

3. Acrobat Story I

Music & Lyrics: Tim Minchin
Orch. & Add'l Music: Christopher Nightingale

Mrs Phelps sits on box [UPBEATS]

Matilda: Once upon a time [BAR 1] the two greatest circus performers in the world -
an escapologist, who could escape from any lock that was ever invented,

Slow fairground tempo

1 2 3 4

K 1. Bandoneon

Piano

A. Gtr.

and an acrobat who was so skilled it seemed as if she could actually fly -
fell in love and got married.

5 6 7 8

They performed some of the most incredible feats together that anyone has ever seen,

9 10 11

+ Celeste
mf
3 3
[+Vc. (pz.)]

and people would come from miles around, Kings, Queens, Celebrities and Astronauts.

12 13 14

Piano
mp

And not just to see their skill, but also to see their love for each other, which was so deep that it was said that

cats would purr as they passed them, and that dogs would wceep with joy.

Poco più mosso

15 16 17 18 19 20 rit.

[+W.W. 2]
Bandoneon
(offbeats mapped)

They moved into a beautiful, old house on the edge of town and in the evenings they would walk and take the air,
And each night the children of the town would wait in anticipation,

21 **A** A bit more stately 22 23 24

[+M.T.]
Detuned Piano
mf
[K1]

hoping for a glimpse of the shiny white scarf that the acrobat always wore, for then they knew they had only to cry 'tricks, tricks'

25 26 27 28

[w.w. 2]
+ Celeste RH
p
[+Vc]

and the great performers would instantly oblige with the most spectacular show, just for them.

29 30 31 32 33 **rall.** **Tempo I**

- Celeste RH 2
mf

But, although they loved each other, although they were famous,
and everyone loved them, they were sad.

34 35 36 Acrobat

pause if necessary [K1] [Vc]

We have

'We have everything that the world has to offer,' said the wife,

'but we do not have the one thing in the world we want most.'

37 **Colla voce** 38 Escapologist 39 40 41 42 Both (Acrobat lower line)

ev - 'ry - thing, We have ev - 'ry - thing, but the

[Tbn.] [w.w. 1]

mp *mp* *mp*

[K.1/+Gtr.] [+Glock.] *con ped*

[Vc. pizz] [+Bs.]

'Patience, my love', the husband replied, 'time is on our side. Even time loves us'.

Mrs Phelps: Oh Matilda! [ON]

We do not have a child.'

Vamp

43 44 Escapologist 45 46 47

one thing... Pa-tience, my love.

[Tbn.] [w.w. 2] [K1] *mp solo*

Piano [Vc.] [+ Guitar.]

48 49 50 51

[+ Glock] *pp*

Detuned Piano [Vc.]

And as time passed they grew quite old and still they had no child.
At night they listened to the silence of their big empty house
and they would imagine how beautiful it would be if it was filled with the sounds of a child playing.

52 53 54

[Vc.] *mp*

[+Bs]

Mrs Phelps: Matilda, this is very sad. Matilda: Do you want me to stop? Mrs Phelps: Don't you dare!

55 56 57

Musical score for measures 55-57. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves: a vocal line (Mrs Phelps), a vocal line (Matilda), a piano right-hand part, and a piano left-hand part. Measure 55 shows the vocal lines with rests. Measure 56 features the piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines. Measure 57 continues the piano accompaniment.

58 59 60 61

C Matilda: Their sadness overwhelmed them and drew them on to ever more dangerous feats, as their work became the only place

Musical score for measures 58-61. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves: a vocal line (Matilda), a woodwind line ([Tpt. 2/W.W.]), a piano right-hand part, and a piano left-hand part. Measure 58 includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 59 features the woodwind line with dynamics *mf* and *sim.* and piano accompaniment. Measure 60 continues the woodwind line and piano accompaniment. Measure 61 includes the woodwind line with dynamics *f* and *[+Tpt. 1]* and piano accompaniment.

they could escape the inescapable tragedy of their lives.

And so it was they decided to perform the most dangerous feat ever known to man.

62 63 64 65

Musical score for measures 62-65. The score is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The piano part includes a triplet in measure 63 and a dynamic marking of *f*. The bass line is marked with [Bs.] in measure 62. The vocal line has a fermata in measure 64.

'It is called said the husband, announcing the event to the world's press who had gathered to listen with bated breath, [ON]

66 67 68 69

Musical score for measures 66-69. The score is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The piano part includes a triplet in measure 67 and a dynamic marking of *f*. The bass line is marked with [+Bs. Tbn] in measure 66. The vocal line has a fermata in measure 68.

*'The Burning Woman
Hurling Through The Air* [GO]

*With Dynamite
In Her Hair* [GO]

*Over Sharks And
Spiky Objects* [GO]

70 **D Dictated** 71 ↓ 72 ↓ 73 ↓

[K.1/Gtr./Drs.]

[w/Bs]

*Caught By The Man
Locked In The Cage.* [GO]

And... [GO]

*it is the most
dangerous feat ever known to man.'*
[ON]

74 ↓ 75 ↓ 76 ↓

[+Tbn]

77 **A tempo**

78

[Brs.]

[w/W.W.]

Piano

f

'It is our destiny,' [GO]

79 80 81

[W.W. 1]
mp dolce

8^{va} 15^{ma}

Matilda: said his wife smiling sadly and slipping her hand into his.

Matilda & Acrobat: It is where the loneliness of life has led us.

82 83 84 85

[Tbn] *mp*

p

[K2]