Very Loosely Based on the Novel by Mark Twain

Book, Music and Lyrics by Stephen Murray

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STORY OF THE MUSICAL

Dr. Henrietta "Hank" Morgan and fellow astrophysicists Dr. Matt Sullivan have just finished gathering critical new data from a total eclipse when they realize they're in time to stream the ballgame. But Hank, a devoted Yankees fan, is accidentally knocked unconscious, and when she wakes, she can't believe where (or when!) she is. Suspicious peasants surround her, and Sir Kay of the Round Table challenges her to a duel. Egocentric King Arthur arrives and orders Hank burned at the stake, but luckily he's dissuaded by Merlin, the king's wizard who is actually a time-traveling woman in disguise. Instead, they will have a contest and Hank chooses-baseball! Of course, conniving Morgana and her evil soldiers add more intrigue. Upbeat songs such as the humorous "It's Unpleasant Being a Peasant," and Arthur's "It's Good to Be the King" add plenty of laughs, and Merlin's "Anywhere, Anywhen" explains her mission of traveling through space to make sure the world is a happy place. "Do the King Arthur" dance has everyone on stage move and groove. "Follow Your Star" and "Let's All Travel Through Time" close the show on upbeat notes.

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

This show premiered at Calliope Productions in Boylston, MA on August 15, 2025 with the following cast.

Dr. "Hank" Morgan - Brynlee Killeen
Dr. Matt Sullivan - Charlie Ryan
The Sun - Ava Wilander
The Moon - Amelia Wilander
Gwendolyn - Olivia Lubelczyk
Harold, the Herald - Asher Lewis
Maude - Myka Lewis
Turnip Vendor - Milo Clunie
Chancey - Cate Tucker
Trilby - Lucy Lasell
Ornelle - Abby Canada
Geraldine - Zoey Conzalez-Dufresne
Ainsley - Serena Carbonneau

Thistle - Lilah Kramer
Dudley - John Ripley
Sir Kay - Jacob Terlaje
King Arthur - Niko Figueiredo
Merlin - Lee Silveira
Hengist - Kelton Torrey
Horsa - Jack Ryan
Morgana Le Fey - Morgan Riddick
Harry - Madden Pratt
Ron - Rice Malarney
Hermione - Teagan Killeen
Nurse - Paisley Malarney

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Flexible cast of 25, doubling possible)

HENRIETTA "HANK" MORGAN: Astrophysicist and New York Yankees fan.

MATT SULLIVAN: Astrophysicist and Boston Red Sox fan.

THE SUN: A personification of the Sun.
THE MOON: A personification of the Moon.
GWENDOLYN: King's Squire and double agent.

HERALD: The Herald and announcer. **MAUDE:** Peasant and announcer.

TURNIP VENDOR: A peasant and vegetable merchant.

CHANCEY: Peasant.
TRILBY: Peasant.
ORNELLE: Peasant.
GERALDINE: Peasant.
AINSLEY: Peasant.
THISTLE: Peasant.

DUDLEY: Peasant and musician. **SIR KAY:** Knight of the round table.

KING ARTHUR: King of England, celebrity in the eyes of the

peasants, and to himself as well.

MERLIN / EMMA MERLINSEN: The King's Wizard, a time-

traveling woman in disguise.

HENGIST: Saxon, bumbling Lieutenant to Morgana and Gwendolvn.

HORSA: Saxon, bumbling Lieutenant to Morgana and Gwendolyn.

MORGANA LE FEY: Evil sister of King Arthur.

HARRY: An evil soldier. **RON:** An evil soldier.

HERMIONE: An evil soldier. **NURSE:** A modern-day nurse.

*Doubling: Nurse can also double as a peasant and/or evil soldier. Harry, Ron, and Hermione can double as peasants.

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

MODICAL CELEGIIONS
ACT I Song #1 - Happy Astrophysicists Hank and Matt
Song #2 - Total Eclipse
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Song #3 - A Connecticut Yankee Fan
Song #4 - It's Unpleasant Being a Peasant Peasants
Song #5 - She's a Witch! Peasants
Song #6 - It's Good to be the King King Arthur and Ensemble
Song #7 - Total Eclipse (Reprise) Sun and Moon
Song #8 - Medieval Woman
Song #9 - Evil Time Morgana and the Evil Soldiers
ACT II
Song #10 - Entr'acte
Song #11 - Anywhere, Anywhen
Song #12 - Do The King ArthurHank and Ensemble
Song #13 - Evil Entrance Music
Song #14 - The Baseball Song Hank, Morgana, Merlin, and Ensemble
Song #15 - Scene Change Music
Song #16 - Sporty Scene Change
Song #17 - Heading Back Home
Song #18 - Follow Your StarMerlin and Ensemble
Song #19 - Let's All Travel Through Time Merlin, Morgana, Sun, Moon, Hengist,
Horsa, Matt, Gwendolyn and Ensemble
Song #20 - Curtain Call

ACT I

(AT RISE: A modern research ship in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Onboard we see two scientists, DR. HENRIETTA "HANK" MORGAN and DR. MATT SULLIVAN. They have equipment set up to observe a total eclipse at sea. Hank wears a New York Yankees baseball cap and a T-shirt from a local university. Matt wears a Boston Red Sox baseball cap and a polo shirt.)

Song #1 - Happy Astrophysicists

HANK: IT'S ALMOST TIME. IT'S ALMOST HERE. WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT FOR OVER A YEAR.

MATT: A TOTAL ECLIPSE IS SOMETHING RARE.
BUT WE'RE SCIENTISTS, SO WE DON'T PLAY FAIR.
HANK: SINCE WE WEREN'T IN THE PATH OF TOTALITY.
WE RENTED A BOAT AND WENT OUT TO SEA.

MATT: WE CALCULATED WHERE WE'LL SEE IT PERFECTLY.

AND IT'S ALL PAID FOR BY THE UNIVERSITY.

BOTH: SO WE'RE HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY ASTROPHYSICISTS. HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY THAT WE BOTH EXIST.

HAPPY TO BE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA.

YES, WE'RE HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY ASTROPHYSICISTS. HAPPY THAT THIS CHANCE ISN'T GONNA BE MISSED. HAPPY FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. BOTH YOU AND ME.

HANK: INSTRUMENTS READY!

MATT: POWER ON!

HANK: HERE COMES THE ECLIPSE!

MATT: HA HA! BRING IT ON! HANK: COLLECT THE DATA. MATT: EVERY SINGLE KERNEL.

HANK: THEN PUBLISH ALL OUR FINDINGS IN A SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL.

ATT THE

MATT: THEN FOLKS WILL NOT BELIEVE THEIR EYES WHEN

WE WIN THE NOBEL PRIZE!

HANK: DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT PREMATURE?

MATT: NO, IT'S GONNA BE GREAT!

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BOTH: AND WE WILL CELEBRATE.

'CAUSE WE'RE HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY ASTROPHYSICISTS. HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY THAT WE BOTH EXIST. HAPPY TO BE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA. YES, WE'RE HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY ASTROPHYSICISTS. HAPPY THAT THIS CHANCE ISN'T GONNA BE MISSED. HAPPY FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. BOTH YOU AND ME. BOTH YOU AND ME. BOTH YOU AND ME. BOTH YOU AND ME!

(SUN and MOON enter, MATT and HANK move upstage looking at their instruments. MUSIC begins. During the song, Sun and Moon approach each other. At the point where they sing together, Moon should be in front of the Sun with the Sun singing over Moon's shoulder.)

Song #2 - Total Eclipse

SUN: EVERY NOW AND THEN I NOTICE HOW THE MOON HAS SPUN.

MOON: EVERY NOW AND THEN MY ORBIT LET'S ME BLOCK THE SUN.

SUN: EVERY NOW AND THEN THE MOON WILL BLOCK OUT ALL MY LIGHT.

MOON: IT MAY BE THE MORNING BUT I'LL MAKE IT LOOK LIKE NIGHT.

SUN AND MOON: AND I NEED YOU NOW TODAY.

I NEED YOU NOW, FOREVER. FOR US TO DO THIS RIGHT WE'VE GOT TO WORK TOGETHER. YOU ARE ALL THAT AND A BAG OF CHIPS. WE WILL MAKE A TOTAL ECLIPSE TOTAL ECLIPSE.

(SUN and MOON move away from each other.)

MOON: Oh no! I'm moving away.

SUN: The eclipse is over. **MOON:** Until next time, Sun.

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(SUN and MOON wave to each other and exit. HANK and MATT excitedly move downstage.)

MATT: That was incredible!

HANK: Twin coronal mass ejections at the moment of totality? Yes, incredible.

MATT: You know, since we were in this particular spot in the ocean, we might have been the only research team to get that data.

HANK: Then we should celebrate! It's game time!

MATT: That's right! The mighty Red Sox vs. your horrible Yankees.

HANK: The Yankees are the greatest franchise in the world, Matt. We gave the world Mickey Mantle.

MATT: And the Red Sox gave the world Ted Williams!

HANK: Lou Gerig!
MATT: Carl Yaztremski!
HANK: Joe DiMaggio!
MATT: David Ortiz!

HANK: Let's speak the one name we can agree on.

HANK and MATT: (*THEY remove their baseball caps and hold them over their hearts.*) All hail Abner Doubleday, the inventor of baseball. (*THEY shake hands.*)

MATT: Entirely fictional, of course. **HANK:** At least we agree on it.

MATT: I'll get the radio.

HANK: Wait, I have a surprise. (Retrieves a laptop computer.) I connected my computer to the satellite dish on the mast so we can watch the live feed from Yankee Stadium.

MATT: Dr. Henrietta Morgan, you are a genius.

HANK: You know I hate it when you call me Henrietta.

MATT: Sorry, Hank.

HANK: But yes, I am a genius. Let's watch the game.

(SHE pushes a button on the laptop; a static-filled message recorded by the actor playing MERLIN starts speaking.)

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VOICE: Doctor Hank Morgan, we need your help! Please come to the following coordinates. Latitude 35 degrees 15 minutes North, Longitude 30 degrees 8 minutes West.

(This message keeps repeating until HANK pushes a button on the computer.)

MATT: What the heck is that? **HANK:** It's not the game.

MATT: They seem to know you.

HANK: It's probably one of Sherman's jokes. (SHE pushes buttons on the computer.) Aha! The dish is aimed wrong.

MATT: Can you move it?

HANK: Something is jamming the rotor. I'm going to have to climb the mast and move it manually. (SHE exits to just offstage.)

MATT: It's no big deal, Hank. We can get the game on the radio

HANK: (Offstage.) It's fine, Matt, I've got this. I'm almost to the dish. Check the feed.

MATT: OK. Nothing yet.

HANK: (Offstage.) I see the problem. I just need to... ahhh! (HANK's offstage scream should be long and drawn out to indicate falling.)

MATT: Hank!

(MATT rushes offstage to help Hank. MUSIC starts. The ENSEMBLE enters as the scene changes from the ship to the exterior of a medieval castle.)

Song #3 - A Connecticut Yankee Fan

ENSEMBLE: 00-EE-00, 00-EE-00 00-EE-00, 00-EE-00

SOMETHING STRANGE IS HAPPENING. SOMETHING WE CAN'T EXPLAIN. BUT IT SOUNDS SORT OF LIKE AN OLD STORY BY MARK TWAIN.

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ENSEMBLE: (Cont'd.) A PROFESSOR FROM CONNECTICUT. FALLS AND LANDS UPON HER HEAD. BUT INSTEAD OF GETTING HURT SHE TRAVELS BACK IN TIME INSTEAD.

A CONNECTICUT YANKEE FAN
IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT.
STICK AROUND TO HEAR OUR TALE.
WE PROMISE TO KEEP IT SHORT.
A CONNECTICUT YANKEE FAN
IN THE LAND OF CAMELOT.
ENJOY THE SHOW. WE THINK YOU'LL LIKE IT A LOT.

00-EE-00, 00-EE-00 00-EE-00, 00-EE-00

(FX: There is a musical flourish. HANK "floats by" to some goofy special effect such as spinning on an office chair. The scene changes to 5th century England where the PEASANTS are gathering. They move casually around the stage. The TURNIP VENDOR comes CS and is approached by MAUDE.)

TURNIP VENDOR: Turnips! Turnips! Get your turnips here!

MAUDE: Do you have any beans? **TURNIP VENDOR**: Sorry, only turnips.

MAUDE: What about apples, do you have apples? **TURNIP VENDOR:** I sell turnips. I'm a turnip vendor. **MAUDE:** What am I supposed to do with turnips?

TURNIP VENDOR: (Spoken like a turnip expert.) You can have baked turnip, boiled turnip, fried turnip, turnip stew, turnip stuffed turnip, or a BLT, bacon lettuce and turnip sandwich, minus the bacon lettuce and bread.

MAUDE: There's nothing to eat around here except turnips! I just might start a protest.

TURNIP VENDOR: Excellent idea, ma'am. May I suggest throwing turnips in rebellion?

(GWENDOLYN, a stern-looking assistant to the King, enters to collect taxes.)

GWENDOLYN: Time to pay your taxes! Come on now.

(The PEASANTS line up to pay their taxes in front of GWENDOLYN.)

CHANCEY: I hate tax time. **TRILBY:** Every month.

ORNELLE: Why do we have to pay taxes to the king if he

already has all the money?

GWENDOLYN: So, he can protect you from invaders. **ORNELLE:** Invaders? I haven't seen any invaders.

GWENDOLYN: See. It's working.

GERALDINE: But we've got nothing! I'm paying my taxes in

turnips!

(General grumbling from the PEASANTS.)

AINSLEY: At least you've got turnips. I'm paying with the dirt

where my turnips used to grow. **CHANCEY:** It's awful being poor!

Song #4 - It's Unpleasant Being a Peasant

(Solos to be assigned at the discretion of the director.)

PEASANTS:

IT'S NOT EASY BEING POOR.
LIVING JUST OUTSIDE THE CASTLE.
IT'S NOT EASY BEING POOR.
IN FACT, IT'S QUITE A HASSLE.
BEHIND THOSE WALLS THEY'VE GOT FANCY CLOTHES
AND LOTS OF FOOD TO EAT.
OUT HERE, WE ALL DRESS IN RAGS AND HAVE SQUIRRELS
AND RATS AS MEAT.

IT'S UNPLEASANT. BEING A PEASANT. OUR LIFE REALLY STINKS. WE KNOW THAT'S SO. IT'S UNPLEASANT. BEING A PEASANT. WE HAVE HIT ROCK BOTTOM. THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE TO GO. THE KING AND QUEEN AND ALL THOSE KNIGHTS, THEY LIVE IN LUXURY.

End of Freeview

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