Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights

Gertrude Stein

ACT I

(Faust standing at the door of his room, with his arms up at the door lintel
out, behind him a blaze of electric light.)

(Just then Mephisto approaches and appears at the door.)

Dr. Faustus: (Faustus growls out) The devil what the devil what do I care if the devil is there.

Devil: But Doctor Faustus dear yes I am here.

Dr. Faustus: What do I care there is no here nor there. What am I. I am Doctor Faustus who knows everything can do everything and you say it was through you but not at all, if I had not been in a hurry and if I had taken my time I would have known how to make white electric light and day-light and night light and what did I do I saw you miserable devil I saw you and I was deceived and I believed miserable devil I thought I needed you, and I thought I was tempted by the devil and I know no temptation is tempting unless the devil tells you so. And you wanted my soul what the hell did you want my soul for, how do you know I have a soul, who says so nobody says so but you the devil and everybody knows the devil is all lies, so how do you know how do I know that I have a soul to sell how do you know Mr. Devil oh Mr. Devil how can you tell you can not tell anything and I, I who know everything I keep on having so much light that light is not bright and what after all is the use of light, you can see just as well without it, you can go around just as well without it you can get up and go to bed just as well without it, and I I wanted to make it and the devil take it yes you devil you do not even want it and I sold my soul to make it. I have made it but have I a soul to pay for it

(Mephisto coming nearer and trying to pat his arm.)

Mephisto: Yes dear Doctor Faustus yes of course you have a soul of course you have, do not believe them when they say the devil lies, you know the devil never lies, he deceives oh yes he deceives but that is not lying no dear please dear Doctor Faustus do not say the devil lies.

Doctor Faustus: Who cares if you lie if you steal, there is no snake to grind under one's heel, there is no hope there is no death there is no life there is no breath, there just is every day all day and when there is no day there is no day, and anyway of what use is a devil unless he goes away, go away old devil go away, there is no use in a devil unless he goes away, how can you remember a devil unless he goes away, oh devil there is no use in your coming to stay and now you are red at night which is not a delight and you are red in the morning which is not a warning go away devil go away or stay after all what can a devil say.
**Mephisto:** A devil can smile a devil can while away whatever there is to give away, and now are you not proud Doctor Faustus yes you are you know you are the only one who knows what you know and it is I the devil who tells you so.

**Faustus:** You fool you devil how can you know, how can you tell me so, if I am the only one who can know what I know then no devil can know what I know and no devil can tell me so and I could know without any soul to sell, without there being anything in hell. What I know I know, I know how I do what I do when I see the way through and always any day I will see another day and you old devil you know very well you never see any other way than just the way to hell, you only know one way. You only know one thing, you are never ready for anything, and I everything is always now and now and now perhaps through you I begin to know that it is all just so, that light however bright will never be other than light, and any light is just a light and now there is nothing more either by day or by night but just a light. Oh you devil go to hell, that is all you know to tell, and who is interested in hell just a devil is interested in hell because that is all he can tell, whether I stamp or whether I cry whether I live or whether I die, I can know that all a devil can say is just about going to hell the same way, get out of here devil, it does not interest me whether you can buy or I can sell, get out of here devil just you go to hell.

(Faustus gives him an awful kick, and Mephisto moves away and the electric lights just then begin to get very gay.)

All right then

THE BALLET

(Doctor Faustus sitting alone surrounded by electric lights. His dog comes in and says)

**Dog:** Thank you.

(One of the electric lights goes out and again the dog says)

**Dog:** Thank you.

(The electric light that went out is replaced by a glow. The dog murmurs.)

**Dog:** My my what a sky.

(And then he says)

**Dog:** Thank you.

DOCTOR FAUSTUS'S SONG:

**Doctor Faustus:** If I do it If you do it What is it.

(Once again the dog says)
Dog: Thank you.

(A duet between Doctor Faustus and the dog about the electric light about the electric lights.)

Doctor Faustus: Bathe me

Doctor Faustus: Bathe me in the electric lights

(During this time the electric lights come and go)

Dr.Faustus : What is it

Dog: Thank you

(Just at this moment the electric lights get brighter and nothing comes)

Dr.Faustus: Was it it

(Faustus meditates he does not see the dog.)

Dr.Faustus: Will it Will it Will it be Will it be it.

(Faustus sighs and repeats)

Will it be it.

(A duet between the dog and Faustus)

Dr.Faustus and Dog: Will it be it Just it.

(At that moment the electric light gets pale again and in that
Moment Faustus shocked says)

Dr.Faustus: It is it

(A little boy comes in and plays with the dog, the dog says)

Dog: Thank you.

(Doctor Faustus looks away from the electric lights and then he
sings a song.)

Dr.Faustus: LET ME ALONE

Let me alone

Oh let me alone

Dog and boy let me alone oh let me alone

Leave me alone Let me be alone little boy and dog let let me alone
(He sighs and as he sighs he says)

Dr. Faustus: Dog and boy boy and dog leave me alone let me let me be alone.

Dog: Thank you

(but does not look at Faustus a pause no words)

Dog: Thank you

I say thank you

Thank you

The little boy: The day begins today

The day

The moon begins the day

Doctor Faustus: There is no moon today

Dark silence

You obey I obey

There is no moon today.

(Silence)

Dog: I obey I say

Thank you any day

Little Boy: Once in a while they get up.

Doctor Faustus: I shall not think

I shall not

No I shall not.

(Faustus addresses little boy and dog)

Dr. Faustus: Night is better than day so please go away

The Boy: But say When the hay has to be cut every day then there is the devil to pay

(The dog starts and then he shrinks)

Dog: Thank you

(Faustus half turns and starts)
**Dr. Faustus:** I hear her he says I hear her say

Call to her to sing To sing all about to sing a song

All about daylight and night light. Moonlight and starlight electric light and twilight every light as well. Electric lights glow and a chorus in the distance sings

Her name is her name is her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel. (Faustus sings)

**Dr. Faustus:** I knew it I knew it the electric lights they told me so no dog can know no boy can know I cannot know they cannot know the electric lights they told me so I would not know I could not know who can know who can tell me. so I know you know they can know her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and when I tell oh when I tell oh when I when I tell, oh go away and go away and tell and tell and tell and tell and tell, oh hell.

(The electric lights commence to dance and one by one they go out and come in and the boy and the dog begin to sing.)

**Dog and Boy:** Oh very well oh Doctor Faustus very very well oh very well

**Dog:** thank you

**Boy:** oh very well

**Boy:** her name her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel

**Dog:** I know

**Boy:** I know

**Dr. Faustus:** I know no no no no no nobody can know what I know I know her name is not Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel

**Boy:** very well

**Boy:** it is her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel

**Dr. Faustus:** no no no

**Dog:** yes yes yes

**Boy:** no

**Dog:** yes her name is not Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and she is not ready yet to sing about daylight and night light, moonlight and starlight electric light and twilight she is not she is not but she will be.

**Dr. Faustus:** She will not be never never never, never will her name be Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel never never never never well as well never Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel never Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel.
(There is a sudden hush and the distant chorus says)

Chorus: It might be it might be her name her name might be Marguerite Ida and

Helena Annabel it might be.

(And Doctor Faustus says in a loud whisper)

Dr. Faustus: It might be but it is not, 

Boy: (and the little boy says) how do you know and Faustus says it might be it might not be not be not be (and as he says) the last not be

(the dog says)

Dog: Thank you.

SCENE II

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: I am I and my name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel, and then oh then I could yes I could I could begin to cry but why why could I begin to cry. And I am I and I am here and how do I know how wild the world is how wild the wild woods are the wood they call the woods the poor man's overcoat but do they cover me and if they do how wild they are wild and wild and wild they are, how do I know how wild woods are when I have never ever seen a wood before. I wish (she whispered) I knew why woods are wild why animals are wild why I am I, why I can cry, I wish I wish I knew, I wish oh how I wish I knew. Once I am in I will never be through the woods are there and I am here and am I here or am I there, oh where oh where is here oh where oh where is there and animals wild animals are everywhere.

(She sits down.) I wish (says she conversationally) I wish if I had a wish that when I sit down it would not be here but there where I could have a chair there where I would not have to look around fearfully everywhere there where a chair and a carpet underneath the chair would make me know that there is there, but here here everywhere there is nothing nothing like a carpet nothing like a chair, here it is wild everywhere I hear I hear everywhere that the woods are wild and I am here and here is here and here I am sitting without a chair without a carpet, oh help me to a carpet with a chair save me from the woods the wild woods everywhere where everything is wild wild and I am not there I am here oh dear I am not there.

(She stands up with her hands at her sides she opens and closes her eyes and opens them again.)

If my eyes are open and my eyes are closed I see I see, I see no carpet I see no chair I see the wild woods everywhere, what good does it do me to close my eyes no good at all the woods the woods are there I close my eyes but the green is there and I open my eyes and I have to
stare to be sure the green is there the green of the woods, I saw it when my eyes were closed
I saw the wild woods everywhere and now I open my eyes and there there is the wild wood everywhere.

Would it do as well if my name were not Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel would it do as well I would give up even that for a carpet and a chair and to be not here but there, but (and she lets out a shriek,)
I am here I am not there and I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and it is not well that I could tell what there is to tell what there is to see and what do I see and do I see it at all oh yes I do I call and call but yes I do I see it all oh dear oh dear oh dear yes I am here.

In the distance there is daylight and near to there is none.
(There is something under the leaves and Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel makes a quick turn and she sees that a viper has stung her.)
(In the distance there is daylight and near to there is none there is a rustling under the leaves and Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel makes a quick turn and she sees that a viper has stung her she sees and she says)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel : what is it.
(There is no answer)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Does it hurt
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: no not really
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: was it a viper
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: how can I I never saw one before but is it
(she says and she stands up again and sits down and pulls down her stocking)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: well it was not a bee not a busy bee no not, nor a mosquito nor a sting it was a bite and serpents bite yes they do perhaps it was one.
(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel sits thinking and then she sees a country woman with a sickle coming.)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Have I
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: have I been bitten
(the woman comes nearer,)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: have I
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: have I have I been bitten.
Country Woman: Have you been bitten
Country Woman: why yes it can happen
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: then I have been bitten
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: why not if you have been is the answer.
(stand repeating)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: have I and yes it does happen and then
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: let me show you
Country Woman: oh yes but I have never seen anyone who has been bitten but let me see no I cannot tell (she says) but go away and do something
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: what shall I do
Country Woman: do something to kill the poison
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: but what
Country woman: a doctor can do it
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: but what doctor
Country Woman: Doctor Faustus can do it (said the woman)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: do you know him
Country woman: no of course I do not know him nobody does there is a dog,
Dog: thank you
Country woman: and go and see him go go go
(and Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel went as she went she began to sing.)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel:
Do vipers sting do vipers bite
If they bite with all their might
Do they do they sting
Or do they do they bite
All right they bite if they bite with all their might. And I am I Marguerite Ida or am I Helena Annabel Oh well
Am I Marguerite Ida or am I Helena Annabel

Very well oh very well

Am I Marguerite Ida very well am I Helena Annabel.

She stops she remembers the viper and in a whisper she says was it a sting was it a bite am I all right; was it a sting was it a bite, all right was it a sting, oh or was it a bite.

(She moves away and then suddenly she stops.)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Will he tell Will he tell that I am Marguerite Ida that I am Helena Annabel. Will he tell

(And then she stops again)

And the bite might he make it a bite. Doctor Faustus a queer name

Might he make it a bite

(And so she disappears.)

SCENE III

(Doctor Faustus the dog and the boy all sleeping, the dog dreaming says thickly)

Dog: Thank you, thank you thank you thank you thank you, thank you thank you

(Doctor Faustus turns and murmurs)

Dr.Faustus: Man and dog dog and man each one can tell it all like a ball with a caress no tenderness, man and dog just the same each one can take the blame each one can well as well tell it all as they can, man and dog, well well man and dog what is the difference between a man and a dog when I say none do I go away does he go away go away to stay no nobody goes away the dog the boy they can stay I can go away go away where where there there where, dog and boy can annoy I can go say I go where do I go I go where I go, where is there there is where and all the day and all the night too it grew and grew and there is no way to say I and a dog and a boy, if a boy is to grow to be a man am I a boy am I a dog is a dog a boy is a boy a dog and what am I I cannot cry what am I oh what am I

(And then he waits a moment)

Dr.Faustus: Oh what am I.

(Just then in the distance there is a call)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Doctor Faustus Doctor Faustus are you there
Doctor Faustus: I am here

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Doctor Faustus I am coming there Doctor Faustus, there is where Doctor Faustus oh where is there Doctor Faustus say it Doctor Faustus are you there

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Doctor Faustus are you there.

(The dog murmurs)

Dog: Thank you thank you

Boy: There is somebody of course there is somebody just there there is somebody some body is there oh yes somebody is there.

(all together they say)

Dr.Faustus/Dog/Boy: Where is there nobody says nobody is there. Somebody is there and nobody that somebody is not there. Somebody somebody is there somebody somebody says there is where where is it where is it where is it where, here is here here is there somebody somebody says where is where

(Outside the voice says)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Doctor Faustus are you there Doctor Faustus anywhere, Doctor Faustus are You there.

(And then there is a knock at the door.)

(The electric lights glow softly and Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel comes in.)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Well and yes well, and this is yes this is Doctor Faustus Doctor Faustus and he can and he can change a bite hold it tight make it not kill not kill Mar Ida not kill Helena Annabel and hell oh hell not a hell not well yes Doctor Faustus can he can make it all well.

(And then she says in a quiet voice)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Doctor Faustus have you ever been to hell.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Of course not of course you have not how could you sell your soul if you had ever been to hell of course not, no of course not.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Dr.Faustus tell me what did they give you when you sold your soul, not hell no of course not hell.

(and then she goes on.)
**Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel**: I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and a viper bit or stung it is very well begun and if it is so then oh oh I will die and as my soul has not been sold I Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel perhaps I will go to hell.

(The dog sighs)

**Dog**: Thank you

**(the little boy coming nearer)**

**Boy**: what is a viper, tell me Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel I like you being Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel what is a viper do I know it very well or do I not know it very well please tell you are Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel what is a viper.

**Doctor Faustus**: Little boy and dog can be killed by a viper but Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel not very well no not very well

**(He bursts out)**

**Dr.Faustus**: Leave me alone Let me be alone Little boy and dog let me be alone, Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel let me be alone, I have no soul I had no soul I sold it sold it here there and everywhere. What did I do I knew I knew that there could be light not moonlight starlight daylight and candle light, I knew I knew I saw the lightening light, I saw it light, I said I I I must have that light, and what did I do oh what did I too I said I would sell my soul all through but I knew I knew that electric light was all true, and true oh yes it is true they took it that it was true that I sold my soul to them as well and so never never could I go to hell never never as well. Go away dog and boy go away Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel go away all who can die and go to heaven or hell go away oh go away go away leave me alone oh leave me alone. I said it I said it was the light I said I gave the light I said the lights are right and the day is bright little boy and dog leave me alone let me be alone.

**(The country woman with the sickle looks in at the window and sings)**

**Country woman**: Well well this is the Doctor Faustus and he has not gone to hell he has pretty lights and they light so very well and there is a dog and he says

**Dog**: thank you

**Country woman**: and there is a little boy oh yes little boy there you are you just are there yes little boy you are and there is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and a viper did bite her, oh cure her Doctor Faustus cure her what is the use of your having been to hell if Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel is not to be all well.

**(And the chorus sings )**

**Chorus**: What is the use Doctor Faustus what is the use what is the use of having been to hell if you cannot cure this only only this Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel.
Doctor Faustus: I think I have thought thought is not bought oh no thought is not bought I think think I have thought and what have I bought I have bought thought, to is not bought but I I have bought thought and so you come here you come here and here and here where can I say that not today not any can play I look and see, no no I cannot look no no I cannot see and you you you see are Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and I I cannot see I cannot see Marguerite Ida and I cannot see Helena Annabel and you are the two and I cannot cannot see you.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Do not see me Doctor Faustus do not see me it would terrify me if you did see do not see me no no do not see me I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel but do not see me cure me Doctor Faustus do the viper bit the viper stung his sting was a bite and you you have the light cure me Doctor Faustus cure me do but do not see me, I see you but do not see me cure me do but do not see me I implore you.

(A dog says)

The dog: thank you

Doctor Faustus: but you you say do not see me cure me do but do not see me what shall I do.

(He turns to the dog)

The dog: Thank you

Boy: What difference does it make to you if you do what difference oh what difference does it make to you if you do, whatever you do do whatever you do do what difference does it make to you if you do.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: What difference does it make to you if you do what difference does it make to you but I a viper has had his bite and I I will die but you you cannot die you have sold your soul but I I have mine and a viper has come and he has bitten me and see see how the poison works see see how I must die, see how little by little it is coming to be high, higher and higher I must die oh Doctor Faustus what difference does it make to you what difference oh what difference but to me to me to me to me a viper has bitten me a bitter viper a viper has bitten me.

The dog: Oh Thank you thank you all all of you thank you thank you oh thank you everybody thank you he and we thank you, a viper has bitten you thank you thank you thank you.'

The boy: A viper has bitten her she knows it too a viper has bitten her believe it or not it is true, a viper has bitten her and if Doctor Faustus does not cure her it will be all through her a viper has bitten her a viper a viper.

Dog: Thank you

(Woman at the window)
**Country woman:** A Viper has bitten her and if Doctor Faustus does not cure her it will be all through her.

*(Chorus in the distance)*

**Chorus:** Who is she

She has not gone to hell

Very well

Very well

She has not gone to hell

Who is she

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel

And what has happened to her

A viper has bitten her

And if Doctor Faustus does not cure her

It will go all through her and he what does he say He says he cannot see her Why cannot he see her

Because he cannot look at her He cannot look at Marguerite  Ida and Helena Annabel

But he cannot cure her without seeing her

They say yes yes

And he says there is no witness

And he says

He can but he will not

And she says he must and he will

And the dog says thank you

And the boy says very well

And the woman says well cure her and she says she is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel.
(There is silence the lights flicker and flicker, and Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel gets weaker and weaker and the poison stronger and stronger and suddenly the dog says startling)

Dog: Thank you

Doctor Faustus: I cannot see you the viper has forgotten you. The dog has said thank you The boy has said will you the woman has said Can you And you, you have said you are you enough said. You are not dead. Enough said Enough said. You are not dead. No you are not dead Enough said Enough said.

You are not dead.

(All join in)

All: enough said you are not dead you are not dead enough said yes enough said no you are not dead yes enough said, thank you yes enough said no you are not dead.

(And at the last in a low whisper she says)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and enough said I am not dead.

Curtain

ACT II

(Someone comes and sings)

Someone: Very Very

Butter better very well Butcher whether it will tell Well is well and silver sell sell a salted almond to Nell Which she will accept

And then

What does a fatty do She does not pay for it. No she does not

Does not pay for it.

By this time they know how to spell very

Very likely the whole thing is really extraordinary

Which is a great relief

All the time her name is Marguerite Ida Marguerite Ida

They drift in and they sing

Very likely the whole thing is extraordinary
Which is a great relief

All the time her name is Marguerite Ida

Marguerite Ida.

(Then they converse about it.)

Marguerite Ida is her name Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel who can tell if her name is Marguerite Ida or Helena Annabel

Sillies all that is what makes you tall. To be tall means to say that everything else is laid away.

Of course her names is Marguerite Ida too and Helena Annabel as well.

(A full chorus)

Chorus: Of course her names is Marguerite Ida too and Helena Annabel as well.

(A deep voice asks)

Deep voice: Would a viper have stung her if she had only had one name would he would he. How do you know how do you know that a viper did sting her. How could Doctor Faustus have cured her if there had not been something the matter with her. Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel it is true her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel as well and a viper has stung her and Doctor Faustus has cured her, cured her cured her, he has sold his soul to hell cured her cured her cured he he has sold his soul to hell and her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and a viper had to bite her and Doctor Faustus had to cure her cure her cure her.

(The curtain at the corner rises and there she is Marguerite Ida and

Helena Annabel and she has an artificial viper there beside her and a halo is around her not of electric light but of candlelight, and she sits there and waits.)

(The chorus sings)

Chorus: There she is Is she there Look and see Is she there

Is she there Anywhere Look and see Is she there

Yes she is there there is there She is there Look and see She is there. There she is there there where

Why there

Look and see there

There she is
And what is there
A viper is there
The viper that bit her
No silly no
How could he be there
This is not a viper
This is what is like a viper
She is there
And a viper did bite her
And Doctor Faustus did cure her
And now
And now
And now she is there
Where
Why there
Oh yes there.
Yes oh yes yes there.
There she is
Look and see
And the viper is there And the light is there Who gave her the light Nobody did
Doctor Faustus sold his soul And so the light came there And did she sell her soul.
No silly he sold his soul
She had a viper bite her
She is there
Oh yes she is there
Look there
Yes there
She is there.

(Marguerite Ida begins to sing)

Marguerite Ida: I sit and sit with my back to the sun I sat and sat with my back to the sun. Marguerite Ida sat and sat with her back to the sun.

The sun oh the sun the lights are bright like the sunset and she sat with her back to the sun sat and sat

(She sits)

A very grand ballet of lights. Nobody can know that it is so

They come from everywhere
By land by sea by air
They come from everywhere
To look at her there.

See how she sits
See how she eats
See how she lights, The candle lights.
See how the viper there, Cannot hurt her.

No indeed he cannot.

Nothing can touch her, she has everything and her soul, nothing can lose her,

See how they come See how they come
To see her.

See how they come.

Watch
They come by sea
They come by land
They come by air
And she sits
With her back to the sun
One sun
And she is one
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel as well.
They commence to come and more and more come and they come from
the sea from the land and from the air. And she sits.
(A man comes from over the sea and a great many are around him
He sees her as she sits)
Man from Over the Sea: Pretty pretty dear
She is all my love and always here
And I am hers and she is mine And I love her all the time Pretty pretty pretty dear.
Chorus: No
Chorus: no.
She is she and the viper bit her And Doctor Faustus cured her.
(The Man from Over the Sea repeats)
The Man from Over the Sea: Pretty pretty pretty dear
She is all my love and always here
And I am hers and she is mine
And I love her all the time.
(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel suddenly hears something)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: What is it.
(He comes forward and says again)
The Man from Over the Sea: Pretty pretty pretty dear she is all my love and she is always here.
(She sings slowly)
Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: You do or you do not.
Chorus: He
The Man from Overseas: Pretty pretty dear she is all my love and she is always here.
Chorus: Well well he says
The Man from Over the Seas: well well and her name is Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and they all say it was a viper, what is a viper, a viper is a serpent and anybody has bitten, bitten and not everybody dies and cries, and so why why say it all the time, I have been bitten I I have been bitten by her bitten by her there she sits with her back to the sun and I have won I have won her I have won her.

(She sings a song)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: You do or you do not
You are or you are not I am there is no not
But you you You are as you are not

Man from Over the Sea: Do you do what you do because you knew all the way through that I I was coming to you answer me that.

(She turns her back on him)

Man from Over the Sea: I am your sun oh very very well begun, you turn your back on your sun, I am your sun, I have won I have won I am your sun.

(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel rises. She holds the viper she says)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Is It you Doctor Faustus is it you, tell me man from over the sea are you he.

Man from Over the Sea: He laughs. Are you afraid now afraid of me.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Are you he.

Man from Over the Sea: I am the only he and you are the only she and we are the only we.

Come come do you hear me come come, you must come to me, throw away the viper throw away the sun throw away the lights until there are none. I am not any one I am the only one, you have to have me because I am that one.

(She looks very troubled and drops the viper but she instantly stoops and picks It up and some of the lights go out and she fusses about it.)

(And then suddenly she starts)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: No one is one when there are two, look behind you look behind you you are not one you are two.

(She faints.)

(And indeed behind the man of the sea is Mephistopheles and with him is a boy and a girl.)

(Together they sing the song the boy and the girl.)
Boy and Girl: Mr. Viper think of me. He says you do she says you do and if you do dear Mr. Viper if you do then it is all true he is a boy I am a girl it is all true dear dear Mr. Viper think of me.

(The chorus says in the back)

Chorus: Dear dear Mr. Viper think of them one is a boy one is a girl dear dear viper dear dear viper think of them.

(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel still staring at the man from over the seas and Mephisto behind them.)

(She whispers)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: They two I two they two that makes six it should be seven they two I two they two five is heaven.

Mephisto: And what if I ask what answer me what, I have a will of iron yes a will to do what I do. I do what I do what I do, I do I do.

(And he strides forward)

Where where where are you, what a to do, when a light is bright there is moonlight, when a light is not so bright then it is daylight, and when a light is no light then it is electric light, but you you have candlelight, who are you.

(The ballet rushes in and out)

(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel lifts the viper and says)

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Lights are all right but the viper is my might.

Mephisto: Pooh, I despise a viper, the viper tries but the viper lies. Me they cannot touch no not any such, a viper, ha ha a viper, a viper, ha ha, no the lights the lights the candle lights, I know a light when I see a light, I work I work all day and all night, I am the devil and day and night, I never sleep by any light by any dark by any might, I never sleep not by day not by night, you cannot fool me by candlelight, where is the real electric light woman answer me.

(The little boy and girl creep closer, they sing.)

Boy and Girl: Mr. Viper dear Mr. Viper, he is a boy I am a girl she is a girl I am a boy we do not want to annoy but we do oh we do oh Mr. Viper yes we do we want you to know that she is a girl that I am boy, oh yes Mr. Viper please Mr. Viper here we are Mr. Viper listen to us Mr. Viper, oh please Mr. Viper it is not true Mr. Viper what the devil says Mr. Viper that there is no Mr. Viper, please Mr. Viper please Mr. Viper, she is a girl he is a boy please Mr. Viper you are Mr. Viper please Mr. Viper please tell us so.

(The man from over the sea smiles at them all)
Man from Over the Sea: It is lovely to be at ease.

Mephisto: What do you know I am the devil and you do not listen to me I work and I work by day and by night and you do not listen to me he and she she and he do not listen to me you will see you will see, if I work day and night and I do I do I work day and night, then you will see what you will see, look out look out for me. (He rushes away)

(And Helena Annabel and Marguerite Ida shrinks back, and says to them all)

Helena Annabel and Marguerite Ida: What does he say

Man from over the sea: Pretty pretty dear she is all my love and she is always here. and then more s'l'Owly

I am the only hyo':! are the only she and we are the only we,

and the chorus sings softly And the viper did bite her and Doctor Faustus did cure her.

(And the boy and girl sing softly)

Boy and girl: Yes Mr. Viper he is a boy she is a girl yes Mr. Viper.

(And the ballet of lights fades away)

Curtain

ACT III

SCENE I

Doctor Faustus' house

Faustus in his chair, the dog and the boy, the electric lights are right but the room is dark.

Dr.Faustus:

Yes they shine

They shine all the time. I know they shine

I see them shine

And I am here

I have no fear

But what shall I do

I am all through
I cannot bear
To have no care
I like it bright
I do like it bright
Alright I like it bright,
But is it white
Or is it bright.
Dear dear
I do care
That nobody can share.
What if they do
It is all to' me
Ah I do not like that word me,
Why not even if it does rhyme with she. I know all the words that rhyme with
!night with light with might with alright, I know them so that I cannot tell I
.can spell but I cannot tell how much I need to not have that, not light not light, not light not
night not alright, not night not sight not bright, no no not
night not sight not bright no no not bright.

(There is a moment's silence)

Dog: Thank you. (He turns around) Yes thank you. Not bright not night dear Doctor Faustus
you are right, I am a dog yes I am just that I am I am a dog and I bay at the moon, I did yes I
did I used to do it I used to bay at the moon I always used to do it and now now not any
more, I cannot, of course I cannot, the electric lights they make it be that there is no night
and if there is no night then there is no moon and if there is no moon I do not see it and if i do
not see it I cannot bay at it.

(The dog sighs and settles down to rest and as he settles down)

Dog: Thank you.

(The little boy cuddles up close to him)
Boy: Yes there is no moon and if there is a moon then we do not bay at the moon and if there is no moon then no one is crazy anymore because it is the moon of course it is the moon that always made them be like that, say thank you doggie and I too I too with you will say thank you.

(They softly murmur)

Boy and Dog: Thank you thank you thank you too.

(They all sleep in the dark with the electric light all bright, and then at the window comes something.)

Dog: Is it the moon

Boy: is it the moon

Dr.Faustus: is it the moon do not wake me is it the moon

Woman: No

Woman: no it is not it is not the moon, I am not the moon I am at the window Doctor Faustus do not you know what it is that is happening.

(No answer.)

Woman: Doctor Faustus do not you know what is happening.

(Back of her a chorus)

Chorus: Doctor Faustus do not you know what is happening.

(Still no answer, All together louder)

Woman and Chorus: Doctor Faustus do not you know do not you know what it is that is happening.

Dr.Faustus: Go away woman and men, children and dogs moon and stars go away let me alone let me be alone no light is bright, I have no sight, go away woman and let me boy and dog let me be alone I need no light to tell me it is bright, go away go away, go away go away.

Woman: No

Woman: No I am at the window and here I remain till you hear it all. Here we know because Doctor Faustus tells us so, that he only he can turn night into day but now they say, they say,

(her voice rises to a screech)

they say a woman can turn night into day, they say a woman and a viper bit her and did not hurt her and he showed her how and now she can turn night into day, Doctor Faustus oh
Doctor Faustus say you are the only one who can turn night into day oh Doctor Faustus yes do say that you are the only one who can turn night into day.

(The chorus behind says)

Chorus: Oh Doctor Faustus oh Doctor Faustus do say that you are the only one who can turn night into day.

(Faustus starts up confused he faces the woman)

Dr.Faustus: What is it you say.

(And she says imploringly)

Woman: Oh Doctor Faustus do say you are the only one who can turn night into day.

(Faustus slowly draws himself erect and says)

Dr.Faustus: Yes I do say I am the only one who can turn night into day.

Woman and Chorus: He is the only one who can turn night into day.

Dog: He is the only one who can turn night into day, there is no moon any night or any day he is the only one to turn night into day,

Boy: Yes he is the only one to turn night into day.

Woman: But come Doctor Faustus come away come and see whether they say that they can turn night into day.

Dr.Faustus: Who says

Woman: She says

Dr.Faustus: Who is she

The answer

Marguerite Ida or Helena Annabel

Dr.Faustus: She (says Doctor Faustus)

The Woman: Who said I could not go to hell. She she

(says the woman)

Chorus:

She she

(says the chorus)
Dog: Thank you

Dr. Faustus: Well

(said Doctor Faustus)

Dr. Faustus: Well then I can go to hell, if she can turn night into day then I can go to hell, come on then come on we will go and see her and I will show her that I can go to hell, if she can turn night into day as they say then I am not the only one very well I am not the only one so Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel listen well you cannot but I I can go to hell. Come on every one never again will I be alone come on come on every one.

(They all leave.)

SCENE II

(The scene as before, Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel sitting with the man from over the seas their backs to the sun, the music to express a noonday hush.)

(Everybody dreamily saying)

Everyone: Mr. Viper please Mr. Viper, (some saying)

Is he is he Doctor Faustus no he isn't no he isn't, is he is he all he lovesher is he is he all she loves him, no one can remember anything but him, which is she and which is he sweetly after all there is no bee there is a viper such a nice sweet quiet one, nobody anybody knows how to run, come any one come, see any one, some, come viper sun, we know no other any one, any one can forget a light, even an electric one but no one no one can forget a viper even a stuffed one no no one and no one can forget the sun and no one can forget Doctor Faustus no no one and and no one can forget Thank you and the dog and no one can forget a little boy and no one can forget any one no no one.

(These words to be distributed among the chorus)

(and the man from over the sea murmurs dreamily)

Man from Overseas: Pretty pretty pretty dear here I am and you are here and yet and yet it would be better yet if you had more names and not only four in one let it be begun, forget it oh forget it pretty one, and if not I will forget that you are one yes I will yes I will pretty pretty one yes I will.

(Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel stiffens a little)

Well will you yes I will, no one can know when I do not tell them so that they cannot know anything they know, yes I know, I do know just what I can know, it is not there well anywhere, I cannot come not for any one I cannot say what is night and day but I am the
only one who can know anything about any one, am I one dear dear am I one, who hears me knows me I am here and here I am, yes here I am.

(The chorus gets more lively and says)

Chorus: Yes there she is

Man from Over the Sea: Dear me

(Just then out of the gloom appear at the other end of the stage Faust and the boy and the dog, nobody sees them, just then in front of everyone appears Mephisto, very excited and sings)

Mephisto: Which of you can dare to deceive me which of you he or she can dare to deceive me, I who have a will of iron I who make what will be happen I who can win men or women I who can be wherever I am which of you has been deceiving which of you she or he which of you has been deceiving me. (He shouts louder) If there is a light who has the right, I say I gave it to him, she says he gave it to her or she does not say anthing, I say I am Mephisto and what I have I do not give no not to anyone, who has been in her who has been in him, I will win.

(The boy and girl shrilly sing)

Boy and Girl: She is she and he is he and we are we Mr. Viper do not forget to be. Please Mr. Viper do not forget to be, do not forget that she is she and that he is he please Mr.Viper do not forget me.

(Faustus murmurs in a low voice)

Dr.Faustus: I sold my soul to make it bright with electric light and now no one not I not she not they not he are interested in that thing and I and I I cannot go to hell I have sold my soul to make a light and the light is bright but not interesting in my sight and I would oh yes I would I would rather go to hell be I with all my might and then go to hell oh yes alright.

(Mephisto strides up to him)

Mephisto: You deceived me.

Dr.Faustus: I did not (says Faustus)

Mephisto: You deceived me and I am never deceived

Dr.Faustus: you deceived me and I am always deceived

Mephisto: you deceived me and I am never deceived.

Faustus: Well well let us forget it is not ready yet let us forget and now oh how I want to be me myself all now, I do not care for light let it be however light, I do not care anything but
to be well and to go to hell. Tell me oh devil tell me will she will Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel will she will she really will she go to hell.

Mephisto: I suppose so.

Faustus: Well then how dear devil how how can I who have no soul I sold it for a light how can I be I again alright and go to hell.

Mephisto: Commit a sin

Faustus: What sin, how can I without a soul commit a sin.

Mephisto: Kill anything

Faustus: Kill

Mephisto: Yes kill something oh yes kill anything. Yes it is I who have been deceived I the devil whom no one can deceive yes it is I I who have been deceived.

Faustus: but if i kill what then will.

Mephisto: It is I who have an iron will.

Faustus: But if i kill what will happen then.

Mephisto: Oh go to hell.

Faustus: I will

(He turns he sees the boy and dog he says)

Faustus: I will kill I will I will.

(He whispers)

Dr.Faustus: I will kill I will I will.

(He turns to the boy and dog and he says)

Dr.Faustus: Boy and dog I will kill you two I will kill I will I will boy and dog I will kill you kill you, the viper will kill you but it will be I who did it, you will die.

The dog: Thank you, the light is so bright there is no moon tonight I cannot bay at the moon the viper will kill me. Thank you

Boy: And I too, there is no day and night there is no dog tonight to say thank you the viper will kill me too, good-bye to you.

(In the distance the voices of the boy and girl are heard saying)

Boy and Girl: Mr. Viper please listen to me he is a boy she is a girl.
(There is a rustle the viper appears and the dog and the boy die)

Dr. Faustus: They are dead yes they are dead, dear dog dear boy yes you are dead you are forever ever ever dead and I I can because you die nobody can deny later I will go to hell very well very well I will go to hell Marguerite Ida Helena Annabel I come to tell to tell you that I can go to hell.

Mephisto: And I, while you cry I who do not deny that now you can go to hell have I nothing to do with you.

Faustus: No I am through with you I do not need the devil I can go to hell all alone. Leave me alone let me be alone I can go to hell all alone.

Mephisto: No listen to me now take her with you I will make you young take her with you do Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel take her with you do.

Faustus: Is it true that I can be young.

Mephisto: Yes.

Faustus: All right.

(He is young he approaches Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel who wakes up and looks at him.)

Dr. Faustus: Look well I am Doctor Faustus and I can go to hell.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: You Doctor Faustus never never Doctor Faustus is old I was told and I saw it with my eyes he was old and could not go to hell and you are young and can go to hell, very well you are not Doctor Faustus never never.

Faustus: I am I killed the boy and dog when I was an old man and now I am a young man and you Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and you know it well and you know I can go to hell and I can take someone too and that someone will be you.

Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel: Never never, never never, you think you are so clever you think you can deceive, you think you can be old and you are young and old like any one but never never, I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and I know no man or devil no viper and no light I can be anything and everything and it is always always alright. No one can deceive me not a young man not an old man not a devil not a viper I am Marguerite Ida and Helena Annabel and never never will a young man be an old man and an old man be a young man, you are not Doctor Faustus no not ever never never

(and she falls back fainting into the arms of the man from over the seas who sings)

Man from Over the Sea: Pretty pretty pretty dear I am he and she is she and we are we, pretty pretty dear I am here yes I am here pretty pretty pretty dear.
(Mephisto strides up)

**Mephisto:** Always deceived always deceived I have a will of iron and I am always Deceived always deceived come Doctor Faustus I have a will of iron and you will go to hell.

**Faustus sings:** Leave me alone let me be alone, dog and boy boy and dog leave me alone let me be alone

(and he sinks into the darkness and it is all dark and the little boy and the
little girl sing)

**Boy and Girl:** Please Mr. Viper listen to me he is he and she is she and we are we please Mr. Viper listen to me.

**Curtain**