

~~ANNIE~~

~~(sings) I long to gaze on the towering hills  
On the castles ruined, yet grand  
To roam once more o'er the meadows and fields  
Of my father's native land  
To gaze once more at the storied Isle  
Where the great have lived and died,  
Where genius, valor, art and truth  
Have reigned in stateliest pride.~~

~~Montage depicts medicine shows,  
minstrel shows, early vaudeville  
from out of a wagon.~~

~~I long to grasp the toil-worn hands  
Of patriots true as steel,  
And I long to meet those tyrant bands  
Who would make the brave Celt kneel  
I long to bow o'er the sacred sod  
Above Erin's martyred pride  
To bless the heroes sleeping there  
and the cause for which they died~~

~~Applause.~~

~~John returns after Annie bows. A  
little girl runs on stage to join  
them, angelic and crowd-pleasing.  
Her father hands her a beautiful  
flower, which she accepts and  
curtsies to him. She breaks into  
a short waltz clog, and John and  
Annie slip away.~~

~~Band plays. Lights change. A  
new act.~~

~~Sign on easel now reads: "Finlay  
and Burke in Stageland Satires of  
1908."~~

~~Visual montage of the career of  
FINLAY and BURKE on the screen  
begins: playbills, sketches,  
train tickets, success, better  
gigs, happier times.~~

~~Lottie (the girl, now a young  
woman) now wears the flower in  
her hair.~~

RAYMOND  
Say, you're a pretty smart girl. What's your name?

LOTTIE  
Lottie. Lottie Summer.

RAYMOND  
What is it in winter? (cymbals)

LOTTIE  
Aren't you clever.

RAYMOND  
No I'm not clever.

LOTTIE  
You're not?

RAYMOND  
No, I'm Raymond. How old are you Lottie?

LOTTIE  
Sixteen.

RAYMOND  
How old?

LOTTIE  
I've told you twice, sixteen.

RAYMOND  
Oh, *twice* sixteen. That's more like it.

LOTTIE  
A pretty smart fellow, eh? Where were you going just now?

RAYMOND  
I was going down to the depot to meet my friend's mother in law. He promised to give me a dollar if I meet her.

LOTTIE  
Supposing she doesn't come?

RAYMOND  
Then he promised to give me *two* dollars.

LOTTIE  
Huh! Sound's like you're against marriage!

RAYMOND

No, I'm up against it. (cymbals. applause in the audience). There's another poor fellow in the same boat.

LOTTIE

You're positively insulting. I wish God made *me* a man.

RAYMOND

Maybe he did and you haven't found him yet...(cymbals)  
Say, you know there is something like about you.

LOTTIE

Yes, what?

RAYMOND

My arm. (he but his arm around her waist.) Will you take a stroll with me?

LOTTIE

Why you're a joke.

RAYMOND

Can't you take a joke? Come on, give us a kiss.

LOTTIE

I don't even know you. The man I marry must be straight, upright, and grand.

RAYMOND

Ah, you want to marry a piano? (cymbals)

LOTTIE

I don't think I'll ever marry.

RAYMOND

You don't think you could marry a man like me?

LOTTIE

Why you don't even know how to propose.

RAYMOND

Is that so? Why I know how anybody in any line would propose.

LOTTIE

Alright. I'll try you. What would an undertaker say when he proposes?

RAYMOND

He'd say "I'm dead in love with you."

LOTTIE

How would a jeweler propose?

RAYMOND

He'd say, "Darling you are my pearl of creation."

LOTTIE

Here's a hard one. How would a sailor propose?

RAYMOND

That's a tough one. I got it. He'd say Let me be the captain of your ship and we can brave all the storms of life together.

They do a song and dance.

Raymond is a funny dancer with rubbery legs. She is a tease.

House lights are at dim.

~~Lottie and Raymond take their bows. They gesture for someone to join them onstage, and the little girl from before runs on. A few other performers enter as sea creatures, mermaids, etc. They bring a large oyster shell, which the child crawls into. A backdrop behind the The Venue, an aquatic scene. The sea creatures all strike their poses. Music swells. On the screen, "BF Keith's Living Pictures." There is a montage of the early career of Mary Finlay. In each picture Mary is the personification of light, loveliness. We see that she had a long, vibrant career.~~

~~House lights are down.~~

~~In the "house" on stage, there is a lone man clapping slowly. Ray wears a Dwight Eisenhower jacket. Classic WWII GI. Cigarette on his lip, finishing a beer. Somewhat drunk and cynical. Lights fade.~~

End of Preshow.