

# SCENE ONE: THE YOUNG NELSON

*(Enter Capt Suckling)*

Capt Suckling: When I got the letter from my brother-in-law telling me that Horatio wanted to come to sea with me I was completely shocked. I thought - What has poor Horatio done, who is so weak that he, above all the rest, should be sent to rough it out at sea? But let him come and the first time we go into action a cannon ball may knock off his head, and provide for him at once. (Laughs)  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1771 - that's the day he is due to arrive.

*(He Exits SR and Nelson Enters SL )*

Nelson: My arrival at Chatham has sent me into a fit of despair. For all my life I have longed to go to sea, and now that the moment has come I am truly terrified.

I arrived at Chatham expecting to be met by my uncle but have been advised he has other matters to attend to. So I must wait for him. The place is noisy and buzzing with activity and I don't know a soul here. My heart is so heavy it feels like it will burst. I am already missing my family who were so excited for me when we were parting. But most of all it's my dear mother that I miss. How can I bear that she will never comfort me again.

*(Capt Suckling approaches.)*

Nelson: *(Calls out to him)* Uncle!

Capt Suckling: There you are Horatio. I've been looking all over for you.

Nelson: So have I for you.

Capt Suckling: How was your journey?

Nelson: It was... *(crying uncontrollably)*.

Capt Suckling: Got the frights have you? *(Comforting him)* There, there!  
It happens to all of us. Think we want to do something and  
then when the time comes, get cold feet.

Nelson: Did it happen to you?

Capt Suckling: It most certainly did. I can still remember that feeling of  
dread even now. Once you get working you won't have time  
to worry. It's a busy life on board. You'll be part of the  
ship's community. It'll be your family at sea.  
Remember Horatio! You come to me when you have  
any problems! All right?

Nelson: Thanks, I will.

Capt Suckling: Now let me show my ship, HMS Reasonable. It's a 64 gun  
ship that I have planned for you to start your training on.

Nelson: Will I be going to sea?

Capt Suckling: In time Horatio. You've a lot to learn before you'll  
be doing that. Come on, let's go.  
*(Both exit)*

*(Cyclorama - Horatio and his uncle board the HMS Reasonable. They look  
around the ship.)*

Narrator 1: Nelson was in a privileged position having an uncle in the  
Royal Naval. Every captain became the "Sea Daddy" to the  
youngsters onboard ship, but to have an uncle as "Sea  
Daddy" too, was special.

*(Enter Captain Skeffington and Captain Suckling)*

Cpt Skef: Good to see you again Maurice. How are you?

Cpt Suckling: Very well and excellent to see you again Ludwidge.  
I hear my nephew has been pestering you.

Cpt Skeff: Yes, I have his letter here. Sounds a very keen young man doesn't he?

Cpt Suckling: He certainly is. At first I thought he wasn't cut out for a life at sea, but Horatio has really surprised me.

Cpt Skef: Really in what way?

Capt Suck: He joined me at the age of 12. Sickly looking little thing. Thought he wouldn't last 5 minutes. Took him on as Captain's servant in Chatham. Hardworking young chap. Invited him to join me on the Triumph as a Midshipman. Did a fine job. Felt he needed to get to sea. Find out what it really is all about.

Capt Skef: Merchant navy?

Capt Suck: Yes, the Mary Ann. He loved it. West Indies, trading in Florida, Bermuda and the Lesser Antilles.

Capt Skef: Good experience eh?

Capt Suck: Came back without a good word to say for the Royal Navy.

Capt Skef: Brainwashed by the Merchant Navy, eh?

Capt Suck: He was for a time but he's back on side now.

Capt Skef: Thank goodness for that.

Cpt Suckling: Unfortunately, he came back home with malaria, poor thing. Thought he'd had it but he's as strong as an ox now and raring to go.  
*(Horatio enters)*  
Speak of the devil!  
Horatio, this is Captain Skeffington.

Horatio: Sir, I am honoured to meet you. I hope you didn't mind my writing to you.

Cpt Skef: Certainly not! I was impressed that you were so keen.

Horatio: Uncle Maurice has probably told you I am desperate to get back to sea.

Capt Skef: Yes, he has, but I don't normally take boys with me. Most of them, in my experience I have to say, are pretty useless.

Horatio: I promise I will fill a man's shoes if you allow me to come. I would make a good coxswain - wouldn't I uncle?

Capt Suck: I believe you would Horatio. That I do.

Capt Skef: On the good reference of your uncle, I will be pleased for you to come with me.

Horatio: Oh thank you, thank you. Where will we be sailing?

Capt Skef: Where indeed! Well, I suppose you are aware that Captain Cook has discovered Australia young man.

Horatio: Yes I am. What excitement to be able to travel to new uncharted territory.

Capt Skef: Well the King is offering £20,000 to anyone who can find a Northwest passage to India.

Horatio: £20,000. That is a fortune!

Capt Suck: I hear you are doing some work for the Royal Society.

Capt Skef: Yes we are hoping to travelling to the North Pole to carry out some astronomical observations.

Horatio: So whilst you are there you'll be looking for that passage to India.

Capt Skef: Smart young man! Yes we will and who knows we may make our fortunes.  
Well Midshipman Nelson, I shall put you in control of a 4-oared cutter if you are any good.

Horatio: I promise you I will navigate her better than any other boat in the fleet.

Capt Skef: We will see then.  
Sailing in 3 weeks time.

Horatio: Hurrah! Thank you Captain Skeffington. I can't wait.

*(The men shake hands and then exit.)*

Narrator 2: So, Nelson set sail on Captain Skeffington's ship HMS Carcass to the North Pole.

Narrator 3: They encountered miles of ice, 8 metres thick, that threatened to crush the ships, as well as walruses crashing against the boats

*(On board the Carcass )*

Nelson: The ship is going nowhere stuck in the ice as it is.

Seaman: Sir, look there's a polar bear.

Nelson: That is amazing. My father would be proud of me if I could bag its skin and take it back with me as a trophy.

Seaman: It's a huge animal, you'd have trouble killing that, sir.

Nelson: Not with a musket we wouldn't. I'm going down to get one.

*(Nelson disappears and returns with a musket.)*

Nelson: Come on! Are you game?

Seaman : Mmmm O.k.

*(The pair of them climb out of the ship and onto the ice. They move slowly in the ice until they see the bear in the distance.)*

Nelson: There it is! Come on let's get closer.

Seaman: It's huge look at it.

Nelson: Come on!

*(They get close to the bear and then Nelson aims the musket at it. He misfires the weapon.)  
(Sound effect: BANG)*

Seaman: Are you ok sir?

Nelson: Damn - the musket misfired. Look out! It's beginning to come towards us.

*(Back on the ship Capt Lutwidge is alerted to the drama)*

Seaman 2: Captain - Mr Nelson is on an ice flow with a polar bear bearing down on him. Seaman Briggs is with him sir.

C/Lutwidge: Prepare a cannon immediately and fire off. We need to scare the beast before it kills him.

*(The seaman rushes below whilst Capt Lutwidge watches through his telescope.  
The polar bear comes closer to Nelson and the seaman.)*

Seaman : My god we'll be killed!

Nelson: We are separated from it by this stretch of water.

Seaman: They can swim you know.

Nelson: Do but let me get a blow at this devil with the butt end of my musket

Seaman: *(Looking terrified)* We'll both be killed.

*(The cannon fires off in the distance and the polar bear takes off.)*

Seaman: Thank the Lord we've been saved . They've fired off a cannon. I thought I was about to meet my maker.

Nelson: *(Ignoring him and looking at the bear moving off)*  
It's gone. No trophy for me.

*(Captain Lutwidge and some of the seamen come towards them with muskets.)*

C/Lutwidge: Are you mad? What are you doing?

Nelson: I wanted to bag a trophy for my father, Captain.

C/Lutwidge: You could have both been killed. Then your father would have been really proud of you eh?

## **SHANTY : DON'T YOU DARE WITH A POLAR BEAR**

Narrator 4: The Carcass returned after 5 months having not reached the North Pole but being the first ship to sail around the island of Svalbard.  
Ice in the east meant there was no passage to India.

Narrator 1: In 1787 Nelson married the widow Frances Nisbet on 12<sup>th</sup> March in the Leeward Islands.

*(Cyclorama - Nelson and Frances get married and sail back to England with her son.)*

*(Overhead screen shows scenes from Leeward Islands and then Norfolk.)*

Narrator 2: He came back to England with her and her son Josiah from her previous marriage and they lived in Burnham Thorpe in Norfolk.

Narrator 3: Nelson had no ship. He spent 6 years on half pay wandering Norfolk coast, looking longingly to sea.

Narrator 4: Then he was appointed to HMS Agamemnon a 64 gun ship and cruised the English Channel until he set off for the Mediterranean.

### **Link Music**

# SCENE TWO: THE BATTLE OFF ST VINCENT 14<sup>th</sup> February 1797

*(Overhead the year 1797 is displayed.)  
(Enter Napoleon)*

Napoleon: I have a wonderful surprise for the British Navy. They are going to be so happy - I do not think! (Laughs)  
*(To the audience.)* Don't tell, but our friends the Spanish have decided to join forces with us. So with the Dutch, our combined fleets will make us the largest fighting force in the world.  
We have already pushed the British out of the Mediterranean. They are not too happy about this, I think. (Laughs)  
Now we will concentrate on gaining control of the (spits our the word) English Channel and invading Britain.  
No more Rule Britannia! C'est fini!  
Formidable, n'est ce pas! (Laughs!)

*(Napoleon exits SL and Nelson arrive with a letter in his hand SR.)*

Nelson: *(He reads to himself)* Sir John has made me commodore in charge of a section of the British fleet.  
I am honoured to serve under him. He has created such an efficient fighting force. I promise I will not fail him.

*(Voice of Sir John reading his letter.)*

Sir John: I am afraid that the war is going very badly for us now that Spain has joined with France and the Dutch.  
My plan is to defeat the Spanish Fleet and halt the threat of an invasion of England. We must stop the Spanish fleet at Cadiz meeting up with the French Fleet at Brest.

I want you to join my fleet in the Atlantic at once.

*(Seascape background - foggy weather. Superimposed map includes the Atlantic)*

## SONG: ANCHOR'S AWAY

Narrator 1: And so Nelson sailed his 74 gun ship HMS Captain to join Admiral Jervis's ships in the Atlantic.

*(Enter stage right Nelson on his ship.)*

Narrator 2: The Spanish were leaving to join the French fleet at Brest. They had 27 ships.

*(Enter the Spanish fleet - stage right through the fog.)*

Narrator 3: Nelson was lucky not to have been attacked by the Spanish. The British only had 15 ships - including Nelson's ship.

*(Enter Admiral Jervis's 14 ships. Nelson's ship meets up with them.)*

*(The Spanish and the British fleet are parallel but heading in the opposite direction.)*

Admiral Jervis: (To his Captain) They are too far away for us to attack them.

I want us to turn about one by one in rotation, starting with the leading ship, and head straight for the front of the Spanish Fleet.

Captain: The leading ship has begun to turn now.

Admiral Jervis: Good! The Spanish fleet is loosely organised.

Nelson: We're positioned third from last here. At this rate some of the Spanish ships will escape and we'll see no action. I am going to take decisive action and turn HMS Captain round. We'll take the two trailing ships with us. I am going to sail directly across the bows of the advancing Spanish ships and get alongside them. They won't be expecting that.

*(Nelson's ship sails into the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the Spanish fleet.)*

Narrator 4: Nelson ships soon become a target for the Spanish.

*(Cannons roar)*

Nelson: What's the damage?

Officer: The fore topmast has gone overboard sir, and the wheel is shot away.

Nelson: I want to manoeuvre us until we are alongside the San Nicholas.

Officer: 80 guns to the *Captain's* 74.

Nelson: Yes, but we'll get so close we'll board her as well as fire at her. It will take her by surprise.

Officer: Yes, sir. We are just about able to move in now.

Nelson: Good! (To the men) Prepare to board her! **BOARDERS AWAY!**

*(Nelson, sword in hand, leads his men over the side.)*

Narrator 1: Nelson led a boarding party onto the San Nicholas.

*(Nelson and boarding party get on board the San Nicholas to fight.)*

Nelson: They're surrendering already. Well done everyone.

Officer: Sir, the San Josef has come up alongside.

Nelson: The Spanish flagship eh? Well we've already boarded the San Nicholas and taken that as a prize, now we'll take the flagship too. The Agamemnon is with us as well.  
**BOARDERS AWAY!**

Crew: Yes, Sir!

Nelson Westminster Abbey or glorious victory!

*(Further battle on the San Josef. Then the San Josef surrenders too.)*

Nelson: They have surrendered as well. Wonderful bravery men. Never before has anyone taken two first rate ships. This is fantastic news. I will have to advertise my "Patent Bridge" for taking Spanish ships of the line one after the other.

*(All the ships exit.)  
(Newspaper article shown on background screen.)*

Narrator 2: When Nelson returned to England, his account of the battle was published in the press and established his personal courage and his "Patent Bridge."

Newspaper

Seller: Read all about it! Read all about it! Nelson's "Patent Bridge"

Narrator 3: 1797 was the year Nelson gained national attention. He was knighted with the Order of the Bath for his part in helping Admiral Jervis win at Cape St Vincent. He was also promoted to Real Admiral.

*(Crowds rush on to cheer with flags whilst he is knighted by King George 11))*

Narrator 4: The rest of the year was to prove nearly fatal for Nelson. In July during an ill-fated attempt to capture Tenerife, Nelson, with sword in hand, tried to board a Spanish launch, and received a musket ball in his right elbow, which caused the amputation of his right arm.

*(Cyclorama : Nelson gets shot in the arm. The his arm is amputated.)*

*(Enter Nelson, Fanny and Josiah)*

Nelson: Your son saved my life Fanny.

Fanny: Thank goodness you are both still alive. (She kisses them.)  
Thank you Josiah.

Josiah: I bandaged his arm in my silk handkerchief and rowed him back to the ship. He wouldn't accept any assistance and climbed up into the ship using his one good arm. He is so strong.

Fanny: My brave Horatio. You will need nursing. I will be your nurse, my darling.

Nelson: I will never be able to fight with a sword again.  
Look at me! First it was losing the sight of my right eye at Calvi in 1794. Now I have only one arm. I will never be able to fight with a sword again. What use am I?

Fanny: You will recover my love.

Nelson: What good will I be now?

Fanny: We will go to Bath so that you can recuperate. You will recover, you will see. I will nurse you well.

**Nelson's song: MY DESTINY**

# SCENE THREE: BATTLE OF THE NILE

## 1798

Napoleon: My goodness me, is it is 1798 already?  
Things are going well for France.  
So now I have yet another very, very cunning plan.  
The (spits out the word) British are in India at this moment  
in time,  
(Laughs!) Make the most of it you (spits out the word)  
British aristocracy, you may not be there for much longer.

*(Moves closer to the audience to confide.)*

My target is Egypt - land of the Pharoahs. Soon it will  
be land of Napoleon and they can forget their Arabic  
and speak French. Vive la France!  
I have a large expeditionary force in the Mediterranean  
as we speak.  
Sh! Don't tell anybody but they are in Malta at the moment  
getting supplies.

So (spits out the word) British, soon the Middle East will  
be all mine as well. (Laughs!)

*(Exit Napoleon SL  
Enter Nelson and Captain Berry - Stage R)*

Nelson: So, Capt Berry, here we are at Gibraltar with Admiral Jervis,  
excuse me Admiral Lord St Vincent (after that fine battle)  
with 14 fine ships and some of the most experienced  
commanders in the British Fleet.

Capt Berry: Your wonderful Band of Brothers, eh!

Nelson: Yes indeed. We have received word that the French are  
in Malta.

Capt Berry: Malta eh! I wonder where they're heading?

Nelson: My guess is Egypt and I believe we should head straight there.

Capt Berry: Yes, Sir.

*(They exit)*

*(Sea background - with a big map of the Mediterranean superimposed on it. As the ships move, their destination is marked on the map.)*

*(13 French battle ships enter from the right.)*

*(French stop off at Malta.)*

*(14 British battle ships enter from the left.)*

*(British fleet head for Egypt.)*

Nelson: Maybe I was wrong about the French. They haven't come to Egypt. Let's head for Syria and see whether they've gone there.

*(British fleet move to Syria.)*

Napoleon: My plan is going well. We have landed in Egypt and fought the Egyptian Army at the battle of the Pyramids.

*(Overhead : The Pyramids at Giza. )  
French troops come on and cheer Napoleon.)*

Troops: Vive la France!

Napoleon: Now we must prepare to greet the (spit out the word) British when they arrive in Egypt.  
We will anchor the French Fleet in Aboukir Bay close to the shore and have our seaward guns loaded and run-out, ready for that show-off Nelson and his pathetic ships.  
You have not seen our flagship, l'Orient, yet, you fool.  
120 guns. She is magnifique! The largest warship in the world.

You may have surprised the Spanish, you smart Alec,  
but it will be us that surprises you this time. (Laughs.)

*(Overhead Aboukir Bay map.  
The French fleet settle with their seaward guns run-out at anchor.)*

*(Lights dim)*

Nelson: *(Writing in his diary.)*  
August 1<sup>st</sup> 1798. It is just getting dark and still no sign of  
the French. We have wasted a whole month travelling to  
Syria, Greece and Turkey looking for them. I was  
convinced they'd be in Egypt.

Capt Berry: We're coming to Aboukir Bay sir, perhaps we could anchor  
for the night.

*(Nelson takes his telescope.)*

Nelson: There they are! Amazing! They're at anchor.  
My band of brothers and I already have our plan.

Capt Berry: The wind is in our favour sir.

Nelson: Good. Prepare for attack!

Goliath

Officer: (To Capt Foley) Capt Foley, sir. HMS Goliath must begin the  
attack.

Capt Foley: We're ready. We'll slip through that gap at the head of the  
French fleet to attack them on the landward side. They're  
not expecting an attack that side so they probably won't  
have their guns loaded and run-out.

Officer: Yes sir.

Capt Foley: The next six ships will follow us.

*(Goliath and following ships sail behind the French lines.)*

Nelson: Excellent work Foley. Now we'll start the second attack on the French Fleet's seaward side.  
Vanguard - prepare for battle - we're moving in.

*(Vanguard and following ships fight the French from the front.)*

Cpt of  
L'Orient: Sacre Bleu! The British are everywhere. Our ships at the end of the line can't even help because the wind is against us.  
*(Wind blows.)*

They are like sitting ducks.

*( The Cpt of the l'Orient has his legs blown off. )*

UrggggggggH! My legs! My legs! Help me up!  
Stand me in a grain barrel I must continue to conduct this fight.

*(The legless Captain is put in a barrel of grain by a few of his men and continues to command.)*

Capt's Son: Father, father are you all right?

Capt of L'O: My legs are missing son. Of course I am not all right.  
The battle must go on. There is no time to waste worrying about me.

*(Battle sounds softer - the Boy stood on the Burning Deck poem is read.)*

*(Battle sounds get louder again)*

Narrator 1: At about 10pm that night at the height of the battle, the Flagship, L'Orient, blew up. Its masts blew high up into the air and landed on the ships around it.  
The sight was so devastating it stopped the battle for a moment.

*(Silence.)*

Brit. Capt: An awful pause and death-like silence ensued, until the wreck of the masts and yards which had been carried to an immense height, fell down into the water and on neighbouring ships.

*(Battle begins again.)*

Nelson: Urghhh! I have been hit.

*(Nelson falls into the arms of Captain Berry)*

I am killed. Remember me to my wife.

Capt Berry: Get the Surgeon!

*(The Surgeon comes and looks at his wound.)*

Surgeon: It is shrapnel that has hit you in the Forehead, sir. The skin from the wound has fallen over your good eye and blinded you with the blood. I will dress it sir. You will be o.k.

*(All Ships leave the stage.)*

Narrator 2: Fortunately, Nelson did not die.  
At the end of the Battle of the Nile the British had either captured or destroyed 11 of the 13 French ships.

Narrator 3: The Battle of the Nile is now regarded as Nelson's most decisive battle. He became an international celebrity and was known for the rest of his life as "THE HERO OF THE NILE"

Narrator 4: Not everyone who went to sea was as enthusiastic as Nelson was.  
The infamous PRESS GANG was employed to make sure the ships were well stocked with sailors during wartime.

## **SONG: THE PRESS GANG**

## SCENE FOUR: EMMA & HORATIO

*(Enter Lady Emma Hamilton and Sir William - stage right - overhead screen shows scenes of Naples Bay.)*

Narrator 1: It was not until 1798, after the Battle of the Nile, that Nelson began his famous relationship with Lady Emma Hamilton. She was the young, beautiful wife of the British Ambassador in Naples - Sir William Hamilton, the noted Antiquarian and Volcanologist.

*(Enter the injured Nelson stage left.)*

Emma: *(Running towards him and kissing him)* Wonderful Nelson you are such a hero.

SirW: *(Shaking his hand)* Yes wonderful, wonderful. You need nursing. You must come and stay with us Nelson.

Horatio: Thank you both - you are too kind.

*(Crowds gather behind the cyclorama and cheer for him)*

Emma: See how popular you are Horatio.

Nelson: Yes, I am truly flattered.

*(They exit)*

Narrator2: Emma and Sir William hold an enormous ball to celebrate Nelson's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.

*(Cyclorama -Huge birthday cake. Crowds gather behind - Dancers enter stage left and right and music plays. Emma and Nelson dance together. Sir William looks on.)*

Sir William: Emma. Sing for Nelson. She has a beautiful voice, you will love to hear her, Nelson.

Nelson: I am indeed truly looking forward to it.

## **EMMA'S SONG: WE HAVE A HERO IN YOU**

*(Everyone applauds)*

Nelson: *(To Sir William)* - Your wife is indeed very talented.

Emma: You flatter me so, but not as talented as you my dear Nelson.  
You are a hero.

*(All exit)*

### **Link Music: We have a hero in you**

Narrator3 : Nelson still suffered from the injury to his forehead.  
Emma became his nurse and helped him back to health.

*(Re enter Horatio and Emma who is carrying a tray with first aid equipment.)*

Emma: Come and sit here so that I can dress your terrible  
wound my wonderful hero.

*(Emma dresses the wound on his forehead.)*

Nelson: Thank you beautiful Emma.  
*(Nelson kisses her.)*

Narrator 4: And so begins their passionate relationship.

Emma: Nelson, I am a close friend of the Queen of Naples,  
Maria Carolina. Her sister was Marie Antoinette, Queen of  
France, who as you know was executed by the French  
Revolutionaries.

*(The guillotine shows through the cyclorama and heads roll to cheers and  
women knitting.)*

I am fearful for their lives. You are so brave. I know you will  
help them.

Nelson: Emma, it is my wish to protect the Royal Family here from the French. I will do whatever is needed to assist. You have my word.

*(They exit)*

Narrator 1: Nelson executes some of the Republicans and upsets British public opinion.

*(Cyclorama of body hanging from the lanyard)*

He assists the Royal Family by helping them to escape to Palermo.

*(Cyclorama shows family stealing out into the night, with their belongings being loaded onto a ship.)*

Narrator2 :Emma and Nelson wanted desperately to be together but both were married, and so there developed a strange relationship with Emma and Nelson living together under Sir William Hamilton's roof. First in Naples and then in England.

Narrator3: Nelson returns to England a national hero

*(Cyclorama - crowds waving flags and cheering him on.*

*Nelson enters in full regalia - crowds come onto the stage waving flags and cheering him - Hero of the Nile. He is presented by the Lord Mayor of London with a dress sword from the City of London.)*

Narrator4: He embarks on a tour of England and Wales. Everywhere they go the crowds are thrilled to see them.

*(Nelson, Sir William and Emma shake hands with excited people pleased to see them.*

*They pulled them along in a coach. )*

Narrator 1: Lady Nelson and Nelson's father are very unhappy about Nelson's relationship with Emma.

*(Enter Lady Nelson and Rev Nelson)*

Lady Nelson: *(Crying)* What can I do? He is clearly in love with her.

Rev Nelson: We must try to reunite you again my dear. How he can do this to you I do not understand.

Narrator 2: When Nelson and Emma have a child together, Nelson finally breaks off his marriage with Lady Nelson.

*(Emma, lying on a bed with a midwife in attendance, gives birth)*

Midwife: It's a little girl.

Emma: Come here my little Horatia - your father will be so pleased when he knows.  
I must write to him straightaway but I must ensure that our secret does not get out otherwise it will cause a national scandal and damage my darling Horatio.

Narrator1: The couple hated to be apart and wrote to each other every day. Nelson destroyed all of Emma's letters because of the scandal, but Emma kept hers from Nelson.

*(Emma moves to SL and sits down to write a letter to Nelson.  
Spotlight on Emma)*

Mrs Thompson has had a daughter. Isn't that wonderful news! She is looking after the little girl wonderfully well my darling. She sends her regards and hopes that you will be able to visit her soon.

*(Nelson enters SR and sits down to write a letter to Emma.  
Spotlight on Nelson)*

Nelson: Emma, my love. Mrs Thompson's daughter is indeed fine and her mother does look after her wonderfully well. I am sure the baby's father is very proud of her.  
How sad it is that her parents are unable to be married for I know it is their greatest wish.  
Give my regards to Sir William.  
I am looking forward to seeing the new house in Merton

*(Spotlight on Emma)*

Emma: My darling Horatio, the house is so lovely and I am filling it with pictures of you so that I can see you everywhere I look. I miss you so and wish you could be back here with me in Merton. Now that my dear husband has died we can at last be together.

*(Spotlight on Nelson)*

Nelson: Being with you and Horatia at Merton in our wonderful house has been the happiest time of my life Emma. I will always think of it as Paradise Merton.

## **SONG: I'LL WRITE A LETTER TO YOU MY LOVE**

*(They exit)*