



SET AMOR INVENIEMUS



HANS HALF HOG

A Brothers' Grimm Tale



A New Musical by Benjamin J. Franklin



THE COMPLETE LIBRETTO

SIBERIAN STUDIOS



HANS HALF-HOG - THE MUSICAL
(BASED ON A BROTHERS GRIMM STORY)

THE WEDDING
(PART ONE)

Narrator

*What's this? A funeral or a wedding?
It feels like a wake,
With all the tears they are shedding.
And who's this? A king and his queen?
Bringing their daughter into the scene.
Promised to a monster, a beast so it seems,
And why is there no one who dare intervene?*

(all) Oh, joyous day, oh day of cheer,
A promised step in the dance of the years,
I can't deny the dread that's inside,
I cannot hide.

Words said in haste may decide our fate,
Words bitter taste curse a promise we create.

We never see all the ends laid before us,
Distracted by dreams of a sequacious chorus,
Must I pretend I do?

(King) Oh, joyous day a day of tears,
A promised step bringing life to my fears,
I must deny what lies deep inside
These things I hide.

(all) Words said in haste may decide our fate,
Words bitter taste curse a promise we create.

We never see all the ends laid before us,
Distracted by dreams of a sequacious chorus,
Must I pretend I do?

(princess) Oh, joyous day, what terror you hold,
Who could have foreseen how this story unfolds?
(Hans) Yet the story must be told.



Narrator

*Yes, a Princess betrothed to a creature,
Here they stand before a preacher
Brought by oaths once spoken*

*Vows and promises that can't be broken
Come back in time with me,
I'll explain this royal tragedy,
The story of this mystery.*

WORKING ON A FARM

Narrator

*30 years ago, far away from this castle and king,
We find a humbler world upon which a new day is dawning,
And rising from their slumber another husband and his wife,
Begin that day as any other for farming is their life.*



*Oh yes, they are up with the lark and as the cock crows,
No stay-a-bed these with cows to be milked waiting in the meadows,
Seasons, festivals and charms help defend against the grind,
But spells and superstition won't bring them peace of mind.*

(All) When you're working on a farm,
There's a certain kind of calm,
Nothing strange, all's preordained
When you're working on a farm

Winter brings the snow
In spring we till and sow,
The summer's sun loved by everyone,
Things grow like billy-o!

The sheep are in the meadow,
The cows they gently graze,
The hogs are snuffling in the mud,
Cause that's how they spend their days!



On a farm there's lots to do,
Get the rams to tup the ewes,
The billy-goats need to get their oats,
If the kids are gonna debut!

And mothers nurse their children,
It's how it's always been,
One day I'll be a father,
And feel just like a king.

But I cannot dream all day,
Gotta gather in the hay,
And milk them cows and feed the sows,
Cause that's just the farming way!

(Hans' dad) Sometime in the future someone will call me dad,
And I will look into the eyes of the one I'll call m'lad,
And I will always love him no matter where he goes,
Even if the wee poor mite has got his mother's nose!

A NECKLACE GROWS

Narrator

*So, the farmer and his wife eke out an existence,
With love and laughter and a good dollop of persistence.
The sheep did lamb, calves and piglets come too,
But their family need a bairn to make their dreams come true.
On the other side of the kingdom our Queen feels the same,
And the king wants an heir for their domain,
Two pairs in a pack then but of different suit,
With serendipity the joker for a fate that is en-route.*

(Hans' dad)
Let's start a family, just you and I, our farm is not much,
But with love a bairn thrives.



We've seen the used lamb and seen the calves come,
It's time that we had our own daughter or son.

Chorus

(all) Men and women meet and marry
Their hearts are swimming, in love they tarry,
Brings babes and bairns, the story unfolds.

(King) You are my queen my love I am your king,
With riches to spare we are missing one thing
A Prince or a Princess, an air to our throne,
To love and to cherish a child of our own.

(Queen) Come here my love dance with me,
Hold me tonight what will be will be,
I promise to love and cherish you dear,
I promise you children our future is clear.

Chorus

Men and women meet and marry
Their hearts are swimming, in love they tarry,
Brings babes and bairns, the story unfolds.

(Hans' dad) I haven't got riches or money to spend,
But I promise to love you and be your best friend,
You're all the world to me unanswered prayer,
All that I have is yours to share.

A CHILD ALL OF MY OWN



Narrator

*So, the farmer and
his wife wanted a
child so much,
They didn't care
what they got,
And in their
desperation, they
tried incantations*

*And tonics wise women would concoct.
But to say you don't mind and you'll leave it to fate,
Can leave you undone and by then it's too late.
But how could they know when this seed they did sow,
What fate had in mind what destiny had designed!*

(Hans' Mum) My darling, there are things we cannot say.
This longing, it will never go away.
So let us try the strangest things,
For this emptiness is like 1000 stings,
Or more.

Chorus

(Hans' Mum) I would sing to you and snoodle you,
You'd never be alone,
And I would not care how strange or fair,
A child all of my own.
I would sing to you and snoodle you,
And hold you to my heart,
Like a part of me my heart would break,

If we should ever part.

(Hans' dad) My darling, tell me what more can we do?
We've whispered spells and prayers,
Drunk strange potions of every hue.
Whatever you ask of me I'll do without fail,
No matter how strange or from an old fairy-tale,
I swear.

(Hans' Mum & Dad) I would sing to you and snoodle you,
You'd never be alone,
And I would not care how strange or fair,
A child all of my own.
I would sing to you and snoodle you,
And hold you to my heart,
Like a part of me my heart would break,
If we should ever part.

Narrator

*And so they get their
wish, they get their
child,
But no bairn you've
ever seen, half
man, half wild.
And a father
repulsed by his
very own son,
A grim realisation of what careless
wishing had done.*

*And how strange to see the farmer's wife cuddle and coo,
A creature with spines and a snout yet eyes of bright blue,
A father in despair at what fate had done,
A mother in love with the prize she'd won,
Yet maybe there's more yet to hear in this tale,
For love may yet triumph if hearts can prevail?*

Final Chorus

(Hans' Mum) I would sing to you and snoodle you,
And hold you to my heart,
Like a part of me my heart would break,
If we should ever part.

HANS HALF-HOG

Narrator

*And so our child grows knowing both admiration and
'animalism',
Smothered by a mother's love yet equally aware of a father
suspicion,
When the bullies hurl insults make fun and all
Young Hans goes and hides curled up in a
ball,
Whilst the villagers' taunts are cruel
and heinous,
The farmyard animals treat him like
he's famous,
In their eyes he special, one-of-a-
kind,
A blessing, a gift, not one to be maligned.*





Animals

If you don't know where you belong,
Just don't worry cos will sing you a
song,

If you scared and you feeling ashamed,
Feel left out cos your kind isn't named?

Animals Chorus

You are you, and I am me,
We are what the world needs us to be.
Not strange or odd, just a pig or dog,
Just a fish or a sheep or a rooster or frog.
But you? You're magnificent, Hans Half-hog!

If your feet don't fit in your shoes,
Pinch and give you a case of the blues,
Try to read but it just seems a blur,
Instead of hair you've got feathers or fur...

Animals Chorus

You are you, and I am me,
We are what the world needs us to be.
Not strange or odd just a pig or dog,
Just a fish or a sheep or a rooster or frog.
But you? You're magnificent, Hans Half-hog!

You cannot stay if you can't change your ways,
You shame as both with how you behave,
Your poor and me we can't show our face,
We can't be seen in our own marketplace.

Narrator

*Oh dear! His father can take no more,
And in anger decides to show him the door!*

Farmer's Chorus

You are you, and I am me,
We are what the world needs us to be.
You're strange, you're odd like a pig or dog,
Not a fish or a sheep or a rooster or frog.
Yes you? You're ... You're Hans Half-hog!

Bullies

Oi porky chops, Oi creepy kid,
Oi beastly boy we just want rid,
Take your furry face to some
other place,
You're an ugly sprog, a baby
hedgehog.

Oi porky chops, Oi creepy kid,
Oi beastly boy we just want rid,
Take your furry face to some other place,
You're an ugly sprog, you're Hans Half-hog!

Hans

Is there a place that I can call home,
Where I'll have friends and won't feel alone,



Where folk don't whisper, point fingers or stare,
Call me names, be mean or unfair.

Hans Chorus

You are you, and I am me, I'm just what fate decided for me,
Have claws like a cat, eat like a dog,
Have quills as soft as a baby hedgehog,
I'm proud to be, Hans Half-hog!

Animals

When everyone's turned their back on you,
We'll be there cos we know the truth,
One day they'll see what we already know,
One day they'll see your alter ego.

Animals Chorus

You are you, and I am me,
We are what the world needs us to be.
Not strange or odd, just a pig or dog,
Just a fish or a sheep or a rooster or frog.
But you? You're magnificent, Hans Half-hog!
Yes you, You're magnificent, Hans Half-hog!
Half-Hog!

NO MORE SHAME

Narrator

*So, despite a mother's love,
and loyalty of his farmyard
friends,
Hans learned his father and
others would never
comprehend,
And he gathered a band of brothers, creatures from the farm
and beyond,
Then went to tell his father and mother, not sure how they'd
respond.*



Hans

Father dear, I know what they fear,
I've thought and thought 'til there's a hole in the ground,
Now it's clear.
Father dear, I don't know what you fear,
You've thought and dug your own hole in the ground,
I fear.

If you don't love me, that's OK,
If you can't love me, I can't stay.

Chorus

And I won't take no more blame,
And I won't cause no more shame,
No more shame.

Hans

Mother, please wish me peace,
I know this world holds somewhere I can be,
Be me.

Farmer's Wife

Hans my child, wonderful, strange and wild,
I cannot bear now to see you go,
Lose your smile.

Hans

I know you loved me every day,
I know you love me, but I can't stay.

Chorus

And I won't take no more blame,
And I won't cause no more shame,
No more shame.

Narrator

*And the father felt ashamed, so Hans hugged him just because,
And for the first time his father knew just how soft he was,
Then last to the farmer's wife who knew he must depart,
And she snoodled and she kissed him as he broke his mother's heart.*

Hans

Mother dear, hold me near,
Hold me close for just one last time,
I'll be here (in your heart).

I know you loved me every day,
I know you love me, but I can't stay.

Chorus

And I won't take
no more blame,
And I won't
cause no more
shame,
No more shame.

Farmer

Hans my son, oh what have I done?
You've broken her heart,
I've torn my family apart,
Now you're gone,
Now you're gone.

I'M LOST

Narrator

*20 years later - our story moves on,
The farm and Hans' childhood now long gone,
And while out hunting a king loses his way,
He staggers through a forest for what seems like days.
Scared and tired, hungry and alone,
He's completely lost track of where he now roams,
And all the wealth and all the power,
Seem valueless now and he starts to cower,
Little does he know he's strayed into another's land,
A Lord of animals, a king of woodland,
As he calls and shouts and the light grows dim,
He has no idea of what or who is watching him.*

King

I'm lost and I can't go on,
Been wandering all day long,
I'm tired and hungry and the Sun's long gone.

This forest is an endless maze,
My brains be fuddled in a sylvan haze,
My feet are aching in this god-forsaken place.

I'd give anything to be at home,
In my palace sitting on my royal throne,
I'd outwit monsters and I'd win wars,
For my carriage I would give my horse.

Chorus

Take these jewels, take these rings,
I've all sorts of precious things,
All my silver and all my gold, name your price and I'll say sold.
Won't someone rescue me?

Narrator

*And as our king stumbles and spins,
All trees point down and all paths point in,
He tugs on ear, a sure sign he's lost,
The strangest creature he comes across.*

King

It's getting dark and it's getting cold,
There's not been hide nor hair of other souls,
But for some strange reason I just don't feel alone.

Forgive me sir you heard my call?
These woods aren't safe come nightfall,
I'd give anything to spend the night in your hall.

What manner of man are you?
Some beast or creature, some bugaboo?
Please sir don't be alarmed
Rescue me you won't be harmed.

Chorus

Take these jewels,
take these rings,
I've all sorts of
precious things,
All my silver and all my
gold, name your price and I'll
say sold.
Please won't someone rescue me?

Hans

There's my castle, there's my home,
Where birds and beasts are always free to roam,
You can warm yourself rest awhile,
It's not that far, less than just one mile,
It's only fair that I should share,
I have a mind to a king's welfare,
I know my way, know every track and tree,
Then I'll return you I guarantee.
This I promise you.



King

Oh, good Sir you are a gift from God,
 A saint, an angel, a... hovel hog?
 Well man or beast, you're a saviour to me,
 Whatever your price I will agree.
 I'll give anything, my dog, my horse,
 The first to greet me I swear will be yours,
 Now must sleep, I'm full now and found,
 I'm sure you'll be happy with the royal hound.

Hans

The first creature to greet your return,
 Will be the prize my actions deserve,
 By whom or what you are first met,
 Grant this to me to clear your debt.
 A deal is struck, a promise made,
 This oath you've given cannot be betrayed,
 It's no mean gift your dog you say?
 I'll collect my prize in a year and a day.
 Behold my Lord you are home

King

What is this magic I'm home at last,
 You've kept your word, and I'm aghast,
 You will have your prize exactly as you asked.

Here they come from every quarter,
 My court rejoices they all applaud you,
 The queen, the servants, the royal dog and my daughter!

**SILVER LINING****Narrator**

*So, the fate of the
 Princess is sealed,
 The king's oath and
 his promise cannot
 be repealed,*

*The King tells his wife and advisors what must be decreed,
 But he can't tell the Princess what he has agreed.
 And palace walls are whispering about a year and a day,
 To the king the days go dancing past, he can't hold the future
 at bay.*

Courtiers

Every silver lining's got its cloud,
 You may not want to look or say it out loud,
 But the storm it brings is real,
 Exposing your Achilles heel,
 And then the piper must be paid,
 For the promises you made.

Chorus

You got one eye in the future,
 And one foot in the past,
 An ear to the ground, and a heart tightly wound,
 Your head's in the clouds,
 Don't forget you're spellbound.
 You got one eye on the future,

**Courtiers**

It seems you're on a slippery slope,
 There's a not to be tide and you've run out of rope,
 You look like you've seen a ghost,
 In this oath you seem engrossed,
 But one day you'll have to speak,
 Tell her she's promised to a freak!

Chorus

You got one eye in the future,
 And one foot in the past,
 An ear to the ground, and a heart tightly wound,
 Your head's in the clouds,
 Don't forget your spellbound.
 You got one eye on the future,
 And one foot in the past,
 In a year and a day.
 There's a price you must pay,
 And you'll rue the day,
 What you gave away,

Queen

Your hopes are sinking fast,
 It's not a good forecast,
 This oath was built to last,
 She's betrothed to an outcast!

Chorus

You got one eye in the future,
 And one foot in the past,
 An ear to the ground, and a heart tightly wound,
 Your head's in the clouds,
 Don't forget your spellbound.
 You got one eye on the future,
 And one foot in the past,
 In a year and a day.
 There's a price you must pay,
 And you'll rue the day,
 What you gave away.



THE WEDDING PART 2

Narrator

And here we are at a wedding of
obsequies,
A bride & groom with no love
between these,
The queen, the bride's mother, looks
on in dismay,
The Princess trembles, shielded only behind her bouquet,
And our king looks resigned, daunted and defeated,
A ceremony of sighs and gasps now completed,
Turning to his queen he finds no solace there,
Her strength is for her daughter and what she must bear,
The creature Hans stares back with eyes of blue-flame,
He'd never meant to cause such pain.
Has fate brought them all to this date with destiny?
Or was it designed by their families through pledges made
impetuously.

Queen

What have you done?
What's now begun?
And who's caught in this web you've
spun?
What did you say?
Is this a joke I pray?
You've given our daughter away!

King

How could it come to this?
Rash promise.
It's left me staring into,
An abyss,
But my word is my word,
The king has spoken,
Oaths can't be broken.

Queen

What did you do?
Did you not think this through?
Our child now sworn to a savage brute!

Courtiers

He thought he'd promised his dog,
To that Hans Half-hog,
Look at the Princess, she's in shock.

Princess

I don't know what to do,
So confused.
Am I to be married to this beast,
Or excused?
The king's word is his word, the king
has spoken,
Oaths can't be broken!

Hans

What have I done?
What have I become? I never meant to hurt
anyone.



But could she yet break this curse?
With truth and faith and love reverse?
The torment that I've kept from everyone!

Courtiers

What have you done?
What's now begun?
And who's caught in this web you've spun?

A YEAR AND A DAY

Narrator

Oh dear there was no wedding feast, toast or speeches,
Just a congregation spreading rumours about such creatures.
But none knew for sure of the beast and his history,
And it was easier to demonise than consider that Hans had
chivalry.
The princess went to her chapel to prepare and to pray,
And reconcile the lessons her father had taught her with
events of the day.

Going back on your word was not an option,
Hans had made a bid and won this auction.
And all she could do was be faithful and true

And hope her honour would see her
through.

Princess

What are they saying?
Why do they sob?
They whisper monster,
Murmur half hog.
I don't believe it,
Can't believe it,

How could this be,
It can't happen to me.

Why would he do this?
I fail to see
For he taught me truth,
And honesty.
"Keep a promise,
On trust insist,
Vows can't be deferred,
Honour your word".

Chorus

Is he a monster?
That destiny now brings our way?
These oaths of marriage confirm its been,
A year and a day.

Princess

Have no secrets,
You'll tell no lies,
But often deceit,
Is well disguised
We can't see it,
Can't believe it,
Until it's too late, Hope seals our fate.



All that can glitter,
May not be gold,
And sometimes the truth,
must remain untold.
Don't jump to conclusions,
They could be illusions,
In time you will know,
Which way the wind blows.



Queen

Don't worry dear, There's nothing to fear,
From what I hear,
You're in the clear.
And if there's a scream,
It will just have been,
In your dreams!

King

My fears are enduring, anxiety maturing,
Despite your reassuring, you're just not curing.

Queen

Come, come my king,
If I know anything,
It's at our offspring,
Won't need a sling!
So don't be daft,
Drink this sleeping draught,
It's just witchcraft!

THE CLAW AND THE CURSE

Narrator

*A Princess in her bedchamber sleep is feigning,
She waits accepting a royal promise maintaining,
Aware of a shadowy monstrous physique,
Holding her breath as his poor strokes her cheek,
She feels him turned to the fire with a sigh,
Hears him pray a strange lullaby.*

Hans

I never meant to be the cause of such fear,
I never planned to be here,
If I could somehow reverse,
The curse of my birth,
Dare I now declare?
This secret I bear?

Chorus

If she could keep her promise she'd see,
Just what true faith would mean to me,
If she could keep her promise,
We'd be free.

I promise I won't hurt you ever my dear,
For what you see is just a veneer,
My skin and my paws,
My spines and my claws,
Are no threat to you,
If you can be true?

Chorus two

If you can keep a
promise you'll see,
I could be all that you'd
want me to be,
Not a creature but a husband,
Our secret please?

Chorus

Is he a monster?
Or is this just hearsay?
I'll know the truth,
In a year and a day.

Chorus

Is he a monster?
Or is this just hearsay?
I'll know the truth, In a year and a day.

Hans

You'll know the truth, In a year and a day.

THE CREATURE

Narrator

*That night the castle falls silent,
As if all are asleep,
But of course, they're all holding their breath,
Wide awake not counting sheep.
A wedding night full of terror,
All because of a foreseeable error,
A Princess in her chamber trapped like bait,
Heart in mouth she awaits her fate.
King inconsolable, the queen reassuring,
Trying to distract him from what might be occurring,
And footsteps and hinges heighten their fears,
As the moment they dread inevitably near.*

King

I can't sleep, tried counting sheep,
Think I can hear him creep, my fears run so deep.

Queen

Don't be scared,
don't feel
ensnared,
Oaths can be
repaired, by
secret shared.
Please don't fret,
there's nothing to regret,
there's no real threat!



King

What if he harms her,
With claws and spines and fangs and coarse fur,
These fears I can't conquer, she'll faint into a stupor.



Narrator

*And with that Hans casts off his coat of spines,
Revealing a man underneath the disguise,
And leaving his skin on the floor by the fire,
Went to visit his friends in the field and byre.
For they knew him not as a beast to be spurned,
Through friendship and care their loyalty he'd earned,
When assured of their safety and needs fulfilled,
He obeyed his enchantment and goes back to his quills,
But as he returns the Princess did wake,
Sees a man next to his quill-skin by the grate.
Handsome and tall,
whom all would
desire,
Hans tries to
explain what
fate now
requires.*



Hans

Forgive the man if he
returns to his skin,
For I must hide the man within,
Patience for just three more days,
With no hints or displays,
My enchantment will break,
If this promise, you'll make?

Chorus three

If we could keep the promise you'd see,
Just what true faith would mean to me,
If you could keep your promise,
We'd be free.

THE PROMISE

Narrator

*The next morning our Princess wakes,
Sees her husband still asleep by the great,
Back again beast again,
But her memory remains.
She runs down for breakfast,
All smiles and seeming carefree,
But will she keep her secret?
With her mother's wise eyes there's no guarantee!*

Princess

Was I dreaming, did I imagine,
Is this really some trick of the mind?
Did I promise, to keep a secret,
There's a Prince beneath all of those spines?

My heart is racing,



With all that I'm
facing,
Yet strangely enough,
My senses are reeling,
I can't help but
feeling,
This might just be
love?

Queen

Come now daughter,
Tell what you know,
You know you ought to,
What camouflage wears this beau?

Princess

Mother dearest, please be kinder,
Give him chance to come out of his skin,
Let's not judge a book, by its cover,
Give him time to show what's within.

He is my husband,
I'm growing accustomed,
To all his hidden traits.
Not really an animal,
Not un-marriageable,
Who knows what fate incubates?

Queen

Listen to me my Princess,
His skin is just a facade,
He's cursed by some sorceress,
He'll escape if it's burned and charred.

Princess

No, no mother, I won't do that,
That's just superstition and hearsay,
So, he's enchanted?
Guessed he must be,
But I just know it's not the way.

Queen

So my dear he's told you,
Does he take off his spiked
attire?
If he does you must burn it,
Throw it on the fire!

Princess

It's also confusing, Should I
gamble on losing,
And my love disobey? Yet
mother requires,
A conclusion by fire, But I know it's
not the way,
No, it's not the way.



THE NIGHT OF A YEAR AND A DAY

Narrator

*And so we have it a Princess who must decide, but,
Queens council and Hans advice seemed destined to collide,
And haven't we all known such a choice being in her shoes?
Tempted yet scared by future dreams of what we might lose.
And as the third day dawns and rushes towards the night,
She knows she's running out of time, running out of light,
And pacing in her bedchamber and on the castle walls,
One course of action requires great faith whilst the other
appeals yet appals,
For our fate and fortune seemed so tightly bound,
By the predicaments and promises that make it seem we will
drown,
And gasping for air and clinging to hope,
We close our eyes; we trust to look and then jump off the
tightrope.*

Princess

*I'm so confused,
Confidence so bruised, what to do,
What cause to pursue?
Keep my promise,
I know I should do this,
I hold his feet,
Then why do I hesitate?*

Chorus

*Mother says he spellbound,
We must destroy his skin,
My heart and head are confounded within.*

*Do as mother tells me,
Listen to her guarantee,
Destroy his spines and fur
It's the only way to be sure.
Or do I trust his insight,
Will his curse end after midnight, can loyal love be the way,
Is patience the price I should pay?*

Chorus

*Mother says he spellbound,
We must destroy his skin,
My heart and head are confounded within.*

*But it makes sense that if his coat is gone,
The creature can't return
The man inside would live on
Unconcerned
So I must take his skin and make sure it's burned!*

DISGUST & DISMAY

Narrator

*Oh dear no sooner said than done
And Hans the man felt his skin burning
And Hans Half-Hog Felt his spines, smouldering, returning!*



Hans

Chorus

*What have you done?
What have you done?
My skin burns like the Sun,
What have you done?*

*Is this the way,
You repay, all my trust?
Deceive and betray,
All my hopes now ashes and dust!*

Chorus

*What have you done?
What have you done?
My skin burns like the Sun,
What have you done?*



*You'll rue the day,
You broke your promise tore our marriage
apart,
The price you'll pay,
Is knowing you've deliberately broken my
heart!*

Narrator

*And with that Hans, betrayed, fled in spark and
smoke,
Leaving the princess distressed, to rue the
promise she'd broke.*

*Driven away, I thought you were different, but you were
worse,
In disgust and dismay, I'll return to the forest I'll return to my
curse.*

Chorus

*What have you done?
What have you done?
My skin burns like the
Sun,
What have you done?*

THE SEARCH

Narrator

*For seven days and seven nights,
Of the princess, there was no sound or
sight,
And when she appeared declaring her quest,
Her hair was snow-white and her eyes dispossessed.
So she left the palace and her kin to find,
The man, the creature, much maligned,
Those souls who saw her thought they'd encountered a wraith,
Shrouded in the shame of her lack of faith,
To make amends was her one and only aim,
Beast or man, a husband she would claim.*



Princess

If only I could turn back time,
I would see his face.
If only I had had more faith,
Recognised his grace.
Mistakes we make conceal
our fate,
Years of deep regret.
We crave forgiveness our soul
to liberate,
Somehow pay a debt.



Hans

Please do not tease,
With words designed to please,
Why should I trust in you,
After what you put me through?

Princess

'Cos I'm never letting go my dear,
You'll have all my love for 1000 years,
Or more!

Narrator

*And she flung herself at the mercy of his
quills,*

*'Til the spell was broken, and
the man was still.*

Hans

No more can I trust,
The promise of anyone,
Burned and bruised, bullied and
abused,
For me there is no love.

Princess

I was a fool to disregard,
The faith he put in me.
I was schooled in poisonous words,
False vows of being set free.
I've walked this land to find this man,
I've searched for miles and months.
I long to hold him in my arms,
Behold his beauty, his elegance.

Hans

Does she know, does she care,
My feelings of deep chagrin?
Did she know, was she aware,
The pain she left me in?

Princess / Hans

I've walked this land to find this man,
Alone, this man
I've searched for miles and months.
Who everybody shuns
I long to hold him in my arms,
*I hope and pray, for an end to
charms*
Behold his beauty, his elegance.
Behold her elegance.

Princess

Hans my husband can this be true?
You're here in front of me!
I've walked this world hoping to find you,
Now we can be free!

Hans

Why are you here?
Did I not make it clear?
Your love could have broken the spell,
But instead you burned me in hell!

Princess

My darling, tell me what more can I do?
I'm not giving up, I will see my promise through.



Princess/ Hans

I would sing to you, and snoodle you,
And hold you to my heart.
Like a part of me, my heart would break,
If we should ever part,
We'll never part.

LET LOVE FIND YOU

Narrator

*On the other side of the Kingdom,
A king and queen hold a vigil for their child,
She'd left to pursue a promise,
And a creature strange and wild.
Unaware that she had found him,
And loyal love had broken the spell,
They peer into the distance,
And ring a guiding bell.*

King

I'd give anything to see her face,
I'd give anything for just one more embrace,
I wonder could she forgive this fool,
I pray for fate to somehow overrule.

Queen

She took my word, took my advice,
I was wrong, she paid the price.
If only I'd known what Hans said was true,
If only I had not seen her as some ingénue
So, we wait, it's all we can do.

Narrator

*Along the battlements the royal couple pace,
A fading hope is what they chase,*

*Surely fate had seen her lost,
Their interference had come at a cost.
But wait there in the distance,
Their hope comes into existence,
An army of animals led by a man,
And the Princess beside him waving her hand!*

Princess / Hans

Father, mother, it's me I'm here,
No longer will I roam,
Hans behold the palace,
We are home!

Narrator

*And so it was the Princess returned,
Hand in hand with the husband she earned,
And could I tell you of the laughter and cheers,
And another wedding this time without tears
For loyal love had mended a curse,
Blame and folly forgotten 'cause there's nothing worse,
And Hans was Prince with a Princess of gold
And he gave me his story so it could be told.*

Princess / Hans

Have you ever known a moment,
A moment just like this?
A moment that can bring you such perfect bliss?

Did it feel you waited a lifetime,
A lifetime of despair?
Well the waiting's over, we've love and life to share.

Sometimes we're lost under a spell,
Don't know what to do,
But with faith and time, reason and rhyme,
Love will find you!

You can only find your love
If you let love find you!

Have you ever known a feeling,
A feeling just like this,
A feeling that you feel,
With every kiss!

Did you feel you were in a story,
A story where you have to pretend?
Well that story now is over,
With a happy end.

Sometimes we're lost under a spell,
Don't know what to do,
But with faith and time, reason and rhyme,
Love will find you!

You can only find your love
If you let love find you!
You can only find your love

If you let love find you!
You can only find your love
If you let love find you!
You can only find your love
If you let love find you!

Sometimes we're lost, under a spell,
Don't know what to do,
But with faith and time, reason and rhyme,
Love will find you!

You can only find your love
If you let love find you!
If you let love find you!
If you let love find you!

HANS HALF-HOG BY BJ FRANKLIN

Based on
The Brothers' Grimm fairy-tale,
"Hans My Hedgehog"

**Hans Half-Hog was written, composed and
recorded at Siberian Studios, England.**



The writers would like to acknowledge Steinberg
Cubase, Audimee & Spitfire BBC Symphony
Orchestra as enabling this project to be realised.

© Ben J. Franklin & Siberian Studios2024

ACT ONE ACT TWO

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. The Wedding Part 1 | 1. The Wedding Part 2 |
| 2. Working On A Farm | 2. A Year And A Day |
| 3. A Necklace Grows | 3. The Creature |
| 4. A Child All Of My Own | 4. The Claw And The Curse |
| 5. Hans Half-Hog | 5. The Promise Waltz |
| 6. No Shame | 6. The Night Of A Year And A Day |
| 7. I'm Lost | 7. Disgust and Dismay |
| 8. Silver Lining | 8. The Search |
| | 9. Let Love Find You |