Hot Spots” which is a film collage of human identities over an Urban jungle of ugly buildings - defaced with Graffiti – and abandoned slums and ghettos, in a visceral presentation displaying illustrations of anti-social behaviour. – These are not natural disasters but Instances of **human follies: riots in the streets, social and domestic violence, bullying, drunkenness, drug addiction shooting – up, and litter-bugging. A graphic display of human lunacy that creates the societal problems of pollution and bullying: “Hot spots!”**

©Hot Spots: Words and Music: Ted Hamilton

1st Verse:

The clock is on run- we’re under the gun – we’ve got to come up with a plan

The Earth's in our care and in need of repair; this is something you must understand

Don't hesitate, there's no time for debate, we need to change and It's way overdue

Hot Spots! In every town - burning the earth - turning everything brown

Hot Spots! Boiling the seas- polluting earth- and the air that we breathe (Music Riff)

2nd Verse:

The temperature climbs, the planet declines

We're bringing the world to its knees

The Earth and the seas, are beginning to wheeze, it's a symptom of humanity's

Dumping their dross, without thinking of cost, to the planet's discomfort and ease

(chorus)

Hot Spots! In every town - burning the earth - turning everything brown

Hot Spots! Boiling the seas- polluting our world- and the air that we breathe

3rd verse:

Violence is wrong, it doesn't belong, in a civilized society

When women are harmed and their children are scarred

that's not the way it should be

We can talk all we want but we have to confront

The beast of violence it's a social disease.

(chorus)

Hot spots! In every town, violent abusers tearing decency down

Hot Spots! Making us fools, boozing and drugging, they are the fuels

(chorus)

If we're to thrive -not just survive- we've got to work as a team

No colour, no race, only one human face, it's where we're going, not where we've been

There are millions of stars, planets Venus and Mars, but there's only one Earth, only one Earth!

Hot Spots! Beginning to bleed, some people taking out more than they need

Hot spots! Turn 'em around- clean 'em- and leave 'em- just like they were found

Hot spots! Beginning to bleed, heading for trouble, and we are the seed

Hott Spots! Bringing us down...Clean em- and leave em - just like they were found.

(Music Riff) Hot Spots!

The cast freezes. The scene changes into another world, as our kids come rolling into the realm of - "Gnosis" The background is a garden shrine of spiritual guides: Aphie goes to the statues of: Mabo, Truganini, Benelong, Abe Lincoln, Confucius, Ghandi, Sister Teresa, Einstein, Martin Luther King, Mandela, Ben franklin, Thomas Jefferson and George Washington (et. al.)

Jason:

Wow! What was that all about ! **(Looks around)** Where are we?

Aphie:

It's a shrine of our heroes ... who are all dead !... Maybe we are too?

Jason grabs her hand and puts it under his nose. She feels his breath

Jason:

We're not dead!

Aphie:

Maybe we're in the Dreaming?...When you pressed the delete button you made Mother Earth mad and she brought us to it! **(Aphie gazes around)**

Jason:

“SHE” (quotes in the air) Mother Earth got mad and brought us here..
(Fang-u, a beautiful Celestial Serpent, pops up from behind a statue.
Aphie screams as Jason steps in front of her in a protective posture)

Fang-u

Little lady you are right... It was Mother Earth you saw, and she wants to talk to you about your bad habits that's why we brought you here .

Jason:

So...Who are the “WE”and what is this place?

Fang-u:

The **we** are Mother Earth and I...This is **GNOSIS!**... the mystical Land of Knowing and Learning...Home of Celestial Serpents, the spiritual guides to the humans, - that's me! - Fang-U, your spiritual messenger, mystical Serpent of the Dreaming sent by Mother Earth to be your guide for the journey of self-awareness and revelation that you now must undergo which is (**Signals in quotes and sucks in a breath and sighs**) “The Prophecy”... Three children will save the Earth...to fulfil that prophecy is why you are here.

Jason:

Right! ...A stoned Serpent.

Aphie:

Why am I here? I was only visiting him - and where's this third kid?

Fang-u:

Me! I too am a kid...only four thousand serpent years. And you are here because you are the Yin and Yang of the humans (**aghast looks from Jason and Aphie**) Yin, the female side is more aware of these things, so you will be of great assistance to him... (**Loudly and pointedly**) Because the Yang really needs help!

Jason:

Hey! Where do you get off with that stuff? I'll kick your Serpent arse.

Fang-u:

That might be a bridge too far for you... **(Fang-u, hits his Tai Chi pose)**
(Jason squares off at the serpent, a boxing stance)

Jason:

Okay ninja serpent, Fang breath, or whatever you are...I'm sending you to the dreamland... special delivery

Aphie:

Okay! Okay! Time out boys! Enough with the tough guy thing...we need brains not brawn. Was that really Mother Earth on the computer?

Fang-u

Smart girl, now you're getting it.

Aphie:

And the Prophecy bit?

Fang-u:

Ah! The prophecy... three children will save the Earth. The children, that's you. **(Points at them)** and the messenger **(indicates himself)** that's me, and saving the Earth, **(points at them)** that's you again.

Aphie (quizzically)

Soooo, we... us... are going to save the Earth...? **(Fang-u grinning and nodding)**

Aphie:

Jason's right...you 're stoned

Jason:

Hey! When you and Mr Wonderful here are finished, I can't save the Earth, all I want to know is how do we **(points)** "that's us" - get out of here?

Fang-u:

Easy, solve the riddle of the **"THE TOXICS"** - go home!

Aphie: (snaps her fingers)

Aphie:

Of course!... The Riddle?

Jason:

Okay! I'll bite...what is it?

Fang-u:

You have to gain self-enlightenment, which means you travel the path to face the "THE TOXICS," find the hidden Toxic, the worst one - Change the beast, which means you've solved the riddle...**Then!**... you go home

Jason:

Oh! Is that all? I thought it would be something hard

Aphie:

...And if we don't solve the "riddle?"

Fang-u:

Mother Earth will deal with that

Jason:

Where is this Mother Earth? I want a piece of her. I didn't ask to be brought here for silly games with a snake!

Fang-u:

SSSSNAAAAAKE!(INDIGNANTLY) A ssssnake is a lowly life-form on your planet; (**preens**) A Sssserpent is a magical celestial being and guide to humans, (**pointedly to Aphie**) why Mother chose you is a mystery to me. However, If you don't solve the "riddle" we're all in deep do-do

Aphie:

Fang-u, you are the riddle! What are The "THE TOXICS"!?

Fang-u:

Your baaadd habits ...aka your vices. They're THE TOXICS.. and there are seven of **them**, BUT THERE IS A HIDDEN ONE, WHICH IS THE WORST one. And that is your quest,find the hidden..... (Aphie interrupts him)

Aphie:

Yeeesssss! We know! The Prophecy... Find the “ Hidden Deadly”, go home. We get it! Give us a clue! Where are “THE TOXICS” ...How will we know them?

FANG-U shrugs and reaches into his pouch and produces a photo album of the THE TOXICS

FANG-U:

That’s easy...here are the characters that are your bad habits... the family album **(flicks)**

That’s Carbo Man- He’s your addiction to fossil fuels...A real rev-head

Uzee-Once-a – the queen of waste.uses everything just once

Marcel Maggot- He inhabits all of the trash that Uzee creates, and it is rumoured has a crush on her,says he can’t live without her.

Waste-a-lot: The vampire of power consumption: not conserving, you know your endless showers, electrical abuse,leaving the garden hose running.... Hmmm?

BONEZEE... The great polluter who poisons the Earth and the seas by dumping chemicals and stuff an-y-where.

GREEDEE: she is the mistress of More.She loves the humans, says they’re all in love with her...She is a real temptress.... ...**(Aphie grabs the book).**

She looks like a real bitch!. **(flicks the page to Threxx)**

Aphie:

And this guy ?

Fang-u:

Threxx. Their leader, and a real bully-boy...the ultimate intimidator...He Terrorises innocent life, torments, just for fun.

Aphie:

THE TOXICS sound like a description of you Jason

Jason:

Ha! Ha!...If these "THE TOXICS" are as bad as you say...how could we change them? We've got nothing to fight 'em with.

Fang-u:

You have four thousand years of serpent magic to assist you.

Jason:

Oh that's good...I feel so much better now.

Aphie:

Assuming you are right. What difference can some kids make?

Fang-u:

Start by thinking you CAN!

Cue the song:

WE Can all Make A Difference © **Words and Music: Ted Hamilton**

This is a punchy rock feel Fang- u sings and prances around them. As he waves the words come up on the screen. He points like a cheer leader to the words. initially, Jason hangs back and is reluctant to take part, but he is gradually drawn into the message by Aphie

1st. Verse:

We can all make a difference; We can light up the way
Don't preach the rules, just give us the tools, and we'll build a world that is new

(Chorus)

We can build an enchanted village, think about that, put it under your hat.
We can right all the wrongs that we've done, not just by us, but ev-er-y-one.

2nd Verse:

We can all make a difference, if we're willing to change
The things that we do, that hurt others too, like hazing and calling them names

(Chorus)

Reading, writing, arithmetic, learning these things, will get you there quick
Loving, caring, showing respect, learning these things will make you a hit...make you a
hit!

3rd Verse:

We can all make a diff'rence; nothing can stand in our way.
When ignorance rules, we become fools, so don't be a fool, play it cool, play it cool!

(Chorus)

Reading, writing, arithmetic, learning these things- will get you there quick!
Loving, caring, showing respect, doin' these things, will make you a hit!

4th Verse:

We can all make a difference, if we're willing to change, the things that we do, that
hurt others too, like bullying people around.

(Chorus)

S.O.S. Mother Earth in distress...She needs us now to give her our best
S.O.S. Mother Earth telling us...She needs us now , someone to trust (someone to
trust!

We can make all a difference, if we show that we care
together make plans, and simply join hands,
That's the dream that everyone shares

There's a world in our care; a world we all share
If we all understand, the world needs a hand
Then we can all make a difference.

(Repeat)

If we all understand the world needs a hand - then we can all make a difference.
(scat ending of repeating phrase we can all make a difference)

(The song finishes and they all hug in a newly found bond of friendship)

Jason:

That was great! Sorry about the snake bit, and the Serpent - breath crack... What's "Hazing"? **(Fang-u gets ready to pontificate when Aphie answers)**

Aphie:

Bullying!...It's what bullies do when they force others to do things they don't want to do. **(Both look at her) ..Like you bringing us here! (Blank looks from Jason and Fang-u....Aphie looks askance at them)**

Aphie:

What!?! **(She strolls off to look at a statue in the shrine)**

Jason:

She's so stropic

Fang-u:

Wait till you meet Mother Earth? You'll think Aphie's an angelBut,If Aphie is from the blood line of the love Goddess, she's... trouble with a capital T...Aphrodite and that little imp of hers are a problem **(Demonstrates)** He fires his little arrows that infects ya with that Aphrodite potion and Wham!....THE LURV BUG'S GOT YA!

Jason:

I'm immune..**(They enjoy the moment,and hi-five as Aphie declares)**

Aphie:

Okay! ...If we want to go home we've gotta find the hidden Deadly ...so ... which way?

(Fang-u pulls out of his pouch his note-book and presses a key. A giant map spreads out before them on the cyclorama. The map is in the shape of the human brain and its veins lead to "TOXICS LAND"... Fang-u points)
"Pretty cool eh! ...All aboard the Serpent Express...North, through the Well of Extinction to ..."

Reprise of, " We can all make a difference". They dance off into a scenery change to night.

Ext; Our heroes sit around a camp fire lit by Fang-u, as he breathes his trickling serpent fire on the sticks... (Jason comments)

Jason:

So, this is the Serpent fire that's going to protect us!?

Fang-u

it'll get stronger as I get older; when I'm in danger the turbo-charger kicks in...***(Suddenly Jason jumps up)***

Jason:

Who's there?! Come on out...I'm not scared of you!

Aphie joins Jason and they stand like warriors together ...Fang-u goes into his combat stance and Aphie imitates him...Audible mutterings can be heard. A throat clears, and from out of the darkness there comes a thick Irish brogue

Whiskey:

Take it easy boy; we're just your Trashees.

As he says this, figures start appearing out of the gloom: The Whiskey bottle, milk cartons, juice bottles, assorted cans, newspapers, magazines and books, an old Micro-phone and other trash items of Jason's rubbish from the opening scene...

"You didn't sort us like your Mum said, into the recycling bins, so we're trapped here, in the rubbish dumps". ***(A soup-can steps forward)***

(Pointing at his chest with his thumb, he rasps in a fighter's accent

Soup Can:

I coulda' been a somebody... I coulda' bin a no-tin- container.

A pizza box chimes in ...with a heavy Italian mafia accent

Pizza Box:

Yeah! ...I coulda been a house special - with extra pepperoni

(ad-libs by the other trashees,as they join in howling down Jason)

Whiskey:

Calm down boys...you're a getting' a little too heated...now...they've asked me to represent them, to ask ya, if you're going to continue with your bad habits **(sweeping gesture and finger quotes)** you know not recycling us. **(Jason is speechless)**...Lost for words are you boy **(whiskey plays to the other trashees)**...Well, there's a furst!

Jason:

Magic Serpents, TOXICS, lurrv potions, Talking bottles and trash....I'm losing it!

Whiskey:

You got that Roit! But we'll help you get it back!

Trashees all howl as Whiskey continues

Whiskey:

Who's the fairy in the sequinned outfit?

Aphie:

He...is a celestial serpent from the Dreaming.... And Mother Earth's Ambassador, He's also your only chance to get out of here, so be nice to him.

Aphie:

Aphie turns to Jason

See, I told you not sorting the rubbish would bring trouble **(A general grumble of discontent by the Trash)**

Whiskey:

Hey! Little girl... watch your tongue, we're trash, not rubbish.

Aphie:

Oh! Excuse me your Whiskeyness! Jason is going to change...aren't you dear?(**Can be Luv?**)

(Before Jason can answer the Trashees shriek and run as we see "Bonezee" riding a huge Scorpion motor bike entering the scene....Bonezee dismounts before the dismayed trio...removes one of his gloves, takes a spear gun from a sheath on the

bike, and lowers his sunglasses. There are two Trashees hanging from the Scorpion's pincers (poss edit)... The trio jump back and Bonezee does his hip-hop dance and starts a jive – talking – rap - rant

Bonezee:

I'M Dr Bonezee... WITH A PH.D, and you're looking for trouble if you mess with me.

(Pushing his glasses up and doing a spin)

I'm bad, and I'm mean, and I'm here to clean your clock and adjust your dial 'cause your sticking it in, where it's no place bein'.. I kill all the soil, and boil all the seas, and I'm bringing it on till the world hits its knees... 'cause un-thinkin' bein's are just my cheese...that's you dirty rats ...You'll go rat-a tat-tat- rat- a- tat - tat...(**Machine guns them for emphasis with his spear-gun..continues his rant**)...Cont...

"You don't need the place, 'cause you lack the grace, to do what it takes to keep it all clean...so we'll take it all back and watch you all burn. You treat it as worthless, which all rhymes with Earthless. Cause if it's all worthless, we'll make you all Earthless!...Earthless! Earthless!

(The intrepid trio are speechless. Bonezee approaches them and says to Jason)

Bonezee:

You're coming with me! **(He grabs Jason)**

Aphie:

He is not! **(Aphie grabs his other arm and they have a tug of war)** He's with me! Stop it you bully. You'll tear him apart! **(They stop and Bonezee checks her out)**

Bonezee:

Which part are you interested in ? **(Bonezee grabs Jason)**

Aphie:

(continues tug-of war with Bonezee)

Make that the lot, and to go! **(she tugs harder)**

CUT TO: *Trashees squirming in the pincers of the scorpion bike*

Trashee:

Help! Jason, we're innocent... We don't deserve this! We're just your Trash!

JASON:

(Jason yells to Fang-u) We could use that turbo - charger about now!

Fang-u:

Stand back! I am a 5th Order Celestial Serpent and I know KUNG-FU - **(to camera)** he's a relative..

(A bolt shoots from the skeleton's spear-gun and they all stagger back falling into each other. Fang-u launches a bolt and staggers Bonezee who releases Jason. (Fang-u surprised at the effect checks his hands) Bonezee reels toward his bike. Jason reaches into his pocket for his slingshot loads and fires. He hits Bonezee in the eye shattering one of the lenses. Bonezee clutches at his eye. Fang-u goes into his combat stance and hollers)

Fang-u:

"Serpent's Magic is about to strike"

(Points and a zap hits Bonezee and is followed by another that hits the scorpion bike. Fang-u checks his fingers again, which are smoking and bent from the skirmish. He blows on them and straightens them as a now terrified Bonezee tries to kick start his bike. Unbeknown to our trio, we see a huge jellyfish apparition appearing from above them and firing bolts at the departing skeleton and his Scorpion bike-- Obviously the real reason for the terror stricken retreat of Bonezee)

Fang-u:

And there's plenty more where that came from!

(Jason and Aphie pointing to the apparition behind Fang-u...He takes a bow and holds up his talons, flexing them in and out)

Fang-u:

Nothing to it!

Jason:

Fang-u, behind you! **(They watch agape as a giant jellyfish descends - a voice booms)...**

Jelly-Fish: (mocking tone)

‘Nothing to it’! You’re right... There was nothing to it, for you. I have a message here from the cosmos and Mother Errrr... **(Jason interrupts)**

Jason:

Mum tracked me down...even here!

Jelly-Fish:

This is your wake-up call from **(points a dangling tentacle upward) THE BOSS!**

Jason:

She told Dad! Now I am in trouble.

Jelly-Fish:

Listen up! I’ve been sent to help you understand the prophecy... **(Leans into Aphie and Jason and whispers)** ...“Cos Serpents are a little slow” **(Jellyfish flashes a tentacle and on the screen appears a runic script)**

Jason:

Wow! We made the cosmic news!...Works for me...a word puzzle... and in Chinese...my fav’

Aphie:

It’s not Chinese, and he said it was for you! **(Fang-u squints intently at the runes)**

Fang-u:

It’s the prophecy, in old Serpent-speak! The one the book teaches! **(Fang-u turns to the Jellyfish and sardonically asks)** Can you decipher it, oh wise one? **(The Jellyfish sheepishly shakes his head and shrugs)**

Fang-u:

Humph! A little slow eh!? **(Rummages in his pouch, finds his glasses, puts them on and reads the runes)**

Fang-u:

Serpent's Magic turns the fight - three hatchlings earn the saving right - that's us. Through the world of human waste, delivery to the "THE TOXICS" gate. Wow!..This is heavy....

The hidden "Toxic" is the key, the lock will turn for only he, the one last chance for Humanity. **(The runes disappear and the Jellyfish starts to leave shaking his head and mumbling)**

Jelly-Fish:

I don't believe it... the fate of the world is in the hands of three dummies....We're doomed! We're doomed!

Jason:

Hey! Fish... I heard that! I don't get any of this saving humanity deal, and this cosmic stuff... Why me... us! and how come everyone knows my name? **(Jelly-Fish returns).**

Jelly-Fish:

Don't let it worry you man...Mummy christend me, Jelly "The" Fish! **(Jason, no reaction)** You know like Mac' the knife, Alexander the Great, Jason the Moron.. **Jason gives no reaction to the insult, Jelly continues)** It wouldn't sound so good if it was Mac Knife, Alexander Great, Jason Moron...**(Jason no reaction)** You humans decided to drop my middle name"THE".... And that's how I got to be called-"Jellyfish"**(Jason nodding and slowly wags a finger at him)**

Jason:

You've got a serious case of Kelp overdose... You need to go to Algae's Anonymous. **(Aphie bursts into a big laugh)**

Aphie:

Algae's Anonymous...Ha,ha,ha,... Jason, that's very clever! **(She slaps her thigh and laughs as Fang-u and the Jelly-Fish shrug to each other, and in an aside to the Jelly-Fish, Fang-u says)**

Fang-u:

Humour.... It's a Human thing.

Jason:

By the way, "Jelly the fish" I don't want to save Humanity! I just want to go home

Jelly-Fish:

If you don't solve the riddle you won't have a home. And from what I have seen so far, that's a real possibility. **(Continues in a very forceful tone)** You brought yourself here with your mannnnny...brainnnnnless acts. **(Poking with his tentacle for emphasis)**

Jason:

You!... Calling me brainless!...I don't see too many brains in your see-through head

Jelly-fish:

Your's are kinda invisible too in that thick head ..(**leans into Jason**) look man, if the riddle is too difficult for you? **(Points at Aphie and fang-u)**...Get some help from them!... Solve the riddle... Then you go home! That is your destiny! **(Jellyfish exits followed by Jason who shouts)**

Jason:

Who do you think you're talking to ...You you...(searching for an insult) quivering bowl of... jel...Jel....a...tine **(Jelly-Fish gives him the "finger" and departs...Jason Yells)** And soving that riddle thing!piece of cake !..

(Jason follows jellyfish off stage)

Aphie:

He's actually enjoying himself...but it's true what Jelly-Fish said, we're all in his hands...What do we do if he doesn't get it?

Fang-u:

The prophecy won't work if it's in the wrong hands. Could be possible? However, Mother Earth has never been wrong...

Aphie:

There's a first time for everything, and he could be it

Fang-u

I wouldn't give up on him yet... I kinda like him...he's got guts.

Aphie:

I like him too... Oh! Fang-u,

Fang-u

You're welcome!...(a slow burn from Aphie.... Fang-u continues sheepishly) a little humour there.. You know... the human thing...

Aphie:

(holds up her hand in a nothing further gesture)

Fang-u...what's the plan... What are we going to do?

Fang-u:

We'll figure it out...we make a good team..we're like the three Avengers..

Aphie:

More like the three stooges

Fang-u:

Now that's the human humour I've come to love....

(Fang-u puts an arm around her to comfort her. fade to black) or insert: "Make Believe a Fairy tale" song then to black

CUT TO : the Den of the "THE TOXICS": Bonezee. is pacing up and down and relating his version of events, as he replaces his shattered sun glasses with a new pair. The den is a real den of iniquity...Pokies,booze-bottles,gambling windows massage parlour signs....a real den of vice.

Bonezee:

Then Mother Earth's minder... that meddlesome Jelly-"the"-Fish arrived...we've got to talk with Threx. How long's he been in there?

Uzee:

Hours... He never gets enough of Greedee. **(Waste-a-lot is plugged into the electrical sockets in her Elizabethan neck collar. her Medusa like head is full of electrical leads. She pulls out one of the leads from her ear)**

Wasta:

Who never gets enough? That's my line hun! **(Laughs at her own joke)**

Uzee:

I meant Threxx! He doesn't like to be disturbed when he's talking with her. **(Uzee-once-a raises her hand to knock on the door that says)- "GREEDEE" - but she can't do it. (She puts her ear to the door and listens. Split set to behind the Greedee door where Threxx kneels before a full length mirror, in which shimmers a moving wraith "Greedee". The apparition is a woman's face ... She is mad as hell)**

Greedee:

You promised me a human!

Threxx:

I got him for ya' just like I promised. The skeleton's gone to get him...Don't be mad "GREEDEE"... I'll do anything for ya baby, I loves ya

(Threxx throws his arms around the mirror and presses his lips to the mirror)

Greedee:

Get off! Stop slobbering on me... ya leaky lizard. **(A hand comes out of the mirror and slaps him)**

Threxx:

I love it when ya get mad... 'Cause I'm mad about you baby (sings) I wanna be your man.

Greedee:

You know I can't live without the Humans - **(the hand reaches out and caresses then gently slaps his cheek)** *get me the kid...then we'll sweet-talk.*

(Back to the Den and the other side of the door, Uzee-once-a tentatively raises her hand to knock but loses her nerve. Waste-a-lot roars at UZEE)-

Waste-a-lot:

Just do it! **(Uzee timidly knocks)**

Uzee:

Threxie, it's me, Uzee, can I come in?

(A disgusted Wasta pushes her aside and rips the door open. Threx is startled)

Threx:

I told you never, never, to interrupt when I'm with Sweetie!!

Waste-a-lot:

Keep it under control big guy, this is important. We've got a problem with the kid.

Bonezee

Yeah! Mother Earth's minder, the Jelly-"The" fish, got in the way.

Threx:

You were gonna get 'im...a piece o' cake ya said...Skeletons! You're all the same, No GUTS!

(Bonezee bristles at the insult; there is a tension between Threx and Bonezee A showdown threatens...Waste-a-lot steps in)

Waste-a-lot:

Calm down big fella **(One of her leads, from her head, points at the mirror, another traces down Threx's chest emitting a trail of sparks)** If you think she's hot...you should plug me in and try the real thing.

Threx:

I promised Sweetie I'd get her the Kid. WHERE IS HE?!

Waste-a-lot:

There are others ya know. **(Threxz leans into Waste-a-lot threateningly and yells, in a very loud voice, which makes her hair -electrical leads - stand straight out)**

Threxz:

Get the Kid! Ditch the others... Bring him here...got it!?

Waste-a-lot:

Power! Ya know it turns me on.

(Her leads plug into sockets and an electrical short circuit fills the stage and goes to black – when the lights come up our travellers stand before the door marked “Well of Extinction”)

Jason:

Wow! Look at this!

(Jason looks at the runes on the doorway, then to Fang-u who is busy with his note pad deciphering the runes. Jason signals for quiet as he listens to rustling sounds. He goes to the door and pounces behind it and emerges with a wriggling Trashee in the shape of an egg)

Trashee:

Don't hurt me! Stop bullying me...I'm one of your trash!

Jason:

Oh! Really!...And -you - would - be?

Eggwood:

Eggwood! (Jason stares blankly at him nodding silently) “You know, your breakfast this morning the om-e-lette that Jason -ette (Jason nodding in an attitude of - why did I ask)...

Jason:

What are you doing creeping around scaring us?

I'm looking for the rest of my friends. We got separated by the Skelton, remember!... If you had re-cycled us, like mommy said, things wouldn't be so scrambled...get my drift pal?

Jason:

So it's my fault again?

Eggwood:

EGG-ZZZZZACT-LY! The "THE TOXICS" want you, not us.

Jason:

Are you done with the egg jokes?

Eggwood:

I'm good

Jason: (to Fang-u)

I'm sorry about your friends.... Soooo... What do we do now'?

Fang-u:

We have to go in. **(Points at the runes and traces them)** *Through the Well, follow the path to the Den of the "THE TOXICS".*

EGGWOOD *(beating a nervous retreat)*

This is as far as I go, I need to find a recycling bin somewhere, Be careful, those "THE TOXICS" are bad EGGS (chuckles) One for the road... (exits)

Fang-u:

Don't worry my magic will protect us

Jason:

Like before eh! (Aphie is sitting quietly sobbing. Jason and Fang-u move to her. Jason puts his arm around her) Hey, Hey soldier...what's the problem? We'll protect you (to Fang-u) Won't we!

Fang-u:

With my last serpent - breath

Aphie:

I miss Mum and Dad and I don't know if I'll ever see them again...Eggwood was right, THE TOXICS want you and I don't want anything bad to happen to you

Jason:

Make that for two...I don't know why they chose me, us, but we'll figure it out if we stick together...Now dry those tears...We'll be okay...

Torch lights up the cabinets along the walls with Dinosaurs, Tetra-dactyls, and other species of previous life forms all aligned in chronological order. Mother Earth stroking(He catches a tear from her cheek and Fang-u turns it into a Jade jewel with a pendant that he hangs around her neck. Jason turns to Fang-u)

Jason:

Finally! Something works! **(Jason lifts Aphie to her feet)** We've got things to do... Aphie... Do you think it was right, you know... what the Jellyfish and the Trashee said about...everything being my fault?

Aphie:

Not really. ... you're just our poster child. **(She pats his face affectionately)**

Jason:

That bad eh?

Aphie, Fang-u, & Mother Earth

YES!... That bad!

(The doors to the hall fly open and Mother Earth stands there with an Olympic Torch in her hand. All are in awe of her Regal presence.)

Fang-u:

Mother Earth!

Mother Earth:

(Playfully spoofing) 'I've been waiting for you'. Come on in...**(Passes the torch to Jason)** Here hold this... **(Beckons)** Come on in.

(The dubious trio enter and look around. Jason is wide-eyed with wonder as the Fang-u's head)

Mother Earth:

Thanks Fang-u.... Good job.

Jason:

Hey! I want to talk with you. Did you bring us here for a game with these morons? **(Nods to Fang-u)** Not him...Those others?

Mother Earth:

Oh! Jason. You are a tough nut... and please don't raise your voice dear, I can hear you. **(Aphie moves to her and tentatively touches her gown)**

Aphie:

Mother Earth? I thought that was only a saying... You're real!

Mother Earth:

*As a Mother's kiss Dear...Now, I want to show you what you need to know. **(She walks past the cabinets containing species. All of them are on a scrim like theatre in the round. The scrim rotates as they walk past each one.)** These are my memories...and you could be one of them **(the trio is aghast)** - So you better listen up, and take it all in. **(She pauses at a sabre tooth tiger)** He was one of my favourites, such a pretty cat... **(She looks pointedly at Jason)** You know all about cats, don't you dear? These were destroyed by something that came from out of space, and I can't do anything about the cosmos...That's **THE BOSS'** job. **(Points up with her wand)***

Jason:

Who is this "BOSS"? We should meet.

Mother Earth:

*That'll be sooner than you think, if you don't change your dirty habits, which incidentally created your latest pandemic ...YOU humans have only been on Earth for a short time, but you've created more havoc and done more damage to me...and yourselves, than any other species...That's why I brought you to GNOSIS..... to Learrnnnn!... **(to Fang-u)** ...Sorry Dear, I know you thought it was your magic, but, It's not strong enough yet, you're still so young... **(Turns to them and continues)***

Now, you have a riddle to solve,... Your mission is to confront the "TOXICS"- and solve the riddle. Only humans can solve the riddle and I chose you for the job...For ALL OUR sake, I hope I'm right. Fang-U will escort you to THE TOXIC'S DEN.

Jason:

(Points to Fang-u and shouts at a disappearing Mother Earth)

He said that you would know what to do, if we can't solve this riddle thing. **(Mother Earth fading, fading)**

Mother Earth:(V.O)

If you don't you could be in my book of memories; but for now we are all in your hands; so gimme your best shot! **(She's gone... voice only)**

Aphie:

Mother Earth needs us! What a thrill! Do you realise what an honour that is.

(Jason is standing transfixed before a series of homo - sapiens... all leading from the Bega man??? Africanus, through to Australis Erectus, Java, Neanderthal, Cro-Magnon - It finishes with a banner over a cabinet with a huge picture of JASON and a question mark above his head... "Modern Man and his vices" - there is a series of photos of the "TOXICS" - he turns to Aphie and Fang-u)

Jason:

Is this for real?

Aphie:

Didn't I tell you, Poster Child...Not a flattering picture of you **(Enter Newzzee shouting)**

Newzzee:

Read all about it! " TOXICS" In Control... Humans In Retreat!

Jason:

Says who?

Newzzee:

Oh! It's My hero...The Non-recycler!

Jason:

Get over it man!

Newzzee:

Easy for you, but if you had done your job, I could've been a glossy by now..., **(as he talks Newzzee flips his pages like a bill-board)** a shiny new prospectus, a school magazine, you know, a "Keeper"

Jason:

Maybe a playboy or Hustler ...**(Waving a 50/50 hand movement)** ..?

Newzzee:

That's about your speed looking at pictures... Anyway hero, I wouldn't want to waste another life-time hiding under your bed...Hmmmmmm?

Jason:

Very funny

Newzzee:

Okay hero, when was the last time you read a me... You know... something informative... **(Jason is silent, Newzzee continues)**. Just as I thought...NEVER!

Jason:

Do you tweet?

Newzzee:

Intransitive verb: to chirp like a bird, to tremble like pages flickering in a breeze...that tweet!

Jason:

You better get with it Newzzee, you're slipping behind the times...you definitely need recycling.

Newzzee:

And You definitely need a dose of courage to face the "THE TOXICS"?

(Silence as Jason thinks it over. Newzzee goes on the attack shouting his headlines)
Human chases “ TOXICS”, denies the Prophecy! **(Jason looks at Fang-u and Aphie – they both shrug their - don’t ask me looks - and Jason turns to Newzzee)**

Jason:

How do you know about the prophecy? **(Approaches Newzzee)**

Newzzee:

I can’t divulge my sources. Freedom of the Press

(Jason approaches threateningly and Newzzee gives in, sheepishly)

OK, OK, OKAYYYYY!... I was hiding when the Serpent told you about it...So... what are you, I mean – “we”- gonna do?

Cue the music a driving Samba rhythm...

JASON:

Let’s go make some headlines

“NO IFS – ANDS – BUTS, OR MAYBES” ©Words and Music: Ted Hamilton

Jason:

Let’s go get ‘em maties, No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes
We’ll get it done, it might be fun
No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes

Aphie:

I’m your partner baby, No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes
If there’s a fight, I’m on your side, no Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes

Newsee :

I hear someone wailing, it’s me!My nerve is failing, I’ll get it back, when we attack,
no Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybe

Fang-u:

Confucius is all knowing about the Way we're going, (**Fang-u points at Aphie**) but something's wrong, we must be strong, no ifs ands but or Maybes. (**Aphie and Fang-u, Hi-5**)

(Fang-u squares off with Aphie in a show of bravado)

Stand back and watch me show 'em, I'll Tai Chi and Kwan do 'em, I'll pasteurise and pulverize no ifs – Ands – Buts or Maybes.

(Chorus: all together):

We'd better all be on our toes, those THE TOXICS are our mortal foes, they might be tough and hard to find and even more to change their minds
It's scary and it's hard to see what lies ahead for you and me
But even so we have to go 'cause that's the prophecy.

Jason and Aphie (together)

We're giving you the low down, we're heading for a showdown

Newsee:

It's hoop- dee- hoop, it's my first scoop, no ifs ands but or maybes

Fang-u:

Let's go and be willing to fight those deadly villains, Confucius say there is a way

All:

If we hang tight, we'll win the fight, No ifs Ands... Buts..... Or Maybes!

ALL

No ifs Ands... Buts..... Or... Maybes!

They finish in a fighting stance.!

Cut to: "COOEE" (A crocodile Dundee impersonator). **He grabs MIKEE and begins to shout like a carousel barker. cut to KIDS and Fang-u hiding and watching the show of the "THE TOXICS"**

COOEE:

And Now....For your pleasure... TOXIC=LAND is proud to present its stars for your entertainment: the characters you've been dying to meet... give it up for The :“THE TOXICSssssssssS!”

(Applause as THE THE TOXICS romp in and sing their theme theme song, in a rollicking tempo

“Masters of the Game” ©words and music Ted Hamilton

“We’re the Masters of the Game you’ll get to know us all by name... we’ve no feeling we’ve no shame we’re your THE TOXICS
We adore the human race you just keep falling on your face
We’re your buddies we’re your mates we’re your “THE TOXICS”
There’s a little game we play with humans called addiction
We hide up in your mind with all your other little fictions
Your vices and addictions are the planets real afflictions
You love us we’re your “THE TOXICS’

COOEE:

And here he is.... the fiend of multiplication!... The fossil fuel guzzler, the oracle of octane, the blubberer of rubberrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr! The choker and the smoker.....

CAAAARRRR...BO...Man!

(Carbo Man, takes a bow and coughs out a billowing cloud of black smoke from one of his exhausts - all re-act waving and spluttering)

CARBO MAN:

“Yeah they call me Carbo Man, I get high on Traffic Jams, when the smell of burning smog is in the air; all those noxious fluorocarbons, from your factories and gardens, and the fossil fuels you’re burning everywhere”!

COOEE:

And the gal with a bag full of bad habits... with a stack of rubbish to her credit;
The cause of the overflowing rubbish bins, the mounnnnnnds of gar- baaage,

The abusive user, She uses everything once...including Marcel Maggott...

The empress of excess.... **Uzee-once-a!**

(She saunters downstage. As she saunters she leaves a trail of tissues, drops a drink carton, straw, and takes a bow)

UZEE-ONCE-A:

(A sensual thick foreign accent)

"I am U -Zee -vunce a day, zen I throw it all away,

Reusing is just somezing I can't bear:

All those recycling options and those other new adoptions, zent to train me;

Zent to tame me, don't you dare

COOEE:

And NOOOOWWWW her companion in crime ...The pest who infests...The trash can invader! The Chomper of Compost! Who says he can't live without Uzee **because she creates such delicious meals for heeemmm...Marcel the Maggot!**

(Marcel kisses Uzee's hand takes a bow, smiles, revealing a row of outsized teeth)

Maggot Man:

"I'm Marcel the Maggot man, and I have a luncheon plan,

When the smell of rotting garbage fills the air;

That's when I, Marcel the Maggot like to move in and inhabit

All the trash-bins overflowing everywhere"

COOEE:

Heereee he is... the Dean of Disaster, stripper of the Earth! Poisoner of the seas and polluter of the air!... Known to all as the Gutless Blunder - who says he grew up with no body to play with!!...**Bonezee!**

(Bonezee does a little rhythmic moon dance with all of the hip-hop moves of a Rapper)

BONEZEE:

“I’m Dr Bonezee man you wanna’ hear my plan
I can jive it! Let’s Hi-five it! Dig this scam
I turn wet-lands into dry-lands...turn the highlands into low-lands...
Why those other dudes? They’re amateurs my man.”

COOEE:

Here she comes – Everyone’s favourite Addiction: the Cataclysm of Captialism!...the
Vampire of Voltage...**The Devourer of Powerrrr, Wasta-a-lot!**

(WASTA displays a Medusa like head of electric cords all plugged into an Elizabethan collar. She throws out her arms and little sparks fly out of her fingers, the lights miss-fire, amid a hum and dimming of the lights)

WASTE-A-LOT:

“You can call me Wast-your-watts-a-lot don’t turn your power off
Plug it in, rev it up, it’s on me
Your abusing is my power, not conserving when you shower
All you humans are addicted to me”

COOEE:

“Leeettts hear it for..., the Empress of More.... The human affliction... the
constant addiction... welcome to the stand, everyyybodddeees fav....
.....**GGGGGGRRRRRRREEEEDDEEEEE!**

(Greedee is a stand-up full length green mirror. She holds her skirt up and tippy-toes in on her little carved feet)

Greedee:

“I’m the em-per-ess of more, and I know one thing for sure,
That you humans will be knocking on my door...(cont)
You desire and devour everything that I empower,
All you ever want from me is MORE! More! Then MORE!”

COOEE:

Last... But not least!... The Dark Marauder! **(cheers)** The Destroyer of life!
(cheers) The Tyrant of Terror! **(cheers)** The ultimate bully-boy.. The
tormenter of all life - Our Fearless Leader **(a big blurt sound – raspberry
booms out)** **(MIKEE hurriedly checks for the source...nobody comes
forward)**...Give... ! it...! Up...! For...! **THrrrrrrrrreeeeexxxxxxxxxx!**

**Threxx, makes his entrance like the heavyweight champ. He is surrounded by the
“THE TOXICS”. He sheds his silk robe and reveals his Armani suit...He waves at the
crowd.**

THREXX:

My name is Threxx and I destroy what every little girl and boy Oughta have in this
world to enjoy...

I'm a villainous marauder; **(cont)**

I'm a bully and a rorter

And it thrills me when I spread it everywhere.

(All)

“We're the Masters of the Game you'll get to know us all by name,

We've no feelings, we've no shame; we're your “ TOXICS”

We adore the human race we love to wallow in your waste,

We're your buddies!We're your mates! We're your” TOXICS”

You don't have to wonder why the world is going under

You and your bad habits multiply like bunny rabbits

You may rule the planet, but we simply over-ran it, you love us! ...

We're your “ TOXICS”!

“We're the Masters of the Game you'll get to know us all by name...

we've no feeling we've no shame we're your TOXICS..

We adore the human race; you just keep falling on your face..We're your buddies,

We're your mates; we're your “ TOXICS”

You don't have the courage or the brains to circumvent us..

We've defeated every little ploy you ever sent us...

You find us so attractive, but our bite is retroactive

You love us, we're your TOXICS!

We're you're THE TOXICS... We're you're TOXICS... We're THE TOXICS...

On the last chorus they form a chorus line all kicking up their legs and ending in a Balanchine frieze followed by thunderous applause with a possible reprise of the last chorus. When they finish they all jump up and vanish into a tent marked with a directional arrow – “ ”

Jason runs to the tent and is met by “Waste-a-lot”... She surrounds him with her Medusa like coils. She ensnares him in her coils, grabs him and they disappear inside.

CUT TO-

A starlit canopy. Fang-u and Aphie sit in front of the tent where JASON disappeared. They are very much alone sitting out under the skies...Fang-u is viewing his Magic Note Pad)

Fang-u:

I can't get any reception here...Maybe it's that Waste-a-lot blocking reception to my magic pad

Aphie:

I don't care about your silly old magic pad; I care about Jason...we've lost him? Why doesn't MOTHER EARTH help us?

Fang-u:

She can't interfere with Destiny; only the The Boss can do that. It's our job to find Jason...and we will.

Aphie moves downstage and cries out to Mother Earth and Jason... She calls their names into the silence)

Aphie: (calling)

JASON! ...MOTHER EARTH! (Her voice trails forlornly)

CUE:

“Make Believe a Fairytale” - ©Words and Music:- Ted Hamilton

APHIE:

Am I really dreaming, in another place and time, chasing after phantoms in the shadows of my mind?

Where will I be going on this journey in my mind, will there be an answer there, and what more will I find?

Sprinkle me with stardust, put a rainbow in my sky, take my hand and lead me, I'm a babe in Paradise.

Fill my heart with loving, of my spirit make a sail, make believe is magic, make believe a fairy-tale

(Middle) Mother Earth's Holograph sings with a startled Aphie

Across the bridge into the world where dreams can all come true; find the one that's waiting there for you;

believing is a magic, like stars that fill the skies; love is such a master of disguise
Sprinkle me with stardust, put a rainbow in my sky, Weave a spell around me, make believe a fairy-tale

(continue to the end with coda)

make believe a fairy tale...Make Believe... a Fairy Tale.

Fang-u puts his arm around her

Fang-u:

I told you... She's on our side... Do you remember what Mother Earth said? Through her memories to the "THE TOXICS" gate **?(Aphie nodding)** How about we go back there, maybe I miss-read the message

(Enter Newzzee shouting his headline)

Newzzee:

“THE TOXICS” Kidnap Human! Ransom Note on Way! **(He points to the sign)** Get with it. You two are hopeless **(He points to the sign marked to the “THE TOXICS” Den)** He’s in there!

Aphie:

We’ve looked in there, it’s empty!

Newzzee:

How about it Mr. Magic; got any clues? **(Fang-u sheepishly silent - Newzzee leads them to the tent pulls the flap aside and says)** *The old behind the curtain – curtain – curtain - trick!* **(Newzzee pulls back the curtain flap, then another one, and another one, and there is a door).** *A cheap illusionist’s trick and you fell for it! If you want to find Mr Wonderful... then that’s where we go!* **(Points to the sign to “”)** **A voice interrupts them. Cut to : COOEE (doubling as the park ranger). ..**

Cooee:

Where do you lot think you’re going? **(Fang-u taking control)**

Aphie:

To the Toxic’s Den of course

Cooee:

Let me see your tickets

Aphie:

Listen up Dundee...We don’t have tickets... we are going in there to find Jason

Cooee:

I don’t care if you’re goin’ in there to find Aladdin, you still need a ticket.

Aphie:

We are on a mission for Mother Earth to find the THE TOXICS.. they took our friend in there and I am going in there to find him.**(she goes to brush past him and the ranger blocks her way)**

Cooee:

I thought I'd heard 'em all, but that's a new one. Mission for Mother Earth ya say...well maybe she'll treat you to a ticket..

Fang-u:

I am a celestial serpent and guide to Madam Ambassador in Gnosis, who is a most important person, on a good will mission for Mother Earth Aaaannnnddd... I am Mother Earth's personal assistant. **(Aphie is amazed at Fang-u's bullshit and joins in)**

Aphie:

You should know that Ambassadors don't carry money....besides we're on the journey of a lifetime

Cooee:

I don't know what you're on...but you still need tickets to enter. There's an ATM over there...**(cut to shot of an ATM with an arm waving to them)**

Fang-u:

Celestial Serpents and their guests don't need tickets in Gnosis...Mother Earth's in charge here, not some pack of demented TOXICS--- Aaand their misguided agent! So if you're looking for trouble...You found it!...**(points at his own chest)** Trouble's my middle name ...Get it?

Cooee:

Mis-guided-agent-you-say!...hmmmmn... Ambassador-to – Mother - Earth - eh? (Rubbing his chin) You got me there Rocky..., I don't want any trouble with Mother Earth... tell ya' whatYou're on a freebie this time, but don't make a habit of it eh, and don't forget to put in a good word for me with Mother Earth..**(Cooee the Ranger holds open the flap and they all rush in.... Newzzee stops to shout)**

Newzzee:

Ranger sees light!...Humans get freebie to .. **(As Newzzee bends to enter the flap COOEE kicks him in the arse)**

Scene change: Fade in to Threxz dragging Jason and Waste-a-lot into Greedee's room:

Threx:

I got him sweetie! The kid! **(He runs to the mirror of Greedee and falls to his knees)** Sweetie! Where are you? Come out, come out, wherever you are, I got a present for ya. **(Threx kisses the mirror)** Sweetie Pie....come on out... **(Greedee's arm flashes out and slaps him in mid - sentence.... She shimmers into view)**

Greedee:

Stop slobbering on me, ya leaky lizard...I heard you the first time! A girl's got to get ready you know. **(She gazes appreciatively at Jason- then strokes Threx)**...Not too bad big guy, not too shabby at all.

Threx:

Remember what you promised Sweetie?

Greedee:

Come to your senses big guy, not in front of the children.

Threx:

You're outa' here! **(Grabs Waste-a-lot and propels her to the door)**

Jason:

Who, who are you? Where am I? What is this place?

Greedee:

Three questions on our first date is too many honey...You missed the only one that counts **(her hand presses Jason's arm muscle)** OOH! You should have that caged honey. I'm your new girl baby...and I'm going to give you everything you want and more.

Threx:

Hey!

Greedee:

Dinosaurs (she circles with her hand in an indication of lulu) Okay big guy...take five... I need to be alone with Jason baby... We gotta get acquainted. (Threx reluctantly shuffles to the door Greedee shoos him out with her arms and he exits.. She beckons Jason to come forward....He moves to her and sees himself in her mirror)

Greedee:

Such a handsome boy.... Are we a couple or what! We go together baby... like money and... money! I've been waiting for you...Tell me what you want baby ... I'll get it for you.

Jason:

Are you the "Hidden Toxic"?

Greedee:

Ooh! Kinky. I like games. Hand stands, cart wheel, trick-a treat, the first one's free little boy?

Jason:

I've got to find the " Hidden Toxic".

Greedee:

There's nothin' hidden about me baby...All you humans know me... I'm your inner self, your mistress...The Madam of EXCESS – The insatiable mistress of more! You can call me, Greeeeeedee! **(Cackles wildly and writhes in ecstasy)**

Jason:

I don't want more... I want my friends...I want Aphie.

Greedee:

You prefer that scrawny missy over me! She can't give you what I can. She can't give you... **MORE!**

Jason:

More what?

Greedee:

More anything baby! More! More! More! ...All you humans want is more.... **(She slaps and shakes him)**...What's the matter with you? More is everything! In the immortal words from Wall Street- Greed is good! Money never sleeps! That's your mantra... Just gimme the chance and I'll prove that money, then more money, won't make you happy!

Jason:

I'm not about money...I don't want more...I want my friends.

Greedee:

I'll bet your little princess wants more! THREXXXXXXXXX!

The door flies open and Threxx runs to her and kneels

Threxx:

What is it Sweetie?

Greedee:

Throw this one back...he's off!get- me- the- girl!

Threxx:

But sweetie...you said that....(She cuts him off and yells in his face....as her hands go around his throat and shakes him to and fro).

Greedee:

Get! Me! The! Girl!!!

They are all suddenly alerted and alarmed as a disturbance is heard over several thuds. The thuds shake the room and an off-stage commotion is heard of mingled voices and protests. The off-stage commotion of yelling and scuffling grows noisier as Threxx moves to the door. It bursts open and the struggling APHIE, NEWZZEE AND FANG-U are hauled in by the "THE TOXICS" and thrown at the feet of THREXX

Wasta:

They're not as dumb as they look...they figured out the Tent trick.

THREXX bends and hauls Aphie to her feet and shoves a protesting Jason back into the coils of Waste-a-lot. Fang-u goes into his usual Tai Chi posture and CARBO MAN and BONEZEE restrain him.... Newzzee shouts his headline

Newzzee:

More Hostages Taken! Toxics den found! Hapless Humans negotiating release

UZEE-ONCE-A stuffs a handful of tissues in his mouth. Newzzee continues with his muffled pleas, as Marcel Maggot restrains him....ThrexX drags Aphie across to Greedee

ThrexX:

Special delivery sweetie

Greedee's arms caress a sheepish ThrexXshe pats his face and points to the door, as her other hand grabs hold of Aphie.... Her indication is rapidly endorsed by THREXX as he crosses to the door... opens it ...and roars)

ThrexX:

Get 'em out a here!

They are all being dragged out amid a torrent of ad-libs and THREXX goes to shut the door....Greedee says to Threx)

Greedee:

You too Honey. **(ThrexX is about to protest. Greedee sultrily)**... No ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes - Baby....Out! We got some girl talk. **(THREXX hesitates and Greedee roars at him before a startled Aphie)**

Greedee:

OwwwTT! **(ThrexX hurriedly exits and Greedee turns to Aphie)**. Boys never learn that we girls need girl-talk - time. Nice to meet you honey. I'm Greedee... **(Chuckles as she extends her hand in a handshake gesture, which Aphie slaps aside)**

Aphie:

AKA the wicked witch in the mirror...the bully-girl of the cosmos...I know who you are, there are plenty like you where I come from. **(Greedee reaches out and pulls Aphie closer and examines her)**

Greedee:

Well, you and I better get along honey... or your sappy boyfriend and that inept serpent will be in for it...understand? **(Aphie seemingly co-operative and imitating Greedee)**

Aphie:

Well...What is it you want---“honey”?

Greedee:

You and I to be friends honey ...I wanna become part of your plans...part of your future

Aphie:

(Leans toward her and sarcastically mimics)

No... way... Honey...Over my dead body! **(Greedee studies her and softly says)**

Greedee:

Oh! That’s easily arranged! **(yells)** TTHREXXXXXXXXX!

The door flies open and Threxx runs to her and kneels

Greedee:

This one’s off too! She’s worse than the other one... these two are different...Take her away. **(Threxx grabs Aphie, turns to Greedee)**

Threxx:

I’ll be riiight baaack Sweetie. **(He exits with Aphie)**

(Greedee sardonically into her hand mirror.Greedee primps herself in the hand mirror as she talks)

Greedee:

... I must be losing it... Those kids are not like other humans...They don’t want more! Is there anyone who doesn’t want more of me? OH well! it’s back to the drawing board.

Scene change: Lights fade down then up to – the “THE TOXICS” Den.

Jason is seated on a throne type chair.. . As Jason attempts to rise he is pushed down onto the throne by Threxx..._the “THE TOXICS” are tying Aphie and Fang-u to chairs

Aphie:

Don't you hurt him!

Threxx:

She's kinda sweet on ya son... maybe she can give me a few pointers with my Sweetie. Now listen kid, you upset my girl...and she's not used to being rejected and that aint good for any of us (*leans in confidentially and nods his head toward Aphie*) Now I gotta deal for ya'. We all agree you're a problem kind a kid, you got a bit of every one of us in you.. Soooo...we want you to be our King..How's that sound? (**All the "THE TOXICS" shout agreement**)

Aphie:

No way!

Threxx:

Who asked ya? Put a gag in it! (*Uzee-once-a stuffs her tissues into Aphie's mouth*) Now...Whaddya say Kid?

Jason:

I don't want to be a silly old King.

Threxx:

What! You don't' want to be King? Are you nuts? Everyone wants to be the King! It's good to be the King!

Cue the music:

"It's Good To Be The King" © words and Music: Ted Hamilton

This is a mesmerising tour de force of choreography for Threxx, as he does his MUSIC -MAN thing

Oh! It's good to be the King, a truly wondrous thing

YOU wear a crown, you stroll around and not do anything.

And as far as one can see, those lines of peasantry, just give 'em a wave

And they'll behave and call you Majesty...

(La - dee dah - dee la dee da dee dah)

Chorus:

Can't you feel that blue blood oozing through your veins,

Why you're royalty that anyone can see..

All your portraits will be effigies in gold, why they'll hang you in the nation's galleries....

All the pomp and splendour when you don the royal robes....You'll look so dashing on your royal horse...

The band will play God save the King; it's what they come to hear, we've been doin' this for centuries me Dear.

(Lah dee da dee dah, lah dee da dee dah, lah dee da dee da dee da dee dah)

Can't you feel the blue blood oozing through you veins, why you're royalty that anyone can see, all your portraits will be effigies in gold, why they'll hang you in the nation's galleries.

You can lose your senses you can spend the public purse and they'll love you even at your royal worst...

You razzle and you dazzle 'em, it's what they come to see

That's the business of the Monarchy.

(Lah dee da dee da dee da dee dah...)

Oh! It's good to be the King 'cause when you have a whim,

No need to pout, just point it out, they'll you give anything.

But when all is said and done it's such a lot of fun whatever they say the system is you'll still – be – number – one - It's good to be the King!

Threx finishes on his knees in front of the proscenium. All of the "THE TOXICS" applaud and Threx hams it up. He crosses to Jason, takes off the crown and plonks it on Jason's head

Threx:

All Heil! - King Jason!

Toxics:

Heil! King Jason!

(A loud audible gasp from “all” as Jason throws the crown to the ground. Jason stands and proclaims)

Jason:

I told you! I don't want to be your KING, or anyone's King. Now let my friends go or *(Threxz grabs him)*

Threxz:

Or what? Alright, I've been patient with you, but You INSULTED my girl, when all she wanted to do was give you more, and now you don't want to be our King...well I've had enough! *(Jason breaks free and points at Threxz and proclaims: “YOU'RE A BULLY” - this song is sung by Jason and Threxz, in a duet of answering each other's accusations).*

©“You're A Bully” Words and music: ©Ted Hamilton

A duet: (Threxz's responses are in brackets)

Jason:

You're a bully **(right so far)** Yes you are! **(I'm a star)**

You're a bully **(A mon-star)** Yes you are. **(Right you are!)**

You're a coward and you're yellow, just a spineless bowl of Jello,

When you roar and when you bellow, you're a flop! **(I'm the tops)**

You're a bully **(Through and through)** Yes you are **(My dad too)**

You're a bully **(That'll do)** yes you are **(Boo-hoo-hoo)**

Cause you know what you've been doin', when you hurt another human

You're a bully and your conduct's gotta stop! **(so call a cop!)**

(verse)

Socially repugnant and historically redundant you're an anti-social menace
misanthrope. **(What's that?)**

Casting no aspersions, you're the current caveman version of a bipedal arboreal an
APE! **(Now you're talkin')**

Disrespectful **(I am not)** Yes you are! **(it's a plot!)**

Unsuccessful **(who says so?)** Everyone! **(That's no fun)**

You're an antisocial tyrant with a use by date that's finite...you're a goner, without honour, you're a dope! **(OOOOHHHH!)**

One thing is for certain that the people that you're hurtin' aren't deservin' of your warped mentality...**(you talkin' to me)**

Cyberspace is crawling, with your signature appalling, but your kind of mental mauling's got to stop. **(That's not fair)**

You're a bully **(Boo – hoo - hoo)** through and through **(So says you)**

You're a menace **(No I'm not)** Yes you are **(That can't be true?)**

If you'll only say you're willing, transformation can be thrilling, can you change it? Re-arrange it? Say you can! **(Yes I Can!)**

Bullies are just tyrants, with a brain that's less than vibrant, like a water hydrant haven't got a clue **(That's me too)**

Bullies are just cowards, and their hearts are underpowered, and the only place they should be is a Zoo. **(like Kangaroos)**

Do you accept it **(Yes I do)**..Don't reject it. **(Say hooroo)** that'll do. **(Together)**

All the bad things WE 'VE been doin', Mother Earth will be reviewing, but the best of us are doing what we can...To make it better **(every way)** that's okay!

To work at striving **(every day)** That's the way!

If we try a little harder, get a life that will be larger, we'll be buddies, we'll be mates... we'll be friends!

SOOO! say you'll change it? **(The bitter pill)**

Rearrange it? **(Yes I will!)**

Can YOU change it,(I'll arrange it) ! **(Together)** Yes - we - will

(Repeat: "Say you'll change it"... extend and milk the ending: (yes –we-- can)

They kneel and take the applause of the "THE TOXICS" (Bonezee steps forward and shakes Threx and plonks him into a chair. The other "THE TOXICS" tend to THREXX like a boxer's corner: towelling him and reviving him

Bonezee:

Come to your senses!...you're losing it man...All this show-biz singin' and dancin' jive's got ya under a spell!...

Threxx:

Yeah, yeah, it's kinda addictive aint it...I'm okay...I'm okay... Do you think I nailed that last move, eh?

Bonezee:

...He's smoozin ya! ...Where's that good ol' - bad ol' guy, we all lurv to hate!... Get! Your! **Mojo!** Back! ...*We've all got a piece of this action (**Bonezee steps forward and addresses everyone**)* Why don't we put these guys on trial, in the Court of Public Opinion!...You know how that goes, Humans can't agree on anything (**all cheer in agreement**).
"ANNND.... IF ... by some straaaannnge chance they're found guilty, we'll be in the clear with Mother Earth"

They slap palms and all shout agreement. All the cast hurriedly set the scene for a courtroom drama. They pull Aphie and Fang-u to the middle of the stage. Tables are drawn up and a jury box is formed. They bedeck Threxx in Judges robes....Threxx takes the Judge's seat and bangs his gavel.

THREXX:

The Court of public opinion is now in session ...Do we have counsel for the prosecution?

Marcel Maggot steps forward, fingers in his vest, looking very attorney like

Marcel Maggot:

'Eere your ERRnuh'

(Uzee-once-a crosses to him and plants a loud kiss on Marcel Maggot. He preens and bows to the court amid hurrahs and cheers. He turns to Jason) '

Ow do you pled?

Jason:

Not guilty! This is a Kangaroo court! Who represents us?

(From off stage a loud brogue booms out)

Whiskey:

Oiii will. *(The Whiskey bottle enters from off-stage - with some other Trasheesthat we had seen earlier. Whiskey does 8 bars of an Irish jig)*

If it pleases the court... we've got a vested interest in the outcome, as we are his Trash.

As he talks the other Trasheesare setting up his table with a brief-case, old papers, a gown, a wig, and legal regalia...as usual Newzzee hollers his headline

Newzzee:

Humans on trial! Court of Public Opinion to decide their fate! **(Jury yells... SHUT UP!)**

Threxx Banging his gavel addresses Newzzee

Quiet! One more word outa you and you'll be removed from the court.

Newzzee puts his hand over his mouth gagging himself and drags himself off

Jason:

Fat chance we've got... with a Whiskey bottle defending us!

Whiskey:

If it pleases the court *(He crosses to Jason, Aphie and Fang-u)...* The court of public opinion is where facts don't count for much, only opinions, and throughout the years I've had a lot of influence with humans in forming their opinions... *(gestures a drinking movement)*

Whiskey:

You've probably heard about reincarnation Jason? It's a very spiritual idea and worthy of your understanding...It's about a second chance, and you might be needing one ya-self... your misguided ways got us all in this pickle and Oiii don't see anyone else stepping forward to save ya... confidentially, I've lived in the houses of some top legal brains and I've picked up a few tricks ... so Oyiii'll forget your insult and give it me best for ya all.

Aphie:

You've got our vote. *(She nudges Jason) Hasn't he? (Jason nodding)*

Jason:

Well you are Dad's favourite Whiskey.

Whiskey:

(does a musical Irish jig then leans on the bar)

Himself it is! ...In that case **(grandly gestures to the court)**... there'll be no fee! - pro bono it is!

All cheer.

Threxx:

(banging his gavel) Quiet or I'll have you all removed...and you know what that means **(all murmur)** – OOOOOOHHHHHHHHH*Now what are the charges* counsellor?

Marcel Maggot:

The sharges are that he has denied Lady Greedee the opportunity to give him mer, and he haz flatly refurzed to be our Keeeng **(cont.)**

The gel, has consistently refurzsed to be a pollluter...she doz not yeld to our best temptartions, which is unurzssual for a Human...the leezard has spread rumours of a prophecy and created the illusion of a "HeeEDDEN TOXIC"! **(boos and catcalls)** 'Ow do you pled?

Whiskey:

They're not guilty your honour!

Marcel Maggot:

I call BONEZEE to zee stand **(BONEZEE struts and he and Marcel do a little tap dance as they cross to the stand. All cheer as he stylishly sits in the witness box)** Tell zee gort what you think of theez gel.

Bonezee:

She was always on about that pollution stuff... The crazy idea that what I do affects everything else... that I should respect some natural order,whatever that is! **(guffaws)**

arcel Maggot:

What av you to zay about zat!

Aphie:

Guilty! Guilty! And I'd do it again... I know who you are...You're the Vices! **(Jury all oooohhhh)** And I've got news for you, as long as there is one person, who truly loves the Earth, then you're not safe... We might all come from different places, but when the goin'g gets tough, we humans come together and kick arse! You TOXICS will never beat us **(the Trashees, Jason and Fang-u lead the applause...Threx bangs his gavel trying to restore order...Carbo Man jumps to his feet and shouts...**

Carbo Man:

"That gal's got something thar"! We gotta change thangs

Marcel Maggot:

Objeczzun yer errner!...(finger in the air) Heez trying to eeennfluenz the juree.

Threx:

Quiet! **(Bangs his gavel and then points it at Carbo-man)** Objection upheld! You is outa order rev-head! Another outburst like that and you'll be outa here...Call your next witness. **(Maggot bows)**

Marcel Maggot:

I call Madam Greedee to zee stand

A gasp fills the stage - Threx signals to Marcel Maggot to come forward

Threx:

What are you up to...Counsellor?

Marcel Maggot:

We ave to show zat zey are mentally unstable and not typical of human behaaavior... How could zey resist Madam Greedee's offer of "merrrr" eeff zey ver zane?

Threx loves that idea and hits Maggot on his fez with the gavel; the fez emits a honk sound...Threx chuckling.

Threxx:

You are one smart Maggot....Call Swee...I mean, Greedee to the stand!

Cut to Jason and Aphie locked into conversation with Whiskey..... as Greedee saunters past them, on her way to the stand, she waves and acts as if she is majesty.... She arrives and Threxx hurriedly leaves his seat and pulls out her chair, and then resumes his judicial seat.

Marcel Maggot:

Are zee defandants known to you...madam?

Greedee:

Sure honey

Marcel Maggot:

Deed zey refurzese yerrr urffer of Merrrr?

Greedee:

Sure did honey. I guess there's a first for everything. **(Laughter)**

Marcel Maggot:

EEzzzz theez, in your eggperiennze, ner-mel -be-ha-vi-er?

Greedee:

There's definitely something wrong with them honey...I've never known any human to refuse more...They may be aliens honey. **(Jury guffaws)**

Marcel Maggot:

Zank you *madam* **(Greedee starts to exit when Whiskey gets up from his seat and holds up his hand and loudly exclaims)**

Whiskey:

Does the word Sweetie mean anything to ya madam? **(An oohh is heard)**

Greedee:

Well...I might have heard it somewhere honey **(she looks at Threxx)** I can't quite recall.

Whiskey:

Does the witness know your honour?

Threxx:

Councillor... you're badgering the witness!

Greedee:

I might have seen him around the traps honey. *(The jury guffaw. Threxx bangs his gavel)...*

Threxx:

Where are we going with this line of questioning?

Whiskey:

(Crossing to the Bar as he talks)... I think it might be a case of misleading the court your honour... I move that the court instruct the jury to ignore the evidence of Greedee as, you know... inadmissible *(confidentially to Threxx)* Do you get me drift - "Sweetie"?

Threxx:

All right! All right! Strike the last witness' testimony as... inadmissible...

All cheer

Greedee:

(saunters past Threxx) I got something for you that might be inadmissible too - "Sweetie".

Whiskey:

I call Fang-u, the Celestial Serpent to the stand. *(Fang-u steps up and waddles to the stand)*- In your own words, would you like to tell the court why we're all here?

Fang-u:

I was sent by MOTHER EARTH to guide the children on the spiritual path to self- awareness - "The Way." And to fulfil the Prophecy that restores our magic to the humans.'Cos we sure have had a bad rap forever!

Whiskey:

Haven't we all! Now would I be right in assuming there's a little more to your journey than wounded pride and the restoration of Serpent magic?
(Fang-u caught out stammers)

Fang-u:

Okay! Okay! Mother Earth brought the kids to GNOSIS to learn the lessons of RESPECT! (quotes) My mission is to lead the kids to you... THE TOXICS; help them to solve the riddle of the " HIDDEN TOXIC", and change the beast. Then they return to Earth and teach others Respect –You know, the thing humans seem to have forgotten... AAANNND of which you know nothing!

(deep breath followed by the chorus OOOOOhhhhhh!)

Whiskey:

If it pleases the court ... the riddle of the hidden TOXIC- seems to be the key to this case...If, as you say, you SEVEN TOXICS represent the human vices,then how could there be a hidden Deadly...IF the Seven vices that you represent are all present in the court...? (ooooohhhh!) ...My clients can't be guilty of somethin' they're not a part of...Now can they?

Fang-u:

I don't know, you'll have to ask Mother Earth...And Good luck with that one! ...why are you giving me such a hard time? Serpents are always the bad guys...like the serpent in the tree story (**quotes in the air**)... That wasn't a serpent's voice the humans heard in the tree ... It was you TOXICS whispering your temptations (**Points at the THE TOXICS**) and we got the blame, which didn't leave us "Serpents" a leg to stand on!... (**The whole court guffaws. Threx bangs his gavel and calls for order Fang-u continues**) "WE don't get no respect!

Fang-u:

Respect! Respect! It's all about respect!

All cheer...Threx bangs his gavel and shouts as Fang-u launches into his song:

"RESPECT" ... (c) words and music: Ted Hamilton

Respect, Respect, I don't get no respect!

Respect, respect, just show me some respect

I don't know why you're scared of me I'm such a sweet delight
Just because we're different doesn't mean we have to fight
Respect! Respect! Just show me some respect
Respect! Respect! Just gimme some respect!

(Music - break - till ready vamp between each chorus as they cavort)

Fang-u continues:-

Respect, Respect, I don't get no respect!
Respect, respect, just gimme me some respect **(cont.)**
A voice heard in a garden from a sssnaake up in a tree
You humans did the talking and then hung the rap on me
respect, respect it's up to you and me
respect, respect, it's easy as can be**(music break vamp till ready)**

Whiskey: steps forward:

Respect, Respect, Oi don't get no respect!
Respect, respect, just show me some respect
I'm vintage Oirish Whiskey, and I'm proud of all me fame
But if you take too much of me... you'll not recall ya name!
Respect, respect, I don't get no respect
Respect, respect, it's easy as can be. **(Music - break)**

Trashee:-(nay-sayer)

Respect, respect the Earth needs some respect
Respect, respect, we should be circumspect
It might be global warming or a human oversight
But if you keep on fighting we will never get it right!
Respect, respect, I don't get no respect
Respect, respect, it's easy as can be. **(Music - break)**

Three TRASHEES pull him backwards and sing in unison:-

Respect, respect we don't get no respect
Respect, respect we deserve respect

Cos we're your household products A.K.A. the family trash
And we can be re-cycled and they'll give you back some cash
Respect, respect, just show us some respect
Respect, respect, we don't get no respect (**music break vamp till ready**)

Aphie: steps up

Respect, Respect the diff'rence we project!
Respect, the earth, it's what we must protect (**cont.**)
It's not about opinions that you hold as sacrosanct
It's all about each kindness you deposit in the bank
Respect, respect, it's easy as can be
Respect, respect, it's up to you and me (**music break till ready**)

Jason and Aphie (continue)

Respect, respect, you've got to learn respect
Respect, respect, you've got to earn respect
It's not about our diff'rences or ethnic ill-at-ease

Respect is when we recognise our similarities
Respect, Respect, you've got to learn respect
Respect, respect, it's up to you and me

R- E-S-P-E-C-T Respect... Respect ... Give me some respect!

Finishes with a rousing ensemble holding of "RESPECT"

All in the court house participate - excluding the THE TOXICS, who are all aghast!

All cheer...Threxx bangs his gavel and shouts as mayhem ensues

Threxx:

Quiet! Quiet! Or I'll clear the court! And you'll all go to the compactor!
***(An audible gasp - Oooooohhhh! as they all stop. Threxx continues) .
Threxx points to the Kids and Fang-u) including them! (A deathly hush
falls on the court as the gravity of Threxx's threat becomes clear. Threxx
bangs his gavel, Points to Marcel Maggot) - Okay coooooounnnsellor
Con-tin-ue...***

Carbo Man:

I think they're onto something 'bout that gas guzzlin'...Maybe I should change to that Al-Ter-Na-Tive fuel source!

(CHEERS from all and Carbo bows Threx bangs his gavel to restore order)

Threx:

Inadmissible! You're losing it Revhead...Go suck up some fumes somewhere. Fraternising with the enemy is not only inadmissible...It's...it's... it's Treason!

Aphie:

You're bullying the witness!

Jason:

Yeah! And hazing him too!

Jason gives thumbs up to Aphie and Fang-u, Threx bangs his gavel and calls over Maggot.

Threx:

Get that Kid up here! And gag those two **(Aphie kisses Jason and tidies him up. Fang-u slaps him on the back and Jason strides toward the stand -Threx continues)**. So hero, would you like to explain to the court what a bunch of losers we are and what a goody - two - shoes, you are!

Jason:

What are we on trial for? You're the guys that are doing all of the bad things....All we were brought here for was to find the "HIDDEN TOXIC" and you're hiding him!...Her! It! Whatever? ...We get to go home as soon as we find this TOXIC..." AAAnnnnd since THAT is obviously another one of you ...If you want to get rid of us, you have to help us find it and solve the riddle.

Threx:

Is there a door prize? What's in it for us?

TOXICS: (unison)

YEAH! -What's in it for us?!

Aphie:

A second chance! Reform and do the right thing by Mother Earth and be decent guys

Threxx:

Reform!... be decent guys!... Suck up to Mother Earth! That ole bag is always snooping around sticking her nose in where it aint wanted ...Now let's have a look at Mr. Wonderful here... AKA - "the decent guy"... in all his glory. **(A huge screen shows Jason and his antics that we saw in the opening plus a few new ones with commentary by Threxx who waves a baton as he becomes the carousel barker.... Over the pictures the Jury will OOOhhhh!)**

"We're made of the same stuff son! ... You like littering, hunting and hurting things. These are just some of - the highlights of your career ...I saved 'em for ya... Remember these"?

Shots of Jason and his slingshot firing at and hitting a bird in flight, smashing the bottle on Aphie's fence, tormenting the cat, the running hose, the spilled dangling garbage, all seen in the opening sequence...shot of a duck trying to shake off a plastic six pack snared around his bill, Threxx points to the screen and continues next page

"Oh! And this one at the picnic when you threw the plastic shopping bag in the bushes, and not the bin ...**(Threxx leans to the jury)**... "Wrapped around a little possum **(shouts)** Hullo possums! Smothered him **(jury oooohhhh!)**... **(A new picture)** Remember the Camping trip when you and your boozy mates tossed the plastic six - pack into the lake, got a duck in under two days...Quacky-quack - went whacky! Whack"! **(Jury OOOOhhhh! Threxx guffaws as he simulates strangulation).**

"How about this one! Your birthday party by the seashore, tossing water-filled balloons at each other...guess where they finished? In the ocean. A porpoise... swallowed the balloons... Bang! Porpoise Pie **(Jury OOOhhhh!)**

Jason:

Lots of kids do that stuff...you can't blame me. I don't go hunting - defenceless animals.

Threxx:

No! How about the bird and the cat...and what about the Koala you and your mates knocked out of a tree with your sling-shot **(Mock imitation of**

Jason 'You can't blame me' How about this little gem with the **(cont.)** sardine can, when you threw it into the lake half opened. The sharp edges got a baby platypus going in for the little snack in the bottom of the tin ...slow starvation for a protected species... But not from you! **(Jury OOOOhhhh! Threx turns to the jury)** He's not a hunter! **(Guffaws)**...What a kidder!

Jason: (lame)

That could've been anybody's can.

Threx:

Yeah! But it wasn't ...Aw! Don't be modest kid, you're an artist...you have a genius for destroying and pollutin' things...And now for the "Coup de Grace"**(delibetately mispronouncing)**...Take a look at all of the straws, cartons and plastic bottles you and your buddie-kins drop..."Any-where."**(A shot comes up of a huge effluent catchment, which contains a mountain of the above trash)** Aaaaannnd on that note...the prosecution rests!

Threx gees up the "THE TOXICS" with his paw indicating applause, which comes...he takes his judicial seat. BONE-ZEE and Threx exchange fist pumps

Marcel Maggot:

Derz zee deefandant ave anyzing to zay?

A hush falls on the court as all eyes turn to Jason; he sits with his head lowered on his forearms, in a position of abject misery at what he has done. Jason lifts his head and starts to slowly rise. He throws back his head spreads his arms and emits an agonised scream of enlightenment...the moment of the Epiphany!

Jason:

It's me!!... I'm the Hidden TOXIC! I'm the worst one! (All - OOOOhhhh!)

Marcel Maggot:

Zis is outraaageeous! Pretending to be one of urz...

Carbo Man:

Ya know, I always knew thar was somethin' family 'bout that boy...

Aphie and Fang-u rush to join Jason. Aphie throws her arms around him as Fang-u and the Trashees surround him in gleeful adulation

Aphie:

Oh! Jason I'm so proud of you...It's us! Humans! We're the "WORST THE TOXICS!" we're the dumb ones... You solved the riddle!

Jason:

You're not the worst....you're smart, It's me...I've been the dumb one.

Fang-u:

No Jason, Aphie's right, it's everyone....You said it yourself... 'Could have been anyone's can'... we've fulfilled the prophesy - remember? Three children through THE TOXICS gate will change the path of human fate... that's us! Wait till my Dad finds out we we fulfilled the Prophecy.

Cue the music reprise for:

"NO IFS – ANDS - BUTS or MAYBES"

Bonezee:

You're acting so self-righteous...The way you're tryin' to fright us...
We'll settle down, when you leave town....
No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes.

Uzee:

That's kinda harsh words Bonezee...I think you're all a-lone-zzy...
Why all the fuss, he's one of us - a "Deadly" and a homey

Carbo Man:

I've really been afflicted,
I'm fossil fuel addicted, that fusion deal could be for real ...
NO IFS – ANDS - BUTS or MAYBES.

Waste-a-lot:

You're asking me to flower, with other kinds of power...
That solar cell could ring my bell ...
No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes.

Marcel:

I thought I had conviction, now there's a contradiction...

Without the trash, I lose my stash,

No Ifs -Ands - Buts or Maybes.

Jason and Aphie

Now here's the latest set up, you guys have got to step up....

We'll get along, it won't take long,

No Ifs- ands - Buts or Maybes..

(The trio start to run and they are grabbed by Threxx, Bonezee, and Waste-a-lot)

Threxx:

You've screwed up all our dealings, You hurt my Sweetie's feelings,

I've paid the price and that aint nice

No Ifs – Ands - Buts or Maybes!

(Mother Earth and her entourage enter)

Mother Earth:

Stop that!

Mother Earth: (cont)

Lights flash as she and her minder the Jellyfish are lowered into centre stage...everybody is in awe of her.

Stop that fighting!... Whenever are you going to try something else, like talking things out, and settling your differences that way **(All are silent)**

I didn't bring you here to start fights. "The Way" is about ending them. your trial was a scam. But, it surely showed you're all "THE TOXICS" and without each other you don't exist...RIDDLE SOLVED! ... It's in your hands,to win or lose; it's time for you to choose. Change your ways or else!

Fang-u Jumps up and shouts in her face

Fang-u:

That's what I've been trying to tell 'em Mother. **(Mother Earth backs up with his breath in her face)**

Mother Earth:

My goodness! **(Waving her hand)** Phew! You need to see your dentist dear, your breath is so atrocious... you have Super-cali-fragalistic-extra-halitosis. **(Waits for the laugh... Continues)**... I am the mother of all "Homies." –now let's get down to principle.

Jason:

What's our Principal got to do with this?

Mother Earth:

Different kind of principal dear; this principle is something you live by ... a rule that's inside of you...

Bonezee jumps in and does a little jig and raps.

Bonezee:

You call yourself a Homey, you think I'm just a sucker...Cause in the hood they hear me good, you're just a Muther f.....

Mother Earth points her wand at Bonezee and he goes mute mid – word.

Mother Earth

You are an awful show-off, you gabble and you blow off...so sit down and say nix **(the Jellyfish shoves him into a chair BONEZEE throws his hands up in surrender. She pointedly addresses Jason)** I was given the task of creating a plan to combat the problems humans create, that's why I brought you all together in **GNOSIS**... for you to discover some truths. I am indeed Earth's Mother and unlike him **(points at Bonezee)** that's the proper use of "Mother" ...So gimme some respect! I was the first! I'm "Queen of the Dreaming - Mother Earth to you"... **(forcefully)** Get It! **(Mother Earth loudly)** Do- you- get- it!? **(Bonezee cringes....All shout)** "We get it"!

Musical rhythm starts . Mother Earth does a little moon dance then raps

Mother Earth:

“When things began the master’s plan took time for me to brew...
The timbers grew, the soil renewed, the sky was always blue;
The creatures roamed in peaceful herds and birds and plants were found...
There were plenty of my gifts to find especially in the ground.
The Boss (pointing upwards) gave me the earth to tend and then CREATED you!
Get it!

Chorus:....We get it!

“YOU chopped and dug and got the bug for more than you could use...
Before too long, it all went wrong, you started to abuse”!
The climate changed, your troubles grew, just take a look around

Protests from Jason and Aphie are stilled by Mother Earth... she continues

“The trees came down, the green turned brown; The birds fell to the ground.
They couldn’t breathe the air you made from things you took from me...
You call them fossil fuels,
BUT THEY’RE my family jewels and cannot be renewed...
Get It!

Chorus....We get it!

(**Mother cont**).They were made for you to share...not to hoard ‘em or to bleed ‘em,
To double-deal or steal ‘em ... ‘cos you’re the only ones who need ‘em...
You’ve only been around a while, your cities stretch for miles and miles,
With garbage stacks and plastic stuff, you bury in my ground (**she punctuates this
like a wagon master**) and - that-just gives -me- gas”!

**All cheer. She holds up her wand and they all fall silent...She pauses for effect,
stands on one toe, all expectant? They shout!**

Chorus:

Go for it Mum! Let’s hear one! Make it a ripper Mum!

Marcel Maggott rushes across the stage. He breaks an enormous fart followed by the guffaws and jeers of all. Mother Earth fans the air.

Marcel Maggot

zink I need zum lurrnnch

Mother Earth:

“You’ve done so much harm to me, that this is what I fear...

If you don’t mend your ways my dears **(She pauses, removes her glasses, bats her eyes at the audience)**... these won’t be crocodile tears.

I’ll wipe the slate! I’ll Start again!

You know what I can do!

I’ve had enough of you today;

It’s time for you to choose. Get it!

Chorus....

We get it! Mother Earth waves her wand and they all freeze she turns to Jason

Mother Earth: (cont.)

Just think about your Heroes – they were never overcome

They paved the way for you today with spirits that were strong.

So take the tip and heed my words, I wrote them in a song”.

“Mother Earth’s Refrain” ©ted hamilton: words & music

1st Verse:

There’s a sadness that I’m feeling and it grows

It’s a sadness of the knowing

That our time together might be at a close

It’s a heartache and a feeling you can name. ...call it Mother Earth’s Refrain

2nd Verse:

There's an old familiar saying and it's true

That love means your affection

And attention to the things that you don't do

It's a heart-ache and a feeling you can name, call it Mother Earth's Refrain.

1st Chorus:

There's a universal cosmic force that overrules us all of course

And that's the magic no-one understands

Why the Heavens light the darkest night

And dawn gives way to sweet sunlight

These precious gifts that sweep across the land

And it's hard to even contemplate, why people don't appreciate

A paradox so wonderful and grand

3rd Verse:

There's a sadness and it never goes away

it's the sadness every mother knows when they have to watch their children go
astray.

it's the heartache that I live with every day

Call it Mother Earth's refrain.

2nd chorus

So this is what I ask of you , to clinch a deal between us two

To save our love is really up to you

But I'll be here to lend a hand

encourage anything you plan, to watch in awe as you repair the land

I believe that you can do anything you really want to do

And that is how to be your Mother's friend.

4th verse:

There's a sadness that I'm feeling and it grows

It's a sadness of the knowing

That our time together might be at a close

It's a sadness that you must understand ...call it Mother Earth's Refrain

They embrace

Jason: (jokingly)

I Had no idea you felt that way. (She gives him a friendly slap)...

I promise youI'll always be your friend ? (they hi - five)

Mother Earth:

Mother waves her wand and all the others vanish, leaving just Aphie, and Fang-u

Jason:

Whoa!...What's that all about?

Mother Earth:

A little magic Dear, We need privacy

Jason:

(Jason pats Fang-u's head) Maybe you could give him some of your magic...He sure tries hard. **(They laugh. Jason gently caresses Aphie's frozen face)** She is beautiful, isn't she?

Mother Earth:

She certainly is ... Mother Earth waves her wand and Aphie and Fang-u vanish

Jason:

Now what!

Mother Earth

I need your attention... without distractions

Mother Earth conjures and two stools appear. she sits on a mushroom stool, Jason sits beside her. She hands him a drink bottle...she bumps hers against his bottle in a toast...

Mother Earth:

Here's to Aphie and Fang-u, wherever they are....**(Jason goes to protest)**
...joking!....**Jason and Mother Earth sip their drink**

Jason:

(Jason looks at the label) Wow! That's cool stuff.

Mother Earth:

Nectar of the Gods... purple corn -AAand in a non - plastic - bottle! Now, we need to talk...Jason, you humans are special and when at your best you're wonderful. **But**, if you continue along the path your going you will write yourselves off... I don't want to see you in my hall of memories...I like humans.

Mother Earth:

...That's why you were given FREE-WILL to choose the way you act... and you have to make better choices dear...I brought you here and landed you in the garden of heroes for a purpose, Each of those people loved humanity. It only takes onel like them to make all the difference.. This glorious cosmos is not an accident or political ideology...or one of your fanciful fictions. There is a purpose to itand its purpose is love. We're all in this together. What I do affects you and vice versa...Get it?

Jason:

I do now....speaking of family...where's Aphie?

Mother Earth:

You really like that girl don't you?...huh!

Jason:

Yeah! I do ...I've been thinking a lot about her that's why I've got to go back in there and face GREEDEE... She got into my mind too and I gotta get rid of her

Mother Earth:

Good boy! ...You're right! Sooner or later all humans have to deal with Madam Greedee. That's why I chose you... I knew you had the right stuff for the job....

Jason:

I don't know... it sure felt good when she said I could have more of anything I wanted. It was like the feeling you get drinking hot chocolate.

Mother Earth:

Ah! The old Demon "Temptation"...The grand illusion that having "More" will make you feel better... "The hot chocolate feeling" **(they laugh together)** GREEDEE has poisoned many a good mind. She and her sister Envy are dangerous gals. They make humans hungry for things they don't need... Surely you've heard the rantings of their disciples: Greed is good! **(Punctuating drum shots)** Wealthier than Midas! **(Rim shot)** Richer than Croesus! **(Rim shot)**...More money than Bill Gates! **(Rim shot)**

Jason:

Bill Gates is Greek?

Mother Earth:

That's good...a little humour... I know that you have to go in there, and I wish that I could help you, but It is your destiny (points upward) ...I cannot intervene **(Mother Earth straightens his clothing and brushes him off in a motherly manner)** But! Greedee will sure have her work cut out with you.

Jason:

What about the "THE TOXICS", have we changed them forever? **(looking around to ditch his bottle)**

Mother Earth:

(Mother Earth signals to Jason who hands her his bottle and she tucks both bottles in her pouch. she pats her pouch for emphasis, Jason nods at her lesson - he gets it)... Each generation has to learn the lessons**(cont.)**

themselves. Bad habits are really good habits waiting for a guide - **(pauses)** and everyone needs guidance in this ordered confusion... my goodness, I'm babbling oxymorons... And that's certainly you... an OXYMORON?

Jason:

Hey! Hey! Who're you calling moron? **(mother earth chuckles)**

Mother Earth:

An oxymoron is not a person, it's a contradiction dear....A mixture of opposites and that's you ...the right stuff, and the wrong stuff, but I think you are an "extra-ordinary" young man....And that's a well chosen oxymoron

Jason:

Thanks MUM.....Are Aphie and Fang-u gonna be okay?

Mother Earth:

"They'll be here when you come out..IF you come out (**Jason reacts and Mother Earth (chuckles)**)...Joking!..**(Jason turns to go to the door. He turns to her and she gives him a cheer leader encouragement)**...Greedee thinks it's all about money, but it's not money that's bad, it's the love of it...So I want you to Remember the words of the song I wrote :“We Can All Make A Difference?”

Jason:

You wrote that too?

Mother Earth:

I had to get through to you somehow, but don't tell Fang-u..He's got enough hang-ups..Now!... - go - do - what - you - know - that- you - too - must - do **(Jason wipes his sweaty palms together)**

Jason: (musingly)

We can all make a difference eh?... You believe that?...

Mother Earth:

I do!.... But you have to Believe it!...Now get in there and kick her arse”!

Mother Earth 'hi fives' Jason... Jason grins, nervously wipes his hands on his trousers, and opens the door into Greedee's Den and closes the door. Jason stands with his back against the door. Greedee's voice intones.

Greedee:

Get tired of the party handsome? Comin' home to mama...they all do honey. As Maggot-man says: 'I'm zzzimply eeearrresistible **(cackles insanely)** Where's your scrawny little chickee? **(Jason stands before the mirror)**

Jason:

This is not about her; I came to see you

Greedee:

Never too late to come to your senses honey! **(Her hands caress Jason)**
Now where were we?

Tango music starts...(Her hands pull Jason closer to the mirror. Jason seizes her and lifts her up and Greedee stands on his feet as they TANGO over the following dialogue. They pause after each important point that is made, using all of the stops, spins and dips that the Tango is known for)

Jason:

Okay Greedee, Let's do it! Let's go dancing with the stars.

Greedee:

I couldn't believe you didn't want more honey...My most treasured gift and you rejected it - How could you ? ! **(Pause)**

Jason:

You were right Greedee, I do want more! **(Pause)**...More kids to say no to you! **(Pause)** More who will help me to get you into rehab?

(Pause and a dip)

Greedee:

Good luck with that one honey... you'll have to get rid of money **(pause)** 'cause you humans are addicted to ...me. **(Pause)** you just love GREEDEE **(cackles - pause and dip. Jason holds the dip and looks into her eyes-TANGO style)**

Jason:

There's more to life than money, honey- I don't want your money, and there are plenty just like me **(she struggles to straighten**

Greedee:

No one rejects me honey...**(Jason holds her in a dip)**"Let me go you little Devil"-

Jason:

We'll restrain your Greedee disciples and change those other TOXICS Cos you're a dying breed. **(Jason straightens up and whirls her around).**

Greedee:

Let me go you! Let me goooo!

JASON let's her go in a classic tango release, she spins like a top and falls to the ground... Jason runs to her, picks her up as she feels her face and runs to another mirror... she sees her mirror is shattered

Greedee:

I'm shattered! You broke me!

Jason:

That's funny... Greedee saying, 'You broke me'... Now, that's an oxymoron!

Greedee:

Wait till I tell Threx about this! **(Jason crossing to the door)**

Jason:

Is that your best shot Greedee? Old hat stuff, just like you...Threx is the weather not the news... **(HE performs an ATTITUDE move)** We don't all dance with the Devil - "Sweetie"

Jason opens the door, exits, and slams it... The cast is assembled all break into applause. Jason leans back and wipes his brow. Threx crosses to him

Threx:

Did you make it up with SWEETIE? Did you put in a good word for me?

Jason:

Absolutely! **(ThrexX goes to open the door. Jason stops him)**

Jason:

I wouldn't ...not right now...you know how heavy she can get...you know what Shakespeare said: 'Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.' **(ThrexX signals thumbs up that he knows the rest)** She's broken - up about you changing into a good guy... she'll get over it, just give her some time.**(cont)** **(Jason leans in to ThrexX)** She called you a little devil...You know the nice kind **(ThrexX preens, and skips away)**

Mother Earth:

You are a little baaad-ass.**(She giggles)** And quoting Master Shakespeare no less..I'm impressed... **as Jason walks away she hi-fives his palm held out behind his back.**

Aphie:

Oh! Jason I was so worried, I thought she might seduce you to the dark side.

Jason:

(Jason pulls her to him) That's your job isn't it? **(Kisses her)** I don't want anything she has to offer...I just needed to prove it to myself, that's all.

Aphie:

Jason, – Zeus and his wife Hera, and his brother Poseidon are here and so is Confucius...And one of our Elders....I told them all about you and they're dying to meet you. **(Jason, Aphie, and Mother Earth crossing to them).**

Cut to: Mother Earth introducing Jason to Confucius

Confucius:

I am happy that Fang-u was helpful to you on your journey to the path of enlightenment. You found your own version of The Way. Honourable persons are most happy with you

Zeus:

Well said Con **(chuckles as he turns to Jason)** I like what you did in there,took guts! If there are more like you, then we all have a chance.

HERA:

Yes! We're very proud of you... and Mother Earth (**Hera addresses Mother Earth**) ...Your plan worked very well...some bridge you built and all without your help... "Sweetie" .. (**she gently slaps Zeus' cheek**)

Cue:

"BUILDING BRIDGES" ©words and music: Bruce Woodley

HERA starts singing VERSE 3 of the song...

It's time for reaching out, there is new life to be tasted

It's time to make up for, all the years that have been wasted

It's time to make the journey from the darkness to the sun

And the most important thing is that we truly have begun

As she sings, it draws Mother Earth and the others into the song and they all sing the chorus- a-la the SEEKERS VERSION... When they finish the song, a grumpy Poseidon rises...

Poseidon:

Humph.. I don't trust humans... Just throw it my Ocean and nobody 'll notice. Well, It screws up my Nitrogen and Oxygen balance! Can you build a bridge over that !? (**Mother Earth waves her wand and freezes him**)

Zeus:

Oh! Earthie! Don't do that...You're always doing that when we want to complain about Humans.

Mother Earth:

A free hand! Remember? I know he's your brother, but he's a little whacky. You asked me to do a job and I think it's worked, and they get it! (**She revs up the entire cast and all respond**). *We get it!* (**Mother Earth freezes them all and conjures her stools. She signal Jason to sit**)

Mother Earth:

I think your visit has been a big success, don't you?

Jason:

Yeah, I've learned a lot... I was really a dumb kid... I'd like to work for you, with you, but I don't know how?

Mother Earth:

That's easy... Do me a good turn...Clean up your act and pick up your crap! **(Jason laughs)**. Take responsibility for the things YOU do...Don't blame anyone else. You were the hidden deadly...so be an example, which starts with **"I -am -re-spon-sible"**... Here's what I want you to do.

Form an organisation inclusive of all people...Start with youth, they accept change more quickly. Old ideas - like racism - have to go. There is no such thing as Racism. There is only one race and it's the human race. Don't confuse nationality or culture with race...You should encourage the use of a universal language; not understanding each other creates separatism... If you can help them understand those simple concepts, others will pick up on it, they'll pass the torch to the next generation, and so on... Remember, when you are in doubt, just close your eyes and I'll be with you. You know, the "Hot chocolate feeling."

Jason:

You sound like my Mum...

Mother Earth:

She's worth listening to and you can learn something from all native people, they've always known what this Mother likes. **(She chuckles...**
Apollo interrupts in a big Elvis voice

Apollo:

Heh mother! about we do that spiritual I like ...*"The River of Human Kindness"*...

Apollo starts the famous music intro for Elvis

Jason:

This I gotta hear

As the riff kicks in Aollo's voice booms out in an imitation of Elvis

Apollo:

Come on MotherYou're on!

Mother Earth:

Coming Dear! **(She asides to Jason)** ...Apollo maybe the God of music, but he has an identity problem; he thinks he's Elvis! **(She crosses to the cast)**

Mother Earth begins to clap her hands to encourage the cast to join in...This is a rousing gospel, hand-clapping, revivalist song led by a cheer leading Mother Earth and Apollo. Mother Earth waves her hands and the words appear magically

Fang-u:

That's real magic! ... Show me how do you do that?

Mother Earth:

Not now dear... This is my big number **(She starts to sing)**

“The River of Human Kindness” © Words & Music: Ted Hamilton

“Love nothing's better than, a little love gives a helping hand, a, little love, love's the only way...

“Love nothing's better than, a little love gives a helping hand, a, little love, love's the only way...

There's a river of human kindness flowing outside your door

Open it up and step right in there's room for you and more

Feel the milk of human kindness travelling down your skin

In the whole wide world nothing's better than a little love and a helping hand

Verse:

Mother Earth conducts the cast – each line can be sung by a different character

©Martin and John and Abe are gone, but their love lingers on

They said no words in anger were everybody's friend

They made us go to a place that's known where rhyme and reason meet

A Sesame Street for all to walk where life could be a treat...

(Band riff)

Chorus: all together

There's a river of Human Kindness flowing outside your door
Open it up and step right in there's room for you and more...
Feel the milk of human kindness travelling down your skin
In the whole wide world nothing's better than a little love and a helping hand.

(Band riff)

Chorus: MOTHER EARTH (sings solo)

Don't let troubles worry you don't let 'em get you down
Turn right around and face them now you've got to learn somehow
Take your troubled soul to that river where the love of the world is found
Jump right in and start to swim 'cause you can never drown

Chorus: (All together)

In the river of Human Kindness it's flowing outside your door
Open it up and step right in there's room for you and more
Feel the milk of human kindness travelling down your skin
In the whole wide world nothing's better than
A little love and a helping hand

Coda:

In the whole wide world nothing's better than a little love....
"Love, nothing better than, a little love, gives a helping hand, a little love, love's the
only way...There's a River of Human Kindness flowing outside your door!

All the cast embrace each other, hugging and enjoying themselves.

FIRST PEOPLE ELDER :

That was fun...it will be in our next Co-rob-bor-ee **(Mother-Earth Hi-fives approval)**

Mother Earth:

Good idea...You're repertoire could use an update

Jason:

Mother, you are a trip!

Mother Earth:

Thank you dear, and speaking of trip... it's time to go

(Mother Earth signals Fang-u who steps forward with a tray. Mother Earth picks up a medal and places it around Jason's neck)

Mother Earth:

My gift to you - for service - above and beyond... **(Jason looks down at it and sees the words: "The Hero's medal")**

Jason:

Wow! Cool! **(Mother Earth puts a medal around Aphie's neck)**

Mother Earth:

This goes nicely with Fang-u's pendant...Thank you dear for helping Jason...you go well together. **(Aphie reads the inscription): "In the service of Mother Earth"**

(Aphie kisses Mother Earth on the cheek)

Aphie:

Are we going to see you again?

Mother Earth:

I hope not! This is a one stop shop! I've shown you all I can, the rest is up to you baby...Get it!? **(All together)**

Cast:

We get it!

Jason:

Well, I hope you all get it...'Cos change – is - a -comin'....

Threxx:

We'll just follow your lead...As you go; we go...We are your "TOXICS" and after all, you are our King. **(Threxx does a mock bow)**

Bonezee:

As you go, we go my man, and that's a wrap! **(All the "TOXICS" cheer)**

Waste-a-lot:

Now don't go getting too goody – two - shoes - honey...You know being a baaaad girl... aint all bad! **(She cackles and all the "TOXICS" cheer).**
We have to take the cure slowly honey or we'll get the bends. **(she hugs Aphie and They all laugh and cheer)**

Newzzee and Mikee:

(Newzzee shouts) Born again kids on way home! **(Mikee shouts)**
"TOXICS" restrained, Greedee tamed! ... **(Newzzee)** New day dawns
for Humans! **(Mikee)** Mothers get Trashees second chance!

Cast:

Shut UP!

Mikee:

Fourth Estate under attack! Intimidation tactics by the Dead!...(cont.)

(He mouths the words but nothing comes out, as Wasta wraps her hand over his mouth and turns off his switch)

Newzzee:

(shouts declaratively)...Press muzzled! "Infringement on the
'Freedom of the Press'! **(Uzee stuffs some tissues into his mouth.)**

Uzee-:

That's a gag order honey...You have an appointment with the recycler

(She and Waste-a-lot usher them off-stage as Jason and Aphie wave them goodbye ... Mother Earth in an animated huddle with the others...There is agreement by all and Mother Earth steps into the centre stage.)

Mother Earth:

Okay everyone, listen up ... The council has decided that you need our help... We're not quite sure what it might be, but we'll send you a sign... Oh! when you get back, don't be surprised by others, all this has happened in a few hours - "Your time," so don't be surprised.
(Pointedly to Aphie) You asked why Father Time is not here Dear...He's sulking... We had to trick him a little to do this thing... He's having a

holiday with his girl Sandy... You know, “the sands of time” (**chuckles at her own joke which no-one re-acts to**) Annnyway... Fang-u, do your thing! (**She signals to Fang-u who crosses to her. She pointedly says**) Now you get the chance to improve your magic (**Fang-u hurriedly pulls out his note book.**)

Fang-u:

I’m going to miss you both, but this is not the end – it is a new beginning ... stay in touch (**Points at Aphie’s pendant**) Dial me in

Aphie throws her arms around Fang-u and she is joined by Jason. They hug and dance around in a joyous display of affection... Fang-u chokes up and can’t bring himself to send them back. He hands his notebook to Mother Earth and turns away

Fang-u:

I can’t

(Mother Earth puts hers arm around Fang-u to comfort him. Jason takes Aphie by the hand and they move to Mother Earth who extends the note book to him. Jason turns to Aphie)

Jason:

Ready? (**Aphie nods**) Goodbye my friends....thanks for everything (**they all stand silent, too moved to be jovial**) can’t say we’ll be seeing you... can we? (**All still silent...the Elder steps forward**)

First People Elder and Natives:

Oneness Jason, Oneness

Confucius:

You do have a “WAY” about you (**Waves at them**)

Cut to:

Jason nodding understanding ...Jason looks slowly around and then at Aphie. He puts his arm around her, kisses her, and while doing so reaches out and pushes the download button...(Lights out, sound effects, and the journey home begins - which can be a visual of changing planetary events over a funky version of:

“We will Change Your Mind” © words/music Ted Hamilton

An ethereal shaft of light reveals Jason and Aphie back in Jason's man-cave still kissing, the music changes to a funky R&B...Aphie breaks the kiss and starts to sing This song illuminates Aphie's emerging womanhood - to a very surprised Jason ...It's almost a pole dance number... very sensual and seductive.

©"It's just a girl thing" ©words and music: Ted Hamilton

Somewhere deep inside me, where no-one else can find me
My senses are colliding, in a sensual arriving...
The universe is staging this karmic rearranging
I can feel the yearning, a fire within me burning,
It's just a girl thing....It's just a girl thing...It's just a girl thing

Middle:

The planets are aligning and it's me they're looking for
I'm feeling kind of nervous, never felt like this before
An out of body feeling wraps around me like a vine,
my temperature is climbing and it's not a state of mind.....

verse:

I'll be your sweetest candy, Just treat me right and you'll see
If you love and understand me, you'll know you can't command me
Down through all the ages, the poets fill their pages; with gals who've been
outrageous...they say that it's contagious...
It's just a girl thing... It's just a girl thing....It's just a girl thing

(2nd time middle lyrics)

THE Zodiac is calling me it's there right in the stars
My Venus is arising and it's crossing swords with Mars
I think I've been afflicted with a potion of the kind
That gets into your being and messes up your mind
I'll be your sweetest candy, Just treat me right and you'll see If you love and
understand me you'll know you can't command me

Am I fantasizing, or tran-scen-dental-izing, this feeling is surprising,
I'm slowly realizing,
It's just a girl thing, it's just a girl thing, it's just a girl thing....It's just a girl –thing

Aphie pulls Jason to her and kisses him. Jason's mother enters and is surprised to find Aphie and Jason with their arms around each other - Kissing

Mother:

“Well, hullo there...something you want to tell me”? **(Looking pointedly at Aphie)** “Aren't you...”? **(Jason interrupts)**

Jason:

Aphie - Mum! Our next door neighbour... she came over to help me with the environment Assignment...You know the one with the celestial serpent you liked...

Mother holds out her hand and they shake

Mother:

And the kissing bit?

We were rehearsing a school play..You know heavy stuff... Shakespeare's...Romeo and Juliet. **(Blank stare from Mother)** You know the scene where he says he loves her? **(Aphie and Mother looking blankly at him as he barges on digging a deeper hole for himself)**... because her family doesn't like his family and...

Mother:

I get it! Annyway, it must be you who had the good influence on him. I see all the chores have been done, and very nicely, thank you.

Mother opens the curtains and picks up things, looks at the open notebook, which now has a picture of FANG-U! And in a circle surrounding it the words – Kube: “Kids Unifying for a Better Earth” -- How Kids Can Make all the Difference (Mother peers at the screen

Mother:

Did you do this? **(Jason and Aphie exchange a shrug as Mother looks at the screen)...** It's very good **(she mouths the words)** "KUBE": (Kids Unifying for a Better Earth)...You two came up with this? **..(Cont) (Jason and Aphie both move to the screen and see FANG-U's picture with the words...They are dumbstruck and look at each other as mother continues)** "What a wonderful idea! ...Is it part of your homework assignment"?

Jason:

It sure is

Mother:

Well you two little munchkins have been busy and I'm very proud of you... We have to do something with this. We'll discuss it with your father **(His Mother suddenly notices the medal around his neck)....where'd you get that? (Jason stuck for words- Aphie jumps in)**

Aphie:

He won it for stopping a kid who was bullying another kid at school...It's a new thing. The Hero Medal.. **(She shows her medal pendant)** I got one too for respecting Mother Earth... good idea eh!?

Mother:

Let me explain it to your father. You know how he feels about men wearing jewellery. **Jason grabs the medal and holds it in his hand and begins to chortle...His mother looks askance to Aphie as Jason giggles)** Son, are you alright? **Jason really laughing**

Jason:

Mum...It's cool...I just liked the joke about DAD... Do you like my medal?

Mother:

The Hero's medal...well, you obviously won **(she starts to exit)**

Jason:

Mum! **(Jason still giggling as she turns)**

Mother:

What is it dear?

Jason:

That's what our favourite teacher calls us... 'Dear'... Doesn't she Aphie?
(Jason gigglingAphie Nods agreement)

Mother:

Son, you're not...**(Mimes a smoking gesture)** are you? You know you can tell me and **(Jason interrupts her)**

Jason:

Mum...That's not cool.... We don't do drugs, okay?

Mother: (crosses to him)

You know that you are my hero too, don't you? **(She caresses his face lovingly)** you know I love you don't you?

Jason:

Yeah mum! Me too **(she turns away)** and Mum... I won...I truly won!

She smiles at her son and leaves. Jason watches her depart and then he and Aphie head for the screen, which is still displaying the KUBE message.

Jason:

That's it! The message from Mother Earth! She said we'd know. That's the sign! She wants us to form that organisation: "**KUBE**" (**Kids Unifying for a Better Earth**).

Aphie:

Mother Earth said only humans can fix the problems. Well there are plenty of others out there just like us...so if we get our ideas out there, say our own KUBE - TUBE, others will come, and together we can really build a field of dreams. **Gnosis** can be a real place...An Enchanted Village..**(Jason eyeballs her)** ...Just a thought...

Jason:

Aphie, you're a genius!.. We'll build our own GNOSIS - a school beyond school...teach the things that school doesn't do too well. Things that I've had a hard time learning. Mother Earth said: "We can all make a difference....Well, we will

Aphie:

We should talk to our principal, he's into technology. .He's always on about entrepreneurship. He can show us the best way to do it and help us find a sponsor. KUBE could have courses and curricula and give out awards, diplomas, and maybe even scholarships...He'd love that!

Jason:

Wow! (**Jason looks up and punches the Sky**)...
WE GOT IT EARTHIE!...A KUBE UNIVERSITY!

Music up:

"THE DREAM" ©Words and Music: Ted Hamilton

(Jason moves centre stage and sings)

JASON:I have a dream...This dream is for you,
It is a dream that you can carry your whole life through
It is a dream, a dream we can share,
It is a world where all are different, but no one really cares

APHIE It is a dream, that's going to be,

It is a dream that I will always carry with me.
If you will walk with me, If you will dare with me,

will you be there with me and make this dream come true

(Jason holds out his hand and Aphie takes it...they sing together)

TOGETHER: _Now is the time....Here is the place, we make a stand, for all of our race
We're not alone...When we walk as one...We fight for right, as others have done

TOGETHER: We... We have the power, And so... It's in our hands,

for us to be what we can be, To be what we can be...

MUSIC INTERLUDE A hologram of Mother Earth appears and sings alternate lines with them

Jason: I have a dream...This dream is for you,

Aphie: it is a dream that we can carry our whole life through

Jason: will you walk with me

Aphie: will you dare me

Jason: will you share with me

Aphie: And will you care with me

JASON WILL YOU BE THERE WITH ME...

TOGETHER: And together we will make this dream come true

JASON This is my dream.... **APHIE** I'll will dare with you, I will care with you

JASON This is my dream **APHIE** I will share with you I' ll be there with you

JASON: This is my dream

At its conclusion Jason and Aphie are joined by all of the cast who magically appear led by Mother Earth and Apollo....they all join hands and sing:

ROLL CREDITS

The End of the Beginning

CAST COULD POSSIBLY REPRISE

“We will Change your mind”

Or

“The Dream”

OR

“THE RIVER OF HUMAN KINDNESS”

OR

“ENCHANTED VILLAGE”