

INTO THE WOODS JUNIOR PARTS FOR BOYS

The Baker (70 Lines) Must Sing Well: Several Songs – Audition songs include: #25 It Takes Two, #15 Baker's Reprise

This is the largest male role. The character of the Baker changes the most as a result of his journey through the woods. At first he is reluctant to seek the help of his wife. It is through the difficulty of gathering the Witch's items that the Baker realizes, in order to achieve his wish, it will take the help of his wife. He must be strong-willed, yet the audience must like him and never doubt the Baker is a good-hearted person, trying to do what is right.

The Baker's Reads:

1. Now how am I supposed to get the cape from the little girl? I'll never get that red cape, nor find a golden cow or a yellow slipper – or was it a golden slipper and a yellow cow? Oh no . . . *(thinking it through, say the chant)* the cow as white as milk, the cape as red as blood, the hair as yellow as corn, the slipper as pure as gold.
2. *(To Jack:)* Hello there, young man. What might you be doing with a cow in the middle of the forest? Ah, going to the market . . . and what are you planning to do once you get there? Sell her? I will give you five of these magic beans in exchange for your cow. What kind of magic you ask . . . Magic that defies description. *(He gets the cow and feels bad)* Magic beans! Are we going to dispel this curse through deceit?
3. *(Jack wants to get his cow back)* Five gold pieces! Now, I never said that I would sell . . . I didn't take the five gold pieces, you gave. Now I never said you "could." I said you "might" possibly buy her back someday but I'm not certain that five gold pieces would . . . no don't fetch more *(Jack leaves to get more gold)* – Five gold pieces! With this money I could buy baking supplies for a year. I could buy a new thatched roof and a new chimney.
4. *(To Red:)* Hello there, little one. Where did you get that beautiful cape? I so admire it. Your Granny made that for you . . . is that right? I would love a red cloak like that. May I have a look at it. *(He snatches the cape and feels guilty and gives it back.)* I just wanted to make certain that you really loved this cape. Now you go to Granny's and you be careful that no wolf comes your way. *(After she leaves, feeling very conflicted.)* I need that cape!
5. *(To His Wife:)* What are you doing here now? I've the cape and you have the cow. Only two items left. What do you mean three items left. What have you done with the cow? How could you have let her run away? I should have known better than to have entrusted her to you. *(Feeling bad.)* I'm sorry. . . I shouldn't have yelled. Now, please go back to the village. I will make things right! And then we can just go about our life. No more hunting about the Woods for strange objects. No more Witches and dimwitted boys and hungry little girls.
6. I've got the cow. Now we need two. What do you mean one? Where did you find the "hair as yellow as corn?" You pulled it from a maiden in the tower and almost had the forth as well. We've one entire day left. Surely we can locate the slipper by then. Yes, I will allow you to stay. Well . . . perhaps it will take the two of us to get this child.

Jack (29 Lines) Must Sing Well: 2 Big Songs - Audition songs include: #13 I Guess This Is Goodbye, #20 Giant's in the Sky

Jack must be an excellent singer and a good actor. Jack's mother fears that he is not the brightest boy. The fact that Jack's best friend is the family cow, Milky White, brings into question his intelligence. However, Jack enters the woods as a simple boy, but he leaves much more grown-up.

Jack's Reads:

1. Silence everywhere, Milky-White. Not to my liking . . . Come along, Milky-White. There are spirits here . . . *(To the Baker:)* Hello, sir. I was heading toward the market, but I seem to have lost my way. I must sell my cow, sir for no less than five pounds . . . and if I can't fetch that sum, I suppose my mother and I will have no food to eat. You want to give me beans in exchange for my cow? Magic beans? What kind of magic? How many beans? Could I buy my cow back someday?
2. Good fortune! Good fortune, sir! Look what I have! Here's five gold pieces. Where is Milky-White? You said I might buy her back. Are you saying that you wish more money? Keep this. I will go fetch more. Oh, Providence! My Milky-White. You see. I promised you more than the five gold pieces I gave you sir. Now I'm taking my cow. You took the five gold pieces! You said I could have my cow! *(Milky-White lets out a terrible yelp and falls dead)* Milky-White is dead . . .

Mysterious Man - (13 Lines) A few lines but no solo singing. He hides in the trees and gives a good drop dead.

Mysterious Man's Read:

1. *(To Jack)* Hello Jack. How much are you asking for the animal? No less than five pounds, you say. Why, you would be lucky to exchange her for a sack of beans.
2. *(To the Baker)* - But could buy yourself a child? How badly do you wish a child? Five gold pieces? Ten? Twenty? Moo! Looking for your cow? I am here to make amends. I am here to see your wish is granted. Give them the slipper and all will come to a happy end. The silky hair of the corn, pull it from the ear and feed it to the cow quickly! Please do not tell him now. Yes, I am your father. I didn't want to run away from you son, but . . . Not now! Get the cow's milk into the cup. *(He falls to the ground)* Son! Son! *(Lets out a groan.)* All is repaired. *(Dies!)*

Rapunzel's and Cinderella's Princes (11 lines) 1 Big Song: #22 Agony

The Princes are brothers and both are pompous, conceited, and self-absorbed. They are very serious, that is what makes them funny. Think of Gaston from Beauty and the Beast. They should be able to carry themselves with confidence. They also have a bit of sibling rivalry! Both should be good, solid singers.

Princes Read:

1. Have you seen a beautiful young woman in a ball gown pass through? I have been looking all night for her. The beautiful one I danced the evening with. She has disappeared. A maiden running from a Prince? Does that make sense? None would run from us. Yet one has. . . So you too, brother, have found a lovely maiden that lives in the top of a tall tower that has no door or stairs. How do you manage a visit? You stand beneath her tower and say, " Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me." And then she lowers the longest, most beautiful head of hair – yellow as corn – which you climb to her? Rapunzel, What kind of a name is that? You jest!
2. (To Jack's Mother:) Well, if Jack truly has been crushed by the dead Giant in your backyard, then, there is nothing any of us can do about that, now is there? We must be off. I need my rest before tomorrow's search is to commence.

Steward (7 lines) and a little singing in #34 Finale Part 3

This servant to Cinderella's Prince is a nice featured role. He has a few lines, both sung and spoken. This is a great part for an actor ready to gain some experience in an ensemble show.

Steward's Read: I think I see her over there. And sir, I have succeeded in obtaining the other slipper. I will give this slipper to the Prince tomorrow and we will search the kingdom for the maiden who will fit this shoe. (Annoyed by the Mysterious Man) No, I will not give the slipper to the Baker's wife. Shut up!

Cinderella's Father - (Just 1 line) no solo singing. He shows absolutely no interest in anything.

Cinderella's Father Read: The Carriage is waiting.

INTO THE WOODS JUNIOR PARTS FOR BOYS OR GIRLS

Wolf (7 lines) – Big Song #11 – Hello, Little Girl

The Wolf needs to be a little scary, obviously dishonest, properly slimy and a bit creepy.

Wolf's Read: Good day, young lady. Whither away so hurriedly? And what might be in your basket? Ah to Granny's . . . and where might your grandmother live? (In a high Granny's voice) My big ears? The better to hear you with, my dear. My big eyes? The better to see you with, my dear. My big, wet mouth? (Now in a scary deep voice.) The better to EAT you with my dear!

Narrator – (28 lines) – This is a big part with lots of action to describe. Song #37 Finale Part 6

This is the character who describes the action, but eventually gets involved. The person who plays the Narrator must be very good at story telling and engaging the audience. This part may be divided.

Narrator's Read:

1. Once upon a time, in a far off kingdom, lived a young maiden, a sad lad, and a childless baker, with his wife. The young maiden's father had taken for his new wife a woman with two daughters of her own. All three were beautiful of face but vile and black of heart. Jack on the other hand, had no grandmother and no father and his mother, well, she was not quite beautiful. Because the Baker had lost his mother and Father in a baking accident well, at least that's what he believed, he was eager to have a family of his own, and was concerned that all efforts until now had failed. The old enchantress told the couple that she had placed a spell on their house. Then she, for purposes of her own, explained how the Baker might lift the spell. The Witch said they needed to collect the following items in the Wood, the cow as white as milk, the cape as red as blood, the hair as yellow as corn and the slipper as pure as gold.

2. And so the Mysterious Man died, having helped end the curse on his house. For the Baker, there would be no reunion with his father, and he and his wife, bewildered, returned home. The Witch, who had been punished with age and ugliness that night when her beans had been stolen and the lightened flashed, was now returned to her former state of youth and beauty. And Milky-White, after a night of severe indigestion, was reunited with the now wealthy Jack. As for Rapunzel, she lived impoverished in the desert until the day her Prince, wandering aimlessly, heard a voice so familiar that he went towards it. And when approached, Rapunzel, overjoyed at seeing him, fell into his arms, weeping. Two of her tears wetted his eyes and their touch restored his vision. As often the way in these tales, in exchange for her youth and beauty, the Witch lost her power over others. And it all came to pass, all that seemed wrong was now right, the kingdoms were filled with joy, and those who deserved to were certain to live a long and happy life.

Milky-White - The cow can be played by a student. There are no lines for the cow. Just reactions, moos and squeals. The cow must let out a terrible yelp and die. After being brought back to life by the witch, the cow lets out a bloodcurdling moan and shakes feverishly.

INTO THE WOODS JUNIOR PARTS FOR GIRLS

Baker's Wife (65 lines) Must Sing Well: Several Songs – Audition #25 It Takes Two, #13 Maybe They're Magic

This is the largest female role. The Baker's Wife drives the show forward and ties the characters together. The Baker's Wife is strong, determined, and patient. The audience should identify with her and root for a successful fulfillment of her wish. The role requires excellent singing and acting, plus a good sense of comic timing.

Baker's Wife's Reads:

1. (To Little Red Ridinghood) Why come in little girl. You're certain of your way? Now don't stray and be late. And save some of those sweets for Granny. (There's a knock on the door.) It's the Witch from next door. If we wish to break the spell we will need . . . the cow as white as milk, the cape as red as blood, the hair as yellow as corn, the slipper as pure as gold. You found six beans in your Father's hunting jacket. Witch's beans. We will take them with us. You forgot your scarf. I wish to help.
2. (To Jack) Hello young man, what are you planning to do there with your cow? And if you can't fetch that sum for your cow, then what will you do? Beans—we mustn't give up our beans! Well . . . if you feel we must. Bean's will bring you food, son. Oh, these are no ordinary beans, son. These beans carry magic. Magic that defies description. We will only give you five. We can't part with all of them. We must leave one for ourselves. Besides, I'd say they're worth a pound each, at the very least.
3. (To the Prince) No, I don't think I've seen a beautiful young woman in a ball gown pass through. (To Cinderella) I've never lied to royalty before. I've never anything to royalty before! What a beautiful gown you're wearing. Were you at the King's Festival? Aren't you the lucky one. If a Prince were pursuing me, I certainly wouldn't hide. Tell me all about the ball. Are you to return to the Festival tomorrow eve? Oh, to be pursued by a Prince. All that pursues me is tomorrow's bread. What I wouldn't give to be in your shoes! . . . I mean slippers. As pure as gold! I need your shoes! Hey! Come back here! What I wouldn't give for just one. I must have your shoe. I need to have a baby. Please just hear me out. I didn't attack you! I attacked your shoe. I need it. Here. Here is a magic bean in exchange for it. I need that shoe to have a child! Here. Take my shoes. You'll run faster.
4. (To her husband) I see you have the red cape. No, we don't have two items left to locate. We have three. The cow ran away. I never reached home. I've been looking for her all night. Don't be angry with me. She might just as easily run from you! I'm sorry I lost the cow. . . . You've the cow! No, we don't have two of the four. We have three. Three! Compare this to your corn. I pulled it from a maiden in a tower. And I almost had the fourth, but she goat away. You mean you'll allow me to stay.
5. I see the hen has dropped a golden egg in your hand! I've never seen a golden egg! You took five gold pieces from that boy? You would take money before a child?! Milky-White is dead. Now we have two. And what do you propose I use to purchase another cow? Our last bean. . . . No person with a brain larger than this bean is going to exchange a cow for a bean. I feel it best you go for the cow, as I have met a maiden with a golden slipper these previous eves, and I think I might succeed in winning one of her shoes. (Baker appears with the cow) I have the slipper! We have all four!

Witch (27 lines) Must Sing Well: Several Songs – Audition #28 Stay With Me, #4 Opening: Part 4 (Greens)

This is a very large part. The Witch begins the show as an ugly, old, extremely aggressive, sarcastic, and powerful character. Ultimately, she sacrifices her power for beauty. The Witch should be mysterious and mischievous, and yet we learn that she is really only doing what she thought was best for her child. The Witch is perhaps the ultimate "character" role. She must be a very strong actress, singer with excellent comedic skills.

Witch's Read:

1. In the past, when your mother was with child, she developed an unusual appetite. She took one look at my beautiful garden and told your father what she wanted more than anything in the world was greens, greens and nothing but greens. No you didn't have a brother. But you had a sister...I thought I had been more than reasonable. But how was I to know what your father had also hidden in his pocket. Beans. Beans. The special beans.
2. (To the Baker) Forget the little girl and get the cape! That's the cape. Get it! You can get it. You go up to the little thing, and you take it. Get me what I need. Ahh, my Rapunzel. . . . listen to her beautiful music. Rapunzel, Rapunzel. Let down your hair to me. Why didn't you tell me you had a visitor? I gave you protection yet you disobeyed me. I will not share you, but I will show you a world you've never seen. I was going to come fetch you as soon as you learned your lesson. This is who I truly am. Come with me child. We can be happy as we once were. You are the only family I know. Come with me. Please. Then, you give me no choice!
3. You've all the objects? That cow doesn't look as white as milk to me. This cow has been covered with flour! Where is the cow as white as milk? She's dead! Of course I'd prefer a live cow! So bring me the dead cow and I'll bring her back to life! Yes, I can do that. Now! Quiet! Feed the objects to the cow! You heard me. Feed them to the cow. Wrong ingredients. Forget about a child. YOU WHAT! You brought me hair from the maiden in the tower. I touched that hair! Don't you understand? I cannot have touched the ingredients! Give me the silky hair from the corn. Pull it from the ear and feed it to the cow. Quickly! This had better work, old man, before the stroke of midnight, or your son will be the last of your flesh and blood.

Parts for boys or girls are on the bottom of the boys reads. They are the Wolf, The Narrator and the cow, Milky-White.

Little Red Ridinghood (17 lines) 2 Big Songs – Audition #16 I Know Things Now, #2 Opening – Part 2

She is pushy, loud and loves to eat, yet adorable. The audience needs to route for her. Her journey through the woods teaches her some very important lessons regarding strangers and trust. Little Red must be able to be loud vocally. (Think *Annie* gone very bad.)

Little Red Ridinghood's Reads:

1. (To the Baker who has just taken her cape) My Granny made my cape for me. I don't like to be without my cape. Please, give it back! (She screams, then weeps hysterically.) I'd rather meet a wolf in the woods than you, any day!
2. (To the Wolf) Good day, Mr. Wolf. I'm headed to my Grandmother's with a basket of bread and wine, so Grandmother will have something good to make her strong. She lives further in the woods, her house stands under three large oak trees.
3. (To the Wolf) Good day, Grandmother. My, Grandmother, you're looking very strange. What big ears you have. But Grandmother, what big eyes you have! Oh, Grandmother – what a terrible, big, wet mouth you have! (After being rescued from the Wolf's stomach.) What a fright! How dark and dank it was inside that wolf! Mr. Baker, you saved our lives. Here is my cape. You may have it. Maybe Granny will make me another with the skins of that wolf.

Cinderella (15 Lines) Must Sing Well – Audition #29 On the Steps of the Palace, #10 Cinderella at the Grave

Cinderella should be able to sing well and be charmingly funny without being silly. She is surprisingly clumsy and awkward. She persistently pursues her wish to go to the King's Festival, yet finds that "the Festival" ultimately does not meet her expectations.

Cinderella's Reads: (both are with the Baker's Wife)

1. Thank you. I was at the King's Festival. Perhaps I'll return to the Festival tomorrow eve. Will you look over there? an enormous vine growing next to that little cottage. It looks like a giant beanstalk rising into the sky. I must get home. It's these slippers. They are all you could wish for in beauty. . . Why would you want one? One is not likely to do much good. I must run. Stop that! Let go of my shoe. I need to get out of here!
2. We have nothing to discuss. You have attacked me once before. I will not take a magic bean for my shoe. Magic bean? That is non-sense. (Throws the bean away.) I've already given up one shoe this evening. My feet cannot bear to give up another. How could you possibly need my shoe to have a child. That makes no sense!

Jack's Mother (8 lines) Must Sing – Audition #3 Opening – Part 3

This woman is overworked, a bit frazzled, and overwhelmed with the tasks of raising a young boy, running a farm, and making ends meet. Jack's Mother should be comfortable being matronly and frumpy. This is mainly an acting role requiring an actress with an easily projected, authoritative voice.

Jack's Mother's Reads:

1. (To Jack) Listen well, son. Milky-White must be taken to market. She's given us no milk for a week. We've no food nor money, and no choice but to sell her. Fetch the best price you can. Take no less than five pounds. Are you listening to me? Now, go. Only a dolt (idiot) would exchange a cow for beans! To bed without supper for you!
2. (To the Baker's Wife) Excuse me, young woman. Have you encountered a boy answering to the name of Jack? He's the one partial to a white cow. No, I haven't seen the cow and I don't care to ever again! I hope he didn't go up that beanstalk again. Jack!
3. (Frantic looking for Jack) There's a dead Giant in my backyard! I heard Jack coming down the beanstalk, calling for his axe. And when he reached the bottom he took it and began hacking down the stalk. Suddenly with a crash, the beanstalk fell, but there was no Jack. For all I know, he's been crushed by the Giant. Doesn't anyone care a Giant has fallen from the sky? (Jack appears with more loot.) There you are! I've been worried sick. (Actually pleased) Shame on you! You've stolen too much.

Rapunzel (5 lines) – Must Sing a Beautiful Soprano Chant Several times in the Show – Audition # 14 Rapunzel

Rapunzel must stand up to her stepmother, the Witch, and eventually leave her for the world.

Read:(To the Witch) I was lonely atop that tower. I am no longer a child. I wish to see the world. No! NO! I will not go with you.

Cinderella's Family (2-4 lines) Florinda & Lucinda & Step Mother – They sing a little – Audition #35 – Finale Part 4

Cinderella's Stepmother mocks her and is selfish, mean, and nasty. Florinda and Lucinda are spoiled brats who will do anything to win the heart of the Prince - even if it means sacrificing cutting off portions of their feet!

Cinderella's Family Read: Ladies, our carriage awaits. What, you Cinderella, the festival? The King's festival? (cackle) You'd make us the fools of the festival and mortify the prince! We must be gone.

Cinderella's Mother's Ghost (1 line) One Short Song – Audition #10 She is only in one scene but must have a sweet voice.

Cinderella's Mother's Read: What, child? Specify. Opportunity is not a lengthy visitor. Do you know what you wish? Are you certain what you wish is what you want?

Granny – (4 lines) No solo singing. – A very funny part.

Granny's Read: (Wheezing after being rescued from the Wolf's belly) – Kill the Devil! Quiet child. This evil must be destroyed. Do you want his skins? What kind of hunter are you?