

*Nadine Rodgers*

## CASTING SPELLS

*(for Nazirah and Nehessaiu)*

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Act I Scene I: At the crossroads in Squaw Valley, California

[Enter the three witches]

*When shall we three meet again,  
in thunder lightening or in rain?*

*When the hurly burly's done,  
When the battle's lost and won.*

Then the magic will be on.

*Where the place?*

New York, Rhode Island, or DC,

There to stir up creativity.

Witch 1: I must awaken the people

Witch 2: I'll give them hope

Witch 3: I'll use my sixth finger....

[Exeunt]

Act I Scene III: An airport somewhere on the East Coast of the USA

[Enter the three witches]

*Where hast thou been sistah?*

*Killing swine.*

*Sistah, where thou?*

A brother thought he had a serious rap,

And talked, and talked, and talked: "Silence," quoth I:-

"Later for you, witch!" the trifling negro cries,

He on a business trip is gone, to close a deal.

But on a metaphor I'll thither sail

And with my art I'll make him fail;

*I'll do, I'll do, I'll do.*

Witch 1: I'll give thee a sharp word  
*Th'art kind.*

Witch 3: I'll lend you my sixth finger  
*I myself have all the other.*

[Voices fade. Dim lights to black]

Act IV    Scene I: Gasparee Caves, Trinidad. In the middle, a boiling cauldron.

[Enter the three witches]

*Round about the cauldron go;*

*In the poison'd entrails throw.*

Eye of molester, liar's tongue,

Sappho hater, lovers gone;

Thigh and wishbone, neckbone too,

Stir them in there, fix a stew;

Absent father's old gold tooth,

Secretive mother's vow of truth,

Nappy hair strand coiled and strong,

Black girl's genetics hidden long.

*Double, double toil and trouble:*

*Fire burn; and, cauldron, bubble.*

Cool it with agouti's blood;

Then the spell is firm and good.