

FAUST (go down with all the re\$t)

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Excerpt

By Lucy Cashion  
Music by Joe Taylor

Contact:  
Equally Represented Arts  
Centene Center  
for the Arts  
3547 Olive St  
Ste. 250  
St. Louis, MO 63103  
director@eratheatre.org  
+1 724.544.9084

SCENE 11: HOW MARGARET LOST HER MIND AND COULD NOT BE SAVED

NARRATOR

Scene 11: How Margaret lost her mind and could not be saved

FAUST

A shudder, long unfelt, comes o'er me;  
Mankind's collected woe o'erwhelms me, here.  
I dread, once again to see her.  
On! my shrinking but lingers Death more near.  
She does not dream her lover listens near;  
That he the rattling chain, the rustling straw, can hear.

Margaret runs out of the basement  
yelling. A tragic dance of trying  
to save someone you love from  
self-destruction ensues. Dineras  
and Black Pearl guard the door.

MARGARET

Woe! woe! They come. O death of bitterness!  
Payday loans have ruined my life. Is there a way out?  
And I am yet so young, so young!  
And now Death comes, and ruin!  
**/ I'm not really sure how much I borrowed because they don't  
have you write a check, they just take a blank check and then  
give it back to you**

FAUST

Hush! hush! The hour is come that frees thee.

MARGARET

My love was near, but now he's far;  
Torn lies the wreath, scattered the blossoms are.  
Seize me not thus so violently!  
Spare me! What have I done to thee?  
/ Now am I wholly in thy might.

FAUST

Thy cries will wake the guards, and they will seize thee!

MARGARET

But let me suckle, first, my baby!  
I blissed it all this livelong night;  
They took 't away, to vex me, maybe,

And now they say I killed the child outright.  
 / **And now I'm in trouble with theft by check**

FAUST

Shall I outlive this misery?  
 / Here lieth one who loves thee ever,  
 The thraldom of thy woe to sever.

MARGARET

**I was seriously thinking about filing bankruptcy.**  
 O let us kneel, and call the Saints to hide us!  
 The Evil One  
 With terrible wrath  
 Seeketh a path  
 / His prey to discover!

FAUST

Margaret! Margaret!

MARGARET

That was the voice of my lover!  
**Someone - who has nothing to do with any of this - hit my**  
**account with an unauthorized charge.**  
 My mother, the harlot,  
 Who put me to death;  
 My father, the varlet,  
 Who eaten me hath!  
 Little sister, so good,  
 Laid my bones in the wood,  
 In the damp moss and clay:  
 Then was I a beautiful bird o' the wood;  
 Fly away! Fly away!  
 Again the street I see  
 Where first I looked on thee;  
 And the garden, brightly blooming,  
 / **I do want to pay these loans but the interest is killing me**  
**so I cannot even pay off the principal**

FAUST

Come! Come with me!  
 / Away, now!  
 If longer here thou stayest,  
 We shall be made to dearly rue it.

MARGARET

Kiss me! —canst no longer do it?

**All the loans are storefront except for one is internet and it's with the Loan Shop for \$100 which I just got about a week ago.**

My friend, so short a time thou'rt missing,  
And hast unlearned thy kissing?

**I'm behind on all my bills and have received cut off notices for some of my utilities.**

Where once a heaven thy glances did create me,  
A heaven thy loving words expressed,  
And thou didst kiss, as thou wouldst suffocate me—  
**Payday loans are taking every penny of my paycheck**

Kiss me!

Or I'll kiss thee!

Ah, woe! Thy lips are chill,  
And still.

How changed in fashion  
Thy passion!

Who has done me this ill?

**/ I couldn't support both of us on my less than a \$1000 a month**

FAUST

Come, follow me! My darling, be more bold:  
/ I'll clasp thee, soon, with warmth a thousand-fold;  
But follow now! 'Tis all I beg of thee.

MARGARET

And is it thou? Thou, surely, certainly?  
Thou wilt unloose my chain,  
And in thy lap wilt take me once again.

**All of them are due this weekend**

/ Say, dost thou know, my friend, whom thou mak'st free?

FAUST

Come! come! The night already vanisheth.

MARGARET

My mother have I put to death:

(A blinding light exposes  
her secrets)

MARGARET

One Step Cash \$300: Paid \$90  
 Arrowhead Investments \$150: Paid \$385  
 Big Limited \$200: paid \$485  
 Payday Services \$300: paid \$600  
 Authorized Payday \$150: \$179  
 MTE Financial \$300: paid \$500  
 Payday Services \$300: paid \$90  
 Whitesands-Instant Loan Today \$400: paid \$100  
 Net Cash USA \$300: paid \$100  
 Cash Central \$255: paid \$0

I've drowned the baby born to thee.  
 Was it not given to thee and me?  
 Thee, too! 'Tis thou! It scarcely true doth seem—  
 Give me thy hand! 'Tis not a dream!  
 Thy dear, dear hand!—  
 But, ah, 'tis wet!  
 Why, wipe it off! Methinks that yet  
 There's blood thereon.  
 / Ah, God! What hast thou done?

Wagner enters and begins singing  
 a jazz version of 'Erlkönig'.

FAUST

O, let the past be past!  
 / Thy words will slay me!

God enters and begins a game of  
 celestial bingo.

MARGARET

No, no! Thou must outlive us.  
 Now I'll tell thee the graves to give us:  
 Thou must begin to-morrow  
 The work of sorrow! **When the company tries to take the money  
 anyway, call the credit union, give a sworn affidavit to stop  
 the ACH withdrawals and they will get back the money and  
 block my account.**  
 Ah, within thine arms to hide me,  
 That was a sweet and a gracious bliss,  
 But no more, no more can I attain it!  
**I destroyed all the paperwork so my boyfriend wouldn't find  
 them.**  
 / And yet 'tis thou, so good, so kind to see!

FAUST

If thou feel'st it is I, then come with me!

MARGARET

Out yonder?

FAUST

To freedom.

MARGARET

**The PDL companies are threatening legal action and garnishments.**

If the grave is there,  
Death lying in wait, then come!

**My bank account was closed due to a negative balance of \$1900**  
/ Thou goest away! O Faust, if I could go!

FAUST

Thou canst! Just will it! Open stands the door.

MARGARET

**It was due to PDL bank fees**

I dare not go: there's no hope any more.

**I had opened new account at a second bank but after 2 months the second bank froze my account because the first bank reported me to chexsystems.**

Why should I fly? Now I have no bank account.

It is so wretched, forced to beg my living,  
/ **I'm having to roll up pennies so I can go to the dollar store**

FAUST

I'll stay with thee.

She thrusts the empty cradle into  
his hands.

MARGARET

Be quick! Be quick!  
Save your dying child!  
Away! Follow the ridge  
Up by the brook,  
Over the bridge,  
Into the wood,  
To the left, where the plank is placed  
In the pool!

Seize it in haste!  
 'Tis trying to live,  
 'Tis struggling still!  
 / Save it! Save it!

FAUST

Recall thy wandering will!  
 / One step, and thou art free at last!

MARGARET

No -let me go! I'll suffer no force!  
 Grasp me not so murderously!  
 I've done, else, all things for the love of thee.  
 Day? Yes, the day comes, **-I've lost my house to foreclosure**  
 My wedding-day it was to be!  
**This is a nightmare.** -'Tis all in vain!  
 We shall meet once again,  
**If these places are illegal**  
**They cannot charge interest.**  
 The death-bell tolls, the wand is broken.  
**All monies paid thus far**  
**Go toward the principal**  
 Now over each neck has quivered  
 The blade that is quivering over mine.  
 Dumb lies the world like the grave!  
 / **I am completely broke and utterly ashamed**

FAUST

O had I ne'er been born!

Mephisto enters, laughing and tap  
 dancing.

MARGARET

What rises up from the threshold here?  
 He! He! suffer him not!  
**The Cash Store was due on September 7.**  
 / He seeks me!

FAUST

Thou shalt live.

Margaret jumps onto a high ledge.  
Everyone is silent in  
anticipation of what will happen  
next.

MARGARET

Judgment of God! Myself to thee I give.  
Thine am I, Mother of Sorrows! Rescue me!  
**I called them and told them I didn't have the money and asked  
if I could work something out and they wouldn't**  
Camp around, and from evil ward me!  
Faust! I shudder to think of thee.

MEPHISTOPHELES

She is judged!

ALL

She is condemned!

Big musical crash. Margaret dies.  
Then calmness.