

SQUIRE LYRE: A MEDIEVAL MESS - Act 1, Scene 1

Lyrics and Book by Katie Kress
Orchestration by Josh Eppenauer
Supervision by Thomas Coffey

A fantical medieval woods

(A panicked SQUIRE LYRE is hiding KNIGHT HONESTEST MANN'S body in the brush of a wooded forest)

SQUIRE LYRE

(SQUIRE LYRE notices the audience and begins to defend his case)

I'm sure this looks bad... genuinely this was not my doing. I would not have signed on as a squire if I thought this was where I was going to end up. Hey come along! Shine some armor, brush a horse, travel the world! Oh and while you're at it, hide your knight's dead body when he gets himself killed and you get blamed for it!

If you're really wondering, there was a poison well, I know that sounds made up. Ugh of course it sounds made up! Well it's not. We're just passing through and I say to my master, excuse me Sir Honestust Man this isn't the friendliest of territories. What do I get? A laugh in my face and a drink from the well! Well... what am I supposed to do?

Sir Honestus is due in all his glory at the Castle of Tudor by sundown and if I show up without him that would be... that would be bad! And if I go and say oh I'm sorry the glorious Sir Honestust Man couldn't make it he was taken out by some mysteriously merky well water... that would also be bad! There's no winning! I'm gonna die! If they find out he's dead I'm gonna die.

Then again any old sap could walk in and claim he was a knight... Frankly they'll be disappointed if he doesn't come... disappointed, they'll send out the dogs. No Sir Honestust has to arrive at Castle Tudor with or without his squire!

(SQUIRE LYRE begins taking armor off of SIR HONESTEST MAN and putting it on)

Hypothetically this could completely backfire, but currently this is the best idea I've ever had. Get in, pretend you're a knight, get out.

(SQUIRE LYRE turns away from the audience and is in the court chamber of LORD FEARMOGGEDON dressed as KNIGHT SIR HONESTUST MANN)

Lord Fearmoggedon it is a privilege to be here!

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

Sir Honestust Man we are glad to have you visit Castle Tudor, this is my daughter Maid Maybelline. I'm sure after your time here you will have my men well trained and the castle's security well under control.

SQUIRE LYRE

Thank you sir, hopefully my visit will be quick.

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

Quick?

SQUIRE LYRE

Why yes, I haven't much time... er urgent business back home!

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

And where is home for you?

SQUIRE LYRE

Oh it's along the coast... the shore..

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

Oh Shore Castle I know it quite well.

SQUIRE LYRE

No! Ahah that is along a bay... it's a small place... on the ocean. You wouldn't know it, it's quite quaint.

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

And what is it called? Did you say?

SQUIRE LYRE

Say I did say it's the shore... bay it's on the- the village of Shorebay.

MAID MAYBELLINE

Sorbet? Like the desert?

SQUIRE LYRE

No! Not like the desert like it's on a shore and a bay. It's a very oceany town, it's where I grew up, in Shorebay.

LORD FEARMOGGEDON

Yes, well welcome to Castle Tudor Sir Honestus Mann of Shorebay

#1A Sir Honestest Mann of Shorebay (CHORUS, SQUIRE LYRE, MAID MAYBELLINE)

CHORUS

HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES, THE NOBLEST KNIGHT OF THIS FAR LAND!
HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES, I HEAR THAT HE'S HANDSOME I HOPE I CAN
STAND WHEN HE'S
HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES, THIS NEW KNIGHT OF MERCY AND MIGHT AS
I'VE HEARD IN THE TALES!
HERE HE COMES, TO THE CASTLE OF TUDOR, IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, BACK IN THE DAY WHERE THERE'S NOTHING TO SEE,
BUT A NEW THING TO SAY IS THAT THERE'S SOMEONE NEW IN THE MIDDLE OF
NOWHERE.
SIR HONNESTUS MAN OF SHOREBAY!

SQUIRE LYRE

HOLD IT TOGETHER MAN NOBODY KNOWS YOU'RE A LOW LIFE SURF IN YOUR
MASTERS CLOTHES.
KEEP YOUR NOSE UP AND STRIKE A POSE, WITH YOUR EGO HIGH, NOTHING TO
SUPPOSE.
BUT WHAT OF THE MAIDEN AND WHAT OF THE LORD?
THEY'RE ENEMIES I CAN'T AFFORD.
WHY STAY HERE, EXPOSED OF MY OWN ACCORD?
JUST WAIT FOR A MOMENT TO SLIP OUT THE DOOR!

(SQUIRE LYRE attempts to sneak out and runs into MAID MAYBELLINE)

MAID MAYBELLINE

Oh! Sir Honestus!

SQUIRE LYRE

Oh Maid Maybelline pardon me, I ummm... am just heading out to... groom my horse! Yes!
So...
(attempting to leave)

MAID MAYBELLINE

Clean your own horse? But where's your squire?

SQUIRE LYRE

My- oh yes, umm... I gave him the day off.

MAID MAYBELLINE

The day off?

SQUIRE LYRE

Yes, uhh he went into town. Tiring thing, being a surf. Best to let him rest uh, well, who knows when he'll be back.

MAID MAYBELLINE

Well that's... uh, very good of you Sir Honestus.

SQUIRE LYRE

Oh it's nothing.

MAID MAYBELLINE

(to audience)

HE SMILES WHEN HE GREETES ME, DOESN'T HOLD HIS HEAD TOO HIGH.
HE'S FRIENDLY AND HE'S AWKWARD, WHAT A STRANGELY MANNERED GUY.
A BRAND NEW KIND OF OUTLOOK, A BRAND NEW KIND OF MAN.
REFRESHING, BUT HOW ODD IT IS TO UNDERSTAND.

MAID MAYBELLINE

I look forward to your speech on the grounds, I'm sure everyone's dying to meet you.

SQUIRE LYRE

Oh right... the speech.

(MAID MAYBELLINE exits)

#1B Sir Honestest Mann of Shorebay (CHORUS, SQUIRE LYRE, MAID MAYBELLINE)

SQUIRE LYRE

WHAT AM I DOING HERE, I GOTTA RUN, THE CASTLE IS NICE BUT THE
DUNGEON'S NOT FUN

I CAN'T DISAPPEAR OR SHE'LL KNOW I'M GONE IF I GO MISSING THE HUNT IS ON
BUT I MADE IT THIS FAR WITH THE MAID AND THE LORD
IF I CONVINCED THEM THEN WHAT'S A FEW MORE?
ONE LITTLE SPEECH AND THEN I'M DONE
I'VE GOT TO TREAD LIGHT TILL MY BATTLES WON

(SQUIRE LYRE approaches the crowd to give his speech)

IT IS I! SIR HONESTUST MANN! THE NOBLEST KNIGHT TO WALK THE EARTH,
COME TO GUARD YOUR LANDS WITH MY DEFENSES!

CHORUS

OOO! AHH!

SQUIRE LYRE

AND, UMM, NOW THAT I AM HERE, NOT A SOUL WILL TOUCH THESE FERTILE
LANDS! NO NEED TO GUARD THEM WITH YOUR DOGS AND FENCES.

CHORUS

OOO! AHH!

SQUIRE LYRE

SO HAVE NO FEAR, AND JUST HAVE FAITH! CAUSE I BELIEVE IT TO BE TRUE,
THESE MODEST WORDS ARE THE BEST THING YOU CAN DO.
DO NO HARM TO OTHERS, AND THEY WILL DO NO HARM UNTO YOU.

CHORUS

DO NO HARM TO OTHERS, AND THEY WILL DO NO HARM UNTO YOU.

MAID MAYBELLINE

(to audience)

A STRANGELY PEACEFUL MESSAGE, AN ODDLY PLEASANT PHRASE.
THE KNIGHTS I'VE MET ARE TEMPERED AND FILLED WITH MADDENED RAGE.
HE'S JUST SORT OF DIFFERENT, ALRIGHT HE IS SORT OF STRANGE.
CONFUSING, BUT MAYBE SOON I'LL SEE HIM CHANGE.

(SQUIRE LYRE steps away from the crowd)

SQUIRE LYRE

How'd I do?

MAID MAYBELLINE

Very... inspirational

SQUIRE LYRE

I know! Wow! That was great. You know I haven't given a speech like that- well since I was at my last castle... guarding. Giving lots of speeches.

(part of SQUIRE LYRE's armor falls off, he frantically tries to reattach it)

MAID MAYBELLINE

It seems like you need this armor fitted. Is it on loan?

SQUIRE LYRE

No! No! It's my armor, of course it's my armor. It's just- it's breathable.

MAID MAYBELLINE

Oh... how innovative?

SQUIRE LYRE

Well, I hate to be rude but there is an adoring crowd I need to attend to. Knightly matters, you understand.

#1C Sir Honestest Mann of Shorebay (CHORUS, SQUIRE LYRE, MAID MAYBELLINE)

CHORUS

HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES!

SQUIRE LYRE

A KNIGHT THAT IS KNIGHTLY AS KNIGHTS CAN BE.

CHOURS

HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES!

SQUIRE LYRE

EVERYONE IN THIS WHOLE CASTLE CAN SEE,

CHORUS

HERE HE COMES, HERE HE COMES!

SQUIRE LYRE

THERE'S NOT A PERSON AROUND THAT WOULD DISRESPECT ME!
IN THE CASTLE OF TUDOR,
IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, WHERE WHOSE TO SAY WHO SOMEBODY IS OR ISNT
TODAY, CAUSE I'M STARTING TO LIKE WHO I'M BEING TODAY!

CHORUS

SIR HONESTEST MAN OF SHOREBAY!

SQUIRE LYRE

THE FAMOUS!

CHORUS

SIR HONESTEST MAN OF SOREBAY!

SQUIRE LYRE

THE RIGHTEOUS!

CHORUS

SIR HONESTEST MAN OF SOREBAY!

SQUIRE LYRE

THE GREATEST!

CHORUS

SIR HONESTEST MAN-

MAID MAYBELLINE

You're not really a knight are you...
(akward pause)

CHORUS, SQUIRE LYRE

- OF SHOREBAY!!

(BLACKOUT)