

# FREE TO BE YOU AND ME

July 12 – July 30, 2023

ACT 1

ACT 2

# ACT 1

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## MUSIC 1: PRELUDE

**ARI:** Hi!

**DIYA:** Hi!

**ARI:** I'm a baby.

**DIYA:** What do you think I am, a loaf of bread?

**ARI:** I don't even know if I'm under a tree or in a hospital or what.  
I'm just so glad to be here.

**DIYA:** Well, I'm a baby, too.

**ARI:** Have it your own way. I don't want to fight about it.

**DIYA:** What are you, scared?

**ARI:** Yes I am. I'm a little scared.  
I'll tell you why. See, I don't know if I'm a boy or a girl yet.

**DIYA:** What's that got to do with it?

**ARI:** Well, if you're a boy and I'm a girl you can beat me up.  
Do you think I want to lose a tooth on my first day alive?

**DIYA:** What's a tooth?

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**ARI**: Search me. I'm just born.  
I'm a baby. I don't know nothing yet.

**DIYA**: Search me. I'm just born. I'm a baby.  
I don't know nothing yet.: Do you think you're a girl?

**ARI** I don't know. I might be. I think I am.  
I've never been anything before. Let me see. Let me lake a little look around.  
Hmm. Cute feet. Smal, dainty. Yup, yup, I'm a girl. That's it. Girltime.

## MUSIC 2:

### LET'S HEAR IT FOR BABIES

I'M A BABY GIRL!  
LET'S HEAR IT FOR BABIES!  
YOU WERE ONCE A BABY YOURSELF.

I LOVE IT! I LOVE IT!

NO BABY GROWS UP INTO A PERSON ALL BY ITSELF, NO, NO,

NO, NO, YOU GOTTA TALK TO A BABY, SING IT ASONG,  
TAKE A WALK WITH A BABY, BRING THE KID ALONG.

GOOD COMPANY, BABIES! YOU WERE ONCE A BABY YOURSELF.

GOO, GOO, GOO, GOO,GOO, GOO, GOO, GOO, GOO.  
DO YOU HAVE A BABY AROUND THE HOUSE?  
PICK UP SOMETHING WARM AND SMALL,  
SAY A SISTER OR A BROTHER  
OR THE BROTHER OF ANOTHER PERSON VISITING FROM DOWN THE HALL.

TAKE THE BABY TO LUNCH TODAY,  
IT WILL LOVE ALL THE THINGS YOU HAVE TO SAY.

YOU'LL END UP FEELING TEN FEET TALL!

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LET'S HERE IT FOR BABIES!  
YOU WERE ONCE A BABY YOURSELF.

YOU'LL END UP FEELING TEN FEET TALL!

LET'S HERE IT FOR BABIES!  
YOU WERE ONCE A BABY YOURSELF.

TAKE THAT BABY TO LUNCH TODAY,  
IT WILL LOVE AL THE THINGS YOU HAVE TO SAY.

NO BABY GROWS UP INTO A PERSON ALL BY ITSELF.

NO, NO, NO, NO, NEVER POKE AT A BABY, GIVE IT A HAND.

TELL A JOKE TO A BABY,  
BABIES UNDERSTAND.

BE NICE TO A BABY.  
YOU WERE ONCE A BABY YOURSELF.

BABIES ARE BEAUTIFUL.

BABIES ARE SMART.

EACH ONE'S A BRAND NEW START...

... TO EVERYTHING.

DON'T BABY A BABY.  
TREAT IT LIKE A PERSON YOU KNOW,  
OH YEAH!

READ THE KID SOME SHAKESPEARE,  
HUM IT A TUNE.

TURN AROUND,  
THAT KID'LL SING YA "CLAIR DE LUNE!"

HALLELUJAH!

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**kAi**: That's not "Clair de Lune! "

**ALL**: Nice people. These babies! You were once ababy yourself, goo!  
You were once a baby yourself, waa! You were once a baby yourself! Yeah!

**JOANNE**: Well, if you're a girl ... what do you think I am?

**kAi**: You? That's easy - you're a boy.

**JOANNE**: Are you sure?

**kAi**: Of course I'm sure.  
I'm alive already four, five minutes, and I haven't been wrong yet.

**JOANNE**: Gee, I don't feel like a boy.

**kAi**: That's because you can't see yourself.

**JOANNE**: Why? What do I look like?

**kAi**: Bald. You're bald, fellow. Bald, bald, bald.  
You're as bald as a ping pong ball. Are you bald!

**JOANNE**: So?

**kAi**: So, boys are bald and girls have hair.

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**JOANNE:** Are you sure?

**KAI:** Of course, I'm sure. Who's bald, your mother or your father?

**JOANNE:** My father.

**KAI:** I rest my case.

**JOANNE:** Hmm. You're bald, too.

**KAI:** You're kidding!

**JOANNE:** No, I'm not.

**KAI:** Don't look!

**JOANNE:** Why?

**KAI:** A bald girl - blech! - disgusting!

**JOANNE:** Maybe you're a boy and I'm a girl.

**KAI:** There you go again.  
I told you I'm a girl. I know it. I'm a girl and you're a boy.

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**JOANNE:** I think you're wrong.

**KAI:** I'm never wrong! What about shaving?

**JOANNE:** What about it?

**KAI:** You just shaved, right?

**JOANNE:** Wrong.

**KAI:** Exactly! And you know why?  
Because everybody's born with a clean shave.  
It's just that girls keep theirs and boys don't.

**JOANNE:** So, what does that prove?

**KAI:** Tomorrow morning, the one who needs a shave, he's a boy.

**JOANNE:** I can't wait till tomorrow morning!

**KAI:** See? That proves it! Girls are patient, boys are impatient

**JOANNE:** Yeah? What else?

**KAI:** Can you keep a secret?

**JOANNE:** Absolutely.

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**KAI:** There you go - boys keep secrets, girls don't.

**JOANNE:** Go on.

**KAI:** Are you afraid of mice?

**JOANNE:** No.

**KAI:** I am. I'm terrified of them. I hate them. Squeak.  
Squeak.Squeak. What do you want to be when you grow up?

**JOANNE:** A fire fighter.

**KAI:** What'd I tell ya?

**JOANNE:** How about you?

**KAI:** A cocktail waitress. Does that prove anything to you?

**JOANNE:** You must be right.

**KAI:** I told you I'm always right. You're a boy and I'm the girl.

**JOANNE:** I guess so. Oh, wait - here comes the nurse to change our diapers.

**KAI:** About time, too - I have never been so uncomfortable in my life.

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**JOANNE:** Hey - look at that!

**KAI:** What?

**JOANNE:** You see that? I am a girl - and you're a boy!

**KAI:** Hey - it sure looks like it.

**JOANNE:** What do you think of that?

**KAI:** I can't understand it.

**JOANNE:** Well, it sure goes to show you.

**KAI:** What?

**JOANNE:** You can't judge a book by its cover.

**KAI:** Ha. Ha. Ha. What does that mean?

**JOANNE:** How should I know? I'm only a baby.

**KAI:** So am I. Goo.

**JOANNE:** Goo.

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## MUSIC 3: **WHEN WE GROW UP**

WHEN WE GROW UP, WILL I BE PRETTY?

WILL I BE BIG AND STRONG?

WILL I WEAR DRESSES THAT SHOW OFF MY KNEES?

WILL I WEAR TROUSERS TWICE AS LONG?

WELL, I DON'T CARE IF I'M PRETTY AT ALL,  
AND I DON'T CARE IF YOU NEVER GET TALL

I LIKE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE.

AND YOU'RE NICE SMALL.

WE DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE AT ALL.

WHEN WE GROW UP, WILL I BE A WOMAN?

WILL I BE ON THE MOON? WELL,  
IT MIGHT BE ALL RIGHT TO DANCE BY ITS LIGHT,  
BUT I'M GONNA GET UP THERE SOON.

WELL, I DON'T CARE IF I'M PRETTY AT ALL,  
AND I DON'T CARE IF YOU NEVER GET TALL.

AND YOU'RE NICE SMALL.

WE DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE AT ALL.  
WHEN WE GROW UP WE'RE GONNA BE HAPPY,  
AND DO WHAT WE LIKE TODO.

LIKE MAKING NOISE.

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AND MAKING FACES.

I LIKE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE.

AND MAKING FRIENDS LIKE YOU.

AND WHEN WE GROW UP, DO YOU THINK WE'LL SEE...

I MIGHT BE PRETTY.

I MIGHT GROW TALL.

BUT WE DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE AT ALL.

**CHARLOTTE:** I don't want to change, see, 'cause I still want to be your friend. Forever and ever and ever and ever and ever. William, what is all that stuff?

**SELIM:** My dad! Every time I ask him for a doll he gives me a racquetball. I told him, "Dad - doll not ball!"

**CHARLOTTE:** Well, what'd he say then?

**SELIM:** He says that boys shouldn't play with dolls.

**CHARLOTTE:** Why not?

**SELIM:** He says that only girls play with dolls and boys play with ...trucks.

**CHARLOTTE:** I play with trucks.

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**SELIM:** I know! That's what I told him.  
I said, "Dad, Janet's got a whole load of trucks.  
She's got a truckload of trucks. In fact, Janet has so many trucks,  
she could probably - single-handedly - move the entire city of Columbus to Hackensack.  
"Then I pulled out all the stops and got really dramatic.  
"Dad," I said, "Me without a doll is like cookies without milk.  
It's like hamburgers without french fries.  
It's like peanut butter without ketchup! Why can't I have a doll? Why? Why? Why?!"

**CHARLOTTE:** What'd he say? What'd he say? What'd he say?!

**SELIM:** "Because I said so! "

**CHARLOTTE:** Because he said so?! What kind of answer is that?

**SELIM:** I don't know, but he always says it and I don't understand it.

**CHARLOTTE:** What do you think it means?

**SELIM:** How should I know? I'm only a kid.

**CHARLOTTE:** Me too! Well, at least we can play together!

**SELIM:** I can't. My grandma is coming in today. That might be her plane.

**KAI:** Number 18 has the ball.  
Ten seconds to go in the championship game.  
He fakes right - he fakes left - he passes to number 24 and ...Whose great stuff is this?

**SELIM:** It's mine.

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**KAI:** All of it?

**SELIM:** Yeah.

**KAI:** What's the matter?

**SELIM:** I don't want to talk about it.

**KAI:** Why not?

**SELIM:** Because I said so.

**KAI:** What's the matter with him?

**DIYA:** Well, Richard, it all started awhile ago.

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## MUSIC 4 : **WILLIAM'S DOLL**

WHEN MY FRIEND, WILLIAM, WAS NOT SO MANY YEARS OLD,  
HE WANTED A DOLL TO HUG AND HOLD.

A DOLL,

SAID WILLIAM,

IS WHAT I NEED TO WASH AND CLEAN AND DRESS AND FEED.  
A DOLL TO GIVE A BOTTLE TO AND PUT TO BED WHEN DAY IS THROUGH,  
AND ANY TIME MY DOLL GETS ILL,  
I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT.

SAID MY FRIEND, BILL.

A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANT'S A DOLL!  
A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANTS A DOLL!

SO, HIS FATHER BOUGHT HIM A BASKETBALL,  
A BADMINTON SET AND THAT'S NOT ALL. A BAG OF MARBLES,  
A BASEBALL GLOVE, AND ALL THE THINGS A BOY WOULD LOVE.  
AND BILL WAS GOOD AT EVERY GAME, ENJOYED THEM ALL, BUT ALL THE SAME,  
WHEN BILLY'S FATHER PRAISED HIS SKILL...

CAN I PLEASE HAVE A DOLL NOW?

SAID MY FRIEND, BILL.

A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANT'S A DOLL!  
A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANTS A DOLL!

BUT THEN, MY GRANDMA ARRIVED TODAY  
AND WANTED TOKNOW WHAT I LIKED TO PLAY.  
AND I SAID BASEBALL'S MY FAVORITE GAME.  
I LIKE TO PLAY, BUT ALL THE SAME, I'D GIVE MY BAT,  
AND BALL, AND GLOVE, TO HAVE A DOLL THAT I CAN LOVE.  
"HOW VERY WISE, " MY GRANDMA SAID.  
I SAID, "BUT EVERYONE SAYS THIS INSTEAD:  
A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANTS A DOLL!

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THEN WILLIAM'S GRANDMA, AS I'VE BEEN TOLD,  
BOUGHT WILLIAM A DOLL TO HUG AND HOLD.

BUT THEN MY FATHER BEGAN TO FROWN,  
BUT GRANDMA SMILED AND CALMED HIM DOWN,  
EXPLAINING - WILLIAM WANTS A DOLL  
'CAUSE IF I HAVE A BABY SOME DAY,  
I'LL KNOW HOW TO DRESS IT, PUT DIAPERS ON DOUBLE,  
AND GENTLY CARESS IT TO BRING UP A BUBBLE,  
AND CARE FOR MY BABY AS EVERY GOOD FATHER SHOULD LEARN TO DO.

A DOLL! A DOLL! WILLIAM WANT'S A DOLL!  
WILLIAM HAS A DOLL! WILLIAM HAS A DOLL!

'CAUSE SOME DAY I MAY WANT TO BE A FATHER, TOO!

**KAI:** I'd still rather have a new baseball. A doll?!

Two outs, bottom of the ninth.

The pitcher throws the ball, I swing. It's going...it's going...it's gone!

**DIYA:** Hey, William, let's go to the park!

We can sit in the sandbox and make a whole city with this really neat pail and shovel that my dad used to play with when he was a kid.

He used to sit behind his house and dig up big, fat, juicy worms and carry them in his pail to his room where he kept them in a big jar with his underwear.

**SELIM:** Your dad did that?

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**DIYA:** Yeah, when he was a kid.  
Or else we could play astronauts like my mom used to do when she was a kid!  
We can make up a name for a cosmic planet and go exploring through craters for space creatures with orange faces and 46 arms that are made out of a rubbery type skin that stretches hundreds of feet and we have to run from it so it doesn't gobble us up!!

**SELIM:** Your mom did that?

**DIYA:** Yeah! When she was little.  
Now she's an accountant, and my dad is a teacher and my dog is a plumber.

**SELIM:** Fluffy's a plumber?

**DIYA:** Uh-huh.

**SELIM:** Then he must be a boy.

**DIYA:** Well, I should tell you —his favorite toy is a little play stove with pans and with pots. Which he really must like 'cause he plays with it lots.

**SELIM:** Then I guess he's a girl ...  
Which kinda makes sense Since he can't throw a ball, and he can't climb a fence.

**DIYA:** Neither can my dad, and I know he's a man.

**SELIM:** My mom is a woman and she drives a van!

**DIYA:** Maybe the problem is trying to tell Just what someone is by what they do well.

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## MUSIC 5: **PARENTS ARE PEOPLE**

PARENTS ARE PEOPLE, PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN.  
WHEN PARENTS WERE LITTLE THEY USED TO BE KIDS,  
LIKE ME AND YOU,  
BUT THEN THEY GREW.  
AND NOW, PARENTS ARE GROWN-UPS,  
GROWN-UPS WITH CHILDREN,  
BUSY WITH CHILDREN AND THINGS THAT THEY DO.  
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS

A LOT OF MOMMIES  
AND A LOT OF DADDIES  
CAN DO!

DADDIES ARE PEOPLE, PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN.  
WHEN DADDIES WERE LITTLE THEY USED TO BE BOYS,  
JUST LIKE YOU,  
BUT THEN THEY GREW.  
AND NOW DADDIES ARE MEN,  
MEN WITH CHILDREN,  
BUSY WITH CHILDREN AND THINGS THAT THEY DO.  
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS A LOT OF DADDIES CAN DO.

SOME DADDIES ARE WRITERS, OR GROCERY SELLERS.  
OR PAINTERS OR WELDERS, OR FUNNY JOKE TELLERS.  
SOME DADDIES PLAY CELLO OR SAIL ON THE SEA.  
YES, DADDIES CAN BE ALMOST ANYTHING  
THEY WANT TO BE.

MOMMIES ARE PEOPLE, PEOPLE WITH CHILDREN.  
WHEN MOMMIES WERE LITTLE THEY USED TO BE GIRLS,  
JUST LIKE YOU,  
BUT THEN THEY GREW.  
AND NOW MOMMIES ARE WOMEN,  
WOMEN WITH CHILDREN,  
BUSY WITH CHILDREN AND THINGS THAT THEY DO.  
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS A LOT OF MOMMIES CAN DO.

SOME MOMMIES ARE RANCHERS, OR POETRY MAKERS.  
OR DOCTORS OR TEACHERS, OR CLEANERS OR BAKERS.

ONCE PARENTS WERE LITTLE,  
LIKE ME AND LIKE YOU.  
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS, A LOT OF THINGS,  
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS, A LOT OF PARENTS CAN DO!

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**ISABELLE**: O.K. - let's pretend we're astronauts,  
and we've just landed on the planet  
Griffzock! Commander to ground crew - get ready for take off!

**SELIM**: Roger!

**BOTH**: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1- blast-off!

## MUSIC 6 : SPACE MUSIC

**KAI**: Do you see any signs of life on this planet?

**TABITHA**: Not yet, but they could be anywhere!  
Get out your inter-galactic molecular detector and be on your guard.  
I don't know why, but I've got a funny feeling about this planet.

**KAI**: I know what you mean.  
I've got the strangest feeling that we're being watched.

**ZOY**: All tight already! I'm coming, I'm coming!  
Hi. I'm Victoria Anne Vlassnick.  
Some people call me Vickie and some people call me Vickie Anne.  
My mother calls me Victoria, especially when she wants me to sit up straight.  
"Victoria, the Queen of England does not slouch on the throne, " she says.  
You can call me anything - well almost anything!

**TABITHA**: Gee!

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**ZOY**: Now take my brother - please.  
He calls me "sister dear " when he wants something, but most of the time he calls me "Ickie," which really makes me mad!  
I just call him "The Pain! " Why did you knock?

**KAI**: We were looking for alien beings, and I think we found one.

**TABITHA**: We thought the house was empty. Did you just move in?

**ZOY**: Yeah - a couple of days ago.

**TABITHA**: I'm Janet and this is William. Do you have any friends yet?

**ZOY**: Well, of course...not. Well, at least, not yet.

**TABITHA**: I've got a great idea! You can play with us.

**KAI** Janet!

**ZOY**: Great!

**SELIM**: And he crosses the finish line creating a new world's record!  
The crowd goes crazy and the race is over! Who are you?

**TABITHA**: Hi Richard! This is Vickie.

**SELIM**: Hi

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**ZOY**: Hi. My real name is Victoria Anne Vlassnick.  
Some people call me Vickie and some people call me Vickie Anne.  
My mother calls me Victoria, especially when she wants me to ...

**KAI & TABITHA**: Just call her Vickie.

**ZOY**: You know, back where we used to live, my brother had a friend named Richard.  
Sometimes my brother calls me "sister dear " when he wants something - but most of the time...

**KAI**: You're not going to start all that again?!

**ADDIE**: You remind me of my little brother - The Pain!

**ARI**: You think little brothers are a pain - my big sister thinks she's a "Great One! "

**ADDIE**: My brother's a pain. He won't get out of bed in the morning.  
My mother has to carry him into the kitchen.  
He opens his eyes when he smells his oatmeal.

**ARI**: My sister thinks she's so great just because she's older,  
which makes Daddy and Mom think she's really smart.  
But I know the truth. My sister's a jerk

**ADDIE**:: He cries if I leave without him.  
Then Mom gets mad at me which is another reason why my brother's a pain.

**ARI**: My sister thinks she's so great just because she can play the piano and you can tell  
the songs are real ones.  
But I like my songs better.  
Even if nobody ever heard them before.

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**ADDIE:** He's got to be first to show Mom his school work.  
And she says ooh and ahh over all his pictures.  
Which aren't great at all but just ordinary stuff.  
I don't understand how my mother can say the Pain is lovable.  
She's always kissing him and doing disgusting things like that.  
My father says the Pain is just what they always wanted.  
I think they love him better than me.

**ARI:** My sister thinks she's so great.  
Just because Aunt Diana lets her watch the baby.  
And tells her how much the baby loves her.  
And all the time, the baby is sleeping in my dresser drawer.  
My mother hugs my sister and messes with her hair and does other disgusting things like that.  
My father says the Great One is just what they always wanted.  
I think they love her better than me.

**ADDIE:** It's not fair that the Pain gets to stay up as late as me.  
I'm older, and I should stay up later!

**ARI:** It's not fair that the Great One gets to play with all the blocks by herself.

**BOTH:** "You're right, " they said.

**ADDIE:** "You should stay up later, " they said.

**ARI:** "Today, you play with the blocks al by yourself," they said,

**ADDIE:** So, they tucked the Pain into bed.  
I couldn't wait for the fun to begin.  
I waited and waited. But Daddy and Mom just sat there reading.  
"I'm going to bed, " I said, "there's nothing to do. "

**ARI:** So, I built a whole country of blocks.  
All by myself. Only it's not the funnest thing to play with blocks alone.  
Because when I zoomed my trucks and knocked down buildings,  
nobody cared but me,

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**ADDIE & ARI:** "Remember that tomorrow, " Mom said, and she smiled.

**TABITHA:** I don't have a brother or a sister, but I have a best friend.  
William and I always play together.

## MUSIC 7: **GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU**

HE TOLD ME THAT IT WAS LOTS OF FUN TO COOK.

SHE TOLD ME THAT SHE COULD BAIT A REAL FISH HOOK.

SO WE MADE OOEY GOOEY CHOCOLATE CAKE,  
STICKY LICKY SUGAR TOP,  
AND WE GOBBLED IT AND GIGGLED.  
AND WE SAT BY THE RIVER AND WE FISHED IN THE WATER  
AND WE TALKED WHILE THE SQUIRMY WORMIES WIGGLED, SINGIN'

GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
FAIR AND FUN AND SKIPPIN' FREE.  
GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
AND GLAD TO JUST BE

**HADLEY:** Hey, what did Tarzan say when he saw the elephants coming?

**TABITHA:** I don't know.  
What did Tarzan say when he saw the elephants coming?

**HADLEY:** Here come the elephants!  
Ha, Ha, Ha . . . get it?  
Ha, Ha, Ha

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HE TOLD ME THAT WE COULD DO A SECRET CODE.  
HE TOLD ME THERE WAS FREE ICE CREAM WHEN IT SNOWED.  
SO WE'LL SEND FUNNY LETTERS WHICH CONTAIN MYSTERY MESSAGES  
AND NO ONE WILL KNOW JUST HOW WE MADE IT.  
AND WE'LL RAISE UP THE WINDOW  
AND WE'LL SCOOP ALL THE SNOW TOGETHER,  
PUT MILK AND SUGAR IN AND EAT IT, SINGIN'

GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
FAIR AND FUN AND SKIPPIN' FREE.  
GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
AND GLAD TO JUST BE

**HADLEY**: Hey, what did Tarzan say  
when he saw the elephants coming wearing dark sunglasses?

**TABITHA**: I don't know.

**HADLEY**: Nothing! He didn't recognize them!  
Ha, Ha, Ha . . . get it?  
Ha, Ha, Ha

JANET: SHE TOLD ME SHE LIKES TO MAKE THINGS OUT OF CHAIRS.

SHE TOLD ME SOMETIMES SHE STILL HUGS TEDDY BEARS.

SO WE'LL SNEAK IN THE LIVING ROOM  
AND PILE ALL THE PILLOWS UP  
AND MAKE IT A ROCKET SHIP TO FLY IN,  
AND THE BEARS ARE OUR GIRLS AND BOYS,  
AND WE ARE THE ASTRONAUTS  
WHO LIVE ON THE MOON WITH ONE PET LION,  
SINGIN'

GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
FAIR AND FUN AND SKIPPIN' FREE.  
GLAD TO HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,  
AND GLAD TO JUST BE .  
GLAD TO JUST BE . GLAD TO JUST BE

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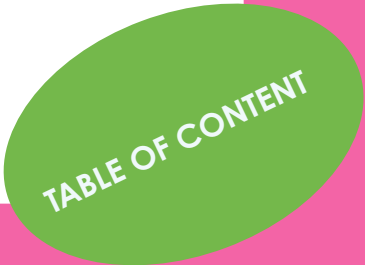
**VICKIE**: Why did the elephant cross the road?

**TABITHA**: To get away from you!

**ALL**: GLAD TO JUST BE ME!

MUSIC 7:  
**CHASE MUSIC**

**END ACT 1**





## ACT 2

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**MALHAR:** We can play together! There are all kinds of fun things we can do! Hey, let's make up some more of those secret messages!

**TABITHA, ADDIE & KAI:** :Nah!

**KAI:** We could shoot some baskets!

**TABITHA, MALHAR & ADDIE:** Nah!

**ADDIE:** I'm cold! I'm bored! I'm hungry!

**TABITHA:** Let's tell stories!

**MALHAR & RICHARD:** Stories ... Wow ... neat...yeah...

**ADDIE:** Humph!

**TABITHA:** Did you ever hear the one about the little girl who thought she was a Sweet Young Thing? "

**ADDIE:** That's me! That's me!

**TABITHA:** O.K... if you really want to.  
Well, this "tender sweet young thing " spent a great deal of time just looking in a mirror saying ...

**ADDIE:** I am a real little lady - anybody can tell that.  
I wear lovely starched cotton dresses with matching ribbons in my curly locks.  
I wear clean socks and shiny black patent leather shoes.  
And I always put just a dab of perfume behind each ear.

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**JOANNE:** You know, there are times when we happen to be  
Just sitting there, quietly watching TV,  
When the program we're watching will stop for a while  
And suddenly someone appears with a smile,  
And starts to show us how terribly urgent  
It is to buy some brand of detergent,  
Or soap or cleanser or cleaner or powder or paste or wax or bleach,  
To help with the housework

**EMILY:** Now, most of the time it's a lady we see,  
Who's doing the housework on TV.  
She's cheerfully scouring a skillet or two,  
Or she's polishing pots till they gleam like new,  
Or she's scrubbing the tub or she's mopping the floors,  
Or she's wiping the stains from the walls and the doors,  
Or she's washing the windows, the dishes, the clothes,  
Or waxing the furniture till it just glows,  
Or cleaning the fridge or the stove or the sink,  
With a light-hearted smile, and a friendly wink,  
And she's doing her best to make us think  
The her soap, or detergent or cleanser or cleaner or  
powder or paste or wax or bleach,  
Is the best kind of soap, or detergent or cleanser or  
cleaner or powder or  
paste or wax or bleach, That there is in the whole wide world.  
And, maybe it is, and maybe it isn't,  
And maybe it does what they say it will do,  
But I'll tell you one thing I know is true.  
The lady we see when we're watching TV,  
The lady who smiles as she scours or scrubs or rubs or washes or  
wipes or mops or dusts or cleans,  
Or whatever she does on our TV screens,  
That lady is smiling because she's an actress,  
And she's earning money for learning those speeches  
That mention those wonderful soaps and detergents and cleansers and cleaners and pow-  
ders and pastes and waxes and bleaches.

**JOANNE:** So, the very next time you happen to be  
Just sitting there quietly watching TV,  
And you see some nice lady who smiles  
As she scours or scrubs or rubs or washes or wipes or mops or dusts or cleans,  
Remember, nobody smiles doing housework but those ladies you see on TV.  
Your mommy hates housework,  
Your daddy hates housework,  
I hate housework too.  
And when you grow up, so will you.  
Because even if the soap or cleanser or cleaner or powder or paste or wax or bleach  
That you use is the very best one,  
Housework is just no fun.

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**EMILY**: Children, when you have a house of your own,  
Make sure, when there's house work to do,  
That you don't have to do it alone.  
Little boys, little girls, when you're big husbands and wives,  
If you want all the days of your lives  
To seem sunny as summer weather,  
Make sure, when there's housework to do, That you do it together!

**TABITHA**: When she was at the end of the lunch line in school, all she had to say was...

**MALHAR**: Umm...I'll have some chocolate cake with tomato sauce ...

**ADDIE**: Ladies first...

**MALHAR**:... some ice cream pickle sticks ...

**ADDIE**: Ladies first...

**MALHAR**: ... and some bologna and bananas.

**ADDIE**: Ladies first...

**MALHAR**: Huh?

**ADDIE**: Ladies first!!!!

**TABITHA**: And she'd get right up to the front of the line.  
Her life went on like that for some time,  
and she ended up having a pretty good time of it, too.  
You know, always admiring herself in the mirror and  
getting to be first in line and stuff like that.

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**TABITHA**: And then one day, she went exploring with a whole group of people from her class, through the wilds of a deep and beastly jungle. As she went along the tangled trails and through the prickly vines, she would say things like.

**ADDIE**: I have got to be careful of my lovely dress and clean white socks and my shiny, shiny shoes and my curly, curly locks. So, would somebody please clear the way for me.

**TABITHA**: And they did. Or else she'd say ...

**ADDIE**: What do you mean there aren't enough mangoes to go around and I'll have to share my mango because I was the last one across that icky river full of crocodiles and snakes? No matter how last I am, it's still, "Ladies first, ladies first. " So, hand over a whole mango, please.

**TABITHA**: And they did! Well, then guess what happened? Out of nowhere, the exploring party was seized, snatched up by a bunch of hungry tigers. I... smell...people! These tigers tied all the people up and carried them back to their tiger lair where they sniffed around, trying to decide who would make the best dinner. How about this one? Nah, too bony! How about this one? It's got a lot of meat on it! Nah, meaty but muscle -y. How about this one? Looks tender. Smells nice. In fact I've never seen anything quite like it before. I wonder what it is?

**ADDIE**: I am a "tender, sweet young thing."

**TABITHA**: Oh, totally awesome!

**ADDIE**: I am also a little lady. And if it's all the same to you, Tiger Tweety, I wish you'd stop marching around here and untie me this instant. My dress is getting mussed!

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**TABITHA**: Well,... as a matter of fact, we were just trying to decide who to untie first.

**ADDIE**: Ladies first! Ladies first!

**WILLIAM**: All right, lady!

**ADDIE**: And so she was first! EEK!

**TABITHA**: And mighty tasty too!

**MALHAR**: Vickie, we were only playing. We didn't mean to make you cry.

**ADDIE**: I'm not crying! Big girls don't cry!

**MALHAR**: I cry sometimes.

**TABITHA**: Me too, when I'm sad.

**KAI**: Well, when I hurt myself, like the time I messed up my knee when I fell off my skateboard . . . I cried.

**ADDIE**: But you can't look pretty crying.

**TABITHA**: Vickie.

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### MUSIC 9:

## IT'S ALL RIGHT TO CRY

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO CRY,  
CRYING GETS THE SAD OUT OF YOU.  
IT'S ALL RIGHT TO CRY,  
IT MIGHT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER.  
RAINDROPS FROM YOUR EYES, WASHING ALL THE MAD OUT OF YOU.  
RAINDROPS FROM YOUR EYES,  
IT MIGHT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER.

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO FEEL THINGS,  
THOUGH THE FEELINGS MAY BE STRANGE.  
FEELINGS ARE SUCH REAL THINGS,  
AND THEY CHANGE AND CHANGE AND CHANGE  
SAD AND GRUMPY, DOWN IN THE DUMPY,  
SNUGGLY, HUGGLY, MEAN AND UGLY,  
SLOPPY, SLAPPY, HOPPY, HAPPY,  
CHANGE AND CHANGE AND CHANGE.  
IT'S ALL RIGHT TO FEEL THINGS,  
THOUGH THE FEELINGS MAY BE STRANGE.  
FEELINGS ARE SUCH REAL THINGS,  
AND THEY CHANGE AND CHANGE AND CHANGE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO KNOW  
FEELINGS COME AND FEELINGS GO.  
AND IT'S ALL RIGHT TO CRY,  
IT MIGHT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER.

IT'S ALL RIGHT TO FEEL THINGS,  
THOUGH THE FEELINGS MAY BE STRANGE.  
FEELINGS ARE SUCH REAL THINGS,  
AND THEY CHANGE AND CHANGE AND CHANGE.

ALL:IT'S ALL RIGHT TO KNOW  
FEELINGS COME AND FEELINGS GO.  
AND IT'S AL RIGHT TOCRY,  
IT MIGHT MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER

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**EMILY** : Now it's my turn. I'm going to make up a story about a brave princess.

**SELIM** A brave princess? You mean a brave prince.

**EMILY** : No. I mean a brave princess.

Once upon a time, not long ago, there lived a princess named Atalanta, who could run as fast as the wind.

She was so bright and so clever and could build things and fix things so wonderfully that many young men asked the King for her hand in marriage.

**SELIM** : What shall I do?

So many young men want to marry you, daughter, and I don't know how to choose.

**CHARLOTTE** : You don't have to choose, Father.

I will choose. And I'm not sure that I will choose to marry anyone at all.

**SELIM** : Of course you will.

Everybody gets married. It is what people do.

**CHARLOTTE** : As for me, I intend to go out and see the world.

When I come home, perhaps I will marry and perhaps I will not.

**EMILY** : The King did not like this at all. He was a very ordinary King.

That is, he was powerful and used to having his own way.

**SELIM** : I have decided how to choose the young man you will marry.

I will hold a great race, and the winner - the swiftest young man of all - will win the right to marry you.

**EMILY** : Now, Atalanta was a clever girl as well as a swift runner.

She saw that she might win the argument and the race, too.

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**CHARLOTTE:** Very well, but you must let me race along with the others.  
If I am not the winner, I will accept the wishes of the young man who is.  
If I am the winner, I will choose for myself what I will do.

**EMILY:** The King agreed to this. He was pleased - he would have his way, marry of his daughter and enjoy a fine day of racing as well.  
So he told his messengers to travel throughout the kingdom announcing the race with its wonderful prize — the chance to marry the bright Atalanta.

As the day of the race drew near, flags were raised in the streets of the town.  
Each day at dawn Atalanta would go to the field, in secret, and run across it slowly at first, then fast and faster, until she could run the course more quickly than anyone had ever run it before.

As the day of the race grew nearer, many young men gathered in the town.  
Each one was sure that he could win the prize, except for one -  
that was Young John, who lived in the town.

**KAI:** Surely it is not right for Atalanta's father to give her away to the winner of the race.  
Atalanta herself must choose the person she wants to marry or whether she wishes to marry at all. Still, if I could only win the race, I would be free to speak to her and to ask her for her friendship.

**EMILY:** Each evening after his studies of the stars and the seas, Young John went to the field in secret and practiced running across it until he could run the course more quickly than anyone had ever run it before.  
At last the day of the race arrived, and all the young men gathered at the edge of the field along with Atalanta. The King rose and addressed them all.

**SELIM:** Good day!  
Good luck!  
Good bye.  
I must tell you farewell, for tomorrow you will be married

**CHARLOTTE:** I'm not so sure of that, father.

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## MUSIC 10: FANFARE

**EMILY** : Everyone ran across the field.  
At first they ran as a group, but Atalanta soon pulled ahead with three of the young men close after her.

As they neared the halfway point, one young man put on a great burst of speed and seemed to pull ahead for an instant, but then he gasped and fell back.  
Atalanta shot on. Soon another young man, tense with effort, drew near to Atalanta. He reached out as though to touch her sleeve, stumbled for an instant, and lost speed. Atalanta smiled as she ran on.

**CHARLOTTE** : I have almost won!

**EMILY** : But then, another young man came near.  
This was Young John, running like the wind, as steadily and as swiftly as Atalanta herself. Atalanta felt his closeness, and in a sudden burst of speed, she dashed ahead. Young John might have given up at this, but he never stopped running. Nothing at all would keep him from winning the chance to speak with Atlanta. And on he ran, swift as the wind.

**CHARLOTTE & KAI** : Until he ran as her equal, side by side with her, toward the golden ribbon that marked the race's end.

**EMILY** Atalanta raced even faster to pull ahead .....  
but Young John was a strong match for her.

**CHARLOTTE & KAI** :: Smiling with the pleasure of the race, Atalanta and Young John reached the finish line together, and together they broke through the golden ribbon that marked it.

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**SELIM:** Who is this young man?

**KAI:** I am Young John from the town.

**SELIM:** Very well, Young John.  
You have not won the race, but you have come closer to winning than any man here.  
And so I give you the prize that was promised - the right to marry my daughter.

**KAI:** Thank you, sir, but I could not possibly marry your daughter  
unless she wished to marry me.  
I have run this race for the chance to talk with Atalanta.

**CHARLOTTE:** And I could not possibly marry before I have seen the world.  
But I would like nothing better than to spend the afternoon with you.

**EMILY:** The two of them sat and talked on the grassy field.  
Atalanta told Young John about her telescopes and pigeons, and John told Atalanta  
about his globes and studies of geography.  
At the end of the day, they were friends.  
The next day John sailed off to discover new lands and Atalanta set off on horseback to  
visit the great cities.  
By this time, each of them has had wonderful adventures.  
Perhaps one day they will marry, and perhaps they will not.  
In any case, they are friends. And it is certain that they are both living happily ever after.

**SELIM:** I thought princesses were supposed to listen to kings!

**CHARLOTTE:** Well Selim, sometimes you have to make up your own mind about things.

**SELIM:** But there are other things that someone else has to tell you.

**EMILY:** Someone else can tell you how to multiply by three,

**ADDIE:** And someone else can tell you how to spell Schenectady.

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**HADLE**: And someone else can tell you how to ride a two-wheeled bike.

**TABITHA**: But no one else, no, no one else can tell you what to like.

**ARI**: An engineer can tell you how to run a railroad train.

**ZOY**: A map can tell you where to find The capital of Spain.

**MALHAR**: A book can tell you all the names Of every star above.

**TABITHA**: But no one else, no, no one else Can tell you who to love!

**CHARLOTTE**: Your aunt Louise can tell you how  
To plant a pumpkin seed.

**JOANNE**: Your cousin Frank can tell you how  
To catch a centipede.

**DIYA**: Your Mom and Dad can tell you how  
To brush between each meal.

**SELIM**: But no one else, no, no one else can tell you how to feel!

**KAI**: For how you feel is how you feel!

**ALL**: And all the whole world through,  
No one else, no, no one else  
Knows that as well as you!

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**CHARLOTTE:** Your aunt Louise can tell you how  
To plant a pumpkin seed.

**JOANNE:** Your cousin Frank can tell you how  
To catch a centipede.

**DIYA:** Your Mom and Dad can tell you how  
To brush between each meal.

**SELIM:** But no one else, no, no one else can tell you how to feel!

**KAI:** For how you feel is how you feel!

**ALL:** And all the whole world through,  
No one else, no, no one else  
Knows that as well as you!

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### MUSIC 11: **FREE TO BE...YOU AND ME**

THERE'S A LAND THAT I SEE  
WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE FREE,  
AND I SAY IT AIN'T FAR  
TO THIS LAND FROM WHERE WE ARE.  
TAKE MY HAND, COME WITH ME,  
WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE FREE.  
COME WITH ME, TAKE MY HAND.  
AND WE'LL LIVE.

IN A LAND

WHERE THE RIVER RUNS FREE,

IN A LAND

THROUGH THE GREEN COUNTRY,

IN A LAND

JANET: TO A SHINING SEA.

AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE YOU AND ME.  
I SEE A LAND BRIGHT AND CLEAR,  
AND THE TIME'S COMING NEAR  
WHEN WE'LL LIVE IN THIS LAND, YOU  
AND ME, HAND IN HAND.

TAKE MY HAND, COME ALONG,  
LEND YOUR VOICE TO MY SONG.  
COME ALONG, TAKE MY HAND, SING A SONG .

FOR A LAND

WHERE THE RIVER RUNS FREE,

FOR A LAND

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THROUGH THE GREEN COUNTRY,

FOR A LAND RICHARD: TO A SHINING SEA,

FOR A LAND

WHERE THE HORSES RUN FREE.

AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE YOU AND ME.

EVERY BOY IN THIS LAND  
GROWS TO BE HIS OWN MAN.

IN THIS LAND, EVERY GIRL GROWS TO BE HER OWN WOMAN.

TAKE MY HAND, COME WITH ME,  
WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE FREE.  
COME WITH ME, TAKE MY HAND, AND WE'LL RUN .  
TO A LAND  
WHERE THE RIVER RUNS FREE, TO A LAND  
THROUGH THE GREEN COUNTRY, TO A LAND  
TO A SHINING SEA.  
TO A LAND  
WHERE THE HORSES RUN FREE, TO A LAND  
WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE FREE.  
AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE YOU AND ME!

AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE...

AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE ...

ALL: AND YOU AND ME ARE FREE TO BE  
YOU AND ME.

**THE END**

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