

PRODUCTION NOTES

THE CHARACTERS: This musical is unique in the fact that it can utilize many different combinations of child and adult actors. Our desire was to create a cross-generational experience that bridges the gap between adults and children and provides a common ground to “come-together” and jointly accomplish a task, have a little fun and maybe even learn something in the process. There are adults on the recording, but the split track has no solos on it. These parts have no particular need to be adults. You get to decide!

Here are a couple things that will help you in making your decisions:

BILL should be a larger or older child.

FRITZ and BAILEY can be played by any child (young or old!)




EMILY can be played by a real or pretend handicapped person.

THE SET: The set can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. Any trees, shrubs, hay, etc. would certainly add to the ranch-like flavor. A half fence to portray the “corral” on the side of the stage is needed.

THE COSTUMES: Western wear. Bandannas, jeans, plaids, boots, cowboy/girl hats, vests, big belt buckles! This costuming is something we all have in our closets, or can borrow from someone else! Have fun with it! **FRITZ and BAILEY:** Fritz is a bird. Bailey is a donkey. Again as elaborate as you wish, but they can also be played by a design as simple as a beak and make-up for Fritz; a sweat suit, long floppy ears, and make-up for Bailey.

THE SONGS and LINES: Divide or combine the songs and lines to be as many or as few as you desire. This script was written so that many small lines could be shared between many actors, however, if you need to combine lines, the script will remain in tact.

A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT FRITZ’S APPEARANCES: This character should be adapted as to fit into your particular setting. Please feel to place Fritz up front all the time, and have him (her) play with the audience, asking them personally where the kids are or have they seen Bailey. He could also deliver his/her lines from the audience, in the aisle. Keep in mind, Fritz should always deliver his lines at least 3/4th’s of the way up the aisle so everyone can see him. Plants (rehearsed people sitting in the audience) are also a fun possibility with this character. Maybe if it’s appropriate, Fritz could sit in someone’s lap. If someone would actually offer Fritz direction, he could go the opposite way. Have fun with him! Do your best to match the personality of this part with the personality of the person playing the part. Type-cast!

A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT SPLIT-TRAX: As they appear in the musical, we have provided you with special sound effects.  = mysterious Indian sounds;  = Fritz music;  = Galloping Horse for Buddy’s entrances. We have picture coded these sound effects for you throughout the script.

Have a great time! Yippe-tie-yie-yea!