



Goldie B. Locks and the Three Singing Bears

An operatic version of the story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*

Words and Story Adaptation by **John Davies**

Originally commissioned by the *Florentine Opera Company*

**WELCOME TO THE OPERA! WE HOPE YOU HAVE FUN AND ENJOY THE SINGING!
TO MAKE OPERA MORE FUN, LET'S START WITH SOME BASICS OF THE STORY...**

Summary of the Opera

Scene 1: The Street

Momma, Papa, and Peek (most commonly known as Baby Bear, but in this opera is known as Piccolo or Peek) are street performers. They are singing in the street when the owner of the Great Galopoli Circus places a dollar in Peek's hat. A note is pinned on the dollar, inviting the Three Bears to perform in his circus. The Three Bears accept the invitation and look forward to the benefits of settling down.

Scene 2: Goldie's Back Yard

Goldie B. Locks loves catching bugs. In fact, she is so excited about bugs that her Mom made a pet tarantula out of her Dad's old pajamas. Goldie named her Danielle Webster and takes Webster with her wherever she goes. Goldie's Granny is sick so Goldie's Mom takes Granny some stew. Goldie's Mom tells Goldie to stay in her backyard, but Goldie does not listen and follows a butterfly out of her yard.

Scene 3: The Bear's New Home and Papa's New Garden

Papa Bear is busily working in his garden when Peek comes to show off his new Junior Smokey Scout uniform. Peek wants to earn his Junior Smokey Scout detective badge first, but Peek thinks his new home is too boring to solve a mystery. Momma tells Papa and Peek that her homemade soup is ready. Unfortunately, the soup is too hot to eat. Momma pours some cream into Peek's bowl to cool his soup more quickly. The Three Bears decide to take a walk while the soup cools down. Momma is concerned about leaving their house unattended without any doors or windows to lock but Papa reassures her that it will be okay. Meanwhile, Goldie has chased the butterfly through the woods and is now lost and alone. The aroma of soup leads her to the house of the Three Bears. She wonders if she will find a grown-up inside to help her find her way home.

Goldie enters the Bears' home. She takes Webster (her pet tarantula) off of her backpack and places her in the bread basket so she can have something to eat. Goldie takes a sip from one bowl, but it is too hot. She takes a sip from Peek's bowl with the added cream, but it is not hot enough. She takes a sip from the last bowl and it is just right so she eats it all up. Then Goldie hears the Bears returning home. She quickly runs out of the house, forgetting Webster in the bread basket.

Momma, Papa, and Peek are surprised to find their soup gone! Peek can now try to solve the mystery of the missing soup and earn his Junior Smokey detective merit badge. Papa finds Webster in the bread basket which scares Momma and Peek. Papa tries to throw Webster in the backyard, but she ends up hooked onto his back. The Three Bears run around trying to get rid of the spider. Momma and Papa run off, leaving Peek alone in the woods.

Scene 4: The Lost Woods

Goldie and Peek are wandering around the woods, lost and alone until they cross paths. Peek tells Goldie that he is solving a crime. Goldie explains that she is lost. Peek recommends asking a grown-up like a police officer, teacher, or parent. They decide to be friends and to ask Papa Bear to help Goldie B. Locks get home. They also promise to always tell the truth to one another. Now that they are friends, Peek tells Goldie that a thief snuck into his house, ate his soup, and turned itself into a pajama spider. Goldie realizes it is she who ate the Bears' soup. She also discovers Webster is not on her backpack. Goldie agrees to help Peek find the spider.

Meanwhile, Papa and Momma are back at home. Papa is making Momma Bear a new chair. He glues on the final arm of the chair and waits for it to dry. Peek and Goldie enter the Bears' yard. Peek goes to get his Momma and Papa while Goldie debates whether or not she should confess that she ate the soup. The Three Bears return to the yard. Momma and Papa agree to help Goldie find her way home. They also elaborate on how the soup thief broke into their house and what they will do once they catch the robber. Goldie agrees to help the Bears find the soup robber.

As the search party marches away to find the soup robber, Goldie breaks away from the group in search of Webster, the tarantula. Goldie worries about the consequences for her actions. She decides to find Webster and go home. She sees Webster in a tree and climbs up the chair Papa made for Momma Bear in order to reach higher. Suddenly the chair breaks! Now she is lost, a soup robber, and a chair breaker!

The Three Bears are coming back so Goldie hides behind one of the beds. Papa Bear wants to show Momma her new chair. When he pulls off the sheet he is alarmed to see the chair is broken. The Bears think a ghost must have done all of these terrible things. Goldie hides from the Bears under a sheet. The Bears decide to find a new home. Then suddenly Goldie stands up still wearing the bed sheet and scares The Three Bears. The Three Bears are frightened! Goldie reveals her true identity and admits the truth about all that happened. Goldie learns that it is important to always tell the truth and that best friends always forgive each other's mistakes.

The Characters

While MANY operas have MANY characters, this opera has only four. As you watch, pay attention to who's who, their beautiful voices, and what they want. In theatre, we call that an **objective**.

- Goldie B. Locks** (soprano or mezzo) – A little girl who **loves** bugs
- Papa** (baritone or bass) – The papa bear who **loves** to grow things
- Momma** (soprano or mezzo) – A momma bear and **fabulous** cook
- Peek, or Piccolo** (tenor or mezzo) – An **excited** bear cub

An optional chorus of singing bugs
(Can **YOU** imagine what a bunch of singing bugs would sound like?!))



The “Goldie” of this story is a little bit different than the Goldie that you might already know.

ACTIVITY

Read the original Goldilocks story and compare it to this one. What's similar and what's changed? Talk with your teacher about it!

Attending an Opera...

The audience is important to every performance! In a live event, the performers and audience create a team, reacting with each other in a way that is not possible when seeing a movie or watching television.

Please read the following rules of etiquette, so that everyone can have a good time!

1. One the performance begins, **STAY IN YOUR SEAT** until the performance has ended, unless there is an emergency.
2. **DO** sit and enjoy the performance quietly. Intermission (the break between acts) is the time to talk about the wonderful singing and sets you just witnessed.
4. It is absolutely OK to laugh when something is funny.
5. It is OK to applaud when you hear a song that you like!
6. It is OK to applaud at the very end of the show.
7. It is OK to applaud when the performers take their bows.



The Anatomy of an Opera

Opera can be different than other kinds of shows you've seen before – either on television or live. What's important to remember about opera is that the music drives the story. The orchestra and voices combined can create magic!

The following terms can help understand how we make that magic:

Aria – A song for a single character and orchestra.

Chorus – A group of people collectively commenting on the action taking place onstage.

Leitmotif – A small musical phrase used to indicate a character or idea.

Libretto – The text of an opera.

Narrator – A person who leads the audience through a story.

Score – Music that's been notated in a specific order of pitches and rhythms – like a blueprint for musicians.

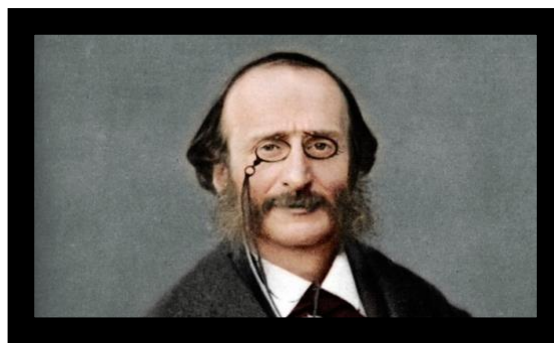
The Music and Creators

This opera is comprised of music written by two important classical composers and a wonderful librettist. Let's learn about them!

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) is considered one of the most

important composers of all time. By the age of 5, he could read, write, and play music at an incredibly high level. His operas, symphonies, and chamber works are instantly recognizable in commercials, movies, and concert halls alike. **Work with your teacher to find**

a piece of music written by Mozart in the opera!



Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880) has written some of the catchiest tunes in all of operetta. (Operetta is "light" opera – think "comedy.") He is also responsible for the popularity of many other operas as a producer. He wrote over 90 operettas, including *Orpheus in the*

Underworld, which contains the famous "Can-Can" dance. **Work with your teacher to find a piece of music written by Offenbach in the opera.**

John Davies (b. 1946) is an established performer and composer of opera. He started his education at the famous Tanglewood music festival. His children's operas have become opera company favorites across the country. He wrote the words to this opera!

MEET THE CEDAR RAPIDS OPERA CAST



Brandan Sanchez (Papa)



Jude Balthazar (Peek)

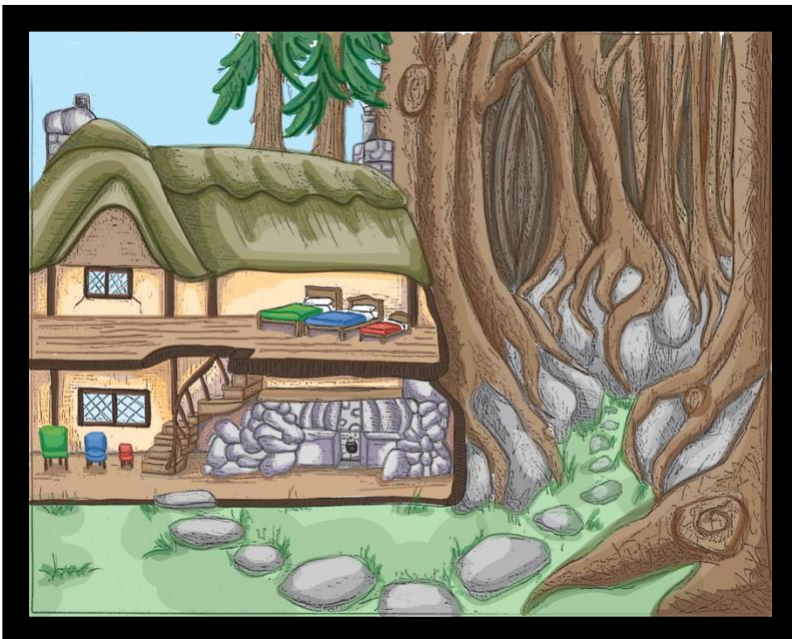


Emlynn Shoemaker (Momma)



Amanda Lauricella
(Goldie B. Locks)

Brennan Martinez (Cover)
 Chad Sonka, stage director
 Gail Williams, piano
 Ian Butler, stage manager
 Kelly Hill, production manager
 Haley Stamats, set designer
 Karlē Meyers, costume designer



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This version of the classic fairy tale is sure to have something for everyone. We hope to help people relate to their neighbors and celebrate their similarities, as well as their differences! Listen for the words in *Spanish* and think about other ways you can connect with your soon to be friends –
THROUGH OPERA!

- FUN WITH OPERA -

When characters in opera are written, the creators often have a voice type in mind that best fits the character personality. From the list below, see if you can order them from highest to lowest:

SOPRANO

MEZZO-SOPRANO

COUNTERTENOR

TENOR BARITONE

BASS

MAKE YOUR OWN MAGICAL OPERA

This is one of the most famous stories of all time.
All operas originate from some form of a story, so let's make your own!

Which story (new or old) would you write an opera about?

Who would be some of the main characters?

What would be the title of the main character's big aria (the solo in an opera)?

Write some of the lyrics below:

Now sing it, act it, and seek out other stories that make great operas!

- LEARN SOME SPANISH -

Below are some Spanish words that you will hear in the show. Listen for these words and see listen for them carefully. You can even use them with your friends and family!

SPANISH	ENGLISH
Amigo/a	Friend
Piedras	Stones
Bichos	Bugs
Grande	Large
Adios	Goodbye
Zanhorias	Carrots
Calabaza	Pumpkin
Frijolin	Beans
Sopa	Soup
Lupa	Magnifying Glass
Sonsa	Silly Person
Verdad	Truth

No matter the language, we can connect and become **AMIGOS!**

- DISCUSSION QUESTIONS -

- 1) Before and after seeing the show, come up with a definition or some words of what "opera" means to you!

- 2) What do you feel the singers did to sing so well?

- 3) **What is one new Spanish word you learned in watching this opera? What does it mean?**

- 4) **How can singing opera help us connect to and understand our neighbors?**

- 5) **The original story, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, is a fairy-tale written by Richard Southey in 1837. What are some other fairy tales that you know?**

Thank you for watching our show! We hope you had fun at the opera and will come see us in person!

Cedar Rapids Opera Mission Statement...

The mission of the Cedar Rapids Opera is to advance opera as a vital, living American art form and to develop the artists who create it, as well as the audience that appreciates and supports it

Daniel Kleinknecht, Founder and Artistic Director

Ashley Shields, Executive Director

Katie Colletta, Marketing and Company Manager

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