

H--; = Helen James-soprano

F--; = Ficino/Mr. 'Mars' Williams- Tenor

N--; = voiceover

Graphical Engineer does all the card turning and additional 'effects'

*There is really only one set, the **bookstore** everything else takes place in dusk at stations.*

Helen has a bag and a corner of the same kind of manuscript that Ficino writes in and sings from is peeking out of the top. She always carries this bag into the bookstore. She also has a legal pad that she refers to when asking for books or showing articles to Ficino.

Act I

{Card 1; Image of Epicurus and his dates c341-271 bce}

{1'43"} Track 1; Turkish with piano and then excerpt of Elegy at Darkness

{she looks up and begins speaking to the audience}

H--; Epicurus believed that when you died that was the end. The particles of your body disintegrated and returned to the cosmos.

{1'15"} Track 2; ab-P124 Blood moves in the morning

{F--; sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

{Card 2} **Blood moves in the morning and rules grows warm
and clear but at night a more dense and cold type of
melancholy dominates and phlegm renders the spirits
totally unfit for reflection**

MF:LVLp124 }

{Card 3 -blank}

Track 3 part 1

N--; Consider Epicurus; When I revealed my secret he was uninterested.

He was somewhat charismatic, as was Zoroaster, not like the Great Qan, but then no one was that Charismatic. Alexander may have been (I never met him) but really his invasions were dwarfed by the Qan's.

Epicurus could consider almost anything from nearly any standpoint.

{cue for Track 3 part 2 to begin N continues speaking}

He understood that most people of his community would not find my 'state' acceptable. Even early in his career, when we first met, he was having difficulty with the ruling class.

{9"19"}Track 3 part 1- abb- song from the garden of Epicurus

{Card 4} *Song from The Garden of Epicurus*

long pause

Card 5 *There is no translation for this }*

{sung by both F and H }

*Sul de mo di-lah fa neh-ni fa neh-ni clo deye Pas sh Pas sh ai--
Sul de mo di-lah fa neh-ni fa neh-ni clo deye Pas sh Pas sh ai--hor
ngak hor ngak flo di de na plu-sh-i-ne o plu-sh-i-ne o--Sul de mo
di-lah fa neh-ni fa neh-ni clo deye Pas sh Pas sh ai-- mor la kosh*

shu more la kosh--shu--tre krak-ti o ti-o ti du--te-ti o ti o ti er-

{Cue for N to continue}

*-Sul de mo di-lah fa neh-ni fa neh-ni clo deye Pas sh Pas sh ai-- ka
na krak te tre su shu mor la kosh shu more la kosh--shu--tre krak-
ti o ti-o ti du--te-ti o ti o ti er--*

{ 1'48" ; Track 3 part 2}- abc- kneeplay 19

{Card 6- blank}

N--; He also understood that drinking some blood from another human might have made me immortal, but there were no guarantees as there didn't seem to be any other immortals in the world.

I felt despair. He revealed something I had kept hidden from myself. I was alone, and I no longer liked it.

I found this intolerable and since the world was becoming more and more literate I resolved to improve the lives of humans and to create, or discover, someone like me.

I returned to my beloved Mengen.

{Put up article re; Mengen: land of cooks}

{4'1" Track 3 part 3 } ac- p132 Let meals be seasoned with ..

{F--; sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

{Card 7 let meals be seasoned with cinnamon, saffron, the seeds of melon and cucumber and cleaned pine,nuts are good--,

Card 8 milky foods and the meat of birds especially raw eggs, their brains,

Card 9 **do not forget apples, pears, peaches, melons, plums, cooked gourds, and herbs that are not slimy**

Card 10 **nothing is better than wine that is light, clear, pleasant and fragrant.....**

Card 11 **David the holy poet could calm Saul of his madness with the sounds of zither and poems**

Card 12 **so I recommend the sounds of the lyre and soothing songs**

Card 13 **I advocate the views of clear water and the colors green and red, wandering through gardens along rivers and through lovely meadows**

{allow a set of postcards of Seattle connected at edge to tumble down card 13}

{1'49" Track 3 part 4 }- ad-kneeplay 10

Card 14 *excerpt of how explorers benefited from drinking / eating the blood of animals while on their explorations.....*

{pause}

Card 15 *article about Inuit health and going back to traditional diet)*

Card 16 *village image with few houses*

{this begins 50 seconds after the beginning of track three part 4} N--; Mengen was a spot on earth not remarkable to see, but the soil was good and the seeds that I brought from Mongolia took root with a vitality that surprised me.

There were only 10 families in the area, but by the end of my 1st visit there were 40, and none wanted for food.

Card 17 *village image with more houses*

I had not thought it possible but scientists of today have discovered that agriculture began in Mengen, by studying the roots of words and their evolution.

Card 18 *blank*

They found where I introduced the concepts of planting seeds and reserving some for the next year, even storing portions of the harvest for future times of want.

This was my first act of kindness for this species from which I came, but more and more no longer felt a part of.

This was how I began, finally, to consider what to do with my life.

Card 19 *sign “Antiquarian Books; M. Williams proprietor”*

H--; I needed to talk to someone, someone who could add context to the research that I'd been doing.

Card 20 *Floor directory “4th Floor room 407”*

{H begins climbing ladder, each step is a 'floor' }

Card turner stands and Hangs a picture of a door on the ladder / stairs

Card 21 *M. Williams proprietor by appointment only 206-328-7694*

I'm not sure why I was so driven to enter this particular bookstore, there are plenty of bookstores in town.

{she climbs back down and as she speaks the next line turns the ladder so the rungs are now near Ficino's spot}

I felt compelled. I called and made an appointment.

{1'50" } Track 4 -af- p224 people who wish to lengthen their lives

{ F sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

Card 22 People who wish to lengthen their lives in the body should especially cultivate the spirit

Card 23 augment it with nutriments that augment the blood, that blood which is tempered and clear--choice air, sweet odors, delight it with sound and song...

MF:LVLp224

Card 24 blank

{1'10"} Track 5- afe-kneeplay 25

{During Track 5 Ficino is putting books up on the rungs of the ladder creating the bookstore near end of track H approaches and enters 'the bookstore'}

Ficino rises each and every time Helen enters and they always shake hands}

F--; Good morning welcome to my humble bookstore.

H--; Good morning, I have an appointment with a Mr. Williams

F--; Ah yes you would be Ms. James.

H--; Yes. I am interested in Philodemus? The library of Philo--,

F--; What is your interest in, why you do want to know ...

H--; I found a website that reported that J. Paul Getty, recreated Philodemus' Chateau from the layout of the ruins below the lava flows of Mt. Vesuvius,

F--; You are interested in archeology?

H--; No, no I am interested in food, well not exactly food but eating, uh, well um do you have the works of Epicurus?

F--; well , yes I do, do you know what edition? In Greek or a translation?

H--; Something comprehensive and comprehensible 20th century if possible.

F--; *{goes to a shelf pretends in an obvious way to be looking for the book then pulls it out}* Ah here it is, I think this should work for you.

H--; Thanks ~~ *{pulls her legal pad out of her bag and turns a page to show F}* Did you see this article? Some computer linguists in New Zealand

Card 25 Picture of a Kiwi (the bird)

discovered that agriculture started in what is present day Turkey?

{5'29" }Track-6, kneeplay 21,15 learning language

Card 26 Language Lesson? *leave up for a longish moment*

Card 27 blank

Place Atlas on card 27 opened to a 'world view'

Using wooden spoon point to Middle East

Turn to map of Middle East

Point to Turkey

Place images on this map

Image 1 Map of Turkey box around northwestern coast

Image 2 of boxed section

Image 3 image 2 with Bolu/Mengen boxed

Image 4 the Bolu/Mengen area (*at cheekfluttering sounds*)

{Card map of Turkey, then slowly close up to Bolu area then finally down to Mengen}

{Cue N at 4'40"}

N--; During my travels I began to keep a journal about plants and their properties.

Some of this I included in a dietary book for the Qubulai and some of the more questionable material I eventually sent to a Greek Cypriot who took it with him to Spain. In Spain he wrote it out and got it published, but it was much garbled and mystified beyond usefulness.

{take maps and atlas down revealing blank card}

I had tried to correct the twisted passages myself but it was eventually translated in all its garbled glory by a group in Seattle.

The Picagunshtraxosh*, by my friend the Greek, is how I was discovered, the means by which I allowed someone to find me.

*Pea-kaw-gunsh-tra{glottal *ch* like a Dutch G}-osh

{Helen and Ficino leave the stage taking the music stands with them}

{1:46"} Track-7 Part 1- ay- kneeplay 09

Card 28 Ainu Bear Sacrifice

A good shot with the bow comes up and shoots the arrow into the beast's heart.

Card 29 Care has to be taken that no blood is shed, for it is considered unfortunate to allow any of the blood to fall upon the earth....

Card 30 the entrails are then cut up fine and sprinkled with salt, and eaten raw.

Card 31 This, like the drinking of the blood, is said to be for the purpose of obtaining the prowess and other virtues of the bear

Card 32 Image of Bear

{0:55"}Track 7 part 2- az- kneeplay 16

{starts with beginning of track 7 part 2}

N--; My hopes - my philosophy was twisted into something I could never have recognized- but they were fervent and I loved them for that alone.

{1:49"}Track 7 part 3 azz-I-II,Kneeplay 11

{on two cards placed for the audience to read during intermission}

Card 33

Notes by Helen James

Ainu {prehistory}

Zarathustra {BCE 930 circa}

Heraclitus {BCE 535,475}

Epicurus {c. 341-271 BCE}

Abu Yusuf Yacqub ibn Ishaq al,Sabbah al-Kindi {AD 800, 873}

Card 34

Georges the Greek {sometime between AD 1000 and 1256}

Hu Szu,Hui {AD 1330}

Bartolomeo de Sacchi Platina {AD 1421-1481}

**Marselio Ficino also known by his Latin name, Marsilius
Ficinus {AD 1433 – 1499}**

J. Paul Getty {1892-1976}

Card 35 blank

Act II

{2'16"}Track- 1 part 1 bak- Kneeplay 01

{2'37"}Track- 1 part 2 bal- Kneeplay 24a

{1'50"}Track- 1 part 3 bamm- p152 Blood is the tinder of the spirit

{F sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

Card 36 **blood is the tinder of the spirit, the repository of life,**

Card 37 **only when there is an overabundance of laughter and boldness and a ruddy complexion should we bleed the patient**

Card 38 **and then 4 ounces in the morning and 4 at night**

Card 39 blank

{The card turner / special effects person goes and stands behind Helen and reads aloud over her shoulder while she is reading her Epicurus book. }

The followers of Epicurus or at least some of them, believed that you could concentrate the cosmic rays into an object - in this case the busts of Epicurus and that he would 'live' and influence passersby in the positive aspects of Epicureanism.

{2:16"}Track-2 bamn-Kneeplay 19

{Helen walks towards the bookstore as she speaks}

H--; I was perplexed by the part about focusing rays, the books and articles I found were confusing. Then I found a reference to Al-Kindi.

Card 40 *image of painting of Al-Kindi}*

F--; Al-Kindi, so unfortunate, it was the name of a hospital in Baghdad that US forces bombed in 2003.

Card 40a *a photo of the ruined hospital revealed from top corner of card 40*

F--;There are streets, a university, departments of universities, named after this man. He was a great optician, philosopher, mathematician and he wrote books on diet, what to eat to extend your life.

Card 41 blank

H--; Do you have The wilder shores of Gastronomy?

Place dustjacket of this book on display easel

F--; Why yes I do- why – what does this have to do with Al-Kindi?

{He pulls the book from somewhere hands it to her}

H--; *{she pages to the part she wants and reads}*”Cooks from parts renowned for their food were employed in distant regions. In the Middle Ages, Egyptian cuisine and cooks had a high reputation. So did the cooks of Bolu in Turkey.”

{remove dustjacket replace with atlas flipping through it pointing randomly at different cities with a barbecue fork}

I wasn't able to confirm this. But there is today a town of Mengen

which has an invisibly famous technical college and it is- a cooking school. Is it true that there are chefs spread out over the entire globe who come from Mengen?

F--; Yes, in fact I do believe that it is true. *(he turns away as if to look for another book, she interrupts the motion)*

H--; So~~~ Al-Kindi?

{remove atlas}

F--; Yes and no~ You need *The Aspect of Light* I think I have a copy, do you read Arabic?

H--; No, sorry. *{chastened}*

F--; Latin?

H--; more Latin. *{whining}*

F--; Latin, I'm afraid, will have to do then. I will help you over the rough sections.

H--; You seem to know many ancient languages

F--; I know a few of the older languages

H--; I know none though through the contemporary ones I can stumble my....

F--; Good, *{gruffly}* then you'll stumble your way through this.

{0:21"}Track 3 part 1 bamna- Kneeplay 06

{0:38"}Track 3 part 2- bao-p174 Among Grecian precepts for long life

{F sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

Card 42 Among their precepts which are particularly

necessary for long life, all the Greeks order us to live on euchima. We call Euchima wholesome foods that impart good nourishment, which is to say, good blood

MF:LVLp174

{remove card}

Card 43 blank then place world map on it

Track 4 part 1

N--; I arranged for my death and traveled across the deserts East, staying in Tibet for a lifetime or two. Even though they drank blood none I met were immortal. I learned to enjoy their blood pudding, rice and onions, ginger and garlic, to make blood noodles using coarse wheaten flour with blood as the binder.

{1:05"}Track 4 part 2- ban-Kneeplay replacement

{put tacks in places on world map including the places mentioned in the next song}

{during song string yarn from tack to tack showing how he journeyed through the world}

{1:05"}Track 4 part 3 baoo-Kneeplay 02 w/vocal line

F--;*{sung} I rode across, I rode across / across the plains of Zhou, across the plateau / Across the steppes / I rode across, I rode across / Riding, riding day and night / I rode day and night sometimes with messages / always cures and hope / I rode my little horse, riding day and night, I rode / until I was weak and then I would lean down / I rode and sat upon my horse and then a small small cut / I would refresh myself with a / tiny tiny drink, riding day and night, riding day and night / I rode across, I rode across / across the plains of Zhou, across the plateau / Across the steppes, over the Mountains of Kyrgistan, Kazhkstan / Mongolia / I rode across, I rode across /*

{remove map from easel}

H--; Uh- Mr. Williams?

F--; Let's not be so formal- may I call you Helen?

H--;Very well, - actually I don't know your name.

F--; You may call me Mars- it's a nickname but easier to pronounce than my birth name.

H--; uh-huh. I hope you have a book, a translation that I am interested in- a cookbook of Qubulai Qan?

F--; Oh- what can have brought you to this?

H--; Curiosity mostly, but it seems that the family doctor of the Qubulai was not Chinese, but a Turkmen, and there is supposed to be a recipe for noodles- blood noodles.....

{30"}Track 5 part 1 baq-kneeplay 08
{0:54"}Track 5 part 2 bar- kneeplay 14

{begins at beginning of Track 5 part 2}

F--; You mean the work of Dr. Hu?s

Card 44 Image of English Telephone booth

H--; Yes,*{giggles}*

Card 45 Image of a Chinese man Hu Sihui

F--; What is fun.. oh that's the name of a British television series isn't it? Well, Yes I do, but you have, how did you, why do you?

H--; You have it? I thought you might

F--; but why?*{he pulls the book out}*

H--; Blood!*{she opens it}*

F--; Blood?*{she puts her finger to a text}*

H--; Well not blood exactly but look. *{she reads}* Sheep's Blood is good for regulating female apoplexy and blood deficiency.

Card 46 blank

{1'26"} Track 6

{during this narration Helen has her list and she is miming her requests from the list and Ficino is pulling books down and creating a stack.}

N--; Until now my experiments were for myself. I drank the blood of my enemies, I drank the blood of my cohorts, I drank the blood of beasts, fowl, snakes, and sea creatures. My own revivification no longer seemed to depend on any certain kind of blood (though fresh worked best) To be certain I lived for a year at a time on a single creature's blood until I knew that it was blood and not the creature that was important.

Next I wanted to know how much blood I needed to continue this agelessness. I found that it did not take much nor did I need it often.

I eat as we all do, the variety of the world's edibility. Now and then I will refresh myself with an ounce or two of fresh blood.

For a thousand years, I experimented and cooked. I discovered a world of foods and the world as food. I asked and watched everyone who gathered plants, or hunted animals, and I learned how the world became food for humans living in it.

It was a small step to go from learning to practicing what I had learned, and from practicing to teaching.

This took me to Mengen.

H--; Mr. Williams, the Al-Kindi, Epicurus, Dr. Hu! You are a

wonder. This is so helpful.

F--; My Pleasure, it is always a pleasure to aid an inquisitive mind.

H--; Thank you for the compliment.*{she turns, carrying a pile of books, to go}* There is another that I am interested in.....

{Put blood splattered paper on wall behind Helen}

{1'5"}Track 7 bas-Zhou

{narration begins 3 seconds after music}

N--; A hundred years passed. I became a great warrior I was ferocious, I could kill with both hands and it was rumored that I moved so fast that I was invisible.

Having become a killing machine provided me with opportunity to experiment and my fury -the fury of loss, and my remorse was kept at bay.

I was a man of action. But the only acts I committed were to bring about the deaths of others.

Myths and legends of a man who could not be killed, a Demon Warrior, I was feared. When the battles were over, the wars won or lost, for that mattered little to me, I would escape/disappear ~~ so that it seemed as though I did not exist. *{pause}*

But this was an Expediency, for out-living those who ruled, would have been more dangerous than the fight or battle had been.

{pause}

There had to be more to my life than death.

{0:30"}Track- 8 part 1 bav-kneeplay 22

{2:15"}Track 8 part 2 baw-p188 Upon reaching 49 years of

age

{F sings the Latin while sitting at his desk writing}

Card 47 Upon reaching 49 years of age one should take up music or hopefully never having abandoned it increase their passion for it at every age it is especially conducive to retain something of your childhood

Card 48 Strive for a variety of pleasures

MF:LVLp188

Card 49 blank

H--; *{to herself- she is looking through another book - musing}*

Epicurus ... Philodemus ... Al-Kindi ... all this learning ... all these references to blood. It all links through Marsilio Ficino

Card 50 Image of Someone like Marsilio Ficino and someone like the person playing Marsilio Ficino

{1:25"}Track 9- bau- Kneeplay 20.wav

These 'notes' are printed and distributed as the Program, the 'usher' says

There will be a 7 minutes intermission, I have programs available for those who would like some help understanding what you have seen and what comes next.

Notes by Helen James

Statuary buried with Nobles during Zhou Dynasty to protect them- Zhou dynasty (1122-221 BCE)}

Statuary was used to promote the Epicurus' {341-270 BCE} ideas of moderation and pleasure

The Epicurean operation involves focusing 'cosmic' rays

Al-Kindi {AD 800-873 or 185-256 AH / 805-873 AD} wrote an important book on optics and the focusing of rays to destroy ships in the harbor

Al-Kindi was placed in a house of Wisdom, a retreat, a gathering of the intellectuals of the Persian Empire.

Epicurus promoted the idea of 'the garden' as a retreat for like-minded souls.

Epicurus was a Greek, his words are preserved mostly on stone engravings. However a Large library of Epicurean texts/scrolls existed in the House of Philodemus at the foot of Vesuvius. This library, covered by lava from the eruption {AD 79}, was discovered {1752 AD}, and the texts are still being excavated/preserved; slowly being translated.

J. Paul Getty had a replica of the “Philodemus” chateau built and this became the foundation of the Getty museum in California.

One of Al-Kindi's duties was to translate ancient Greek texts into Persian/Arabic and comment/explicate this knowledge.

Marsilio Ficino {1433-99 AD} was employed by Lorenzo De Medici to translate ancient Greek texts and comment/explicate them. Some of those translations led him to Al-Kindi's work and he incorporated those ideas into his own 'personal' works- without credit.

Al-Kindi wrote some medical texts on how to lengthen ones life via diet and belief.

Dr. Hu {before and after 1330AD} wrote a food and medicine book for Qubulai Qan. He was the 'family' doctor and though

written and printed in Chinese/China he was probably a Turkmen and had knowledge of food and medical concepts from Persia to Siberia.

The Qan- Qubulai/Qenghiz etc were Mongols

Ficino was commissioned to write a dietary treatise on how to promote long life. {published in parts circa 1490 AD} The mystical/spiritual aspects of his work 'La Vita Longa' came from Platina, Al-Kindi, and a Book P... reputed to have been written by a Greek who lived and worked in Spain

The translator and publisher of Picagunshtraxosh by the Greek is in Seattle

The translators of Platina and Ficino got their degrees in Seattle

One of the translators of Soup for the Qan lives and works in Seattle

Al-Kindi's Caliph is reputed to have brought Chefs from Bolu Province in what is now Turkey.

There is a school of culinary arts in Mengen, Bolu -Turkey

The Journal of Culture and Cuisine that started me on this journey is published in California

An Editor for the journal resides in Seattle.

Dr. John Franklin, who helped me understand how Eastern European/Middle Eastern epics may have been sung- has his degree(s) from Seattle

The composer lives in Seattle

Blood

Jay Hamilton

21

You are in Seattle

Act III

Backdrop should be opened red curtains and left that way.

Card 51 blank as backdrop for atlas open to Siberia

Image 1 Satellite image of Verkhoyanski Kribet

Image 2 Close up of mountain range

{6'25"}Track 1 part 1-Elegy in Darkness;

{Scene in darkness or dark, dark red with F--; and H--; standing stock still with their backs to the audience the entire time.}

At 4'52" these words on sheets of paper held in front of their faces (they being F,H and Special effects person)

{On H-'s side} **This one has compound fracture extreme bleeding and offers life to the other so that one of them may live.**

{On H-'s side} **"Do it- you must , we are both going to die, but I will surely die so take it please."**

{On F--'s side} **"No I cannot, we will live, survive this storm help will arrive."**

{On H-'s side} **"Have more faith in what is so and drink, I am faint already and so much of me is draining without purpose- we are desecrating the earth- our home!"**

{In the middle} **Scene closes as the uninjured accepts (after protesting A LOT) he bows to begin drinking at the injured one's wound**

{everyone goes to their places }

{1:09"}Track 2- III Kneeplay 07

During this narration Graphical Engineer points to various places on the atlas and images

Track 1 part 2

N--; I carried my friend's body out of that moraine. Hoping to save him, not realizing what had happened to me, what was happening. My strength returned so naturally that I didn't understand how unnatural it actually was.

I had never before had the strength to carry a limp body more than a few staggering steps, now I walked furlongs. He was dead, I was alone.

*{take down atlas}
{begin this conversation at 41"}*

{0:55"}Track-1 part 3 bh- Kneeplay 03 (optional)

H--; Al-Kindi came from, was brought to Baghdad, from far North . North of Iraq is Turkey, Turkmenistan, Mengen ... like Epicurus he promoted learning and moderation, he tried to improve and prolong the lives of his patrons with dietaries.....

{sung a Capella}

Track-2

H & F--; *Always books, always moderation,*

H--; *Ficino's words are nearly verbatim from the treatises of Zarathustra*

Track-3

H & F--; *Always books, always moderation,*

H--; *Ficino's words are nearly verbatim from the treatises of Epicurus / Epicureans.....*

H & F--; Books and moderation,

H--; Ficino's words are nearly verbatim from the treatises of Dr. Hu

F--; Books

H--; Ficino's words are nearly verbatim from the treatises of Al-Kindi

Track-4

H & F--; Books and moderation,

H--; Ficino's words are nearly verbatim from the treatises of P published inSeattle.....

F--; Seattle

H--; The translator of Dr. Hu's cookbook for the Qan is from

H & F--; Seattle

H--; Researchers exploring the deciphering of the charred texts from Philodemus' library were trained in ...

H & F--; Seattle

F--; Blood noodles?

H--; I am not looking at major citations. But don't you find it odd that it was translated by people from Seattle?

This all started with a really small citation in G----

F--; G----

H--; G---- yes one of the editor's, one of the driving forces for G--- seems to be in Seattle too.

F--; Well, I guess that's interesting however....

H--; There was a review of a book by Ken Alcaba.

F--; oh that, yes....

H--; exactly; by mentioning the 'goofy' idea that one could prolong life by drinking blood~ I had to know more.

N--; My themes?~ well, Blood, of course, but how to get others' to ingest the riches to be had from blood.

{1:49"}Track 5 part 1- bc Kneeplay 23

N--; On my next visit to Mengen, I built a house, raised animals, planted crops, experimented with storage, dug a well, and for the first time took a wife, raised a family.

Card 52 Recipe for Blood pudding cakes

I did not have words for germs, viruses, bacterium, but I had noticed that People who practised cleanliness had fewer illnesses and so I had my family wash more.

Card 53 Recipe for Blood Sausage

But none of my children inherited my 'gift' even though I surreptitiously fed them all, at different times in their lives, my own blood, **and** the blood of others.

Card 54 Recipe for Lamprey Bordeaux Style

Eventually, my wife~ old and dying, and my children grey with children and grandchildren of their own, I knew I had to leave before superstition outweighed the benefits of my presence.

Card 55 Recipe for Chicken Blood Soup

I arranged for my death and traveled across the deserts East, staying in Tibet for a lifetime or two.

{0:37"}Track 5 part 2- bd Kneeplay 05

H--; I have this feeling that someone in Seattle is writing all these

texts about drinking blood. They're playing with the audience a bit of Hubris, don't you think.

F--; No not hubris, perhaps this person does think that someone would notice~

H--; You mean as if they wanted to be found

F--; exactly

H--; but it's not been easy, I mean I read the Alcaba book which led me to Epicurus

F--; which you got through me

H--; and then to Platina and George the Greek

F--; Cypriot really

H--; Ok~ a Greek in Spain, writing magic books in garbled Latin for consumption in Italy

F--; Life is not straightforward, Knowledge of medicines have gone back and forth from Europe through Asia many times.

H--; It was coy of you to ask me to call you Mars

H--; *{directly to F--; she pulls out the dusty manuscript and holds it out to him}* I think I found something of yours.

F--; I thought you might have. It seemed to me that you already knew~ that I was willing to be discovered.

H--; I wasn't sure, I hadn't connected all the dots between Ficino and Mr. Williams.....

F--; Would you care to join me for a glass of wine?

{Graphical Engineer brings out wine, two glasses and a chair pulls cork and pours it. The wine is "Sangre del Toro"....}

{1;47"}Track 6- Kneeplay 18 "Fuzuli" (quietly and fades to

nothing before it ends)

H--; Philodemus?

F--; Yes well, not me but....

H--; Al-Kindi?

F--; No, I knew him, perhaps I influenced him as I did Epicurus but I remained in the background. Once Islam took hold promoting drinking human or other kinds of blood was dangerous.

I only spoke in whispers, and even those whispers got both Platina and Al-Kindi into trouble.

H--; But Ficino is/was you

F--; I have been many people, but, yes

{0:55"}Track-7 part 1 bf- Kneeplay 09

{3:40"}Track-7 part 2 bgb- p196 a Common and Ancient opinion

H and F sing

Card 56 There is a common and ancient opinion that prophetic old women suck the blood of infants as a means of growing young again...

Card 57 Why shouldn't our old people likewise suck the blood of a youth? One who is willing, healthy, happy and temperate, whose blood is of the best and perhaps a bit too abundant.

Card 58 They should suck like leeches an ounce or two from the left arm, a small wound, and immediately after the same amount of sugar and wine, when hungry or thirsty and when the Moon is waxing,

Card 59 if this is too difficult to digest then cook it first with sugar or distill it so....why go to this trouble to describe all this? to point out that it is possible and indeed beneficial to drink blood,

Card 60 and

Card 61 to reassure you that the blood of a youth drunk by the aged can do a lot of good

Card 62 From La Vita Longa by Marsilio Ficino

{remove card and leave easel blank}

{0:39"}Track-8 part 1 bm- Kneeplay 13

{0:55"}Track-8 part 2 bj- Kneeplay 04

{1:01"}Track-8 part 3 bk- Kneeplay 17.wav

F--; Are you going to author some occult text?

H--; No nothing like that Marsilio

F--; What? I cannot turn you into an immortal.

H--; Would you want to try?

F--; I'm not sure what you are suggesting, -no- I know what you are suggesting~ **No-** I am not interested

H--; everywhere I have been there are earmarks of Ficino or Hu or Al-Kindi or

F--; I think you have done very well so far

H--; and now?

F--; Don't you know already?

{H extends her arm, bares it to the elbow as an offering}

F--; Thank you but no. ~ I will accept a different gift from you. You're smart, canny and curious and I have enjoyed this round of hide and seek. You are welcome to knowledge I have. I will do what I can to help you as you journey through your own life.

Instead of taking your gift~ I offer you my hand.

(Hands clasp then they raise their glasses of wine clink, sip, set them down Graphical Engineer removes glasses and stool and wine. During Finale cast tears down set and exits.)

{4:17"}Track-10 bo- Finale

F enters moves down in front of the stage and sings while N speaks the words in Turkish which is

Track 11

F&N--; That was 100 years ago.

Helen died and I thought I could die too.

I was wrong

My will, to live is too strong

Life is precious, even my life

It has taken a long time to learn this.

I think that perhaps I was wrong about blood as well-

When Helen died I stopped drinking it ~ yet I live.

My enjoyment of life's delights has not diminished

{Helen and Graphical Engineer enter holding masks behind their backs of Epicurus}

I retired, once again, to my beloved Mengen

I have a garden.

Perhaps Epicurus had it right all along

{Entire cast puts masks in front of their faces then bow at the end of next track}

{Track 11 Final wave}

Blood

Jay Hamilton

30

The End