ALICE IN WONDERLAND
Adapted for the Playhouse Smithville stage by john daniels, jr. from Lewis Carroll’s ALICE IN WONDERLAND & ALICE’S ADVENTURES THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

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PRESET: HOUSE LIGHTS and STAGE LIGHTS should be used for mood as the audience enters.

PRESHOW MUSIC is a montage of psychedelic music and children’s songs. Note: There should be no stop between the preshow music and the beginning of the show. A song in the style of Puff the Magic dragon should be the next to last piece in the montage and will be played in its’ entirety.

HOUSELIGHTS: Begin fade during Puff the Magic Dragon style song (should be out by end of song).

It would be good if the audience sang along with the song. Actors may sing back stage.

LIGHTS: fade to black with the ending of Tomorrow Never Knows style song.

Actors in place during black out.

REAL ALICE is swinging in the arbor.

EDITH plays with a top center stage.

LORINA sits on the top step of the olio stage reading a large book.

LIGHTS: Generals up slowly.

Note: REAL ALICE sings the song happily. It is a song she has heard, but has never thought about what it says.

REAL ALICE: (singing a Capella)

Tick tock goes the clock
And what then shall we see?
Tick tock until the time
That you will play with me

REAL ALICE stops singing and swinging. She walks down to the edge of the stage and looks out over the audience.

Come play with me
Let’s go to tea
Sitting by the sea
When sun goes down
Will gather ’round
And be what we shall be

REAL ALICE looks towards her sisters then crosses SL.

Tick tock goes the clock
And what now shall we play?
Tick tock goes the clock
Soon Summer’s gone away?

REAL ALICE crosses SL of EDITH. ALICE kneels down and reaches for the top.

EDITH: Let it spin.

REAL ALICE: May I spin it next?
EDITH: It is my top and I spin it.
REAL ALICE: I know it is yours. Edith, may I spin it next?
EDITH: Not today.
REAL ALICE: Why not today?
EDITH: Because.
REAL ALICE: Say something different.
EDITH: No.
REAL ALICE: That's not different.

REAL ALICE turns and crosses to the foot of the olio steps.

Lorina…
LORINA: Call me Margaret or Maggie.
REAL ALICE: But your name is…
LORINA: What I say it is.
REAL ALICE: Sister.
LORINA: That will do as well. What a wonderful, sunny day.
REAL ALICE: It is dark and cloudy.
LORINA: The sun shines.
REAL ALICE: I dare say you will be rained upon and be very wet.

LORINA looks up from her book toward the sky.
LORINA: Sometimes I think you dream with your eyes open. It will not rain.
REAL ALICE: You will have to find a way to dry us all.
LORINA: You are disagreeable.
REAL ALICE: We agree.

HARRY enters SL, crosses behind REAL ALICE. He holds a fan made of playing cards. He covers his face with the fan.
REAL ALICE turns and is shocked seeing the fan.
HARRY lowers the fan below his chin.
HARRY: Frightened, Alice?
REAL ALICE: I wasn’t expecting you.
HARRY: No reason to lose your head.
REAL ALICE: Harry, do you believe it will rain?
HARRY: I believe it is hot.

HARRY uses the fan.
REAL ALICE: That is a very interesting fan.
HARRY: It was a good deal.
LORINA: (sarcastically) Please.
HARRY: (sarcastically) Thank you Lorina.

    HARRY turns to EDITH. He leans down.

HARRY: I would like to spin it?
EDITH: It is my top and I spin it.
REAL ALICE: Edith, don’t be so possessive. Let me spin it next?
EDITH: Not today.

    HARRY holds the fan in front of his face.

HARRY: Look, no head.

    EDITH laughs and Harry sits next to her making her laugh with the fan.
    REAL ALICE walks up the stairs and tries to look over LORINA’s shoulder to look at the book.

LORINA: Alice, really.
REAL ALICE: What is the use of a book without pictures or conversations?

    LORINA stares at REAL ALICE. REAL ALICE walks down the stairs and crosses SR of EDITH.

HARRY: This just makes colors and colors and colors. What is the point of it?
EDITH: I don't know.
LORINA: Why are you here Harry? You never come out with us.
HARRY: Oh, I forgot.
LORINA: You would lose your head...

HARRY: I know, I know. The three of you are to be inside. The Professor and the Bishop have come to tea.

    EDITH jumps up and runs off SL.

She left her top.

    HARRY picks up the top.

I am only interested in the sweets.

    HARRY and exits SL.
    LORINA closes her book and steps down from olio stage.

LORINA: Come along Alice.
REAL ALICE: (smiling) I will be along presently.

LORINA: You will be late.

    LORINA exits SL.
    REAL ALICE crosses DC.

REAL ALICE: (singing absent mindedly)

    Tick tock, goes the clock
    And all the years they fly.
    Tick tock, and all too soon
Scene 1

Our youth goes passing by.

REAL ALICE closes her eyes and inhales a deep breath.

WHITE RABBIT: (voice from FRONT) Ooooooooooh!

REAL ALICE opens her eyes.

WHITE RABBIT runs down the aisle to DC and spins toward the audience. He looks at his watch.

REAL ALICE moves slightly SL and peers around WHITE RABBIT.

Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be too late!

WHITE RABBIT runs off HALL.

REAL ALICE turns to the audience.

REAL ALICE: A talking, well-dressed, white rabbit with a pocket watch, now there is an adventure.

REAL ALICE runs out HALL.

MAD HATTER saunters down aisle from FRONT. He turns and smiles toward the audience.

MAD HATTER:

Mad, mad, maddening...
Getting all things done,
Ha, just to do a thing.

A thing, a thing,
Madly a thing,
A story not to tell?

Mad, I think is mad, as well,
A story... yes, to tell.

You see my bunny friend
Is off to find the time,
And oft he’s gone, to come in again
And say his stolen rhyme.

(Imitating WHITE RABBIT) I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date, no time to say hello, good-bye, I'm late, I'm late, I'm late!

Now it is my time to quote,
Saying it all without malice,
A growing tale of Wonderland;
A shrinking girl named Alice.

SOUND:  Transition Music
LIGHTS:  HALL special (blinder for audience making the exiting character a silhouette.

MAD waves at audience and gavottes out HALL.

LIGHTS:  Generals out.

As MAD clears the exit...

LIGHTS:  HALL special out.