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Heidi

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HEIDI

A New Musical

Book and Lyrics by
Gayanne Ramsden

Music and Lyrics by
C. Michael Perry
based on the JOHANNA SPYRI classic

4th Draft -- 10/12/09

5th Draft -- 1/15/11

6th Draft -- 4/3/12

7th Draft -- 12/04/2017

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Cast of Characters

[29 CHARACTERS (13M 11W 3B 2G)]

HEIDI -- 11, ages to13

PETER HEINSEL-- 13, ages to15

DETE -- Heidi's mother's sister.

ALM-UNCLE -- Heidi's grandfather (Friedrich Schmidt)

ANNA HEINSEL-- Peter's grandmother (Oma-Anna)

BRIGITTE HEINSEL-- Peter's Mother

MAYOR BARBEL

MAYOR'S WIFE

INNKEEPER

INNKEEPERS WIFE

PASTOR

PASTOR'S WIFE

VILLAGER 1

VILLAGER 2 (TEACHER)

TOWN DRUNK

KLARA SESEMANN -- a pretty, bright and paralyzed girl; 13, ages to15 years old

Fraulein ROTTENMEIER -- her governess

SEBASTIAN -- the butler

PROFESSOR LINDT -- Klara's teacher

HERR EDGAR SESEMANN -- Klara's father

TINETTE -- the maid

HILDA -- the Cook

FRANZ -- firekeeper

GRETCHEN -- The upstairs Maid (or GERHARDT -- The Coachman)

EDMUND -- Footman

JOHAN -- a young servant (12-14)

DR. HUBERT CLASSEN --

GRANDMAMMA -- Frau Helga Sesemann, Klara's grandmother

CITIZEN

BOY WITH FIDDLE & DOG

PORTERS

MULTIPLE ROLE CASTING LOWERS CAST TO 15 ACTORS (6M 5W 2teenB 2teenG)

ACTRESS 1 -- [teenGIRL] -- HEIDI

ACTRESS 2 -- [WOMAN] -- DETE & TINETTE

ACTRESS 3 -- [WOMAN] -- MAYOR'S WIFE & GRANDMOTHER & GRANDMAMMA

ACTRESS 4 -- [WOMAN] -- PASTOR'S WIFE & FRAULEIN ROTHENMIER

ACTRESS 5 -- [teenGIRL] -- VILLAGER 1 & KLARA

ACTRESS 6 -- [WOMAN] -- INNKEEPER'S WIFE & HILDA

ACTRESS 7 -- [WOMAN] -- VILLAGER & GRETCHEN & BRIGITTE

ACTOR 1 -- [teenBOY] -- PETER & FIDDLE PLAYER BOY

ACTOR 2 -- [MAN] -- ALM UNCLE

ACTOR 3 -- [MAN] -- PASTOR & SEBASTIAN

ACTOR 4 -- [MAN] -- MAYOR BARBEL & HERR SESSEMAN

ACTOR 5 -- [MAN] -- INNKEEPER & FRANZ & PORTER

ACTOR 6 -- [MAN] -- VILLAGER 2(TEACHER) & CITIZEN & PROFESSOR & DOCTOR

ACTOR 7 -- [MAN] -- VILLAGER & EDMUND & PORTER

ACTOR 8 -- [teenBOY] -- TOWNESPERSON & JOHAN & PORTER

ACTOR 9 -- (MAN if ACTRESS 7 is Male) TOWN DRUNK, GERHARDT, PORTER

Synopsis of Scenes and Songs

ACT ONE

#1 -- Prelude

Scene 1 -- Summer -- Early morning. It is not yet light. The scene starts in the small village of Dorfli, Switzerland, 1881.

#2 -- **WHO'S THE CHILD?** Villagers

Scene 2 -- Grandfathers Cottage and the Alm, immediately following.

#3 -- **ON THE MOUNTAIN!** PETER & HEIDI

#3a -- **ON THE MOUNTAIN** (rep) HEIDI & PETER

#4 -- **STARLIGHT, STARBRIGHT** HEIDI

Scene 3 -- It is now autumn, three months later.

#5--**YOU CAN DO ANYTHING** HEIDI & ALM-UNCLE

Scene 4 -- Peter's house, immediately following.

Scene 5 -- Grandfather's house, immediately following.

#6-- **JUST US!** HEIDI & ALM-UNCLE

Scene 6 -- Grandfather's House. It is the next morning.

Scene 7 -- Grandfather's House, shortly after.

#7 -- **I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN!** ALM-UNCLE

ACT TWO

Scene 1 -- It is the house of Herr Sesemann, in Frankfurt, Germany.

#8 -- **A LITTLE GIRL** SERVANTS, HEIDI, BOY, KLARA

#9 -- **ON THE MOUNTAIN** (reprise) HEIDI

Scene 2-- The next morning.

Scene 3 --. A street in Frankfurt.

#10 -- **WHERE'S THE GIRL?** SERVANTS

Scene 4 -- Seseman Home -- Entry hall

#10a -- Dance

Scene 5 -- Grandfather's Cottage on the Alm

#11 -- **SUNSETS** ALM-UNCLE

Scene 6 -- The Library

#11b -- **WINDOW ON THE WORLD** KLARA

#12 -- **GOD WILL HEAR YOU** FRAU SESSEMAN & HEIDI

Scene 7 -- It is six months later, Spring

#13 -- **ARE YOU THERE?** HEIDI

Scene 8-- In the Library.

#13a -- **GOD WILL HEAR YOU** (rep#1)

Scene 9 -- in the Hallway

#14 -- **AN UNWELCOME GUEST** SERVANTS

#15 -- **SHE MUST GO HOME** DOCTOR, SESSEMAN & HEIDI

INTERMISSION

ACT THREE

Scene 1 -- Alm-Uncle's Hut, a few days later

#16 -- **COULD I LOVE AGAIN** (reprise)

& ONLY GOOD THINGS

ALM UNCLE & HEIDI

Scene 2 -- Peter's house

#17 -- **GOD WILL HEAR YOU** (Reprise #2) G. MOTHER & HEIDI

Scene 3 -- in front of Alm-Uncle shut

#18 -- **JUST ANOTHER GIRL** PETER

#19 -- **BECAUSE OF YOU** KLARA

#20 -- **SO GOOD** KLARA & HEIDI

Scene 4-- It is a morning three weeks later.

#21 -- **ON THE MOUNTAIN!** (reprise) HEIDI, PETER & KLARA

Scene 5-- the place where Peter has the goats

#22 -- **YOU CAN DO ANYTHING** (REPRISE) HEIDI & PETER

#23 -- **FINALE** COMPANY

#24 -- **CURTAIN CALL** COMPANY

HEIDI

A Musical

MUSICAL #1 -- PRELUDE

Act One

Scene 1 -- *Early morning. It is not yet light. The scene starts in the small village of Dorfli, Switzerland, 1881.*

There are risers with different levels set to the village square. There is a carillon in the middle of the square. We see HEIDI and her aunt DETE enter the stage. HEIDI is dressed in several layers of clothing. She looks ragged and her hair is messy.)

HEIDI: Where are the goats, Aunt Dete? You said when I got off the train there would be goats and if I didn't ask any more questions about where we were going I could see the goats.

DETE: Be quiet, Heidi, everyone is asleep.

HEIDI: But where are the goats?

DETE: The goatherd calls them with the bell and their owners bring them to him. Now come along. We have a long hike to get up the mountain.

HEIDI: Oh look! There's the bell!

(She runs over and starts to ring it.)

DETE: Heidi! Stop! Not that bell! You'll wake everyone up!

(But HEIDI keeps ringing, until DETE stops her. It is, however, too late. Window shutters open.)

MUSICAL #2 -- WHO'S THE CHILD?

MAYOR BARBEL:

WHO'S THE CHILD?!

MAYOR'S WIFE:

WHO'S THE CHILD?

VILLAGER 1:

WHO WAKES ME FROM MY SLEEP?

PASTOR'S WIFE:

WHY I BARELY SLEPT A PEEP!.

INNKEEPER:

WHO'S THE CHILD?

VILLAGER 1:

WHO'S THE CHILD?!

VILLAGER 2:

WHAT IS SHE DOING THERE?

INNKEEPER'S WIFE:

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

WHAT IS SHE DOING IN THE SQUARE?

(All VILLAGERS have come out onto the square.)

DETE:

I'M SORRY FOR THE WAY SHE...

INNKEEPER:

WHO ARE YOU?

DETE:

TO WARN YOU, IF I MAY, SHE...

INNKEEPER'S WIFE:

WHO ARE YOU?

VILLAGERS:

WE DON'T HAVE ANY STRANGERS HERE,

THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED!

WE DON'T WANT ANY DANGERS HERE!.

TOWN DRUNK:

IT'S A RATHER QUIET CROWD!

(Hiccups)

MAYOR BARBEL:

WE CANNOT HAVE THESE PEOPLE

WHO DISTURB OUR SLUMBER SO!

THE TRAIN'S STILL AT THE STATION -- YOU MUST GO.

ALL:

WHO'S THE CHILD?!?!?!?

(While CHORUS sings, HEIDI is taking off her layers of clothes, placing them in a pile, until she gets down to a cotton dress.)

DETE: I'm not a stranger. I was born here. And this is...

BARBEL: Why it's Dete! Dete, what are you doing here? And who's the child?

DETE: What business is it of yours?

BARBEL: Dete, we used to be friends. Has living in Frankfurt made you better than your neighbors?

DETE: I suppose the town will know soon enough. I'm taking my brother's child to live with her grandfather.

BARBEL: To Friedrich? For a visit?

DETE: No, to live. Both of her parents are dead.

BARBEL: Oh, he's a dreadful man! He never has come to live in the village since his daughter married your brother+.

DETE: I have no choice!!

MAYOR BARBEL:

YOU CAN'T TAKE A CHILD TO HIM!

INNKEEPER'S WIFE:

AND YOU'LL PARDON IF I SAY,

THAT HIS SOLITARY WAY IS MOST ALARMING!

VILLAGERS:

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

YOU CAN'T TAKE A CHILD TO HIM!

MAYOR'S WIFE:

HE WOULD NEVER LET HER IN!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN...

VILLAGER 2:

HE'S LESS THAN CHARMING!

PASTOR'S WIFE:

HE NEVER COMES TO CHURCH!
SAYS HE FINDS GOD IN THE WIND,
IN THE DAPPLE OF A BIRCH IS GOD'S OWN PEACE!

PASTOR:

GOSSIP NEVER HELPS THE SOUL!
MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE SINNED;
WHEN YOU GAIN YOUR SELF-CONTROL YOUR TROUBLES CEASE!
THE CHILD MIGHT NOT BE THE NEEDY ONE.
SHE MIGHT BE HERE TO END HIS LONELY DAYS.
WITH A CHILD AROUND HE MIGHT
COME TO TOWN AGAIN.
WE CAN'T QUESTION THE LORD'S MYSTERIOUS WAYS!

INNKEEPER'S WIFE: That is just like you, Pastor, always thinking the best of everyone.

VILLAGER 1: He is a bitter old man.

VILLAGER 2: He never comes down from that mountain.

INNKEEPER: He hasn't come to the town since his daughter died three years ago.

TEACHER: Do you think he will let her go to school?

MAYOR'S WIFE: He probably won't even let the child stay with him.

PASTOR'S WIFE: She'll be a lost sheep if she goes to Alm-Uncle.

MAYOR BARBEL:

NO, YOU CANNOT LEAVE THE CHILD
WITH THAT HERMIT ON THE HILL!
WHERE SHE'LL SURELY CATCH A CHILL AND DIE IN SORROW!

DETE:

A SOLUTION'S WHAT I NEED!
AND THERE'S ONLY ONE I KNOW!
UP THE MOUNTAIN SHE MUST GO! I'M HOME TOMORROW!

(The ENSEMBLE begins to exit except PETER.)

BARBEL: What is your name, child?

HEIDI: Heidi.

BARBEL: What a lovely dress you have on.

HEIDI: I had everything I owned on. Aunt Dete said she wasn't going to carry any luggage and she didn't want anything to get lost. I was awfully hot.

DETE: *(To Heidi)* What have you done with your clothes?

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HEIDI: I took them off. They made me feel hot.

(PETER goes off with DEETE and HEIDI)

DEETE: *(To Peter)* Who are you?

PETER: My name is Peter Heinsel.

DEETE: Go on your way.

PETER: I am going ... to get Alm-Uncle's goats.

DEETE: Alm-Uncle, is it? Then you can carry her clothes. Come along, Heidi.

(PETER and HEIDI scramble to get the clothes as the Carillon is replaced by ALM-UNCLE's hut)

Scene 2 -- *A projection of mountains is shown. ALM-UNCLE is chopping wood.*

DEETE: Good-day, Herr Schmidt. I have brought you Tobias and Adelheid's child. Tobias died of pneumonia two months ago. The neighbors took care of Heidi. I have taken time from work to fetch her from Wiesbaden where she lived with her father. I can't take her back to Frankfurt. The family I work for won't let me keep her. You only saw her as a toddler, but eight years have turned her into a pretty girl.

ALM-UNCLE: What has she to do with me?

DEETE: As her next of kin it is your responsibility to look after her.

ALM-UNCLE: What if I don't want...

(HE notices PETER listening)

You, boy, go off to get the goats in the shed and be on your way.

PETER: Yes, Alm-Uncle.

(HE exits behind hut.)

ALM-UNCLE: I won't have her, Dete. What will I do with her when she whines and cries for you?

DEETE: That is none of my affair; do with her as you will. If you can't keep her, find someone to look after her. Good day to you.

(SHE exits)

ALM-UNCLE: Don't you come back. I don't want to see your face again!

HEIDI: Please Grandfather, why are you so angry with everyone?

ALM-UNCLE: What makes you think I am angry at everyone?

HEIDI: The people in the village said you were...and you're yelling.

ALM-UNCLE: The way I feel is no one's concern but my own.

HEIDI: Are you angry at me?

ALM-UNCLE: *(HE looks at HEIDI as if seeing her for the first time)* You look like your mother. She was a pretty girl.

HEIDI: I miss her and I miss my father. When he died Aunt Dete came and took me away.

ALM-UNCLE: I suppose you're going to cry and carry on now that she has left you.

HEIDI: She wasn't a very comfortable aunt. I don't think she really liked me. She never told me stories or gave me hugs. Will you do that, Grandfather?

ALM-UNCLE: *(long pause)* I don't give hugs and I don't know any stories. Come inside now and bring in your clothes.

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

HEIDI: But I won't need them, I am going to run wild like the goats.

ALM-UNCLE: But not naked. You can wear what you want now that it is summer, but in the winter it will be cold. Bring them in.

(THEY enter hut. There is a table, a low stool, a chair, and a bed. There is a chest of drawers and a cupboard. There is a loft with hay.)

HEIDI: Where will I sleep?

ALM-UNCLE: Anywhere you want.

(SHE sees a ladder leading up to a loft and climbs up and starts moving hay making it into a bed.)

HEIDI: Can I sleep up here? I'll need a pillow.

ALM-UNCLE: And a blanket I suppose?

(HE goes to chest of drawers and gets out both, and hands them to HER.)

HEIDI: Oh, look, grandfather, when you open the shutters you can see outside. I'll be able to see the stars and the moon.

ALM-UNCLE: I suppose you also want something to eat?

HEIDI: I haven't had anything since late last night.

ALM-UNCLE: Here is some porridge.

(HE gets porridge for HER to eat.)

HEIDI: Where should I sit, Grandfather?

ALM-UNCLE: For now, you will have to use my chair.

HEIDI: But where will you sit?

ALM-UNCLE: I have already eaten.

HEIDI: *(SHE eats.)* This is very good.

(SHE eats some more.)

Why do they call you Alm-Uncle?

ALM-UNCLE: Because I'm old and I live here on the Alm. The mountain is the Alm.

HEIDI: Why do you live here alone?

ALM-UNCLE: Because I don't like being asked questions. Are you through eating?

(HEIDI nods)

Then you can follow the goat trail up and spend the day with Peter and the goats. I'll give you cheese and bread and milk for dinner. Don't go near the edge of the cliffs.

HEIDI: Yes, Grandfather.

(HEIDI leaves the hut and walks up another level. PETER is lying down. LIGHTS change)

HEIDI: Look at all the flowers. You must be Peter. You walked up the hill with us. What are you doing?

PETER: I'm looking after the goats.

HEIDI: Lying on your back?

PETER: The goats are safe.

HEIDI: How do you know?

PETER: I know.

HEIDI: But I don't see any goats.

(PETER sits up quickly)

How can you look after them if you can't see them?

PETER: They've just gone to feed on the grass in the best places. They will come when I call them.

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

HEIDI: How do you call them?

PETER: I whistle.

HEIDI: Do it! Please?

PETER: I can't do it now. They would come.

HEIDI: What's wrong with that?

PETER: They need to finish eating.

HEIDI: What do they eat?

PETER: You sure ask a lot of questions. I thought girls knew everything!

HEIDI: Nobody knows everything.

PETER: *(looks at HEIDI and lays back down)* Hmph!

HEIDI: You didn't answer my question.

PETER: Which one?

HEIDI: What do the goats eat?

PETER: Flowers. Grass. Anything that grows.

HEIDI: So you just lie down and sleep while they are eating?

PETER: No.

HEIDI: That's an easy job.

PETER: *(defensively)* It's not all I do!

HEIDI: So what else do you do?

MUSICAL # 3 -- ON THE MOUNTAIN

PETER:

I LOOK AROUND ME AND I THINK ...

HEIDI:

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

PETER:

HOW CAN THOSE CITY PEOPLE LET THEMSELVES
JUST SINK INTO DESPAIR!

WHEN ALL THEY NEED TO DO IS BREATHE
THIS FRESH, CLEAN AIR.

ON THE MOUNTAIN I AM HOME!

ON THE MOUNTAIN I HAVE ROOM TO ROAM!

AND THERE'S SUNLIGHT AND THERE'S SKY!

AND THERE'S TIME TO SIT AND THINK AND WONDER WHY.

THOUGH IT MAY SEEM RATHER TAME,
I KNOW EVERY ROCK AND HILL BY NAME.

AND THE GOATS COME WHEN I CALL,

JUST TO SEE THEM DANCE AROUND IS WORTH IT ALL!

HEIDI:

CITY PEOPLE RUSH AROUND;

NEVER PICK A FLOWER FROM THE GROUND.

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

DISTANT MOUNTAINS THEY CANNOT SEE.
ARE FOREVER CALLING ME.
HERE THE SUN SHINES BRIGHT TODAY.
ON THE MOUNTAIN I CAN LAUGH AND PLAY.
GLOOMY THOUGHTS JUST DISAPPEAR.
WITH THE HILLS AND THE STREAMS
FILLING MY DREAMS
LIFE WILL BE WONDERFUL HERE!
ON THE MOUNTAIN I'LL BE HAPPY.
MORE THAN I'VE BEEN HAPPY ALL YEAR.

(THEY DANCE, tentatively -- a traditional type of dance -- a dance of introduction -- HEIDI is enjoying herself. PETER is a little nervous but he doesn't want to be rude.)

BOTH:

ON THE MOUNTAIN I AM HOME!
ON THE MOUNTAIN I HAVE ROOM TO ROAM!
GLOOMY THOUGHTS JUST DISAPPEAR.

HEIDI:

WITH THE HILLS AND THE STREAMS
FILLING MY DREAMS
LIFE WILL BE WONDERFUL HERE!

BOTH:

ON THE MOUNTAIN I AM HAPPY.
I'LL BE HAPPY YEAR AFTER YEAR.

HEIDI: Peter, may I come up here every day with you?

PETER: I suppose. You're not so bad, for a girl.

HEIDI: I'll share my dinner with you. Grandfather has given me ever so much.

PETER: *(Smiles)* Then I guess I'll let you stay.

~~HEIDI: I want to pick some flowers for my grandfather's table.~~

~~———(SHE starts running around and picking them.)~~

~~PETER: They'll die before you can get them down the mountain.~~

~~HEIDI: Oh.~~

~~———(She does not want to let the bunch of flowers drop.)~~

~~PETER: You can feed them to the goats when they return.~~

~~———(SHE lays them on a rock.)~~

~~——You can pick more later.~~

HEIDI: *(She hears a hawk)* What was that?

PETER: It was a hawk.

HEIDI: What's a hawk?

PETER: It's a bird. You don't know anything!

HEIDI: I know when people are nice to each other.

PETER: I guess you know a lot of things about town life that I don't know.

HEIDI: Probably.

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PETER: Let's have dinner now.

(They open HEIDI's bundle and begin to eat.)

HEIDI: My Aunt Dete said she was glad I was a girl because boys eat too much.

(PETER'S mouth is full so he can't reply.)

Where do you live, Peter?

PETER: *(Swallows)* Another question?

HEIDI: Sorry.

PETER: *(considers her)* It's all right. I don't mind, really. My house is halfway down the Alm; just below Alm Uncle.

HEIDI: Why do you call him that?

PETER: Everyone does.

HEIDI: But his name is Friedrich Schmidt. And he's not your uncle.

PETER: He's always been Alm-Uncle to me.

HEIDI: What do you do with the goats in the winter?

PETER: *(Smiles at another question)* They stay in their pens; in their barns; since there is no grass or flowers to eat.

HEIDI: So, what do you do?

PETER: I go to ...school.

HEIDI: I've never gone to school! Do you like school?

PETER: *(Shakes his head)* You have to read. It's impossible. No one can learn.

HEIDI: If you can't learn then I can't either.

(SHE paused.)

Peter, do you know why my grandfather didn't like my father?

PETER: No.

HEIDI: He never came to visit us, even when my mother died. My father said we were not to mention his name in our house.

PETER: Maybe my Oma Anna knows. She knows the Alm-Uncle well. They grew up together. She got me the job looking after his goats.

HEIDI: I'll ask Grandfather if I can visit her.

PETER: He probably won't let you. He hasn't talked to her in years. I'd better call the goats. Sun's going down.

(He whistles and calls them by name.)

Schwanli, Snail, Turk, Thistlebird, Snowball, Barli.

HEIDI: Oh! Look at them! They're beautiful.

(This can be easily accomplished if PETER and HEIDI are on the apron of the stage. The 'GOATS' can be in the audience, unseen by us.)

They are lovely.

(SHE pets them)

HEIDI: Which ones of them are Grandfather's?

PETER: Schwanli and Snowball.

HEIDI: They are the prettiest.

PETER: Yes, he takes very good care of them. It is time for us to go, now.

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(The lights have been slowly dimming as the GOATS have been arriving. Now, there is a rosy glow on the scrim behind the set. HEIDI is awestruck.)

HEIDI: What is happening to the mountains?

PETER: It is only the sunset. It happens every night. Come on.

(PETER herds the GOATS down the ramp into the audience. PETER and HEIDI chase the GOATS as they sing.)

MUSICAL #3a -- ON THE MOUNTAIN (Rep)

PETER:

ON THE MOUNTAIN I AM HOME.
ON THE MOUNTAIN I HAVE ROOM TO ROAM.
AND THE GOATS ARE FUN TO FEED.

BOTH:

WITH THE HILLS AND THE STREAMS
FILLING MY DREAMS
LIFE WILL BE HAPPY INDEED!
ON THE MOUNTAIN WHERE THE SUN SETS
THERE IS NOTHING MORE THAT I NEED!

(PETER and 'GOATS' wait for instructions. HEIDI goes to ALM-UNCLE who is sitting on a bench outside of his cottage.)

HEIDI: Oh, Grandfather, we had a wonderful day. I saw so many flowers, and the goats were wonderful and the mountains turned red! Do you know the names of the flowers and the different mountains? Can you tell me? And I learned the names of your goats. They are the prettiest goats. Peter says you take the best care of them.

ALM-UNCLE: Slowly, slowly. We have many nights when I can tell you the names of the flowers and mountains. Peter, put my goats away behind the hut in their shed. You will take her up with you, tomorrow?

PETER: Yes, Alm-Uncle.

(PETER goes on down the mountain.)

HEIDI: *(SHE sees a high stool that can reach the table that was not there that morning.)* Is that for me?

ALM-UNCLE: *(gruffly)* I don't see anyone else here it would fit.

(HEIDI rushes over and hugs him.)

HEIDI: Thank you, Grandfather. I don't care what the people say in the village. I think you are very kind.

ALM-UNCLE: Enough of that. Sit down now, and we will eat.

HEIDI: Aren't you going to say grace?

ALM-UNCLE: I do not talk to God.

HEIDI: Even Aunt Dete said grace. But she never sounded like she liked God very much. She always rushed through the words and she often said God never did anything for her.

ALM-UNCLE: I don't doubt it.

HEIDI: She didn't do any of the things the minister said, like being forgiving, and loving little children, or giving to the poor. I don't think her prayers counted very much. Why don't you talk to God?

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ALM-UNCLE: Because he doesn't listen.

HEIDI: I have never really tried to talk to God. I don't know how.

(They eat in silence.)

Grandfather, there was a bird, a hawk on the mountain. He was crying and crying. What was he saying?

ALM-UNCLE: He was saying, "You foolish people. Why do you live down in the valleys, all huddled together when you could be up in the air, free like me?"

HEIDI: Is that why you live up here?

ALM-UNCLE: Yes. I will now do the dishes and you will go to bed. It has been a long day for you.

HEIDI: *(Starts for bed, then stops)* Aren't you going to kiss me good night, Grandfather?

ALM-UNCLE: I don't... Yes. Of course.

(HE goes over and kisses HEIDI on the forehead. SHE climbs up to her bed. The lights dim. ALMUNCLE starts to clean up. HEIDI looks out the window and sings. ALM-UNCLE stops occasionally to listen to the song.)

MUSICAL # 4 -- STARLIGHT, STARBRIGHT!

HEIDI:

STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT, HEAR MY SECRET WISH TONIGHT.
THAT I MAY ALWAYS STAY HERE.
STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT LOOK ON ME AND SHINE YOUR LIGHT.
KEEP ALL MY NEW FRIENDS SAFE AND SNUG AND WARM.
HELP ALM-UNCLE LOVE ME
SO WE CAN BE A FAMILY.
LET EVERYONE FORGET ABOUT THE PAST.
WITH MOUNTAINS ALL AROUND ME;
LIKE GOD'S ARMS TO SURROUND ME.
I THINK I'VE FOUND A HOME AT LAST.
STARLIGHT, STAR BRIGHT KEEP US SAFE AND SOUND TONIGHT.
HELP EVERY ONE I KNOW
WITH YOUR SPECIAL WARMING GLOW.
I MIGHT JUST GET SOME SLEEP TONIGHT!

(ALM-UNCLE looks up at HEIDI as the lights go out.)

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Scene 3 -- *It is now autumn. HEIDI has lived with ALM-UNCLE for three months. PETER is now at school. HEIDI is washing the dishes and ALM-UNCLE is carving a figure.*

HEIDI: Grandfather, will Peter be a long time at school?

ALM-UNCLE: All of the fall and through the winter, until the snow melts.

HEIDI: Shouldn't I go to school, too?

ALM-UNCLE: The school master can't teach you anything better than you can learn from the mountains.

HEIDI: Yes, Grandfather.

(HEIDI finishes her washing and then comes over to ALM-UNCLE)

Grandfather? Grandfather, Peter came up here yesterday and he said their house had a broken shutter. He tried to fix it, but he couldn't. His grandmother is very old and she can't get out of bed and the wind blows in on it and....

ALM-UNCLE: Slow down.

HEIDI: And I said we would come and visit and that you could fix it.

ALM-UNCLE: You did what?

HEIDI: I told him you could fix it, Grandfather.

ALM-UNCLE: What if I don't want to fix it. I don't have anything to do with the people in Dorfli.

HEIDI: But Peter doesn't live in Dorfli. He lives part way up the Alm. You will fix it won't you?

MUSICAL #5 -- YOU CAN DO ANYTHING

HEIDI:

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING

WITH YOUR HAMMER AND SAW.

YOU CAN KEEP THE WINTER OUT OF GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE!

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING;

YOU CAN STOP THE COLD

FROM STREAMING INTO A ROOM WITH A WHACK AND A POUND.

TAKE ANY SITUATION WHICH YOU ARE IN

YOU'LL FIND A WAY TO GET YOU OUT!

KNEE-DEEP IN TROUBLE'S WHEN YOU ALWAYS BEGIN,

THEN YOU CAN'T HELP BUT WIN! THERE'S NO DOUBT!

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING

WITH TWO PIECES OF WOOD.

YOU CAN MAKE IT WARM AND SNUG IN GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE!

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING.

YOU GAVE ME A BED

WHERE STARLIGHT TOUCHES MY PILLOW AND TICKLES MY EYES.

TAKE ANY SITUATION WHICH YOU ARE IN

YOU'LL FIND A WAY TO GET YOU OUT!

KNEE DEEP IN TROUBLE'S WHEN YOU ALWAYS BEGIN,

THEN YOU CAN'T HELP BUT WIN! THERE'S NO DOUBT!

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LEICESTER BAY THEATRICALS

THAT YOU CAN DO ANYTHING!
SLEDS AND SHUTTERS AND TOYS!
SURELY PETER'S OMA NOW WILL ALWAYS BE WARM!
YOU CAN DO ANYTHING!
CLEVER'S WHAT YOU ARE
AND I KNOW YOU'RE THE BEST ONE BY FAR!
TAKE ANY SITUATION WHICH YOU ARE IN
YOU'LL FIND A WAY TO GET YOU OUT!
KNEE-DEEP IN TROUBLE'S WHEN YOU ALWAYS BEGIN,
IF THERE'S SOME WAY TO WIN!
YOU'LL FIND IT OUT!

**SEGUE TO
MUSICAL # 5A -- PLAYOUT**

ALM-UNCLE: I suppose I could fix the shutter.

HEIDI: Oh, good. Let's go now.

ALM-UNCLE: We need to put on our coats and I need to get my tools.

(They get ready and start down the steps to Peter's house.)

HEIDI: I knew you would help. Peter says you're an old curmudgeon, and I asked him what that was, and he said you were a bad tempered old man, but I said, no, you were the nicest grandfather in the world. And you are.

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING! CLEVER'S WHAT YOU ARE!

AND I KNOW YOU'RE THE BEST BY FAR!

ALM-UNCLE: Thank you child. I will have to tell Peter he has a bigger vocabulary than I thought. They must be teaching him something in that school. Here we are.

Scene 4 -- *Peter's house is very bare. OMA ANNA is in bed and the blankets are patched and worn. There are only the bare necessities. Peter's mother, BRIGITTE, is sitting and sewing. HEIDI pretends to knock on the door, and BRIGITTE goes to answer it.)*

HEIDI: Hello, I'm Heidi. I've brought my grandfather to fix the shutter.

OMA ANNA: Who is it, Brigitte?

BRIGITTE: It is Peter's friend Heidi and, ...and Alm-Uncle.

OMA ANNA: Friedrich here? It cannot be.

ALM-UNCLE: We will not stay long. I will just fix your shutter.

BRIGITTE: Come in, come in. We have a little bread and cheese.

ALM-UNCLE: We have just eaten.

OMA ANNA: Friedrich, is that you?

ALM-UNCLE: Yes, it is me, Anna.

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OMA ANNA: And you have brought the little girl?

ALM-UNCLE: Yes. I will fix your shutter now.

(He goes about setting up tools. It is all pantomime. But you hear the blows of hammer. He pretends to pull off the old shutter.)

OMA ANNA: Brigitte, you must tell me what the child looks like.

BRIGITTE: She has curly black hair, rosy cheeks, and bright black eyes. I think she is nine years old. Is that right?

HEIDI: I'm eleven, if you please, but can't Peter's Grandmother see that for herself?

OMA ANNA: It has been many years since I have even seen a pinpoint of light.

HEIDI: You mean you can't see the mountains or the flowers or the goats?

OMA ANNA: I can't see anything, child.

HEIDI: But why?

OMA ANNA: Sometimes your sight goes in old age.

HEIDI: Then my grandfather will fix it. He can fix anything.

(SHE goes over to the ALM-UNCLE. He starts to hammer. She tugs on his coat)

Peter's grandmother can't see. You can make her see, can't you?

ALM-UNCLE: I'm afraid there are some things I can't do, child.

(HE hammers again. SHE stops him again.)

HEIDI: Why can't she see?

ALM-UNCLE: It is often nature's way.

(ALM-UNCLE hammers. Then stops, listens, hammers to fit his mood.)

OMA ANNA: But I hear better than I used to. I can hear footsteps and know when an old friend is coming. I know every bird by its song. There are some pleasures left to me. Once a month we have enough money for white rolls. They are so soft and taste so good -- and now ... I have a new friend.

ALM-UNCLE: I need to check the widow frames outside. I will be back in a moment.

(HE exits.)

HEIDI: *(To OMA ANNA)* Peter told me you are very wise.

OMA-ANNA: He's a kind boy.

HEIDI: He told me you have known my grandfather many years. Can you tell me why he is so gruff and why he never came to visit my parents? Sometimes I can't tell if he loves me.

OMA-ANNA: People have their reasons for the way they are. Maybe someday when you are older he will tell you about his sorrows. Be patient with him. You are a good girl, Heidi. Learns to love without strings, without expecting to be loved back.

(ALM-UNCLE comes back in)

OMA-ANNA: Will you come and visit me, Heidi?

HEIDI: Yes, I will.

OMA ANNA: You will bring her, even in the snow, Friedrich?

ALM-UNCLE: Yes, Anna.

OMA ANNA: If you go to school you can learn to read the hymns to me. Peter gets the words jumbled sometimes. Will you go to school?

(HE starts to hammer again.)

HEIDI: I can't hear you.

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OMA ANNA: I said, will you go to school.

(more hammering)

HEIDI: I can't hear...

ALM-UNCLE: Your shutters are fixed and we must go.

HEIDI: But, Grandfather...

ALM-UNCLE: Now.

(HE picks up his tools and goes out the door.)

We are going.

(BRIGITTE and OMA ANNA are astonished as the LIGHTS fade.)

Scene 5 -- *He leaves and HEIDI follows. As they walk up the hill they are soon followed by the PASTOR. They arrive at the cottage and the PASTOR comes up behind them.)*

ALM-UNCLE: I know why you have come and the answer is no.

PASTOR: And good day to you, Friedrich.

ALM-UNCLE: Go around and feed the goats, Heidi.

HEIDI: But...

ALM-UNCLE: Go.

HEIDI: Yes, Grandfather.

PASTOR: That child needs to go to school. Do you intend to have her grow up like a savage?

ALM-UNCLE: She can learn what she needs to know from me.

Pastor: She needs not only to learn to read and write but she needs companions of her own age. You should move down into town for the winter. What if either of you became ill or hurt up here? How would you survive?

ALM-UNCLE: We will be all right. I've been all right for more than ten years.

PASTOR: This is not about Heidi, is it? It is about Tobias.

ALM-UNCLE: I do not speak his name.

PASTOR: I hear he changed when he married your daughter.

ALM-UNCLE: Do not speak to me of my daughter or the man she married.

PASTOR: Make your peace with God, Friedrich.

ALM-UNCLE: Do not talk of my daughter and do not speak of God. I have nothing to do with either.

PASTOR: Alright. We will not speak of them, but Heidi should go to school. She will grow up. She will want to meet some young man to marry.

ALM-UNCLE: There is plenty of time for her to grow up. For now she stays with me on the Alm. Good day to you, Pastor.

PASTOR: Good day, Friedrich

(PASTOR goes down the hill. HEIDI comes out with the goats.)

HEIDI: Who was that, Grandfather?

ALM-UNCLE: No one to concern us.

HEIDI: The goats missed us.

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ALM-UNCLE: You're happy here, aren't you, Heidi?

HEIDI: Happier than anywhere I have ever been, Grandfather.

ALM-UNCLE: The winters are long and cold. It could get lonely for you.

HEIDI: I'll have you, won't I?

ALM-UNCLE: Yes. And I'll have you.

HEIDI: So, who needs school?

ALM-UNCLE: You were listening?

HEIDI: Just a little.

ALM-UNCLE: I can teach you what they learn in school.

HEIDI: I'd like that. But there are other things to learn about, aren't there?

ALM-UNCLE: Like what?

HEIDI: Milking the goats. Cooking. Building things.

ALM-UNCLE: That's a lot to learn. I don't know.

MUSICAL #6 -- JUST US

HEIDI:

YOU SAID YOU'D TEACH ME
TO CARVE IN WOOD? WON'T YOU?
AND TELL ME STORIES.
THEY'RE ALL SO GOOD! WON'T YOU?

ALM-UNCLE:

WE'LL BUILD SNOWMEN
AND RACE THE SLED.

HEIDI:

AND VISIT OMA ANNA
WHO'S IN BED.
WE'LL FEED THE GOATS. I'LL BE LIKE YOU!
AND LEARN OF EVERY SINGLE THING THAT YOU CAN DO!

ALM-UNCLE:

JUST YOU AND ME!

HEIDI:

JUST US! JUST WE!

ALM-UNCLE:

THE WINTERS CAN BE LONG AND HARD AND COLD.
BUT WE WILL LEARN AND WORK AND PLAY!

HEIDI:

I LOVE TODAY.

ALM-UNCLE:

JUST YOU AND ME!

HEIDI:

JUST US! JUST WE!

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ALM-UNCLE:

WITH YOU I'M NEVER FEELING VERY OLD!
THE THINGS I DO SURPRISE ME TOO!

HEIDI:

JUST ME, JUST YOU!
I love you, Grandfather.
ALL ALONE OR ON YOUR OWN IS NOT THE WAY TO BE!
IT WORKS OUT BEST FOR YOU AND ME
TO BE A 'WE!'

ALM-UNCLE:

JUST YOU AND ME!

HEIDI:

JUST US! JUST WE!
THE WINTERS WON'T BE LONG, OR HARD, OR COLD!

BOTH:

BETWEEN US TWO

ALM-UNCLE:

ITS YOU!

HEIDI:

AND YOU!

BOTH:

IT'S US
JUST WE! JUST US!
(Lights dim. Heidi goes up to her bed.)

Scene 6 -- *It is the next morning. HEIDI and the ALM-UNCLE are finishing with breakfast.)*

ALM-UNCLE: I am going into the forest to chop some more wood before the snow comes. You are to stay here, Heidi. I will be gone all day. Take care of the goats.

HEIDI: I will, Grandfather:

ALM-UNCLE: Stay close to the house.

(HE gets up and kisses her, puts on his coat and gets his ax and leaves. HEIDI cleans up. As she does we see DETE climbing up the hill. HEIDI goes outside and sees her.)

HEIDI: Aunt Dete, have you come for a visit?

DETE: My dear child I have the most wonderful news!

HEIDI: How are you, Aunt Dete?

DETE: I am fine, Heidi and I can't wait to tell you about the good thing that is going to happen to you.

HEIDI: What is that?

DETE: You get to come and live in Frankfurt in a big house. You get to learn to read and write. They have told me in the village that Alm-Uncle won't let you go to school. In the house where you are going to live you will share a tutor with the kindest girl and you will have the most delicious food.

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HEIDI: Go to Frankfurt? But I don't understand? I don't want to leave here.

DETE: Of course you want to leave here. I know you must be angry at me for leaving you with Alm-Uncle, but I had to, Heidi. But the house where you are going to stay, they are going to pay me a lot of money to bring you to them and I will save some of it for your dowry when you get married. You will have so many opportunities.

HEIDI: But I don't want to leave Grandfather.

DETE: Don't be stupid, of course you do.

HEIDI: But I love him.

DETE: Where is he now?

HEIDI: He is chopping wood.

DETE: Well, then, just come with me for a day. Uncle Friedrich would want you to have this opportunity.

You would have such wonderful things to eat. Cakes and sweet white rolls.

HEIDI: Peter's grandmother likes white rolls. Could I bring some back to her?

DETE: As many as you want.

HEIDI: Grandfather would worry if I wasn't here; if he didn't know where I was.

DETE: I will write him a note telling him I have taken you.

(SHE takes a piece of paper out of her handbag and writes a note, takes it into the cottage and puts it on the table.)

HEIDI: Be sure and write I will be back tomorrow and that I am just going to get white rolls for Oma Anna and he is not to worry.

DETE: Yes, I have put all that down. Now get your coat and hat.

(HEIDI does.)

What a dreadful looking hat.

HEIDI: Grandfather gave me this hat. I like it.

DETE: Then you must wear it. Let's go. Come along.

(They walk down the mountain. Lights dim.)

Scene 7 -- *ALM-UNCLE comes back with a wagon full of wood. He goes into house.*

ALM-UNCLE: Heidi! Heidi?

(He sees note on table. reads aloud.)

Dear Alm-Uncle. I have found a place where Heidi will receive an excellent education. She wants to go very much and have this opportunity to learn. Thank you for taking care of her this summer. Dete.

(He sits down)

Without saying good bye?

MUSICAL #7 -- I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN

ALM-UNCLE

NOW, I'M ON MY OWN AGAIN!

ALONE AGAIN.

A STONE AGAIN.

I CAN ALMOST TOUCH THE EMPTINESS.

I REMEMBER WHAT IT'S LIKE.

WAS I WRONG TO TAKE HER IN?

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HOW IT WOULD END.

ALL THE PEOPLE I HAVE EVER LOVED ARE GONE.

I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN!

I'LL NEVER GIVE MY HEART AWAY!

I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN!

ALONE IS SAFER ANY DAY.

I'LL LIVE MY LIFE TO NEVER CARE FOR ANYONE,

NOT ANYONE AGAIN!

I CLOSED THE DOOR ONCE WHEN THOSE WHO LOVED ME, HURT ME.

I'LL CLOSE IT AGAIN AND KEEP IT LOCKED THIS TIME.

WHENEVER I'D GIVE MY HEART THEY'D ALL DESERT ME.

TRUSTING IN LOVE; WHAT A SILLY WASTE OF TIME! (or WHAT A SILLY STUPID CRIME!)

I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN!

I'LL NEVER GIVE MY HEART AWAY

I'LL NOT LOVE AGAIN!

ALONE IS SAFER ANY DAY.

I'LL LIVE MY LIFE I'LL NEVER CARE FOR ANYONE,

Not even Heidi!

NOT ANYONE EVER AGAIN!

End of Act 1

16 more pages in ACT TWO (followed by the intermission)

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19 more pages in ACT THREE

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