

Rhoda and the Fossil Hunt

Music by John Musto
Libretto by Eric Einhorn

“I don’t want him to be disappointed in me.”

Rhoda, unsure of herself, sings a “panic aria” about not wanting to disappoint anyone. All of the action in the opera has led up to this moment when Rhoda tries to figure out what to do next.

RHODA:

I don’t want him to be disappointed in me.

Disappointed.

How Mommy looks when I tell a lie.

Disappointed.

How Daddy sounds when I don’t listen,
Or my teacher, when I misbehave in class.

Will Toppy feel that way

If I can’t do what he asks?

Disappointed.

First that stare that makes me sad.

Disappointed.

And then my stomach starts to hurt real bad!

I feel so awful that I’ve really let them down.

It’s more than I can bear!

He said these bones were there,

But where?

I feel so bad inside.

I want to run and hide!

Will Toppy feel that way?

I want to run away!

Those bones – where could they be?

Will he be disappointed in me?