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Dramatic Publishing

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Robin Hood:

The Courtship of Allan A'Dale

Musical

Book and lyrics by Ric and Jeanne Averill

Music by Ric Averill

Robin Hood:

The Courtship of Allan A'Dale

Musical. Book and lyrics by Ric Averill and Jeanne Averill. Music by Ric Averill. Cast: 13m., 18w. May be expanded to 13m., 26w. and 20+ of either gender. With doubling can be done with 7m., 6w., 6 of either gender. All the adventure, danger, joy and love associated with the outlaw Robin Hood are found in this romantic coming-of-age adventure story. This musical is filled with humor, swordplay, hidden identities and even singing nuns! Genevieve, the duke's daughter, is dreaming with her ladies in waiting about the perfect man in "I Would Marry," but her father has promised her to Rodric, the Sheriff of Nottingham. Robin, visiting Nottingham in disguise on market day, finagles an invitation and tells Marian and the Merry Outlaws of Sherwood Forest of his plan. Allan A'Dale, a young minstrel, begs for the opportunity to prove himself a worthy outlaw by going along, and Robin, at Marian's urging, consents. Meanwhile, Rodric and his sister, the evil mother superior, are happy about the marriage as it will make Rodric heir to the duke's fortune and, upon his well-planned demise, there will be even more "Money for the Nunnery"! At the feast, Allan A'Dale proves his worth when he weaves the words "We will help you!" into a song. When the duke announces his daughter's engagement, Robin and his men announce their presence—and fight their way out of the castle. Genevieve swears she will never marry the sheriff and, in boy's clothing, escapes into the forest and finds the help promised by Allan. Confusion, comedy, and romance collide as Genevieve, posing as Gene, joins the Merry Outlaws and falls in love with Allan. When he and Gene return to the castle to save her father's life, more disguises and a swordplay help to set everything right! *Unit set. Approximate running*

13 ISBN: 978-1-58342-377-6

10 ISBN: 1-58342-377-X



www.dramaticpublishing.com

Code: R08

Cover design: Jeanette Alig-Sergel



Printed on Recycled Paper

Robin Hood: The Courtship of...

Averill / Averill

Dramatic Publishing



Robin Hood: The Courtship of Allan A'dale

A Musical in Two Acts

Book and Lyrics
by
RIC and JEANNE AVERILL

Music by
RIC AVERILL



Dramatic Publishing

Woodstock, Illinois • England • Australia • New Zealand

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Book and Lyrics by
RIC and JEANNE AVERILL
Music by RIC AVERILL

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(Robin Hood: The Courtship of Allan A'dale)

ISBN: 978-1-58342-377-6

To Will and Lucy,
who became engaged under the great oak
of Sherwood Forest.

And to Trish, our Footpad.

IMPORTANT BILLING AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

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AUTHORS' ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The playwrights would like to give special thanks to the 2004 cast and crew who helped finalize *Robin Hood* for publication. The production was done at the Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, Kansas, with the following:

IN THE FOREST:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| ROBIN HOOD | Chris Bohling |
| MAID MARIAN | Tiffany Nitzsche |
| ALLAN A'DALE | Dan Boyle |
| FRIAR TUCK | Alex Backus |
| FOOTPAD | Sara Bezek |
| LITTLE JOHN | Michael Boyle |
| BIG MARY | Kelsey Bornstein |
| WILL SCARLET | Rayyan Kamal |
| ALICE DU LAC | Maya Weil |
| GILBERT BOLLE | Andy Connolly |
| ELIZABETH BOLLE | Kasey Duncan |
| JOHN SILKE | Aberham (Bolle) |
| RACHEL SILKE | Joan Shopen |
| JACK NOAKES | Robby Kocur |
| JOANNA NOAKES | Lauren Bornstein |
| ANGELA CURSTAN | Sarah Zimmerman |
| SIMON SCALES / LEAVE-ALONE HARRY | Dan Luckey |
| REBECCA SCALES | Erin McDowell |

IN NOTTINGHAM:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| GENEVIEVE | Julia Averill Osen |
| DUKE GORLOIS | Andy Foerschler |
| RODRIC | Colton Rice |
| THE KNAVE | Thomas Ashe |
| THE ABBESS | Emma Hoyle |
| SISTER ERNESTINE | Erin McDowell |
| SARAH | Rebecca Siahaan |

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

ACT ONE:

- Overture
- 1. Nottingham
- 1A. Nottingham Reprise - Nuns
- 1B. Nottingham Reprise - Venison
- 2. I Would Marry
- 3. Nottingham Reprise - Market
- 3A. Nottingham Reprise - Kiss
- 3B. Nottingham Reprise - Busy Day
- 4. Abbess' Prayer
- 5. Money for the Nunnery
- 6. The Tale of Allan A'Dale
- 6A. Silliest/Prettiest Tag
- 6B. The Tale of Allan A'Dale Reprise - Sherwood Forest
- 7. Silliest Fool/Prettiest Girl
- 7A. Sad Allan A'dale
- 8. Feast Song
- 9. Thought Song
- 9A. Fight Theme
- 9B. Revelry to Genevieve
- 9C. Abbess' Prayer - To Her Senses
- 9D. Nuns to Sherwood
- 9E. Leave-Alone Harry
- 10. Buffet Song
- 10A. Leave-Alone Harry
- 10B. Fight Theme
- 10C. Sad Allan A'Dale

ACT TWO:

- Entr-acte
11. Merry Outlaws - Dance
 - 11A. From Forest to Castle
 12. Waiting Song
 13. Abbess' Prayer - Duke's Health
 - 13A. Abbess' Prayer - Duke's Health Reprise
 - 13B. Prayer to Sherwood
 14. Better World - Robin and Marian
 - 14A. Better World - Allan, Genevieve and Chorus
 - 14B. Forest to Abbey
 15. Never Give Anything
 - 15A. Abbey to Duke's Room
 - 15B. Duke's Room to Abbey
 16. Luck Song - First Verse
 - 16A. Abbey to Dungeon
 17. Luck Song - Footpad, Maid Marian, Chorus
 18. Nottingham Reprise - The Hanging
 19. Allan A'Dale Reprise - The Fight
 20. Finale & Bows - All
- Exit Music

Robin Hood: The Courtship of Allan A'dale

A Musical in Two Acts

For 13m., 18 w.

May be expanded to 13m., 26w. and 20+ of either gender.

With doubling can be done with 7m., 6w., 6 either gender.

CHARACTERS

IN THE FOREST:

ROBIN HOOD leader of the band of outlaws
MAID MARIAN . . the Sheriff of Nottingham's cousin, Robin's
wife
ALLAN A'DALE Robin's minstrel
FRIAR TUCK Robin's renegade monk
FOOTPAD Tuck's orphan-girl "servant"
LITTLE JOHN biggest of the outlaw men, married to
BIG MARY smallest of the outlaw women
WILL SCARLET a dandy, married to
ALICE DU LAC a former French lady in waiting
GILBERT BOLLE a klutzy fighter, married to
ELIZABETH BOLLE a seamstress
JOHN SILKE a one-eyed outlaw, married to
RACHEL SILKE a feisty woman
JACK NOAKES a gambler, brother of
JOANNA NOAKES a beggar
ANGELA CURSTAN slow-witted sister of
SIMON SCALES a huge fighter
REBECCA SCALES his mother, the aged cook
LEAVE-ALONE HARRY . . . a blind messenger from the Pope

IN NOTTINGHAM:

GENEVIEVE. a Duke's daughter and only child
DUKE GORLOIS her flighty, eccentric father
RODRIC, THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM cruel ruler of
the town

THE KNAVE the Sheriff's main lackey
MOTHER JULIANE, THE ABBESS evil sister of Rodric
SISTER ERNESTINE her doting, pious assistant
GENEVIEVE'S LADIES-IN-WAITING:

HERA, EOWYN, SARAH, GWYNDOLYN, MARY, ELLA
TOWNSPEOPLE (8 to 12)
GUARDS OF THE SHERIFF (6 to 8)
NUNS (6 to 8)

TIME: The late 12th century

PLACE: Sherwood Forest and Nottingham town

ROBIN HOOD is the story of the courtship of Allan A'Dale, Robin Hood's minstrel and Genevieve who, disguised as a boy, escapes marriage to the Sheriff of Nottingham, joins the band of Sherwood outlaws, and meets and falls in love with Allan. The play is filled with intrigue, mystery, disguise, action and adventure. Among the wonderful legendary characters in the play are: Robin Hood, Maid Marian, Little John, Big Mary, Friar Tuck, his servant Footpad, Rodric, the Sheriff of Nottingham, the Evil Abbess, an aged Duke, and the Merry Men and Women of Sherwood Forest.

The cast including townspeople, guards, nuns and forest people, can total more than 50 actors.

ACT ONE

(Houselights down. Music: Overture.)

PROLOGUE: Forest & Nottingham Marketplace

(Music 1: Nottingham)

(Blackout. Lights—sunrise—spot up on ALLAN A'DALE. The town bell strikes five times. As ALLAN sings, the TOWNSPEOPLE get up and begin going about their daily business. On an upper interior platform GENEVIEVE awakens, stretches and gets out of bed. She walks to the window and throws it wide open as the TOWNSPEOPLE/CHORUS sing.)

ALLAN A'DALE.

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

**ON MARKET DAY THE ROOSTER CROWS,
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
THE MERCHANTS DON THEIR FINEST
CLOTHES,
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
THE PEDDLERS, VENDORS START TO SING
IN PRAISE OF ALL THE GOODS THEY BRING.
TO NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

CHORUS.

**IT'S A BUSY DAY, BUSY DAY, HERE IN
NOTTINGHAM,
MERCHANTS ALL AROUND, TENDING
MERCANTILE AFFAIRS,
MARKET TIME'S A BUSTLE TIME FOR ALL
HERE IN NOTTINGHAM,
SHOWING, BUYING, TRADING, SELLING,
PEDDLING THEIR WARES.**

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

**THE SHERIFF'S GUARD PATROLS THE YARD,
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

**THE WALLS ARE THICK, THE GATES ARE
BARRED.
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

**BUT MARKET DAYS THE BRIDGE COMES
DOWN,
AND ALL CAN TRADE INSIDE THE TOWN OF
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!

*(ROBIN HOOD and FRIAR TUCK enter, FOOTPAD at
their heels. ROBIN posing as a butcher.)*

**IT'S A BUSY DAY, BUSY DAY, HERE IN
NOTTINGHAM,
MERCHANTS ALL AROUND, TENDING
MERCANTILE AFFAIRS,**

**MARKET TIME'S A BUSTLE TIME FOR ALL
HERE IN NOTTINGHAM,
SHOWING, BUYING, TRADING, SELLING,
PEDDLING THEIR WARES.**

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM! NOTTINGHAM,
NOTTINGHAM!**

**THE SHERIFF'S GUARD PATROLS THE YARD
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!**

**THE WALLS ARE THICK THE GATES ARE
BARRED.**

NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!

**BUT MARKET DAYS, THE BRIDGE COMES
DOWN**

**AND ALL CAN TRADE INSIDE THE TOWN OF
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM! NOTTINGHAM,
NOTTINGHAM!**

**IT'S A BUSY DAY, BUSY DAY HERE IN
NOTTINGHAM.**

**MERCHANTS ALL AROUND, TENDING
MERCANTILE AFFAIRS.**

**MARKET TIME'S A BUSTLE TIME FOR ALL
HERE IN NOTTINGHAM!**

**SHOWING, BUYING, TRADING, SELLING,
PEDDLING THEIR WARES!**

(ROBIN begins to sell meat with a song as TOWNSPEOPLE chant underneath.)

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM,
A CONSTANT BUZZ IN NOTTINGHAM...**

(Continues.)

ROBIN.

FINE, FRESH VENISON!

**FINE, FRESH VENISON!
A GOLDEN GUINEA FROM YOU, SIR,
HERE YOU ARE AND THANK YOU.
SIXPENCE FROM YOU, MA'AM,
HERE YOU ARE AND THANK YOU.
MA'AM, HAVE YOU NOTHING?**

(Gives away meat.)

**NEVER MIND, AND THANK YOU.
AND FROM THE LADY I'LL TAKE NO MONEY,
ONLY A KISS *(Four beats.)* AND THANK YOU!**

CHORUS.

**IT'S A BUSY DAY, BUSY DAY, HERE IN
NOTTINGHAM,
MERCHANTS ALL AROUND, TENDING
MERCANTILE AFFAIRS,
MARKET TIME'S A BUSTLE TIME FOR ALL
HERE IN NOTTINGHAM,
SHOWING, BUYING, TRADING, SELLING,
PEDDLING THEIR WARES.**

*(Chant again as music changes, slows down, SHERIFF
enters with the DUKE and the KNAVE.)*

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM,
A CONSTANT BUZZ IN NOTTINGHAM...**

*(TOWNSPEOPLE fade out as SHERIFF and GUARDS
sing.)*

SHERIFF & GUARDS.

**LAWS, LAWS, OBEY THE LAWS,
PAY YOUR TAXES, OBEY THE LAWS!**

**LAWS, LAWS, OBEY THE LAWS,
PAY YOUR TAXES, OBEY THE LAWS!**

DUKE.

**MARRIAGE, MY GOOD SHERIFF,
MARRIAGE TO MY DAUGHTER.
IF YOU TAKE HER OFF MY HANDS,
I WILL GIVE YOU GOODS AND LANDS!**

CHORUS.

**MARRIAGE, MY GOOD SHERIFF,
MARRIAGE TO HIS DAUGHTER.**

(ABBESS, SISTER ERNESTINE and NUNS enter.)

ABBESS.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

NUNS.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

ABBESS.

PRAY FOR YOUR SOUL'S ILLUMINATION!

NUNS.

THEN GIVE MONEY FOR YOUR SALVATION!

ABBESS.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

NUNS.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

(DUKE and TOWNSPEOPLE, SHERIFF and GUARDS, ROBIN and the ABBESS and NUNS sing out their calls three times.)

DUKE & TOWNSPEOPLE.
MARRIAGE—

SHERIFF & GUARDS.
LAWS—

ROBIN HOOD.
VENISON—

ABBESS & NUNS.
PRAY—

(They all sing together four times, slowing down the fourth time.)

DUKE & TOWNSPEOPLE.
MARRIAGE, MY GOOD SHERIFF!

SHERIFF & GUARDS.
LAWS, LAWS, OBEY THE LAWS!

ROBIN HOOD.
FINE, FRESH VENISON!

ABBESS & NUNS.
PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOUL!

CHORUS.
NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!

**NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM!
IT'S A BUSY DAY, BUSY DAY, HERE IN
NOTTINGHAM,
MERCHANTS ALL AROUND TENDING
MERCANTILE**

SCENE ONE: Nottingham Marketplace

ROBIN HOOD (*shouting*). Fine, fresh venison!!

FRIAR TUCK. Robin, the Sheriff...

ROBIN HOOD. I see him.

LITTLE JOHN. Want me to trip him?

FRIAR TUCK. Careful, Robin. He's liable to smell out the King's deer as much as he's been sniffing around Prince John's throne...

(*FOOTPAD runs up.*)

FOOTPAD. The Sheriff cut off my father's arm for stealing the King's deer, Robin.

LITTLE JOHN. I oughta trip him.

ROBIN HOOD. He'll trip himself, Little John. And he'll never guess it's the King's deer, Footpad, if my wits don't fail me. (*To TUCK.*) Besides, Tuck, he won't make a scene in front of the Duke.

FRIAR TUCK. Why a good man like that would associate with an evil man like the Sheriff is beyond me.

LITTLE JOHN. I could trip them both.

ROBIN HOOD. It's a time to listen and learn, John. Not for action.

FRIAR TUCK (*pushes LITTLE JOHN along*). So go mingle and try not to draw attention to yourself. (*LITTLE JOHN nods, ROBIN turns to FOOTPAD.*)

ROBIN HOOD. Footpad, see what you can find out about town happenings today.

LITTLE JOHN. Right...

FOOTPAD. Right... (*They run into the crowd as the DUKE talks to the SHERIFF and ABBESS.*)

DUKE. Then it is settled, dear Sheriff? We may announce your engagement to Genevieve at the feast tonight?

SHERIFF. We've agreed on the terms, Duke Gorlois. If you are willing to provide a generous dowry, then I am more than happy to become a part of your family.

DUKE. Yes, yes, my lands, my inheritance—what are they compared to a well-made match, eh? And me with only a daughter. I'll watch my grandchildren enjoying my wealth, eh? And I'm lucky to finally have a son, Rodric.

SHERIFF. Your loyal son at your service, and to speak of family, here's Juliane.

DUKE. Ah, yes, your dear sister. Another plus for the family, to have such an important and powerful personage amongst us.

SHERIFF. Dear Abbess, will you and the Sisters join us this evening?

ABBESS. Good morning, dear brother, Duke. We shall be delighted to join you. Such an important state marriage should have the blessing of the one true church! (*Sings, as NUNS exit. Music 1A: Nottingham Reprise - Nuns.*)

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

SISTER ERNESTINE & NUNS.

PRAY FOR YOUR SOUL'S ILLUMINATION

ABBESS.

THEN GIVE MONEY FOR YOUR SALVATION

NUNS.

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY FOR YOUR SOULS!

FRIAR TUCK (*overhearing*). Money for saving souls? By Saint George, it makes my blood boil.

ROBIN HOOD. Hush, Tuck, keep it to yourself... That woman has been ordained by God.

FRIAR TUCK. If she's been ordained by God, then I'm Thomas of Canterbury alive and well again. There's more of Prince John than the cloth about her and I intend to tell her so!

ROBIN HOOD (*others are noticing their altercation. ROBIN grabs TUCK viciously, but unseen to others, then*). Tuck! Tush, tush! (*Then louder.*) Uh, sir, if this cut of meat is not to your liking...

FRIAR TUCK (*calming down*). Yes, God bless, this cut of meat is just fine. Just fine.

(*SHERIFF approaches.*)

SHERIFF. What's going on? Is this peddler bothering you, Friar?

FRIAR TUCK. No, my son. Not at all. We were just discussing...

ROBIN HOOD. Theology...

FRIAR TUCK. Politics...

ROBIN HOOD. Politics...

FRIAR TUCK. Theology...

ROBIN HOOD. And I'm not a peddler, sir. I'm a butcher —peddling.

SHERIFF. It doesn't matter what you are, sirrah, or what you're discussing. Nottingham is a peaceful town. Troublemakers are drawn and quartered here.

ROBIN HOOD. Prince John's law, no doubt?

SHERIFF. Suggested by me. And I suggest *you* not break it.

ROBIN HOOD. An excellent suggestion, my lord.

SHERIFF (*turns away from them, then to KNAVE*). Knave!

KNAVE. Yes, my Lord Sheriff.

SHERIFF. Go deliver these invitations. Then see that the preparations are in order for the feast. (*KNAVE exits.*)

DUKE. Excuse me, then, Sheriff, uh, Son. Son-to-be! I must go to Genevieve and tell her of the good news.

SHERIFF. Yes, Duke Gorlois, tell her. (*DUKE exits. SHERIFF follows along. ROBIN turns to FRIAR TUCK.*)

ROBIN HOOD. A feast in the name of the Sheriff's wedding? Tuck, it would be highly impolite of us to miss such an occasion, eh? Why don't we stay around for an invitation?

FRIAR TUCK. An invitation? What makes you think they'd invite us?

(*FOOTPAD and LITTLE JOHN come in, LITTLE JOHN looking back, FOOTPAD hands TUCK an invitation.*)

FOOTPAD. This! (*TUCK reads it, looks up at the two of them.*)

FRIAR TUCK. Where did you get that? (*FOOTPAD shrugs shoulders.*)

LITTLE JOHN. I tripped him.

(Music 1B: Nottingham Reprise - Venison)

ROBIN HOOD (*sings*).

FINE, FRESH VENISON!

FINE, FRESH VENISON!

**AND FROM THE LADY I'LL TAKE NO MONEY,
ONLY A KISS...AND THANK YOU!**

SCENE TWO: Nottingham Castle; Genevieve's Room

(Lights crossfade and come up on GENEVIEVE's room where the LADIES of the court sit doing embroidery. They are ELLA, EOWYN, GWYNDOLYN, MARY, HERA and SARAH. They are chatting and having girl talk, telling jokes. GENEVIEVE enters and they quiet down.)

SARAH. Now we're getting somewhere.

GENEVIEVE. Sarah...

HERA. I heard from my brother, whose tailor works for the court, that you have been promised—and the dowry's set.

GWYNDOLYN. Who? Genevieve, why didn't you tell me?

MARY. You shouldn't keep things from your friends.

GENEVIEVE. It's not for sure—at least as far as I know. Father just said...just said that he had something to tell me. Something to celebrate. That's all.

ELLA. It has to be marriage.

EOWYN. You must know who, Genevieve?