The Magic Flute

Fleeing a vast serpent in Egypt's ancient lands, Prince Tamino fainting. Wielding silver darts three ladies slay the creature. Bird catcher Papageno), boasts of the kill, but the ladies reveal the lie. Tamino is entranced by a portrait of Pamina, the Queen of the Night's daughter, Captive of the evil Sarastro- the Queen declares Pamina is his if he can free her! For protection, Tamino receives a magic flute; Papageno magic bells. Monostatos lusts for beautiful Pamína but Papageno saves her. He announces Tamino shall soon rescue her-they sing of divine love. Three youths guide Tamino who learns that Sarastro is no villain, he is revered and wise. All converge upon the sacred grove Seeing each other Pamina and Tamino fall instantly in love Sarastro declares all must be purified by trials. Papageno is reluctant, but swayed by the promise of pretty Papagena. They experience the trial of silence, Pamína is heartbroken when Tamíno will not speak to her. Papagena appears as an old woman; Papageno will love her (until someone younger comesalong). riests declare him unworthy and take her away; as they reveal her youth and beauty The Queen declares Pamina must slay Sarastro-Deeply conflicted Pamina seeks to escape by slaying herself. The three youths stop her and reveal Tamino's true love. United at last the lovers conquer trials of fire and water Protected by the Magic Flute they triumph - and are worthy of each other and the temple Lonely Papageno tries to hang himself-"Ring the magic bells" call the three boys Papagena appears and they are lovingly reunited Earth swallows the dark powers and Day defeats the night

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