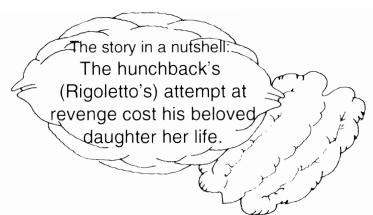
Opera Funtime Presents

OLETTO



By Giuseppe Verdi



OPERA FUNTIME COLLECTION

The Abduction from the Seraglio	Mozart
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A YOUNG PERSON'S INTRODUCTION TO THE ARTS

Featuring

by Giuseppe Verdi

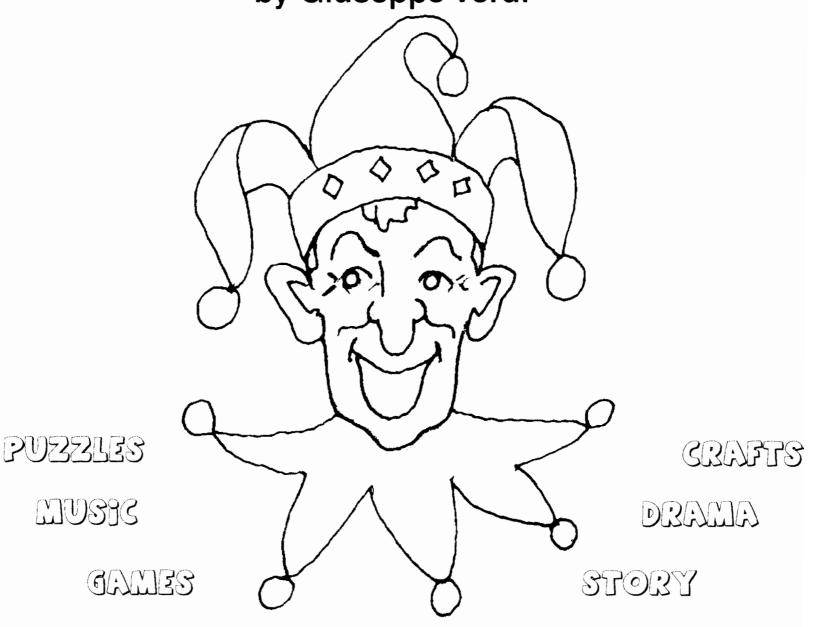


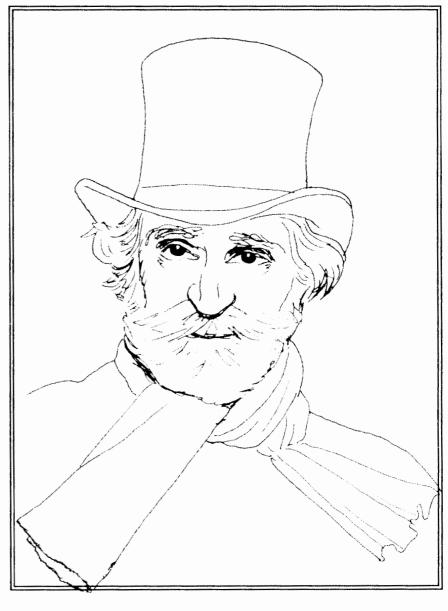
Illustration and layout: Valerie Mydske Produced by the following members of the Education Committee of the Young Patronesses of the Opera: Elaine Brockhouse, Connie Danluck, Lisa Hogan, Mary Immer, Susanne Kayyali, María-Conchita López, María-Rosa López-Muñoz, Ingrid Lyall, Jacquelin Major, Linda Meyers, Patricia Pita, Kristin Podack, Janis Ramirez, Lucie Spieler, Sheri Swanson, Lisa Wheeler

MUSBC

COMPOSER GIUSEPPE VERDI

1813-1901

Verdi was one of the world's most beloved opera composers, as well as a champion of Italian independence. He was born October 10th, 1813, into a family of uneducated peasants who had a tavern and grocery shop in Le Roncole, in the Parma province of Italy. His parents insisted that their son be educated and arranged for the local priest to teach him the basics of reading, writing, mathematics. When he was eight, his father gave him a secondhand spinet (an upright harpsichord, the forerunner of our modern piano). The village organist gave him music lessons, and often Verdi substituted for him. At age twelve he became the church organist, a position he held for nine years.





Verdi continued with his music and regular studies in nearby Busseto. Every Sunday and on feast days he walked barefoot three miles back to Le Roncole to play the organ, to keep from wearing out his shoes! He taught himself music from printed manuals. At eighteen he applied to the Milan Conservatory of Music. Verdi was rejected because he was too old, and because he was from Parma, then a foreign country.

Verdi's mentor, Signor Antonio Barezzi of Busseto, made it possible for him to continue studying music in Milan. After two years Verdi returned to Busseto to conduct its orchestra. He married his patron's daughter, Margherita Barezzi, and they had two children who died in infancy. Margherita died shortly after. Although overcome with grief, Verdi continued composing operas.

Rigoletto premiered at La Fenice Opera House in Venice in 1851, after much trouble with the Austrian censors. It was an immediate success.

Later he married the soprano, Giuseppina Strepponi, and moved back to Busseto. Verdi was elected to the parliament and later served as a senator. "Viva Verdi" became the cry of the Italians. The letters V-E-R-D-I stood for *Vittorio Emanuele, Re d'Italia, (King of Italy*). The chorus "Va, pensiero" from his opera *Nabucco* (1842) became the unofficial Italian freedom song. He spent his last years in Milan, a rich and charitable man much revered and honored. When Verdi died in 1901, all of Italy mourned and lined the streets to pay their respects.

LIBRETTIST FRANCISCO MARIA PIAVE

1810-1876

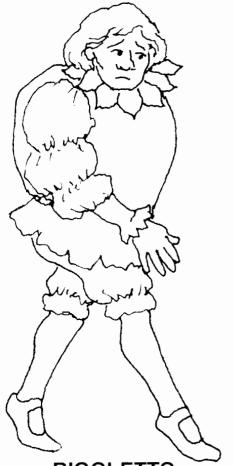
Piave was Verdi's long time friend and librettist. Together they worked on ten operas. Piave created the lyrics (words) of Victor Hugo's play *Le roi s'amuse* (The King Amuses Himself) for Verdi's opera. Since the principal figures were historical, King Francis I of France and his jester Triboulet, they ran into difficulties with the Austrian censors. The locale was changed to Italy, and the king's role was reduced to a duke. The title was changed to *Rigoletto*, the name of the jester, which comes from the French verb, *rigoler* (to make fun of),

Count the number of times that the name *Verdi* appears on this page! ____

3

CAST OF

Italians at the time of this Opera were fond of wearing clothing decorated with stripes, flowers, and slits.



RIGOLETTO
(Rig-o-let-to)
the court jester
baritone



GILDA (**Jeel**-dah) Rigoletto's daughter soprano



THE DUKE OF MANTUA
(Man-too-ah)
an abusive ruler
tenor

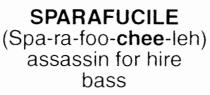


CHARACTERS

Draw in some of these designs, and then color the characters and their costumes.









GIOVANNA (Jee-o-van-na) Gilda's nanny soprano



COUNT MONTERONE
(Mon-te-ro-neh)
member of the court
baritone



(Mad-da-**leh**-na) Sparafucile's sister contralto

RIGOLETTO IN RHYME

The Opera Story in Poetic Form

Rigoletto is a man Who makes his living best he can. He is a jester at the court, A hunchback, and a clown of sort.

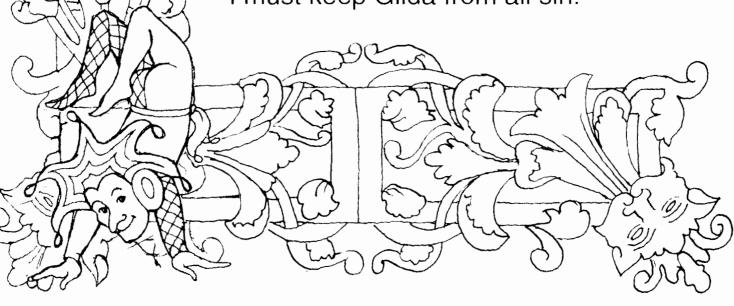
He's made a lot of people mad Because his humor is so bad! His job at court is ridicule, To entertain and play the fool.

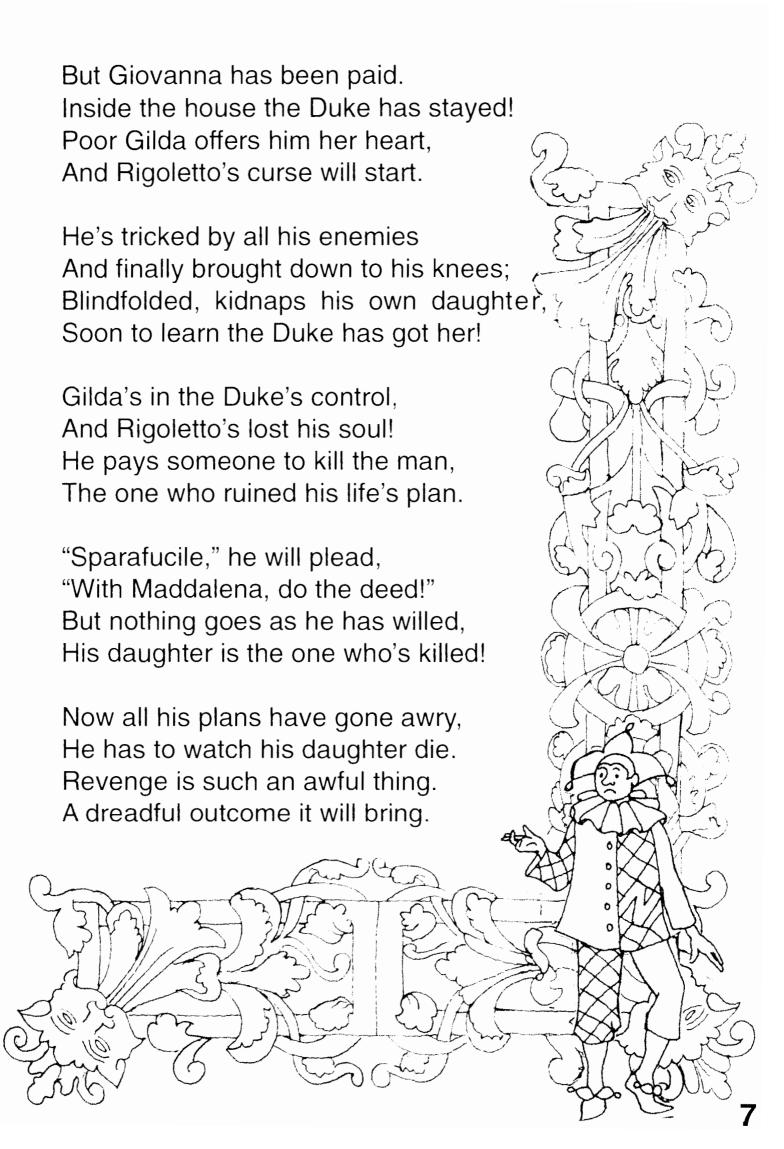
He makes a comment which is curt To Monterone whom he's hurt. His taunting is the very worst, Because of this he ends up cursed!

Rigoletto is afraid.

He rushes home and tells the maid, "Don't let a single person in!

I must keep Gilda from all sin!"





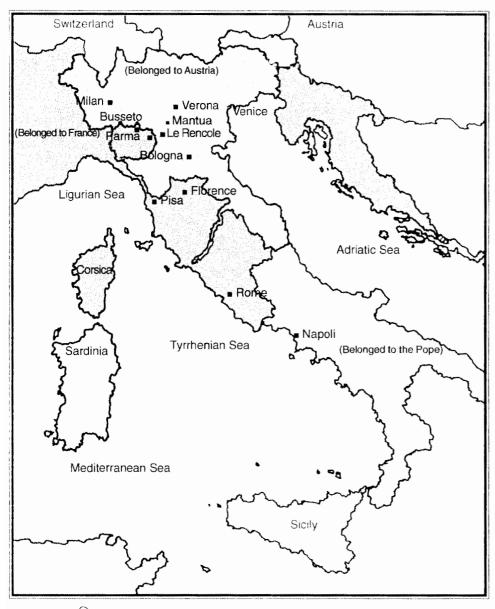
BOOT JUMBLE

When Verdi was born in 1813, Italy was not one big united country.

Austria, France, and the Pope each owned a part of it.

Parma belonged to France; Milan and Venice belonged to Austria.

The map below is of Italy in 1823, the year Verdi applied to the Milan Conservatory.





Unscramble the names on the right and write them in their spaces. Then read their descriptions, and draw a line from them to their place on the map.

CRIDATIA ESA = sea on the east side of Italy
TAUSIRA = country northeast of "Italy"
SOTBUSE = City where Verdi married first wife
COLERFEN = city east of Pisa
EL CLEORON = Verdi's birthplace, northeast of Parma
NIAGRUIL ASE = water north of Corsica
TAMANU = Where <i>Rigoletto</i> took place
NEANTERIDREAM EAS = sea south of Italy
LAMIN = city where censors gave Verdi trouble
RAMPA = The province where Verdi was born
MOER = capital of Italy
RENITHARNY AES = sea between Sardinia Island and Italy
CEVINE = City where <i>Rigoletto</i> was first performed
NERVOA = Where Rigoletto wanted to send Gilda, the night he planned to have the Duke killed.



Act I, Scene one - An elegant ball in the Duke's palace.

The Duke sings about his attitude toward women. They're all the same to him!

Count Monterone enters, furiously accusing him of flirting with his daughter. The Duke's jester, Rigoletto, makes fun of the old man. The Duke orders his arrest. As he is escorted away in chains, Monterone puts a "father's curse" on Rigoletto and the Duke.

Rigoletto, a father himself and very superstitious, is frightened to death!

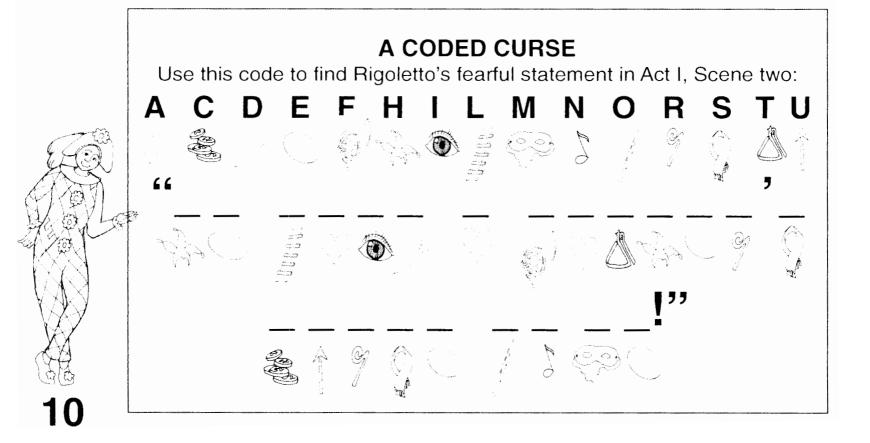




RIgoletto was terrified!

In those days people really believed in curses!

He hurried home to make sure his daughter Gilda was safe.





Act I, Scene two - Rigoletto's house

All of a sudden out of the darkness appeared a scary looking man waving a dagger! He said his name was Sparafucile, and he offered his service as a killer, should Rigoletto need him!

"Not yet," said Rigoletto, thinking about how much he hated the Duke and how he'd like to get rid of him.

As he retreated into the shadows, the spooky man whispered, "Don't forget my name, Sparafucile".

This assassin was hired by Rigoletto to kill the Duke of Mantua. He was an evil man, but the letters of his name are great for making smaller words!

SPARAFUCILE

How many words of three letters or more can you find? No plurals, please.

If you found 25 you're brilliant!

If you found 50, you're ready to graduate!

If you found 100, you should be a teacher or a rocket scientist!





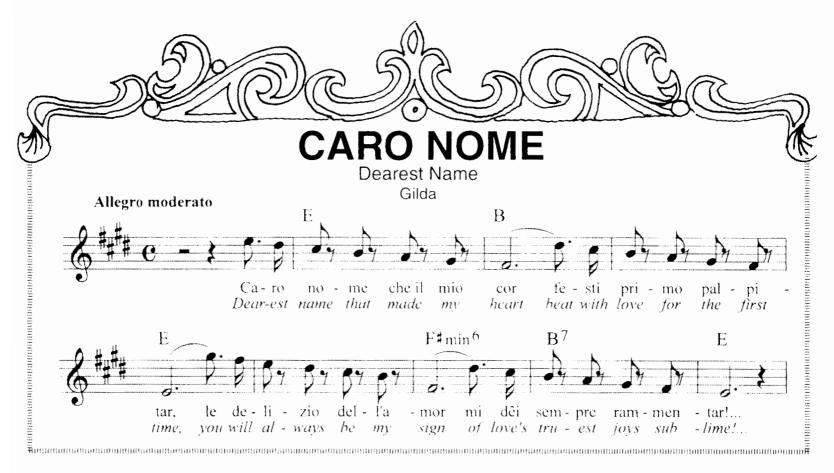
Continuing on toward his home, Rigoletto thought sadly about his plight. Hunchbacked and limping through life, he existed only to entertain the cruel Duke and to make fun of others with his cutting remarks. The only joy in his life was his lovely daughter, Gilda, whom he kept safely hidden and locked behind the walls of their home. There she was to greet him!

They chatted for awhile. Gilda begged to be let out for a stroll. Her father insisted she stay at home guarded by their maid, Giovanna. Rigoletto heard a noise outside and ran out to see what it was, leaving the gate slightly open. This was just enough time for the Duke, dressed as a student, to jump in and hide!



Search for hidden letters on the little jester figures that appear on most pages in this book.

Taken in order they spell out the message of Rigoletto's famous aria, "Pari Siamo." which means "How like we are!"



Gilda had seen the same handsome man in church that morning, but hadn't told her father. Now here he was in her very own garden, telling her that he loved her! How was she to know that he was the evil-minded, unfaithful Duke? He left, promising to come back that night. Poor lovesick Gilda sang about her love for the man she thought was an innocent student.

It was night in the town. Rigoletto's pride and joy, his beautiful daughter Gilda, was sound asleep in her room. Down the street, Rigoletto was met by a band of the Duke's men dressed in masks and cloaks. Jokingly, he offered to hold the ladder for whatever mischief they were

planning. But, blindfolded, he was tricked into helping them up the ladder into his own daughter's room! Hearing her screams, he realized too late that she had been kidnapped for the Duke! Only her scarf was left behind!

Count Monterone's curse had begun!





Act II - The Duke's Palace

Rigoletto quickly ran to the Duke's palace. The courtiers made fun of him. Suddenly, Gilda staggered out of the Duke's room, upset and weeping. She ran to her father, who comforted her with this song, "Daughter, Daughter."



The Duke of Mantua, dressed as a student, made quite an impression upon the adoring Gilda! He said his name was Gualtier Maldé, and the name became music to her ears.

She responded by singing:

"C_RV_D _P_N MY _NM_ST H__RT

_S TH_T N_M_ F_R_V_RM_R_."

To find the phrase, place the vowels (A, E, I, O, and U) where they belong.



Act III - The Inn of Sparafucile located on the river bank.

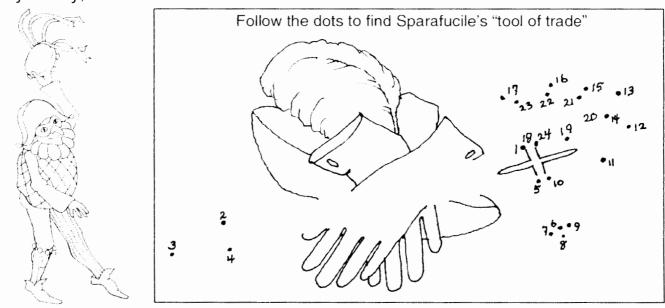
Gilda and Rigoletto are watching through a crack in the wall as the Duke sings about his view of women. This breaks Gilda's heart, because she still seems to love the faithless Duke!





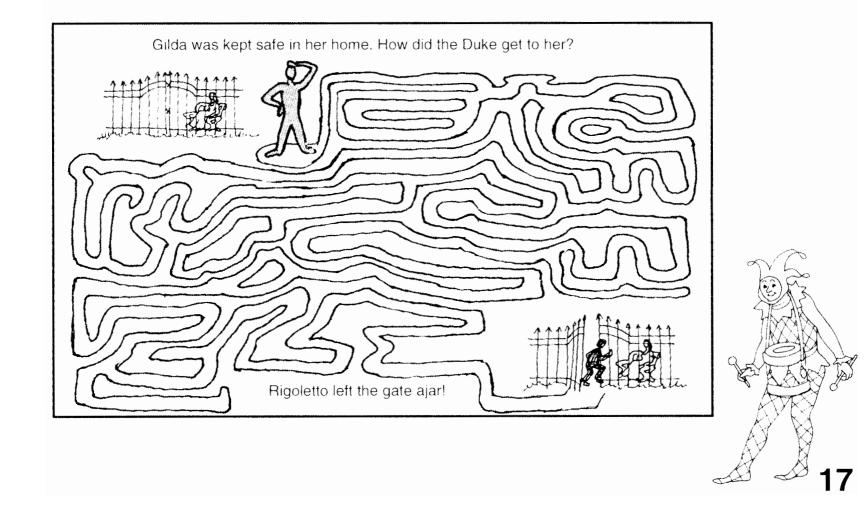
To add to Gilda's misery, inside the Inn of Sparafucile, the deceitful Duke was romancing Sparafucile's beautiful sister, Maddalena! Rigoletto orders Gilda to dress like a man (for her protection) and quickly leave for Verona. He paid Sparafucile half of their agreed sum and ordered him to murder the Duke. Maddalena liked the handsome stranger and begged for his life. So they decided to kill the first man who entered the inn. This they did - but the first "man" turned out to be Rigoletto's daughter Gilda, who had come to plead for the Duke's life!

When Rigoletto returned to pay Sparafucile the rest of his money and to take the Duke's body away, he found to his horror that his Gilda had been stabbed instead.





With her last breath Gilda sang a farewell, asking her father's forgiveness and promising to pray for him in heaven. Rigoletto, grief-stricken, cried out, "The curse!" and fell down across her lifeless body.



COURT JESTER, MISCHIEF MAKER



Dating back to the ancient courts of China, the court jester was like our modern day stand-up comedian. The most important tool of his trade was his wit. He had the exceptional ability to use humor (both verbal and physical) and sarcasm. He mocked, joked, and made fun of life as part of his repertoire.

The "fool", as the court jester was often called, owed his **allegiance** to his master alone - usually a king, an emperor, or even a duke. He was granted the freedom to say anything he desired, regardless of how **offensive** it might seem. Often the court jester had a physical **deformity.** In *Rigoletto* Verdi's jester was a hunchback with a limp.

Unfortunately, the jester's trade was not a particularly well loved one, and many jesters were treated badly. Often the jester was the one beheaded when the king had a bad day! The patchwork clothes he wore were a result of having to piece together scraps to keep himself warm.

Draw a line from each word to its definition:

1. Wit: a misformed body part

2. Sarcasm: rude and insulting

3. Repertoire: a collection of talents

4. Allegiance: a cutting remark

5. Offensive: loyalty to a person or cause

6. Deformity: a quick and funny comeback

COURT JESTER STAFF



Materials:

Cardboard gift-wrap roll
or paper towel roll
Paint, colored markers,
or brightly colored papers
cut into 1" x 6" strips

Colorful tissue paper

Colorful ribbons

Glue, paste, or glue gun (supervised)

Optional: bells or trinkets

to tie onto ribbon ends

Procedure:

Wrap and glue colored strips around the roll, covering entire roll (or color with paint or markers)

Make two balls by bunching up tissues

Cover balls with tissue paper squares,

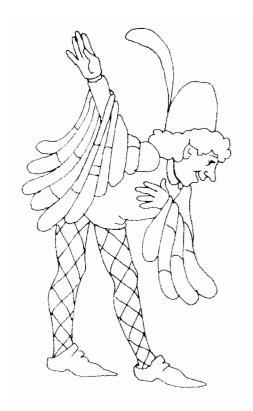
and twist at its base

Tie on various lengths of ribbons

Glue tissue balls into ends of roll







ACT IT OUT

Characters:

Rigoletto - court jester and Gilda's father
The Duke - proud, rude, and flirtatious
Count Ceprano - disgusted with Rigoletto
Countess Ceprano - wife of the Count
Crowd - milling around and ridiculing Rigoletto
Count Monterone - old man seeking vengeance
Two palace guards

ACT ONE OF RIGOLETTO:

Duke: (to Rigoletto) I love the ladies!

I especially like that one (pointing to Countess Ceprano)

(Countess Ceprano walks by flirting with the Duke)

Count Ceprano: Excuse me, sir, you are flirting with my wife!

Rigoletto: (to the Duke) Well sir, why don't you have the Count

put in prison?

Then you can see his wife any time you want!

Ceprano: (to Rigoletto) You little creep!

Rigoletto: (to the Duke) Or, sir, you could have his head chopped off

and you would not have to worry about him at all.

(crowd laughs)

Ceprano: (to Rigoletto) One of these days you will carry your bad jokes

too far! (raises his sword to Rigoletto)

You know I could very easily make your limp much worse!

Duke: (to Ceprano) Never mind! Put your sword away.

Crowd: Look at the comical cupid! (They all laugh at Rigoletto

and begin dancing and talking.)

20

(Count Monterone enters)
(Crowd grows silent and gathers around)

Count Monterone: (to the Duke) You are a real low-life, sir!

I cannot believe that you are trying to date my daughter!

She is only a teenager. What is wrong with you?

Rigoletto: (mocking Monterone's voice) "What is wrong with you?"

(all laugh) "Oh, my poor daughter, my poor, poor daughter!"

(the crowd laughs again) (to Monterone)

You are a fool to come here crying about your daughter.

I think you are lucky the Duke likes her.

After all, she looks like you! (more laughter)

Monterone: (to Rigoletto) You have made fun of a father who is broken

hearted!

I put a parent's curse on you (pointing to Rigoletto)

and on him. (gesturing toward the Duke)

May the vengeance of God and man overwhelm you!

Rigoletto: Ah! You are mad! (cowering and looking afraid)

Duke: Enough of this! Arrest him! (pointing to Monterone)

(two guards come to take Monterone away in chains)

Crowd: (to Monterone) Get out of here old man!

You have ruined our party, and you will be sorry for your awful threats!

(party breaks up and Rigoletto is alone)

Rigoletto: He cursed me!

He put a parent's curse on me!

To be deformed; to be a clown and wear this silly costume is bad enough!

But now I am cursed.

Oh! I must get to my Gilda.

I must protect her!



VERDI'S VOICES

These are some of the musical instruments Verdi chose to express the various moods of the opera *Rigoletto:*

OBOE - VIOLA - TRUMPET - TUBA - CYMBAL - TRIANGLE - CELLO VIOLIN - CLARINET - FLUTE - BASSOON - TROMBONE FRENCH HORN - KETTLEDRUM

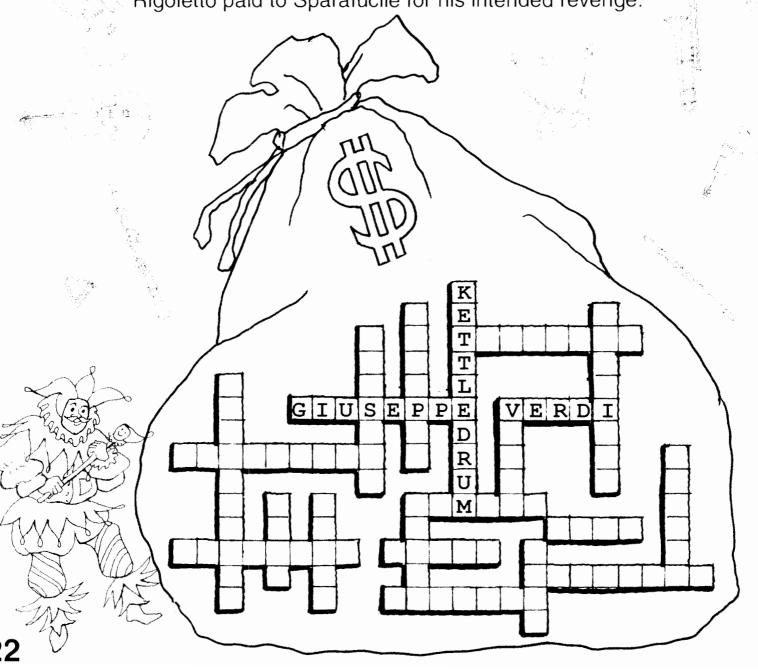
These are the various voices of his characters:

BASS - TENOR - SOPRANO - BARITONE - CONTRALTO

Place each of these words in the purse, counting out the number of spaces needed for each word.

The bag represents the purse of coins

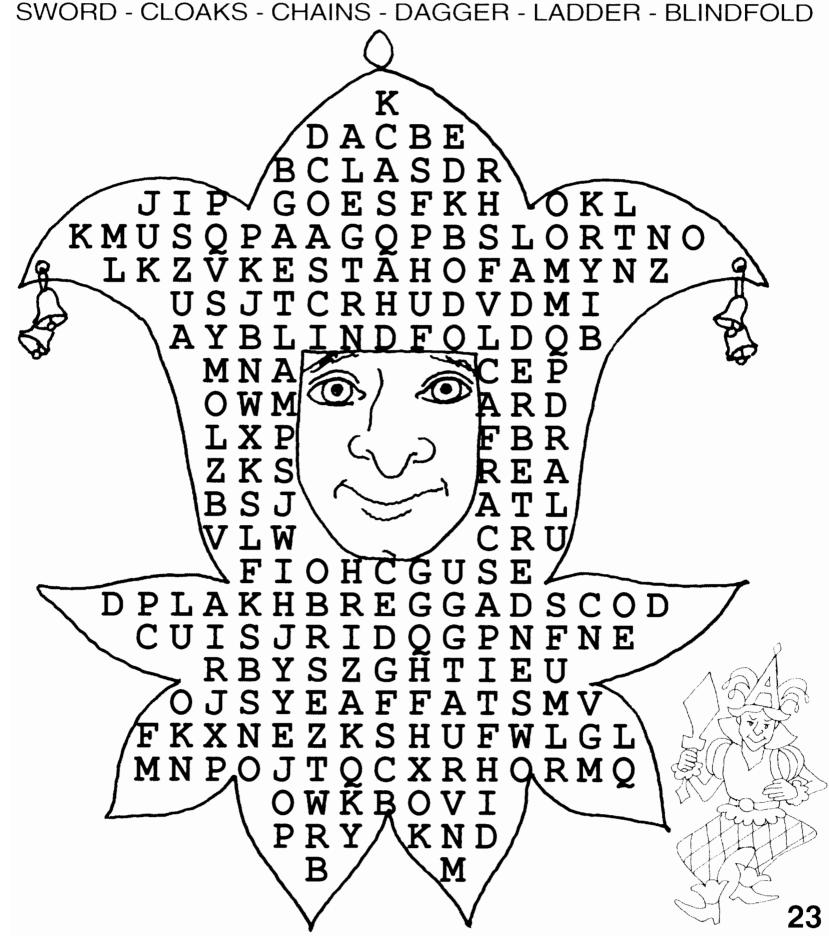
Rigoletto paid to Sparafucile for his intended revenge:



PEOPLE AND PROPS

Reading up, down, upside down, backwards and slantwise, find and circle the props that appear in this opera:

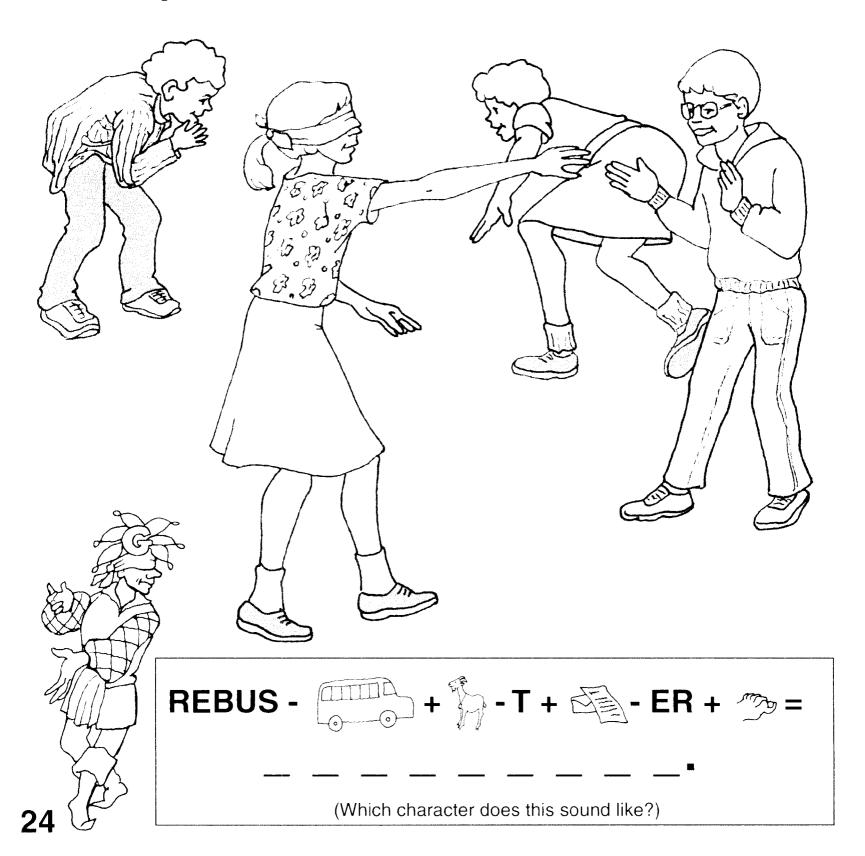
HAT - KEYS - LAMP - PURSE - MASKS - SACK - SCARF - STAFF SWORD - CLOAKS - CHAINS - DAGGER - LADDER - BLINDFOLD



BLIND MAN'S BLUFF

Surely you've played this fun game? One player is blindfolded and spun around three times, while the others taunt him either by silently creeping around him, or by calling out and changing positions rapidly. Whoever the "blindman" catches becomes "it."

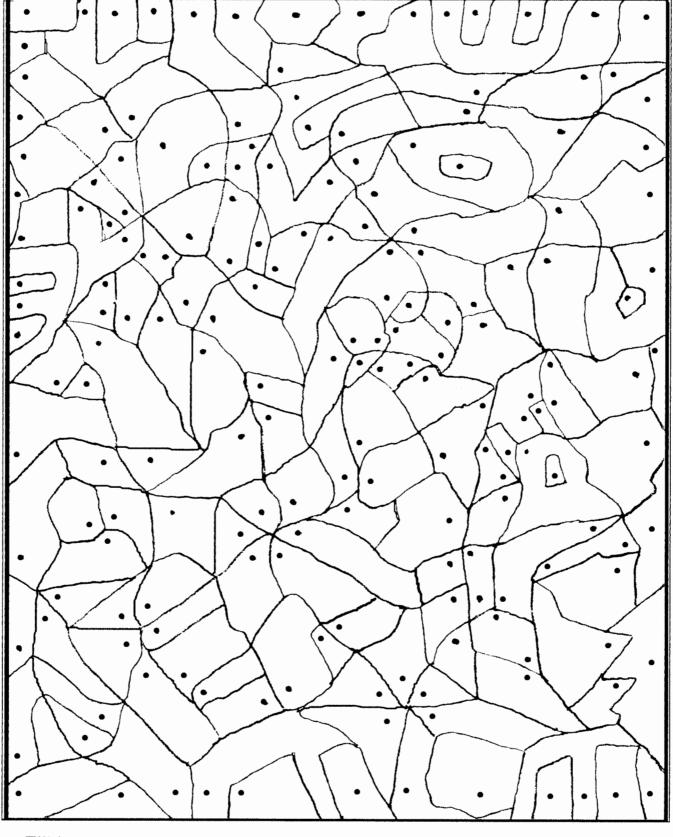
In our opera, *Rigoletto* was blindfolded and told he was part of a trick being played on someone else. But alas! The trick was on him, and ultimately cost him his daughter's life!



LOTS OF DOTS

Rigoletto's daughter loved to hear stories about her mother, who had loved the hunchback dearly, and had died at Gilda's birth. This is what Rigoletto said of her -"Your mother was an...





Fill in each shape that contains two dots to finish his sentence



RIGOLETTO'S REVENGE

Here are the facts of the opera story. Find and place the missing words where they belong.

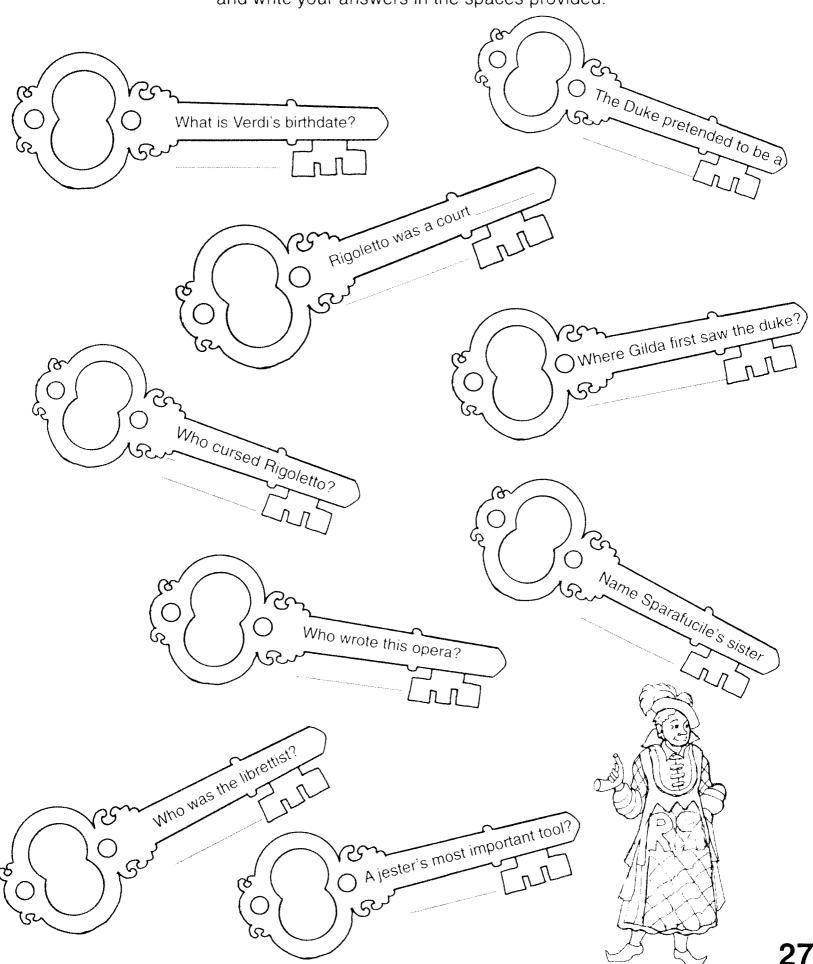
	OWN
Gilda meets the in church.	NOT
She thinks she loves	INN
He flirts with Count Ceprano's	FUN
He tries to date Count Monterone's	HIM
Rigoletto makes of Count Monterone.	TRUE
The Count puts a on Rigoletto and the Duke.	DEAD
trembles in fear of the curse.	LIFE
He wants to his daughter.	KILL
He tells the maid not to let anyone in!	WITH
But she is bribed to let the Duke in.	COME
The Duke's friends Rigoletto.	WIFE
They trick him and his daughter.	DUKE
He learns that she is now the Duke.	SWEET
Rigoletto hires Sparafucile to the Duke.	DYING
Sparafucile lures the Duke to the	GILDA
His beautiful Maddalena helps him.	ENTER
But she begs him to kill the Duke.	CURSE
So he agrees to kill the first man to the inn.	KIDNAP
Rigoletto sends Gilda away like a man.	SISTER
But she still she loves the Duke.	LIGHTS
So she rushes to the inn to save his	THINKS
During a thunder storm the go out!	PROTECT
In the confusion, Sparafucile kills!	DRESSED
Rigoletto enters, presuming the Duke is	DAUGHTER
But he finds that his very Gilda is	GIOVANNA
Revenge was not as as he had hoped.	BLINDFOLD
Count Monterone's curse had come	RIGOLETTO

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KEY QUESTIONS

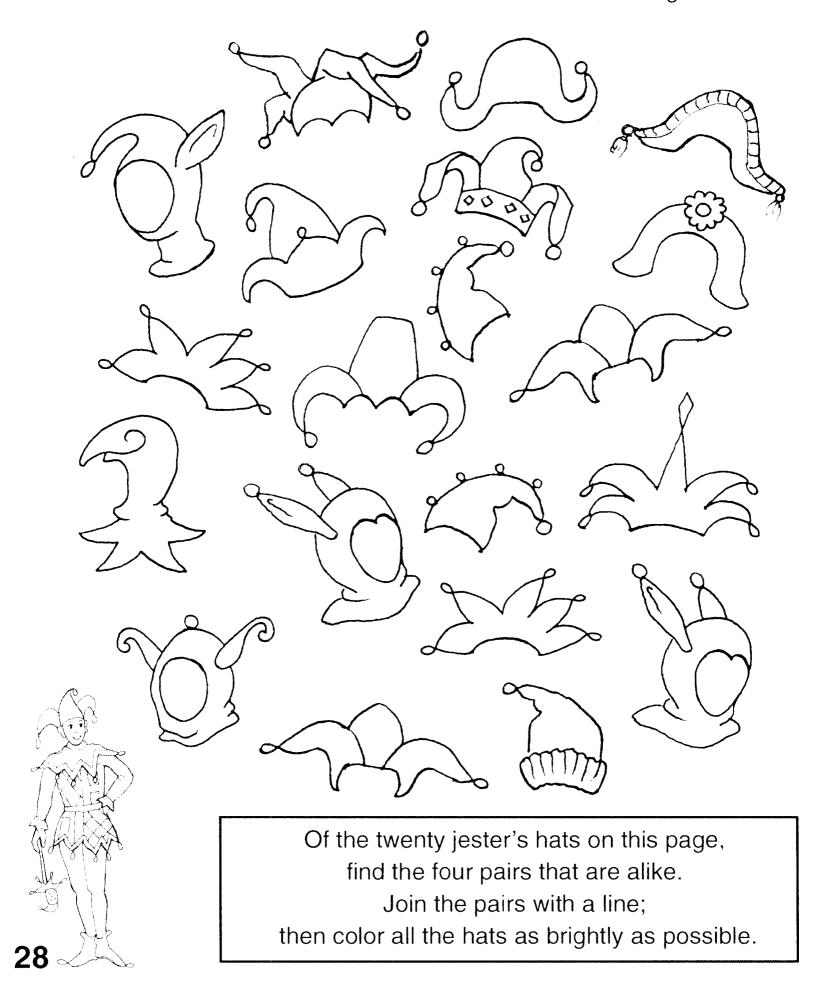
Giovanna, Gilda's maid, let the Duke in with the key to Rigoletto's house.

Answer the following "trivia" questions found in these keys, and write your answers in the spaces provided.



HATS OFF!

A jester's costume is quite colorful, originating from pieced together scraps of cloth. He is also noted for his "outlandish" hats - the stranger the better!



WHO DUNNIT?

Whose men came in masks and cloaks to kidnap someone?_____ Who held the ladder for them?_____ Whose scarf was left behind?_ IRR OTGIG Can you find **DUKE** six times in the OLGEIMRREOORLO mask prop? ETOLGRITTIITET GILDA six times in the white scarf? LOOOLOGGRRIOLGI RIGOLETTO six times in the cloak? TGETTLOLIEOGTEL Look up, down, backwards, and GEOTTELOGIREGEE forwards, and circle the words as LEOETOELOTIROLE you find them. OLOLRTTELOGEOTL GETOIOTGELOTLGO LOOTGEGOTTILOOOLO LTOEIOVORTOETLTLI LETLLRG GIORTOETEL GIRLLONE RGEITTRLORR RLOTRGTG TGOLOEOROLOL GROIRIOO IILLIEGORGLE TOGRLE OORERGOTG GROTR

SCRAMBLED MESSAGE

RETE	Unscramble these eight jumbled words Print each word in the boxes below the scrambled one (one letter to each square).
GEAR RODO YEAS TONE GAPE	
REYA	Then print the circled letters in the boxes below to form the truth that Rigoletto learned too late!
30	Answer:

SOLUTIONS

Pg 8 - BOOT JUMBLE

CRIDATIA ESA = sea on the east side of Italy ADRIATIC SEA

TAUSIRA = country northeast of "Italy" **AUSTRIA**

SOTBUSE = City where Verdi married first wife **BUSSETO**

COLERFEN = city east of Pisa **FLORENCE**

EL CLEORON = Verdi's birthplace, northeast of Parma **LE RONCOLE**

NIAGRUIL ASE = water north of Corsica LIGURIAN SEA

TAMANU = Where *Rigoletto* took place MANTUA

NEANTERIDREAM EAS = sea south of Italy **MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

LAMIN = city where censors gave Verdi trouble **MILAN**

RAMPA = The province where Verdi was born **PARMA**

MOER = capital of Italy **ROME**

RENITHARNY AES = sea between Sardinia Island and Italy **TYRRHENIAN SEA**

CEVINE = City where *Rigoletto* was first performed **VENICE**

NERVOA = Where Rigoletto wanted to send Gilda, the night he planned to have the Duke killed.

VERONA

Pg 3 - Verdi

Count the number of times that the name *Verdi* appears on this page! **10**

Pg 10 - MONTERONE'S CURSE

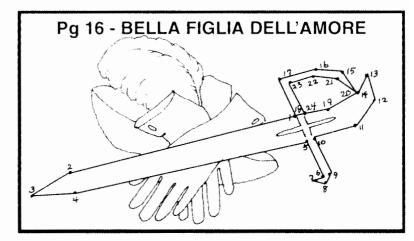
"He laid a father's curse on me!"

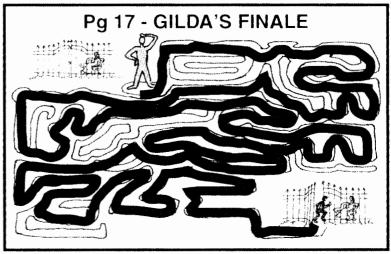
Pg 12 - PARI SIAMO

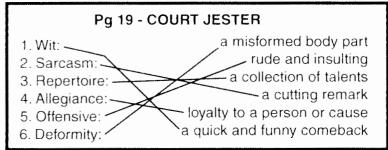
"The tongue my weapon, the dagger his"

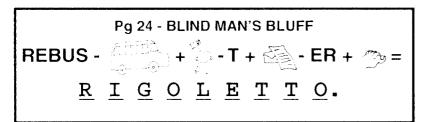
Pg 14 - PIANGI, FANCIULLA

"Carved upon my inmost heart is that name forevermore"

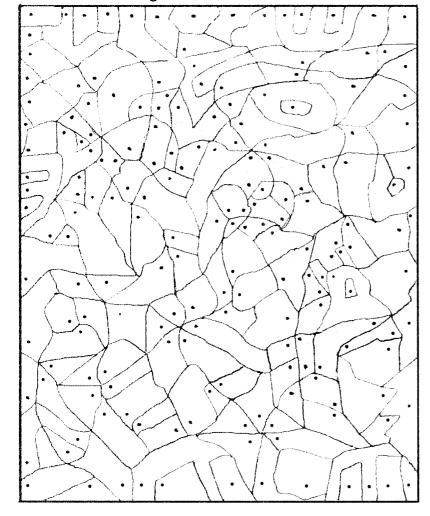


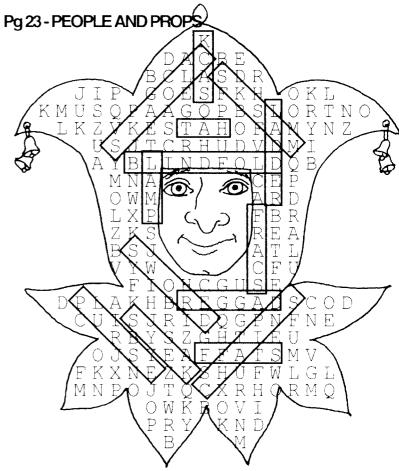






Pg 25 - LOTS OF DOTS



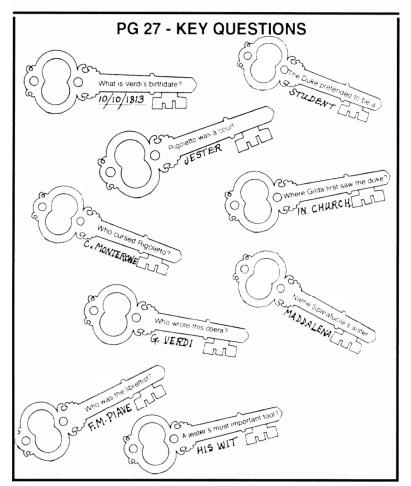


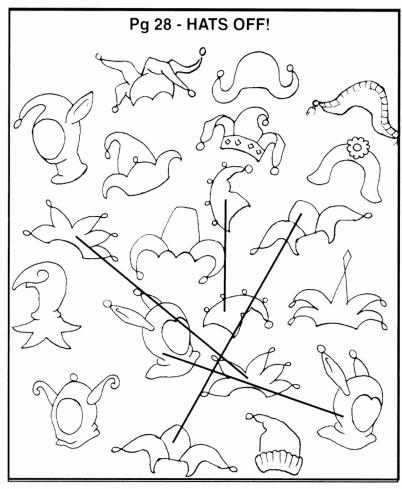
Pg 26 - RIGOLETTO'S REVENGE

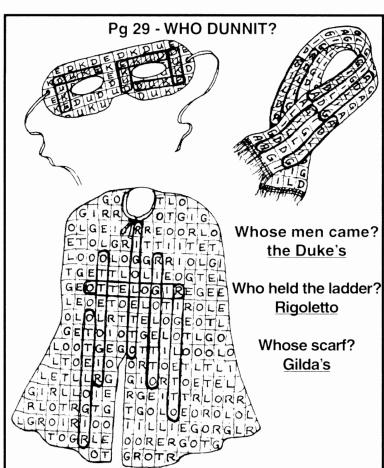
Gilda meets the $\mathcal{D} \underline{u} \underline{k} \underline{e}$ in church. She thinks she loves h i m He flirts with Count Ceprano's Wife. He tries to date Count Monterone's $d\underline{a}\underline{u}\underline{g}h\underline{+}\underline{e}\underline{r}$ Rigoletto makes $f \mu \eta$ of Count Monterone. The Count puts a <u>Curse</u> on Rigoletto and the Duke. Rigoletto trembles in fear of the curse. He wants to protecthis daughter. He tells <u>uibvanna</u> the maid not to let anyone in! But she is bribed to let the Duke $\underline{\mathcal{COMe}}$ in. The Duke's friends $b \underline{l} \underline{i} \underline{n} \underline{d} \underline{f} \underline{o} \underline{l} \underline{d}$ Rigoletto. They trick him and \underline{kidnap} his daughter. He learns that she is now w'' t h the Duke. Rigoletto hires Sparafucile to Kill the Duke. Sparafucile lures the Duke to the inn. His beautiful <u>Sister</u> Maddalena helps him. But she begs him $\chi \varrho t$ to kill the Duke. So he agrees to kill the first man to enter the inn. Rigoletto sends Gilda away dressed like a man. But she still thinks she loves the Duke. So she rushes to the inn to save his life. During a thunder storm the Lights go out! In the confusion, Sparafucile kills Gilda! Rigoletto enters, presuming the Duke is dead. But he finds that his very own Gilda is dying. Revenge was not as SWEET as he had hoped.

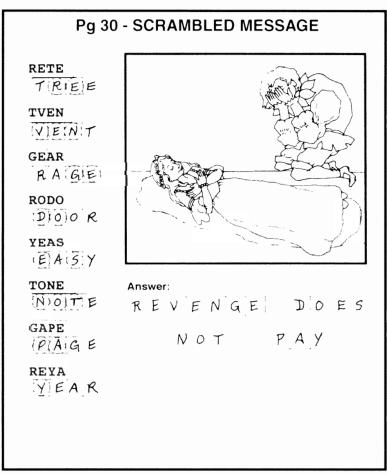
Count Monterone's curse had come true.

SOLUTIONS









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