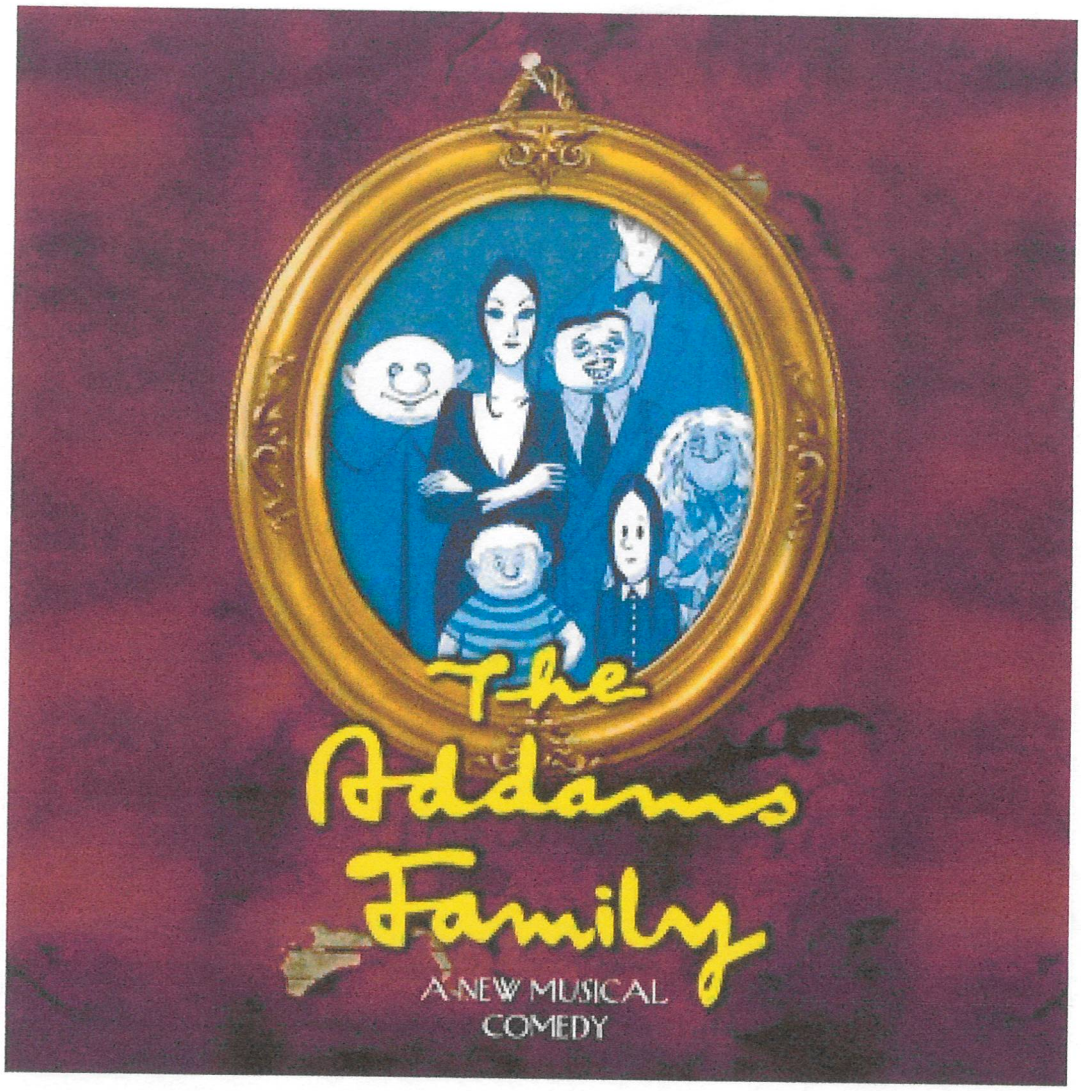

AUDITION PACKET

MAL BEINEKE

SCENE 4

(CENTRAL PARK)

[SONG CONTINUES]

(An avenue of trees deployed by the ANCESTORS, against the skyline of New York City. The BEINEKES: MAL, ALICE and LUCAS, enter.)

ANCESTORS

DOO DOO DOO DOO
DOO DOO DOO DOO
DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO DOO

MAL

OK, Lucas - enough is enough. Gimme the map.

ALICE

I don't see any houses.

MAL

Because there aren't any, Alice. We're in the middle of some godforsaken park.

ALICE

Central Park, dear.
(guidebook)
"Designed in 1857 by - "

LUCAS

Wait!

MAL & ALICE

What?

LUCAS

I know where we are! It's where I first saw her! I was lost in the park and a pigeon dropped at my feet with an arrow in it! And I looked up and there she was - Wednesday, with a crossbow.

MAL

A what?

LUCAS

A crossbow. You know.

MAL

This girl walks around with a crossbow?

LUCAS

It's OK dad, she has a permit.

MAL

Good. Good choice son. Ok, listen up. Now here's what's going to happen. We're going back to the hotel. And you and I are gonna have a little talk.

ALICE

Be patient with him, dear.

(rhyming)

"A father should support his son.
And Lucas is your only one."

MAL

(to Lucas)

See what you did? Your mother's rhyming again. Let's get back to the hotel and then -

LUCAS

(cutting him off)

No!

ONE NORMAL NIGHT
NO, NOT ONE POEM
NOT ONE INSPIRING WORD
ONE NORMAL SCENE
COMPLETE ROUTINE
TONIGHT CAN'T BE ABSURD
PLEASE DON'T EMBARRASS ME
OR BE COMPLETELY RUDE
DON'T MAKE A FUSS
ABOUT THE HOUSE
ABOUT THE FOOD
WHOA! ONE NORMAL NIGHT
I KNOW IT'S BIG BUT CAN'T YOU SEE
THIS ONE NORMAL NIGHT IS FOR ME!
COME ON!

(LUCAS exits)

SCENE 5

(THE GREAT HALL)

WEDNESDAY

They're here!

(ALL scuttle off. LURCH, approaches the front door...very slowly.)

(to Lurch)

Hurry *up*!

(LURCH opens the front door, ushering in the BEINEKES. They affect an out-of-towner's nonchalance.)

MAL

Hello. Had a little trouble finding the place. Looks like somebody shot out all your street lamps!

(MAL and ALICE laugh. LURCH does not. The BEINEKES move down stage and take the place in.)

(observing the emptiness of the space)

Wow, look at this place. They just move in or what?

ALICE

No. This is how they live in New York. They spend all their money on rent and have nothing left for furniture.

(LURCH slams the front door with an awesome thud. The BEINEKES jump. A RAT scurries across the floor. ALICE screams. RAT exits.)

(MAL approaches LURCH)

LURCH

Grnh.

MAL

Mal Beineke.

LURCH

(polite)

Grnh.

MAL

This is my wife, Alice-

LURCH

(lecherous)

Grnh.

MAL

That's my son, Lucas -

LURCH

(warning)

Grnh.

MAL

And you are?

LURCH

Grrngh.

(Grunts his backstory)

MAL

Nice talkin' to you. Earth to Alice, we've landed in Weird City. I say drinks and bye-bye.

ALICE

Oh, Mal.

(convincing herself as much any him)

"Be open to experience,
And welcome in the new.
Reach deep in your surprise bag;
There might be a gift for you."

MAL

Honey, my surprise bag is so full I can hardly lift it. That guy who patted me down at the airport? He slipped me his telephone number. I don't think I can stand any more surprises.

LUCAS

C'mon, dad. Lighten up! These're your kind of people, real salt of the earth.

MAL

Yeah? Where are they from?

(GOMEZ enters, with a rapier, to answer the query.)