

## Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator

### SIDE 6 – Queen, Shuckworth

QUEEN. I'll take charge of this. I've been listening in. Are you there, Astronaut Shuckworth?

SHUCKWORTH. Of course, I'm here. Where am I going to go? But how dare you butt in! Keep your big nose out of this! Who are you anyway?

QUEEN. This is the Queen.

SHUCKWORTH (*sarcastically*). Oh yeah? And this is the Wizard of Oz. "Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain". Hardy har har. Who are you kidding?

QUEEN (*angrily*). Cut the piffle, Shuckworth! This is a national emergency!

SHUCKWORTH. What? Wait a minute. Good grief! You really are the Queen! Well, hello there, your Royal Highness, ma'am. Err... How are you today?

QUEEN. Never mind that. How many people are there in that glass capsule up in the sky?

SHUCKWORTH. Well, there are three. All floating.

QUEEN. Floating?

SHUCKWORTH. We're outside the pull of gravity up here, your Majesty. Everything floats. I'd be floating myself if I wasn't strapped down. Didn't you know that?

QUEEN. (*beat*) But of course I knew it. Who's the Queen around here?

SHUCKWORTH. Oh, yes... excuse me, ma'am, did I mention that it is a great honor to talk to you, your Queen-ness, ma'am. How are the royal hounds? Are they big eaters?

QUEEN. Silence! Just tell me what you see.

SHUCKWORTH. Looks like they are doing some kind of dance, Your Holy-ness. Like a whistle dance.

QUEEN. You mean they are having a party?

SHUCKWORTH. I didn't say that, ma'am.

QUEEN. Oh, yes you did, Shuckworth.

SHUCKWORTH. No I don't think I did, your Madam Madamness.

QUEEN (*yelling*). Silence. You're confusing me. (*To herself*). Whistle dancing... hmmm... I've never heard of such a thing. Whistle dancing?!?! What about the spaceship?

SHUCKWORTH. Well, I don't know if it's a spaceship, exactly. It kind of looks more like... An elevator?

QUEEN (*in a yell*). An elevator? An elevator (*thinks to herself*). Wait a minute, that's not an elevator, you foolish man! Can't you understand it's a trick! That's an explosive slime machine! The whole thing is going to make a mess of our hotel. They're going to slime our magnificent Space Hotel and B&B!