

Verb -5 sing -20 tra

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#1 RAGTIME (OPENING)

SCENE 1

1 - THE LITTLE BOY

In 1902 Father built a house at the crest of the Broadview Avenue hill in New Rochelle, New York, and it seemed for some years thereafter that all the families days would be warm and fair.

1-5, 7, 9 - PEOPLE OF NEW ROCHELLE

THE SKIES WERE BLUE AND HAZY
RARELY A STORM. BARELY A CHILL.

3, 7, 9 - WOMEN

LA LA LA LA LA ...

1-5, 7, 9 - PEOPLE OF NEW ROCHELLE

THE AFTERNOONS WERE LAZY
EVERYONE WARM. EVERYTHING STILL.

2, 4, 5, 7, 9 - MEN

LA LA LA LA LA ...

1-5, 7, 9 - ALL

AND THERE WAS DISTANT MUSIC,
SIMPLE AND SOMEHOW SUBLIME,
GIVING THE NATION
A NEW SYNCOPATION —
THE PEOPLE CALLED THE RAGTIME!

2 - FATHER

Father was well off. Very well off. His considerable income was derived from the manufacture of fireworks and bunting and other accoutrements of patriotism. Father was also something of an amateur explorer.

3 - MOTHER

The house on the hill in New Rochelle was Mother's domain. She took pleasure in making it comfortable for the men of her family and often told herself how fortunate she was to be so protected and provided for by her husband.

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4 - YOUNGER BROTHER

Mother's Younger Brother worked at Father's fireworks factory. He was a genius at explosives. But he was also a young man in search of something to believe in. His sister wondered when he would find it.

5 - GRANDFATHER

Grandfather had been a professor of Greek and Latin. Now retired and living with his daughter and her family, he was thoroughly irritated by everything.

1-5, 7, 9 - PEOPLE OF NEW ROCHELLE

THE DAYS WERE GENTLY TINTED
LAVENDER PINK, LEMON AND LIME.

3 - MOTHER

LADIES WITH PARASOLS

4 - YOUNGER BROTHER

FELLOWS WITH TENNIS BALLS

2 - FATHER

THERE WERE GAZEBOS, AND ...
THERE WERE NO NEGROES.

8 - PEOPLE OF HARLEM

AND EVERYTHING WAS RAGTIME!
LISTEN TO THAT RAGTIME!

SCENE 2

1 - COALHOUSE

In Harlem, Men and women of color forgot their troubles and danced and reveled to the music of Coalhouse Walker, Jr. This was a music that was theirs and no one else's.

2 - SARAH

One young woman that Coalhouse played just for her. Her name was Sarah.

8 - PEOPLE OF HARLEM

OOOOH...

3 - WASHINGTON

Booker T. Washington was one of the most famous Negro in the country. He counseled friendship between the races and spoke of the promise of the future. He had no patience with Negroes who lived less than exemplary lives.

7 - PEOPLE OF NEW ROCHELLE

LADIES WITH PARASOLS
FELLOWS WITH TENNIS BALLS

THERE WERE NO NEGROES AND THERE WERE NO IMMIGRANTS

SCENE 3

1 - TATEH

In Latvia, a man dreamed of a new life for his little girl. It would be a long journey, a terrible one. He would not lose Her, as he had her mother. His name was Tateh. He never spoke of his wife. The little girl was all he had now. Together, they would escape

2 - LITTLE BOY

Houdini! Look its Houdini!

9 - CROWD (EVERYBODY) (MAYBE ADD 7,8)

OOH...AH!
OOH...AH!

3 - HOUDINI

Harry houdini was one immigrant who made an art of escape. He was a headliner in the top vaudeville circuits, and he made his mother proud. But for all his achievements, he knew he was only an illusionist. He wanted to believe there was more.

Hello, sonny.

2 - LITTLE BOY

Warn the duke!

3 - HOUDINI

What did you say?

SCENE 4

7 - PEOPLE OF NEW ROCHELLE

AND THERE WAS DISTANT MUSIC
CHANGING THE TUNE, CHANGING THE TIME

8 - PEOPLE OF HARLEM

GIVING THE NATION
A NEW SYNCOPATION:

9 - ALL (NOT 8-15)

LA, LA, LA LA...

1 - JP MORGAN

Certain men make a country great.

2 - HENRY FORD

They can't help it.

1 - MORGAN

At the very apex of the American pyramid —

2 - FORD

That's the very tip-top

1 - MORGAN

Like Pharaoh's reincarnate, stood JP Morgan

2 - FORD

And Henry Ford.

1 - MORGAN

All men are born equal.

2 - FORD

But the cream rises to the top.

3 - EMMA GOLDMAN

Let me at those sons of bitches! These men are the demons who are sucking your very should dry! I hate them!

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X-10

LA's continue until very "tip top"

Start again at "sons of bitches"

End at "arrest that woman"

1 - MORGAN

Someone should arrest that woman!

3 - EMMA GOLDMAN

The radical anarchist Emma Goldman fought against the ravages of American Capitalism as she watched her fellow immigrant's hopes turn to despair on the Lower East Side.

4 - EVELYN NESBIT

LA LA LA LA
LA LA LA LA LA LA

Whee!

3 - EMMA

But America was watching another drama.

SCENE 5

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4 - EVELYN

Evelyn Nesbit was the most beautiful woman in America. If she wore her hair in curls, every woman wore her hair in curls.

2 - STANFORD WHITE (D MAIZE)

Her lover was the eminent architect, Stanford White, designer of the Pennsylvania station on 33rd street.

1 - HARRY K. THAW (JACKSON)

Her husband, the eccentric millionaire, Harry K. Thaw, was a violent man.

4 - EVELYN

After her husband shot her lover, Evelyn became the biggest attraction in vaudeville since Tom Thumb.

8 - NEW ROCHELLE WOMEN

LA LA LA LA LA

7 - MEN

Bang!

8 - NEW ROCHELLE WOMEN

LA LA LA

7 - MEN

Bang

8 - NEW ROCHELLE WOMEN

LA

7 - MEN

Bang

3 - EMMA GOLDMAN

And although the newspapers called the shooting the Crime of the Century, Goldman knew it was only 1906

7, 8, 9 - ALL

AND THERE WERE NINETY FOUR YEARS TO GO!

Bump - 5

3 - EMMA

Whee!

ALL

AND THERE WAS MUSIC PLAYING,
CATCHING A NATION IN ITS PRIME...
BEGGAR AND MILLIONAIRE
EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE
MOVING TO THE RAGTIME!

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SCENE 6

7, 8, 9 - ALL

AND THERE WAS DISTANT MUSIC,
SKIPPING A BEAT, SINGING A DREAM.

8, 9 - WOMEN

LA LA LA LA LA

7, 8, 9 - ALL

A STRANGE, INSISTENT MUSIC
PUTTING OUT HEAT
PICKING UP STEAM.

7, 9 - MEN

LA LA LA LA LA

7, 8, 9 - TALL

THE SOUND OF DISTANT THUNDER
SUDDENLY STARTING TO CLIMB ...
IT WAS THE MUSIC
OF SOMETHING BEGINNING,
AN ERA EXPLODING
A CENTURY SPINNING
IN RICHES AND RAGS,
AND IN RHYTHM AND RHYME
THE PEOPLE CALLED IT RAGTIME...
RAGTIME ... (RAGTIME)
RAGTIME ... (RAGTIME)
RAGTIME ... (RAGTIME, RAGTIME!)

Push