



About The Show:

Be careful what you wish for, as Stephen Sondheim's and James Lapine's cockeyed fairytale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical. Into the Woods JR. features all of your favorite characters — Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk) and the Witch — in this lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

The musical centers on a baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse, and wind up changed forever.

Characters:

Narrators

The narrators are the storytellers who speaks directly to the audience. These characters help control the pacing of the show and always need to be ready for their next entrance, as they pop in and out throughout the story.

Jack

Jack is an energetic young man who is always looking for an adventure. He begins this show as a simple little boy (his best friend is a cow), but by the end of the show he learns a few valuable lessons.

Jack's Mother

Raising a son and running a farm all by herself has made Jack's Mother a bit frazzled and most definitely overworked.

Baker

The Baker is a good-hearted, likable person who believes he can take on the Witch's curse all by himself. At first, this confidence and his desire to have a child drives him, but he soon learns he needs his wife's help to accomplish the goal.

Baker's Wife

The Baker's Wife is a strong, determined and loving woman whose desire to have a child drives the action of the whole show. Her storyline helps tie all the characters storylines together.

Little Red Ridinghood

Little Red starts the show as a loud, bratty, pushy, glutton who happily manipulates people and situations to get her way. Eventually, she learns some valuable lessons and softens around the edges.

Witch

The Witch is an ancient, mysterious and manipulative woman who will do anything possible to regain her beauty and protect Rapunzel. While she may seem old and haggard, she still has the strength to control other people.

Florinda and Lucinda

Cinderella's Stepsisters are spoiled brats who care only about themselves and marrying Cinderella's Prince.

Mysterious Man

Just like the name suggests, this is one mysterious man. Everything he does is to help the Baker, but he does not explain his motives until the last moment.

Wolf

The Wolf is a sly and dangerous character intently focused on attacking Little Red Ridinghood.

Granny

Granny is a feisty woman who is not afraid to fight the Wolf face to face.

Steward

The Steward is the servant of Cinderella's Prince. He is dependable and willing to do whatever Cinderella's Prince asks.

Milky-White

Milky-White is Jack's cow. You could use a cardboard or plaster cow for this role, but it can be a lot of fun to cast a child as Milky-White.

Cinderella's Father

Cinderella's Father will not win any Father-of-the-Year awards. He doesn't care about his daughter's well-being or her actions.

Cinderella's Prince

Cinderella's Prince is a conceited man who adamantly pursues Cinderella and can't take no for an answer. When not chasing her, he is trying to show up Rapunzel's Prince.

Cinderella's Mother

Cinderella's Mother comforts Cinderella in her one short song.

Rapunzel's Prince

Rapunzel's Prince is the pompous and arrogant brother of Cinderella's Prince. Sibling rivalry runs rampant between the brothers, including each brother's belief that his lady love is the most beautiful.

Cinderella's Stepmother

Cinderella's Stepmother is a mean, evil woman who only cares about her birth children, daughters Florinda and Lucinda.

Cinderella

Cinderella is a simple peasant girl whose one wish is to go to the Festival.

Unfortunately, when her wish comes true she learns that wishes sometimes come with consequences. Cinderella's inner beauty always shines through her sometimes clumsy and awkward exterior.

Rapunzel

Rapunzel has been stuck in a tower for the majority of her life. Finally, she stands up to the Witch in order to get out to see the world.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Fridays after school from 3:30pm-5:30pm: **2/16 (auditions), 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/22, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/31**

Additional show week rehearsals: **Wednesday, May 29th & Thursday, May 30th**

No Rehearsal: **3/15, 3/29 & 4/5 (Spring Break), 5/24 (Memorial Day Weekend)**

Final performances will be held on campus on **Saturday, June 1st at 1PM & 5PM.**

***While crew is expected to be in attendance each week, they may also be assigned projects to work on at home.**

WHAT TO BRING EACH WEEK

- Water
- Extra snacks
- Closed-toe-shoes
- Your script (once you receive it) & pen/pencil, highlighter
- *Please note that cell phones and any other devices are not permitted during rehearsal time.*

SHOES

Please have standard black jazz shoes like [THESE](#) for this production. However, if you have other dance/jazz shoes from another production, that's fine too!

AUDITION MATERIALS

Auditions for all participants will be held on our first program day.

Please prepare (ONE) of the included monologues OR scenes AND (ONE) of the included song excerpts. All materials are included in this packet. Audition songs should be sung acapella (without music). Memorization is *not* required, but encouraged. Being off-book frees up your hands to express yourself, and frees up your face and eyes so we can connect to you emotionally (instead of you looking at a paper). Performers should perform their songs and scenes with confidence, personality, and character.

We want this process to be as fun and stress free as possible. Every single role matters. If you know you don't want a big singing part, let us know! Do what works best for you.

Please note that cast behavior, attitude, and respecting fellow performers during auditions also factors into our casting decisions. Please complete the cast contract prior to auditioning at openingnighttheater.com/castcontract.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE AUDITION MUSIC TRACKS.](#)

THESE TRACKS ARE FOR PRACTICING ONLY. AUDITIONS SHOULD BE SUNG ACAPELLA (WITHOUT MUSIC).

SONG SELECTIONS

"Children Will Listen"
"The Steps of the Palace"
"It Takes Two"
"Giants in the Sky"
"Prologue (Witch's Solo)"
"I Know Things Now"

SCENE 1

BAKER

What might you be doing with a cow in the middle of the forest?

JACK

(Nervous)

I was heading toward market—but I seem to have lost my way.

BAKER'S WIFE

(Coaching BAKER)

What are you planning to do there—?

BAKER

And what are you planning to do there?

JACK

Sell my cow, sir. No less than five pounds.

BAKER

Five pounds!

BAKER'S WIFE

And if you can't fetch that sum? Then what are you to do?

JACK

I suppose my mother and I will have no food to eat.

(BAKER has emptied his pocket; HE has a few coins and the beans in hand)

BAKER'S WIFE

(LOUDLY)

Beans—we mustn't give up our beans! Well... if you feel we must.

BAKER

Huh?

BAKER'S WIFE

(To JACK)

Beans *will* bring you food, son.

JACK

Beans in exchange for my cow?

BAKER'S WIFE

Oh, these are no ordinary beans, son. These beans carry magic.

JACK

Magic? What kind of magic?

BAKER'S WIFE

(To BAKER)

Tell him.

(MYSTERIOUS MAN ENTERS behind a tree)

BAKER

(Nervous)

Magic that defies description.

SCENE 2

BAKER'S WIFE

(Breathless)

Please, just hear me out!

CINDERELLA

We have nothing to discuss. You have attacked me once before—

BAKER'S WIFE

I did not attack *you*! I attacked your shoe. I need it.

(Reaches into her pocket)

Here. Here is a magic bean in exchange for it.

(Hands CINDERELLA the bean)

CINDERELLA

Magic bean?

(Takes bean)

Nonsense!

(Throws the bean away)

BAKER'S WIFE

Don't do that!

(Drops to the ground and searches for bean)

CINDERELLA

I've already given up one shoe this evening. My feet cannot bear to give up another.

(Begins to leave)

BAKER'S WIFE

(Rising)

I need that shoe to have a child!

CINDERELLA

That makes no sense!

(We hear rumblings from the distance)

BAKER'S WIFE

Does it make sense that you're running from a Prince?

SCENE 3

RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE

I, too, have found a lovely maiden. She lives in the top of a tall tower that has no door or stairs.

CINDERELLA'S PRINCE

And how do you manage a visit?

RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE

I stand beneath her tower and say, "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me." And then she lowers the longest, most beautiful head of hair—yellow as corn—which I climb to her.

(BAKER'S WIFE reacts)

CINDERELLA'S PRINCE

(Starts laughing hysterically)

Rapunzel! What kind of name is that? You jest!

RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE

(Defensive)

She is as true as your maiden. A maiden running from a Prince? Does that make sense? None would run from us.

CINDERELLA'S PRINCE

(Sober)

Yet one has.

MONOLOGUE

NARRATOR

(ENTERING)

And so the Mysterious Man died, having helped end the curse on his house. For the Baker, there would be no reunion with his father, and he and his wife, bewildered, returned home.

(BAKER and BAKER'S WIFE EXIT)

The Witch, who had been punished with age and ugliness that night when her beans had been stolen and the lightning flashed, was now returned to her former state of youth and beauty.

(WITCH strikes pose, then EXITS)

And Milky-White, after a night of severe indigestion, was reunited with the now wealthy Jack.

(JACK and JACK'S MOTHER EXIT with MILKY-WHITE and HARP. RAPUNZEL ENTERS, followed by RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE)

As for Rapunzel, she lived impoverished in the desert until the day her Prince, wandering aimlessly, heard a voice so familiar that he went towards it. And when he approached, Rapunzel, overjoyed at seeing him, fell into his arms, weeping. Two of her tears wetted his eyes and their touch restored his vision.

SONG 1 "CHILDREN WILL LISTEN"

ALL

CAREFUL THE THINGS YOU SAY,
CHILDREN WILL LISTEN.
CAREFUL THE THINGS YOU DO,
CHILDREN WILL SEE.
AND LEARN.
CHILDREN MAY NOT OBEY,
BUT CHILDREN WILL LISTEN.

CHILDREN WILL LOOK TO YOU
FOR WHICH WAY TO TURN,
TO LEARN WHAT TO BE.
CAREFUL BEFORE YOU SAY,
"LISTEN TO ME"
CHILDREN WILL LISTEN

SONG 2 "STEPS OF THE PALACE"

CINDERELLA

HE'S A VERY SMART PRINCE,
HE'S A PRINCE WHO PREPARES.
KNOWING THIS TIME I'D RUN FROM HIM,
HE SPREAD PITCH ON THE STAIRS.
I WAS CAUGHT UNAWARES.

AND I THOUGHT: WELL, HE CARES —
THIS IS MORE THAN JUST MALICE.
BETTER STOP AND TAKE STOCK
WHILE YOU'RE STANDING HERE STUCK
ON THE STEPS OF THE PALACE.



SONG 3 "IT TAKES TWO"

BOTH

WE'VE CHANGED.
WE'RE STRANGERS.
I'M MEETING YOU IN THE WOODS.
WHO MINDS
WHAT DANGERS?
I KNOW WE'LL GET PAST THE WOODS.
AND ONCE WE'RE PAST,
LET'S HOPE THE CHANGES LAST

BEYOND WOODS,
BEYOND WITCHES AND SLIPPERS AND HOODS,
JUST THE TWO OF US—
BEYOND LIES,
SAFE AT HOME WITH OUR BEAUTIFUL PRIZE,
JUST THE FEW OF US.

IT TAKES TRUST.
IT TAKES JUST
A BIT MORE
AND WE'RE DONE.
WE WANT FOUR,
WE HAD NONE.
WE'VE GOT THREE.
WE NEED ONE.
IT TAKES TWO.

SONG 4 "GIANTS IN THE SKY"

JACK

(Softly, but intense)

THERE ARE GIANTS IN THE SKY!
THERE ARE BIG TALL TERRIBLE GIANTS IN THE SKY!

WHEN YOU'RE WAY UP HIGH
AND YOU LOOK BELOW
AT THE WORLD YOU LEFT
AND THE THINGS YOU KNOW,
LITTLE MORE THAN A GLANCE
IS ENOUGH TO SHOW
YOU JUST HOW SMALL YOU ARE.

WHEN YOU'RE WAY UP HIGH
AND YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN
IN A WORLD LIKE NONE
THAT YOU'VE EVER KNOWN,
WHERE THE SKY IS LEAD
AND THE EARTH IS STONE,

YOU'RE FREE TO DO
WHATEVER PLEASES YOU,
EXPLORING THINGS YOU'D NEVER DARE
'CAUSE YOU DON'T CARE,
WHEN SUDDENLY THERE'S

A BIG TALL TERRIBLE GIANT AT THE DOOR,
A BIG TALL TERRIBLE GIANT WITH A TERRIBLE ROAR.
SO YOU STEAL SOME GOLD AND AWAY YOU GO,
AND YOU SCRAMBLE DOWN TO THE WORLD BELOW,
AND YOU'RE BACK AGAIN,
ONLY DIFFERENT THAN BEFORE,
AFTER THE SKY.

HELPFUL TIPS:

Memorization is not required, but we do suggest you take some time to practice and look over the materials.

It will be easiest to sing your chosen song excerpt acapella (without music).

Select your audition scene/song based on your comfort level and what you'll have the most fun with. Don't simply select based your desired role.

SONG 5 "PROLOGUE (WITCH'S SOLO)"

WITCH

In the past, when your mother was with child, she developed an unusual appetite. She took one look at my beautiful garden and told your father what she wanted more than anything in the world...

(Spoken)

GREENS, GREENS, AND NOTHING BUT GREENS:
PARSLEY, PEPPERS, CABBAGES AND CEL'RY
ASPARAGUS AND WATERCRESS AND
FIDDLEFERNS AND LETTUCE –

(Falling into "Rap" style)

HE SAID, "ALL RIGHT,"
BUT IT WASN'T, QUITE,
'CAUSE I CAUGHT HIM IN THE AUTUMN
IN MY GARDEN ONE NIGHT!
HE WAS ROBBING ME, HARASSING ME
ROOTING THROUGH MY RUTABAGA,
RAIDING MY ARUGULA³ AND RIPPING UP THE RAMPION⁴
(MY CHAMPION! MY FAVORITE!) –
I SHOULD HAVE LAID A SPELL ON HIM

("SPELL" chord)

RIGHT THERE,
COULD HAVE TURNED HIM INTO STONE
OR A DOG OR A CHAIR

(Drifts off into a momentary trance)

BUT I LET HIM HAVE THE RAMPION –
I'D LOTS TO SPARE.
IN RETURN, HOWEVER,
I SAID, "FAIR IS FAIR:
YOU CAN LET ME HAVE THE BABY
THAT YOUR WIFE WILL BEAR.

AND WE'LL CALL IT SQUARE."

SONG 6 "I KNOW THINGS NOW"

LITTLE RED RIDINGHOOD

AND HE SHOWED ME THINGS,
MANY BEAUTIFUL THINGS,
THAT I HADN'T THOUGHT TO EXPLORE.
THEY WERE OFF MY PATH,
SO I NEVER HAD DARED.
I HAD BEEN SO CAREFUL
I NEVER HAD CARED.
AND HE MADE ME FEEL EXCITED—
WELL, EXCITED AND SCARED.

WHEN HE SAID, "COME IN!"
WITH THAT SICKENING GRIN,
HOW COULD I KNOW WHAT WAS IN STORE?
ONCE HIS TEETH WERE BARED,
THEN, I REALLY GOT SCARED—
WELL, EXCITED AND SCARED—

BUT HE DREW ME CLOSE
AND HE SWALLOWED ME DOWN,
DOWN A DARK SLIMY PATH
WHERE LIE SECRETS THAT I NEVER WANT TO KNOW,

AND I KNOW THINGS NOW,
MANY VALUABLE THINGS,
THAT I HADN'T KNOWN BEFORE:
DO NOT PUT YOUR FAITH
IN A CAPE AND A HOOD—
THEY WILL NOT PROTECT YOU
THE WAY THAT THEY SHOULD—
AND TAKE EXTRA CARE WITH STRANGERS,
EVEN FLOWERS HAVE THEIR DANGERS.
AND THOUGH SCARY IS EXCITING,
NICE IS DIFFERENT THAN GOOD.

MUSIC TRACKS

**MUSIC TRACKS AND ALL CAST MATERIALS
CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT:**

openingnighttheater.com/treematerials