

SAMUEL FRENCH SAMPLE PERUSAL

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Oedipus For Kids!

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& Kimberly Patterson

Lyrics by
Gil Varod

Music & Additional Material by
Robert J. Saferstein

A SAMUEL FRENCH ACTING EDITION

**SAMUEL
FRENCH**
FOUNDED 1830

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Originally presented as an Official Next Link Selection in the
2006 New York Musical Theatre Festival

OEDIPUS FOR KIDS! opened at the Sage Theatre in New York, New York on September 12, 2006, as a Next Link Selection for the New York Musical Theatre Festival (NYMF). It was directed by Dan Fields, the musical direction/arrangements were by Gregory M. Brown, the choreography was by Jessica Redish, the scenic design was by Scott Orlesky, the lighting design was by Michael K. Berelson, the costume design was by Hannah Rose Peck, and the production stage manager was Jinay Reitze. The cast was as follows:

OEDIPUS Reed Prescott
TEDIPUS/LAIUS/SPHINXY/TEIRESIAS Gavin Lewis
MOMMY/ORACLE/JOCASTA Laura Jordan

The production featured Gregory M. Brown as Conductor and on Piano, Jesse Kissel on Keyboards, and Scot Sexton on Percussion.

Additional graphics were by Justin Penov.

CHARACTERS

ALISTAIR - early 30s. Male, Baritone/Bass. Artistic director of a children's theatre troupe. Like Raffi with a slightly sinister/deranged side.

CATALINA - late 20s to early 30s. Female, Mezzo. Performance artist with a real bite.

EVAN - mid 20s. Male, Tenor. A newly-arrived actor. Strong, muscular, not so intense in thinking. Very innocent.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act One

“You Can Do It All
[The Fuzzy Duck Anthem]” The Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company
“Once Upon A Time-ipus” Oedipus, Laius, Jocasta, Mommy and Daddy
“You Forget I’m Infallible” The Oracle, Oedipus, and Tedipus
“A Little Complex” Oedipus
“It’s Real Real Tough Just Bein’ A Kid
[But Coffee Will Get Ya Through]” . . . The Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company
“Cause We’re Greek” Sphinx, Oedipus, and Jocasta

Act Two

“You Can Do It All [Reprise]” The Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company
“What Is It Like When Ya Get The Plague?” Jocasta and Oedipus
“Be Kind to the Blind” Teiresias and Oedipus
“My Husband Is My Lover Is My Son” Jocasta
“I’m So Glad I Could Share It With You” . . . The Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company

AUTHORS' NOTE

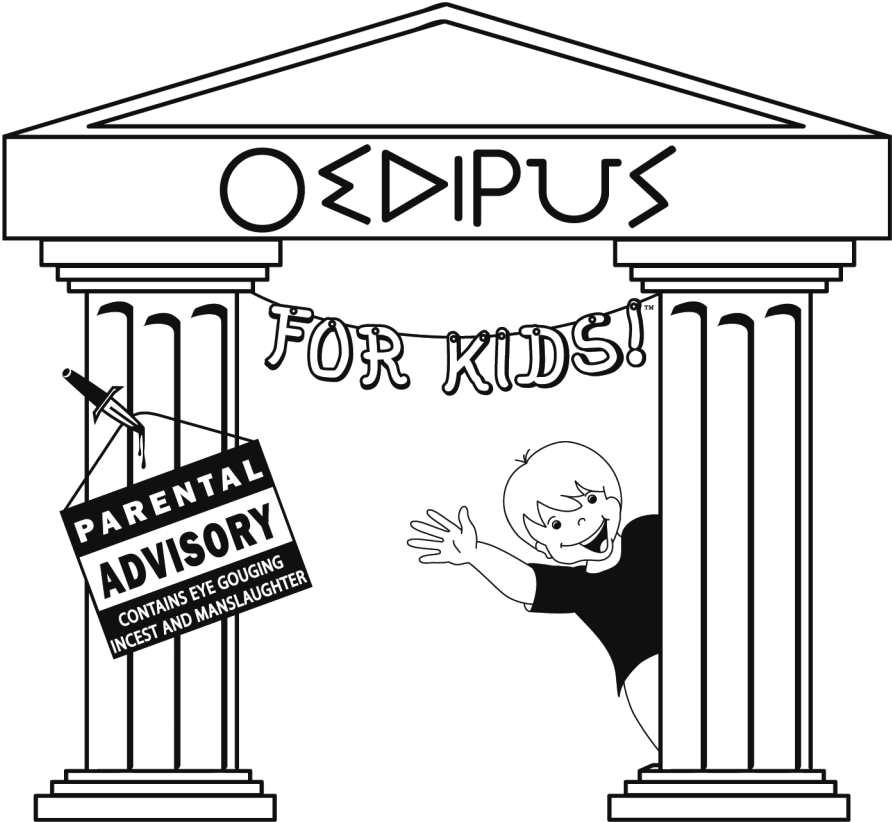
In our - and others' - experience, "Oedipus for Kids!" has been an incredibly fun show to be a part of. So allow us to ruin the fun by putting red tape all over your excitement.

"Oedipus for Kids!" is a spoof of children's theater and, like all spoofs, is funniest when performed as closely as possible in manner and tone to the thing being ridiculed. In other words: play it straight. Don't wink at the audience, nudge at them, or force the throwaways; just make sure the audience is quacking along from the get-go and you'll receive numerous returns later. These characters are not aware that the things they say and do are funny, and the same goes for the ideas that Alistair has come up with for the play within the play. Aside from the choreographed dances, it should seem as if Catalina, Alistair, and Evan are making their choices on the spot, both "on" and "off"-stage. Consequently, the show should have a hand-crafted visual aesthetic that makes it look like the three are flying by the seat of their pants.

The laughs will come naturally if the show (and music tempos, where appropriate) are kept moving at a fast pace, performed simply and seriously as actual children's theatre. Keep in mind that this troupe has been performing children's shows for years, and as far as they know tonight would be treated no differently. Aside from your copious amounts of Greek Mythology research, you should watch whatever children's videotapes and PBS shows you can get your hands on, and (gasp!) actual children's theatre if possible. When you use these as your performance guidelines - as your "thing being ridiculed" - the audience will assuredly be in on the joke regardless of the fact that not a single one has ever seen, say, "Wee Sing Together" or the episodes of "Barney" with Sandy Duncan in them.

Have fun!

- Gil Varod, Robert J. Saferstein, and Kimberly Patterson



Scene: Onstage, Bare Black

(House music: the most aggravating children's songs available.)

(Lights up. Music begins.)

(Enter ALISTAIR, EVAN and CATALINA with a giant treasure chest.)

(They open it up, pulling out various props and setting up the Fuzzy Duck set. As they put the pieces in place, they sing to the audience as if it were the theme song of any happily energetic children's show.)

SONG: YOU CAN DO IT ALL

ALL.

WE'RE THE FUZZY DUCKS.

WE LOVE CLASSIC LIT.

TALES FROM WHEN TIME HAD FIRST BEGUN

WE PUT 'EM ON THE STAGE

AND ACT 'EM OUT FOR YOU

SO YOU CAN SEE THAT LIT'RATURE IS FUN!

JUST FLAP YOUR WINGS AND WADDLE ROUND

SHAKE YOUR FEATHERS, MAKE THAT SOUND:

QUACK, QUACK, QUACK!

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

(they do choreographed swimming and flying movements)

YOU CAN SWIM AND YOU CAN FLY

CUZ' YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

YOU CAN SWIM AND YOU CAN FLY

CUZ' YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

ALISTAIR. (*spoken*) Hi boys and girls, we're the Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company, and we want to tell you a little bit about *us*! Ready? Fuzzy Duck Roll Call!!

CATALINA.

CALL ME CATALINA.

GIRLS, TAKE MY ADVICE

DON'T BE MOMMIES, BE A CEO.

EVAN.

EVAN IS MY NAME

(*very proudly*) I WROTE THIS PART MYSELF:

EVAN'S MY NAME, I WROTE THIS PART MYSELF.

ALISTAIR.

I AM ALISTAIR, I LOVE TO READ

A BOOK'S THE ONLY FRIEND I NEED!

QUACK! QUACK!

ALL.

QUACK QUACK QUACK!

ALISTAIR. (*spoken*) Now's the time to make you all part of the Fuzzy Duck Duckpond! Whenever I say quack, you quack as loud as you can! Let's try it!

EV'RYBODY QUACK!

ALL.

QUACK!

ALISTAIR.

EV'RYBODY QUACK!

ALL.

QUACK!

ALISTAIR.

CUZ...

ALL.

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

YOU CAN SWIM AND YOU CAN FLY

CUZ' YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

ALISTAIR. (*spoken*) We're so happy to have you join the Fuzzy Duck Theatre Company, a city council-funded Arts-In-Education program that performs the classics throughout the tri-state area!

ALL. Yaaay!

ALISTAIR. Today's Fuzzy Duck show is also made possible by our awesome sponsors: *Beanz! Coffee for Kids!*

ALL. Yaaay!

ALISTAIR. We'd also like to give a quack-out to a special group of ducklings able to make it here today...

(pulls out an index card, reads:)

The kids from St. Theresa's Cancer Ward!

(an awkward beat)

ALL. *(in unison)* ...yay.

ALISTAIR. We're almost ready for Oedipus...for Kids! You're gonna love learning all about Oeddy, a little boy a lot like you! Just don't forget that during the show, there are two types of talking: good talking, and...

ALL. Bad talking!

ALISTAIR. And the worst kind of talking is the kind that people do on their...

ALL. Cellphones!

ALISTAIR. But you know when you CAN talk...that's right!

ALL. When a fuzzy duck flies onstage!

(CATALINA & EVAN toss plush stuffed ducks to each other.)

ALISTAIR *(cont.)* When a fuzzy duck flies, it's time for you to quack your fuzzy little hearts out. Like this!

(He tosses a duck into the air.)

ALL. Quack!

ALISTAIR. Again!

(He tosses another duck into the air.)

ALL. Quack!

ALISTAIR.

YES, EV'RY TIME A DUCKIE FLIES

(all three raise their right hands in the air)

RAISE YOUR HAND AND REACH THE SKIES

IF YOU'RE LUCKY WE JUST MIGHT PICK YOU!

CATALINA & ALISTAIR.

YOU CAN DO IT ALL.

EVAN.

YOU CAN DO IT!

CATALINA AND ALISTAIR.

YOU CAN SWIM AND YOU

ALL.

CAN FLY!

CUZ YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK.

EVERYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

ALISTAIR.

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

CATALINA & EVAN.

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

ALISTAIR.

QUACK SO LOUD

ALL.

YOU REACH THE SKY!

CUZ' YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

CATALINA. (*spoken*) Come on, clap along!

ALL.

YOU CAN DO IT ALL!

YOU ARE YELLOW, YOU HAVE FUZZ!

CUZ' YOU ARE A FUZZY DUCK

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

ALISTAIR.

EV'RYBODY QUACK!

EV'RYBODY QUACK!

CATALINA & EVAN.

LET ME HEAR YOU!

ALL.

EV'RYBODY!

EV'RYBODY QUACK! QUACK!

(BLACKOUT)

Scene: Backstage

(The three are frantically changing into their costumes.

EVAN keeps getting in the way, doing his “warm-up exercises” directly in front of the costume rack.)

ALISTAIR. Fat suit.

CATALINA. Shithead.

ALISTAIR. I’m asking you to pass my fat suit.

CATALINA. You’re still a shithead. Alistair. You know damn well that house should be mine.

ALISTAIR. Please. You and your divorce attorney sucked me dry this morning.

(to EVAN)

Watch out, Evan.

(to CATALINA)

Left me with nothing but an empty house, an overdue mortgage –

CATALINA. And Fuzzy Ducks.

ALISTAIR. Yeah a theatre company worth less than the Prius you’re taking. What more do you want? Blood?

(to EVAN)

Evan, move out of the way.

CATALINA. Well good luck running Fuzzy Ducks without me. I hope you and your hellbound, caffeine-hawking friends at *Beanz! Coffee* use it to put on more gems like “Oedipus for Kids!” Which is—if I haven’t yet made myself clear—A REALLY STUPID IDEA, ALISTAIR!

ALISTAIR. Still better than any of your performance art crap! Or any of the Fuzzy Duck shows *you* wrote!

CATALINA. I’m sorry that “The Scarlet ABCs” was no “Uncle Tommy’s Cabin!”

(to EVAN)

Evan, GET OUT OF MY FACE!

(to ALISTAIR)

Where the hell did you find him?

ALISTAIR. Some guy's six week acting seminar. Same place
I'll find your replacement.

CATALINA. You mean that wench you've been sleeping with
doesn't understand Method Acting?

(Music starts up.)

ALISTAIR. Everyone get onstage! And remember, the *Beanz!*
people are in row three!

(EVAN exits.)

CATALINA. The *Beanz!* *Coffee* people? They're here?

*(ALISTAIR looks at CATALINA, smiles, and goes off-
stage.)*

CATALINA. Shithead.

Scene: Onstage, Greece**SONG: ONCE UPON A TIME-IPUS**

(Music starts sweet and slow, like a music box. The story is acted out using a small doll as "Baby Oedipus.")

EVAN.

OH, ONCE UPON A TIME
 BEGINS A STORY DEAR AND TRUE
 HOW A MOMMY AND A DADDY
 DID A THING THEY SHOULDN'T DO.
 HOW A KING AND QUEEN DEMEANED THEIR LIVES
 WHEN THEY SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT AHEAD.
 AND THE LIVES THAT THEY EACH LED.
 THAT'S THE STORY, OF OED.
 IPUS.

*(EVAN takes out a flip-sign that says "OEDIPUS."
 CATALINA and ALISTAIR enter dressed as Laius and
 Jocasta. Music ramps up.)*

EVAN.

WHEN OEDDY WAS A BABY
 A FORTUNE PROPHESED
 "YOUR SON ONE DAY WILL KILL YOU"
 AND HIS DAD THE KING REALIZED,

ALISTAIR [AS LAIUS].

IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS
 I SURELY WILL BE DEAD.

EVAN.

SO HE TOLD THE QUEEN HE WED.

ALISTAIR [AS LAIUS].

LET'S KILL, OUR DARLING OED.
 IPUS.

ALL. *(happily and joyfully)*

OH, OEDIPUS, OH, OEDIPUS,
 WHAT WILL HAPPEN, TELL US!
 WILL YOU COME ALONG?
 WILL YOU SING OUR SONG?
 AND ARE YOU RELATED TO THE PLATYPUS?

(EVAN flips the sign over and now "PLATY" is covering "OEDI," the original "PUS" still visible.)

CATALINA [AS JOCASTA]. (*spoken*)

BUT I CANNOT KILL MY BABY!

EVAN.

OH, THE QUEEN SHE CRIED AND SOBBED.

ALISTAIR [AS LAIUS].

IT WON'T BE US WHO KILLS HIM

WE'LL LET NATURE DO HER JOB.

WE'LL NAIL HIS ANKLES TO THIS TREE

AND LEAVE HIM TILL HE'S BLEED.

(ALISTAIR "hammers" the doll's ankles to the tree.)

EVAN.

SO THE KING AND QUEEN THEY FLED.

CATALINA [AS JOCASTA].

GOODBYE, MY WRETCHED OED.

IPUS.

ALL. (*legato, in choir-like poses*)

OH, OEDIPUS, OH, OEDIPUS,

WHAT WILL HAPPEN, TELL US!

(*normal, jolly tempo resumes*)

WILL YOU COME ALONG?

WILL YOU SING OUR SONG?

AND ARE YOU RELATED TO THE OCTOPUS?

(EVAN flips the sign again, now "OCTO" covers "PLATY".)

ALL.

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED

TO THAT BABY CHILD?

HIS PARENTS LEFT HIM CRYING

ALL ALONE IN THE WILD

WHERE WOLVES AND BEARS MIGHT EAT HIM

HIS ANKLES BLOODY RED

STUCK TO A TREE,

DON'T WORRY

SEE,

CAUSE OEDDY WASN'T DEAD.

(CATALINA and ALISTAIR quickly change costume pieces, just enough to show that they're playing "Mommy" and "Daddy.")

EVAN.

THEN A CORINTH FAM'LY SAVED HIM
AND TO BED THE CHILD WAS PUT.
THEY SAID

CATALINA AND ALISTAIR [AS "MOMMY" AND "DADDY"].

LET'S CALL HIM OEDIPUS

(spoken on pitch)

IT'S GREEK FOR SWOLLEN FOOT.

EVAN.

THEY RAISED HIM WELL AS IF THEIR OWN

ALL.

A BLISSFUL YOUTH HE LED...

...IPUS.

(starting slow, and ramping up)

HE WAS FED...IPUS,
MEAT AND BREAD...IPUS,
HAD HIS OWN NICE SHINY SLED-IPUS,
VACATIONS TO CLUB MED-IPUS,

(the baby Oedipus doll is tossed away to be replaced by EVAN as Oedipus)

GREW UP TO BE WELL READ-IPUS,

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS].

EVERY BOOK FROM A TO ZED-IPUS!

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"].

EACH NIGHT TUCKED INTO BED-IPUS,

ALISTAIR [AS "DADDY"].

AS HIS MOM AND DADDY SAID-IPUS,

CATALINA AND ALISTAIR [AS "MOMMY" AND "DADDY"].

WE LOVE...

YOU...OEDIPUS!

Scene: Onstage, Oedipus' Childhood Home**CATALINA.**

Here in Ancient Greece is where our story starts;
A story about Oedipus, and we play all the parts.
Oedipus had a Mom and Dad, and went to school too
And did all of his homework, like all good children do.
Oedipus also had a brother.

*(towards the offstage as "MOMMY," an overly-sweet,
Mary Poppins-like character)*

One more hour until beddy-bye, Tedipus!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Alright, Mommy!**CATALINA.** *(to audience, out of character)*

And Oedipus's mother loved him very, very much!

*(towards the offstage, as "MOMMY" with suppressed
anger revealed)*

**OEDIPUS! IF YOU DON'T GET TO BED THIS
INSTANT I'LL BREAK YOUR KNEES SO BADLY,
YOU'LL FORGET HOW OUTRAGEOUSLY DE-
FORMED YOUR ANKLES ARE!**

*(EVAN slowly limps onstage as Oedipus, wearing metal
ankle braces. Oedipus is indistinguishable in personality
and manner from EVAN.)*

*(During the show he will continue to occasionally limp,
or rather walk with his knees locked and unbent, but
only at particularly convenient points.)*

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Mommy, my ankles hurt!**CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"].** That's because when you were a
little baby—**EVAN [AS OEDIPUS].** Carry me!**CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"].** Well Oedipus I couldn't possibly—

*(He jumps into her arms. CATALINA is far from thrilled.
Reluctantly, she carries him off to bed.)*

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. *(while being carried)* How come Tedipus
gets to stay up a whole hour later than I do?

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"]. Well Oedipus, that's because he's older than you.

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. (*teasingly*) And not because you love him more!

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"]. Of course, Oedipus. Parents never love their adopted kids as much as they love their real ones.

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. (*a beat, thrown:*) ...Who's adopted?

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"]. Nobody dear.

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. (*sticking his head out from offstage*) I told you so!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. (*crying*) Mommy!

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"]. TEDIPUS WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

(ALISTAIR *disappears.*)

(*to EVAN*)

Now Oedipus, close your eyes...

Hush...hush hush...Hush...

(CATALINA *climbs into bed with EVAN and gradually spoons him as EVAN falls asleep.*)

SONG: LULLABY FOR ADOPTED CHILDREN

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"].

LITTLE GUY

DON'T YOU CRY

STOP THOSE TEARS AND LET THEM DRY

SO I CAN SING YOUR LU-LU-LULLABY

MOTHER'S HERE

OH SO NEAR

TO MAKE THE BAD THINGS DISAPPEAR

WITH HER SOFT

LU-LU-LULLABY.

(*leaving bed, singing out to audience*)

CAUSE MOMMY'S ARMS ARE SAFE FOR EV'RY LITTLE
MAN

THE WORLD IS NOT AS SAFE ENJOY IT WHILE YOU
CAN

IT'S FILLED WITH LONELINESS AND POINTLESS
SUFF'RING TOO...
I GUESS SINCE YOU'RE ADOPTED THAT'S NOT NEWS
TO YOU

(EVAN *wakes up suddenly.*)

CATALINA [AS "MOMMY"]. (*cont.*)

AS YOU GROW...

WHAT?...OH,

(*runs back to console Oedipus*)

I SAID NOTHING OF ADOPTION, NO
NOW THE LETTER Z'S IN SHORT SUPPLY
SO REST MY DEAR, TO LU-LU-LULLABY

LULLABY, LULLABY,

LU-LU-LU-LU-LULLABY,

I LU, LU-LU-LU-LOVE YOU

I'LL HEAL THOSE LU-LU-LUMPY ANKLES TOO.

(*leaving bed again*)

YES IN YOUR DREAMS THOSE BROKEN
ANKLES GO AWAY

THE OTHER CHILDREN ASK,

"CAN OEDDY COME AND PLAY?"

IN DREAMLAND THEY DON'T KICK YOUR
SHINS AND WATCH YOU FALL.

IN DREAMS I DON'T OWN STOCK IN
CHILDREN'S DEMEROL

(*center stage, emphatically*)

OH, CHILD KIND

SLEEP YOU'LL FIND

DON'T LET TRAUMA FILL YOUR MIND
DREAM PLEASANT THOUGHTS INSTEAD

HOW YOU BECAME MY SON,
NOT HOW YOU WERE LEFT FOR DEAD.

SO SLEEP ADOPTED BABY

LU-LU-LULLABY. (*spoken*) Goodnight, Oedipus.

(*Lights out.*)

Scene: Oedipus's Childhood Home, That Night

(In the darkness, we hear the voice of ALISTAIR as Tedipus. He is played like a young child, possibly dopey or a school-bully type.)

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Psst! Psst! Oedipus, wake up! Oedipus!

(ALISTAIR shines two flashlights directly into EVAN's face.)

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. *(cont.)* *(very loudly)* WAKE UP!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. AAAAGH!

(catching breath as stage lights come back up)

Tedipus? It's so late! Why are you up?

(ALISTAIR takes a drink of coffee from a Beanz! Mug, making it very clear to the audience that he is holding a branded product.)

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Because I've been drinking this delicious coffee!

(The Beanz! Coffee ditty plays. ALISTAIR and EVAN mug for the audience.)

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Mmm. Can I have some?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Only if you come on my midnight adventure!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. *(excitedly getting out of bed)* A midnight adventure! Where are we going?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. You know the old Monopolous house near spooky Mt. Tisiphone?

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. You mean the one they say is haunted?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Yep. My friend Icarus went there last week and saw a witch that told him his future!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. What's Icarus' future?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. He's gonna learn how to fly!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. That's awesome! I wonder what our future's gonna be?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. You wanna go there and find out?

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Sure!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Let's go.

(As they exit, we hear a "duck call" sound and a plush fuzzy duck "flies" onstage. CATALINA enters just in time to catch it.)

(Throughout the play, we will continue to hear this "duck call" sound each time a fuzzy duck "takes flight.")

CATALINA. Come on boys and girls, you can do better than that! This time, I want to hear you really QUACK!

(She tosses the fuzzy duck again.)

CATALINA. *(with the Audience)* QUACK! Good job.

(looks at the fuzzy duck as if it's "sudden" appearance has surprised her)

Oh look, a fuzzy duck flew! You know what that means...time for a Quackback!

Now, boys and girls, have any of you ever been *scared* before? What kinds of things scare you? Just shout them out at me!

(An IMPROVISATION takes place, perhaps where CATALINA agrees that each of the first two or three shouted things are scary, and imagines a combination of them which is "super scary." Then, suggesting her own scary thing, e.g.:)

CATALINA. What about something that you didn't expect to be scary...like a family picnic? When your uncle has had a few too many Pabst Blue Ribbons, and he wants you to sit in his lap. And he begins singing "Endless Love," and he's looking right at you...

(CATALINA spaces out.)

ALISTAIR. *(offstage)* CATALINA!

CATALINA. Huh? Oh... *(nervously)* ...Hi kids! Where were we...

Scene: Onstage, Haunted House

(quick lighting/set change)

CATALINA. Right.

They walked past spooky wood nymphs, scary owls,
Greek banshees,
Till they reached the old temple in the middle of
haunted trees.

(EVAN and ALISTAIR enter with flashlights.)

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Boy, it really is dark!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. And spooky!

(loud sound or percussion hit)

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. What was that noise?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. I don't know!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. I'm really scared, Teddy.

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Me too, Oeddy.

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Promise if we ever get out of this alive,
we'll be bestest friends forever!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Deal!

*(They do a special, highly-choreographed and overly-long
handshake.)*

(Suddenly, more loud sounds. They are frightened.)

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. *(over loudspeaker or megaphone, in a
frightening voice)* WHO GOES THERE?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. It is I, Tedipus...And this...this is
my brother Oedipus!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. WHY DO YOU SEEK ME?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. We want to know our future!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. ARE YOU SURE?

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. Yes!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. REALLY SURE?

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. Yes!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. PROMISE THAT IF YOU DON'T
LIKE YOUR FUTURE, YOU WON'T COMPLAIN?

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. Yes!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. CAUSE THERE'S NO BACK-SEES.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. We know!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. THEN PREPARE TO KNOW THYSELF, AND SEE ME IN MY TRUE FORM!

SONG: YOU FORGET I'M INFALLIBLE

ALISTAIR. (*spoken, announcer-like*) Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, ripped from her family at a young, tender age, robbed of her identity, then induced into a frenzied state by ethylene vapors from a chasm *just so she could speak the prophecies of Apollo for you today*, here she is: The Oracle of Delphi!

(*CATALINA steps onstage in an absurd Oracle outfit that is a poor attempt at what was supposed to be some sort of "rock goddess."*)

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. Ohhhhhh!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. And now I shall tell the future as decided by the Gods of Olympus, the Fates of time, and how I'm feeling today.

(*singing a la rock diva*)

IF YOU COULD HAVE ONE POWER WHAT WOULD YA PICK?

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

WHAT WOULD WE CHOOSE?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

SHAPE SHIFTING, FLIGHT, OR RUNNING QUICK?

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

OR LASER SHOES!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

I'D SEE THE FUTURE, YES I WOULD -
PICK THE POWER OF ESP!

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

WE'LL GO WITH THAT!

SHOW US HOW.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

HA!

THE ONLY

ONE WHO CAN DO THAT IS ME.

THAT'S CAUSE I'M THE ORACLE
 SCENES FROM THE FUTURE I SEE
 WHATEVER ACTIONS FATE AND TIME CREATE
 YOU WON'T KNOW BEFORE ME.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS]. (*as an impromptu
 backup chorus*)

BEFORE YOU!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

IF YOU SEEK YOUR FUTURE
 GO ON AND ASK THE WHAT AND WHY
 I'LL BE HAPPY TO
 DO JUST WHAT I DO
 WHICH IS
 BASIC'LLY TELL HOW YOU'LL DIE.

(*spoken*) Which of you wants to know your future first?

EVAN. You go ahead, Teddy! I'm scared!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. (*sighs*) Well, okay!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. State your name!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Teddy!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. Your full name!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Tedipus of Corinth!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. Ah, I know the "of Corinth" family
 well.

How's your Aunt Sophie?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. She died.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. (*a beat*) I KNOW!

(*sung:*)

CAUSE I'M THE ORACLE
 BET ON MY HORSE, YOU WON'T LOSE.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

OOH, OOH.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

YOU GOT A STOCK TO BUY OR SPORTS SCORE? WHY
 TO ME IT'S OLD NEWS.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

GAMB-LING JUNKIE!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

BUT IF YOU SEEK YOUR FUTURE
HAVE MY PERMISSION TO INQUIRE!
I'LL BE THRILLED TO GOBS
TO PERFORM MY JOB
WHICH IS
BASIC'LLY TELL HOW YOU'LL EXPIRE.

(spoken to Tedipus)

Do you seek your future?

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. Yes please, Mrs. Oracle Ma'am.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. Then know that your future, as irreversibly decided by the Gods of Mount Olympus, and the Fates who have woven it into the fabric of time, is as such:

YOU WILL BE A GOLD-METAL OLYMPIC DISCUS
THROWER!

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. *(excited)* Really?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. No, not really. I like to keep things interesting. FARMER.

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. ...that's it?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. Well, later you'll grow old and die.

ALISTAIR [AS TEDIPUS]. And die?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. AS A FARMER.

(sung:)

DON'T EVEN TRY ESCAPING MY PROPHECY.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

THINGS THAT YOU TELL.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

S'POSE, I INSIST YOUR NEXT, WATER TRIP ENDS
BADLY.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

ENDS NOT WELL

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

AND, IF YOU'RE CHEATING FATE,
BY NOT LEAVING TOWN.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

LAND-LOCKED STATE.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

FATE SAYS, YOU'LL TRIP AND FALL, IN A
ALL.

BATH FACE DOWN!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

AND

ALL.

YOU'LL STILL DROWN!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. (*a little too passionately*)

TALKIN' BOUT FATE!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE] (*spoken*) Next! State your name!

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Oedipus!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. Do you seek your fortune?

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Yes!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. What do good little boys say?

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. Yes *please*, Mrs. Oracle Ma'am.

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. That's more like it. Manners are
very important!

(*as if her head is a computerized Rolodex*)

Oedipus, eh! Let's see...Narcissus, Neoptolemus, Ochi-
mus, Ocriidion, Ocyrhoe, Odysseus, Orpheus – no,
that's too far. Ah, here, Oedipus.

(*She "sees" his future, then chokes violently. The con-
cerned orchestra stops playing musical vamp.*)

Doesn't look good, kid.

(*CATALINA looks at Orchestra, then stomps her foot twice
on the stage. Music vamp begins again.*)

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. What do you see?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. It says you're going to kill your own
father. And as for your mother, you're going to...

(*CATALINA looks at ALISTAIR. ALISTAIR stares back.*)

(*They glare at each other tensely. Exchanged glances and
awkwardness during overextended vamping.*)

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. (*finally*) What is it? What is it?

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. How...how old are you?

EVAN [AS OEDIPUS]. I'm seven and three quarters next month!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE]. You're going...your mother...
You're way too young to hear this, never mind comprehend it.

Just know:

It's dang nasty awful!

(sung:)

SO PROCLAIMS THE ORACLE

I SPEAK IN WORDS TRUE AND WISE.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

TRUE AND WISE!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

NO MATTER WHAT THE GODS HAVE
IN THEIR ODDS

STILL I CAN PROPHEZIZE.

ALISTAIR & EVAN [AS TEDIPUS & OEDIPUS].

SHE PROPHEZIZES!

CATALINA [AS ORACLE].

BUT IF YOU SEEK YOUR FUTURE
IF YOU'RE A CURIOUS TYPE OF BLOKE

I'M CAUTIONING

I DO JUST ONE THING

I

BASIC'LLY TELL YOU

OH YEAH, I TELL YOU

TELL YOU HOW YOU'RE GONNA CROAK.

(like a rock-star, and menacingly advancing at the boys)

SO MY ADVICE

HEED WHAT I SAY

YOUR FATE IS COMING!

YES, TODAY'S THE DAY

LOCKED AND LOADED

I SMELL YOUR FEAR.

YOU CANNOT RUN, RUN, RUN, RUN!

(CATALINA summons another loud noise or percussion hit. ALISTAIR and EVAN emit a short scream, then run offstage.)

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