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Dramatic Publishing

A Participation Musical

the further adventures of maide marian

Book
by
Steve and Kathy Hotchner

Music
by
Bill Roser

Lyrics
by
Steve and Kathy Hotchner and Bill Roser



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Book and Lyrics ©MCMLXXVII by
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(THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF MAIDE MARIAN)

ISBN 0-87129-735-3

Our special thanks to Jay Levitt and
Denver' s A Company of Players
for giving this play life

THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF
MAIDE MARIAN
A Participation Musical
For Three Men and Three Women
(or Four Men and Two Women)

C H A R A C T E R S

ROBIN HOOD
MAIDE MARIAN
FRIAR TUCK
ALAN O' DALE
MAD MOLLY
DITHERO (male or female)

In addition five children (three girls, two boys) will be chosen from the audience to play the parts of Little John, Colin the Cobbler, Pam of the Pond, Phoebe the Dragon Fighter and Will of the Wisp.

PLACE: Sherwood Forest,
in Nottinghamshire, England.

TIME: Medieval times.

NOTE: Alan O' Dale should be able to play the guitar, or at least hit a few chords. The voice(s) of the Dithero would ideally be taped and speakers (four) used to enhance the awesome monster effect.

Scene 1

SCENE: Sherwood Forest. Toward stage R is Robin Hood's lair, a large tree house covered with leaves. There is a barrel beneath the tree house and various brooms, apple cores, old shoes, and litter everywhere. There is a stool near the corner UR for Alan O' Dale to sit on.)

AT RISE OF CURTAIN: ROBIN HOOD enters in the back, looks behind him terrified, then swings up into the tree house. A moment later we hear a noise from within the tree house. Then the leaves part and Robin Hood's head appears between the leaves. He sees the audience, lets out a frightened noise and pops his head back in. Then the leaves quiver; his head emerges once more.)

ROBIN. I'm . . . Robin Hood and I'm scared. (Pops head back.) Suppose it sent you. That terrible, terrible . . . I can't mention its name. (Pops head out.) Do you know what it said? Do you want to know? I can't tell you. (Pops head inside.) This is a terrible problem. (Pops head out again.) What if you're imps, gnomes, devils. Well, I'm never coming down from this tree. Never. Ever. (Pops head back inside. A beat, then he pops head out again.) Some of you have kind faces. Do you like Robin Hood? Do you really? Then you must do me a favor. It's the last thing I'll ever ask of any human being again. I need two of you. (Peers into audience and points finger at two children.) You two. (Children approach ROBIN.) Come here. Come closer. Stay right there. I'll be right back. (Pops back into tree house, then pops out again with a sheath of arrows and a bow. He hands sheath to first child, bow to second child.) This is my sheath with all my magic arrows. And this is my bow. Take them back to your seats. I want all of you to promise me you'll never use them, never let anyone but Robin Hood touch them. Do you promise? (Children respond, then return to their seats.) Robin Hood, the greatest archer in all England, is not worthy to use his bow and arrows

again. (Pops head back, then speaks from within the tree house.) Oh, dear.

MAIDE MARIAN (offstage). When I find Robin Hood I'll cut him in two. I'll . . .

FRIAR TUCK (offstage). Easy now, easy. Temper, girl, temper.

(MAIDE MARIAN enters through audience. TUCK waddles behind her, hair a mess, shoes untied. MARIAN has sword out. ALAN O'DALE enters with guitar slung over shoulder. He sits on stool by tree.)

MAIDE MARIAN. Temper! I'll show them. Leave me alone in battle. Just let me find Robin Hood or Little John or Will Tanner or any of the rest of those cowards. I'll cut them down in their socks. Cowards. Deserted me. I had to fight the legions of Lord Snowden alone. Not that it was that hard but . . .

TUCK. Maide Marian, lady, remember your background, your breeding . . .

MARIAN. Don't you call me by that girlish, namby-pamby horrible name. Maide Marian, Maide Marian. Why do I have to be a maid? I ran away to Sherwood Forest to become a warrior, a member of Robin Hood's band. And look at me now. I'm the best swordfighter in all England.

TUCK (searching for food). Where's the venison? The pudding, the ham? That was a tough battle. I'm hungry. There must be something to eat. (Searches in barrel, picks out a huge turnip.) Turnip -- succulent turnip. (Sits down and begins to eat.)

MARIAN. It's not enough that they treat me like a second-class citizen. They leave me to fight the legions of Lord Snowden as some kind of joke. If it hadn't been for you, Tuck, ramming those heads together . . .

TUCK. Delicious turnip. I wonder where Robin Hood really is. This joke is getting a little -- (Pats stomach.) -- thin.

(ROBIN HOOD pops head out very tentatively, sees MARIAN who sees him, and ducks back in.)

MARIAN. There you are, you, you . . .

TUCK. There must be a reasonable explanation. Robin, what is it?

MARIAN. You come down here this minute.

TUCK. Robin, this is not funny.

MARIAN. He really won't come down from that tree.

TUCK. But Robin Hood up in a tree? There's nothing in all of Sherwood Forest, there's no one in all of England, who could scare Robin Hood.

MARIAN (turning to audience). Is Robin Hood really up in that tree because someone scared him? (To one child.) Is this really true? (Child responds.)

TUCK. I tell you, it's a joke. This is a prank. You know how Robin loves to joke.

MARIAN. These children wouldn't lie to me. They're stouthearted, true. They might even help form a new band.

TUCK. It's all too much for me. I'm going to eat an apple. (Goes to barrel, throws turnip on floor, gets apple and sits by tree starting to eat apple.)

MARIAN. Robin, get out of that tree. Nothing can frighten my Robin Hood. Come on, come on down from that tree.

HEY, HEY, ROBIN

CHORUS.

Hey, hey, Robin, come down from that tree
Come walk in the forest with me.

Hey, hey, Robin, get on down from that tree.

VERSE 1. (MARIAN)

You used to be the best with an arrow and bow.
You used to have a lot of get up and go.
You used to lead the gang with vigor and verve
But, hey, hey, Robin, you've lost your nerve.

CHORUS.

Hey, hey, Robin, come down from that tree
Come walk in the forest with me.

Hey, hey, Robin, get on down from that tree.

VERSE 2. (TUCK)

Once we had dinners of whole roast pork,
Now we got nuthin' to put on our fork
You hunted our food, you brought home the ham
Robin, don't you know how hungry I am?

CHORUS.

Hey, hey, Robin, come down from that tree
Come walk in the forest with me.
Hey, hey, Robin, get on down from that tree.

VERSE 3. (MARIAN)

The Sherwood Forest gang has fallen apart
Robin, don't you know you're breakin' my heart?
Who's gonna lead us?

TUCK.

Who's gonna feed us?

MARIAN.

A whole new gang's gonna have to start, so

CHORUS.

Hey, hey, Robin, come down from that tree
Come walk in the forest with me.
Hey, hey, Robin, get on down from that tree.

MARIAN. Robin didn't come down. (To children.) Do you think he is really scared? I want him to come down. I really do. I miss him. He's my Robin and I'm his Marian. Robin, please come down. Aren't you hungry? Thirsty? Robin, if you don't come down I'll . . . I'll . . . pick my own gang. With my own Little John. Tuck, put down that apple. We're going to pick a new gang.

TUCK (trying to suppress a chuckle; while ALAN tries not to smile). Maide Marian's gang?

MARIAN. Do either of you have any objections?

TUCK. Of course not, my dear. (ALAN nods timorously.)

MARIAN. First I need my own Little John who won't leave me in battle. (She picks a small girl from the audience.)

TUCK. She's too small to be a Little John.

MARIAN. I'm tired of a tall Little John. I want a little Little John who has courage and pluck. (To small girl.) Do you have courage and pluck? Of course you do.

TUCK. But she's a girl . . .

MARIAN (advancing on TUCK). Are you telling me I can't pick a Little John who's a girl like me?

TUCK. No, no, your ladyship, I was making a joke.

MARIAN (to girl). I hope so, Little John. You're my right-hand man. It's your job to make sure no one in the gang ever gets lost. You'll give the gang my orders. Stand here, Little John, beside me. I need four more members for the gang. Alan O'Dale, you pick two and

I'll pick two. (They pick four more children, two boys and two girls, if possible. ALAN brings his two to MARIAN. MARIAN goes from child to child assigning identities.) You'll be Colin the Cobbler. Do you see that fat man over there? He constantly goes into battle without his shoes tied. If you see his shoes untied, tie them so he won't trip over himself.

TUCK. This is insulting.

MARIAN. Colin, tie Friar Tuck's shoe so he won't trip over himself.

TUCK. I won't allow it. Robin never asked me to tie my shoes.

(ROBIN pops head out and nods sadly, then disappears again.)

MARIAN. Tuck . . .

TUCK. Colin, you can tie my shoe so I won't trip over myself. (COLIN goes and ties Tuck's shoe. As he ties shoe, MARIAN assigns jobs to the rest of her band.)

MARIAN (to one girl). You'll be . . . Pam of the pond. You're an expert swimmer. You can swim across the roughest stream. (Goes to next child.) And you'll be . . . Phoebe, Phoebe the dragon fighter. Give me a dragon roar, Phoebe. (PHOEBE roars.) Now lead the gang in a dragon roar, Phoebe. (PHOEBE and the gang [audience] roar. MARIAN approaches last child, a boy.) And you'll be . . . Will, Will of the Wisp. You have the best ears in the gang. So listen, Will, always listen. Stand here, Will. Colin, are Friar Tuck's shoe laces tied? (COLIN nods.) Then come here, Colin. (To audience.) Gang, are you ready to face danger anywhere, anytime? (Children respond.) Then we need a gang song, a Maide Marian's gang song, a song for danger or a song for joy. I know. I'll teach you the words. And then you repeat them after me. Alan, ready with a melody. (ALAN nods.) Let me think. (To audience.) We're a gang, a gang, we're Marian's gang.

CHILDREN. We're a gang, a gang, we're Marian's gang . . .

MARIAN (hesitating, then). A gang, a gang, we're Marian's gang.

CHILDREN. A gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang . . .

MARIAN. We rob from the rich and we give to the poor

CHILDREN. We rob from the rich and we give to the poor

MARIAN. You cross us and watch out . . .

CHILDREN. You cross us and watch out . . .

MARIAN. We' ll get you for sure.

CHILDREN. We' ll get you for sure.

MARIAN. Alan O' Dale, give us a melody.

MARIAN' S GANG

CHORUS (sung twice the first time).

We' re a gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang

A gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang,

We rob from the rich and we give to the poor

You cross us and watch out . . .

We' ll get you for sure.

VERSE 1. (MARIAN)

Do you have courage and pluck?

Are you brave like old Friar Tuck?

When the arrows fly can you duck?

Do you all have courage and pluck?

(Spoken.) Well, do you? Then . . .

CHORUS.

We' re a gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang

A gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang,

We rob from the rich and we give to the poor

You cross us and watch out . . .

We' ll get you for sure.

VERSE 1. (FRIAR TUCK)

Do you have courage and pluck?

Are you brave like old Friar Tuck?

When the arrows fly can you duck?

Do you all have courage and pluck?

(Spoken.) Well, do you? Then . . .

CHORUS (sung twice).

We' re a gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang

A gang, a gang, we' re Marian' s gang,

We rob from the rich and we give to the poor

You cross us and watch out . . .

We' ll get you for sure.

TUCK. We have a gang, a new gang.

MARIAN. Now we have to figure out what scared Robin up that tree.

(ROBIN pops head out and taps furiously on tree.)

MARIAN. Robin, what's wrong with you? (ROBIN shakes head and points to children.) Oh, very well. One of you come here and find out what Robin Hood wants. (Picks a child from the audience, who goes up to ROBIN.)

ROBIN (bending down and whispering to child). I'm hungry.

MARIAN. What did he say? (Child tells MARIAN that ROBIN is hungry.)

TUCK. I'll give him an apple. (Reaches into barrel, plucks out an apple, hands apple to ROBIN. ROBIN stops TUCK with outstretched hand, points to the child.) This is ridiculous. Not only won't he talk to us, he doesn't like us any more. Here, child, give him this apple. (To ROBIN.) Just picked yesterday. (ROBIN takes apple from child and begins to eat it.)

ROBIN (whispering to child). Thank you. You can go back to your seat. (Pops back inside.)

MARIAN. I want Mad Molly.

TUCK. No, not her.

MARIAN. Yes. Mad Molly is the only one who can tell us what scared Robin up that tree.

TUCK. She's only been half a witch for years.

MARIAN (to audience). I need your help to get Molly here. When I sing "Mad Molly," you sing back, "Mad Molly." When I sing "Oh, Molly," you sing "Oh, Molly." You're the echo. Let's try the echo, Alan. (ALAN nods.) Mad Molly.

CHILDREN. Mad Molly.

MARIAN. Oh, Molly.

CHILDREN. Oh, Molly.

MARIAN. Let's sing and send for Mad Molly, Alan.

(ALAN strums a chord.)

TUCK. Stop! Alan O'Dale, stop the echo song. (ALAN stops strumming.)

MARIAN. What is the meaning of this?

TUCK. I can't stand the woman. (While MARIAN and TUCK have it out, ALAN sits the gang down on the other side of the tree, then returns to his stool.)

MARIAN. Now, Tuck, this is Maide Marian's gang. Either you obey my orders or . . .

TUCK. I will desert the gang if you send for Mad Molly.
The woman says I eat too much.

MARIAN. You do. Doesn't he, gang? (Children respond.)

TUCK. She makes me comb my hair.

MARIAN (to children). Is there anything wrong with a sorceress who makes Friar Tuck comb his hair?
(Children respond.)

TUCK. She'll call this place a . . . a . . . pigpen.

MARIAN. That's bad. Gang, are you willing to sing the Mad Molly echo song and send for Mad Molly even if she makes us clean up Sherwood Forest? (Children respond.) Anyway, we do have brooms. What else?

TUCK. She makes me feel funny.

MARIAN. What sort of funny?

TUCK. Funny, funny.

MARIAN. Funny, funny?

TUCK. She makes me feel funny, very funny, very odd.
Very odd and very funny. And if you send for Mad Molly you lose Friar Tuck.

MARIAN. Tuck, I have to find out what scared my Robin up that tree.

TUCK. You mean that?

MARIAN. I have no other choice.

TUCK. Then I'm leaving.

MARIAN. I'm sorry. (TUCK takes sack, starts to leave, returns, deposits an apple [which ROBIN takes gratefully] on Robin Hood's shelf.)

TUCK. Here, Robin, an apple for my former pal.
Good-bye. (Goes to back of the tree and sits.)

MARIAN. Ready again, Alan. Ready, gang, with your echoes. (ALAN nods, starts chords.)

THE MAD MOLLY ECHO SONG

VERSE 1. (MARIAN)

What is wrong, we cannot tell
No one here can break the spell
Molly come and make our Robin well
Mad Molly
(echo) Mad Molly
Oh Molly