COALHOUSE
SARAH, MY LIFE HAS CHANGED.
SARAH, YOU'VE GOT TO SEE.
SARAH, WE'VE GOT A SON!
SARAH, COME DOWN TO ME...

(SARAH stands upstairs, undecided. SHE slowly moves toward the door.)

SARAH
YOU AND YOUR MUSIC,
SINGING DEEP IN ME,
MAKING NICE TO ME,
SAYING SOMETHING SO NEW —
CHANGING EVERYTHING,
MEANING EVERYTHING
CALLING MY HEART TO YOU...

COALHOUSE
ALL

NEW
MUSIC

PLAY THAT MELODY
YOUR SWEET MELODY
CALLING MY HEART TO YOU

SARAH
ALL FOR YOU, GIRL
YOU, SARAH

COALHOUSE
YOU

AHH...

(SARAH comes down the stairs. The FAMILY reacts as she walks into COALHOUSE's embrace.)

ALL (except COALHOUSE and SARAH)
JUST LIKE THAT TUNE,
SIMPLE AND CLEAR,
I'VE COME TO HEAR
NEW MUSIC —
BREAKING MY HEART,
OF'NING A DOOR,
CHANGING THE WORLD!
NEW MUSIC!
I'LL
HEAR IT FOREVERMORE!

(SARAH nods a happy, tearful assent. The music changes into the vamp for "WHEELS OF A DREAM" as we find ourselves on an idyllic hillside in the country. COALHOUSE has been polishing his car. SARAH, amused at his fastidiousness, holds their son.)

SARAH
You've been polishing that car so hard there ain't gonna be anything left for us to ride home in!

COALHOUSE
You laugh but you wait, you'll see. This is no ordinary car, Sarah. This car is going to take us to a better day and a better time.
SARAH
Who have you been talking to, Coalhouse?

COALHOUSE
No one, but I've been reading the words of Mr. Booker T. Washington. He's a great man, Sarah.

SARAH
I think you're a great man, Coalhouse.

COALHOUSE
Not like that, Sarah, not like that. Harvard University awarded him a degree. Imagine that. Imagine what this child's life can be.

(SARAH gives COALHOUSE the baby.)

WHEELS OF A DREAM

COALHOUSE
I SEE HIS FACE.
I HEAR HIS HEARTBEAT.
I LOOK IN THOSE EYES.
HOW WISE THEY SEEM.
WELL, WHEN HE IS OLD ENOUGH
I WILL SHOW HIM AMERICA
AND HE WILL RIDE
ON THE WHEELS OF A DREAM.

COALHOUSE
WE'LL GO DOWN SOUTH
AND SEE YOUR PEOPLE
WON'T THEY TAKE TO HIM
LIKE CATS TO CREAM!

SARAH
GO DOWN SOUTH
SEE MY FOLKS.
THEY'LL TAKE TO HIM
MMM...

COALHOUSE
THEN WE'LL TRAVEL ON FROM THERE.

SARAH
CALIFORNIA OR WHO KNOWS WHERE!

BOTH
AND WE WILL RIDE
ON THE WHEELS OF A DREAM.

COALHOUSE
YES, THE WHEELS ARE TURNING FOR US, GIRL,
AND THE TIMES ARE STARTING TO FLOW.
ANY MAN CAN GET WHERE HE WANTS TO
IF HE'S GOT SOME FIRE IN HIS SOUL.
WE'LL SEE JUSTICE, SARAH,
AND PLENTY OF MEN
WHO WILL STAND UP
AND GIVE US OUR DUE,