

# Time Travelling Taxi

## CAST

**BOY-** Brother of Girl, orphan, strong willed, misses father

**GIRL-** Sister of Boy, orphan, concerned about environment

**PROFESSOR-** Genius inventor whose inventions often go wrong

**MR BURTELLI-** Taxi driver, likes to make a good fare

**TV PRESENTERS (2) -** Set the scene for each scene

**REPORTER –** Live on 15<sup>th</sup> Street

**BOSS-** Villain, Lord of 15<sup>th</sup> Street, collects money, ambitious and crafty, saved orphans

**SIDEKICKS (3)-** The Bosses muscle, crafty, wily, sneaky, bullies

**TIMEREAPER-** Lord of the Time Portal- Speaks in Riddles, must answer to pass (Grim Reaper like)

**WINO-** Busking and begging

**HOT DOG LADY-** Hot Dog Stand vendor

**MUSICIANS-** Busking playing live instruments

**MAYOR –** Mayor of old town NYC

**PEASANTS 1,2,3,4-** Farmers, workers in the Old Town times

**FATHER –** Caught in Time Portal

**CHORUS-** So 15 2011- Taxi drivers, Beggars, Tourists, Hawkers

Old Town- , Peasants, Farmers, Newspaper Boys, Shoeshine

**DANCERS-** Swing Dancers

**PAGE 1**

**ACT 1**

**PREAMBLE-** TV Presenters on large screen or at news desk side off stage left- (*News Music*)

TV1                Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm Tracey Truescript

TV2                And I'm Eddie Anchorman, and welcome to...

TV1 & 2            "15<sup>th</sup> Street News"

TV1                In Tonight's edition, Black goo over Boston....(*music continues*)

TV2                Acid rain falls in Los Angeles...(*music continues*)

TV1                And Chicago disappears under giant piles of rubbish (*Music Continues*)

TV2                And in local news, a three eyed fish pulled from the East River  
  
(*News Music fades out*)

TV1                But now in our lead story, residents of Boston were told to remain indoors today after rain fell as thick black goo. The government has long been under pressure from the international community to curb its excessive pollution levels.

TV2                Eye witnesses report that the entire city is coated in a thick black sludge, which glows in the dark at night. Authorities deny this and have blocked social media sites, in fact the internet has been disconnected completely!

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- TV1            In our other lead story, residents of Los Angeles were forced indoors today after a torrential downpour of Acid rain!
- TV2            Trees were said to have turned brown, rice crops ruined and large holes appearing in the rooves of homes. The Major has declared a state of emergency.    *(TV1 & 2 Hold Ear pieces)*
- TV 1           We interrupt this news broadcast to bring you live breaking news from Downtown!!! A large electrical disturbance has been detected above the 15<sup>th</sup> Street area, power, phone, internet and TV are all inactive.
- (lights begin to flicker, sound on and off)*
- TV2            We now switch live to our reporter on the ground at 15<sup>th</sup> Street
- REPORTER    Good evening Eddie, Tracey, I'm Izzie Integrity reporting live from 15<sup>th</sup> Street where a strange electrical disturbance has been causing havoc to local businesses and residents in the area.
- TV1            Just what appears to be the cause of the disturbance Izzie?
- REPORTER    Well Tracey, it seems something, or someone is drawing a large amount of current directly from the city mains..... the police are currently searching households along 15<sup>th</sup> Street for the source of these disturbances.
- TV2            And are there any signs of power being restored before daybreak....
- (static sounds, lights flicker)*

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REPORTER     I'm sorry Eddie, you're breaking up ..... can you hear me? Eddie? Tracey?...

                  Anyone????(louder static, lights flicker and fade, cue song "Sticky Rice")

### SCENE 1

*The musical begins with the orphan twins approaching the stage from the rear singing "Sticky Rice/Somtam." They are dressed as street sellers with balanced baskets. As they sing they also try to sell things to the audience, beggars? They make their way to the stage and Bang into each other backwards*

BOY & GIRL    Whooooah! (*bump into each other*)

BOY & GIRL    Huh???? (*Look at each other through gloom, shade eyes*)

BOY & GIRL    Aaaahh (*hug each other*)

BOY & GIRL    Uuuurh (*turn back to back and slide down to sitting position*)

BOY              Powers out again...

GIRL             Yeah, Third time tonight...

BOY              Hard to sell anything when there's no street lights aint it?

GIRL             Not long till sunrise though eh? My favourite time of the day (*dreamy look*)

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BOY            Hey...how many did you sell?

GIRL            *(pauses, looks in basket)* Only two! *(sadly)*

BOY            Two! *(looks alarmed)*

GIRL            How many did you sell?

BOY            *(checks basket, counts)* Three

GIRL            Three!..That's 2 plus 3...*(counting on fingers)* ....that's... *(long pause)*

BOY            FIVE!!!!!!

GIRL            Yeah I know, I know, I'm just checking that you know!

BOY            Oh no....Only five! The Boss is gonna kill us!!! Remember what happened last time we made less than 10 bucks.

GIRL            Yeah....We got a hard beating

BOY            I couldn't sit down for days *(both rub bottoms)*

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GIRL           What are we going to do? At this rate we'll never make enough money to see father again...I miss him. (*sadly*)

BOY            Me too (*arm around girl*) Don't worry.....I'll think of something (*Hands on Head.....long pause*)

GIRL           Well????

BOY            Still thinking... (*long pause*) .....nothing

GIRL           Uuuugh....POOOOOH!!! What's that smell?? (*holds nose, sick feelings*)

BOY            (*Sniffs*) Oh that's just the River....it always smells like that before the boats start in the morning....it's all the rubbish and chemicals in it.....you know, they say in the old days you could swim in it. Sniff (*sniffs the air*) aaah, the scent of the city. Hey Look! (*Points out over the audience, lights slowly fade up, spot as sunrise*)

GIRL           What is it?

BOY            The sunrise haha!...And you know what that means?

GIRL           We can finally get some sleep?

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**(start track #2 "Out on the Street)** *(People begin to walk out of the wings and set up the street, Pretzel cart, Hot Dog stand, shoeshine, tourists etc)*

BOY            No dummy, morning time on the street is the best time of day...fresh food...people opening up shops, it's the life of the city, there's nothing like life on the Street. Nothing like it!

*Chorus number ("Out on the Street") full chorus with solos etc.*

GIRL           Well? ..... *(awkward pause)*....

BOY           Well what?

GIRL           What are we gonna do about our sales? We haven't got enough to pay the boss, and if we can't pay the boss, we'll never see Father again *(Boss and sides on)*

BOY           I'm still thinking.....*(taps head)* *(Boss and Sidekicks creep up from rear of stage)*

GIRL           Got anything yet?

BOY           No ...nothing up there, nothing at all *(Boss creeps up behind them, grabs ears)*

BOSS           Allo allo allo and what do we have ear???? Hehe *(sidekicks laugh)* Get it what do we have ear?? Hehehe ...A couple of wayward orphans cloggin up my Street!

BOY&GIRL    AHH, Sorry Boss, we didn't see you there

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BOSS                Silence!!!! You will speak when being spoken to!!!!

( pause.....*sidekicks look at each other puzzled*)

Sidekick 1        (*taps boss on shoulder*) Uh Boss...I think you mean “not speak when you’re spoken too?” (*sidekicks snigger*)

BOSS                That’s what I said you imbediles! You will not speak when spoken too and you will do precisely what you say! (pause.....*sidekicks puzzled again*)

SIDEKICK 2        aaah BOSS,(*interrupting speech*) don’t you mean do precisely what I say??

BOSS                What?? No.....I will not do what you say, I am the BOSS of all this Soi not you. I am the master of all that lives, works and plays. I own everything here and all of you etc etc etc .....now, where was I??

SIDEKICK 3        Errrr,(*interrupting again*) what about the Air Boss?? Do you own the air??

BOSS                No I don’t own the air (*high pitch sarcastic voice*)

SIDEKICK 1        What about the Sun?? (*sidekicks look at each other and nod heads* ) do you own the sun?

BOSS                No I do not own the sun! (*getting more angry*)

SIDEKICK 2        What about that little ketchup stain on my shirt from breakfast (*all snigger*)



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BOSS           Uhhhhh! (*turns to audience*) see what I gotta work with!?!?! (*turns to kids*)  
You, Kids... where is my money????

GIRL           Ummm.. Here you go sir (*hands him change, kids back away holding each other*)

BOSS           (*Shocked*) What is this???? \$8.50...you call this a good day's work(*sidekicks shocked*) I told you I need 10 bucks a day or else..... you think this is some kind of game??? This is how you treat me???( *turning on the tears, violin music*) I've been like a father to you....took you in when no one else would, gave you a job and a roof over your heads and this is how you repay me (*sidekick passes hanky*)

BOY           Sorry Boss- we'll try harder...honest we will.....we can work day and all night....  
  
(*consoling boss*)

GIRL           Yeah double shift.

BOSS           You'd better (*turning nasty again and grabbing ears*)...and don't come back till you've got my money! If you ever want to see your father again, you'll need to pay off his debts...at this rate it will take you till 2050.....now go on-get outta here! (*sidekicks laugh*)  
  
(*Boy and Girl collect things and run off stage*)

SIDEKICK 3    Hey Boss, how we going with the master plan?? (*all yeah, yeah*)

BOSS           Silence fools!!! Only I may speak of the plan out here on the street.  
  
This is my domain, my kingdom, my palace of trash, smoke and dirt.

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Soon this city and all its inhabitants will be under my control and  
then.....hehehehe and then (*evil laugh, choking hit back of neck*) ..hairball!  
The world!

(*Cue music "Evil is my Game" song...evil laugh with cough*)

Song "**EVIL IS MY GAME**" Boss and Sidekicks terrorizing Street people throughout

Lights down , **OUT ON THE STREET INSTRUMENTAL** change set to Professor Workshop

(*Chorus Boss and sidekicks exit through theatre aisles scaring the audience*)

**SCENE 2- Professors Workshop-**

Professor wildly working on an invention made of pipes, hoses, stereo, plastic junk etc

Orphans arrive on the Tuk Tuk (***tuk tuk sound***)

GIRL            Thanks for the lift Mr Chang

MR BURTELLI   No Problem at all kids, no problem at all, now..about my fare....

BOY            Aaah..we're a little short...put it on our tab

MR CHANG    Times are tough eh, no problem...I'll wait here and look for some  
"unsuspecting tourists" ....you take care crossing the Street, Taxi? Taxi (*Driver  
crosses stage touting for a ride into the wings*) (*kids walk to workshop, **Large  
explosion and smoke***)

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BOY            Professor?

GIRL          Professor?

BOY&GIRL    Professor!!!!!!

GIRL          Are you alright? (professor emerges covered in black smoke etc)

PROF          Well hello children , hello... (hugging them) Just one of my latest experiments  
hehe, I've tapped into the local power grid see...

BOY          That might explain the power cuts around here

PROF          How was school today? (*Boy and Girl look at each other*)

GIRL          We didn't go ....

PROF          Didn't go???What do you mean you didn't go???

BOY          We didn't sell enough of the bosses stuff, he's making us work all day

GIRL          And all night!

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PROF           Terrible, (*shakes head*) just terrible... to think in this day and age. Kids not allowed to go to school...outrageous! Not to worry. Do I have something to show you.

BOY & GIRL   (*Excitedly together*) what is it, what have you got??? Wow I can't wait

GIRL           Hey Remember the do it yourself shower suit?? (*Professor readying machine*)

BOY           Yeah .that caused a real splash... hehe ,get it splash.hehehe... what about the pocket sized watermelon peeler (*Prof looking sheepish*)

GIRL           Oh yeah....remember it got loose and shaved the hair off the entire Street (*laughing uncontrollably*) Patty's hair salon didn't do any business for a month.

BOY           Oh and my personal favourite...the auto paint roller.....(*kids in hysterics*)

PROF           Alright ...alright....I know some of my plans may have been a little sticky when it came to testing...but money is tight....and you can't always invent without the right materials.....but this invention is different....(*pulls kids over*)I've really cracked it this time...I followed and diagrams from your fathers notebook....I've connected up all the components and now it's ready to test...

(*Holds notebook under arm*)

BOY-GIRL     What is it Prof, yeah what is it? (*Boss and Sidekicks appear lurking at the back of the stage, listening in, hide out of the way as Prof looks*)

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PROF (Checks the Soi) ...It's top secret kids...whatever happens the Boss and his men must never find out... is that clear....If he were to get his hands on this, there would be serious consequences for all of us...serious....can you keep a secret?

BOY GIRL (both nod)

PROF Ok, let me tell you about it...

**SONG-** (*"The Incredible Machine" Chorus On .At the end he pulls off the sheet and reveals it .During the song the prof and kids test the machine and it works.Boss and men see this and begin scheming. At the end of the number he sees the sidekicks as they exit*)

PROF Quick children, the Boss knows about it by now, we must get the Time Machine out of 15<sup>th</sup> Street!

GIRL But where to Professor?

PROF Hmmmmm (thinking) somewhere with water tight security, Impossible to get to....surrounded by impenetrable traffic...somewhere with piles of useless electronic junk and cables so we can hide it ... I've got it...MACYS!

BOY&GIRL MACYS???

PROF Yes, they'll never find it in that maze of clothing and shoe sale aisles..have you ever tried to find the same thing twice in Macys? Quick, into the taxi  
(*They lift the machine over to the taxi and secure it to the roof*)

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MR B            Taxi, taxi ... Hello professor, long time I not see you on 15<sup>th</sup> street huh??

PROF           Sorry Mr Burterali but this is an emergency

MR B           Oh you mean like the “Pocket sized watermelon peeler”(*sniggers uncontrollably*)

PROF           No Mr Burteralli, more serious than that...If the Boss gets his hands on this it will be the end of us all! I need you to take us full speed to Macys!

MR CHANG    But it’s rush hour!!! It will take ages, not to mention the fare...

PROF           No time to lose, no time to lose..*(Try to get it into the taxi)*

BOY            It won’t fit

GIRL           Put it on the roof *(All secure it on the roof, then sit in Taxi) (Boss and Sidekicks enter and see they are escaping)*

Mr B            Ok everyone, here we go!*(start to drive weaving through traffic, leaning left right together etc, Boss and sidekicks appear on scooters to chase, taxi sound)*

SIDEKICK 1    Look Boss, there they go, and they got the time thingy on the roof

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BOSS            After that Taxi boys, if it leaves 15<sup>th</sup> Street it's off my turf and that contraption will fall into the hands of another BOSS! I need that machine! If I can control time , I can control anyone and everything, why the world will be mine ..(*sinister laugh, Boss and Sidekicks grab motorbikes and set off after them, taxi sounds*)

PROF            Faster Mr Burteralli ...the boss is right on our tail. He must not get his hands on the machine

BOSS            Bring me up alongside and I'll get onboard, closer you idiots (*bikes come up alongside taxi, Boss reaches over and grabs handlebars..a wrestling match ensues*)

Mr B            Look out!!!

PROF            A Bus!!!

BOSS            Look Out!!!

BOY- GIRL      AAAAAHHHHHH

SIDEKICKS      AAAHHHHHHH

EVERYONE      AAAAAAAHHHHHHHH

                    (*Huge screech of wheels, sound of car crash, whirring sound, spacey sounds and lights,machine activated*)

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GIRL            Professor what's happening?

PROF            My dear girl...I do believe the accident has triggered the machine.....We are now sucked into a super time vortex.....and anything may happen.....

***Cue song... TIME TRAVELLING TAXI...(sound effects fade into track)***

*"Time Travelling Taxi" Chorus Number*

**PREAMBLE 2**    TV Presenters – Cue News music (*set change during*)

TV 1            We interrupt regular programming to bring you some breaking news. A large traffic accident has occurred on 15<sup>th</sup> Street

TV 2            A Bus, two cars, four motorbikes and a taxi are said to be involved

TV 1            Traffic could be backed up around the city until next week!

TV2            And still City authorities have no clue as to the origins of the electrical disturbances around the city tonight....

TV1            In other news, yet another three eyed fish was pulled from the East River earlier today. The fish, said to be the result of high toxin levels and waste in the waterways, was said to be the result of a diet of plastic, cardboard and building materials.

TV2            Investigators from the ministry of science, have issued severe warnings of waterways pollution. The city as we know it runs the risk of becoming a toxic wasteland in the future.

TV1            Stay tuned for more breaking news including.....

TV2            How to survive a future toxic apocalypse

TV1            Air Purifiers in every home by 2020

TV2            And how to shop plastic bag free...

*(News Music again)*



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**Scene 3- TIME PORTAL -**

MR B            Hold on everyone, I think we are coming to a stop

EVERYONE    Whooooooooooooooooah!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (*smoke machine, spinning hub cap, crash sound effects*)

BOY            Where are we?

GIRL           I don't know but it sure is strange here

PROF           I can't be certain, but it looks as though we're caught in a time portal

BOSS/ SIDEKICKS    A time Portal!?!?! (*Boss and Sides Appear from rear*)

MR B           Hey! Who said you guys could hitch a ride, that's gonna be 40 baht extra!  
Come on, pay up! (*Boss reluctantly hands over cash*)

BOSS           What have you kids done? You and your crazy professor uncle. I demand you return me to 15<sup>th</sup> Street this instant!

PROF           Ummm..... I don't know how to tell you this boss but .....we seem to have been sucked into a super vortex time vacuum

SIDEKICK 1    You what???

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SIDEKICK 2 .... A Vacuum

SIDEKICK 3 Vacuum cleaner?

SIDEKICK 1 Oh, like my aunt Pitchaya, she's always vacuuming up around the place

BOSS Silence you imbeviles!

SIDEKICK 2 Aaah..don't you mean imbeciles?

BOSS That's what I said you idiot, remind me to get your ears cleaned out when we get back to 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Now, since I am the Boss, I declare that I am now the owner of this vacuumawhatsit. Everyone here must now pay me (*timereaper creeps up behind, all others retreat to the tuktuk*)

SIDEKICK 2 Aaah Boss???? (*scared and move back behind Taxi*)

BOSS Silence minion, do not interrupt me during a speech!

SIDEKICK 3 BBbbbbbbBoss!!!! (*holding each other*)

BOSS Did you not hear me!!!! I am the lord of all this.....etc

SIDEKICK 1 Boss...Look out (*REAPER creeps up behind and taps Boss on the shoulder*)

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BOSS            *Aaahhh (Boss turns and sees, then jumps into arms of sidekicks)*

REAPER        *AAaaaaaaaahhhhhh (all retreat to Taxi and hide behind it in cluster)*

BOY            *(boy is reluctantly pushed out) ..who are you?*

REAPER        I am the reaper of time, the master of all that has been, all that is, and all that is to come.

GIRL           PPPPPlease sir, can you tell us where we are?

REAPER        Hahahaha...in time...but first you must answer a question for me...  
What is it your heart truly desires?

BOY            Desires...(thinks).... All I want is to see father again...

GIRL           And to live in a cleaner, safer world.... If I could have that, well..... life would be perfect!

***Cue Song "ALL I WANT" Duet Girl and Boy***

REAPER        Hahahahahaha (evil laugh) yes and now for a riddle..... answer correctly and you may pass through this place and continue your journey through the portals of time, but answer incorrectly ..... and you will forever wander these tunnels of time, always hoping for but never reaching your destination...hahahahaha,

