

PHAEDRA Side 1

PHAEDRA.

Singing

And did those feet in ancient time,
Walk upon England's mountains green,
And was the holy lamb of God,
On England's pleasant pastures seen.

She beams, pulls a string and the wings flap.

And did the Countenance Divine,
Shine forth upon those clouded hills,
And was Jerusalem builded here,
Among those dark satanic –

PHAEDRA Side 2

PHAEDRA. Look at that. It's five to six.

JOHNNY. So?

PHAEDRA. I'm only the May Queen till six o'clock. After six, that's that. I'm just Phaedra Cox again.

JOHNNY. I won't think no different of you, I promise.

PHAEDRA. I can't believe that's one year ago. I was dead nervous before. Like I had a stomach full of squirrels. And the man walked along and he put his hand on my shoulder, and said my name into the microphone, and everyone started clapping. And they crowned me. I thought I was gonna faint. I rode on the winning float. Everyone cheering. Got chocolates. Flowers. I went home that night and put the crown on top of the telly. I went to bed and I thought, 'I've got a whole year now. Picture in the paper. All that ahead of me.' Not any more. Now I've only got five minutes. (*Pause.*) We should do something.

JOHNNY. What like?

PHAEDRA. I dunno. Something special.

JOHNNY. What would you like to do, Your Majesty?

PHAEDRA. I don't know. Think. Wait.
She goes over to the record player.
Do you want to dance?

JOHNNY. Not on your life.

PHAEDRA. Don't you like me? Liar. I seen you looking at me. You like me just fine.

JOHNNY. You should watch yourself. You should get yourself away, lass.

PHAEDRA. What if I don't want to? You can't make me. I'm still your Queen.

JOHNNY. Are you now?

PHAEDRA. Yes I am, gyppo. And as your Queen, I command you to dance with me.

He laughs.

JOHNNY. I don't dance.

PHAEDRA. You don't have no choice. I command you. It's a royal command. Come on, gyppo. Come on. Dance with the May Queen.

She puts on music.

She starts to dance.

She takes his hand, he stands up.

They dance together.

They stop, looking into each other's eyes.

Close.

Suddenly she turns and flees.