

*Acting Edition*

# **Hadestown**

## **Teen Edition**

by Anais Mitchell

**concord**  
**theatricals**

*HADESTOWN* premiered on Broadway at the Walter Kerr Theatre on April 17, 2019. The production was developed with and directed by Rachel Chavkin, with choreography by David Neumann, arrangements and orchestrations by Michael Chorney and Todd Sickafoose, vocal arrangements and music direction by Liam Robinson, scenic design by Rachel Hauck, costume design by Michael Krass, lighting design by Bradley King, and sound design by Nevin Steinberg and Jessica Paz. The dramaturg was Ken Cerniglia, the music coordinator was David Lai, and the production stage manager was Beverly Jenkins. The Band was Liam Robinson, Dana Lyn, Marika Hughes, Michael Chorney, Brian Drye, Robinson Morse, and Ben Perowsky. The cast was as follows:

**ORPHEUS** ..... Reeve Carney  
**EURYDICE** ..... Eva Noblezada  
**HADES** ..... Patrick Page  
**PERSEPHONE** ..... Amber Gray  
**HERMES** ..... André De Shields  
**FATES** ..... Jewelle Blackman,  
Yvette Gonzalez-Nacer,  
Kay Trinidad  
**WORKERS** ..... Afra Hines, Timothy Hughes,  
John Krause, Kimberly Marable,  
Ahmad Simmons

## Additional Billing

Originally produced on Broadway by:

Mara Isaacs, Dale Franzen, Hunter Arnold, Tom Kirdahy  
Carl Daikeler, Five Fates, Willette & Manny Klausner, No Guarantees,  
Sing Out, Louise! Productions, Stone Arch Theatricals,  
Benjamin Lowy/Adrian Salpeter, Meredith Lynsey Schade, 42nd.club,  
Craig Balsam, Broadway Strategic Return Fund, Concord Theatricals,  
Laurie David, Demar Moritz Gang, Getter Entertainment, Deborah Green,  
Harris Rubin Productions, Sally Cade Holmes, Marguerite Hoffman,  
Hornos Moellenberg, Independent Presenters Network, Jam Theatricals,  
Kalin Levine Dohr Productions, Phil & Claire Kenny, Mike Karns,  
Kilimanjaro Theatricals, Lady Capital, LD Entertainment, Sandi Moran,  
Thomas M. Neff, MWM Live, Patti Sanford Roberts & Michael Roberts,  
Schroeder Shapiro Productions, Seriff Productions, Stage Entertainment,  
Kenneth & Rosemary Willman, Kaylavlex Theatricals, Tyler Mount

Jujamcyn Theaters

The National Theatre

New York Theatre Workshop

Original New York production developed with and directed by  
Rachel Chavkin.

*Hadestown* received its World Premiere at  
New York Theatre Workshop on May 23, 2016.  
Jim Nicola, Artistic Director; Jeremy Blocker, Managing Director.

*Hadestown* received its Canadian Premiere at  
the Citadel Theatre, Edmonton, on November 16, 2017.

*Hadestown* received its UK Premiere at the National Theatre  
on November 13, 2018.

*Hadestown* was developed with funding from the Eli and Edythe  
Broad Stage at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center.

Additional development by New York Stage and Film  
and The Ground Floor at Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

Original Arrangements and Orchestrations by  
Michael Chorney and Todd Sickafoose.

“Papers Instrumental” by Michael Chorney, published by Seoats Music.

Vocal Arrangements by Liam Robinson.

Additional Vocal Arrangements by Justin Vernon and the Haden Triplets.

*Hadestown* was co-conceived by Ben t. Matchstick.

## CHARACTERS

**ORPHEUS** – lyre-playing poet, gifted and naïve

**EURDYDICE** – a runaway, tough and vulnerable

**HADES** – compulsive industrialist, boss-king of Hadestown

**PERSEPHONE** – queen of nature and the seasons, a lush

**HERMES** – charismatic guide and storyteller, mentor to Orpheus

**FATES** – three sisters, vicious and delicious, voices in the head

**WORKERS** – spirits of labor and community, a physical and choral presence

## SETTING

*Hadestown* is a mythic tale – not set in a particular time or place – but it does take inspiration from the American Depression Era and the city of New Orleans. It consists of two worlds: most of Act One takes place aboveground, and most of Act Two takes place in the underworld (Hadestown). Occasionally, both worlds are visible at once.

## AUTHOR'S NOTES

The onstage **BAND**, while not listed with the characters above, is an omnipresence in *Hadestown*, and may join in the singing at times. For licensees using performance tracks, we've provided suggested workarounds for "Road to Hell" and "Our Lady of the Underground" (two numbers in which the **BAND** is directly introduced).

Lyrics in *Hadestown* alternate between sung and spoken in rhythm. Licensees should refer to the score to identify sung vs. spoken lines.

The following numbers are optional for all productions: "Our Lady of the Underground," "Nothing Changes," and "We Raise Our Cups."

In the Broadway production, the **WORKERS** were performed by five ensemble members. While the **WORKERS** can be expanded to accommodate any cast size, a minimum of six **WORKERS** is required. Vocal arrangements for *Hadestown: Teen Edition* have been tailored for teen voices. Musical adjustments include transposed keys for some cues, and SATB arrangements for the **WORKERS** and some **COMPANY** moments. **WORKERS** can be played by actors of any gender.

Whenever the **WORKERS** sing in chorus, the **FATES** are welcome to join as choral support. In those instances, in order to maintain their distinct narratives/identities, the **FATES** may be physically present but should not be featured visually.

## CASTING NOTE

The character of **HERMES** has been played on Broadway by both male- and female-identifying performers. In the latter case, whenever **HERMES** is referred to as “Mister Hermes,” performers should use “Missus Hermes.” If that phrase ever appears in print materials, please avoid the spelling “Mrs.” There is no alternate vocal score, but every **HERMES** should feel free to place lines or verses in a different octave if it feels or sounds better.

On the West End we have implemented nonbinary language for **HERMES**. When **HERMES** introduces themselves in “Road to Hell,” they say: “And a god with feathers on their feet” and “Yes, it’s Hermes, that’s me!” When **ORPHEUS** addresses **HERMES** in “Wait For Me (Intro)” and its reprise, he says: “Scuse me, Hermes?” And in “Come Home With Me (Reprise),” **ORPHEUS** says: “It was Hermes told me so.”

Along these lines, we are still discovering ways in which the casting of *Hadestown* can become more diverse, and your production will be part of that discovery! These mythic characters are archetypal but also reimagined and open to interpretation. It has felt important to us both to reflect the diversity of the community in which the story is presented and to be mindful of the narrative implications of those choices. For any questions regarding casting, please contact your Concord Theatricals Licensing Representative.

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT ONE

1. "Road to Hell" . . . . . Hermes & Company
2. "Any Way the Wind Blows" . . . . . Eurydice, Fates, Hermes & Workers
3. "Come Home with Me" . . . . . Orpheus, Eurydice, Hermes  
& Workers
4. "Wedding Song" . . . . . Orpheus, Eurydice & Workers
5. "Epic I" . . . . . Hermes & Orpheus
6. "Livin' it Up on Top" . . . . . Persephone, Hermes,  
Orpheus & Company
7. "All I've Ever Known" . . . . . Eurydice, Orpheus & Hermes
8. "Way Down Hadestown" . . . . . Hermes, Persephone,  
Fates & Company
9. "A Gathering Storm" . . . . . Fates, Hermes,  
Orpheus, Eurydice & Workers
10. "Epic II" . . . . . Orpheus & Workers
11. "Chant" . . . . . Company
12. "Hey, Little Songbird" . . . . . Hades & Eurydice
13. "When the Chips are Down" . . . . . Fates, Eurydice, Hermes  
& Hades
14. "Gone, I'm Gone" . . . . . Eurydice & Fates
15. "Wait for Me (Intro)" . . . . . Orpheus & Hermes
16. "Wait for Me" . . . . . Hermes, Orpheus,  
Fates & Company
17. "Why We Build the Wall" . . . . . Hades & Company

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT TWO

18. "Our Lady of the Underground  
(An Optional Entr'acte)" . . . . . Persephone & Hermes
19. "Way Down Hadestown (Reprise)" . . . . . Fates, Eurydice,  
Workers & Hermes
20. "Flowers" . . . . . Eurydice
21. "Come Home with Me (Reprise)" . . . . . Orpheus & Eurydice
22. "Papers (Intro)" . . . . . Hades, Persephone, Orpheus,  
Eurydice & Hermes
- 22a. "Papers (Instrumental)" . . . . . Instrumental
23. "Nothing Changes" (An Optional A Capella Segue) . . . . . Fates
24. "If it's True" . . . . . Orpheus, Workers & Hermes
25. "How Long?" . . . . . Persephone & Hades
26. "Chant (Reprise)" . . . . . Company
27. "Epic III" . . . . . Orpheus & Company
28. "Epic III (Instrumental)" . . . . . Hermes, Orpheus  
& Optional Workers
29. "Promises" . . . . . Eurydice, Orpheus & Workers
30. "Word to the Wise" . . . . . Fates, Orpheus, Hermes  
& Hades
31. "His Kiss, the Riot" . . . . . Hades
32. "Wait for Me (Reprise) – Intro" . . . . . Hermes, Orpheus & Eurydice
33. "Wait for Me (Reprise)" . . . . . Company
34. "Doubt Comes In" . . . . . Fates, Orpheus,  
Eurydice & Workers
35. "Road to Hell (Reprise)" . . . . . Hermes & Company
36. "We Raise Our Cups (An Optional Encore)" . . . . . Persephone,  
Eurydice & Company

## ACT ONE

*(COMPANY and BAND\* assemble at an aboveground gathering place. HERMES holds court.)*

**HERMES.** *(To COMPANY.)*

Alright?

**COMPANY.**

Alright!

**HERMES.** *(To audience.)*

Alright?

**AUDIENCE.**

Alright!

**HERMES.** *(To BAND.)*

Alright!\*

### [MUSIC NO. 01 – ROAD TO HELL]

Mmmm...

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.** *(Like a train whistle.)*

Mmm Mmm...

**COMPANY.**

Mm-mmm

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\* For licensees using performance tracks, **HERMES** will still deliver three “Alrights.” The third one, instead of being a directive to the **BAND**, will simply be a celebratory statement of intent.

**HERMES.**

Chucka chucka chucka chucka  
 Chucka chucka chucka chucka

**HERMES & COMPANY.**

Chucka chucka chucka chucka  
 Chucka chucka chucka chucka

**HERMES.**

Once upon a time there was a railroad line

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Don't ask where, brother, don't ask when

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

It was the road to hell

It was hard times

It was a world of gods

And men

It's an old song

**COMPANY.**

Mmm-mmm...

*(COMPANY claps hands in rhythm.)*

**COMPANY.**

It's an old song!

**HERMES.**

It's an old tale from way back when

It's an old song

**COMPANY.**

It's an old song!

**HERMES.**

And we're gonna sing it again

Gods and men, alright?

We got some gods in the house tonight!  
See on the road to hell there was a railroad line

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And there was three old women all dressed the same

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And they was always  
singing in the back of  
your mind

**COMPANY.**

Ev'rybody meet the Fates! Mmm-mmm-mmm

*(FATES acknowledge audience.)*

**HERMES.**

And on the road to hell there was a railroad line

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And a lady steppin' off a train

**COMPANY.** *(Like a train whistle.)*

Mmm Mmm...

**HERMES.**

With a suitcase full of  
summertime

**COMPANY.**

Persephone, by name! Mmm-mmm-mmm

*(PERSEPHONE acknowledges audience.)*

**HERMES.**

And if you ride that train

**COMPANY.**

Ride that train!

**HERMES.**

If you ride that train

**COMPANY.**

(You) ride that train!

**HERMES.**

If you ride that train to the end of the line

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Where the sun don't shine and it's always shady

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

It's there you'll find the

king of the mine,

**COMPANY.**

Almighty Mister Hades!

Mmm-mmm-mmm

*(HADES acknowledges audience.)*

**HERMES.**

We got any other gods?

Oh yeah, almost forgot...

On the road to hell there was a railroad station

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And a man with feathers on his feet

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Who could help you to

your final destination,

**COMPANY.**

Mister Hermes, that's me!

Mmm-mmm-mmm

(**HERMES** *acknowledges audience.*)

**HERMES.**

See someone's got to tell the tale  
Whether or not it turns out well  
Maybe it will turn out this time  
On the road to hell, on the railroad line  
It's a sad song

**COMPANY.**

It's a sad song!

**HERMES.**

It's a sad tale; it's a tragedy  
It's a sad song

**COMPANY.**

It's a sad song!

**HERMES.**

We're gonna sing it anyway  
Now, not ev'ryone gets to be a god  
And don't forget that times are hard  
Hard times in the world of men  
Lemme introduce you to a few of them  
You can tip your hats and your wallets  
With your pennies or your pearls  
To the hardest-working Chorus  
In the gods' almighty world!

(**WORKERS** *acknowledge audience.*)

And working just as hard for you  
Let's see what *this* crew can do!\*

(**HERMES** *indicates* **BAND.**\* *Instrumental break.* **COMPANY** *applause.*)

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\* For licensees using performance tracks, **HERMES** will not indicate the **BAND** or deliver the lines, "And working just as hard for you / Let's see what *this* crew can do!"

**HERMES.**

Alright, alright...

Alright!

On the road to hell there was a railroad line

**WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And a poor boy working on a song

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la...

**HERMES.**

His mama was a friend of mine

And this boy was a muse's son

On the railroad line on the road to hell

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

You might say the boy was "touched"

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la...

**HERMES.**

Cos he was touched by

the gods themselves      **COMPANY.**

Give it up for Orpheus!      Mmm-mmm...

*(ORPHEUS misses the cue.)*

**HERMES.**

*Orpheus!*

*(ORPHEUS acknowledges audience.)*

There was one more soul on this road

Girl, come on in from the cold!

On the railroad line on the road to hell

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

There was a young girl looking for something to eat

**COMPANY.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And brother, thus begins

the tale

**COMPANY.**

Of Orpheus...and

Mmm-mmm-mmm

Eurydice!

*(ORPHEUS and EURYDICE see each other for  
the first time.)*

**HERMES.**

It's a love song

**COMPANY.**

It's a love song!

**HERMES.**

It's a tale of a love from long ago

It's a sad song

**COMPANY.**

It's a sad song!

**HERMES.**

But we're gonna sing it even so

It's an old song

**COMPANY.**

It's an old song!

**HERMES.**

It's an old tale from way back when

And we're gonna sing

**HERMES & COMPANY.**

We're gonna sing  
We're gonna sing it again!

**[MUSIC NO. 02 – ANY WAY THE WIND  
BLOWS]**

**FATES.**

Ooooooh  
Ooooooh  
Ooooooh  
Ooooooh

**HERMES.**

Eurydice was a hungry  
young girl  
A runaway from  
ev'rywhere she'd ever  
been  
She was no stranger to  
the world  
No stranger to the wind

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Ooooooh  
Ooooooh  
Ooooooh  
Ooooooh

*(EURYDICE wears an overcoat and carries a backpack with her few possessions, among them a hurricane candle.)*

**EURYDICE.** *(To herself and audience.)*

Weather ain't the way it was before  
Ain't no spring or fall at all anymore  
It's either blazing hot or freezing cold  
Any way the wind blows

**FATES.**

And there ain't a thing that  
You can do  
When the weather takes a  
Turn on you

'Cept for hurry up and hit the road  
Any way the wind blows

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up, ooooh

**EURYDICE.**

Do you hear that sound?

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up

**EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Move

**EURYDICE.**

To another town  
Ain't nobody gonna stick around

**EURYDICE & FATES.**

When the dark clouds roll

**EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Any way the wind blows

**HERMES.**

You met the Fates,  
remember them?

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Oooooh

**EURYDICE. (To COMPANY and audience.)**

Anybody got a match?

**HERMES.**

*(Offering a match.)*  
Always singing in the  
back of your mind...

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Oooooh

**EURYDICE. (To HERMES.)**

Give me that...

**HERMES.**

Wherever it was this  
young girl went

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Oooooh

(**EURYDICE** *lights her candle.*)

**HERMES.**

The Fates were close  
behind

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Ooooooh

(**FATES** *blow it out.*)

**EURYDICE.**

People turn on you just like the wind  
Ev'rybody is a fair-weather friend  
In the end you're better off alone  
Any way the wind blows

(**EURYDICE** *relights her candle.*)

**FATES.**

When your body aches to  
Lay it down  
When you're hungry and  
There ain't enough to go around  
Ain't no length to which a girl won't go  
Any way the wind blows

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up, oooooh

**EURYDICE.**

And sometimes you think

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up

**EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

You

**EURYDICE.**

Would do anything  
Just to fill your belly full of food  
Find a bed that you could fall into  
Where the weather wouldn't follow you

**EURYDICE & FATES.**

Wherever you go

**EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Any way the wind blows

**HERMES.****FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Now Orpheus was the           Ooooh  
son of a muse

And you know how those    Ooooh  
muses are

Sometimes they abandon   Ooooh  
you

And this poor boy,

He wore his heart out on his sleeve

You might say he was naïve

To the ways of the world

But he had a way with words

And a rhythm and a rhyme

And he sang just like a bird up on a line

And it ain't because I'm kind

But his mama was a friend of mine

And I liked to hear him sing

And his way of seeing things...

So I took him underneath my wing

**[MUSIC NO. 03 – COME HOME WITH ME]**

And that is where he stayed

Until one day...

*(ORPHEUS approaches EURYDICE. HERMES  
intercepts him.)*

You wanna talk to her?

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes

**HERMES.**

Go on...  
Orpheus –

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes?

**HERMES.**

Don't come on too strong

**ORPHEUS.**

Come home with me!

**EURYDICE.**

Who are you?

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

The man who's gonna marry you

**EURYDICE.**

Ha!

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

I'm Orpheus!

**EURYDICE. (To HERMES.)**

Is he always like this?

**HERMES.**

Yes...

**EURYDICE. (To ORPHEUS.)**

I'm Eurydice

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

Your name is like a melody...

**EURYDICE.**

A singer? Is that what you are?

**ORPHEUS.**

I also play the lyre

**EURYDICE.**

Ooh, a liar, and a player too!  
I've met too many men like you

**ORPHEUS.**

Oh no – I'm not like that

**HERMES.**

He's not like any man you've met  
Tell her what you're working on!

**ORPHEUS.**

I'm working on a song

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

It isn't finished yet  
But when it's done, and when I sing it  
Spring will come again

**EURYDICE.**

Come again?

**ORPHEUS.**

Spring will come

**EURYDICE.**

When?  
I haven't seen a spring or fall  
Since – I can't recall

**ORPHEUS.**

That's what I'm working on

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

A song to fix what's wrong  
Take what's broken, make it whole  
A song so beautiful  
It brings the world back into tune  
Back into time  
And all the flow'rs will bloom

**ORPHEUS.**

When you become my wife

**EURYDICE.** (*To HERMES.*)

Oh, he's crazy!

Why would I become his wife?

**HERMES.**

Maybe...

Because he'll make you feel alive

**EURYDICE.**

Alive? That's worth a lot

(*To ORPHEUS.*) What else you got?

**[MUSIC NO. 04 – WEDDING SONG]**

Lover, tell me if you can

Who's gonna buy the wedding bands?

Times being what they are

Hard and getting harder all the time

**ORPHEUS.**

Lover, when I sing my song

All the rivers'll sing along

And they're gonna break their banks for us

And with their gold be generous

All a-flashing in the pan

All to fashion for your hand

The river's gonna give us the wedding bands

**EURYDICE.**

Lover, tell me if you're able

Who's gonna lay the wedding table?

Times being what they are

Dark and getting darker all the time

**ORPHEUS.**

Lover, when I sing my song

All the trees gonna sing along

And they're gonna bend their branches down  
 To lay their fruit upon the ground  
 The almond and the apple  
 And the sugar from the maple  
 The trees gonna lay the wedding table

**EURYDICE.**

So when you sing your song  
 The one you're working on  
 Spring will come again?

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes

**EURYDICE.**

Why don't you sing it then?

**ORPHEUS.**

It isn't finished

**EURYDICE.**

Sing it!  
 You wanna take me home?

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes

**EURYDICE.**

Sing the song

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la  
 La la la la la la

**WORKERS (S/T).**

La la la la la la

**WORKERS (A/B).**

La la la la la la

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (S/A).**

La la la la la la

**WORKERS.**

La la la la la la la la

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (A/T/B).**

La la la la la la...

*(Magic. The melody spontaneously produces a flower, surprising them both. ORPHEUS gives it to EURYDICE.)*

**EURYDICE.**

How'd you do that?

**ORPHEUS.**

I don't know

The song's not finished, though

**EURYDICE.**

Even so, it can do *this*?

**ORPHEUS.**

I know

**EURYDICE.**

You have to finish it!

Lover, tell me, when we're wed

Who's gonna make the wedding bed?

Times being what they are

Hard and getting harder all the time

**ORPHEUS.**

Lover, when I sing my song

All the birds gonna sing along

And they'll come fly'n' from all around

To lay their feathers on the ground

And we'll lie down in eiderdown

A pillow 'neath our heads

The birds gonna make the wedding bed

**EURYDICE.**

And the trees gonna lay the wedding table

**ORPHEUS.**

And the river's gonna give us the wedding bands

**ORPHEUS, EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Hmmm...

**[MUSIC NO. 05 – EPIC I]**

**HERMES.** (*To ORPHEUS.*)

Where'd you get that melody?

**ORPHEUS.**

I don't know – it came to me  
As if I'd known it all along

**HERMES.**

You have  
It's an old song  
A song of love from long ago  
Long time since I heard it, though

**ORPHEUS.**

You've heard that melody before?

**HERMES.**

Sure...

**ORPHEUS.**

Tell me more

**HERMES.**

Remember that tale I told you once?  
About the gods?

**ORPHEUS.**

Which ones?

**HERMES.**

Hades and Persephone  
Remember how it used to be  
Their love that made the world go round?

**ORPHEUS.**

Yeah, I remember now  
But that was long ago

**HERMES.**

Tell it again, though...

*(ORPHEUS receives and/or readies his instrument, then accompanies himself.)*

**ORPHEUS.**

King of shadows, king of shades  
Hades was king of the underworld  
But he fell in love with a beautiful lady  
Who walked up above in her mother's green field  
He fell in love with Persephone  
Who was gathering flow'rs in the light of the sun  
And he took her home to become his queen  
Where the sun never shone on anyone...

*(ORPHEUS pauses.)*

**HERMES.**

Go on...

**ORPHEUS.**

The lady loved him and the kingdom they shared  
But without her above, not one flower would grow  
So King Hades agreed that for half of each year  
She would stay with him there in his world down below  
But the other half she could walk in the sun  
And the sun in turn burned twice as bright  
Which is where the seasons come from  
And with them the cycle  
Of the seed and the sickle  
And the lives of the people  
And the birds in their flight...

**HERMES.**

Singing...

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

**HERMES.**

Down below and up above

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

**HERMES.**

In harmony and rhythm

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

**HERMES.**

The gods sang a song of love

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

**HERMES.**

And the world sang it with them  
But that was long ago  
Before we were on this road...

**[MUSIC NO. 06 – LIVIN' IT UP ON TOP]**

**HERMES.**

And on the road to hell there was a lot of waiting

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...  
Waitin'...

**HERMES.**

Ev'rybody waitin' on a train

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

Waitin' on the lady with the...

**HERMES.**

Waitin' on that train to bring that lady

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

Lady...

**HERMES.**

With the suitcase back again

She's never early, always late

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Waitin'...

Waitin'...

**HERMES.**

These days she never stays for long

**HERMES.**

But good things come to  
those who wait

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

*(HERMES blows a train whistle. PERSEPHONE  
arrives aboveground.)*

**HERMES.**

Here she comes!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Well, it's like he said, I'm an outdoor girl

**HERMES.**

Yeah, and you're late again!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Married to the king of the underworld

**HERMES.**

She forgot a little thing called "spring"!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Are you wond'rin' where I been?

**THREE WORKERS.\***

Yeah!

**WORKER.**

Where you been?

**ANOTHER WORKER.**

I'm wond'rin'!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Been to hell and back again  
 But like my mama always said:  
 Brother, when you're down, you're down  
 And when you're up, you're up  
 If you ain't six feet underground  
 You're livin' it up on top!  
 Let's not talk about hard times!  
 Pour the wine!  
 It's summertime!  
 And right now we're livin' it

**HERMES, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

How are we livin' it?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Livin' it – livin' it up  
 Brother right here we're livin' it

**HERMES, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Where are we livin' it?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Livin' it up on top!  
 Who makes the summer sun shine bright?  
 That's right! Persephone!  
 Who makes the fruit of the vine get ripe?

---

\* **WORKER** trio and solos can be assigned to any **WORKERS**.

**WORKERS.**

Persephone!

**PERSEPHONE.**

That's me!

Who makes the flowers bloom again

In spite of her man?

**WORKERS.**

You do!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Who is doing the best she can?

Persephone, that's who

*(To EURYDICE.)*

Now some may say the weather ain't the way it used to be

But let me tell you something that my mama said to me:

You take what you can get

And you make the most of it

So right now we're livin' it

**HERMES, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

How are we livin' it?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Livin' it – livin' it up

Brother right here we're livin' it

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Where are we livin' it?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Livin' it up on top!

**HERMES.**

It was summertime on the road to hell!

**FATES.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

There was a girl who had always run away

**FATES.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

You might say that it was in spite of herself

**FATES.** (*Like "tsk-tsk-tsk."*)

Mmm-mmm-mmm

**HERMES.**

That this young girl decided to stay  
There was a poor boy with a lyre!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Who says times are hard?

**HERMES.**

The flowers bloomed, the fruit got ripe  
And brother, for a moment there...

**PERSEPHONE.**

Anybody want a drink?

**HERMES.**

The world came back to life!

**PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Oh...

*(WORKERS dance. Cups are passed around.)*

**PERSEPHONE.**

Up on top we ain't got much, but we're

**ORPHEUS, HERMES, PERSEPHONE,  
EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Livin' it – livin' it up

**PERSEPHONE.**

Just enough to fill our cups

**ORPHEUS, HERMES, PERSEPHONE,  
EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Livin' it up on top!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Brother, pass that bottle around, cos we're\*

**ORPHEUS, HERMES, PERSEPHONE,  
EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Livin' it - livin' it up

**HERMES.** (*Indicates ORPHEUS.*)

Let the poet bless this round!

**WORKER.\*\***

Yeah, Orpheus!

**ANOTHER WORKER.**

Orpheus!

**ORPHEUS.**

To the patroness of all of this: Persephone!

**HERMES.**

Hear, hear!

**WORKER.**

Hear, hear!

**ORPHEUS.**

Who has finally returned to us  
With wine enough to share

**ANOTHER WORKER.**

Uh-huh

**ORPHEUS.**

Asking nothing in return  
'Cept that we should live and learn

---

\* Alternatively: "With the blessings that abound, cos we're"

\*\* **WORKER** solos can be assigned to any individual **WORKERS**.

To live as brothers in this life  
And to trust she will provide

**WORKER.**

Alright!

**ORPHEUS.**

And if no one takes too much  
There will always be enough  
She will always fill our cups

**PERSEPHONE.**

I will!

**ORPHEUS.**

And we will always raise 'em up

*(ORPHEUS raises his cup. COMPANY raises cups and acknowledges audience.)*

To the world we dream about!  
And the one we live in now...

*(COMPANY toasts.)*

Cos right now we're livin' it

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

How are we livin' it?

**ORPHEUS.**

Livin' it' – livin' it up  
Brother right here we're livin' it

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Where are we livin' it?

**ORPHEUS.**

Listen here, I'll tell you where we're livin' it  
Up on top!

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Up on top!

**ORPHEUS.**

Livin' it up and we ain't gonna stop!  
Livin' it, livin' it

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Livin' it, livin' it

**ORPHEUS.**

How are we livin' it?

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Where are we livin' it?

**ORPHEUS.**

Livin' it, livin' it

**ORPHEUS, HERMES, PERSEPHONE,  
EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Livin' it, livin' it  
Livin' it up on top!

**[MUSIC NO. 07 – ALL I'VE EVER KNOWN]****HERMES.**

Orpheus was a poor boy  
But he had a gift to give  
He could make you see how the world could be  
In spite of the way that it is  
And Eurydice was a young girl  
But she'd seen how the world was  
When she fell, she fell in spite of herself  
In love with Orpheus

**EURYDICE.**

I was alone so long  
I didn't even know that I was lonely  
Out in the cold so long  
I didn't even know that I was cold  
Turn my collar to the wind  
This is how it's always been

All I've ever known is how to hold my own  
 All I've ever known is how to hold my own  
 But now I wanna hold you, too

You take me in your arms  
 And suddenly there's sunlight all around me  
 Ev'rything bright and warm  
 And shining like it never did before  
 And for a moment I forget  
 Just how dark and cold it gets

All I've ever known is how to hold my own  
 All I've ever known is how to hold my own  
 But now I wanna hold you

Now I wanna hold you  
 Hold you close  
 I don't wanna ever have to let you go  
 Now I wanna hold you  
 Hold you tight  
 I don't wanna go back to the lonely life

**ORPHEUS.**

I don't know how or why  
 Or who am I that I should get to hold you  
 But when I saw you all alone against the sky  
 It's like I'd known you all along  
 I knew you before we met  
 And I don't even know you yet  
 All I know's you're someone I have always known

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

All I know's you're someone I have always known  
 And I don't even know you  
 Now I wanna hold you  
 Hold you close  
 I don't wanna ever have to let you go

**EURYDICE.**

Suddenly there's sunlight, bright and warm

**ORPHEUS.**

Suddenly I'm holding the world in my arms

*(ORPHEUS and EURYDICE dance.)*

**EURYDICE.**

Say that you'll hold me forever

Say that the wind won't change on us

Say that we'll stay with each other

And it will always be like this

**ORPHEUS.**

I'm gonna hold you forever

The wind will never change on us

Long as we stay with each other

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

Then it will always be like this

**[MUSIC NO. 08 – WAY DOWN  
HADESTOWN]**

*(HERMES blows the train whistle.)*

**HERMES.**

On the road to hell there was a railroad track

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**PERSEPHONE.**

Oh, come on!

**HERMES.**

There was a train comin' up from way down below

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**PERSEPHONE.**

That was not six months!

**FATES. (To PERSEPHONE.)**

Better go get your suitcase packed  
Guess it's time to go...

**HERMES.**

She's gonna ride that train

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Ride that train!

**HERMES.**

She's gonna ride that train

**FATES & WORKERS.**

She'll ride that train!

**HERMES.**

She's gonna ride that train to the end of the line

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Cos the king of the mine is a-comin' to call

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Did you ever wonder what it's like?  
On the underside

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down under

**HERMES.**

On the yonder side

**FATES & WORKERS.**

(A)way down yonder

**HERMES.**

On the other side of his wall?  
Follow that dollar for a long way down  
Far away from the poorhouse door  
You either get to hell or to Hadestown  
Ain't no diff'rence anymore...  
Way down Hadestown  
Way down under the ground!  
  
Hound dog howl and the whistle blow  
Train come a-rollin' clickety-clack  
Ev'rybody tryna get a ticket to go  
But those who go, they don't come back  
They're going

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
Way down under the ground!

*(Dance break.)*

**PERSEPHONE.**

Winter's nigh and summer's o'er  
Hear that high and lonesome sound  
Of my husband a-comin' for  
To bring me home to Hadestown

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
Way down under the ground!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Down there it's a buncha stiffs!  
Brother, I'll be bored to death  
Gonna have to import some stuff  
Just to entertain myself

Give me morphine in a tin!\*  
 Give me a crate of the fruit of the vine  
 Takes a lot of medicine  
 To make it through the wintertime

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
 Way down under the ground!

**FATES.**

Ev'ry little penny in the wishing well  
 Ev'ry little nickel on the drum

**WORKERS.**

On the drum!

**FATES.**

All them shiny little heads and tails  
 Where do you think they come from?

**WORKERS.**

They come from

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
 Way down under the ground!

**HERMES.**

Ev'rybody hungry, ev'rybody tired  
 Ev'rybody slaves by the sweat of his brow  
 The wage is nothing and the work is hard  
 It's a graveyard in Hadestown

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
 Way down under the ground!

---

\* Alternatively: "Give me juniper and gin"

*(Trombone solo.)*

**HERMES.**

Mister Hades is a mean old boss

**PERSEPHONE.**

With a silver whistle and a golden scale

**FATES & WORKERS.**

An eye for an eye!

**HERMES.**

And he weighs the cost

**FATES & WORKERS.**

A lie for a lie!

**HERMES.**

And your soul for sale!

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Sold!

**PERSEPHONE.**

To the king on the chromium throne

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Thrown!

**PERSEPHONE.**

To the bottom of a sing-sing cell

**HERMES.**

Where the little wheel squeal and the big wheel groan

**PERSEPHONE.**

And you better forget about your wishing well

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown

Way down under the ground!

*(HERMES blows the train whistle. HADES arrives aboveground.)*

**HERMES.**

On the road to hell there was a railroad car

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

And the car door opened and a man stepped out

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmmm...

**HERMES.**

Ev'rybody looked and ev'rybody saw  
It was the same man they'd been singin' about

**PERSEPHONE.**

You're early

**HADES.**

I missed you

**FATE 2.**

Mister Hades is a mighty king

**FATES 2 & 3.**

Must be making some mighty big deals

**FATES.**

Seems like he owns ev'rything

**EURYDICE.**

Kinda makes you wonder how it feels...

*(HADES eyes EURYDICE. ORPHEUS steps between them.)*

**HERMES.**

All aboard!

A one, a two, a one-two-three-four!

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE,  
FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down Hadestown  
 Way down under the  
 ground!  
 Way down Hadestown  
 Way down under the  
 ground!

**EURYDICE.**

Way down  
 Way down under the  
 ground!  
 Way down  
 Way down under the  
 ground!

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down under the ground!  
 Way down under the... ground!

*(HADES and PERSEPHONE descend to the  
 underworld.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 9 – A GATHERING STORM]**

*(Sudden cold.)*

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Ooooh  
 Ooooh  
 Ooooh  
 Ooooh

**HERMES.**

With Persephone gone, the cold came on

**ORPHEUS.**

He came too soon  
 He came for her too soon  
 It's not supposed to be like this

**EURYDICE.**

Well, 'til someone brings the world back into tune  
 This is how it is

**HERMES.**

Orpheus had a gift to give

**EURYDICE.**

Hey – where you going?

**HERMES.**

Touched by the gods is what he was

**ORPHEUS.**

I have to finish the song

**EURYDICE.**

Finish it quick  
The wind is changing  
There's a storm coming on

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up, ooooh

**EURYDICE.**

We need food

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wind comes up, ooooh

**EURYDICE.**

We need firewood

**HERMES.**

Orpheus and Eurydice

**EURYDICE.**

Did you hear me, Orpheus?

**HERMES.**

Poor boy workin' on a song

**EURYDICE.**

*Orpheus!*

*(ORPHEUS is working on his song and doesn't  
hear EURYDICE.)*

**HERMES.**

Young girl looking for something to eat

**EURYDICE.**

Okay, finish it

**HERMES.**

Under a gathering storm...

(**EURYDICE** *leaves.*)

**[MUSIC NO. 10 – EPIC II]**

(**ORPHEUS** *accompanies himself.*)

**ORPHEUS.**

King of silver, king of gold  
 And ev'rything glittering under the ground  
 Hades is king of oil and coal  
 And the riches that flow where those rivers are found  
 But for half of the year, with Persephone gone  
 His loneliness moves in him, crude and black  
 He thinks of his wife in the arms of the sun  
 And jealousy fuels him  
 And feeds him, and fills him  
 With doubt that she'll ever come  
 Dread that she'll never come  
 Doubt that his lover will ever come back...  
 King of mortar, king of bricks  
 The River Styx is a river of stones  
 And Hades lays them high and thick  
 With a million hands that are not his own  
 With a million hands he builds a wall  
 Around all of the riches he digs from the earth  
 The pickaxe flashes, the hammer falls

**ORPHEUS.**

And crashing and pounding  
 His rivers surround him  
 And drown out the sound  
 Of the song he once heard

**WORKERS.**

Oooh  
 Oooh  
 Oooh

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la...

**WORKERS.**

Huh! Kkh!

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la...

**WORKERS.**

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la...

**WORKERS.**

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la...

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

Huh! Kkh! Huh! Kkh!

**[MUSIC NO. 11 – CHANT]**

*(Split scene: ORPHEUS, EURYDICE, FATES, and HERMES aboveground; HADES, PERSEPHONE, and WORKERS in the underworld.)*

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head low

Keep your head, keep your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head

**PERSEPHONE.**

In the coldest time of year  
 Why is it so hot down here?  
 Hotter than a crucible  
 It ain't right and it ain't natural

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

Lover, you were gone so long

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

Lover, I was lonesome  
 So I built a foundry  
 In the ground beneath your feet  
 Here I fashioned things of steel  
 Oil drums and automobiles  
 And then I kept that furnace fed  
 With the fossils of the dead  
 Lover, when you feel that fire  
 Think of it as my desire  
 Think of it as my desire for you

**ORPHEUS.**

La la, la la, la la la la la  
 La la, la la, la la la la la  
 Laaaaaaa, la la la la la  
 Laaaaaaa, la la la la la  
 La, la, la la la la la la  
 La la la la la la  
 La la la la la la

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**EURYDICE.** (*To HERMES.*)

Is it finished?

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**HERMES.** (*To EURYDICE.*)

Not yet

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**EURYDICE.** (*To HERMES.*)

Is he always like this?

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

(*EURYDICE is pursued by FATES.*)

**EURYDICE.** (*To herself and audience.*)

Looking high and looking low  
For the food and firewood I know  
We need to find and I am  
Keeping one eye on the sky and

**EURYDICE.**

Try'n' to trust  
That the song he's  
working on is gonna  
Shelter us  
From the wind, the  
wind, the wind

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep  
your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your  
head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low

Keep your head, keep your  
head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your  
head

**FATE 1.**

Ooh... **FATE 3.**

Ooh... **FATE 2.**

Ooh...

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh! Kkh!

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh! Huh! Kkh!

**PERSEPHONE.**

In the darkest time of year  
 Why is it so bright down here?  
 Brighter than a carnival  
 It ain't right and it ain't natural

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

Lover, you were gone so long

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

Lover, I was lonesome  
 So I laid a power grid  
 In the ground on which you stood  
 And wasn't it electrifying?  
 When I made the neon shine  
 Silver screen, cathode ray  
 Brighter than the light of day  
 Lover, when you see that glare  
 Think of it as my despair  
 Think of it as my despair for you

**ORPHEUS.**

They can't find the tune

**HERMES.**

Orpheus...

**ORPHEUS.**

They can't feel the rhythm

**HERMES.**

*Orpheus!*

**ORPHEUS.**

King Hades is deafened  
By a river of stone

**HERMES.**

Poor boy working on a song...

**ORPHEUS.**

And Lady Persephone's blinded  
By a river of wine  
Living in an oblivion

**HERMES.**

He did not see the storm coming on...

**WORKERS.**

Ooh...

**ORPHEUS.**

His black gold flows

**FATES 2 & 3.**

Ooooh

**FATE 1.**

In the world down below

Ooooh

And her dark clouds roll

In the one up above

**HERMES.**

Look up!

**WORKERS.**

Keep your head low...oh

**ORPHEUS.**

And that is the reason we're on this road

And the seasons are wrong

And the wind is so strong

That's why times are so hard

It's because of the gods

The gods have forgotten the song of their love!

**ORPHEUS.**

Singin' la la la la la la la

La la la la la la la

La la la la la la la

La la la la la la

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep  
your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your  
head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low

Keep your head, keep  
your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your  
head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your  
head

**EURYDICE.** (*Again pursued by FATES.*)

Looking low and looking high

**FATE 1.**

There is no food left to find

**FATE 3.**

It's hard enough to feed yourself

**FATE 2.**

Let alone somebody else

**EURYDICE.**

I'm try'n' to believe

That the song he's working on is gonna

Harbor me

**EURYDICE & FATES 2 & 3.**

From the wind, the wind, the wind

(**FATES surround EURYDICE.**)

**FATES.** (*Overlapping, under HERMES and EURYDICE's exchange.*)

Ooooh

**HERMES.**

Eurydice was a hungry young girl

*(FATES take EURYDICE's backpack.)*

**EURYDICE.** *(To FATES.)*

Give that back!

**HERMES.**

She was no stranger to the wind

*(FATES take EURYDICE's overcoat.)*

**EURYDICE.**

It's ev'rything we have!

**HERMES.**

But she had not seen nothin'

**EURYDICE.**

Orpheus!

**HERMES.**

Like the mighty storm she got caught in

**EURYDICE.**

*(Shouted.) Orpheus!*

Shelter us!

**HERMES.**

Only took a minute

**EURYDICE.**

Harbor me!

**HERMES.**

But the wrath of the gods was in it

**PERSEPHONE.**

Ev'ry year it's getting worse

Hadestown, hell on earth!

Did you think I'd be impressed

With this neon necropolis?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Lover, what have you become?  
 Coal cars and oil drums  
 Warehouse walls and factory floors  
 I don't know you anymore  
 And in the meantime up above  
 The harvest dies and people starve  
 Oceans rise and overflow  
 It ain't right and it ain't natural

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

Lover, ev'rything I do

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

I do it for the love of you  
 If you don't even want my love  
 I'll give it to someone who does  
 Someone grateful for her fate  
 Someone who appreciates  
 The comforts of a gilded cage  
 And doesn't try to fly away  
 The moment Mother Nature calls  
 Someone who could love these walls  
 That hold her close and keep her safe  
 And think of them as my embrace

**ORPHEUS.**

Singin' la la la la la la la

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep  
 your head

**EURYDICE.**

Shelter us!

**HADES.**

Think of them as my embrace

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep  
your head

**EURYDICE.**

Harbor me!

*(HADES appears aboveground.)*

**HADES.** *(To EURYDICE.)*

Think of them as my embrace...of you

**[MUSIC NO. 12 – HEY, LITTLE SONGBIRD]**

Hey, little songbird, give me a song  
I'm a busy man and I can't stay long  
I've got clients to call, I've got orders to fill  
I've got walls to build, I've got riots to quell  
And they're giving me hell back in Hades

Hey, little songbird, cat got your tongue?  
Always a pity for one so pretty and young  
When poverty comes to clip your wings  
And knock the wind right out of your lungs  
Hey, nobody sings on empty

**EURYDICE.**

Strange is the call of this strange man  
I wanna fly down and feed at his hand  
I want a nice soft place to land  
I wanna lie down forever

**HADES.**

Hey, little songbird, you got something fine  
You'd shine like a diamond down in the mine  
And the choice is yours, if you're willing to choose  
Seeing as you've got nothing to lose  
And I could use a canary

**EURYDICE.**

Suddenly nothing is as it was  
 Where are you now, Orpheus?  
 Wasn't it gonna be the two of us?  
 Weren't we birds of a feather?

**HADES.**

Hey, little songbird, let me guess  
 He's some kind of poet, and he's penniless  
 Give him your hand, he'll give you his hand-to-mouth  
 He'll write you a poem when the power is out  
 Hey, why not fly south for the winter?

Hey, little songbird, look all around you  
 See how the vipers and vultures surround you  
 And they'll take you down, they'll pick you clean  
 If you stick around such a desperate scene  
 See, people get mean when the chips are down...

**[MUSIC NO. 13 – WHEN THE CHIPS  
 ARE DOWN]**

*(HADES gives EURYDICE two coins.  
 "Rattlesnake" sound.)*

**HERMES.**

Songbird versus rattlesnake...

**FATE 3.**

Mmm...

**EURYDICE.**

What is it?

**HERMES .**

Eurydice was a hungry young girl...

**FATES 2 & 3.**

Mmm...

**HADES.**

Your ticket

**HERMES.**

And Hades gave her a choice to make

**FATES.**

Mmm-mmm-mmm

**HERMES.**

A ticket to the underworld

**FATE 3.**

Life ain't easy

**FATE 2.**

Life ain't fair

**FATES 1 & 3.**

A girl's gotta fight for her rightful share

**FATES.**

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

**FATE 2.**

Help yourself

**FATE 3.**

To hell with the rest

**FATE 1.**

Even the one who loves you best

**FATES.**

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

**EURYDICE.**

Oh, my aching heart...

**FATES.**

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

**FATE 1.**

Take if you can

**FATE 3.**

Give if you must

**FATES.**

Ain't nobody but yourself to trust

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

**FATE 3.**

Aim for the heart

**FATE 2.**

Shoot to kill

**FATES.**

If you don't do it then the other one will

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

And the first shall be first

And the last shall be last

Cast your eyes to heaven

You get a knife in the back!

Nobody's righteous

Nobody's proud

Nobody's innocent  
 Now that the chips are down  
 Now that the, now that the  
 Now that the, now that the  
 Now that the chips are down!

**[MUSIC NO. 14 – GONE, I'M GONE]**

**EURYDICE.** *(To herself and audience.)*

Orpheus, my heart is yours  
 Always was, and will be  
 It's my gut I can't ignore  
 Orpheus, I'm hungry  
 Oh, my heart it aches to stay  
 But the flesh will have its way  
 Oh, the way is dark and long  
 I'm already gone...

*(EURYDICE gives the coins to HERMES.)*

I'm gone

*(HERMES blows the train whistle. EURYDICE descends to the underworld.)*

**FATE 2.** *(To audience.)*

Go ahead and lay the blame

**FATE 1.**

Talk of virtue

**FATE 3.**

Talk of sin

**FATE 2.**

Wouldn't you have done the same?

**FATE 1 & 2.**

In her shoes

**FATES.**

In her skin?

**FATE 2.**

You can have your principles

**FATE 3.**

When you've got a bellyful

**FATE 1.**

But hunger has a way with you

**FATES.**

There's no telling what you're gonna do

When the chips are down

Now that the chips are down

What you gonna do when the chips are down?

Now that the chips are down

**[MUSIC NO. 15 – WAIT FOR ME (INTRO)]**

(**ORPHEUS** *reappears.*)

**ORPHEUS.**

Mister Hermes?

**HERMES.**

Hey, the big artiste!

Ain't you workin' on your masterpiece?

**ORPHEUS.**

Where's Eurydice?

**HERMES.**

Brother, what do you care?

You'll find another muse somewhere

**ORPHEUS.**

Where is she?

**HERMES.**

Why you wanna know?

**ORPHEUS.**

Wherever she is is where I'll go

**HERMES.**

And what if I said she's down below?

**ORPHEUS.**

Down below?

**HERMES.**

Down below

Six feet under the ground below

She called your name before she went

But I guess you weren't listening

**ORPHEUS.**

No!

**HERMES.**

So

Just how far would you go for her?

**ORPHEUS.**

To the end of time

To the end of the earth

**HERMES.**

You got a ticket?

**ORPHEUS.**

No

**HERMES.**

Yeah, I didn't think so

Course, there is another way, but –

Nah, I ain't supposed to say

**ORPHEUS.**

Another way?

**HERMES.**

Around the back  
But that ain't easy walkin', Jack  
It ain't for the sensitive of soul  
So do ya really wanna go?

**ORPHEUS.**

With all my heart

**HERMES.**

With all your heart?  
Well, that's a start

**[MUSIC NO. 16 – WAIT FOR ME]**

*(ORPHEUS begins his journey.)*

How to get to Hadestown  
You'll have to take the long way down  
Through the underground under cover of night  
Laying low, staying out of sight  
Ain't no compass, brother, ain't no map  
Just a telephone wire and a railroad track  
Keep on walkin' and don't look back  
'Til you get to the bottomland

**ORPHEUS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming  
Wait, I'm coming with you  
Wait for me, I'm coming too  
I'm coming too

**HERMES.**

River Styx is high and wide  
Cinderbricks and razorwire  
Walls of iron and concrete  
Hound dogs howlin' round the gate

Those dogs'll lay down and play dead  
 If you got the bones, if you got the bread  
 But if all you got is your own two legs  
 Just be glad you got 'em

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming  
 Wait, I'm coming with you  
 Wait for me, I'm coming too  
 I'm coming too

**FATES.** (*To ORPHEUS.*)

Who are you?  
 Where do you think you're going?  
 Who are you?  
 Why are you all alone?

**FATE 2.**

Who do you think you are?

**FATES 1 & 3.**

Who do you

**FATE 2 & 3.**

Who are you to think that  
 you could walk a road  
 that no one ever walked  
 before?

**FATE 1.**

Who are you

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la  
 La la la la la la la

**WORKERS (S/T).**

La la la la la la la

**WORKERS (A/B).**

La la la la la la la

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (S/T).**

La la la la la la la

**WORKERS.**

La la la la la la la...

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (A/T/B).**

La la la la la

*(Magic. A crack in the wall. The way opens.)*

**HERMES.**

You're on the lam, you're on the run  
 Don't give your name, you don't have one  
 And don't look no one in the eye  
 That town'll try to suck you dry  
 They'll suck your brain, they'll suck your breath  
 They'll pluck the heart right out your chest  
 They'll truss you up in your Sunday best  
 And stuff your mouth with cotton

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming

**FATES.**

I'm coming

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (S/A). FATES & WORKERS (T/B).**

Wait

I'm coming

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

I'm coming with you

**FATES.**

Wait

I'm coming

For me, I'm coming too

Wait I'm coming too

I'm coming

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS.**

I'm coming, wait for me

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (T).**

I hear the walls repeating

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (A/T).**

The falling of my feet and

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

It sounds like drumming

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (A/T).**

And I am not alone

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS (A/T/B).**

I hear the rocks and stones

**HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait

**ORPHEUS.**

Echoing my song

**ORPHEUS & WORKER (S/A).**

I'm coming

**WORKERS (T/B).**

Coming

**WORKERS (S/A).**

Coming...

*(ORPHEUS journeys into darkness.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 17 – WHY WE BUILD THE WALL]**

*(In the underworld.)*

**HADES.**

Why do we build the wall?  
My children, my children  
Why do we build the wall?

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Why do we build the wall?  
 We build the wall to keep us free  
 That's why we build the wall  
 We build the wall to keep us free

**HADES.**

How does the wall keep us free?  
 My children, my children  
 How does the wall keep us free?

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

How does the wall keep us free?  
 The wall keeps out the enemy  
 And we build the wall to keep us free  
 That's why we build the wall  
 We build the wall to keep us free

**HADES.**

Who do we call the enemy?  
 My children, my children  
 Who do we call the enemy?

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Who do we call the enemy?  
 The enemy is poverty  
 And the wall keeps out the enemy  
 And we build the wall to keep us free  
 That's why we build the wall  
 We build the wall to keep us free

**HADES.**

Because we have and they have not!  
 My children, my children  
 Because they want what we have got!

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Because we have and they have not  
 Because they want what we have got  
 The enemy is poverty  
 And the wall keeps out the enemy  
 And we build the wall to keep us free  
 That's why we build the wall  
 We build the wall to keep us free

*(EURYDICE arrives in the underworld.)*

**HADES.**

What do we have that they should want?  
 My children, my children  
 What do we have that they should want?

**PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

What do we have that they should want?  
 We have a wall to work upon  
 We have work and they have none

**HADES.**

And our work is never done  
 My children, my children  
 And the war is never won

**HADES, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

*(HADES speaks the following lines freely.)*

The enemy is poverty  
 And the wall keeps out the enemy  
 And we build the wall to keep us free  
 That's why we build the wall  
 We build the wall to keep us free

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

We build the wall to keep us free

**HERMES.**

Then Hades told Eurydice:

**HADES.**

There are papers to be signed

Step into my office

**HERMES.**

And he closed the door behind

Now a lot can happen behind closed doors

That's for sure, brother, that's a fact

But a lot can happen on the fact'ry floor

When the foreman turns his back

*(EURYDICE disappears behind closed doors  
with HADES.)*

**PERSEPHONE.** *(To audience.)*

Anybody want a drink?

## ACT TWO

### [MUSIC NO. 18 – OUR LADY OF THE UNDERGROUND (AN OPTIONAL ENTR'ACTE)]

**PERSEPHONE.** (*To BAND\* and audience.*)

Step into *my* office...!

I don't know about you, boys...

But if you're like me then hangin' around

This old manhole is bringin' you down

Six feet under gettin' under your skin

Cabin fever is a-settin' in

You're stir-crazy! Stuck in a rut!

You could use a little pick-me-up

I can give you what it is you crave

A little something from the good old days

I got the wind right here in a jar

I got the rain on tap at the bar

I got sunshine up on the shelf

Allow me to introduce myself

Brother, what's my name? My name is

**HERMES & BAND.**

Our Lady of the Underground!\*

---

\* For licensees using performance tracks, **PERSEPHONE** will only address the audience. **HERMES** will deliver "**HERMES & BAND**" lines alone.

**PERSEPHONE.**

Brother, what's my name?

**HERMES & BAND.**

Our Lady of Ways!

Our Lady of Means!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Brother, what's my name? My name is

**HERMES & BAND.**

Our Lady of the Upside Down!

**PERSEPHONE.**

Wanna know my name? I'll tell you my name:

Persephone!

*(Violin solo.)*

Come here, brother, let me guess

It's the little things you miss

Spring flowers, autumn leaves

Ask me, brother, and you shall receive

Or maybe these just ain't enough

Maybe you're looking for some stronger stuff

I got a sight for the sorest eye

When was the last time you saw the sky?

Wipe away your tears, brother

Brother, I know how you feel

I can see you're blinded

By the sadness of it all

Look a little closer, and

Ev'rything will be revealed

Look a little closer, and...

There's a crack in the wall!

*(Trombone solo. PERSEPHONE introduces BAND members.\* BAND members acknowledge audience.)*

Everybody please put your hands together for  
*[Trombonist]* on the trombone!  
*[Cellist]* on the cello! *[Violinist]* on the violin!  
*[Drummer]* on the drums! *[Bassist]* on the bass!  
*[Guitarist]* on the guitar! And *[Pianist]* on the keys!  
 You want stars?

**HERMES & BAND.**

Yeah!

**PERSEPHONE.**

I got a skyful  
 Put a quarter in the slot, you'll get an eyeful  
 You want the moon? Yeah, I got her too  
 She's right here waiting in my pay-per-view  
 How long's it been?  
 A little moonshine ain't no sin  
 Tell my husband to take his time  
 What the boss don't know, the boss won't mind...

**[MUSIC NO. 19 – WAY DOWN HADESTOWN  
 (REPRISE)]**

*(FATES pull a steam whistle. On the factory floor, WORKERS work. EURYDICE reappears from behind closed doors.)*

**FATE 1.**

The deal is signed?

**EURYDICE.**

Yes

---

\* For licensees using performance tracks, **PERSEPHONE** will go directly from the end of the trombone solo into “You want stars?”

**FATE 2.**

'Bout time

**FATE 3.**

Get on the line

**EURYDICE.**

I did what I had to do

**FATE 3.**

That's what they did, too

*(EURYDICE joins WORKERS on the factory floor.)*

**HERMES.**

Now in Hadestown there was a lotta souls

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep your head

**HERMES.**

Workin' on a wall with all their might

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Huh! Kkh! Oh, you gotta keep your head

**HERMES.**

Ya see, they kept their heads down low

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Huh! Kkh! If you wanna keep your head

**HERMES.**

You couldn't quite see their faces right...

But you could hear them singing

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep your head

**HERMES.**

Swingin' their hammers in the cold hard ground

You could hear the sound of the pickaxe ringin'

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Huh! Kkh! If you wanna keep your head

**HERMES.**

And they called it

**HERMES, WORKERS & FATES.**

“Freedom”

**EURYDICE.**

(*To WORKERS.*) I’m Eurydice

(*To FATES.*) Doesn’t anybody hear me?

**FATE 2.**

They can hear

**FATE 1.**

But they don’t care

**FATE 3.**

No one has a name down here

**FATES.**

Mister Hades set you free!

To work yourself into the ground!

Free to spend eternity

**FATE 2.**

In the factory

**FATE 1.**

And the warehouse

**FATES.**

Where the whistles scream

**FATE 3.**

And the foremen shout

**FATE 2.**

And you’re punchin’ in

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**FATE 1.**

And punchin' in

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**FATE 3.**

And punchin' in

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**FATES.**

And you can't punch out

And you're way down

Hadestown

Way down Hadestown

Way down Hadestown

Way down under the  
ground

**WORKERS.**

Can't punch out

Oh, keep your head,  
keep your head

Low, oh you gotta keep  
your head

Low, if you wanna keep  
your head

Keep your head low

**EURYDICE.**

Why won't anybody look at me?

**FATE 2.**

They can look

**FATE 3.**

But they don't see

**FATE 1.**

You see?

**FATE 2.**

It's easier that way

**FATES.**

Your eyes will look like that someday  
Down in the river of oblivion

**FATE 2.**

You kissed your little life goodbye

**FATES.**

And Hades laid his hands on ya

**FATE 1.**

And gave you everlasting life

**FATES & WORKERS.**

And everlasting overtime

**FATE 1.**

In the mine

**FATE 2.**

In the mill

**FATE 3 & WORKERS.**

In the machinery

**FATES.**

Your place on the  
assembly line

Replaces all your  
memories

Way down Hadestown

Way down Hadestown

Way down Hadestown

Way down under the  
ground

**WORKERS.**

Ooooh

Oh, keep your head, keep  
your head

Low, oh you gotta keep  
your head

Low, if you wanna keep  
your head

Keep your head low

**EURYDICE.**

What do you mean I'll look like that?

**FATE 2.**

That's what it looks like to forget

**EURYDICE.**

Forget what?

**FATE 1.**

Who you are

**FATE 3.**

And ev'rything that came before

**EURYDICE.**

I have to go

**FATE 1.**

Go where?

**EURYDICE.**

Go back

**FATE 3.**

Oh – and where is that?

*(EURYDICE can't remember.)*

**FATE 2.**

So – what was your name again?

**FATE 1.**

You've already forgotten...

**HERMES.**

Ya see, it's like I said before

A lot can happen behind closed doors

Eurydice was a hungry young girl

But she wasn't hungry anymore

What she was instead, was dead

Dead to the world anyway

Ya see, she went behind those doors

And signed her life away

**WORKERS.**

Aooh!

**FATE 2.**

Saw that wheel up in the sky

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**FATE 3.**

Heard the big bell tolling

**WORKERS.**

Aooh!

**FATE 1.**

A lotta souls have gotta die

**FATES & WORKERS.**

To keep the rust belt rolling

**WORKERS.**

Aooh!

**FATES.**

A lotta spirits gotta break

**FATES & WORKERS.**

To make the underworld go round

**FATES.**

Way down Hadestown

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Way down under the ground

**[MUSIC NO. 20 – FLOWERS]****EURYDICE.** *(To herself and audience.)*

What I wanted was to fall asleep

Close my eyes and disappear

**EURYDICE.**

Like a petal on a stream  
A feather on the air  
Lily white and poppy red  
I trembled when he laid me out  
“You won’t feel a thing,” he said  
“When you go down”  
Nothing gonna wake you now  
Dreams are sweet until they’re not  
Men are kind until they aren’t  
Flowers bloom until they rot  
And fall apart  
Is anybody listening?  
I open my mouth and nothing comes out  
Nothing  
Nothing gonna wake me now  
  
Flowers, I remember fields of  
Flowers, soft beneath my heels  
Walking in the sun  
I remember someone  
Someone by my side  
Turned his face to mine  
And then I turned away  
Into the shade  
  
You, the one I left behind  
If you ever walk this way  
Come and find me  
Lying in the bed I made

**[MUSIC NO. 21 – COME HOME WITH ME  
(REPRISE)]**

*(ORPHEUS arrives in the underworld.)*

**ORPHEUS.**

Come home with me!

**EURYDICE.**

It's you!

**ORPHEUS.**

It's me

**EURYDICE.**

Orpheus...

**ORPHEUS.**

Eurydice...

**EURYDICE.**

I called your name before –

**ORPHEUS.**

I know

**EURYDICE.**

You heard?

**ORPHEUS.**

No – Mister Hermes told me so  
Whatever happened, I'm to blame

**EURYDICE.**

No –

**ORPHEUS.**

You called my name

**EURYDICE.**

You came...  
But how'd you get here? On the train?

**ORPHEUS.**

No, I walked! A long way...

**EURYDICE.**

And how'd you get beyond the wall?

**ORPHEUS.**

I sang a song so beautiful  
The stones wept and they let me in  
And I can sing us home again

**EURYDICE.**

No, you can't

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes, I can

**EURYDICE.**

No – you don't understand

**[MUSIC NO. 22 – PAPERS (INTRO)]**

*(HADES appears.)*

**HADES.**

Young man!  
I don't think we've met before  
You're not from around here, son  
I don't know who the hell you are  
But I can tell you don't belong  
These are working people, son  
Law-abiding citizens  
Go back to where you came from  
You're on the wrong side of the fence

**PERSEPHONE.**

Hades, I know this boy

**HADES.**

One of the unemployed

**PERSEPHONE.**

His *name* is Orpheus

**HADES.**

You stay out of this!

**HERMES.**

Orpheus was a poor boy

**HADES.**

Did ya hear me, son?

**HERMES.**

You might say he was naïve

**HADES.**

You better run!

**HERMES.**

But this poor boy raised up his voice  
With his heart out on his sleeve

**EURDYDICE.**

No!  
Orpheus, you should go

**ORPHEUS.**

I'm not going back alone  
I came to take her home

*(HADES laughs.)*

**HADES.**

Who the hell you think you are?  
Who the hell you think you're talking to?  
She couldn't go anywhere  
Even if she wanted to  
You're not from around here, son  
If you were, then you would know  
That ev'rything and ev'ryone  
In Hadestown, I own!

**HADES.**

But I  
 Only buy  
 What others choose to sell  
 Oh  
 You didn't know?  
 She signed the deal herself  
 And now she –

**ORPHEUS.**

It isn't true!

**HADES.**

Belongs to me

**ORPHEUS.**

It isn't true!  
 What he said  
 Eurydice –

**EURYDICE.**

– I did  
 I do

**HADES.**

As for you...  
 Ev'rybody gather round!  
 Ev'rybody look and see!  
 What becomes of trespassers  
 With no respect for property!

**[MUSIC NO. 22a – PAPERS  
 (INSTRUMENTAL)]**

*(HADES gestures to WORKERS. WORKERS chase, surround, and beat ORPHEUS. HADES disappears behind closed doors. WORKERS turn away.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 23 – NOTHING CHANGES  
(AN OPTIONAL A CAPELLA SEGUE)]**

**FATES.** (*Surrounding ORPHEUS.*)

Why the struggle, why the strain?  
 Why make trouble, why make scenes?  
 Why go against the grain?  
 Why swim upstream?  
 It ain't, it ain't, it ain't no use  
 You're bound, you're bound, you're bound to lose  
 What's done, what's done, what's done is done  
 That's the way the river runs  
 So why get wet? Why break a sweat?  
 Why waste your precious breath?  
 Why beat your handsome brow?  
 Nothing changes  
 Nothing changes  
 Nothing changes anyhow

**[MUSIC NO. 24 – IF IT'S TRUE]**

(**WORKERS** *return to the factory floor.*  
**PERSEPHONE** *witnesses.*)

**ORPHEUS.**

If it's true what they say  
 If there's nothing to be done  
 If it's true that it's too late  
 And the girl I love is gone  
 If it's true what they say  
 Is this how the world is?  
 To be beaten and betrayed  
 And then be told that nothing changes  
 It'll always be like this  
 If it's true what they say  
 I'll be on my way

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

And the boy turned to go

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

Cos he thought no one could hear

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

But ev'rybody knows

That walls have ears

**WORKERS.**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

And the workers heard him

**WORKERS.**

Kkh!

**WORKERS (A/T).**

If it's true what they say

**WORKERS (S/B).**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

With their hammers swingin'

**WORKERS.**

Kkh!

**WORKERS (S/A/T).**

What's the purpose of a man?

**WORKERS (B).**

Huh!

**HERMES.**

And they quit their workin'

**WORKERS.**

Kkh!

Just to turn his eyes away?

**HERMES.**

When they heard him singin'

**WORKERS.**

Kkh!

Just to throw up both his hands?

**HERMES.**

No hammers swingin'

**WORKERS (S/A).**

What's the use of his backbone?

**HERMES.**

No pickaxe ring

**WORKERS (S/A/T).**

If he never stands upright?

**HERMES.**

And they stood and listened

**WORKERS.**

If he turns his back on ev'ryone

**HERMES.**

To the poor boy sing

**WORKERS.**

That he could've stood beside?

**ORPHEUS.**

If it's true what they say  
I'll be on my way  
But who are they to say  
What the truth is anyway?  
Cos the ones who tell the lies

**WORKERS.**

Ah

**ORPHEUS.**

Are the solemnest to swear  
And the ones who load the dice

**WORKERS.**

Ooooh

**ORPHEUS.**

Always say the toss is fair  
And the ones who deal the cards

**WORKERS.**

Deal the ca-ah

**ORPHEUS.**

Are the ones who take the tricks  
With their hands over their hearts

**WORKERS.**

Ooooh

**ORPHEUS.**

While we play the game they fix  
And the ones who speak the word

**WORKERS (A/B).**

Speak the word

**WORKERS (S/T).**

Speak the word

**ORPHEUS.**

Always say it is the last

**WORKERS.**

Ooooh

**ORPHEUS.**

And no answer will be heard  
To the question no one asks  
So I'm asking if it's true  
I'm asking me and you, and you, and you  
I believe our answer matters  
More than anything they say

**WORKERS (S/A).**

We stand and listen

**WORKER (S/T/B).**

Listen

**ORPHEUS.**

I believe if there is still a will then there is still a way

**WORKERS.**

We're standin' with him

**ORPHEUS.**

I believe there is a way  
I believe in us together  
More than anyone alone

**WORKERS (S/A).**

We're standin' near him

**WORKERS (T/B).**

Near him

**ORPHEUS.**

I believe that with each other we are stronger than we  
know

**WORKERS.**

We hear him

**ORPHEUS.**

I believe we're stronger than they know

I believe that we are many

I believe that they are few

**WORKERS (S/A).**

We're standin'

**WORKERS (A/T/B).**

Standin'

**WORKERS (S).**

Standin'

**ORPHEUS.**

And it isn't for the few to tell the many what is true

**WORKERS.**

We understand him

**ORPHEUS.**

So I ask you

If it's true what they say

**WORKERS.**

Standin'

**ORPHEUS.**

I'll be on my way

**WORKERS.**

Standin'

**ORPHEUS.**

Tell me what to do

**WORKERS.**

Standin'

**ORPHEUS.**

Is it true?

Is it true what they say?

**[MUSIC NO. 25 – HOW LONG?]**

*(Behind closed doors, PERSEPHONE approaches HADES.)*

**PERSEPHONE.**

What are you afraid of?

**HADES.**

What?

**PERSEPHONE.**

He's just a boy in love

**HADES.**

Have a drink, why don't you?

**PERSEPHONE.**

No

I've had enough

He loves that girl, Hades

**HADES.**

Well, that's too bad

**PERSEPHONE.**

He has the kind of love for her

That you and I once had

**HADES.**

The girl means nothing to me

**PERSEPHONE.**

I know

But she means ev'rything to him

**HADES.**

So?

**PERSEPHONE.**

Let her go

Hades, my husband, Hades, my light

Hades, my darkness

If you had heard how he sang tonight

You'd pity poor Orpheus

All of his sorrow won't fit in his chest

It just burns like a fire in the pit of his chest

And his heart is a bird on a spit in his chest

How long, how long, how long?

**HADES.**

How long? Just as long as Hades is king

Nothing comes of wishing on stars

And nothing comes of the songs people sing

However sorry they are

Give them a piece and they'll take it all

Show them a crack and they'll tear down the wall

Lend them an ear and the kingdom will fall

The kingdom will fall for a song

**PERSEPHONE.**

What does he care for the logic of kings?

The laws of your underworld?

It is only for love that he sings!

He sings for the love of a girl!

**HADES.**

You and your pity don't fit in my bed

You just burn like a fire in the pit of my bed

And I turn like a bird on a spit in my bed

How long, how long, how long?

**PERSEPHONE.**

How long? Just as long as I am your wife  
 It's true the earth must die  
 But then the earth comes back to life  
 And the sun must go on rising  
 And

**PERSEPHONE & HADES.**

How does the sun even fit in the sky?  
 It just burns like a fire in the pit of the sky  
 And the earth is a bird on a spit in the sky  
 How long, how long, how long?

**[MUSIC NO. 26 – CHANT (REPRISE)]**

*(Split scene: HADES and PERSEPHONE behind closed doors; HERMES, ORPHEUS, EURYDICE, and WORKERS on the factory floor.)*

**HERMES.**

Now ev'rybody knows that walls have ears

**ORPHEUS.**

Is it true?

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Is it true?

**HADES.**

What's that noise?

**HERMES.**

And the walls had heard what the boy was sayin'

**ORPHEUS.**

Is it true?

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Is it true?

**HADES.**

It's the boy!

**HERMES.**

A million tons of stone and steel

**ORPHEUS.**

Is it true?

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Is it true?

**HERMES.**

Echoed his refrain...

*(HADES and PERSEPHONE join WORKERS on the factory floor. HADES pulls the steam whistle. WORKERS work.)*

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head, keep your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head

Low, keep your head, keep your head low (Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta keep your head low (Kkh!)

If you wanna keep your head (Huh! Kkh!)

Oh, you gotta

**WORKERS.**

Why do we

**TWO WORKERS.\***

Turn away when our brother is bleeding?

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head

**TWO WORKERS.**

Why do we build a wall and then call it freedom?

---

\* **WORKER** duets can be assigned to any two **WORKERS**.

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head

**TWO WORKERS.**

If we're free

**WORKERS.**

Tell me why

**TWO WORKERS.**

I can't look in my brother's eye

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Keep your head!

**HADES. (To ORPHEUS.)**

Young man! Got to hand it to ya  
 Guess you don't scare easy, do ya?  
 Are you brave, or stupid, son?  
 Doesn't matter which one  
 Cos it seems your song made quite  
 A strong impression on my wife  
 But it takes more than singin' songs  
 To keep a woman in your arms  
 Take it from a man no longer young  
 If you want to hold a woman, son  
 Hang a chain around her throat  
 Made of many-karat gold  
 Shackle her from wrist-to-wrist  
 With sterling silver bracelets  
 Fill her pockets full of stones  
 Precious ones, diamonds  
 Bind her with a golden band  
 Take it from an old man

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh

**ORPHEUS.**

If I raised my voice

**WORKER.\***

If I raised my voice

**ANOTHER WORKER.**

If I raised my voice

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Keep your head

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Low

**EURYDICE.**

If I raised my head

**WORKER.**

If I raised my head

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Huh! Kkh!

**ANOTHER WORKER.**

If I raised my head

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Keep your head

**FATES & WORKERS.**

Low

**EURYDICE.**

Could I change my fate?

*(Overlapping.)*

**WORKER.**

Could I change?

**ANOTHER****WORKER.**

Could I change?

**FATES & OTHER****WORKERS.**

Huh! Kkh!

**THIRD WORKER.**

Could I change  
my fate?

Could I change  
my fate?

Oh, you gotta  
keep your  
head

---

\* **WORKER** solos can be assigned to any individual **WORKERS**.

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Low

**ORPHEUS.**

If I raised my voice could I?

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Keep your head low

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

Could I change the way it is?

**WORKERS.**

Why do we

**WORKERS (T/B).**

Turn away 'stead of standin' with him?

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head

**WORKERS (A/B).**

Why are we diggin' our own graves for a livin'?

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Oh, keep your head

**WORKERS (S/T).**

If we're free,

**WORKERS.**

Tell me why

**WORKERS (S/T).**

We can't even stand upright

**WORKERS (T/B).**

If we're free, tell me when

**WORKERS.**

We can stand with our fellow man

**EURYDICE, WORKERS & FATES.**

Keep your head!

**HADES.**

Young man! I was young once too  
Sang a song of love like you  
Son, I too was left behind  
Turned on one too many times

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

Now I sing a diff'rent song

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

One I can depend upon

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

A simple tune

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Huh!

**HADES.**

A steady beat

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

The music of machinery

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aooh!

**HADES.**

You hear that heavy metal sound?

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

The symphony of Hadestown!

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aoo!

**HADES.**

And in this symphony of mine

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Huh!

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

Are power chords and power lines

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aoo!

**HADES.**

Young man! You can strum your lyre

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Kkh!

**HADES.**

I have strung the world in wire!

**WORKERS & FATES.**

Aoo!

**HADES.**

Young man!

**WORKERS & FATES.**

You can sing your ditty

Huh!

I conduct the electric city!

Kkh!

I'll tell you what, young man

Since my wife is such a fan

And since I'm gonna count to three

And put you out of your misery

**HADES, HERMES, WORKERS & FATES.**

One!

**HADES.**

Give me one more song  
One more song before I send you

**HADES, HERMES, WORKERS & FATES.**

Two!

**HADES.**

To the great beyond  
Where nobody can hear you singing

**HADES, HERMES, WORKERS & FATES.**

Three!

**HADES.**

Sing a song for me  
Make me laugh, make me weep  
Make the king feel young again...  
Sing! For an old man

**[MUSIC NO. 27 – EPIC III]**

*(ORPHEUS receives and/or readies his instrument, then accompanies himself.)*

**ORPHEUS.**

King of shadows, king of shades  
Hades was king of the underworld

**HADES.** *(Amused.)*

Oh, it's about me...

*(ORPHEUS pauses.)*

**HERMES.**

Go on...

**ORPHEUS.**

But he fell in love with a beautiful lady  
 Who walked up above in her mother's green field  
 He fell in love with Persephone  
 Who was gathering flow'rs in the light of the sun  
 And I know how it was because...he was like me  
 A man in love with a woman

Singin' la la la la la la la  
 La la la la la la la

**HADES.**

Where'd you get that melody?

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**PERSEPHONE.**

Let him finish, Hades

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

You didn't know how, and you didn't know why  
 But you knew that you wanted to take her home  
 You saw her alone there against the sky  
 It was like she was someone you'd always known

**ORPHEUS.**

It was like you were  
 holding the world  
 when you held her  
 Like yours were the  
 arms that the whole  
 world was in  
 And there were no  
 words for the way  
 that you felt

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE,  
 HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Ooooh...

Ooooh...

**ORPHEUS.**

So you opened your mouth and you started to sing...  
La la la la la la la...

**COMPANY (EXCEPT HADES).**

La la la la la la la

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

**COMPANY (EXCEPT HADES).**

La la la la la la...

*(ORPHEUS leads COMPANY in singing.  
HADES is overwhelmed.)*

**PERSEPHONE, EURYDICE,****HERMES, FATES & WORKERS.****ORPHEUS. (To HADES.)**

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <p>And what has become of<br/>the heart of that man?<br/>Now that the man is king<br/>What has become of the<br/>heart of that man?<br/>Now that he has ev'rything<br/>The more he has, the more he holds<br/>The greater the weight of the world on his shoulders<br/>See how he labors beneath that load<br/>Afraid to look up, afraid to let go<br/>So he keeps his head low, he keeps his back bending<br/>He's grown so afraid that he'll lose what he owns<br/>But what he doesn't know is that what he's defending<br/>Is already gone<br/><br/>Where is the treasure inside of your chest?<br/>Where is your pleasure? Where is your youth?<br/>Where is the man with his arms outstretched<br/>To the woman he loves with nothing to lose?<br/>Singin' la la la la la la la</p> | <p>La la<br/><br/>La la</p> |
|--|-----------------------------|

**HADES.** (*Softly.*)

La la la la la la

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

**ORPHEUS, HADES & PERSEPHONE.**

La la la la la la...

*(Magic. The melody spontaneously produces a flower, surprising them both. HADES gives it to PERSEPHONE.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 28 – EPIC III  
(INSTRUMENTAL)]**

**HERMES.**

Orpheus was a poor boy  
But he had a gift to give  
This poor boy brought the world  
Back into tune, is what he did  
And Hades and Persephone  
They took each other's hands  
And brother, you know what *they* did?  
They danced...

**ORPHEUS & WORKERS.**

La la la, la la  
La la la la la la  
La la la la la la...

*(ORPHEUS sings. HADES and PERSEPHONE dance, then embrace.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 29 – PROMISES]**

*(HADES and PERSEPHONE hold their embrace. EURYDICE approaches ORPHEUS.)*

**EURYDICE.**

Orpheus...

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes?

**EURYDICE.**

You finished it...

**ORPHEUS.**

Yes

Now what do I do?

**EURYDICE.**

You take me home with you

Let's go

Let's go right now

**ORPHEUS.**

Okay, let's go – how?

**EURYDICE.**

We'll walk – you know the way

We'll just go back the way you came

**ORPHEUS.**

It's a long road – it's a long walk

Back into the cold and dark

Are you sure you wanna go?

**EURYDICE.**

Take me home

**ORPHEUS.**

I have no ring for your finger

I have no banquet table to lay

I have no bed of feathers

Whatever promises I made

I can't promise you fair sky above

Can't promise you kind road below

But I'll walk beside you love

Any way the wind blows

**EURYDICE.**

I don't need gold, don't need silver  
Just bread when I'm hungry, fire when I'm cold  
Don't need a ring for my finger  
Just need a steady hand to hold  
Don't promise me fair sky above  
Don't promise me kind road below  
Just walk beside me love  
Any way the wind blows

**ORPHEUS.** (*Indicating HADES.*)

What about him?

**EURYDICE.**

He'll let us go  
Look at him – he can't say no

**ORPHEUS.** (*Indicating WORKERS.*)

What about them?

**EURYDICE.**

We'll show the way  
If we can do it, so can they

**EURYDICE & ORPHEUS.**

I don't know where this road will end  
But I'll walk it with you hand in hand  
I can't promise you fair sky above  
Can't promise you kind road below  
But I'll walk beside you love  
Any way the wind blows

**ORPHEUS.**

And do you let me walk with you?

**EURYDICE.**

I do

**ORPHEUS.**

I do

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

I do

**EURYDICE.**

And keep on walking come what will?

**ORPHEUS.**

I will

**EURYDICE.**

I will

**ORPHEUS, EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

We will

**[MUSIC NO. 30 – WORD TO THE WISE]**

*(ORPHEUS approaches HADES.)*

**HERMES.**

And so the poor boy asked the king

**ORPHEUS.**

Can we go?

**HERMES.**

And this is how he answered him

**HADES.**

I don't know

*(FATES surround HADES.)*

**FATE 2.**

Gotta think quick

**FATE 1.**

Gotta save face

**FATE 3.**

Caught 'tween a rock and a hard place

**FATES.**

What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do now?

**FATE 2.**

If you tell 'em no

**FATES 1 & 3.**

Oh

**FATES.**

You're a heartless man  
And you're gonna have a martyr on your hands

**FATE 2.**

If you let 'em go

**FATES 1 & 3.**

Oh

**FATES.**

You're a spineless king  
And you're never gonna get 'em in line again

**FATES 1 & 2.**

Damned if you don't  
Damned if you do

**FATES.**

Whole damn-nation's watchin' you

**FATE 3.**

Oh

**FATES.**

What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do?  
What you gonna do now?

**FATE 2.**

Here's a little tip

**FATE 1.**

Word to the wise

**FATE 3.**

Here's a little snippet of advice

**FATES.**

Men are fools

Men are frail

Give 'em the rope and they'll hang themselves

**[MUSIC NO. 31 – HIS KISS, THE RIOT]**

**HADES.** *(To himself and audience.)*

The devil take this Orpheus

And his belladonna kiss

Beautiful, poisonous

Lovely! Deadly!

Dangerous, this jack of hearts

With his kiss, the riot starts

All my children came here poor

Clamoring for bed and board

Now what do they clamor for?

Freedom! Freedom!

Have I made myself their lord

Just to fall upon the sword

Of some pauper's minor chord?

Who will lead them?

Who lays all the best-laid plans?

Who makes work for idle hands?

*(Accordion solo.)*

*(To HERMES.)*

Only one thing to be done

Let them go, but let there be some  
 Term to be agreed upon  
 Some...condition  
 Orpheus, the undersigned  
 Shall not turn to look behind  
 She's out of sight!  
 And he's out of his mind

Ev'ry coward seems courageous  
 In the safety of a crowd  
 Bravery can be contagious  
 When the band is playing loud  
 Nothing makes a man so bold  
 As a woman's smile and a hand to hold  
 But all alone, his blood runs thin  
 And doubt comes  
 Doubt comes in

**[MUSIC NO. 32 – WAIT FOR ME  
 (REPRISE) – INTRO]**

**ORPHEUS.** (*To HERMES.*)

What is it?

**HERMES.**

Well, the good news is  
 He said that you can go

**EURYDICE & ORPHEUS.**

He did?

**WORKERS.**

He did?

**HERMES.**

He did...  
 There's bad news, though

**EURYDICE.**

What is it?

**HERMES.**

You can walk...  
But it won't be like you planned

**ORPHEUS.**

What do you mean?

**EURYDICE.**

Why not?

**HERMES.**

Well, you won't be hand in hand  
You won't be arm in arm  
Side by side, and all of that  
He said you have to walk in front  
And she has to walk in back

**ORPHEUS.**

Why?

**HERMES.**

And if you turn around  
To make sure she's coming too  
Then she goes back to Hadestown  
And ain't nothing you can do

**EURYDICE.**

But why?

**HERMES.**

Why build walls?  
Make folks walk single file?  
Divide and conquer's what it's called

**ORPHEUS.**

It's a trap?

**HERMES.**

It's a trial  
Do you trust each other?  
Do you trust yourselves?

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

We do

**HERMES.**

Well, listen brother  
If you wanna walk out of hell  
You're gonna have to prove it  
Before gods and men  
Can you do that?

**ORPHEUS & EURYDICE.**

We can

**HERMES.**

Alright...time to go

**ORPHEUS.**

Mister Hermes!

**HERMES.**

Yes?

**ORPHEUS.**

It's not a trick?

**HERMES.**

No -

It's a test

**[MUSIC NO. 33 – WAIT FOR ME (REPRISE)]**

The meanest dog you'll ever meet  
He ain't the hound dog in the street  
He bares some teeth and tears some skin  
But brother, that's the worst of him  
The dog you really got to dread  
Is the one that howls inside your head  
It's him whose howling drives men mad  
And a mind to its undoing

**EURYDICE & ORPHEUS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming  
 Wait, I'm coming with you  
 Wait for me, I'm coming too  
 I'm coming too

**WORKERS.**

Show the way so we can see  
 Show the way the world could be  
 If you can do it so can she  
 If she can do it so can we

**WORKERS (A/T).**

Show the way

**WORKERS.**

Show the way the world could be  
 Show the way so we believe  
 We will follow where you lead  
 We will follow if you  
 Show the way

**PERSEPHONE.**

Think they'll make it?

**HADES.**

I don't know

**WORKERS.**

Show the way

**PERSEPHONE.**

Hades, you let them go

**WORKERS.**

Show the way

**HADES.**

I let them try

**PERSEPHONE.**

And how 'bout you and I?

**WORKERS.**

Show the way

**PERSEPHONE.**

Are we gonna try again?

**WORKERS.**

Show the way

**HADES.**

It's time for spring  
We'll try again next fall

**PERSEPHONE.**

Wait for me

**HADES.**

I will

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE, FATES & WORKERS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming  
Wait, I'm coming with you  
Wait for me, I'm coming too  
I'm coming too

**FATES. (To ORPHEUS.)**

Who are you?  
Who do you think you are?  
Who are you?  
Who are you to lead her?  
Who are you to lead them?

**FATES.**

Who are you to think that  
you can  
Hold your head up higher  
than your fellow man?

**WORKERS (S/A).**

Who are you

**HERMES.**

You got a lonesome road to walk  
 And it ain't along the railroad track  
 And it ain't along the blacktop tar  
 You've walked a hundred times before  
 I'll tell you where the real road lies:  
 Between your ears, behind your eyes  
 That is the path to paradise  
 Likewise the road to ruin

**EURYDICE, ORPHEUS  
& WORKERS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming

**EURYDICE, ORPHEUS  
& WORKERS (S/A).**

Wait

**EURYDICE, ORPHEUS  
& WORKERS.**

I'm coming with you  
 Wait for me, I'm coming too

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Wait for me, I'm coming

**EURYDICE & WORKERS (S/A).**

Wait

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

I'm coming with you

**WORKERS.**

Wait

I'm coming

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE.**

I'm coming, wait for me

**PERSEPHONE & FATES.**

I'm coming

**PERSEPHONE, FATES  
& WORKERS (T/B).**

I'm coming

**PERSEPHONE & FATES.**

I'm coming

Wait I'm coming too

Wait I'm coming

**PERSEPHONE, FATES  
& WORKERS (T/B).**

I'm coming

**PERSEPHONE & FATES.**

I'm coming.

Wait I'm coming

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE.**

I hear the walls repeating

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE.**

The falling of our feet and

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE, HERMES & WORKERS.**

It sounds like drumming

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE.**

And we are not alone

**WORKERS (A/T).**

Show

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE.**

I hear the rocks and stones

**WORKERS (A/T).**

Show

**HERMES, PERSEPHONE & WORKERS.**

Show the way

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Echoing our song

*(Overlapping.)*

I'm comin', comin', comin'...

**[MUSIC NO. 34 – DOUBT COMES IN]**

*(ORPHEUS and EURYDICE journey into  
darkness, single file.)*

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la

La la la la la la...

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).** (*Surrounding ORPHEUS.*)

Doubt comes in

**FATES.**

The wind is changin’

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Doubt comes in

**FATES.**

How cold it’s blowin’

**FATES & WORKERS (S/A).**

Doubt comes in

**FATES.**

And meets a stranger

Walkin’ on a road alone

Where is she?

Where is she now?

Doubt comes in

**ORPHEUS.**

Who am I?

Where do I think I’m goin’?

**FATES.**

Doubt comes in

**ORPHEUS.**

Who am I?

Why am I all alone?

**FATES.**

Doubt comes in

**ORPHEUS.**

Who do I think I am?

Who am I to think that she would follow me into the  
cold and dark again?

**FATES.**

Where is she?

Where is she now?

**EURYDICE.**

Orpheus

Are you

**WORKERS.**

Are you

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Listenin'?

**EURYDICE.**

I am right here

**WORKERS.**

We are all right here

**FATES. (*Overlapping.*)**

Ah

**EURYDICE.**

And I will be 'til the end

And the coldest night

Of the coldest year

**WORKERS.**

Will be 'til the end

Coldest night

Coldest year

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Comes right before the spring

**ORPHEUS.**

La la la la la la la

La la la la la la...

Who am I?

Who am I against him?

Who am I?

Why would he let me win?

Why would he let her go?

**ORPHEUS.**

Who am I to think that he wouldn't deceive me  
Just to make me leave alone?

**FATES.**

Doubt comes in  
The wind is changin'

**ORPHEUS.**

Is this a trap that's being  
laid for me?

Doubt comes in  
How dark it's growin'

Is this a trick that's being  
played on me?

Doubt comes in  
And meets a stranger

I used to see the way the  
world could be

But now the way it is is all I  
see, and

Walkin' on a road alone

**ORPHEUS, FATES & WORKERS.**

Where is she?  
Where is she now?

**EURYDICE.**

Orpheus  
You are

**WORKERS.**

You are

**EURYDICE & WORKERS.**

Not alone

**EURYDICE.**

I am right behind you

**WORKERS.**

We are all behind you

**FATES. (*Overlapping.*)**

Ah

**EURYDICE.**

And I have been all along

**WORKERS.**

Have been all along

**EURYDICE.**

And the darkest hour  
Of the darkest night  
Comes right before  
the d-

**WORKERS.**

Darkest hour  
Darkest night  
Comes right before

*(The aboveground world comes into view.  
ORPHEUS pauses...then he turns.)*

**ORPHEUS.**

It's you

**EURYDICE.**

It's me  
Orpheus

**ORPHEUS.**

Eurydice

*(EURYDICE descends to the underworld.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 35 – ROAD TO HELL (REPRISE)]****HERMES.**

Alright...  
It's an old song  
It's an old tale from way back when  
It's an old song  
And that is how it ends  
That's how it goes  
Don't ask why brother, don't ask how  
He could have come so close  
The song was written long ago  
And that is how it goes

**HERMES.**

It's a sad song  
 It's a sad tale; it's a tragedy  
 It's a sad song  
 But we sing it anyway  
 Cos here's the thing:  
 To know how it ends  
 And still begin  
 To sing it again  
 As if it might turn out this time  
 I learned that from a friend of mine

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

*(Everyone reassembles at the aboveground gathering place.)*

**HERMES.**

See, Orpheus was a poor boy

*(EURYDICE appears, with overcoat, backpack, and candle, as in the beginning.)*

**EURYDICE.** *(To COMPANY and audience.)*

Anybody got a match?

**HERMES.** *(Offering a match.)*

But he had a gift to give

**EURYDICE.** *(To HERMES.)*

Give me that

**HERMES.**

He could make you see how the world could be

*(EURYDICE lights her candle.)*

In spite of the way that it is

Can you see it?

**EURYDICE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

**HERMES.**

Can you hear it?

**EURYDICE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

**HERMES.**

Can you feel it like a train?

Is it comin'?

Is it comin' this way?

On a sunny day there was a railroad car

**EURYDICE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

*(PERSEPHONE reappears.)*

**HERMES.**

And a lady stepping off a train

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

**HERMES.**

Ev'rybody looked and ev'rybody saw

**EURYDICE, PERSEPHONE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

Mmm...

**HERMES.**

That spring had come again

With a love song

**PERSEPHONE.**

With a love song

**EURYDICE, HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

With a love song

**HERMES.**

With a tale of a love from long ago  
It's a sad song

**EURYDICE, FATES & WORKERS.**

It's a sad song

**PERSEPHONE.**

It's a sad song

**HERMES.**

But we keep singin' even so  
It's an old song

**PERSEPHONE & EURYDICE.**

It's an old song

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

It's an old song

**HERMES.**

It's an old tale from way back when  
And we're gonna sing it

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

Again and again

**HERMES.**

We're gonna sing  
We're gonna sing

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

It's a love song

**EURYDICE.**

It's a love song

**HERMES.**

It's a love song

**PERSEPHONE.**

It's a love song

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

It's a tale of love from long ago

It's a sad song

**EURYDICE.**

It's a sad song

**HERMES & PERSEPHONE.**

It's a sad song

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

But we keep singin' even so

It's an old song

**EURYDICE & PERSEPHONE.**

It's an old song

**HERMES.**

It's an old, old,

Old tale from way back  
when

And we're gonna sing it

**HADES, FATES & WORKERS.**

It's an old tale from way  
back when

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

Again and again

**HERMES.**

We're gonna sing it again

*(ORPHEUS appears, as in the beginning.  
EURYDICE and ORPHEUS see each other, as if  
for the first time.)*

*(Curtain call.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 36 – WE RAISE OUR CUPS  
(AN OPTIONAL ENCORE)]**

*(Cups are passed around.)*

**PERSEPHONE.**

Pour the wine and raise a cup

Drink up, brothers, you know how

**PERSEPHONE.**

And spill a drop for Orpheus  
Wherever he is now

**PERSEPHONE & EURYDICE.**

Some birds sing when the sun shines bright  
Our praise is not for them

**PERSEPHONE.**

But the ones who sing in the dead of night  
We raise our cups to them

**PERSEPHONE & EURYDICE.**

Wherever he is wandering  
Alone upon the earth  
Let all our singing follow him

**PERSEPHONE.**

And bring him comfort

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

Some flow'rs bloom

**PERSEPHONE & EURYDICE.**

Where the green grass grows

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

Our praise is not for them

**PERSEPHONE & EURYDICE.**

But the ones who bloom in the bitter snow

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

We raise our cups to them  
We raise our cups and drink them up

**PERSEPHONE.**

We raise 'em high  
And drink them dry

**COMPANY (EXCEPT ORPHEUS).**

To Orpheus, and all of us

**PERSEPHONE.**

Goodnight, brothers, goodnight

*(COMPANY raises cups and acknowledges audience, encouraging them to do the same. COMPANY drinks.)*

**[MUSIC NO. 37 – EXIT MUSIC]**