

# **S U C C U B A**

**A musical comedy in two acts**

**Original book and lyrics**

**by**

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**Music by**

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## **ACT I**

Scene 1 - Hell

Scene 2-- The computer room at the seminary

Scene 3 - The Feingold living room

Scene 4 – A clearing in the woods

Scene 5 - A split scene showing the rooms  
of John and Tanya

Scene 6 - The computer room

## **ACT II**

Scene 1 - The Feingold living room

Scene 2 - Hell

Scene 3 - The town water works

Scene 4 - John's room

Scene 5 - The Feingold living room

Scene 6 - A street at night

Scene 7 - The church at midnight

Scene 8 - Purgatory

## SONGS

(Not including reprises)

### OVERTURE

### ACT I

ANOTHER DAY OF HELL (DOMINOMINUM)

WET DREAMS

TAKE CARE, LITTLE SISTER

WITH A SPECIAL DISPENSATION

SUBLIMATION

OF TIME AND THE TIDE

BLACK MAGIC

VOWS

WHAT LOVERS DO

### ACT II

A ROSE GREW FROM HELL

BRING HIS HEAD ON A PLATTER

HOW DIFFERENT WILL TOMORROW BE?

[SHABBAT]

## CHARACTERS

TANYA (a succubus)

FATHER JOHN (30 years old)

ELENA (17 years old)

DR. FEINGOLD (Elena's grandfather)

THE DEVIL (ancient)

MATT (seminary student)

SETH (seminary student)

DEMONS (5, minimum)

PURGATORY PERSON

PURGATORY PEOPLE

(A cast of eleven would suffice with doubling on demons and purgatory people.)

### A THUMBNAIL SYNOPSIS

Satan sends a demon named Tanya to compromise Father John, the one honest man on earth, by getting him to seduce Elena Feingold, a young girl to whom John is secretly attracted and who adores him. John's priestly vow of celibacy is very strong, so it will not be an easy assignment for Tanya. Half demon and half human, she can be seen by humans when she wishes.

Tanya is a succubus, a kind of demon that makes love to men at night causing wet dreams, but Tanya hates men and refuses ever to sleep with them. However, when the human part of her unexpectedly falls in love with Father John, problems arise that endanger her mission and threaten to enrage Satan.

The triangle between Father John, Elena and Tanya is further complicated by Elena's protective grandfather who is the town psychiatrist cum sheriff, by the angry, unruly demons, and by two seminary students who devise a magic potion to exorcise demons.

The story takes place in Hell and in Connecticut.

## SUCCUBA the musical

(An outline with songs)

### OVERTURE

**SCENE 1** -- Complete darkness in which we hear deep, tolling chords of music. Suddenly some high, tripping notes, and a spotlight illuminates a red figure doing slow stretching exercises high up on a crag of dark boulders. It is SATAN, complete with horns and tail, all red, wearing a red exercise suit, red sneakers, plump, soft and effeminate. As he sings, the-stage lights up slowly.

SATAN

#### ANOTHER DAY OF HELL

ANOTHER DAY OF HELL IS DAWNING  
ANOTHER DAY OF HELL, IT'S MAWNING  
I STRETCH MY RUBY LIMBS, YAWNING  
AND STOKE A FLAME  
HI THERE, SATAN IS MY NAME

DEMONS

(Distant, approaching)

DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
DOMINOMINO MINOMINETTA

SATAN

Darn! Here they come  
again. The demons!

The DEMONS appear, dancing, and start to dance their way up toward SATAN. Making a wry face and against his will he's swept into their dance.)

SATAN

ANOTHER DAY OF HELL, IT ISN'T HEAVEN  
EVERYBODY KNOWS I'M UP BY SEVEN  
EVERYONE IS HERE AND READY TO GO  
NOT A WINK OF SLEEP, THEY'RE READY TO GO  
AND HERE WE GO

ANOTHER DAY OF HELL, I MUST BE DREAMIN'  
EVERYWHERE I LOOK DEMON ON DEMON  
EVERYONE IS HERE, THEY HAD TO SHOW  
EVERYONE IS HERE AND OFF WE GO  
OFF WE GO  
ANOTHER DAY OF HELL

DEMONS

LET ME TELL YA OF ROSETTA  
 AND THE DAY THAT FIRST I MET HE'  
 SHE WAS WEARIN' HER TIGHT SWEATEH  
 WHAT A LOVELY SILHOUETTA  
 DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
 DOMINOMINO MINOMINETTA  
 OH SHE WAS A REAL COQUETTA  
 HOW I LOVED TO KISS AND PET HE'  
 CAN'T REMEMBER WHERE I MET HE'  
 BUT I NEVER WILL FORGET HE'  
 DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMETTA  
 DOMINOMINO MINOMINETTA  
 NE-MA

SATAN

SATAN IS MY NAME, I AM THE RULER  
 TORTURE IS THE GAME, NO ONE IS CRUELER  
 TRY AND TELL 'EM THAT  
 THEY DON'T WANNA KNOW  
 SING AND DANCE ALL DAY  
 THEY'RE READY TO GO  
 AND THERE THEY GO

ANOTHER DAY OF HELL, NOTHING SHOULD SPOIL IT  
 YA TAKE A LITTLE SOUL, POACH IT OR BROIL IT  
 BUT EVERYONE IS HERE, THEY HAD TO SHOW  
 EVERYONE IS HERE AND OFF WE GO  
 OFF WE GO  
 ANOTHER, ANOTHER DAY OF HELL

DEMONS

DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
 DOMINOMINUM DOMINOMINETTA  
 NE-MA

SATAN

Order! Order!

Calling them all to order, Satan tells them that mankind has become so disgusting, sinful and corrupt that there's no challenge in being a demon. Men and women tumble into hell with no help from them. As a result, demons have become lazy, undisciplined, and undependable.

Therefore, he's decided to toughen them up by sending them on a special assignment – to bring down to hell the one honest man on earth, a priest named Father John. They will do this by getting him to break his vow of celibacy.

To lead the team, he's selected Tanya, an ice-blue female with a haughty demeanor. Tanya is a succubus whose territory is all of Connecticut. Satan loves Tanya...in a plutonic way, of course. Succubi, he reminds them, are demons who sleep with men at night, causing wet dreams. Tanya's father was a succubus on the MTA who slept with a defecting Russian ballerina. The result of their union was Tanya. Born half demon and half human, she can be seen by mortals when in her human form.

However, Tanya hates mortal men (her father had abandoned her mother to ride forever on the MTA) and has chosen celibacy. For this reason there have been no nocturnal emissions in Connecticut for some time. But the plan doesn't involve *Tanya* sleeping with Father John. *Au contraire*. And if Tanya succeeds in her mission, she'll get her wish to shed her human half and live in hell forever, a red devil at last.

## TANYA

### WET DREAMS

MEN WHO ARE SLEEPING  
 THEY WHO ARE DREAMING  
 AT NIGHT I HEAR THEIR DESPERATE REFRAIN  
 PLEASE RELIEVE OUR PAIN.  
 MEN ALL ON FIRE  
 SENSUAL FIRE  
 I WILL NOT ENTER IN THEIR DREAMS OF LOVE  
 TO RELIEVE DESIRE.  
 WOE TO MEN SLEEPING  
 WOE TO MEN DREAMING  
 AT NIGHT THEY BUILD A TEMPLE TO MY NAME  
 LET THEM WAIT IN VAIN  
 LET THEM WAIT IN VAIN

Satan waves his hand and through a scrim we see a lighted scene: a handsome young priest, Father John, sits at his desk, writing a sermon. As he works, his gaze drifts off, he sighs and smiles dreamily. Then, catching himself, he frowns, crosses himself, and attempts to concentrate on his work.

Satan explains that John heads a seminary for young aspirants in Connecticut. Utterly virtuous, he has never broken a single vow. But now he finds himself deeply attracted to a young girl in the town, Elena (pron. EL-en-a.) Feingold, and is sorely tempted. It will be Tanya's job not only to get him to seduce Elena, but let the whole town know about it. A sin is only a single act, but a bad example has a ripple effect on a populace, as when a stone is tossed into a pool of molten dominos. It's called the domino effect, and it's unstoppable.

Tanya, enrapt, stands in front of the scrim – the demons call: “Down in front.” Sensing by her manner that Tanya is attracted to Father John, they taunt her. Threateningly, Satan drives in the point that he wouldn't want to send anyone to zap the priest who might fall in love with him.

But Tanya is ready to do the devil's work and get her reward. She'll see to it that Father John not only seduces this girl Elena, he'll have a premature ejaculation, give her cystitis, and make her pregnant all at the same time. That way everyone in town will know, and Tanya will become a red devil at last!

Satan waves his hand again and through a scrim we see a living room. It's the home of Dr. Feingold and his 17-year-old granddaughter, Elena. The doctor, an elderly Viennese psychiatrist, has raised her ever since her parents died in a car accident when she was a baby. Unable to find neurotics in this hard-working town, he was given the job of sheriff. But as there's little or no crime in the county, he spends most of his time studying.

While the doctor reads a book about Freud, Elena sits on the floor sucking her thumb and playing with a doll which, like her, wears a tight, revealing dress. No one, Satan tells the demons, knows that Elena desires Father John as much as he desires her.

At this, Tanya says, aside, "She'll have him over my dead body!"

Satan assigns two demons to the doctor's house, and two to watch over some divinity students at the seminary who are dabbling in black magic. Tanya, in human form, will take a job as housekeeper at the seminary where the current housekeeper is about to...uh... *has* just suffered a fatal stroke. They will all report back in two days. Satan passes around lengthy forms for them to fill out and hand in at the boathouse.

**SCENE 2** -- The computer room in the seminary. Two divinity students, Math and Seth, are working excitedly with the computer as they examine a formula that they found in an ancient book of black magic. It is for a potion that will exorcise demons. Watching as they work are two bored demons, one with a fart bellows, who interjects farts into the dialogue. The students blame their discomfort on the seminary food and hope the new housekeeper will be better than the last one.

SETH

(in rhythm, without music)

PRESS RETURN AND GOTO TERROR...

MULTIPLY BY NINETY-NINE AND...

MATT

ERROR!

SETH

*ERROR?*

Okay. Then try this.

GOTO...HELL...AND ENTER...HEAVEN

THEN DIVIDE BY THREE TIMES SEVEN.

MATT

GOSUB!

SETH

*GOSUB?*

That's odd. We haven't programmed in any subroutines. *I* know!

Try this.

PRESS RETURN...AND THEN, LET'S SEE...

SQUARE THE ROOT OF THIRTY THREE AND...

MATT

FEINGOLD!

SETH

*FEINGOLD?*

(He looks at the screen.)

Elena Feingold. I wonder how *she* got in there.

MATT

Because you were probably thinking more about her than the formula.

SETH

But not more about *her* than about thirty million *other* girls.

MATT

Elena Feingold still sucks her thumb, for God's sake!

SETH

Cool!

Dabbling in black magic is forbidden, so when they hear persons entering the room the boys hide what they're doing.

John and Tanya enter. He's showing the new housekeeper around. For a moment the two demons don't recognize Tanya in human form, but John calls attention to the fact that he seems to see flames in her eyes and they guess who it is. Tanya seems completely subdued – mesmerized by John – and the demons guess that she's in love with him. They taunt her because she has always hated men. While the demons speak and act, the humans remain motionless, out of time.

DEMONS

**TAKE CARE, LITTLE SISTER**

TAKE CARE, LITTLE SISTER

WHAT YOU DO WITH WHAT YOU GOT

YOU THINK YOU'VE TASTED FIRE

THERE'S A FIRE TWICE AS HOT

YES. TAKE CARE, LITTLE SISTER

DON'T BE GOIN' ALL ASTRAY

YOUR HEART'LL BE THE LOSER

BUT WE'LL HAVE HELL TO PAY

SATAN LOVES YA BUT LOVE CAN SOUR

LOVE SATAN, HE'S THE KING

DON'T DARE IGNORE HIS POWER

DON'T DARE THE DEVIL'S STING

YOUR HOME'S A PLACE CALLED HADES

YOUR HOME'S THE DEVIL'S LAIR

FROM HELL DON'T COME NICE LADIES

AND YOU, YOU COME FROM THERE



EVIL 'N OVER, EVIL 'N UNDER  
 DEVIL 'N DEMON, FIRE 'N WOE  
 DEMON ALL OVER, EVIL ASUNDER  
 FIRE AND DEVIL, DEMON BELOW

SATAN, TAKE HER, TAKE HER,  
 TAKE HER, SATAN, TAKE HER,  
 SATAN, TAKE HER, NOW!

SO TAKE HEED OF OUR WARNIN'  
 AND REMEMBER WHAT YOU ARE  
 NO GUY ON EARTH'D WANT YOU  
 THEY GOT BETTER THERE BY FAR

YES, TAKE CARE, LITTLE SISTER  
 AND DON'T CLIMB UP ON YOUR THRONE  
 NO GUY IS GONNA LOVE YOU  
 'CAUSE YOU ARE THE DEVIL'S OWN

TAKE CARE!

Tanya grabs a vacuum cleaner and while the humans in the room remain motionless in their parallel universe, she chases the demons behind some furniture where she vacuums up the shouting, coughing, demons before marching out with the vacuum.

**SCENE 3** -- The Feingold living room, the same scene as behind the scrim earlier, with the doctor and Elena, and now with two demons added. One, using a Viennese accent, reads aloud over the doctor's shoulder, doubling over with mirth.

DEMON

"Thus the act of eating is a destruction of the object with the final aim of incorporating it, and the sexual act is an act of aggression having as its purpose the most intimate union."

Raising his eyes to look at his granddaughter, Dr. Feingold asks why she's so dressed up. She says it's because Father John is coming over.

DOCTOR

He's been coming here for years. We discuss many things together. Since when do you dress up for him?

ELENA

Who else for? He's the only man my age you ever let come here. Besides, I want to marry him.

**A SPECIAL DISPENSATION**

I DON'T CARE IF HE IS CLERGY  
 I DON'T CARE IF HE IS OLD  
 THAT HE WEARS A SILVER CRUCIFIX  
 AND I A STAR OF GOLD  
 HE'S THE MAN I WANT TO MARRY  
 AND SOME DAY WE WILL ELOPE  
 WITH A SPECIAL DISPENSATION  
 FROM THE POPE.

OTHER FELLAS ARE JUST FOOLIN  
 WHEN THEY PROMISE ME THE SKY  
 IF I GAVE 'EM WHAT THEY WANT  
 THEY'D SOON BE WAVING ME GOODBYE  
 BUT THERE'S A MAN I KNOW  
 WHO'D NEVER LEAVE ME IN THE LURCH  
 WITH A SPECIAL DISPENSATION  
 FROM HIS CHURCH.

WHEN I AM OLDER  
 I CAN WORRY ALL DAY LONG  
 ASK A MILLION QUESTIONS  
 SING ANOTHER SONG  
 BUT NOW I AM YOUNG  
 AND MY HEART IS BEATING FREE  
 I KNOW THE MAN I LOVE  
 WILL MARRY ME

THERE ARE WAYS FOR LOVE TO TRIUMPH  
 OVER ALL THE RULES OF MAN  
 AND IF THERE'S A GOD IN HEAVEN  
 HE WILL HELP US ALL HE CAN  
 THEN ONE DAY MY LOVE WILL NAIL  
 UPON THE DOOR POST OF OUR HOME  
 THAT WONDERFUL CREATION  
 THAT SUPER CELEBRATION  
 THAT SPECIAL DISPENSATION  
 FROM HIS HOLINESS IN ROME  
 THAT SPECIAL DISPENSATION FROM THE POPE  
 (Hugging her doll, she sits on the floor)

**DEMON**

Very pretty. You tell it like that to Father John and we'll wrap up this operation in twenty-four hours.

The demon takes the phone cord and dials an imaginary number in the air. The phone next to the doctor/sheriff rings. We hear demon babble.

DOCTOR

“Sheriff Feingold here. [demon babble] What’s that? A prisoner has *what?*” He breaks off so as not to alarm Elena, but she has heard and guessed that a prisoner has escaped.

Father John arrives followed by Tanya (invisible to him in her blue demon outfit).

When Elena and John see each other, the doctor notices the two are visibly attracted to each other, and he becomes jealous. He tells John about the escaped convict and shows him a gun he keeps in a drawer – *to protect Elena*. John gets the message.

Tanya, vexed to see the attraction between John and Elena, grabs the fart bellows and makes Elena fart. The embarrassed girl flees from the room. When she’s gone, John asks the doctor what psychiatrists recommend for fire in the flesh.

DOCTOR

You mean feelings of sexual desire?

JOHN

Yes. Is there a remedy?

DEMON 1

Whatever it is, Tanya’ll take some too.

(TANYA strikes him with her broomstick)

DOCTOR

(Ponders a moment.)

Castration would be going a little far?

JOHN (dryly)

Yeah. It would take all the fun out of self-flagellation.

DOCTOR

Not bad. Uh...nocturnal emissions aren't helping?

JOHN

I haven't had any since I moved to Connecticut.

DOCTOR

And you don't...

(He makes a brief masturbating motion with his hand.)

JOHN

No, no.

DOCTOR

(Ponders a moment.)

I've got it! Sublimation.

DEMONS

*Sublimation?*

DOCTOR

SUBLIMATION (Sung here by the composer)

JOHN I FIND IT QUITE AMAZING  
 THAT A MAN OF YOUR PERSUASION  
 CAN CONFESS TO SUCH DESPAIR  
 I WOULD THINK THAT CONSTANT PRAYING  
 WOULD FACILITATE OBEYING  
 AND PREVENT YOUR EVER STRAYING  
 TOWARD A COMMON LOVE AFFAIR.

JOHN

I'M STILL A MAN  
 AND CAN FEEL WHAT OTHER MORTALS FEEL  
 BURNING DESIRE  
 ALL NIGHT LONG A MUSIC FILLS MY HEAD  
 IT TORTURES ME AND TURNS MY FLESH TO FIRE.

DOCTOR

WELL I THINK THAT SUBLIMATION  
 SHOULD PRODUCE A DISSIPATION  
 OF THE ENERGY YOU STORE  
 LEFT ALONE THIS CONFLAGRATION  
 COULD RESULT IN STIMULATION  
 OR A KIND OF PENETRATION  
 THAT IT NEVER DID BEFORE.  
 BEFORE YOU GO TO BED AT NIGHT  
 YOU OUGHT TO JOG TEN MILES AT LEAST  
 OR PLAY A TENNIS GAME  
 WITH ANY OTHER MINISTER OR PRIEST. NOW REPEAT...

JOHN

BEFORE I GO TO BED AT NIGHT  
 I OUGHT TO JOG TEN MILES

DOCTOR

AT LEAST

JOHN

AND DO YOU REALLY THINK  
 THAT THIS ACTIVITY  
 CAN EVER SET MY BURNING BODY FREE?

DOCTOR

YOU MUST BE A MAN OF VIRTUE  
 SUBLIMATION CANNOT HURT YOU

JOHN  
 THEN THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO SAY  
 I WILL JOG TEN MILES TODAY

(The song fades into TANYA'S theme. JOHN  
 grabs his head in pain as she dances ecstatically  
 around him»)

DEMON 1  
 MAN IT REALLY LAYS ONE ON YA  
 WHEN OUR LITTLE SISTER TANYA  
 FOR A MORTAL MAN CAN SIGH  
 ONE WOULD THINK THAT CONSTANT HATING  
 WOULD RESULT IN TERMINATING  
 ANY APPETITE FOR MATING  
 WITH AN ORDINARY GUY.

DEMONS

(to Tanya)

BEFORE YOU MAKE A PROMISE TO  
 OBEY THE DEVIL THINK IT THROUGH  
 BECAUSE A SIGN OF SIMPLE LECHERY  
 COULD BE A TREACHERY. SO YOU SEE

DEMONS	DOCTOR
BEFORE YOU MAKE A PROMISE TO	BEFORE YOU GO TO BED AT NIGHT
OBEY THE DEVIL THINK IT THROUGH	YOU OUGHT TO JOG TEN MILES AT LEAST
BECAUSE A SIGN OF SIMPLE HUMAN LECHERY	JOHN
COULD BE INTERPRETED AS TREACHERY	AND DO YOU REALLY THINK
	THAT THIS ACTIVITY
	CAN EVER SET MY BURNING
	BODY FREE?

DEMON 1	DOCTOR
MAKING LOVE IS NOT A VIRTUE	MAKING LOVE IS NOT A VIRTUE
FORNICATION IT <i>SHOULD HURT</i> YOU	FORNICATION IT <i>COULD HURT</i> YOU

DEMONS / DOCTOR/ JOHN

SO A BETTER DEMON BE/ SO A BETTER PERSON BE/ I'LL A BETTER PERSON BE

ALL TOGETHER

AND REJOICE ETERNALLY

JOHN

Oh, God!

(TANYA's theme music breaks through. She dances wildly as the DEMONS push and shove.

JOHN jogs out the door with TANYA and the two DEMONS jogging happily after him. When they're gone, ELENA, looking pensive, sits on the floor. The DOCTOR looks fondly down at her.

DOCTOR

**OF TIME AND THE TIDE** (Sung by the composer)  
 THE YEARS HAVE GONE BY SO FAST, SO FAST  
 LIKE WAVES ON THE SAND  
 YESTERDAY YOU WERE A LITTLE GIRL  
 HOLDING YOUR GRANDPA'S HAND  
 YES TIME AND THE TIDE HAVE COME AND GONE  
 OH WHERE HAVE THEY GONE?  
 YESTERDAY I WAS A CAREFREE BOY  
 SINGING ALOUD MY SONG  
 SINGING FOR ALL OF THE LAND TO HEAR  
 ECHOING FAR, TO THE HILLS, TO THE SEA  
 SEEKING TRUTH, FINDING LOVE...  
 SO WE MARRIED, HAD SOME CHILDREN TOO  
 ALL THE JOYS THAT MARRIAGE GIVES  
 WERE MINE AS THEY GREW  
 THEN ONE DAY THEY WENT AWAY  
 AND LIFE WAS SO EMPTY OF  
 ALL I KNEW AND ALL I'D HAD  
 YOU'RE ALL THAT I'VE LEFT TO LOVE  
 CAN YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL?  
 AH, TIME AND THE TIDE HAVE COME AND GONE  
 OH WHERE HAVE THEY GONE?  
 WAS IT AN ANGEL THAT CAME TO EARTH  
 TAKING MY LOVED ONES HOME?  
 WAS IT AN ANGEL THAT SPREAD HIS WINGS?  
 I MUST BELIEVE ALL I LOVED, ALL MY JOY  
 HAS NOT GONE WITH THE TIDE  
 LITTLE GIRL YOU'RE ALL MY LIFE  
 ALL THAT I'VE LEFT TO LOVE.

**SCENE 4** – A meadow. Matt and Seth seek local ingredients for their magic potion while two demons laze about, tossing burrs at them, pollen to make them sneeze, and using the fart bellows. The students feel that their potion to exorcise demons could both help the world and make them rich. Matt asks Seth to read the list of things they need.

**BLACK MAGIC** (sung by the composer)

SETH: LIZARD TAILS AND LADY FINGERS  
MAIRSY DOATS AND BILLY GOATS AND  
WOMBATS.

DEMONS: *WOMBATS?*

SETH: MAYBELLINE AND PANTYHOSE AND

MATT: GIMME A BREAK  
WHY IS IT WHAT YOU SAY  
ALWAYS TAKES US  
BACK TO WOMEN?

SETH: VERY STRANGE

MATT: I WOULD SAY SO

SETH: MAYBE IT'S THE DEVIL  
AND HIS DEMONS

DEMONS: *DEMONS?*

M & S: BLACK MAGIC OH WHAT A FASCINATING WORLD  
BLACK MAGIC  
LOOK WHAT A CHALLENGE WE HAVE HURLED  
BEELZEBUB AND LUCIFER WE'RE ON OUR WAY

SETH: LSD AND DIET PEPSI  
BUTTERFLIES AND PECAN PIES AND BAT  
CRAP

DEMONS: *BAT CRAP?*

SETH: MAIDENFORM AND SEXY HIPS AND

MATT: GIMME A BREAK: SHOW ME WHERE ON THE LIST  
THAT IS WRITTEN

SETH: DO YOU DOUBT IT?

MATT: YES I DO

HA! IT SAYS HERE (reading in horror)  
MINISKIRTS AND GARTER BELTS AND [FUCKING!] (Mouths  
the word silently.)

DEMONS: *FUCKING?*

M & S: BLACK MAGIC OH WHAT A FASCINATING WORLD  
BLACK MAGIC LOOK WHAT A CHALLENGE WE HAVE  
HURLED  
BEELZEBUB AND LUCIFER WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

M & S (cont): SALVATION WE'LL BRING TO EVERYONE  
 OL' SATAN'LL SOON BE ON THE RUN  
 WHEN HE'S AWAY GOD'S WILL *WILL* BE DONE  
 GOOD WILL PREVAIL, WE WILL NOT FAIL  
 WE PROMISE TO TIE THE DEVIL'S TAIL.

MATT

Look at all the mushrooms I've found.

SETH

Are you sure those are mushrooms?

MATT

OK. What's next on the list?

SETH: PARAKEETS AND PEPPERONI  
 HAAGEN DAZS AND DENTAL FLOSS AND VODKA

DEMONS: *VODKA?*

SETH: CUTTY SARK AND CHIVAS REGAL

MATT: GIMME A BREAK

SUDDENLY EVERYTHING SOUNDS LIKE LIQUOR

SETH: I WOULD SAY SO

MATT: YOU NO MORE THINK OF WOMEN?

SETH: NO I THINK YOU'VE DRIVEN ME TO DRINKING.

M & S: *DRINKING!* (They slap palms enthusiastically.)

BLACK MAGIC YOU ARE THE ANSWER TO OUR PRAYERS  
 BLACK MAGIC YOU'RE GONNA MAKE US MILLIONAIRES  
 EVERYONE WILL PAY TO DRINK OUR MAGIC BREW

MATT: WOULD WE SELL IT IN A BOTTLE?

SETH: COLOR IT RED OR BLUE?

MATT: DO WE DARE TO SELL DEMON BREW?

M & S: YES, WE DO

SETH: IF YOU ARE WILLING

MATT: YES I AM

SETH: SO AM I

IS IT DANGEROUS?

MATT: MAYBE SO

I DON'T KNOW

SETH: NOR DO I

MATT: WELL LET'S DO IT

M & S: BABY, I'M WITH YOU



DEMON 1: WHAT A GREAT IDEA WHY DON'T WE  
SELL THE MAGIC POTION TO THE DEVIL?

DEMON 2: *DEVIL?*

MATT: MAGIC!

SETH: POTION!

ALL: WHAT A CLEVER NOTION!

All exit in an upbeat mood. JOHN enters, deep in thought, followed by demon TANYA. Suddenly ELENA enters and runs up to JOHN.

ELENA throws her arms around JOHN but he turns his head so that she kisses his cheek instead of his lips. He starts to raise his arms to hold her, but TANYA, from behind, gently holds his arms to his sides. ELENA clings to him a moment, but when he doesn't embrace her, she pulls back.

Oh, I'm so sorry.

(She starts to run off.)

JOHN

Elena....

ELENA pauses, then is shoved off stage by TANYA who throws a triumphant look back at JOHN. ELENA's scarf has dropped to the ground. JOHN looks down at his hands which are still at his sides, then toward heaven.

JOHN

Thank you, Lord.

Seeing the scarf on the ground, he picks it up and buries his face in it.

She doesn't understand.

### **VOWS**

THERE'S A PLACE THAT I HAVE NEVER KNOWN  
A WORLD THAT CANNOT BE MY OWN  
AND YOU LIVE THERE.

OH THERE'S A ROAD I'LL NEVER TREAD  
AND WORDS THAT I HAVE NEVER SAID  
BUT WHEN YOU SPEAK OF LOVE TO ME  
YOUR VOICE IS SOFT AS WIND UPON THE SEA  
WHEN MORNING LIGHT BEGINS TO BE  
IT LINGERS WHEN YOU ARE AWAY

I KNOW THAT IF MY DUTY WERE NOT CLEAR  
THE VOWS I MADE WERE LESS SINCERE  
I'D SAY, BELOVED, COME TO ME TODAY  
COME, YOU AND I WILL LIVE AND LOVE  
WE TWO ON A HILLTOP HIGH ABOVE  
BUT THERE, ON SOME BRIGHT AND PERFECT DAY  
WE WOULD FIND  
THAT OUR LOVE HAD FLOWN AWAY

FOR LOVE IS NOT A RIGHT BUT OUR REWARD  
 FOR PROMISES THAT WEREN'T IGNORED  
 MY LOVE, THE VOWS I MADE WERE TO MY LORD.

Dr. Feingold enters, followed by a DEMON. The doctor greets John who stands with Elena's scarf in his hands. John says he'll bring it to the house, but the doctor advises him to put it in an envelope and mail it. He knows their address. John repeats that he could drop it by, but the doctor repeats that he should just put it in the mail. They exit in opposite directions.

DEMON

(Jumps up and down, clapping his hands,  
 then runs out after JOHN.)

I love it!

**SCENE 5** – A split stage showing the sleeping rooms of John and Tanya. John, in pajamas, tries to seal Elena's scarf into a manila envelope, but keeps removing it and holding it lovingly against his face. In another room TANYA sits on a broomstick laid between two chairs.

TANYA (musing to herself.)

Who would imagine that a demon like me, who had sworn a vow of eternal celibacy, would be willing to break that vow...for a *priest!* I *could* visit him at night in his sleep, but I want the man I love to know me, and love me, and know in his heart that I love him.

John kneels in prayer. Tanya takes the envelope, stuffs the scarf into it, licks it shut and lays it on the table. JOHN crosses himself, arises, and removes the cross which he wears on a chain around his neck. Invisible TANYA takes his hand. Time stops for him as she invisibly leads him gently in a dance.

**WHAT LOVERS DO**

GIVE ME YOUR HAND  
 AND WE'LL FLY TOGETHER  
 GIVE ME YOUR. HAND  
 CLOSER, DON'T BE AFRAID  
 TAKE ME, HERE IS MY HAND  
 KNOW ME  
 TOUCH ME, FEEL HOW I FEEL THERE  
 HAVE YOU NEVER KNOWN HOW A WOMAN IS?  
 TAKE ME, I WHO AM YOURS ALONE  
 AND LOVE ME  
 THOUGH YOU HAVE NEVER KNOWN  
 WHAT LOVERS DO  
 OH LOVE ME  
 YOU WHO MUST STILL BE SHOWN  
 WHAT LOVERS DO.

GIVE ME YOUR LOVE  
 AND LET'S LIE TOGETHER  
 GIVE ME YOUR LOVE

HOLD ME, WE WILL EXPLORE  
 PLACES NONE SAW BEFORE  
 SEEK ME  
 FIND ME, YOU ARE THE FIRST ONE  
 HAVE YOU NEVER OPENED A GOLDEN DOOR?  
 ENTER, I WILL BE STANDING THERE  
 AND LOVE ME  
 THOUGH I HAVE NEVER KNOWN  
 WHAT LOVERS DO  
 OH LOVE ME  
 I WHO MUST STILL BE SHOWN  
 WHAT LOVERS DO.

JOHN gets into bed. TANYA walks though the “wall,” takes the cross and chain gingerly in her fingers and puts the chain around his neck. Then she gets into the bed next to him and draws the covers up. Darkness.

### CURTAIN

### ACT II

**SCENE 1** – The Feingold living room. Two demons want to prove to Satan that Tanya loves Father John and is going to sabotage her mission, hoping to get John for herself. They’ve sent Tanya a message to come to the house and, while waiting, the two demons befuddle the doctor, substituting his reading glasses for dark glasses and babbling to him on the telephone. Seeing Tanya arriving, Demon-1 possesses the doctor, shielding the fires in his eyes with the dark glasses, and turns on the recording machine.

Tanya arrives in human form and warns the grandfather that Father John has the hots for Elena and something must be done to keep them apart. The doctor/demon offers to psychoanalyze the unhappy, lovesick Tanya. She lies down on the couch and the session begins.

POSSESSED DOCTOR

#### A ROSE GREW FROM HELL

TELL ME YOUR BEGINNINGS  
 OF YOUR ORIGINS ON EARTH  
 TELL ME OF YOUR FATHER  
 AND HOW MUCH HE WAS WORTH  
 DID YOUR MOTHER KISS YOU  
 AND TELL ME IF YOU CAN  
 WHEN DID YOU FIRST MAKE LOVE TO A MAN?  
 DO YOU LOVE THE DEVIL OR THE TRINITY?  
 DID HE WHO MADE THE LIGHTNING MAKE THEE?

TANYA

A ROSE GREW FROM HELL  
 THE DAY I WAS BORN  
 A GIRL SHED A TEAR  
 AND IT FELL ON A THORN  
 ONE PICKED THE ROSE  
 THE THORN STUNG HIS HAND  
 HELL'S BRIDE AND GROOM  
 THORN WAS HER WOMB  
 IT WAS LONG, LONG AGO  
 A MOMENT AWAY  
 THE EARTH OPENED UP  
 AND FIRE SHOWED ME THE WAY  
 DOWN, DOWN I FLEW  
 TO A PLACE WHERE THE RED DEMONS RAN  
 AND I'VE NEVER MADE LOVE TO A MAN  
 NO I'VE NEVER MADE LOVE TO A MAN.

POSSESSED DOCTOR

WHEN YOU WANT A LOVER  
 DOES YOUR BODY BURN WITH FIRE?  
 TELL ME WHAT YOU FANTICIZE  
 TO MAKE THE FLAMES GROW HIGHER  
 WHEN YOUR EYES ARE CLOSING  
 WHERE DO YOUR FINGERS GO?  
 I'M A DOCTOR AND I MUST KNOW!  
 WHEN THE EARTH WAS FORMING  
 IN THE BOILING SEA  
 DID HE WHO MADE THE LIGHTNING MAKE THEE?

TANYA

AT NIGHT WHEN THE STARS  
 SHINE DOWN FROM THE SKY  
 I HEAR MY LOVE CALL  
 AND TO HIS ARMS I FLY  
 ALL THE NIGHT LONG  
 I STAY BY HIS SIDE  
 TWO SOULS ON FIRE  
 ONE SOLE DESIRE  
 ON THE DAY THAT WE WED  
 THE ORACLES SAY  
 HE'LL OPEN HIS HEART  
 AND FOLLOW ME AWAY

FAST, FAST WE'LL FLY,  
 TO THAT PLACE WHERE THE RED FIRES GLOW  
 THERE I'LL LOVE HIM FOREVER I KNOW,  
 YES I'LL LOVE HIM FOREVER I KNOW.

Tanya runs out in tears. Demon 1 leaves the doctor and the two demons follow her out. Elena arrives and her grandfather announces that he has decided to send her away to college, something she has always wanted to do. Now, however, she is oddly reluctant, but refuses to tell him why. She exits.

Father John drops by. The doctor tells him Elena is taking a nap and that the escaped convict was seen outside town. He takes out and loads his gun. Gun in hand he asks John if the jogging is working. John says he's going to do some jogging right now, and jogs out.

**SCENE 2** -- Hell, with Satan, Tanya and demons. The demons are giving a progress report to Satan. First, two students have made a formula to exorcise demons and plan to put it in the municipal water supply. Second, Tanya has fallen in love with Father John and is trying to keep him away from Elena. She denies it, but the demons have proof. Satan reminds her that if she fails in her mission, she'll be sent to Purgatory for millions of eons, whereas if she succeeds, she and John will live in Hell for eternity. Satan congratulates the demons for the good job they've done.

SATAN

**BRING HIS HEAD ON A PLATTER**

BRING HIS HEAD ON A PLATTER  
 HOW YOU GET IT DOESN'T MATTER  
 JUST MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T SPLATTER  
 WHEN YOU CHOP IT OFF.  
 BRING HIS SOUL IN A SKILLET  
 CAREFUL NOT TO TRIP AND SPILL IT  
 IT WILL BE A JOY TO SWILL IT  
 NOT TO MOP IT OFF  
 BRING HIS BONES IN A BASKET  
 WOVEN LIKE AN OPEN CASKET  
 IF IT SMELLS PERFUME SHOULD MASK IT  
 WHEN YOU DROP IT OFF.  
 ALL OF YOU ARE LEARNING FAST  
 I HAVE HOPE FOR YOU AT LAST  
 SINNERS WILL BE ALL AGHAST  
 WHEN THEY FIND YOUR TRACE  
 CHOP AND LOP AND POP AND KILL  
 WE HAVE LOTS OF HELL TO FILL  
 LET US DO IT WITH GOOD WILL  
 AND AMAZING GRACE.

(The song is repeated as a round with  
 the DEMONS joining in.)

Tanya insists she'll do her job and requisitions a black mass at midnight on the Sabbath.

**SCENE 3** – The town waterworks. Matt and Seth, having decided not to sell the demon-exorcising potion, want to pour it into the town water supply. They examine pipes and valves, seeking a place to pour it in. Two demons fool around putting the fart bellows into the bucket of potion. While the students aren't looking, they pour the contents of the bucket into a large potted plant and substitute a bucket of their own. A strange, green, plant demon, exorcised, steps gingerly out of the flower pot and hurries off.

PLANT DEMON

Thank God, I'm outta there!

**SCENE 4** – Father John's room in the seminary. Tanya is cleaning, singing bits of her song and hugging John's pillow. John enters, exhausted from jogging. He tells Tanya to take the day off, but she wants him to hear her confession if he's not too tired.

JOHN

Will it take long? Have you sinned much since your last confession?

TANYA

It might take a while.

JOHN

Come. We'll go to the confessional.

TANYA

No! That's not necessary. I'm...allergic to incense.

JOHN

But I can't confess you here, with us looking at each other.

TANYA

There's a way. I saw it done in a French film. The priest confessed a woman through an oven grill.

JOHN

The French have a very different attitude toward this sort of thing.

TANYA

Look. We could use this.

(She removes the ventilator grill, blows the dust off it, and sits on the bed.)

Here. Sit next to me. I'll hold it.

JOHN (sitting)

Why not? (Aside) This can't be any freakier than what's been happening these past few days.

TANYA (overwhelmed)

I have a better idea. If you're, so tired, I'll massage your neck.

Before JOHN can protest, she's behind him, massaging his neck, helping him off with his sports jacket, letting down her long hair.)

JOHN

That feels good. I *am* tired. I've been jogging for three days.

TANYA

Has it helped?

JOHN

Helped? You know, you're a strange young woman. Not at all like our last house-keeper. She didn't have fires in her eyes, for instance. But then she didn't give neck massages.

TANYA

Do you like music?

(Tanya's theme music begins.)

JOHN

Good Lord. I know that music. At night it fills my dreams. It tortures my flesh. I think I've had six hours of sleep in the past week.

TANYA

It's *my* music. At night I wear it like a perfume.

JOHN

Who *are* you?

TANYA

(The music stops abruptly.)

Tanya. The housekeeper.

JOHN

I must be hallucinating, overtired. I thought I heard strange music.

(Rising, he takes her hands in his)

I've never met anyone like you.

(Releasing her hands, he pushes her gently away.)

But the Lord has heard my vows and some day heaven will be my reward.

TANYA

That's nice. Uh...what are you doing Friday night? I hear there's going to be a midnight mass.

**SCENE 5** – The Feingold living room. Night. The doctor, Elena and two demons are watching TV. When the doctor/sheriff is called away on a false errand by a demon pretending to call on the phone, he takes his gun with him. Tanya arrives with a note for Elena. “Dear Elena...darling...meet me at the church at midnight. Love, John.”

ELENA (hugging her doll)

Oh, doll, he loves me. Tonight everything will change.

Oh, be happy for me.

**HOW DIFFERENT WILL TOMORROW BE**

TONIGHT MY LOVE, WE TWO WILL KEEP

OUR RENDEZVOUS WITH FATE

HOW WILL IT BE? HOW WILL I FEEL?

WILL I BE BRAVE...OR HESITATE?

SOME TIME TONIGHT YOUR GENTLE TOUCH

WILL SET MY BODY FREE

TOMORROW WHEN I WAKE UP

HOW DIFFERENT WILL TOMORROW BE?

HOW DIFFERENT WILL THE SUNLIGHT LIE

ON ARMS THAT LOVE HAS BARED

HOW DIFFERENT WILL THE PILLOW FEEL

THAT SLEEPING LOVERS SHARED

IF PEOPLE ASK I'LL SAY I WENT

BECAUSE I LOVE HIM SO

HOW DIFFERENT WILL TOMORROW BE?

TOMORROW I WILL KNOW.

I'LL TAKE A SHOWER, WASH MY HAIR

AND THEN I'LL HAVE TO GO

HOW DIFFERENT WILL TOMORROW BE?

TOMORROW I WILL KNOW.

(She looks at her watch.)

Oh my gosh! I've only got two hours to get ready!

Taking a book from the shelf, she hides the note in it, tosses her doll on the sofa, and exits. One demon takes out the note and places it on the floor near the doctor's desk. The two demons exit, one chuckling evilly, the other wiping away a sentimental tear.

**SCENE 6** – Under a street lamp at night. Matt reads a newspaper as Seth joins him. They learn from the paper that their potion has caused a plague of flatulence in the town and sparked an increase in crime. So much for making a million off exorcising demons. They'll have to rework the formula.

**SCENE 7** -- The church at midnight. Tanya and the other demons are preparing for the black mass, rearranging the altar, placing the cross upside-down, etc, in a wild, unruly dance. Elena, wearing high heels and a nice dress, stands alone, looking at her watch and waiting for Father John.



DEMONS

**SHABBAT** (music to be written)  
 SHABBAT SHABBAT SHABBAT SHABBAT  
 NOW THE MIDNIGHT HOUR COMES  
 DEMONS OF THE NIGHT  
 JOIN YOUR SISTERS AND YOUR BROTHERS  
 IN OUR SHABBAT RITE  
 COME YE SHADOWS COME YE SHADES  
 CABALISTS OF SIN  
 SPREAD YOUR KNEES UPON THE ALTAR  
 LET THE DEVIL IN  
 SHABBAT SHABBAT SHABBAT SHABBAT  
 WE SHALL SEE SUCH THINGS TONIGHT  
 ACTS WITHOUT A NAME  
 DARK WILL BE THE MOON TONIGHT  
 HE HIDES HIS FACE IN SHAME

A figure wearing a long robe and hood enters the church through a different door. It is John. Oblivious as to what is going on, he paces impatiently, reads and rereads a note, shaking his head, then tucks it away in his sleeve. As the church bell strikes midnight, the demons seem to disappear motionless against the decor.

Elena sees John and runs to him. She tells him she got his note and loves him too and will marry him. Realizing that something is very wrong, John gently tells her that he has given his love to another (he glances upward) and can't be with her. He offers to walk her home, but just then Tanya jumps forward and possesses Elena. Elena starts dancing suggestively to Tanya's music. Tanya tells John that she will force Elena to dance in streets and brothels unless John makes love to her on the altar. John refuses, but agrees that if Tanya will release Elena he'll make love to her, Tanya.

Elena, released, flees. John and Tanya mount the altar and lie down, surrounded by the singing, dancing demons. Suddenly Dr. Feingold arrives, waving his gun and the note he found. He thinks John is with Elena. A demon grabs the doctor's arm, points the gun, and it goes off in the direction of the two on the altar.

**SCENE 8** -- Purgatory. Silence. An almost bare stage. Off in the distance the familiar Golden Arches. Purgatory people in gray body stockings. Tanya stumbles in followed by John, both in gray body stockings. They learn that they'll be in Purgatory a million eons, and there's no sex there. John isn't angry at Tanya because in her arms he felt a woman's love for the first time. But *she* wants to be in hell with the other demons. John tells her that she's not in Hell because she did a good act by releasing Elena. *He's* here because he broke his sacred vow. He'll have enough time to expiate his sin before going to heaven. Some day they'll both be in heaven. And Elena? John assures Tanya that Elena will have a lifetime to fall in love with someone else.

Dr. Feingold, who has died from a heart attack, stumbles in clutching his chest. He's amazed to learn John was making love to Tanya, not Elena. He's more amazed to find there's an afterlife. He figures that a million eons in purgatory will be enough for him to complete his self-analysis. Then heaven? "Well," the doctor says to John, "I might visit the old man. You can visit the Kid.

The three put their hands on each others' hands. As the music starts, Purgatory people gather on the stage behind them. A hill and the Golden Arches light up in glory at the back. words appear to make it a sing-along with the audience.

DOCTOR (aside)

Well, at least we won't starve.

COMPANY

**VOWS** (a musical reprise with altered lyrics)

THEN YOU AND I WILL LIVE AND LOVE

ON HIGH, IN A PARADISE ABOVE

AND THERE ON SOME BRIGHT AND PERFECT DAY

WE WILL FIND THAT OUR LOVE IS HERE TO STAY

FOR LOVE IS NOT A RIGHT BUT OUR REWARD

FOR PROMISES THAT WEREN'T IGNORED

MY LOVE, THE VOWS I MADE WERE TO MY LORD.

**FINAL CURTAIN**