



2013

### The Owl and the Pussycat

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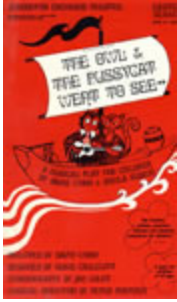
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Author: Wood, David; Ruskin, Sheila

Title: The Owl and the Pussycat

Year of Publication: 1970

Publisher: Samuel French

ISBN: 9780573613548

# of pages: 105

Price/Royalty: \$75 per performance

Rating: Dependable

Reading/Interest Level: Toddler; Preschool; Primary

Keywords: Children's Poetry; Animals; Edward Lear; Adventure Plays; Fantasy Plays; Humorous Plays

Production Requirements: Cyclorama, Several large movable sets

# of Acts: 2

Estimated Runtime: 2 hours

# of Characters: 14+

Cast Requirements: 9 male, 5 female

Time Period: Fantasy

Review:

Based on several of Edward Lear's poems: *The Owl and the Pussycat Went to See...*, *The Quangle Wangle's Hat*, *The History of the Seven Families the of Lake Pipple-popple*, and *The Dong with a Luminous Nose*, this play follows the adventures of Owl and Pussycat who want to get married so go in search of a ring and someone to marry them. On the way they meet sad-hearted Dong who is searching for his lost Jumbly Girl whom he loves and wants to marry. They

also meet the Quangle Wangle who leads them on their adventure to be married. Along the way they are chased by the villainous Plum Pudding Flea who only fears the faint-hearted Runcible Spoon. The Dong eventually finds his Jumbly girl and the Owl and Pussycat are married at last by the Turkey. This is a full-length musical.

Taking his cue from the original poems, David Wood has created a Wonderland-esque romp with talking animals and nonsense characters. Children will enjoy the strong character relationships, farcical comedy, interesting characters and silly situations. As is David Wood's style, audience participation is present throughout the script. Although young children will enjoy the repetitive comic bits throughout the show, they may bore older audience members. Some out of date terms and vocabulary would need to be changed to suit a present-day audience. Because of the length and technical requirements for this show it would be difficult, though not impossible, to tour

Reviewers Name: Rebeca Wallin

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