



Script, Music and Lyrics by MICHAEL TENNANT

Orchestration by STEVE BURCH

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## **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

(In Order of Appearance)

**Pouchet** Arrogant and primeval scientist

**Reverend** Superstitious and silly

Ed

Outgoing and obnoxious journalists

Amber

**Louis Pasteur** Hardworking, innovative scientist; thinks outside the box

GasparBread seller. Brief Cameo.EmilePasteur's trusted assistantMariePasteur's passionate wife

Child 1

Their children

Child 2

Bertha Long-winded and nosy

Citizens of France

## "LOUIS PASTEUR"

By Michael Tennant

## **SYNOPSIS OF SONGS**

## Overture

1. "I	Look Who's Coming our Way"Pouchet, Reven	rend, Ed, Amber, Louis, Chorus
2. "	Under the Microscope"	Louis
3. "]	Ed and Amber – On Wine"	Ed, Amber, Louis, Reverend
4. "	The Rabies Song"	Louis
"E	Ed and Amber – On Pouchet's Lecture" (Reprise)	Ed, Amber, Pouchet
5. "]	Love and Anthrax"	Marie, Louis
"E	Ed and Amber – On Potential Anthrax Vaccine" (Reprise)	Ed, Amber, Louis
"]	Ed and Amber – An Attempted Interview (Reprise)	Ed, Amber
	Waiting For the Anthrax" (Reprise)	
	Ed and Amber – On Pasteur's Victory" (Reprise)	
	nale: "Under the Microscope" (Reprise)	

#### "Louis Pasteur"

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#### <u>ACT I</u>

#### **Overture**

**SCENE 1: THE MARKETPLACE** 

## **SONG: "LOOK WHO'S COMING OUR WAY"**

Chorus

Good morning, how are you today We're so happy that you've come our way We hope that you'll enjoy your stay It's lovely here this time of year

We know you'll love it here in France Our country is famous for romance Look around you, feel free to have a glance We know you'll like what you see here

This is Gaspar, he sells the bread And here's Bertha, she cuts hair on our head That's Eugenia, she does wonders with thread And we have so many more friends for you to meet

It's a great day, for living in France
It's a great day for scientific advance
And we must say there's no one greater than Mr. Pouchet

He's the scientist around And his theories are scientifically sound His studies are world renowned And look, he's coming our way

Good day friends, I cannot stay long
But I felt I should be part of this song
My experiments are coming nicely along
And my theories have never been proven wrong

I've loved science since I was a boy My test tubes were my favorite toys Doing research has always brought me such joy My genius is beyond compare

I write books that everyone reads
I give warnings that everyone heeds
My mind hungers and never ceases to feed
On knowledge that is common and rare

I enjoy making inspections that require dissection I love cutting things open with my blade With God given perfection, I'll cut open your midsection

**Pouchet** 

To see what observations can be made I would love to explain, but it would only hurt your brain The things I know, you could never comprehend Now I mustn't be seen speaking with peasants who are so plain Really now, what kind of message would that send?

Chorus The churchyard is just down the block

And the Reverend is out for a walk He loves to listen to himself talk And look, he's coming our way

**Reverend** Lord bless you, I suspect

There is evil that I must detect My people, look to me to protect Them from the devil's work!

From the chapel I can see
What goes on here in our little city
I admit I can be somewhat nosey
And I'll find out if you're up to no good

**Chorus** Forgive us, we don't mean to boast

But you'll love our morning edition of the post

The reporters that we love the most Just happen to be coming our way

EdI'm EdAmberI'm Amber

Louis

Chorus

**Both** And we're out and about

Look at us, we're always full of good cheer Each day we are seen grinning from ear to ear Because we always get the story of the year

We'll pop up now and then You'll always see us when A story is about to break Sometimes you'll see us spying Once in a while prying

'Cause each day we have a deadline we must make

Chorus If you stroll down the alley you'll see

A little man with big ideas in a makeshift laborat'ry

There is no place that he'd rather be If you listen you'll hear him say:

Confounded! Dag Nabbit! Why didn't my experiment work?

This will cause a man to go berserk!

This reaction is unheard of, I have never seen Crystals turn red that should turn green! Mr. Pasteur is strange we are told He tries to disprove the theories of old

His opinions are rather bold Once again let's listen in

**Louis** Good heavens! What did I just do?

These crystals are all turning blue I'm starting to come unglued

I'll have to try again

**Chorus** Mr. Pasteur cured rabies it's true

He cured silkworms of diseases too

His theories are all very new And people think he's odd

**Louis** I did it! I knew that I would succeed

Chorus

I made a breakthrough in crystallography

Gather 'round come over and see!

Doesn't anybody care?

(Spoken) No, not really, nope...etc.

Well now, we'd love to stay But our story must get underway

We're telling it again later today (we've told it once already today)

So we've got to be going on our way

We'll see you later now

We've got to be going on our way
We'll come back out at the end and bow
We've got to be going on our way

(Song ends. Underscore segues into next song)

**Gaspar** Good day, Mr. Pasteur. Would you like to buy some bread?

**Louis** Gaspar! Did you hear what I said a minute ago? You may not have with all the singing

going on. I just made a breakthrough in crystallography! This will change the way

people look at crystals forever!

**Gaspar** Oh...so...would you like to buy some bread?

(Sadly, Louis pays the boy who runs off happily)

#### **SCENE 2: PASTEUR'S LABORATORY**

### **SONG: "UNDER THE MICROSCOPE"**

**Louis** The life of a scientist is lonely

Sometimes I think that folks don't understand

The brilliant mind that spends the whole day thinking only

Of the universe made by God's hand

There are those who love the sunset And the clouds that float in the sky

The flowers that were painted by our Maker's palette

And it's easy to see why

The forests and the valleys are looked upon with awe

As is the rare desert rose

But the greatest creation that I ever saw

Lies underneath my nose

Under the microscope there's a place like you've never seen There's amebas at play in their world that is so serene My unicellular buddies are floating through the air today

I see them looking at me as if to say

Under the microscope there's a world to be explored

For every discovery we've made, we can still make a million more

And some day I'm going to do it, When the world sees they will agree

It's worth taking the time to unveil the mysteries

Under the microscope, under the microscope... (Song ends)

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(Emile enters)

**Emile** Singing that song about looking through the microscope again, Mr. Pasteur?

Louis You heard?

**Emile** I just caught the tail end of it, sir.

**Louis** Emile, when the rest of the world scoffs at me, it makes me very glad to have someone

like you as my assistant. I only wish the rest of the world would join us in celebrating

our achievements.

(Pouchet and his colleagues enter)

**Pouchet** Perhaps they would if your ideas were not so ludicrous. Perhaps if your findings didn't

disagree with years of scientific research, and with the great minds of science, you

wouldn't find so many people laughing at you behind your back.

**Louis** I can't tell you how happy I am that you've chosen to do it to my face.

**Pouchet** And who is this, Pasteur, a new assistant?

Louis Yes, may I present Emile Duclaux. A brilliant chemist who is willing to assist me in

finding new theories that will no doubt keep you laughing for years to come.

(Emile extends his hand. Pouchet scoffs)

**Pouchet** Forgive me, but I dare not shake your hand. I do not want to become infested with the

germs and microorganisms that could be lurking on your skin. You see friends, Mr. Pasteur has conjured up a wonderfully creative theory. He believes that microscopic organisms floating through the air are responsible for contaminating the substances they

come into contact with. A clever theory, but clearly from the mind of a novice.

Although I must say, I find your research on silkworms particularly fascinating. I would ask you to autograph my copy of your book, but I don't have it with me. I keep it by my

bed. It really helps me to fall asleep at night.

**Louis** Are you mocking me, Pouchet?

**Pouchet** Absolutely. And might I add, friends, that this is the very same Louis Pasteur who

attacked the well accepted idea of spontaneous generation. He believes life comes from other life...perhaps from these microscopic organisms that no one can see but him. Tell

me, Emile, have you seen these invisible organisms yet?

Emile Yes, crawling all over my hand.

**Pouchet** Well, Mr. Pasteur, we must be on our way. However, I will be giving a lecture tomorrow

in the town square, and I invite you both to attend. You may learn something.

**Louis** Oh, well, then I don't know how I could possibly pass it up.

Pouchet Many respected men from the board of science will be there. Rumor has it, they plan to

give me an award for my contributions to the world of science. Why, Pasteur, I seem to remember you applying to become a member of the board of science. How many votes

did you end up losing by?

Louis I don't have time for this, Pouchet.

**Pouchet** No, I suppose you don't. Hurry back to your silk worms and invisible germ creatures. I

don't want to be the cause of a delay in one of your brilliant theories.

(Pouchet and his colleagues exit)

Emile Why does Pouchet make you out to be such a fool, Mr. Pasteur?

Louis

Because he's arrogant. He calls himself a scientist, but he seeks fame more than he seeks

scientific knowledge. I don't believe his theories have a leg to stand on. He takes well known scientific facts, couples them with whatever experiment he happens to be working

on, uses his own theories to fill in any uncertainties, and calls that "truth"! But

Pouchet's theories are not the source of truth! Yet, people have accepted these unproven theories, these laughable assumptions that he makes. Why? Well, I have a few theories of my own about that.

(Reverend enters)

**Reverend** Louis Pasteur!

**Louis** Good day, Reverend. Are you here to give me my daily reprimand?

**Reverend** When will you learn, Pasteur, that the knowledge you seek is the knowledge God never

intended for us to find. Adam and Eve sought knowledge. They ate the forbidden fruit to

become wise like our Lord, and mankind has been paying for it ever since.

**Louis** I believe in the same God as you, Reverend, and yet we clearly have different ideas about

Him. He created a remarkable universe, and there's much more to it than meets the eye.

I want to unveil every mystery and discover all the wonders that this world holds.

**Reverend** I've been watching you, Pasteur. I peeked through your windows late last night and saw

the flames from your cauldron blazing like the flames from below.

**Louis** It's not a cauldron! It's a Bunsen Burner.

**Reverend** Be warned, Pasteur...I'm not deceived by your trickery. I'm watching you, and God is

watching you!

**Louis/Emile** See you at church on Sunday, Reverend.

(Reverend exits)

**Emile** Every day! Every day he gives you the exact same speech.

**Louis** He means well, Emile, he does. But, he's ignorant. You can have a million people with

good intentions and still have a million ignorant people. He's never looked into a microscope, and seen the things you and I have seen. If he would just dismiss this ridiculous notion that studying God's world is of the devil, we'd get along much better. After all, God is the Master Creator, the foundation for all things, and the source of all truth. Therefore, I do not believe it is a waste of time to study His creations. Now,

Emile, come with me to the laboratory. (Louis and Emile enter the laboratory)

**Louis** Emile, I want to show you what I've been working on recently. This drives another nail

into the coffin of the ridiculous theory of spontaneous generation.

**Emile** What do you have there? Grapes?

**Louis** Green grapes to be exact. Forty-eight hours ago, I plucked these grapes from the vine.

Half of the grapes I left out in the open where the air was free to infect them. The other half, I put in containers that the air could not reach. Look at the results. The open air grapes are covered with yeast, while the grapes that were kept in containers don't show one trace of fermentation. Now, Emile, define for me the theory of spontaneous

generation.

**Emile** The idea that organisms originate directly from nonliving matter.

**Louis** Emile, how can life come from something that is not alive in the first place?

Emile It can't, Mr. Pasteur.

**Louis** Good. Emile, who was one of the first scientists to challenge the theory of spontaneous

generation?

Emile Lazzaro Spallanzini.

Louis Spallanzini. Good. Now, what did Mr. Spallanzini prove? Emile He proved microorganisms could be killed by boiling.

**Louis** Excellent, Emile! Your knowledge is growing. You may be able to debate this theory

one day without making yourself out to be a complete fool.

Emile Thank-you, Sir.

**Louis** Now, back to the grapes. I have just proven that micro organisms floating though the air,

carried by dust particles perhaps, have caused these grapes to ferment. The grapes kept in a container have no yeast on them. Now, the theory of spontaneous generation would tell us that all the grapes, even the grapes in the containers should be covered with yeast.

I don't get it.

Louis What?

**Emile** 

Emile I don't get it.

Louis Alright, Emile...do you lock your doors at night?

Emile Yes. Why?

Emile So that robbers and bad people can't get into my house.

Louis Good. You lock your doors to keep the bad people out. Now, I am going to propose a

theory called the spontaneous generation of bad people. This theory states that a bad person could just appear in your house, regardless of the locks on your doors.

Emile That wouldn't be good.

**Louis** Now, Emile, did a bad person somehow appear in your house last night and rob you?

Emile No.

**Louis** How can you be sure?

**Emile** Because when I woke up, I still had my marble collection.

**Louis** You see, Emile, my theory of the spontaneous generation of bad people has just been

proven incorrect. You have shown me that robbers cannot simply appear in a house, they have to travel there. Since you keep your doors locked, they cannot get in. Now, let's

see if we can draw a parallel conclusion to my grapes and the real theory of spontaneous generation. I kept the grapes "locked up" so to speak, where the micro organisms could not get to them. The grapes I left out in the open were indeed visited by the harmful

micro organisms, and as a result, are now covered with yeast.

**Emile** Micro organisms don't just appear. They travel here from other places.

Louis That's right! They're so tiny, they can't be seen without a microscope, but they're out

there.

**Emile** And because you don't believe in the theory of spontaneous generation, Pouchet mocks

you?

**Louis** There are many people who mock me. I'm well aware of that. And it's not just because I

don't believe in spontaneous generation. There are many popular theories that I have problems with. Everything seems to come back to these micro organisms. They do more than just cause grapes to ferment. They can cause sickness....terrible sickness, even death. The sooner others will work with me, the faster my work will progress. But you didn't come here today to listen to me lecture, Emile. You came today for a lesson in

chemistry.

Emile Mr. Pasteur, can I have my lesson in chemistry tomorrow? I want to go home and check

on my marble collection.

**Louis** (Sigh) That's fine, Emile. I suppose I have enough work to keep me busy anyway.

Come in early tomorrow. I will be needing your help.

**Emile** I will. Good evening, Mr. Pasteur.

**Louis** Good evening, Emile.

#### **SCENE 3: THE MARKETPLACE**

#### **SONG: "ED AND AMBER – ON WINE"**

Ed I'm Ed Amber I'm Amber

**Both** And we're out and about

How are you, we hope you're doing fine

We've got to get a story; two hundred words or less Telling the public how you Pasteurize your wine

Louis The way to preserve it, for safety when you serve it

Is a process I call Pasteurization

Not everyone will think it when they take a glass and drink it

But this process has been quite a revelation

For the task to be completed the wine must be heated

In a flask where the air cannot go

There will be no more germs alive, in the heat they can't survive

And that's the process known as Pasteurization

The critics are saying your theory is a waste They believe it causes wine to lose its taste

Louis To these uniformed people, here's what I have to say You shouldn't be drinking wine anyway (it's of the devil)

(Louis walks over to his house, where he finds his wife, Marie)

#### **SCENE 4: PASTEUR'S HOUSE**

**Marie** Louis, are you done working for the evening?

**Louis** No, I'm just taking a break. I have several observations to record before I can sleep. I

must also prepare for tomorrow's experiments.

Marie Louis, you haven't stopped working all day! You didn't eat lunch with us, and you

missed our walk in the garden.

**Louis** It's been a busy day. I had to make my lesson plans, and prepare the end of the year

examinations for the students. I just came in for an apple. I need to get back to the

laboratory, but I'll be back soon.

Marie Louis, I suppose I can understand you having to miss our walk in the garden, although I

enjoyed setting aside the time as a daily ritual...but please, take time to eat your meal

with us. The children haven't seen you all day.

**Louis** I'll see them tomorrow at breakfast.

Marie Louis, go say goodnight to them now. I just put them to bed a minute ago. They'd love

for you to tell them a bedtime story.

LouisTomorrow, Marie.MarieTonight, Louis.LouisMarie...MarieTonight!LouisBut...

Marie March right in and tell your children a bedtime story! They've been waiting to see you

all day!

**Louis** This isn't a good time.

Marie If you don't do this one little thing, this one simple task, I will march right down to your

laboratory, smash all of your vials and beakers...

Louis You leave my beakers alone!

Marie Then I'll hide your silkworms and you'll never see them again!

Louis Alright, alright!

(Louis walks into the children's bedroom)

Are you children still awake?

**Children** Yes, Papa. How are the silkworms doing today, Papa?

**Louis** Oh, very well. Would you children like to hear a story before you fall asleep.

Children Yes!

**Louis** What kind of story would you like to hear?

**Children** Tell us a story about when you were little like us, Papa.

(Music begins)

**Louis** A story about me when I was your age....hmmm...let me think.

#### **SONG: "THE RABIES SONG"**

Louis When I was just a little lad

Used to be carefree

I think of the fun times I had Playing games and climbing trees

Skipping rocks across the lake with my pals Catching lizards and using them to scare the gals

My life was so good

In the days of my childhood

(Spoken) Now, there's some motions you children can do during this next part

(Song resumes)

One day from the woods came an awful beast

A wolf that was looking for a feast He roamed through the night Looking for someone to bite

His eyes were yellow and his mouth would foam He spread fear and terror wherever he'd roam

We all watched our back For fear of his deadly attack

This fearsome wolf went on a biting spree And everyone that was bitten got rabies Child 1 (Spoken) Papa, when the wolf bit people, did they got dead?

**Louis** They got dead alright, but not right away. They would suffer for weeks before they

succumbed to the virus.

(Song resumes)

The effect of rabies is curious (curious) It makes the animal furious (furious)

When the animal finds you It will creep up behind you

And if his teeth go through your skin then you'll have rabies too!

Child 1 (Spoken) I don't like this story, Papa!

Child 2 Me neither!

Louis Children

Louis

Louis

Louis

Children

Children

**Louis** Nonsense, children. Now, let's review what we've learned so far!

(Song resumes)
Scary beast
Wants a feast
Roams in the night
Wants to bite
In pain you lie
Then you die

If you get infected with rabies!

Child 1 Stop Papa!

Child 2 We don't want to hear anymore!

Louis But we're just getting to the good part! Now there's something you should know about

the rabies virus.

(Song resumes)

Rabies can strike right away But sometimes it likes to wait

It may decide to stay

Awhile in your body and incubate
You can have it but you may not know
It can live in your saliva and will not show
Itself until its time to put a tag on your toe

If you get infected with rabies! If you get infected with rabies!

(Music ends)

Louis Did you like that song children?

**Children** We want Mama!

Louis What?

Children MAMA! MAMA!

(Marie rushes into the room)

Marie What's wrong?

Children Papa told us a story about a monster who kills people!

Louis But wait, children! I didn't finish the story! Papa stopped the monster himself. I found

the way to cure rabies!

Children MAMA!

Marie Louis, what did you tell them?

**Louis** I just told them the story about the wolf I saw when I was younger. You know, the one

that was infected with rabies?

Marie Yes, I've heard you sing the song many times before. I can't believe you would tell them

that story before bed!

**Children** We don't want to go to sleep, Mama!

Marie Louis, look what you've done!

Louis I'm going back to the laboratory! At least the silkworms appreciate me!

(Underscore music plays "Under the Microscope as Louis goes into his laboratory and

falls asleep. Lights dim. Emile enters)

#### **SCENE 5: PASTEUR'S LABORATORY**

Emile Mr. Pasteur, have you been here all night?

**Louis** Emile...I must have fallen asleep. What time is it?

**Emile** 10:30.

**Louis** 10:30!? Heavens, the day is half wasted! Why didn't you get here sooner to wake me

up? You need to take your responsibility as my assistant a little more seriously!

**Emile** My, but you are grumpy this morning. Perhaps you should take the day off.

**Louis** Too much to do!

Emile You work too much, you don't get enough sleep, and you don't eat well! You need to

take it easy.

**Louis** To whom much is given, much is required, and taking it easy doesn't fit into my daily

schedule. The world needs me! They just don't know it yet.

**Emile** You won't do the world any good if you dig yourself an early grave!

**Louis** Perhaps you're right. I haven't been able to think straight lately. Maybe I should just go

home and read a book or take a long walk.

Emile That's a fine idea, Mr. Pasteur.

**Louis** No...there's too much to do. I need to work.

Emile You're impossible.

Louis Emile...last night my children were begging me to tell them a story about how I cured

rabies.

**Emile** Oh no...did you sing them the song?

**Louis** Of course.

**Emile** Poor kids. You didn't make them do the hand motions, did you?

**Louis** I didn't make them do anything. They happen to love that song. Now, what I was about

to say, is the "Rabies Song" has got me thinking....

Emile About what? Voice lessons?

Louis No. About Anthrax.

Emile What? Mr. Pasteur, I think I may never understand how your mind works.

**Louis** I cured Rabies, and I found the diseases were killing silkworms. Farms all over France

are being devastated by the disease. It's wiping out their sheep, horses, oxen, and cattle. Anthrax isn't just in France, either. It exists in many parts of the world. In Russia, they

call it the "Siberian Plague."

Emile What is currently known about Anthrax?

Louis Not much. People call it the "Evil Fire," or the "Black Illness." It can strike in just a few

hours. Without a sound, animals will just collapse and die. Veterinarians who have conducted autopsies have found that their blood turns black, and becomes very thick. I believe anthrax is a disease caused by a specific bacterium. I heard the last anthrax attack was at the Hayward farm last week. Anthrax struck out of the blue, and his animals are still dying. I would like to go over to the farm this afternoon and have a look around.

Emile, do you hear something outside?

Emile Yes

(Louis and Emile walk outside)

#### **SCENE 6: THE MARKETPLACE**

(They see the pastor poorly hidden behind a small bush he is holding in front of his face)

**Louis** Emile...do you see anyone?

Emile No, I sure don't. Oh wait...look, it's a walking bush.

Louis Wow...I don't think I've ever seen a walking bush before.

(The Pastor reveals his face)

**Pastor** It is not a walking bush. It is I!

**Louis** Oh, good-day, Pastor. I didn't see you there behind that bush.

**Reverend** Of course you didn't. No one ever sees me unless I choose to reveal myself.

**Emile** What are you doing here, Pastor? **Reverend** Eavesdropping on the work of the devil.

Emile We were just discussing the animals suffering from anthrax at the Hayward farm.

Reverend It's not anthrax you'll find there, but the devil himself. Week before last, there was the

full moon shining right over the farm. That's when I knew trouble was afoot. The next

day, I started hearing the stories about the sheep who was possessed.

Louis Alright....thank-you for stopping by, Pastor. You know how Emile and I both love

seeing you.

**Emile** We'll see you at church on Sunday, Pastor.

(Onstage a crowd has gathered to hear Pouchet's lecture)

Emile What's happening over here?

**Louis** Oh no...we showed up just in time for Pouchet's lecture.

Emile What's he talking about? Louis I don't know. Let's see.

**Pouchet** And now my friends, we shall discuss the diseases that have caused so much pain and

suffering all over the world, and how startling new medical techniques will be able to

cure them in the near future.

**Louis** The first startling new medical technique doctors should practice is washing their hands

after working with every patient.

Emile What do you mean?

Louis I mean, a doctor will operate on a patient, move right on to the next patient and operate

on him without stopping to wash his hands. All the germs from the first patient are carried over to the next patient. This is done every day, in hospitals everywhere. People go into hospitals to recover from their illness, and many times they will die because these invisible microorganisms enter their body because careless doctors don't take proper

measures to sanitize themselves.

**Bertha** Is that true?

**Louis** Absolutely. If you must have an operation, it's much safer to hire a private doctor to

come into your home and conduct the operation. Hospitals are so dirty and infested with

bacteria of all kinds. Sadly, only very wealthy people can afford to hire a private physician.

(By now, the crowd has turned away from Pouchet and is straining to listen in on

Pasteur's conversation with Emile)

**Pouchet** What's going on down here? Pasteur?! Is that you? How dare you interrupt my lecture.

Louis I apologize. I did not intend to. Emile and I will be on our way.

Bertha Mr. Pasteur says that microscopic germs travel from patient to patient in the hospital

because doctors don't wash their hands. He says germs are the cause of these diseases

you're talking about.

Pouchet Mr. Pasteur that is nonsense! It is a well known medical fact that diseases arise when

certain elements in the body get out of balance, and cause the body's chemical process to

act faultily. How dare you tell these people any differently.

Louis Like I said, Emile and I will be going.

**Pouchet** You're not going anywhere! I'm going to punch you in the nose for interrupting my

lecture.

(Pouchet makes a fist with one hand and grabs Pasteur with the other. Suddenly, familiar music plays and there is a reaction in the crowd)

# **SONG: "ED AND AMBER ON POUCHET'S LECTURE"** (Reprise)

EdI'm Ed.AmberI'm Amber.

**Both** We're out and about

And we've come to hear the lecture by Pouchet

Our readers won't believe it, we think they will be shocked

When they find that is has turned into a fray

Pouchet No, no!

**Ed/Amber** And when the post comes out tomorrow

With tales of joy and sorrow

You can read how Mr. Pouchet turned violent

**Pouchet** What?

Ed/Amber He yells and screams real loud, and then attacks the crowd

**Pouchet** That fool Louis Pasteur refused to be silent!

(Underscore segues into next scene)

(Louis and Emile have snuck offstage)

**Pouchet** Hey! Where did he go?

(The crowd begins to leave)

**Pouchet** On, no, please! Everyone come back! I have many things to tell you. I won't get mad

and yell anymore. I'm a friendly person!

(Pouchet follows them out, begging for them to come back)

(Scene transitions to the Hayward Farm)

#### **SCENE 7: HAYWARD FARM**

Louis Emile...look at the ground there. It has a different color to it than the rest of the soil.

Emile This is the place where the farmer said he buried the sheep that died from anthrax.

**Louis** Yes, but why would that have an effect on the color of the soil?

(The Reverend enters)

**Reverend** The devil has been here...stood on this very spot! Cursed! This hill has been cursed! I

can smell the sulfur from the devil's fire, still lingering in the air.

**Louis** Do you smell anything, Emile?

(Emile shakes his head "No")

**Reverend** I warned you not to come here, Pasteur! You've crossed over into the territory of the

enemy. LOOK! (Pointing down at the ground) The worms of death come up from the ground, looking for flesh to devour before they sink back into the depths of the earth.

Emile Those are earth worms, and they're in soil everywhere. I've seen them in the soil in front

of your church.

Reverend BLAH!

(The Reverend exits)

Emile Can you believe that?

**Louis** Emile...I think the worms may be spreading the anthrax!

Emile What do you mean?

Louis Once the farmer noticed the sheep was infected, he isolated it from the other animals, so

it is not likely that they came into contact with anthrax through the sheep while it was still alive. However, the sheep died and the farmer buried him here, we know that. We also know that this soil has been discolored and the anthrax is somehow being spread among the animals. What if, after the farmer buried the sheep, worms fed on the carcass, and then, when they traveled up to the earth's surface, they spread the microorganisms

infected with anthrax in the soil?

Emile

Then, when the animals came to graze...

They would contract anthrax from the soil.

Emile A brilliant theory. But how shall we go about proving it?

Louis We will take a sample from this soil, find what microorganisms it contains, inject these

microorganisms into the guinea pigs back at the laboratory, and also a sheep. If these

animals contract anthrax, we'll know we're on the right track.

Emile This sounds complex.

**Louis** Yes, this will be a definite challenge, but I assure you, if this theory is correct, the world

will benefit largely.

Emile When will we start?

**Louis** Right away. We'll have to warn farmer Hayward to keep his livestock away from his

little pet cemetery. We'll also have to send a message to the Pastor telling him that

witchcraft and sorcery are not the cause of anthrax.

**Emile** Do you think he'll believe us?

**Louis** Not on your life.

#### **SCENE 8: OUTSIDE PASTEUR'S HOUSE**

Emile Mr. Pasteur, the guinea pigs in the laboratory are showing a definite reaction to the

injection, and this sheep seems to be having a reaction to the injection as well. Doesn't look entirely well, does he? So, it is possible my theory was correct.

**Emile** Very possible, I'd say. What do we do next, Mr. Pasteur?

**Louis** We wait, and observe the further reactions the sheep may have to the injection. If my

theory is correct, it will not be long until the sheep shows signs of the unfortunate

reaction that is happening on the inside of his body.

Emile You mean, the sheep is going to die?

**Louis** Well, considering that we just delivered what I would gauge to be an extremely lethal

dosage of what we believe to be anthrax, I would wager the odds of survival are not in his

favor.

Emile I see.

Louis

**Louis** Now Emile, do me the good service of retrieving my satchel from the laboratory. I have

a feeling I may need my instruments.

**Emile** Are you going to conduct experiments tonight, Mr. Pasteur?

**Louis** I do not know just yet, Emile. What happens to the sheep and guinea pigs will determine

a great many things. I will stay here and observe the sheep, and while you are retrieving

my satchel, you can check on the guinea pigs.

**Emile** I will return shortly.

(Emile exits, Marie enters)

Marie Louis, I thought I heard your voice.

**Louis** Ah, Marie. Emile and I were preparing to conduct a few experiments. He is just heading

back to the laboratory.

Marie Must you do your experiments this evening, Louis? You missed having supper with us. Louis I know...I'm sorry, Marie. I'll be home soon, and I'll tell the children a bedtime story.

Marie No! That's not a good idea, Louis...but do spend some time with me.

Louis Well, actually Marie, I was just...

**Marie** (Gasp) What an adorable sheep! Louis, where did you find him?

Louis Well..

Marie Did you bring this sheep home as our new pet? The children will love him! I've always

loved sheep, Louis. I don't know if I ever told you, but I had a pet sheep when I was just a girl. Times were hard for my family, and we had to eat her, but I've always hoped that

one day I could have another one.

Louis Oh....no, Marie, this sheep would not make a good pet. I've heard the life expectancy of

sheep, especially this sheep, is very short.

Marie Nonsense, Louis, we're keeping him.

Louis Yes, dear.

Marie Louis, while we are here alone, there is something I would like to say to you.

(*Louis* is examining the sheep)

Louis Yes'

Marie Louis, look at me. Take a break from your work for one minute and look at me.

**Louis** What is it?

Marie Louis, I'm worried about you. You've been working such long hours...and I miss you.

You spend more time with silkworms, germs, bacteria, and heaven knows what else, than

you do with your own family. You haven't forgotten about me, have you, Louis?

(Music begins)

Louis Marie, I could never forget you.

**Marie** There are days when I wish you didn't have to work such long hours.

**SONG: "LOVE AND ANTHRAX"** 

Marie Grey hair has started showing

You work hard, your pace isn't slowing I know your mind must be overflowing,

But won't you think of me?

While you were off curing rabies I was at home raising babies

While you were studying germs and worms

I was waiting for you

(Emile enters, just as the sheep dies. Louis sees, but Marie does not. Louis wants desperately to examine the sheep himself, but is paying attention to Marie...or

pretending to pay attention to Marie)

It's been ages since I have told you How much I love you, how I long to hold you I want our marriage to thrive Help it revive

(Emile examines the sheep while Louis watches from several yards away)

**Louis** Is it still alive?

(Emile shakes his head no)

Marie You know that it is

**Louis** Is there a chance it might survive?

Marie (Emile motions that the Louis sheep is definitely dead)

Forever and ever
There must be no doubt

Marie
Louis

Sheep is definitely deads

In my heart there is none
We must be sure

Marie Louis Pasteur, I love you!

Louis We must proceed

Marie (Emile climbs to his feet, Louis ready for orders)

Let's not wait one more minute
This is just what we need

Marie My life's nothing if you are not in it

Louis

Marie
Louis

Louis

Let's tell the world

Everyone will know
They'll be happy to hear
That I love you so!

(Emile runs off stage, Marie turns to Louis and notices the sheep)

(Underscore segues into next song)

Marie Louis, what happened to our sheep?

**Louis** I think he fainted.

Marie We'll have to get Emile to watch him when we're on vacation.

Louis What?

Marie
Louis

Vacation. Our family needs to get away.
I can't take a vacation. I'm much too busy.

Marie We're leaving tomorrow.

Louis But....

Marie I'm going home to pack.

(Marie exits. Ed and Amber enter)

**SONG:** "ED AND AMBER ON POTENTIAL ANTHRAX VACCINE" (Reprise)

Ed I'm Ed