

Ragtime Soundtrack, His Name Was Coalhouse

[PEOPLE OF HARLEM]

His name was Coalhouse Walker.

[SOLO MAN #1]

Was a native of St. Louis some years before.

[SOLO WOMAN #1]

When he heard the music of Scott Joplin

[SOLO MAN #2]

In St. Louis

[SOLO WOMAN #2]

Bought himself some piano lessons

Working as a stevedore.

[SOLO MAN #3]

Here was a music

That truly inspired.

[LADIES]

Dancers required him.

[MEN]

Club owners hired him.

[ALL]

the strivers of Harlem

Respected and admired him

[SOLO MAN #4]

For turning Harlem into art

[COALHOUSE]

But Coalhouse had a broken heart.

The Good Lord looked down, saw me lonely and loveless,
and thought to Himself: "Enough is enough. I'm putting
Sarah in Coalhouse's life."

And he did.

This wasn't a woman. This was an angel, a gift of God.

Coalhouse loved this woman, but not wisely and not
too well. She left me without a word or trace. There was
no pity for me.

[SARAH'S FRIEND]

None whatsoever, Coalhouse.

[COALHOUSE]

Now she is haunting me

Just like a melody-

the only song I seem to know.

Sarah, my life has changed.

Sarah, I miss you so.

Sarah, I did you wrong.

sarah, where did you go?

And then this morning, the miracle happened. I found
out where she is and I'm going to do my damndest to
see she takes me back. Ladies and gentlemen, the
Gettin' Ready Rag!