

PLAYS FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

A partnership of Seattle Children's Theatre and Children's Theatre Company-Minneapolis

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Time Again in Oz

Story by
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Time Again in Oz was first presented by Seattle Children's Theatre for the 1999-2000 season.

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CHARACTERS

Mysterious Man: Tic Toc - (A mysterious male of many times)

Grand Dame: Langwidere - (An aging beauty)

Tycoon: Roquat the Gnome King – (Big business at its worst)

Dorothy: (Now, a teenager)

Uncle Henry: (An elderly adventurer confined to a wheelchair)

Bill, the Chicken: (Brass and bravado in a fowl form)

Nanda: (A harried housemaid)

Ozma: (An old soul in the body of a very young child)

Feldspar: (A mineral of many uses), Wheeler, Head

Captain: Wheeler, Head, General

Sailor 1: Wheeler, Head, Major

Sailor 2: Wheeler, Head, Army

SETTINGS

Act One:

On the Deck

On the Raft

The Beach of Oz

The Domain of the Wheelers

Tic Toc's Cave

The Desert of Shifting Sand

Langwidere's Palace

In the Prison

Act Two

At Dawn

On the Road

The Grove of the Mangaboos

The Gnome King's Cavern: Throne room/treasure chamber underground

On the Surface

Shipboard: On the deck

TIME

Shipboard: Early 1900's

Oz: The beginning and the end of time

Time Again in Oz

SCORE

ACT ONE

1. PROLOGUE.....Mysterious Man, Grand Dame, Tycoon, Dorothy
2. TAKING TIME (Part One)..... ALL
3. TAKING TIME (Part Two) ALL
- 3a. Into the Cabins
4. THE STORM
5. BACK IN OZ..... Dorothy , Bill
- 5a. BACK IN OZ (Reprise) Uncle Henry
6. THE WHEELERS (Part One).....The Wheelers, Uncle Henry
7. THE WHEELERS (Part Two).....The Wheelers, Uncle Henry, Dorothy, Bill
- 7a. The Key
8. TIC TOC’S STORY TIC TOC
9. Shifting Sands
10. BEAUTIFUL ME! Langwidere, Nanda, Heads
- 10a. The Key II
- 10b. Into Prison
11. WHEN DID I GET OLD?Uncle Henry
- 11a. Time has started
12. Tic Toc’s capture

Time Again in Oz**SCORE****ACT TWO**

13. OZMA'S ENTRANCE..... ALL
- 13a. Ozma's dialogue
14. OUR NATIONAL HERO.....Nanda, General, Major, Army, Ozma
- 14a. *OUR NATIONAL HERO (Dance)*
15. HYMN TO DOROTHY.....Ozma, Nanda, General, Major, Army
16. FORWARD.....General, Major, Army, Ozma, Dorothy, Uncle Henry
17. *MANGABOOS*
18. BEGINNINGS..... Dorothy
- 18a. Into the Cavern
19. MINE.....Roquat, Feldspar, Rock People
20. THE GUESSING GAME Dorothy, Bill, Ozma
21. THE BATTLE
22. LOOKING FORWARDDorothy, Uncle Henry
23. FINALE

Time Again in OzACT ONEPROLOGUE*(Lights up on a MYSTERIOUS MAN.)*

MAN

(Sings)

**SECONDS... SEASONS... CENTURIES AND SUCH
MINUTES ... MONTHS... MILLENIUMS
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.**

(Lights up on DOROTHY. MAN hands her a small stone.)

**PIECES OF MOMENTS
MOMENTS PIECED TOGETHER
THIS INSTANT
AND FUTURES TO EXPLORE
AND ALL THAT WAS BEFORE
IS TIME**

(Light's up on TYCOON. MAN hands him a coin.)

**TIME IS WASTED
AND SPENT
IT DOESN'T COST A CENT
AND STILL WE BUY IT.**

(Lights up on GRAND DAME. MAN hands her a compact.)

**IT TAKES SO LONG
IT GOES SO FAST
AND THEN WHEN TIME HAS PASSED
WE CRY "DEFY IT".**

**BUT TIME IS CHANGE
TIME IS CRUEL
TIME IS STRANGE
TIME'S THE RULE
AND TIME'S A THING NO HUMAN CAN DENY
JUST TRY**

(MAN blows a ship's whistle and hands it to the CAPTAIN as he enters.)

CAPTAIN

All hands on deck!

(Sailors enter as elements of the ship fly in and the deck builds around the scene. GRAND DAME and TYCOON cross the stage and nod to each other. DOROTHY plays hopscotch.)

TAKING TIME (ON THE DECK)

Promenade deck? CAPTAIN

Swabbed, Captain! Fore and aft! SAILOR 1

Ropes and rails? CAPTAIN

Coiled and shined! SAILOR 2

Portholes polished? CAPTAIN

Port and starboard! SAILOR 1

Shuffle board? CAPTAIN

Shuffled! SAILOR 2

Deck chairs? CAPTAIN

SET! BOTH SAILORS

(SAILORS set two deck chairs)

SAILORS

**YES, EVERYTHING IS SHIP SHAPE THIS MORNING
THE OCEAN AIR SEEMS QUIET AND WARM**

CAPTAIN

**AH, BUT STILLNESS IS JUST THE OCEAN'S WARNING
WE'LL SOON ENCOUNTER QUITE A STORM.**

DOROTHY

Storm?

CAPTAIN

Don't be frightened, little girl.

DOROTHY

I am NOT a little girl! I am Dorothy Gale of Kansas!

(GRAND DAME begins a promenade across the stage with a small dog in tow, when she passes the MAN, he drops a parasol behind her. DOROTHY picks up the parasol and sashays behind the GRAND DAME, copying her elegant walk. THE GRAND DAME sweeps around and sees her.)

DOROTHY

(Covering)

Excuse me, Ma'm. You dropped this.

GRAND DAME

Thank you, Little Girl.

DOROTHY

I am not a Little Girl. I'm twelve years old and more than unusually tall for my age.

GRAND DAME

It's a bit too breezy for our promenade this morning.

(Sung)

THERE'S THE SUN

(She gestures)

Parasol!

(DOROTHY pops open the parasol and hands it to her.)

Every line tells a naughty tale, N'est pas?

DOROTHY

My "American Girl's Handy Book" says you can make a swell face cream out of bees wax.

(DOROTHY shows her the book. The GRAND DAME laughs)

GRAND DAME

In Australia, Little Girl,

**THERE'S A MIRACLE MUD THAT
MAKES SKIN LOOK YOUNG AGAIN**

DOROTHY

Mud?

GRAND DAME

Tempus fugit, my Dear

GRAND DAME

(Sings)

**TAKING TIME
TAKING TIME TO KEEP FROM LOOKING OLDER
MAKING TIME
FOR WAYS TO TURN BACK THE CLOCK
I'VE BEEN FIGHTING BACK THE YEARS AND
IT'S A DOWNHILL CLIMB
I'LL FIND SOME WAY TO STOP THEM
IN TIME.**

DOROTHY

Can I play with your dog?

GRAND DAME

Oh, no. He is very old and cranky and he bites. Come along, Maurice.

(At the opposite corner of the stage, the TYCOON starts across the deck. The MAN dangles a large gem encrusted pocket watch, the TYCOON takes it and checks the time.)

DOROTHY

Jeepers, Mister, is that a diamond on your pocket watch?

TYCOON

Why yes.

DOROTHY

Is it real?

TYCOON

It better be, it's from my mine.

DOROTHY

Yours?

TYCOON

Half the diamond mines in Australia are mine and I'm on my way to snap up the rest.

(Sings)

**GETTING ALL THAT I CAN
I'M HAVING FUN AGAIN.**

DOROTHY

If you already have so much, why do you need more?

TYCOON

It's not a matter of need, Little Girl.

(Sings)

**TAKING TIME
TAKING TIME TO MONOPOLIZE INVESTMENTS
MAKING TIME TO MAKE SOME COLD HARD CASH
I'LL TAKE OVER DOWN UNDER**

DOROTHY

THAT SOUNDS LIKE CRIME,

TYCOON

**I'LL FIND SOME WAY TO HIDE IT
IN TIME.**

DOROTHY

Could I look at your watch?

TYCOON

Of course not. This is not a toy; it's very valuable. Here's a nick... a penny; run along and play.

(TYCOON starts to hand her a nickel and changes his mind before he moves on.)

DOROTHY

(Sings)

**I'M STUCK HERE ON THE SEA DAY AFTER DAY WITH
THE MOST OBNOXIOUS PEOPLE EVER SEEN
THERE'S NO ONE HERE TO TALK TO OR TO PLAY WITH
EVERYONE IS STINGY, OLD OR MEAN
IF I STAYED AT HOME, IMAGINE WHAT I COULD'VE DONE**

MAN

COULD HAVE DONE WHAT?

DOROTHY

AND WOULD'VE DONE

MAN

WOULD HAVE DONE WHAT?

DOROTHY

**AND SHOULD'VE DONE
IF ONLY ...**

MAN

IF ONLY WHAT?

DOROTHY

IF I COULD JUST GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE.

TYCOON

PERHAPS I'LL PURCHASE ALL (OF AUSTRALIA)

CAPTAIN

CAN I STEER US PAST THE SQUALL (TO AUSTRALIA)

GRAND DAME

WILL I FINALLY FIND MY YOUTH (IN AUSTRALIA)

SAILORS

DID THE CAPTAIN TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THE STORM?

DOROTHY

And there's a storm coming!

ALL EXCEPT DOROTHY

**TAKING TIME
TAKING TIME FOR DAYS FILLED WITH ADVENTURE
MAKING TIME FOR WHAT'S IMPORTANT IN LIFE**

DOROTHY

WHY CAN'T THEY UNDERSTAND THAT...

ALL

**I'M IN MY PRIME
I'LL FIND ALL THAT I AM AFTER...
IN TIME.**

(SONG ENDS)

(*UNCLE HENRY* enter in a wheelchair, Across his lap is a small cage with a chicken in it. *MAN* places a small book in his hands.)

UNCLE HENRY

“The first settlers of Australia were convicts...”

(*MAN* dangles one end of a tin can contraption in front of *DOROTHY*.)

“The men with watches, measuring rods and muskets had arrived.”

(*She* takes it and begins working on it.)

“ The Great continent Terra Incognita Australius had been discovered!” Dorothy, are you listening to me?

DOROTHY

Please, Uncle Henry. I’m busy!

(*DOROTHY* shows him the contraption.)

UNCLE HENRY

But this is the good part. It’s about convicts! What’s that contraption?

(*UNCLE HENRY* lifts himself out of the wheelchair and inches to a deck chair.)

DOROTHY

I made it out of the American Girl’s Handy Book. We can string these cans between our bunks at night and you can call me if you need anything.

(*UNCLE HENRY* stumbles slightly.)

DOROTHY

Let me help you.

(*DOROTHY* helps him into the chair.)

HENRY

I can manage. There’s nothin’ like adventure on the High Seas, is there, Dorothy?

DOROTHY

We have been on this boat for three weeks with nothing but flat, boring ocean.

UNCLE HENRY

Canes.

DOROTHY

And we’re going so slow that I’ll be old before we get there!

UNCLE HENRY

Blanket.

DOROTHY

If this is your idea of adventure, it certainly isn’t mine!

UNCLE HENRY

Chicken!

(She hands him the chicken.)

DOROTHY

Why couldn't we have just taken her to the State Fair in Kansas City?

UNCLE HENRY

What kind of adventure is that?

DOROTHY

My kind!

(CAPTAIN enters.)

CAPTAIN

Attention! All passengers will return to their staterooms' immediately! Squall line off the starboard bow!

UNCLE HENRY

Hot dang!

CAPTAIN

All livestock is to be stowed below as cargo.

UNCLE HENRY

Cargo? This here chick-a-biddy's on her way to the International Confabulation of Breeders, Brooders and Bantams in Sydney Australia. This chicken's a passenger!

CAPTAIN

If it clucks, it's cargo!

(CAPTAIN exits.)

DOROTHY

I can't believe that we are going all the way to Australia just for some dumb chicken.

(GRAND DAME crosses and exits)

GRAND DAME

Out of the way, Little Girl, the wind is spoiling my coiffure!

SAILOR 1

Storm's comin' in fast, Little Girl. You and your grandfather had better get to your cabin.

DOROTHY

He is not my grandfather and I am NOT a little girl!

(DOROTHY turns and drops the penny just as the TYCOON crosses.)

TYCOON

Remember, my dear, time is money!

(He picks up the penny and exits.)

Hey!

DOROTHY

(UNCLE HENRY struggles to get to his feet.)

I hope it's a regular typhoon!

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY

(To SAILOR)

Are we in danger? Could we tump over?

UNCLE HENRY

Capsize, Dorothy, they say, capsize!

SAILOR 2

You are perfectly safe as long as you stay in your cabin!

(The ship lurches and UNCLE HENRY'S legs buckle.)

Whoa....

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry!

UNCLE HENRY

I can manage.

(DOROTHY and the SAILOR 1 rush to help him and upset his balance.)

Careful, Sir.

SAILOR 1

I SAID, I CAN MANAGE!

UNCLE HENRY

(He lurches into his chair.)

(SAILOR1 exits. SAILOR 2 crosses as wind increases and lightning flashes.)

All passengers, below deck!

CAPTAIN

If I could walk, I'd be out there with those sailors.

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY

(Overlapping)

Where are the life jackets?

UNCLE HENRY

(Overlapping)

Winds lashing at my face...

DOROTHY

(Overlapping)
You DO have life jackets, don't you?

CAPTAIN

They are in your cabin!

UNCLE HENRY

Take the chicken below, Dorothy. I want to stay up here and watch!

DOROTHY

NO! You could be killed!

UNCLE HENRY

What's the matter with you? Where's your sense of adventure?
(Sailor 1 crosses)

SAILOR 1

Waterspout off the starboard side!

UNCLE HENRY

Hot Dang! I am going to go see!

DOROTHY

You're just a crazy old man, crazy as a coot! You old grump, you old grouch.

UNCLE HENRY

Before I die I just want one adventure.

DOROTHY

So go ahead blow off the boat, see if I care! Go ahead and die.

UNCLE HENRY

Dorothy!

(Even UNCLE HENRY is horrified by this remark, he turns away abruptly.)

(DOROTHY starts toward him but the MAN steps in her way and pulls a large key from his waistcoat. It glows and shimmers with a strange light.)

DOROTHY

A key?

(He gestures with the key. DOROTHY reaches for it. As soon as she grabs one end of the key, the MAN spins her in a circle. The sound of the waterspout is heard.)

Oh NO!

(UNCLE HENRY enters. The MAN grabs the back of his wheel chair. UNCLE HENRY reaches for DOROTHY as she grabs the chicken coop and spins out of reach and off stage)

UNCLE HENRY!!!!!!!

(UNCLE HENRY spins off in the opposite direction)

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY!!!!!!

(GRAND DAME enters. The MAN snatches her hat and as she reaches for it, she starts spinning off stage.)

GRAND DAME

My hat.... My Haaaaaiiiiiirrrrr.

(The TYCOON enters. The MAN whisks the watch away and holds it in front of him as he twirls off stage.)

TYCOON

My precious jeweeelllsss!

(The SAILORS, twirl across stage. taking the final pieces of the boat with them.)

SAILORS

Abandon Shiiiiiiiiip!!!!!!

(THE MAN laughs and spins in a circle, his cloak billowing out to create the waterspout.)

BLACKOUT.

ON THE RAFT

(It is morning. Dorothy lies sleeping on a large raft that bears some resemblance to the chicken coop. Also on the raft is BILL a person sized-chicken.)

BILL

Kut-kut-kut- Ka Daw Kut!

(DOROTHY wakes and does not see BILL behind her.)

DOROTHY

Where am I? The boat! Where's the boat? Uncle Henry! UNCLE HENRY!!!!!!

BILL

What do you know, it's morning!

(DOROTHY turns and sees BILL.)

DOROTHY

What in the world?

BILL

Bill's the name; chicken's the game.

DOROTHY

You're a chicken?

BILL

You were expecting an armadillo?

DOROTHY

But you're so big. You're human-sized.

BILL

How do you know you're not chicken-sized?

DOROTHY

And you speak English.

BILL

How do you know you're not speaking chicken? Just call me Bill.

DOROTHY

A hen named Bill?

BILL

What can I say, I was named when I was an egg.

DOROTHY

Very well, Bill. My name is Dorothy , Dorothy Gale...

BILL

Well of course. I've known you since I was a yoke..

DOROTHY

You're Uncle Henry's chicken?

BILL

Grand Champion three times in a row! AKA some dumb chicken! I've been watching you, Missy, you haven't exactly been a little ray of sunshine on this trip.

DOROTHY

You were on the deck ? You saw what happened?

BILL

Waterspout sucked up everything!

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry?

BILL

Sucked him right up.

DOROTHY

He can't be dead; he just can't be...

BILL

The old grump, the old grouch, the old....

DOROTHY

Don't call him those things.

BILL

Why not? You did!

DOROTHY

This can't be happening, not again!

BILL

Again?

DOROTHY

When I was a little girl, I was sucked up in a tornado.

BILL

If I were you, I'd stay out of the wind!

DOROTHY

I promised myself if I ever got back to Kansas, I'd never leave home again!

BILL

Uh Oh! Look out! Here it comes! Olley olley outs en free! 5,4,3,2,1...Hit the deck. Uhhhh!

DOROTHY

What are you doing?

Laying an egg.

BILL
(BILL lays an egg.)

Do you have to make such a fuss about it?

DOROTHY

Have you ever laid an egg?

BILL

No.

DOROTHY

Then don't knock it.

BILL

We have got to find land soon. We'll starve to death out here.

DOROTHY

Here, you can have my egg.

BILL

Don't you want it?

DOROTHY

Oh, no I just lay 'em and leave 'em. I wish you hadn't mentioned food. I'm feeling kind of peckish myself.

BILL

You can have your egg back.

DOROTHY

What do you take me for, a cannibal? Uh Oh! Uh Oh! Look out! Here it comes!

BILL

Don't tell me you're going to lay another egg.

DOROTHY

Oh No! Land HO!

BILL

Where?

DOROTHY

There!

BILL

(DOROTHY and BILL are thrown forward as the raft lands on the Beach of OZ. Lights change.)

ON THE BEACH

(The raft pulls away. Five brightly colored suns hover at the horizon. As DOROTHY and BILL explore, the landscape of OZ surrounds them.)

DOROTHY

Where are we?

BILL

I don't think we're in Kansas, anymore.

BACK IN OZ

DOROTHY

Oh my.

(Sings)

**THE SKY IS SO BLUE HERE
SMELL THE AIR
THERE'S A HINT
OH, WAIT, IS IT MINT?
NO, NOTHING COMPARES**

(Another element of Oz flies in.)

**THIS IS DIFFERENT
THIS IS NEW
NOT LIKE NEW FROM THE STORE
BUT A NEW I'VE NOT SEEN BEFORE**

**WAIT!
OR HAVE I?**

(Spoken)

There's something awfully familiar about this place.

(BILL spies a worm on the ground.)

BILL

A worm, Hot Diggity, a worm. There goes a fat wriggley one.

DOROTHY

Are you even listening to me?

(BILL turns away from her.)

(Sings)

**I DON'T NEED AN ADVENTURE
CAN'T THIS ALL GO AWAY
IF THIS IS JUST A GAME, THEN I DON'T WANT TO PLAY
THIS ISN'T WHAT I HOPED FOR WHEN I WOKE UP TODAY
IT WOULD BE AGAINST ALL NATURAL LAWS**

(Spoken)

It can't be

I COULDN'T BE BACK IN OZ.

(Spoken)

No!

DOROTHY
IF THIS IS OZ, THEN WHERE ARE THE MUNCHKINS?

BILL

THERE'D BE FUNNY FRUIT ON THE TREES

LOOK, AT THE TREES!

**WITCHES HIGH IN THE SKY
 AND FLYING CHIMPANZEES**

BILL

(Spoken)

Look at these!

**THERE'S LEMON FLAVORED LADY BUGS
 AND BIG JUICY FLEAS
 SOMETHING SWEET JUST CRAWLED UP MY SCHNOZ**

DOROTHY

(Spoken)

Oh, no...

TALKING ANIMALS, JUST LIKE OZ

Not again.

DOROTHY

I'M NOT THE GIRL I WAS BEFORE THAT TORNADO

BILL

(To a worm)

COME TO MAMA.

I'M NOT EVEN THE GIRL I WAS WHEN I CAME HOME.

COME ON HOME!

(GULP)

**MY UNCLE ASKS, "WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?"
 "WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE?"
 WHY COULDN'T THEY JUST LEAVE ME ALONE?**

(Spoken)

No such luck!

IN OZ THINGS ARE UNCERTAIN

TERMITE TETRAZINI

NOTHING AT ALL WHAT IS SEEMS

HOT BUTTERED BUGS

**NOT A PLACE FOR NORMAL GIRLS
 WITH SIMPLE DREAMS**

**COOTIES N' CREAM
 I'M SO GLAD WE LANDED**

IF I THINK HARD ENOUGH

WHAT A PLACE TO BE STRANDED

IF I SWIM FAR ENOUGH

**DOROTHY, YOU'RE GRASPING AT
 STRAWS**

You're right

I'M BACK IN OZ

**FACE IT SWEETIE
 YOU'RE BACK IN OZ**

(URP!)

Excuse me.

(MUSIC ENDS)

(DOROTHY sees the Contraption which has been washed up on the beach.)

DOROTHY

Bill! Look at this, do you know what this is?

BILL

Pork and Beans?

DOROTHY

NO! It's my contraption. I made it for Uncle Henry! If we washed up here, maybe he did too!

BILL

Well there are tire tracks all over the sand.

DOROTHY

He's an old man and ever since he got sick last year, he can't do anything for himself!

BILL

(Overlapping)

Maybe they're from his thingama-bob.

DOROTHY

(Overlapping)

I have to do everything for him. He's practically helpless!

BILL

You don't listen too well, do you?

(BILL points down.)

DOROTHY

Tire Tracks! From a wheelchair?

BILL

How should I know? I'm just a chicken.

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry! Uncle Henry!

(They exit following the tracks.)

(UNCLE HENRY enters from a different place on the BEACH. He is rowing, using his canes as oars..)

UNCLE HENRY

Stroke, stroke, stroke....

(As he lands, a large tree enters the space; the limbs are filled with brightly colored lunch boxes.)

Land HO! I made it!

(He looks around and shouts.)

UNCLE HENRY

Hello! Is anybody here? Uninhabited! Terra Incognita! What would Captain Cook do at a time like this? I know!

(He wheels center-stage and raises his cane.)

I, Henry S. Gale, claim this entire unknown territory in the name of Kansas and the United States of America.

(DOROTHY and runs to hug him.)

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry!

UNCLE HENRY

(Astonished)

Dorothy! What in the world!

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, where have you been? Are you all right?

UNCLE HENRY

Of course I'm all right! Are you?

DOROTHY

But how did you...

UNCLE HENRY

I rowed!

DOROTHY

(Rubbing his arms)

Here, let me warm you. You must be chilled to the bone.

DOROTHY

What time is it?

(UNCLE HENRY pulls out his pocket watch)

UNCLE HENRY

My watch has stopped, but it's still ticking.

DOROTHY

Do you think it's four o'clock yet?

UNCLE HENRY

From the position of the sun.... errr.... Suns, I'd say it is either twilight or dawn.

DOROTHY

But you are supposed to have your iron tonic at 4:00. Three times a day at 10:00, 2:00 and 4:00.

UNCLE HENRY

Oh, Dorothy.

DOROTHY

The doctor said three times a day.

(DOROTHY fetches a small blue bottle and a spoon from the pocket of her pinafore.)

DOROTHY

I just hope the salt water hasn't ruined it.

UNCLE HENRY

Dorothy, I don't want to, it tastes terrible and I...

(BILL enters)

BILL

"Hail, Hail, the gang's all here... What the heck do we care.... What the...
(UNCLE HENRY opens his mouth in astonishment and DOROTHY pops the spoonful of medicine in .)

UNCLE HENRY

What in blue blazes...?

BILL

Dad!

DOROTHY

Oh, that's Bill.

UNCLE HENRY

Bill?

DOROTHY

Your chicken.

BILL

In the flesh and feathers!

UNCLE HENRY

But, you're so ...big!

BILL

I am very sensitive about my height.

UNCLE HENRY

This is a very strange place.

DOROTHY

You've had a very hard day, Uncle Henry... Don't you think you should have a little rest?

UNCLE HENRY

(Not listening)

Look at this tree!

BILL

(To Dorothy)

Hey, Toots, what's that sign say. Chicken's can't read ya know.

DOROTHY

(To Bill)

It says "Beware of Wheelers."
(To Uncle Henry)

I'm sure it is long past 3:00 and you know you are supposed to have a nap at 3:00.

UNCLE HENRY

It's blooming with lunch pails!

BILL

What's a Wheeler?

(DOROTHY pulls a list out of her pinafore.)

DOROTHY

Lunch is at 12:00, exercise at 1:00, reading at 2:00 and

BILL

What's a Wheeler?

UNCLE HENRY

Dorothy, we have blown away in a typhoon and have washed up here with a giant talking chicken. Don't you think that might call for a little flexibility in the schedule?

DOROTHY

I promised Aunt Em I'd take care of you!

BILL

I wonder if Wheelers eat chickens or just run over them.

UNCLE HENRY

Reach me one of those pails, Dorothy.

DOROTHY

I'm not sure that's a good idea.

UNCLE HENRY

I'm as hungry as a hunter! Get one for yourself, you must be hungry too.

DOROTHY

I'm not hungry.

UNCLE HENRY

Growing girl's gotta eat. Have a lunch pail!

DOROTHY

I told you, I'm not hungry!

UNCLE HENRY

Well I am!

(DOROTHY reaches up and pulls down a pail. UNCLE HENRY takes the pail and opens it.)

BILL

Try the sand fleas they're delicious.

UNCLE HENRY

There's a ham sandwich growing in here... A piece of sponge cake, a slice of new cheese and a pickle. Each one has a little stem of it's own.

(UNCLE HENRY takes a bite and an alarm goes off.)

BILL

Oh, no.no.no.no.

DOROTHY

What's that?

BILL

WHEELERS, THAT'S WHAT!

DOROTHY

We've got to get out of here.

UNCLE HENRY

Hot dang!

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, you hide behind this tree and we'll hide over there. We'll use my contraption to let you know when it's safe to come out.

UNCLE HENRY

But...

DOROTHY

Do as I say, just once! Please!

UNCLE HENRY

But I just,,,

DOROTHY

Don't come out until I tell you!

BILL

Hurry, Dorothy!

(BILL and DOROTHY exit. UNCLE HENRY munches on his lunch behind the tree. He holds the "phone" to his ear.)

THE WHEELERS

(THE WHEELERS enter. They are strange looking creatures on roller skates. They sweep in fiercely and wheel in a circle making weird wheeler sounds.)

ALL WHEELERS

HA!
 WE'RE THE WHEELERS. WE'VE COME TO ATTACK
 HA!
 WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING
 IF THERE IS SOMETHING TO DESTROY, WE'LL DESTROY IT
 OR SOMETHING TO ANNOY WE'LL ANNOY IT
 A BATTLE? OH, BOY WE'D ENJOY IT IMMENSELY
 ON A WHEELER
 ' CUZ A WHEELER'LL FIGHT ANYTHING ON CUE
 AND RIGHT NOW ANYTHING WILL DO

WHEELERS

YOU CAN'T HIDE
 HA! CUZ THE WHEELERS'LL FIND YA
 THEN WE'LL TIW YOU UP
 AND PUT YOU THROUGH THE GRINDER
 IF YOU TRY TO RUN,
 WE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YA
 CUZ OUR WHEELS ARE FAST
 OUR WHEELS ARE MEAN

WHEELER 1

A WHEELER'S QUITE A FIGHTING MACHINE

ALL WHEELERS

WATCH OUT (WATCH OUT)
 FOR THE WHEELERS

WHEELER 1

There's no one here.

WHEELER 3

The Nome King will have our heads.

WHEELER 2

Or our wheels which is worse.

ALL

Not our wheels!

WHEELER 1

If the alarm goes off we attack!

But there's nothing here. WHEELER 3

Then there's only one thing we can do. WHEELER 2

What? WHEELER 1&3

Attack Nothing! WHEELER 2

ATTACK NOTHING! WHEELERS 1 & 2 & 3

(They race around attacking nothing.)
(UNCLE HENRY charges out.)

Stand back, you savages! UNCLE HENRY

(Terrified) WHEELERS

Ahhhhhhhh. WHEELER 1

Hey! WHEELER 2

Will you look at that? WHEELER 3

Look at his spokes! WHEELER 1

Look at his rims! WHEELER 3

Could it be...? ALL WHEELERS

(All gasp!) UNCLE HENRY

Look at his wheels! (Nervously)

Stand back or I'll give you a taste of... something or other.

ALL WHEELERS

WHEELS LIKE A SILVER CHARIOT.
(UNCLE HENRY pulls out his pickle.)

UNCLE HENRY

Anyone want a pickle?

ALL WHEELERS

NOW HIS SECRET WEAPON APPEARS

Oh, please... WHEELER 1

Don't hurt us. WHEELER 2

ALL WHEELERS
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR WHAT SEEMS LIKE A HUNDRED YEARS.

Waiting? For me?
 UNCLE HENRY
 WHEELER 2
THOSE WHEELS
 WHEELER 3
THOSE GLORIOUS WHEELS
 WHEELER 1
WITH THOSE WHEELS WE KNEW YOU HAD TO BE

ALL WHEELERS
THE BIG WHEELER!

Well, I'll be.
 UNCLE HENRY

OH, Big Wheeler it's been terrible.
 WHEELER 1

Roquat, The Nome King forces us to guard his lunch pails.
 WHEELER 2

And if anyone takes so much as a bite...
 WHEELER 2

He wrecks our houses with earthquakes.
 WHEELER 3

Burns up our field with volcanoes.
 WHEELER 2

Clogs up our plumbing with sludge.
 WHEELER 1

ALL WHEELERS
SAVE US, BIG WHEELER! SAVE US!

UNCLE HENRY
 As Big Wheeler, your fearless leader, I hereby proclaim a free lunch for every Wheeler.

WHEELERS
 hooray!

UNCLE HENRY
 Lunch pails for everybody!

WHEELERS
**HAIL TO OUR BIG WHEELER
 OUR HEALER
 OUR HERO
 HE'LL KEEP US all ROLLING FREE
 AND WHEELING TO ETERNITY
 HOORAY FOR OUR COMMANDER
 TAKE A GANDER AT
 OUR HERO
 BIG WHEELER OUR LOYALTY'S REAL
 SOLID AS STEEL
 WHEEL TO WHEEL**

UNCLE HENRY
**HAIL TO ME
 HAIL TO ME
 AND I'M PROUD TO BE WHEELING
 AND LEADING YOU FORWARD
 YOUR COMMANDER AT HAND
 HERE ON THE SAND
 I FEEL
 SOLID AS STEEL
 WHEEL TO WHEEL**

TOGETHER
BIG WHEELER

WHEELERS
HAIL TO YOU...
 (Continued under)

UNCLE HENRY
HAIL TO ME...

(DOROTHY and BILL enter cautiously as UNCLE HENRY and the WHEELERS toss the lunch pails around like Frisbees with great abandon.)

(Into the can)
 Uncle Henry can you hear me?
 Oh no! They're lunching him to death...

DOROTHY

BILL

(Into the can)
 Can you hear me?
 Im-pailing him!!!

DOROTHY

BILL

We have got to save him. When I count to three scream into this can.

DOROTHY

BILL

Why?

DOROTHY

I can't think of what else to do!

BILL

Okay!

(They scream into the tin can. The WHEELERS are amazed.)

DOROTHY

(Into the can)
I demand that you release my Uncle at once.

WHEELER 1

Oh you do, do you?

WHEELER 2

And who are you?

WHEELER 3

And where are you?

UNCLE HENRY

They have guessed secret.

UNCLE HENRY

They know I'm the...
BIG WHEELER.

ALL WHEELERS

(Angelic chord)
AHHHHHHH!

BILL

(LAUGHING)
You? The Big..

*(THE WHEELERS follow the string to where
DOROTHY and BILL are hiding .)*

BILL

Uhhhhh Dorothy.

ALL WHEELERS

What's so funny?

BILL

Nothing.

WHEELER 3

Speaking of wheels...

ALL WHEELERS

Where are yours?

WHEELER 1

Yes, where are your wheels?

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, do something...

UNCLE HENRY

She has no wheels....uhhhh

DOROTHY

I have no wheels, but I do have this ...uhhuh....

(She holds up the key.)

Key!
 To what?
 The key to everything!
 THE KEY TO EVERYTHING!!!
 All Hail the Key to Everything!!

DOROTHY
 WHEELERS
(WHEELERS line up head to head to listen.)
 DOROTHY
 WHEELERS
(They all cheer.)
 BILL

<p>WHEELERS & BILL HAIL TO OUR BIG WHEELER OUR HEALER OUR HERO (Dorothy joins in tentatively) HE BROUGHT US THE MAGIC KEY THE KEY TO WHEELER DESTINY HOORAY FOR OUR COMMANDER TAKE A GANDER AT OUR HERO BIG WHEELER OUR LOYALTY'S REAL SOLID AS STEEL WHEEL TO WHEEL</p>	<p>UNCLE HENRY (Spoken) Come on Dorothy give it a whirl (sung) I'M LEADING YOU FORWARD FORWARD AND TAKING A STAND HERE ON THE SAND I FEEL SOLID AS STEEL WHEEL TO WHEEL</p>
---	---

all
BIG WHEELER!
 WHEELER 1
WONDERFUL
 BILL
POWERFUL
 WHEELER 2 & 4
STEEL-BELTED
 WHEELER 1 & 3
RADICAL!
 ALL (but uncle henry)
BIG WHEELER!
 UNCLE HENRY

Now, that's more like it!

BILL

Nice work, Old Guy!

UNCLE HENRY

What is that key, Dorothy?

DOROTHY

A strange man gave it to me on the boat. It has an inscription and everything.

(She reads)

“The power of this key is stronger than strength

Wider than width and longer than length

The holder of this key has power unshaken

The key may be given, but never taken.

S & T Incorporated. “

(As DOROTHY reads, a bush swivels around. Inside a hollow is TIC TOC, a mechanical man, a marvel of gears, gauges and dials. There is a large keyhole in his back and the initials “S & T. In his hands he holds a scroll.”)

UNCLE HENRY

What’s that

BILL

It’s a pressure cooker!

WHEELERS 1 & 2

A PRESSURE COOKER?

(They dither about.)

UNCLE HENRY

No it isn’t.

BILL

A deep fryer!

WHEELERS 3 & 4

A DEEP FRYER?

(WHEELERS wheel about in a dither and race off stage grumbling and whining.)

WHEELERS

Pressure cooker? Deep Fryer? What’s a pressure cooker? I have no idea, but it sounds bad... Deep Fryer, What’s a ... Oh No, Oh No, NO!!!!!!!!!!

(They exit.)

UNCLE HENRY

Nonsense!

DOROTHY

It says "S & T" on it, just like on the key.

UNCLE HENRY

Grab that scroll there, maybe it will tell us how to start him up.

DOROTHY

I think we should leave well enough alone.

UNCLE HENRY

His power is stronger than strength!

DOROTHY

What if it blows up?

UNCLE HENRY

Don't you want to see what happens, just for the thrill of it?

BILL

I'm going back to the coop. Drop me a post card and tell me how it all turns out.

UNCLE HENRY

Go on, ya big chicken!

(BILL shoots him a dirty look!)

UNCLE HENRY

It's the key to everything, Dorothy. You said so yourself! Maybe it can help us get home.

DOROTHY

Home?

UNCLE HENRY

Isn't that what you want?

(DOROTHY reluctantly hands him the scroll.)

DOROTHY

In the "American Girls Handy Book", it says when one is starting any kind of machinery, one should always avert the eyes and stand a healthy distance away.

TIC TOC'S CAVE

UNCLE HENRY

(Reads)

“For thinking, turn the dial on the head.” Go on Dorothy!

(She turns the dial TIC TOC opens his eyes and a loud ticking is heard.)

BILL

It's ticking!

UNCLE HENRY

For speaking, flip the switch on the jaw.

(DOROTHY flips the switch.)

TIC TOC

Tic Toc. Tic Toc. TIC TOC.

BILL

It's talking!

UNCLE HENRY

For walking, push the buttons on the leg.

(DOROTHY pushes buttons and TIC TOC walks out from the tree.)

BILL

It's walking!

UNCLE HENRY

For Time Control Activation, use the key and wind Tic Toc in the back.

CAUTION, do not start what you cannot stop.

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, are you sure?

UNCLE HENRY

Let 'er rip, Dorothy!

UNCLE HENRY

Turn that dial.

DOROTHY

This one?

(DOROTHY winds TIC TOC in the chest. All are thrown forward and then back as. The stage darkens and lightens.)

DOROTHY

OHHHHHHH NOOOOOOO!

BILL

Make it stop, make it stop!

UNCLE HENRY

My heart is beating too fast.

TIC TOC

Slow me down! Slow me down! On my chest, turn the dial.

(DOROTHY turns the dial and the world returns to daylight.)

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, are you all right?

UNCLE HENRY

I think so.

TIC TOC

It's a good thing you slowed me down, or years would have passed in seconds.

UNCLE HENRY

Wait a minute...

TIC TOC

1.2.3.4.5.

DOROTHY

Who are you?

TIC TOC'S HISTORY

TIC TOC

**I AM TIC TOC
PATENT, DOUBLE-ACTION, SATISFACTION GURANTEED
TIC TOC
I'M A THOUGHT-CREATING, CALCULATING, TALKING
MECHANICAL MAN
BEFORE I WAS INVENTED, PEOPLE WERE CONTENTED TO LIVE
IN A LAND WHERE THERE WAS NO TIME
THERE WAS ONLY DAY IN OZ...BECAUSE...
THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT WAS**

**AND IT DIDN'T SEEM STRANGE
STAYING YOUNG IN THE SUN, IT WAS FUN
IN A LAND WHERE THERE WAS NO NIGHT
BUT THEN THERE WAS A CHANGE
TIME BEGAN
WITH A MAN
A MECHANICAL MAN NAMED
TIC TOC, PATENT, DOUBLE-ACTION, SATISFACTION GURANTEED**

**PEOPLE STARTED TO AGE. DAY BECAME NIGHT
THERE WAS RAGE AND A FIGHT
WHEN THE FORCES OF NIGHT FOUGHT THE FORCES OF DAY
IN A WAY SO HORRIBLE, DEPLORABLE
OZ WAS A MESS, BUT I DIGRESS
SMITH AND TINKER, MY MENTORS, MY INVENTORS
TINKER AND SMITH
HID ME AWAY, TURNED NIGHT TO DAY
AND LET ME RUN DOWN
RUN DOWN
THEY TOOK THE KEY AND LEFT TOWN**

**BUT THEY WERE WISE
TO SURM-IZE
THERE**

COULD

BE

NO

TIME

IN

OZ.

(SONG ENDS)

TIC TOC

I am your most obedient servant and I shall serve you until the end of time.

DOROTHY

ME?

TIC TOC

As long as you hold the key. This dial can be set for fast or slow, forward or back...

DOROTHY

This one?

(SHE turns a dial, There is an odd rushing sound, the sun rises and sets and the stage darkens.)

TIC TOC

Be careful.

BILL

Look at the sun.

DOROTHY

What happened?

TIC TOC

You have made it night.

(The ground rumbles and two large rocks, suddenly comes to life .)

UNCLE HENRY

Look at the rocks!

BILL

They're moving!

TIC TOC

NOMES!

(THE ROCK PEOPLE move toward TIC TOC and try to surround him.)

TIC TOC

Don't let them get my key! SPEED ME UP. DOROTHY!

(BILL tries to run from them. THE ROCKS follow BILL and surround her.)

BILL

Hey! No. I'm just a chicken, just a chicken.

TIC TOC

Turn the dial!

(DOROTHY turns the key and the dial and the stage begins to lighten.)

BILL

I'm just an innocent byyyyyyyyyy

UNCLE HENRY

Not the chicken! Not the chicken!

DOROTHY

They're gone !

TIC TOC

It is day. Nomes cannot exist in the light.

DOROTHY

I didn't mean any harm. It just happened!

UNCLE HENRY

Why did they take my chicken?

TIC TOC

Rock people hate living things, they would have gotten all of us had you not made it day.

TIC TOC

It's me they're after and you because you have the key!

DOROTHY

Here, take it!

TIC TOC

The key was given to you and it must stay with you. You must never let it fall into the hands of Roquat the Nome King or he will turn my dial back to a time before time when all the world was nothing but rock and stone and volcanic ash.

DOROTHY

We never should have started you in the first place!

TIC TOC

Ozma will know what to do with me.

DOROTHY

Who is Ozma?

TIC TOC

She is the good, the powerful, the rightful ruler of Oz. We must get to the Emerald City.

(The ground rumbles.)

DOROTHY

What's that?

TIC TOC

The Nome King is very angry.

(The ground rumbles. Uncle Henry thwacks the ground with his cane.)

UNCLE HENRY

Oh, pipe, down!

DOROTHY

Which way do we go?

TIC TOC

Forward across the desert of shifting sand!

UNCLE HENRY

The Big Wheeler says, on to the Desert!

(They set off to the sounds of the earthquake rumble,)

THE DESERT OF SHIFTING SAND

(There is the sound of wind. DOROTHY, UNCLE HENRY, and TIC TOC march.. Lights and sound create a whirling sandstorm all around them)

I can't see anything.

UNCLE HENRY

Neither can I

DOROTHY

Neither can I.

TIC TOC

UNCLE HENRY

Back in Kansas we've got sandstorms so bad they'll take the corn right off the husk and pop it in the air.

DOROTHY

I can't tell if we're going forwards or backwards.

UNCLE HENRY

So bad, they'll blow your britches off and leave you standing in your long johns.

DOROTHY

Up or down, right or left....

UNCLE HENRY

So bad they'll brush your teeth for you if you smile into the wind.

DOROTHY

Tic Toc is trying to navigate and I am sure it doesn't help if we keep...bothering him all the time.

UNCLE HENRY

I'm not bothering him, I'm just telling him I know a thing or two about sandstorms.

TIC TOC

Look, up ahead! I see something. Someone's coming. There are two of them...no, three...

DOROTHY

There's a girl in front

UNCLE HENRY

and a man in a chair and...

TIC TOC

And a strange looking fellow with clocks all over him.

(TIC TOC points.)

DOROTHY

He's pointing.

(TIC TOC waves)

UNCLE HENRY

He's waving.

TIC TOC

Big Wheeler! Dorothy, Look! It's us, we're coming this way.

DOROTHY

It's us! Look it's us, we're there.

TIC TOC

We have stumbled into the domain of Princess Langwidere. SHE LIVES IN A PALACE MADE OF MIRRORS.

DOROTHY

So we're seeing...

UNCLE HENRY

Our own reflections!

TIC TOC

Time is an enemy to Langwidere. I suggest we retreat!

UNCLE HENRY

The only way is to face them down. Forward!

TIC TOC

Retreat!

(UNCLE HENRY charges off in one direction and TIC TOC in another.)

DOROTHY

UNCLE HENRY!

TIC TOC

DOROTHY!

DOROTHY

TIC TOC!

(The sand swirls as they lights change .)

LANGWIDERE'S PALACE

(Scene shifts to the boudoir of LANGWIDERE'S palace, a place made entirely of mirrors. PRINCESS LANGWIDERE stands gazing into a mirror.)

BEAUTIFUL ME

LANGWIDERE

**EACH MORNING
WHEN I WAKE
I PUT MY BEST FACE FORWARD
MY BEST FACE FORWARD
AND I SCREW MY HEAD ON STRAIGHT
BUT TODAY, LIKE EVERYDAY
I PUT MY BEST FACE FORWARD
MY BEST FACE FORWARD
WHICH I THOUGHT WAS NUMBER EIGHT
BUT SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT
IT'S TOO LOOSE OR IT'S TOO TIGHT
SOMEHOW I FEEL THIS HEAD'S A MASQUERADE
SO IT'S OFF TO MY BOUDOIR TO MAKE A TRADE.**

(Spoken)

Nanda, fetch me my heads!

(NANDA enters as the boudoir forms around them.)

NANDA

Very good, Madame! And who are we feeling like today?

LANGWIDERE

Oh, I don't know. Today I feel so, je ne sais quois, so comme si comme sa, so...

(Sings)

**SO TELL ME
THOUGH I'M FEELING SO SO-SO
AM I BEAUTIFUL?**

NANDA

**YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL
YOU'RE A GODDESS IN A BODICE
TRES JOLI**

LANGWIDERE

**TRES JOLI
ANYTIME I COULD USE SOME
SUPPORT WHEN FEELING WHO-HUM
I'VE GOT THIRTY HEADS I CAN CHOOSE FROM
(YOU CAN SEE)
N'EST PAS? OUI!
EVERY HEAD CREATES A NEW AND BEAUTIFUL ME!**

(The head's eyes pop open as LANGWIDERE describes them. She does not look too closely at them, but NANDA does.)

LANGWIDERE
NUMBER TWENTY-TWO FOR WHEN I'M FEELING NOBLE

HEAD 22 (FEMALE)

DUM-DA-DUM

LANGWIDERE
A GRECIAN NOSE AND SKIN AS SMOOTH AS CREAM

HEAD 22

DA-DA-DUM-DA-DUM

LANGWIDERE
**WITH A REGAL SENSE OF STYLE, PERFECT HAIR, PERFECT SMILE
 I'M A DREAM**

ALL HEADS

A DREAM, A DREAM, DREAM.

LANGWIDERE

BUT THEN THERE'S ALWAYS FIERY NUMBER FIFTEEN.

HEAD 15 (FEMALE)

LA-LA-LA

LANGWIDERE
SHE'S A DEVIL, FLASHING EYES AND SPITTING CURLS

HEAD 15

LA-LA-LA-LA-LA

LANGWIDERE
**MYSTERIOUS AND WITTY, IMPERIOUS BUT PRETTY
 WHAT A GIRL!**

ALL HEADS

WHAT A GIRL.

LANGWIDERE

**THERE'S ELEVEN, BLOND ALWAYS DOZING
 AND EXTREMELY FOND OF POSING
 DEWEY EYES AND LIPS, A RUBY ROSE**

HEAD 11 (MALE)

YODEL-AY-EE-OO

LANGWIDERE

WHY CHANGE CLOTHES?

ALL HEADS

WHY CHANGE CLOTHES?

LANGWIDERE
**CHANGE YOUR LIPS AND CHEEKS AND NOSE
 AS A SULTRY BLOND OR A REDHEAD
 I FEEL BEAUTIFUL**

HEADS
LIPS...CHEEKS...NOSE

HEADS AND NANDA

YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL.

LANGWIDERE

THEN WHY NOT LET THE WHOLE WORLD SEE ALL MY CHARMS?

HEADS AND NANDA

CHARMING, CHARMING

LANGWIDERE

**I MUST KEEP AHEAD OF MY RIVALS
SO TO KEEP AHEAD OF MY RIVALS
I KEEP A HEAD OF MY RIVALS
FOR MYSELF, ON THE SHELF
NUMBER SEVEN, OOOO HEAVEN, WITHOUT THE ARMS.**

(NANDA looks at #7 and slams the door.)

NANDA

Not number seven, Madam!

LANGWIDERE

Why not?

NANDA

The hair's a trifle dirty.

LANGWIDERE

Then there's always number thirty!

NANDA

Not number thirty!

LANGWIDERE

**BEAUTY'S IN THE EYE OF EVERY BEHOLDER
WHO BEHOLDS ME
WITH THIRTY ON, I FEEL SUPREME, SUPREME**

HEADS

SUPREME

**RAVISHING OH THE LAVISHING OF ATTENTION
NOT TO MENTION ALL THE GAZING
AND THE PRAISING OF
ME,ME,ME!**

(LANGWIDERE exits behind a screen.)

NANDA

**WHAT TO DO...WHAT TO DO...
VERY STRANGE...WHAT TO DO
THINGS ARE CHANGING RIGHT AND LEFT, LEFT AND RIGHT
THERE ARE CRINKLES IN THE SKIN
NUMBER TWELVE HAS GAINED A CHIN
AND ON SEVERAL HEADS THE HAIR HAS STREAKS OF WHITE
WHAT A SIGHT!
STILL SHE MIGHT NOT NOTICE
MY VOTE IS TO DISAPPEAR
FOR I FEAR
SHE WILL SOON LOOK IN A MIRROR**

(LANGWIDERE makes an entrance wearing #30, a head with a mean streak.)

HEADS

**GORGEOUS!
INCREDIBLY GORGEOUS
WE'RE IN AWE (AH-AH-AH-AH)**

LANGWIDERE

**SAY I'M GAWDY, SAY I'M LOUD
BUT SAY I'M BEAUTIFUL.**

HEADS AND NANDA

YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL.

LANGWIDERE

SAY I'M HAUGHTY. I'M JUST PROUD TO BE DIVINE

HEADS AND NANDA

YOU'RE DIVINE

LANGWIDERE

HEADS

**THEY SAY BEAUTY'S ONLY SKIN DEEP
OH, WELL, WHO NEEDS TO GO DEEPER
WHEN THE FACE I WEAR IS A KEEPER**

(To NANDA)

DO YOU MIND?!!

(Back)

SO REFINED

SO REFINED

**AND EVERY HEAD THAT YOU SEE HERE IS MINE, MINE, MINE
EVERY DIMPLE EVERY LASH**

NANDA

EVERY PIMPLE AND MOUSTACE

LANGWIDERE

HEADS

**IS ANOTHER ME, ME, ME, ME
BEAUTIFUL ME**

**ME, ME, ME, ME
ME, ME, ME, ME**

**DAZZLING! RADIANT
BEAUTIFUL
ME!**

(SONG ENDS)

(There is the sound of a loud gong. Nanda crosses and appears to look out a window.)

NANDA

Madam, the guards have a girl at the front gate.

LANGWIDERE

A girl, Nanda?

NANDA

Yes, Madam.

LAMGWIDERE

Is she young, Nanda?

NANDA

Yes, Madam.

LANGWIDERE
Is she pretty, Nanda?

NANDA
Yes, Madam.

LANGWIDERE
How pretty?

NANDA
Pretty pretty!

LANGWIDERE
Well then, have them show her in....Nanda.... arrange me!

(NANADA arranges LANGWIDERE)

DOROTHY
I'm so sorry to disturb you, your Highness, your Majesty, Your Whatever, but my Uncle and I got lost in a sand storm...

NANDA
Bow!

DOROTHY
What?

NANDA
Bow! People who don't bow, don't keep their heads very long.
(DOROTHY bows.)

LANGWIDERE
You may approach me child.
(DOROTHY rises and approaches LANGWIDERE a bit uncertainly..)

LANGWIDERE
Do you like this head?

DOROTHY
It is very beautiful.

LANGWIDERE
Your head is rather nice as well, in a sweet , country bumpkin, sort of way. It has possibilities.

DOROTHY
Oh no. My eyes are too squinty and close together and my nose is too big. I hate my face.

LANGWIDERE
Then get rid of it, that's what I always do.
(The gong rings again and UNCLE HENRY comes bursting into the scene battling an off-stage Guard.)

UNCLE HENRY

Take that you Bushranger, Sidewinding , Sloe-poke, Slack jawed, Sissy foot!
Pole me with a spear?

LANGWIDERE.

Cease and desist this moment! How dare you bring combat into my boudoir?

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry!

LANGWIDERE

SSSHH!

NANDA

BOW!

(UNCLE HENRY ducks his head and bows.)

LANGWIDERE

You may rise.

(UNCLE HENRY lifts his head. LANGWIDERE gasps at the sight of his face.)

What is the matter with your face?

UNCLE HENRY

Huh?

LANGWIDERE

It's all rumpled!

UNCLE HENRY

Rumpled?

LANGWIDERE

Your eyes are so squinty, and your brow is all bumpy. Your cheeks, they sag and all those little crinkly lines. You have broken your face!

UNCLE HENRY

Those are just wrinkles.

LANGWIDERE

Is that what you call them? How droll.

(She snaps her fingers and NANDA brings her a large magnifying glass.)

And your hair...Your hair. What is that disgusting color?

UNCLE HENRY

Grey.

LANGWIDERE

If you ever see any gray hair in any of my heads, pull it out at once.

NANDA

Yes, Mam.

LANGWIDERE

(To UNCLE HENRY)

Stand up.

DOROTHY

He can't.

LANGWIDERE

I command you to stand up.

I can try.

UNCLE HENRY

(UNCLE HENRY struggles to his feet using his canes.)

Last year, he had a sickness called a stroke.

DOROTHY

In Oz we do not allow sickness.

LANGWIDERE

DOROTHY

It's just something that happens when time passes.

LANGWIDERE

In Oz we do not allow time to pass.

DOROTHY

Since then, he can't use his legs.

LANGWIDERE

If he can't use his legs, then why does he have them?

UNCLE HENRY

I'm up! See, look at that!

LANGWIDERE

Remove the wheely thing.

(LANGWIDERE motions to NANDA.)

DOROTHY

Don't! He needs that.

LANGWIDERE

Walk!

DOROTHY

He can't!

(UNCLE HENRY struggles to take a step.)

LANGWIDERE

Now, run, hop, jump.

DOROTHY

He can't!

(LANGWIDERE kicks one of his canes out from under him. UNCLE HENRY falls, but DOROTHY catches him and helps him back into the chair.)

LANGWIDERE

Helpless! How revolting!

DOROTHY

It's not his fault.

LANGWIDERE

THEN WHO'S FAULT IS IT?

(NANDA plucks a hair from LANGWIDERE.)

OW!

LANGWIDERE

NANDA

Got it.

LANGWIDERE

Got what?

NANDA

One of those gray hairs.

LANGWIDERE

On me? You found one of those gray hairs on ME?

NANDA

Yes Mam. And I found wrinkly things on this head, and a bumpy brow on this one, and eye bags on this one, and the chin sags on that one!

LANGWIDERE

My heads! My beautiful heads? OH NO! OH NO!

HEADS

OH NO! Oh No! Oh no! Oh no, no, no.

LANGWIDERE

What have you done to my heads?

UNCLE HENRY

It's not me. It's TIME!

(TIC TOC enters.)

GUARD

The guards have apprehended another prisoner.

DOROTHY

Tic Toc!

LANGWIDERE

Tic Toc? Tic Toc? The Time Machine? Turn yourself off immediately!

TIC TOC

I can't!

LANGWIDERE

Then I'll turn you back and make my heads young and beautiful again.

TIC TOC

Only Dorothy can do that. She has the key.

LANGWIDERE

Then give it to me.

(LANGWIDERE makes a lunge for it and is repulsed by a strange sound and swirling lights which suddenly surround DOROTHY.)

DOROTHY

Wow!

UNCLE HENRY

Atta girl, Dorothy!

LANGWIDERE

SILENCE!

(To DOROTHY)

Do you know what you have started? I beg you. Turn him off!

DOROTHY

I don't know how.

LANGWIDERE

FOOLS!

(To the guard)

Take them to the guardhouse. Lock them up for tonight and in the morning, I'll have their heads!

(NANDA escorts them out. LANGWIDERE runs from mirror to mirror.)

LANGWIDERE

We had a perfect balance here. Perfect. And now it's all out of joint!

(She looks in the hand mirror, terrified)

I am growing older!

(Lights fade.)

IN THE GUARDHOUSE*(It is night. DOROTHY, is illuminated by a pin spot.)*

TIC TOC

Can you see anything, Dorothy?

(The cell, made of light, forms around them as DOROTHY speaks.)

DOROTHY

Just these bars, cold steel all around us.

(The light is crossed with the pattern of bars which defines the cell.)

I think we're in a cage of some kind.

TIC TOC

Can you see anything else?

DOROTHY

Only darkness.

TIC TOC

It's midnight and night is a dangerous time in Oz.

UNCLE HENRY

I wanted to stand up, walk over and spit in her eye.

TIC TOC

No one knows what to do with darkness here.

UNCLE HENRY

Look at me Dorothy, what do you see?

DOROTHY

I see ...

UNCLE HENRY

A broken down, old farmer.

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry.

UNCLE HENRY

Useless, totally useless.

DOROTHY

Don't think about it.

UNCLE HENRY

Helpless. How revolting.

(MUSIC IN)WHEN DID I GET OLD?

DOROTHY

It's late and we're tired and there's nothing we can do about it now.

UNCLE HENRY

(Sings)

**WHEN DID I GET OLD?
 LAST WEEK, LAST MONTH, LAST YEAR?
 WHEN DID SUMMER TURN TO FALL?
 I DIDN'T SEE IT CHANGE AT ALL
 THIS CAN'T BE ME
 WHEN DID I GET OLD?**

**HOW DID I GET OLD
 I LOOKED INSIDE HER MIRROR
 SAW AN OLD MAN IN A CHAIR
 JUST SITTING THERE
 HOW CAN THAT BE ME?
 HOW DID I GET OLD**

**INSIDE MY MIND I'M HEALTHY I AM STRONG
 I'M THE MAN I'VE ALWAYS BEEN BEFORE
 DOING EVERYTHING I'VE DONE BEFORE
 I KNOW I'M LONG PAST YOUTH
 BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH
 I NEVER THOUGHT THAT I WAS OLD**

**DOROTHY
 I THOUGHT I COULD TAKE CARE OF YOU
 AND KEEP YOU SAFE FROM HARM
 I'D SHELTER YOU. I'D FIGHT FOR YOU
 PROTECT YOU FROM THE COLD
 SO, TELL IF YOU KNOW
 TELL ME IF YOU CAN
 TELL ME SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE CAN TELL ME
 WHEN DID I GET OLD?**

DOROTHY

Uncle Henry, you're not... old. You're just...tired.

(SONG ENDS)

(UNCLE HENRY turns away and sleeps.)

TIC TOC

I am very fortunate to be mechanical. The worst I can do is rust.

DOROTHY

Can you really control time?

TIC TOC

Whoever has the key controls time. I just keep it organized. This dial here moves Time forward, and this one moves it back.

DOROTHY

So if I turned this little gear?

TIC TOC

By tomorrow it will be last year.

DOROTHY

And I'd go back to being eleven when I had freckles and my hair stood straight out in pigtails.

TIC TOC

Your body would change to how it was back then.

DOROTHY

And Uncle Henry, what would happen to him?

TIC TOC

He would go back to before.

DOROTHY

Let's do it!

TIC TOC

What?

DOROTHY

Give him a year or two, that's all it would take.

TIC TOC

Time is complicated enough when it moves forward, backwards could be chaos!

DOROTHY

Back before his illness, back when he could...

TIC TOC

That's just what the Nome King wants, to turn Time back to the Stone Age.

DOROTHY

We won't go that far, just one year, two just to be sure. Oh Heck, why not three?

TIC TOC

Dorothy, don't do this!

DOROTHY

I thought you said Time was mine.

TIC TOC

Yes, but...

DOROTHY

Then I choose three years!

TIC TOC

If you allow Time to continue back to before you were born, you will just disappear as if you had never been.

DOROTHY

We'll just do it for a day. We can give him that much.

(DOROTHY turns the dial, there is a soft bump in lights and sound. DOROTHY takes her blanket puts it over UNCLE HENRY'S legs and lies down again on the bench.)

TIC TOC

(Softly)

SECONDS...SEASONS...CENTURIES AND SUCH.

(Lights fade. UNCLE HENRY and DOROTHY sleep. TIC TOC ticks, "toc tic, toc tic, toc tic.)

(MIST CREEPS ACROSS THE STAGE AND STRANGE, NOME MUSIC BEGINS. A BEAM OF SCARLET LIGHT SWEEPS ACROSS THE STAGE, FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER, FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER, IN LURID COLORS, FELDSPAR SCUTTLES ACROSS THE STAGE. THE LIGHTS FOLLOW HIM LIKE HENCHMEN. THEY ARE SEARCHING FOR THE CELL. FELDSPAR GESTURES AND THE LIGHTS SCRAMBLE ALL OVER THE STAGE AND SWEEP UP AND AROUND THE PORTALS. THE MUSIC BUILDS. FELDSPAR FINDS THE CELL.)

(FELDSPAR WHISTLES AND THE LIGHTS MOVE AROUND HIM, GATHERING STRENGTH. FELDSPAR GESTURES AND THE LIGHTS SWIRL AROUND THE CELL. THE CELL SHATTERS. DOROTHY WAKES, CRIES OUT AND IS THROWN IN ONE DIRECTION. TIC TOC IS FLUNG IN ANOTHER. FELDSPAR GRABS UNCLE HENRY'S WHEELCHAIR AND SPINS HIM OFF IN ANOTHER DIRECTION.)

Hey!	DOROTHY
Dorothy! Big Wheeler!	TIC TOC
Uncle Henry... where are you?	DOROTHY
Dorothy!	UNCLE HENRY
TIC TOC, WHAT IS HAPPENING?	DOROTHY
NOMES!	TIC TOC
UNCLE HENRY I CAN'T SEE YOU!	DOROTHY
DOROTHY!	UNCLE HENRY
TIME IS STILL GOING BACKWARDS!	TIC TOC
TIC TOC DO SOMETHING!	DOROTHY

TIC TOC

DO NOT LET THEM GET MY KEY!!

(FELDSPAR LUNGES FOR THE KEY . A CONE OF WHITE LIGHT SURROUNDS DOROTHY. THE SOUND OF THE KEY IS HEARD AND BOTH FELDSPAR AND THE COLORED LIGHTS ARE REPULSED.)

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY!!!!

(THE LIGHTS SWIRL AROUND TIC TOC.)

TIC TOC

Dorothy, you must find Ozma!

DOROTHY

How?

TIC TOC

If you can't go to her, she must come to you!

(FELDSPAR GESTURES AND THE LIGHTS PULL TIC TOC AWAY.)

DOROTHY

Tic Toc, tell me what to do!

TIC TOC

Think of her and she will come to you! HOLD HER IN YOUR MIND!

DOROTHY

UNCLE HENRY...

(TIC TOC, FELDSPAR AND THE COLORED LIGHTS EXIT, LEAVING DOROTHY AND UNCLE HENRY TRAPPED IN SEPARATE JAIL CELLS ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE STAGE.)

UNCLE HENRY

DOROTHY....

DOROTHY

OZMA, FIND US! FIND US, OZMA!

(LIGHTS FADE)

END OF ACT ONE