EURYDICE & CHILD (HARPER)

Scene 14

The Father leaves for work.
He takes his briefcase.
He waves to Eurydice.
She waves back.
She is alone in the string room.
She touches the string.

The Lord of the Underworld enters on his red tricycle.
Music from a heavy metal band accompanies his entrance.
His clothes and his hat are too small for him.
He stops pedaling at the entrance to the string room.

CHILD. Knock, knock.

EURYDICE. Who's there?

CHILD. I am Lord of the Underworld.

EURYDICE. Very funny.

CHILD. I am.

EURYDICE. Prove it.

CHILD. I can do chin-ups inside your bones. Close your eyes.

She closes her eyes.

EURYDICE. Ow.

CHILD. See?
You're pretty.

EURYDICE. You're little.

CHILD. I grow downward. Like a turnip.

EURYDICE. What do you want?

CHILD. I wanted to see if you were comfortable.
You're not itchy?

EURYDICE. No.

CHILD. That's good. Sometimes our residents get itchy. Then I scratch them.

EURYDICE. I'm not itchy.

CHILD. What's all this string?

EURYDICE. It's my room.

CHILD. Rooms are not allowed!

(To the stones.)

Tell her.

STONES. ROOMS ARE NOT ALLOWED!

CHILD. Who made your room?

EURYDICE. My father.

CHILD. Fathers are not allowed! Where is he?

EURYDICE. He's at work.

CHILD. We'll have to dip you in the river again and make sure you're good and dunked.

EURYDICE. Please, don't.

CHILD. Oooh – say that again. It's nice.

EURYDICE. Please, don't.

CHILD. Say it in my ear.

EURYDICE. (*towards his ear)* Please, don't.

CHILD. I like that.

(A seduction:)

I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!

(He blows on her face.)

I mean that in the nicest possible way.

EURYDICE. I have a husband.

CHILD. Husbands are for children. You need a lover. I'll be back.

(to the stones)

See that she's...comfortable.

STONES. We will!

CHILD. Good-bye.

EURYDICE. Good-bye.

STONES. Good-bye.

CHILD. I'm growing. Can you tell? I'm growing!

He laughs his hysterical laugh and speeds away on his red tricycle.