



## Performance Notes for Goblin Market

### THREE WAYS THAT STUDENTS AND TEACHERS CAN UTILIZE THIS PLAY

1. Students can read the play aloud while sitting in the classroom. Ask the readers to skip all bracketed stage directions. You may prefer to rotate your actors to give all students a chance to read the speaking parts.
2. Students can perform the play in the classroom. Clear an area that can be used as the stage. Have the audience sit on the floor in front of the stage. Students in the play can make simple costumes and/or sets as described below. When the scene change, the characters "on stage" simply walk to the back of the room where they wait until their next appearance "on stage."
3. Students can perform the play on stage. Refer to the production notes that follow. Ask the actors to enter from the back of the room and move through the audience as they approach the stage.



### COSTUMES

- NARRATOR— Simple, nice clothes.
- GOBLINS— Oversized hooded sweatshirts (dark colors, no logos) with rope or cord loosely tied around their waists; brown pants or leggings and flat black shoes. Face-paint make-up is optional (Green for skin tone, black and red for around lips and eyes).



- LIZZIE— A long pastel-colored dress or blouse and long skirt, and a cape, or a shawl that ties or buttons in the front.
- SARAH— A long pastel-colored dress or blouse and long skirt, and a cape, or a shawl that ties or buttons in the front. She also has a plain white apron that ties around her waist like those that were worn during Victorian times.

SARAH's hair color is blonde, but if the actress playing her isn't blonde she can wear a blonde wig with curls OR you can change the line "golden curl" to whatever color hair the actress has.

A clip-on lock of hair is worn during Scene 1 only, for GOBLINS to "snip off".

When SARAH exits at the end of Scene 4 she puts on a gray wig. She wears this wig until Scene 7. When she runs offstage in the middle of Scene 7, she takes off the gray wig, and if she had a blonde wig on before, she puts it back on. She puts the blanket up around her head so that only her face is showing.



## PROPS

### Scene 1

- Three wicker baskets of fruit to be carried by GOBLINS. Fruit can be real, plastic or cardboard. Fruit should be a colorful mix and should include strawberries, apples, and a bunch of grapes.
- Note: There needs to be at least one apple and one strawberry for GOBLIN #1 to offer SARAH, and at least one bunch of grapes for GOBLIN #2 to offer SARAH.
- Two non-breakable pitchers, one each for LIZZIE and SARAH. These should be made of plastic, to avoid breakage, but can be painted or spray-painted a reddish-orange or tan to resemble a ceramic pitcher.
- A carton of berries for GOBLIN #1.
- A pair of scissors for GOBLIN #2.
- A golden curl- this can be a piece of yellow yarn, which GOBLIN #3 keeps in their pocket, until it's time to "snip" it off. GOBLIN #3 can hold one



end of the yarn against SARAH's head, and hold the other end outstretched, so that audience can see it. GOBLIN #2 opens and closes the scissors close to SARAH'S head, and GOBLIN #3 pull yarn away, holding it up to show audience.

## Scene 2

- Two bowls, stacked on table, and two spoons for LIZZIE to start putting out for dinner.

## Scene 3

- Embroidery materials-
- Same pitchers used in Scene 1 for LIZZIE and SARAH.

## Scene 4

- Same pitchers used in Scene 1 for LIZZIE and SARAH.
- A piece of fruit each for GOBLIN #1 and GOBLIN #2. These can be plastic fruits or real, or made from cardboard.
- A wicker basket of fruit for GOBLIN #3. Can be one of the baskets from Scene 1. There should be a few pieces of loose fruit to spill onto the floor. When LIZZIE pushes him, GOBLIN #3 can turn and drop the basket close to the floor.
- A pair of scissors for GOBLIN #2. – a pair of scissors.
- Snipped lock of blonde hair for GOBLIN #2.

## Scene 5

- Flower pot for SARAH to plant seed in. Note: The seed she pulls out of her coat pocket is imaginary, as before.
- Coin purse for LIZZIE. This can be hanging on a coat rack or on the back of a chair.
- Large silver coin. This can be a circle cut from cardboard and painted or spray-painted silver, or covered in foil.

## Scene 6

- Coin purse and silver coin for LIZZIE.
- A very small plastic container with raspberry jam inside for LIZZIE to smear on her cheek.
- Fruit for GOBLINS.

## Scene 7

- A blanket for SARAH to be wrapped up in.



- Pitcher of water for LIZZIE to pour from. This can be one of the pitchers they filled in Scene 4.
- A cup for LIZZIE to serve to SARAH.
- Optional: Bird sound effect to be played from off-stage. You can find bird call sound effects for free on the Internet, and specifically Youtube. Birds with the prettiest calls include nightingale, wren, robin or search “Dawn Chorus” for multiple British birds singing together at dawn.  
Note: If there is no bird sound effect, you can have people offstage whistle like birds.

## Scene 8

- A baby doll wrapped in a blanket.



## SETS

The stage is divided into two sets. At one end of the stage is a forest, and at the other end is the interior of a cottage. If you want to make a backdrop it can be painted to show both locations- a darkish cluster of trees with a stream running through it on one side, and a cottage wall made of logs and a window with curtains on the other side.

See diagram at end of set notes for an example of how you might set up the stage.

**Scene 1** – Forest/Goblin Market. There are various trees scattered around surrounding a fruit stand, which is set back a little. There is also a stream down close to the front of the stage. The stream is represented by a blue cloth.

Fruit stand can be a dark colored table, covered in baskets of fruit. This fruit can be glued down on the baskets, or can be large cardboard cutouts of various piles of fruit. As long as the audience can see lots of colors, you can use anything to represent the fruit on the table.

To make transitions easier, when GOBLINS close up their fruits stand, they can simply cover everything with a black cloth. Another option is to put a dark colored table cloth on the table, and GOBLINS can take fruit off and place it under the table. When they set up the stand again, they either remove the cloth that’s covering it, or bring fruit out from under the table.



Trees can be made from cardboard. Cut basic tree-shapes out of cardboard and cutting leaves from construction paper. Glue leaves to tree branches. Tie or tape trees to stools, chairs, or milk crates, so that they can be free-standing.

**Scene 2** — Cottage of LIZZIE and SARAH. A coat rack holds an apron, and a purse. This is also where LIZZIE and SARAH hang their capes. There is a simple kitchen table with two chairs, with stacked dishes- two bowls, two plates- and basic silverware.

There is a fireplace, which can be made out of a cardboard box. Paint the box gray, or use sponges to resemble bricks. In the middle of one of the sides, paint a large black rectangle, and inside the rectangle, paint logs and flame.

There are two beds, which can be placed very close to each other if needed for spacing. Beds can be represented with sturdy benches, each covered in a blanket and with a pillow. On top of the first blanket, place another blanket or sheet. SARAH and LIZZIE lay on top of the first blanket, and use the second blanket to pull over themselves.

You can also make beds with sturdy chairs and some type of ottomans. Each bed is a sturdy chair with an ottoman, or something to act as an ottoman. You can use a short bench, or milk crates, or small stools.

Cover the two chairs and their ottomans with a blankets.

Place a pillows against the back of each chair. On top of the first sheet or blanket, place another blanket, any color.

SARAH and LIZZIE will sit in the chair, with legs stretched out onto the ottoman, laying on top of the first blanket, and using the second blanket to pull over themselves.

**Scene 3** — Cottage of LIZZIE and SARAH, same as Scene 2

**Scene 4** — Forest/Goblin Market, same as Scene 1, but there is no fruit on the tables.

**Scene 5** — Cottage of LIZZIE and SARAH, same as Scene 2 & 3.

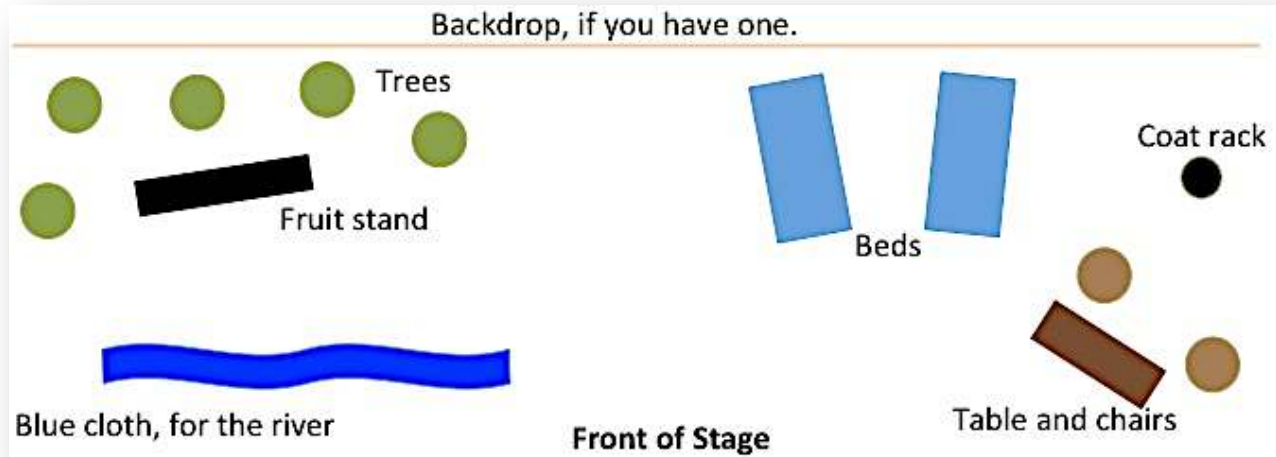
**Scene 6**— Forest/Goblin Market, same as Scene 1.

**Scene 7**— Cottage of LIZZIE and SARAH, same as Scene 2, 3 & 5.

**Scene 8**— Nondescript location. Action happens at the front of the stage, in front of all the set pieces.



## Example of how to set up the stage:



## ADDITIONAL STAGING NOTES

- Cutting a lock of SARAH's hair – Regardless of whether the actress who plays SARAH is blonde or wears a blonde wig, a clip-on lock of blonde hair is also worn by SARAH. The clip-on should always be worn in the same place so GOBLIN #3 can find it when he stretches out a blonde curl in SCENE 2. GOBLIN #2 pretends to cut it off but really GOBLIN #3 pulls the clip-on off and holds it up.

Note: If the actress ends up not being blonde, the clip of hair should match whatever her hair color is.

- Physical Fighting – While the script may call for the GOBLINS to physically taunt LIZZIE in SCENE 5, players should be careful not to actually hurt the actress playing Lizzie. Many of the actions can be pantomimed.
- Fruit smudge on LIZZIE's cheek – LIZZIE has a concealed very small plastic container (i. e. travel size pill case or something that would hold lip balm) with no more than a teaspoon of raspberry jam inside. LIZZIE smudges the jam onto her cheek, while GOBLIN #3 pretends to press a strawberry against her cheek.

