



shorts grimm's tales

a collection of student-directed short scripts

Looking for a FUN, low-stress summer play? Are you a student actor who wants an opportunity to play a leading role? **SHORTS grimm's tales** is the show for you! This collection of classic fairy tales has a role for everyone ages 5 – Adults. Each “Short” will be directed by a young person. All “Shorts” are non-musical. Auditioners have the opportunity to interview at the audition to direct a short. **Xclaim!** Executive Director will serve as producer and adviser to all student directors. All shorts will be produced with a minimalist approach to scenery & props.

AUDITIONS: For Ages 5 – Adult. Choose one audition slot:

Monday, May 14—5:00p-6:00p

Wednesday, May 16—4:30p-5:30p

Saturday, May 19—11:00a-12:00p

 **AUDITION FORMAT:** Auditioners be interviewed by the producer (parents are encouraged to attend), and perform audition sides.

 **DIRECTORS:** The producer will select directors based on interview of interested applicants, experience, training & temperament. Eligibility requirements: good academic student, scheduling flexibility, previous directing experience or at least 3 semesters of Acting class, organized, responsible, communicative, sensitive to others, energetic, positive attitude, self-motivated, technical theatre experience preferred.

 **CASTING:** The producer will cast actors in groups (mostly based on ages) and assign each group one or two “Shorts” and a director. Auditioners may be cast in more than one “Short” if they wish. 2018 Spring **Xclaim!** Performance Academy students are highly encouraged to audition and get extra consideration, but casting is based on ability to best perform audition material, BEHAVIOR, and LACK OF CONFLICTS. Some roles may be cast with opposite gender actors, and some roles may be either. Race will not be a factor in any casting decisions.

 **REHEARSAL PERIOD: May 25 – June 28**
Rehearsals will run 2-3 days per week for 1-2 hours. Please see the audition form for possible rehearsal times on each day of the week.

 **REHEARSAL CONFLICTS** affect casting. We will try to work conflicts, but you can only perform the “Shorts” for which you can rehearse. If cast, the producer accepted conflicts on your audition form, but later conflicts will NOT be accepted and WILL result in re-casting. **NO conflicts allowed during TECH/DRESS the 2 days before the show.**

 **PERFORMANCES: June 29 & 30**

Friday & Saturday at 7:00pm.

 **BACKSTAGE & TECHNICAL POSITIONS:** We are accepting submissions for technical positions in directing, stage management, costuming, make-up, lighting and sound ops. Interested parties should register for an audition slot.

 **CONTACT INFO:** For more information, visit the website **www.xclaiminc.com** or email: **info@xclaiminc.com**
Company Manager: Jim Flowers – (270) 996-9238
Director: Christopher H. Cherry – (270) 777-5701

 **EXPECTATIONS, FEES & EXPENSES:**

All cast members must contribute the following to our production:

\$10 Script Fee (*bring to read-thru*)

\$50 Activity Fee (*due 1st rehearsal*)

Financial Aid available with completed application.

2018 Spring Xclaim! Performance Academy students receive \$5 discount per class enrolled.

\$25 Minimum program ad sale requirement (*due 2 weeks before show*)

Your personal costumes

Help with production needs: scenery, props, etc.

Strike will occur following the final show on Saturday, June 30.

ALL cast members MUST stay to strike. A cast party will be held after.

TYPES OF SHORTS

SHORTS: *grimm's tales* is a collection of short fairy-tale scripts.

Auditioners will indicate if they would like to be considered for more than one “Short.” Tales include the following:

Billy Goats Gruff, Bremen Town Musicians, Cinderella, Goldilocks, Hansel & Gretel, Jack & the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Rumpelstiltskin, Sleeping Beauty, and the Three Little Pigs.

In addition to the title characters, each “Short” also has narrators (with the most lines) and a slew of other characters.

Refer to the Audition Monologues to prepare!

AUDITION MONOLOGUES

1. ALL auditioners must present the NARRATOR.
2. Be prepared to present any other sides requested by the producer.
3. Children who cannot read will NOT present the NARRATOR and will be coached to present other monologues from those provided below.
4. (Audition tips are indicated for each monologue.)

Narrators are the leading roles in EVERY short. They have the most lines, by far. These storytellers must have great diction (very clear speech), excellent vocal expression (full of emotion and intensity), and great energy (must keep our attention with excitement).

NARRATOR: Once upon a time Three Billy Goats lived in a stony field near a bridge that went across a little river. Now, across the river was a hillside just covered with delicious, juicy, green grass, but under the bridge lived a mean old troll. He was a scary thing, with eyes as big as tea cups and a long crooked nose. Aaaaand he thought that the bridge was HIS ... and would not allow anyone to cross it. Well, one day the Billy Goats could not find any more grass on their side of the river, and this is what happened.

Villains make the story! Most do not have many lines (and some have signature lines they repeat), BUT each story is only as exciting as the Villain is threatening! Each must be fierce, crafty, intense, and terrifying. These actors cannot hold back!

TROLL: (large voice, ready to eat a Billy Goat) Wait a minute! Who is that walking on MY bridge? You just get off of my bridge this very minute or I'll come up there and eat you up!

OLD WITCH: (stereotypical “witchy” voice, threatening and evil) Get up, lazy thing, fetch some water, and cook something good for your brother. He is in the stable outside, and is to be made fat. When he is fat, I will eat him.

GIANT: (stereotypical large sound, strong, loud, fearless) Fee, Fi, Fo, Fum! I smell the blood of an Englishman. Be he live, or be he dead, I'll grind his bones to make my bread.

WOLF: (NOT a cartoon sound, crafty, dark, malicious – truly Grimm’s version) What a tender young creature. What a nice plump mouthful. She will be better to eat than the old woman. I must act craftily, so as to catch both.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: (he is a goblin – vocally sounds like the male version of witch) Today I bake, to-morrow brew, the next I'll have the young queen's child. Ha! Glad am I that no one knew that Rumpelstiltskin I am styled.

BIG BAD WOLF: (Fierce and frightening, loud and brash) Little Pig, Little Pig, let me come in. Or I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house in!

Hero characters are the focus of each Short. Although the lead of each story, these characters usually have more onstage action than lines. Each must have great expression, an honest approach, convey innocence, and be larger-than-life.

DONKEY: (worried, how does a donkey sound? Not like you do!) Oh, no! What will happen to me? I must run away. I'll go to Bremen. There I can be a fine musician.

DOG: (sadly, how does a dog sound? Not like you do!) Ah, me. Now that I am old and weak, I can no longer hunt. My owner wants to get rid of me. I got scared, so I ran away. Now I don't know what I will do.

CAT: (depressed, how does a cat sound? Not like you do!) Ho, hum. Now that I am old and my teeth are not sharp, I cannot catch mice. My owner wants to get rid of me. I don't know what I will do.

ROOSTER: (desperate, how does a rooster sound? Not like you do!) I used to crow to wake up the farmer each morning. But he just bought an alarm clock. Now he doesn't need my crowing so he wants to get rid of me. Now I'm a cock-a-doodle-don't! Oh, what will I do?

LITTLE PIG: (stereotypical “cartoon” voice, cute, young and innocent sound) Oh, no, no no! Not by hair of my chinny, chin, chin!

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: (sweet, young and innocent sound) Thank you, kindly, Mr. Wolf. I am going to my grandmother's house with cake and wine. Yesterday was baking-day, so poor, sick grandmother is to have something good to make her stronger.

LITTLE BILLY GOAT: (young, headstrong, determined) I'm sick and tired of being so hungry. I'm just going to go right across that Troll's bridge right now and eat, and eat, and eat.

JACK: (sweet, pitiful) I'm Jack. I've just climbed up the beanstalk. I'm very hungry. Could you spare some food for me, kind woman?

These are only a few of the leading characters from this collection of Shorts. Many other characters, leading and supporting, are available.

Auditioners will have to indicate how many of the 10 Shorts they wish to be considered for casting!