

Gilgamesh – 5th Grade Play

By Susan Merle McDonald

Characters

Enkidu & King Gilgamesh:



Gods:

Anu



Ishtar



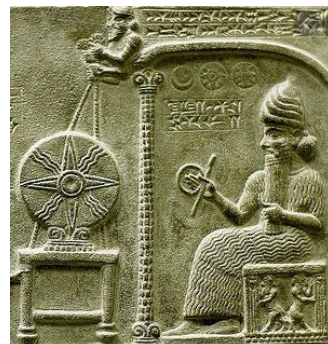
Ea



Enlil



Shamash



Sin



Adad



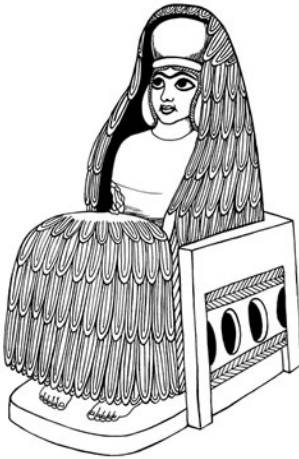
Shamhat



Town Elders – Reed Skirts



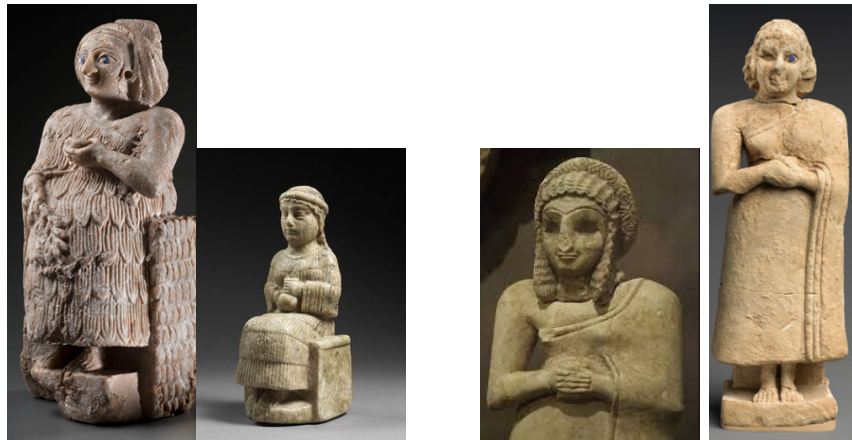
Ninsun – Gilgamesh’s Mother



Aruru – Creation Goddess



Priestesses of the Temple



Village Elders – Fabric Skirts



Siduri – Tavern Keeper



Ur-Shanabi – Boat Man



Uta-Napishti and His Wife



Uruk Walls



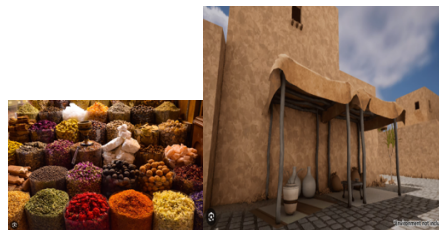
Temple Ziggurat



Gardens



Market Stalls



Brick Houses



Character List:

Narrator: _____

Gilgamesh: _____

Enkidu: _____

Gods:

Anu: _____

Ea: _____

Enlil: _____

Ishtar: _____

Shamash: _____

Sin: _____

Adad: _____

Elders:

Oldest Elder: _____

Second Elder: _____

Third Elder: _____

Fourth Elder: _____

Forest Animals:

Rabbit: _____

Fox: _____

Bird/s: _____

Gazelle: _____

Lion: _____

Village Men:

Village Man 1: _____

Village Man 2: _____

Village Man 3: _____

Village Man 4: _____

Village Women:

Village Woman 1: _____

Village Woman 2: _____

Village Woman 3: _____

Village Woman 4: _____

Priestess Shamhat: _____

Priestesses:

Priestess 1: _____

Priestess 2: _____

Aruru:

(Use this character or Ishtar) _____

Mother Ninsun: _____

Siduri: _____

Ur-shanabi: _____

Uta-napishti: _____

Uta-napishti's Wife: _____

Wife's Maidens:

Maiden 1: _____

Maiden 2: _____

Act 1

Narrator:

(Narrator may read from a script –
He can create clipboards that looks like stone tablets from the audience side.
Scenery of large lapis lazuli walls in the background. Gilgamesh stands upon the wall
surveying the city.)

Gilgamesh saw The Deep.
He knew all and was wise in all matters.
He went everywhere and learned every thing.
He was king of Uruk-of-the-Walls.

Uruk was a city with many-colored temples (bring in scenery of temples), brick houses (bring in scenery of brick houses), marketplaces (bring in scenery of stalls for selling), and open groves of trees (bring in scenery of groves of fruit trees).

Uruk's towering walls protected it from all evil:

From armies,
From floods,
From wild beasts,
And
From unfriendly gods.

But most importantly, the walls protected Uruk from the monster Humbaba who lived on the nearby mountain and who constantly breathed fire and smoke and soot into the sky.

(From background mountain scenery – fire, smoke and soot spurt up – loud roars can be heard.
All in the Village sing the song of Uruk.)

Narrator:

Gilgamesh worshipped many God's who also protected his city.
(Parade of the Gods)

Anu:

I am Anu, Father of All and God of the skies.

Ea:

I am Ea, I rule over the deep waters.

Enlil:

I am Enlil, my domain is the earth.

Ishtar:

I am Ishtar, the goddess of love;
I can be very amiable to my friends, but terrible in my wrath to all my enemies.

Shamash:

I am Shamash, the God of the Sun.

Sin:

I am Sin, the God of the Moon.

Adad:

I am Adad, the God of Thunder.

(Gods stand upon scenery of the city wall – or on tables and chairs behind the scenery.)

Narrator:

But all was not well in Uruk-of-the-Walls.

The Elders were very troubled and gathered at the sacred temple to speak to the God Anu.

Oldest Elder:

(The Oldest Elder approaches Anu with folded hands – All other Elders fold their hands.)

“O Father Anu, We have come to complain!”

Second Elder:

“It is about Gilgamesh the King”

Third Elder:

He continues to build the city walls higher and even higher;
Yet who has need of such high walls?

Fourth Elder:

It has become a heavy burden, we need rest!

Oldest Elder:

Mothers no longer see their sons;
Nor fathers either for that matter.

Second Elder:

Our girls languish without love;
marriages have ceased.

Third Elder:

We do nothing but build, build, build.

Fourth Elder:

Tailors cannot sell their fine clothes;
and the musicians are idle.

All Elders:

There is no trade;
There are no festivals;
We have no joy!”

Village Men:

The young men of Uruk he harries without warrant,
Gilgamesh lets no son go free to his father.

Village Women:

It is he who is shepherd of Uruk-the Sheepfold.
Gilgamesh lets no daughter go free to her mother.

Enlil:

We ourselves rather like the high walls.
We often come and crouch here at night and watch the goings on of mortals.
It's very entertaining!

Oldest Elder:

Father Anu, you must help us! You must punish Gilgamesh!

Anu:

What do you want me to do?
Do you want me to throw rocks out of Heaven at the King?

Elders:

No not at all, not that!

Anu:

Go away then.
I like Gilgamesh.
He is a very fine fellow and perfectly fearless.
He wrestles with lions; he tames them with his bare hands - I've seen him.
Besides, I have heard that he is himself partly God.
I am quite sure that if he wants to build the walls higher, he knows best.

Ishtar:

Father, listen to them;
Help them!
I will not see my young girls left without love!
I will not see my mother's bereft of their sons!

Oldest Elder:

Indeed, perhaps you will listen to our plan, for we do have a plan!

Second Elder:

It is this. We want you to create a man...

Third Elder:

A man taller even than Gilgamesh...

Fourth Elder:
And more powerful!

All the Elders:
We need a wild beast of a man; unconquerable!
Who will come to earth, to the city here, and attack the King...and diminish him!

Narrator:
The Gods disputed the matter this way and that.
In time, Father Anu gave in to Ishtar,
who asked that her friend and fellow goddess Aruru,
take clay from the earth and form a new man,
a large man,
a man unkempt and savage in his looks.
This new man would have great horns like those of some wild beast coming from his head...

In short time, this new man named Enkidu was formed. Aruru/Ishtar brought him forth and laid
him down before the Gods. Enkidu was asleep.

(Aruru/Ishtar brings Enkidu on a cot and lays him before the Gods)

End of Act 1

ACT II

(A forest scene - with a pool of water at center stage. Enkidu acts out what is told to the audience as it is said. Students or scenery pieces can represent the animals. A boy playing a lion could really wrestle Enkidu.)

Narrator:

Enkidu, Aruru's new creature, lay sleeping on the earth for a long time...

When he woke, he didn't know who he was or where he had come from.

But, one thing was certain; he was hungry and thirsty.

He ate figs from the trees near-by and took water from a pool beside him.

He listened to its sounds, and watched its sparkling lights.

A rabbit came by and showed no fear.

A fox came to drink.

Birds came to the spring and dipped their wings in it, drank, and fluttered their feathers.

Enkidu admired the animals of the forest.

A gazelle became Enkidu's first friend;

and from it he learned to eat grass and petals of flowers.

One day, he wrestled with a lion, the other animals fled in terror;

but Enkidu subdued the lion and he too became a friend.

(Stage left in front of a orchard scenery piece stands the men.)

Narrator:

But men in the village heard only rumors of Enkidu.

They heard of his large size and strength.

They heard he had horns,

and was covered from head to foot with hair,

and he turned all who saw him numb with fear.

The Eldest of the Village Elders went to King Gilgamesh to warn him.

(Village Elder walks across the stage from left to right. Stage right has a throne scenery piece and on a throne chair sits Gilgamesh.)

Oldest Elder:

Oh, Gilgamesh, who fears nothing, there is a wild man that terrorizes the countryside. He robs the hunter of his game and disperses the herds of the shepherd. He turns all who sees him numb with fear – indeed I've heard that he is taller and more powerful than

Gilgamesh the King!

King Gilgamesh:

I, the King of Uruk, am not afraid of any such creature. But, I cannot be bothered to go out in search of a wild man. Take with you the Priestess Shamhat. She will tame him, prepare him, and bring him to see his king! Then we shall see who is perfect in strength.

Narrator:

The Village Elder in fear, did as the king demanded. He led the beautiful priestess into the forest and left her by the pool of water Enkidu frequented. She was brave and ready to fulfill the king's orders. Shamhat sat by the sparkling pool and her beauty was enchanting.

(Actors act out what the narrator reads. Shamhat and the priestesses combs his hair out of his eyes, she takes off his hairy coat, underneath he is wearing a woven reed wrap, and they put oil from a vessel on his shoulders. Shamhat feeds him with bread and he drinks.)

As soon as Enkidu came upon her he was stricken and unable to move. She gently stroked his hair, she cleaned him and cut his long locks. She gave him a woven cloth to wear around his waist. She taught him to eat bread and drink from a flask.

Shamhat to Enkidu:

Now, you, Enkidu, are like a God! Why with the beasts do you wander here in the wild? Come, I will lead you to Uruk, to the sacred temple, where you too, will find a task for yourself!

Priestesses:

We will lead you to Uruk, to the sacred temple, where you too, will find a task for yourself!

Shamhat to Enkidu:

Enkidu, there is a king named Gilgamesh who is perfect in strength,
Like a wild bull he lords it over the men of his kingdom.

Gilgamesh lets no son go free to his father,
By day and by night his tyranny grows harsher.
Though he is the shepherd of Uruk-the-Sheepfold,
Gilgamesh, is driver of the teeming people,
Though he is their shepherd and their protector,
Gilgamesh is powerful, pre-eminent, expert and mighty,
Gilgamesh lets no girl go free to her mother.

Priestesses:

Gilgamesh lets no son go free to his father,
Gilgamesh lets no girl go free to her mother.

Enkidu:

Come, Shamhat, take me along,
Take me to the Sacred Temple, Holy Home of Anu and Ishtar.

Take me to the place where Gilgamesh is perfect in strength,
Take me to the place where Gilgamesh is like a wild bull lording, it over his men.

I will challenge him, for my strength is mighty,
I will vaunt myself in Uruk, saying, "I am the mightiest.

There I shall change the way things are ordered:
The one born in the wild shall be mighty,
The one born in the wild shall possess the strength.

(Shamhat leads Enkidu off stage – Curtains close.)

End of ACT II

ACT III

(Uruk city scenery is brought back with the Gods upon the wall. Shamhat and Enkidu enter the city and many marvel at Enkidu and some fall down and worship him.)

Ea & Enlil:

By Water and Earth he comes!
Aruru's challenger to King Gilgamesh comes!

Shamash, Sin and Adad:

By the Sun, the Moon, and the Thunder above, Enkidu Comes!
To challenge the strength of the King!

Ishtar:

For *my wrath*, he will defeat the king!
For *my glory*, Enkidu will weaken *his*!

Anu:

By the heavens above, the king will survive!
By the pillars of the sky, Gilgamesh will retain his fame!

Shamhat to Enkidu:

Now, you see, the God's expect you to wrestle with the King of Uruk. This is your manly task.

Village Men:

The young men of Uruk he harries without warrant,
Gilgamesh lets no son go free to his father.

Village Women:

It is he who is shepherd of Uruk-the-Sheepfold.
Gilgamesh lets no daughter go free to her mother.

(All in the town move towards the temple entrance. Priestesses pick up a chest from Shamhat and put crowns, bracelets and necklaces upon her. A sheer cape is also given wrapped around her shoulders. Gold wrist bands and a chest plate are given to Enkidu. As the group comes to the temple pillars – King Gilgamesh appears from stage right – As he walks forward all citizens bow and stand back to allow the king to come towards the temple – Enkidu stands in the middle of the temple pillars and blocks the way of the king)

Narrator:

Enkidu stood in the king's path. He placed his foot across the opening. He barred the entranceway to Gilgamesh the King! The people fell back, appalled. (People gasp) Gilgamesh tried to brush aside the insolent fellow, but Enkidu leaped upon him like a wild bull. They grappled with each other; they destroyed the threshold; they demolished the wall.
(One scenery pillar can break apart)

It seemed that each was as powerful as the other. They fought, they wrestled; bricks and mortar were loosened, and everywhere was the dust of battle.

Then...it looked as if Gilgamesh sank to his knees, his spear rested upon his back, and his stone axe remained at his side untouched.

Suddenly...they clasped hands,
Enkidu pulled Gilgamesh up,
They embraced and laughed.

Enkidu:

I salute you, Gilgamesh, lion and great fighter!

High over warriors you are exalted,
To be king of the People, Enlil made it your destiny!

Let it be said of the King, of Gilgamesh, from this day forward:

Gilgamesh lets all sons go free to their fathers,
Gilgamesh lets all girls go free to their mothers.

Let it be said of the King, of Gilgamesh, from this day forward:

Gilgamesh *and* Enkidu will shepherd and care for the weak,
Gilgamesh *and* Enkidu, will do feats that have never been done in the land.

Gilgamesh:

Welcome to my city, O godlike Enkidu!

(Set lights turn down – focus light on Gilgamesh and Enkidu; middle stage/front, putting on weapons and gear for battle – Townspeople leave the stage – Large Humbaba Head, Large Taurus Bull placed upon great wall in the dark – the gods leave the wall)



Narrator:

They thereupon pledged eternal friendship, the King and the Wild Man from the Steppes who had been sent to destroy his fame. Instead of fulfilling the wish of the gods, Gilgamesh the King and Enkidu became fast friends. Everywhere they went together they were admired. They took part in feats of strength and daring. Killing the great Forest Spirit Humbaba, and destroying the Bull of Heaven sent by Ishtar.

(Lights flash on and off as they struggle to kill Humbaba - Lights flash on and off as they struggle to kill the Bull of Heaven – But then, red lights flash on and off and Ishtar appears on the wall above all.)

Ishtar:

(Loud wails of anger – jumping – raging arms.)

Elders of the Village:

(All Elders come to the area below the wall where Ishtar is wailing and gasp.)

Oh, woe to us all!

Ishtar is angry – she sent the Bull knowing that no one could destroy such a bull!
Ishtar is in a fury – she sent the Bull having desire to destroy a king and his companion not her beloved bull!

Ishtar:

Woe to Gilgamesh who has dishonored my name!
Woe to Enkidu who has killed the Bull of Heaven!

(Enkidu in his anger throws the leg of the bull at Ishtar - The Elders scatter and the Gods all appear upon the wall with Ishtar – Enkidu is struck down with a flash of light – Gilgamesh is pushed to left front of stage covering his eyes – Anu speaks loudly and with force.)

Anu:

These have entered the cedar gate; they have desecrated the forest; they have killed Humbaba, guardian of the wild cows, and our servant; they have insulted the goddess Ishtar.

They have killed the Bull of Heaven;

One of them shall die!

To all the gods I ask you to choose which one!

Enlil:

Enkidu shall die! He it was who insulted the goddess with the leg of the bull.

Shamash:

Why should Enkidu be the one? Why should the gods acquit Gilgamesh and not Enkidu? Have they not done all things together?

Enlil:

Gilgamesh is king, he is 2 parts God and 1 part human. He was born of Ninsun, Wild-Cow Goddess. If justice demands one of the warriors, it must be Enkidu.

All Gods:
We are in agreement!

(Light from staffs flash upon Enkidu who falls to the ground – Gilgamesh rushes forward – throws down his crown and weapons – He lifts Enkidu up to a golden couch and begins to wail.
In comes Gilgamesh's mother Ninsun.)

Gilgamesh:
O Ninsun, what fate has overtaken my friend, Enkidu?
He didn't die in battle;
No disease attacked him;
He did not die of venerable old age.
The gods and the ground reached out and seized him.

Mother, will I too die?
Will I too turn to clay?

Mother Ninsun:
In time, dear Gilgamesh, all people die.
One part of you is man!

End of Act III

Act IV

(Forest scene again - A tavern scenery piece (where Siduri will stand) – A River scenery piece with a boat (Where Ur-Shanabi will stand) – A cottage scenery piece (Where Uta-Napishti and wife will stand) – all these are darkened – a light is focused upon Gilgamesh in center stage lying on the ground dressed in a lion's skin – with wild hair, full of leaves.)



Tavern Scene Idea (No Cuckoo Clock or People)

Narrator:

In his anguish Gilgamesh wandered the wild in search of the great Uta-Napishti, the only man to survive The Great Flood and the only mortal who gained eternal life. He was desperate to find everlasting life for himself and he was desperate to bring back his friend.

One day, he found himself at a tavern in need of food and drink. He pounded upon the door.

(Spotlight is upon Siduri's door and table scenery. Siduri opens the door slightly at first and then all the way and comes to sit at a table.)

Gilgamesh:

I am Gilgamesh, King of the distant Uruk!
Talk to me, O Siduri, give me food and drink and tell me what I want to know.

Siduri:

If you are a king,

Why are your cheeks so hollow?
Why is your face so marred by the sun?

Why in your heart does sorrow reside?
Why does your face resemble one come from afar?

Why do you roam the roads in a pelt?
Why do you wander the wild in a lion's garb?

Gilgamesh:

Why should my cheeks NOT be hollow?
Why should my face NOT be marred by the sun?

Why should sorrow NOT reside in my heart?
Why should my face NOT resemble one come from afar?

For I DO roam the roads in a pelt.
For I DO wander the wild in a lion's garb.

My friend, whom I loved so dear,
My friend, who with me went through every danger.
The DOOM OF MORTALS overtook him!

Narrator:

Siduri, opened her door and began to bring him food and drink. She listened to his tale of woe
and heard of his desire to find Uta-Napishti.

Gilgamesh:

Now, O Tavern-Keeper,

Where is the road to Uta-Napishti?
What is its landmark?

Tell me?
Give me its landmark?

If it may be done, I will cross the ocean to the Netherworld!
If it may not be done, I will wander the wild in grief!

Siduri:

O, Gilgamesh,

The life you seek will be withheld from you,
The life you seek you shall never find.

For when the Gods created mankind:

Death, they appointed to him,
Immortality, they kept for themselves.

Fill you belly,
Let your thirst be quenched.

Make each day merry with play,
Let your nights be joyful in dance.

Clean your clothes,
Let your head be washed.

Love the child that holds your hand,
Let your wife delight in your embrace.

These alone are the concerns of man,
This is the lot of mankind.

There never has been a way across the waters,
Not since olden days could anyone cross the ocean.

Midway lie the Waters of Death; blocking the passage,
When you reach the Waters of Death what then will you do?

Gilgamesh:

There at the Waters of Death, stands Ur-Shanabi, the Boatman of Uta-Napishti,
If it may be done, I will go across with him.

Siduri:

Go then, let Ur-Shanabi see your face:

If it may be done, then go across with him.
If it may not be done, turn around and go back.

Narrator:

Gilgamesh took up his axe in his hand,
He drew forth the dirk from his belt.

Forward he crept.

(Light now follows Gilgamesh to the middle set piece with a boat and dock scenery piece.)

Ur-shanabi saw a bright weapon shine in the sun,
He took up an axe, and he rushed towards it.

Gilgamesh struck his head with a mighty blow,
He seized the arm of Ur-Shanabi and with all his might pinned him down.

Ur-shanabi:

Tell me, what is your name?
I am Ur-shanabi, of Uta-Napishti the Distant.

Gilgamesh:

(He lets Ur-shanabi go and begins to lift him up.)

I am Gilgamesh, the King,
Who came from Uruk-Eanna.

Ur-Shanabi:

If you are a king,

Why are your cheeks so hollow?
Why is your face so marred by the sun?

Why in your heart does sorrow reside?
Why does your face resemble one come from afar?

Why do you roam the roads in a pelt?
Why do you wander the wild in a lion's garb?

Gilgamesh:

Why should my cheeks NOT be hollow?
Why should my face NOT be marred by the sun?

Why should sorrow NOT reside in my heart?
Why should my face NOT resemble one come from afar?

For I DO roam the roads in a pelt.
For I DO wander the wild in a lion's garb.

My friend, whom I loved so dear,
My friend, who with me went through every danger.

My friend, Enkidu, whom I loved so dear,
My friend, Enkidu, who with me went through every danger.

The DOOM OF MORTALS overtook him!

Ur-shanabi, where is the road to Uta-napishti?
What is its landmark?

Tell me!
Give me its landmark!

If it may be done, I will cross the ocean,
If it may not be done, I wander the wild in grief.

Ur-shanabi:

It may be done, with punting poles,
You may cross, if you never touch the water.

Narrator:

Slowly, Gilgamesh used all his strength to cross the Waters of Death. Never once did he touch the water, but with the poles he moved the boat along.

(Ur-shanabi and Gilgamesh move the boat to the last piece of scenery- stage lights follow – to a cottage with Uta-napishti and his wife sitting outside in chairs.)



Gilgamesh drew near the shore and he called out to Uta-Napishti.

Gilgamesh:

Hail, Uta-napishti, to whom, alone of men, the Gods gave everlasting life!
Hail, Uta-napishti, who after The Flood remained in the Land of the Living!

Uta-napishti:

You, I know,
You are King of Uruk,

Why are your cheeks so hollow?
Why is your face so marred by the sun?

Why in your heart does sorrow reside?
Why does your face resemble one come from afar?

Why do you roam the roads in a pelt?
Why do you wander the wild in a lion's garb?

Gilgamesh:

Why should my cheeks NOT be hollow?
Why should my face NOT be marred by the sun?

Why should sorrow NOT reside in my heart?
Why should my face NOT resemble one come from afar?

For I DO roam the roads in a pelt.
For I DO wander the wild in a lion's garb.

My friend, whom I loved so dear,
My friend, who with me went through every danger.

My friend, Enkidu, whom I loved so dear,
My friend, Enkidu, who with me went through every danger.

The DOOM OF MORTALS overtook him!

My friend, whom I loved, has turned to clay!
My friend, Enkidu, whom I loved, has dissolved into dust!

Shall I not be like him?
Shall I not also lie down, never to rise again, through all eternity?

Uta-Napishti:

Why Gilgamesh, do you chase sorrow?
Why Gilgamesh, do you not remember all of Uruk?

Who is their master when you wander?
So many follow under your shadow?

Sit here, I will tell you my story:

After The Great Flood, the gods repented of the destruction they saw,
Enlil spoke in defense of mankind and he told the Gods of a man he had saved.

He took hold of my hand and brought me from the great ship,
He brought out my wife and made her kneel at my side.

He touched our foreheads, standing between us, to bless us and said:

In the past Uta-napishti was a mortal man,
But, now, he and his wife shall become like us, Gods!

But King Gilgamesh...

Who'll convene for YOU the Gods' Assembly?
Who'll convene the Gods' Assembly so YOU can find the life you search for?

Wife of Uta-napishti:

Dear Gilgamesh,

Be washed,
Your locks be cleaned.

Cast off your pelt,
Let the sea bear it away.

Let your body be soaked until fair,
Put a new headdress on your head.

Wear these royal robes,
Clothes fit for your dignity.

(Maidens come from the house to dress and groom Gilgamesh.)
(Wife of Uta-napishti turns to Uta-napishti)

Husband, Gilgamesh came here by toil and by travail,
What have you to give him for his homeward journey?

Uta-Napishti:

You came here, O Gilgamesh, by toil and travail,
What could I give you for your homeward journey?

Let me share a matter most secret,
To you I will tell a mystery of the Gods.

There is a plant that looks like a Box-Thorn,
It has prickles like a Dog-Rose.
But if your hand can reach the plant:

You will again be as you were in your youth,
You will find life everlasting.

Perhaps then, you may search for your friend,
Perhaps then, the Gods will send their aid.

Narrator:

As soon as Gilgamesh heard what he said:

He opened a channel into the Great Deep,
Heavy stones he tied to his feet and they pulled him down into the Ocean Below.

He took the plant and he pulled it up,
He lifted it, its prickles scratched him.

The heavy stones he cut loose from his feet,
The sea cast him up on its shore.

(Gilgamesh hides behind a scenery piece of an ocean with two sides of earth open like an earthquake. He jumps up and away from the scenery piece with the plant in his hands.)



Gilgamesh:

To Uruk-The-Sheepfold I will take this plant,
To an ancient man I will feed some and put it to the test.

Then, I will eat it myself,
Then, I will be as I was in my youth!

This plant, Ur-Shanabi, is the “Plant of Heartbeat”,
This plant, shall be called “The Grey Beard Grown Young” plant.

End of Act IV

Act V

(Forest Scene once again with the pool of water in the center. Gilgamesh and Ur-Shanabi sit beside the pool to rest. The special plant is beside them in a vase.)



Gilgamesh:

Here is a place where the waters are cool,
Here we may bathe and eat before entering the great halls of Uruk's Palace.

Narrator:

Of the plant's fragrance a snake caught scent,
It came up in silence, and bore the plant off.

(From the side of the stage or from above a snake puppet of some kind opens its mouth and grabs the plant carrying it off. Gilgamesh and Ur-shanabi try to search for it, but to no avail.)

Gilgamesh sat down and wept,
Down his cheeks the tears were coursing.

Gilgamesh:

For whom, Ur-shanabi, toiled my arms so hard?
For whom ran dry the blood of my heart?

Not even for myself did I find a bounty,
For the "Earth-lion" I have done a favour!

Ur-shanabi:

No so, King Gilgamesh, for your own people you do the favour!

Why Gilgamesh, do you chase sorrow?
Do you not remember all of Uruk?

You are their master when you return.
So many follow under your shadow.

(Both Ur-shanabi and Gilgamesh stand up towards the front of the stage – middle - and survey the walls of Uruk.)

Climb Uruk's walls and walk back and forth,
Survey its foundations; examine the brickwork!

Were its bricks not fired in an oven?
Did the Seven Sages not lay its foundations?

You are King Gilgamesh, who saw The Deep.
You know all and are wise in all matters.

You have traveled everywhere,
and learned every thing.

Uruk is a city with many-colored temples (bring in scenery of temples), brick houses (bring in scenery of brick houses), marketplaces (bring in scenery of stalls for selling), and open groves of trees (bring in scenery of groves of fruit trees).

(All towns people and elders enter the city in joy – mingling, singing and dancing.)

Uruk's towering walls protect it from all evil:
From armies,
From floods,
From wild beasts,
And
From unfriendly gods.

(Gods appear on the city walls.)

Anu:

O Gilgamesh: I made your destiny a destiny of kingship,
I did not make it a destiny of eternal life.

Ea & Enlil:

All of Uruk, when their worship statues are fashioned in future days,
Shall make a semicircle around their doorway for you.

Ishtar:

In front of these statues they will have wrestling matches
and trials of strength.

Shamash, Sin & Adad:

In the Month of Torches; the Festival of Souls,
Without Gilgamesh being present, light will not be provided before them.

(Enkidu appears upon the wall – in the middle of the Gods– He now wears great wings, a gold
crown and gold breast plate. Maybe a light behind him.)

Enkidu:

Your life will be remembered by all,
Your glory and fame will reach even to the Netherworld.

Here, in this Netherworld,

Gilgamesh AND Enkidu will once again shepherd and care for the weak,
Gilgamesh AND Enkidu will once again do feats that have never been done before and that will
never be done again.

(All kneel or bow down to King Gilgamesh in the middle of the stage.
They sing the song of Uruk.
Curtains close.)