

Fields Far Away

by
Jeff Timpe

(Based on, Fields Far Away: Theater Production)

Audition sides

Three children have a day exploring a rolling countryside with plans to build a tree house that reaches the clouds. The plan becomes a dividing point by stirring doubt amongst them. An event takes place that separates the dreamer from the realists.

Hope: Hope initially supports the building of the tree house but is the first to doubt its possibility. Feeling that she is just a small girl, Hope chooses a more "close at hand" and "practical" solution than the lofty vision manufactured by David and Jesse. The two boys fail in their attempts to convince her that the plan can be fully realized.

Jesse: Jesse is the "doer" of the group and fully supports and participates in the building of the tree house. However, Jesse is also infected with doubt and loses faith when faced with an event that threatens the plan.

Dave: Dave is the "dreamer" and "planer" of the tree house and is determined to realize the grand visions that appeared so freely in his imagination. He is also the only child to remain hopeful beyond all costs.

NOTE: The theme song "Fields Far Away" is included in the following audition materials and will be used to determine lip-syncing skills of applicant. Actions depicted within the song texts are there only as a visual reference. Feel free to use, discard or create your own during your audition. Applicants may wish to sing aloud with our reference track even if tonal skills are lacking. They will not be judged on vocal ability but rather timing/sync and believability.

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From our birds-eye view we see a vast country, lush untouched and breathtakingly beautiful. As the children toss the ball and run through the tall grass below, we hear their faint laughter as they playfully race towards some predestined point.

No more than six years of age the trio includes DAVE, HOPE and their friend JESSE. We zoom down and follow in behind them. We are greeted with a trio of song.

HOPE & JESSE
Fields Far Away

DAVE
Fields Far Away

HOPE
So far away

JESSE
So far away

DAVE
if you dream we can play

HOPE
in Fields Far Away

JESSE
Fields Far Away

DAVE
So far away

JESSE
So far away

HOPE sweeps a dandiline in a long arch as the seed trail floats to the ground.

HOPE
We can shine like a rainbow
high in the skies
of our living dreams.

Jesse picks one of the hands that Dave is hiding behind his back and Dave reveals it holds nothing. Hope picks the other and Dave opens it to reveal a butterfly which flies away.

DAVE
Things we seek
may be things we find,

DAVE(cont'd)
 but the treasure's
 in what they bring.

Looking up to the sky, whirling in fascination, the Trio
 sings;

TRIO
 Blue skies wander
 up so high, I wonder
 just how far the eyes
 of clouds can see.

The two clasp Jesse's extended hands in motion forming a whip
 which breaks away into their final sprint to the old oak tree
 of which HOPE seems to have an unfair head-start.

Imagine flying,
 riding high deciding
 gliding high
 above the towering trees.

DAVE
 In Fields Far Away

HOPE & JESSE
 fields far away

DAVE
 So far away

HOPE & JESSE
 So far away

DAVE & JESSE
 Fields far away

HOPE
 Fields far away

DAVE & JESSE
 So far away

HOPE
 So far away

As the music fades we see the TRIO reach Old Sam (Oak Tree).

END SCENE

EXT. ROLLING HILLS OF TALL GRASS - DAY

We see Hope alone in the grass. Dave drops the board and approaches Hope.

DAVE
Hey, what are you doing? WE NEED
YOUR HELP!

HOPE
I am helping- I'm starting the
garden.

JESSE rushes over.

JESSE
There's no garden in the plans -
show her Dave!

DAVE pulls out the plans and shows them to Hope.

DAVE
Ok see.. here is Old Sam...here is
our tree house, and here it is
reaching the clouds. See?
(whispers)
...no gardens

HOPE
I know...

JESSE
(Shouting from the tree)
Well then. come-on.

DAVE
(pleading to Hope)
If we don't get started soon, we'll
never reach the clouds!

Hope ignores and continues planting

DAVE
Awe c'mon Hope...we gotta stick to
the plan.

HOPE

David, I was thinking about some of
the stuff you told me last night,
and I think your mom and dad are
right... we're just too little

JESSE

(overhearing)

Well I did some thinkin' too and
I'm sure we can do it.

DAVE points to his head.

DAVE

We've seen it Hope...

HOPE

What's wrong with planting flowers?

The two boys stop, look at each other, and then look at her.
They "huddle" a few feet away (from Hope).

DAVE

(whispers with intensity)

Planting flowers is for sissies!

JESSE

(whispers)

I know..that's girl crap

HOPE

I heard that!

DAVE

(whispers)

What are we gonna do?

Jesse breaks the huddle and approaches Hope

JESSE

Hold on Hope...you sure that's
where you wanna plant em? (wink to
Dave)

HOPE

Of course I am.

JESSE

but- dirt's so...dirty!

JESSE nods to Dave and try to get his attention upwards

DAVE
(inspired)
yeaaa...wouldn't you rather plant
um -up there?

DAVE smiles and points to the vast blue sky beyond. JESSE'S slow broadening smile follows DAVE'S pointing finger into the heavens. HOPE looks up for a moment -entranced in a glow of wonderment.

HOPE
(in a hopeful sigh)
Oh yes ... do you really think they
could grow way up there?

(MORE)