

Daisy and The Wonder Weeds

A Musical Fantasy

by

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CHARACTERS

NOTE: 11 actors can double 22 roles; OR individual actors can play all roles.

FLOWERS:

DAISY: wildflower with a long 'wish list'

VIOLET: Daisy's outspoken bestie, well-meaning, but accident prone

LADY ROSE: Queen of the Flowers, mourns her long lost companion, dear old Garlic

TREE: believes the Spirit of the Garden STILL grows in downtown Megapolis

FLOWER #1: Lilac (in Spring) and Cone Flower (in Summer)

FLOWER #2: Tulip (in Spring) and Daylily (in Summer)

FLOWER #3: Daffodil (in Spring) and Dahlia (in Summer)

WEEDS:

DANDELION: Champion of the Wild Weeds

CLOVER: Dandelion's side kick

CRABGRASS: cowboy with a crush on Lady Rose

NETTLE: prickly Warrior of the Wild Weeds

BURDOCK: has sticky spikes like velcro

MILK McTHISTLE: wears a kilt

MILKWEED: sings in a mariachi band with the MONARCHS

RAGWEED: pops up uninvited

HUMANS:

AUNT DEE: retired teacher, gardener, dismayed by over-development of Megapolis

MEGAMORE: rogue developer, Aunt Dee's duplicitous nephew with severe allergies

MAYOR AGELESS EVERMORE: lunged into politics after a failed wrestling career

HELMORE: Megamore's minion

JOSEPH: photographer for Glossy Gardening, flamboyant friend of Aunt Dee

OTHERS:

CROW: watches over all, with ambiguous motives

HONEY BEE: generous and ready to help

DOUBLED CHARACTERS:

TREE can double as BURDOCK and RAGWEED

CROW can double as McTHISTLE

HELMORE can double as JOSEPH

MEGAMORE can double as CRABGRASS

VIOLET can double as HONEY BEE

FLOWER #1: (f) Lilac, later Cone Flower, can double as MAYOR EVERMORE

FLOWER #2: (m or f) Tulip, later Daylily can double as TOUR GUIDE

FLOWER #3 (f) Daffodil, later Dahlia, can double as BANK TELLER

SETTING

Aunt Dee's Garden

Downtown Megapolis

The Gloff Course

Mayor Evermore's Office

SONGS

1. "Intro: Spirit of the Garden""/Welcome to Megapolis" - Company
2. "When Lilacs are in Bloom" - The Flowers
3. "Windy Days" - Daisy, Tree and Flowers
4. "Weeds!" - Weeds and Flowers
5. "Get the Picture" - Megamore, Mayor Evermore, and Helmore
6. "Keep Wishing" - Daisy and Dandy
7. "Always Enough" - Rose and Company
8. "Why Why Why do the Wild Weeds Come?" - Daisy, Flowers, Tree, and Weeds
9. "Chemical Nightmare" - Nettle, Flowers and Weeds
10. "I'll Be Back" - Crabgrass and Weeds
11. "Power of a Flower" - Violet
12. "My Favorite Intention" - Dandy, Daisy, and Company
13. "Spirit of the Garden- Company

**SCENE ONE: INTRO “SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN” AND
“WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS”**

In mythical Megapolis, somewhere between Oz and Your Home Town, a solitary sunbeam falls on DAISY as she wakes from winter’s sleep. A majestic TREE and SPRING FLOWERS slumber nearby in the pre-dawn light. Daisy stretches luxuriously, then pauses to listen...

We can almost hear MYSTERIOUS SINGING on the breeze.

SONG: INTRO TO “SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN”

COMPANY
(barely audible singing)

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!

DAISY
(excited, knocking on Tree’s trunk)

Knock knock!

TREE
(opening one eye)

Who’s there?

DAISY
It’s me, Daisy. I just popped up and...

TREE
Hurray! A brave little Daisy has come to ...volunteer!

DAISY
I’m sorry, Mr. Tree, there must be some mistake. I don’t remember volunteering for anything, but I was wondering. Do you hear mysterious singing on the breeze?

TREE

Trucks on the boulevard? Yes. Sirens on the avenue? All the time. But singing on the breeze? No. Not since they chopped down our woods next-...Wait! Wait! Could the Spirit of the Garden still grow in Megapolis?

(Suddenly, we hear a door SLAM. Elderly AUNT DEE, dressed in her best spring suit, strides down the garden path, exits the gate then heads downtown.)

(CROW perched nearby, glides after her across bustling boulevards and noisy city streets, not to protect, but to spy.)

(Welcome to rush hour in Megapolis where beloved landmarks disappear overnight, replaced by high rises and box stores. Where anxious CITIZENS line up to buy "Fresh Air" at corner dispensers as the light at the crosswalk flashes, "Run for your life!")

SONG: "WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS"

CITIZENS

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

(Swept into the crowd, Aunt Dee frowns at Megamore Towers looming overhead. Confused, she looks right, then left.)

TOUR GUIDE

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

AUNT DEE
(protests)

No, I was born here!

TOUR GUIDE

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

CITIZENS

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS
WELCOME TO OUR HONK HONK,
BEEP BEEP GRIDLOCK CITY
WELCOME TO OUR NEW IMPROVED MEGAPOLIS

AUNT DEE

NOW THE MUSEUM IS A BRAND NEW CASINO
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 MISTER MEGAMORE
IT HAPPENED OVERNIGHT

AUNT DEE

ONCE WE HAD LEAFY STREETS
BUT WHERE DID THE TREES GO
WE HAD A LOVELY VIEW, A LOVELY GAZEBO

CITIZENS

NOW THERE'S A CONDO
WHERE THERE USED TO BE A VIEW
AND THANKS TO MISTER MEGAMORE
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO

(MR. MUCH MUCH MEGAMORE enters triumphantly with HELMORE, his minion who always carries a white handkerchief in case Megamore sneezes.)

MEGAMORE

WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS
WELCOME TO OUR DOWNTOWN CORE

CITIZENS
(angrily)

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

HELMORE

HE'S GOT PLANS FOR MORE

CITIZENS

AND ANOTHER SPRAWLING STRIP MALL

MEGAMORE

I'VE GOT MALLS GALORE

CITIZENS

AND ANOTHER AND ANOTHER
AND ANOTHER AND ANOTHER

AUNT DEE

Nephew Megamore! What have you done to our city?

MEGAMORE

I'm a real estate developer. Idevelop.

AUNT DEE

You over-develop! Where's our park? Our museum? Our gazebo?

(Helmore tugs on Megamore's sleeve then points at
Crow staring at them from his perch nearby.)

MEGAMORE

(nervously glances at his watch)

Oops, gotta go! Meeting with Mayor Evermore about her re-election. I'll visit this afternoon.

(Megamore and Helmore flee.)

AUNT DEE

(calling after him)

Not today, nephew. Glossy Gardening Magazine is coming for a photo shoot! To celebrate my ...retirement....!

(Weary, Aunt Dee sits on a nearby bench, then spies DANDELION growing at her feet. Dandelion waves and winks. Cheered, Aunt Dee enters the bank, then exits with an envelope in her hand. She joins the Citizens on the Boulevard.)

CITIZENS (CONT'D)

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

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

AUNT DEE AND CITIZENS

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

(SPOTLIGHT on Daisy in the garden.)

DAISY

HOLD ON, HOLD ON MEGAPOLIS!

TREE

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

TREE AND AUNT DEE

A TENDER SEED IS GROWING UNDERGROUND
AND EVERYWHERE THE GARDEN GROWS

COMPANY

CONCRETE CANNOT KEEP US DOWN
WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS WELCOME TO OUR
HONK HONK BEEP BEEP FREEWAY CITY
WELCOME TO OUR BIG BRAND NEW MEGAPOLIS
DON'T LET THAT HIGH RISE GET YOU DOWN
MEGAPOLIS IS MY HOME TOWN
WELCOME TO MEGAPOLIS, MY HOME! HONK HONK
BEEP BEEP CONCRETE CITY

(END OF SONG)

SCENE TWO: “WHEN LILACS ARE IN BLOOM” AND “WINDY DAYS”

Lights up on Aunt Dee's overgrown downtown Garden in full bloom, still beautiful despite rotting logs, untrimmed hedges and ivy-covered walls.

We see an ornate Garden Gate near a street light stage left. From the porch of Aunt Dee's modest Victorian house, a path leads to the Lily Pond, stage right, where Tree basks in the sun. A tree house nestles in Tree's branches.

Looming in the background, Megamore Towers.

SPRING FLOWERS proudly display their new blossoms; a DAFFODIL bursts into bloom amid TULIPS and LILACS.

Daisy, now in full bloom, fluffs her radiant petals, then nudges VIOLET sleeping nearby. .

DAISY

Rise and shine, little Violet! My name is Daisy and I just popped up. Will you be my-

(OOF! A flying plastic bag hits Daisy in the face.
She flails. Violet struggles to free her.)

VIOLET

I'll save you, Daisy!

(Violet struggles to free Daisy, to no avail. ROSE, Queen of the Flowers, enters then dabs her eyes with a handkerchief. Anxious Flowers curtsey.)

TULIP

(whispers to Daffodil)

What ails our Lady Rose?

DAFFODIL

(whispers)

She mourns her faithful companion, dear old garlic.

LILAC

Dear old Garlic, who protected her from pests every spring since ...forever?

DAFFODIL

This year, our dear old gardener forgot to plant dear old Garlic. In fact, she forgot to plant a lot of things.

ROSE

(pointing at a conspicuous bare patch)

EGADS! Is that a bare patch on our almost perfect lawn?

(Rose swoons. Flowers frantically fan her.)

FLOWERS

(cacophony of protest)

It's a scandal! This shouldn't be happening!! Where is our gardener? Bring more mulch!!

ROSE

(staggering to her feet)

I must be brave! Glossy Gardening arrives any minute! Places everyone!

(glaring at flailing Daisy)

Violet, do something with that...that...Daisy! That bag must go!

(Flowers parade like Ziegfeld Follies as Violet chases Daisy into the audience.)

SONG: "WHEN LILACS ARE IN BLOOM" (SHORT)

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 cough.)

FLOWERS

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN GARDEN
WHEN YOU HEAR THE SONGBIRDS SING

DAISY
(flailing)

Help!

FLOWERS
(ignoring Daisy)

IT COULD BE 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

(Violet tackles Daisy; they roll across the lawn.)

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

(Whisper among themselves as Rose inspects them.)

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

Keep smiling!

(Rose and Flowers don rose-tinted glasses, then pose.)

FLOWERS AND ROSE

WHEN PHOTOGRAPHERS COME CALLING
FROM GLOSSY GARDENING MAGAZINE
DESPITE THE ZANY WEATHER
WE'VE BEEN HAVING,

(Lights up on Daisy, now completely wrapped in plastic despite Violet's valiant efforts. At the last minute, Violet pulls Daisy into the flower 'arrangement.')

FLOWERS AND ROSE (CONT'D)

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL,
BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN SPRING

(END OF SONG)

ROSE

Say 'Bees!'

FLOWERS

Bees!

(Enraged Flowers SHRIEK and WAIL all at once.)

FLOWERS (CONT'D)

What is that ...that Daisy doing here? An ordinary wildflower! She'll ruin our Photo shoot! We'll never make the cover of Glossy Gardening again!

DAISY

(After a struggle, Violet finally frees
Daisy)

Careful!...That's my petal...Ouch! Oh! ... Finally free! At last! Thank you, Violet! I didn't know life under a plastic bag could be so bleak. And by the way, do you hear voices on the breeze?

VIOLET

Nope.

DAISY

(wilting a little)

Oh, well. We can still be friends, can't we?

VIOLET

(gushing, overjoyed)

Yes!Yes! That would be wonderful! I should warn you. I'll probably be your ONLY friend besides Tree. He loves everyone.

(Daisy and Tree exchange a friendly wave.)

VIOLET

I'm very helpful, you'll see. Do you believe in fairies? They're hiding under that rock over there near the pond. And don't mind the heritage perennials. They can be such snobs! Just because they've been established here since...since... forever.

(Haughty flowers mock Daisy from their beds.)

DAFFODIL

Why would Glossy Gardening Magazine want to photograph a common wild flower.

TULIP

Who hears voices?

(Hurt, Daisy turns away.)

VIOLET

(to the Flowers)

I doubt she hears voices, that's a little far-fetched. I'll ask.

(to Daisy)

Daisy? What exactly... do you hear?

(We hear a brief Intro to: "Spirit of the Garden.")

DAISY

(after a moment)

Voices. On the breeze. Very mysterious.

(Flowers roll their eyes as if to say, "See?")

DAISY (CONT'D

(attempting to change the subject)

Did you know that this very morning Tree hypothesized that the Spirit of the Garden still grows in-

LILAC

Downtown Megapolis? What a fairy tale!

DAFFODIL

(mockingly)

An urban myth!

TULIP

What do your 'voices' say?

DAISY

I wish I knew. I'll add it to my list.

(Daisy pulls out a wish list; it unfurls to the ground.
She writes; haughty flowers LAUGH.)

SONG: "WINDY DAYS"

FLOWERS
(singing)

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

TREE
(breathing deeply, to Daisy)

Pay them no mind, Daisy; you blew here on the wind for some wonderful reason.

DAISY
(hugging Tree)

Maybe that's why I love windy days.

(She sings)

WINDY WINDY DAYS
I LOVE THESE WINDY WINDY DAYS
WHEN EVERY BIRD AND BEE IS REARRANGING
THE WHOLE WIDE WINDY WORLD IS AMAZING

ON THOSE WINDY AFTERNOONS
WHEN CLOUDS COME BOUNCING LIKE BALLOONS
I WISH THAT EVERY FLOWER AND TREE
THAT'S SINGING WOULD WISH WITH ME

WAY UP HIGH, WISH I COULD SEE
A CLEAR WINDY SKY FLYING OVER ME
WINDY SKIES OF BLUE
WON'T YOU PLEASE COME TRUE
I WISH PATIENTLY ON WINDY DAYS LIKE THESE
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, listens. We hear buzzing bees, bird song, sirens and traffic.)

DAISY

AND ON WINDY WINDY DAYS LIKE THESE
HOW I WISH I COULD HEAR SWEET HARMONIES
CITY SIDEWALK SYMPHONIES
WITH HUMMINGBIRDS AND BUMBLEBEES
DEEP DOWN I KNOW MY WISH WOULD GROW...

DAISY

IF ONLY YOU WOULD WISH WITH ME

(Flowers shake their heads, 'No!')

NO?...OH. OH HOW I WISH YOU'D WISH WITH ME
WINDY WINDY SPRINGS
PLEASE GIVE MY WINDY WINDY WISHES WINGS
HELP ME GATHER MY WISHES IN A BIG BOUQUET
THEN THROW THEM TO THE WIND AND WATCH THEM
FLY AWAY, ONE BRIGHT WINDY DAY

(END OF SONG)

ROSE

But where is our Gardener? She's been gone for far too long!

LILAC

Leaving a bare patchon our almost perfect lawn!

SCENE THREE: “WEEDS”

With a haunting CAW, Crow lands on lawn.

DAFFODIL

(petulant)

Crow! Where have you been?

(Crow ignores her as he preens his feathers. Tree
clears his throat.)

TREE

Let's try that again. With all due respect Sir Crow, have you seen our beloved Gardener?

CROW

Your gardener roams the city streets,
She sighs and seems so sad.
Seeking someone's garden.
It's an off-ramp now, too bad.

(Stunned silence.)

ROSE

(gasps)

Another garden ...gone!?

(A high rise pops up on the Megapolis skyline,
casting a shadow on the lawn.)

TREE

Why didn't you guide her home?

CROW

(angrily)

I owe your gardener nothing!
Where was she the day
They chopped down my own mother's tree
When your gardener was away.

(Aunt Dee enters, talking on her flip phone.)

AUNT DEE

(upset)

But, Florry, why didn't you tell me the bank foreclosed? And you can't afford a lawyer?
Please don't worry; we'll think of ...something.

(Closing her flip phone, Aunt Dee studies the
Megapolis skyline for a moment, then musters a
smile. Turning to address the Garden, and the
audience, with forced bravado.)

AUNT DEE

Announcement everyone! I know you don't understand me, but I like to pretend you do.
I'm sorry I neglected you for so long. But now that I'm retired from teaching, I have
wonderful plans for-

(distracted by the sight of the bare patch)

Oh dear! Is that a bare patch on the lawn? No time, Jacob is almost here. Time for tea!

(She enters the house. Dismayed Flowers GASP.)

DAFFODIL

Time for tea? But that dry compacted bare patch on our scraggly lawn needs seeds!

ALL FLOWERS

If our gardener doesn't garden, then all we'll get is...

(Without warning, a dashing young DANDELION
pops up on the bare patch near Tree.)

DANDELION

Weeds!!

(He ROARS, then LAUGHS.)

FLOWERS

AGHHHHHHH!

DANDELION

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

DAISY

I am not!

(Dandelion spins round to spy Daisy in a 'Tony
meets Maria' moment. We hear violins, tinkling
bells.)

DANDELION

I...I...Hello! You are so lovely to meet me! I mean, I.....

DAISY

Who are you and why are you here?

(Little Clover pops up near Dandelion.)

CLOVER

We came on a very important mission. We're here to-

(Dandelion muffles Clover.)

DANDELION

What Clover means is...I heard you call.

DAISY

Who called?

DANDELION

You called.

DAISY

I didn't call.

(Violet pulls Daisy aside.)

VIOLET

(whispering)

Daisy, when you were wrapped in that plastic bag...you called a lot.

DAISY

I... Oh.

(to Dandelion)

Well, I may have called, but I did not call ...you!

DANDELION

And here I am! A Dandelion for a Daisy in distress! Call me 'Dandy'.

(Dandy pries up some hardened earth, frowns.)

DANDY

Hard pan, just as I suspected. But help is on the way! Welcome my companions, the Wild Weeds!

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//

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

MILK MCHISTLE

BET I CAN CLEAN YOUR LIVER
MAKE IT CLEANER THAN A WHISTLE
I THROW HAMMERS IN THE HIGHLAND GAMES
I'M A SCOTTY MILK MCHISTLE

DANDY

AND HE DOES IT IN A KILT!

BURDOCK

IN JAPAN THEY CALL ME 'GOBO'
I'M STICKY AND I'M SWEET
I'LL STICK TO YOU LIKE 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

WEEDS

HOLD YOUR GROUND! HOLD YOUR GROUND!
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

(CRABGRASS pops up in cowboy boots. Spying
 Rose, he 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

WE GROW WHEREVER WE PLEASE

(Aunt Dee greets JOSEPH, photographer, at the gate. He aims his camera at the Flowers who pose in an 'arrangement.' To their horror, the Wild Weeds lean in to be photographed.)

WEEDS

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//

(END OF SONG)

JOSEPH

Say...'Bees!'

ALL

"Bees!

(Flowers SHRIEK and tug their petals in helpless rage. Despite herself, Daisy applauds, then pretends to swat a fly.)

AUNT DEE

How embarrassing, Joseph. Truth is, I've been under the weather lately. I will take care of these invasive weeds... immediately!

(Aunt Dee grabs shears to cut off Dandy's head. Suddenly, HONEY BEE throws herself at Aunt Dee's feet begging in pantomime for Dandy's life.)

JOSEPH

Wait! That's Dandelion! Nutritious and delicious. Might be just what you need.

(Joseph offers a dandelion leaf; she chews, smiles.)

AUNT DEE

Joseph! I never imagined you would have a soft spot for...weeds.

JOSEPH

All God's creatures, that sort of thing. But let's consult the Noxious Weed List...

(flips pages of his rule book)

Got any Gout Weed?

AUNT DEE

No gout weed.

JOSEPH

Purple Loosestrife? Or, God forbid....giant.... hogweed!?!?

(McThistle YELPS, jumps into Crabgrass's arms.)

AUNT DEE

All clear!

JOSEPH

(grasping some Nettle)

I say, let them grow! Stinging Nettle makes wonderful 'pick-me-up tea.'... Ouch!

(Weeds exhale. Defeated Flowers wilt.)

AUNT DEE

Let's brew some now! I can't wait to share my secret.

(she lifts the ENVELOPE from her bag)

And my wonderful plans for the garden.

JOSEPH

Come spill the tea!

(As the sun sets, Weeds happily hum 'diggy diggy don'. Dandy waves to Daisy; she ignores him. Violet, swatting an unseen bug, clumsily hits herself, then waves to Dandy.)

SCENE FOUR: "GET THE PICTURE"

Lights up on the Gloff Course, across the hedge from Aunt Dee's Garden.

Helmore carries a bag of long styrofoam clubs. Megamore and Mayor Ageless Evermore practice swinging invisible balls.

MAYOR EVERMORE

Ah, Springtime in Megapolis! Who knew that fraudulently foreclosing on unsuspecting homeowners, then bulldozing entire neighborhoods to build shoddy over-priced condos could be... so much fun!

(she swings then shouts.)

More!

MEGAMORE

What was Megapolis before I redeveloped it, Helmore?

HELMORE

(trembling)

A once-livable city now in the grip of rampant over-development...?

MEGAMORE

(shouting into Helmore's ear)

You'rewelcome! No more unsightly, unsanitary tree-lined neighborhoods to block my highways, impede my off ramps! Swelling! Spreading! More, more, more! And I never sleep!

(he swings with a crazed grin, then hesitates)

Although, foreclosing on Mrs. Florentino and her kids was... unpleasant. All that weeping and wailing. Just because my Aunt and I picnicked in her garden when I was a boy.

MAYOR EVERMORE

(crouching preparing to lunge)

You're getting soft, Megamore. I don't like 'soft.' However, I must congratulate you. Bulldozing City Park to put up a...

MEGAMORE

(admiring his domain)

Private gated gloff course with armed guards-

MAYOR EVERMORE

...was genius, pure genius! My mega-donors love it. And now they want...
(she swings)

More!

MEGAMORE

(swings)

More and More! Ahah...ah....!

(Megamore's face contorts as he feels a sneeze coming on. He drops his club, then stumbles blindly across the course. Helmore, waving a white handkerchief, chases him.)

HELMORE

(Panting, to the audience)

Beware! His 'Demolition Sneeze' can flatten city blocks!
When he sneezes, you better hit the dirt!
You'll be gone if you do... NOT!"

(Megamore BLOWS his nose. All jump.)

MEGAMORE

(timidly)

I should mention one little thing, Mayor. The Citizens of Megapolis areunhappy. Enraged, actually. We might want to rethink your campaign slogan..

MAYOR EVERMORE

But... 'Too much is never enough!' is so catchy! In a menacing, predatory way.

MEGAMORE

When I was downtown this morning, I noticed that citizens are questioning your greedy grabbing policies. We might need a new...approach.

MAYOR EVERMORE

Those miserable misguided citizens of Megapolis! they don't understand what a fabulous future we have planned. Maybe you're right. To get re-elected, I need a feel-good project that screams ' I Care!' ...Which I don't. But I do know the perfect location for our next winning project.

(Mayor Evermore points at Aunt Dee's garden.)

MEGAMORE
(gulps)

...My Aunt's garden?

HELMORE

Slight glitch, Madame Mayor. This morning, his elderly Aunt Dee paid off her mortgage in full. Legally, she owns that property free and-

MAYOR EVERMORE
(grabs Helmore by the collar, growls)

I have plans for that garden, and 'legal' has nothing to do with it, get the picture?

SONG: "GET THE PICTURE"

MAYOR EVERMORE

I'M BORED WITH ALL OUR MEGAMALLS
OUR SHOPPING MARTS, OUR MEGASPRAWLS
I'M BORED AND NOW I HAVE A BIGGER PLAN

YES, WE'RE GOING RESIDENTIAL
CAUSE WE SEE THE HUGE POTENTIAL
IN THE FUTURE OF THE URBAN CONDOVAN

WHEN WE BULLDOZE ALL YOUR HOUSES
YOU WON'T HAVE TO MOVE TOO FAR
YOU CAN BUY A BRAND NEW CONDOVAN
AND MOVE INTO YOUR CAR

MEGAMORE AND MAYOR

GIMME GIMME MORE MORE MORE
GREED IS GOOD AND MORE IS BETTA,
GIMME GIMME MORE MORE MORE
GREED IS GOOD CAUSE I SAY SO
GIMME GIMME MORE MORE MORE
DON'T FORGET OUR FAVORITE MOTTO
IF WE WANNA MAKE A BUNDLE
THEN THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO

HELMORE

BUT, WHERE WILL THEY PARK?

MEGAMORE

IN A HIGH RISE PARKING LOT.

HELMORE

HOW MANY DO YOU PLAN TO BUILD?

MAYOR EVERMORE

WE PLAN TO BUILD A LOT

HELMORE

A THOUSAND?

MEGAMORE

MORE!

HELMORE

A MILLION?

MAYOR EVERMORE

MORE! A BILLION WOULD BE NICE
WE'LL NAME IT SOMETHING
REALLY COOL, LIKE 'PARKING PARADISE'

MEGAMORE

WE'LL BUILD A WORLD OF CONDOVANS
NEW CONDOVANS FOR ALL
THEN PARK THEM IN OUR NEW GARAGE
A THOUSAND STORIES TALL

MEGAMORE, MAYOR, AND HELMORE

GET THE PICTURE? GET THE PICTURE?
OOOEEOH HONK HONK HONK HONK
GET THE PICTURE GET THE PICTURE
OOWEE OH OUT OF MY WAY! OUT OF MY WAY!

MEGAMORE

IF I GO BROKE WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT

WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT, WILL YOU BAIL ME OUT?

MAYOR EVERMORE

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

MEGAMORE AND MAYOR

GIMME GIMME MORE MORE MORE
DON'T FORGET OUR FAVORITE MOTTO
IF WE WANNA MAKE A BUNDLE
THEN THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO
IF WE WANNA BUILD A PARKING LOT
THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO

GONNA NAME IT 'PARKING PARADISE'
THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO
GET THE PICTURE GET THE PICTURE
GET THE PICTURE GET THE PICTURE
GET THE PICTURE GET THE PICTURE
THAT GARDEN HAS TO GO

(The Mayor and Megamore exit dancing. Helmore
is left holding the bag.)

(END OF SONG)

SCENE FIVE: "KEEP WISHING"

Violet, hoping to help Daisy hear her mysterious 'voices,' twists Daisy's petals in all directions, making a terrible mess.

When Violet turns to wave to the Weeds, Daisy secretly fluffs her petals, to avoid hurting Violet's feelings.

VIOLET

Wow! Your champion has grown. Oh, dear. Your petals have come undone...

DAISY

Dandelion is not my champion! Pretend he's just another...'wild edible.'

(Dandy pops up near by. A gust of wind pushes Daisy into his arms.)

DANDY

Whoopsie Daisy! See? Even the wind conspires to bring us together! Whatever wish your wish may be...the Daisy flower can wish on me.

DAISY

Why would I wish on an invasive wildflower?

VIOLET

Daisy? Aren't you technically an invasive 'wildflower'?

DAISY

(glares at Violet)

Technically...maybe. Tree calls me a ...'volunteer.'

VIOLET

Dandelion is too.

(to Dandy)

Daisy wants to know if you hear....

DANDY

Singing on the breeze? What does it sound like exactly?

(Echoes of "Spirit of the Garden")

DAISY

If you must know, like rain drops tinkling in the boundless blue...Or bluebells babbling in the great beyond.

(swiveling like a satellite dish.)

But mostly it sounds like'Aaaaahooooombaaaaa! Aaaaahooooombaaaaa!'

VIOLET AND DANDY

Wow.

DAISY

(to Dandy)

Perhaps you've heard the rumor that the Spirit of the Garden still grows in Megapolis?

VIOLET

(laughing)

For the last time, Daisy! Spirits don't grow.... downtown!

DANDY

But if they did, they'd probably say something important, like 'your petals are...perfect.'

DAISY

(brightening)

Perfect?

DANDY

For picking up high end frequencies. Where as I hear-

DAISY

You hear it too?!

DANDY

No. I hear 'tha-thunk, tha-thunk' rising from my roots. My roots are very vigorous.

(Daisy sneaks a glance at Dandy's manly leaves.)

DAISY

I just wish I knew what it all means.

DANDY

Wait! Did you wish on me?

DAISY

No.

DANDY

Did too.

DAISY

Did not. Why would I wish on a silly dandelion when I have my own star right there.

(Daisy points at a streetlight nearby.)

DANDY

Sorry to break the news, but...that's a street light.

(Daisy rubs her eyes, then squints.)

VIOLET

Truth is, Daisy, you probably need... glasses.

DAISY

That explains why my wishes rarely, if ever, come true.

(throwing her list to the ground.)

I'm giving up wishing by July!

DANDY

No, you can't! You mustn't!

(Dandy accidentally drops his own folded wish list.
Daisy picks it up, begins to read.)

DAISY

(overjoyed)

You have a wish list too?!

DANDY

(Grabs the list, tucks it in his pocket.)

Of course, but this wish list is of no interest whatsoever to anyone....ever!

DAISY

(glancing at her own list, blushing)

For a 'noxious invasive,' you're surprisingly wise. Do your wishes always come true?

DANDY

Not always.

DAISY

Then, why do you keep wishing?

SONG: "KEEP WISHING"

DANDY

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

DAISY AND DANDY

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

DAISY AND DANDY

WE'LL NEVER KNOW UNTIL WE TRY
 JUST HOW HIGH A WISH CAN FLY
 SOMETHING WONDERFUL'S BOUND TO COME TRUE
 AND THAT'S WHY I KEEP WISHING

COMPANY

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

(END OF SONG)

(Gazing into each other's eyes, they drop their lists.
 Crow swoops down to read both lists.)

CROW

(to the audience)

What those wildflowers fail to mention
 At the top of these two lists
 Both Daisy and Dandelion
 Wish to kiss and to be kissed!

(He crumples the lists, tosses them, then exits.
 Dandy leans close to Daisy, hoping for a kiss.
 Suddenly, Crabgrass enters, pulls Dandy aside.)

CRABGRASS

Hey! You ARE planning to tell Daisy the whole story, right?

DANDY

Of course!...I am her champion!

CRABGRASS

Champion, my crabgrass.

(Crabgrass and Dandy bow to Tree as SUMMER
 FLOWERS burst into bloom.)

SCENE SIX: SUMMER FLOWERS IN BLOOM

Spring Flowers remove spring hats, then don SUMMER FLOWER hats (Daylily, Cone Flower, Dahlia) in a showy display. Spying the Weeds, the summer flowers SHRIEK!!

DAHLIA

(pointing at the Weeds)

They grow with wild abandon!

CONE FLOWER

They don't grow where they should!

DAY LILY

If those Wild Weeds keep on blooming...

(RAGWEED pops up in the Weed Patch.)

RAGWEED

There goes the neighborhood!

FLOWERS

Aghhhhhh!... Ragweed!!

RAGWEED

I flew here on the wind! For somewonderful ...reason?

(Violet shrinks in Ragweed's shadow.)

DAISY

That doesn't give you permission to barge in...uninvited!

VIOLET

(flailing out from under Ragweed)

Like you did, Daisy?

DAISY

(grudgingly)

Okay, to be fair, Weeds aren't ALL bad. Everybody loves the Bees that Clover brings, don't we?

(Flowers reluctantly nod.)

DAISY

But now it's....'bzz... bzz ... bzz' all the livelong day! Unrelenting. And Senior Milkweed, though we enjoy your bilingual Monarch butterfly mariachi band from Mexico...

MILKWEED

(to his Monarch companeros)

O la, gracias!

DAISY

De nada. But truth be told, you are driving the Delphiniums to distraction!

(softening, to Crabgrass)

And as for YOU, Crabgrass! Over the summer, I have come to admire your crabbiness. We all know where we stand with Crabgrass, do we not?

(The Flowers nod grudgingly.)

DAISY

(turning on Dandy)

But when YOUR companions steal Violet's SUN, things have gone one flower too far!

MILKWEED

Oh yeah?

DAHLIA

Yeah!

NETTLE

Says who?

DAY LILY

Says us!

WEEDS

Hot house... petunias!

(Weeds and Flowers square off.)

FLOWERS

Invasive...pests! Who invited you?

DANDY

The pilgrims on the Mayflower!

(SPLAT. Dandy is hit with flying mud. A brawl erupts; the mud fight intensifies until...)

SCENE SEVEN: "ALWAYS ENOUGH"

ROSE

Enough!

SONG: "ALWAYS ENOUGH"

ROSE

(sings)

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

FLOWERS

(speak, aghast)

It is?

ROSE

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

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

(shout simultaneously)

Never!

ROSE

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!

VIOLET
(speaks)

Tell us, your Blossomness!

ROSE

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

ROSE
(speaks)

And I'm quoting verbatim!

(sings)

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING
WHILE 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

FLOWERS

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

(Lights up on Megamore and Mayor Evermore on the Gloff course.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

ONLY LOSERS PRETEND THAT THEY CARE
ONLY LOSERS GIVE MORE THAN THEIR SHARE

MEGAMORE

ONLY FOOLS THINK THAT SHARING IS NICE, HA!
THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS SONG

MEGAMORE AND MAYOR

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 THEAH... AH... AH...!

(The Mayor thrusts a hanky under Megamore's nose just in time.)

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

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

WEEDS

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

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

WE'LL BE BLOOMING! WE'LL BE BLOOMING!

(Ragweed leans aside; sunlight falls on Violet.)

FLOWERS AND WEEDS (CONT'D)

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

NEVER ENOUGH!

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

ALWAYS ENOUGH! ALWAYS ENOUGH!
WHEN YOU SHARE!

(END OF SONG)

MEGAMORE AND MAYOR

That's... ridiculous!

ROSE

I declare a truce between the Flowers and the 'Wild ...Edibles.'

(Weeds cheer! Flowers muster feeble smiles.)

CRABGRASS
(bowing to Rose)

Wise words from the Queen of Angiosperms in full sun or dappled shade, sandy soil or mixed clay-

(Dandy pulls Crabgrass aside.)

DANDY

Hey! Are you flirting with Our Lady Rose?

CRABGRASS
(pulls out a poem)

I'll never replace dear old Garlic....butI wrote a poem.

DANDY

That's romantic, ole buddy, but why not wait a while? Let love... grow.

CRABGRASS
(with a heavy sigh)

What am I thinking? She's a prize-winning antique Rose, whereas I'm just a ...a...

DANDY

A gluten-free protein-packed super grain that feeds millions in West Africa, and soon, the world. In Poland, your seeds are baked into muffins!

CRABGRASS
(brightening)

Muffins? Really? Well that's all very fine, Mr. Dandy, but when are you gonna tell Daisy the truth?

DANDY

The minute you tell Lady Rose!

(At an impasse, they clumsily bow to Tree.)

SCENE EIGHT: "THIS IS MY HOME"

Laughing Weeds sweep Aunt Dee into a circle dance to the music of 'WEEDS.'

Suddenly, Megamore, brandishing Glossy Gardening Magazine, barges through the Garden Gate.

MEGAMORE

Enough!

(He points at the Weeds, then at the cover.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)
(sputters)

Look at this cover! This is not a lawn! It's a ...a...meadow! Overrun with noxious, pernicious, ugly, disgusting, invasive...wicked...weeds !!

(Aunt Dee grabs the magazine, holds it high.)

AUNT DEE

Congratulations everyone! We made the cover again!

(The Garden CHEERS!)

MEGAMORE

Face facts, Aunt Dee: This property is worth millions. But it is painfully obvious that you can no longer manage it. Time to sign it over to ...moi!

AUNT DEE

Never!! I've seen what you've done to this city!

(Two HIGH RISES pop up on the Megapolis skyline.)

MEGAMORE

Ah....ah....ah.....!

(Tree offers Megamore a hanky. Megamore BLOWS his nose, then does a double take. In the Weed patch, Nurse Nettle dons a white coat with clip board, then quizzes her students.)

NETTLE

You see before you a greedy man who is... unwell. Symptoms?

MILK MCHISTLE

(raising his hand)

Anxiety? Sleep deprivation?

BURDOCK

Acute allergies? Exacerbated by the impulse to control.

CLOVER

Everyone and everything?

NETTLE

Prognosis?

WEEDS

(all speak at once)

Hopeless ...Lost cause....Too late!Beyond all help...!

(Defeated, Nettle removes her white coat. Daisy watches in despair as the Weeds turn away.)

AUNT DEE

(to Megamore)

What happened, nephew? Yes, it was heartbreak when your parents departed on that Tickle Ball Tour, never to return. But didn't we have a good life together? Remember swimming in the pond? Chasing butterflies? Dancing with fireflies?

(Megamore blocks his ears.)

MEGAMORE

I don't want to remember!

AUNT DEE

(angry)

Of course you don't. Because we were happy until you met your fancy dancy Mayor and her fancy dancy friends. Why did you chop down the woods?! For a Gloff course? I'm angry and upset and-

SONG: "THIS IS MY HOME"

AUNT DEE
(sings)

OH, WHAT A STUBBORN IMPOSSIBLE MAN
HOW CAN I TELL HIM SO HE'LL UNDERSTAND
THIS IS MY HOME, I BELONG HERE
AND THIS GARDEN KNOWS
IT'S HERE THAT I MUST STAY
THIS IS MY HOUSE, I WAS BORN HERE
ALL AROUND ME IS THIS SONG

AUNT DEE, DAISY, VIOLET, TREE

AND IF YOU LISTEN WITH YOUR HEART
YOU'LL HEAR IT SAY THIS IS MY HOME
THIS IS YOUR HOME TOO
THIS IS MY HOME I BELONG HERE
AND THIS GARDEN GROWS AROUND ME EVERY DAY
THIS IS MY HOME, I WAS BORN HERE
ALL AROUND ME IS THIS SONG
AND IF YOU LISTEN TO YOUR HEART
YOU'LL HEAR IT SING... THIS IS MY HOME!

(END OF SONG)

MEGAMORE

Touching. But you can't change my mind with sentimental dribble! Get rid of those weeds by tomorrow morning, or I'll send Helmore to spray weed killer!

AUNT DEE
You wouldn't dare!

MEGAMORE
Just watch me!

(Megamore exits, slamming the Gate. Daisy and the Weeds watch helplessly. Trembling, Aunt Dee lifts the ENVELOPE from her pocket, then exits. Crow follows behind.)

SCENE NINE: “WHY DO THE WILD WEED COME?”

Panicked flowers turn on Daisy and the Weeds.

FLOWERS

Weed Killer?? Tomorrow morning?
(Pointing at Daisy)
It's your fault!

SONG: “WHY DO THE WILD WEEDS COME?”

FLOWERS

THEY TANGLE AND MANGLE
THEY SMOTHER AND STRANGLE
THEY'VE TAUNTED US ALL OF JULY
THEY'RE HIDING A SECRET, A TERRIBLE SECRET
AND NOW, WE WANNA KNOW
WHY WHY WHY WHY WHY
DO THE WILD WEEDS COME?
WHY DO THEY BLOOM? WHY DO THEY GROW?
WHY WON'T THEY LEAVE? WHY WON'T THEY GO?
(pointing at Dandy)

HE CAME CAUSE YOU CALLED HIM
WELL THAT'S WHAT HE SAID

DAISY

HE NEGLECTED TO MENTION
THAT WE'D END UP DEAD
I WAS YOUNG AND NAIVE
BARELY OUT OF MY BED

FLOWERS

WE WARNED YOU ALL SUMMER
YOU NEVER PAID HEED
WHILE YOU SANG SILLY SONGS WITH THAT
DANGEROUS WEED

DAISY

YOU SANG THEM TOO!

FLOWERS
(pointing at Rose)

WHAT ELSE COULD WE DO?
ROSE INSISTED THAT WE SHARE THE SONG

VIOLET

ROSE INSISTED, BUT WE SANG ALONG

DAISY
(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 LAUGH
AND SING THE DAY AWAY?

FLOWERS

WITH THEIR DIGGETY DON AND THEIR DIGGETY DEE
THEY SING TO DISTRACT US SO WE'LL NEVER SEE
WHAT THEY'RE HIDING BENEATH ALL THOSE
PRICKLY LEAVES
AND WE'LL NEVER KNOW NOW
CAUSE WE'RE LOST! VERY LOST!
YES, WE'RE HOPELESSLY LOST IN THE WEEDS!
SINGING WHY?
SINGING WHY WHY WHY WHY WHY WHY
SINGING WHY? SINGING WHY WHY WHY-

TREE
(speaks)

Enough!!!

(sings)

THEY SLAVE AND TOIL TO HEAL THE SOIL
AND THEN THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY
BUT FIRST THEY'LL MOCK YOUR BEST LAID PLANS
AND THEN THEY'LL STEAL YOUR SUN
FORGIVE THEM IF THEY BREAK YOUR HEART
BEFORE THEY'RE WORK IS DONE

TREE

Daisy, I called the weeds.

DAISY

You?!

TREE

I was lonely. I wanted companions. But the soil was compacted, so I called for help.

DANDY

It's 'natural succession.' First, we pull up nutrients from the soil, then welcome small shrubs, then larger shrubs and eventually...

NETTLE

A wood!

CRABGRASS

A grove!

CLOVER

An urban pocket mini-forest inspired by the Japanese biologist Akira Miyawaki.

(Flowers GASP, as Weeds lift their leaves to reveal
baby SEEDLING TREES. Aunt Dee enters with a
watering can, then waters the seedlings.)

AUNT DEE

Oh, look! There's an apple, a pear, a plum and a cherry and birches and maples and one little Red Oak.

(At the mention of Red Oak, Crow swoops down,
kneels before the seedling, then wipes away a tear.)

AUNT DEE
(offering a nut to Crow)

I'm so sorry I couldn't save your Mother's tree on that terrible terrible day.

(Crow ignores her as he weeps.)

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

TREE

SHIMMERING GROVES
OF GLIMMERING LEAVES
OAK AND ASH AND HICKORIES

WEEDS

WE COME TO SING THE TREES

TREE

DAPPLED DANCING CANOPIES
BEECH AND BIRCH AND MAPLE TREES

WEEDS

WE COME TO SING THE TREES

TREE

MIRACLES AND MAJESTIES
PINE AND PEAR AND POPLAR TREES

WEEDS

WE COME TO SING THE TREES

TREE

TOWERING EMERALD TREASURIES
EVERGREENS AND ELDER TREES.

(END OF SONG)

DAISY

But why didn't you tell us?

CRABGRASS

(anxiously glancing at Rose)

Because, eventually, these saplings will probably shade out your almost perfect lawn.

ROSE

(sarcastic)

That needs constant watering and ear-shattering mowing all summer? I think we'll adapt, dear Crabgrass.

(Crabgrass beams and heaves a relieved sigh.)

DAISY

(to Dandy)

Dandy can you ever forgive me? You don't have to pretend to be my 'champion' any more.

DANDY

But, I want to be your-

ROSE

(interrupting, to the Garden)

Weed killer!! That's what we face tomorrow!! Who's with us?

FLOWERS AND WEEDS

We are!

NETTLE AND CONE FLOWER

Bring it on!

BURDOCK AND DAYLILY

Anytime!

SCENE TEN: "CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE"

The Garden prepares for battle. Commander Rose adjusts her WWI helmet.

ROSE

Battle stations, everyone!

HONEY BEE

(admiring Rose's battle gear)

Oh, m'Lady! You look so ...fierce!

ROSE

(brandishing her thorn sword)

I was wild once! Beware these... thorns!

(to Crow and Honey Bee)

Can we count on the Birds and the Bees?

HONEY BEE

The Bees are at your command m'lady! As for this guy...

(Crow silently preens his feathers. Gazing at Rose with mute admiration, Crabgrass pulls out his poem. But before he can recite, Megamore enters followed by Helmore in a full Hazmat suit. Helmore lugs a tank of WEED KILLER, emblazoned with skull and crossbones.)

MEGAMORE

Spray them all! Flowers and weeds! Then my Aunt will change her tune.

(Helmore clumsily aims the nozzle at Megamore who flails, then flees.)

Watch out, you idiot!

(Helmore waddles in, then prepares to spray.)

NETTLE

Hey you!

(Helmore, confused, pauses.)

HELMORE

Who..me?

NETTLE

Yeah, you!

SONG: "CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE"

NETTLE
(sings)

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

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'?

WEEDS

STOP IT! STOP IT!

VIOLET

IT'S STICKING TO YOUR HAIR
IT'S STICKING TO YOUR SLEEVE
IT LINGERS IN THE AIR

WEEDS

REMEMBER NOT TO BREATHE
ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING
IT COULD BE JUST THE FLU
BUT THEN AGAIN, NO TELLING WHAT
THOSE CHEMICALS CAN DO!

DAISY

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

ALL

NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
HEYA HEYA HEYA HEYA

CLOVER

RUNNING DOWN THE DRAIN
IN THE RUN OFF, IN THE RAIN

BURDOCK

IN THE RIVERS AND THE STREAMS
IN YOUR NIGHTMARES, IN YOUR DREAMS THISTLE
IN THE WATER THAT YOU DRINK
THE WATER'S TURNING TOXIC

ALL

CAN'T YOU HEAR THE FROGGIES

AND THE FISHES SCREAMING
STOP IT! STOP THOSE CHEMICALS!

WEEDS

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...

(Helmore aims the nozzle at Rose. Crabgrass dives in front of her. Helmore sprays him mercilessly.)

ALL

WE WILL RESIST NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE,
NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA

(Crow rips off Helmore's mask, then wings away with it. We hear BUZZING. Helmore swats unseen Bees. We hear "Caw! Caw! Caw!" Looking up, Helmore winces, then wipes his eyes.)

ALL (CONT'D)

YOUR CHEMICAL NIGHTMARE
NA NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
//HEY YA HEY YA HEY YA HEY YA//

(Helmore flees, wheezing and sneezing.)

END OF SONG

ALL

Cheers!

SCENE ELEVEN: "I'LL BE BACK"

ROSE

(dubbing Crabgrass with her thorn sword)

Arise, Sir Crabgrass. You saved my life!

CRABGRASS

I gotta share the glory. Crow dive-bombed the enemy from above.

(Rose attempts to 'Knight' Crow, who swats away her sword.)

CROW

He killed her tree and left no trace. But Crows do not forget a face.

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

Not the war.

(We hear the ROAR of Bulldozers. Another High Rise casts its shadow on the lawn.)

(Without warning, Crabgrass suddenly collapses.)

ROSE

Oh, no! Crabgrass has turned...yellow!

CRABGRASS

(gasping for breath)

Weed killer... finally got me...

(Everyone gathers round Crabgrass.)

DANDY

Don't die, 'ole buddy! Our garden needs you! The world needs you!

(Rose kneels beside him. Crabgrass feebly lifts his poem from his pocket.)

CRABGRASS

(coughs)

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!

ROSE

Oh, Digitaria Ciliaris! I never called you by your latin name! And now it's too late.

(We hear MARCHING MUSIC.)

DAISY

(to the audience)

Did you know that in 1849, the U.S. Government imported Crabgrass to be forage for ruminants?

(Flowers and Weeds exchange puzzled looks.)

BURDOCK

Ruminants: cows and sheep... Anyone who eats grass.

(Louder OOO's and AHHHHS)

VIOLET

And that's not all! Tell them, Crabgrass!

CRABGRASS

(enjoying the attention)

If there's an oil spill, I can suck it up!

ROSE

(through her tears)

It must be said! Crabgrass is a fearless phytoremediator!

CRABGRASS

I am?

(Rose nods lovingly.)

CRABGRASS (CONT'D)

(invigorated, staggering to his feet)

So you think you've seen the last of Crabgrass? Well, I'm here to tell you...

SONG: "I'LL BE BACK"

CRABGRASS

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
YOU CAN 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

HE'LL BE BACK
ONE SUNNY DAWN
HE'LL BE BACK CAUSE
NO ONE STAYS TOO DEAD FOR LONG

CRABGRASS

I WILL RETURN ONE HAPPY MORN
I'LL RISE AGAIN TO TELL THE WORLD
I'VE BEEN... REBORN!
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 SHOUT AND WITH A YELL
I'LL SAY FARE THEE WELL
BUT I'LL BE BACK

WEEDS

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

CRABGRASS

WHEN I RETURN AGAIN,
I'LL EMBRACE MY ROSE AND THEN
(speaks, handing his bandanna to Rose)
'This love will never end!
(sings)

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

(END OF SONG)

(The Garden weeps as mournful Weeds carry
Crabgrass away.)

SCENE TWELVE: "POWER OF A FLOWER"

Megamore storms into the garden.

MEGAMORE

(to Aunt Dee)

You think you're so smart! My minion Helmore had to be decontaminated!

AUNT DEE

Your face looks red and inflamed. You should come by for an herbal facial...

MEGAMORE

I don't want an.... herbal facial!

(Brandishing a spray can, Megamore seeks a target
for his rage.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

This Tree is coming down! And so is every tree in Megapolis that ever made me sneeze!

(Aunt Dee stands defiantly in front of Tree.)

AUNT DEE

This is my property now. I paid off my mortgage in full! And here is the receipt!

(She empties her pockets. Nothing. The Garden
gasps)

MEGAMORE

There you go again imagining things! Confess! You didn't 'retire' from teaching! You
were fired 'Aunt DEE-mentia!'

AUNT DEE

That's not true! I'm just distracted and overwhelmed... I...

MEGAMORE

Pack your bags, Auntie! Tomorrow morning, I'm moving you into a 'home'!

(Aunt Dee kicks Megamore in the shins.)

(Joseph enters in a rage.)

JOSEPH

Get out, you no-good greedy garden grabber! Dee has friends who love this Garden. We won't let you steal it!

(Joseph hustles Megamore out the gate, then slams it.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D
(to Aunt Dee)

I was going to invite you to tomorrow's Ground Breaking Ceremony. But now you're not invited!

(to Joseph)

And neither are you!

(Megamore blows his nose, then storms away.)

AUNT DEE

What's wrong with me, Joseph? I had the receipt in my pocket. Do I have dementia?

JOSEPH

I don't think so. I think you have something called 'solastalgia'.

(reading from his cell phone)

'Solastalgia: intense grief at the thought of losing your home.' No wonder you're distracted and depressed.

AUNT DEE

Which reminds me; I'm so sorry that 'Glossy Gardening' went ...bankrupt.

JOSEPH

(Pulls out a magazine, gazes at it.)

At least we got one last cover of beautiful Dahlia.

(All eyes on Dahlia, who proudly fluffs her petals.)
(Daisy watches with grudging admiration.)

JOSEPH

(fighting tears)

I didn't know how much I would miss this magazine 'til it was gone.

(Aunt Dee bursts into tears. Together they weep and wail, then weep and wail some more.)

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
(MORE)

(drying his tears)

That felt good. Which reminds me! Last night, I had a wonderful dream! It gave me an idea! But first, let's go look for that receipt. Where did you last see it....?

(Joseph and Aunt Dee enter the house.)

(Violet struggles unsuccessfully to arrange Daisy's petals. Daisy closes her eyes, listens... Nothing. In despair, she pushes Violet away.)

DAISY

Stop trying, Violet! Don't you see? For all we know, this is the last Garden in Megapolis! But what can we do? We're nothing but helpless, hopeless... flowers!

VIOLET

Daisy, stop it right now! Little ones are listening! We can't let despair win the day!

SONG: "POWER OF A FLOWER"

VIOLET

IT SOUNDS SO SIMPLE AND YET
IT'S ALL TO 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

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
THE POWER OF A FLOWER

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

(END OF SONG)

SCENE THIRTEEN: "MY FAVORITE INTENTION"

A full Moon rises over an anxious Garden.

All GASP to see Dandy whose seeds are now a puffy globe.

TREE

(addressing the garden)

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

DAHLIA

Ghost Busters!

DAY LILY

The fire department!

TREE

The Spirit of the Garden.

CONE FLOWER

But no one's heard from the Spirit of the Garden since they chopped down the woods.

DANDY

Ask Daisy. She hears it all the time.

DAHLIA

(sarcastic)

Daisy?!! I trust the 'Spirit of the Off ramp' more than a silly wildflower who hears 'voices.'

(All eyes on Daisy. After a tense moment...)

DAISY

Dahlia! Why don't you just... go back to bed and let the Wildflowers and the Wild Weeds save this garden!

(After a moment of shock, the garden LAUGHS.

Dahlia hangs her head, then ducks behind a fern.

Dandy helps Daisy arrange her petals 'just so.'

DAISY (CONT'D)
(to Dandy)

Who does she think she is? A prize-winning perennial on the cover of Glossy Gardening Magazine?

DANDY

Yeah, well, it was a great photo, you must admit. But you've got every reason to be angry. Even if Dahlia is stressed ...because of the heat.

(Daisy glowers as she takes her 'wish stance.')

DAISY

Everybody's stressed because of the heat. That's no reason to...to...

(Tree lifts his branches to the Moon.)

TREE

We call upon the great green Spirit of the Garden that grows us all! Speak, Spirit! How can we save our garden?

(We the familiar musical intro to "Spirit of the Garden" with TINKLING BELS, ANGEL CHOIRS, COSMIC CHIMES.)

DAISY

(in a trance)

'When you're hungry, call for pizza! 'Pizza Karma,' we deliver!'

(Dandy catches Daisy as she faints.)

DANDY

Whoopsie, Daisy!

DAISY
(regaining consciousness)

What.. went wrong?

(Violet points at Dahlia sobbing behind a fern.
Daisy listens with a heavy heart.)

VIOLET

Maybe...your angry words scared the Spirit away? Maybe if you talk to Dahlia? Please try, Daisy. It means life or death for our garden, our city, the world! No pressure.

(Violet gently pushes Daisy towards Dahlia.)

DAISY
(to Dahlia)

Dahlia! Please don't cry! I'm ...sorry I yelled at you. I know you're stressed because of the heat and...I guess I'm ...jealous cause you're a prize winning perennial on the cover of Glossy Gardening Magazine whereas I'm just an ordinary wildflower.

DAHLIA
(between sobs...)

Normally I love full sun, but this summer it's been relentless! And daisies grow almost anywhere! Can I be a 'wildflower'?

(They share an awkward hug.)

DAISY
We're gonna need all the flower power we can get.
(to Dandy)

Did I blow it? Is it too late?

DANDY
Keep Wishing, Daisy! This time...focus on your favorite intention.

SONG: "MY FAVORITE INTENTION"

DAISY
(sings)

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

DANDY
(speaks)

I can see it! Keep wishing!

DAISY (CONT'D)

AND JUST BEYOND THAT FLASHING BILLBOARD
WISH I COULD SEE THE VIEW AND JUST BEYOND
THAT SMOGGY HAZE

WISH I COULD SEE A SKY OF BLUE
I'M A DREAMER ON A MISSION
TELLING ANYONE WHO'LL LISTEN
IT'S TIME TO WISH A WISH AND SEED THE SPRING

DANDY AND DAISY

WE MAY BE WILD AND CRAZY
BUT WE'RE WISE ENOUGH TO KNOW
EVERY LITTLE WISH WE WISH IS A SEED WE SOW
THAT'S BOUND TO GROW

(Dandy reaches up, gathers his puffy seeds into a bouquet, then offers it to Daisy. She hugs Dandy's seeds to her heart, then turns to the audience.)

DAISY

Will you wish with me?

DAISY AND DANDY

CALLING ALL YOU WIDE-EYED DREAMERS
CALLING EVERYONE WITH WINGS
ALL YOU STARRY-EYED BELIEVERS
AND EVERYONE WHO SINGS
WON'T YOU LIFT YOUR SHIMMERING BLOSSOMS TO
THE SUN
//HELP US WISH THIS WORLD A GARDEN BLESSING ...
EVERYONE//

(END OF SONG)

(Daisy closes her eyes, then releases Dandy's seeds into the air. We HEAR tinkling bells, celestial strings, etc. Daisy's eyes pop open.)

DAISY

(doing a cheer routine)

Boomalacka Boomalacka sis boom bam.
If you wanna save the garden, heal the greedy man.
Boomalackaa Boomalacka, honey bee.
You're gonna wanna brew a lot of Wonder Tea!

ALL

We're gonna wanna brew a lot of Wonder Tea?

DAISY

You're 'gonna wanna brew a lot of Wonder Tea.

(Stunned silence; the garden digests this message.)

CLOVER

Who knew the Spirit of the Garden was acheerleader.

NETTLE

What difference does it make? The Greedy Man is still a hopeless case.

(Daisy is furious as Weeds turn away.)

DAISY

Just one flower-picking minute! All you so-called 'wild medicinals' with 'healing powers' this and 'healing powers' that... What happened? Are you giving up? Without even trying? We need a miracle here!

(Weeds, ashamed, stare at the ground.)

DAISY

What if, just a suggestion, we gather all our leaves and come up with a great tasting tea that could, oh, I don't know, make some magic? Shake things up in his heart chakra? Improve his digestion?

(Suddenly, we hear a familiar voice behind a shrub.)

CRABGRASS

That's ridiculous! I like it....

DAISY

Who said that? Who said that? ... Crabgrass?

ROSE

Oh joy! Is our dear Crabgrass returned to us?

CRABGRASS

(with swagger and African print bandana)

Told you I'd be back! And here I am: 'Crabgrass, brother of Fonio, super grain!'

(The Garden celebrates the risen weed.)

SCENE FOURTEEN: MAYOR EVERMORE'S OFFICE

Megamore and Mayor Evermore raise a congratulatory glass.

MAYOR EVERMORE

I have to hand it to you Megamore. Despite your fawning ineptitude, somehow the bulldozers are booked, my campaign speech is pitch perfect, and the media is ready to capture the delicious moment you steal the garden from your dear Aunt DEE=mentia..

(Mayor Evermore pumps the air with an ambiguous salute, which she attempts to control.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

The audience will love it! Casual cruelty is always a crowd pleaser. Besides, nobody likes seniors; they walk too slow. With any luck, she'll put up a fight while you remind the press how much you love her, and how she needs help and how foreclosure is for her greater good, Bla bla bla. What's wrong, Megamore. You look 'pensive.' I don't like 'pensive.'

(The Mayor grabs Megamore from behind, lifts him into the air, then throws him to the floor, places a knee on his back.)

MEGAMORE

(gasping for breath)

I'm not sure my Aunt has dementia. She seemed pretty sharp last time we argued.

(Megamore pounds the floor in surrender. The Mayor releases him.)

MEGAMORE (CONT'D)

At least I found her a seniors' home near by. With potted plastic plants. She loves plants...

MAYOR EVERMORE

(filing her nails)

Oh, didn't I tell you? Illegal aliens have been found hiding in the seniors' homes all over the city! It's a crime! It shouldn't be happening! That's our story and we're sticking to it. By the time everybody catches on, we will have bulldozed all the seniors' homes. Then, we'll bulldoze all the orphanages.

MEGAMORE

What will happen to the ...orphans?

(Mayor Evermore has a full-blown tantrum.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

Why why why are you asking me stupid questions?? And why are you suddenly worried about homeless orphans? I'm the victim here! You're out to get me! Since the beginning! Because nobody loved you and you were abandoned as a child, Mr. MegaBORE!

MEGAMORE

I wasn't abandoned. My Aunt took me in...

(The Mayor regains her composure.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

Of course she did. Relax. All those homeless orphans will be adopted by homeless seniors who will get a discount on brand new Condovans that they'll park in our High Rise Garage. Our master plan, remember? "Greed is good..."

MEGAMORE

(sings half-heartedly)

"And more is better..."

SCENE FIFTEEN: IN THE GARDEN

Daisy gathers petals and seeds from flowers and weeds, then stirs them into a cauldron. Honey Bee offers a spoonful of honey.

NETTLE

Nettle leaves for allergies.

BURDOCK

Burdock roots for tummy toots.

DANDELION

What's a tummy toot? ...Never mind. Add Dandelion for indigestion.

DAISY

(checking her list)

And for anxiety, we need some Mugwort! Any Mugwort in the garden? No?
(to Crow)

We'll have to order out.

(Before Crow departs, he secretly slips a mystery ingredient into the cauldron, stirs, then tastes. He ruffles his feathers, then smiles.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

Hey, you Crafty Crow! What did you slip into that tea?

CROW

Bitter tears? Some apple seeds? A dash of lemon zest?
I'll never share my recipe! You'll simply have to guess!

DAISY

I love lemon zest!

(She reaches out. Crow shrinks away.)

And I know you love this garden.

(Daisy exits. Crow grabs a pen in his beak, then writes a note, attaches it to the cauldron, then exits.)

SCENE SIXTEEN: WONDER WEED TEA

A searing Sun rises over bustling preparations for the Ground Breaking ceremony. Over the podium, banner reads: "Paved Paradise High Rise Parking Lot."

Joseph enters, adjusts the name tag on his multi-colored coat. He speaks into his cell phone..

JOSEPH

Joseph Rosenblatt here, streaming LIVE from Aunt Dee's downtown Garden, with our new podcast, "Make it Stop."

(Mayor Evermore enters, followed by Megamore who stumbles.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

Try to keep up, Megamore!

JOSEPH

Mayor Evermore! Our listeners want to know: why did the Bank of Megapolis fraudulently foreclose on entire neighborhoods then bulldoze them all?

(The Mayor pushes past him to the podium.)

MAYOR AGELESS EVERMORE

(at the microphone)

Free parking! For 30 full minutes! Isn't that what Megapolis wants? What Megapolis needs?

JOSEPH

We interrupt our corrupt Mayor to announce Breaking News! Our very own Aunt Dee has occupied her Tree House and refuses to come down! Aunt Dee! What is your message to our listening audience?

(High in her tree house, Aunt Dee in her tie-dye tee shirt and camouflage pants, unfurls a banner reading: "No! No! We won't go!")

AUNT DEE

You can inform my garden-grabbing nephew that I'm not... I'm not, no, I won't!

(CHEERS of encouragement. Crow leads Joseph to the cauldron.)

JOSEPH

(reads)

"Greedy man: Drink this...No extra sugar or artificial flavoring."

(Joseph tastes the tea, smiles.)

(At the podium, the Mayor thrusts a script in front of Megamore.)

MAYOR EVERMORE

(snarls in his ear)

Read this and get it right.

MEGAMORE

(reads, to the crowd)

Uh...The truth is...My Aunt has dementia and forgot to pay her mortgage. And though everyone makes mistakes, the Bank is...foreclosing.

AUNT DEE

That's a lie! I paid my mortgage in full!

MAYOR EVERMORE

(yelling)

Then where is the receipt?

(We hear three loud CAWS! All eyes on Crow high above.)

(Crow swoops down, dive bombs Megamore, who dives under the podium. Crow drops an ENVELOPE into Aunt Dee's hands. She rips it open, and waves the receipt)

AUNT DEE

Here is the lost receipt!

(Weeds and Flowers glare at Crow.)

CROW
(to Daisy and Dandy)

So I stole it. I was angry. I got over it.

MAYOR EVERMORE

You can't stop me! Or my bulldozers!

(Enraged, Mayor Evermore grabs the receipt from Aunt Dee, then stuffs it in Megamore's mouth. Megamore waves his arms wildly, then points to his throat.)

THE CROWD

He's choking!

(Aunt Dee performs the Heimlich procedure on Megamore who spits out the paper. Joseph hands Aunt Dee the Wonder Tea; she offers it to Megamore.)

AUNT DEE
(tenderly, to Megamore)

Here, drink this!

(Megamore guzzles the tea.)

MEGAMORE
(his face contorts)

Ah...Ah....Ah...

JOSEPH

Watch out! Here comes his demolition sneeze!!

(Everyone hits the dirt as Megamore SNEEZES his demolition sneeze. Lights BLACK OUT.)

(Under a flickering spotlight we see highlights of Megamore's childhood memories: splashing in the pond, chasing butterflies, dancing with fireflies. He wakes as the lights come up. No sign of the Mayor or the Bulldozer. Megamore beams at his Aunt.)

MEGAMORE

You saved me.

AUNT DEE

Of course. We're family.

MEGAMORE

Suddenly I feel warm and safe and...and my allergies have disappeared! All this time I blamed the Trees, when I was allergic to my own... greed!

(He drinks the last drops.)

What is in this tea?

(Joseph shrugs. Flowers and Weeds bow, smile and wave.)

MEGAMORE

(smiling at Joseph and Aunt Dee)

How can I make it up to you?

AUNT DEE

(pulls out a list that falls to the ground)

Glad you asked. I have here a list of wishes collected from friends and neighbors. Let's begin! Wish # 1: Restore every City Park you bulldozed in the past. And replant our woods.

(Aunt Dee reads the WISHES submitted by the AUDIENCE beforehand.)

SCENE SEVENTEEN: “THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN”

JOSEPH

(into his phone)

Yes, dear listeners, that was the day we turned it all around. Turns out, Megamore's Demolition Sneeze propelled Mayor Evermore and her Bulldozer into the neighboring zip code where she LOST her re-election, but returned to the wrestling ring as the Mad Mad Mad Ex-Mayor of Megapolis. She's deadly and we know it.

(listening to his ear buds)

Wait wait! News update: Megamore's parents, who disappeared on a Tickle Ball Tour long ago, have been spotted climbing out of a deep rabbit hole and are headed this way. Who knows, with years of therapy, perhaps they can be a happy family again. Let's wish them well.

(Lights up on Dandy, Daisy and the Weeds as they prepare to depart.)

DANDY

And so, before we go to grow meadows in Greater Megapolis, we have an announcement! Daisy and I wish to be perennial companions!

DAISY

In field or forest, on lawn or berm, wherever wildflowers bloom!

(More CHEERS and congratulations.)

DAISY (CONT'D)

(to Dandy)

May I sweep you into a leafy embrace?

DANDY

I've been wishing you would all summer long!

(Daisy sweeps Dandy into a smoldering WWII Victory Day kiss. It goes on for a while.)

DAISY

Violet! Come with us! We're wildflowers! We can grow almost anywhere.

VIOLET

Thank you, Daisy, but my roots are here.

(Violet reaches up to arrange one of
Daisy's petals...then hesitates)

It's time for you to arrange your own petals, Daisy.

DAISY

You are the best friend anyone could ever wish for.

VIOLET

Promise you'll be back?

DAISY

(hugs Violet close)

First thing next spring! With all those leafy vegetables!

FLOWERS

(answer all at once)

Leafy vegetables!?! NOOOOOOj! Do we have to?! Maybe we'll adjust....

SONG: "SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN /HERE COMES A MIRACLE"

TREE

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

COMPANY

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 ALLELUIA, IT'S A BRAND NEW SPRING
WINTER'S ALMOST OVER

LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN SING

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

DAISY

BUT WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES AND LISTEN
ABOVE THE TRAFFIC AND THE NOISE
I CAN ALMOST HEAR THE SPIRIT SINGING
HIP HIP HOORAY, HERE COMES A MIRACLE
HIP HIP ALLELUIA, IT'S A BRAND NEW SPRING
WINTER'S ALMOST OVER, LISTEN!

COMPANY

BENEATH THE STREETLIGHT, BESIDE THE BUS STOP
HERE COMES A MIRACLE
WAY 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 EVERYWHERE THE GARDEN GROWS
CONCRETE CANNOT KEEP US DOWN!

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

//LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN SING// AHH!

(END OF SONG)

(THE END)