

EVERYMAN

a musical by: **Stephen DeCesare** **Copyright 2001**

Messenger enters

Messenger:

Ladies and gentlemen, I pray that you will pay attention to the story that will now be put before you. It is the story of Everyman. A person who had every advantage in life and only sought to please himself/herself and not help others in the process. Here you shall see how Fellowship, Jollity, Strength, Pleasure and Beauty will one day fade away like withered grass in a field, and the invaluable lesson of making every day count as if it were your last. So now, we present to you, Everyman!

Enter screaming crowd with Everyman. Crowd is begging for autographs.

Fan:

Oh, Everyman, you're gorgeous!

Everyman:

If you think I'm gorgeous now, wait 'till you hear me sing.

Everyman takes his/her place and sings. (Crowd that entered with Everyman will leave to get ready for their prospective parts) (If Everyman is a guy, he will sing 'STUCK ON LOVE'. If Everyman is a girl, she will sing "SET ME FREE")

Everyman: I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.
EVER SINCE I MET YOU, GIRL,
THE ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF, IS YOU.
YOU HAVE TURNED ME INSIDE-OUT
AND YOU HAVE MADE ALL OF MY DREAMS COME TRUE.
I HAVE NEVER FELT LIKE THIS FOR ANYONE ELSE BEFORE.
I KNOW YOU'RE THE GIRL FOR ME
'CAUSE YOU'RE THE ONE I'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR.
I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.

GIRL, I NEED YA' TO BE MINE;
IT IS FOR YOU THAT MY HEART IS YEARNING.
I WANT TO BE CLOSE TO YOU; I'LL BE YOUR PUPPET ON A STRING.
I JUST WANT TO LOVE YOU, GIRL,
LIKE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN LOVED BEFORE.
FOR WITH ME YOU'LL WANT FOR NOTHING.
I'LL BE YOURS FOREVERMORE.

I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.

GIRL, IT WOULD BE SO WONDERFUL
IF YOU AND I COULD BE TOGETHER.

I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.
I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.
I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.
I'M STUCK ON LOVE AND I'M STUCK ON YOU.
YOU. YOU. ONLY, ONLY YOU. YOU. ONLY, ONLY YOU.
YOU. ONLY, ONLY YOU. ONLY YOU. ONLY YOU. ONLY YOU!

Everyman:

When you're as talented as I am those things are just expected. And speaking of expected, why isn't my massage therapist here?

Manager:

I don't know.

Everyman:

What do you mean 'you don't know'? You're my manager. You're supposed to be on top of everything.

Manager:

I'm sorry, man, but he's/she's gotta be around somewhere.

Everyman:

Talent like me should not be kept waiting.

Manager:

I'll go look for him/her.

Everyman:

Why don't you do that. And while you're at it, get me a bottle of the best champagne you can find.

Manager:

They don't have anything like that around here. I'd have to go clear across town to....

Everyman:

Look into my eyes and see if I care. Now hurry up or I can easily find someone else to earn your ten percent.

Manager leaves quickly and Everyman goes over to his mirror and gazes lovingly at himself/herself.

Everyman: IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME. IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.
WHO HAS GOT IT BETTER THAN ME? IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.

WHO HAS GOT MORE TALENT THAN ME? NOBODY.
WHO IS BETTER LOOKING THAN ME? NOBODY.
WHO HAS GOT MORE MONEY THAN ME? NOBODY.
WHO'S GOT MORE DISTINCTION THAN ME? NOBODY.
WHEN THEY MADE ME - THEY BROKE THE MOLD.
I'M SUCH A WONDER TO BEHOLD.
MEDIOCRITY'S ALL FOLD BENEATH MY FEET.

IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME. IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.
WHO HAS GOT IT BETTER THAN ME? IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.

I GET EVERYTHING THAT I WANT HANDED TO ME.
ALL MY FANS GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO SATISFY ME.
THEY BASICALLY TREAT ME LIKE A GOD; THEY DEIFY ME.
I HAVE MORE POWER THAN ANY WORLDLY AUTHORITY.
ONE THING'S FOR SURE: I'M NEVER WRONG
AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO WAIT TOO LONG
BEFORE THE PEOPLE MAKE ME RULER OF THE EARTH!

IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME. IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.
WHO HAS GOT IT BETTER THAN ME? IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.

IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME. IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME.
WHO HAS GOT IT BETTER THAN ME?
IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME. IT'S SO GREAT TO BE ME!

After song, Everyman will go back to his mirror and start to “fix himself/herself up” in the mirror and then freeze while dialogue between Death and God happens.

God:

I've created a monster.

Death:

Would it help much if I said I never really liked him/her?

God:

Everyman lives after his/her own pleasure. He/she has never thanked me for the pleasures that I have sent to him/her or for the talents that I have lent. Well, it all ends now. Death, you are my mighty messenger. You are to go to Everyman and tell him/her that his/her time on earth is drawing to a close and that he/she will be facing the final judgment at sunrise tomorrow.

Death:

Is that all?

God:

No. You will tell him/her that before the final hour, he must choose one of his/her attributes to accompany him/her on this pilgrimage, so that it may help plead his/her case before me before I make my final judgment upon Everyman's immortal soul.

Death:

You're the boss.

Death goes over and knocks on Everyman's dressing room door. Everyman opens the door.

Everyman:

It's about time you showed up. (**Lies on the massage table**) I have a crick in my lower back that needs immediate attention.

Death:

I am not your message therapist.

Everyman:

Then who are you? And how did you get past security?

Death:

Who I am is irrelevant. Why I am here is of the utmost importance.

Everyman:

Oh, then it must be that you want my autograph. Very well, whom do I make it out to?

Death:

I don't want your autograph. I could care less about your autograph. All I want you do is shut up and listen to what I have to say.

Everyman:

Who do you think you're talking to?!

Death:

Let me introduce myself. I am Death.

Everyman:

What's your last name "warmed over"?

(laughs at his/her own joke)

Death:

I have been sent to you by God.

Everyman:

Who?

Death:

It doesn't surprise me how you have forgotten Him, but I tell you, He hasn't forgotten you.

Everyman:

Listen, whatever your selling, I'm not buying; So just leave whatever pamphlets you got on the table and get out of here. Security! Security! (**Guard enters**) Please escort this person off of the premises.

Guard:

Who?

Everyman:

Can't you see him/her?

Death:

You are the only one that can see or hear me.

Everyman:

Oh, please. I think I've seen this movie before.

Guard:

Who are you talking to?

Everyman:

The freak that's standing right in front of you, you big ignoramus.

Guard:

Hey, I don't care who you are, you're looking to be put through that back wall.

Everyman:

Oh, yeah!

Guard:

Yeah!!! (**rolling up sleeves**)

Everyman:

Point taken. You may leave now.

Death: (laughing)

Point, set and match.

Everyman:

What is going on around here?

Death:

I think I covered that already.

Everyman:

What does He want from me?

Death:

This will be your last night and before sunrise tomorrow you will be before God and you shall have to answer for all that you have done and have not done.

Everyman:

You're serious, aren't you?

Death:

Dead serious.

Everyman:

There has to be some mistake. Your bookkeeping must be wrong. I'm not ready to go yet. I have a new CD coming out and a worldwide concert tour...

Death:

Well, those ideas have just been nudged.

Everyman:

Look, um...there's gotta be something we can do to...delay this for a time. Everybody has their price. What will it take for you to forget you were ever here? Money? Fame? (**noticing Death's pallor**) a lifetime membership at a tanning salon?

Death:

This is not a matter to be taken lightly.

Everyman:

C'mon man, this is not totally not fair. I'm at my peak. I'm number one on the charts. I'm a collector's doll!

Death:

It's because of Him that you exist. He gave you all your gifts and talents and not even so much as 'thank you' does He get?

Everyman:

I deserved them.

Death:

No, they were only lent to you and as soon as you die, someone else will possess them.

Everyman:

Well, how about if I give Him a complimentary CD. Then you can tell Him that this whole "dying" thing is off and we'll just forget that we ever had this conversation. (**dead pause**) (**getting desperate**) Look man, I'm not ready. How am I going to plead my case before God?

Death:

YOU MUST MAKE AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT
OF THE THINGS YOU'VE DONE IN LIFE;
EVERY LARGE AND SMALL DETAIL
WILL HAVE LASTING EFFECTS ON YOUR AFTERLIFE.

YOU HAVE ONLY 'TILL THE CRACK OF DAWN
TO GET YOURSELF PREPARED. 'CAUSE I WON'T WANT TO HEAR
THAT YOU ARE NOT READY OR 'THAT IT'S NOT FAIR';

THAT YOU NEED SOME MORE TIME
BEFORE I TAKE YOU TO YOUR MAKER.
WELL, YOU HAVE NO CHOICE - YOUR TIME WILL BE UP.
'CAUSE TOMORROW IS YOUR JUDGEMENT DAY.

SO YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, BABY!
OH, YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, FOR IT'S TOO LATE.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. NOW'S BETTER THAN LATER.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER.

YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, BABY!
OH, YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, FOR IT'S TOO LATE.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. NOW'S BETTER THAN LATER.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER.

Everyman:

Well, for starters I can show him all the CD albums I've made; Point out the fact that I have over 1000 fan clubs worldwide and I'm the president of the Golfers League.

Death:

God doesn't care about any of those things; Not how much money you've made, what kind of car you drive or what kind of house you live in. He cares about what you have done for your fellow man and what's in your heart.

YOU HAD EVERYTHING ONE COULD DESIRE:
LOOKS AND WEALTH AND FAME;
BUT INSTEAD OF GIVING THANKS YOU GRIPED AND MOANED
AND CONSTANTLY COMPLAINED

THAT YOU NEVER EVER HAD ENOUGH;
YOU WERE NEVER SATISFIED.
YOU MINORED IN GLUTTONY.
BUT THE ONE YOU EXCELLED IN WAS THE SIN OF PRIDE.

YOU HURT EVERYONE THAT EVER WANTED TO BE CLOSE TO YOU.
BUT NOW THE TIME HAS COME; YOU'LL HAVE TO ANSWER FOR
ALL OF THE THINGS THAT YOU'VE DONE.

SO YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, BABY!
OH, YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, FOR IT'S TOO LATE.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. NOW'S BETTER THAN LATER.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER.

YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, BABY!
OH, YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, FOR IT'S TOO LATE.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. NOW'S BETTER THAN LATER.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER.

YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, BABY!
OH, YOU BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER, FOR IT'S TOO LATE.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER. NOW'S BETTER THAN LATER.
BETTER GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER.

Everyman: I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA DO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA SAY
WHEN I'M PRESENTED BEFORE THE LORD.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA DO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA SAY
WHEN I'M PRESENTED BEFORE THE LORD.

Death:
You better deal with it, baby!

Death exits. The stage is stripped bare and Everyman sits at the edge of the stage. Fellowship enters.

Fellowship:
Hello, Everyman. How come you look so down in the dumps?

Everyman:
Fellowship, it's you. I'm in deep trouble.

Fellowship:
Hey, you're my best friend, tell me what's on your mind.

Everyman:
That's very kind of you.

Fellowship:
Think nothing of it. C'mon, tell me what's the matter.

Everyman:
If I tell you, will you comfort me?

Fellowship:
Absolutely.

Everyman:
Then you will be a true friend?

Fellowship:
To Hell and back.

SINCE WE WERE YOUNG, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THERE BY YOUR SIDE.
WHENEVER YOU NEEDED ME, I WAS JUST A CALL AWAY.

I SHARED YOUR EACH AND EVERY TRIUMPH,
SUPPORTED ALL OF YOUR DECISIONS. AND NOTHING'S CHANGED;
I'M STILL YOUR FRIEND FOR NOW AND ALWAYS.

Everyman: IT'S TRUE, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A LOYAL FRIEND TO ME.
IT WAS A COMFORT KNOWING THAT YOU WOULD BE THERE
TO ALWAYS LISTEN TO MY PROBLEMS,
MY CONCERNS, MY DOUBTS, MY FEARS.
IT IS CLEAR TO ME HOW MUCH YOU REALLY CARE.

Fellowship: YOU CAN SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT I GUARANTEE:
YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

Everyman: I COULD SEARCH THE WHOLE,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT YOU GUARANTEE:

Fellowship: YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

Now Everyman, you know that friendship requires more than one person. You contribute a lot to this relationship. You're a true friend to me as well.

Everyman:
You know, I believe you're right.

WHENEVER YOU NEEDED SOMETHING,
I'D BE THE ONE YOU'D CALL AND I WOULD GLADLY
GIVE WHATEVER I COULD TO YOU.

WHETHER IT WAS MONEY OR A POSITION
AS THE PRESIDENT OF MY FAN CLUBS; AS YOUR BEST FRIEND
THAT'S THE LEAST THAT I COULD DO.

Fellowship: I MUST ADMIT HAVING YOU FOR A FRIEND IS LOADS OF FUN;
WHEN ONE ADVENTURE ENDS ANOTHER ONE BEGINS.

I LOVE THE PARTIES AND THE PEOPLE
THAT CONSTANTLY SURROUNDS YOU.
BEING AROUND YOU MAKES ME FEEL I'M BORN AGAIN.

Everyman: YOU CAN SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT I GUARANTEE:
YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

Fellowship: I COULD SEARCH THE WHOLE,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT YOU GUARANTEE:

Everyman: YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

Both: FRIENDSHIPS LIKE OURS ARE SO EXTREMELY RARE.
YOU'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER PAIR
OF PEOPLE WHO ARE FRIENDS LIKE YOU AND I.

Both: THERE'S NO OTHER PERSON QUITE LIKE ME
WHO A BETTER FRIEND TO YOU WILL BE;
NO ONE WOULD EVEN DARE TO TRY.

YOU CAN SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT I GUARANTEE:
YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

YOU CAN SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD,
BUT THERE'S ONE THING THAT I GUARANTEE:
YOU'LL NEVER FIND A FRIEND LIKE ME.

Fellowship:
Now, tell me what's on your mind.

Everyman:

Well, here goes nothing. I'm commanded to go on a journey. A long way, hard and dangerous and give an account of my life before God Himself and seeing that you are my best friend, I know that you will accompany me.

Fellowship:

Say what?

Everyman:

I said, 'seeing that you are my best friend, I know that you will accompany me.'

Fellowship: (pause)

I don't think so.

Everyman:

Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't we just get through singing about how I'll never find a better friend than you?

Fellowship:

Yeah, it was something like that.

Everyman:

Then what's the problem?

Fellowship:

Look, if you were willing to eat, drink, go party, and pick up some girls/guys, I would be right there.

Everyman:

Of course you would; But since I have to take this long journey, I'm not going to see hide or hair of you.

Fellowship:

Listen, Everyman, don't you start trippin' on me. Even if you offered me mountains of money, I wouldn't go.

Everyman:

You were my best friend, and now that I need you the most, you will abandon me?

Fellowship:

Whether we were best friends or not, I will not go with you. But I will leave you with these words: 'Parting is such sweet sorrow...'

Everyman:

And if you don't get your two-faced butt out of here, I'll kick it from here till tomorrow.

Fellowship quickly leaves

Everyman:

Now that Fellowship has forsaken me, what am I going to do? (pause) I know, I will ask my Kinsmen to help me. They will not fail me. (shouts out) Where are you my friends and kinsmen?

Enter Cousin and Kindred from opposite sides of the theatre

Kindred:

Here we are at your command.

Cousin:

Yes, Everyman. We are at your disposal. We will live and die together.