

# **The Prodigal Son**

Copyright 2002 Stephen DeCesare

Scene opens on a field of happy field workers.

**Leader:**

GOOD MORNING EVERYBODY.

**Chorus:**

O CHILDREN!

**Leader:**

GOOD MORNING EVERYBODY, LORD.

**Chorus:**

YOU GAVE US A WONDROUS DAY, MY LORD.

**Leader:**

MY SOUL GO HAPPY THIS MORNING.

**Chorus:**

O MY LORD!

**Leader:**

MY SOUL GOT HAPPY THIS MORNING, LORD.

**Chorus:**

FOR BLESSING US WITH THIS WONDROUS DAY.

**Leader:**

WE THANK YOU FOR THE SUNSHINE.

**Chorus:**

O CHILDREN!

**Leader:**

WE THANK YOU FOR THE RAIN, MY LORD.

**Chorus:**

YOU BLESS US WITH SOFT, REFRESHING RAIN.

**Leader:**

WE THANK YOU FOR THE HARVEST.

**Chorus:**

O MY LORD!

**Leader:**

I'LL BLESS YOUR NAME FOREVER, LORD.

**Chorus:**

FOR BLESSING US WITH ANOTHER DAY.

**Leader:**

MAY ALL OUR LABORS NOW PRAISE YOU.

**Chorus:**

PRAISE YOU LORD.

**Leader:**

MAY ALL OUR SONGS NOW PRAISE YOU, LORD.

**Chorus:**

WE LIFT UP OUR VOICES TO YOU, LORD.

**Leader:**

MAY ALL WE DO TODAY THANK YOU.

**Chorus:**

O MY LORD!

**Leader:**

O LORD, O MY GRACIOUS LORD!

**Chorus:**

WE THANK YOU, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE.

**Leader and Chorus:**

WE THANK YOU, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE.

WE THANK YOU, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE.

**After song, workers leave and Father and Michael enter from opposite sides of the stage.**

**Michael:**

Father, may I speak to you for a moment?

**Father:**

Yes, Michael. What is it?

**Michael:**

I just want you to know that what I'm about to tell you, I gave a lot of thought and that this is the only real thing for me to do.

**Father:**

It sounds serious.

**Michael:**

It is father. I want to seek my fortune and fame out there in the world. I want to leave as soon as possible.

**Father:**

Leave? There is so much for you here.

**Michael:**

That's just it. None of this is mine. It's all yours.

**Father:**

It will be one day; yours and your older brother David's.

**Michael:**

Well, I can't wait until then. Do you think I want to wait around forever? Learning and doing the family business. I hate it and it's getting me nowhere fast.

**Father:**

It's that business that so far has put food in your belly and clothes on your back.

**Michael:**

I realize that, but there is a big world out there and I want to be a part of it. I want to see and do it all.

**Father:**

If that is what you really want?

**Michael:**

Yes, father. It is. So do I have your leave to go?

**Father:**

Yes. You may leave as soon as you are able. Do you have everything you'll need?

**Michael:**

Almost everything.

**Father:**

Such as?

**Michael:**

Well, I was thinking, since you said that half of all this is mine. I would like to have my share of my inheritance now.

**Father:**

Now?

**Michael:**

Yes, now. This way I'll have a better start in life with something in my pocket.

**Father:**

That's understandable, but, you know it would better to take a little and if you need something, you can always come back...

**Michael:**

That won't be necessary. I have no intentions of coming back, ever.

**Father:**

I have to sit down.

**Michael:**

Father, please understand...

**David enters**

**Father:**

Understand what? That you want to turn your back on your family who has always been there for you. Never to see us again?

**David:**

What's going on?

**Father:**

Your brother wants his share of the inheritance now so he can leave and never come back.

**David:**

Is this true?

**Michael:**

Yes, it is.

**David:**

You're something else. You barely do anything around here and after father has catered to your almost every whim, you would do this to him?

**Michael:**

You don't understand anything. I am not like you. I'm nothing like you!

**David:**

Of course not. I'm the one busting my backside everyday out in the fields and where are you? God only knows where! You always thought you better than everybody else. Afraid to get your hands dirty. You have no idea what a hard day's work is like and you think you're going to survive out there. I don't think so!

**Michael:**

Don't you dare get self-righteous on me, big brother. I was the one sent off to get educated, not you. And what is my education doing for me here? Nothing! This place is nothing but a bad memory. When father is finally dead, you would be in charge of everything, only because you were born first. I refuse to be under your thumb!

**Father:**

David, that's not...

**Michael: (to his father)**

Am I getting my money, or not?!

**The Father gets up and goes into the house and get the money. The brothers just stare at each other. The father comes out and gives him two bags of money.**

**Father:**

I don't want to see you two end like this. David, you may never see your brother again. Make your peace.

**David reluctantly goes over and extends his hand. Michael refuse to shake it.**

**Father:**

Michael, make your peace.

**Michael doesn't budge.**

**David:**

Fine. **(turns to leave)** Don't you even dare think of coming back here when you finally need more money!

**Michael:**

Don't worry! I'll be so rich and famous, that I'll buy you out and you'll be working for me! **(to his father)** Have a nice life, father.

**The brothers leave in opposite directions. The Father is left slumped, saddened and alone.**

**Father:**

MY HEART FEELS LIKE IT'S BREAKING.  
IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S BEEN TORN IN TWO AND CAN NEVER BE MENDED.  
MY LIFE FEELS LIKE IT'S ENDED.

WHAT DID I DO? OH, WHAT DID I SAY TO ENCOURAGE SUCH ANGER?  
ALL I'VE EVER DONE WAS LOVE HIM;  
GAVE HIM ALL I COULD;  
NOW HE'S GONE AND HAS VOWED NOT TO RETURN.

GRIEF NOW WILL BE MY CONSTANT COMPANION;  
AND MISERY, MY FRIEND WHO WILL PIERCE MY ACHING HEART.  
MY TEAR-FILLED HEART.

## **Scene 2**

**Out on the road. Michael enters and sings:**

**Michael:**

AT LAST I'M FINALLY OUT INTO THE WORLD  
TO SEEK MY FORTUNE AND MY FAME.  
AND I WON'T REST UNTIL THE WHOLE WORLD  
SPEAKS AND KNOWS MY NAME.  
THE WORLD WILL SPEAK MY NAME.  
THE WORLD WILL KNOW MY NAME.

BUT FIRST I MUST GATHER MY FORTUNE;  
ACQUIRE THE WEALTH OF AN EMPEROR.  
THE RICHES OF EARTH WILL BE MINE.  
I'LL ACQUIRE THEM ALL IN NO TIME.  
WITH MY BRAINS AND TALENTS AND GOOD LOOKS  
THE RICHES OF EARTH WILL BE MINE.  
I'LL ACQUIRE THEM ALL IN NO TIME.  
EVERYTHING WILL BE MINE. EVERYTHING WILL BE MINE.

AND WHEN I'VE STRUCK MY FORTUNE AND MY FAME,  
I'LL FIND A PRETTY LITTLE WIFE.  
A WOMAN WHO WILL MAKE ME HAPPY ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE.  
TO MAKE ME HAPPY ALL MY LIFE.  
TO MAKE ME HAPPY ALL OF MY LIFE.

THE ONE THAT I CHOOSE MUST BE DAINTY;  
A FLOWER WOULD PALE TO HER BEAUTY.  
A WIFE WHO'S AT MY BECK AND CALL;  
THAT'S THE THING I REQUIRE MOST OF ALL.  
TO SERVE ME AND FEED ME AND PLEASE ME  
WILL BE THE DESIRE OF MY BRIDE;  
WHILE I HAVE GORGEOUS GIRLS ON THE SIDE.  
GORGEOUS GIRLS ON THE SIDE.  
GORGEOUS GIRLS ON THE SIDE.

**After song prostitutes will enter. The madam will come up to Michael and proposition him.**

**Prostitute:**

Hello, tall, dark and handsome.

**Michael:**

Hello.

**Prostitute:**

You look like you've been traveling a long time. Why don't you rest your feet in my house.  
My ladies and I will take good care of you.

**Prostitute:**

PUT YOURSELF IN MY HANDS. DON'T FRET. I WILL BE KIND.  
WHEN SOMEONE LIKE YOU IS WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME  
THEY CHANGE FROM A BOY TO A MAN.

COME INSIDE AND EXPLORE YOUR WIVES.  
MY GIRLS AND I WILL FILL YOUR EACH DESIRE.  
WE WILL MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A GOD  
AND MAKE YOUR BODY FEEL LIKE ITS ON FIRE.

WE CAN CATER TO ALL YOUR WHIMS.  
WE MAKE A SECOND FEEL JUST LIKE A DAY.  
COME EXPERIENCE ALL WE HAVE.  
THE MORE YOU WANT OF US, THE MORE YOU'LL PAY.

**Chorus:**

COME INSIDE AND EXPLORE YOUR WIVES.  
FOR EVERY GIRL WILL FILL YOUR EACH DESIRE.  
THEY WILL MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A GOD  
AND MAKE YOUR BODY FEEL LIKE IT'S ON FIRE.

**Prostitute:**

COME BE A MAN. COME BE MY MAN.  
THE MORE YOU PAY, THE MORE I'LL DO.  
I'LL MAKE EACH FANTASY OF YOURS COME TRUE.  
AND WHEN THE DAY IS FINALLY THROUGH,  
A COIN OR TWO IS WHAT I WANT FROM YOU.

**Chorus:**

SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Prostitute:**

SO COME WITH ME, MY BOY, AND LET ME  
TAKE YOU BY THE HAND.

**Chorus:**

YOU BY THE HAND!

**Prostitute:**

FOR ONE SMALL FEE,  
YOU'LL SEE TONIGHT YOU WILL BECOME A MAN.

**Pros. Girls:**

THE MORE YOU PAY, THE MORE SHE'LL DO.  
SHE'LL MAKE EACH FANTASY OF YOURS COME TRUE.  
AND WHEN THE DAY IS FINALLY THROUGH,  
A COIN OR TWO IS ALL SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Men Clients:**

A COIN IS WHAT SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Chorus:**

SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Prostitute:**

SO COME WITH ME, MY BOY, AND LET ME TAKE YOU BY THE HAND.

**Chorus:**

YOU BY THE HAND! A MAN.

**Prostitute:**

FOR ONE SMALL FEE,  
YOU'LL SEE TONIGHT YOU WILL BECOME A MAN.

**PROSTITUTES DANCE**

**Prostitute:**

COME BE A MAN. COME BE MY MAN.  
THE MORE YOU PAY, THE MORE I'LL DO.  
I'LL MAKE EACH FANTASY OF YOURS COME TRUE.  
AND WHEN THE DAY IS FINALLY THROUGH,  
A COIN OR TWO IS WHAT I WANT FROM YOU.

**Chorus:**

SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Prostitute:**

SO COME WITH ME, MY BOY, AND LET ME TAKE YOU BY THE HAND.

**Chorus:**

YOU BY THE HAND!

**Prostitute:**

FOR ONE SMALL FEE,  
YOU'LL SEE TONIGHT YOU WILL BECOME A MAN.

**Pros. Girls:**

THE MORE YOU PAY, THE MORE SHE'LL DO.  
SHE'LL MAKE EACH FANTASY OF YOURS COME TRUE.  
AND WHEN THE DAY IS FINALLY THROUGH,  
A COIN OR TWO IS ALL SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Men Clients:**

A COIN IS WHAT SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Chorus:**

SHE WANTS FROM YOU.

**Prostitute:**

SO COME WITH ME, MY BOY, AND LET ME TAKE YOU BY THE HAND.

**Chorus:**

YOU BY THE HAND! A MAN.

**Prostitute:**

FOR ONE SMALL FEE,  
YOU'LL SEE TONIGHT YOU WILL BECOME A MAN.

**AFTER SONG, THE MADAM PROSTITUTE AND HER GIRLS WILL LEAD HIM  
OFF-STAGE.**