

# Section 5: Full-Length Plays for Adults

## Part 1: Plays for a Family Audience

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The “plays for a family audience” are specifically written to appeal to both adults and children. (It doesn’t mean that other plays won’t appeal to both, just that these were specifically designed to do so!)

The quoted run-times are a guideline only; so much depends on an individual production.

### A Fairy Tale Adventure

*Author* Sophia Holder

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 13. Minimum total with doubling = 16. Minimum total without doubling = 36. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 65 minutes.

*Music* None.

*Style* Family show, an alternative to British Pantomime, including some similar elements such as audience interaction. (Either a long one-act play, or a short two-act!)

*Outline* The Wicked Witch has changed the endings to all the Fairy Tales so that evil will triumph, and she's kidnapped the Fairy Queen to stop her reversing the spell. Only Hansel, Gretel and Paddy the Gingerbread man can save the tales.

### A Taste of the Orient

*Author* Vivienne Wilkes

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 8. Minimum Female roles = 13. Minimum total with doubling = 22. Minimum total without doubling = 46. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 130 minutes.

*Music* The producer's copy of the script includes suggestions for 10 songs. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

*Style* Family show. Not quite a British Panto, but occupying a similar spot in a theatrical season! Includes two optional storytelling sequences (with roles which might be mimed by younger cast members).

*Outline* It's time for the 500th tea tasting festival in Linga Longa, but the Princess Rosy Lee is intent on escaping the confines of the palace instead. She ships out with the brave Captain Paddy Fields in search of the Temple of Gloom and the Two-handed Teapot of the Red River Demon.

### Bakers

*Author* Tim Cole

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 11. Minimum total with doubling = 18. Minimum total without doubling = 18. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 120 minutes.

*Music* The producer's copy of the script contains suggestions for 8 songs. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

*Style* Full-length comedy play - a family show - with strong characters, running jokes and a fair amount of bakery horseplay! Single main set (a bakery) with front-of-tab scenes.

*Outline* Thanks to Mary's business partner, her bakery is about to close. Luckily the Town Hall Bread suppliers have failed and she could pick up the contract and save the bakery - unless her partner can throw another spanner in the works.

### Frankenstein - The Monster Musical

*Author* George Douglas Lee

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 9. Minimum Female roles = 6. Minimum total with doubling = 17. Minimum total without doubling = 19. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 100 minutes.

*Music* The Producer's Copy of the script comes with piano/vocal scores for 13 original songs.

*Style* Gothic horror musical comedy!

*Outline* If Mary Shelley had written a version of Frankenstein for children, this is how she might have approached it - as a heartwarming family musical, filled with mad scientists, misbegotten creatures and an angry mob!

On a rainy night when the power is out, a father tells his son the story of Frankenstein, and we are transported to Victor Frankenstein's Laboratory with Mary Shelly singing of the creation of the creature. We meet the creature, his bride and a croud of villagers, led by the rabble rouser Frau Gribble, whipped into a frenzy and go in search of 'the Monster'. Eventually, they come to realise that he was just misunderstood!

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### Hook and Peter Pan - How it all began

*Author* Giles Scott, Helen Dooley and Bob Walsh

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 12. Minimum Female roles = 8. Minimum total with doubling = 20. Minimum total without doubling = 35. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 90 minutes.

*Music* Piano and vocal scores for Overture and 15 songs by Helen Dooley and Bob Walsh are supplied with the Producer's Copy of the script.

*Style* Full-length musical which could be played by a youth company, by adults or by a mixture. The production notes include extensive explanations of how to fly!

*Outline* Everyone knows the story of Peter Pan. But how did the Boy Who Never Grew Up learn to fly? How did Hook lose his hand? How did the croc swallow the clock? This enchanting musical provides the answers!

*Plus* The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: \*\* A 'backing track CD' with arrangements of all the songs from the show

### Nursery Crimes - The Catnap Kidnap Caper

*Author* tlc Creative

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 10. Minimum total without doubling = 10. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 80 minutes.

*Music* None.

*Style* A daft detective story set in the worlds of Fairytale and Nursery Rhymes. A full length play addition to the popular Nursery Crimes series. Charles Perrault meets Raymond Chandler.

*Outline* When a trio of bears go missing in Fairytale land, Private Investigator, Puss in Boots is hired to track them down. But as other groups of three animal start to disappear, it seems that the case could be just the start of something much more sinister! Puss, and his assistant Mary Quite Contrary, try to unpick the mystery, meeting Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks, Woodsmen, Trolls, Wolves, Soldiers and even Royalty along the way...

### Rapunzel

*Author* Philippa Smith

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 20. Minimum total without doubling = 18. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 120 minutes.

*Music* Sheet music for four songs is supplied with the Producer's copy of the script. Other songs and dances may be added at the discretion of the Producer.

*Style* Full-cast family show (an alternative to British Pantomime).

*Outline* The classic tale of the long-haired lass retold with additional ghosts, dogs, magical folk and hobgoblins!

### Sherlock's Excellent Adventure

*Author* James Barry

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 4. Minimum total without doubling = 6. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 90 minutes.

*Music* Sheet music for four original songs provided with the Producer's Copy of the Script.

*Style* Parody of Sherlock Holmes stories, visual jokes, theatrical jokes, wordplay. Not strictly a pantomime, but has some of the elements (including Mrs. Hudson as a pantomime dame) and could fit in a slot in the panto season.

*Outline* Lucy Matravers engages Holmes and Watson to resolve a dispute over a family will, bringing conflict with Holmes's arch enemy, Moriarty.

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### Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs [Play]

*Author* Dave Jeanes

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 8. Minimum total with doubling = 18. Minimum total without doubling = 18. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 85 minutes.

*Music* None.

*Style* Full length play (with the option of music if a production wishes to add it!) This is *not* a British Pantomime version of the story, but fits much the same purpose - entertainment for a family audience.

*Outline* The fairytale of the princess driven out by her wicked stepmother, finding refuge with a company of miners.

### The Adventures Of Goldilockpick [Robust Edition]

*Author* Todd Barty

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 18. Minimum total without doubling = 18. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 80 minutes.

*Music* None.

*Style* Comedy play in two acts and in verse. This edition is designed for performance by adults.

*Outline* *The Adventures Of Goldilockpick And Little Red Riding Hoodlum*

A rhyming romp for some familiar characters in unfamiliar juxtaposition.

(It's a family show, but there is stage business including bottom pinching and flashing of comedy underwear, which may be inappropriate for a performing company of kids, therefore there is a separate 'family edition' of the show designed for performance by kids.)

### The Three Musketeers [Play]

*Author* Karen Letts

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 11. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 16. Minimum total without doubling = 17. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 120 minutes.

*Music* None.

*Style* Comedy play in two acts. This is *not* a British Pantomime version of the story, but fits much the same purpose - entertainment for a family audience

*Outline* A comic retelling of Dumas' classic tale, containing all the original elements but reconstructed in a manner that's a little... unorthodox. D'Artagnan and the musketeers battle the wicked Cardinal Richelieu and his accomplice, Milady de Winter.

### The Wizard of Oz

*Author* James Barry

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 6. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 15. Chorus.

*Runtime* Around 90 minutes.

*Music* The Producer's copy of the script includes suggestions for songs and dances. Please note that this is *not* the MGM musical of the Wizard of Oz, and the music from that version can only be used with the MGM script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

*Style* Family show, with songs, visual jokes, physical comedy, wordplay. (Not strictly a British pantomime, but contains many panto elements, so would be at home in a panto season or at any other time!)

*Outline* A tornado sends the farmhouse occupied by Dorothy Gale on an impromptu flight to the land of Oz, where she encounters Munchkins, witches, a scarecrow, a tin man and a lion in her quest to find the Wizard of Oz and return to her home in Kansas.

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### Three Musketeers

*Author* James Barry

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 2. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 3. Minimum total without doubling = 3. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 90 minutes.

*Music* Sheet music for three original songs provided with the Producer's Copy of the Script.

*Style* Hilarious adventure with the Three Musketeers. Visual jokes, physical comedy, theatrical jokes, wordplay. (Not strictly pantomime, but contains many panto elements, so would be at home in a panto season or at any other time!)

*Outline* Cardinal Richelieu is trying to usurp the throne of France by stealing the crown jewels. In desperation, the Queen turns to the Athos, Porthos and Aramis. In retaliation, the Cardinal turns to his servant, Brie (played by an actor who turned up for a performance of Treasure Island) and the seductive Milady. Deception, mayhem, sword fights and hilarity ensue.

### Wind in the Willows - Or A Toad in a Hole

*Author* Lee Baddock & Chris Kirby

*Roles* Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 1. Minimum total with doubling = 15. Minimum total without doubling = 18. No chorus.

*Runtime* Around 105 minutes.

*Music* Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

*Style* Staging of the Kenneth Grahame story, with some elements of British pantomime.

*Outline* The classic tale retold panto-style, complete with Toad's caravan, the stealing of a motor car and the battle for Toad Hall, but with a few new faces along the way.