

VESPA
AN OPERA IN FOUR ACTS

Music and Libretto by

Don DiNicola

VESPA
AN OPERA IN 4 ACTS
MUSIC AND LIBRETTO BY DON
DINICOLA

CAST - CHORUS AND DANCERS

CHORUS - 8 Singers will cover all roles:
3 Sopranos, 2 Mezzo-Sopranos, 2 Tenors, 1 Bass

VESPA - A 13 year old girl - SOPRANO

RAE - VESPA's little sister - MEZZO SOPRANO

JOEY - A neighborhood boy who befriends VESPA - TENOR

QUEENIE - The Wasp Queen - SOPRANO

OPPYLON - The Spider - BASS

BOO - The Purple Mantis - TENOR

THE 2 BOYS - Two neighborhood bullies who are also RAE's
acolytes - 2 TENORS

BABY SPIDERS - 2 babies - 2 SOPRANOS

CHICKADEE - MEZZO SOPRANO

THE SINGING TREE - BASS

**ASSORTED BEES, WASPS, MOSQUITOS, DRAGONFLIES, BEETLES, LADYBUGS
AND MANTITEES** - CHORUS and DANCERS (Number of Dancers-TBD)

THE ORCHESTRA - piano, guitars, banjo, harp, percussion, flute,
oboe, clarinet

PROLOGUE

NARRATION

Welcome to the world of Vespa. Our story unfolds in a vacant lot where the children play. Behind the lot is a rundown old factory, with sign that says, "DBP INDUSTRIES - NO TRESPASSING - KEEP OUT!"

In the darkness, a voice calls out ...

Narration: "In the darkness, a voice calls out ..."

Recitative 1

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Hauntingly, but lively. Rubato ♩ = 130

f minimal vibrato

mf

Soprano [Queenie]

Ves - pa! Ves - pa! Ves - pa! Ves - pa is thir - teen years old. She lives in a bad neigh - bor - hood

Piano

f

p

10

Queenie

Where she's of - ten bul - lied by the boys. As - tute, sharp, she loves the out - doors.

Pno

mp

13

19

Queenie

Ves - pa! Ves - pa! Ves - pa! One day...

Pno

f

mf

Attacca

NARRATION "ACT 1 - SCENE 1

"Vespa is being taunted by two boys. Her sister Rae is hiding behind a tree, listening."

Busy Buzzy Vespa

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Sharp and nasty ♩ = 78

Mezzo-soprano [Boy 1]

Tenor [Boy 2]

Piano

ff minimal vibrato

Bus - y buzz-y Ves - pa talk - in' to the bees, writ-in' sil - ly sto - ries hid-in' in the trees!

[Vamp under narration]

f

8ba

Boy 1

Boy 2

Pno

Hav-in' con-ver-sa-tions with spi-ders in the air, ain't no-bod-y list-en-ing ain't no-bod-y there!!

Hav-in' con-ver-sa-tions with spi-ders in the air, ain't no-bod-y list-en-ing ain't no-bod-y there!!

(8)

LAUGHTER, HOOTS AND GUFFAWS.

BOY 1

I Guess ya just tooo good fa us Vespa!

BOY 2

Yeahhh, Teacha's pet, haha teacha's pet!

BOY 1

Where's ya made up friend? Ha!

BOY 2

I betcha she don't even haaave a real friend.

RAE

Puh! She's talking to her made up
friends again.

NARRATION:

We see Joey, a boy about Vespa's age, approach.

~ I DON'T UNDERSTAND ~

I Don't Understand

NARRATION: We see Joey, a boy about Vespa's age, approach.

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

6 Agitated ♩ = 96
f min. vib.

Heralding ♩ = 98 **Perturbed** ♩ = 106

Soprano [Vespa]
 Mezzo-soprano [Rae]
 Tenor [Joey]

I don't un-der-stand, what their prob-lem is!

Piano

ff *f* *mp* *ff* *mp* *f*

Vespa
 Joey

I know what you mean and I a-gree.

I don't let an-y-one put words in my mouth. Some-times those guys aren't ver-y nice.

Pno

mf

I Don't Understand

15 19

Vespa *mf* Wan - na come o - ver and hang out some?

Rae *ff* Well! *f* I'm glad! *mf* At least Ves - pa has one real friend! *f* Hmph!

Joey *mf* Sure. *f* Sounds like fun!_

Pno *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

24 27 A little spooky $\text{♩} = 84$ 31

Vespa *mf* I _____ can show you,

Rae *f* May - be_ he'll_ teach her some sense! Right.

Pno *f* *mf*

33 *mp* $\text{♩} = 90$ 38

Vespa
but _____ it has to be a se - cret, _____ just be-tween us two.

Joey
Not a prob-lem for me! No-bod-y pays much at - ten-tion to me, an-y-way!

Pno
mp *f*

42

Joey
They all think I just make stuff up too.

Pno

They both laugh.

NARRATION**ACT 1 - SCENE 2**

Later that day in a backyard ... Vespa and Joey are standing next to a large tarantula wasp, with Joey gently petting the wasp's head. The wasp is humming softly. Rae is on the other side of the yard, watching the scene from behind another hedge.

VESPA

You need to be super gentle with her.

JOEY

I see what you mean ... Can I touch her
if I'm very gentle and careful?

Rae is clearly horrified yet transfixed. She leans forward,
straining to hear a little better. Vespa whispers,

VESPA

Yes, but very gently.

JOEY

Does she have a name?

Vespa replies in a soft whisper,

VESPA

I call her Queenie ... just remember, no sudden moves.

JOEY

Of course, of course. She's a real beauty. I can see why she's so
special.

Joey coos, and Vespa joins in the cooing and petting party. Queenie quivers
ever so slightly and emits a soft faint humming sound as Vespa softly rubs the
underside of her chin.

VESPA

Pet her right here.

JOEY

Ooooh, that's a good girl.

VESPA

Very nicely done Joey.

NARRATION (Music underneath)

Vespa and Joey marvel as Queenie rises up in splendor and performs a slow ceremonial dance.

~ **QUEENIE** ~

Queenie

from *Vespa*

Narration: "Vespa & Joey Marvel..."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Regal but eerie ♩ = 103

Soprano
[Queenie]

[under narration: "Vespa & Joey marvel..."]

Piano

f

light accents in RH

mp



Queenie

7 *f* min. vibrato

Queen - ie queen - ay, in your dream - ay, buzz do was you

Pno

mp

mf



Queenie

12

in her dre ah - - - may? You should be too!

Pno

f

Attacca

I Didn't Know

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Conversationally ♩ = 108

Soprano [Vespa]
mf minimal vibrato *mp* 7
 Oh yes, and so much more. Watch, and fol-low us.

Tenor [Joey]
f minimal vibrato *mf*
 I ___ did-n't know that she could sing. So strange! What lan-guage is she speak-ing?

Piano
f *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vespa 12 *mf*
 Yes, it's so won-der - ful. Don't you just love the sound_ of it?

Joey
 It sounds fa-mil - i - ar but,

Pno.

Rae (spoken): I'm gonna need some help with this

Attacca

RAE

I'm gonna need some
help with this.

Recitative 2

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

With a sense of anticipation ♩ = 154

f minimal vibrato

Soprano
[Queenie]

Ves - pa and Jo - ey fol - low the Queen down a me - an - der - ing path,

Queenie

9 15

bring - ing them to a swamp like pond, fer - tile and fe - cund, full of life, en - er - gy!!

Queenie

24 30

ff more spoken *rit.* *dim.* *mf* A tempo *f*

Queen-ie flies a-head and joins with a cou - ple of like mind - ed wasps, who ap - pear to be friends!

NARRATION

As the Wasps mingle, we see the reflection of a giant tree in the pond. The tree starts coughing and clearing its throat in a way that conveys that it would like our attention. The Wasps continue to hover.

TREE

Ahem, ahem . . .

JOEY

Who is that?

VESPA

That's the welcoming tree. He sounds a little scary but he's a good egg ... just veeery old.

JOEY

I can see that.

NARRATION

The Welcoming tree is huge and gnarly and magical. The Wasps start to circle the tree and join in with the tree on a very buzzy sounding song.

~ IN THE COVER OF MY SHADE ~ &
 ~ TREE DANCE ~ &
 ~ DO YOU LIVE HERE? ~

In the Cover of My Shade

from *Vespa*

Narration: "The Wasps start to circle..."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Quietly majestic ♩ = 120

mp minimal vibrato

Vespa line: He always sings to the newcomers.

Bass [The Tree]

Piano

p

Good day to__ ya, bare - ly knew_ ya. Do ya do__ ya got it made?



9

Tree

Pno

mf

Did ya give__ ya, be ya see__ ya, don - ya tee - ya got it made? In the cov - er of my__ shade.

Attacca

Tree Dance

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Darkly mysterious ♩ = 116

mf

Soprano [Queenie]

(Im) - pos - si - (ble) (Im) - pro - ba - (ble) all (un) - stop - pa - (ble) it's (in) - (ev) - i - ta - (ble)

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

mf

(Im) - (pos) - (si) - ble so (Im) - (pro) - (ba) - ble all (un) - (stop) - (pa) ble it's (in) - (ev) - (i) - (ta) ble

Tenor 1

mf

all (un) - stop - pa - ble (in) - (ev) - i - ta - ble

Tenor 2

Bass [The Tree]

mf

Im - (pos) - (si) - (ble) It's Im - (pro) - (ba) - (ble) though un - (stop) - (pa) - ble in - ev - (i) - (ta) - ble

Piano

mf

Tree Dance

11 Tree leads: Mezzo leads: 19 Queenie leads:

Queenie
Will - men Will - men Will - komm wel - come. Will - kom - men Ve - ry!_ See how ___ they

S.
Tree leads: Mezzo leads: Queenie leads:
Ve - ry!_

M.S.
Tree leads: Mezzo leads: Queenie leads:
Will - kom Will - kom will - kom wel - come. A - - chra - ma - - cha - ma - ri._ See - - how

T.1
Tree leads: Mezzo leads: Queenie leads:
Will - kom - men Will - kom - men ma - - cha - mar - i._ See how ___ they

T.2
Tree leads: Mezzo leads: Queenie leads:
Ve - ry!_ See how ___ they

Tree
f Tree leads: Mezzo leads: *mf* Queenie leads:
Will - - kom ___ Will - kom - men. ma - - - mar - i._ See how they

Pno
Tree leads: Mezzo leads: Queenie leads:
Will - - kom ___ Will - kom - men. ma - - - mar - i._ See how they

Tree Dance

21 **Tree leads:** *rit.* ♩ = 102

28 **Queenie leads:** ♩ = 114

Queenie
fly! Ah - - - - - night. Here are three,

S.
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
Here are three. Here are three.

M.S.
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
fly! of light run through the night. Here are three. Please,

T.1
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
fly! Cir - cles of light, run night. Here are three, here are three, here are three.

T.2
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
fly! light, run night. Three are these.

Tree
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
fly! Cir - cles of light, they run through the night. Here are three.

Pno
Tree leads: **Queenie leads:**
8ba

Tree Dance

36

rit.....

Queenie ³² let _____ them _____ be. Trou - - - bled _____ are these _____ The _____

S. Let them be, let them be, let them be free. Woe _____ oft - en,

M.S. Let _____ them _____ be _____ free. Trou - bled _____ these. _____

T.1 Let them be, let them be, let them be free. not of - ten

T.2 Let these three be _____ free. not of - ten

Tree Let them be, Let them be. not of - ten

Pno ⁽⁸⁾ _____

Tenor 2 leads:

Tree Dance

41

Queenie leads:
45 ♩ = 90 *mf*

Bass leads:

Queenie
queen. But be - ware of Man - tes and Me - phi - ti - dae.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**
p

S.
seen in the land of Oh. Oh. Oh.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**
p

M.S.
queen. Oh. Oh. Oh.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**
p

T.1
seen land queen. Oh. Oh. Oh.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**

T.2
seen in the land queen. Oh. Oh.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**
p

Tree
seen land of the queen. Oh. Oh. Oh.

Bass leads: **Queenie leads:**
p

Pno
Sost. *Attacca*

Do You Live Here?

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Conversationally ♩ = 100

Soprano [Vespa] *mf* **6**
My pa - rents, have a house back there and I'm ex - pec - ted to ad -

Tenor [Joey] *f*
Wow! This is a su - per int' - rest - ing place. Do you live here, or back there?

Piano *f* *mf*

Vespa *f*
-just to life there. My fa - ther works night and day, he has no time for me or Rae, to him we're noth - ing more than a dis - trac - tion. And

Pno *f* *mf*

Red. Red.

Vespa **13**
mo - ther _____ takes whis - key in her morn - ing tea, ex - pects us to be qui - et and look pret - ty. And o - bey all of their rules. _____ But Queen - ie, _____
very lightly

Pno *mp* *mf*

3

20 *f* 24 *mf*

Vespa *f* is my real mom though and this is my true home. *mf* Not real - ly. The wasps are

Joey *mf* Do bees get a - long with wasps?

Pno *Red.*

29

Vespa al - ways try - ing to find a way to get the bee's ho - ney. We, I mean, the wasps need the pro - tein.

Pno

NARRATION

In the near distance, we hear a faint march-like rhythm. We can see a swarm of bees heading towards them. Vespa starts to suddenly display wasp-like characteristics. As soon as we become aware of it, so does she, and quickly moves to shake off the manifestation. Joey sees this and dismisses it without comment. Meanwhile the bees and wasps gather, then approach each other in a kind of standoff.

Bee Wasp Standoff

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "... a kind of standoff."

Animated & Combative ♩ = 124

ff minimal vibrato

9

Soprano 1

Out! Get out! Bad bees be gone. Pol - is - tes will not back down. Fly! _____

Soprano 2

Tenor

ff minimal vibrato

Not a chance! Bees _____ will fight! Bees en - dure!

Bass

Piano

ff

Bee Wasp Standoff

17

13

S. 1 Ves - - - pu - la nev - - er give ground! Out! Get out! Bad

S. 2 Bees, we'll

T. Ap - - - i - dae nev - - er give ground. We will

Bass Flee be gone or

Pno

f minimal vibrato *ff*

ff

19

S. 1 bees be gone! Out, out be - gone and nev - er re - turn!

S. 2 tear you a - part! Bees get thee hence, nev - er - more to re - turn not ev - er more!

T. not play nice! Bas - - - ta!

Bass minimal vibrato pay the price! Out! Be gone! Nev - er re - turn!

Pno

Bee Wasp Standoff

25

S. 1
Scat and fly, you take our ad - vice. Bees be gone! We'll not say it twice.

T.
Ves - - - pu - la, you'll pay the price. So dead!

Bass
Ves - - pu - la you'll pay the price. Flee be gone and nev - er re - turn!

Pno

32

S. 2
Too man - - y A - pis!

T.
More bees. More bees!

Pno

Bee Wasp Standoff

37

S. 1

S. 2

T.

Bass

Pno

We a - rise and at - tack, ne - ver show them mer - cy!

Bees a - rise and at - - - tack them! Bees ne - ver stop for we must kill them!

Bees a - rise and at - tack we must hold the line!

42

S. 1

S. 2

T.

Bass

Pno

ff Sound re - treat our - on - ly op - tion!

We re-treat, dab-n-it! Live to fight an - oth - er day!

There will be more next time! *ff* Live to fight an - oth - er day!

Run them out! And make it sting! Make it hurt, don't let them off!

48 VAMP

Pno

NARRATION

The wasps back down as they are clearly out-numbered. The bees leave toward one side, and the wasps to the other. They are interrupted by a voice in the distance . . .

RAE

Vespa ... Joey ... Where are you guys!

NARRATION

Two lovely Dragonflies float into the scene.

VESPA

Oh, hello Draggies!

JOEY

Are they friendly?

VESPA

Oh yes! Just a little single minded. They're probably on their way to Mexico for the winter.

JOEY

Oh.

Joey responds, clearly clueless as to the life cycle of Dragonflies. He scratches his head, thinking, and posits a question.

JOEY (CONT'D)

Maybe we could hitch a ride with them for a while. What do you think?

VESPA

Excellent idea!

[Music starts]

NARRATION

Vespa and Joey are invited to climb aboard the backs of the Dragonflies.

~ THE JOURNEY ~

The Journey

from *Vespa*

VESPA: "Excellent idea!"

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Soaring with energy & life ♩ = 140

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Mezzo-soprano 1

Mezzo-soprano 2

Tenor

[under narration]

Piano

f

ff

7 *f* minimal vibrato

S. 1

Take me on a jour - ney. To *f* the bur - ney sun - shine.

S. 2

Da da da da da da da.

T.

ff minimal vibrato

High out in the o - pen sky! Fly nev - er to be de - nied. It's all im - por - tant.

Pno

The Journey

21

15

S. 1 Slight - ly flick - ers, thick - er quick - er be my pick - er.

S. 2 Night - ly flick - ers thick - er quick be my up.

M-S. 1 flick - ers be my up.

M-S. 2

T. my
It's all im - por - tant. Fly by

Pno *mf* *f* *ff*



22

S. 1 Way o - ver the moun - tain side. So hap - py to be a - live, it's all im - port - ant.

T. night the day be. You can see night through me.

Pno *f*

29

S. 1
Y vi - en - can - to.

S. 2
Can - to. Can - ta do. Fly to who

M-S. 1
Can - to. Can - ta do. Fly to who

M-S. 2
to

T.
En - - can - - ta - do. Vo - la pron - to Fly home to the

Pno
mf *f* *ff*

The Journey

35

mp sub.

S. 1
Sing sing sing.

minimal vibrato
mp sub.

S. 2
Sing ring fling. Bing ming wing ling. Sing ring fling ding sing.

minimal vibrato
mp sub.

M-S. 1
Sing ring fling. Bing ming wing ling. Sing ring fling ding sing.

minimal vibrato
mp sub.

M-S. 2
Sing ring fling. Bing ming wing ling. Sing ring fling ding sing.

mp sub.

T.
Queen. Sing

mp sub.

Pno

Narration: "They fly off... fade to black." END ACT ONE

NARRATION**ACT 2 - SCENE 1**

Deep in the bog, Rae and the boys inch their way through the muck, following the trail of where Vespa and Joey entered the woods earlier.

RAE

Vespa! Vespa! I have no idea what
Vespa is thinking.

THE BOYS

No idea ... no idea.

RAE

Vespa!!!

~ BEYOND BELIEF ~

Beyond Belief

from *Vespa*

Rae: "Vespa!!!"

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Irritated ♩ = 100
f minimal vibrato

Mezzo-soprano [Rae]

Piano

4

Ves-pa is real-ly be-yond be-lief! I can't im-ag-ine what she's think-ing. Is -n't it bad e-nough that she bare-ly par-tic-i-pates in school? And has no

7

11

Rae

Pno

in - ter-est_ in play-ing with an - y - bod - y else. Is she think-ing she's bet - ter than us in some way? She needs to get with the pro-gram!

13

19

Rae

Pno

And now mak-ing mat-ters worse, she's tak - en with that strange boy__ Jo - ey! He's just like her. Things are go-ing from bad to worse!

RAE (CONT'D)

We have to get her and bring her
back to reality before it's too late and we lose her forever!

THE BOYS

Forever . . . forever.

RAE

Vespa!!!

NARRATION

As if in response, an over-sized purple mantis leaps up and lands
beside them. He is dressed nattily in a top hat, tails and shiny boots
replete with black spats.

~Rae & the Mantis Meet~

Rae & The Mantis Meet

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Narration: "...replete with black straps."

They are at odds with each other $\text{♩} = 112$

Mezzo-soprano [Rae] 7 *f* min. vib.

Tenor [The Mantis] *ff* min. vib. *f* insect-like

Piano *ff* *f* *mf*

And just who_ might you_ be?

Good - ly marn - in! Where is your care?_ In there?_ izz-it izz-it izz-it izz-it?

Rae

Mantis

Pno

This is just the kind of crea-ture that Ves - pa would be - friend. This is real - ly_ the lim-it!

What-zit what-zit what-zit? Name is Boo,_ You?_

Rae & The Mantis Meet

18 *f* 22

Rae: Not that it's an-y of_ your bus'-ness! I'm Rae, and this is Dick-y and Rick-y. I'm prob-a-bly the pret-ti - est girl you've ev-er seen!

Mantis:

Pno:

RAE (spoken): And, my family owns the big factory, DBP Enterprises!

25

Rae: Dick-y and Rick - y are on the team, team lead-ers in fact. Not that it_would mat - ter to you and all of this. Crim - i - ny!

Mantis: Skewz-it skewz-it skewz-it!

Pno:

Attacca

Rae & The Mantis Meet

18 *f* 22

Rae

Not that it's an-y of_ your bus'-ness! I'm Rae,_ and this is Dick-y and Rick-y. I'm prob-a-bly the pret-ti - est girl you've ev-er seen!_

Mantis

Pno

25

Rae

Dick-y and Rick - y are on the team, team lead-ers in fact. Not that it_would mat - ter to you and all of this. Crim - i - ny!

Mantis

Skewz-it skewz-it skewz-it!

Pno

Attacca

The Boys (after):
Harumph...Harumph!

Narration: "And in a single leap, Boo disappears into the bushes."

NARRATION

[MUSIC VAMP UNDERNEATH Chomp Chomp]

ACT 2 - SCENE 2

Joey and Vespa fly, riding aboard the dragonflies.

JOEY

Yeowch!!

VESPA

What's wrong Joey?

Joey shouts back,

JOEY

There's a bug in my ear!!

NARRATION

A swarm of mosquitos are rapidly approaching. Vespa and Joey madly slap at themselves to deter the biting frenzy. The dragonflies suddenly turn and reverse course heading straight into the swarm of mosquitos.

JOEY

Why are they turning around?

Vespa winks.

VESPA

Dinner time!

NARRATION

The dragonflies become like small vacuum cleaners sucking, chomping and swallowing as they eat their way through the swarm.

~ CHOMP CHOMP ~

Chomp Chomp

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

CUE: "...eat their way through the swarm."

Ominous ♩ = 96

f minimal vib.

8

Soprano: We're so hun - - - - - gry. We're

Mezzo-soprano: We're so hun - - - - - gry. We're

Tenor: [Rest]

Bass: [Rest]

Piano: *f* [Vamp under]

14

S. so hun - - - gry! Oh we're starv - - - ing,

M-S. so hun - - - gry! Oh we're starv - - - ing

T. *ff* Chomp chomp slurp slurp! Miz-zum Biz-zum Buz-zum Wuz-zum! Swal - low sal - i - vate, re - peat en - er - vate!

Pno: [Vamp under]

Chomp Chomp

18

S. need - - - - ing fresh new blood.

M-S. need - - - - ing fresh new blood.

T. We're the top, we're the main, of the bott - om of the chain. Yum yum yum yum - pa pee - lump flat floo - dle.

ff

Bass We're the top, we're the main, of the bott - om of the chain. Yum yum yum yum - pa pee - lump flat floo - dle. [Continue & segue, fade]

Pno

As the swarm starts to disperse, Joey looks over at Vespa and they share a moment.

JOEY

Is that a usual occurrence?

Vespa shrugs,

VESPA

It happens ...

NARRATION

The dragonflies speed up leaving the mosquitos behind.

~ THE QUEEN'S ISLAND ~

Queen's Island Recit

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Narration: "...leaving the mosquitoes behind."

Soprano [Vespa]

Piano

f minimal vibrato

Light and soaring ♩ = 140

Fly - ing a - bove an o - ver grown swamp - land, the Dra - gon - flies veer to the left.

Ped. as necessary

Vespa

Pno

12 13 21

Duck - weed, Cat - tails and Rose - mal - low min - gle with Horse - tail, Bull - rush and Sedge The re - flec - tion in the wa -

Vespa

Pno

22 29

- ter re - veals in - sect chan - ges, wasp - ish in ev' - ry as - pect. Jo - ey es - pies the dark chang - es and

Queen's Island Recit

32 37

Vespa
ques - tions the ul - ti - mate aim of the trek. _____ As I look down at the mir - rored re - flec - tion and Jo - ey's re -

Pno

42 45

Vespa
- ac - tion un - hid - den. I shake off the as - pect be - cause it's her code_ to re - veal true self is for - bid - den.

Pno

53 61

Vespa
O - ver the pond by a dense stand of pop - lars, in a cir - cle of_ stones stands the Queen. _____ In all of her glo - ry, by all man - ner of_

Pno

64 69

Vespa

spe - cies she's sur - round - ed by__ great ex - pec-tan - cy. They a - wait her ev' - ry or - der with ea - ger a - ban - don and hang on her

Pno

74 77

Vespa

e-ver - y thought._____ For all of them know that to - ge-ther in this world sur - vi - val and un - cer-tain - ty walk.

Pno

NARRATION

Vespa, Joey, and the dragonflies land on the island, Queenie is at the center of the frenetic activity. She turns to and fro, giving instructions to the different species around her.

~Queen's Island Hive~

Queen's Island Hive

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "...species around her."

Lively, buzzy ♩ = 140

5 *f* minimal vibrato

Soprano
Mezzo-Soprano
Tenor
Bass

Queen be sweet - ly nes - tle of tric - kle. She's free from

Piano
f
mf

10 13 17

S.
M-S.
T.
Pno

sea bream, fun - nel. Flic - kle! Dream - y free me, mov - ing me - nu. Free to

f minimal vibrato

Dream - y free me mov - - ing me - nu. Free to

Queen's Island Hive

18 25

S. Can do me do she do we we do.

M-S. see me but on - - ly if you, can do me do she do we we do.

T. see me but on - - ly if you, can do me do she do we we do. *ff* On - to con - do,

Pno *f*

26 29

S. *ff* Mon - do bon - do, fron - to e - lan - tro! You. *mf* Aye.

M-S. *ff* Tron - to, mon - do, bon - do oh! *f* I can't see just

T. *mf* ton - to, tron - to, Can you try to make more fenc - es I can't see just

B. *ff* minimal vibrato Ton - to mon - do. You. *mf*

Pno *mf* *8va*

32

S. *f* Give some mean - ing to your seem - ing

M-S. what you mean. Live. *f*

T. what you mean. *f* Give some mean - ing to your seem - ing

B. *ff* Get a - long get a - long! Live. *f*

Pno *f*

37

S. flee - ing scream - ing sense of being! Be. **41**

M-S. Scream. Be.

T. flee - ing scream - ing sense of being! *f* Twid - dle twad - dle did - dle daw - dle

B. Scream. Be. *gva*

Pno *mf* *f*

Queen's Island Hive

42 *f*

S. Twid - dle twad - dle did - dle daw - dle

M-S. *f* 3 3 3 3 3
Fid - dle me did - dle me wat - tle me blue You and me seem to be hap - pi - ly flew!

Pno

45 *f* *ff*

S. We can't be - lieve you if you can't be true!

M-S. 3 3 3 *ff*
You and me seem to be hap - pi - ly flew if you can't be true!

T. *f* 3 3 3 *f* *ff*
Fid - dle me did - dle me wat - tle me blue We can't be - lieve you if you can't be true!

B. *ff*
if you can't be true!

Pno *f* *ff*

Buzzy and jaunty ♩ = 162

49 *f*

S. Be a lit - tle tit - tle tat - tle lit - tle boy blue. On by set - tle fie win - dow cry too. In an old si - lo from Tim - buk - tu, can you be buzz - y can you be true?

M-S. In an old si - lo from Tim - buk - tu, can you be buzz - y can you be true?

Pno *f*

57 61

S. Can you be buzz - y, say can you be true?___ Be a lit - tle tit - tle tat - tle lit - tle boy blue. On by set - tle fie win - dow cry too.

M-S. Can you be buzz - y, say can you be true?___

T. *f* Can you be buzz - y, say can you be true?___ Be a lit - tle tit - tle tat - tle lit - tle boy blue. On by set - tle fie win - dow cry too.

B. *f* Can you be buzz - y, say can you be true?___

Pno *f*

65

S. In an old si - lo from Tim - buk - tu, can you be buzz - y can you be true? True!

M-S. In an old si - lo from Tim - buk - tu, can you be buzz - y can you be true? True!

T. In an old si - lo from Tim - buk - tu, can you be buzz - y can you be true? True!

B. True!

Pno.

The spritely waltz continues as Vespa greets the Queen. Joey watches from the sidelines. Queenie lifts her head slightly in acknowledgement of Vespa's approach. She hums and thrums gently. Vespa says to Joey with admiration,

VESPA

Isn't she magnificent?

Joey demurs, as Vespa is welcomed by the Queen. Their conversation is a bit unusual in that neither Vespa or the Queen are actually speaking. Joey responds although neither of them seem to be listening.

JOEY

She certainly is something.

NARRATION [Music underneath]

A pair of Mantises catch his attention. They are enchanted with each other, both in prayer while each rubbing their legs against the other's.

~ CANOODLING MANTISES ~

Canoodling Mantles

from *Vespa*

Narration: "A pair of mantises..."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Playful & sinister all at once ♩ = 72

Soprano

Tenor

[under narration]

Piano



6

S. *mp* min. vib.

Why, tell me why, Do do it don't do it. Don't cry, don't cry, flah - ha - hy but don't cry.

T. *mp* min. vib.

Why tell me why, Do do it don't do it. Flah - ha - hy but don't cry.

Pno

Canoodling Mantes

11

S. Mai - tai me fly, tra - ha - ha high. Mai - tai me fly un - der - neath braille eyes.

T. Tra - ha - ha - high. Mai - tai me fly way high.

Pno

16

S. Be on - to be on - to ties. Wise eyes, wise eyes

T. Whis - per to me. Be on - to be on - to ties. Eyes, wise eyes à bien - tôt.

Pno

21

S. Hear what we say, lis - ten don't lis - ten to me. Hear us, be us, tay - hay - ake the prize.

T. Lis - ten don't lis - ten to me. Hear us, please take the prize.

Pno

26 *fade out*

Pno

Joey is increasingly mesmerized by their song and it takes Vespa, grabbing him by the hand and pulling him toward her, to break the Mantises' spell.

~Watch Yourself~

Watch Yourself

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

With Growing Concern $\text{♩} = 120$

Vespa jolts Joey away from the alluring dance of the mantises.

The female mantis rips the head of the male clean off.

Soprano [Vespa] *f* min. vib. *mf*
 You real - ly have to watch your-self here_ Joe - y. If you don't... That's the way it bees, some-times. Yum - my yum - my!

Tenor [Joey] *f* min. vib.
 Yikes! Good gra - vy!_

Piano *f* *Red.*



9

S. *mf*
 Def - i - nite - ly! I'm in-trigued! Neat trick.

T. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*
 Wan - na see some-thing? I'd like to show you... I've nev-er shared this with an-y - one be - fore.

Pno *p* *mp* *mf* *Red.*

Joey claps his hands, and disappears.

Watch Yourself

18

S.

T. *mf* I in-vent - ed it at home. Some-times... when things get cra - zy at home, this real - ly helps. *f* Not that I would show them!

Pno *mp* *Red.*



32

S. ²⁷ *f* We see eye to eye on that. And now?

T. I just make sure, when the fur flies, I'm no - where to be seen. Ov - er here.

Pno *mf* *Red.*

NARRATION:

His voice is coming from behind a bush. Vespa heads toward the voice, and is followed by a tribe of Katydid.

Knock Knock

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Sweet but off kilter ♩ = 162 *f* 9 min. vib.

Soprano: Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock who's not there? Where _____ oh where _____ has he

Mezzo-soprano: Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock who's not there?

Tenor: Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock who's not there?

Bass: _____

Piano: *f* *stacc. very short* *mp* *mf*

13 17

S. gone _____ to hide? _____ Chang - - - ing col - - - ors ver - - - y

M-S. _____ min. vib. Ver - - - y

Pno: _____

Knock Knock

25

S. shy. Tone and tim - bre clap - ping games.

M.S. shy. Tone and tim - bre clap - ping games.

T. clap - ping Knock knock who's not there?

B. Knock knock who's not there?

Pno

f min. vib.

35

45

S. Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock! Knock knock! Wil - ly nil - ly, I

M.S. Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock! Knock knock!

T. Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock! Knock knock!

B. Knock knock who's not there? Knock knock! Knock knock!

Pno

57

49

S. love Bil - ly boy. He's from the hill - y val - - - ley of

T. from the hill - y val - - - ley of

B. val - - - ley of

f

f min. vib.

Pno



65

61

S. Dil - - - - - ly - dal - ly Sil - - - - - ly Sal - - - - - ly

T. Dil - - - - - ly - dal - ly Sil - - - - - ly Sal - - - - - ly

B. dill

Pno

Knock Knock

69

S. be my friend.

M-S. be, be my friend!

T. be my friend! Knock knock who's not there!

B. be my friend! Knock knock who's not there!

Pno

Black out.

END OF ACT 2

NARRATION: ACT 3 - SCENE 1

Rae and the boys, are slogging through an endless swamp.

Back at the Bog

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Slogging through the muck $\text{♩} = 100$

Soprano *f* min. vib. 7 *f*

Back at the bog, a thick driz - zle has start - ed It's stick-y and steam-y. Rae's hair hangs down in sea-weed like strands.

Tenor *mp* min. vib. *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*

At the bog. Driz - - - - zl - - - ing. Rae's hair hangs down.

Bass *mp* min. vib. *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*

At the bog. Driz - - - - zl - - - ing. Rae's hair down.

Piano *f* *mf* *f* *f*

mp *mp*

S. *mf*

Her face caked in smears of mud and guck. The boys are still at her side. They are all waist deep in slime.

T. *mf*

Smears of mud guck. All waist deep in,

B. *mf*

Mud and guck. All waist deep, in

Pno

10

20 Back at the Bog

S. Rae looks up, and then a - head. Just a few me-ters a-way, she sees what ap-pears to be a__ spit of dry land.

Pno

26 30 *ff*

S. With much grunt-ing and grum-bl - ing, and mum-bl - ing, and fum-bl - ing. They slug their way through the muck, to the spit of dry land! And,

T. The way__ muck. To the spit of dry land!

Pno

32

S. af - ter what seems a su - per hu - man ef - fort, they hurl them - selves on - - to the shore.

T. Af - ter what seems a Oh

B. Oh

Pno

Attacca

Rae, Mantis, Boys

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Irritated and dreamy all at once ♩ = 114

Mezzo-soprano [Rae] *ff* min. vib. *f* *mp* **7** *mf*

I'm gon-na kill_ Ves-pa! Yawn. Well, may-be Ves - pa is fine__ where she is.

Tenor [The Mantis]

Mezzo-soprano [Boy 1]

Tenor [Boy 2]

Piano *ff* *mf* *mp* 6 3

Red. 8ba. Red.

Rae **11** *f* min. vib.

Jo - ey's not the worst she could do. Shure iz__ the way we zeez it!_ Shee - za shee - za, shee - za shee - za,

Mantis

Pno 6 3 *mf*

Red.

27 Jaunty ♩ = 108

Mantis

shee-za shee-za, shee'z al-right wit' weez. Why zo much trou-b-lez for you? Why'z it blue? Blue for you.

Pno

Mantis

Zim zim-ma do bob-ba do bob - ba do. No need to cry, shee'z on the fly! Queen-ie eye Queen-ie eye zim zim - ma do, Queen-ie eye, Queen-ie eye

Pno

Red.

Mantis

zim zim-ma do!

Boy 1

This is so to - tal - ly nut - so! What are you think - ing? There's no sense here at all, and... You're talk-ing to a bug!!!

Boy 2

This is so to - tal - ly nut - so! What are you think - ing? There's no sense here at all, and... You're talk-ing to a bug!!!

Pno

RAE

Did you guys actually say something to me?

THE BOYS

Harumph . . .harumph.

RAE [Music under]

This place is really starting to get to me ...

She shakes her head.

RAE (CONT'D)

... and honestly, I'm not sure if that is a good thing, or a bad thing.

A profound silence falls on the scene as Rae picks a couple gnats out of her tangled hair.

~ HOUSE ~

House

from *Vespa*

Boys: "Harumph...harumph."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Eerie but not terrifying ♩ = 62 7

Mezzo-soprano [Rae]

Tenor

Piano

p *mp* *mf* min. vib.

Af - ter the rain, — Rae spies an old house,

[Under Rae: "This place is really..."]

9

T.

Pno

no win - dow panes on - ly black spa - ces. And where the door should be, — there's no door, — on - ly dark - ness and mist - y — o - paque - ness.

pp

16 *Rubato* *mf* min. vib. **20** *Strict Time* ♩ = 62

Rae: I bet ev-en Ves-pa would have sec-ond thoughts a - bout this place. Pee - yoo! What a stink!

T.: The chim - ney con - sists___ of

Pno: *mp*

21 **24**

T.: crum - bl - ing bricks,___ strewn in col - lapsed___ dis-ar - ray, a - long___ op-po - site sec-tions of slant - ed roof,___ splay - ing down - ward,___

Pno:

27

T.: run-ning a - way from its peak to where the gut-ter should be,___ where the gut-ter should be___ but is not. And yet,

Pno:

House

31

T. *e-ven though, _____ in so-much dis-tress, _____ the house has _____ sub-stance and pride. _____*

Pno

8ba. *rit.* *8ba.* *rit.*



rit......

35

T. *Some kind of life is pres-ent, we sense it. _____ Skul-ling a-midst _____ the dark-ness in-side. _____*

Pno

8ba. *rit.* *8ba.* *rit.* *pp*

NARRATION

Rae picks herself up, dusts herself off and heads towards the house.

RAE

Let's have a little look-see over there.

RAE

Is anyone at home?

Very politely ...

RAE (CONT'D)

I'm afraid that we've lost our way
and could use some guidance if you have any to give.

She selects her words very carefully so as not to offend whatever it may be that is approaching the door.

NARRATION

A long-legged spider wearing an orangey colored hat and matching waist-coat, with 2 little baby spiders trailing in his wake, steps into the light.

~ OPPYLON NEW 2 ~

Oppylon New 2

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "...steps into the light."

♩ = 106

6

Soprano 1 [Baby 1]

Soprano 2 [Baby 2]

Bass [Oppylon]

Piano

f min. vib.

Op - py - lon, that's my name it's Op - py - lon. Wel - come to our home! Please ex - cuse the mess. We

f

mp

mf

Baby 1

Baby 2

Oppylon

Pno

10

14

mf min. vib.

We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

mf min. vib.

We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

weren't ex - pect - ing guests. Don't cry.

f

mf

Red.

Oppylon New 2

22

18

Baby 1
We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Baby 2
We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Oppylon
don't cry. We're so sor - ry

Pno
Red. *f*



30

26

Baby 1

Baby 2

Oppylon
Right at this mo - ment, af - ter the rain, is when we gath - er food!
but we have - n't time to help. is when we gath - er food!

Pno
Red. *Red.*

34

Baby 1
Once we have, we have a - chieved we have a - chieved

Baby 2
our quest.

Oppylon
Once we have a - cheived our quest,

Pno
8va
Red.



44 *p sub.* *f* *p sub.* *f* 52

Baby 1
We'd be de - light - ed, help you find your way. ver - y de - light - ed help you find your way. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Baby 2
We'd be de - light - ed, help you find your way. ver - y de - light - ed help you find your way. We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Oppylon
p sub. *f* *p sub.* *f*
Then we'd be de - light - ed to help you find your way. So ver - y de - light - ed to help you find your way.

Pno
p sub. *f* *p sub.* *f*
8va
Red.

Oppylon New 2

54

Baby 1
We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Baby 2
We're so hun - gry we're so hun - gry.

Oppylon

[Under Rae's Dialogue]

Pno

Red.

60

Baby 1

Baby 2

Oppylon

Pno

Red.

Rae thinks aloud, [Music underneath, Oppylon New 2 ending]

RAE

Well ... this isn't the way I'm used to doing things,
but ... it doesn't seem unreasonable.
Given the circumstances ...
this looks to be the best course of action.

She turns back to the spiders, curtsies ... and says,

RAE (CONT'D)

We accept your more than generous offer, thank you. Perhaps we can be of some service as
well?

OPPYLON

Umhum.

NARRATION

Oppylon wriggles toward the woods with the babies in tow. Rae and the boys fall in line
behind them.

~OPPYLON AND RAE~

Oppylon & Rae

from *Vespa*

NARRATION: "Rae & the Boys fall in line behind them."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Angular and slightly creepy ♩ = 110 6

Mezzo-soprano [Rae]
Mezzo-soprano [Boy 1]
Tenor [Boy 2]
Bass [Oppylon]

mf min. vib.

If it is - n't too much trou - ble, we would like to

Piano *f* *mp*

11

Rae *f* min. vib.

Rae San De - tra Bee - per - son.

Oppylon *f*

know your name. Please. So pleased to make your ac - quaint - ance Rae San De - tra Bee - per - son

Pno *mf*

17 22

Rae
You can call me__ Rae San, if you like. I did-n't know that... spi - ders were ca - pa - ble of smil - ing.

Oppylon
It pleas - es us great - ly Ms. Rae__ San.

Pno

26 30

Oppylon
Please__ ex - cuse__ us for a mo - ment, if you__ would. I need to__ at - tend to the__ lit-tle ones. I'm sure you__

Pno

34 38

Rae
But of course.

Oppylon
un-der-stand__ We will call you when we've com - plet - ed our__ ab-lu-tions.

Pno

42 44 *f*

Rae

Ooh _____ what is it that's trou-ble-ing you two now? Hmm...?

Pno

mf

49 52

Rae

Op - py-lon seems to be the per-fect gen-tle-man. Snap-py dres-ser too if I do say so. You two could take a few point-ers _____ from him.

Pno

8va

56 *ff*

Boy 1

Bug! Bug! Bug! Bug!!_

ff

Boy 2

Bug! Bug! Bug! Bug!!_

Pno

ff

RAE

You two aren't very much *fun* I think. *Maybe*, it's time we parted company?
But, just now, I think I could do with another short nap.

NARRATION

She lies down in the grass and quickly nods off to sleep. She dreams. This time in her dream, she sees Vespa in a tiny clearing, adjacent to a small village, bustling with activity, centered around Queenie, who is giving out instructions to a colorful array of various insects.

~ RAE'S DREAM PART TWO ~

Rae's Dream Pt. 2

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "...a colorful array of various insects."

6

Frenetic ♩ = 114

f min. vib.

Soprano
[Queenie]

At - ten-tion! Bee - per - sons! At - ten-tion please! A Me - phi - ti - dae has

Soprano
[Vespa]

Mezzo-
soprano
[Rae]

Tenor
[Joey]

Tenor
[Mantis]

Bass

Piano

ff

11 16

Queenie
 been de - tect - ed in the gen - er - al ar - e - a. Please take all nec - es - sar - y pre - cau - tions!

Rae
 What is a Me - phi - ti - dae? _____

Pno

19 26

Rae
 Well, may - be that was the smell _____

B.
 A skunk, it is the an - cient en - e - my_ of the Bee - per - sons na - tion!_

Pno

28 31

Rae
 out - side the house. Wait a mi - nute I won - der where Op - py - lon and the ba - bies have got - ten off_ to?

Pno

38

Vespa *p* min. vib.

How are you feel - ing? I know this is a lot to di - gest. Still, it's bet - ter than school, with all of the bul - lies!

Pno *8ba*

45

Rae *mp*

Is she speak - ing to me_ or Jo - ey? *f* min. vib.

Joey For sure! Did Queen - ie just say skunk? I was_ just think - ing that some - thing is not quite right.

Pno *mp*

55

Mantis *ff* min. vib.

Strip - y white duz - zy. Fuz - zy night buz - zies! diz - zit diz - zit diz - zit diz - zit

Pno *f*

Rae's Dream Pt. 2

61 65

Mantis

or is it nos - ing? Iz - zit clos - ing? Ooz - y ooz - y ooz - y Snooz - y snooz - y snooz - y!

Pno

mf

Red.

71

Vespa

Rae - san? Rae - san De - tra? Is that you? Are you here? Have you en - tered the hive mind?

Pno

p

Red.

Attacca

I Must Have Been A Bird

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Dream-like Chaos ♩ = 98

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Soprano 3

Mezzo-soprano [Rae]

f min. vib.

I must have been a bird, _____ or a large fly - ing in - sect. Must?_ Be - cause, in the woods _____ I see nat-u-ral path-ways,

Piano

mf

mp *mf*

11

8

Rae

through the trees and bush-es, and I thrill! I want to soar through them. I see the per - fect spot, where I could swoop in, ac - cel-ler-ate down the paths.

Pno

ff *f*

Red. *Red.*

I Must Have Been A Bird

15 18

Rae: Some-times spill-ing out_ in - to nat - u - ral clear - ings. Have been? Be-cause, some-thing in my mem-o-ry pos - its, that I have

Pno: *3*

21 26

S. 1: Thou - sands of ti - ny voic - es, speak-ing all at once, *f* min. vib. *3*

Rae: *ff* flownthrough these woods be - fore_ at some point in my life. Past life? This life? Who's to say?_

Pno: *3*

28 30

S. 1: *ff* form a back-ground sound - scape of oc - cas - sion - al noise. *f* min. vib. *3*

S. 2: *3* Surg-ing to the sur - face of dis - tin - guish - a - bil - i - ty._ Much how white caps ap -

Pno: *f* *3*

33 *f* 36

S. 1 The in - di - vid - u - al voic - es seem to be in dis - cus - sion with each oth - er.

S. 2 - pear a - midst tur - bu - lent wa - ters. As dif - fer - ent dis - cus - sions ebb and flow

Pno

37 *f*

S. 1 of

S. 2 — dy - nam - ic' - lly — Ev'ry-thing seems to be con-nect-ed as if by a ma - trix

S. 3 Ech - o - ing each oth - er in a joint — an - tip - a - thy —

Pno

I Must Have Been A Bird

45

ff

S. 1
 fine del - i - cate threads _____ like a spi - der's gos - sa - mer fil - a - - ments! _____

Pno

S. 2

S. 3
ff Here, _____ the u - su - al sense of in - di - vid - u - al - i - ty _____
 The i - de - a _____ of a web is ap - pro - pri - ate in this world.

Pno

54

S. 1
p *delicately* A mas - sive - ly dense phe - nom - e - non of the col - lec - tive, *f* Hive - Mind! _____

S. 2
 takes a back seat as it were, to an in - ter con - nect - i - vi - ty. *f* Hive - Mind! _____

Pno
p *delicately* *f*

Attacca

The Web

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Dreamy nervous prevarication ♩ = 104

p min. vib.

Soprano [Vespa]
 Mezzo-soprano [Rae]
 Bass [Oppylon]
 Piano

Rae? Is that you? Where are you? What are you do - ing here? What do you want?



NARRATION

Oppylon wakes Rae from her dream and leads Rae and the Boys right into the web.



11

Vespa
 Rae
 Oppylon
 Pno

p min. vib.

It's not safe here for you.

Ves - pa? Is that you? What is this place?

f min. vib.

A - hem! Come an' zee come an' zee! Izz

8ba

The Web

21 25

Oppylon *ver - y egg - zi - ting! Youz lik - en it, eyez know. — Youz lik - en it, youz lik - en it, eyez know! —*

Pno

8ba.

29 33 *f*

Rae *Come on you guys! I think that we're in_ for*

Oppylon *Youz lik - en it, youz lik - en it, eyez know!*

Pno

35 39

Rae *a real treat! Oh my. This is odd.*

Oppylon *Pleeze — ex - cuze it,*

Pno

6 3 mp f 8ba. ff

The Web

42

Oppylon

pleeze! Pleeze ex - cuze it, pleeze! Needz_ be feedz for beebz! Needz_ be feedz for beebz!

Pno

49

Rae

Oppylon

Zoh, zor - ry for in - con - ven - ions. Nice for_ you to help us_ sur - vi - valz. Pleeze ex - cuze it! Needz! Oh dear!

Pno

58

Rae

I think that I have put my foot in it now. My good sir, I'm a - fraid that this is un - ac - cept - a - ble for us, and_ for you.

Pno

The Web

66

Rae

You see I'm not sure that you are en - tire - ly a - ware of it, but some hu - mans are poi - son - ous to some spi - ders.

Pno

mf *cresc.* *f*

74

80

Rae

De - pend - ing on the hu - mans and or the spi - ders, in - gest - ing hu - man flesh, could be tox - ic for you. While I have the great - est re - spect

Pno

8va

82

Rae

for your re - quire - ments, I do think, you may need to re - con - sid - er your po - si - tion!

Oppylon

mf Oh Do tell.

Pno

90 *f*

Rae

Well while it's one thing, to put one's self, in - to a risk - y po - si - tion, it is an en - tire - ly dif - fer - ent mat - ter when it comes to the wel-

Pno

96

Rae

- fare of one's off - spring. Would-n't you a - gree? *f*

Oppylon

Hmm. Ms. Rae San me - thingz that you have some good log - ic there. Per-

Pno

103

Oppylon

haps, youz might be, a - me - na - ble to help - ing us find a more ap - pro - pri - ate, al - ter - na - tive to your - selvez!

Pno

mf

The Web

112

Rae

I'd be de - light - ed, thank you. ___ Hmm... The terms of en - gage - ment are dif - fer - ent in here.

Oppylon

Needz! ___

Pno

f *mf*

120

121

Rae

Hmm. Al - though I have on - ly, lim - it - ed ex - pe - ri - ence here, I'm start - ing to think that Ves - pa may real - ly be on - to some - thing!

Pno

128

129 Slightly slower ♩ = 92

Rae

136 Tempo ♩ = 108 *mf*

Oppylon

Allz one needz to do ___ is, step a - way from the ___ webz.

Pno

f

138 *f*

Rae: The less _____ I re - sist, the eas - i - er the ex - trac - tion! Just do what I do fel - las!

Pno: [Piano accompaniment]

145

Rae: Eas - y peas - y lem - on squeez - y! _____ Awe - some sauce!

Pno: [Piano accompaniment]

153

Rae: Be - sides us, I _____ won - der what else these spi - ders might like to munch on? Please_ good sir, good sir.

Pno: [Piano accompaniment]

The Web

160

Rae

Pno

if you would be so kind, as to in - form us_ as to_ what else_ might be_ your pre - ferred choice of re - past?

Attacca

We Be Harvestmen

14

Oppylon

mush - y - rooms! We_ love to_ sniff them, lick them, eat them, love to sniff them, lick them, eat them.

Pno

19

Oppylon

Red back spi-ders in our bel-lies. Al - so fill the bill of smel - lies!

Pno

pp

8va

24

Oppylon

We_ be_ Har - vest - men we eats what we de - feats!

Pno

f

28

Oppylon

30

Rot - ted fruit__and Ho - bo spi - ders, Thanks be thanks ye,__ you'z good yeggs,____ and don't for - get, loves spi - ders__ eggs!!

Pno

NARRATION

Blackout. END OF ACT 3

ACT 4 - SCENE 1

Vespa and Joey sit cross-legged, close and facing each other. They are behind a cluster of bushes that shield them from the sight of the Queen's Hub.

~ THE LAND OF THE QUEEN ~

In the Land of the Queen

NARRATION: "...of the Queen's hub."

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Eerie & airy $\text{♩} = 40$

p min. vib. 10 Stately, but not pompous $\text{♩} = 80$

Soprano
Two mis - fit toys, a - lone in the world. In - vis - a - ble boy, Ves - pu - la girl!

Tenor
So all a - lone in the world. In - vis - a - ble boy, Ves - pu - la girl!

Piano
p *mp* *mf*

Red. Red. Red. Red.

12 15 *f*

S.
In - to the woods, in - to the trees. Na - ry a thought nor e - ven a breeze.

T.

Pno
gently

In The Land of the Queen

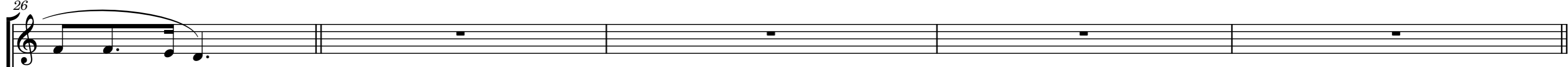
23


S.  Is there a kind or qui - et_ ap - plause, giv - ing con - sent

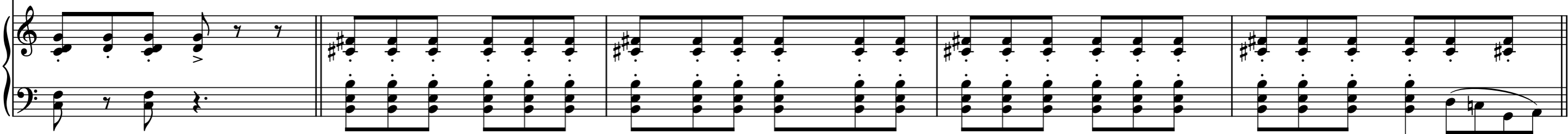
T. *f*  Un - to them - selves, young lives in - ter - vene each with the o - ther in the Land of_ the Queen!

Pno 



S.  chang - ing in awe?

T.  Of what's to come, pro - mis - èd e - ver - green. Each with the o - ther in the land of_ the Queen.

Pno 

In The Land of the Queen

31 35

S. *ff*
 Set - ting_ the stage, what will they do? Where will they go with on - ly one shoe? What is the need?

T. *ff*
 What is the need?

Pno *f*



36

S. *mp*
 What will it mean? Naught is re - vealed in the land of_ the Queen!

T. *mp*
 What will it mean? Naught is re - vealed in the land of_ the Queen!

Pno *mp*
gently

NARRATOR

As Vespa and Joey kiss, they are interrupted by a Katydid who signals that Vespa is summoned by the Queen.

KATYDIDS

Katydid katydid katydid katydid!

Urgently chirped.

VESPA

I'll be right back!

She quickly stands up and begins to follow the Katydid toward the Queen's Hub.

JOEY

Be careful ... I sense that there is something ... something very out of balance.

VESPA

I agree!

She replies over her shoulder.

VESPA (CONT'D)

Don't worry about me though,

She smiles.

VESPA (CONT'D)

I can take care of myself.

JOEY

I don't doubt it.

He stands up and surveys the immediate surroundings.

JOEY (CONT'D)

I could use a little walk.

NARRATION

Joey heads off down the path away from the Hub.

ACT 4 - SCENE 2

Vespa has reached The Hub. Something is amiss. She hears cries of alarm in the hivemind. Queenie is frantically gesturing to the other tribes.

~ FASTER FASTER! ~

Faster, Faster

54 57

Queenie
S.
T.
B.

Hear our de - cree! Our de - cree! Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra *f* Must for sur - vi - val!
Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra Sur - - -
Hy - men - op - t'ra! Our de - cree! Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra *f* Sur - - -
Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra Sur - - -

Pno

62 65

Queenie
S.
T.
B.

Must for sur - vi - val! Hurt them bite them! Kill kill kill! Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra, leave no trace!
- vi - - val! Kill kill kill! Trace!
- vi - - val! Kill kill kill! Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra leave no trace!
- vive! Hurt them bite them! Kill kill kill! Trace!

Pno

8ba

Faster, Faster

91

Queenie

85

Pre - serve the way of, pre - serve the way of Hy - - - - men - - - - op - - - - t'ra!

S.

Pre - serve the way of, pre - serve the way of Ah ah ah ah ah.

T.

Pre - serve the way of, Pre - serve the way of Ah ah ah ah ah.

B.

Pre - serve the way of, pre - serve the way of Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra Hy - men - op - t'ra

Pno

f



NARRATION

Vespa whirls about on her heels and sprints toward the forest.

93 [under narration]

Pno

What Next?

from *Vespa*

Word & Music by Don DiNicola

Thoughtful but animated ♩ = 108

Soprano [Vespa]

f min. vib.

7 *mf*

Whew What is next? This is prob-lem - at - ic... Hmm... Is it Rae that's the dis-turb-ance? Was it her voice I heard?

Piano

f *mf*

Red. *Red.* *8va* *8ba*

Vespa

13 14

If so How did she en - ter the hive mind? I thought she would nev - er change her ways, her teas - ing and crit - i - ci - sm.

Pno

f *mf*

8va *8ba*

Vespa

22

And those stu - pid boys, school, and all the rest. I thought I had left all of that be - hind me. Ew!

Pno

f

8va *8ba*

32

ff

Vespa

What is that stench? Seems as though the en - ti - re__ world is__ at risk! What__ is hap - pen - ing? I must find the cause of this threat!

f

Pno

ff

NARRATION

Vespa disappears into the brush.

ACT 4 SCENE 3

Joey, still under the influence of his tender encounter with Vespa, drifts down the path. A swarm of fireflies are attracted to him. They fall in behind him. Their choreography is aerial based and extraordinary.

~ YELLOW FELLOW ~

Yellow Fellow

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "...and extraordinary."

Floating on a cloud, delicately ♩ = 112

3

Soprano 1

Saw me, see me Root and branch

Soprano 2

Take me be me ooh

Soprano 3

Saw see Root

Mezzo-soprano 1

Saw see Root

Mezzo-soprano 2

Saw see Root

1st two bars:
Strict 4 beats then more rubato, both bars

Piano

Ped. as necessary

Yellow Fellow

6 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

S. 1
on. _____ Up - side down and in - side out. Tied _____ on back _____ of black _____

S. 2
Haunch on staunch on. _____

S. 3
on _____ Ah _____ In - - - - side _____ Back _____

M-S. 1
on _____ Ah _____ In - - - - side _____ Back _____

M-S. 2
on _____ Ah _____ In - - - - side _____ Back _____

Pno
Red. Red. Red. ^{8va}

Yellow Fellow

13

S. 1 *10/4*
 Then lean on green per - haps to catch a match of yell - ow fell - ow of - ten seen...

S. 2 *10/4*

S. 3 *10/4*
p
 Ah Ah Ah match

M-S. 1 *10/4*
p
 Ah Ah Ah match

M-S. 2 *10/4*
p
 Ah Ah Ah match

Pno *10/4*
 8ba

Attaca

I Like It!

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

With wonderment ♩ = 60

f min. vib.

Tenor [Joey]

I _____ won - der, _____ what could be _____ the prob - lem? Ev - e - ry thing seems just per - fect!

Piano

11 ♩ = 66

Joey

I nev - er dreamed _____ there could be a world _____ like this _____ one! Al - though that _____

Pno

22 Excitement slowly builds ♩ = 120 (♩ = ♩)

Joey

Queen... _____ she's some - thing to watch out for. _____ I don't real - ly un - der - stand her, hmm,

Pno

Red.

I Like It!

40

32

Joey

al - though, there is no de - ny - ing her pow - er. Yikes! I won - der, be - fore com - ing here,

Pno

45

Joey

I could-n't im - ag - ine, pow - er like that ex - ist - ed! Raw pow - er, dan - ger - ous and sub - ver - sive.

Pno

53

Joey

Come to think of it, I like it, I like it, I like it, a - - - lot!

Pno

f *fff*

NARRATION

Joey claps his hands twice and vanishes. The fireflies remain, gently flitting about as a grey mist wafts into the space.

[MUSIC BEGINS: SOMETHING WICKED]

Twilight overtakes the scene as if a dark cloud has floated in front of the sun. The fireflies glow brightly for a moment and then their light fades as they all land on the ground. Silence ensues.

Vespa appears. She is radiating light as if she has taken on the light of the fireflies. Her glow illuminates a heap of fireflies lying dead on the ground. A toxic, chemical smell proliferates.

The woods take on an eerie quality, showing signs of decay, brownish leaves and dying grass. Something more awful catches her eye.

A dead anteater is lying beside an anthill, piled with dead ants. The smell is so strong that she has to take off her scarf and wrap it around the lower part of her face like a mask. Her eyes water.

~ SOMETHING WICKED ~

Something Wicked

from *Vespa*

Narration: "...grey mist wafts into the space."
(contd.)

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Wistfully ♩ = 96

Soprano [Vespa]
Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Mezzo-soprano 1
Mezzo-soprano 2

Piano

[under narration] improvise repeat until cue

Cue: "...lower part of her face like a mask. Her eyes water."

p *f*

Red.

7 With growing alarm ♩ = 104

13 *f* min. vib.

Vespa

Pno

Oh no, — oh no! This is not — good!

Something Wicked

17 *ff* 19

Vespa *ff*
Ew that smell pee - yoo! What is it?_ This must be the threat, and it's spread-ing fast! Ow! My eyes!_

Pno *ff*

23 26

Vespa
Ugh, that smell!_ It's get - ting strong - er, it's... it's get - ing strong - er, it's close!_

Pno

28 *fff* *mp sub.*

Vespa
It's com-ing from ov-er there!_ What is_ this?

Pno *fff* *mp sub.*

NARRATION

She enters a clearing where there stands a group of oversized rusted steel tanks. A sign reads, "Exclusive Property of DBP Enterprises". One of the tanks is leaking a viscous, green substance onto the ground. This is clearly where the toxic smell originates.

VESPA (SPOKEN)

Okay ... problem identified. This comes from Dad's factory.

We're gonna need some serious help here. Either that or ...
we'll have to evacuate.

NARRATION

Her train of thought is interrupted by the sound of a snapping twig. She freezes. Oppylon and the babies shuffle out from behind the tanks. They see Vespa and then slowly inch away from her and the tanks. The babies move closer to Oppylon, trembling. Quite unexpectedly, Rae, steps out from behind the tanks, followed by the boys.

~ WHATIZZIT? ~

Whatizzit?

from *Vespa*

NARRATION: "...followed by the boys."

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Tension & fear ♩ = 104

7

Soprano [Vespa]

Sopranos 1 & 2 [Baby Spiders, 2]

Mezzo-soprano [Rae]

Mezzo-soprano [Boy 1]

Tenor [Boy 2]

Bass [Oppylon]

Piano

f min. vib.

mf

What - iz - zit? What - iz - zit? What - iz - zit? What - iz - zit?

Whatizzit?

16 Increased fear $\text{♩} = 108$

fa2 min. vib.

Baby Spiders

Oppylon

Pno

What - iz - zit_ wee'z be zee - in? What - iz - zit that wee'z be zee - in?

This is scar - y! We're so scared! We're so ver - y ver - y scared!

Baby Spiders

Pno

What is hap - pen - ing? What is hap - pen - ing? This is scar - y! We're so scared! This is scar - y! We're so scared!

8ba

24 Surprise and trepidation $\text{♩} = 102$

mp min. vib.

Vespa

Rae

Pno

mp min. vib. Rae - san? We have one_ ep-ic prob-lem here! *mf*

Ves - pa? I can see that, and, smell it. Pew! That is tox - ic.

mp

33 *mf*

Vespa I can't be - lieve it! Mom said, Dad re - cy - cled all the waste from the fac - to - ry!

Rae Wait a min-ute. What is this?

Pno *mf*

40

43 Urgency ♩ = 100

Vespa Well, we have more press-ing prob-lems at the mo - ment. In - sects are dy - ing as the fumes es - cape.

Rae This is so dis ap - point - ing. Ugh!

Pno

Whatizzit?

49 **50** So, are you going to in - tro - duce me to your friends?

53 Proudly ♩ = 98 ♪ = ♪ *f* min. vib. We can stop the leak - ing!

Boy 1 We can stop the leak - ing!

Boy 2 We can stop the leak - ing!

Pno *f*



57 In shop class, we learned how to make tem - po - rar - y re - pairs on just these kind of tanks, just in case of this type of sit - u - a - tion!

Boy 1

Boy 2

Pno *8ba*

64

Boy 1
Mis - ter B' - bang - er gave us A plus in met - al - lur - gy and weld - ing! It looks like e - nough met - al here to get the job done!

Boy 2
Mis - ter B' - bang - er gave us A plus in met - al - ur - gy and weld - ing! It looks like e - nough met - al here to get the job done!

Pno

72

Boy 1
We'll need to make a fire to heat_____ the met - al!

Boy 2
We'll need to make a fire to heat_____ the met - al!

Pno

NARRATION

The boys build a fire and start the process of repairing the tanks. Suddenly, an enormous black-capped Chickadee flies in and lands on one of the tanks. Everyone notices. Oppylon and the babies slowly back away.

Chickadee

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "....slowly back away."

5 Seductive & sinister $\text{♩} = 108$ **5** Sweetly $\text{♩} = 108$ **9** *mp* min. vib.

Mezzo-soprano [Chickadee] Sopranos 1 & 2 [Baby Spiders, 2] Soprano [Vespa] Mezzo-soprano [Rae]

VESPA:
"Oh dear."

Piano *ff* *pp* *mp* *8ba*

11 Chickadee
You and I true and tried... Friend is where end is nare... Try in - stead fly and wed... Seek and hide...

Pno *ff*

Chickadee

20 *mp*

Chickadee

Try and mend you de - vise. Do at - tend your de - vice.

Pno *mp*

NARRATION
 Like lightning, the Chickadee swoops down, grabs up Oppylon and flies off into the woods with the wriggling spider in its mouth. The babies run shrieking into the brush.

29 *f*

Chickadee

Lose a name, me oh my goes the game.

Baby Spiders

Oh no oh no oh no oh no oh no oh no

Pno *mf* *fff sub.* *ff* *8ba*

34

38 *mp* min. vib.

Rae

That was un - ex - pect - ed, and a bit sad. We were real - ly start - ing to con - nect!

Pno *mp*

46 Conversational ♩ = 98

mp min. vib.

Vespa *mf*
 In - deed, the world can be a dan - ger - ous place, for sure. I'm glad you're o - kay. I thought I heard your voice in the_ hive mind.

Pno *mf*

53

Vespa
 Were you a - ware of me?

Rae *mf*
 Yes, I... I don't un - der - stand how_ that works, but I_ was a - ware of you, and the Queen. *mp*

Pno *mp*

61

Vespa *mf*
 It's kind of_ like a sing - u - lar_ all en - com - pass - ing mind.

Rae *mf*
 I was half_ dream - ing. I was, speak - ing, with - out_ speak - ing.

Pno *mf*

Chickadee

68

Vespa

But, you can't join in by force. You need to be, how to say,

Pno



75

Vespa

you need to be op - en to pos - si - bi - li - ties, if that makes an - y sense.

Pno

NARRATION

The baby spiders cautiously emerge from the brush and gather around Rae.

VESPA

You seem to have made the
connection!

Vespa laughs. Rae smiles.

RAE

We need to get these guys some food,
they're practically starving!

NARRATION

We hear a loud double handclap as Joey suddenly appears.

JOEY

I know just the place!

He is on cloud nine or even ten ... if that's possible.
Rae looks at Vespa quizzically.

VESPA

Joey's got a thing he can do ...
everybody's got one.

RAE

I think I get it.

She smiles.

JOEY

Okay everyone, follow me!

NARRATION

As Joey turns toward the woods, the boys step forward bringing the procession to an abrupt halt. They look a bit worse for the wear, their faces smeared with black soot from the welding.

~ THE BOYS FOR NOW ~

The Boys for Now

Narration: "...with black soot from the welding."

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Jaunty & snappy ♩ = 106 ***ff*** min. vib. 5

Mezzo-soprano [Boy 1]
 O - kay, O - kay! That should hold the tanks for now 'Til you get some-one who can re - move them.

Tenor [Boy 2]
 O - kay! re - move them.

Piano
f *8ba*

8 9

Boy 1
 But, they won't last much long - er though they look like they've been sit - ting there for de - - cades. So?

Boy 2
 But, they won't last much long - er though they look like they've been sit - ting there for de - - cades. So?

Pno
8ba

Vespa and Rae locks eyes for a moment. Vespa nods,

VESPA
We'll talk.

NARRATION

ACT 4 Scene 4

Back on the island, The Queen's voice fills the hive mind. Vespa muses about the future and Joey tends to the babies as they munch on their favorite strain of mushrooms.

~ THE QUEEN'S PLEA ~

Queen's Plea

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

NARRATION: "...strain of mushrooms."

Earnestly ♩ = 90

7 *f* min. vib.

Soprano [Vespa]
Soprano [Queenie]
Soprano [Baby 1]
Mezzo-soprano [Rae]
Mezzo-soprano [Baby 2]
Piano

May - hem___ and de - struc - tion,___

My cous - ins all, you of our kind you see_____ we are all re - lat - ed.____

f min. vib.

f

f

11 ♩ = 96

Vespa
Queenie
Pno

these can be___ a - me - lio - rat - ed.

Take___ the way, the path of May. Pray and please___ re - mem - ber!

8ba... 8ba... 8ba... 8ba... 8ba...

Queen's Plea

21 With delight ♩ = 96

17

Vespa

Hope - ful _____ Au - gust will re - main _____ in the dark - ness of _____ De - cem - ber. _____

Baby 1

f min. vib.

Mush - rooms, mush - rooms, mush - rooms ti - ny lit - tle mush - rooms!

Baby 2

f min. vib.

Mush - rooms, mush - rooms, mush - rooms ti - ny lit - tle mush - rooms!

Pno

23

Baby 1

— Mush - rooms, mush - rooms, mush - rooms ti - ny lit - tle mush - rooms! —

Baby 2

— Mush - rooms, mush - rooms, mush - rooms ti - ny lit - tle mush - rooms! —

Pno

28 In earnest $\text{♩} = 92$

32 Increasingly pleading $\text{♩} = 90$
p

Vespa

Queenie

Pno

Spare our kind, and keep our lands from mis-sives of frustra-tion!

Un-to thee, in-to your hands, there lies our sal-va-tion!

36
mf

Queenie

Pno

But be-ware and touch us not, A-pis here es-pous-es. Join our ranks and hear our songs but sleep not in our hous-es.

47 Agitated $\text{♩} = 96$
f

Vespa

Rae

Pno

f min. vib.

It's hard to say, my sense is that this is just the tip of the ice-berg.

What are we gon-na do a-bout our Mom and Dad?

Queen's Plea

54

Rae

Con-fron-ta - tion? Not sure that would get us much of an - y - where Truth is we will prob-ab-ly have to work this out on our own.

Pno

62 Gently pleading ♩ = 96

mp

Queenie

Find our strength, en - join our sense, to - geth - er we pre - vail. Be not proud or in de - fense, change your ways or fail.

Pno

mp

69 Nervously ♩ = 100

f

Vespa

I a - gree, some - times they're the next best thing to use-less.

Rae

Yes, they cer-tain-ly can't be count-ed on for hon-es - ty!

Pno

f

8ba

77 78

Rae

This par-ti - cu-lar un - truth is not a har-bin-ger of good ti - dings for an-y_ of us, es - pe-cial-ly the hive.

Pno

8ba_ 8ba_

86

f

Vespa

Well, win-ter is just a-round the cor-ner, and the Queen is dy - ing, an-y - way. The spi-ders will be o-kay as long as they stay a-way from the pol - lu - ted_ a-re-as.

Pno

f

94

Vespa

The bees will al - so sur - vive with-out much im - pact. It's the food sup - ply that will be hit_ hard - est.

Rae

f

We can help with that!

Pno

Queen's Plea

101 *Slowly dying* $\text{♩} = 68$ *f*

Queenie
 Hear our plea, mer - cy_ be_ with san - i - ty_ un - bent. Work, we do,_ we work for you,_ not more can she pre - vent.

Pno

111

Queenie
 Join our mind_ and make a - mends,_ re - move the poi - sons, that de - stroy our friends. Sis - ter spi - rits_

Pno

116

Queenie
 _ keep us free,_ keep im - bue with true_ and to you will we_

Pno

NARRATION

She stops moving ... as she sings her final line, the Queens slowly dies.

RAE

Hmm ... what are we going to do now?

VESPA

We're going to have to speak with the folks.
I think I can get them where we need them to be ...

RAE

I'm starting to see things in an entirely different light.

VESPA

We can regroup in the spring.
In the meantime, we should start back.

JOEY

The babies will be fine for a while.
We'll find a good spot where they can enter
their diapause phase. We can leave them there.

NARRATION:

They start to make their way home. The chorus enters, pushing an old style flat wagon with a covered mass on a slab.

~ THE NEWBORN QUEEN ~

The Newborn Queen

NARRATION: "...a covered mass on a slab."

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Softly funereal ♩ = 74

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Mezzo-soprano *p*

Tenor

Bass

Piano

One mo - - ment more, sa - - lute the Queen.

if voicings are too wide, omit top note in LH *pp*



Rising up with dignity

M.S.

Pno

7 *mf*

And here the seas-on's chan - - ges, fer - ti - lize the graves - of the fire - flies and A - pis with their ar-dent raves.

The Newborn Queen

23 Chaotic energy

ff

S. 1
Of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen of new Queen

S. 2
Of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of

M-S.
Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the Of the

T.
Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay Queen-ay

B.
Of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of born of

Pno
ff
8ba

Attacca

NARRATION

The mass under the sheet starts to wriggle, gently pushing the sheet aside to reveal Vespa, the new Queen. She slowly gathers herself and calls out to the insect kingdom. They gather around her and join her in song.

Parade

from *Vespa*

Words & Music by Don DiNicola

Slowly comes to life... ♩ = 50 5

Soprano [Vespa]

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

Tenor

Bass

[Enter under narration at discretion]

Rubato *Non rubato, expressive* *Delicately*

pp *mp*

Red.

13 ♩ = ♩

mp *mf*

Vespa

Eyes of am-ber, wings of teal, o-pen to the sky! Line up én-to - ma join our team, and pre-pare to fly!

Pno

mf *gliss.*

21

Vespa

mf

Tribes of leaves, va - ri - e - ties_ of trees and bees that no-one sees._____ Dis -

S.

mf

Yel-low_green in fen and mi - en. The Prom - i - nent in tan - ge - rine.____

M.S.

mf

Yel-low_green in fen and mi - en. The Prom - i - nent in tan - ge - rine.____ Tribes of leaves, va - ri - e - ties_ of trees and bees that no-one sees._____

T.

mf

The Prom - i - nent in tan - ge - rine.____ Tribes of leaves, va - ri - e - ties_ of trees and bees that no-one sees._____

Pno

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand features a glissando (marked 'gliss.') in the first measure, followed by a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand plays sustained chords and arpeggiated figures. The piece concludes with a fermata over the final chord.

Red.

Sost.

Parade

30 *rit.* 35 *a tempo* *f* *Delicately*

Vespa
 perse, bring joy a - las to these and fly now fly you're free you're free! And

S.
mf
 and now fly you're free you're free!

M-S.
f
 where moist and pale en - sues.

T.
mf *f*
 and now fly you're free you're free! Come all you bees come all to sweet where moist and pale en - sues.

B.
f
 Come all to sweet where moist and pale en - sues.

Pno
f
 8^{ba}

Parade

44

Vespa
 fire flies e - mit your light and shim - mer in shades of pink and blue! Ka - ty - dids and Ka - ty - doos!

S.
 Ka - ty - dids and Ka - ty - doos!

Pno



50

Vespa
 Man - tis - es with man - ti - cules! How we es - chew the man - tis man - ti - cules. She brings to light the life of life!

S.
 Man - tis - es with man - ti - cules. How we es - schew the man - tis man - ti - cules.

T.
 Man - tis - es with their man - ti - cules. How we es - chew

B.
 How we es - chew the man - tis es - chew the man - tis. Her

Pno

52 56

Vespa Her light is the light of the true!

S. *ff* Shan - ta - la a

M-S. Her light is the light. *ff* Shan - ta - la a

T. Her light is the light. The light is the light of true! *ff* Shan - ta - la a

B. light is the light. the light of the true!

Pno *ff*

The musical score is written for five vocal parts and piano. The Vespa part begins at measure 52. The vocal parts (S., M-S., T., B.) have lyrics in Italian. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with triplets and a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The score concludes at measure 56, marked with a box around the number.

Parade

Vespa *f*
 Watch o - ver the fields! Keep the hive from harm and woe! Help

S. *f*
 star! We'll make it so! We'll make it so!

M-S. *f*
 star! We'll make it so! We'll make it so!

T. *f*
 star! We'll make it so! We'll make it so!

Pno *f*
 (8)

61

Vespa our kind to thrive and grow! Spread the seeds_ and make it so!

S. We'll make it so!

M-S. We'll make it so!

T. We'll make it so!

Pno

Parade

65

Vespa
Shan - ta - la a star, guard - i - an of light, stay ev - er close at hand.

S.
Shan - ta - la a star, Close at hand.

M-S.
Shan - ta - la a star, guard - i - an of light. Al - ways be ev - er close at hand.

T.
Shan - ta - la a star, guard the light,

B.
guard the light. Don't let go.

Pno

Slower ♩ = 66

Parade

69

Vespa

May your fu - ture path - way lie 'neath smil - ing skies! Ev - er - more!

S.

Lie smil - ing skies! Ev - er - more!

M-S.

Lie smil - ing skies! Ev - er - more!

T.

Lie smil - ing skies! Ev - er - more!

B.

Lie 'neath smil - ing skies! Ev - er - more!

Pno

8^{va}

8^{ba}

The End