

ASSASSINS

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

The Proprietor—a proprietor at a carnival. Sadistic, cunning and grinning from ear to ear.

The Balladeer—a young singer, who acts as not only an occasional narrator, but the voice of reason and the eyes of America throughout our story.

John Wilkes Booth—an intelligent and eloquent Southern actor, burning with rage. Assassinated President Abraham Lincoln on April 14th, 1865.

Sara Jane Moore—a former CPA and FBI agent, now unemployed. Absent-minded, energetic and from the South. Attempted to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975.

Leon Czolgosz (*chol-gosh*)—a Polish immigrant and steel worker. Methodical, deliberate and explosive. Assassinated President William McKinley in 1901.

Lynette “Squeaky” Fromme (*frahm*)—a deeply disturbed young girl who believes that killing the President will enable her boyfriend—Charles Manson—to make a speech at her trial. Attempted to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975.

Giuseppe Zangara (*zang-ah-ruh*)—a small Italian immigrant who blames the intense pains in his stomach on the United States government. Attempted to assassinate President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 13, 1933, but instead killed Anton Cermak, mayor of Chicago.

Charles Guiteau (*gih-tow*)—a boisterous minister, author and lunatic who, upon learning that he could not be Ambassador to France, assassinated President James Garfield on July 2nd, 1881.

Samuel Byck—a loudmouthed, unstable, middle-aged man who attempted to kill President Richard M. Nixon by hijacking a commercial jetliner and crashing it into the White House on February 22nd, 1974.

John Hinckley, Jr.—a young and socially inept man, whose obsession with actress Jodie Foster led him to try to assassinate President Ronald Reagan on March 30th, 1981.

Lee Harvey Oswald—a young, withdrawn man who allegedly assassinated President John F. Kennedy on November 22nd, 1963.

Emma Goldman—a strong woman whose anarchistic speeches made her an icon of the early 20th century.

David Herold—a co-conspirator with John Wilkes Booth, frightened and jumpy.

James Garfield—the 20th President of the United States.

James Blaine—Secretary of State to President James Garfield.

Gerald Ford—the 38th President of the United States.

Billy Moore—the son of Sara Jane Moore.

Fairgoers—witnesses to the assassination of President William McKinley.

Little Boy—another witness to the assassination of President William McKinley.

The Bystanders—A small group of various Americans throughout history, constantly appearing and bearing witness to unspeakable acts.

Within the Bystanders, there are:

A Housewife, An Office Clerk, A Gentleman, A Farmer, A Factory Hand, A Schoolteacher, A Stockbroker, A Pawnbroker, A Waitress, A Schoolboy, A Lady, A Policeman and A Minister, among many other roles.

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AUDITION SIDES

CHARLES GUILTEAU: Ladies and gentlemen, a toast! To the Presidency of the United States. An office which by its mere existence reassures us that the possibilities of life are limitless. An office the mere idea of which reproaches us when we fall short of being all that we can be. A grand and glorious office to which at least one of us may one day aspire. Gentlemen, what can I say? Hail to the Chief!

LYNETTE FROMME: And then this guy came down the beach, this dirty-looking little elf. He stopped in front of me and smiled this twinkly devil smile and said, "Your daddy kicked you out." He knew! "Your daddy kicked you out." How could he know? My daddy didn't tell him, so who could've? God. He smiled again and touched my hair and off he went. And for a minute, I just watched him go. Then I ran and caught his hand, and until they arrested him for stabbing Sharon Tate, I never let it go.

EMMA GOLDMAN: I'll tell you what you have done. Since you were a little boy, no more than a child, you have permitted yourself to be brutalized and beaten down, brought to the brink of madness by despair and desperation, so that other men, men no worthier than you, might live their lives in ease and comfort. This is what you have done. This is what they have done to you. ... Am I right?

SAM BYCK: And when we realize they're lying, really realize it in our gut, then we get scared. Then we get terrified. Like children walking in the dark, we don't know where we are. "I had a bad dream! Mommy! Daddy! Sammy had a nightmare!" And daddy comes and takes me in his arms and says, "Daddy's here. I love you kid. Your mommy doesn't, but I do." And mommy comes and holds me tight and says, "I've got you, Bubala. I'm here for you. Your daddy isn't, but I am." ... And then where are we? Who do we trust? *What do we do?!...We do the only thing we can do. We kill the President.*

JOHN WILKES BOOTH: Take a look, Lee. You know what that is? That's America. The Land Where Any Kid Can Grow Up To Be President. The Shining City, Lee. It shines so bright you have to shade your eyes. But in here, this is America too... "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." An American said that, and he was right. But let me tell you something. There are no lives of quiet desperation here. Desperation, yes. But quiet--? I don't think so. Not today. Today we're going to make a joyful noise. This is the big one. You're the big one.

PROPRIETOR: A group of notables are pressing in around the President-Elect's car. There's Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago, and-- There's been a shot! I can't see—wait! Mr. Roosevelt is waving! He's all right! But Mayor Cermak has been hit! The police have somebody in custody. An immigrant. Giuseppe Zangara. We take you now to a group of eyewitnesses who will tell us what they saw!

ASSASSINS
LYRIC SHEET

“Unworthy of Your Love”

YOUTUBE LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVmMrcSqE-s>

I am unworthy of your love,

Jodie/Charlie, darlin’

Let me prove worthy of your love.

I’ll find a way to earn your love, wait and see.

Then you will turn your love to me,

Your love to me.

“The Ballad of Czolgosz”

YOUTUBE LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hb1fWW17bnY>

Czolgosz, workin’ man, born in the middle of Michigan,

Woke with a thought and away he ran

To the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, in Buffalo.

Saw of a sudden how things were run

Said, “Time’s-a-wastin’, it’s nineteen-one

Some men have everything and some have none, so rise and shine—

In the U.S.A. you can work your way to the head of the line!”

"Unworthy of Your Love"

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START:

83

(FROMME:)

84

85

come



I am un - worth - y of your love,

(HINCKLEY:)



I am un - worth - y of your love,

86

87

88

I crawl



Char - lie dar - lin' Let me prove worth - y of your



Jo - die dar - lin' Let me prove worth - y of your

89

90

91

92

I'd



love. I'll find a way to earn your



love. I'll find a way to earn your

93

94

95

96



love. Wait and see. Then you will turn your love to



love, Wait and see Then you will turn your love to

97

(FROMME:) 98 99 100 101 102

me, _____ Your love _____

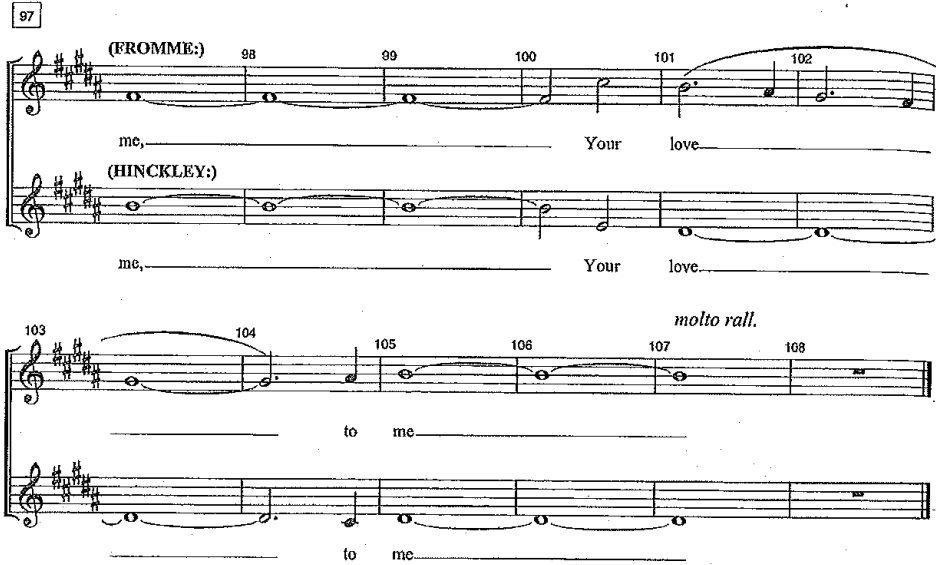
(HINCKLEY:) 98 99 100 101 102

me, _____ Your love _____

103 104 105 106 107 108 *molto rall.*

_____ to me _____

_____ to me _____



6A *There You Go Again!*
TACET

6B *Guiteau Intro*
TACET

#6 - *Unworthy of Your Love*



5

The Ballad of Czolgosz (Pt. 1)

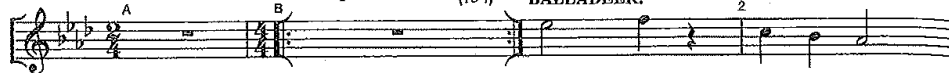
START:

Moderato

Vamp

(To 1)

BALLADEER:



Czol - gosz, Work - ing man,



Born in the mid - dle of Mich - i - gan, Woke with a thought And a -



- way he ran To the Pan - A - mer - i - can Ex - po - si - tion In



Buf - fa - lo, _____ In Buf - fa - lo, _____

14



Saw of a sud - den How things were run, Said, "Time's a - wast - ing It's



nine - teen - one. Some men have eve - ry - thing And some have none, So



20



20 (BALLADEER:) 21 22

rise and shine _____ In the U S A you can

23 24 25 *ENO*

work your way To the head of the line!" _____

26 (dialogue)

26-33 8

PROPRIETOR:
 Single line, ladies and gentlemen. Line forms here to meet the
 President of United States. Single line to shake hands with...

Segue as One

a
 In
 t's
 So

