A LITTLE BIT OF MAGIC

By GAIL GOLDEN
Music and Lyrics By GRANT GOLDEN

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Denver, Colorado

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A LITTLE BIT OF MAGIC

Cast of Characters

PLAYER ONE: ......................... a character actress aged 25-45 with a strong stage quality and a belt singing voice. She plays:

   Narrator .............................. 6
   Wonder Wanda ....................... a haughty wizard with a British accent
   Marilyn Melody ..................... a country western star like Dolly Parton
   Depressed Daisy ..................... a down-trodden, hunched-over flower who speaks with a Polish (or any Old World) accent. She's like a chronically depressed grandma

PLAYER TWO: ........................... a versatile character actor who can sing, aged 25-45. He plays:

   Narrator .............................. 11
   Magnificent Mervin .................. a haughty wizard with a British accent
   Coco the Clown ...................... a fast-talking funny-man with a New York accent
   The Weatherman ..................... a melodrama-type villain

PLAYER THREE: ....................... an energetic actress aged 20-35 who can do simple mime routines. She plays:

   Narrator .............................. 6
   Do-Nothing Dale ..................... a little, picked-upon wizard
   PIANIST: .............................. a person who can play the piano and also plays small role in the show. She plays:
   Princess Patricia ................... young, pretty ruler of Conjureland

(NOTE: If the pianist is a man, the character can easily be changed to Prince Patrick. The name substitution is all that's necessary. Everything else can stay the same.)

THE AUDIENCE: ....................... children from the audience are selected to come on stage to become DALE’S friend, to wear clown makeup, and to play the sad flowers. The whole audience helps DALE get to Laughterland and to outer space.

For preview only
THE COMPANY: (MUSC: A Little Bit of Magic. ALL sing.)
There’s a little bit of magic that’s in everyone!
There’s a little bit of something strange and fine!
It’s the special thing you are
That lights you up just like a star;
Makes you feel as if the world’s your valentine!
Some folks have this special magic at their fingertips.
Others have to dig and dig for just a clue.
Though it may be slow in coming,
You must keep your spirits humming!
Keep on mining till your magic’s shining through!
No, your life need not be tragic
For you’ve got that special magic
(Voice 1.) Find the little bit of magic,
(Voice 2.) Little bit of magic,
(Voice 3.) Little bit of magic
(Unison.) in you!

PLAYER ONE: Yeah, that’s right! There’s a little bit of magic in every one of us. And I’m not talking about magic tricks. What I mean is . . . well, take me! There are lots of things that I can do well, and they make me feel special. I’m a good swimmer, and I love to do math, and I can sew! I can make magic with a needle and thread!

PLAYER TWO: I can make magic too you know! I’m absolutely terrific at talking! I can do a French accent or a German accent or a British accent. (Doing British accent.) Hallo there! Pip, pip! Lovely day, isn’t it? See?

PLAYER THREE: Gee, that’s great. I can’t talk with an accent. I’m not any good at sewing. And I never did learn how to swim and . . .

PLAYER ONE: Wait a minute! What can you do?
PLAYER THREE: Well . . . I do have the special gift of being able to make friends easily. I’ll show you what I mean. (To audience.) Raise your hand if you’d like to come up on stage and be my
friend! (PLAYER THREE selects a child from the audience to join her on the stage. To CHILD.)
Hi! My name is ________________. What’s your name?
(After the child answers, PLAYER THREE continues.)
What’s your special magic? What do you do best? (After the child answers, PLAYER THREE comments and continues.) Will you be my friend? Great! Hey, gimme "five!" You can go watch the rest of the show now. Thanks, friend! (The child returns to his/her seat. To AUDIENCE.) See? I just made a friend! I have the magical gift of knowing how to make friends!

PLAYER TWO: Hey, that reminds me... we’re supposed to put on a play about a little wizard who felt very left out because she didn’t have any friends at all. (PLAYERS ONE and THREE ad-lib,
"Oh, that’s right!" and "What were we thinking of up here!" and THE PIANIST joins the PLAYERS in a line across the stage. Recites.)
Once upon a time and long ago
In fairy-tale type fashion,
There lived a perky princess, Pat,
And magic was her passion!

PLAYER ONE: (Recites.) Right from the time that she was born
She couldn’t get enough.
She filled her days with tricks and spells
And other magic stuff!

PIANIST: (Recites.) Now Princess Pat loved magic so
That for a birthday treat
She’d summon all the wizards
In her kingdom to compete!

PLAYER THREE: (Recites.) And to the one who dazzled most
And filled Pat’s heart with cheer
Would go a special loving cup
For "Wizard of the Year!"

(As PLAYER THREE continues, the PIANIST returns to the piano and the other PLAYERS get into their wizard capes and hats. Note: ALL PLAYERS stay visible throughout the play. Costume changes are made by adding or subtracting simple accessories. When PLAYERS "ENTER" or "EXIT," they step into or out of the actual "playing area," but are always visible. PLAYER TWO gets the magic equipment—a black top hat with a small stuffed rabbit in it and a "magic" coloring book. The magic handkerchief is pre-set in the sleeve of PLAYER THREE before the play begins.) Our story starts on the morning of Princess Patricia’s birthday. All the royal wizards from all over the
kingdom are practicing their best tricks for the magic contest tonight. And here comes one of the wizards now . . . it’s Wonder Wanda! (PLAYER ONE ENTERS as WONDER WANDA. MUSIC: Wizard of the Year - #1. The other PLAYERS are her assistants during this song.)

WONDER WANDA: (Sings.) I’m a wonder of the land, all right,
With the tricks that I can do . . .
Pulling handkerchiefs out of strangers’ sleeves,
I can change their colors, too!
I can wave my hand at this old hat
And make a hare appear!
And that’s why I’ll be
Wizard of the Year!

OTHERS: (Spoken.) Oh, that was really wonderful, Wanda!

WONDER WANDA: (Spoken.) You ain’t seen nothin’ yet!
(Sings.) I can take an empty coloring book
Which is very dull, no doubt,
And with just one snap of my fingers, záp!
I can bring the colors out!
I can change a frown into a grin;
Pluck a penny from your ear!
And that’s why I’ll be
Wizard of the Year! (WONDER WANDA curtsys and the OTHER PLAYERS lead the audience in applause for her. PLAYER THREE steps forward to speak. The OTHER PLAYERS put the magic tricks back into the trunk.)

PLAYER THREE: That Wonder Wanda is quite a wizard, isn’t she? But there’s another wizard who’s going to give her a run for her money at Princess Patricia’s party tonight. He’s a wizard with the power of hypnosis and the ability to read minds! And here he is now . . . Magnificent Mervin! (MUSIC: Wizard of the Year - #2.)

Mervin: (Sings.) I am truly as magnificent
A magician as you’ll find!
My hypnotic glance puts you in a trance
So that I can read your mind!
I can make you think that you’re a mouse
Or a dashing cavalier!
And that’s why I’ll be
Wizard of the Year!

OTHERS: (Spoken.) Hey, teach us how to do that!

Mervin: (Spoken.) Sorry, ladies! I never reveal my secrets!
(Sings.) Oh, the power of my suggestion
Is a power that never fails.
I can make you weep, send you off to sleep
Lying on a bed of nails!
I can talk with ghosts and spirit folks
Who roam the stratosphere!
And that’s why I’ll be
Wizard of the Year! (MERVIN and WANDA move STAGE LEFT
together and PLAYER THREE gets into her clothes for DALE as
she talks to the audience.)

PLAYER THREE: Gosh, that Magnificent Mervin is quite a wizard,
too. I don’t know how Princess Patricia is ever going to decide
which one should be Wizard of the Year. Oh, and there’s one
more wizard who’ll be entering the competition tonight . . .
although, she doesn’t stand a chance. And that’s me. You see
the "D.D." on my button? Well, that stands for "Dale" . . .
"Do-nothing Dale" . . . at least, that’s what the other wizards
call me. (DALE crosses over to the other wizards, carrying her
pail and shovel.) Hi, Wanda! Hi, Mervin!

MERVIN: Well, well! Look who’s here! Little Do-nothing Dale with her
shovel and pail!

DALE: Oh, cut it out, you guys!

WONDER WANDA: What have you been doing all morning, Dale,
while we were working on our wizardry for Princess Pat’s party?
Were you practicing the scarf trick? (Throughout these
questions, DALE mumbles "no.")

MERVIN: Or hypnotizing people into thinking they were chickens?

WONDER WANDA: Were you changing frowns into smiles?

MERVIN: Or learning to read minds?

DALE: Aw . . . you guys know I can’t do any of that stuff. I was
just . . .

MERVIN: Don’t tell me! Let me guess! You were fooling around with
your shovel and pail!

DALE: Right! And I had a lot of fun. First, I went into the forest, and
I filled my pail with blueberries! And then, after I ate the
blueberries, I went to the beach, and I used my pail and shovel
to make sandcastles and then . . .

MERVIN: Oh, spare us the boring details! What are you planning to
do for Princess Patricia’s party tonight? Pick blueberries? Build
sandcastles? (MERVIN and WANDA laugh at DALE.)

WONDER WANDA: You are the only wizard I have ever met who
can’t do any magic at all! Nothing! Why, it’s embarrassing just
being in the same castle as you!
DALE: I'm planning to come up with... some sort of act for Princess Patricia's party tonight... although, I don't know just what!

Mervin: Hah! Forget it! You're just a do-nothing! There's no way on earth that you could ever perform magic! There's nothing special about you at all!

Dale: That's not true. After all...

(Sings.) There's a little bit of magic that's in everyone! There's a little bit of something strange and fine...

Wonder Wanda: There may be a little bit of magic in most everyone, but there isn't any magic in you! Now we've got important rehearsing to do! Get out of here with your baby toys!

Dale: But I...

Mervin: Oh, go jump in the lake!

Dale: But I...

Wonder Wanda and Mervin: Do-nothing Dale with your shovel and pail! (Wanda and Mervin laugh at Dale again. Dale cries.)

Dale: Oh... (As Wanda and Mervin exit, they ad-lib, "Oh, get out!") "Go away, crybaby!" "There's no way on earth that you could win!" etc. Players One and Two change out of their wizard clothes. Player One changes into Marilyn Melody clothes. To Audience.) Do-nothing Dale with a shovel and pail! That just can't be right! I can't be a complete do-nothing... after all, there's a little bit of magic that's in everyone! And I believe that! I've just got to find out what my little bit of magic is. And I've got to find out soon... before Princess Patricia's party tonight. Then I can prove to Wanda and Mervin that everyone is special in his or her own special way. But how? That's the question! How can I find my little bit of magic? How? How? How?

Player Two: (Enters.) Poor Dale had a problem, all right. How could she find her own little bit of magic? (Dale shrugs her shoulders.) Well, she thought and thought and thought. (Dale "thinks!") And pretty soon she had an idea. (Dale jumps up, excited.) But it wasn't a very good idea. (Dale collapses, disappointed.) So she took out her shovel and started to fill her pail with sand... digging around with her favorite toys always made her think better.

Dale: What if I... what if I... what if I did just what Mervin said to do? What if I jumped in the lake, and I swam all the way across the lake... all the way to Musicland? Maybe music is the magic buried deep down inside of me!
PLAYER TWO: It was certainly worth a try!
DALE: You can say that again!
PLAYER TWO: It was certainly worth . . .
DALE: I didn’t mean to really say it again.
PLAYER TWO: Oh, sorry. Well! Dale took a deep breath and held her nose and shut her eyes and jumped in the lake!
DALE: (Pretending to jump in the lake.) I wish I was wearing my bathing suit!
PLAYER TWO: And then she began the long swim to Musicland. (DALE mimes swimming.) When at last she reached the other side of the lake, Dale dried herself, (DALE dries her armpits.) and her pail (DALE huffs into the pail.) and her shovel. (DALE rubs her shovel on her backside.) Then she began to search (DALE freezes in a search position.) for someone who could help her find her own special magic . . . so that Wanda and Mervin would be her friends. For you see . . .
DALE: Would you hurry up with the narration already? How long do you think I can stand here on one leg?
PLAYER TWO: (He gives a little laugh.) Sorry. After her search, Dale found someone who she thought might be able to help her . . . Marilyn Melody, the Queen of Musicland! (PLAYER TWO EXITS--to change into his clown outfit. MARILYN rushes out. She wears a feather boa and carries a prop microphone. MUSIC: The Magic in Me - #1.)
MARILYN: (Sings.) Music is my special magic;
Music is my thing!
Makes me feel so doggone happy
When I start to sing!
I can peddle heavy metal,
Sing grand opera, too!
Want it bouncy, hot, or blue?
It doesn’t matter. I can do it!
When you’re feelin’ less than snappy
And the days seem long--
I can make your toes get tappy
With my happy song!
I am the queen of Musicland
And that’s what I’ll always be ‘cause
Music is the magic in
Music is my 1 2 3 for
Music is the magic in me!
DALE: Hey, that was great, Queen Marilyn Melody of Musicland!

End of Script Sample
COSTUMES: The company wears their own clothing--anything that’s brightly colored and comfortable.
LIGHTING: There are no lighting requirements for this show.
SCENERY: A piano or a tape of the music is necessary. The trunk that contains the props may also be used on the stage.
PROPS: 2 large "D.D." buttons (for DALE and DAISY)
3 capes (for the three wizards)
3 wizard hats
large shovel and a pail wide enough to fit over WEATHERMAN’S head (DALE)
scarf trick (for WANDA to pull-out of DALE’s sleeve)
coloring book trick (for WANDA)
The Loving Cup
DAISY’s purse with green thumb medallion, flower trick, hanky pillbox hat and long green gloves (for DAISY) Note: the flower trick is called "The Spring Trick" and is available inexpensively ($5.00-10.00) at any magic supply store. It is tissue paper flowers covered in green tissue paper and held down by a rubberband. DAISY hands it to DALE who puts it quickly into her pail, so that the audience doesn’t get a good look at it. When DALE "plants" the seed in her pail, she slips off the rubberband. This releases the spring and the flowers growl! It comes with instructions and is very easy to perform.
feather boa and microphone (for MARILYN)
down costume (for COCO)
down make-up kit with red carnival stick, blue carnival stick, black carnival stick, tissues, baby oil
black cape with two-faced cardboard sun pinned onto it and a pocket inside it filled with snow (white confetti) and a can of talcum powder
black top hat with small toy rabbit in it
3 rhythm instruments--triangle, slide whistle, tambourine
crown and cape (for PRINCESS)
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