

GOLDIE LOCKS

by

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Shoebox Theatre
2015 Old Orchard Drive
Dallas, Texas 75208
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CHARACTERS

- GOLDIE LOCKS:** 8-12 years old. Very fanciful and curious. Independent. Thinks she knows more than she really does. Southern belle.
- ELIZABETH FITZGERALD:** Camp counselor at Camp Mucketymuck.
(Or LAWRENCE) straight-laced but kind. Very organized. Sentimental. Has a whistle.
- FRANK FINNEGAN:** Camp counselor at Camp Mucketymuck.
(or FRANCES) Enthusiastic and playful. Loud. Eats a lot of snacks.
- CAMPERS:** Attend Camp Mucketymuck. Enthusiastic. Singers and dancers.
- MAMA BEAR:** Nurturing, sentimental, very feminine.
- PAPA BEAR:** Strong, a bit gruff but sentimental.
- BABY BEAR:** Loving. Wants to be grown-up. Very smart.
- HONEYBEES:** Hard workers. Singers & dancers.
- HONEY BEARS:** Optional trio of singers. Appear at beginning and end. Sings “The Legend”.

SETTING

Story takes place in the present at “Camp Mucketymuck” and in the forest at the home of the 3 bears. “Camp Mucketymuck” is located stage right. The 3 bears’ house is located stage left. Sets are stationary for ease of staging.

COSTUMES

Campers wear shorts and T-shirts, tennis shoes. Camp Counselors wear the same but have gadgets and backpacks and hats. Goldie Locks wears a dress and a picture hat. Bears wear bear costumes. Honeybees can wear all black with yellow stripes (can use yellow tape or fabric). They wear antennae on their heads. Honey Bears can wear bear costumes or dress in overalls and flannel shirts.

BLUEGRASS MUSIC

When bluegrass music first emerged with Bill Monroe on the Grand Ole Opry in the 1940's, its links with the past - real and imagined - were already clear. It was born of the chaos of the immediate post-war era. When old values were becoming uprooted by a nation on the make. Consciously or not, bluegrass became the music for those who were reluctant to relinquish those values: Faith in God, the homestead on the farm and loyalties born of the family structure and simple courtship. Bluegrass music has survived because those values have survived through changing times. Acoustic instruments, hymnbook harmonies, songs about love and home strengthens our feelings about who we are and what we come from, celebrating traditional elements which still form part of our lives and mourning those irretrievably lost.

NOTE FROM PLAYWRIGHT

There is general agreement that the original source of "Goldilocks" is an ancient Scottish tale of 3 bears which are intruded upon by a she-fox. The bears devour the trespasser - a cautionary tale warning us to respect others' property and privacy. In a small homemade book written by Eleanor Muir in 1831 as a birthday gift for a little boy, she told the story with an angry old woman as the intruder. This was the change which began the transition of an old cautionary tale into a fairy story. In 1894, another probably quite old rendering of the story became known from the oral tradition in which the intruder helps herself to milk, sits in the chairs, and rests in the beds of the bears. The next alteration was made by Robert Southey, who published it in 1837. Joseph Cundall again changed the story by making the intruder into a little girl and called her "silver-hair" and finally, in 1904, "Goldilocks".

The original story of Goldilocks is unresolved. In developing the theme of my play, I chose to keep the story light and focus on the positive ways of dealing with daily problems (i.e., problems at work, disappointments, fears of not being good enough). Bluegrass music is unique in its ability to keep those toes tapping, even on the darkest day.

DEDICATION

To my brother, Bob Nesius, who introduced me to bluegrass and folk music. When I was a little girl, I believed everything he said was gospel. I still do.

ACT I

SCENE I

SETTING: Center stage. A special light appears as GOLDIE LOCKS enters.

AT RISE: GOLDIE LOCKS enters. SHE is dressed summer dress and picture hat. SHE has suitcases and a magnifying glass around her neck.

GOLDIE

Hi there everybody! I sure am glad ya'll came out to see me and my friends today. We've got a right cute little old story to tell you, but first I want to introduce myself and make sure ya'll are at the right show. This is called "Goldie Locks

(Points to herself)

. . . and the Three Bears.

(Winks)

You'll meet them a little later on. There's lots of folks in this show and I know you're prob'ly in a hurry to get started but there's a few things I need to tell you. First of all, my REAL name is Marigold Virginia Lou-EE-sianna Locks. They call me Goldie Locks for the sake of time. I live in the heart of Mississippi and IMAGINING is my favorite thing to do. I have an adventurous spirit, which sometimes leads me down the wrong path. Makes for a good story, though, and I'm KNOWN for my stories. This particular one is about the time I went to summer camp all the way over to Tennessee. I didn't really want to go too much, but I thought I'd give it a whirl since my Mama promised I could explore the frontier a little, while I was there.

(LIGHTS UP on HONEY BEARS down stage right. Enter COUNSELORS and CAMPERS intermittently during song)

So I packed my bags and hurried on over here to Camp Mucketymuck.

(Music cue)

1-1-2

GOLDIE (Cont'd)

When I got here, there was a lot of noise and commotion and I could see that summer camp might be my greatest adventure yet! But I'll let the HoneyBears here get us started off right while I go get ready for my entrance.

(Exit GOLDIE)

**SONG - THE LEGEND OF GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS/
THE HONEY BEARS**

**LISTEN I'VE GOT A STORY A SIMPLE STORY UP TO THE END
THIS ALLEGORY TAKES PLACE IN TENNESSEE
ABOUT A LITTLE GIRL WHO WANTED TO PRETEND**

CHORUS

**IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS
IT'S ALL ABOUT PORRIDGE HOT AND BROKEN CHAIRS
IT'S ALL ABOUT FINDING OUT WHAT PEOPLE SHOULD CARE ABOUT
IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS**

**GOLDIE WOULD TELL A SOTRY AND SOMETIMES MAKE IT
NOT REALLY TRUE
HER NARRATORY GOT BIGGER AS SHE TOLD IT
TILL ONE DAY NO ONE BELIEVED HER BALLYHOO**

CHORUS

**IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS
IT'S ALL ABOUT PORRIDGE HOT AND BROKEN CHAIRS
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IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS
IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLDIE LOCKS AND THOSE 3 BEARS**

1-1-3

FITZGERALD

(Blows whistle)

All right everyone! Sit down, sit down.

(CAMPERS sit)

I am Miss Fitzgerald and this is Mr. Finnegan. We are happy that you have chosen Camp Mucketymuck for your summer playground. Mr. Finnegan and I are here for you in every way. If you have a problem you need to discuss, a question you need answered or simply wish to chitchat awhile, please don't hesitate to approach either one of us. I can assure you we will greet you with open arms and hearts. And now, without further ado, I introduce to you, Mr. Frank Finnegan, for few words about Camp Mucketymuck rules and traditions. Mr. Finnegan?

FINNEGAN

(Tries to be official)

Hello to one and all. . . As Miss Fitzgerald has so pointedly pointed out, we are at your service! My main job here is to make sure you have fun, and you have fun safely! Your parents sent you here to relax and enjoy yourselves and . . . hey, who knows? You might learn a little something along the way. We got a few rules and regulations around here we need to go over. If you would b so kind, Miss Fitzgerald, as to assist me in my demonstration, I will begin.

.....
ACT 2, SCENE 1

MAMA BEAR

Papa Bear. . .

PAPA BEAR

Before you say anything, Mama Bear, let me apologize. I am very sorry I yelled at you. I know you were just trying to help, and it was very sweet of you to do it.

MAMA

Oh Papa Bear, I only wanted to . . .

PAPA

I know, I know. It's just that sometimes I just want you to listen to me, that's all. Just listen. You are the sweetest most important Mama Bear in my life. . . well, I just couldn't live without you.

(Starts to give her a hug)

BABY

I guess I'll go check on the garden. Maybe the honeybees would like to buzz the flowers during my party. I'll be right back. . .

(Exits)

MAMA

Oh Papa Bear. She certainly is growing up. I don't know what I'll do when it's time for her to leave us.

PAPA

(Laughs)

Oh I do!

(MUSIC CUE)

That's when we get to do all the things we want, all the things we want, all the things we've dreamed about. Come here, Mama Bear and give me a big bear hug. Baby, I could hibernate with you. . .

SONG - I COULD HIBERNATE WITH YOU/MAMA & PAPA

PAPA

**IF I ONLY HAD THE WORDS
IF I JUST KNEW WHAT TO DO
I WOULD TAKE YOU IN MY ARMS
IN COULD HIBERNATE WITH YOU**

MAMA

**ALL YOU DO IS TAKE THE CHANCE
ALL YOU NEED TO SAY OR DO
IS TO PROMISE ME YOUR LOVE
AND I'LL HIBERNATE WITH YOU**

BOTH

**FIRST LOVE SO NEW
IS THE WAY YOU MAKE ME FEEL
WHEN I HIBERNATE WITH YOU**

MAMA

FIRST LOVE

PAPA

SO NEW

BOTH

**IS THE WAY YOU MAKE ME FEEL
WHEN I HIBERNATE
HIBERNATE
WHEN I HIBERNATE WITH YOU**

(Big BEAR kiss!!! Enter BABY BEAR)

BABY

Ooooo-la-la

PAPA

Baby Bear! Come little one, give Papa a birthday hug while Mama Bear dishes out some birthday porridge.

MAMA

I think it's still a little warm, Papa Bear. We need to wait a little longer. Besides, the honeybees aren't here yet.

BABY

Maybe we could take a little walk while the porridge cools.

MAMA

That's a wonderful idea!

PAPA

We could pick some berries down by the stream. . . to put in the porridge!

BABY

I'll get a basket. . .

(Exits. MAMA takes off her apron)

PAPA

Mama Bear?

MAMA

Yes Papa Bear?

PAPA

Thank you for making our home so special.

MAMA

Oh, Papa Bear. I love you.

PAPA

I love you, too.

(THEY start to kiss again. Enter BABY)

BABY

Come on you guys! That porridge will never cool down if you keep doing that. . .

(THEY look embarrassed, laughing)

Let's go! I'll beat you to the stream!

(Exits running. MAMA and PAPA start to leave)

PAPA

Should I close the door?

MAMA

No. Leave it open so the porridge can cool. Everything will be all right. Beat you to the stream!

(Teases him and exits running)

PAPA

I'm right behind you!

BLACKOUT