

FROM “IMPRESSIONS ON PLATES OF GOLD”

Book and Lyrics by Eric Samuelsen

Music and Lyrics by C. Michael Perry

SECOND COUNCILOR: As you please, your highness.

QUEEN:

WHAT IS THIS THEY TELL ME? WHAT AM I TO THINK?
THEY TELL ME THAT HE’S DEAD AND GONE. TO ME HE DOES NOT STINK.
AM I CRAZY? OR HAVE ALL AROUND ME LOST THEIR WAY?
AM I ALMOST THERE? OR DO THEY EVEN CARE?

HE WAS TALKING TO THE PROPHET, HE WHO SAVED OUR SHEEP.
AND SOON MY HUSBAND PRAYED ALOUD, AND NOW THIS AWFUL SLEEP.
NEVER SEEN HIM PRAY BEFORE.
THIS GOD WAS TO IGNORE!
THEN SOME POWER STRUCK HIM, FELLED HIM, DROVE HIM DOWN.

(Enter AMMON.)

HOLY MAN, MAN OF GOD. OH, AMMON,
WHAT HAS GOD DONE TO LAMONI?

THEY SAY THE KING IS CRUEL, I’VE SEEN IT CAN BE SO;
BUT HE HAS A GENTLENESS, I’VE SEEN HIM START TO GROW
THEY SAY BEHIND HIS BACK, IT’S HARD TO SERVE HIM.
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT THEY DON’T DESERVE HIM.
THEY HAVE NOT KISSED HIS TENDER LIPS, OR CARESSED HIS ROUGHENED HANDS
OH MAN OF GOD, IT’S ON THE BRINK OF DEATH HE STANDS!

SOME SMALL MIRACLE.
SOME GREAT CHANGE,
SOMETHING EASY ENOUGH FOR YOU TO DO,
IT’S SO STRANGE.
I LOOK AT HIM, SO STILL
I DON’T KNOW WHAT TO THINK.
DON’T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!
I CAN’T SEE MY WAY THROUGH THE DARK!
SO, IF I CANNOT SEE — WILL YOU?!