A PORTRAIT OF *WHO*?

(A movie adapted from the play)
Book and Lyrics
By Sidney Goldberg
Music By
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A PORTRAIT OF ***WHO***?

Cast

ADONIS……28 years old, extremely handsome.

LOUISE…….73 years old. Mother of Adonis, drinks, has personality.

JONATHAN……...80 years old, very rich, Wasp.

FATHER MARK……...70 years old. Irish Priest.

ENRĬ……40 years old. Brilliant artist. Speaks with French accent, humorous.

HOUNGAN…….50 years old, Witchdoctor, dynamic.

xxxxx

REBECCA……..25 years old, beautiful.

SYLVIA……...24 years old, beautiful.

GENNA……25 years old, beautiful.

CARIE…….26 years old, beautiful.

JANET…….23 years old, beautiful.

A PORTRAIT OF ***WHO***?

(Songs)

I'M JUST A MOTHER (Underscoring)

LOUISE (Jonathan)

SPIRITUS SANCTUS (Adonis, Father)

BELL of the BALL (Louise)

HOW'D YOU LIKE(Girls, Adonis)

BECAUSE of HIM (Enrî)

DISTURBING MUSIC AND CRIES

I'M JUST a MOTHER (Underscoring)

I'M JUST a MOTHER (Mother)

BECAUSE of HIM 9Underscoring)

YOUR SOUL is MINE (Hougnan)

I'M JUST a MOTHER (Underscoring)

DARLING (Jonathan)

LETS HAVE A QUICKY (Louise)

HOW'D YOU LIKE? (Adonis, girls)

SATAN'S WORLD (Hougnan, Enrî)

SOONER OR LATER (Hougnan)

The DEVIL (Father)

YOUR SOUL is MINE (Underscored)

EXORCISM(Adonis, Enrî)

SPIRITUS SANCTUS (Underscored then sung)

PURGATORY (Father)

HERE'S OUR SONG (Adonis, Enrĭ, Father)

A PORTRAIT OF *WHO*?

INT: 11:AM: Yesterday: The office of FATHER MARK: there are lots of books 1

on shelves. A large crucifix is evident. ADONIS and HIS aged parents JONATHAN and LOUISE, who is often giddy, are about to be seated. THEY are dressed in expensiveattire. The FATHER is seated behind a large, ornate, wooden desk. They are **seated on three leather chairs. WE will hear underscoring of "I'm Just a Mother," which we will hear later.**

LOUISE

(Giggles because she's slightly tipsy.)
Father Mark, we thank you for, taking the
time, don't we Jonathan, Adonis and all the
(Looks back and laughs.)
boys in the back of the bus, right fellas?

FATHER

Could I do otherwise, Louise, for you are
our most benevolent family, and it is my
honor?

JONATHAN

It is our honor Father Mark, for despite our
son Adonis being only 30, he has just earned
his degree in medicine, Cancer is his
specialty, and we come for blessing new
practice on the upper Eastside, and since his
birth, have we not always come for your
blessing, Father?

FATHER

Yes you have Jonathan, yes you have.

JONATHAN

I remember when the good Father Mark
Baptized Adonis, don't you, Louise, and as
(Sort of giggles.)
usual, you couldn't stop laughing…

LOUISE

…Not that I ever do, according to you and
that's because, Mister Gorgeous over here
(Laughs.)
took a dump, and what a dump; I think the

whole church started running. Remember how most of them gagged, including you Jonathan. You were laughing and gagging so hard, you brought tears to my eyes.

JONATHAN
Must you remind me?

LOUISE
It was hysterical, I couldn't stop laughing and you're still doing it, aren't you my beloved Dr. Adonis?

ADONIS
Mother, please…

LOUISE
Isn't he just gorgeous, Father Mark, isn't he just the most gorgeous hunk you ever saw?

ADONIS
Mother, I do wish you would stop calling me a hunk. Must I remind you that looks are only skin deep, they aren't everything, you know?

JONATHAN
Why do you always embarrass him by always calling him a *hunk,* Louise? His name is Adonis, which you so aptly christened him after that Greek G-d of yours.

LOUISE
Did I embarrass you again handsome, well did I? And what do all those women that keep calling every time you come home, want? Not that you come home that often.
(Giggles.)
Just what do they want from you, *Mr.*
(Sighs.)
Hunk? I meant Adonis, my very own Greek G-d.

ADONIS
They want what they can't have.

LOUISE
And what may that be?

ADONIS

My body, they're all are after my body, not me, just my body and I can't stand it.

LOUISE

Well, what's wrong with a little fooling around? Your father and after I had a nip or two, used to fool around, didn't we Jonathan?

JONATHAN

(Sings 🕮)

LOUISE

LOUISE!
Why must you be so gauche?
And what are you hiding?
Why not eat a brioche?
Instead of imbibing,

With me try confidence.
Behind your laugh you hide.
It doesn't make much sense.
For are you not my bride?

You are filling our son with strife.
Please allow him to lead his life.
To think you were once holistic.
Now you are just a statistic.

LOUISE,
I am begging you please.
Adonis, needs his peace.
I'll get down on my knees?
Your harangue must now cease.

You are filling our son with strife.
Please allow him to lead his life.
To think you were once holistic.
Now you are just a statistic.

ADONIS

That's telling her old man, I mean father, how you feel about her drinking so much. Good for you, Father, and Mother, I don't fool around, because the church forbids

premarital sex and there's this thing called AIDS, remember? You know, sometimes I wish I didn't have this face and this body and I wish you'd stop embarrassing me, because, I am not just a hunk. There's more to me, much more, in case you're really interested?

FATHER

Louise, to be as handsome as your son Adonis, is merely a blessing, a gift that the good Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ has bestowed upon him. But the gift I most admire is his all-giving nature, for, has he not just given the church, *Our Lady of Victory,* a million dollars, and yes my son, your mother knows there is much more to you than your good looks, your charity, sincerity and belief, which the church is forever grateful for.

ADONIS

Father Mark, I only gave freely what was given to me by my parents. Upon my receiving my degree, my father said that he would give me ten million dollars to do as I pleased with and he did, and so did I, which I believe is called tithing in the Old and New Testament . And I feel that giving to this church, which I have come to love since I was a child, and which has helped the poor and needy for as long as I can remember, I

(Crosses self.)

believe is my sworn duty as a good Christian.

LOUISE

And if you're such a good Christian, why aren't you married? Don't you think it's time I became a grandmother? I'm 73 years

old, how much time do you think I have
(Chants.)
left? I, want grandchildren, I want grandchildren, I want grandchildren before I…

JONATHAN rises.

JONATHAN
Louise, I think we took enough time from the good Father. Come, lets go and have an early lunch at *Le Perigord.*

LOUISE
Oh, I'd love to, *darling.* I'm just in the mood for a little salad, some trout, I just love how the French prepare fish and a bottle of Dom…

JONATHAN
It's only eleven-thirty and you already drank a bottle, don't you think you've had enough?

LOUISE
I never have enough darling, and I thought by now you'd know it, sexy.

JONATHAN
(Taking Louise's arm and about to exit.)
And Adonis, I may be an old man as you say, but 50 years ago, my eyes were as blue as yours…

ADONIS
I know they were Dad and I didn't mean to call you an old man, please forgive me…

JONATHAN
…And my skin was as tight as yours…

ADONIS
(Examines hands.)
I know your skin was as tight as mine, Dad, I remember, you had beautiful skin…

JONATHAN
…And I had a thick head of hair, like you…

ADONIS
(Runs hands through hair.)
…I know you did, Dad, I remember and so does Mother, don't you Mother?

JONATHAN
…Now, my son, would you care to join mother and your *old father* for an early lunch? I would so like to have you join us, before I…

ADONIS
I don't think so, father. I think I'd like to speak to Father Mark for a few moments, if he has the time?

FATHER
I, most certainly do Adonis and I hope you have a good lunch, Louise, Jonathan.

LOUISE
(Giddy - pinches Jonathan's behind. Underscoring ends.)
Oh, we will. We always have a good time, don't we my *darling?*

FATHER
And, not too much champagne, Louise, remember, absence makes the heart grow fonder.

LOUISE and JONATHAN exit.

FATHER
Now my son, what is it you which to speak to me about?

ADONIS
You know I love my parents, and I truly admire my father, his business acumen and

common sense are outstanding, just extraordinary.

FATHER

I know from your past confessions.

ADONIS

And I love my mother, even though she's an alcoholic that's been in denial for as long as I can remember.

FATHER

Unfortunately, we all have things we cannot face. That is what makes us human. What did the great Bard say? *"To err is human."*

ADONIS

Even though it kills me, because for as long as I can remember, she's always loaded and says she's not; that I can deal with. Hey, if my father can deal with it, who am I to complain, I'm only her son and for the past 14 years or so, I've been away at school, thank G-d and… You see, the thing that bugs me the most is, she doesn't know me, her own son, who I really am, and her saying and thinking that I'm the most handsome guy in the universe, drives me crazy, because I'm more than just a *hunk,* as she says.

FATHER

Well, your mother isn't wrong when it comes to that. I too think you are the most handsome young man I have ever had the pleasure of meeting and may I remind you that I have met some very handsome men in my life; Tom Cruise and Paul Newman to name but a few, and your mother constantly harasses you to get married and have children, because, she feels vulnerable, despite her enormous wealth and cannot deny the fact that she is getting on in age

(More)

FATHER 9Cont'd)

and wants to become a grandmother before…

ADONIS
Father, my mother is not the only one to get
old, everybody gets old, but what bugs me
the most and it's driving me crazy is, when
she says I'm so handsome. To me,
sometimes I feel it's almost a curse.

FATHER
Come my son, let us pray to our Lord and
Savior, Jesus and ask for his guidance.

THEY both cross themselves and kneel before the crucifix. They sing ♫.

ADONIS and FATHER

SPIRITUS SANCTUS
Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit from above,
What the world needs is love and peace,
Good will to man.

Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit filled with love,
May the light from your sun not cease,
And help us stand, the best we can.

ADONIS
Dear Lord on high, I ask for your guidance.
Please deliver me from this pain,
I'm going insane; I'm losing my mind.

FATHER
My Lord Jesus, this young man needs your help.
He is warm and giving,
But is misgiving, despite being kind.

ADONIS and FATHER
Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit from above,
What, the world needs is love and peace,
Good will to man.

Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit filled with love,
May the light from your sun not cease,
And help us stand, the best we can.

ADONIS
I have this face; I'd rather be normal.
Just like a regular guy,

Who's allowed to cry, and make mistakes.

FATHER
His frustration that he tries to suppress,
In front of his Mom and Dad,
Why it is so sad, he lives with heartaches.

ADONIS and FATHER
Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit from above,
What the world needs is love and peace,
Good will to man.

Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit filled with love,
May the light from your sun not cease,
And help us stand, the best we can.

CUT: One year later: The ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria. Dressed lavishly, 2 ALL are present, including many beautiful women who ogle ADONIS throughout. Waiters are serving drinks and hor oeuvres. WE hear music throughout as ADONIS is dancing with stunning REBECCA.

FATHER
Well, Louise, this is quite a birthday party.
It looks like everyone's here, including the
Mayor. Sorry the President and Governor
couldn't make it.

LOUISE
(Sings ♫)
THE BELL of the BALL
They called me the bell of the ball.
Because this madam had it all.
I danced, I'd flirt, need I explain?
Could it be that's why I drink
champagne?

I remember my twenty-first birthday party.
Back when I was so young and single; hale
and hearty.
My dear father took me to Paris, gay Paree.
Shopped on the *Champs Elysè,* he and little
old me.

They called me the bell of the ball.
Because this madam had it all.
I danced, I'd flirt, need I explain?

Could it be that's why I drink
champagne?

We went to Italy and then to Düsseldorf
It was wonderful. Tonight we rented the
Waldorf.
For Adonis, the most handsomest son on
earth.
I am overwhelmed filled with joy and so
much joy mirth..

They called me the bell of the ball.
Because this madam had it all.
I danced, I'd flirt, need I explain?
Could it be that's why I drink
champagne?

I have lived a life of her majesty the queen.
At seventy-three I feel like I'm seventeen.
Full of desire this woman still wants to make
love.
That's why I call dear Jonathan my turtle
dove

They called me the bell of the ball.
Because this madam had it all.
I danced, I'd flirt, need I explain?
Could it be that's why I drink
champagne?
Don't I love my champagne, *darling?*

JONATHAN
Louise does everything with great *panache,*
Father.

LOUISE
Would you have it any other way, *darling*

JONATHAN
(Smiles.)
For your *Hunk,* or should I say our Adonis,
never. And how did you get all these
beautiful women to come, *darling?*
LOUISE
It was easy, every time one of them called,
and you know how often they called, every

five minutes, I just asked them if they would like to come to our son's birthday party and they all said yes, they'd love to, and as you can see, they're all here, and look at that beautiful woman the Hunk is dancing with, she is absolutely stunning, *darling*.

JONATHAN
She is quite attractive, *darling*.

LOUISE
Maybe, he'll finally fall in love with one of them and get married and I'll have some grandchildren. Oh, how I want grandchildren, *darling*.

JONATHAN
To me they're all so beautiful; I'd ask them all, *darling*.

LOUISE
I know you would, you devil.

(ALL the girls sing. ♫**)**

REBECCA	SYLVIA	GENNA	CARIE	JANET
Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Please take me,

ALL
In your arms forever more. Kiss me until I can't breathe. 'Cause you're all I need.

ADONIS dancing with REBECCA:

REBECCA
With all these women ogling you Jonathan, I thought you'd never ask me to dance.
ADONIS
I didn't ask you sooner, because you were dancing with all those other guys.

REBECCA sings, and song will continue throughout.

REBECCA
(♫ **Sings, sexily.)**

HOW'D YOU LIKE?

But you're the only one I wanted sexy.
How'd you like to come up to my place?
I got something special; I'd like to give you.
And how'd you like to sit on my face?
There's a couple of things I'd like to do with you…

SYLVIA taps REBECCA'S shoulder.

SYLVIA
…May I cut in Rebecca?

REBECCA
(Annoyed, she exits.)
Be my guest, Sylvia.

SYLVIA
(Sexy.)
Hello there, Adonis and you certainly are an Adonis, Adonis.

ADONIS
Hello Sylvia, how are you?

REBECCA
(☎ Sings.)

Now that you asked, horny.
How'd you like to go to Alaska?
We can build a fire and roast marshmallows.
We'll snuggle and then I'll ask ya.
I'll ask ya for a little nooky, then who knows?

GENNA taps on REBECCA'S shoulder.

REBECCA
(Annoyed.)
Don't tell me, you want to cut in.

GENNA
How'd you guess, sister?

REBECCA exits annoyed.

GENNA (Cont'd)
(Coyishly sexy.)
Hello Adonis, remember me?

ADONIS
You were at my office this Wednesday,
Genna…

GENNA
(Swoons)
…And you gave me a complete physical and
I loved every minute.
How'd you like to do it to me?
I got this waterbed that's rarin' to go.
Adonis it's our destiny.
So, lets get it on and then lets start the show!

ADONIS walks away and sings ♫

ADONIS
Don't they understand, I don't fool around?
I won't do it until I get married.
Just a simple guy, two feet on the ground.
That feels frustrated and a bit harried.

I don't know what these women want from
me?
What I seek is that feeling deep inside.
To arouse me spiritually.
What these women need is a sense of pride.

REBECCA	**SYLVIA**	**GENNA**	**CARIE**	**JANET**
Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Please take me…

ALL
In your arms forever more. Kiss me until I
can't breathe. 'Cause you're all I need.

CARIE taps on ADONIS' shoulder.

CARIE
Do you have time to dance with little old
me, handsome?

ADONIS
I thought you'd never ask, Carie.

CARIE
I would have asked sooner, but they beat me
to it, handsome.
(Sings.)
How'd you like to go gay *Paree?*
I'll do the Can-Can and then suck your toes.
Some V*ichy soir* then some whoopee.
We'll make love morning noon and night,
then who knows?

JANET taps on CARIE'S shoulder.

JANET
It's my turn, Carie, take a walk.

CARIE
You never give up, do you?

JANET
Not recently, sister. Bye… Shall we dance,
Adonis?

ADONIS
(Smiles.)
I thought you'd never ask, good looking.

JANET
(Sings. ♫)
Well you thought wrong, Mister.
How'd you like to bang my tom-tom?
A little *hootchy cootchy,* then we'll neck.
And I promise that we'll both come.
Under the covers, and then it's what the
heck.

ADONIS walks away and spot lights his face as HE sings.

ADONIS
Don't they understand, I don't fool around?
(Sings.)
I won't do it until I get married.
Just a simple guy, two feet on the ground.
That feels frustrated and a bit harried.

I don't know what these women want from me?
What I seek is that feeling deep inside.
To arouse me spiritually.
What these women need is a sense of pride.

REBECCA	**SYLVIA**	**GENNA**	**CARIE**	**JANET**
Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Take me…	Please take me…

ALL
In your arms forever more. Kiss me until I can't breathe. 'Cause you're all I need.

WE see LOUISE goes on stage and announces with great fanfare through microphone. **3**

LOUISE
Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please, thank you all for coming to my beloved son Adonis's 31st birthday party. I am happy to announce that the present my husband Jonathan and I are going to give him is on the way from Paris, France. *Enri Enri*, the most famous living artist in all of Europe is coming here to do a portrait of my gorgeous, Adonis and he acknowledged this offer and said he will be willing to pose for it, only if Father Mark will hang his portrait in his office upon completion.

There is an overwhelming round of applause and we hear, Father Mark, Father Mark, *Viva La France, viva Enrĭ Enrĭ.*

INT: The following week. ENRĪ'S studio. There are easels and numerous 4 paintings hanging and on floor. ENRĬ, who speaks with a French accent is wearing a painters smock, jeans and a beret, and paints as HE sings ♫).

ENRĬ

BECAUSE of HIM

I'm *Enrĭ, artiste* from *gay Paree.*
I am here to make *ze money.*
Like *Lautrec,* I must always paint.
If I don't, surely I will faint.

I believe in the high G-d Bon Dieu.
My Shaman, he tells me what to do.
He dances and sometimes he sings.
And he gives me everything.

Because of him, I am called *ze* best.
Because of him I have reached *ze* top.
I never sleep and I never rest.
With voodoo, my life is non-stop.

Said *adiĕu,* to my wife, my mama.
I am free as a little bird.
I make love, *tou jour ooh la la.*
And Jesus, *zhat* man was absurd.

Because of him, I am called *ze* best.
Because of him I have reached *ze* top.
I never sleep and I never rest.
With voodoo, my life is non-stop.
And I love it, I adore it, I cannot live without it

The door buzzer sounds and ENRĬ buzzes back, and after a beat ADONIS enters. wearing suit and tie.

ENRĬ

Bon jour, Adonis, *bonjour.* It is so nice to meet you; I've heard so much about you.

ADONIS

*Bon jour, Enri, s*orry I'm a few moments late.

ENRĬ

To an *artiste*, time is not of *the* essence, only, shall I say, *ze* only thing *zhat* matters in all of life is *ze* accomplishment of *ze*
(Shows canvas he is working on.)
masterpiece, *voila! Zhis* is my latest creation.

ADONIS

That is the most beautiful rose I have ever seen. It looks so real, I can almost feel it.

ENRĬ

Thank you *monsieur,* I see you see quite well, *encore!* Now, let us waste no more time, for you are a busy doctor and I am equally as busy. Come let us begin. Would
(Shows and does a matador's swirl with cape.)
you please put *zhis* stunning red cape around your magnificent and very special physique? *Zhis* red cape will add much to your painting.

ADONIS

Enrĭ, listen, I don't know you and you don't know me, so, please do not think of me as being special, for I am not, and please do not treat me as all other humans, including the way my mother does, for there is more to me than my face, because I have feelings, that no one, if ever rarely thinks I possess; desires and fears, more than I care to admit to. My mother coerced me into to allowing you to paint my portrait, not that I'm interested, for one can take a photograph of me and capture all of my so-called *inner essence.*

ENRĬ

But you are wrong Adonis, for a camera only captures your mere features, but great *artistes,* like *Rembrandt,* when he painted his Grandmothers hands, he captured as you say her *inner most essence, Gaugan, Monet, DaVinci* among others had *zhat* ability, and

(MORE)

ENRĬ (Cont'd)
it has been noted *zhat* I too am blessed, so, please allow me *zhe* honor and your mother is paying me a hundred thousand dollars, no? Now, please, *zhe* cape if you would be so kind?

ADONIS
Are you sure you want me to wear this silly thing*?*

ENRĬ
If you would be so kind?

ADONIS
(Wearing cape.)
Now what?

ENRĬ
(Behind easel he will sketch.)
Stand, near *zhat* chair and assume a natural pose… Relax your hands… *Zhat* is good, *zhat* is very good; You look like a *conquistador* in *zhat* cape, *ole!*

ADONIS
How long do you expect this to take?

ENRĬ
(Sketching furiously.)
About *zhree* months and please do not talk until I finish *zhis* charcoal sketch. What a profound nose you have, much like *Michelangelo's, ze David.* And your chin and your eyes, truly *magnifique,* but don't worry, I will capture what lies beneath *ze* obvious.

WE hear disturbing music, cries, howls and thunder as HOUNGAN, wearing dreadlocks, dressed in black, with a long red cape, enters, looks at painting, smiles to ENRĬ, and exits. ENRĬ continues to sketch.

ADONIS
And whom may I ask is that weirdo with the dreadlocks and how did he get in here?

ENRĬ
Zhat weirdo, as you so unjustly describe, is Houngan and he has a key to my abode.

ADONIS
Really, does he live here with you and are you…?

ENRĬ
…No, I am not gay, but occasionally he comes here to make certain, *zhat* I'm okay and, he has an apartment in the West Village, where most of his followers reside.

ADONIS
Followers, what kind of followers?

ENRĬ
It is difficult for me to explain to non-believers.

ADONIS
Non-believers?

ENRĬ
Houngan is a high priest of voodoo.

ADONIS
Voodoo, you mean like witchcraft, Satanism?

ENRĬ
Exactly, but do not be afraid, for voodoo has been in existence since *zhe* Greeks. *Zhey* called it *diabolos*, which I believe is a derivative from *zhe* Hebrew, *Ha Satan,* Satan, who is not bad, trust me, *zhe* Devil lives, breathes within us all and is part of our alter ego. Houngan is my Shaman, who performs *zhese* rites *zhat* expel pestilential spirits and retrieves lost and stolen souls. I was once a lost soul. Do you know any lost souls, Adonis?

The buzzer rings and ENRI buzzes back.

ADONIS
Don't tell me your witchdoctor is back so soon?

ENRĬ
Houngan never buzzes; it must be some one else.

We hear underscoring of "I'm Just a Mother) as LOUISE enters and she is tipsy.

ENRĬ
(Surprised.)
Madame Louise, *Mon Cheri,* what a pleasant surprise.

LOUISE

(Almost sings.)
Why thank you, *Enrĭ,*. I was just in the neighborhood and thought I'd say hello, *hello.*

ADONIS
Just in the neighborhood, Mother? Didn't you ask Anthony to drive you here?

LOUISE
Well, I, I wanted to see how things were progressing, if the two of you got along, that's all. So, tell me, how is everybody?

ENRI
I can assure you *Madame* Louise, *zhe* two of us have gotten along quite splendidly, have we not, Adonis?

ADONIS
Splendidly, *Enrĭ,*, just splendidly.

LOUISE
And why, may I ask are you wearing that ridiculous red cape?

ENRĬ
I asked your son to wear it, because I *zhought* it would add much to his painting, make him look more *exciting,* more *debonair* than he is.

LOUISE
I'm not paying all this money for a debonair painting, Enri.

Underscoring ends.

ENRĬ
Not just *debonair*, *Mon Cheri,* but a painting *zhat* will reveal your son's inner most soul, *zhat* is my wish, *zhat* is always what I strive for; art is life and life is art!

ADONIS
Are you happy now, Mother. Do you think you will be getting your hundred thousand dollars worth?

LOUISE
Shhh, you mustn't tell your father that it is costing a hundred thousand dollars. He thinks it's costing only 50, I'm paying the additional money secretly, so hush.

(LOUISE sings. ♫)

LOUISE

I'M JUST A MOTHER
Since the day you were born,
You were my every thing.
My gift from the heavens,
You are my own Angel,

My son you touch my soul.
Your every move fills me.
You speak I hear a song.
You smile and I smile too.

I'm just a mother who loves her son.
I'm just a mother, you're number one.

I'm just a mother, who wants the best.
I'm just a mother, who needs some rest.

Because of you I'm blessed.
I swear I have it all.
Your happiness I pray.
Your children I will hold.

I'm getting old and gray.
But still I have my dreams.
It's not for me I seek.
I want to hear you laugh.

I'm just a mother who loves her son.
I'm just a mother, you're number one.
I'm just a mother, who wants the best.
I'm just a mother, who needs some rest.

INT: Three months later. ENRĬ'S studio. There is a large mirror. ADONIS 5 is posing and ENRĬ is painting feverishly. WE hear underscoring of "Because of Him."

ENRĬ
PLEASE, DO NOT MOVE, I am doing your eyes, *zhe* doorway to your tortured soul.

ADONIS
How do you know about my tortured soul, is it that obvious, and can I see it?

ENRĬ
It is not ready to be seen! And I too once, had a tortured soul, and you may not see it; a masterpiece is not a masterpiece until I, Enrî Enrî deems it so.

ADONIS
If it's not ready, how come your Houngan, your dreadlock witchdoctor, that wore the same red cape as I, can look at it at will?

ENRĬ
You don't understand, do you?

ADONIS
No, I don't, so why don't you tell me why,
please Enri, why don't you tell me why?

HOUNGAN steps from the shadows dressed in black and wearing a red cape.

HOUNGAN
I shall tell you why, Adonis. I am *Enrĭ*'s
Shaman, the High G-d, Bon Dieu,
(Starts to beat a drum, dances and sings.)
Belial, Jinn, Iblis, Lucifer and none other
than my Lord, the Devil himself! *"HEE NA,*
(Looks down and after a beat looks at painting.)
JUBO, HEE NA JUBO." I am your servant
Lord Satan, give me the power to do thy
needs and deeds.

ADONIS
Oh, my G-d, are you actually the Devil's
servant? Really?

HOUNGAN
I am but one of the many servants, my Lord
Satan has, and you must never mention your
G-d, because, *oy,* every time I hear or think
of your G-d I get a heartburn and, Enri, I
believe it is finished and it is time to allow
the beautiful Adonis to view your
masterpiece, which I desire so for myself.

ENRĬ
(Displays painting with great fanfare.)
As you wish, master. *Voila!*

ADONIS
(Amazed.)
Oh, my G-d, it's wonderful, just wonderful.
Am I really that, that handsome?

HOUNGAN
You are more beautiful than the original Greek G-d, Adonis himself, you are superb, the essence of masculine beauty.

ENRĬ
Have I not captured z*he* inner most spirit of your very soul, Adonis?

ADONIS
And more, Enri, much more. I look gorgeous, don't I?

ENRĬ
Hopefully, your mother and father will be satisfied and pay me.

ADONIS
They will love it, they'll have parties and my father will show it to the world, and then he'll give it to… My father, my dear, beloved father is getting old, poor guy… 80, he just turned 80… You can tell, by all the wrinkles he has, he used to have such beautiful skin and hair, he had the thickest hair, just like me, and now he's lost most of it… I don't want to look like… I don't want to be all wrinkled like him, I don't…

HOUNGAN
…When man becomes old, as you will Adonis, your skin will start to wrinkle, it will become dry and brittle, feel like sand paper and no one will want to touch nor look at you, because look at your father, are you not his son? I feel sorry for you Adonis, for what was once called beautiful, magnificent will become all shriveled up, *oy, do* I feel sorry for you, I really do, boy, I really do.

Underscoring is heightened as ADONIS rushes to mirror and looks at skin.

ADONIS

My skin, it just can't wrinkle, I mean everyone always says what beautiful skin I have, the girls, they always want to touch my face and they swoon; what am I going to do?

HOUNGAN

There is a secret way of eternal youth and beauty, Adonis and perhaps I will share it with you, if you're lucky, sweetheart.

ADONIS

(Looks at teeth and moans.)

…And what about my teeth, what about my teeth? Will I have false teeth and will I have to take them out at night and put them in water like my father…?

HOUNGAN

…It's not so bad to lose your teeth, Adonis. I hear taking them out at night and putting them in water, makes one feel quite pleasurable, for some false teeth, pinch the gums and some find it rewarding, taking them out. I'm sure he will enjoy taking his false teeth out, won't he, *Enrĭ*?

ENRĬ

But, of course, my Lord.

ADONIS

(Almost in tears.)

Oh, I couldn't stand being old and wrinkled, and having false teeth, having false teeth, I couldn't take it, I couldn't take it, I won't take, I just won't!

HOUNGAN

…What choice do you have, for it is written that when Methuselah became old and gray, in those days they didn't have false teeth, so, all he did was muff it when he went down and no one even talked to him, because in those days, there were those that frowned upon muffers.

ADONIS
(Runs hands through hair.)
And what about my hair, will I lose my hair like my father, will I?

ENRĬ
You said *zhat* your father once had a full head of hair like you and now…

ADONIS
(Almost in tears)
…And now, he's almost bald, I don't want to be bald, I love my hair.

ENRĬ
And I believe you said he once had eyes as blue as yours…?

ADONIS
And now he can hardly see, he's almost… it's hereditary, and I hate hereditary! He's old and wrinkled, I'm going to be old and wrinkled; he has false teeth, I'm going to have false teeth; he lost his hair, I'm going to lose my hair. Never, not me not me, I WANT TO REMAIN YOUNG FOREVER! I DEMAND TO REMAIN YOUNG
(Looks up.)
FOREVER! DO YOU HEAR ME, DO YOU HEAR ME? I DEMAND TO BE YOUNG FOREVER!

HOUNGAN
You can demand all you want from your G-d, but we all know your G-d of all those Christians and Jews, grants no miracles to mere mortals, only, only…

ADONIS
…Only you right, only you and your damn Satan, the Devil can grant me eternal youth, right?

HOUNGAN
On one condition Adonis, will you be granted eternal youth, but it will cost you.

ADONIS
Name it damn you, name it, FOR I MUST
BE YOUNG FOREVER, FOREVER!

HOUNGAN
(Underscoring ends. Sings, bangs a drum and dances.)

YOUR SOUL IS MINE
Your soul is mine, for all time.
My wish shall be your command.
Do you understand young man?

You will fornicate for me.
And you will always cheat.
And soon you will like the heat.

The truth shall always be wrong.
And you must never belong.
You must learn to sing my song.

Hee na jubo jubo.
The black shall be your snow.
And you'll run where you go,
For you will never know.
Hee na jubo jubo.
Crime, you will dance and play.
Evil will mark everyday.
Kneel, to me as you pray.

With me you will never age.
Together we will share rage.
And this is just the first stage.

I Houngnan will make you great.
Each morning you'll awake.
And you'll befriend the snake.

Poison will be your nectar.
Venom in your every star.
Together we shall go far..

Hee na jubo jubo.
The black shall be your snow.
And you'll run where you go,
For you will never know.

Hee na jubo jubo.
Crime, you will dance and play.
Evil will mark everyday.
Kneel, to me as you pray.
(Disturbing music and cries begin again.)
I shall grant you your wish of eternal youth and beauty, but you must swear that you will never go to church, you will disavow your Jesus Christ and will perform only acts of evil.

ADONIS
For eternal youth and beauty, I swear I will do all you ask.

HOUNGAN
And if you break your vow to Satan, you will suffer consequences you will find unbearable. You will become old and decrepit before your time; you will walk with a hunch and your eyes will wrinkle and tear; you will have a gray beard! Hee na jubo, hee na jubo! Now, shall we dance Adonis, to celebrate your pact with the Devil?

ADONIS
I thought you'd never ask. *Enrĭ,* care to join us?

ADONIS, HOUNGAN and ENRI dance feverishly as we hear disturbing music, cries, howls and thunder.

INT: The following week. ADONIS'S new apartment and split screen is the office 6 of FATHER MARK. The Painting is hanging above the FATHER'S desk. Proud, LOUISE is pointing out the many features of the painting to JONATHAN and the FATHER. ADONIS is noticeably absent.

LOUISE
(Pointing to picture and laughs.)
And just look at his beautiful face, he didn't have a nose job, did he *Darling*?

JONATHAN
(Sings ♫)
DARLING
That's because he didn't need one,
Like some people I know.
Adonis wants to have fun.
And knows where he must go.
Darling, you can be sure.
My starling, my *darling*, need I say more,.

Like you he doesn't runaway.
From me and the moment.
He's happy enjoying the day.
It is so evident.
Darling, you can be sure.
My starling, my *darling*, need I say more,.

If you asked old Aristotle,
He'd say don't turn to a bottle.
Take his advice, use a throttle.
Darling, you can be sure.
My starling, my *darling*, need I say more,.

Inner peace must come from within.
Jesus whose our Lord.
He says ye must never sin.
With love there's no discord.

If you asked old Aristotle,
He'd say don't turn to a bottle.
Take his advice, use a throttle.
Darling, you can be sure.
My starling, my *darling*, need I say more,.

FATHER
We must give thanks to our Lord for all he has given us, especially your most handsome son, and by the way, where is he?

LOUISE
Oh, you know how these hot-blooded young men are these days.

JONATHAN
(Angry.)
Now, that he bought his own duplex on Fifth Avenue, he came home just once this past week, and when he did, was he drunk, which I believe is the first time I've seen him as intoxicated as his mother normally is, wasn't he, *darling…?*

LOUISE
I didn't see him because I was sleeping, *darling*.

JONATHAN
You weren't sleeping you weren't sleeping you passed out, must I remind you from your Dom Perigon champagne that you drink morning, noon and every night, *darling*.

LOUISE
(Sings ♫)
LETS HAVE A QUICKY
Must you constantly remind me?
How boring, utterly boring,
Not to mention mundane.
Your bitching's driving me insane.
Why can't you let me just be me?

Picky picky picky.
I think you're a sicky.
What about a hickey?
Then lets have a quicky.

You have a doctorate in finance.
But to me you're no Donald Trump.
You once were athletic.
Mister Prophetic lost his rump.
And why don't you ask me to dance.
Need I say more, *darling?*

Picky picky picky.
I think you're a sicky.
What about a hickey?
Then lets have a quicky.

JONATHAN
I think you've said enough.

FATHER
(Points to portrait.)
I can't tell you how pleased I am to have received this most beautiful portrait of your most handsome son, and his most generous gift Louise. Forgive my many *mosts,* but I am most truly honored to have it hanging in my office opposite our Lord, Jesus Christ. **(Sort of laughs.)**
I most humbly thank the both of you.

JONATHAN
(Smiles.)
You are *most* welcome, and I thank you for recognizing that Adonis is my son too, not like someone I know, that takes all the credit. I did have something to do with him, didn't I, *darling?*

LOUISE
I suppose you did, and mainly his intelligence and not you're your nose, thank G-d.

JONATHAN
And what about his eyes, does he not have the same blue eyes I was blessed with.

(LOUISE goes to painting and looks at Adonis's eyes.)

LOUISE
(Points to eyes.)
Only his eyes are far bluer, see… Oh, my G-d, I don't believe it. I didn't see this before.

JONATHAN
See what see what? You're just imagining again, see what?

LOUISE
A tear, I didn't see a tear here before, and it's under his left eye…

JONATHAN
(Looks at painting then at Louise.)
Oh, Louise, there's no tear, let me see. Dear Lord, there is a tear.

LOUISE
What, no *darling, darling?*

JONATHAN
Perhaps when you stop drinking?

In Adonis's bedroom. Both are wearing pajamas, slightly drunk and very content. **7**

REBECCA
Adonis, you are better in bed than in my wildest dreams, and let me tell you mister, I've been in more beds more times than I care to admit. Oh, I never felt this way, Superman.
(Lifts glass - sings reprise.)
Here's to feeling this way forever, Clark.

HOW'D YOU LIKE?
I'm falling in love with this guy.
The way he kisses really moves my soul.
If my girl friends steal him I'll die.
I'll keep him hot and I'll never be cold.

ADONIS
Rebecca, she sure is so pretty,
Such beautiful eyes and such gorgeous hair.
And sure as heck she's so witty,
And when I touch her, it's goodbye to despair.

To think, I've never drunk before.
I'm a fool, look at what I've been missing.
Now that I've tasted, I want more.
And I have found that I just love her kissing.

CUT: GENNA is in bed with ADONIS. THEY are smoking Marijuana. **8**

GENNA

Let me tell you big boy, it's not the pot we
just smoked, 'cause I smoked a lot of pot,
it's you. You are fantastic, unbelievable.
You, want to get married, or do you want to
shack up? Anything you want, big boy,
anything.

(Sings. ♫)

I just can't let him get away.
They say this happens just once in a
lifetime.
I'll stay with him until I'm gray.
Man he's so sexy that he just blew my mind.

ADONIS

Genna, you are so exciting.
But I'm high; I don't know what I'm doing

And you're certainly inviting.
I guess it's because I'm not used to
screwing.

I know what I'm doing is wrong.
But this desire is driving me mad.
There was a time, thought I was
strong.
But, this song that I'm singing makes
me feel sad.

CUT: CARI gets out of bed and puts on bathrobe. ADONIS admires her. 9
THEY both sing ♫

CARIE

He's got lips that I love to kiss.
He's got a smile that makes want to drool.
With this guy it's a hit-or miss.
And this engine of mine sure needs his fuel.

ADONIS

Guess Carie is the girl I've dreamt about.
She has a figure that's drop dead.
Hey, I just cannot fall in love.
I better be cool, I'm losing my head.

There's lots of fish in the ocean.
And I'm too young to settle down.

And don't count on my devotion.
My two feet are stuck on the ground.

CUT: WE are back in the FATHER'S office. LOUISE is flabbergasted as SHE 10 looks at painting. WE hear underscoring of, "Just a Mother."

LOUISE
And look, I don't believe it, now there's
another tear under his left eye.
How could this happen, what kind of a
painting is this? It's almost as if it's
possessed

CUT: A week later. ENRĬ'S studio. HOUNGAN and ENRĬ. sing opera. 11

SATAN'S WORLD

HOUNGAN
So, how is my newest convert to Satan's
world of the glorious evil,
And darkness doing, Enrĭ? Tell me,
enlighten me, Enrĭ!
So, what are you waiting for damn it,
Ham it, scam it. Do you not believe that the
Devil,
Is the master of the mysterious,
Creator of the delirious, evil underworld.
My beloved king once again will rule this
universe of non-believers,
And put an end to that fool, Abraham,
Believer in one G-d, what a dummy;
Those mummies act like nummies.
That deceiver who got Moses and his Jews
to become believers, that He is the only G-d.
Those fools believe in the same G-d of Jesus
and his unforgiving kind.
Misgiving, they are all blind!
And not even like our high G-ds,
Bon Dieu, Belial, Jinn, Iblis, Lucifer, Ra, ha
ha ha.
And my glorious, venomous black snake,
I will give them a heartache compounded by
an earthquake.
I mean give me a break, what are they
kidding me?

All I'm interested in is fair trade,
Like the crusade which is part of my stock-and-trade.
Tell me; give me the power to go on, Enrĭ,
for I find it hard to breathe.
Help, me breathe Enrĭ, help me breathe.

ENRĬ

You will be proud of Adonis, my Lord. *Zhe* man is a natural.
Zhe man, who has sworn to his inconsequential Christchurch,.
I besmirch his unholy Christchurch.
He says he will not fornicate until his marriage,
What a miscarriage.
He is now *doing it* like it's going out of style,
I smile because he's become a non-stop jumping Jack rabbit,
Its become his habbit, like he's really rocking *zhe* boat, Charley,
Know what I mean, with all *zhose* unknowing,
Gorgeous women who actually have conned themselves into believing
Zhat a good looking guy like him,
The homonym is a pseudonym that I call grim.
Loves them, but trust me Houngan, he loves no one, not even his tormented self.
Z*hat* man needs your help he needs your help.

HOUNGAN

Is that all? My heart breaks, Enrĭ, I should bust you, thought I could trust you.
I thought you were my best student, my best disciple? I am truly disappointed, *oi.*
Forget it, and don't tell Lucifer, but I say hell and *oi* all the time.
To me hell and *oi,* .is sublime, that's why I say hell and *oi* all the time.
So tell me, Enrĭ tell me. Do not keep waiting,

For must I not sleep in peace tonight in my
treasured purgatory, hell?
Wish me well, I sleep in hell and I love it.

ENRĬ

Don't be disappointed, and enough with
zhose ois already,. I mean all I hear lately is
oy,
Can't you think of anything else, except is
oy, oy, oy?.
(Hand to throat.)
I've had it up to here, with *zhose oys,* know
what I mean, jelly bean?
Anyway, Adonis is on his way to addiction,
affliction is *zhe* downfall of all mankind,
All z*hose* Christians are blind.
For most of *zhem* imbibe and belong to *zhat*
AA and deny it.
You should hear *zhem*: *"What, me drink?*
Not me, I never drink, well maybe."
They may deny it, but I don't buy it, do you?
Fools, they may contradict,
But once an addict always an addict and
Zhey are sick.
And what *zhe* hell are *zhey* wasting *zheir*
lives for?
Forgive me Houngan, you can be sure.
I meant no sacrilege by saying hell.
I wish you well, ring z*he* bell and sleep well
in hell.
Like his mother, who shall join us soon in
our world of brimstone and fire,
He may perspire, drinking like a fish and
loving it.
For a man *zhat* never had a drink,
I think, between me and you,
Zhe man sure can belt a few and I couldn't
be more proud, can you?
For he is slowly, perhaps not as fast as you
would like, Houngan,
Becoming a man *zhat* will walk in darkness,
Torment and despair forever and anon,
Are you happy now my *liege?* Tell me you
are happy.

HOUNGAN
(Bangs drum.)
HEE NA JUBO!

ENRĬ and HOUNGAN
(THEY jump up and down euphorically.)
HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO!

HOUNGAN
I hope that is not all, Enrĭ.

ENRĬ
Zhat is only *zhe* beginning, master, only *zhe* beginning. *Zhere's* more, much more. Dig *zhis*, he smoked marijuana and loved it. I mean *zhe* guy likes to puff up a storm, and whew, and does it stink.

HOUNGAN
What about crack, heroin, uppers and downers?

ENRĬ
He is in his infancy, but in due time my Lord, in due time.

HOUNGAN
(Bangs drum.)
HEE NA JUBO!

ENRĬ and HOUNGAN
(THEY jump up and down euphorically.)
HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO! HEE NA JUBO!

HOUNGAN
And what happened to *zhat* magnificent painting that I admired, what has become of it?
What the hell am I saying *zhat,* I don't say *zhat,* you say *zhat,* and I said hell again, too, *oy*. You know, you're contagious with that *zhat* and hell baloney, unbelievable!

ENRĬ

I am sorry to inform you my Shaman, but
zhe dummy gave it to his priest and it is
hanging in his office, opposite *zhat* cross,
can you imagine? Of all *zhe* nerve, my
masterpiece hanging next to a cross, *oy,* see
I said *oy* too. *Zhat oy,* is contagious, *oy*.

HOUNGAN

(Outraged.)

Blasphemy, how dare a painting created by
the Devil's own disciple hang in church. I

(Has a comforting thought.)

protest, I really do. Wait a minute, what the
HELL am I carrying on like a nut for? See, I
said hell again, too, *oy*. I've, been trying to
get into that church for years, have I not?
I'll fix that Father, I believe his name is
Mac; no it's Mark and all his parishioners.
He doesn't know it, but half of them happily
reside in our world of crime and sin and
revel in it. They won't admit it, but they
love it, they really do. I'll drive them crazy
and they'll come begging to me for
acceptance. Sooner or later, they all do.

(ENRĬ and HOUNGAN ♫ sing, bang drum and dance.)

HOUGNAN

SOONER or LATER

Don't those fools understand,
Why the life that they lead, is so boring?
They get married for life,
But when they get into bed, they start
snoring.

ENRĬ

Most women hate their men,
Go to confession and talk about cheating.
Children don't understand,
Why their parents give them such a beating.

ENRĬ and HOUNGAN

Sooner or later all see that life
doesn't work.
Sooner or later they feel like a jerk.
Sooner or later they will try to run
away.
Sooner or later they all have to
pay.

ENRĬ

And when they get desperate,
And when they feel there's nowhere else to
turn.
They turn to the Devil,
Because they know in hell it won't burn.

HOUNGAN

They say Hee Na Jubo,
And suddenly the pain has gone away.
Pet Lucifer the cat,
Satan and I will show them how to play.

ENRĬ and HOUNGAN

Sooner or later all see that life
doesn't work.
Sooner or later they feel like a jerk.
Sooner or later they will try to run
away.
Sooner or later they all have to
pay.

CUT: Two weeks later. 2 A.M. FATHER MARK'S office. ADONIS who 13 has aged dramatically, sneaks in, closes curtains, turns on lights, and becomes dismayed after viewing portrait. Crosses self and kneels before crucifix. WE hear the underscoring of "Spiritus Sanctus." Stage left, is in darkness. There is a confessional.

ADONIS

Beloved father, forgive me for I have
sinned. I have turned against you, the
church and all I believe in.

FATHER MARK, in bathrobe, enters and is surprised to find ADONIS.

FATHER
Mark, is that you, it is you. I thought I heard a noise. What are you doing here at this hour in the morning? It's 2 A.M.

ADONIS
I had to come here, Father Mark, because I am losing my mind. I no longer recognize myself; just look at me, soon as I decided that I would come to you for help, I got this gray beard, these wrinkles and I'm starting to lose my hair. I've become old before my time, just like He said I would. Help me Father help me before it is too late.

FATHER
I have not seen you for quite awhile my son.

ADONIS
I know, I know, and I have to talk to you, please, let me talk to you.

FATHER
Come with me my son.

THEY walk stage left and the light comes on the confessional, where ADONIS will sit on one side and the FATHER will sit opposite a curtain.

FATHER
You may begin, Adonis.

ADONIS
As, you know, there is no one I cherish more than, my Savior, Jesus Christ, the church and you, Father.

FATHER
I know my son.

The underscoring of "Spiritus Sanctus" is heightened.

ADONIS

It all started when I was posing for Enri Enri. This weirdo, with dreadlocks and wearing this red cape, suddenly shows up unannounced. At first I thought that Enri and that weirdo were… but Enri said that he wasn't gay and Hougnan, was, anyway he was this Shaman, this witchdoctor that is… he's the Devil's cohort.

FATHER

I know…

ADONIS

…How do you know…?

FATHER

When you stopped coming to see me, and when your portrait started to age before my

(Crosses self.)

eyes, and somehow I knew that Satan had befallen you. That he had his grasp upon you, and that you had made a pact with…

ADONIS

…The devil, I did Father, I did, because I was afraid to grow old like my father. Please forgive me.

FATHER

As you know, our Lord forgives those that ask his forgiveness, please continue.

ADONIS

I was frightened that I would grow old, get wrinkled, lose my hair and eyesight and that Hougan, the devil incarnate kept prodding me, kept leading me on until he made me swear that I would never come to church and see you and like the fool filled with vanity, I swore, I gave him my word.

FATHER
(Sings. ♫)

The DEVIL
The Devil, Satan will never give up.
Not until your heart and blood fills his cup.
He'll not rest lest your tears fill an ocean
He wants your soul and craves your
devotion.

Just turn to G-d,
And nothing will be hard.
Jesus your Son, thy will be done.
With the Father and Son and the
Holy Ghost.
The Father and Son who is our Host.

Be not, weak turn away from temptation.
Without serenity there's no salvation.
Living darkness where the sun will not
shine.
Lament not laughter has become his wine.

Just turn to G-d,
And nothing will be hard.
Jesus your Son, thy will be done.
With the Father and Son and the
Holy Ghost.
The Father and Son who is our Host.

He will offer you riches, sex and booze.
He'll say you will win, surely you will lose.
There is no joy in sin, and spreading pain.
And surely that pain will drive you insane.

Just turn to G-d,
And nothing will be hard.
Jesus his Son.
With the Father and Son and the
Holy Ghost.
The Father and Son who is our Host.
As you will soon find out, the Devil, Satan,
Lucifer never gives up until all his
unknowing. misguided associates join him,
and as you can see, He never keeps his
word, because my son, you have aged.

CUT: Two weeks later. 11 A.M. ENRĬ'S studio, ENRI is painting, The 14 buzzer sounds and he buzzes back. After a beat ADONIS enters. HE has apparently aged, his hair is gray and HE stoops as he walks. As in prior scene, WE hear the underscoring of, "Your Soul is Mine," and cries throughout.

ENRĬ
(Astonished.)
Adonis, Adonis, what has happened to you, you have aged, your hair has turned gray and you walk as if you are *ze Hunchback of Notre Dame. Scare bleu,* I don't believe it. What did you do?

ADONIS
I went to see Father Mark and I confessed.

ENRĬ
You went to confession after you swore to Hougnan and *zhe* Devil *zhat* you would not! He warned you, he warned of *zhe* terrible consequences *zhat* would befall you. What did you tell him to bring on *zhis* wrath of *zhe* Devil himself?

ADONIS
The Father asked me what happened to my painting, he asked if it was cursed, so I told him it was, and how I sold my soul to the Devil for eternal youth and beauty, but I didn't get it, did I?

ENRĬ
You broke your vow with Satan. Houngan told what would happen, *zhat* is why you…

ADONIS
…I looked at your beautiful painting of me and I looked horrible in it too and I look even uglier now. It's that witchdoctor, that Shaman, that messenger of the Devil that has done this to me, and when I see him, I am going to kill him, and then this curse that he has put on me will go away. It has to go away, it has to, because I look old and disgusting.

ENRĬ

It is *zhe* curse of *zhe* living dead. Once you are under its demonic spell, nothing can save you, I know, for I have been tormented and part of *zhe* living dead for many years…

ADONIS

You too, I thought you reveled in it, the way you shout with that, that monster, *Hee Na*
(Cries throughout.)
Jubo. I thought you worshipped him, the Devil and his dark, hideous side of life. This is no life, this is no life; suddenly, I don't know what I'm doing, or why I do what I do? I've slept with perhaps two-dozen women these past three months. I've become a drunk, I've smoked pot, crack, tried heroin, taken uppers and downers, I am killing myself. Don't you understand, I'm
(Crosses self.)
killing myself. JESUS, PLEASE HELP ME BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

ENRĬ

You must not cross yourself, or say Jesus here, for Houngan and *zhe* Devil will surely kill you, and I for allowing such blasphemy, such an unforgivable transgression. Christ and *zhe* mention of G-d is forbidden, for have you forgotten *zhey* have been archenemies since Eve and our beloved snake in *zhe* Garden in Eden?

ADONIS

But I used to love Jesus, I used to pray and talk to him everyday, what has happened to me? I used to speak and see my mother and father, what has happened to me?

ENRĬ

You have been cursed, duped as I, for being weak. I believe it is called vainglory.

ADONIS

Vainglory, weak, I don't understand.

Underscoring is heightened.

ENRĬ

Allow me to explain, it was about eight years ago, on a beautiful sun drenched day on *ze* left bank in *Paree,* when I met Houngan, I was painting and he casually approached me and started talking. He was very complimentary about my work and said I should be called *zhe* greatest living artist in all of Europe and I should be rich, a millionaire and bought two of my paintings. At *zhat* moment, I was poor, living in a six-floor walkup, with little or no money to support my wife Leslie and my daughter Trudie and his money sure helped. He took me for a glass of wine and some bread in an out door cafe. In *Paree zhere* are many cafes. I was overwhelmed by his generosity, and admiration for my work. He kept on telling me I should be famous and rich, rich and famous. In a moment of weakness, vainglory, as I have noted before, I said I would do anything to become rich and famous. He took my hand and whispered, *"Would I sell my soul to the Devil to become rich and famous?"* I said, *"YES, I WILL SELL MY SOUL TO ANYONE, EVEN SATAN HIMSELF, I WILL DO ANYTHING*

(Very emotional, almost in tears.)

TO BECOME RICH AND FAMOUS AND TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT MY FAMILY, FOR I LONG SO TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR MY G-D GIVEN TALENT!" As you have done and become, I too feel like a walking zombie, part of z*he* living dead, and as you, I wish I were not, for I so long to caress my wife and daughter, whom *zhat* Shaman made me say *adieu* to.

(Cries.)

I never see them never.

ADONIS

There must be something we can do to get away from Houngan and his Devil.

ENRĬ

Zhere is, but it is very dangerous, and if Houngan and Satan find out, we will be sent to hell, with all *zhe* demons and monsters known to mankind. Genghis Khan, Hitler, The Ku Klux Klan, James Earl Ray, Sadaam Hussein, David Koresch, Osama Bin Ladin to name a few, will become yours and mine hell-mates. *Zhat's* hell-mates not cellmates.

ADONIS

Enri, you must tell me, you must save *US* from the further deterioration and desecration of our lost souls.

ENRĬ

For you, perhaps *zhere* is still time, but for me, I've been under his evil spell too long, I've committed too many dastardly acts *zhat* are unmentionable and most assuredly unforgivable.

ADONIS

You don't understand, all you have to do, all I have to do is admit our sins and ask forgiveness, atone and make amends. Jesus, our Savior forgives all, he always does. Please, you must tell me, you must tell me.

ENRĬ

Perhaps, you are right, Adonis, for, I was once told by another tormented zombie, Michel, who, also sold his soul for fame-and-fortune, *zhat* he believed only *zhe* church can save us, *zhe* living dead by exorcism: Exorcism, exorcism.

ADONIS

Exorcism, the church, why I know Father Mark and he will surely help me. Why, he'll do an exorcism for me, because I gave his church a million dollars. He has to he just has to.

ENRĬ

What about me?

ADONIS
Are you kidding? I gave him your painting,
it's hanging in his office. Knowing him, I
bet he exorcizes the both of us.

Excited, ENRĬ and ADONIS sing ♫ and gallivant around.

EXORCISM

ADONIS
Exorcism is for me.
Exorcize me and set me free.

ENRĬ
Exorcism's for me too.
Its Freedom and *zhanks* to you

ADONIS
Hey Devil, its goodbye.
No more lies, and I won't cry

ENRI
Adieu to old Satan.
For Houngan I'm not waitin'

ADONIS and ENRĬ
We're gonna have a hot time
in the old town tonight.
Yeah yeah!
We're gonna stomp our feet
and do everything right.
Yeah yeah!
We're gonna spread the
news, we paid our dues,
goodbye blues,
Yeah yeah, I swear, I swear
yeah yeah!

ADONIS
I'm going back to church.
Jesus my soul will search.

ENRĬ
I will kiss my Leslie.
And we will make whoopee.

ADONIS
My mother I will kiss,
And father whom I miss.
ENRĬ
My daughter on my knee.
With her I will be free.

ADONIS and ENRĬ
We're gonna have a hot time
in the old town tonight.
Yeah yeah!
We're gonna stomp our feet
and do everything right.
Yeah yeah!
We're gonna spread the
news, we paid our dues,
goodbye blues,
Yeah yeah, I swear, I swear
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and do everything right.
Yeah yeah!
We're gonna spread the
news, we paid our dues,
goodbye blues,
Yeah yeah, I swear, I swear
yeah yeah!

INT: Two days later. FATHER MARK'S office: HE is staring at painting 15 utterly amazed. WE hear The underscoring of *"Spiritus Sanctus,"* from the first act, throughout.

FATHER
(Thinking.)
This is truly unbelievable; for it is apparent
that Satan has captured the soul of
Adonis and his once magnificent painting
before my very eyes. This painting has aged,
along with him, and now, as I have seen
how this handsome young man of 31,
suddenly has a gray beard and wrinkles, just
(MORE)

FATHER (Cont'd)

as his bedeviled painting is. What next shall happen to this pious son of Jesus? When I spoke to him, he was quite panicked, and asked me would I perform an exorcism on him and his friend? When he told me awhile back that he had made a pact and sold his soul to the Devil for eternal youth and beauty, I thought he was pulling my leg, as his mother so often does. But, after I saw what had befallen him, although I know my dear Pope John Paul that you frown upon exorcism, despite having heard that you performed three yourself, I told him I would have to do some research on this Houngan and I have found that he is the personal messenger of the Devil himself and will fight to the death, to prevent his re-conversion to our church. To prepare myself for this battle with Satan and demonology, I have read book one, of "General Norms,' which has 203 canons, book two, "The People of G-d," 543 canons, book three, "The Church's Teaching Mission," 87 canons. Dear Lord, I have not stopped reading in hope of learning how to save Adonis's lost soul by performing this exorcism, which I know little of.

(Eats bread and drinks wine.)

And as noted in thy Eucharist, sweet Jesus, *"This cup is the covenant in thy body."* May there be a miraculous transformation of this bread and wine into thy body, my Lord. It is written that thy name, Jesus comes from the Hebrew name, Joshua, in full,

(Crosses himself .)

Yehoshuah, Yahweh. I pray the Jews also help me in this exorcism, for I need all the help I can summon.

Sings ♫ "Spiritus Sanctus.

Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit from above.
What the world needs is love and peace
Good will to man.

Spiritus Sanctus, my holy spirit filled
with love.
May the light from your sun not
cease.
And help us stand.

ADONIS, who has a gray beard and looks very old and ENRI who also appears to have aged, enters. The FATHER looks up and is taken aback seeing ADONIS looking the way he does. Again WE hear the underscoring of *Spiritus Sanctus.*

FATHER
Welcome my son and this must be Enri
Enri? *Bon jour.*

ENRĬ
Bon jour, Father Mark and *zhank* you for
trying to help us, for we are in great need as
you can see

FATHER
I see... how are you Adonis?

ADONIS
I've been better Father Mark and you don't
seem surprised at my appearance.

FATHER
I knew exactly how you would look,
because, look at the portrait that Enri Enri
did of you; it is your mirror image.

(THEY both look at portrait and are flabbergasted.)

ENRĬ
Sacre bleu, I wonder if *zhe* self-portrait I did
of myself, *zhat* hopefully my wife Leslie
still has, has not grown old as I have.
Father, not only has *zhe* aging process
befallen Adonis, but since we made a pact to
come see you *zhree* days ago, I too am
growing old.

ADONIS
Can you help us Father? Please, I am so weak I can barely walk.

FATHER
I will try my son, but this exorcism is dependent upon your belief in Jesus, for
(Puts out hands, which they take.)
only he has the power to defeat Satan. Let us joins hands, and pray silently to the son of G-d, asking him for His deliverance and salvation. Now, I want you both to lie down on these sofas, be quiet, and pray as you have never prayed.

In silence, THEY both lie down and as the underscoring heightens, ADONIS screams in German.

ADONIS
SIEG HEIL, SEIG HEIL! YUDEN ROUS!
SEIG HEIL, SEIG HEIL!
DEUTSCHLAND UBER ALLES! SEIG HEIL, SEIG HEIL!

FATHER
(Sprinkles holy water on Adonis and Enrí while crossing self continuously and sings.)

PURGATORY
It is known, that under the demonic spell,
Many speak a foreign language and Adonis is quoting the Devil's favorite disciple,
Hitler, who dwells in hell.
Father and the son and the Holy Ghost,
As I have sprinkle thy holy water, to Thee I toast.
Please exorcize these two spiritual
Christians from the grasp of Satan himself,
Grant them Thy help, they need thy help.
Hougnan was the original fallen angel,
Banished forever from Thy heaven for his misdeeds.
The Devil is filled with greed,
On the misbegotten, yes indeed, doth he feed.

Remove them from purgatory and prevent
them from going to hell,
Where the Devil revels, and doth he dwells.
He chortles amongst his evil kind.
Please ease these young men's bewildered
mind.
Domini, domini, Sanctus Domini. Dear
Father, son and the Holy Ghost.
I beg you to save these two tortured souls
from the Devil whom he will roast.
For they knew not of his impact,
When they made a pact with Lucifer himself
did they react.
For they were in need, misguided and
frightened of their vulnerability.
Grant them the ability, to receive thy
blessing with humility.
Chastise them not for their weakness, for we
are all weak my Lord.
I beseech *Thee,* to save them, for Thee they
seek.
For thine is the power and the kingdom and
the glory forever, amen.
Take them Father, take them up to heaven,
and return them to Mother Earth, free of all
evil spirits.

WE hear and see thunder and lightning as the music heightens and the two sofas rise slightly, and then come down.

There is thunder and lightning ADONIS and ENRI are restored to normalcy. Both ADONIS and ENRĬ rise, look at themselves in the mirror that is hanging and are amazed.

ADONIS

Oh, Father Mark, you did it I knew you'd do
it. I'm, me, I'm normal! Oh, thank you
Jesus for giving me my life back. Hallelujah
everybody, hallelujah!

ENRĬ
(♋ Sings to "Give my Regards to Broadway.")
And I too *zhank* you Father, for I too am saved. *Adieu* Houngan, and *"Give my regards to ze Devil. Tell him to go to hell, where he belongs." Zhat* is funny no? Go to hell where he belongs. Now*, zhat,* is very funny.

ADONIS
And look at your painting Enri, it's perfect, and I look…

FATHER
…You look and it looks, gorgeous, just the way you were meant to look…

WE hear underscoring of, "Your Soul Belongs to ME," and WE hear screams, as HOUNGAN appears in his red cape and angry.

HOUGNAN
HEE NA JUBO, HEE NA JUBO! So, the infidels have disobeyed the orders that were given by Satan himself. Your G-d, your Jesus is inferior to the Devil, for throughout
(Shows two dolls.)
history it has been so decreed. These two dolls, blessed by Lucifer himself are your lost souls; my souls, and I will do with them as I was commanded to do so, therefore
(Raises long needle and is about to stab dolls.)
Adonis, Enri, say goodbye to your innocuous Father Mark, whom I have despised for years… I'm so happy I wish I had something to toast the demise of all of you.

FATHER
(Takes pitcher of water and glass.)
Would water do, Hougnan?

HOUGNAN
Water will certainly serve the purpose.

FATHER
(Gives glass of water.)
Here, be my guest.

HOUGNAN
(Raises glass with glee and drinks.)
I drink to all of you! Delicious, if I say so myself.

FATHER
Yes, I prefer holy water myself.

HOUGNAN
(Spits)
Oy, I hate holy water, *pheh*!

The FATHER pushes cross in HOUNGAN'S face and HE backs way in fright.

HOUNGAN
That's only a cross, I'm not afraid of a cross, I'm not Dracula, I'm not Lugosi.

FATHER, brandishing the cross, chases Houngan who backs away.

FATHER
(Shows doll.)
Since when, and in the name of Jesus Christ, I demand you be banished from the face of Earth and taken to hell where you belong! And incase you're interested, you're not the only one that made a doll, look, I made a
(Raises needle.)
clay doll of you and this is what I'm going to do.

HOUNGAN
Wait, please…

ENRĬ
Do it Father, send him where he belongs, to hell. Hell, *zhat's* funny, isn't it?

HOUNGAN
It's not *zhat* funny. *Oy,* I said *zhat* again.

ADONIS, ENRĬ and FATHER
(THEY sing ♫ and dance.)

ENRĬ

HERE'S OUR SONG
Give our regards to Satan.
Tell him that it's sure been fun.
Son-of-a-gun, it's sure been fun

ADONIS
It all seems like a bad dream,
But we're back where we belong,
G-d makes us strong, and here's our song.

FATHER
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
He will save our souls.
The scriptures and the Holy Bible,
Will make our lives whole.

ADONIS, ENRĬ and FATHER
We must all ask for forgiveness,
And we must atone.
So, grateful for that we are all
blessed.
We'll never be alone.

ADONIS
And don't forget Lucifer.
Ta ta to the snake and Ra.
We'll go so far, 'til Shangri-La.

ENRĬ
It's, so good to see you go.
Hougan, we bid thee farewell,
It's off to hell, it's sure been swell.

FATHER
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
He will save our souls.
The scriptures and the Holy Bible,
Will make our lives whole.

ADONIS, ENRĬ and FATHER

We must all ask for forgiveness,
And we must atone.
So, grateful for that we are all blessed.
We'll never be alone.

ENRĬ

(Laugh and kick heels ala Bugs Bunny.)
NOW*, ZHATS* FUNNY! *Duh, duh, that's all folks.*

THE END