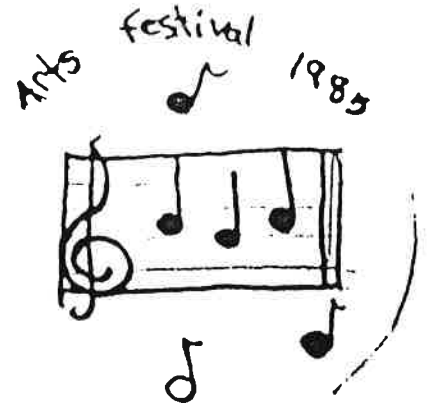


MUD LAKE SCHOOL

"The Stonecutter"



Musicians: Jennifer Best - recorder  
Sandra Dee Hope - recorder  
Virginia Hope - guitar

Actors:

<u>the Stonecutter</u>	- Michael Best
<u>the Wizardess</u>	- Sandra Dee Hope
<u>the Knights</u>	- Carl White
	- Jeffrey Winters
<u>the Queen</u>	- Kimberly Best
<u>the Serving Girls</u>	- Glenys Best
	- Robin Broomfield
	- Tracy Rose
<u>the Dancer</u>	- Glenys Best
<u>the Plants</u>	- Robin Broomfield
	- Jamie Rose
	- Edward Winters

Miscellaneous roles - all the actors

Set Design: Jennifer Best, Kim Best, Paula Rose, Ginny Ryan, John Ryan

Music: - Introductory and closing theme:

A South American melody, adapted from the music of Gordon Bok.

- Wizardess' Incantation Theme:

"Christ Child Lullaby" (a Gaellic air)

- Dance Theme -

"La Tarara" (a traditional Spanish melody)

- Queen & King's Procession: Melody by G. Ryan

- Hot Sun Theme: Melody by G. Ryan

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This play is an adaptation of the Chinese fairytale, "The Stonecutter". No attempt has been made to give the play an Oriental setting, however, as we felt its story is universal in nature.

The play was collectively created by the students of Mud Lake School and their teacher, Ginny Ryan. The musical accompaniments were developed in guitar and recorder classes. The "clay pipe" used by the Stonecutter is actually an ocarina - a replica of an ancient Central American folk instrument.

We hope that you enjoy our show.

THE STONECUTTER

PRESENTED BY: Mud Lake School

With curtain closed, the theme music plays while the opening poem is recited. The sound of a chisel chipping at stone comes from behind curtains. Curtain opens, revealing a stonecutter, who is chipping a large rock. Music fades; the man continues chipping. After awhile he stops, wipes brow, and has a drink from a simple jug.

STONECUTTER: Phew! It's getting hot! (RESUMES CHIPPING FOR A MOMENT, THEN STOPS.) This is hard old work. Day in and day out, year in and year out, it's the same old thing. Get up in the morning, go out and cut stone. Go home at night all worn out, fall asleep. Get up in the morning and cut stone all over again. Another half hour and I'm taking a break. (RESUMES CHIPPING. SUDDENLY, HE FINDS SOMETHING.) Hey! What's this? (PICKS UP SMALL, BLUE OBJECT, TURNS IT OVER IN HIS HAND AS HE STEPS TOWARDS AUDIENCE.) It looks like...what a funny shape! It's got holes...it's some kind of pipe! I wonder whether it works. (PUTS IT TO HIS MOUTH AND PLAYS IT BRIEFLY.) Hey, it works! (PLAYS THE BECKONING THEME. IMMEDIATELY, MUSICIANS ECHO THEME AS SLOWLY, STRANGELY, THE WIZARDESS WALKS OUT. STONECUTTER STEPS BACK, STARTLED.) Who are you?

WIZARDESS: I am Korilla, the wizardess. I come from the land of Tiroon.

STONECUTTER: What do you want from me?

WIZARDESS: You sent for me.

STONECUTTER: Me? I didn't send for you. I didn't send for anyone.

WIZARDESS: You played on the magic pipe.

STONECUTTER: Magic pipe? You mean, this?

WIZARDESS: Yes. Whenever you play the magic pipe in the right manner, I must come to you, wherever you are.

STONECUTTER: And what am I supposed to do?

WIZARDESS: You can make a wish, and I will grant it to you.

THE STONECUTTER

STONECUTTER: What kind of wish?

WIZARDESS: Any kind of wish!

STONECUTTER: Holy moly! You mean, if I wanted all the gold in the world, it would be mine?

WIZARDESS: Anything you want will be yours. All you have to do is ask.

STONECUTTER: Oh, my! What should I ask for, I wonder? Gee, I don't know. Can I have some time to think about it?

WIZARDESS: Of course you can. As long as the magic pipe is yours, you can call me with it whenever you like.

STONECUTTER: Well then, alright. I'll call you back later, when I make up my mind. (HANGS IT ON NECK. TURNS BACK TOWARDS STONE, PUZZLED, AS THEME MUSIC PLAYS AND WIZARDESS DISAPPEARS.)

STONECUTTER (PACING): What do I want? What do I want? I could have money, castles, jewelery. I could own land. I could have all the food I could eat! All the wine I could drink! I could be the leader of the world! I could have all the diamonds in Africa! All the pearls in the ocean! What do I want? Where do I start?

(MUSIC PROCESSION. AS HE TALKS, THE MUSICIANS STRIKE UP A FANFARE AND TWO KNIGHTS COME OUT, CARRYING SPEARS.)

KNIGHTS: Clear the way! Clear the way! Make way for the Queen!

(STONECUTTER STEPS QUICKLY BEHIND ROCK AND PEERS OUT, WATCHING. THE QUEEN EMERGES, HEAD HIGH, VERY PROUD. SHE CARRIES A SCEPTRE WHICH SHE USES FREQUENTLY TO PUNCTUATE HER COMMANDS. SHE IS FOLLOWED BY TWO HANDMAIDENS, WHO CARRY HER TRAIN.)

QUEEN (TO MUSICIANS): Silence! Enough of this noise!

QUEEN (TO KNIGHTS WHO STAND NEARBY): Bow before your Queen, foolish Knights! (THEY BOW) Lower, you fools! (THEY BOW LOWER) Good. You may stand. (THEY STAND) At attention! (THEY SALUTE AND STAY THAT WAY) Now,

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then. I find it hot here. Very hot indeed. Some cold water at once! (BANGS) At once!

(HANDMAIDENS SCURRY OFF, RETURN WITH JUG AND GLASS AND SERVE HER, BOWING. SHE DRINKS, HANDS BACK GLASS.)

ONE HANDMAIDEN (VERY LOW): You're welcome.

QUEEN: What? How dare you! How dare you say that to the Queen! Guards! Take her away and give her a beating she'll never forget! (THEY TAKE HER OFFSTAGE) And where's my chair? Girl! (THUMP) Bring me my chair! (NEW SERVANT RUNS OUT WITH CHAIR. QUEEN SITS.) Now, shade me! (THUMP) On the double! (NEW SERVANT ERECTS PARASOL OVER QUEEN.) Good! And now for some refreshment! Send in my youngest servant girl with the choicest grapes in the land! See to it they're ripe and tasty!

REMAINING HANDMAIDEN (BOWS): Yes, your majesty. (EXITS. LITTLE GIRL COMES OUT AND BOWS, OFFERING GRAPES.)

QUEEN: Are they fresh grapes?

GIRL: Oh, yes, your majesty.

QUEEN: The best to be found?

GIRL: Oh, yes, your majesty, they're the finest grapes...

QUEEN: Silence! Speak only when you're spoken to! Now, you may serve them to me, one by one.

GIRL: Yes, my Queen.

QUEEN (EATS, THEN CRIES): Enough! Knights! Fools! I still feel warm! Find something to fan me with! On the double!

(THEY RUN OUT AS SOON AS SHE CALLS THEM AND RUN COMICALLY IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.)

QUEEN: What's taking you so long? (THEY RETURN WITH FANS AND BEGIN TO FAN HER.) (THE QUEEN HEAVES A BIG SIGH AND LOOKS AROUND.) Ah! But, how boring. How very boring! Knights! Think of something that might entertain me.

THE STONECUTTER

KNIGHTS: Yes, your majesty.

QUEEN: Quickly! I will die of boredom!

KNIGHTS: Right away, your majesty.

1st KNIGHT (CARL): What about your favorite clown, your majesty?

QUEEN: No, I'm tired of him. He no longer amuses me.

2nd KNIGHT (JEFF): Your trained monkeys, your majesty?

QUEEN: Oh, how boring! How very boring! Girl, what do you say? Maybe you are more clever than these fools.

SERVING GIRL (DEE): Perhaps my lady would enjoy the dancing girl?

QUEEN: Excellent! (THUMP) Bring on the dancer! (THUMP) Music! (SNAPS FINGERS) At once!

(GIRL JOINS MUSICIANS. DANCER COMES OUT, BOWS TO QUEEN, DANCES TO DANCE TUNE. AT END:)

QUEEN: Enough! Enough! It's far too warm, here. It's far too boring here. Oh, Knights! On to the castle! (THUMP)

(THE PROCESSION PASSES ON, PAST THE GAPING STONECUTTER. STONECUTTER COMES OUT FROM BEHIND ROCK, VERY EXCITED.)

STONECUTTER: That's it! That's what I want to be! 'Bow lower...stand at attention!...bring me some wine - faster!...bring me my gold (STAMPS) at once!' Yes sir! I want to be the King! Once I am King, I'll be the most powerful person in the whole world! I must call the Wizardess. (PLAYS BECKONING THEME ON PIPE. MUSICIANS ECHO THE THEME: WIZARDESS EMERGES.)

WIZARDESS: Yes, my son? You've sent for me?

STONECUTTER: Yes. I have chosen my wish. I want to be the King - because if I were the King, I'd have all the power in the whole world!

THE STONECUTTER

WIZARDESS: Are you sure you want to be the King?

STONECUTTER: Yes! All I have to do is snap my fingers  
(HE SNAPS) and I can have anything I want!

WIZARDESS: Very well, then - so long as you're sure...

(WIZARDESS PERFORMS INCANTATION, WITH MUSIC IN BACKGROUND.)

WIZARDESS: I was summoned by the pipe, for you. Now I shall make your wish come true. From beyond, beyond, the power draws near - your wish is granted - have no fear! (AS WIZARDESS STANDS THERE WITH ARMS EXTENDED, DEE AND CARL COME OUT TO PLACE A CAPE, A CROWN AND A SCEPTRE ON THE KING.) Now you have your wish, stonecutter. May you live with it wisely! (DISAPPEARS TO THEME MUSIC)

STONECUTTER: Hey, I'm the King! But, where are all my servants? Music! (SNAPS FINGERS) Servants!

(MUSIC BEGINS. MUSICIANS PLAY THE ROYAL MUSIC AGAIN, AS SUBJECTS PRESENT THEMSELVES TO THE KING.)

KNIGHTS (ONE ON EITHER SIDE OF HIM, BOWING): At your service, your majesty.

KING: Hmmmm...You can bow lower than that! (KNIGHTS GO DOWN ON ONE KNEE) Lower! Bow lower! (THEY FLATTEN TO THE GROUND) Good! Now stand! (CLUMP) At attention! (THEY DO) Right! But where are the rest of my subjects?

(SERVING GIRLS COME OUT: ONE GOES TO EACH SIDE OF HIM. THEY BOW VERY LOW.)

GIRLS: Good day, your majesty.

KING: Excellent! Now stand! Stand straighter! Fine! Now, girls, bring me some wine - the best wine to be found!

GIRLS: Yes, your majesty. (THEY BRING IT AND SERVE IT TO HIM.)

TRACY: Is it to your liking, your highness?

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KING: Not bad, not bad at all...But I'd be alot more comfortable if I had a chair (BANG). A chair! Bring a chair at once!

(THIRD SERVANT, DEE, BRINGS CHAIR. KING SITS, THINKS A MOMENT...)

KING: And it's awfully hot here! I need some shade! Girl, (TO DEE) bring something to shade me! (SHE DOES) Not with that! That's just an ordinary parasol. I want a parasol of pure gold! (THUMP) At once! (SHE STARTS TO LEAVE, BUT KING STOPS HER.) Girl! Where did you learn your manners? (THUMP) Answer your King when he speaks to you!

GIRL (BOWING): Yes, your majesty. I'm sorry, your majesty. (GOES OFF. RETURNS WITH GOLD PARASOL.)

KING: Fine! Now - I believe I would like to smoke a cigar! (CLAPS HANDS) Send in that little serving girl with a fine, black cigar.

SERVING GIRL: Yes, your highness.

(THEY GO OUT; ONE COMES BACK, LEADING THE LITTLE GIRL, WHO GOES UP ALONE TO BOW TO THE KING, WITH A CIGAR ON A PLATE.)

LITTLE GIRL: Here's your cigar, your majesty.

KING (TO DEE): Light it for me, Knight!

DEE: Right away, your majesty. (PUTS DOWN PARASOL, PRETENDS TO LIGHT IT.)

KING: Very good! Very good indeed! (COUGH) At ease, at east. (SIGHS) Ah - but it's very boring here.

DEE: Perhaps your majesty would enjoy watching our dancing girl. She's been specially trained.

KING: Fine! Send her in! (CLAPS HANDS) On the double! (GIRL COMES OUT AND BOWS TO KING) Music! (STAMP) (GIRL BEGINS TO DANCE BUT...)

DANCER: I'm sorry, your majesty, but, I can't dance anymore! It's too hot!

KING: What do you mean, you can't dance? (THUMP) Dance

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for your King! (GIRL BEGINS TO DANCE AGAIN, BUT, BEFORE LONG, COLLAPSES. SEVERAL SERVANTS START TO RUSH TO HER, BUT KING STOPS THEM.) Stop! Leave her alone! What's wrong with her? (TO DEE) Girl! Tell me what's wrong with her!

DEE: I believe it's the heat, your majesty. The sun is too strong.

KING: Hmmm...(SHADES EYES AND SQUINTS AT SUN) Too strong. Very well, then! Guards! (THUMP) Take her away! (THEY DO AND RETURN) (WIPING HIS BROW) Hmmmph! It is awfully hot, here. Fetch your fans and fan me, guards!

GUARDS: Yes, your majesty. (THEY FETCH FANS AND FAN HIM)

KING: Harder! Harder! Come on, men, fan me!...It's no good! I'm still too warm! Can't somebody do something about that sun?

1st KNIGHT (CARL): We're already doing all we can, your majesty. The sun is just too strong.

KING (STANDS UP AND GLARES AT SUN): How dare the sun shine down so strong! Doesn't it know that I am the King? (THUMP) Bring more fans! (CLAPS HANDS) Everyone! We'll show the sun who's boss...(OTHERS RUSH OFF, RETURN WITH FANS, BEGIN FANNING KING.) Fan me! Fan me! More! I said more! (THUMPS SCEPTRE IN TERRIBLE TEMPER) It's still too hot here! It's too hot! Stop! Out of my sight, all of you! (STAMP) Out! Out! Out! (THEY LEAVE)

KING (STANDS): I wanted to be the most powerful thing in the world! I thought I would be, once I was King! But that sun - that sun is making me hot, and I can't stop him! (SHAKES HIS FIST AT IT) I'm not the most powerful thing, at all! The sun is! (WIPES BROW) I know what! (SNAPS FINGER) I don't want to be the King anymore. I want to be the sun! That's it! Now, where's my pipe? (FUMBLES A MOMENT) Here! O.K., Wizardess, come on out. (PLAYS BECKONING THEME - THEN MUSICIANS DO, AS WIZARDESS EMERGES.) (MUSIC)

WIZARDESS: You sent for me?

STONECUTTER: Yes, I did.



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STONECUTTER: Well, I found out that the King is not the most powerful thing in the world! The sun is!

WIZARDESS: And?

STONECUTTER: So I want to be the sun!

WIZARDESS: Are you sure you want to be the sun?

STONECUTTER: Yes, I'm sure.

WIZARDESS: Very well. (INCANTATION AGAIN, WITH MUSIC)

(TWO PEOPLE COME AND REMOVE THE KING COSTUME WHILE KIM HELPS HIM INTO THE SUN COSTUME. KIM THEN LEADS HIM TO HILL WITH STEPLADDER BEHIND IT. HE CLIMBS UP. WIZARDESS VANISHES TO THEME MUSIC.)

STONECUTTER: Hey - I've finally done it! Whoopee! I'm the sun! No one can say I'm not in a high place now! I've made it right to the top! (RUBS HANDS TOGETHER) But - this is no good. If I'm going to be the sun, I've got to have something to shine on. I wish someone would come along...I want to try out my new power.

(HOT SUN THEME BEGINS AS 2 OR 3 LITTLE PLANTS COME SCURRYING OUT SIDEWAYS ONTO THE STAGE, TO STAND BENEATH THE SUN.)

STONECUTTER: Aha! What have we here? Flowers! I bet I can make them wilt.  
- Sizzle, scramble, swelter, steam (2 times)  
- Broil, shrink, roast, fry (2 times)  
(HE REPEATS THIS AS FLOWERS GRADUALLY SINK TO GROUND) Burn, burn, burn! (FLOWERS ARE SPREAD OUT, WILTED ON THE FLOOR.) Yahoo! I did it! I did it! I showed those flowers who was boss! This is lots better than being King...Uh-oh! Here comes someone else. Better get ready!  
(PUTS ON A MEAN LOOK)

(TWO PEOPLE WALK OUT, TALKING. ONE CARRIES A BUCKET.)

1st PERSON: ...So anyway, I thought I'd better water my flowers today. It's been so hot lately.

2nd PERSON: It looks like you're too late! Look at your flowers! They've dried right up!

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1st PERSON (WALKING UP TO THEM): Oh, my poor flowers! And I've taken such good care of them! Well, I'm not giving up on them yet. I'll get some water from the pond - maybe they'll revive. (GOES TO POND - EDGE OF STAGE)

STONECUTTER: Oh, no you won't! There'll be no water in the pond! - Sizzle, scramble, swelter, steam (2 times)  
Broil, shrink, roast, fry (2 times)  
Burn, burn, burn...

(CARL SITS DOWN, WIPES BROW, VERY HOT, WHILE KIM DIPS BUCKET INTO POND AND DISCOVERS THE POND IS EMPTY.)

KIM (RISING): The pond has dried up, too! (WIPES BROW) Oh, how I wish I had some water... (LOOKS AT CARL)...Are you alright? (SLOWLY SITS DOWN NEXT TO HIM)

CARL: I need some water. Could you bring me some water?

KIM: There isn't any water. The sun has dried up the pond.

STONECUTTER: I did it again! I did it again! Talk about power! There's nothing as strong as I am! I'm the sun! Whoopee! (SPOTS SOMEONE) Hey! Someone else! I'll drive them to their knees! I'll have no mercy! I'll broil them all...

(HE IS SO BUSY WATCHING TRACY AND GLENYS COME ON STAGE THAT HE FAILS TO NOTICE A CLOUD STARTING TO SNEAK UP ON HIM FROM THE OTHER DIRECTION. ALL DURING THE FOLLOWING MOMENTS, THE CLOUD IS CREEPING CLOSER AND CLOSER.)

TRACY: Is it ever hot!

GLENYS: Let's get a drink. (THEY KNEEL DOWN AND CUP HANDS AT POND)

TRACY: There's no water!

GLENYS: Not a bit. (SLOWLY THEY STAND, TURN AROUND, NOTICE KIM AND CARL DROOPING ON THE GROUND.) Are you alright?

KIM: It's too hot here. It's too dry...

(TRACY AND GLENYS KNEEL DOWN BESIDE THEM, FEELING THEIR FOREHEADS)

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STONECUTTER: I've got them now! I've got them now!  
Sizzle, scramble, swelter, steam (2 times)  
Broil, shrink, roast, fry (2 times)  
Burn, burn, burn.

(PEOPLE ON FLOOR MOAN. THEN SUDDENLY STONECUTTER REALIZES  
A CLOUD IS COMING BETWEEN HIS VICTIMS AND HIM.)

STONECUTTER: Hey! What's this! A cloud? Get out of my  
way, cloud. I'm busy. I have work to do. (BEATS  
ON CLOUD WITH FIST) Get out of my way - do you  
hear me? Alright, then. I'll burn you away!  
Sizzle, scramble, swelter, steam (2 times)  
Broil, shrink, roast, fry (2 times)  
Burn, burn, burn.

(BUT WHILE HE IS SAYING THIS THE PEOPLE START TO REVIVE. THEY  
STAND AND STRETCH. THE FLOWERS START TO RISE AGAIN, TOO.)

KIM: Ah - that feels better.

TRACY: Thank heavens it's clouding up.

KIM: Look - even my flowers are coming back to life.

(THEY RISE TO THEIR FULL HEIGHT AND SMILE. PEOPLE EXIT.)

STONECUTTER (SLOWLY BEING HIDDEN BY CLOUD): Wait! Wait!  
You can't do this! I'm the sun! I'm the sun! I'm  
stronger than you! (HE IS NO LONGER IN SIGHT)  
Broil, shrink, roast, fry,  
Broil, shrink, roast...  
(HE CLIMBS DOWN AND COMES AROUND IN FRONT OF THE  
HILL) The sun is not powerful at all! A silly  
cloud is more powerful than I am! Wizardess!  
Wizardess! Come back! (HE FUMBLES FOR PIPE, BLOWS  
ON IT, THEME MUSIC ECHOES, AND WIZARDESS REAPPEARS.)

WIZARDESS (ANNOYED): What do you want now?

STONECUTTER: Oh, Wizardess - a cloud has defeated me! I've  
discovered that clouds are stronger than the sun!  
I can't allow anything to be more powerful than I  
am. I won't stop now. I want you to turn me into a  
cloud.

WIZARDESS: You'd better think about this, Stonecutter. You  
weren't happy being the King. You weren't happy be-

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ing the sun. You may be making a big mistake.

STONECUTTER: I know what I want. I don't have to think about it. I want you to turn me into a cloud, and I want you to do it now.

WIZARDESS: Very well, Stonecutter. (INCANTATION MUSIC)  
I was summoned by the pipe for you,  
So I still have to make your wish come true,  
The wise may speak, but a fool won't hear,  
Your wish is granted - have no fear.

(AS THEME MUSIC PLAYS, JEFFREY COMES FORWARD, REMOVES CLOUD AND PLACES IT ON STONECUTTER. WIZARDESS AND JEFF DISAPPEAR. PLANTS ARE STILL IN PLACE. THE NEW CLOUD CLIMBS UP BEHIND THE HILL, AND SURVEYS HIS NEW COSTUME.)

STONECUTTER: This is more like it! Let the Kings shout out their orders. Let the sun broil in the sky! I can stop them all. I am the greatest of all! I - am a cloud! (HE BRANDISHES A BOLT OF LIGHTNING AS THUNDER PEALS AND LIGHTS DIM. CLOUD MUSIC BEGINS.)

STONECUTTER (TO PLANTS): You may be happy now, little plants, but you are in trouble. I will flatten you to the ground! (THUNDER) Let the rains begin! (SMALL WAVES EMERGE FROM EITHER SIDE OF STAGE. FLOWERS BEGIN TO FOLD UP.)

STONECUTTER (RAIN CHANT): Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Drown, drown, drown.

(PLANTS WITHER EVEN MORE)

STONECUTTER: You're being crushed! You're drowning! And no one can stop me! No one! (THUNDER. SECOND GROUP OF WAVES, LARGER THIS TIME, EMERGE BEHIND THE FIRST GROUP. KIM RUNS OUT, CARRYING HOUSEHOLD GOODS, SOMETHING THROWN OVER HER HEAD. SHE CALLS TO SOMEONE OVER HER SHOULDER WHOM AUDIENCE CAN'T SEE YET.)

KIM: Hurry! Hurry! We've got to reach higher land! The water's rising! Hurry!

CARL (COMING OUT FROM OTHER SIDE OF STAGE, SHOUTING AS IF AT A GREAT DISTANCE): My house is flooded! There's water up to my knees!

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KIM (ALSO SHOUTING): Ours is, too. The stable's ruined.  
The gardens are under water. It's a flash flood.  
(OVER HER SHOULDER) Hurry!

STONECUTTER: No one can escape me! No one can hide! With  
my power I control the land and the sea! I can de-  
stroy everything! Nothing can stop me! (THUNDER  
AND RAIN CHANT AGAIN)  
Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Drown, drown, drown.

(KIM AND CARL GRADUALLY SINK TO THEIR KNEES TO SUGGEST THAT  
THE WATER IS RISING. THEY SWAY AS IF CAUGHT IN POWERFUL CUR-  
RENTS.)

KIM (DESPERATE, OVER SHOULDER): Mary! Where are you? Mary!

MARY: I can't reach you! Help me! (SHE APPEARS, ON KNEES  
BEHIND WAVES. SHE AND KIM REACH FOR EACH OTHER BUT  
FAIL.) Help me! Help me!

KIM (TO CARL): Help! Do something!

CARL: I'm coming! (MARY GOES UNDER. SO DOES CARL. KIM  
IS LEFT ALONE, SEARCHING, FRANTIC.)

STONECUTTER: Not a flower can stand! Not a person can save  
his home nor his land! The trees will topple and  
fall! Buildings will crash to the ground! Nothing  
is as strong as I am! Nothing! (THUNDER, AS HE  
BRANDISHES LIGHTNING) But wait! (HE IS LOOKING AT  
STONE) What is that there? (HE LEANS WAY OVER TO  
LOOK) What is that there, that hasn't moved? (HE  
FLASHES LIGHTNING AT IT) I will crush you!  
(THUNDER) I will drown you. (THUNDER)  
Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Soak, bubble, gurgle, swish,  
Drown, drown, drown.  
It won't move! It won't budge! Wizardess! Wizardess!  
(BLOWS PIPE, THEME MUSIC ECHOES, WIZARDESS APPEARS.)

WIZARDESS (ANGRY): What do you want now? You still aren't  
satisfied?

STONECUTTER: Wizardess! What is that thing over there that  
will neither move nor budge? I have rained and  
sleeted and hailed on it. I've thrown bolts of

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lightning on it! What is this thing I cannot destroy?

WIZARDESS: It is a stone.

STONECUTTER: A stone? A simple stone? You mean, a stone is more powerful than the King, the sun, and the clouds all put together? I can't believe it! Why didn't I think of this before? Wizardess, turn me into a stone!

WIZARDESS: You're a fool, Stonecutter! You don't know what you're saying!

STONECUTTER: I know what I'm saying. I thought that Kings were powerful, but I found out the sun was stronger. Then I found out that clouds are more powerful than the sun. But now I see that a stone must be the most powerful thing of all, and that's what I want to be! Wizardess, I command you to make me a stone!

WIZARDESS (IN A TERRIBLE RAGE, STEPPING FORWARD SO CURTAINS CLOSE BEHIND HER): Very well, Stonecutter! Very well, fool! Let the rain and thunder cease! (THEY DO) Let the fool have his wish! And long may he be happy with it! (INCANTATION MUSIC)  
I was summoned by the pipe for you,  
But this is your last wish to come true,  
Poor, foolish Stonecutter, now you will see,  
What a folly the struggle for power can be.  
(SHE EXITS)

(CURTAIN OPENS TO REVEAL STONE, WITH STONECUTTER'S HEAD COMING UP BEHIND IT. HE HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A STONE AND IS VERY HAPPY. THEME MUSIC BEGINS.)

STONECUTTER: I've done it! I've finally conquered them all! Kings cant hurt me! The sun can't fry me! The coulds can't drown me, nor wash me away! (HE BEGINS TO HUM ALONG WITH THE MUSIC, VERY CONTENTED, NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO ANYTHING AROUND HIM. AS HE DOES, TWO MEN COME ONSTAGE, 2nd MAN CARRYING A HAMMER AND CHISEL.)

1st MAN (JEFF): That's the stone over there, Jamie. Let's get to work.

2nd MAN (JAMIE): Right away, Jeff.

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(THEY WALK UP TO IT, AND SECOND MAN BEGINS TO CHISEL AT IT.)

1st MAN (JEFF): It's a tough old stone, Jamie.

2nd MAN (JAMIE): Nah - nothing to it! Not for stonecutters like you and me.

STONECUTTER: Hey! What's this? What's going on? Hey!  
Stop that! You're destroying me! Help! Help!  
(THEY PAY NO ATTENTION) It isn't fair! It isn't  
right! Help!

2nd MAN (JAMIE): Look at this! (PICKS UP PIPE)

1st MAN (JEFF): An old clay pipe!

2nd MAN (JAMIE): I must bring it home. (PUTS IT AROUND  
HIS NECK) The girls might like to play it. (RE-  
SUMES CHIPPING)

STONECUTTER: Oh, no, no! My magic pipe! Oh, help me  
Wizardess! Wizardess! Oh - if only I had been  
happy with what I was! If only I were a stone-  
cutter once again!