

YEAST NATION

(the triumph of life)

by

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SETTING

The bottom of the primordial sea

TIME

3,000458,000 BC

CHARACTERS (Note: Jan is pronounced "Yahn")

- JAN-THE-UNNAMED..... Chorus Leader, blind seer, strangely prescient
- JAN-THE-ELDER..... First creature to swim the seas, King of the yeasts
- JAN-THE-WISE..... First counselor to the King, wisest of the yeasts
- JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST..... The King's son, first in line to the throne
- JAN-THE-SWEET..... A sweet soul, daughter of Jan-the-Wretched
- JAN-THE-SLY..... The King's daughter, second in line to the throne
- JAN-THE-FAMISHED..... A hungry soul, mother of Jan-the-Youngest
- JAN-THE-WRETCHED..... A wretched soul, father of Jan-the-Sweet
- JAN-THE-YOUNGEST..... Youngest of the yeasts, newly born to Jan-the-Famished
- THE NEW ONE..... A new life form, daughter of Jan-the-Second-Oldest
- THE CHORUS..... Guards, attendants, citizens
- CHORUS-2..... Unnamed's servant child
- More New Ones..... More creatures altogether new to the world, like the New One

SONG LISTING

Act I

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Hear the Song | Unnamed & Company |
| 2. | You Are My Children | Elder & Company |
| 3. | Burnin' Soul | Sweet & Second |
| 4. | I'll Change the World
Around Her | Second |
| 5. | Little Sister | Sly & Famished |
| 6. | Alone | Elder, Wise, Second & Sweet |
| 7. | Let Us Rise | Second & Sweet |
| 8. | Stasis is the Membrane | Sly, Famished, Wise & Chorus |
| 9. | Liar | Wise & Sweet |
| 10. | Act One Finale | Company |

Act II

- | | | |
|------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 11. | You Don't Know a Thing
About Love | Unnamed & Company |
| 12. | Me Good | The New One, Elder & Company |
| 13. | Don't Be a Traitor to Love | Sly & Wise |
| 14. | You're Not the Yeast You
Used to Be | Second & Sweet |
| 15. | Love Equals Pain | Unnamed, Sweet & Chorus |
| 16. | Let Us Rise Reprise | Elder & New One |
| 16A. | Meat | The New One |
| 16B. | Meat - First Reprise | The New One |
| 16C. | Meat - Second Reprise | The New One |
| 17. | Doom-Love-Doom | Elder & Company |
| 18. | Look at What Love Made Me
Do | Company |
| 18A. | Meat - Third Reprise | The New One |
| 19. | Life Goes On | Wise, Sweet, Second & Chorus |
| 19A. | Meat - Fourth Reprise | The New One |
| 19B. | Meat - Fifth Reprise | The New Ones |
| 19C. | Ominous Humming | The New Ones |
| 20. | The World Won't Wait | Sweet, Second, Unnamed &
Company |

All corresponding musical material is indicated in the script with **(#OX) TITLE OF THE SONG.**

YEAST NATION
(the triumph of life)

Act I
Scene 1

(The Primordial Soup. Darkness. A deep tone, then a cosmic explosion sounds as lights come up on Jan-the-Unnamed, a blind, staff-wielding oracle, part vagabond, part witch. Cued by another tone, she sings.)

(#01) HEAR THE SONG

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

HEAR THE SONG
OF THE BEGINNING OF TIME,
WHEN WATER COVERED THE EARTH.
AND IN THAT BLACK SHINING SEA,
DOWN BY THE ROCKS AND THE SAND,
THE VERY FIRST LIFE FORM APPEARED.
IT WAS THE YEAST.

(Jan-the-Elder, a grim, ancient figure, becomes visible in another part of the murk.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Oh, yes! The Yeast!

(A Chorus oozes forth from the foggy blackness to sing with Unnamed. As they sing, Elder twists and turns, giving "birth", so to speak, to the youthful Jan-the-Second-Oldest.)

UNNAMED & CHORUS

SOON THAT YEAST
FOUND HE DID NOT WANT TO DWELL
AS ONLY ONE SIMPLE CELL,

JAN-THE-ELDER

SO I DIVIDED MYSELF!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

AND HE CREATED A SON!

ELDER & SECOND

AND THUS A NEW WORLD WAS BEGUN:

ELDER, SECOND, UNNAMED & CHORUS
A WORLD OF YEASTS.

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Yeasts!

(The full company enters to sing.)

ALL

WELCOME!
TO THE BEGINNING OF TIME!
YES, THE BEGINNING OF TIME!
TIME FOR THE BEGINNING - -
OF TIME!

(Unnamed and Chorus address the audience.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

It is the year 3,000,458,000 BC!
(Tectonic plates rumble ominously)
The Earth's surface is a molten mass of volcanic islands
and undulating waves!
(More ominous rumbling)
The atmosphere is a choking fog lit by a dim red sun!
(Even more rumbling!)
And the mighty waters of the world are inhabited only by
rocks!

CHORUS-1

Sand!

CHORUS-2

Salt!

CHORUS-3

More rocks!!

CHORUS-4

A little silt, maybe!!

UNNAMED & CHORUS

And the great society of salt-eating yeasts - that were the
world's very first life-form!!!

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

I am Jan-the-Unnamed, also known as the Unnamed One, the
Nameless One, you get the idea! The others you shall meet
soon enough! And this - is YEAST NATION!

(The company floats about, feasting on salts.)

ALL

TINY CREATURES,
SEE HOW WE FLOAT IN THE BRINE.
AND IT'S ON SALT THAT WE DINE.
YOU SEE, WHAT ELSE COULD WE EAT
WHEN WATER COVERED THE GLOBE?
THIS FACT YOU DO NOT NEED TO PROBE -
BEHOLD, THE YEASTS!

WELCOME!
SO NOW OUR STORY BEGINS!
AND, YES, YOUR STORY BEGINS!
BECAUSE THIS STORY,
THIS STORY THAT'S STARTING,
IS NOT JUST OUR STORY,
NO, NOT ONLY OUR STORY,
BUT YOURS!
BUT YOURS!
BUT YOURS!
BUT YOURS!

JOIN THE YEASTS
AT THE BEGINNING OF TIME.
SEE HOW LIFE REALLY BEGAN.
UNLIKELY THOUGH IT MAY SEEM,
JUST KNOW IT'S TRUTH THAT WE SHARE.
SO LOOK ON THIS TALE IF YOU DARE,
LOOK ON THE YEASTS!

(Unnamed and the Chorus warily step forward to
consider the audience as everyone else exits.)

CHORUS-1

They seem skeptical, Unnamed One.

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

They are the Creatures-Yet-to-Come, children. 'Tis their
nature to question things they don't wish to accept.

CHORUS-2

Like talking, singing, and, at times, dancing yeasts?

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Among other things! And though they question, they will
hear the tale! Tonight! Here, in this little theater on-
where are we?

CHORUS-3

[LOCATION/ADDRESS OF PRESENTING THEATER.]

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

[LOCATION OF THEATER]! And so come! Our story begins even as we speak! For behold! Jan-the-Elder approaches!

(All except Elder sing as Elder leads in Wise, Second, and Sly. Famished enters elsewhere to stand near The Chorus. As all enter and take their respective places, the space transforms into The Grand Hall of the Yeasts.)

(#02) YOU ARE MY CHILDREN

ALL(Except Elder)

AH!
AH!
AH!
AH - HAH!

JAN-THE-ELDER

I AM THE OLDEST OF THE YEASTS,
FROM WHOM ALL YEASTS WOULD ONE DAY COME.
I STARTED OUT AS JUST A SPARK,
WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS DARK AND DUMB.

JAN-THE-ELDER

THE SEA WAS BLANK.
THE SEA WAS BARE.

THEN LIGHTNING STRUCK,
AND I WAS THERE.

OUT FROM THE VOID,
ONE LIVING THING,

AND FROM THAT BIRTH
YOU ALL DID SPRING.

ALL(But Elder)

BLANK SEA!

WOW-WEE!

HOW GREAT!

OUR FATE!

JAN-THE-ELDER

AND BEING FIRST,
I AM YOUR LORD,
I AM YOUR KING!

JAN-THE-ELDER(Cont'd.)

YOU ARE MY CHILDREN!
I AM YOUR FATHER!
I AM YOUR EVER-LIVING KING!

ALL(But Elder)

WE ARE YOUR CHILDREN!

JAN-THE-ELDER

Yes!

ALL(But Elder)

YOU ARE OUR FATHER!

JAN-THE-ELDER

Mmm-hmm!

ALL(But Elder)

ALL PRAISE TO YOU WE GLADLY SING!

JAN-THE-ELDER

I'M MASTER OF
THE MIGHTY SEAS,
AND I'M THE GUY
YOU OUGHT TO PLEASE!

ALL(But Elder)

HAIL, JAN-THE-ELDER!
PRAISE TO JAN-THE-ELDER!

JAN-THE-ELDER

I'M NUMBER ONE,
I FROWN ON FUN,
AND I AM NOT
TO BE OUTDONE!

ALL(But Elder)

YOU ARE OUR FATHER-KING!
YOUR PRAISE WE GLADLY SING!

JAN-THE-ELDER

My rules have been few! Jan-the-Wise!

(Jan-the-Wise, first councilor to the king, reads
from a scroll.)

JAN-THE-WISE

EAT OF THE SALTS WITH MODERATION!

ALL(But Wise & Elder)
EAT OF THE SALTS WITH MODERATION!

JAN-THE-WISE
AVOID ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION, WHICH IS HOW WE MULTIPLY!

ALL(But Wise & Elder)
AVOID ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION, WHICH IS HOW WE MULTIPLY!

JAN-THE-WISE
AND ABOVE ALL!

ALL(But Wise & Elder)
AND ABOVE ALL!

JAN-THE-WISE
AS YOU FLOAT ABOUT!

ALL(But Wise & Elder)
AS WE FLOAT ABOUT!

JAN-THE-WISE
TRY TO STAY REASONABLY CLOSE TO OUR LITTLE CORNER HERE ON
THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA,
NOT FAR FROM THE VENTS FROM WHENCE
OUR SALTS ONCE SPEWED,
AND THOUGH THE VENTS HAVE LONG BEEN DEAD,
WE KNOW THAT THE SEA WILL CARE FOR US,
AS LONG AS WE DON'T RISE!

JAN-THE-ELDER
SO I AM KING!
I AM YOUR LORD!

FIRST IN THE SEA,
LOVED AND ADORED!

I'M REALLY GREAT,
WHO WOULD SAY NAY?!

SO TELL ME WHY YOU'D GO ASTRAY?
SO TELL ME WHY YOU'D BREAK MY
RULES AND NOT OBEY!

YOU HAVE BETRAYED ME!

NOT "YOU", BUT ONE OF YOU!

ALL(But Elder)

OUR LORD!

ADORED!

NOT US!

[Gasp!]

BETRAYED YOU?!

WHO?!

JAN-THE-ELDER(Cont'd.)
HIS ACT HAS TARNISHED ALL YOUR
NAMES.

WE HAVE A TRAITOR!

LIVING AMONGST US!

NOW MEET THE WRETCH WHO'D PLAY
SUCH GAMES!

ALL(But Elder)(Cont'd.)

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, OLD ONE?!

A TRAITOR?!

[All Out Panic!]

JAN-THE-ELDER
Bring out Jan - - THE-WRETCHED!!

(Jan-the-Wretched, a destitute soul, is dragged
on to kneel before Elder. Jan-the-Second-Oldest,
Elder's noble son, steps forward.)

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST
Father, what's the meaning of this?!

JAN-THE-ELDER
Survival is the meaning of this, Jan-the-Second-Oldest, my
first born - and therefore favorite - child.

(Jan-the-Sly, Second's sister, steps forward.)

JAN-THE-SLY
Survival, brother, and the choices a king must make to survive.

JAN-THE-ELDER
Quite right, Jan-the-Sly, my second born - and therefore
forgettable - daughter.

JAN-THE-WISE
Jan-the-Wretched! You stand accused of floating about in
sea-levels long since forbidden to the likes of us! How do
you plead?!

JAN-THE-WRETCHED
MY ROYAL LORD,
I AM THE WEAKEST OF OUR KIND.
AND BEING WEAK, I'M IN
AN AWFUL KIND OF BIND.
TO BE COMPLETE,
I NEED TO EAT,
AND LATELY SALTS HAVE BEEN MOST DIFFICULT TO FIND.
SO WHY RESTRICT THE SEARCH, WHY KEEP THE HUNT CONFINED?

JAN-THE-ELDER

"Difficult to find"?! Nonsense! I mean, I'm well fed!
How about you, Jan-the-Wise?

JAN-THE-WISE

Quite comfortable.

JAN-THE-ELDER

You see?! Consume less, that's all, be thrifty! That way
what we have will last longer. Maybe forever.

JAN-THE-WISE

And don't breed anymore.

JAN-THE-ELDER

Obvious! We did a lot of breeding during The Time of the
Do-As-You-Please-Program, of course, but those days are
done! No need for more bellies to fill!

JAN-THE-WISE

And don't rise.

JAN-THE-ELDER

Exactly! Don't rise! Never may ye rise!!

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

For God's sake, WHY NOT?!!

ALL

[Gasp!]

JAN-THE-WISE

SOMEBODY SOUNDS LIKE A TRAITOR!
TELL ME THE NAME OF THE TRAITOR!

ALL(But Wise, Elder, & Wretched)

JAN-THE-WRETCHED!
JAN-THE-WRETCHED!

JAN-THE-WISE

WHO IS A MASTER OF TREASON?
WHO'S TAKEN LEAVE OF HIS REASON?

ALL(But Wise, Elder, & Wretched)

JAN-THE-WRETCHED!
JAN-THE-WRETCHED!

JAN-THE-WISE
 HE BROKE YOUR PRECIOUS STRICTURES, SIRE,
 AND THAT'S THE REASON WHY
 THIS JAN-THE-WRETCHED IS NO GOOD,
 AND SURELY HE MUST DIE!

(Jan-the-Sweet, a gentle soul, races on and kneels
 in supplication before Elder.)

JAN-THE-SWEET
 Lord, please, forgive him!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST
 Jan-the-Sweet!

JAN-THE-SWEET
 SIRE, MY FATHER IS GOOD!
 JAN-THE-WRETCHED IS GOOD!
 PLEASE FORGIVE HIM.
 SHOW HIM YOU ARE KIND.
 HE CAN'T HELP IT IF HE'S LOST HIS MIND.
 HE HAS LOST HIS CRAZY MIND!

(All sing on an "Ooo" as Sweet sings.)

JAN-THE-SWEET
 SIRE, MY FATHER IS MAD.
 HE IS MAD, AND HE'S SAD.
 HE IS HUNGRY,
 THAT'S THE MAJOR THING.
 BUT YOUR ROYAL GOODNESS FEEDS US ALL.
 WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE OUR KING!

(Elder considers Sweet's plea. Then)

JAN-THE-ELDER
 OH, WRETCHED JAN,
 I CAN BE KIND.

YOUR DAUGHTER'S PLEA
 HAS MOVED MY MIND.

'FESS UP YOUR CRIMES.
 RECANT, AND THEN,

SWEAR THAT YOU'LL NEVER RISE
 AGAIN.

ALL(But Elder & Wretched)

AND FAIR!

SEE THERE?!

COMPLY!

OR DIE!

JAN-THE-ELDER

VOW TO RENOUNCE
YOUR ERRANT WAYS,
THIS EVIL YEN!

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

Never!!

ALL(But Wretched)

[GASP!]

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

I HAD TO RISE FOR I AM
WEAK AND CAN'T RESIST.

WITH SALTS SO LOW DOWN HERE
I'M FIGHTING TO EXIST.

I STILL CONCLUDE

WE NEED MORE FOOD,

AND THAT'S THE REASON WHY
I FLOATED TOWARD THE TOP!

AND THAT'S THE CRIME THAT
YOU
SO FOOLISHLY WOULD STOP!

ALL(But Wretched)

HE CAN'T RESIST!

HE CAN'T EXIST!

HE STILL CONCLUDES!

WE NEED MORE FOODS!

HE WENT ON TOP!

ALL

(But Wretched and Elder)
HE JUST WON'T STOP!

JAN-THE-ELDER

YOU ARE MY CHILDREN!

YOU WILL OBEY ME!

THOSE WHO DO NOT HAD BEST
BEWARE!

STOP YOU!

POP YOU!
SPILL ALL YOUR JELLIES HERE
AND THERE!

ALL(But Elder & Wretched)

WE ARE YOUR CHILDREN!

WE WILL OBEY YOU!

AND IF YOU DON'T, THEN,
BABY,
HERE'S HOW HE'LL STOP YOU:

HE'LL RIP AND POP YOU!

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

ALL
(But Wretched, Sweet,
Second & Elder)

YOU ARE A TWIT, AND YOU'RE A	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
ROYAL TWIT AT THAT!	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
YOU'RE SUCH TWIT, IN FACT,	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'S	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
AT!	
THE YEASTS HAVE BLOOMED!	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
AND NOW WE'RE DOOMED!	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
SO HERE'S THE THESIS OF OUR	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
SOBER LITTLE CHAT:	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
DOOM IS THE CHILD OF THE	SPILL HIS JELLIES!
CHILDREN YOU BEGAT!	SPILL HIS JELLIES!

(All continue chanting "spill his jellies" as Elder,
Wretched, and Sweet sing.)

ELDER	WRETCHED	SWEET
	YOU'RE SUCH A	FATHER, HEAR WHAT
	DOWNER	HE SAYS!
ARE YOU NOT MINE,	THAT YOU MAKE ME	HEAR AND DO WHAT HE
MY KITH AND KIN?	WANT TO CUSS!	SAYS!
ARE YOU MY KIDS,	YOU MAY BE KING,	IF YOU OBEY HIM,
AND IF YOU ARE,	BUT YOU'RE A	
WHY DRIFT AWAY FROM	FRIGGIN' GLOOMY	THEN YOU'RE OFF THE
ME SO FAR?	GUS!	HOOK.
IT'S SUCH A DRAG	I HATE YOUR GUTS,	THAT'S AN OFFER YOU
TO BE BETRAYED,	YOU ROYAL PUTZ!	CAN'T OVER LOOK!
TO MAKE A WORLD	YOU'RE JUST A BIG	YOU CAN'T OVERLOOK!
THAT'S THEN UNMADE.	OL'BAG OF	
I HAVE NO CHOICE.	MORALIZING PUS!	
I MUST BE STRONG.		
I MUST NOW RIGHT		
THIS RUINOUS WRONG!		

ALL(But Elder, Wretched & Sweet)

WE ARE YOUR CHILDREN!
YOU ARE OUR FATHER!
PRAISES TO YOU WE'LL ALWAYS SING!

HONOR THE FATHER!
HAIL JAN-THE-ELDER!
GLORY TO YOU, OUR MIGHTY KING!

JAN-THE-ELDER

Now--!!

ALL(But Elder, Wretched & Sweet)
KING!

JAN-THE-ELDER
Now--!!

ALL(But Elder, Wretched & Sweet)
KING!

JAN-THE-ELDER
Now pop him open!!

(As all sing, The Chorus circles Wretched,
preparing to strike.)

JAN-THE-SWEET
NO!

JAN-THE-WISE
YES!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST
NO!

JAN-THE-WISE
Pop!

JAN-THE-SLY
YES!

SWEET & SECOND
NO!

WISE & SLY
OH, YES!

CHORUS 1 & 3
Pop!

SWEET & SECOND
OH, NO!

CHORUS 4, 5, & 6
Pop!

ELDER, WISE, & SLY
YES!

CHORUS

Pop!

JAN-THE-SWEET

NO!

CHORUS

(To Elder)

Pop?!

JAN-THE-ELDER

YES!

CHORUS

Pop!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

NO!

CHORUS

Pop!

PRINCIPALS

YES!

CHORUS

Pop!

PRINCIPALS

NO!

CHORUS

Pop!

PRINCIPALS

YES!

CHORUS

POP!!

(The Chorus rips Wretched open; Wretched's materials spill out of his body.)

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

Nooo-aaIIIEEE!!

ALL

[Gasp]!

(Wretched collapses. Sweet and Second, horrified, rush to Wretched's side.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

Father!

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

Daughter!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

Jan-the-Wretched.

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

Jan-the-Second-Oldest! My materials, what's become of them?

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

They're spilling out of your body, Wretched One. They're floating about in every which way.

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

The salts...we'll eat them all up one day.

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

There are an awful lot of salts.

JAN-THE-WRETCHED

And there are an awful lot of us! Look to the light, Second Jan. Look to the light, swim to the-

(He shudders, a final spasm)

MY JELLY! All of my....jellies...

(Wretched dies. Sweet, anguished, rushes off.)

JAN-THE-ELDER

One day you will come to understand, my son. One day you will know that what just happened here was exactly the right thing to do.

(Second rushes after Sweet. Wise and elder step forward to consider Wretched's body.)

JAN-THE-WISE

So ends the lives of traitors.

JAN-THE-ELDER

What has long been threatened has now been made reality.
Now, away with us! A remedy must be sought for the tang
such remedies engender!

(All exit except Unnamed and the Chorus; Unnamed
and the Chorus step forward to consider
Wretched's body.)

CHORUS-1

'Tis a dark tale we tell this day.

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Indeed it is. For this is the first tale we tell, the
source of all tales yet to come just as the Yeasts were the
source of all life yet to come.

(All consider this. Then)

CHORUS-2

Can it really be true, mistress, that the yeasts were the
world's very first life form?

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Indeed it is.

(Chorus-2 produces a textbook.)

CHORUS-2

Because I came across a textbook from the time of the
Creatures-Yet-to-Come, and it says here that it was
actually a primitive bacteria, or "prokaryote", that first-

(Unnamed grabs the textbook.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

"Textbook"?!

CHORUS

[Gasp!]

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

We have no textbooks here on the bottom of the Sea!

CHORUS-2

No, I know, but-

(Unnamed hurls the textbook offstage.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

Let us never speak of such things again.

(All but Chorus-2 murmur assent. Then)

CHORUS-3

And - - can it really be true, mistress, that there were no stories before this one?

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

None worth musicalizing.

(All consider this.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED(Cont'd.)

For you see, children, whatever proto-narratives might have existed prior to this moment, none held the flame so cherished by the Creatures-Yet-to-Come.

CHORUS-4

"Flame", mistress?

JAN-THE-UNNAMED

It goes by another name, of course, but you will recognize it.

(Tectonic plates rumble ominously, terrifying The Chorus and cueing Unnamed.)

JAN-THE-UNNAMED(Cont'd.)

But come, then! Jan-the-Second-Oldest is on the move, whilst Jan-the-Sweet grieves in her private nook - !

UNNAMED & CHORUS

Alone!

(Lights shift as Unnamed and Chorus exit, and we segue into...)

ACT I
Scene 2

(Sweet's nook. Sweet, alone, grieves.)

(#03) BURNIN' SOUL

JAN-THE-SWEET

OH, FATHER, IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN MEETS THE EYE?
ARE WE JUST MATTER AND WE LIVE AND THEN WE DIE?
IS LIFE, AS SOME SAY, LIKE THE DAY WHEN ALL IS BRIGHT,
AND DEATH IS NEVER-ENDING NIGHT?

I SAY THERE'S SOMETHING MORE TO LIFE THAN WE'RE AWARE,
A FORCE INSIDE US WE CAN'T SEE AND YET IT'S THERE.
WE HAVE A SPIRIT THAT COMPLETES AND MAKES US WHOLE,
A THING THAT CANNOT DIE,
A THING I CALL THE SOUL.

BUT FATHER, SINCE YOUR MURDER, I'VE BEGUN TO CHANGE.
I KNOW MY SOUL CAN'T DIE, AND YET IT'S FEELING VERY STRANGE.

(Some chorus members emerge from the shadows to
sing back-up.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

I HAVE A PAIN WITHIN ME
AND IT WILL NOT LET ME BE.

CHORUS

LET HER BE!

JAN-THE-SWEET

I HAVE A BURNING WOUND,
DEEP BELOW WHERE I CAN'T SEE.

CHORUS

SHE CAN'T SEE!

JAN-THE-SWEET

IF I COULD POP IT OUT
AND FLING IT FAR AWAY
I'D FLING IT FAR AWAY,
FAR AWAY.

CHORUS

FAR AWAY!

JAN-THE-SWEET

I HAVE A PAIN THAT SEARS ME,
SORT OF LIKE A BURNING COAL.

CHORUS

BURNING COAL!

JAN-THE-SWEET

IT LEAVES MY BODY BE
BUT WOUNDS MY VERY SOUL.

CHORUS

VERY SOUL!

JAN-THE-SWEET

IF I DESTROY MY BODY,
CAN THAT CURE THE SOUL?
I WANT TO CURE THE SOUL,
CURE THE SOUL.

CHORUS

CURE THE SOUL, CURE THE SOUL!

JAN-THE-SWEET

I'M ON FIRE,
AND MY SOUL IS WHAT'S AFLAME!

CHORUS

FLAME! FLAME! FLAME!

JAN-THE-SWEET

LIKE A PYRE,
IT'S ABLAZE WITH GRIEF AND SHAME.

CHORUS

SHAME! SHAME! SHAME!

(The Chorus sings "Ooo" under the following
verse.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

I CAN'T COPE,
AND I JUST MIGHT LOSE CONTROL
OF MY BURNIN' SOUL.

(Second enters.)

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

Jan-the-Sweet?

(Sweet turns, taken by surprise.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

Jan-the-Second-Oldest!

(Sweet kneels. The Chorus fades back into the shadows as the following scene unfolds.)

JAN-THE-SWEET(Cont'd.)

Have you come, then, to murder me as your father murdered my father?

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

I come only to offer you my condolences, Sweet One, and this unusually large salt crystal, also known as a "fatty," as a token of my grief.

(Second produces an unusually large salt crystal, also known as a "fatty," and hands it to Sweet.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

A fatty?

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

From my private stash. I know it cannot replace your father in any meaningful way. But perhaps it might offer you some small physical comforts in the days to come.

JAN-THE-SWEET

Thinkest thou generous, Second Jan, taking my father and giving me this?

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

No, Sweet One, I only-

JAN-THE-SWEET

Thinkest thou kind?! My father was kind, but he was starving! As am I! As are all our kind!

(Sweet hurls the fatty at Second, then sings as The Chorus reemerges to sing with Sweet.)

JAN-THE-SWEET

YOU ARE THE PAIN WITHIN ME,
YOU AND JAN-THE-ELDER, TOO!

CHORUS

RIGHT!

JAN-THE-SWEET

YOU'VE GOT YOUR SEAT OF POWER,
WHILE WE MUST STAND FOR YOU!

CHORUS

NO!

JAN-THE-SWEET

YOUR SOUL-LESS CALCULATIONS
MAKE ME HATE ON YOU!
CAN'T HELP BUT HATE ON YOU,

CHORUS

HATE ON YOU!

JAN-THE-SWEET

HATE ON YOU!

CHORUS

HATE, HATE, HATE, HATE - ON YOU!

JAN-THE-SWEET

I'M ON FIRE,

AND MY SOUL IS WHAT'S ALIGHT!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

YOU'RE ON FIRE!

CHORUS

LIGHT! LIGHT! LIGHT!

IT'S ALIGHT AND BURNING BRIGHT!

JAN-THE-SWEET

IT'S QUITE DIRE,

AND IT'S GIVEN ME A FRIGHT.

IT'S QUITE DIRE!

CHORUS

FRIGHT! FRIGHT! FRIGHT!

OOOOO.....

HATIN' ME WON'T SET YOU RIGHT!

YOU'RE IN PAIN,

AND IT'S TAKEN QUITE A TOLL
ON YOUR BURNIN' SOUL!

JAN-THE-SECOND-OLDEST

IF WE'VE GOT A SOUL LIKE YOU'RE SAYIN'
KNOWING HOW THEY WORK IS A MUST.