

**EVERYCHILD: FAIRY  
MUSIC PLAY  
IN ONE ACT**

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Everychild: Fairy Music Play in One Act by Beatrix Reynolds

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**BEATRIX REYNOLDS**

**EVERYCHILD: FAIRY  
MUSIC PLAY  
IN ONE ACT**



*American Dramatists Series*

# EVERYCHILD

*Fairy Music Play in One Act*

BEATRIX REYNOLDS



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### CAST OF CHARACTERS

<i>Everychild, a little girl</i> . . . . .	wears	<i>pink</i>
<i>Mother Do, an old lady</i> . . . . .	"	<i>lavender</i>
<i>Father Do, an old gentleman</i> . . . . .	"	<i>purple</i>
<i>Re</i> . . . . .	"	<i>indigo</i>
<i>Mi</i> . . . . .	"	<i>blue</i>
<i>Fa</i> . . . . .	"	<i>green</i>
<i>Sol</i> . . . . .	"	<i>yellow</i>
<i>La</i> . . . . .	"	<i>orange</i>
<i>Si</i> . . . . .	"	<i>red</i>
<i>Mrs. Minor, an unhappy woman</i> . . . . .	"	<i>lilac</i>
<i>Rhythm, watchman</i> . . . . .	"	<i>scout uniform</i>
<i>Ragtime, watchman</i> . . . . .	"	<i>torn cape</i>
<i>Melody, beautiful woman</i> . . . . .	"	<i>white</i>
<i>Error, witch</i> . . . . .	"	<i>hideous green</i>
<i>Dissonances, slaves</i> . . . . .	"	<i>brown</i>
<i>Fairy Sharp</i> . . . . .	"	<i>rose color</i>
<i>Fairy Flat</i> . . . . .	"	<i>hunter's green</i>

## **SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY.**

*Prologue.*

*Music Room in Everychild's Home.*

*Act I.*

*Scene I—Garden of the Major Mode.*

*Scene II—Valley of Patience.*

*Scene III—Mountain of Struggle.*

*Scene IV—Land of Discord.*

*Scene V—Same as Scene I.*

## **SYNOPSIS OF MUSIC.**

*Selections from Schumann's Scenes from Childhood.*

*A Curious Story.*

*Child Falling Asleep.*

*Dreaming.*

*Strange Lands and People.*

*Almost Too Serious.*

*The Poet Speaks.*

*Catch me if you can.*

*Entreating Child.*

*The Knight of the Hobby Horse.*

*Frightening.*

*Important Event.*

*Contentment.*



## EVERYCHILD

*Music. "Curious Story."*

### PROLOGUE

*Music room in modern dwelling. Piano at R. Couch at L. Two long French windows in rear, with white curtains. EVERYCHILD sits at piano, practising. Each time she reaches a certain point she stumbles and stops; then repeats from beginning just as fast as before. Finally she gives it up in despair and rises and walks up and down, pouting and tearful.*

EVERYCHILD—Oh, why did I ever begin taking music lessons? I didn't know it would be so hard to play—No matter how much I try, there is always something wrong.

I've practised an hour already, and played my new piece a hundred times yet I always make the same mistake.

*(Flings herself upon the couch petulantly) I'm*

## EVERYCHILD

never going to practise again. I don't care what my teacher says. No. Nor my father, nor my mother—nor—nor—(*Buries face in pillows and sobs.* *Music begins Schumann's "Child Falling Asleep"* and *Everychild relaxes gradually and sleeps.*

*The room grows darker and a strange light glows at the window L. rear. This slowly becomes brighter, showing a curious ladder of 8 rungs (the third and fourth; and seventh and eighth rungs are twice as near together as the other rungs.) Schumann's "Dreaming" is heard faintly. Everychild lifts head and rubs her eyes gazing at this strange thing. She at last goes over to it with hesitation, and finally gains courage to climb the ladder. As she steps on each rung a tone of the major scale is sounded, and as she reaches the top which is enveloped in clouds, the*

*curtain falls.*

## SCENE I.

### *The Garden of the Major Mode.*

*Birds are singing in a garden surrounded by a hedge three feet high, in which is an iron gate. Through the gate, a little distance in the rear, the two uprights of a ladder are seen extending above a well-like hole. Far in the distance is a mountain, blue-gray through the haze, its summit touched by sunlight. At the foot of the mountain is a dark forest, between which and the garden is low country.*

*Mother Do sits quietly knitting L. and Father Do smokes his pipe in contentment opposite her, garden benches stretch in a semi-circle between them. Six children, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Si; are playing a circle game, laughing and singing.*

*The sound of Everychild's practising reaches them from a distance.*

*Sol gradually releases herself and leaves the game, looking towards the scale ladder outside the gate. When Everychild again makes the same mistake in her piece as when Sol stopped to listen, Sol runs out*