

Peter Pan

Based on the novel by J.M. Barrie

Script by Jennifer J. Davis

Original Music by Bob Nicoll

Characters:

3 Fairy Sisters, Narrators

Peter Pan, the protagonist- a boy who doesn't want to grow up who can fly and lives in Neverland

Tinkerbell, Peter Pan's ill-tempered fairy

Wendy Darling, older sister who befriends Peter Pan and then flies off with him to Neverland

John Darling, middle brother who flies off with Peter Pan

Michael Darling, youngest brother who flies off with Peter Pan

Mr. Darling, a bank clerk and the father of Wendy, John, & Michael

Mrs. Darling, the mother of Wendy, John, and Michael

Nana, the nurse dog-a Newfoundland

Tiger Lily, friend of Peter Pan and daughter of Native American chief

The crocodile, Captain Hook's nemesis

3 Mermaids

The Never bird, Peter Pan uses her nest to float ashore

The Lost Boys, a gang of boys who fell out of their cribs and were not claimed by their parents; they live in Neverland. Their names are

Tootles, Nibs, Slightly, Curly, Twins 1 & 2, (the play could have more lost boys)

Pirates:

Captain Hook, Peter Pan's archenemy

Smee & Starkey, Captain Hook's sidekicks

Other pirates: Cecco, Bill Jukes, Cookson, Skylights, Alf

Mason, Mullins, and as many others as you need

Synopsis:

This adaptation of Peter Pan tries to stay as true as possible to J.M. Barrie's original classic novel which features a young mischievous boy who never grows up and has many adventures on the island of

Neverland with pirates and fairies. In this version, the fairies (except for Tinkerbell) are the narrators. The music for this play is both lively and touching and includes multiple songs that can feature different members of the cast in which they can sing solos or in groups. The final song, 'Back to the Stars', is a real tear jerker giving a dramatic and emotional finale to this beloved children's story.

Production notes: The play is about an hour long. The cast could be comprised of around 20-45 members for ages 6 and up. The songs allow many from the cast to participate in them and provide opportunities for lots of solos for various cast members. There are 10 female roles, 19-30 male roles (depending on how many lost boys and pirates you have) and 5 gender neutral roles however creative gender casting is always encouraged. Certain characters like Nana, Tiger Lily, the Crocodile, the Mermaid, and the Never bird should play other roles as well since these are very minor parts. There are 25 parts with lines which include both leads and minor roles. If microphones are available, either standing or body mics, we recommend using them during the music and songs. Narration could also be done with microphones. Otherwise any background music can be turned to a low volume and the actors/singers will need to project. Everyone back stage can join in on the group songs even if they're not in the scene.

Costumes: The play begins in England in the early 1900's so all of the Darling's costumes should reflect this. The lost boys are disheveled with ripped clothes and dirty faces. The crocodile could be made in a Chinese dragon fashion out of boxes and paper mache and multiple kids could hold it. Peter Pan always carries a dagger. I recommend searching on line for images of all characters.

Sound effects and songs are labeled by track numbers in the script which match the CD.

The Set and Stage Props:

Because budgets vary, take whatever creative liberties needed to design the set. Some props may include the following.

Scene 1-The Darlings;

The action in this scene takes place in front of the closed curtain. The props needed are fake money (coins) and a tie for Mr. Darling.

Scene 2- Peter Pan visits the Darling children;

This is the Darling childrens' bedroom. There is a dresser, a dog house which could be made from a cardboard box, Peter Pan's shadow which could be made from black mesh cloth and by using stage lights to create the shadow, a bar of soap, a sewing bag, 3 twin beds or simulated beds, a rocking chair, a window frame about 5'x 3' and about 1-2 feet off the ground. This is the window Peter Pan and the kids will be coming in and out of.

Scene 3- Arriving in Neverland;

This scene takes place in Neverland. There could be tall self-standing fake palm trees for Neverland with a colorful backdrop. The props needed in this scene are a fake bow and arrow and a fake pistol.

Scene 4- Marooners' Rock;

There is a large rock about 3' x 2' that could be made with a crate and painted kraft paper that Tiger Lily stands on, a 2-d dinghy boat that Smee and Starkey use that could be made from cardboard, a rope to tie Tiger Lily's hands, a large blue cloth at least 3 feet high to symbolize the ocean, and a large Neverbird's nest.

Scene 5- Neverland Celebration;

Just like in scene 3 there could be tall self-standing fake palm trees for Neverland with a colorful backdrop. Also in this scene there is a table for the feast which could be made from a large piece of flat cardboard at least 3'x6' placed on top of crates.

Scene 6- Tinkerbell Saves the Day;

A bottle of poison is down stage.

Scene 7- The Jolly Roger;

Make this set look like a ship. There could be a self-standing mast for the Jolly Roger with a sail; this could be a white sheet attached to a pole, the Captain's ship wheel, pirate flags, fake coins and bills, dice and

playing cards. There could be barrels strewn about, a fake cannon, and treasure chests. The plank is on the edge of a stage with a mat placed on the floor in front of the stage. Fake swords will be used for the battle scene.

Scene 8- The Darling Children Return Home with the Lost Boys;

The set is the same as in scene 2-the Darling children's bedroom.

PETER PAN

Scene 1: The Darlings

(Curtain is closed. Fairy music begins and the Fairy Sisters-the Narrators, enter stage right in front of the closed curtain, fly around the stage and dance a bit of ballet, and walk down stage right. Microphones could be used for the Fairy Narrators.)

Play Track 1 (Fairy Intro)

Play Track 2 (Overture for Opening Narration)

Fairy 1: All children except one, grow up. They soon know that they will grow up, and the way Wendy knew was this. One day when she was two years old she was playing in a garden, and she plucked a flower (*mime picking a flower*) and ran with it to her mother. Mrs. Darling put her hand to her heart and cried, "Oh, why can't you remain like this forever!"

Fairy 2: Of course, they lived at 14, their house number on their street, and until Wendy came, her mother Mrs. Darling was the chief one. She was a lovely lady, with a romantic mind. Mr. Darling, her husband, was one of those deep ones who know about stocks and shares. Wendy was born first, then John, then Michael. For a week or two after Wendy came

it was doubtful whether they would be able to keep her, as she was another mouth to feed.

(Mr. and Mrs. Darling enter stage left in front of closed curtain.)

Mr. Darling: *(counting his money)* Now don't interrupt. I have one pound seventeen here, and two and six at the office. I can cut off my coffee at the office, say ten shillings. I still don't know if we can afford to keep Wendy.

Mrs. Darling: Of course we can, George. *(Mr. and Mrs. Darling stop center stage while Mr. Darling continues to count money and the two have a silent conversation while the narration continues.)*

Fairy 3: There was the same excitement over John. And Michael had even a narrower squeak; but both were kept, and soon, you might have seen the three children going in a row to Miss Fulsom's Kindergarten school, accompanied by their nurse, Nana the dog. Nana took very good care of those children. *(The Fairies stay on stage and watch and react to what's happening.)*

(Wendy, John, & Michael enter stage left in front of the closed curtain with Nana behind them barking.)

Michael: But I don't want to take a bath! *(Nana continues barking at the 3 children and herds them off back stage right.)*

Mr. Darling: I wonder what the neighbors say about us, having a dog as our children's nurse. And that dog doesn't have enough respect for me.

Mrs. Darling: I know she admires you tremendously George.

Mr. Darling: I have an uneasy feeling at times that she looks upon the children as her puppies. I demand that dog sleep outside in the yard instead of the children's nursery.

Mrs. Darling: Now George, dear, don't be silly. We have to get ready for the party tonight.

Mr. Darling: *(begins to fiddle with his tie)* But this tie will not tie, not round my neck! Round the bed-post, yes but not round my neck. Unless this tie is round my neck we don't go out to the party tonight, and if I don't go out to the party tonight, I never go to the office again, and if I don't go to the office again, you and I starve, and our children will be flung into the streets. *(Fairies look at each other and giggle silently.)*

Mrs. Darling: Come with me dear where there is better light and I will help you. *(They both begin to walk toward stage right. Mrs. Darling pauses and looks out and above of audience.)*

Mrs. Darling: Oh how I wish that I wasn't going to a party tonight!

Mr. Darling: Why dear?

Mrs. Darling: I don't know. Something just doesn't seem right. I worry about leaving the children. *(Mr. Darling grunts and rolls eyes and exits stage right while fiddling with his tie.)*

Play Track 3 (Mother's Intuition)

Song: Mother's Intuition-sung by Mrs. Darling
(The 3 Fairy Sisters dance ballet while Mrs. Darling sings.)

There's something in the air
Somethin' that I'm missing
I just gotta feelin'
A strange premonition

Maybe I should stay
Make sure everything's OK

Stay with my babies tonight
Make sure everything's alright

There's something in the air
A strange premonition
That something isn't right
A mother's intuition

I hear a sound from far away
Like a distant memory
Another time
Another place
Should I stay

There's something in the air
A strange premonition
Something isn't right
A mother's intuition
Something isn't right
A mother's intuition

Mr. Darling: (*Mr. Darling peaks his head out from behind curtain.*)
They'll be fine. (*Mrs. Darling exits stage right continuing to stare off
beyond audience.*)

Fairy 1: Mrs. Darling first heard of Peter Pan when she was tidying up her children's minds. It is the nightly custom of every good mother after her children are asleep to rummage in their minds and put things straight for next morning, repacking into their proper places the many articles that have wandered during the day.

Fairy 2: Wendy had explained to Mrs. Darling that Peter Pan often came to visit her in the night and play his pipes for her...

Play Track 4 (Peter's Pipes)

Fairy 2 continues: She said that he would come in through the window but Mrs. Darling didn't believe her at first.

Fairy 3: One night, Peter Pan had left without his shadow so it was only a matter of time before he'd be back to retrieve it. Peter Pan would return this night. The same night Mr. and Mrs. Darling would be out at the party. (*Fairies exit stage right flying and flitting about.*)

Scene 2: Peter Pan visits the Darling children

(Curtain opens. Wendy, John, & Michael are asleep in their beds. After about 5 seconds, Tinkerbell enters stage left through the window and flies around room, then Peter Pan enters after her.)

Peter Pan: Tinker Bell, Tink where are you? Oh do come out and tell me, do you know where they put my shadow? (*Tinker bell sound effects*)

Play Track 5 (Tinkerbell)

(Peter Pan walks over to the dresser and starts pulling clothes out looking for his shadow. He finally pulls out his shadow. Tinker Bell hides behind dresser. Peter Pan sits down and tries to put it on with soap. It doesn't work and he starts to cry. Wendy sits up in her bed.)

Wendy: Boy, why are you crying?

(Startled, Peter Pan stands up and bows to Wendy.)

Peter Pan: What's your name?

Wendy: Wendy Moira Angela Darling. What is your name?

Peter Pan: Peter Pan

Wendy: Is that all?

Peter Pan: Yes.

Wendy: I'm so sorry.

Peter Pan: It doesn't matter.

Wendy: Where do you live?

Peter Pan: Second star to the right and then straight on till morning.

Wendy: What a funny address.

Peter Pan: No, it isn't.

Wendy: I mean, is that what they put on the letters?

Peter Pan: Don't get any letters.

Wendy: But your mother sends letters?

Peter Pan: Don't have a mother.

Wendy: Oh Peter, no wonder you were crying.

Peter Pan: I wasn't crying about mothers. I was crying because I can't get my shadow to stick on. Besides I wasn't crying.

Wendy: I shall sew it on for you, my little man. (*She gets her sewing bag and begins to sew.*) I daresay it will hurt a little.

Peter Pan: Oh, I shan't cry.

(Wendy finishes sewing it. Peter Pan stands up and a spotlight shines on him if possible so audience can see his shadow.)

Peter Pan: How clever I am! Oh, the cleverness of me!

Wendy: You braggart! As if I did nothing!

Peter Pan: You did a little, I guess.

Wendy: How old are you?

Peter Pan: I don't know, but I am quite young. I ran away the day I was born. It was because I heard father and mother talking about what I was to be when I became a man. I don't want ever to be a man. I want always to be a little boy and to have fun. So I ran away to Kensington Gardens and lived a long time among the fairies.

Wendy: Fairies! Oh, how delightful! Please tell me more about these fairies.

Peter Pan: You see, Wendy, when the first baby laughed for the first time, its laugh broke into a thousand pieces, and they all went skipping about, and that was the beginning of fairies.

Play Track 6 (Beginning of Fairies)

Peter Pan: The problem is children know such a lot now, they soon don't believe in fairies, and every time a child says, I don't believe in fairies, there is a fairy somewhere that falls down dead. *(Wendy gasps.)* Hey, where is Tinks? I can't think where she has gone to.

Wendy: Peter, you don't mean to tell me that there is a fairy in this room?!

Peter Pan: I think I shut her in the dresser. (*Tinkerbell emerges from behind the dresser.*)

Play Track 7 (Tinkerbell in the Dresser)

Tinkerbell: (*Tinkerbell smacks Peter Pan lightly on the head.*) You silly donkey!

Play Track 8 (Fairy Dust)

Wendy: How exciting! A real fairy. I'm so happy I shall give you a kiss Peter. (*Wendy leans toward Tinkerbell and Tinkerbell pulls Wendy's hair.*) Owwww!

Tinkerbell: (*laughing*) You silly donkey. (*Tinkerbell stands off to stage right looking at Wendy with contempt.*)

Peter Pan: I'm sorry. She's a common fairy and can be naughty.

Wendy: Peter, where do you really live?

Peter Pan: With the lost boys in Neverland.

Wendy: Who are the lost boys?

Peter Pan: They are the children who fall out of their strollers when the nurse is looking the other way. If they are not claimed in seven days they are sent far away to the Neverland to defray expenses. I'm captain.

Wendy: What fun it must be!

Peter Pan: Yes, but we are rather lonely. You see we have no female companionship and no one to tell us stories.

Wendy: How perfectly awful. I know lots of stories.

Peter Pan: Do you know the one about the prince who couldn't find the lady who wore the glass slipper?

Wendy: Peter, that was Cinderella, and he found her, and they lived happily ever after. (*Peter gets up and walks toward the window.*) Where are you going?

Peter Pan: To tell the other boys how the story ends.

Wendy: Don't go Peter. I know such lots of stories.

Peter Pan: Wendy, do come with me and tell the other boys.

Wendy: Oh dear, I can't. Think of mummy! (*pauses and looks down disappointedly*) Besides, I can't fly.

Peter Pan: I'll teach you. And Wendy, there are mermaids.

Wendy: Mermaids?

Peter Pan: And pirates.

Wendy: Pirates? How exciting!

Peter Pan: You could tuck us in at night.

Wendy: Ooooo, sounds fun. Peter, would you teach John and Michael to fly too?

Peter Pan: If you like.

(*Wendy runs over to John and Michael's beds and shakes them.*)

Wendy: Wake up! Peter Pan has come and he is to teach us to fly.

John: Then I shall get up. (*rubs eyes*) Hallo.

Michael: I am up too!

John: How do you fly?

Peter Pan: You just think lovely wonderful thoughts and they lift you up in the air. And this fairy dust will help too. (*Tinkerbell sprinkles fairy dust on Wendy, John, and Michael*).

Michael: Look at me! Look at me!

Peter Pan: Follow me to Neverland! (*Curtain closes. They all fly through window back stage left and into audience or this scene could be done in front of the closed curtain on stage. Set change to Neverland during the song.*)

Play Track 9 (We Can Fly)

Song: We Can Fly

*(Sung by Wendy, John, Michael, Peter Pan, and Tinkerbell.
This is also a dance.)*

Could it be
Look at me
Can you see
I'm flying
Who is he
Taught us to believe
Taught us what's worth knowing
We are free
We can fly
You can fly

We can fly
You can fly
We can fly
You can fly
We can fly
You can fly

Over the trees
Fly so high
Higher and higher
Touch the sky
Free as a bird
You're flying high to Neverland
We can fly
You can fly
We can fly
You can fly

Over the trees
Fly so high
Higher and higher
Touch the sky
Free as a bird
You're flying high to Neverland

We can fly
You can fly
We can fly
You can fly

Over the trees
Fly so high
Higher and higher
Touch the sky
Free as a bird

We're flying high to Neverland
We can fly

Michael: We could go back.

John: How could we ever find our way back without him?

Peter Pan: There it is.

John: Where? Where?

Peter Pan: Where all the arrows are pointing. Would you like an adventure? There's a pirate asleep in the pampas just beneath us. If you like, we'll go down and kill him. Perhaps it's Captain Hook.

Michael: Why is he called Captain Hook?

Peter Pan: He has an iron hook instead of a right hand because I cut it off and threw it to the crocodile.

Play Track 10 (Cannon)

John: They're shooting at us!

Peter Pan: Come this way. (*John & Michael follow Peter Pan back stage.*)

Tinkerbell: Wendy, follow me this way and all will be well.
(*Tinkerbell and Wendy walk on stage in front of the closed curtain.*)

Wendy: (*Wendy acts tired and delirious.*) Where are we?

Tinkerbell: Silly donkey! (*Tinkerbell pulls Wendy's hair and does an evil laugh.*)