

Opera Funtime

GO



PRESENTS ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK'S

Hansel & Gretel

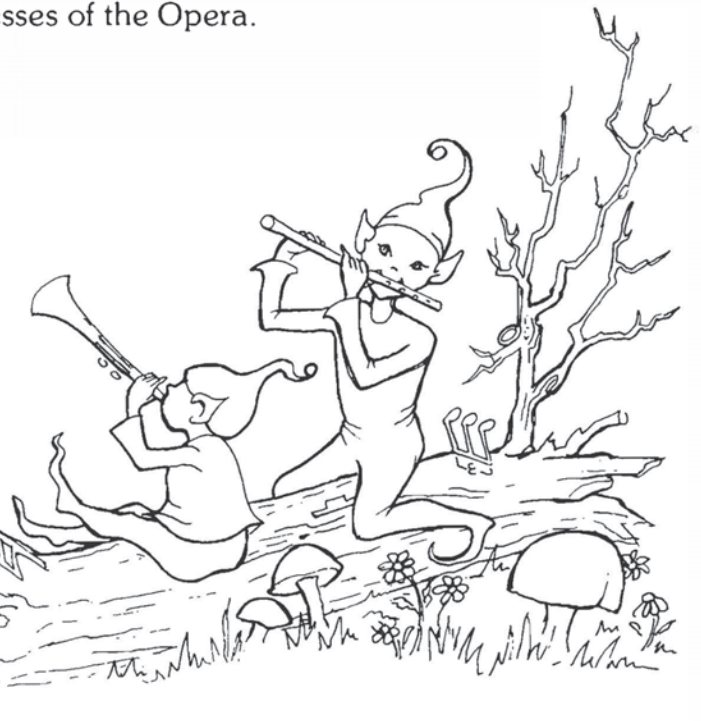


Young Patronesses of the Opera

**A
Children's Introduction
To Opera**

Illustrated by Valerie Mydske.

This is a smaller version of the *Hansel and Gretel Opera Funtime* booklet that coincides with the In-School Opera program presented by the Young Patronesses of the Opera.





Fairy Tales

A Pocketful of Magic

A fairy tale is a story understood by both children and grown-ups. Each of us experiences the enchantment of fairy stories in a special way. We discover how to conquer fears and overcome problems. We can outwit the selfish giant and defeat the wicked witch! Through many centuries and all over the world, folk tales have been told over and over again. In Eighteenth Century Germany two famous brothers, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, wrote down many of these stories in a book which we know today as *Grimm's Fairy Tales*. One of these stories was about a brother and sister named Hansel and Gretel. It was so treasured by a young German girl named Adelheid, that she put the story in verse form as a special holiday celebration for her family.

In A Victorian Living Room

An Opera was born . . . an opera about a brother and sister written by a brother and sister! The brother was a famous German composer Engelbert Humperdinck, who lived from 1854 to 1921. The sister, Adelheid Wette, convinced her brother to write the music to go with her story in verse (libretto). In 1893, the opera "Hansel and Gretel" was performed in Weimar, Germany with Richard Strauss as conductor.





Storyline of HANSEL & GRETEL

This is the condensed, 30 minute version of this opera, performed in schools through Ypo's In-School Opera program.

Gretel and Hansel, sister and brother,
Are home alone, without Father and Mother.
Their parents, who went off to sell all their goods,
Told them to pick strawberries in the near woods.

The children are hungry and want something to eat.
So they eat their strawberries, hmm hmm, nice and sweet!

But once in the forest, they linger too long.
Any route that they take, seems to be wrong!

They must sleep in the forest and each is afraid.
So before they lay down, each of them prayed.
A Sandman appears with real fairy dust
To save the children is an absolute must!

They awaken in front of a house made of sweets.
Wow! What a thrill for them – so many treats!
But a wicked witch lives there and she casts a spell
She will eat sweets and the children as well!

Hansel is caged now and ready to cook.
She asks Gretel to peak in the oven to look.
But Gretel, so clever, pretends not to see,
And says to the witch, "Oh my, please show me."

When at the oven the witch opens the door
Gretel pushes her in, she'll hurt them no more!
Hansel and Gretel at last are both free
And on their way home they run happily!

An opera is a musical drama or comedy performance, where the actors sing rather than speak their lines. The word “opera” derives from the Latin word opus, which literally means “a work of art.” Like a play, an opera is performed on a stage with singing-actors, scenery, makeup and lighting.

Musical terms that describe some types of music you hear in an opera.

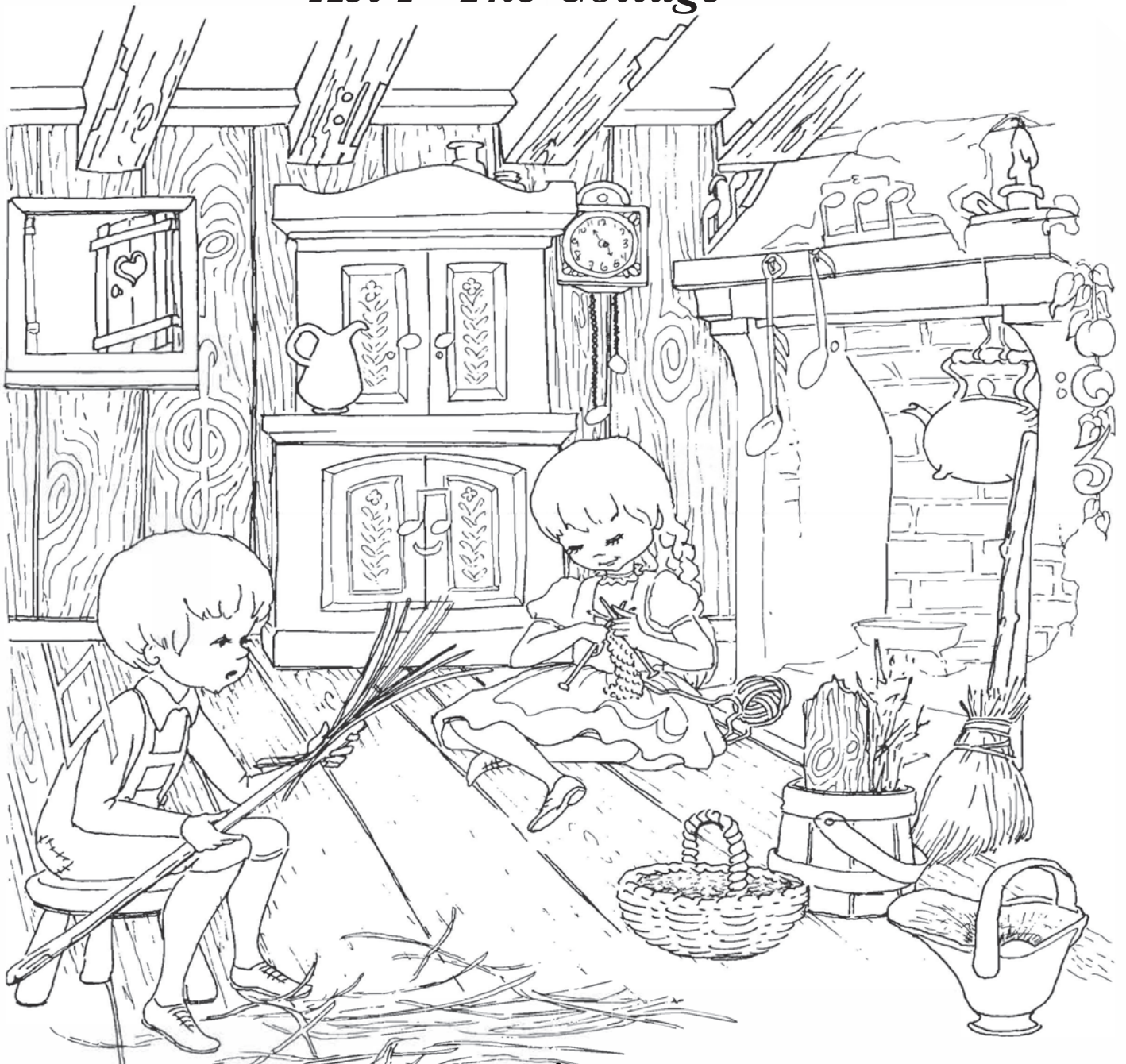
Recitative (re-chi-ta-TEEV) - Sung dialogue that propels the action forward. The singing is generally faster and is composed to sound more like speech.

Aria - An extended musical passage sung as a solo. It often explores emotions as a character absorbs, reflects, and makes decisions in the drama.

Duet - An extended musical passage for two singers. A trio is for three singers and a quartet is a piece for four singers.

Try singing some of the music from this opera that showcase recitative, aria and duets.

Act I The Cottage





SUSY, LITTLE SUSY

Gretel

Su-sy, lit-tle Su-sy, pray what is the news? The
geese are run-ning bare-foot be-cause they've no shoes!

BROTHER, COME DANCE WITH ME

Gretel

Bro-ther come and dance with me; both my hands I of-fer thee.
Right foot first, left foot then, round a-bout and back a-gain!

Gretel and Hansel

With your foot you tap, tap, tap; with your hand you clap, clap, clap
Right foot first, left foot then, round a-bout and back a-gain!



Act II The Forest



EVENING PRAYER

Hansel and Gretel

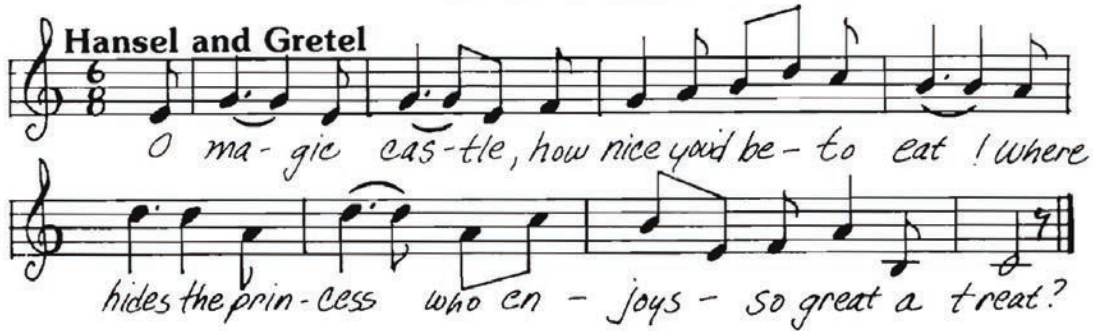
When at night I go to sleep, four-teen an-geles watch do - keep.

All to whom'tis giv-en to guide my steps to Hea - - ven.



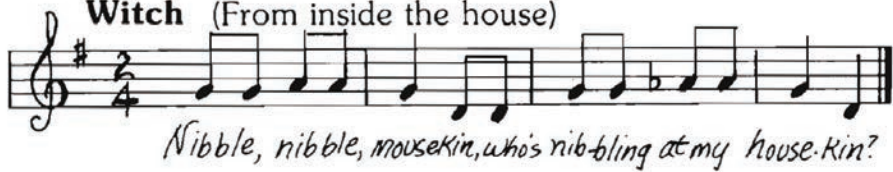
MAGIC CASTLE

Hansel and Gretel



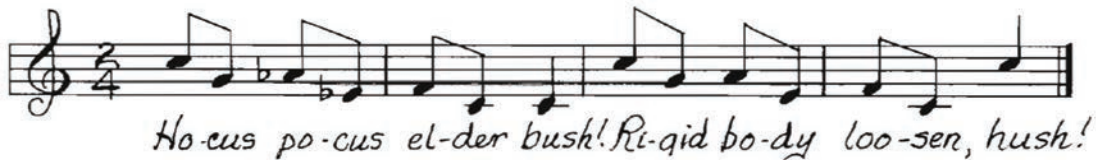
NIBBLE, NIBBLE

Witch (From inside the house)



HOCUS, POCUS

Witch



WHEN PAST BEARING IS OUR GRIEF

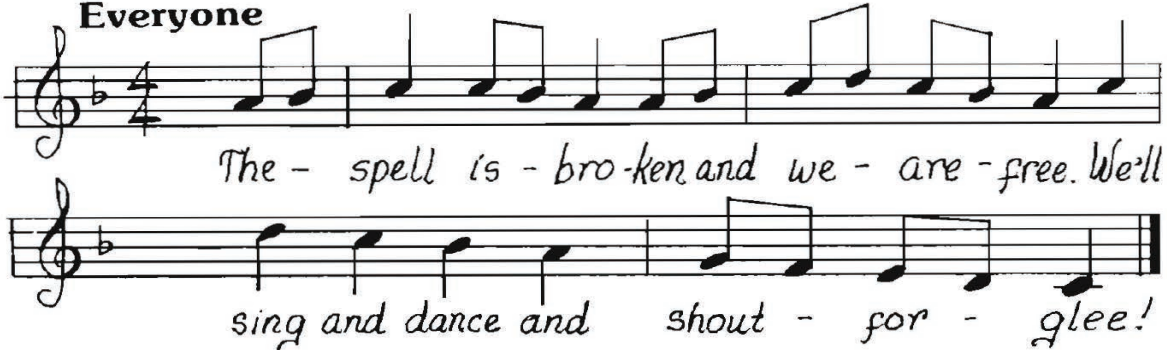
Everyone





THE SPELL IS BROKEN

Everyone



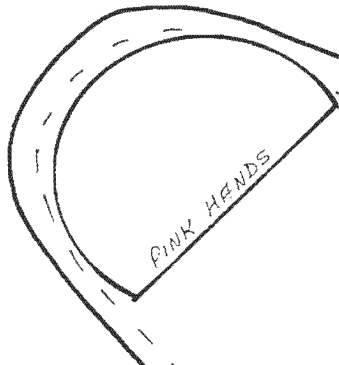
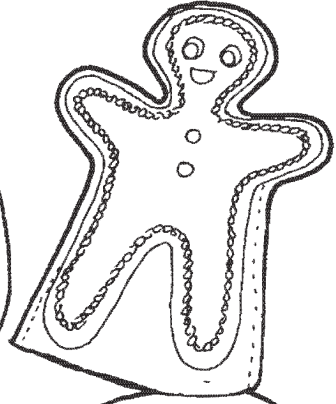
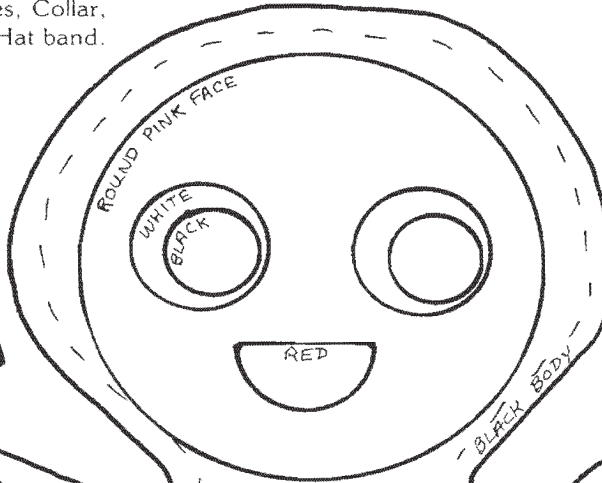
Opera Etiquette

Learn a little about the show.
Read the story before you go.
Wear your very nicest clothes.
No giant hats, hairdos, or bows.
Get there early take your seat.
No noisy wrappers on what you eat.
No talking, singing, or loud snoring,
Even if you think it's boring!
No photographing of the show
And taping is a real no-no.
Turn cell phones off, PDA's too.
No texting 'til the show is through.
To make performers feel real proud
Applaud or yell, "Bravo!" real loud!

Hand Puppets

Light brown body,
White yarn icing,
and Buttons.

Red eyes, Collar,
and Hat band.



Create a puppet of one or more of the characters. Then think about...

If you were the WITCH, how would you tell the story of Hansel and Gretel?

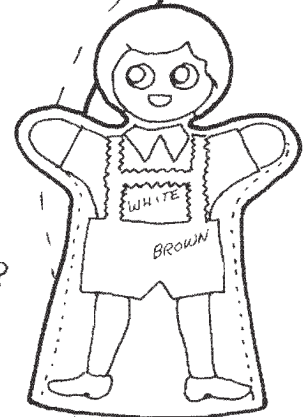
... If you were a GINGERBREAD CHILD?

... If you were HANSEL?

... If you were GRETEL?



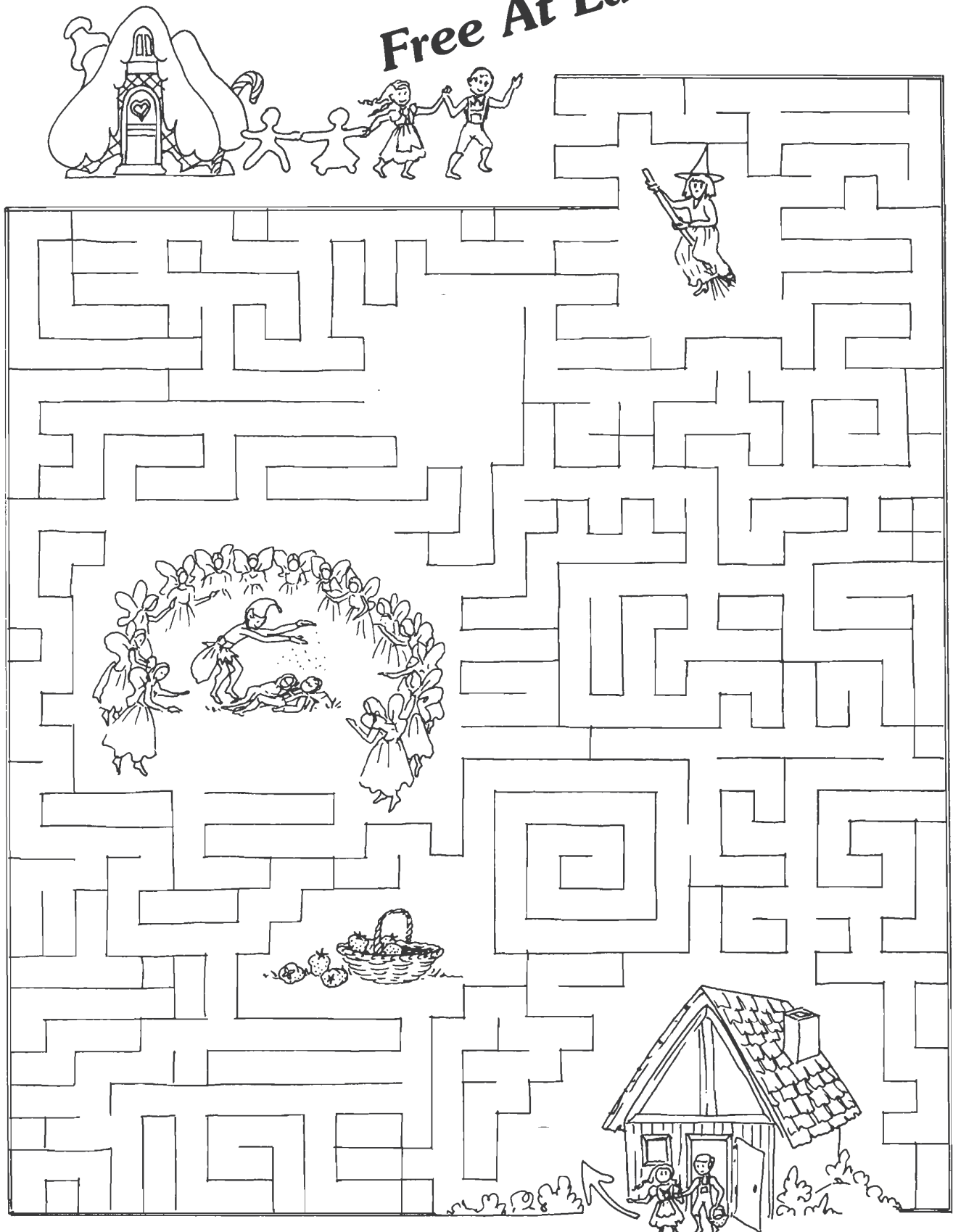
Brown shoes
Blue eyes
Pink legs, Hands,
and Face.



With these hand puppets, you can do a monologue. (Story told by one person)

1. Sew together two pieces of black felt for body.
2. Glue on pieces of colored felt for costumes.

Free At Last!



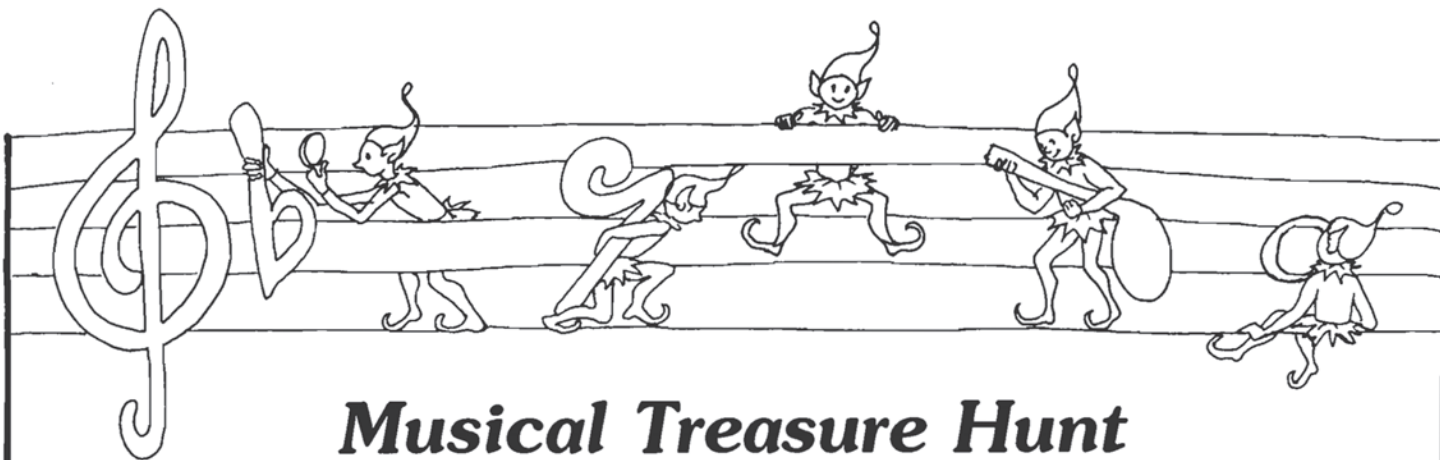
Starting at Hansel and Gretel's own cottage, relive their experiences as you find your way to the top.

Opera Word Search

The following words are hidden among the scrambled letters. The names read forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally. See if you can find them all.

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------|
| STRAWBERRY | DAINTYMOUTH | LIBRETTO |
| FAIRY TALE | ADELHEID WETTE | ROSINA |
| GINGERBREAD | HUMPERDINCK | GRIMM |
| ENGELBERT | HARZ MOUNTAINS | ANGEL |
| COMPOSER | OPERA | WITCH |
| HANSEL AND GRETEL | | |

J M J I L Y S A N G E L E S L
 K C N I D R E P M U H T N S E H
 T R E B L E G N E L T I T R T U
 E R Y H T U O M I E A E J E U
 L E T S A S G B W T R Y M R O
 A S N B I Y R D N G S R J O M
 T O I N O E I U D U I R P S Y
 Y P A E T E O N F C J E R I N T
 R M D T H M A P H K R B A N N
 I O O L Z L H A H A B W Y A I
 A C E T E P R C J M J A E M A
 F D R S O D T E B N T R R M D
 A A N L M I L S E N S T E I N
 H A O J W N O J Y P O S O R J
 H D A E R B R E G N I G B G B



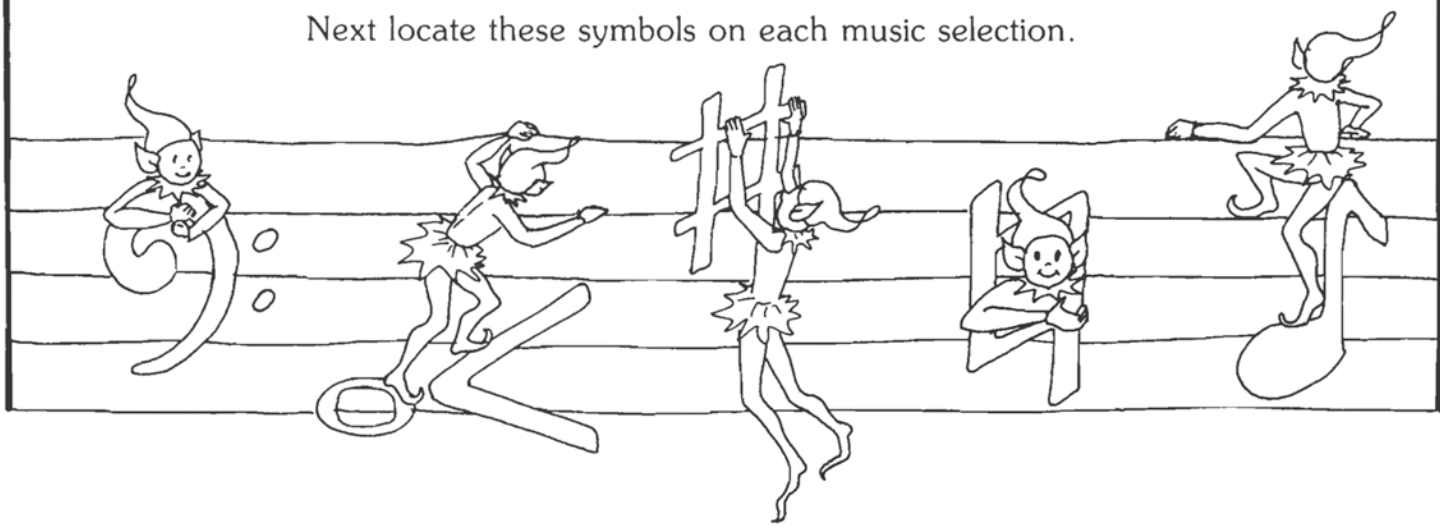
Musical Treasure Hunt

Hidden in the pictures on pages 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9 of this book are the following music symbols.

- | | |
|--|--|
|  = treble clef |  = whole note |
|  = bass clef |  = half note |
|  = eighth rest |  = dotted half note |
|  = quarter rest |  = quarter note |
|  = half rest |  = dotted quarter note |
|  = whole rest |  = eighth note |
|  = sharp |  = dotted eighth note |
|  = flat |  = sixteenth note |
|  = natural |  = staccato |
|  = crescendo (louder) |  = triplet |
|  = decrescendo (softer) |  = slur |
|  = repeat |  = tie |
|  = fermata (hold) | |

See how many you can find and name.

Next locate these symbols on each music selection.



Puzzle Solutions

A Children's Introduction To Opera
Featuring Music • Play
Handcrafts • Games
Coloring Activities
Puzzles

Illustrated by Valerie Mydick and produced by the following members of the Education Committee of the Young Patronesses of the Opera in cooperation with the Greater Music Experts: Anne Jones, Helena Baker, Barbara Blake, Paul & Bryn Jones, Carolyn Hamilton, Nancy Hylton, Maud Spry, Sarah Poulton, Peggy Lamb, Anne Sawyer, Louise Tatham and Linda Wolf. 1

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A Pocketful of Magic

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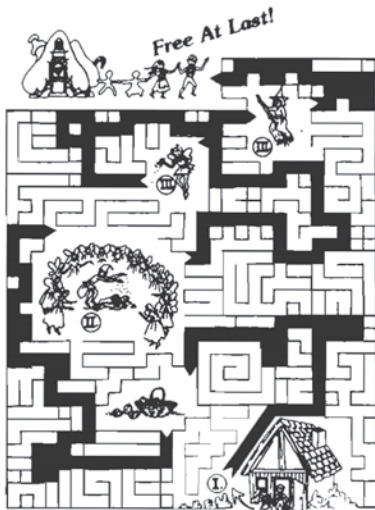


Act I The Cottage

Once upon a time, a poor broommaker and his family lived in a lonely cottage on the edge of the Black Forest in the Harz Mountains of Germany. When our story begins, the Mother and Father have gone to sell brooms in nearby villages. The children are left alone. Gretel is sitting by the fireplace, knitting a sock and singing softly to herself. Hansel is nearby working on a broom.



Act II The Forest



Starting at Hansel and Gretel's own cottage, retrace their experiences as you find your way to the top. In which Act do you first meet Hansel and Gretel, the Dow Fairy, the Sandman, and the Witch?
In the circles provided, mark the number of the Act.

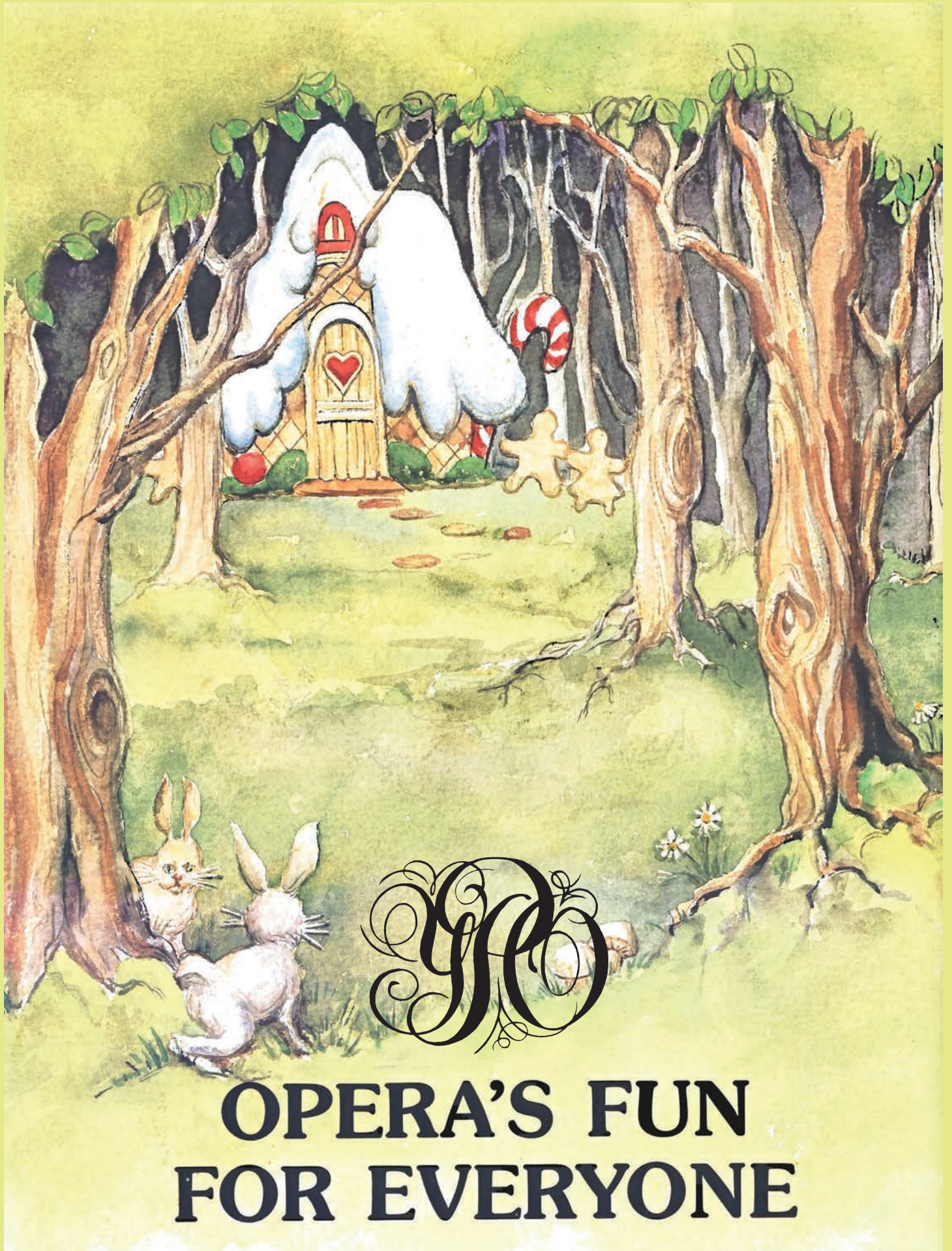
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FAIRY TALE	ADELHEID WETTE	ROSDA
GINGERBREAD	HUMPERDINCK	GRIND
ENGELBERT	HARZ MOUNTAINS	ANGEL
COMPOSER	OPERA	WITCH
HANSEL AND GRETEL		

17

An opera is a special treat.
So dress yourself all clean and 15.
Your father tells the 17 and date.
So you won't have to come in 18.
Be in your 18, before a start.
That way, you're safely in before
They dim the 15, and close the 1.
So quietly, don't 16, you know.
So others can enjoy the 6.
Applaud each time the curtain 3.
To show 8, sleepers that they're here.
At intermission you 4 talk.
Enjoy a snack, and take a 10.
Just don't 11, take back to your seat.
Or you will 12, the first 2,000th.
So you'll 12, the very last.
So you can honor all the 13.
They'll bow each time the 12 part.
So clap three times with all your 9.



GO
OPERA'S FUN
FOR EVERYONE