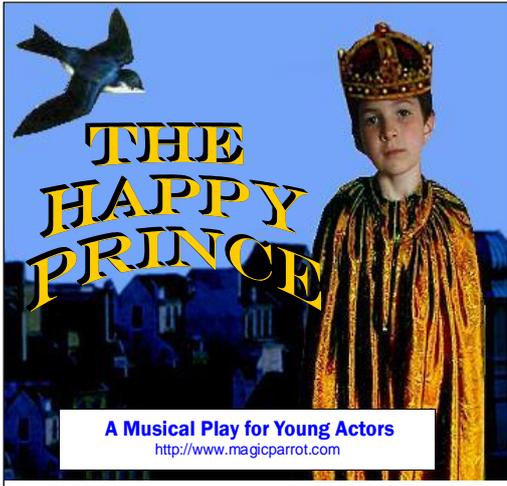


THE HAPPY PRINCE (INFO and Script Sample)



A musical presentation based on the classic story. Written in simple modern English. Suitable for a class of primary school children aged 7-11 and/or pupils with special needs or EAL. The script is compelling but easy to stage. Spoken parts are short and easy to learn. The performance relies on narration, music and movement. The script comes with a 22-track CD containing 6 attractive modern easy songs and musical pieces for dance/movement sequences. Songs are provided with and without lyrics. No musical ability is needed- just play the backing tracks on the CD and sing along. (However, a simple melody-line score is provided too as a free extra.) Narration binds the script together and reduces the need for prompting.

A wonderful modern musical based on the compelling tale of the statue, the faithful swallow, the little match girl and other characters. Full version 40-50 mins. Comes with a CD of 6 great songs and 4 instrumentals for dance/movement. . Price includes script, CD, score (on CD), and performance licence. Recommended....a really nice show to act, sing and dance. KS2 or ages 5-11. For any time of year. ALSO AVAILABLE-20 MINUTE ASSEMBLY VERSION.

CAST:

Happy Prince, Swallow, Town Crier, Mayor, Officials, 3 Narrators(s), Angels, Math Master, Charity Children, Mother, Child, Foundry Worker, Seamstress, Boy, Princess, Courtiers, Egyptian Dancers, Student, Match Girl, Match Girl's Father, Poor People.

CD LISTING

**01 This is a Great Day! (Vocals) 12 This is a Great Day! (Backing)
02 Angel Music 1 13 Angel Music 1
03 Swallow Music 14 Swallow Music
04 The Prince is Sad (Vocals) 15 The Prince is Sad (Backing)
05 Egyptian Dance 16 Egyptian Dance
06 This is a wonderful life (Vocals) 17 This is a wonderful life (Backing)
07 Fly Fly Fly (Vocals) 18 Fly Fly Fly (Backing)
08 A Little Bit of Heaven (Vocals) 19 A Little Bit of Heaven (Backing)
09 Maybe we are Dreaming 20 Maybe we are Dreaming (Backing)
10 Angel Music 2 21 Angel Music 2**

Hints for performing this play:

- 1) The Prince "stands" on a pedestal as a statue. You may wish to provide the actor relief from fatigue by providing a tall stool for him to sit on, the stool being covered by his robes.
- 2) In the classic story, the prince has his gold-leaf covering peeled away. This may be impractical on stage. Substitute other items- e.g. A Golden cape, Golden gloves, Golden Waistcoat, Golden Hat, Golden neckchain etc.
- 3) Recommended Props for this play are:

Items for the Prince (see above), sheet, sword with a detachable ruby in its hilt, 2 sapphires. Gown and needle for seamstress. Quilt (bed) for sick boy. Cup of river water. Bell for town crier. Writing materials for writer. Broken lead "heart", dead bird.

CAST:

Happy Prince.....Swallow.....
Town Crier.....Mayor.....
3 Narrator(s).....
Angels.....
Official(s).....Math Master.....
Charity Children
Mother.....Child.....
Town CrierFoundry Worker
Seamstress.....Boy
Princess.....Courtier
Other Courtiers (optional).....
Egyptian Dancers.....
Student.....
Match GirlMatch Girl's Father
Poor People.....

The Happy Prince

Scene opens with an unveiling ceremony. The Happy Prince is standing left of stage, covered in a sheet. The town crier, the mayor, an official , two charity children, a mathematical master, a child and his mother and various poor people enter.

Narrator 1: Long ago, the officials of a great city erected a statue in the city square, in memory of a kind prince who had died. It was time for the statue to be presented to the people by the Mayor.

Town Crier (ringing bell) Oh Yea! Oh Yea! Make way for the Mayor! Come and see the Prince! Come and see the Prince! Oh Yea! Oh Yea! Today is a very great day!

***** **SONG: CD TRACK 1 This is A Great Day!** *****

***People of the town! People of the town!
Everybody Yeah Yeah Everybody gather round!
This is a great day! Oh, Yea! This is a great day!***

***People of the town! People of the town!
Everybody Yeah Yeah Everybody Wave your Arms! (Action)
This is a great day! Oh Yea! This is a great day!***

***People of the Town! People of the Town!
Everybody Yeah Yeah Everybody Celebrate! (Punch upwards with one arm at a time)
This is a great day! Oh Yea! This is a great day! (1 bar drums then intro)***

***People of the Town! People of the Town!
Everybody Yeah Yeah Everybody Clap Your hands! (Action)
This is a great day! Oh Yea! This is a great day!***

Mayor: People of the Town! What a great day. It's time to present our new statue! He is as beautiful as a weathercock! *(to official)* Only not quite so useful. Ladies and gentlemen- I give you - the Happy Prince! *(Removes the sheet. Clapping, cheering)*

Child (cries) It's cold, mummy! I want to go home!

Mother: Why can't you be like the Happy Prince? The Happy Prince never cries!

Charity Child: Oh! How lovely! He looks just like an angel.

Other charity children: Yes! Like an angel!

Mathematical Master: How do you know? You have never seen an angel.

Charity Child: Oh yes we have, sir! In our dreams!

(Enter angels, dancing gracefully, exit as music fades)

*******CD TRACK 2 Angel Music 1*******

(All except the Prince exit)

Narrator 2: High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold. For eyes he had two bright sapphires, and a large red ruby glowed on his sword-hilt. One evening, a little swallow flew over the city.

***** **CD TRACK 3: Swallow Music*******

(ENTER SWALLOW, FLYING GENTLY AROUND THE STAGE AS MUSIC PLAYS)

Narrator 3: Winter was approaching. He should really be flying south for the winter. He saw the statue and landed between the feet of the Happy Prince.

Swallow: I'll sleep here. Very nice. I have a golden bedroom!

Narrator: The swallow put his head under his wing. Suddenly, a large drop of water fell on him.

Swallow: What a curious thing. There isn't a cloud in the sky, but it's raining.

Narrator 1: The sky was clear and bright and the stars were shining. The swallow decided to fly off to find a chimney pot to sleep in instead. But as he looked up, he noticed it wasn't raining after all. The Happy Prince was weeping.

Swallow: Who are you?

Prince: I am the Happy Prince!

Swallow: Happy Prince? Why are you weeping, then? You've drenched me with your tears!

Prince: When I was alive, I didn't know what tears were! **(ANGELS RE-ENTER)**

ANGEL 1 : When he was alive, the Prince was so rich and so well cared for. He never needed to weep.

ANGEL 2: But now, as a tall statue, he can see all the ugliness and misery in this city.

***** **CD TRACK 4: THE PRINCE IS SAD*******

(SONG IS SUNG BY ALL. ANGELS DANCE ON STAGE. ANGELS EXIT WHEN SONG ENDS)

***The Prince is sad! He is weeping!
He is sad, not happy after all
He can see all the sadness within the city walls.***

***The prince is sad! He is weeping.
He is sad, not happy after all.
He can see such misery it makes his sad tears fall.***

***The Prince is sad. Oh...
The Prince is sad. Oh....
The Prince is sad. Oh.....***

Narrator 2: The prince was unhappy because he could see such sadness in the city. He wanted to help. Far away in a little street there is a poor house. One of the windows is open. The prince can see a woman and a boy (**ENTER SEAMSTRESS AND BOY**) Her face is thin and worn, and she has coarse, red hands, all pricked by the needle. She is a seamstress. She is embroidering passion- flowers on a satin gown for the loveliest of the Queen's princesses to wear at the next Court-ball. Her little boy is ill. He has a fever, and he is asking for oranges. But she has no money. She can only give him river water to drink.

BOY: My throat is so sore. Can I have an orange, please?

SEAMSTRESS: There there, my child. I have no money for oranges. Never mind, have a drink of water from the river.

PRINCE: Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow, please be my messenger. Take them the ruby from my sword.

SWALLOW: Sir, I cannot. I really must fly south for the winter. I am on my way to Egypt. My friends have already flown ahead. They must be having such a wonderful time in the sunshine. (**Enter Egyptian dancers**)

***** **CD TRACK 5 Egyptian Dance** *****

PRINCE: Oh, but Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow, please please be my messenger. Please do take them the ruby from my sword.

NARRATOR 2: But the swallow refused, and said that he didn't like boys.

SWALLOW: I don't like boys. Last Summer as I flew over the river two boys threw stones at me. They didn't hit me of course - because we swallows fly so well, I dodged them all.

PRINCE: Oh, but Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow. Not all boys are cruel. Please, please please be my messenger. Please do take them the ruby from my sword.

SWALLOW: It is very cold here. But I will stay with you for one night, and be your messenger.

PRINCE: Thank you, little Swallow.

NARRATOR 3: The swallow pecked the ruby from the sword hilt and took it to the seamstress and the little boy. The seamstress was asleep so he put the ruby next to her. Then he flew gently round the bed, fanning the boy's forehead with his wings.

LITTLE BOY: I feel cooler now. I must be getting better.

SEAMSTRESS: (*Wakes*) I had a lovely dream. I thought I saw a swallow! But it couldn't have been. All the swallows have flown South for the winter. Oh, my child, you look a lot better. Your fever has gone! (*Finds ruby*) Look! Someone has left us a marvellous present. We can sell it. You can have all the oranges you can eat! (**EXIT SEAMSTRESS AND BOY**)

NARRATOR 1: The swallow flew back to the Prince. On the way he passed by the palace and heard the sound of dancing. A beautiful princess came out on to the balcony with her lover.

(ENTER PRINCESS and COURTIER)

END OF SCRIPT SAMPLE

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09 Maybe we are Dreaming	20 Maybe we are Dreaming (Backing)
10 Angel Music 2	21 Angel Music 2
11 Curtain Call Music	22 Curtain Call Music
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