



New Orleans Typed Drafts of Lyrics

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New Orleans Typed Drafts of Lyrics

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"IN MY SOUND"

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

HERE, IN MY SOUND
IS A ROOM FOR YOU
DROP YOUR LONGING BESIDE ME

HERE, IN MY SOUND
IS A LETTER FOR YOU
READ IT BY THE LIGHT INSIDE ME

WHAT YOU FEEL IS NOT COMPLEX
THE CLOSER YOU GET
TO MY SOUND - LOST IS FOUND
SUFFERING WILL DIE
MY OH
MY SOUND IS A ROOM WITH A VIEW
WAITING JUST FOR YOU

HERE, IN MY SOUND
IS A PLACE FOR YOU
SPACE FOR YOU BESIDE ME

HERE IN MY SOUND
LOVE IS GENTLE TO YOU
UNFOLD YOUR FOLDED HEART - ABIDE IN ME

L. & A.

IT'S SUNDAY

DONT YOU UNDERSTAND? ITS SUNDAY

HE D BE SITTING IN THAT CHAIR NOW

DONT YOU UNDERSTAND? ITS SUNDAY

HE D BE WANTING A COOL BEER NOW

I CANT HELP IT IF ITS SUNDAY

A WOMAN S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY

THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY

HE D COME BRAID MY HAIR

CANT YOU UNDERSTAND? ITS SUNDAY

HE D BE STRUMMING ME A TUNE NOW

HOW COME HE DONT KNOW ITS SUNDAY

I D BE DANCING ROUND THIS ROOM NOW

I CANT HELP IT IF ITS SUNDAY

A WOMAN S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY

THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY

HE D COME TAKE MY HAND

~~BOTH~~

I M SO LUCKY THAT ITS SUNDAY

CAUSE WHEN WE WAKE UP ON MONDAY

WE ARE GOING TO BE A LONG WAY

A LONG WAY FROM HERE

both

12

"IT'S SUNDAY" (Reprise)

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

CALLY

ALL I KNOW IS THAT IT'S SUNDAY
I'D BE RESTING IN MY BED NOW

JOHNNY

Let me make your bed.

CALLY

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
I MIGHT LIKE SOME LEMONADE NOW

JOHNNY

Let me squeeze your lemons.

CALLY

HOW COME YOU DON'T KNOW IT'S SUNDAY?
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS SHOULD BE THE ONE DAY
YOU'D UNBRAID MY HAIR

JOHNNY

OH BABE I KNOW IT'S SUNDAY
LET ME STRUM US UP A TUNE NOW
I REMEMBER HOW ON SUNDAY
WE'D BE DANCING IN OUR ROOM NOW

I FEEL LUCKY WHEN IT'S SUNDAY
LET'S NOT PUT IT OFF TILL MONDAY
I CAN'T WAIT NOT EVEN ONE DAY
TO GET 'WAY FROM HERE

(THEY dance)

BOTH

I'M SO LUCKY THAT IT'S SUNDAY
CAUSE WHEN WE WAKE UP ON MONDAY
WE ARE GOIN' TO BE A LONG WAY
A LONG WAY FROM HERE

(JOHNNY takes the banjo and THEY
exit)

"IT'S SUNDAY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

CALLY (Continued)

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE SITTING IN THAT CHAIR NOW

BEAU

I can sit in his chair.

CALLY

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE WANTING A COOL BEER NOW

BEAU

I can drink his beer.

CALLY

I CAN'T HELP IT IF IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME BRAID MY HAIR

BEAU

But I'm still here.

CALLY

CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE STRUMMING ME A TUNE NOW

BEAU

I can play his song.

CALLY

HOW COME HE DON'T KNOW IT'S SUNDAY
I'D BE DANCING ROUND THIS ROOM NOW
(SHE begins to dance)

BEAU

Don't dance alone.

CALLY

I CAN'T HELP IT IF IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME TAKE MY HAND

(THEY dance)

CALLY (Continued)

I'M SO LONELY WHEN IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME TAKE MY HAND

(THEY stop. CALLY lets her hand drop
from BEAU's)

BEAU

Ha, I'm telling you. It's going to be all right.

ACT II

Scene 2

Courtyard of ANA LA PREMIER's house.
JOHNNY enters, disconsolate. HE sees
his banjo (or guitar) lying, dis-
carded, somewhere in the garden. HE
picks it up and strums a little and
then sings:

"LONGSHOT GAMBLER"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JOHNNY

I DEAL THE CARDS, THEN PICK THEM UP
SPREAD THEM IN MY FINGERS LIKE A FAN
I PLAY THE JACK, TO HOLD THE QUEEN
HIT THE DEUCE WITH A TRES IF I CAN

DON'T LOOK IN MY PALM
WHERE THE LINES ARE RUNNING OUT EVERYDAY
THE MESSAGE THERE IS CLEAR AND CALM
THE GAME'S A GAME UNTIL YOU PAY
I'M A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
AIN'T NO FUTURE IN MY HAND

BROKEN LINES RUNNING CROSS MY HAND
DAMN THIS HAND
SEE MY LUCK HEADIN' FOR THE DOOR
LOST SO MUCH CAN'T LOSE NO MORE
PLACE THE BET, TOOK A CHANCE
LOOKING FOR A STREAK OF LUCK
SHOT THE DICE
NOT ONCE BUT TWICE
LORD DON'T LET ME
LOSE TOO MUCH

DON'T OPEN MY PALM
WHERE THE LINES ARE RUNNING OUT EVERYDAY
THE MESSAGE THERE IS CLEAR AND CALM
THE GAME'S A GAME UNTIL YOU PAY
I'M A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
CAN'T SEE NO FUTURE IN MY HAND

(LA PREMIER enters and notices how
melancholy HE looks)

LURLEEN PRICE

NOTHING'S QUITE LIKE A LITTLE CLASSY VICE

IN THE COMPANY OF A GIRL THIS NICE

WHEN YOU ASK FOR A CRUMB, I GIVE YOU A SLICE

WHAT THEY DO ONCE, I DO TWICE

IF YOU COME UP WITH LURLEEN'S PRICE

ENSEMBLE

Daddy do, Daddy do, Daddy do, Daddy do.

COME TO MY HOUSE

JUST KNOCK ON THE DOOR

YOU NEVER GONNA WANT TO GO HOME NO MORE

COME TO MY PLACE

KICK DOWN THE DOOR

I'LL HAVE YOU GRINNING BEFORE THE KNOB HITS

THE FLOOR.

I'LL HOLD YOU

ENFOLD YOU

TAKE YOU IN MY ARMS

I'LL NURSE YOU

IMMERSE YOU

SHOW YOU ALL MY CHARMS

SEDUCE YOU

REDUCE YOU

TIE YOU UP IN KNOTS

MANIPULATE YOU

COPULATE YOU

PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS

COME ON TO MY HOUSE

PULL DOWN THE SHADE

TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF BABY, YOU GOT IT MADE

COME GET IN MY BED

I'VE THROWN AWAY THE KEY

YOU AIN'T NEVER GONNA GET AWAY FROM ME.

MY HOUSE
Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

DADDY DO, DADDY DO, DADDY DO, DADDY DO
COME TO MY HOUSE
JUST KNOCK ON THE DOOR
YOU NEVER GONNA WANT TO GO HOME NO MORE
COME TO MY PLACE
KICK DOWN THE DOOR
I'LL HAVE YOU GRINNING BEFORE THE KNOB HITS THE FLOOR

I'LL HOLD YOU
ENFOLD YOU
TAKE YOU IN MY ARMS
I'LL NURSE YOU
IMMERSE YOU
SHOW YOU ALL MY CHARMS
SEDUCE YOU
REDUCE YOU
TIE YOU UP IN KNOTS
MANIPULATE YOU
COPULATE YOU
PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS

COME TO MY HOUSE
PULL DOWN THE SHADE
TAKE YOUR SHOES OFF, BABY, YOU GOT IT MADE
GET IN MY BED
THROW AWAY THE KEY
YOU AIN'T NEVER GONNA GET AWAY FROM ME

L.

NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE MUSIC SONGS PICK TO SING

THE FLOWERS WILD ROSES CHOOSE TO BREATHE

YOU'RE THE TIDES RIVERS WANT TO SWIM

THE LIGHT THAT LIGHT ITSELF WANTS TO SEE

AND WHEN THE MOON GOT TIRED OF GOING ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND

IT DREAMED UP NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE FEELING LOVE WANT TO FEEL

THE FIRE FLAMES WANT TO BURN

YOU'RE THE BREEZE THE WIND WANTS TO RIDE

THE COLOR LENSES WANT TO TURN

AND WHEN PROUD BIRDS OF PASSION SEARCHED THE RAINBOW FOR A HOME

THEY SETTLED DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

LET ME TELL YOU BOUT NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS

LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS

SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

~~NEW ORLEANS~~

WHO'S MY DADDY

WHERE'S MY DADDY

MISS YOU DADDY

KISS YOU DADDY

(CONTINUED)

LOVE YOU DADDY

NEED YOU DADDY

OH MY DADDY

LETS PLAY DADDY

PLEASE STATY DADDY DOWN IN

NEW ORLEANS

WAHT S THE MATTER DADDY

CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE

YOUR TRAIN DONT RUN

DOWN THIS WAY

WHAT S THE MATTER DADDY

YOU LOST YOUR TICKET

YOU COULDNT STICK IT

ONE MORE TIME

YOU COULDNT STAY

YOU WOULNNT STAY

WAY DOWN HERE IN NEW ORLEANS

TELL ME SOMETHING DADDY

FORGOT YOUR ADDRESS

YOU GOT IN SOME MESS

WITH ANOTHER MAN S WIFE

(CONTINUED)

WELL BUY YOU A MAP
PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT
PUSH IT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI
AND STOP DOGGONE IT
YOU IN NEW ORLEANS
OH YES THAT'S NEW ORLEANS
WAY DOWN WAY DOWN
COME ON DADDY
WAY WAY DOWN
LOW DOWN, BREAK DOWN
STOMP DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS
NO WE AINT GOOD LOOKING
WE BUILT FOR SPEED
WE GOT EVERYTHING A SWEET PAPA NEED
MY SUGAR'S SWEET OH YEAH AND SO S MY MEAT
THE ONLY WAY YOU EVER GONNA GET YOU A PIECE
IS IF YOU GET DOWN, WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS
WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE S MY DADDY
HELLO DADDY
GOODBYE DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY

(CONTINUED)

KISS YOU DADDY

HOLD ME DADDY

SCOLD ME DADDY

LET'S PLAY DADDY

PLEASE STATY DADDY

DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

1. 8:4 0.
"New Orleans"

Lyrics (c) 1982 by Toni Morrison

COBALT: NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE MUSIC SONGS PICK TO SING

THE FLOWERS WILD ROSES CHOOSE TO BREATHE

YOU'RE THE TIDES, RIVERS WANT TO SWIM

THE LIGHT, THAT LIGHT ITSELF WANTS TO SEE

AND WHEN THE MOON GOT TIRED OF GOING ROUND AND ROUND

AND ROUND

IT DREAMED UP NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE FEELING LOVE WANTS TO FEEL

THE FIRE FLAMES WANT TO BURN

YOU'RE THE BREEZE THE WIND WANTS TO RIDE

THE COLOR LEAVES WANT TO TURN

AND WHEN PROUD BIRDS OF PASSION SEARCHED THE RAINBOW

FOR A HOME

THEY SETTLED DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

LET ME TELL YOU 'BOUT NEW ORLEANS

LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS

SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

"Daddy"

Lyrics (c) 1982 by Toni Morrison

TRICK BABIES:

WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
LOVE YOU DADDY
NEED YOU DADDY
OH MY DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

COBALT:

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE
YOUR TRAIN DON'T RUN
DOWN THIS WAY
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
YOU LOST YOUR TICKET
YOU COULDN'T STICK IT
ONE MORE TIME
YOU COULDN'T ~~STAY~~ STAY
YOU WOULDN'T STAY
WAY DOWN HERE IN NEW ORLEANS

1. 8:6

COBALT:

~~LET~~ ME TELL ~~YOU~~ SOMETHING, DADDY
~~YOU~~ FORGOT YOUR ADDRESS
YOU GOT IN SOME MESS
WITH ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE
WE'LL BUY YOU A MAP
PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT
PUSH IT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI
AND STOP DOGGONE IT
YOU IN NEW ORLEANS
OH YES THAT'S NEW, NEW ORLEANS

COBALT AND TRICK BABIES: WAY DOWN

WAY DOWN

COME ON DADDY

COME ON WAY, WAY DOWN

LOW DOWN, BREAK DOWN

STOMP DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS

NO WE AIN'T GOOD LOOKING

WE BUILT FOR SPEED

WE GOT EVERYTHING A SWEET PAPA NEED

MY SUGAR'S SWEET, OH YEAH AND SO ^yIS

MY MEAT

THE ONLY WAY YOU EVER GONNA GET YOU

A PIECE

COBALT AND TRICK BABIES: IS IF YOU GET DOWN
WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS
WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
HELLO DADDY
GOODBYE DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
HOLD ME DADDY
SCOLD ME DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY X DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

A.

GLORIA MOON

MY TABLE'S ALL LAID

MY PUDDING'S ALL MADE

YOU'LL SHINE

WHEN YOU DINE WITH MISS MOON

MY MENU'S COMPLETE

MY LIQUOR IS SWEET

BRING YOUR CUP

SO YOU CAN SUP FROM MY SPOON

I PREFER THE PLEASURE

I PREFER TO RESIST AN UNEVENTFUL LIFE

NO BUTTER CHURNING NO BISCUITS BURNING, NO MELON RINDS

NO BABY BLANKETS HANGING OUT ON MY LINE

NO KITCHEN GARDEN IN THE REAR

I BEG TO DECLINE A HUMDRUM LIFE

AVOID THE MILKIN AND THE QUILTIN STUFFED IN CHINKS

NO DIRTY DISHES WAITIN FOR ME IN MY SINK

AN OLD YARD DOG LYING NEAR

SOME WOMEN ARE CONTENT WITH WHAT THEY FIND

BUT I REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF MY MIND.

I CHOOSE TO AVOID A TREADMILL LIFE

NO ROCKING CHAIR, SILVERED HAIR ON MY HEAD

NO HEATED WATER BOTTLES WARMING UP MY BED

NO CARPET SLIPPERS ON THE FLOOR

I STAND ALOOF FROM A MUNDANE LIFE

NO SPINNING WHEEL, NO FISHING REEL ON MY PORCH

NO STANDING BY THE WINDOW WITH A LIGHTED TORCH

NO HONEY SUCKLE ROUND MY DOOR

SOME WOMEN ARE CONTENT WITH A GREAT DEAL LESS

BUT I REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF MY FLESH.

THROW OUT THE LAUNDRY THROW OUT THE SOAP

OH GET IT

GO GET IT

STOKE THE FIRE

TEAR DOWN THE STOVE

STRUT ON OUT

THE GODDAM DOOR

GONNA DO WHAT EVE NEVER DID

TAKE THE LIFE I CAME HERE

CAME HERE

CAME HERE TO LIVE.

THIS DAMSEL IS IN DISTRESS.

DAMSEL IN DISTRESS

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

THIS DAMSEL IN IN DISTRESS
DARING TO HAVE ALL--NOT LESS
OF THE LIFE I GREW UP TO LIVE
LOOSE THE FIRES MY OVE~~SS~~ HID

I DIDN'T GROW WINGS TO HELP ME WALK
WHEN I WANT TO SING DON'T TELL ME TO TALK

THIS HERE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS
SAYS NO TO NO AND YES TO YES
I'M GONNA DO WHAT EVE NEVER DID
TAKE THE LIFE I CAME HERE TO LIVE

(friends)

OH GET IT
GO GET IT
CRACK THE EGG
PIERCE THE YOLK
OH GET IT
GO GET IT
RAVEL THAT HEM
UNBOTTON YOUR COAT
OH GET IT
GO GET IT

(TRICK BABIES and COBALT BLUE
sing:)

"DADDY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

TRICK BABIES

WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
LOVE YOU DADDY
NEED YOU DADDY
OH MY DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

COBALT BLUE

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE
YOUR TRAIN DON'T RUN
DOWN THIS WAY
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
YOU LOST YOUR TICKET
YOU COULDN'T STICK IT
ONE MORE TIME
YOU COULDN'T STAY
YOU WOULDN'T STAY
WAY DOWN HERE IN NEW ORLEANS

TELL ME SOMETHING, DADDY
FORGOT YOUR ADDRESS
YOU GOT IN SOME MESS
WITH ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE
WELL BUY YOU A MAP
PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT
PUSH IT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI

1-8-51

COBALT BLUE (Continued)

AND STOP DOGGONE IT
YOU IN NEW ORLEANS
OH YES THAT'S NEW, NEW ORLEANS

COBALT BLUE & TRICK BABIES

WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN
COME ON DADDY
COME ON WAY, WAY DOWN
LOW DOWN, BREAK DOWN
STOMP DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS

NO WE AIN'T GOOD LOOKING
WE BUILT FOR SPEED
WE GOT EVERYTHING A SWEET PAPA NEED
MY SUGAR'S SWEET, OH YEAH AND SO'S
MY MEAT
THE ONLY WAY YOU EVER GONNA GET YOU
A PIECE
IS IF YOU GET DOWN
WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS

WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
HELLO DADDY
GOODBYE DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
HOLD ME DADDY
SCOLD ME DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

~~the piano~~

"FIRST"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

KNOCKOUT (Continued)

FIRST, I'D TRY LOVE
ALTHOUGH I'VE NEVER HEARD THE WORD
REFERRED TO
WHISPERED TO
ME

FIRST, I'D TRY LOVE
SO WHEN WINTER COMES
AND SUNDOWN BECOMES MY TIME OF DAY
IF ANYBODY ASKS
I CAN SAY, I CAN SAY
FIRST, I TRIED LOVE

A.

FIRST

FIRST I'D TRY LOVE

ALTHOUGH I'VE NEVER HEARD THE WORD

REFERRED TO

WHISPERED TO

ME

FIRST I'D TRY LOVE

SO WHEN WINTER COMES AND SUNDOWN BECOMES

MY TIME OF DAY

IF ANYBODY ASKS I CAN SAY

FIRST I TRIED LOVE

(REPEAT)

25% COTTON FIBER
CERTIFICATE BOND

A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

CAN'T YOU SEE
WE GOT WHAT WE NEED.

CAN'T YOU TELL
WE ARE HELD
BY BONDS STRONGER THAN STEEL.

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD.

IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD
WE NEVER MEET
STRANGERS ON THE STREET

IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD
AT WORK OR REST
WE'RE ALREADY BLESSED.

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD.

JESSICA FIVE sings "A WOMAN LIKE ME"
in antiphony with THE FIVE)

"A WOMAN LIKE ME"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JESSICA FIVE
OH WHAT A FINGER BREAKER THIS LIFE CAN BE
WHAT WOULD PEOPLE DO WITHOUT A WOMAN
LIKE ME

A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

FEATHERS, BEADS AND PROPERTY DEEDS
DROUGHT, FLOOD AND ANIMAL BLOOD
OH A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

CAT'S BALLS
RAG DOLLS
GRIS-GRIS DUST
LODESTONES
CHICKEN BONES
AND TRAIN TRACK RUST

OH WHAT A FINGER BREAKER THIS LIFE CAN BE
WHAT WOULD PEOPLE DO WITHOUT A WOMAN
LIKE ME

A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

L.

ADELA WESTWOOD

I'M MISS ADELLA WESTWOOD

THE GENTS ALL SAY I'M VERY GOOD

I'D BE BETTER IF I COULD

FIND A MAN WHO THINKS I SHOULD

HAVE A CHANCE TO SHOW WHAT I CAN DO

TO MAKE HIM LOVE WHAT HE DON'T WANT TO.

"AU REVOIR, BON SOIR"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

LA PREMIER

AU REVOIR FRIENDS I'VE HAD A
BALL OLD FRIENDS KEEPING MY
SHUTTERS WIDE OPEN FOR YOU
AU REVOIR FRIENDS TAKE IT FROM
ME OLD FRIENDS THERE'LL NEVER
BE NIGHTS WILDER WITH STARS
NO TEARS, GIRL NO DIAMOND
GLEAM IN EYES THAT HAVE SEEN
KINGDOMS OTHERS NEVER
DREAMED. WE'VE HAD A
GREAT TIME FRIENDS AND SINCE IT'S

GONE MY FRIENDS WHY NOT SAY
BON SOIR LONELINESS GOOD
EVENING LONELINESS OH
AU REVOIR LOVE I'VE HAD A
BALL MY LOVE, AU REVOIR

A.

AU REVOIR, BON SOIR
Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

LA PREMIER

AU REVOIR FRIENDS I'VE HAD A
BALL OLD FRIENDS KEEPING MY
SHUTTERS WIDE OPEN FOR YOU
AU REVOIR FRIENDS TAKE IT FROM
ME OLD FRIENDS THERE'LL NEVER
BE NIGHTS WILDER WITH STARS
NO TEARS, GIRL NO DIAMOND
GLEAM IN EYES THAT HAVE SEEN
KINGDOMS OTHERS NEVER
DREAMED. WE'VE HAD A
GREAT TIME FRIENDS AND SINCE IT'S
GONE MY FRIENDS WHY NOT SAY
BON SOIR LONELINESS GOOD
EVENING LONELINESS OH
AU REVOIR LOVE I'VE HAD A
BALL MY LOVE, AU REVOIR

"CALLA LILY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JOHNNY (Continued)

CALLA LILY DON'T CRY
LORD KNOWS I'VE BEEN STONE BLIND

I KNOW THAT I DON'T DESERVE THE FAVOR
TO BE EVEN STANDING IN YOUR SHADE, GIRL
CALLA LILY DON'T CRY
HEAR ME WHEN I SAY MY
LOVE FOR YOU IS REAL BUT IT NEEDS GUARDING
I HAVE SERVED MY TIME GRANT ME A PARDON
FORGET I FORGOT YOU'RE MY GIRL
JUST LET ME GET CLOSE TO MY GIRL
TAKE ME BACK AND I WON'T NEVER LEAVE YOU
CAUSE YOU'RE MY GIRL

ROCHELLE LA FORT

I ONCE HELD COURT

IN OLD NEWPORT

I'M JUST THE RIGHT SORT

FOR A LITTLE NIGHT SPORT

A LITTLE SHADY

BUT STILL A LADY

SO TAKE ME

MAKE ME

I'LL EVEN LET YOU SAVE ME

PROVIDED YOU WILL PAY ME

TO BE ROCHELLE LA FORT

FROM OLD NEWPORT

A.

NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE MUSIC SONGS PICK TO SING

THE FLOWERS WILD ROSES CHOOSE TO BREATHE

YOU'RE THE TIDES RIVERS WANT TO SWIM

THE LIGHT THAT LIGHT ITSELF WANTS TO SEE

AND WHEN THE MOON GOT TIRED OF GOING ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND

IT DREAMED UP NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS NEW ORLEANS

YOU'RE THE FEELING LOVE WANT TO FEEL

THE FIRE FLAMES WANT TO BURN

YOU'RE THE BREEZE THE WIND WANTS TO RIDE

THE COLOR LEAVES WANT TO TURN

AND WHEN PROUD BIRDS OF PASSION SEARCHED THE RAINBOW FOR A HOME

THEY SETTLED DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

LET ME TELL YOU BOUT NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS

LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS

SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

~~NEW ORLEANS~~

WHO'S MY DADDY

WHERE'S MY DADDY

MISS YOU DADDY

KISS YOU DADDY

(CONTINUED)

LOVE YOU DADDY

NEED YOU DADDY

OH MY DADDY

LETS PLAY DADDY

PLEASE STATY DADDY DOWN IN

NEW ORLEANS

WAHT S THE MATTER DADDY

CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE

YOUR TRAIN DONT RUN

DOWN THIS WAY

WHAT S THE MATTER DADDY

YOU LOST YOUR TICKET

YOU COULDNT STICK IT

ONE MORE TIME

YOU COULDNT STAY

YOU WOULDNT STAY

WAY DOWN HERE IN NEW ORLEANS

TELL ME SOMETHING DADDY

FORGOT YOUR ADDRESS

YOU GOT IN SOME MESS

WITH ANOTHER MAN S WIFE

(CONTINUED)

WELL BUY YOU A MAP
PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT
PUSH IT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI
AND STOP DOGGONE IT
YOU IN NEW ORLEANS
OH YES THAT"S NEW ORLEANS
WAY DOWN WAY DOWN
COME ON DADDY
WAY WAY DOWN
LOW DOWN, BREAK DOWN
STOMP DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS
NO WE AINT GOOD LOOKING
WE BUILT FOR SPEED
WE GOT EVERYTHING A SWEET PAPA NEED
MY SUGAR"S SWEET OH YEAH AND SO S MY MEAT
THE ONLY WAY YOU EVER GONNA GET YOU A PIECE
IS IF YOU GET DOWN, WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS
WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE S MY DADDY
HELLO DADDY
GOODBYE DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY

(CONTINUED)

KISS YOU DADDY

HOLD ME DADDY

SCOLD ME DADDY

LET'S PLAY DADDY

PLEASE STATY DADDY

DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

25% COTTON FIBER
CERTIFICATE BOND

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME
Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

(Attitude of a servant)

I PUT ON AN APRON,
BIND MY HAIR
TO DO THE WORK
AND TAKE THE CARE

WHILE THEY SLEEP
I MAKE THE FIRE - HIGHER, HIGHER

I'M EARLY I'M LATE
I OPEN THE DOOR
I LOCK THE GATE

I SEE THE INS, I SEE THE OUTS
I KNOW THE REASONS
FEEL THE DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME
DEEP AS SPACE
BUT IF I EVER LET GO THIS PLACE
YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME.

(Attitude of a woman)

I HAVE A WOMB
AND CARRY THERE
THE GRIEF OF SEASONS
BLOSSOM AND BARE

WHEN YOU SLEEP
I TEND THE FIRE'S DESIRE, DESIRE

I'M EARLY I'M LATE
I WATCH THE DOORS
AND LOCK THE GATES

I KNOW YOUR INS, YOUR OUTS
I KNOW THE REASONS
FEEL THE DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME
DEEP AS SPACE
BUT IF I EVER LEAVE THIS PLACE
YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

(Attitude of a goddess)

MY ARMS HOLD MIDNIGHT

MY VOICE IS AIR

MY WORK IS WONDEROUS

EVERYWHERE

IN YOUR DREAMS

I AM THE FIRE - WILDER, WILDER

I'M EARLY, I'M LATE

I BREAK DOWN DOORS

AND SLAM THE GATES

I AM YOUR INS, I AM YOUR OUTS

I AM YOUR REASONS

I AM YOUR DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME

DEEP AS SPACE

AND WHEN I TAKE MY RIGHTFUL PLACE

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

THE SLY LIFE

YOU GOTTA CUT A DEAL WITH YOUR FEELINGS
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE THE NIGHT FLY
YOU GOTTA CUT A DEAL WITH YOUR FEELINGS
IF YOU WANT TO MAKE THE NIGHT DIE
BE WILLING TO LOSE BY THE RULES
LAID DOWN BY THE NIGHT'S EYES
I TOOK UP THE SLY LIFE
THE THIN-SHARP-KNIFE LIFE
AND THE GLITTER OF THE BACK ROADS.
O IT'S THE GAZE OF THE DAYS THAT
FRY ME, HANG AND DRY ME
(9 TO 5 ME APPLE PIE ME)
DOWN TO SIZE ME STERILIZE ME
GIVE ME THE SLY LIFE - THE HERE TO DIE LIFE
AND THE GLITTER OF THE BACKROADS
OH GIVE ME THE SLY LIFE - THE KILL FOR SPITE LIFE
WHEN I'M SLICK, I CAN CLICK
DOWN THE BACKROADS
IN THE GLITTER OF THE BACKROADS
MY SLY LIFE CARRIES ON
MY SLY LIFE CARRIES ON

h
PATRICIA DIAMOND

I 'M PATRICIA DIAMOND

AND I 'M A SHY ONE.

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN FIND ONE

LIKE ME, GO AHEAD AND TRY ONE

YOU'LL COME BACK TO BUY ONE

HOT MINUTE WITH ME.

THE STREETS OF NEW ORLEANS

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

LIBERTY, WILLOW, BASIN STREET
DESIRE, IBERVILLE

BOURBON, PERDIDO, CARROLTON
DRYADES, MELPOMENE

FRENCHMAN, CLAIBORNE, RAMPART, CANAL
NAPOLEON, ELYSIAN FIELDS

GOVERNOR, BURGUNDY, TUPELO
VILLERE, METAIRIE

ST. LOUIS, ST. JAMES, CONTI, GALVEZ
LAUREL, BIENVILLE

GRAVIER, DAUPHINE
OCTAVIA, MAGAZINE

POYDRAS, GASQUET
REX, VIEUX CARRE

ARE THE STREETS OF NEW ORLEANS
ARE THE STREETS OF NEW ORLEANS

WHERE WE WORK IN NEW ORLEANS
WHERE WE WORK IN NEW ORLEANS

ACT IIScene 9

Docks. FULL CAST (minus CLARENCE) is in attendance at send-off for BEAU who is going upriver to take music to larger audiences and join those musicians as CLARENCE had wished to do. The mood is celebratory -- a higher note of joy than first dock scene, done in the style of a New Orleans parade -- EVERYONE dancing and singing. BEAU will mount the ramp to the wonderful river boat, and from that height HE continues the following song with COBALT and COMPANY.

"THANK YOU"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

BEAU

(To CALLY)

GOT DOWN FROM MY MOTHER'S KNEE
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
STANDING ON MY OWN TWO FEET
THANK YOU I'M A MAN

(To JOHNNY)

GOT A GIFT FROM MY OLD MAN
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
MAKING IT NOW WITH MY OWN HAND
THANK YOU I'M A MAN

(To LA PREMIER'S GIRLS)

SWAM THE RIVER GOT TO SHORE
RIVER WON'T SOAK MY HEAD NO MORE

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU YOU A MAN

BEAU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU I'M A MAN

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU YOU A MAN

BEAU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

I'M A MAN

COMPANY

HE'S A MAN

BEAU

(TO SATAN)
MET A GAMBLER, EVIL AS SIN
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
TAUGHT ME HOW TO SAVE MY SKIN

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU COMPANY
THANK YOU I'M A MAN BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU
(TO SWEET JUSTICE)
WATCHED A THIEF FINGERS SO LIGHT
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
KEPT MY POCKETS BUTTONED UP TIGHT

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU COMPANY
THANK YOU I'M A MAN BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU
(TO LA PREMIER)
HERE'S THAT LADY WITH THE DAZZLING SMILE

COMPANY
LA PREMIER, LA PREMIER

BEAU
TOOK THE TOWN AND GAVE IT STYLE

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU COMPANY
THANK YOU I'M A MAN BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

MEN
IN TROUBLED TIMES WHEN LIFE IS SOUR

BEAU
THANK YOU, I'M A MAN

WOMEN
GO TO THE WOMAN WITH THE CONJURE POWER

COMPANY
WHOA, LOOK AT BEAU, LOOK AT BEAU

BEAU
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, I'M A MAN

WOMEN
HE'S A MAN

MEN

HE'S A MAN

COMPANY

LOOK AT BEAU, LOOK AT BEAU

BEAU

(To the TOWN)

I LIVED ON THE SHIP, WORKED WITH THE CREW
GONNA LEAVE THIS HARBOR, WON'T LEAVE YOU

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU

(For CLARENCE)

HEARD A NOTE PLAYED

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

COMPANY

SO SWEET

SO SWEET

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

THANK YOU, HE'S A MAN

BEAU

STOLE MY HEART AND MOVED MY FEET

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

COMPANY

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

THANK YOU, HE'S A MAN

BEAU

GOT MY MUSIC FROM THAT MAN

TAKE IT NOW ALL OVER THIS LAND

COMPANY

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND

TAKE IT NOW ALL OVER THIS LAND

MEN

OVER THIS LAND

COMPANY

OH, OVER THIS LAND

SPREAD NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE

LET ME TELL YOU 'BOUT NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY

NEW ORLEANS

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND

SPREAD NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE
SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY
NEW ORLEANS

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND
SING NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY
NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, NEW ORLEANS
NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, NEW ORLEANS

(Etc.)

THE END

"THIS PIECE OF PLANET"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

LA PREMIER & MASQUERS

THIS PIECE OF PLANET IS MINE
I DON'T WANT YOUR KIND
IT STIMULATES MY MIND
TO KNOW THAT I CAN FIND
DAY, NIGHT, ANY TIME
THIS PIECE OF PLANET IS MINE
IT STIMULATES MY MIND

VESUVIUS

THEY CALL ME VESUVIUS

I GOT LAVA ENOUGH FOR THE TWO OF US

MY VOLCANO NEVER COOLS

AND IN MY OVEN THERE AIN'T NO RULES.

I'LL COOK A LITTLE STEW FOR YOU

THERE AIN'T NOTHING I WON'T DO FOR YOU

WHEN MY DAMPER'S UP

I GOT A HEALING TOUCH

AND I DON'T USE NO GOOFY DUST.

COME ON AND COOK WITH VESUVIUS

I GOT LAVA ENOUGH FOR THE TWO OF US

LA PREMIER

Um hm. As bad as they say and as good as they say. Try it, if you ain't scared. 200 North Basin Street. You'll recognize the house. The shutters are wide open and wild red. They don't call me La Premier for nothing00but I'm not just the First; I'm also the last. If any of you get tired of church suppers and want a real feast come see me. My shutters are wide open.

(La Premier taps offstage to the sneering but uneasy laughter of the men. She is offstage completely, but the sound of her tapping remains. Johnny and the others start to walk away, but he stops to listen to her rhythm. The tapping becomes part of "Omar's Music," louder and louder. Johnny begins to move to it, does a step or two, struggles to maintain his own beat as the scene changes. As he struggles he images a street in the District, and enters it. Tonk houses, cribs, music blaring, people in various poses that are the exaggerations of the cliché. All very seductive. Into this line of District types struts Satan who leads them in the song "WE AIN'T WILD"

WE AIN'T WILD

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

WE AIN'T WILD
 WE JUST GOT STYLE
 WE AIN'T ROUGH
 WE JUST 'CUT THAT STUFF'
 WE AIN'T MEAN
 WE JUST SO CLEAN
 ASK ANY FOOL IF THE DISTRICT IS CRUEL
 AND YOU'LL HEAR HIM SAY
 THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 FROM SIDEWALK TRAMPS
 TO SOCIETY VAMPS
 THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 ASK THE CHUMPS BREATHING DIRT
 CAUSE THEY GOT THEIR FEELINGS HURT
 IF THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 OH, THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 AS THE PIMPS LOCKED IN JAIL
 AS THE WOMEN OUT ON BAIL
 IF THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY
 OH YEAH, THE DISTRICT PAVES THE WAY

SATAN ONLY

MY MOTHER NEVER UNDERSTOOD MY SMILE
 MY MOTHER NEVER 'PRECIATED MY STYLE
 I TOLD HER SHE HURT ME
 ASKING HER BABY BOY NOT TO ENJOY HIS TOY

A.

We Been Mama

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

WE ARE AUNTIE: WE ARE SIS

HAND ME THAT GIVE ME THIS

BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES UP

STARING INTO COFFEE CUPS

JUST ABOUT TO

FIGURE HOW TO

WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY

SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS DRAMA

ALTO SUNG IN OTHER FOLKS HARMONY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

ARE YOU SICK: ARE YOU BLUE

LET ME KNOW I LL CRAWL TO YOU

BY THE TIME THE MOON COMES ROUND

FORE WE SMOOTH THE PILLOW DOWN

WE STILL GOT TO

FIGURE HOW TO

WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY

SEE A WALL WE MAKE A SAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS DRAMA

THE HA HA HA IN OTHER FOLKS COMEDY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

WE ARE AUNTIE: WE ARE SIS

HAND ME THAT GIVE ME THIS

BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES UP

STARING INTO COFFEE CUPS

JUST ABOUT TO

FIGURE HOW TO

WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY

SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

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ALTO SONG IN OTHER FOLKS HARMONY

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WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES

WE BEEN MAMA

ARE YOU SICK: ARE YOU BLUE

LET ME KNOW I LL CRAWL TO YOU

BY THE TIME THE MOON COMES ROUND
FORE WE SMOOTH THE PILLOW DOWN
WE STILL GOT TO
FIGURE HOW TO
WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY
SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS DRAMA
THE HA HA HA IN OTHER FOLKS COMEDY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA

"WE BEEN MAMA"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE ARE AUNTIE, WE ARE SIS
HAND ME THAT -- GIVE ME THIS

BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES UP
STARING INTO COFFEE CUPS
JUST ABOUT TO
FIGURE HOW TO
WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY
SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS' DRAMA
ALTO SUNG IN OTHER FOLKS' HARMONY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
ARE YOU SICK, ARE YOU BLUE
LET ME KNOW, I'LL CRAWL TO YOU

BY THE TIME THE MOON COMES ROUND
FORE WE SMOOTH THE PILLOW DOWN
WE STILL GOT TO
FIGURE HOW TO
WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY
SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS' DRAMA
THE HA-HA-HA IN OTHER FOLKS' COMEDY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA

WOMAN: WORN ONCE

Woman: slightly frayed

Woman: handmade

Got my going-out-of-business sign up

Because my man has made his mind up

Woman: worn once

Woman: hardly used

Woman: like new

He took an ad out in the paper

"Used merchandise on sale" for

Woman: worn once

A bit soiled; never spoiled

Not young: but still runs

Step this way, sir: terms arranged for

Woman: worn once

Woman: second hand

Woman: on demand

~~Vacant property; will build to suit~~

~~The lease expired; he won't renew~~

Woman" worn once

~~Woman: marked down~~

~~Woman: heart sound~~

Examine carefully this ^{First rate} ~~bargin~~

Buy these goods before the ^{rummage} ~~sale~~ ends

Woman: worn once

Guaranteed; highly trained

Easy terms; will trade

Low down payment when you take this

Woman: worn once

A.

WOMAN: WORN ONCE

WOMAN: SLIGHTLY FRAYED

WOMAN: HANDMADE

GOT YOUR GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SIGN UP

BECAUSE YOUR MAN HAS GONE AND MADE HIS MIND UP

WOMAN, WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

WOMAN HARDLY USED

WOMAN LIKE NEW

HE TOOK AN ADVERTISEMENT PUT IT IN THE PAPER

USED MERCHANDISE ON SALE FOR

WOMAN, WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

A BIT SOILED: NEVER SPOILED

NOT YOUNG: BUT STILL RUNS

STEP THIS WAY, SIR: TERMS ARRANGED FOR

WOMAN WORN ONCE

WOMAN: SECOND HAND

WOMAN: ON DEMAND

EXAMINE CAREFULLY THIS FIRST RATE BARGAIN

BUY THESE GOOD BEFORE THE RUMMAGE SALE ENDS

WOMAN WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

GUARENTEED: HIGHLY TRAINED

EASY TERMS: WILL TRADE

^{NO}
~~LOW~~ DOWN PAYMENT WHEN YOU TAKE THIS

~~WOMAN~~ woman - this woman worn once.

L.

WOMAN: WORN ONCE

WOMAN: SLIGHTLY FRAYED

WOMAN: HANDMADE

GOT YOUR GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SIGN UP

BECAUSE YOUR MAN HAS GONE AND MADE HIS MIND UP

WOMAN, WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

WOMAN HARDLY USED

WOMAN LIKE NEW

HE TOOK AN ADVERTISEMENT PUT IT IN THE PAPER

USED MERCHANDISE ON SALE FOR

WOMAN, WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

A BIT SOILED: NEVER SPOILED

NOT YOUNG: BUT STILL RUNS

STEP THIS WAY, SIR: TERMS ARRANGED FOR

WOMAN WORN ONCE

WOMAN: SECOND HAND

WOMAN: ON DEMAND

EXAMINE CAREFULLY THIS FIRST RATE BARGAIN

BUY THESE GOOD BEFORE THE RUMMAGE SALE ENDS

WOMAN WOMAN WOMAN WORN ONCE

GUARENTEED: HIGHLY TRAINED

EASY TERMS: WILL TRADE

LOW DOWN PAYMENT WHEN YOU TAKE THIS

WOMAN THIS WOMAN WORN ONCE.

CALLY

Well, get it, Girl, get it.

(THEY go and return with clothing during
the following song)

"DAMSEL IN DISTRESS"

Lyrics c 1982 by Toni Morrison

THIS DAMSEL IS IN DISTRESS

Dares
DARING TO HAVE ALL - NOT LESS

OF THE LIFE I GREW UP TO LIVE

LOOSE THE FIRE MY HID *Apron 5*

I DIDN'T GROW WINGS TO HELP ME WALK

WHEN I WANT TO SING DON'T TELL ME TO TALK

THIS HERE DAMSEL IN DISTRESS

SAYS NO TO NO AND YES TO YES

I'M GONNA DO WHAT EVE NEVER DID

TAKE THE LIFE I CAME HERE TO LIVE

FRIENDS

OH GET IT

GO GET IT

CRACK THE EGG

PIERCE THE YOLK

OH GET IT

GO GET IT

FRIENDS (Continued)

RAVEL THAT HEM

UNBUTTON YOUR COAT

OH GET IT

GO GET IT

THROW OUT THE LAUNDRY

THROW OUT THE SOAP

OH GET IT

GO GET IT

STOKE THE FIRE

TEAR DOWN THE STOVE

STRUT ON OUT

THE GODDAM DOOR

CALLY

GONNA DO WHAT EVE NEVER DID

TAKE THE LIFE I CAME HERE

CAME HERE

CAME HERE TO LIVE.

THIS DAMSEL IS IN DISTRESS.

Woman, marked down,

Woman, heart sound

Examine carefully this first rate bargain

Buy these goods before the sale ends

Woman, Woman, Woman worn once

Gauranteed highly trained

Easy terms, will trade

No down payment, if you take this

Woman worn once

GENEVA
VACANT PROPERTY; WILL BUILD TO SUIT

CALLY
THE LEASE EXPIRED; HE WON'T RENEW
WOMAN

GENEVA
WOMAN

BOTH
WOMAN: WORN ONCE

GENEVA
WOMAN: MARKED DOWN

CALLY
WOMAN: HEART SOUND

GENEVA
EXAMINE CAREFULLY THIS FIRST RATE BARGAIN
BUY THESE GOODS BEFORE THE RUMMAGE SALE ENDS
WOMAN

CALLY
WOMAN

BOTH
WOMAN: WORN ONCE

CALLY
GUARANTEED: HIGHLY TRAINED

GENEVA
EASY TERMS; WILL TRADE
NO DOWN PAYMENT IF YOU TAKE THIS
WOMAN

CALLY
THIS WOMAN

BOTH
WORN ONCE

GENEVA
Okay, okay, I'm gone. I have to get back anyhow. But just in
case, here's the address.
(Puts it on curtain stretcher)

CALLY
I wouldn't even know what to say. I'd have to tell her --
everything.

CALLY
He has to want to come back.

GENEVA
(Laughing)
So trick him into wanting to.

CALLY
We've known each other since we were six, Geneva. We been married 18 years. You telling me I need - conjure? After 18 years?

GENEVA
She got power, Cally. Real power and, girl, we need all the power we can get.

"WOMAN WORN ONCE"
(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

GENEVA (Continued)
WOMAN: SLIGHTLY FRAYED
WOMAN: HANDMADE

CALLY
I GOT MY GOING-OUT-OF-BUSINESS SIGN UP
CAUSE MY MAN HAS GONE AND MADE HIS MIND UP

BOTH
WOMAN WOMAN

GENEVA
WOMAN: WORN ONCE
WOMAN: HARDLY USED
WOMAN: LIKE NEW

CALLY
HE TOOK AN ADVERTISEMENT PUT IN THE PAPER
"USED MERCHANDISE ON SALE" FOR

BOTH
WOMAN WOMAN

GENEVA
WOMAN: WORN ONCE
A BIT SOILED: NEVER SPOILED
NOT YOUNG:

CALLY
BUT STILL RUNS

GENEVA
STEP THIS WAY, SIR: TERMS ARRANGED FOR
WOMAN: WORN ONCE

BOTH
WOMAN: SECOND HAND
WOMAN: ON DEMAND

"CALLA LILY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JOHNNY (Continued)

CALLA LILY DON'T CRY
LORD KNOWS I'VE BEEN STONE BLIND

I KNOW THAT I DON'T DESERVE THE FAVOR
TO BE EVEN STANDING IN YOUR SHADE, GIRL
CALLA LILY DON'T CRY
HEAR ME WHEN I SAY MY
LOVE FOR YOU IS REAL BUT IT NEEDS GUARDING
I HAVE SERVED MY TIME GRANT ME A PARDON
FORGET I FORGOT YOU'RE MY GIRL
JUST LET ME GET CLOSE TO MY GIRL
TAKE ME BACK AND I WON'T NEVER LEAVE YOU
CAUSE YOU'RE MY GIRL

L.
CHANSON

AU REVOIR FRIENDS I'VE HAD A
BALL OLD FRIENDS KEEPING MY
SHUTTERS WIDE OPEN FOR YOU
AU REVOIR FRIENDS TAKE IT FROM
ME OLD FRIENDS THERE'LL NEVER
BE NIGHTS WILDER WITH STARS
NO TEARS, GIRL NO DIAMOND
GLEAM IN EYES THAT HAVE SEEN
~~DELICIOUS~~ **Kingdoms** OTHERS NEVER
DREAMED. WE'VE HAD A
GREAT TIME FRIENDS AND SINCE IT'S
GONE MY FRIENDS WHY NOT SAY
BON SOIR LONELINESS GOOD
EVENING LONELINESS OH
AU REVOIR LOVE I'VE HAD A
BALL MY LOVE, AU REVOIR

"AU REVOIR, BON SOIR"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

LA PREMIER

AU REVOIR FRIENDS I'VE HAD A
BALL OLD FRIENDS KEEPING MY
SHUTTERS WIDE OPEN FOR YOU
AU REVOIR FRIENDS TAKE IT FROM
ME OLD FRIENDS THERE'LL NEVER
BE NIGHTS WILDER WITH STARS
NO TEARS, GIRL NO DIAMOND
GLEAM IN EYES THAT HAVE SEEN
KINGDOMS OTHERS NEVER
DREAMED. WE'VE HAD A
GREAT TIME FRIENDS AND SINCE IT'S

GONE MY FRIENDS WHY NOT SAY
BON SOIR LONELINESS GOOD
EVENING LONELINESS OH
AU REVOIR LOVE I'VE HAD A
BALL MY LOVE, AU REVOIR

CERTIFICATE BOND

25% COTTON FIBER

"IT'S SUNDAY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

CALLY (Continued)

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE SITTING IN THAT CHAIR NOW

BEAU

I can sit in his chair.

CALLY

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE WANTING A COOL BEER NOW

BEAU

I can drink his beer.

CALLY

I CAN'T HELP IT IF IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME BRAID MY HAIR

BEAU

But I'm still here.

CALLY

CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S SUNDAY
HE'D BE STRUMMING ME A TUNE NOW

BEAU

I can play his song.

CALLY

HOW COME HE DON'T KNOW IT'S SUNDAY
I'D BE DANCING ROUND THIS ROOM NOW
(SHE begins to dance)

BEAU

Don't dance alone.

CALLY

I CAN'T HELP IT IF IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME TAKE MY HAND

(THEY dance)

CALLY (Continued)

I'M SO LONELY WHEN IT'S SUNDAY
A WOMAN'S HEART CAN BREAK BY MONDAY
THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE ONE DAY
HE'D COME TAKE MY HAND

(THEY stop. CALLY lets her hand drop
from BEAU's)

BEAU

Ma, I'm telling you. It's going to be all right.

"WE BEEN MAMA"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE ARE AUNTIE, WE ARE SIS
HAND ME THAT -- GIVE ME THIS

BY THE TIME THE SUN COMES UP
STARING INTO COFFEE CUPS
JUST ABOUT TO
FIGURE HOW TO
WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY
SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS' DRAMA
ALTO SONG IN OTHER FOLKS' HARMONY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
ARE YOU SICK, ARE YOU BLUE
LET ME KNOW, I'LL CRAWL TO YOU

BY THE TIME THE MOON COMES ROUND
FORE WE SMOOTH THE PILLOW DOWN
WE STILL GOT TO
FIGURE HOW TO
WALK ON WATER ONE MORE DAY
SEE A WALL WE MAKE A WAY

WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WITNESS TO OTHER FOLKS' DRAMA
THE HA-HA-HA IN OTHER FOLKS' COMEDY
WE BEEN WIVES ALL OUR LIVES
WE BEEN MAMA

"NEW ORLEANS"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

COBALT BLUE (Continued)

NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
YOU'RE THE MUSIC SONGS PICK TO SING
THE FLOWERS WILD ROSES CHOOSE TO BREATHE
YOU'RE THE TIDES RIVERS WANT TO SWIM
THE LIGHT THAT LIGHT ITSELF WANTS TO SEE
AND WHEN THE MOON GOT TIRED OF GOING ROUND AND ROUND
AND ROUND
IT DREAMED UP NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
YOU'RE THE FEELING LOVE WANTS TO FEEL
THE FIRE FLAMES WANT TO BURN
YOU'RE THE BREEZE THE WIND WANTS TO RIDE
THE COLOR LEAVES WANT TO TURN
AND WHEN PROUD BIRDS OF PASSION SEARCHED THE RAINBOW
FOR A HOME
THEY SETTLED DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

LET ME TELL YOU 'BOUT NEW ORLEANS
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS
SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

(TRICK BABIES and COBALT BLUE
sing:)

"DADDY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

TRICK BABIES

WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
LOVE YOU DADDY
NEED YOU DADDY
OH MY DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

come Back

COBALT BLUE

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE
YOUR TRAIN DON'T RUN
DOWN THIS WAY
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DADDY
YOU LOST YOUR TICKET
YOU COULDN'T STICK IT
ONE MORE TIME
YOU COULDN'T STAY
YOU WOULDN'T STAY
WAY DOWN HERE IN NEW ORLEANS

TELL ME SOMETHING, DADDY
FORGOT YOUR ADDRESS
YOU GOT IN SOME MESS
WITH ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE
WELL BUY YOU A MAP
PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT
PUSH IT DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI

1-8-51

COBALT BLUE (Continued)

AND STOP DOGGONE IT
YOU IN NEW ORLEANS
OH YES THAT'S NEW, NEW ORLEANS

COBALT BLUE & TRICK BABIES

WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN
COME ON DADDY
COME ON WAY, WAY DOWN
LOW DOWN, BREAK DOWN
STOMP DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS

NO WE AIN'T GOOD LOOKING
WE BUILT FOR SPEED
WE GOT EVERYTHING A SWEET PAPA NEED
MY SUGAR'S SWEET, OH YEAH AND SO'S
MY MEAT
THE ONLY WAY YOU EVER GONNA GET YOU
A PIECE
IS IF YOU GET DOWN
WAY DOWN
WAY DOWN TO NEW ORLEANS

WHO'S MY DADDY
WHERE'S MY DADDY
HELLO DADDY
GOODBYE DADDY
MISS YOU DADDY
KISS YOU DADDY
HOLD ME DADDY
SCOLD ME DADDY
LET'S PLAY DADDY
PLEASE STAY DADDY
DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS

"SATAN'S SONG"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

SATAN (Continued)

SATAN AIN'T VILE
I JUST GOT STYLE
SATAN AIN'T ROUGH
I JUST CUT MY STUFF
SATAN AIN'T MEAN
I JUST SO CLEAN
ASK ANY FOOL IF SATAN'S CRUEL
AND YOU'LL HEAR HIM SAY
SATAN GETS HIS WAY
FROM SIDEWALK TRAMPS
TO SOCIETY VAMPS
SATAN GETS HIS WAY
SATAN GETS HIS WAY

ASK THE CHUMPS WHO ARE BREATHING DIRT
CAUSE I GOT MY FEELINGS HURT
IF SATAN GETS HIS WAY
OH SATAN GETS HIS WAY
ASK THE PIMPS LOCKED IN JAIL
ASK THE WOMEN OUT ON BAIL
IF SATAN GOT HIS WAY
OH YEAH, SATAN GETS HIS WAY.

MY MOTHER NEVER UNDERSTOOD MY SMILE
MY MOTHER NEVER 'PRECIATED MY STYLE

I TOLD HER SHE HURT ME
ASKING HER BABY BOY NOT TO ENJOY HIS TOY
I GOT A TASTE FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE
BUT I CAN GET WILD IF YOU MESS WITH
MY STYLE
SATAN SHO LIKES HIS STYLE!

"I PREFER THE PLEASURE"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

LA PREMIER

I PREFER TO RESIST AN UNEVENTFUL LIFE
NO BUTTER CHURNING, BISCUITS BURNING, MELON RINDS

NO BABY BLANKETS HANGING OUT ON MY LINE
NO KITCHEN GARDEN IN THE REAR

I BEG TO DECLINE A HUMDRUM LIFE
AVOID THE MILKIN' AND THE QUILTIN' STUFFED IN CHINKS
NO DIRTY DISHES WAITIN' FOR ME IN MY SINK
OLD YARD DOG LYING NEAR

SOME WOMEN ARE CONTENT WITH WHAT THEY FIND
BUT I REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF MY MIND

I CHOOSE TO AVOID A TREADMILL LIFE
NO ROCKING CHAIR, SILVERED HAIR ON MY HEAD
NO HEATED WATER BOTTLES WARMING UP MY BED
NO CARPET SLIPPERS ON THE FLOOR

I STAND ALOOF FROM A MUNDANE LIFE
NO SPINNING WHEEL, NO FISHING REEL ON MY PORCH
NO STANDING BY THE WINDOW WITH A LIGHTED TORCH
NO HONEY SUCKLE ROUND MY DOOR

SOME WOMEN ARE CONTENT WITH A GREAT DEAL LESS
BUT I REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF MY FLESH

ACT IIScene 2

Courtyard of ANA LA PREMIER's house.
JOHNNY enters, disconsolate. HE sees
his banjo (or guitar) lying, dis-
carded, somewhere in the garden. HE
picks it up and strums a little and
then sings:

"LONGSHOT GAMBLER"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JOHNNY

I DEAL THE CARDS, THEN PICK THEM UP
SPREAD THEM IN MY FINGERS LIKE A FAN
I PLAY THE JACK, TO HOLD THE QUEEN
HIT THE DEUCE WITH A TRES IF I CAN

DON'T LOOK IN MY PALM
WHERE THE LINES ARE RUNNING OUT EVERYDAY
THE MESSAGE THERE IS CLEAR AND CALM
THE GAME'S A GAME UNTIL YOU PAY
I'M A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
AIN'T NO FUTURE IN MY HAND

BROKEN LINES RUNNING CROSS MY HAND
DAMN THIS HAND
SEE MY LUCK HEADIN' FOR THE DOOR
LOST SO MUCH CAN'T LOSE NO MORE
PLACE THE BET, TOOK A CHANCE
LOOKING FOR A STREAK OF LUCK
SHOT THE DICE
NOT ONCE BUT TWICE
LORD DON'T LET ME
LOSE TOO MUCH

DON'T OPEN MY PALM
WHERE THE LINES ARE RUNNING OUT EVERYDAY
THE MESSAGE THERE IS CLEAR AND CALM
THE GAME'S A GAME UNTIL YOU PAY
I'M A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
A LONGSHOT GAMBLER
CAN'T SEE NO FUTURE IN MY HAND

(LA PREMIER enters and notices how
melancholy HE looks)

JESSICA FIVE sings "A WOMAN LIKE ME"
in antiphony with THE FIVE)

"A WOMAN LIKE ME"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JESSICA FIVE
OH WHAT A FINGER BREAKER THIS LIFE CAN BE
WHAT WOULD PEOPLE DO WITHOUT A WOMAN
LIKE ME

JESSICA FIVE (Continued)
A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

FEATHERS, BEADS AND PROPERTY DEEDS
DROUGHT, FLOOD AND ANIMAL BLOOD
OH A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

CAT'S BALLS
RAG DOLLS
GRIS-GRIS DUST
LODESTONES
CHICKEN BONES
AND TRAIN TRACK RUST

OH WHAT A FINGER BREAKER THIS LIFE CAN BE
WHAT WOULD PEOPLE DO WITHOUT A WOMAN
LIKE ME

A WOMAN LIKE ME
A WOMAN LIKE ME
AN INTELLIGENT, CLEVER WOMAN LIKE ME

GIRLS (Continued)

Oh, Sweet Justice, we sure love you!

(SWEET JUSTICE sings:)

"SWEET JUSTICE"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

SWEET JUSTICE
EVERYBODY LOVES JUSTICE, SWEET JUSTICE
BUT MERCY IS WHAT THEY NEED

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS
MERCY JUSTICE MERCY JUSTICE

SWEET JUSTICE

Look,

BOSS MAN WAS LAYIN' IN HIS BED ONE NIGHT
WHEN A POWERFUL FEVER TOOK HOLD
HE CALLED ME OVER TO THE SIDE OF THE BED
SAID, "GET DOWN ON YOUR KNEES"
SAID, "PRAY SWEET JUSTICE TO THE LORD ABOVE
TO RESTORE MY HEALTH
IF HE HEARS YOUR PRAYER AND RELEASES ME
I'LL GIVE YOU ALL MY WEALTH."
I GOT RIGHT DOWN AND PRAYED REAL HARD
SOFTLY UNDER MY BREATH,
"OH LORD, HE WANTS RELEASE
AND ALL SAINTS WELCOME DEATH."
AND HE HOLLERED, "JUSTICE, SWEET JUSTICE"
BUT MERCY IS WHAT HE NEED

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS
EVERYBODY LOVES JUSTICE

SWEET JUSTICE

Yeah.

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS
SWEET JUSTICE

SWEET JUSTICE

Uh huh.

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS
BUT MERCY IS WHAT THEY NEED

SWEET JUSTICE
I JOINED MY BUDDIES IN THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR
AND CLIMBED UP SAN JUAN HILL
TEDDY SAID, "BOYS RIGHT OVER THE TOP
IS A MIGHTY LOT OF PEONS TO KILL

SWEET JUSTICE (Continued)

SO, LOOK ALIVE BOYS, AIM YOUR SHOT, LET'S
 SHOW 'EM WHAT WE CAN DO
 I WANT EVERY MAN TO LOOK ALIVE UNTIL THE
 BATTLE IS THROUGH"

I LISTENED REAL CLOSE TO WHAT HE SAID
 AND IT SOUNDED PRETTY GOOD TO ME
 I TOOK MY FEET BACK DOWN THAT HILL
 LIKE A CONVICT JUST SET FREE
 WHEN THE SMOKE DIED DOWN, AND THE MOON
 CAME UP

THAT "LOOK ALIVE" MAN WAS ME
 TEDDY HOLLERED, "JUSTICE, COME BACK HERE,
 JUSTICE" ^{HE}

BUT MERCY IS WHAT ~~I~~ NEED
 EVERYBODY LOVES JUSTICE

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

MERCY

SWEET JUSTICE

SWEET JUSTICE

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

MERCY

SWEET JUSTICE

BUT MERCY IS WHAT THEY NEED

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

MERCY!

SWEET JUSTICE

MY WOMAN TOOK A SHINE TO MY BEST FRIEND
 AND THREW HER FEMALE NET
 PUT A RED SILK RIBBON IN HER HAIR
 AND PERFUME ALL OVER HER NECK
 SHE TIPPED ON OUT SMELLING LIKE A CAKE
 AND DIDN'T COME BACK 'TIL DAWN
 SHE SAID, "OH LORD, WHAT'S GOING ON
 WHAT'S THAT BEHIND YOUR BACK?"
 I SAID, "I LOVE TO SMELL THAT PERFUME
 SO I'M GONNA CUT IT RIGHT OFF YOUR NECK"
 SHE HOLLERED, "JUSTICE, DON'T GIMME NO
 JUSTICE
 MERCY IS WHAT I NEED"

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

SWEET JUSTICE

MERCY

SWEET JUSTICE

Huh?

JUSTICE

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

Again?

SWEET JUSTICE

MERCY JUSTICE

LA PREMIER'S GIRLS

SWEET JUSTICE

I RISK MY LIFE ALL OVER THIS TOWN
 TO STEAL YOU THESE PRETTY THINGS
 BRACELETS AND DRESSES AND OPERA HOSE
 RIBBONS AND DIAMOND RINGS
 I GOT WATCHES AND SHAWLS AND BLOOMERS FOR ALL
 SHOES AND SATIN CHEMISE
 YOU HAGGLE, YOU FUSS, YOU CHEAT ALTHOUGH
 YOU KNOW I'M ~~JUST~~ AN HONEST THIEF
 I LIKED TO GET KILLED GETTING THESE THINGS
 MY PROFESSION IS A DANGEROUS ONE
 BUT WHEN AT LAST YOU MADE YOUR CHOICE AND
 DRESSED FROM TOE TO CHIN
 YOU CLIMB THOSE STAIRS, GO TO WORK,
 AND TAKE 'EM ALL OFF AGAIN

ALL
 AND YOU CALL THAT JUSTICE,
 SWEET, SWEET JUSTICE
 BUT MERCY --

(LA PREMIER'S GIRLS ad lib responses
 to SWEET's following verse).

SWEET JUSTICE

I'M TALKING ABOUT MERCY
 LET ME TELL YOU WHAT KIND OF MERCY
 WHEN NO ONE ELSE CAN HELP YOU
 IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
 WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS
 DOWN ON YOUR KNEES
 I MEAN WHAT I SAY
 WHEN I SAY *you*
 MERCY IS WHAT I NEED

ALL
 EVERYBODY LOVES JUSTICE

(MOUTH and RAT pulling on an item
 of clothing)

MOUTH

He said that was for me.

RAT

I don't care what he said.

"THANK YOU"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

BEAU

(To CALLY)

GOT DOWN FROM MY MOTHER'S KNEE
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
STANDING ON MY OWN TWO FEET
THANK YOU I'M A MAN

(To JOHNNY)

GOT A GIFT FROM MY OLD MAN
THANK YOU I'M A MAN
MAKING IT NOW WITH MY OWN HAND
THANK YOU I'M A MAN

(To LA PREMIER'S GIRLS)

SWAM THE RIVER GOT TO SHORE
RIVER WON'T SOAK MY HEAD NO MORE

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU YOU A MAN

BEAU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU I'M A MAN

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU YOU A MAN

BEAU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

I'M A MAN

COMPANY

HE'S A MAN

BEAU

(To SATAN)

MET A GAMBLER, EVIL AS SIN

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

TAUGHT ME HOW TO SAVE MY SKIN

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU

(To SWEET JUSTICE)

WATCHED A THIEF FINGERS SO LIGHT

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

KEPT MY POCKETS BUTTONED UP TIGHT

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU

(To LA PREMIER)

HERE'S THAT LADY WITH THE DAZZLING SMILE

COMPANY

LA PREMIER, LA PREMIER

BEAU

TOOK THE TOWN AND GAVE IT STYLE

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

MEN

IN TROUBLED TIMES WHEN LIFE IS SOUR

BEAU

THANK YOU, I'M A MAN

WOMEN

GO TO THE WOMAN WITH THE CONJURE POWER

COMPANY

WHOA, LOOK AT BEAU, LOOK AT BEAU

BEAU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, I'M A MAN

WOMEN

HE'S A MAN

MEN

HE'S A MAN

COMPANY

LOOK AT BEAU, LOOK AT BEAU

BEAU

(To the TOWN)

I LIVED ON THE SHIP, WORKED WITH THE CREW
GONNA LEAVE THIS HARBOR, WON'T LEAVE YOU

COMPANY

BEAU, BEAU, YOU A MAN

BEAU

(For CLARENCE)

HEARD A NOTE PLAYED

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

COMPANY

SO SWEET

SO SWEET

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

THANK YOU, HE'S A MAN

BEAU

STOLE MY HEART AND MOVED MY FEET

(BEAU and COMPANY simultaneously)

BEAU

COMPANY

THANK YOU I'M A MAN

THANK YOU, HE'S A MAN

BEAU

GOT MY MUSIC FROM THAT MAN

TAKE IT NOW ALL OVER THIS LAND

COMPANY

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND

TAKE IT NOW ALL OVER THIS LAND

MEN

OVER THIS LAND

COMPANY

OH, OVER THIS LAND

SPREAD NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE

LET ME TELL YOU 'BOUT NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY

NEW ORLEANS

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND

SPREAD NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE
SING A SONG ABOUT NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY
NEW ORLEANS

OVER THIS LAND, OVER THIS LAND
SING NEW ORLEANS ALL OVER THIS LAND

COBALT BLUE
LET ME HEAR YOU SAY NEW ORLEANS

COMPANY
NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, NEW ORLEANS
NEW ORLEANS, NEW ORLEANS
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, NEW ORLEANS

(Etc.)

THE END

"THIS PIECE OF PLANET"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

LA PREMIER & MASQUERS

THIS PIECE OF PLANET IS MINE
I DON'T WANT YOUR KIND
IT STIMULATES MY MIND
TO KNOW THAT I CAN FIND
DAY, NIGHT, ANY TIME
THIS PIECE OF PLANET IS MINE
IT STIMULATES MY MIND

"RIVER ARE YOU MY LADY"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

JOHNNY

RIVER ARE YOU MY LADY
GIVE ME SOME HOPE FOR DREAMING
WHAT FUTURE THAT YOU ARE SCHEMING

I CAN'T KEEP ON PRETENDING
VIRTUE'S THE FRUIT OF LABOR
OPEN UP. SHOW ME YOUR FAVORS

IF I PLUMB FORBIDDEN WATERS
YOU KNOW IT'S NOT TO STEAL YOUR DAUGHTERS
RIVER ARE YOU MY LADY

LET'S SEE THE PEARLS YOU'RE HIDING
FILL UP MY NET TONIGHT PLEASE
PLEASE RIVER, PLEASE BE MY LADY

(At the end of this performance, at the last strum of JOHNNY's banjo, EVERYBODY freezes. For a beat or two it is deeply still. EVERYONE turns in one direction. A tap, as of a walking stick, is heard. (This complicated tapping rhythm dominates the tuba sound and beat of LA PREMIER's theme song.) There are whispers throughout the CROWD of "La Premier, La Premier!" interspersed through the music and dance of LA PREMIER's entrance.

"SATAN'S SONG"

(Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison)

SATAN (Continued)

SATAN AIN'T VILE
I JUST GOT STYLE
SATAN AIN'T ROUGH
I JUST CUT MY STUFF
SATAN AIN'T MEAN
I JUST SO CLEAN
ASK ANY FOOL IF SATAN'S CRUEL
AND YOU'LL HEAR HIM SAY
SATAN GETS HIS WAY
FROM SIDEWALK TRAMPS
TO SOCIETY VAMPS
SATAN GETS HIS WAY
SATAN GETS HIS WAY

ASK THE CHUMPS WHO ARE BREATHING DIRT
CAUSE I GOT MY FEELINGS HURT
IF SATAN GETS HIS WAY
OH SATAN GETS HIS WAY
ASK THE PIMPS LOCKED IN JAIL
ASK THE WOMEN OUT ON BAIL
IF SATAN GOT HIS WAY
OH YEAH, SATAN GETS HIS WAY.

MY MOTHER NEVER UNDERSTOOD MY SMILE
MY MOTHER NEVER 'PRECIATED MY STYLE

I TOLD HER SHE HURT ME
ASKING HER BABY BOY NOT TO ENJOY HIS TOY
I GOT A TASTE FOR THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE
BUT I CAN GET WILD IF YOU MESS WITH
MY STYLE
SATAN SHO LIKES HIS STYLE!

A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD

Lyrics © 1982 by Toni Morrison

CAN'T YOU SEE
WE GOT WHAT WE NEED.

CAN'T YOU TELL
WE ARE HELD
BY BONDS STRONGER THAN STEEL.

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD.

IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD
WE NEVER MEET
STRANGERS ON THE STREET

IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD
AT WORK OR REST
WE'RE ALREADY BLESSED.

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD

A GOOD FAMILY
LIVES HAPPILY
IN A QUIET COLORED NEIGHBORHOOD.

THE SLY LIFE

GIVE ME THE SLY LIFE
THE SHARP THIN KNIFE LIFE
AND THE GLITTER OF THE BLACKSTREETS
IT'S THE GAZE OF THE DAYS THAT
FRY ME, HAND AND DRY ME
9 TO 5 ME, APPLE PIE ME
DOWN TO SIZE ME, STERILIZE ME
GIVE ME THE SLY LIFE
THE HERE TO DIE LIFE
AND THE GLITTER OF THE BLACKSTREETS
GIVE ME THE SLY LIFE
THE KILL FOR SPITE LIFE
WHEN I'M SLICK, I CAN CLICK
DOWN THE BLACKSTREETS
IN THE GLITTER OF THE BLACKSTREETS
WHERE MY SLY LIFE CARRIES ON
WHERE MY SLY LIFE CARRIES ON

WOMAN WORN ONCE

Woman, slightly frayed
Woman, handmade
Got my going-out-of-business sign up
Cause my man has made his mind up
Woman, woman, woman worn once.

Woman, hardly used
Woman, like new
He took an advertisement; put it in the paper
'Used merchandise on sale for
Woman, woman, woman worn once.'

A bit soiled, never spoiled
Not young, but still runs
Step this way sir; terms arranged for
Woman, worn once.

Woman, second hand
Woman, on demand
Vacant property; will build to suit
Lease expired; won't renew
Woman, woman, woman worn once.

(cont'd.)

Woman Worn Once cont'd.

Woman, marked down

Woman, heart sound

Examine carefully this first rate bargain

Buy these goods before the sale ends

Woman, woman, woman worn once.

Guaranteed highly trained

Easy terms; will trade

Nowdown payment if you take this

Woman, worn once.

c 1982 Toni Morrison

DAMSEL IN DISTRESS

This damsel is in distress
Daring to have all --not less
Of the life I came here to live
Loose the fire my stove top hid.

I didn't frow wings to help me walk
When I want to sing don't tellme to talk

This here damsel is in distress
Says no to no and yes to yes
I'm going to do what Eve never did
Take the Life I came heretoo live
Crack the egg, pierce the yolk
Ravel the hem, unbottom my coat
Thjow out the laundry, Throw out the soap
Stoke the fire, tear down the stove
Strut on out the goddam door

Gonna do what Eve never did
Take the life I came here to live
Came here, came here to live.

HERE IN MY SONG

HERE IN MY SONG
IS A ROOM FOR YOU
DROP YOUR LONGING DOWN BESIDE ME

HERE IN MY SONG
IS A LETTER FOR YOU
READ IT BY THE LIGHT INSIDE ME

WHAT YOU FEEL IS NOT COMPLEX
THE CLOSER YOU GET
TO MY SONG, TO MY SONG

LOST IS FOUNND; DEATH WILL DIE
MY OH MY

MY SONG IS A ROOM WITH A VIEW
WAITING ONLY FOR YOU

HERE IS MY SONG
IS A PLACE FOR YOU
SPACE FOR YOU BESIDE ME
HERE IN MY SONG, IN MY SONG
LOVE IS GENTLE TO YOU
UNFOLD YOUR FOLDED HEART
ABIDE IN ME.

C :1982 Toni Morrison

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

(A)

I HAVE A WOMB
AND CARRY THERE
THE GRIEF OF SEASONS
BLOSSOM AND BARE
WHEN YOU SLEEP
I TEND THE FIRE'S DESIRE, DESIRE
I'M EARLY, I'M LATE
I WATCH THE DOORS
AND LOCK THE GATES
I KNOW YOUR INS, YOUR OUTS
I KNOW THE REASONS
FEEL THE DOUBTS
I'M LONG AS TIME
DEEP AS SPACE
BUT IF I EVER LEAVE THIS PLACE
YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

TONI TORRISON

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

(B)

MY ARMS HOLD MIDNIGHT

MY VOICE IS AIR

MY WORK IS WONDEROUS

EVERYWHERE

IN YOUR DREAMS

I AM THE FIRE -- WILDER, WILDER

I'M EARLY, I'M LATE

I BREAK DOWN DOORS

AND SLAM THE GATES

I AM YOUR INS, I AM YOUR OUTS

I AM YOUR REASONS

I AM YOUR DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME

DEEP AS SPACE

AND WHEN I TAKE MY RIGHTFUL PLACE

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

(A)

I HAVE A WOMB

AND CARRY THERE

THE GRIEF OF SEASONS

BLOSSOM AND BARE

WHEN YOU SLEEP

I TEND THE FIRE'S ~~desire, desire~~

I'M EARLY, I'M LATE

I WATCH THE DOORS

AND LOCK THE GATES

I KNOW YOUR INS, YOUR OUTS

I KNOW THE ~~SEASONS~~

FEEL THE DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME

DEEP AS SPACE

BUT IF I EVER LEAVE THIS PLACE

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME

(B)

MY ARMS HOLD MIDNIGHT

MY VOICE IS AIR

MY WORK IS WONDEROUS

EVERYWHERE

IN YOUR DREAMS

I AM THE FIRE -- WILDER, WILDER

I'M EARLY, I'M LATE

I BREAK DOWN DOORS

AND SLAM THE GATES

I AM YOUR INS, I AM YOUR OUTS

I AM YOUR REASONS

I AM YOUR DOUBTS

I'M LONG AS TIME

DEEP AS SPACE

AND WHEN I TAKE MY RIGHTFUL PLACE

YOU CAN'T HANDLE ME