

Snow White and the Three Pigs

Children's opera in seven scenes

Libretto by Marrienne Webber

Music by John Webber

Translated from the German by

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Characters

(in the order first heard)

Fairy Queen (speaking role)

Chorus of Hunters

Three Pigs

Wolf

Snow White

Hansel and Gretel

Seven Dwarves

Trees, Clouds and Butterflies (silent roles during the Intermezzo)

Evil Queen (may be played by the Fairy Queen)

Mirror of the Evil Queen

Dragon (silent role may be played by the seven Dwarves)

Prince

Instruments of the Orchestra

flute - oboe - bassoon

piano

percussion

strings (or quintet)

Production Notes

Props Requisites

For the Hunters: bows and arrows, axes, swords, hats, etc.

For the Dwarves: shovels, spades, pickaxes, etc.

For the Evil Queen: hair brush, cosmetics, toiletries, empty mirror frame (no glass)

For the Good Fairy: hollow pumpkin with rolled up carpet inside

For the Prince: helmet, armour, sword, etc.

For the Wolf: hand cuffs, chains, clothes pins (for the stomach in Scene 7)

For Snow White: broom, mop, bucket, household cleansers, sewing gear, etc.

For the house in the forest: table, 8 chairs, 8 plates, bowls, cutlery for 8, etc.

MasksHeads

for the Wolf, 3 Pigs and Dragon (must not cover mouths!)

Costumes

The Dragon is a row of several children (possibly the Dwarves), the first of whom carries the head, the rest with a painted blanket for the body.

During the intermezzo small children may be dressed as trees, birds, butterflies, clouds, etc.

Special Effects

The Flying Carpet: the carpet lies on a table, four small children dressed as clouds stand at the corners and flap the carpet. A landscape may be painted on a large roll of paper which two clouds may then unroll in front of the carpet during its voyage (intermezzo)

Chorus of the Eaten exits from Wolf's stomach: The Wolf is laid on his back, with paws in the air, on a large tree trunk (table with painted tree in front), the Eaten climb out (from behind the table) over the Wolf.

Whilst the Dragon attacks the carpet a storm may be evinced with thunder and wind machines.

SNOW WHITE AND THE THREE PIGS

SCENE 1

The Three Little Pigs are chased by the Wolf. The Wolf, in turn, is chased by the Hunters.

Enter Fairy Queen in front of curtain:

And now we ask you all to hear Of fairy-tale characters far and near

We hope you'll like what we've prepared for you And will refrain

from hiss and boo To thank you here's a curtsy low So relax and be

merry, on with the show!

Exit Fairy Queen

Hunters (Offstage):

Hi ho! Hi ho! We're go ing af ter the Wolf, the Wolf!

When we find him we'll tie him up and bind him then

we will grind him. Hi ho! Hi ho! Hi ho! Hi ho!

Three Pigs (Enter):

Oh no! Oh no Oh no! My toe, my toe, my toe.

Run ing to and fro, I just stubbed my toe. The Wolf is right be hind, No, he won't be kind. So we must catch the next bus, so that he will not catch us. And to the high hills we shall ride, from the bad Wolf we shall hide. No more need for us to wor ry no more tears if we just hur ry Come on now's the time to hurry. There he is a gain now it's time to go.

(Three Pigs Exuent)

The Wolf (Enter):

Didn't I just see them? Didn't I just smell them? The Piglets oh, the Piglets oh, I wish I had them now. My tum my needs some pork, yes I must have some pork! My tum my needs some ham, yes I must have some ham! At my feast I'll dine on hash brown eggs and swine.

Hunters (Offstage then entering one by one):

Hi ho! Hi ho! We're go ing af ter the Wolf, the Wolf! When we find him we'll tie him up and bind him then we will grind him. Hi ho! Hi ho! Hi ho! Hi ho!

SCENE 2

Snow White works in the cottage. Hansel and Gretel enter, hungry and lost. Snow White takes them in, feeds them and puts them to bed. The Seven Dwarves come home to find Hansel and Gretel in their beds. Offstage, the Wolf chases the Pigs. Eventually, the Pigs run into the cottage followed by the Wolf. Tumult ensues.

Snow White:

All day I scrub and sew and sing the work a day flies by a spee dy wind and when my little

men ar rive they'll each have a bath then sit down to supper at five.

I wash and press and fold their clothes and where it will all end no body knows may be

some day I'll flip my lid I'll leave all this mess
to join up with women's lib.

All day I scrub and sew and mend for my sev-
en lit tle men I cook and bake for all their
sakes so they can come home to jam tarts and
honey cakes.

Gretel:

Han- sel!

Hansel:

Gre- tel! Han- sel!

Gretel:

Where are you? Gre- tel!

Hansel:

I'm here where are you?

Gretel:

I'm cold and I'm frightened and now I've hurt
my arm.

Hansel:

Just a bit further I'm sure we'll come to no
harm.

Snow White:

I think they must be hungry and tired.

You lovely children come inside

To eat, rest and sleep by the fireside!

H & G enter the house.

Enter Seven Dwarves.

Dwarves:

Work is over for the day let's go home!

And in the morning we'll be back again we're
busy gnomes.

Where is Snow White?

Has she forgotten to meet us?

Snow White we're home where are you,
where are you?

Snow White:

Here I am, come inside
wipe your feet and leave the dirt outside.

I have a surprise.

You needn't ask because I'll tell you.

Come inside, come inside.

1st. Dwarf: ^

Oh look! Oh look! My bowl is bare!

2nd. Dwarf:

Mine is too.

3rd. Dwarf:

Someone's had my stew.

4th. Dwarf:

Who is the villain?

We want to kill him!

5th Dwarf:

Oh my! Oh my! That's not nice.

There's a gIrl in my bed, I bet she's got lice!

6th. Dwarf:

Too bad, how sad, in mine there's a lad.

7th Dwarf:

When you've worked so hard all day

All Dwarves:

It really makes us mad!

Snow White:

Calm down, calm down

don't be unkind

The children were so mis'erable

I never thought you would mind.

3 Pigs behind the stage in the distance:

Help! Help! The Wolf is right behind us.

Run and hide so he can't find us.

Snow White:

What is it that I hear?

Some mischief's coming near.

I wonder what we have here?

It's probably nothing but let's be clear.

3 Pigs:

Help! Help! He wants our hides.

Smoked and cured in his insides.

Snow White:

What is it that I see here?

Something dreadful is afoot I fear!

The Pigs, they're running for their lives.

I see the Wolf chasing close behind.

3 Pigs:

Help! Help! The Wolf is right be- hind us.

Run and hide so he can't find us.

H & G & SW:

Run fa- ter, fas- ter the Wolf is close be- hind.

Quick, come this way we'll save you come what may.

The Wolf's close be- hind.

3 Pigs:

Help! Help! He wants our hides.

Smoked and cured in his insides.

SW & 7 Dwarves:

Fas- ter, fas- ter run.

The Wolf is close, run, run, run.

come in- side quick let's hide them

Hur- rah! Hur- rah! Here they are!

H & G:

The Wolf's close be- hind.

run, run, fas- ter not much further now.

faster, faster. Come inside now quick let's hide them.

Hur- rah! Hur- rah! Here they are!

SCENE 3

Distraught Snow White sits by the window and hears the Hunters approaching in search of the Wolf. She offers to assist them by using her magic lamp to ask the Good Fairy for help. The Good Fairy appears and gives them the use of a flying carpet.

Hunters (offstage):

Hi ho! Hi ho! We're going after the Wolf the Wolf.

When we find him we'll tie him up and bind him

then we will grind him. Hi ho! Hi ho!

(to SW)

Good day to you my pretty child

do you know we're the Hunters wild?

Yes we hunt the Wolf

yes we'll find him we'll bind him

and grind him

we'll tie him up in knots.

we'll find him and bind him

we'll bind him and grind him!

Snow White:

I'll help you Hunters

I'll help you find him.

But first we must ask the Good Fairy's advice.

She rewards always good deeds

My magic lamp I'll get right now.

Hunters:

Magic, magic, magic lamp

Please do help us if you can.

Help us find the Wolf

When we find him we'll bind him and grind him

Oh yes we will!

Snow White:

Now I'll rub it, one, two, three;

Soon she'll be here just you see.

Soon the Good Fairy will come

To see us she'll come and she'll help us.

1st. time Snow White

2nd time S.W. and Hunters:

Fairy Queen we beg of you

Fairy true we know you'll come through

Fairy good we need a clue,

Please do tell us what to do.

Enter the Fairy Queen.

Fairy Queen:

I am the Good Fairee

I always help, you'll see.

The Wolf you seek is up the creek.

This advice is free!

Out of this pumpkin, zero, one, two

Comes a flying carpet, just for you.

It may be ragged, worn and thin,

But it'll take you to the Wolf, So go for a spin!

Exit Fairy Queen.

Intermezzo

Fantastic Masque of the Flying Creatures. The carpet flies through the air assisted by dancing clouds, birds and butterflies.

The flying carpet is centre stage (on a table) with Snow White and the Hunters on board.

Scene 4. Forest, next to the Evil Queen's Castle.

An unhappy Evil Queen learns from her Mirror that another is fairer than she.

The Castle has a large window through which one may see the Evil Queen combing her hair. The Magic Mirror hangs against the wall and is, for the moment, empty .

Evil Queen:

Speak to me, mirror on the wall.

Who is the fairest of us all?

Speak to me, mirror on the wall.

Evil Queen steps in front of the mirror, as she does so the reflection steps into the mirror.

Mirror:

No more will you the fairest be

Another comes from across the sea.

Never look her straight in the eye;

If you do you will die

Look in her eye and you will die.

An unwelcome visitor flies this way

Never look her straight in the eye;

If you do you will die.

Look in her eye and you will die.

Exit Mirror.

Scene 5 Forest, next to the Evil Queen's Castle.

The Queen calls upon her Dragon to keep this intruder from entering her queendom. The Hunters and Snow White have a bumpy and unwelcome landing.

Evil Queen:

Dragon, dragon, call out the dragon!

She shall not cross the border! This I order.

Enter the Dragon and circle the carpet. There is thunder and lightning.

Evil Queen (still at window):

I must not delay

I must be on my way.

Exit Evil Queen.

Scene 6 Near the Evil Queen's castle

The new arrivals are met by the Dragon and the Evil Queen. Snow White lies unconscious. The Hunters explain they are stalking the Wolf. Evil Queen offers to look after Snow White for them.

The Hunters exit. The Evil Queen prepares a curse for Snow White but is intercepted by the Prince who announces that they are engaged to be married. The Prince awakens Snow White with a kiss to the Queen's horror.

Hunters slowly regain consciousness, Snow White remains unconscious.

1st. Hunter:

Where have we landed?

2nd. Hunter:

I think we are stranded.

3rd. Hunter:

We must beware

4th. Hunter:

Are you hurt?

5th. Hunter:

I'm fine, but Snow White seems dead!

Enter the Evil Queen:

Where do you come from?

What do you want?

Hunters:

We're looking for the Wolf, the evil one.

We were told that wolves live here.

Evil Queen:

Who is the lovely child?

Hunters:

Snow White, we think she is dead.

Evil Queen:

She is not dead, she's only asleep.

Behind those trees, there you will find him.

Go, go, my dears. I will worry about Snow White.

Hunters slowly exeunt.

Hunters:

When we find him we'll bind him and grind him

Hi ho! Hi ho!

Evil Queen:

It is the only way:

Snow White must die today

Before the Good Fairy hears of it

My magic will have done it's bit.

It is the only way:

Snow White must die today

Before the Good Fairy hears of it

My magic will have done it's bit

It is the only way

Snow White must die today

I'll go and get my book of magic verse

So that I may speak my curse.

Exit Evil Queen

Enter Prince

Prince:

At last I've found her, my Snow White,

Just as the Good Fairy said I might!

Evil Queen enters with book not noticing the Prince. The Prince is intensely occupied with Snow White and does not notice the Evil Queen.

Evil Queen:

Hocus pocus spell number one, two, three, four

Wait 'till you see what I've in store.

Hocus pocus magic spell

spell # 368F: in the right eye blind, in the left ear deaf.

6592: cleaning the elephant cage at the Oakland Zoo.

1 thru 20: at Spenger's she'll gut fish aplenty.

52 times 6: she'll be consigned to opera in the sticks.

10 to the power of N: thru bowing class she'll sit, bound and gagged, again and again.

156 K: it will be theory class every day (and every holiday) we'll have to raise the theory teacher's pay.

Hocus pocus twenty-one thru infinity

In a coma she shall forever be!

Prince:

Now is the moment to bring you back to life!

Evil Queen:

No, no, stop, who are you?

The girl is sick and needs her rest.

Prince:

It is Snow White my bride

And tomorrow the knot shall be tied!

Evil Queen:

No, no stop, no, her glance brings only death

She must not wake! She must not wake!

Agghh!

Evil Queen screams as Snow White awakens from the Prince's kiss and gazes upon the Evil Queen.

Scene 7 Near the Evil Queen's castle

The Hunters catch the Wolf and open him up. Out jump the Three Pigs, Hansel, Gretel, Seven Dwarves, Red Riding Hood, etc. The Hunters want to shoot the Wolf, but the Wolf pleads for his life, promising to become a vegetarian. The Fairy Queen pardons him; all live happily ever after.

Chorus of the Eaten:

So now we are free

All thanks and glory be

The Wolf will get no bail

For he will go straight to jail

Snow White & Hunters join in:

So now we are free

All thanks and glory be

The Wolf will get no bail

Wolf (with stomach held together with clothes pegs):

Please let me live I promise to be vegetarian.

I'll go to church every day I'll be a good Presbyterian.

No more shall I eat flesh, just let me live

Just let me live, this is my plea.

Enter the Fairy Queen.

Fairy Queen:

I think the way you're handling this is really a mistake.

Are you all really willing to give up pork and steak?

We must settle our differences with a little give and take.

Let patience and understanding for everyone increase.

Let's get to know each other and learn to live

in peace.

And so now enough's been said

It's getting late, it's time for bed

We hope you have enjoyed this sight

And wish you all a very good night!

All:

So now we are free

All thanks and glory be

We all shall live in harmony

and happy ever after all shall be!

End of the Opera.