

*Daisy
and
The Wonder Weeds*

*by
Jean Elliott Manning*

*Developed in part at The Next Wave Festival of New
Musicals
Montreal, Quebec, Canada*

Cast of Characters

DAISY, female, late teens
DANDELION, (aka, DANDY) young male, Champion of the Wild Weeds
AUNT DEE, elderly lady, master gardener
MAYOR MEGAMORE, Aunt Dee's nephew, running for re-election
ROSE, mature female, Queen of the Flowers
CRABGRASS, mature male, red-neck super-weed
TREE, stately male
SIR PENT, male, reptilian magician
SWEET VIOLET, younger female, Daisy's best friend
FLOWER #1: DAFFODIL, DAHLIA, ANEMONE, (may be played by the same actor)
FLOWER #2: TULIP, DAYLILY, MUM, (may be played by the same actor)
FLOWER #3: LILAC, DELPHINIUM, PINK, (may be played by the same actor)
STINGING NETTLE, female
BURDOCK, male or female
MILKWEED, male or female
CLOVER/RHUBARB, male or female
CANADIAN THISTLE, male or female
RAGWEED, male or female
MUGWORT, male or female
WONDER WEED, male or female
HERMAN, ace courier pigeon
FLORALEE, photographer, Aunt Dee's confidant
HELLMORE, Megamore's bodyguard
DIDMORE DUNMORE, real estate tycoon
AGELESS EVERMORE, female of indeterminate age, CEO of Bank of Megapolis
TOUR GUIDE, male or female
SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN, an invisible force that sings "Aoomba!"

* NOTE: Daisy and the Wonder Weeds can be performed by 13 actors playing multiple roles.

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LIST OF SCENES

ACT ONE

Scene One: Downtown Megapolis, Spring, Morning rush hour

Scene Two: In the Garden, Spring Morning

Scene Three: On the Glof Course, Afternoon

Scene Four: In the Garden, Summer

ACT TWO

Scene One: Downtown Megapolis, August

Scene Two: In the Garden, Late Summer and Fall

Scene Three: In Sir Pent's Den, Night

Scene Four: In the Garden, Winter, Early Spring

Scene Five: Downtown Megapolis, Under the Off Ramp

Scene Six: In the Garden, Spring and Summer

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

“Welcome to Megapolis”	Company
“When Lilacs Bloom”	Rose and Spring Flowers
“Ordinary Me”	Daisy and Spring Flowers
“Sweet Revenge”	Sir Pent
“Get the Picture”	Megamore, Dunmore, Evermore, Hellmore
“Weeds!”	Dandelion, Weeds, Flowers
“Keep Wishing”	Daisy, Dandelion, Flowers, Weeds
“When Lilies Bloom”	Summer Flowers and Weeds
“Always Enough”	Company
“This is My Home”	Aunt Dee, Herman, Violet
“Listen to the Drums”	Company

ACT TWO

“What’s that Sound?”	Company
“Seeds of Doubt”	Sir Pent and Daisy
“Power of a Flower”	Violet and Tree
“Chemical Nightmare”	Nettle and Company
“When Autumn’s in the Air”	Fall Flowers, Rose and Crabgrass
“Why do the Wild Weeds Come?”	Daisy and Company
“I’ll be Back”	Crabgrass and Company
“Keep Wishing” (reprise)	Dandelion
“Get the Picture” (reprise)	Megamore, Dunmore, Evermore, Hellmore
“My Favorite Intention”	Wonder Weed
“Spirit of the Garden”	Company

ACT ONE

SCENE 1

EXT. DOWNTOWN MEGAPOLIS. SPRING. AM RUSH HOUR.

A majestic TREE wakes, then stretches his branches in the early morning mist.

Sounds of rush hour traffic grow, as Megapolis wakes to another busy day.

We see an oxygen dispenser at a busy crosswalk near a streetlight.

TREE

Welcome to rush hour in Megapolis, a Mad-Maxed Whoville somewhere between Oz and Detroit... in a time and place just a little to the left of today.

(Wheezing CITIZENS line up at the oxygen dispenser.)

(Elderly AUNT DEE enters, wearing her best spring suit, rubber boots and gardening apron. SHE clings tightly to her hand bag.)

(HERMAN, ace courier pigeon, flutters behind.)

TREE (CONT'D)

We love our city, despite the smog and the traffic and the bustle and the noise. But no one loves Megapolis more than our beloved gardener, 'Aunt Dee.'

(Hopelessly lost, AUNT DEE turns to the tourist kiosk nearby.)

AUNT DEE

(bewildered)

Where AM I?

SONG: "WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS"

CITIZENS

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS, WELCOME TO OUR
HONK HONK, BEEP BEEP CONCRETE CITY
WELCOME TO OUR BIG BRAND NEW MEGAPOLIS

TOUR GUIDE

I CAN SEE YOU'RE A TOURIST FROM OUT OF TOWN

AUNT DEE

(speaks)

No, I was born here!

TOUR GUIDE

YOU'LL NEED A MAP TO HELP YOU GET AROUND
FORGET THE OLD METROPOLIS
IT'S ALL BEEN REARRANGED
THANKS TO MAYOR MEGAMORE
EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED

CITIZENS

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS
WELCOME TO OUR HONK HONK,
BEEP BEEP GRIDLOCK CITY
WELCOME TO OUR NEW IMPROVED MEGAPOLIS
NOW THE MUSEUM IS A BRAND NEW CASINO

AUNT DEE

WE USED TO HAVE A PARK
WHERE DID THE PARK GO?

CITIZENS

NOW IT'S A FREEWAY
AND THERE'S NOT A PARK IN SIGHT
AND THANKS TO MAYOR MEGAMORE
IT HAPPENED OVERNIGHT

NOW MAIN STREET LOOKS A LOT
LIKE VEGAS OR RENO
WE USED TO HAVE A ZOO
WHERE DID THE ZOO GO?
NOW THERE'S A CONDO
WHERE THERE USED TO BE A ZOO
AND THANKS TO MAYOR MEGAMORE
THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO

(We hear a blaring HORN. MAYOR MEGAMORE
enters with his bodyguard, HELLMORE.)

(HELLMORE, holds a sign: Re-elect Mayor
Megamore!)

MEGAMORE

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS
WELCOME TO OUR DOWNTOWN CORE

CITIZENS

IT'S ONE BIG GIANT PARKING LOT
AND ONE BIG BIG BIG BIG BIG BIG
BIG BIG BOX STORE
AND ANOTHER MEGA HIGH RISE

MEGAMORE

I'VE GOT PLANS FOR MORE

CITIZENS

AND ANOTHER SPRAWLING STRIP MALL

MEGAMORE

YOU'LL GET MALLS GALORE

CITIZENS

AND ANOTHER AND ANOTHER
AND ANOTHER AND ANOTHER

(CITIZENS gather around MEGAMORE who
silently pantomimes a speech.)

(AUNT DEE sings under a streetlight.)

AUNT DEE

BENEATH THE STREETLIGHT,
BESIDE THE BUS STOP
WE NEED A MIRACLE,
WAY UP THERE ON THE ROOFTOP

AUNT DEE AND HERMAN

BESIDE THE NEWS STAND,
BELOW THE SIDEWALK
BETWEEN THE CRACKS
WHERE THE WEARY CITY FEET WALK

AUNT DEE, HERMAN AND CITIZENS

ON EVERY SIDE STREET
YOU'LL HEAR THE DOWNBEAT
WE NEED A MIRACLE ALIVE IN EVERY HEART BEAT
DOWN IN THE METRO
YOU'LL HEAR THE SOUND GROW

(Spot on DAISY who twists her petals like antennae
beside TREE.)

DAISY

HOLD ON, HOLD ON MEGAPOLIS!

TREE

THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN GROWS
IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY
THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN KNOWS
EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED

(SWEET VIOLET pops up, then hugs DAISY.)

(DAISY, TREE, and VIOLET sing with
COMPANY.)

COMPANY

A TENDER SEED IS GROWING UNDERGROUND
AND EVERYWHERE THE GARDEN GROWS
CONCRETE CANNOT KEEP US DOWN
WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS, WELCOME TO OUR
HONK HONK, BEEP BEEP FREEWAY CITY
WELCOME TO OUR BIG BRAND NEW MEGAPOLIS

AUNT DEE AND HERMAN

DON'T LET THAT HIGH RISE GET YOU DOWN,
MEGAPOLIS IS MY HOME TOWN

COMPANY

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS, MY HOME...
HONK HONK BEEP BEEP CONCRETE CITY!

(End of Song)

MEGAMORE

(to Aunt Dee, as he shakes Citizens'
hands.)

What do you know, it's my dear Aunt Dee. How'd you like my speech?

AUNT DEE

(hesitates, confused)

Sorry, nephew. I wasn't listening. I'm here on other business.

MEGAMORE

Business? What kind of business could possibly bring you downtown?

AUNT DEE

(searching for words)

Well... I... um...

MEGAMORE

Having a senior moment, Auntie?

AUNT DEE

(proudly)

If you must know, I'm on my way to the bank to pay off my mortgage! In full!

MEGAMORE

(distracted, waving to citizens)

Great! But what does that have to do with my speech?

AUNT DEE

(exasperated)

You're busy, nephew. I'll be on my way...

MEGAMORE

Offer you a lift?

AUNT DEE

No, I'll... walk.

MEGAMORE

(laughing with Hellmore)

Walk? In Megapolis?

(AUNT DEE walks in one direction, hesitates, then walks in another. HERMAN flies after her.)

(ALL exit. Lights up on)

SCENE 2

EXT. IN AUNT DEE'S GARDEN.

A streetlight stands beside a wrought-iron garden gate. We see the PORCH of AUNT DEE's modest Victorian house (stage left) surrounded by a perennial English GARDEN in semi-ruin.

A garden path leads from the house to a lily pond stage right.

TREE

And this, dear friends, is our beloved downtown garden, a little patch of heaven, still beautiful after all these years. Despite rotting logs, untrimmed hedges and ivy-covered walls. But we still have a lily pond! Next door is Floralee's photography shop. And that High Rise looming over us? That's Mayor Megamore's City Hall, surrounded by a private gloff course.

(DAISY, VIOLET and elegant SPRING
FLOWERS enter. THEY promenade, then pose in
floral ‘arrangements.’)

TREE (CONT'D)

You're just in time for the Spring Flowers' rehearsal for the annual photo shoot-
(pointing at a bare patch on the lawn)

Wait! What is THAT?

FLOWERS

(horrified)

A BARE patch? On our almost perfect lawn...?

(A blowing plastic bag entraps DAISY.)

DAISY

Help!..... Help!

Song: “WHEN LILACS ARE IN BLOOM”

SPRING FLOWERS

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN THE LILACS ARE IN BLOOM
ALL THE AIR IS FILLED WITH FRAGRANCE
AND THE SCENT OF SWEET PERFUME

(We hear a truck roar by. FLOWERS gag.)

FLOWERS

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN YOU HEAR THE SONGBIRDS SING

DAISY

(speaks under her bag)

Help!

(VIOLET attempts to free DAISY.)

FLOWERS

IT COULD BE MARCH OR APRIL
OR IT COULD BE MAY
YES, IT'S PROBABLY EARLY SPRING

DAFFODILS AND WHIPPOORWILLS
TRILL WHILE THE TULIPS TRILL ALONG
WHILE THE BUGS EAT THE FLOWERS
AND THE BIRDS EAT THE BUGS
ON OUR ALMOST PERFECT LAWN

WHEN PHOTOGRAPHERS COME CALLING
FROM GLOSSY GARDENING MAGAZINE
IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN SPRING

(ROSE enters, lifts her scepter, then gasps.)

ROSE

(speaks)

Good heavens! Is that a BARE patch?

(ROSE staggers, FLOWERS help her.)

Be brave! We must carry on!

FLOWERS

ROSE IS LIKE A ROSE THAT'S BLOOMING
BUT ROSE SHOULD BE BLOOMING
IN THE MIDDLE OF JULY
AND THE CALENDAR SAYS IT'S NOT EVEN JUNE

ROSE

(speaks, dons sunglasses)

Keep smiling!

(FLOWERS don sunglasses, then pose.)

FLOWERS AND ROSE

WHEN PHOTOGRAPHERS COME CALLING
FROM GLOSSY GARDENING MAGAZINE
DESPITE THE ZANY WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL,
BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN SPRING

(End of Song)

(FLOWERS pose again.)

(At the last moment, VIOLET pulls DAISY (still under the bag) into the 'arrangement.')

ROSE

Say 'Bees'!

SPRING FLOWERS

'Bees'!

ROSE

(stares at Daisy)

Violet, please! Do something with Daisy! That bag must go!

(SIR PENT enters, barging through the flower 'arrangement.' HE stumbles over DAISY.)

SIR PENT

Out of my way! Out of my way!

(HE becomes entangled in DAISY's bag. THEY flail.)

(FLOWERS mock him.)

DAFFODIL

So what if he worked magic!

TULIP

And conjured weather long ago!

LILAC

Sir Pent is just a 'has been'!

ALL FLOWERS

And those fangs of his are... faux!

(VIOLET frees both DAISY and SIR PENT.)

(SIR PENT hisses. DAISY jumps. SIR PENT joins TREE.)

(to VIOLET)

Free... at... last! Thank you, Violet. How long was I gone? Hours? Days? I never knew life under an indestructible polyethylene bag could be so... bleak. You are my best friend.

VIOLET

Daisy. I'm your only friend. Other than Tree, of course.

(TREE waves; DAISY waves back. Near-by
FLOWERS laugh at DAISY.)

DAFFODIL

What were you doing under that bag? Listening to your voices?

TULIP

Who wants to photograph a wildflower who hears... voices?

(Hurt, DAISY turns away.)

VIOLET

Leave her alone! She doesn't hear voices! She hears... um...

(to DAISY)

What exactly do you hear?

DAISY

Frequencies.

LILAC

She admits it! How weird is that? Please explain. What in the world are 'frequencies?'

DAISY

I wish I knew.

TREE

Rumor has it, the Spirit of the Garden still grows.

DAFFODIL

In downtown Megapolis?

LILAC

Preposterous!

TULIP

Ridiculous!

TREE

Listen!

(TREE gazes into space. FLOWERS listen. We hear
the THUD of falling concrete.)

TREE (CONT'D)

False alarm! It's only concrete falling off the overpass.

(Relieved FLOWERS exhale.)

DAISY

(to the FLOWERS)

See? Mystery solved! Tree hears crumbling infrastructure... and I hear... frequencies. But not all the time! No no no. Only in the morning. And in the afternoon. Sometimes late at night. But otherwise,... I'm perfectly ordinary!

SONG: "ORDINARY ME"

FLOWERS

(sing)

SHE'S SO BIZARRE, WE THINK SHE'S CRAZY
ROSE IS A ROSE, BUT A DAISY IS A DAISY
.... IS A DAISY

DAISY

(speaks)

I'm the most ordinary flower there is!

(sings)

ORDINARY FACE

I HAVE AN ORDINARY FACE
WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF MYSTERY
IT'S A FRIENDLY FACE VERY ORDINARY
WITH AN ORDINARY SMILE
A VERY ORDINARY SMILE
WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN
YOU'LL FIND ME SMILING
A CHEERFUL SMILE, HARDLY BEGUILING

AND IF ALL TOO FREQUENTLY
I HEAR THE OCCASIONAL FREQUENCY
RISING THROUGH MY DREAMS
CRAZY AS IT SEEMS
I'M STILL PERFECTLY ORDINARY ME

MOST DAYS I CAN'T COMPLAIN
 EACH NEW DAY IS A WIDE-EYED WONDERLAND
 NO DAY IS QUITE THE SAME
 I DO MY DANCING IN THE SUN
 I DO MY DREAMING IN THE RAIN

(DAISY twists her petals, then listens. We hear
 buzzing BEES, and BIRD song, SIRENS and
 traffic.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

AND ON WINDY, WINDY DAYS LIKE THESE
 I CONFESS I CAN HEAR THOSE FREQUENCIES
 CITY SIDEWALK SYMPHONIES
 WITH HUMMINGBIRDS AND BUMBLEBEES
 DEEP DOWN I KNOW
 SOMETHING SHIMMERING IS READY TO GROW
 I HEAR IT GROWING EVERY DAY, DON'T YOU?

(VIOLET shakes her head "no".)

DAISY (CONT'D)

WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS...
 ORDINARY DREAMS, I STILL DREAM
 VERY ORDINARY DREAMS
 (gazes at a streetlight)

THOUGH SOME DAYS
 I WISH MY DREAMS COULD SOAR
 SOME DAYS I WISH I KNEW WHAT SPRING IS FOR
 UNTIL THEN, WHO AM I KIDDING
 UNTIL THEN, I'LL KEEP ON
 PRETENDING TO BE PERFECTLY
 GARDEN VARIETY, ALL TOO ORDINARY

LILAC

(speaks)

See? There you are!

TULIP

(speaks)

Proof that she's crazy!

DAFFODIL
(sings)

ROSE IS ROSE, BUT A DAISY

TULIP

IS A DAISY IS AN ...

DAISY

ORDINARY ME

(End of Song)

(Anxious FLOWERS gaze at the Garden Gate.)

ROSE

But where is our gardener?

LILAC

How long has she been gone?

DAFFODIL

Leaving a bare patch...

TULIP

On our almost perfect lawn?

(HERMAN enters, followed by AUNT DEE, who
is... jubilant.)

(FLOWERS heave a sigh of relief.)

VIOLET

Herman! Where have you been?

HERMAN

I found her wandering under the off ramp. Again.

FLOWERS

Again?!

ROSE

Oh dear. Not good.

(MORE)

ROSE (CONT'D)
DAFFODIL

Don't think! Don't think! Don't think!

(HERMAN frowns at Megamore Towers overhead.)

HERMAN
She frets about her nephew in that tower looming over us...

AUNT DEE
Good news! Good news! I've seen the future Meadows of Megapolis!

(FLOWERS are stunned.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)
And now I must...

DAFFODIL
Deadhead the daffodils...?

TULIP
Transplant the Tulips...?

AUNT DEE
Paint... a masterpiece!

(FLOWERS gasp.)

(AUNT DEE suddenly notices the bare patch.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

Wait! I wonder what I was planning to plant on that bare patch? Bleeding Hearts?
Primroses perhaps...

(looking towards Sir Pent)

Oh! My! Goodness! Look who's here!

(SIR PENT preens, waiting to be petted.)

(AUNT DEE walks past him to admire DAISY.)

(SIR PENT seethes with rage.)

TREE
(to Sir Pent)

Don't be jealous. She's not herself.

SIR PENT

Jealous, me? Sir Pent the Sage? No, what I feel deep down is... rage.

(AUNT DEE installs her easel begins to paint
DAISY.)

SIR PENT (CONT'D)

Now she just ignores me
While she wiles away the hours
Painting silly pictures of that Daisy and the flowers!

SONG: "SWEET REVENGE"

SIR PENT

REMEMBER WHEN I WAS YOUR FRIEND
ONCE WE GREW A PARADISE WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER
THEN WE DREAMED SUCH DREAMS
REMEMBER HOW OUR GARDEN GREW
A THOUSAND LOVELY THINGS
REMEMBER HOW I CALLED THE WIND
AND FLEW ON WINGS?

BUT THEN MY WORLD CAME CRASHING DOWN
AND YOU MUST BEAR THE BLAME
MY MAGIC POWERS DIED THE DAY THAT
YOU FORGOT MY NAME

(AUNT DEE tickles SIR PENT under his chin.)

AUNT DEE

Who is the cutest little garden snake in the grass, hmmm?

SIR PENT

(enraged)

SIR PENT IS NOT YOUR GARDEN SNAKE
SIR PENT IS NOT YOUR PET
I AM THE SAGE, THE GREAT SIR PENT!
HOW QUICKLY YOU FORGET!
I'LL PLANT A SEED IN ANGER,
I'LL WATER IT WITH SPITE
AND THEN I'LL REAP MY SWEET REVENGE
WHEN SWEET REVENGE IS RIPE!

(End of Song)

(SIR PENT hisses at the clouds, then listens.
Nothing.)

TREE

(to Sir Pent)

Our Gardener's grown forgetful. But, not to worry, I have a plan.

SIR PENT

You have a plan, so glad you do. Pray tell me, what can one... tree... do?

(We hear MEGAMORE shout offstage.)

MEGAMORE (O.S.)

Let's play ... gloff!

SCENE 3

EXT. ON THE GLOF COURSE

*DIDMORE DUNMORE, real estate tycoon, and
AGELESS EVERMORE, bankster, enter with
MAYOR MEGAMORE.*

*HELLMORE carries gloff CLUBS. (inflated
plastic bats or Styrofoam tubes)*

MEGAMORE

How perfect is this? Teeing off with Ageless Evermore, CEO of the Bank that brought Megapolis to the brink of bankruptcy! I hear you got away with billions...

AGELESS EVERMORE

(wielding her club like a machine gun)

Who's counting? Stick 'em up, suckers!

MEGAMORE

And Didmore Dunmore, real estate tycoon. Glad you made bail. I ask you: should tax evasion be a crime? I don't think so! But more importantly, how did you like my speech?

DUNMORE

(uncomfortable)

Look, everyone one agrees, "I am not a crook" is a great slogan.

EVERMORE

Short. Sweet. To the point.

DUNMORE

But the bad news is... your re-election campaign is in trouble.

MEGAMORE

What kind of trouble?

DUNMORE AND EVERMORE

Big trouble.

MEGAMORE

(seething)

Oh, yeah? What WAS Megapolis before I got elected? A hodge podge of unsightly, unsanitary... neighborhoods! Blocking my highways, impeding my off ramps, mangling my mini-marts and strip malls! Swelling! Spreading! More, more, more! And I never sleep!

DUNMORE

(conciliatory)

Don't get us wrong! Before you were elected, this was nothing but a... public park! Open to everyone. And now, it's a privately-owned golf course without a tree in sight.

EVERMORE

Reserved for team players like you. Who accept our... appreciation.

(EVERMORE stuffs cash in MEGAMORE's socks.)

DUNMORE

And yet. What with unemployment soaring...

EVERMORE

And with home foreclosures doubling...

DUNMORE

What with water pipes a'bursting ...

EVERMORE

And the bridges that keep crumbling...

EVERMORE AND DUNMORE
(anxiously, ominously)

Megapolis is grumbling.

(We hear GRUMBLING in the distance.)

ALL THREE
What will we do, what will we DO?

MEGAMORE
Quick quick, I need a new campaign strategy!

DUNMORE
Precisely. Something citizens can relate to. A vision that screams ‘We feel your pain!’

EVERMORE
(pointing at Aunt Dee’s garden)
And the answer to our prayers is just beyond that hedge.

MEGAMORE
My aunt’s garden?

DUNMORE
The perfect location for your new campaign project.

MEGAMORE
(feeling a sneeze coming on)
But that’s my aunt’s ... ah.... ah.... ah....

(EVERMORE and DUNMORE hit the dirt.)

(MEGAMORE waves his hanky, blows his nose.)

EVERMORE
(whispers to Dunmore)
Last time he sneezed, he blew down a city block.

(EVERMORE and DUNMORE share a
conspiratorial wink.)

EVERMORE (CONT’D)
You wouldn’t have those allergies ...

DUNMORE
If there were no flowers, and there were no... trees!

(DUNMORE points at TREE.)

MEGAMORE

(to EVERMORE)

But this morning, my aunt paid off her mortgage! In full!

EVERMORE

(ripping a document)

Our bank has no record of any elderly, forgetful senior citizen paying off her mortgage.

MEGAMORE

But legally....

DUNMORE

You don't get the picture, do you Megamore.? We have plans for that garden, and 'legal' has nothing to do with it.

SONG: "GET THE PICTURE"

EVERMORE

IF YOU WANT TO GET ELECTED
YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE A PLAN
SOMETHING SWEET AND SIMPLE
SOMETHING BOLD AND GRAND

DUNMORE

THE PEOPLE NEED A VISION
THE PEOPLE NEED A DREAM
A REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPT
THAT NO ONE'S EVER SEEN

EVERMORE

ONCE WE FORECLOSE ON THEIR HOUSES
THEY WON'T HAVE TO MOVE TOO FAR

DUNMORE

WE'LL OFFER FOLKS A 'CONDO VAN'
THEY CAN MOVE INTO THEIR CAR

DUNMORE AND EVERMORE
(to the MAYOR)

IF I GO BROKE, WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT?
WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT?
WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT?

MEGAMORE

IF YOU GO BROKE, I'LL BAIL YOU OUT
AND THEN YOU'LL GET YOUR BONUS!

HELLMORE, MEGAMORE, DUNMORE AND
EVERMORE

GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
GREED IS GOOD BUT MO IS BETTA,
GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
GREED IS GOOD CAUSE I SAY SO
GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
DON'T FORGET OUR FAVORITE MOTTO

MEGAMORE

AND MY NAME IS MR. MAYOR MEGAMORE
AND I SHOULD KNOW...
BUT, WHERE WILL THEY PARK?

DUNMORE

IN A HIGH RISE PARKING LOT

MEGAMORE

HOW MANY DO YOU PLAN TO BUILD?

EVERMORE

WE PLAN TO BUILD A LOT.

MEGAMORE

A THOUSAND?

EVERMORE

MORE!

MEGAMORE

A MILLION?

DUNMORE

MORE! A TRILLION WOULD BE NICE.

EVERMORE

WE REALLY SHOULD THANK JONI.
SHE THOUGHT OF PAVING PARADISE

DUNMORE AND EVERMORE

WE'LL BUILD A LITTLE PROTOTYPE
WE'LL START WITH SOMETHING SMALL
WE'LL BUILD A HIGH RISE PARKING LOT
A THOUSAND STORIES TALL

HELLMORE, EVERMORE, MEGAMORE,
DUNMORE

GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO ,
GREED IS GOOD BUT MORE IS BETTA
GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
GREED IS GOOD CAUSE I SAY SO

GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
THE ONE THING WE AGREE ON
IF WE'RE GONNA RE-ELECT THE MAYOR
THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO

EVERMORE, DUNMORE, MEGAMORE

DEEP DOWN, WE'RE JUST PHILANTHROPISTS
WE SERVE THE GREATER GOOD
FIRST WE'LL STEAL THE GARDEN
AND THEN WE'LL PAVE THE 'HOOD

(End of Song)

(HELLMORE, EVERMORE and DUNMORE drop their glof clubs, then exit dancing.)

(MEGAMORE picks up the gloff clubs, stares at TREE, then exits.)

SCENE 4

EXT. IN THE GARDEN

Anxious FLOWERS observe AUNT DEE painting.

LILAC
She's STILL painting!

DAFFODIL
But the Daffodils need watering!

TULIP
And the Tulips need some thinning!

LILAC
And the grass along the border of the Lily pond needs trimming!

DAFFODIL
Has she forgotten that the bare patch on our garden lawn needs seeds?

ALL FLOWERS
If our gardener doesn't garden, ... soon all we'll have is...

(DANDELION pops up in the bare patch.)

DANDELION
WEEDS!

ALL FLOWERS
(horrified)
WEEDS!

(Pandemonium erupts.)

DANDELION

(to the GARDEN)

I love to do that! You're terrified, aren't you?

DAISY

We are NOT! How DARE you invade our garden! Who ARE you?

(DANDELION suddenly spies DAISY. HE is smitten.)

SONG: "WEEDS"

DANDELION

I'M THE CHAMPION OF THE WILD WEEDS
DANDELION'S THE NAME
I CONFESS I LOVE TO DRIVE
THOSE GARDENERS INSANE
DEEP DOWN I KNOW THEY LOVE ME
FOR WHEN I BLOOM AND SPROUT
IN THE DEWEY DAWN ON THEIR PERFECT LAWN
I CAN HEAR THEM SCREAM AND SHOUT

FLOWERS

WEEDS! WEEDS! WILD AND WICKED WEEDS
A'CREEPING AND A'CRAWLING
AND THEY GROW WHEREVER THEY PLEASE

DANDELION

BEFORE YOU SNEER, WE'RE HERE TO TELL YOU
WHAT THIS GARDEN NEEDS IS
//DIGGY DIGGY DON DIGGY DIGGY DEE!
DIGGY DIGGY DEE DON WEEDS//

(CLOVER pops up.)

CLOVER

We're on a very important mission! We came to ...

(DANDELION (now referred to as "DANDY")
muffles CLOVER's mouth.)

DANDY
What she means is... I heard you call.

DAISY
Who?

DANDY
You.

DAISY
I did not.

(VIOLET tugs on DAISY's petals.)

VIOLET
Daisy? When you were under that indestructible polyethylene bag? You called a lot.

DAISY
I... Oh.

(to DANDY)
I may have called, but I did not call ... you!

DANDY
And here I am! A champion for a Daisy in distress!
(whispers to TREE)
We came at the first opportunity, my liege! Volunteers are on the way!
(to the FLOWERS)
Welcome my companions, the Wild Weeds!

(CANADIAN THISTLE, BURDOCK and
MILKWEED pop up.)

WEEDS

WE CAME BY SHIP, WE CAME BY STORM
WE BLEW HERE ON THE WIND
BY BOAT, BY BIRD, BY BUFFALO TURD
WE BLOOMED, THEN BLOOMED AGAIN

UNDERNEATH THE OFF-RAMP
BY THE DITCH WHERE NO ONE GOES
IN THE CONCRETE CRACKS
BY THE RAILROAD TRACKS
WHERE NO ONE EVER GROWS

WEEDS, WEEDS!

WILD AND WONDERFUL WEEDS
 NO ONE REALLY LIKES US
 BUT THE BIRDS AND THE BUZZING BEES
 SO GIVE A CHEER, THE WEEDS ARE HERE
 TO BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES,
 WE'RE DIGGY DIGGY DON DIGGY DIGGY DEE!
 //DIGGY DIGGY DEE DON WEEDS//

NETTLE

WHEN YOUR TUMMY ACHES
 WHEN YOU'RE FEELING BAD
 WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY
 WHEN YOU BLEED
 I'M EDIBLE AND MEDICINAL
 NETTLE'S WHAT YOU NEED

CANADIAN THISTLE

BET I CAN CLEAN YOUR LIVER
 MAKE IT CLEANER THAN A WHISTLE
 AND I'M ALWAYS UP FOR HOCKEY, EH,
 CAUSE I'M CANADIAN THISTLE

DANDELION

HE SHOOTS, HE SCORES!

BURDOCK

IN JAPAN THEY CALL ME 'GOBO'
 I'M STICKY AND I'M SWEET
 HEY, I INVENTED VELCRO!
 I'M BURDOCK, NICE TO MEET YOU

MILKWEED

THE MONARCHS ALL ADORE ME
 I'M A MILKY WEED ALL OVER

CLOVER

BUT WATCH OUT FOR THE BUMBLEBEES
WHEN YOU'RE ROLLIN' IN THE CLOVER

(The bell at the gate rings.)

DAFFODIL

The photographer!

ROSE

The photographer!

(AUNT DEE welcomes FLORALEE, photographer.
FLORALEE aims the camera at DAISY.

(DANDY leans in to be photographed; DAISY
pushes him away.)

ALL WEEDS

HOLD YOUR GROUND! HOLD YOUR GROUND!
CAUSE THE WEATHER'S GETTING WACKY
AND THE RAIN IS A-TUMBLING DOWN!

FLOWERS

WEEDS! WEEDS! TERRIBLE TERRIBLE WEEDS!
THEIR MANNERS ARE ATROCIOUS
AND THEY NEVER ASK YOU PLEASE

WEEDS

WITHOUT THE WEEDS TO HOLD THE SOIL
THE SOIL WOULD FLOAT AWAY
PUT THAT ONE IN YOUR FLOWER POT
ON A RAINY WINDY DAY!

FLOWERS

(speaks)

Invasive... pests!

WEEDS

(speaks)

Hot house... wimps!

FLOWERS

(speak)

Rampant... aliens!

BURDOCK

(speak)

Hey! You Tulips are from the old country too! If we're 'aliens,' then so are you!

TULIP

(speak)

But we're ... beautiful!

TREE

(speaks)

Everybody grows for a reason.

(FLOWERS shriek. CRABGRASS, a red-neck super weed, pops up. Spying ROSE, HE grins, then straightens his red bandana.)

CRABGRASS

WHO CAN GROW THROUGH ASPHALT?
AND WHO CAN SPLIT A ROCK?
CRABGRASS GROWS THROUGH CONCRETE
AND COVERS THAT PARKING LOT

(ROSE faints. FLOWERS fan her.)

DANDY AND CRABGRASS

WE'RE DIGGERS AND WE'RE DIVERS
WE'RE NATURAL SURVIVORS
WITH ROOTS AND SHOOTS
AND LEAVES LIKE THESE
WHO NEEDS FERTILIZER?

ALL WEEDS

GO AHEAD AND CALL US UGLY
GO AHEAD AND CALL US BAD
DEEP DOWN WE KNOW WE'RE LOVELY
AND YES, IT MAKES US SAD
WHY GET SO EXCITED?

LIFE SHOULD NOT BE SO STRESSFUL
 ARE YOU FEELING JEALOUS
 'CAUSE WE WEEDS ARE SO SUCCESSFUL?

WE'RE WEEDS! WEEDS!
 WILD AND WONDERFUL WEEDS!
 WE'RE VOLUNTEERS AND PIONEERS
 AND GROW WHEREVER WE PLEASE
 SO COME A LITTLE CLOSER,
 NOW GET SET, PREPARE TO SNEEZE!
 THE WHOLE WORLD IS OUR GARDEN
 THAT'S WHY THEY CALL US
 //DIGGY DIGGY DON DIGGY DIGGY DEE!
 DIGGY DIGGY DEE DON WEEDS//

AUNT DEE
 (brandishing pruning shears)

WEEDS!

(End of Song)

(DAISY gasps as AUNT DEE prepares to cut off
 DANDY's head.)

(DANDY offers AUNT DEE a leaf. SHE chews.)

(WEEDS and FLOWERS hold their breath.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)
 (swallowing)

Although dandelions are... delicious!

(WEEDS cheer. FLOWERS gnash their teeth.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)
 (pulling out her Field Guide)

And look who's here! Nettle, Clover, Thistle, Burdock, Milkweed, oh, that's St. John's
 Wort, I think. There's Purslane, Yarrow, Marrow, and is that Mary...

WILD RHUBARB

Wild Rhubarb!

AUNT DEE

I do love Rhubarb pie! But, wait! Are you harboring any Purple Loosestrife, Kudzu or Giant... PIGWEED?

(BURDOCK yelps. DANDY muffles him. WEEDS shake their heads 'no'. Reassured, AUNT DEE poses with smiling WEEDS.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

Floralee, we're ready! Who's got time for weeding anyway? Everyone, say 'Bees.'

WEEDS AND FLOWERS

"Bees!"

(FLORALEE snaps a photo, then exits with AUNT DEE. As the Sun sets behind Megamore Towers, FLOWERS glare at snoring WEEDS.)

DAFFODIL

So they're edible! And medicinal!

TULIP

That doesn't make them prize-winning perennials...

DAFFODIL

On the cover of Glossy Gardening Magazine!

LILAC

Ever since... forever!

(SIR PENT enters.)

(Lights begin to dim.)

SIR PENT

(whispers to DAISY)

Take heed! The summer's just begun! The Flowers are doomed! The Weeds have come!

(DAISY shivers, then glances at DANDY. HE waves; DAISY ignores him. VIOLET waves back.)

(FADE TO BLACK.)

(Lights slowly up. DAISY and VIOLET yawn, then stretch in the morning light.)

DAISY
(whispers to VIOLET)

Is he still there?

(We hear WEEDS snoring off stage. VIOLET waves.)

VIOLET
Wow! Your champion has grown.

DAISY
He's not my champion! Pretend he's just another wild edible.

(DANDY pops up beside DAISY)

DANDY
Whatever wish your wish may be, the Daisy flower can wish on me!

DAISY
Wish on an invasive WILD flower?

VIOLET
Daisy? Aren't you technically a 'wild flower'?

DAISY
Technically... maybe.

VIOLET
(to DANDY)
Daisy wants to know if...

(DAISY grabs VIOLET, muffles her.)

DANDY
Daisy hears voices on the breeze?

DAISY
(struggling with VIOLET)
Me? No. Never.

VIOLET
(breaking free)
All the time!

DANDY

This could be important. What do they sound like?

DAISY

If you must know, like rain drops tinkling in the smoggy blue. Or bluebells from outer space. But mostly they sound like...

(She swivels like a satellite dish)

‘Aaaaahooooombaaaa!’

VIOLET

There’s a rumor going round that the Spirit of the Garden still grows...

DAISY

For the last time, Violet. Spirits don’t grow downtown.

DANDY

(to DAISY)

Did you know your petals are... perfect?

DAISY (CONT’D)

Perfect?

DANDY

For picking up high-end frequencies. Whereas, I hear...

DAISY

(overjoyed)

YOU hear frequencies too!?

DANDY

Me? No. I hear 'tha-thunk, tha-thunk' rising like pounding drums! From my roots! ... My roots are very deep.

(DAISY sneaks a glance at DANDY's leaf structure.)

DAISY

Imagine that. Both of us.... sonically challenged. I just wish I knew what it all means.

DANDY

Wait! Did you just wish on me?

No. DAISY

Did too. DANDY

Did NOT. DAISY

VIOLET
(points at a streetlight)
She wishes night and day on her star up there.

That's a... streetlight. DANDY

DAISY
THAT explains why my wishes rarely, if EVER, come true! That does it! I plan to give up wishing by... July!

DANDY.
You can't! You mustn't! If we don't keep wishing, how will anything ever come true?

SONG: "KEEP WISHING"

DANDY
(sings)

I'LL TELL YOU WHY I KEEP WISHING
I'LL TELL YOU WHY I DO
ONCE IN A WHILE IN A BLUE BLUE MOON
WONDER WISHES COME TRUE
WE'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL WE TRY
JUST HOW HIGH A WISH CAN FLY

AND I'VE BEEN WISHING
FOR SOMEONE TO WISH WITH
SOMEONE TO WISH WITH LIKE YOU
AS LONG AS WE KEEP WISHING
SOMETHING WONDERFUL'S BOUND TO COME TRUE

DAISY

I'LL TELL YOU WHY I KEEP WISHING
 WISHING IN MY DREAMS
 ONCE IN A WHILE EVERY SPRINGTIME OR TWO
 I DREAM SUCH WONDERFUL THINGS
 I DREAM THAT WE CAN SEED THE STARS
 GROW MEADOWS ON THE MOONS OF MARS

DANDY AND DAISY

AND I'VE BEEN WISHING
 FOR SOMEONE TO WISH WITH
 SOMEONE TO WISH WITH LIKE YOU
 AS LONG AS WE KEEP WISHING
 SOMETHING WONDERFUL'S BOUND TO COME TRUE

DANDY

WISH ON EVERY TREMBLING STAR YOU SEE
 AND IF YOU EVER LOSE YOUR STAR
 YOU CAN WISH ON ME

(SIR PENT enters, unbeknownst to DAISY and DANDY)

DANDY AND DAISY

WE'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL WE TRY
 JUST HOW HIGH A WISH CAN FLY
 AND THAT'S WHY I KEEP WISHING

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

WE'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL WE TRY
 JUST HOW HIGH A WISH CAN FLY
 AND THAT'S WHY I

DANDY AND DAISY

KEEP WISHING!

(End of Song)

(Hoping for a kiss, DANDY leans close to rearrange
 one of DAISY's petals.)

(Suddenly, CRABGRASS yanks DANDY aside.)

CRABGRASS

You ARE planning to tell her the real reason we came, right?

DANDY

Of course. I'm her champion!

CRABGRASS

Champion, my crabgrass.

(CRABGRASS and DANDY bow to TREE.)

SIR PENT

So the Dandelion keeps secrets
And the Daisy's unaware...
I'll save this little secret
And use it when I dare!

(HE exits.)

TREE

As an action-packed Spring pours into a simmering Summer, new flowers grace our garden...

(Lights change as Spring pours into Summer.)

(DAHLIA, DELPHINIUM and DAYLILY bloom.)

SONG: "WHEN LILIES ARE IN BLOOM"

DAHLIA, DELPHINIUM, DAYLILY

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN THE LILIES ARE IN BLOOM
WHEN THE AIR IS HOT AND HEAVY
WE'LL BE WILTING BY HIGH NOON

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN EVENING SONGBIRDS FILL THE SKY
IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
IT'S PROBABLY MID-JULY

(Enthusiastic WEEDS join in.)

WEEDS

THOUGH THE AIR IS HOT AND STICKY
ALL THE SUMMER FLOWERS ARE PRETTY
IN OUR LOVELY DOWNTOWN GARDEN IN JULY!

(End of Song)

(Furious Summer FLOWERS glower at the
WEEDS.)

DAY LILY

They grow with wild abandon!

DAHLIA

They don't grow where they should!

DELPHINIUM

If those Wild Weeds keep on blooming...

(RAGWEED pops up, strikes a Napoleonic pose,
blocking VIOLET's sun.)

RAGWEED

There goes the neighborhood!

DANDY

Ragweed, 'ole buddy!

ALL FLOWERS

RAGWEED!

VIOLET

Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god!

DAISY

(furious, to DANDY)

That does it! It is all very well that you and your companions pop up uninvited in our garden, invade a perfectly innocent bare patch, then take over our impeccably manicured lawn!

DELPHINIUM

That needs constant watering.

DAY LILIES

And mountains of fertilizer.

DAHLIA

And endless hours of ear-piercing mowing...

DAISY

Do you mind? Where was I? Oh. Yes, it is true, Thistle brings the Bees...

(Reluctant FLOWERS nod.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

But, now it's bzzzz.... bzzzz ...bzzzz! All the live-long day! Unrelenting. And you, Nettle, no offense, love your battle stories, highly entertaining. But must you disturb the Dahlias in their beds?

(NETTLE mutters under her breath.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

Senor Milkweed, I assure you, everyone enjoys your bilingual Monarch buddies from Mexico.

MILKWEED

O la, gracias.

DAISY

De nada. But you are driving the Delphiniums to distraction.

(DELPHINIUM squirms.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

As for you, Crabgrass, it was difficult to love you at first, but with time, I have come to admire your... crabbiness. We all know where we stand with Crabgrass, do we not?

(Grumbles of agreement.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

(to DANDY)

But when YOUR companions steal Violet's sun, things have gone ONE flower TOO far! You and your companions are ...opportunists!

(WEEDS squirm in silence.)

I... agree. DANDY

You do? Well, then... DO something! DAISY

Enough! ROSE

SONG: "THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH"

ROSE
(sings)

ENOUGH OF THIS FUSSING AND FIGHTING
IT'S MORE THAN THIS RED ROSE CAN BEAR

It is? FLOWERS
(speak, aghast)

ROSE
(sings)

INSTEAD, WE MUST THINK OF UNITING
CONTEMPLATE ...COMPROMISE IF WE DARE

Never! FLOWERS AND WEEDS
(shout simultaneously)

ROSE
(sings)

THOUGH THE WEEDS HAVE INVADED OUR GARDEN

FLOWERS

WEEDS!

ROSE
THOUGH I TREMBLE ON THE BRINK OF DESPAIR

FLOWERS

HELP!

ROSE

I REMEMBER THE WORDS
 THAT A WISE BEE ONCE TOLD ME
 HERE'S WHAT THAT BEE DID DECLARE!

THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH WHEN YOU SHARE
 AND YOUR HEART FEELS LIGHTER THAN AIR
 WON'T YOU HAVE SOME AND PASS IT AROUND
 THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH

THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH WHEN YOU SHARE
 WHEN YOU DO, YOU SHOW THAT YOU CARE
 JUST APPLY THIS HYPOTHESIS
 I PROMISE YOU'LL SEE
 JUST HOW MIRACULOUS SHARING CAN BE
 THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH WHEN YOU SHARE

SIR PENT

(speaks)

That's ridiculous!

ROSE

(speaks)

And I'm quoting verbatim!

(sings)

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING
 WHEN YOU'RE SHARING
 YOUR SHARE IS SHRINKING
 YES, IT'S TRUE YOU'LL HAVE LESS THAN BEFORE
 BUT THE MIRACLE IS, YOU'LL ALSO HAVE MORE
 MORE OF A FEELING THAT GROWS AND IT GROWS

VIOLET

IT TICKLES MY TUMMY, THEN TICKLES MY TOES

ROSE

THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU'LL FIND
YOURSELF FLOATING ON AIR

FLOWERS

WE'RE FLOATING ON AIR

ROSE AND FLOWERS

THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH

(Lifting his head from the grass, SIR PENT sings.)

SIR PENT

ONLY LOSERS PRETEND THAT THEY CARE
SILLY LOSERS GIVE MORE THAN THEIR SHARE
ONLY FOOLS THINK THAT SHARING IS NICE, THAT'S
PRECISELY WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS SONG

STAGE LEFT

MEGAMORE, EVERMORE AND DUNMORE
(practicing their glof swings)

ONLY DREAMERS THINK GIVING IS GREAT!
SILLY DREAMERS GIVE MORE THAN THEY TAKE!
THEY PRETEND LOVE IS STRONGER THAN HATE!
BIG MISTAKE!

MEGAMORE

THAT'S WHY I SHARE
THE... AH... AH... AH... AH...!

(EVERMORE thrusts a hanky under
MEGAMORE's nose before he sneezes.)

EXT. IN THE GARDEN

DAISY

WHEN WE CLING AND WE CLUTCH
AND WE HOLD ON TOO MUCH
OUR HEARTS GET CONSTRICTED AND COLD

ROSE

IF YOU LOOSEN YOUR GRIP AND GIVE JUST A BIT
THAT'S WHEN YOUR HEART WILL UNFOLD

DANDY

(to the WEEDS)

Nettle, control yourself! And that goes for you, Ragweed! Thistle! Crabgrass and Clover!
Ola, Senor Milkweed! Basta, ya!

CLOVER

Don't YELL at me!

DANDY

But I am your champion!

(Insulted, WEEDS turn away.)

DAISY

WE'LL BE BLOOMING!

DAISY AND COMPANY

WE'LL BE BLOOMING!

(RAGWEED leans aside. The Sun falls on VIOLET
who beams.)

ALL

THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH WHEN YOU SHARE
AND YOUR HEART FEELS LIGHTER THAN AIR

ROSE

JUST APPLY THIS HYPOTHESIS
I PROMISE YOU'LL SEE
ALL WE CAN LEARN FROM THAT GENEROUS BEE!

DANDY AND DAISY

THERE'S ALWAYS ENOUGH

MEGAMORE AND SIR PENT

NEVER ENOUGH

ALL

ALWAYS ENOUGH! ALWAYS ENOUGH
WHEN YOU SHARE!

SIR PENT

(speaks)

That's ridiculous!

(End of song.)

ROSE

I declare a truce between the Flowers and the Wild.... plants.

(WEEDS cheer; FLOWERS grumble.)

CRABGRASS

Wise words from the Queen of all angiosperms that ever bloomed in full sun or dappled shade, in sandy soil or mixed clay or-

(DANDY jerks him aside.)

DANDY

Are you flirting with Our Lady Rose?

CRABGRASS

Never mind that! When are you going to tell Daisy the real reason we came?

DANDY

When the time is ripe. I am her champion!

CRABGRASS

Then act like one!

(Lights dim on the FLOWERS, then rise on AUNT DEE's PORCH.)

(AUNT DEE and FLORALEE drink tea on the porch.)

FLORALEE

So is this a good day or a bad day?

AUNT DEE

A good day. I found my keys. And ...Oh!

(AUNT DEE runs inside, then returns.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

I remembered to turn off the stove.

FLORALEE

I knew it! Those weeds are good medicine.

AUNT DEE

But, is it legal?

FLORALEE

St. John's Wort is perfectly legal. It's helped your mood hasn't it? But, don't drink too much Rhubarb tea. You'll be running to the bathroom, mercy me! So don't drink too much Rhubarb-

(We hear a crash offstage.)

FLORALEE (CONT'D)

Uh oh, here comes your favorite nephew. I'll leave you two.

AUNT DEE

No, don't go!

(FLORALEE exits.)

(MEGAMORE strides up the garden path. HE brandishes Glossy Gardening Magazine.)

MEGAMORE

(He blows his nose.)

Aunt Dee, my favorite relative. You've always been so dear to me.

AUNT DEE

Can't say the same about you.

MEGAMORE

You seem tired, Aunt.

AUNT DEE

Never felt better.

MEGAMORE

This enormous house, this huge garden.

AUNT DEE

Keeps me going.

MEGAMORE

It's too much for a woman your age.

AUNT DEE

Feel like I'm twenty.

MEGAMORE

Well you're not! Face facts, Auntie. You have grown forgetful. This property looks like a garbage dump! Overgrown with UGLY! DISGUSTING! WEEDS!

(With each insult, CRABGRASS clutches his heart.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

(waving his magazine)

Here! On the cover of Glossy Gardening Magazine!

(AUNT DEE grabs the magazine.)

AUNT DEE

(to the GARDEN)

Congratulations everyone! We made the cover! Again!

(The GARDEN cheers!)

MEGAMORE

Cheer all you want, but you're breaking the law! Clean up this dump site, or the Weed Control Squad will!

SONG: "THIS IS MY HOME"

AUNT DEE

(sings)

OH, WHAT A STUBBORN IMPOSSIBLE MAN
HOW CAN I TELL HIM SO HE'LL UNDERSTAND

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

What happened, nephew? You used to love this garden!

(sings)

THIS IS MY HOME, I BELONG HERE
AND THIS GARDEN KNOWS
IT'S HERE THAT I MUST STAY
THIS IS MY HOME, I WAS BORN HERE
ALL AROUND ME IS THIS SONG

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

Remember swimming in the pond? Climbing trees in the park? Who can forget the day you planted Tree...

(TREE waves. MEGAMORE turns away.)

MEGAMORE

That was then. This is now.

(MEGAMORE blows his nose.)

AUNT DEE

Strange. You didn't have allergies before you met your fancy new friends.

MEGAMORE

Ah...Ah....ah... I don't want to hear it!

(TREE offers MEGAMORE a hanky. HE accepts it, then does a double-take.)

(AUNT DEE waves a pie under MEGAMORE's nose)

AUNT DEE

Care for some rhubarb pie? Your favorite...

(MEGAMORE reaches for the pie. AUNT DEE holds it out of reach.)

AUNT DEE, HERMAN, VIOLET

AND IF YOU LISTEN TO YOUR HEART
YOU'LL HEAR IT SING. THIS IS MY HOME
THIS IS YOUR HOME TOO...

AUNT DEE

THIS IS OUR...

(Forgetting the words, AUNT DEE turns to HERMAN, and VIOLET)

HERMAN and VIOLET

... HOME!

(End of Song.)

(AUNT DEE stands defiantly in front of TREE.)

AUNT DEE

I won't let you steal my garden! This is my property now!

MEGAMORE

Not so fast. The bank owns this property.

AUNT DEE

Not anymore! I paid off my mortgage in full!

(faltering)

At the Bank! To the lady with the pinched face. I'm sure she deposited my...check.

MEGAMORE

Odd. The bank called. They have no record of your payment. And now they're threatening to foreclose. However, if you sign over the property to me-

AUNT DEE

Never!

MEGAMORE

You give me no choice! You're a danger to yourself and the entire neighborhood! What if you started a fire? Admit it; you belong... in a home!

(Turning to go, HE bumps into TREE, then exits.)

AUNT DEE

But this is my home.

(Lights off on AUNT DEE.)

(Lights up on TREE. The GARDEN is in shock.)

TREE

The time has come. We must gather together with one heart for one purpose. Time to call...

DELPHINIUM

The police!

DAHLIAS

The fire department!

DAY LILY

Ghost Busters!

TREE

The Spirit of the Garden. Tonight, under the midnight moon, Spirit will tell us what to do.

DELPHINIUM

But no one has heard from the Spirit of the Garden for an eternity.

DANDY

Ask Daisy. She hears it all the time.

(All eyes on DAISY, who twists her petals.)

DAHLIAS

But Daisy is nothing but a common wildflower!

DAYLILY

(pointing at DANDY)

And Dandelion is a noxious weed!

DELPHINIUM

Why trust a Wildflower and a ...Weed?

DANDY

(furious)

Do any of you hothouse petunias have a better idea?

(FADE TO BLACK.)

(Blue Lights up; we hear CRICKETS.)

(Sleepy FLOWERS and WEEDS doze under the rising Moon.)

(DANDY helps DAISY twist her petals 'just so'.)

DANDY (CONT'D)

Don't worry, Daisy. We'll save the garden. I'm working on a plan.

DAISY

You sound so sure.

DANDY

I'm your champion! That's what champions do!

(A gust of wind blows DAISY and DANDY together.)

DAISY

I just wish I knew which frequency to tune into.

DANDY

Wish on me.

(THEY kiss under a midnight moon. We hear rustling Reeds, sighing grass.)

TREE

Speak, Spirit! How can we save our garden?

DAISY

(in a trance)

Ahhhhhhooooombaaaaa!

VIOLET

Translate, DAISY, translate!

DAISY

When you're hungry, call for pizza! Call us pronto, we deliver!

(DAISY falls flat on her face. EVERYONE groans.
DANDY helps DAISY to her feet.)

DANDY

Your petals got crossed, that's all. This time, send your roots down deep! Then, listen to the drums!

SONG: "LISTEN TO THE DRUMS"

DANDELION

THERE'S AN OPEN INVITATION
FLOATING ON THE BREEZE, A SOUND YOU KNOW
IT'S SOFT AND LOW AND CLEAR
RISING LIKE SOME ANCIENT INVOCATION
RISING THROUGH YOUR DREAMS
KINDA MAKES YOU WONDER
WHAT'S THAT DISTANT THUNDER DRAWING NEAR?

THE DRUMS ARE ROLLING IN
THEY'RE WHISPERING YOUR NAME
ONCE YOU HEAR THE DRUMS BEGIN
YOU'LL NEVER EVER EVER BE THE SAME
JUST LET THE DRUMS TAKE OVER

DAISY

I HAVE THIS FUNNY INTUITION
ON THE EDGES OF MY MIND
I HEAR THE RHYTHM OF A SONG
I ONCE KNEW WELL
SWELLING SOME FORGOTTEN INCANTATION
I CAN FEEL IT RISE AND FALL

THE DRUMS ARE CALLING
AND HERE I GO, I'M FALLING IN THE SPELL
WHAT IS THIS STRANGE NEW SOUND
THAT'S DRUMMING, POUNDING WILD AND FREE?

DANDY

A STRANGE NEW FREQUENCY IS HUMMING
BUT WHAT COULD IT BE?

DANDY AND DAISY

JUST LET THE DRUMS TAKE OVER
JUST LET THE DRUMS ROLL IN
JUST LET THIS FEELING MOVE YOU
JUST LET THIS FEELING IN

CRABGRASS

(gazing at ROSE)

I'M SO IN LOVE, I'VE GOT IT BAD
I FEEL A FEELING THAT I'VE NEVER EVER HAD
THE WAY SHE MOVES ME

(speaks to ROSE)

Would m'lady care to dance?

DANDY AND DAISY

I WILL CONFESS, I'M FEELING FINE
IF WE KEEP WISHING, THEN THE DRUMS
WILL MAKE YOU MINE, THE WAY YOU MOVE ME
MAKES ME WANNA TAKE A CHANCE

DAISY

(speaks in a trance voice)

To save the Garden, heal the gardener, this is what we'll do..
To heal forgetful gardeners, we must grow a someone NEW!

(SIR PENT enters, furiously leafs through a book.)

SIR PENT

(reads)

A WONDER WEED THAT'S MAGICAL!

CRABGRASS

WITH LOTS OF PRETTY FLOWERS.

ROSE

WHO'LL RESTORE OUR GARDENER'S MEMORY!

SIR PENT

AND RESTORE MY MAGIC POWERS!

VIOLET

SOFT AND SWEET!

HERMAN

GOOD TO EAT!

TREE

SHIMMERING GREEN AND GRAND!

DANDY AND DAISY

AS LONG AS WE KEEP WISHING...

SIR PENT

(slams the book shut)

I HAVE THE PERFECT PLAN!

(sings, to the GARDEN)

BUT WAIT, THERE'S SOMETHING MORE
WE'RE MISSING, THERE'S SOMETHING MORE
WE NEED! GIVE INTO THE BEAT
CAUSE WE'LL NEVER GROW MAGIC
WITHOUT A WONDER.... SEED!

DANDY

(speaks)

I'll volunteer!

DAISY

(speaks)

And so will I.

(The GARDEN cheers. SIR PENT smirks.)

COMPANY

I'VE GOT THE STRONGEST PREMONITION
A SOUND I'VE NEVER HEARD BEFORE
WHY IS MY OWN HEART POUNDING
LOUDER THAN BEFORE
COULD IT BE SOMETHING BOUT THE LEAVES
SOMETHING BOUT THE TREES
GROWING EVEN STRONGER
JUST LET THE DRUMS TAKE OVER

SIR PENT

(speaks)

I'LL STEAL THE LITTLE WONDER SEED
AND IN A LITTLE TIME
THE WONDER WEED WILL BLOSSOM
AND ITS MAGIC WILL BE MINE!

(to the GARDEN)

CALL THE BIRDS AND CALL THE BEES!
I HAVE THE PERFECT PLAN!

CLOVER

(speaks)

WHY CALL THE BIRDS? WHY CALL THE BEES?

SIR PENT

(speaks)

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

COMPANY

(sing)

LISTEN TO THE DRUMS!

(End of song.)

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SCENE 1

EXT. DOWNTOWN MEGAPOLIS. AUGUST.

*CITIZENS wave signs: 'Save our
Neighborhood! Stop the foreclosures!', etc.*

*MEGAMORE stands under a banner:
Megamore for Mayor!*

DUNMORE and EVERMORE enter.

TREE

Yes, it's August in Megapolis. Can you feel the city heat? There's a strange new rumbling coming from the people in the street...

SONG: "WHAT'S THAT SOUND?"

CITIZENS

WE'RE MELTING IN MEGAPOLIS
IN THE HONK HONK CITY HEAT
AND IT FEELS A LOT LIKE HADES
ON THIS HONK HONK CITY STREET

IT'S AUGUST IN MEGAPOLIS
IN A HONK HONK BEEP BEEP TOWN
AND YOU BETTER RUN
WHEN THE LIGHT TURNS RED
'CAUSE THE CARS WILL RUN YOU DOWN
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

CITIZEN #1

(To Megamore)

How dare you raise our taxes!

(MORE)

CITIZEN #1 (CONT'D)

(sing)

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

CITIZEN #2

How dare you raise the rent!

MEGAMORE

TOO BAD WE HAD TO RAISE THE RENT
BUT WHAT ELSE COULD WE DO?
YOU CAN ALWAYS MOVE INTO A TENT
OF RED OR GREEN OR BLUE

DUNMORE

NO NEED TO MOVE INTO THAT TENT
WITH OUR INSTALLMENT PLAN
JUST SIGN RIGHT HERE, NO MONEY DOWN
ON YOUR BRAND NEW CONDOVAN

MEGAMORE

(speaks)

You're gonna love living in your car!

CITIZENS

BUT THE PEDAL'S STUCK
WE CAN'T SLOW DOWN
WE'RE HEADED FOR A WALL

MEGAMORE

JUST GUN IT TILL THE GAS RUNS OUT
JUST GUN IT TILL IT STALLS

CITIZENS

BUT WE'RE HEADED FOR THE NEAREST CLIFF
WE'RE HEADED FOR DISASTER

EVERMORE

IN YOUR BRAND NEW SOUPED UP CONDOVAN
YOU'LL GET THERE EVEN FASTER

(SHE unveils plans for 'Paved Paradise' High-rise
Parking Wonderland')

MEGAMORE, DUNMORE AND EVERMORE

FREE PARKING! FREE PARKING
HIGH ABOVE THE SMOG
IN YOUR HIGH RISE PARKING PARADISE

MEGAMORE

FOR DETAILS, READ MY BLOG!
AND MY FACE AND FLITTER...

CITIZENS

WE'RE MELTING IN MEGAPOLIS
FEELS LIKE HADES IN THE SHADE

DUNMORE

(shaking a Citizen's hand)

Congratulations on that Condovan!

(to EVERMORE)

Best deal we ever made!

CITIZENS

(sing)

IT'S AUGUST IN MEGAPOLIS
IN A HONK HONK, BEEP BEEP TOWN
YOU BETTER RUN WHEN THE LIGHT TURNS RED
YOU BETTER RUN WHEN THE LIGHT TURNS RED
'CAUSE THE CARS WILL RUN YOU DOWN
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

MEGAMORE, DUNMORE, EVERMORE

FREE PARKING!

CITIZENS

WHAT'S THAT SOUND? WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

MEGAMORE, DUNMORE, EVERMORE

FREE PARKING!

CITIZENS

THE CARS WILL RUN YOU DOWN

(End of song.)

SCENE 2

EXT. IN THE GARDEN

*SUMMER FLOWERS, AUNT DEE, SIR PENT,
DAISY, DANDELION, ROSE and VIOLET fan
themselves under TREE.*

*We hear a car CRASH. EVERYONE jumps, then
strains to see over the Garden Wall.*

CRABGRASS

(marking his score card)

That makes... six! An all time record!

VIOLET

It's a miracle anyone can drive in this heat.

SUMMER FLOWERS

We're WILTING! ...WILTING!

DELPHINIUM

Why is our front lawn turning brown?

SIR PENT

Ask Daisy, she should know; Daisy, Daisy, how does our garden grow?

(DAISY, flustered, anxiously smooths her petals as
Flowers crowd around.)

DAHLIA

(to DAISY)

Will this heat wave ever stop?

DAY LILY

Why is my bed compacted?

VIOLET

(to DANDY)

Is Daisy feeling overwhelmed?

DANDY

No, Daisy's just distracted.

ROSE

Can we save our Gardener's memory?

DELPHINIUM

Can we grow a wonder weed?

SIR PENT

What does the Daisy have to say.

DANDY

(triumphantly)

Daisy's grown a Wonder Seed!

(The GARDEN cheers.)

ROSE

(to DAISY)

I anoint you 'Bellis Perennis... Extraordinariness'!

DELPHINIUM

We always said Daisy was special.

VIOLET

You did not!

(SIR PENT approaches DAISY with a watering can.
The other FLOWERS leave them alone.)

SIR PENT

May I?

(DAISY nods. SIR PENT waters her.)

DAISY

Why thank you, Sir Pent. That's the third time today.

SIR PENT

Seeds with magical powers need... affection... to grow into flowers.

DAISY

Oh, Sir Pent! You have such a way with words! You know, I've never seen your friendly side before. This summer has been such a revelation.

SIR PENT

Daisy, Daisy! Little Daisy, don't be so naive!
I have feelings way down deep that you would not believe.

DAISY

Can I be honest? Truly honest? For the longest time, I was afraid of your fangs and that awful hiss of yours.

(SIR PENT adjusts his fangs in icy silence.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

But now that I see through your gruff exterior to the reptile deep inside, whom do I see?

(SIR PENT fixes DAISY with gimlet eyes.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

A poet! A poet with a gift he longs to share, but cannot, for words can never express what the heart knows way down deep. For example. I know how much you love Tree, even though you pretend not to.

(SIR PENT glares at TREE.)

(TREE waves.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

And yesterday? While you were hissing at the clouds? I could almost hear them hissing back! Soon you'll be conjuring up some wicked weather! How do I know this? Because, I, too, have a gift.... You know, my gift? I hear... frequencies?

(SIR PENT hisses.)

(DAISY jumps.)

SIR PENT

About those high-end frequencies.
Pray, tell me, Miss Perennis.
Do all those frequencies you hear
Sound anything like... THIS?

(SIR PENT pulls back the foliage to reveal a small
RECORDING DEVICE.)

(HE pushes 'play'.)

RECORDER

Ahhh ... Oooooom...Ba!

“SEEDS OF DOUBT”

SIR PENT

WHEN YOU SOW THE LITTLE SEEDS
THE LITTLE SEEDS OF DOUBT
NO NEED TO RAISE YOUR VOICE
NO NEED TO SCREAM AND SHOUT
ALL YOU NEED IS INNUENDO,
A LITTLE SMIRK WILL DO,
LIES SPOKEN IN A WHISPER
MAKE EVERYTHING SOUND TRUE

DAISY

(speaks)

YOU were broadcasting my frequencies?

(SIR PENT nods 'yes'.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

(speaks)

But why didn't you tell me?

SIR PENT

(sings)

SINCE YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A FLOWER
AND YOU HAVE NO MAGIC POWER,
I DECIDED THAT THE ONLY THING TO
DOOWACKA DOOWACKA DO

WAS TO BROADCAST ON THE BREEZE
WHAT YOU THOUGHT WERE FREQUENCIES
AND PRETEND THEIR MAGIC MESSAGE
CAME THROUGH DOOWACKA DOOWACKA YOU!

DAISY
(speaks, devastated)

HOW KIND OF DOOWACKA DOOWACKA YOU.

SIR PENT
(speaks)
Let this be our secret, I'll be your friend in need.
For I know who you really are, not like the DANDY Weed.

DAISY
(speaks)
Dandelion LOVES me!

SIR PENT
I know he SAYS he loves you, I know he SWEARS he does.
Is that what he tells Dahlia? Of his never-ending ... love?

(SIR PENT points. DAISY spies DANDY and
DAHLIA laughing together. DAISY gasps.)

SIR PENT (CONT'D)
(sings)

DO YOU REALLY KNOW THE DANDELION?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT PLANS HE'S GOT?
THOUGH HE MAY SWEAR HE LOVES YOU,
DANDELION LOVES YOU... NOT!

(SIR PENT plucks one of DAISY's petals, exits.)

(In despair, DAISY holds her ears. We hear wailing
SIRENS, squealing BRAKES, coughing
CHILDREN. Then... silence.)

(VIOLET pops up beside DAISY.)

VIOLET
Daisy! It's official! The Cone Flowers have voted you 'Wildflower of the year!'

DAISY
That's... nice.

VIOLET
Aren't you happy?

DAISY

What do I know? I'm nothing but a... flower!

(DAISY throws herself into VIOLET's arms.)

VIOLET

But Daisy! Remember the power you possess.

“THE POWER OF A FLOWER”

VIOLET (CONT'D)

(sings)

IT SOUNDS SO SIMPLE AND YET
IT'S ALL TOO EASY TO FORGET
THE POWER OF A FLOWER
PLEASE REMEMBER THE POWER OF PERFUME
ONE FRAGRANT LITTLE FLOWER
CAN CHEER A COLD AND LONELY ROOM

(Through her window, we see FLORALEE place a
flower in a vase.)

VIOLET (CONT'D)

WITH EVERY BLOSSOM YOU SHARE
YOU HEAL A HEART, YOU BLESS THE AIR
THAT'S THE POWER OF A FLOWER

PLEASE REMEMBER THE POWER OF A WORD
WHEN VOICES RISE IN ANGER
A TENDER WORD CAN STILL BE HEARD
IT'S THE BRAVE WHO REMEMBER
IT TAKES COURAGE TO BE TENDER

(DAISY notices CRABGRASS gazing at his
reflection in the pond.)

CRABGRASS

(speaks)

Why don't they love me? Ain't I beautiful?

DAISY

(speaks)

In a scraggly sort of way.

(Cheered, CRABGRASS straightens his bandana, then glances at Megamore Towers overhead. Its shadows creep towards him.)

VIOLET, CRABGRASS, TREE

(sing)

THOSE DAYS THAT HIGH RISE SEEMS SO TALL
 THOSE SMOGGY DAYS YOU FEEL SO SMALL
 YOU REMIND THIS WEARY WORLD
 THERE'S A LOVE THAT GROWS US ALL

VIOLET

(sings)

WHATEVER YOU DO, I'M BEGGING OF YOU
 REMEMBER ALL THE POWER
 OF A TENDER LITTLE FLOWER

(DAISY and VIOLET embrace. VIOLET exits.)

(FLOWERS freeze in terror as HELLMORE and MEGAMORE enter.)

(MEGAMORE carries protective clothing and a tank of weed killer with a nozzle.)

HELLMORE

(salivating, to MEGAMORE)

Can I bulldoze the garden now, boss, can I?

MEGAMORE

Patience, Hellmore! Rome wasn't bulldozed in a day.

(hands Hellmore an official paper)

Show my Aunt this official ordinance.

(hands Hellmore the weed-killer)

Then, spray the weeds with this!

(HELLMORE points the nozzle at MEGAMORE.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

Careful, you idiot!

HELLMORE

Even the dandelions? I kinda like the dandel-

MEGAMORE

(represses a sneeze)

Especially the dah... hah... hah.. hah...hah....hah..

(MEGAMORE tosses protective clothing to HELLMORE, then exits blowing his nose.)

(HELLMORE knocks on AUNT DEE's door. SHE opens.)

AUNT DEE

(shouts to FLORALEE next door.)

FLORALEE! Megamore's lackey has come to spray poison on the lawn!

(FLORALEE enters with a tray of iced tea.)

FLORALEE

How exhausting spraying poison must be. Have some ice-cold Rhubarb tea!

(HELLMORE guzzles a glass.)

AUNT DEE

He likes it. Let's make more.

(FLORALEE exits with AUNT DEE.)

(HELLMORE slowly pulls on protective clothes.)

(Spot up on the WEEDS.)

CRABGRASS

I ain't afraid!

NETTLE

Bring'em on!

BURDOCK

Chemicals cannot kill me!

NETTLE

Bring'em on, I say, bring 'em on!

ROSE

Nettle! I love your fighting spirit! However, this crisis requires the wisdom of the Roses.

CRABGRASS

But, your blossomness, it's the Weeds he's after.

ROSE

(donning a WW1 helmet)

I will not tolerate ruffians who spray poison on MY garden!

NETTLE

Like I said!... Bring'em on!

SONG: "CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE"

NETTLE (CONT'D)

YOU THINK A LAWN SHOULD BE
A PICTURE OF PERFECTION
AND HEAVEN HELP THE LOWLY WEED
THAT FAILS INSPECTION
BEFORE YOU SPRAY THAT POISON SPRAY
HEY, LISTEN UP! THE WEEDS HAVE GOT
SOME FINAL WORDS TO SAY

(HELLMORE, dressed like an astronaut, waddles
toward the WEEDS.)

WEEDS

BEFORE YOU SPRAY YOUR POISON
WE HAVE A LITTLE QUESTION
IF WHAT YOU SPRAY IS SAFE
WHY DO YOU NEED PROTECTION?
WHY THAT RESPIRATOR AND A MASK?
ARE YOU TERRIFIED YOU COULD GET A RASH
IT'S A NIGHTMARE, IT'S A CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE,
// STOP IT//

YOU THINK IF YOU SPRAY THE WEEDS
 THAT WEEDS WON'T LIVE MUCH LONGER
 WELL, WE'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU
 IT ONLY MAKES US MUCH STRONGER
 YOU SHOULD LEAVE THAT POISON ON THE SHELF
 EVERY TIME YOU SPRAY ME,
 YOU SPRAY YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE,
 IT'S A CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE

CRABGRASS

YOU CALL THIS 'LAWN CARE?' //STOP IT//

HERMAN

IT'S STICKING TO YOUR HAIR
 IT'S STICKING TO YOUR SLEEVE
 IT LINGERS IN THE AIR
 REMEMBER NOT TO BREATHE

WEEDS

ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING?
 IT COULD BE JUST THE FLU
 BUT THEN AGAIN, NO TELLING WHAT
 THOSE CHEMICALS CAN DO!

HERMAN

SORRY ABOUT YOUR LITTLE DOGGIE
 SORRY THAT HE DIED, BUT WHEN YOU
 SPRAYED YOUR LAWN LAST WEEK
 HE SHOULD HAVE STAYED INSIDE
 //NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA//
 NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
 //HEY-A HEY-A HEY-A HEY-A//

WEEDS

RUNNING DOWN THE DRAIN
 IN THE RUNOFF, IN THE RAIN
 IN THE RIVERS AND THE STREAMS
 IN YOUR NIGHTMARES, IN YOUR DREAMS

WEEDS (CONT'D)

IN THE WATER THAT YOU DRINK
 THE WATER'S TURNING TOXIC
 CAN'T YOU HEAR THE FROGGIES
 AND THE FISHES SCREAMING 'STOP IT!
 STOP THOSE CHEMICALS!'

(HELLMORE threatens ROSE.)

(CRABGRASS pelts HELLMORE with
 blackberries.)

(HELLMORE sprays CRABGRASS! But no one
 notices.)

WEEDS (CONT'D)

ONE DAY THE WIND COULD SHIFT
 I PRAY YOU WAKE UP SOONER
 THAT TOXIC DRIFT COULD LEAVE
 YOUR LANDSCAPE LOOKING LUNAR
 SO GO AHEAD AND SPRAY IF YOU INSIST
 BUT IF YOU DO... WE WILL RESIST
 //YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE// NA NA NA NA NA
 //YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE// NA NA NA NA NA
 //YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE// //HEY-A, HEY-A//

STOP IT!

(End of Song)

(HELLMORE, in intestinal distress, flees.)

(FLORALEE and AUNT DEE enter.)

AUNT DEE

But we made more tea!

(The GARDEN cheers!)

SIR PENT

(rising from the grass)

Don't celebrate too soon, there's more. You've won the battle, not the war.

(All eyes on DANDY, whose petals have turned
into a fluffy BALL.)

DANDY

For once, the reptile is right.

VIOLET

But Daisy's grown a Wonder Seed!

BURDOCK

Who'll grow up big and strong!

ROSE

And restore our gardener's memory!

SIR PENT

I hope it won't take long.

(SIR PENT exits.)

TREE

Yes, all too quickly the seasons flow. All too quickly as lovers know. All too soon,
Summer flows into Fall, bringing Asters and Pinks and Mugwort and all.

(A PINK, an ASTER and a CHRYSANTHEMUM
bloom.)

“WHEN AUTUMN'S IN THE AIR”

FALL FLOWERS

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
CHILLY AUTUMN'S IN THE AIR
ANEMONES GREET MUMS AND PINKS...

(MUGWORT springs up among them.)

MUGWORT

AND MUGWORT BLOOMING THERE!

FALL FLOWERS

AS THE SUMMER FLOWERS ARE FADING
 A FROSTY FEELING GROWS
 MIDST DANDELIONS AND DAISIES
 AND A LONG-BLOOMING ANTIQUE ROSE

(CRABGRASS reads a poem to ROSE.)

CRABGRASS

(speaks)

To Rose: 'If Only'

If only Rose would love me! It's tearing me apart
 I'd love my Rose with all I got, her thorns stuck in my heart!
 I'd bleed and bleed if I had blood, and then I'd bleed some more
 I'm stuck on Rose, and thanks to Rose, I know what bleeding's for!

(End of Song)

(CRABGRASS kisses ROSE's hand. THEY exit.)

(DAISY anxiously counts her petals by the pond.)

DAISY

He loves me, he loves me not, he...

DANDY

(counting her petals)

Loves you, he loves you, he loves you! Did Daisy ever doubt?

DAISY

Would you still love me if...

DANDY

Yes, Daisy, always yes! Why do you ask?

DAISY

It has been brought to my attention that wild weeds like to ... travel. Don't you?

(DANDY plucks a seed from his fluffy globe.)

DANDY

Daisy. There is something I've been meaning to tell you...

(DANDY releases a SEED. IT floats away.)

DANDY (CONT'D)

Wild Weeds don't stay forever. Once we dig up nutrients from the soil, Weeds make room for shrubberies and small Trees and then... Weeds ... leave.

DAISY

But all this time, I've been wishing...

DANDY

Listen! I have a plan! Once our Wonder Weed has blossomed, we can escape! Together!

DAISY

Leave the garden?

(A gust of wind. For one delicious moment DAISY and DANDY are entwined. SHE slowly disentangles herself.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

But my roots are... here.

DANDY

But, Daisy, we're Wildflowers! We can grow almost anywhere!

(DAISY turns away.)

DAISY

(to TREE)

Did you know about this?

TREE

I... yes. I called the Weeds because I was... lonely.

DAISY

(to TREE)

I forgive you, Tree.

(furiously turning on DANDY)

But as for YOU! Sir Pent was right!

DANDY

Sir Pent? What does he know?

DAISY

He warned me about you!

DANDY

But as long as we keep wishing...

DAISY

I would never wish on a devious, dishonest WEED!

SONG: "WHY DO THE WILD WEEDS COME"

DAISY (CONT'D)

(furious, sings to TREE)

WHY DO THE WILD WEEDS COME,
SO BRAZEN AND SO BOLD?

TREE

OH ME, OH MY, MY LITTLE ONE
THEIR STORY'S SELDOM TOLD

DAISY

WHY DO THE WILD WEEDS BLOOM
AND BLOSSOM AS THEY PLEASE?

TREE

I'LL TELL YOU WHY, MY LITTLE ONE
THEY COME TO SING THE TREES
SHIMMERING GROVES
OF GLIMMERING LEAVES
LIVING BREATHING CANOPIES

DAISY

WHY DO THE WILD WEEDS LAUGH
AND SING THE DAY AWAY?

TREE

BE PATIENT NOW, MY LITTLE ONE
 THEY'LL SOON BE ON THEIR WAY
 BUT FIRST THEY'LL MOCK
 YOUR BEST- LAID PLANS
 THEN THEY'LL STEAL YOUR SUN
 FORGIVE THEM IF THEY BREAK YOUR HEART
 BEFORE THEIR WORK IS DONE

DANDY

(speaks)

It's what Weeds do. It's called 'natural succession.'

DAISY

(speaks)

You make abandoning us sound so... scientific.

TREE

BLESS THE WILD WEEDS WHEN THEY COME
 BLESS THEM WHEN THEY GO
 THEY LIVE AND DIE MY LITTLE ONE
 SO MIGHTY TREES MAY GROW

WEEDS

WE COME TO SING THE TREES
 SHIMMERING GROVES OF GLIMMERING LEAVES
 OAK AND ASH AND HICKORIES
 BEECH AND BIRCH AND WILLOW TREES
 DAPPLED DANCING MAJESTIES

(Lights dim. We hear a passing SIREN. DAISY shivers. DANDY reaches out to warm her; SHE turns away.)

(CRABGRASS lifts ROSE's leaf to his lips; SHE gasps.)

ROSE

Oh, No! You're turning ...yellow!

CRABGRASS

(coughing)

Weed Killer finally got me. Tell Snail and Slug, no chomping on me. I'm full of poison now.

(WEEDS and FLOWERS gather round.)

DAISY

Don't die, Crabgrass! Live to see our Wonder Weed!

CRABGRASS

(weakly)

Did you know that back in 1849, the U.S. gov'ment imported me to be forage for animals down on the farm?

DAISY

We always knew you were very nutritious, didn't we?

(FLOWERS nod. WEEDS softly weep.)

CRABGRASS

(enjoying the attention)

That's not all. If there's ever an oil spill, I can suck it up.

(Gasps of admiration.)

ROSE

It must be said! *Digitaria Sanguinaris* is uncommonly bold!

CRABGRASS

(brightening)

I... am?

(struggling to his feet)

You think you've seen the last of Crabgrass?

(Solo spot on CRABGRASS.)

SONG: "I'LL BE BACK"

CRABGRASS (CONT'D)

(sings)

I'LL BE BACK ONE SUNNY DAY
 THOUGH YOU MAY DO YOUR BEST
 TO MAKE ME GO AWAY
 YES, YOU MAY THINK I'M DEAD AND GONE
 BUT I'LL BE BACK ONE DAY IN SPRING
 TO PROVE YOU WRONG
 YOU CAN HACK ME, YOU CAN HOE ME
 PULL ME UP AND MOW ME
 YOU CAN STOMP AND SQUISH ME TILL I'M FLAT
 SO I'LL SAY GOODBYE FOR NOW,
 ADIOS, AMIGOS, CIAO!
 I'LL SAY GOODBYE FOR NOW, BUT I'LL BE BACK

DEATH DON'T SCARE ME
 DEATH IS BUT A CHILLY WINTER'S DREAM
 MY ROOTS ARE DEEP, MY LOVE IS STRONG
 AND MY SOUL BELONGS TO SPRING

WEEDS

HE'LL BE BACK ONE DAY IN JUNE
 THOUGH YOU MAY THINK THAT
 HE'LL BE COMING BACK TOO SOON
 NO, CRUEL DEATH CAN'T KEEP HIM DOWN
 CAUSE HE'S A WEED AND
 WEEDS WILL RISE UP FROM THE GROUND

STOP YOUR MOANING AND YOUR GROANING
 THOUGH HE MAY BE COLD AS STONE BECAUSE
 HE'S JUST PRETENDING TO BE DEAD
 HE MAY BE GIVING UP THE GHOST
 BUT IF YOU LISTEN TO HIM CLOSELY
 HE'S NOT REALLY DEAD,
 JUST MOSTLY, LIKE HE SAID

(Solo spot on CRABGRASS.)

CRABGRASS

I'LL BE BACK ONE SUNNY DAWN
 YES, I'LL BE BACK CAUSE
 NO ONE STAYS TOO DEAD FOR LONG
 I WILL RETURN ONE HAPPY MORN
 I'LL RISE AGAIN AND TELL THE WORLD
 I'VE BEEN REBORN!

(CRABGRASS offers ROSE his bandanna; SHE
 dabs her eyes.)

WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT, I'LL BE RESURRECTED
 YOU CAN COUNT ON ME AND COUNT ON THAT
 SO I'LL SAY FARE THEE WELL
 WITH A GOOD OLD REBEL YELL
 I'LL SAY FARE THEE WELL, BUT I'LL BE BACK

WEEDS

HE'LL BE SINGING HALLELUIA, HE WAS DEAD,
 BUT THEN HE FOOLED YA! SINGING
 HIP HIP HALLELUIA, I'LL BE BACK

CRABGRASS

WHEN I RETURN AGAIN,
 I'LL BE SPEAKING MANDARIN
 (speaks)

...Nin hou ma...

(sings)

I'LL SAY GOOD-BYE FOR NOW, BUT I'LL BE BACK

(End of Song)

(CRABGRASS collapses. For good. ROSE cradles
 HIM in her arms.)

(AUNT DEE enters, dressed in her '60's hippie
 garb. SHE climbs up into TREE, then unfurls a
 BANNER that reads: "HELL NO! LET THEM
 GROW!")

(FLORALEE enters.)

AUNT DEE

And you can inform my garden-grabbing nephew that I'm not... I'm not... No, I WON'T!

(FLORALEE and the GARDEN cheer!)

FLORALEE

That's the spirit, Dee!

AUNT DEE

(suddenly confused)

Who said that? Who are you? You're here to steal my garden, aren't you?

FLORALEE

Dee, it's me, Floralee!

AUNT DEE

I don't know any Floralee! Get out of my garden!

FLORALEE

But I can't leave you up in Tree.

AUNT DEE

Tree loves me! He's my only friend.

FLORALEE

I'll come back later...

(SHE reluctantly exits.)

(SIR PENT rises from the grass with a tiny basket.)

SIR PENT

(to TREE and AUNT DEE)

Oh look, our gardener's up in Tree! Are you happy there together?

The perfect place to watch me as I conjure wicked weather!

(to the sky)

Blow, ye smoggy winds, now wail! Blow a wild and fearsome gale!

(HE waits. Nothing. HE hisses louder. We hear distant THUNDER.)

(HELLMORE enters.)

HELLMORE

(chatty, on his CELL PHONE)

Hi Mayor, how are you? ...Me? Not so good. The bank foreclosed on the diner around the corner! Where are we going to...? Oh. Part of the plan. Yes, I know: jobs don't grow on trees.

(speaks in his 'bad guy' voice)

Plan 'Burn it to the Ground' is about to begin.

(HE sets fire to the garden, then exits.)

SIR PENT

What's this? The garden set aflame? What luck! Smoke will conceal my game!

(Horrified FLOWERS gasp.)

ROSE

(blows her whistle)

Fire! Fire! This is not a drill!

TREE

Herman, lead the beetles to safety!

DANDY

Send your roots down deep!

(Flames creep closer. VIOLET shrieks.)

DAISY

(shielding Violet)

Come, little one, time for bed.

VIOLET

Dandelion, will you be back next spring?

DANDY

Violet, I... don't...

DAISY

(bitterly)

Weeds don't stay forever, Violet. Only long enough to break your heart, then make room for small trees, then larger trees then---

(desperately)

Sir Pent! Sir Pent!

DANDY

No, Daisy! He's not our friend!

DAISY

He promised he would come if I called.

(SIR PENT slithers to DAISY.)

SIR PENT

You called?

DAISY

My seed! Would you? Could you?

(With a triumphant grin, SIR PENT lifts the basket.)

DANDY

Don't trust him!

(DAISY's seed falls into the basket.)

SIR PENT

Triumph, I have done the deed! I possess the precious wonder SEED!

DAISY

And now you can help our gardener!

SIR PENT

Don't you get the picture? She's completely lost her mind! She's forgotten all about Sir Pent! The garden will be mine!

(FLORALEE rushes in.)

FLORALEE

Don't jump, Dee, I'll save you!

(FLORALEE helps AUNT DEE down. THEY exit.)

(We hear SIRENS and fire trucks.)

DAISY

(to Sir Pent)

But I trusted you!

SIR PENT

That's why I love Daisies, so trusting, so naive. So boring and predictable, I'd weep, but I'll be---

DANDY

Herman!

(HERMAN swoops down, pins SIR PENT to the ground, then prepares to strike.)

TREE

(coughing)

No, Herman! Don't!

DANDY

But, he's ...

TREE

Our only hope!

(HERMAN reluctantly releases SIR PENT.)

(Fleeing, SIR PENT stumbles. The SEED goes flying, landing at TREE's feet.)

TREE (CONT'D)

Old friend! Please! Save... our... seed!

(For a terrible moment, SIR PENT hesitates.)

(Finally! HE dives into the flames, then emerges with the SEED.)

(Overcome by guilt?... remorse? SIR PENT howls at the sky.)

SIR PENT

Rage on, ye winds, now blast, now blow! But turn this bitter wind... to snow!

(HE exits clutching the SEED.)

DAISY

(in despair, to Dandy)

Why didn't I listen to you? Now it's too late, too late!

DANDY

Only if you believe it is! Keep wishing!

“KEEP WISHING” (Reprise)

DANDY (CONT'D)

(sings)

WE'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL WE TRY
JUST HOW HIGH A WISH CAN FLY
AND THAT'S WHY I KEEP WISHING

(End of Reprise.)

(DANDY offers DAISY a BOUQUET of his fluffy hair.)

(DAISY hugs the BOUQUET, makes a silent wish, then releases DANDY's seeds, which rise into the sky.)

(A single SNOWFLAKE comes to rest on DAISY's petal.)

VIOLET

Look! The stars are falling!

(DAISY blinks. Another snowflake. Another... Overjoyed, SHE turns to DANDY.)

(But DANDY sleeps beneath the snow.)

(LIGHTS FADE.)

SCENE 3

INT. SIR PENT'S DEN. NIGHT.

Pictures of dragons cover the walls.

Seated at a table, in flickering firelight, SIR PENT leafs through a large tome: 'Magic Wonder Weeds.'

On the table, a tiny CRADLE and a framed PHOTO.

Looking up, SIR PENT glares at the PHOTO on the table.

SIR PENT

(suppresses a sob)

I will not cling to memories, they'll fade away in time. I will not weep for Tree or Dee! The garden will be mine!

(SIR PENT strikes. The PHOTO goes flying.)

(We hear a BABY cry. SIR PENT rocks the CRADLE.)

SIR PENT (CONT'D)

Not a peep, now go to sleep. Sleep and dare to dream.
Of wondrous magic we will make... when seeds awake next spring.

SCENE 4

EXT. IN THE GARDEN. WINTER DAY.

Signs on AUNT DEE's house and FLORALEE's shop read: 'FORECLOSED.'

A small TENT, almost hidden, is pitched beside Aunt Dee's porch.

DUNMORE, EVERMORE and MEGAMORE enter, dressed in winter coats.

During the scene, THEY remove, then don coats as the temperature fluctuates.

MEGAMORE

Who knew that foreclosing on unemployed seniors could be so... gruelling.

DUNMORE

Cheer up, Mayor! Winter's almost over! I feel a warm predatory glow.

(patting Evermore on the back)

Thanks to Evermore here, who fraudulently foreclosed on the entire neighborhood!

(EVERMORE and DUNMORE dance.)

“GET THE PICTURE” - (REPRISE)

EVERMORE and DUNMORE

(sing)

GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
 GREED IS GOOD, BUT MO' IS BETTER,
 GIMME GIMME GIMME MO MO MO
 GREED IS GOOD 'CAUSE I SAY SO!

(End of Reprise.)

EVERMORE

(to MEGAMORE)

Why aren't you dancing our happy dance?

(MEGAMORE suddenly spies TREE's burnt trunk.
 Shaken, HE turns away.)

DUMORE AND EVERMORE

Awww. Is Mayor Meggiemore feeling nostalgic?

DUNMORE

Worried about your auntie? Out there hobnobbing with the homeless, mingling with the mentally ill?

EVERMORE

Not to worry. Once we put her in a home, she can paint pretty pictures until she melts away like snow...

DUNMORE

Snap out of it! Your campaign depends on today's speech. It better be good.

EVERMORE

At the end, a giant bulldozer will roar through the Garden Gate and rip the Garden to shreds! Get the picture?

(Hearing these words, FLORALEE pops her head out of her tent. No one notices.)

(MEGAMORE staggers.)

DUNMORE

Don't get all wobbly on us, Megamore! Remember who financed this campaign.

EVERMORE

We wouldn't want to have to resort to... blackmail.

MEGAMORE

Blackmail?

(DUNMORE and EVERMORE usher
MEGAMORE off stage.)

DUNMORE AND EVERMORE

Blackmail.

(FLORALEE crawls out of the tent.)

FLORALEE

Dee, Dee, where are you!

(SHE runs off stage.)

(HERMAN pops out from behind TREE's trunk.)

HERMAN

(wails mournfully)

What are we gonna dooooooo?

(VIOLET and SPRING FLOWERS burst into
glorious bloom on the lawn.)

“WHEN LILACS BLOOM” - (REPRISE)

SPRING FLOWERS

(sing to Herman)

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN YOU HEAR THE SONGBIRDS SING
DESPITE THE ZANY WEATHER WE'VE BEEN HAVING
IT'S PROBABLY EARLY...

DAISY
(pops up, then sings)

... SPRING!

(End of Reprise.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

Right, Dandy? Dandy?

(DAISY looks around for DANDY.)

VIOLET

Maybe he's just a late bloomer.

(spying CRABGRASS who sprouts)

But look who's here!

CRABGRASS

Told you I'd be back!

(DAISY embraces CRABGRASS.)

(FLOWERS applaud halfheartedly.)

(CRABGRASS blows a kiss to ROSE.)

CRABGRASS (CONT'D)

And look who I brought with me! Meet the newest member of our Garden community:
Flora miraculosa memoria ...Wonder Weed!

(HE reveals the little WONDER WEED).

(DAISY embraces her. The Garden ooo's and
ahhhh's.)

SONG: "MY FAVORITE INTENTION"

WONDER WEED

I WISH THAT I COULD CLIMB THAT
 HIGH RISE, IT'S NOT THAT TALL
 WISH THAT I COULD CLIMB RIGHT
 UP AND OVER THAT GARDEN WALL
 DID I FORGET TO MENTION
 MY FAVORITE INTENTION
 I'M GONNA GROW THIS WORLD
 A GARDEN GREEN
 'CAUSE I KEEP WISHING

I MAY BE YOUNG AND CRAZY
 BUT I'M OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW
 EVERY LITTLE WISH I WISH
 IS SEED I SOW THAT'S BOUND TO GROW...

DAISY

Oh, how I wish Dandelion could see you now!

VIOLET

Call him, Daisy. He'll come! After all, you wished on his... hair.

DAISY

(brightening)

Dandelion! It's me, Daisy. I'm calling because our Wonder Weed needs you! Despite the fact that you'd be an unorthodox role model...

(DAISY glances at VIOLET, who frowns.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

And the garden needs you, too! Despite your annoying lack of transparency...

VIOLET

Daisy! Keep wishing!

DAISY

DANDELION! I wish you'd come HOME!

ROSE AND FLOWERS

(in a cacophony of calls)

Come home this instant! Right now! What are you waiting for? Can't you hear us?

WONDER WEED

Daddy?

DANDY
(peeking from behind a shrub)

You called?

(DAISY and DANDY tearfully embrace, then
caress the WONDER WEED.

DAISY AND DANDY
AND THAT'S WHY I KEEP WISHING!

(End of Song.)

HERMAN
Enough of this hugging and kissing! There's a bulldozer on the way! We've got to warn
our gardener!

WONDER WEED
(to Herman)
Take me with you! I was born for this.

(DAISY and DANDY nod.)

(HERMAN tugs; the WONDER WEED wriggles
free. Entwined around ITS root is ... SIR PENT!)

SIR PENT
The Wonder Weed is mine!

(HERMAN flies away with the WONDER WEED
in his beak. SIR PENT dangles from its root.)

HERMAN
No, it belongs to everyone!

(Together they create a living, flying CADUCEUS,
the staff carried by Hermes, messenger of the gods.)

SCENE 5

EXT. UNDER THE OFF RAMP. LATER

Warming herself by a fire with a kettle, AUNT DEE paints a huge CANVAS, which we cannot see.

FLORALEE rushes in.

FLORALEE
Dee, there you are! I've been looking all over town!

(AUNT DEE continues to paint feverishly.)

FLORALEE (CONT'D)

There's a bulldozer on the way and we've got to get back ...

(HERMAN rushes in with the WONDER WEED.
SIR PENT is nowhere to be seen.)

(WONDER WEED plucks its FLOWER, then hands
it to HERMAN who frantically waves it under
FLORALEE's nose.)

FLORALEE (CONT'D)

(consulting her Wildflower Guide)

Herman, what's this? It's not in my Wildflower Guide. Is it... legal?

(HERMAN shrugs, then points at the tea kettle.)

(FLORALEE fills AUNT DEE's cup.)

FLORALEE

Drink this, Dee.

(to the audience)

Though NO ONE should ever do this at home!

(AUNT DEE drinks, then shimmers, transformed by
the Tea.)

(SIR PENT stumbles in.)

AUNT DEE

Oh. My. Goodness. Look who's HERE!

(HERMAN lunges at SIR PENT who turns to flee.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

No, Sir Pent, don't go! Dear Sir Pent, will you ever forgive me? I neglected you. Terribly. I was so preoccupied with my painting and... and ... Here! Drink. You look... thirsty.

(AUNT DEE offers him the cup; SIR PENT turns away.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

(to FLORALEE)

Wait, wait! I remember... everything! Spring peas, baby carrots, string beans, corn and melons and- ... that awful lady at the bank who stole my mortgage!

FLORALEE

Explain as we go! We've got to get back to the garden!

AUNT DEE

(to FLORALEE)

Get the picture!

(FLORALEE and AUNT DEE grab the painting, then exit.)

(SIR PENT lifts the cup, then drinks.)

(FADE TO BLACK.)

SCENE 6

EXT. IN THE GARDEN. LATER.

Megamore stands at the podium before a crowd.

As cameras flash; the crowd applauds halfheartedly.

MEGAMORE

(unenthusiastically)

And so, if re-elected, I promise you years and years of the same old blah blah blah...

(MEGAMORE turns to leave.)

(DUNMORE strong arms MEGAMORE back to the podium.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

And that is why we welcome you -

(AUNT DEE and FLORALEE rush in with the
PAINTING.)

AUNT DEE

To MY garden! Right, Ms. Crooked Evermore?

(to the press)

She falsified my mortgage! Here's the receipt!

(EVERMORE grabs it, then stuffs it in her mouth.)

EVERMORE

(chewing)

You can't prove it! I'll deny it!

DUNMORE

(to Hellmore)

Security! Remove that crazy lady.

(HELLMORE tackles AUNT DEE.)

(FLORALEE tackles HELLMORE. THEY roll
across the lawn.)

DUNMORE (CONT'D)

(twisting Megamore's arm)

As you were saying...

MEGAMORE

OUCH! Today we announce Paved Paradise High Rise Parking Garage, the most
remarkable-

(AUNT DEE points at the WONDER WEED.)

AUNT DEE

Horticultural discovery in the world: 'Flora memoria miraculosa:', a Wonder Weed!

(CAMERAS flash. The WONDER WEED poses
proudly.)

DUNMORE
(to Hellmore)

Start the bulldozer!

(HELLMORE exits. We hear the ROAR of the
BULLDOZER off stage.)

DUNMORE (CONT'D)
Megapolis needs more parking!

FLORALEE
No! Megapolis needs... this!

(FLORALEE lifts Aunt Dee's visionary painting:
'THE GARDENS OF MEGAPOLIS.')

(HELLMORE enters applauding.)

HELLMORE
Beautiful! Beautiful!

DUNMORE
(to Hellmore)
You're fired!

MEGAMORE
He works for me!

DUNMORE
We'll show you who's boss around here!

(DUNMORE and EVERMORE stomp off stage.
We hear the gears of the BULLDOZER grinding.)

DANDY
(to Herman)
Can you buy us a little time?

HERMAN
I'm on it.

(HERMAN exits.)

(We hear a scuffle.)

DUNMORE AND EVERMORE

Get off me, you putrid pigeon! Aggghr!

(All eyes on DAISY.)

DANDY

Any... frequencies to report?

DAISY

There never were any frequencies! They were all broadcast by Sir Pent!

SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN

Ahoomba...

DAISY

There he goes again!

DANDY

Show yourself, you slimy SNAKE!

(SIR PENT enters, wrapped in his cape.)

SIR PENT

You called?

DANDY

You bet I called, you rapacious repti-

WONDER WEED

Uncle Pent! Uncle Pent!

(DAISY and DANDY gasp.)

(SIR PENT and the WONDER WEED embrace.)

(We hear the BULLDOZER lurch into gear.)

SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN

Ahhhooomba!

SIR PENT

Wasn't me!

DANDY

Well, if it wasn't you...

(Spot on DAISY. SHE twists her petals, closes her eyes, listens, then whispers to SIR PENT.)

SIR PENT

The blossom of the seed you gave reminds me, Daisies can be brave.

(Confused ONLOOKERS gape in amazement.)

(SIR PENT drops his cape, spreads his WINGS.)

HELLMORE

Dra... dra... dragon!

(SIR PENT gathers a giant BOUQUET of all the FLOWERS and WEEDS in the garden.)

DANDY

Don't forget me!

WEEDS

And me! And me! Over here!

ROSE

And ME!

(SIR PENT thrusts the BOUQUET under MEGAMORE's nose.)

ONLOOKERS

Awww.....

(From the center of the bouquet, DAISY flails her way forward.)

DAISY

(to Megamore)

We are here to... cheer you up!

MEGAMORE

No one has ever given me aAh...Ah...Ah... Ah... Ah...

(We hear the BULLDOZER closing in.)

(SIR PENT turns MEGAMORE to face the BULLDOZER.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

AH...CHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

(FADE TO BLACK.)

(We hear a BULLDOZER crashing, CITIZENS shouting.)

(Lights slowly up on Aunt Dee's porch.)

(AUNT DEE sits with MEGAMORE. DUNMORE and EVERMORE (in handcuffs) sit sullenly on the side.)

(FLORALEE speaks at a podium.)

FLORALEE

Yes, so much has happened since the "Sneeze heard round Megapolis" which saved our garden from the Bulldozers... and changed Megapolis forever!

(Applause.)

(MEGAMORE musters a weak smile, waves.)

FLORALEE (CONT'D)

And now, meet our brand ... new ... Mayor!

(Thunderous applause as AUNT DEE walks to the podium.)

AUNT DEE

I don't remember running for Mayor, but thanks to your write in campaign, here I am, delighted that my Vision inspired you, but determined to step down. Because my Garden needs me more...

(FLOWERS and WEEDS embrace and cheer.)

AUNT DEE (CONT'D)

(pulling out a 'wish list')

However, before I resign, here is a wish list that I would like to share. First of all, the Glof course will be restored to a city park! Where my nephew and his fraudster friends can work as gardeners... once they get out of jail.

(Wild applause.)

(AUNT DEE continues to pantomime her speech as the music for “Spirit of the Garden” begins...)

(TREE suddenly springs to life! HE speaks as AUNT DEE pantomimes her speech.)

TREE

Yes, in the years since that magical spring, the sun sets on a bustling new Megapolis, with rooftop gardens, windmills, solar panels and community gardens...

DANDELION

Filled with wild flowers and wonder weeds...

DAISY

Dreamers and believers...

ROSE

(hugging CRABGRASS)

Hardy perennials and wild medicinals! Fodder for our chickens out back...

(AUNT DEE, removes her jacket, then plants a sign: “Aunt Dee’s Community Garden Cafe.”)

AUNT DEE

(speaks at the podium)

And to conclude... don’t forget your vegetables!

(EVERYONE grabs gardening tools, then digs in!)

SONG: “THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN”

THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN GROWS
IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY
THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN KNOWS
EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED, HERE COMES A MIRACLE

EVERY FLOWER TELLS A STORY
EVERY FLOWER TELLS A TALE
BEYOND THE POWER AND
THESE DREARY CITY STREETS
HERE COMES A MIRACLE
DON’T LET THAT HIGH RISE GET YOU DOWN
HOLD ON MEGAPOLIS
SOMETHING’S GROWING UNDERGROUND
AND I CAN HEAR IT SINGING...

HIP HIP HOORAY, HERE COMES A MIRACLE
 HIP HIP HALLELUIA, IT'S A BRAND NEW SPRING
 WINTER'S ALMOST OVER
 LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN SING

DAISY AND DANDELION

EVERY FLOWER HAS A PURPOSE
 HAS A PURPOSE AND A PLAN
 AND IN THE CENTER IS A TENDER MYSTERY
 WE MAY NEVER UNDERSTAND

DAISY

WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES AND LISTEN
 ABOVE THE TRAFFIC AND THE NOISE
 I CAN ALMOST HEAR THE SPIRIT SINGING

(We hear the Spirit singing 'Ahoomba!')

COMPANY

HIP HIP HOORAY, HERE COMES A MIRACLE
 HIP HIP HALLELUIA, IT'S A BRAND NEW SPRING
 WINTER'S ALMOST OVER, LISTEN.....!

BENEATH THE STREETLIGHT
 BESIDE THE BUS STOP
 HERE COMES A MIRACLE
 UP THERE ON THE ROOF TOP
 BESIDE THE NEWS STAND
 BELOW THE SIDEWALK, BETWEEN THE CRACKS
 WHERE THE WEARY CITY FEET WALK

A TENDER SEED IS GROWING UNDERGROUND
 AND EVERY WHERE THE GARDEN GROWS
 CONCRETE CANNOT KEEP US DOWN
 HIP HIP HOORAY
 HERE COMES A MIRACLE, HIP HIP HALLELUIA
 IT'S A BRAND NEW SPRING
 WINTER'S ALMOST OVER
 LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN... SING!

THE END