

The Kirkwood Players
Audition Sides Sample
Hansel & Gretel: A Creepy Comedy

FATHER/CHORUS

FATHER

You from around here?

CHORUS I

Not exactly.

FATHER

Nope, I didn't think I recognized you.

CHORUS II

You know a lot of people around here?

FATHER

(joking) Yep, all of three of them! (chuckles) It's only me and my family that's around here.

People tend to avoid the area since we're at the edge of the dark and dangerous forest.

CHORUS III

(to audience) There's good reason why it's called the dark and dangerous forest.

FATHER

No, I really don't know why people call it that. And I go into the forest all the time. I'm the local woodcutter, you see.

CHORUS I

Such important work!

CHORUS III

(to audience) That pays very little.

FATHER

I'm sorry, what?

CHORUS II

(distracting him) Cutting wood to support your entire family!

FATHER

(upbeat) Yes, it's not much per hour, you know? But I work *very* long hours. So, I'm pretty sure I earn plenty. (bragging) Mother handles all the expenses, and I've never heard a complaint.

CHORUS III

(to audience) There's good reason for that too.

CHORUS I

Mother, Hansel, and Gretel must be very grateful.

FATHER

(side-eyeing CHORUS III) Yeah, I guess.

CHORUS III

(annoyed, whispering to CHORUS I and II) How are we supposed to tell this story if *he's* here?

CHORUS II

(hurrying FATHER along) Let's get you home! Mother will be arriving back at the cottage any minute!

CHORUS I

Yes, you must be getting back before she misses dear, sweet Father after a day in town!

FATHER

Yes, Mother does love to tell me about a day spent in town!

CHORUS III

(to audience) But Father doesn't realize he's hearing about how much money she spends.

FATHER

I'm sorry, what?

CHORUS III

Father works such long hours that he is completely out of touch with the real world.

FATHER

(to CHORUS I and II) Who is he talking to?

CHORUS II

(pointing offstage) Here she comes!

MOTHER

MOTHER sprawled on a chair in the living room in a new fancy outfit, looking awful, coughing, sniffing. DOCTOR is standing over her with a clipboard.

DOCTOR

You mentioned pretty drastic changes to your routine.

MOTHER

(smiling) *Improvements* to my routine.

DOCTOR

I took a look at your perfume bottle, and it contains some pretty toxic chemicals.

MOTHER

They can't be *that* toxic.

DOCTOR

There are a number of ingredients in your eye cream that could potentially cause allergic reactions. Some lethal.

MOTHER

That *obviously* doesn't apply to me.

DOCTOR

Judging by your rashes, the new fabrics you have been wearing have been exacerbating a bad reaction to some kind of soap or lotion-

MOTHER

(bragging) Soap. I ordered it straight from New York.

DOCTOR

Ma'am, this reaction-

MOTHER

You can prescribe a cream for the rashes, right? They'll clear right up.

DOCTOR

The rashes are trending toward a deadly infection.

MOTHER

I've heard of an *exclusive* supplement from Sweden-

DOCTOR

Ma'am! Excuse me, but you cannot *buy* your way out of this. It's all of the things you have bought that are causing this. The only way to get better is to stop using your fancy, expensive creams, stop wearing-

MOTHER

(snaps. struggling to stand) No, no, absolutely not. What kind of doctor are you? (weakly grabbing her purse, exiting) I have all the money I want, and I am going to spend it how I want. And right now, I am going to spend it on a different doctor! (exits)

HANSEL/GRETEL I

HANSEL

(optimistic) It's okay, Father. Gretel, we've never thought to spy on the neighbors. We should try that.

GRETEL

(picking a fight) I don't want to see people dancing around in their underwear.

HANSEL

Fine, then we'll find a blueberry bush to pick blueberries from.

GRETEL

When have you ever even seen a blueberry bush?

HANSEL

(lying) All the time!

GRETEL

Yeah, and I suppose you also see other kids wandering down the street.

HANSEL

No, because they're afraid *you'll* cast a spell on them!

GRETEL

No, because they think *you'll* rip them apart with your monster claws!

HANSEL

You're the one who makes everyone afraid with your weird smile!

GRETEL

You're the one who never washes your hands and always has dirty fingernails!

HANSEL/GRETEL II

HANSEL

(sobbing) Gretel, you were so b-b-b-b-brave!

GRETEL

Aw, it's okay, Hansel, it's gone now.

HANSEL

I was so-so-so scaaaaaaaared!

GRETEL

That's alright. (pats him) Yeah, yeah, it was scary.

HANSEL

(calming down) How am I going to help us get out of here when I'm not brave like you?

GRETEL

You can be brave sometimes. (HANSEL wipes snot off his face) Well, you're smart. You came up with the plan to leave a trail to guide us back home.

HANSEL

Yeah, I guess I did.

GRETEL

Why don't we start moving? See if we can spot your pebbles.

HANSEL

Okay, yeah. Maybe we'll see some of your breadcrumbs.