

Pilgrim

A Contemporary Musical based on
John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*

SCENE 3 Christian and Pliable and the Sewer of Doubt

(MUSIC for HOME begins as a vamp)

PLIABLE: So tell me more about this place we're going to...

CHRISTIAN: See, there's a King, and He's made a place for us - a city out of pure gold - clear as glass. The Book says there are shining jewels along the walls.

PLIABLE: Sounds pretty cool.

CHRISTIAN: Pliable, it's amazing! And nothing bad ever happens there. Nothing *ever* goes wrong!

PLIABLE: How do you know?

CHRISTIAN: It's in the Book. **(SONG - Home)**

**I HAVE READ THAT A PLACE EXISTS
WE WERE MADE FOR THIS, AND I NEVER KNEW
FRIENDS HAVE TOLD ME I'VE LOST MY MIND
I'M BELIEVING LIES, BUT I KNOW IT'S TRUE**

**THERE'S A PLACE WHERE THERE'S NO FEAR OF JUDGMENT OR DEATH
NO MORE SORROW OR PAIN OR REGRETS
NOTHING BUT HAPPINESS FOREVER**

(CHORUS)

**AND WHEN WE REACH THE CITY
WE'LL UNDERSTAND THE JOURNEY
TO THE LAND WE WERE MADE FOR
THE CITY OF OUR KING
AND WE'LL BE HOME. HOME. HOME.**

**WE'LL HAVE PEACE LIKE WE'VE NEVER KNOWN
IN OUR GLORIOUS HOME, NEVER LEAVE AGAIN
WE'LL BE ASKED TO SIT DOWN AND EAT
AT A MARV'LOUS FEAST TO OUR HEART'S CONTENT
THEN WE'LL SEE FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME IN OUR LIVES
WHAT WAS HIDDEN BEFORE FROM OUR EYES
AND WE WILL MEET THE ONE WHO MADE US**

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(PLIABLE STARTS SINGING TOO)

**AND WHEN WE REACH THE CITY
WE'LL UNDERSTAND THE JOURNEY
TO THE LAND WE WERE MADE FOR
THE CITY OF OUR KING
AND WE'LL BE HOME. HOME. HOME. HOME
YES WE WILL BE HOME, HOME, HOME, HOME
WE WILL BE HOME!**

PLIABLE: So... how long till we get there?

CHRISTIAN: Oh... a while.

PLIABLE: Like... a few *hours*???

CHRISTIAN: Yeah.... quite a few hours. It's actually gonna take... (*nervous laugh*) the rest of our lives.

PLIABLE: What?! The... the *rest* of our LIVES?!?! When were you gonna fill me in on *that* little detail?!

CHRISTIAN: Sorry. I just... really wanted you to come with me.

PLIABLE: Well... I'll still go. But seriously, the rest of our lives?!?!? We're just gonna be traveling on this little road for the rest of our lives? What do we do for fun?

CHRISTIAN: I'm sure we'll find lots of things to do along the way.

PLIABLE: Like what?

CHRISTIAN: Well... for one thing, the Book says the King is traveling with us...

PLIABLE: The *King*? (*Looking around*)

CHRISTIAN: Yeah. He says in the Book...

CHRISTIAN & KING: (*speaking together*) "I am with you always, even to the ends of the earth."

CHRISTIAN: So I guess that means He's... right here.

KING: (*Put's his hands on their backs in a fatherly way*) Right here.

PLIABLE: Right here? (*Looks around again*). I don't see anyone.

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CHRISTIAN: He's invisible

PLIABLE: Oh. (*Slowly, processing*) So you think there's an invisible King traveling with us?

CHRISTIAN: Yep.

PLIABLE: (*Like a psychiatrist*) Uh – huh. And how long have you been *seeing* this invisible King?

CHRISTIAN: Well... (*starting to doubt himself*) I can't see him... but...

PLIABLE: So how do you know He's there? (*KING picks up PLIABLE and turns him around to face the opposite direction. PLIABLE lets out a blood-curdling scream*)

CHRISTIAN: (*Looking in the Book, doesn't see PLIABLE move*) Pliable? You okay?

PLIABLE: (*looking around frantically, but trying to remain calm*) Um... yeah. Yeah.

CHRISTIAN: Why are you screaming like a girl?

PLIABLE: I'm fine. (*looking for someone he can't see*) Let's keep going. (*starts to go the wrong way*)

CHRISTIAN: Hey! This way...

NARRATOR: (*Over music*) The pilgrims continued their conversation about the King and the Celestial City. But the more they talked, the more they became confused. Immersed in conversation about their own ideas, they lost sight of the path and fell into a sewer of doubt.

(*CHRISTIAN and PLIABLE ad lib screams aka: "AGGHH... disgusting!" Ugh, gross! It's a SEWER!!! I'm drowning in SEWAGE!!!. AD LIB HORROR*)

CHRISTIAN: (*Panicking*) I can't get out! I'm sinking!

PLIABLE: I'm gonna be sick. When were you gonna tell me we'd get stuck in a sewer?

CHRISTIAN: I didn't know!

PLIABLE: (*getting out*) Yeah, you don't much of anything. Obstinate was right! I'm going home.

CHRISTIAN: After all that? You would just go home?

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PLIABLE: Yes! This has been the worst day of my life and it's all your fault.

CHRISTIAN: But we just got started!

PLIABLE: Yeah. Not a good beginning. What's the rest gonna be like? (*Starts to walk away*)

CHRISTIAN: Wait, don't leave yet -- I'm sinking! Help me get out!! HELP!! HELP!!!

(*But PLIABLE is gone. A little girl named HELP enters with jump rope.*)

HELP: Yes?

CHRISTIAN: Oh. Hi there. Could you go get your mom or dad? I really need help.

HELP: I'm Help.

CHRISTIAN: (*skeptical*) You are.

HELP: Yup! That's my name!

CHRISTIAN: (*As if talking to a 3 year old*) Oh, that's a great name! But... you're actually a little small. I really need a big, strong person.

HELP: The King is big and strong! He'll help me! Here, grab my jump rope!

CHRISTIAN: Uh... okay... (*CH grabs jump rope and is pulled out with the help of KING*)

CHRISTIAN: Whoa, that's incredible! How did you do that?!

HELP: With my jump rope!

CHRISTIAN: (*Beat. Astonished*) Who are you??

HELP: I already told you - I'm Help! May I please have my jump rope back?

CHRISTIAN: Oh, of course! So... do you happen to know why there's a sewer in the middle of the road?

HELP: (*Thinks for a moment*) Hmm, let me check! (*HELP skips or waves over to the NARRATOR*) Excuse me, why is there a sewer in the middle of the road?

NARRATOR: It's made from all the fears and doubts that discourage pilgrims. But the King has put stepping stones right there so pilgrims can cross safely.

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HELP: Thank you! (*skips back to CH*)

CHRISTIAN: (*Whispered, slightly concerned*) Who was that?

HELP: That's the Narrator!

CHRISTIAN: Ohh. (*Awkward pause. Then with a wave*) Hey!

NARRATOR: (*Waves*) Hey!

HELP: So why didn't you use the stepping stones? (*She points to the stones*)

CHRISTIAN: Uh...good question. I don't really have an answer for that.

HELP: Next time, you should use the stepping stones. (*Leans in, with a smile*) The King always puts stepping stones in dangerous places. You just have to look for them!

CHRISTIAN: I'll try to remember that. Thanks.

HELP: You're welcome! (*waving*) Bye!



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