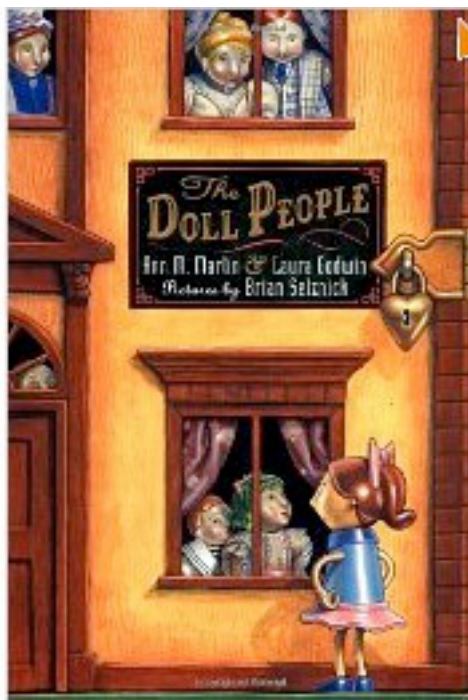


# THE DOLL PEOPLE

By Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin

Musical Adaptation by Jahnna Beecham and Malcolm Hillgartner



**About the Book:** *The Doll People* (pub in 2000) is the first of Hyperion's popular series by editor/author Laura Godwin and Ann M. Martin—author of the Newbery Honor Book, *A Corner of the Universe* and *The Baby-sitters Club*, one the best-selling series of all time. The fourth book in the series, *The Doll People Set Sail*, is due to be released in Fall of 2014. Currently, the series has sold more than 900,000 copies.

**Plot:** *The Doll People* is the story of a family of Victorian china dolls who come to life when humans aren't looking. Annabelle, the youngest, has been very restless, longing for adventure and a friend. The day she finds a mysterious journal is the day she meets her new plastic neighbor, Tiffany Funcraft. The two make a pact to search for Auntie Sarah Doll who disappeared 45 years before. But first they must find the courage to leave the Doll House, hide from humans, escape the cat and be kind to spiders.

**Playwrights/Composer:** Jahnna Beecham and Malcolm Hillgartner, under the pen name Jahnna N. Malcolm, have published more than 130 books for juveniles and young adults, including Scholastic's popular series, *The Jewel Kingdom* and *Bad News Ballet*. Their musicals *Chaps!*, *Dogpark the Musical* and *Chaps! A Jingle Jangle Christmas* are published by Samuel French and have been performed around the country. *Holmes and Watson Save The Empire* premiered at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and was produced in 2013 in Vancouver, BC. *The Doll People* was workshopped and produced at Smith College October 18, 2013. Visit their website: [www.jahnnanmalcolm.com](http://www.jahnnanmalcolm.com). For licensing, contact Patricia McLaughlin at Beacon Artists: (212) 736-6630

## THE DOLL PEOPLE

### CAST:

The Doll family is a family of 100-year old Victorian Dolls. They speak with British accents. Tiffany Funcraft is modern, like Playmobil dolls or Betty Spaghetti with snap-on hair and clothes.

Annabelle Doll, 8-years old      Bobby Doll, 5-years old

Mama Doll                              Papa Doll

Uncle Doll                              Auntie Sarah Doll

Nanny Doll

Tiffany Funcraft, 8 years old

Tegeneria Duellica, a large spider that appears in the attic. (Nanny could double as spider)

**Projections and Voice-Overs:** Kate and Nora Palmer, Mrs. Ann Palmer, Mr. Palmer, Grandma Katherine and their cat The Captain.

**MUSIC REQUIREMENTS:** 2 keyboards, percussion.

**SET:** Two locations:

1. A two-story Victorian doll house with English toy garden in front. Visible to the audience: Downstairs: The kitchen, parlor and staircase up. Upstairs the nursery and landing. The furniture is painted on the walls and also real, but kept to a minimum. The garden has a bench and topiary tree, with possible place for sitting on edge of planter.

2. The attic is human size with giant trunk, boxes and miscellaneous items found in an attic. There is a step leading to it. The attic is filled with cobwebs that stretch from item to item and cover Auntie Sarah.

Note: In first production the Doll house split in two to reveal the human size attic.

Video projections or animated drawings of the Cat and Palmer family are shown in a giant window upstairs.

**Performance notes:** The dolls start the show frozen in doll positions, as if they were just left by their human, Kate. They freeze in positions when humans appear. The positions should look like straight backed mannequins. In the Rancher Hoedown dance, they try to keep their bodies erect in doll positions with stiff arms, etc. But their feet are dancing as if Nora is making them dance.

Most of the time, the dolls exit to “other parts” of the Doll House. If they remain on, they would be moving but reading books, or cooking on the stove—nothing distracting.

## SONGS—THE DOLL PEOPLE

Lyrics by Jahnna Beecham and Malcolm Hillgartner  
Music by Malcolm Hillgartner

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. 26 Wetherby Lane                       | Annabelle and Company                                  |
| 2. Go, Go, Go!                            | Tiffany with Annabelle                                 |
| 3. Never Do That!                         | The Company  |
| 4. The Sad Thing                          | Annabelle, Bobby, Tiffany                              |
| 5. Rancher Family Hoedown                 | (Nora VO)  |
| 6. Spider Clapping Song                   | Bobby, Tiffany, Annabelle                              |
| 7. Up, Up, Into the Night                 | Uncle Doll, Tiffany, Annabelle                         |
| 8. Spiders Everywhere!                    | Spider, Tiffany, Annabelle,<br>Uncle Doll              |
| 9. One Chance                             | Auntie Sarah, Uncle Doll, Annabelle,<br>Tiffany, Bobby |
| 10. When a Sad Thing Becomes a Glad Thing | Auntie Sarah and Company                               |
| 11. 26 Wetherby Lane—Finale               | Annabelle, Tiffany and Company                         |

# THE DOLL PEOPLE

by Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin

Musical Version

by Jahna Beecham and Malcolm Hillgartner

Final Version July 17, 2014

## SCENE 1: In the Doll House and garden

***Start UNDERSCORE.***

*(Lights up on the screen behind the DOLL HOUSE. The sounds of the Palmer family leaving are heard as lights come up on the interior of the Doll House, revealing the Doll family—ANNABELLE, MAMA, PAPA, NANNY, UNCLE, BOBBY frozen in awkward doll positions as if they've been tossed back into the house. MAMA is in the kitchen; PAPA is in the hall; UNCLE is in the living room. NANNY and BOBBY are in the nursery. Baby is in the cradle. ANNABELLE sits frozen on the front step, holding a green book.)*

VOs

“Bye, Mom!”

“Bye Kate! Nora, put that cat down!”

“(meow)”

*(ANNABELLE accidentally drops her book into the garden. She lifts her head and gasps out loud.)*

ANNABELLE

Oh no!

*(ANNABELLE freezes, looking at the garden.)*

VOs

“Don’t forget your piano lessons after school.”

“Okay, okay.”

“Your lunch, Nora. You forgot your lunch.”

*(The front door slams, and a clock chime is heard. Magical music happens as ANNABELLE comes to life and addresses the audience.)*

**SONG #1: 26 WETHERBY LANE**

ANNABELLE

*(sings)*

ARE THEY GONE?  
IS THE COAST CLEAR?  
FINALLY  
I'M ALONE HERE.  
NOT A SIGHT OF NORA, GRAN OR KATE  
TO KEEP ME FROM TAKING  
MY ONLY CHANCE  
TO HAVE A GOOD LOOK,  
I JUST FOUND  
THIS LITTLE GREEN BOOK,  
MY VERY OWN,  
MY SECRET MYSTERY

*(MUSIC vamps under dialogue as ANNABELLE hurries out of the dollhouse to get the book she dropped in the garden.)*

ANNABELLE

*(spoken)*

I'm Annabelle Doll. I'm eight-years-old and have been for a hundred years. Which is a very long time, especially for an 8-year-old. And I have always lived right here in this beautiful dollhouse, where very little has changed. Can you imagine? One hundred years spent at 26—

*(sings)*

WETHERBY LANE,  
WHERE EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME.  
THE CHILDREN COME AND GO  
BUT WE REMAIN  
AT WETHERBY LANE, WHERE IT  
NEVER SNOWS OR RAINS  
ON OUR PERFECT DOLLHOUSE.

ALL

WETHERBY LANE

ANNABELLE

WHERE EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME.

MAMA/PAPA/NANNY/BOBBY/UNCLE DOLL

WE NEVER HAVE TO CHANGE  
OUR POINT OF VIEW

ANNABELLE

IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME

ALL

AT WETHERBY LANE,  
SO PLEASANT, EASY, ALWAYS BREEZY,

ANNABELLE

WE CAME FROM ENGLAND LONG AGO  
IN A WOODEN BOX,

MAMA AND PAPA

A GIFT FOR BABY GERTRUDE  
FROM WILLIAM SEABORN COX.

NANNY

BUT LITTLE GIRLS GROW UP  
AND HAVE BABIES OF THEIR OWN.

ALL

WE WATCH THEM FROM OUR DOLLHOUSE TILL THOSE BABIES ARE  
FULL GROWN.

WETHERBY LANE!

ANNABELLE

MUST EVERYTHING STAY THE SAME?

ALL

THE WORLD OUTSIDE US  
CHANGES EVERYDAY  
BUT HERE IN OUR HOUSE  
THERE'S NO  
NEED EVER TO GROUSE, WE ARE  
ONE BIG FAMILY, ALWAYS HAPPY

ANNABELLE

MAMA IS IN THE KITCHEN,  
PAPA'S DOWN THE HALL.

MAMA AND PAPA DOLL

BABY'S IN THE NURSERY  
AND LOOK THERE'S UNCLE DOLL.

ANNABELLE  
AND BOBBY WITH HIS NANNY,  
WHO KEEPS A WATCHFUL EYE.

BOBBY  
I DON'T NEED A NURSE!

NANNY  
OH YES, YOU DO, M'DEAR,  
YOU'RE ONLY FIVE.

ALL  
WETHERBY LANE,  
WHERE EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME.  
THE CHILDREN COME AND GO BUT WE REMAIN  
AT WETHERBY LANE.

ANNABELLE  
I DON'T MEAN TO COMPLAIN  
BUT IT CAN BE BORING!

AT TIMES I WANT TO RUN OUTSIDE  
AND BREATHE THE SUMMER AIR  
BUT THEN I MIGHT BE SEEN BY HUMANS  
SO I NEVER DARE.

*(spoken)*  
I really love my home and family, but sometimes I long for an adventure. You know something that takes you completely by surprise and turns your life upside down. That's why finding this book is quite thrilling. See? It says My Diary. I wonder who it belongs to—Auntie Sarah!

AUNTIE SARAH  
June 23, 1969. Today is a very big day.

MAMA  
Uncle Doll, wake up! The coast is clear.

UNCLE DOLL  
*(turns his head and whispers)*  
What about the cat?

ANNABELLE  
Not a sign of him anywhere.

UNCLE DOLL  
I DREAMT THAT MY BELOVED  
WAS BACK WHERE SHE BELONGED.  
MY AUNTIE SARAH JOINED US  
FOR A MERRY SING-ALONG.

*AUNTIE SARAH appears, as if in memory and sings to and with UNCLE DOLL.*

AUNTIE SARAH  
WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN, WILLIE,  
ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND.

AUNTIE SARAH AND UNCLE DOLL  
WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN, WILLIE,  
ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND.

NANNY/BOBBY  
Oh, Uncle Doll!

UNCLE DOLL  
SHE'S BEEN GONE SO LONG

MAMA/PAPA  
WE KNOW HOW MUCH YOU MISS HER

MAMA , PAPA, NANNY, BOBBY  
BUT WE ALL MUST CARRY ON.

ANNABELLE  
There were eight of us counting Auntie Sarah...who just disappeared.

ALL  
WETHERBY LANE!  
WHERE EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME.  
THE CHILDREN COME AND GO  
BUT DOLLS REMAIN  
FOREVER UNCHANGED,  
FOREVER THE SAME,  
WE'LL BE HERE TOMORROW  
AND TOMORROW

(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,  
(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,  
TWENTY-SIX WETHERBY LANE.

(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,



(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,  
TWENTY-SIX WETHERBY LANE.

WE'LL NEVER EVER  
EVER HAVE TO CHANGE!

*(Music play off of Wetherby Lane as characters head for their part of the house.)*

MAMA

Today I think I shall bake a cake.

PAPA

Lovely idea.

BOBBY

Where's my top? I can't find my top.

NANNY

Patience, Bobby. I'm sure it's in the nursery.

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll? Are you daydreaming again?

UNCLE DOLL

What? Oh, yes, my dear. Lovely day, isn't it?

ANNABELLE

It's always a lovely day.

*(sits on garden bench, prepares to open the diary.)*

Now if my family would just stay put for a moment, I can take look at Auntie Sarah's diary. I found it hidden in the piano forte. It's so clever of her. No one, not our humans or my Doll family, would ever think to look in there.

*(MAMA calls to ANNABELLE.)*

MAMA

Annabelle! What are you doing out there in the open?

ANNABELLE

I dropped something, Mama. I'll be right in.

MAMA

Hurry up about it. And be very careful. The Captain is nearby.

ANNABELLE

Yes, Mama.

*MAMA goes back inside and ANNABELLE opens her diary.*

ANNABELLE

Alone at last!

**SCENE 2: In the garden**

*SFX: BEEP BEEP!!*

**MUSIC intro SONG #2 GO! GO! GO! begins.**

*(TIFFANY FUNCRAFT drives a kiddie car onstage through the garden across the front lawn of Annabelle's house. She's dancing and singing in her convertible.)*

TIFFANY

Woo-hoo! This is fun.

ANNABELLE

That's the Barbie Car. But who's driving?

**SONG #2: GO, GO, GO!**

TIFFANY

I LIKE TO DRIVE AROUND, I LIKE TO TRAVEL FAR  
AND THE FUN BEGINS WHEN I GET IN MY CAR.  
PEOPLE TELL ME THAT I OUGHT TO GO SLOW  
I JUST TELL THEM:

*(Beep Beep)*

WATCH ME AS I GO  
WATCH ME AS I GO  
ALL I WANNA DO IS  
GO-O-O-O-O-O  
GO GO GO.

ANNABELLE

Stop!

TIFFANY

Get out of the road!

ANNABELLE

*As TIFFANY drives in a circle*  
What road?

TIFFANY

I'VE GOT THE TOP DOWN, IT'S A LOTTA FUN  
I'VE GOT MY SHADES ON BECAUSE I LOVE THE SUN  
I LIKE TO FEEL THE WAY THE WILD WIND BLOWS  
WHEN I TELL THEM:

WATCH ME AS I GO  
WATCH ME AS I GO  
ALL I WANNA DO IS  
GO-O-O-O-O-O  
GO GO GO.

UM, BEEP BEEP!  
UM, BEEP BEEP!

*(TIFFANY jumps up and does a dance break at ANNABELLE who joins in trying to imitate her.)*

ANNABELLE

You had better be careful.

TIFFANY

What for??

I NEVER WALK WHEN I KNOW THAT I CAN RUN  
BUT DRIVING IN MY CAR IS EVEN BETTER FUN  
ROCKING TO THE MUSIC ON THE RADIO  
YOU CAN'T STOP ME

*(Gestures for ANNABELLE to join her in the car, who sings with her.)*

TIFFANY and ANNABELLE

WATCH ME AS I GO  
WATCH ME AS I GO  
ALL I WANNA DO IS  
GO-O-O-O-O-O  
GO GO GO!.

TIFFANY

*(Takes a photo of herself and ANNABELLE with her plastic doll phone.)*  
Selfie! Now you drive.

*(TIFFANY pushes ANNABELLE into the driver's seat.)*

ANNABELLE  
I've never driven before. Wait, we're going to hit my house!

TIFFANY  
That's your house?

ANNABELLE  
Yes!!

*(They slam into side of house.)*

*SFX: CRASH!*

TIFFANY  
Oops.  
*(hops out of the convertible.)*

ANNABELLE  
*(Covering her face.)*  
Is there a lot of damage?

TIFFANY  
Not a scratch. Plastic can handle anything.

ANNABELLE  
My house isn't plastic. It's made of pine. And it is one hundred years old.

TIFFANY  
*(Flips up sunglasses, examines house.)*  
Whoa! An antique. Very cool.

ANNABELLE  
It was manufactured in England. So was I.

TIFFANY  
England? Is that like a toy company?

ANNABELLE  
No, it's a country across the ocean.

TIFFANY  
*(Circles ANNABELLE)*  
Is your hair real?

ANNABELLE  
Of course. I'm the deluxe model.

TIFFANY

Green. Very cool.

ANNABELLE

That was an accident when my human was playing with a pot of paint. It is, unfortunately, permanent.

TIFFANY

I like it. *(Knocks on her own hair)* Mine's plastic. Check it out.

ANNABELLE

*(Gingerly touches TIFFANY's hair)*

Very strange.

TIFFANY

It snaps on and off. I can change my hairdo, like that!  
*(Snaps her finger)*

ANNABELLE

Careful! You'll break a finger.

TIFFANY

No way. They're plastic too.  
*(Wiggles fingers, does a cartwheel or spins in a circle)*  
My whole body is plastic.

ANNABELLE

Not me. I'm made of china. I have to be awfully careful. One wrong move and I might shatter my foot or arm. Forty-five years ago, Papa broke his foot. It had to be glued back together.

TIFFANY

Forty-five years! How old are you? *Who* are you?

ANNABELLE

I'm Kate's doll, Annabelle. I'm eight years old and have been for a hundred years.

TIFFANY

Nice to meet you, Annabelle. I'm Tiffany Funcraft and I'm eight years old, too. But I'm totally new.

ANNABELLE

Oh, you must be from Nora's new family of dolls.

TIFFANY

Yep. Nora's my girl. She's wild. We live down the hall. Hey! Where's your barbecue?

ANNABELLE

Barbie's cue? She has a car, but I don't know what a cue is.

TIFFANY

*(Hops up on the garden bench)*

You're funny. A barbecue is where we grill hotdogs.

ANNABELLE

Oh, my word! You eat dogs?

TIFFANY

We don't eat anything. The food's all plastic like us. Besides, a hot dog is a sausage, not a real dog.

ANNABELLE

Well, that's a relief.

TIFFANY

I live in the Funcraft Dream house. We've got it all—microwave, flat screen TV, X Box.

ANNABELLE

I have no idea what you're talking about. My home is old but it has all of the latest furnishings including a Queen Victoria wingback in the parlor complete with lace antimacassars on all of our furniture.

TIFFANY

This I gotta see.

ANNABELLE

Come on, then.

### **SCENE 3: Inside the Doll House**

*(TIFFANY steps inside Doll House with ANNABELLE following behind into Parlor. TIFFANY sees old phonograph with horn.)*

TIFFANY

What's this? Some kind of tuba?

ANNABELLE

That's our Victor phonograph. We play our records here.

TIFFANY

Where do you plug in your iPod?

ANNABELLE

I have no idea what that is.

*(TIFFANY discovers wingback chair or poof is soft and bounces on it.)*

TIFFANY

Dude, check this out!

ANNABELLE

Careful!

TIFFANY

I love to bounce. My whole family bounces!

ANNABELLE

Oh, dear...

*(TIFFANY bounces on couch or poof and hops onto the floor as DOLL PARENTS, UNCLE and BOBBY enter.)*

MAMA

Gracious me! Who on earth are you?

ANNABELLE

Mama, Papa, Bobby—this is Tiffany Funcraft, she's part of Nora's new doll family.

PAPA

Very pleased to meet you, Miss...Funcraft, did you say?

TIFFANY

You got it. I live with my mom and dad, brother Bailey and cat Whiskers, just down the hall.

MAMA

Down the hall? But how in heaven's name did you get here?

ANNABELLE

She drove the Barbie car. Isn't that amazing?

UNCLE

Amazing?

PAPA

It's terrifying. The Captain patrols those halls.

BOBBY

You must be really brave.

Well...  
TIFFANY

Aren't you afraid of Permanent Doll State?  
BOBBY

I haven't really thought about it.  
TIFFANY

Not thought about it!  
THE DOLL FAMILY

Nope.  
TIFFANY

I think about it all the time.  
UNCLE

It really is the most frightening thing.  
MAMA

Permanent Doll State?  
TIFFANY

P. D. S.  
*(In a whisper)*  
ALL

Imagine being frozen forever just because you were seen by a human.  
ANNABELLE  
*(with a shudder)*

Frozen forever?  
TIFFANY

Forever!  
ALL

You could never bounce a ball.  
BOBBY

No way!  
TIFFANY

Or play the piano forte.  
UNCLE



What's that? TIFFANY

Or lead family sing-alongs. PAPA

Or read stories. MAMA

That's totally unfair! TIFFANY

Young lady, how old are you? MAMA

I'm eight. How old are you? TIFFANY

*(whispers)* ANNABELLE

That's not polite to ask.

Says who? TIFFANY

My dear, there are rules for polite society, and there are Doll rules. MAMA

And you appear to want to break them all. PAPA

Nanny? MAMA

*(enters from nursery)* NANNY

Yes, ma'am.

This young lady is in dire need of some instruction. MAMA

She is? NANNY

My yes. She doesn't know the Doll Rules. MAMA

That's not good.  
NANNY

PAPA  
And she hasn't a clue about Permanent Doll State.

NANNY  
Not good at all!

***MUSIC intro SONG #3 NEVER DO THAT***

But—  
TIFFANY

MAMA  
*(Holds up a finger for silence)*

Ah-ah-ah!  
*(points for TIFFANY to sit on the sofa between BOBBY and ANNABELLE)*  
Now, child—listen and learn.

*(The family gathers around to give TIFFANY the rules.)*

**SONG #3: NEVER DO THAT**

NANNY  
WHEN YOU WERE MADE, YOU TOOK AN OATH,  
A VOW OF SECRECY

MAMA  
TO NEVER TALK OR MAKE A MOVE  
THAT ANY CHILD COULD SEE.

FAMILY  
NO CHILD MUST EVER SEE.

TIFFANY  
A LIVING DOLL CAN SKIP AND PLAY

NANNY  
BUT ONLY OUT OF SIGHT

UNCLE  
WHEN CHILDREN HAVE GONE OFF TO SCHOOL  
OR WHEN THEY SLEEP AT NIGHT.

ALL  
WHEN THEY SLEEP AT NIGHT.



WE NEVER-NEVER SIGH  
AND NEVER-NEVER CRY  
WHEN THEY GIVE OUR HEADS A WHACK!

TIFFANY  
OUCH! (*gestures with fist*)

ALL  
NO, WE NEVER DO THAT!

TIFFANY  
WHAT IF, WHEN THEIR BACKS ARE TURNED,  
WE SNEAK A LITTLE PEEK?

ALL  
(*shout in horror*)  
No!

TIFFANY  
OUT OF ONE LITTLE EYE?

ALL  
(*shout*)  
No!

TIFFANY  
TELL ME WHY?

PAPA  
BECAUSE WE ARE DISCREET, THAT'S WHY!

ALL  
NO—WE NEVER DO THAT!

TIFFANY  
We don't?

ALL  
NO—WE NEVER DO THAT!

NANNY  
IF YOU ARE CAUGHT OUT ON YOUR OWN  
AND GIVE US ALL AWAY

MAMA  
THE PUNISHMENT YOU'LL SUFFER, CHILD,  
WILL MAKE YOU RUE THE DAY!

ALL  
OH! YOU'LL RUE THE DAY!

TIFFANY  
Punishment? Like being grounded?

ANNABELLE  
Worse.

PAPA  
Permanent Doll State!

TIFFANY  
Yikes!

MAMA  
A heavy price to pay.

SO IF BY CHANCE YOU GET THE URGE  
TO RUN OFF ON YOUR OWN

TIFFANY  
Yes?

MAMA  
AND ARE SURPRISED BY HUMAN EYES,

PAPA  
YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF ALONE.

PAPA/UNCLE DOLL  
OH—YOU'RE ALL ALONE.

ALL  
YOU'LL NEVER-NEVER SING A HAPPY SONG,  
YOU'LL NEVER-NEVER MAKE A PEEP.  
YOU'LL NEVER-NEVER WAKE  
FROM THAT MISTAKE,  
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE ASLEEP.

SO—

MAMA  
DON'T EVER!

UNCLE  
NO, NOT EVER!

PAPA  
WE MEAN NEVER

NANNY  
NEVER

MAMA/PAPA  
NEVER

BOBBY  
THAT'S RIGHT,

PAPA/UNCLE DOLL  
NEVER NEVER NEVER!

MAMA/NANNY  
NEVER NEVER NEVER!

ALL  
NO—DO THAT!  
DON'T EVER DO THAT!

TIFFANY  
Whoa. That's a lot of rules!

NANNY  
Can't be helped. They're absolutely necessary.

*(MAMA and PAPA move the Barbie Car away from the house and encourage TIFFANY to leave.)*

MAMA  
Tiffany, it's been lovely to meet you, but you really must hurry back to Nora's room while you are still safe.

ANNABELLE  
But Mama, she's already here. Can't she stay a wee bit longer?

BOBBY  
Please let her stay.

PAPA  
The rules, children. Remember the Doll Rules.

ANNABELLE

Yes, Papa.

TIFFANY

Catch you later, guys.

MAMA

Be careful!!

TIFFANY

Come on, Tiffany, I'll walk you to the garden.

*(ANNABELLE leads the way but as she steps into the garden, the Palmer's cat, THE CAPTAIN, appears through a projection, peering in the window of the Doll House. It can be just a cat eye that blinks. Depending on the production, just seeing the eye and focusing light on ANNABELLE and dimming light on the others emphasizes her being caught by herself in the open.)*

BOBBY

Annabelle! The Captain.

ANNABELLE

Oh, no!

*(The cat's head turns and looks (or just blinks) at ANNABELLE, who is backing up outside. The family huddles together in panic as ANNABELLE runs, trying to find a place to hide.)*

TIFFANY

*(Still in doorway with the rest of the family)*

Who's the Captain?

BOBBY

*(Whispers)*

That cat!

*SFX: menacing growl!*

PAPA

Annabelle, freeze!

ANNABELLE

Stay back, Captain! Back!

BOBBY

Poor Annabelle!

MAMA

*(Waves her apron from the door at the cat. Then goes back to freeze.)*  
Shoo! Scat!

*(TIFFANY jumps out in the open by the car waving her arms and taunting the cat.)*

TIFFANY

*(shouts)*  
Hey, cat! Over here! *(chants)* Nyah nah nah nah nah!

*(TIFFANY dives for the Barbie car with her head down and feet sticking up. She freezes. ANNABELLE runs to try to help her friend, but UNCLE DOLL and PAPA run out and drag her inside the living room.)*

PAPA and UNCLE

Annabelle! Get back here!

ANNABELLE

We've got to help Tiffany. She's stuck in the Barbie car.

MAMA

It's too dangerous. The Captain is out there. We should wait until we're certain it's safe.

ANNABELLE

But Mama—

MAMA

You'll be putting us all in danger. Wait, Annabelle, just wait.

BOBBY

But Tiffany can't get out!

MAMA

Not another word. Now please come into the Doll House before any of the humans see you.

ANNABELLE

Yes, Mama.

UNCLE DOLL

Please, please! Let's get out of the open.

*(MAMA, PAPA, NANNY, and UNCLE DOLL hurry into the inside of the house, going off stage.)*



ANNABELLE

*(to BOBBY)*

Tiffany just saved my life. I can't leave her out there. She's like catnip to that awful creature.

BOBBY

You heard Mama and Papa. You would be breaking Doll Rules.

ANNABELLE

Mama and Papa sound so stuffy.

BOBBY

You had better not go out there!

ANNABELLE

Oh, Bobby, stop acting like a baby.

BOBBY

I am not a baby! You're being mean—

ANNABELLE

I'm not.

BOBBY

And I don't want to play with you!)

*(BOBBY runs in and up the stairs into the nursery.)*

ANNABELLE

Fine. Go to the nursery where you belong.

*SFX: CAT meow in distance*

Tiffany!

**SCENE 4: In the garden and nursery**

*(ANNABELLE runs out to the Barbie car, carefully checking over her shoulder and hiding behind trees, etc.)*

ANNABELLE

Tiffany! I'm here.

TIFFANY

Pull my feet. My head's stuck.

*(She does; TIFFANY rolls out of the car and hops to her feet. She's pretty shaken but tries to act brave.)*

TIFFANY

Woo! Froggies! That was fun.

ANNABELLE

Fun? I was scared out of my wits.

TIFFANY

That cat is one major beast.

ANNABELLE

You haven't seen his teeth. They could you make you faint. Please come away from the garden.

TIFFANY

You should have seen your face when he appeared.

ANNABELLE

You were awfully funny with your feet sticking out of the Barbie car.

TIFFANY

*(Does a hand-stand.)*

Did I look like this?

ANNABELLE

Just like that. You're fun. Quick! Come to the nursery where Captain can't get us.

TIFFANY

Will that be cool with your parents? They seemed to want me to leave.

ANNABELLE

They just didn't want you to get caught and end up in Permanent Doll State. Now, please come in.

TIFFANY

Okay. I'd like to see your room.

*(The girls go inside and climb the stairs to the nursery. BOBBY is hiding by the bed or behind a curtain. TIFFANY is looking around at the nursery things.)*

ANNABELLE

This is the nursery, where we play.

TIFFANY

Hey! I like your rocking horse. What's his name?

ANNABELLE

He doesn't have a name.

TIFFANY

Why don't we call him Rocky?

ANNABELLE

Rocky?

TIFFANY

Prince Rocky! PR for short.

ANNABELLE

Brilliant!

TIFFANY

*(peeking through curtain into the inner nursery)*  
Hey, what's this?

ANNABELLE

That is where we sleep. See? That's my bed and Bobby's bed. And Baby's taking a nap in the cradle.

TIFFANY

Shhh!

ANNABELLE

I'm sorry my parents sounded so strict. But they have a reason besides Doll Rules. Auntie Sarah.

TIFFANY

Auntie Sarah?

ANNABELLE

She's Uncle Doll's wife.

TIFFANY

I guess I didn't meet her.

ANNABELLE

You couldn't.

TIFFANY

Why?

ANNABELLE

Because of what happened forty-five years ago.

TIFFANY

Forty-five years! That's like forever.

*(TIFFANY finds a music box, opens it.)*

**MUSIC BOX music begins to play.**

**SONG #4: THE SAD THING**

ANNABELLE

NO ONE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT IT.  
NO ONE SAYS A WORD.  
EVEN AUNTIE'S HUSBAND.  
I MEAN, IT'S SO ABSURD.

AUNTIE SARAH LEFT ONE DAY  
JUST LIKE THAT SHE WENT AWAY.  
NO ONE WENT TO FIND HER  
WHY? THEY WOULDN'T SAY.

*(BOBBY emerges from his hiding place but ANNABELLE doesn't hear him join her.)*

BOBBY/ANNABELLE

THE SAD THING  
IS THE VOICE THEY NEVER HEAR  
BECAUSE THE PAIN OF LOSING HER  
IS SOMETHING THEY ALL FEAR.  
AND SO WE ACT AND CARRY ON  
AS IF OUR AUNTIE SARAH ISN'T GONE.

BOBBY, ANNABELLE, TIFFANY

THE SAD THING

BOBBY/ANNABELLE

IS THE SILENCE THAT'S SO LOUD

BOBBY

THE EMPTY PLACE AT DINNER  
THAT WE NEVER TALK ABOUT.

ANNABELLE  
IT'S NOT THAT THEY DON'T CARE.

ANNABELLE/BOBBY  
IT'S JUST THAT THEY DON'T DARE TO FACE THE TRUTH

TIFFANY  
BUT SHE'S OUT THERE ALL ALONE  
WITHOUT A FRIENDLY FACE TO  
LIGHT A LAMP TO GUIDE HER HOME.

TIFFANY/ANNABELLE  
UNTIL SHE'S BACK AGAIN

BOBBY  
TILL SHE'S SOUND AND SAFE

ANNABELLE  
IN EACH AND EV'RY WAY

BOBBY AND ANNABELLE  
SHE REMINDS US EV'RY DAY

TIFFANY, ANNABELLE AND BOBBY  
THAT THE SAD THING  
IS WHY THIS HOUSE IS NOT A HOME

ANNABELLE  
AND WHY EACH DAY

BOBBY  
WE HOPE AND PRAY

ANNABELLE/BOBBY  
SHE'LL FIND US ON HER OWN

TIFFANY  
YOU CAN'T JUST LET THIS BE  
YOU CAN'T LET AUNTIE SARAH ALWAYS BE

ALL  
THE SAD THING.

TIFFANY  
Where do you think she is?

ANNABELLE

Somewhere in the Palmer Family's house.

TIFFANY

Have you looked for her?

ANNABELLE

No. My parents and Uncle Doll are too frightened to do it. But lately I've been thinking about going to look for Auntie Sarah myself.

TIFFANY

I say do it.

ANNABELLE

But what if Auntie Sarah is in *permanent* Doll State.

TIFFANY

What if she isn't? She could just be stuck somewhere, like under the bed or behind a couch.

ANNABELLE

That would be terrible!

TIFFANY

I think we should form a club and go look for her.

ANNABELLE

A club? You mean just you and me?

TIFFANY

*(nods)*

A *secret* club.

ANNABELLE

What fun! Oooh! And we can have a secret name. You know, something that only we understand.

TIFFANY

Like FAST.

ANNABELLE

Fast?

TIFFANY

You know, F for find, A for Auntie, S, Sarah, T, Today—FAST.

ANNABELLE

That's good.

TIFFANY

Or how about SAS? Seekers of Auntie Sarah.

ANNABELLE

Or how about SELMP—the Society For Exploration of Lost and Missing Persons.

TIFFANY

*(ponders this chunky name)*

SELMP?

ANNABELLE

No one would ever be able to figure it out.

TIFFANY

*(conspiratorially)*

I like it.

ANNABELLE

We'd be just like Nancy Drew.

TIFFANY

Or Dora the Explorer!

*(BOBBY sticks his head out from his secret hiding place.)*

BOBBY

Or the Hardy Boys!

ANNABELLE

Bobby! You were spying on us!

BOBBY

Was not!

ANNABELLE

Was too!

BOBBY

I was here first!

TIFFANY

He's got a point.

ANNABELLE

Well, he can't be in our secret club.

BOBBY

You're acting beastly.

ANNABELLE

I don't mean to be beastly. I just have something I need to tell Tiffany. In private.

*(ANNABELLE ushers BOBBY to the door.)*

BOBBY

Please! Please, let me be in the club.

ANNABELLE

I'll think about it.

TIFFANY

Catch you later, Bob!

*(ANNABELLE pushes BOBBY out of the nursery and shuts the door. BOBBY stays in the hall with his head pressed to the door, listening.)*

ANNABELLE

Tiffany, now that we're secret explorers. I have something I need to show you. Here.

*(BOBBY drops to his knees to peer through the keyhole as ANNABELLE hands TIFFANY the green diary.)*

TIFFANY

*(reads the cover)*

"My Diary."

ANNABELLE

It's Auntie Sarah's. I found it this morning in the piano. She must have hid it there forty-five years ago. Look!

*(BOBBY reacts in his hiding place. He lies on the floor and peeks under the door.)*

TIFFANY

I'll bet this book holds all of the clues to help us find Auntie Sarah. Have you read it?

ANNABELLE

No. I just found it. But on the very first page Auntie Sarah says she goes exploring at night!

TIFFANY

This is big. Very big.



*(The front door to the big house slams and we hear NORA's voice offstage.)*

NORA PALMER VO

Hi Mom, I'm home!

ANNABELLE

*(panicked)*

Nora's home from kindergarten.

MAMA

*(From offstage)*

Places, everyone!

*(ANNABELLE and everyone runs downstairs to where they were at the beginning of the play. TIFFANY hides.)*

*(The door slams again and feet run in. NORA's voice is heard.)*

NORA VO

Out of my way!

TIFFANY

*(peeking her head out from her hiding place.)*

That girl runs everywhere.

ANNABELLE

Shush!

*(NORA'S face appears peering into the dollhouse, or a shadow covers the dollhouse.)*

NORA VO

It's time for Kate's dollies to play Rancher Family.

*(NORA's image disappears.)*

ANNABELLE

*(whispers)*

Oh no!

TIFFANY

*(from her hiding place)*

Rancher Family? What's that?

ANNABELLE

You don't want to know.

NORA VO

Come on, you dollies! Ride ‘em, cowboy!

**MUSIC intro for SONG #5 RANCHER FAMILY HOEDOWN**

*(DOLL family suddenly gallops on with cows and horses and a pig. They are wearing big cowboy hats and bandanas. Bobby joins them from upstairs in a cowboy hat. They move with their legs dancing but their upper torsos and heads in doll positions. They are “herded” by the unseen hand of NORA.)*

ANNABELLE

Don’t let Nora see you!

*(ANNABELLE tosses TIFFANY the green book, but BOBBY intercepts and TIFFANY dives for cover as NORA’S face reappears. The lights change.)*

**SCENE 5: In the garden**

**SONG #5: RANCHER FAMILY HOEDOWN**

*(During this choreographed number, TIFFANY gets the journal back from BOBBY who tries to take it from her. During the dance they are stealing the book from each other as TIFFANY tries to stay out of sight. At the end of the number, the Doll family is frozen in wacky positions.)*

ANNABELLE

*(whispers)*

Bobby, give me the book.

BOBBY

No!

NORA VO

*(like a square dance caller)*

DO SI DO!  
TIPPY TOE!  
BOUNCY BOUNCY BOUNCY

NORA and ALL

WHOA!

NORA VO

WAVE AT YOUR NEIGHBOR  
SLAP YOUR KNEE  
TROT LIKE A HORSE

ANNABELLE  
Give it me!!

NORA VO  
ALL THE MEN LEFT.  
ALL THE MEN RIGHT.

TIFFANY  
*(Tug of war)*  
I've got the book. Bob, don't fight.

BOBBY  
I want to read it.

ANNABELLE  
No, you can't

NORA VO  
COME ON, DOLLIES! LET'S DANCE!

*(ANNABELLE passes BOBBY and grabs book. Then she manages to pass it to TIFFANY who BOBBY tries to take it from TIFFANY. MAMA, PAPA, NANNY and UNCLE DOLL try to get them to stop talking and messing around.)*

MAMA DOLL  
Children, settle down.

PAPA DOLL  
Bobby, stop it!

BOBBY  
It's not my fault!

ANNABELLE  
Is to!

BOBBY  
Is not!

UNCLE DOLL  
Oh, dear. This is not good.

NANNY  
Back to the nursery for you!

BOBBY

No!

TIFFANY

Got it!

*(TIFFANY takes book and reads it out of sight of NORA.)*

NORA

DO SI DO  
TIPPY TOE  
BOUNCY BOUNCY BOUNCY NO!

TROT LIKE A HORSE  
ACT LIKE A PIG  
MOO LIKE A COW  
AND DANCE A JIG!

YEE HAW!  
YEE HAW!  
DANCE DOLLIES DANCE!!

KATE VO OFFSTAGE

Nora! You better not be in my room.

*(Music stops and dolls freeze in place.)*

NORA VO

Uh, oh. Kate!

KATE VO OFFSTAGE

Stay away from my Doll House!

*(Music goes to double time.)*

NORA VO

DO SI DO, TIPPY TOE  
BOUNCY BOUNCY HORSIE WHOA!  
PUNCH YOUR NEIGHBOR, KICK YOUR FRIEND

*(KATE's VO comes on the final "shave and a haircut, two bits")*

KATE VO

Norrrrrrra?

NORA VO

THE END!

I gotta skeedaddle!

*(Dolls all drop in place frozen .)*

NORA VO (OFFSTAGE)

Bye, you dollies!

*(DOLL family sits up dazed.)*

MAMA

My word.

NANNY

That was a real corker.

UNCLE DOLL

Is it just me or does Rancher Family just get faster and faster every time?

PAPA

Nora's getting older and so are we.

*(While the DOLLS right themselves and remove hats and exit with farm animals, UNCLE DOLL goes into the parlor, TIFFANY pulls ANNABELLE to the garden bench, BOBBY eavesdrops.)*

**SCENE 6: In the garden**

TIFFANY

Annabelle. Over here.

ANNABELLE

You were almost caught several times.

TIFFANY

Yeah, it was pretty hairy there for a sec.

ANNABELLE

I was terrified for you.

TIFFANY

Listen, I read some of Auntie Sarah's diary and discovered a very big clue.

ANNABELLE

What? Tell me.

TIFFANY

Auntie Sarah used to go to the attic.

ANNABELLE

With all those stairs? How did she do it?

TIFFANY

I don't know, but she was tracking something called *tegenaria duellica*.

BOBBY

I know what that is. It's a spider.

TIFFANY

What?

BOBBY

Actually it's the scientific name for the Giant House Spider.

ANNABELLE

How do you know that?

BOBBY

Auntie Sarah told me. The *tegeneria duellica* is huge. It measures nearly four inches across and is sometimes called *T-Gigantica*, as in T-Rex.

TIFFANY

Whoa dude! That's awesome.

BOBBY

Now may I be in your club?

*(ANNABELLE and TIFFANY change looks.)*

TIFFANY

He does seem to know a lot about what Auntie Sarah was chasing.

ANNABELLE

Yes, but...

TIFFANY

Listen, we're the President and Vice President of SELMP. But every club needs a member—

ANNABELLE

—to run errands?

TIFFANY  
–who can tell us all about the spiders Auntie Sarah was chasing.

ANNABELLE  
*(shudders)*  
I wish you'd stop talking about spiders. I'm terribly frightened of them.

TIFFANY  
Why?

ANNABELLE  
They crawl on your face when you can't move. They weave white lace that sticks to your skin and clothes.

TIFFANY  
Cool!

BOBBY  
Totally!

*(TIFFANY high fives BOBBY for using modern language and agreeing with her. And she starts clapping.)*

***RHYTHM TRACKS FOR SONG #6: SPIDER CLAPPING SONG begins.***

BOBBY  
And there are well over forty thousand different types of spiders.

ANNABELLE  
Forty thousand? I may faint.

**SONG #6: THE SPIDER CLAPPING SONG**

*BOBBY teases Annabelle and then does a clapping chant to a drum rhythm.*

BOBBY  
THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER  
WENT UP THE WATER SPOUT.

ANNABELLE  
Ew!

BOBBY  
DOWN CAME THE RAIN  
AND WASHED THE SPIDER OUT.

ANNABELLE

Good.

BOBBY

OUT CAME THE SUN  
AND DRIED UP ALL THE RAIN  
AND THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER  
WENT UP THE SPOUT AGAIN.

ANNABELLE

No!

*(TIFFANY faces ANNABELLE, does clap routine with ANNABELLE while BOBBY claps the rhythm.)*

TIFFANY

I WISH I WAS A SPIDER  
A SPIDER HAS EIGHT LEGS  
IT WEAVES A WEB OF FIBER  
AND THEN IT LAYS ITS EGGS

*(ANNABELLE faces BOBBY, does clap routine while TIFFANY claps the rhythm.)*

BOBBY

A SPIDER'S WEB IS STICKY  
TO CATCH A FLY OR TWO  
IT'S STRONG AS STEEL AND LIGHT AS AIR  
LOOK OUT! IT COULD CATCH YOU!

*(ALL THREE face front with ANNABELLE in middle, clapping one and then the other.)*

ALL

ORB WEBS  
TUNNEL WEBS  
ICKY STICKY  
FUNNEL WEBS  
SHEET WEBS  
TANGLE WEBS  
LOOK OUT, THEY COULD CATCH YOU!

*(ALL do knee clapping that moves from their knees and to others and crosses arms.)*

BOBBY

A SPIDER USES SPINNERETS  
TO SPIN ITS SPIDER SILK  
THE SILK IS STRONG LIKE CLIMBING ROPE



ALTHOUGH IT'S MADE OF MILK.

ANNABELLE

That's it!

TIFFANY

I WISH I WAS A SPIDER—

*(TIFFANY and BOBBY continue the song but ANNABELLE stops them.)*

ANNABELLE

That's it, I tell you.

TIFFANY/BOBBY

What?

ANNABELLE

That's how Auntie Sarah climbed the stairs.

TIFFANY

What? On a spider?

ANNABELLE

No, she used rope, like the spiders use their thread.

BOBBY

Amazing!

*(They examine the diary.)*

TIFFANY

*(reads)*

Listen to this: "Tonight's a full moon."

AUNTIE SARAH VO

The time to see the spiders best. I'm going to the attic.

ALL THREE

The attic!

BOBBY

It's way up at the top of the house.

*(A beam of moonlight appears on the floor with magical musical accompaniment.)*

TIFFANY

*(In a hushed voice)*

Look! Annabelle! The moon. It's full.

ANNABELLE

*(Nods)*

Just like the night Auntie Sarah disappeared.

*SFX Clock chime*

TIFFANY

That's a sign. Don't you see?

ANNABELLE

We've got to find Auntie Sarah.

TIFFANY

We'll go to the attic tonight.

ANNABELLE

But how will we find it.

TIFFANY

*(Turns book over)*

This is a map.

ANNABELLE

And these are instructions.

TIFFANY

Dude, we *have* to go.

ANNABELLE

I had better tell Mama and Papa what we plan to do.

TIFFANY

If you do, they'll try to stop us.

ANNABELLE

Well, we ought to tell someone.

BOBBY

I want to come!

ANNABELLE

Bobby! You're too young.

BOBBY

Am not!

ANNABELLE

I don't want to put you in danger.

BOBBY

You're putting yourself in danger.

ANNABELLE

I'm really sorry, Bobby, but you can't come.

BOBBY

You're just being mean.

*(BOBBY runs offstage.)*

TIFFANY

Sorry, Bob!

*(to ANNABELLE)*

I've got Funcraft Family backpacks and jump ropes at my place. Come with me.

ANNABELLE

I have someone I need to talk to first.

TIFFANY

Cool. I'll come back with the supplies after Nora and Kate go to bed. Later.

**MUSIC transition:** "Never Do That" theme.

*(TIFFANY runs off; ANNABELLE knocks on door of the parlor.)*

**SCENE 7: In the parlor/garden**

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll? Could I speak to you a moment?

UNCLE

Of course, my dear. You are always welcome.

ANNABELLE

I'd like to talk to you about Auntie Sarah and the night she disappeared.

UNCLE

That was a dreadful time. Dreadful! Poor dear Auntie Sarah.

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll, why didn't you go search for Auntie Sarah?

UNCLE DOLL

We did. Believe me, we did but... Do you remember what happened after Auntie Sarah disappeared?

ANNABELLE

Not quite.

UNCLE DOLL

Back then there was a cat named Patches. Well, Patches caught Papa and broke his leg. Snapped it like a twig. A twig!

ANNABELLE

I do remember that. It was dreadful.

UNCLE DOLL

And since we had no idea where Auntie Sarah might be in this enormous house, we had to stop looking—it was too dangerous. Papa's experience was so frightening that none of us, not even me, could summon the courage to leave the Doll House again.

ANNABELLE

Poor Uncle Doll.

UNCLE DOLL

I'm a coward. An absolute coward.

ANNABELLE

You aren't a coward. You just didn't know where to look.

UNCLE DOLL

What do you mean?

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll, I know where Auntie Sarah is.

UNCLE DOLL

How could you possibly know?

ANNABELLE

I found her diary.

UNCLE DOLL

She left a diary?

ANNABELLE

Yes! And tonight Tiffany Funcraft and I are going to go find her.

UNCLE DOLL

What? No! Your parents would forbid it.

ANNABELLE

That's why I'm telling you. I want you to know where I am in case I don't return.

UNCLE DOLL

This is terrible. Terrible.

ANNABELLE

I'll be in the attic.

UNCLE DOLL

The attic! It's too dangerous. The cat! The humans!

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll, please don't distress yourself. I'll be very careful.

UNCLE DOLL

You are just like your Auntie Sarah. Just like her!

ANNABELLE

I take that as a compliment.

UNCLE DOLL

But how on earth will you even find the attic?

ANNABELLE

Auntie Sarah left detailed instructions. They're all here, in her diary.

*(Gives UNCLE DOLL the diary and starts to exit, stops and turns back with a twinkle in her eye.)*

Be sure to look at page eight!

*(ANNABELLE heads for the garden.*

*UNCLE DOLL opens diary and begins reading to himself.)*

UNCLE DOLL

June 23, 1969.

*(sings)*

WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN, WILLIE,

ROUND AND ROUND AND ROUND.  
WALTZ ME AROUND AGAIN...  
*(shuts the book with a decisive snap)*  
Annabelle! Wait for me!

**SONG #7: UP! UP! INTO THE NIGHT**

UNCLE  
I FEEL BRAVE, I FEEL PROUD  
I WANT TO SHOUT "I'M GOING!" OUT LOUD.  
I'VE BEEN A COWARD FOR SO VERY LONG  
I FEEL LIKE SINGING!

*(Points his walking stick)*

UP, UP, INTO THE NIGHT  
THE MOON IS OUR GUIDE  
IF WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT.  
UP, UP, THE TIME IS JUST RIGHT.  
WE'LL FIND AUNTIE SARAH TONIGHT

TIFFANY

Whoa, Uncle Doll!

ANNABELLE

You're coming too?

UNCLE DOLL

If you girls have the courage to find Auntie Sarah, so do I. First we need to get to the attic stairs.

TIFFANY

We'll take my car. Hop in!

UNCLE

Whee!

TIFFANY

I CAN DRIVE!

UNCLE DOLL

THIS IS FUN!

ANNABELLE

WE'VE GOT A JOB THAT HAS TO BE DONE.

*SFX: Meow!*

UNCLE DOLL  
LOOK OUT FOR THE CAT!

TIFFANY  
HOLD ON TO YOUR HAT.

ANNABELLE  
LET'S GET GOING!

ALL  
UP, UP,  
TO THE TOP OF THE HOUSE.

ANNABELLE  
LOOK AT THE LION  
WHO ONCE WAS A MOUSE.

ALL  
UP, UP!

UNCLE  
WE MUST FIND MY SPOUSE.

ALL  
LET'S GO TO THE TOP OF HOUSE!

ALL  
UP, UP, INTO THE NIGHT!  
THE MOON IS OUR GUIDE  
IF WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT.  
UP, UP, THE TIME IS JUST RIGHT,  
WE'LL FIND AUNTIE SARAH—

UNCLE  
LET'S FIND AUNTIE SARAH!

ALL  
WE'LL FIND AUNTIE SARAH TONIGHT!

*(Car exits offstage. BOBBY runs down from the nursery. He's wearing the cowboy hat and carrying the lasso and other props.)*

BOBBY  
Hey! Wait for me! Now where did they go? My word, it's awfully dark out here.

*SFX: Gong*

What was that?

*SFX: Door creaking .*

And that?

*SFX: Big door slam.*

And that?

*SFX: Cat meow.*

The Captain! Help!

*(Bobby runs off, screaming.)*

***Music vamp begins for SONG #8: SPIDERS EVERYWHERE.***

*(ANNABELLE leads TIFFANY, UNCLE onstage onto the final step of the attic stairs. They're roped together like mountain climbers.)*

TIFFANY

Woo, froggies! This place is creepy.

ANNABELLE

These webs are bigger than I ever imagined.

UNCLE DOLL

Auntie Sarah! Are you here?

TIFFANY

If the webs are this big, how big are the spiders?

UNCLE DOLL

Please stop talking about spiders.

TIFFANY

I can't help it. This place must be crawling with them.

**SONG #8: SPIDERS EVERYWHERE!**

SPIDER

OOH DOOBIE DOO DOO WAH,  
OOH DOOBIE DOO DOO WAH!



*(UNCLE DOLL, ANNABELLE and TIFFANY clutch each other in alarm.)*

UNCLE DOLL

*(gasps)*

Did you hear that?

SPIDER

OOH DOOBIE DOO DOO WAH,  
DOO WAH DOO DAH BE DOOBIE DAH!

TIFFANY

WHAT'S THAT LOOMING IN THE GLOOM?  
I FEEL SOMETHING IN THE ROOM.

ANNABELLE

SOMETHING LURKING OUT OF SIGHT

UNCLE DOLL

WITH FUZZY LEGS AND A NASTY BITE!

TIFFANY, UNCLE DOLL, ANNABELLE

SPIDERS, EVERYWHERE!  
UNDER THE RUGS, BY THE STAIRS  
DOWN FROM THE CEILING, ONE BY ONE,  
WATCH YOUR BACK, 'CAUSE HERE THEY COME!

*(UNCLE DOLL and ANNABELLE and TIFFANY cling to each other, searching for that "thing" they think is lurking somewhere in the dark.)*

UNCLE DOLL, ANNABELLE, TIFFANY

AUNTIE SARAH!

SPIDER

OOH DOOBIE DOO DOO WAH!

UNCLE DOLL, ANNABELLE, TIFFANY

OH WHERE ARE YOU?

SPIDER

OOH DOOBIE WAH DOO BAH  
DOO WAH DOO BAH DEE DOOBIE DAH!

ANNABELLE

What *is* that?

UNCLE DOLL  
I don't want to know! Auntie Sarah, please answer!

TIFFANY  
SOMETHING'S MOVING!

ANNABELLE  
TELL ME WHERE?

TIFFANY  
IN THE CORNER, SEE IT THERE?

UNCLE  
MAYBE WE SHOULD SLIP AWAY  
AND COME AGAIN ANOTHER DAY?

ANNABELLE  
No, Uncle Doll! We have to keep looking.

UNCLE DOLL, TIFFANY, ANNABELLE  
SPIDERS, EVERYWHERE!  
UNDER THE RUGS, BEHIND THE STAIRS,  
DOWN FROM THE CEILING, ONE BY ONE,  
WATCH YOUR BACK 'CAUSE HERE THEY COME!

AUNTIE SARAH!

SPIDER  
OOH DOOBIE DOO DOO WAH

ANNABELLE, TIFFANY, UNCLE DOLL  
OH, WHERE ARE YOU?

SPIDER  
OOH DOOBIE DAH DOO WAH,  
DOO DAH DOO WAH BE DOOBIE DAH!

*(AUNTIE SARAH is buried under a pile of clothes with a web stretched across the clothes. The hem of her dress is peeking out from below the web. In the Hope production, she is sitting in the armchair that must be disguised to be a little person size item.)*

ANNABELLE  
SEE THAT WEB?

TIFFANY  
OVER THERE?

UNCLE DOLL  
SOMETHING'S CAUGHT INSIDE ITS LAIR

ANNABELLE  
THAT'S HER DRESS AND THAT'S HER LACE!

UNCLE DOLL  
THE SPIDER'S WEB IS ON HER FACE!

ANNABELLE  
SOMEONE GRAB IT!

TIFFANY  
I CAN'T TOUCH IT, IT'S TOO STICKY!

UNCLE DOLL  
I CAN'T BEAR IT!

ANNABELLE  
BUT WE HAVE TO!

TIFFANY  
I DON'T WANT TO!

ANNABELLE  
Stop! Let me do it.

*(ANNABELLE pulls clothing/spider web off AUNTIE SARAH as music ends.)*

ANNABELLE, UNCLE DOLL  
Oh, no!

TIFFANY  
Is that your aunt?

ANNABELLE  
Yes. Trapped forever in Permanent Doll State.

UNCLE DOLL  
Auntie Sarah. My dear Auntie Sarah.

ANNABELLE

Uncle Doll, what should we do?

UNCLE DOLL

We can't just leave her here covered in cobwebs. Please, help me get them off her.

*(UNCLE DOLL moves towards AUNTIE SARAH. The SPIDER leaps between them to guard AUNTIE SARAH.)*

SPIDER

Ahhh!

*(They are terrified.)*

TIFFANY, UNCLE DOLL, ANNABELLE

Ahhh!

*(The SPIDER is equally terrified and screams with them.)*

ALL and SPIDER

AHHHHHHH!

*(They all run willy-nilly, ending up cowering in separate corners.)*

AUNTIE SARAH

Oh, for goodness sake, calm down. It's just a spider.

UNCLE DOLL

Auntie Sarah? Is it you?

AUNTIE SARAH

I think so, my dear. A bit worse for wear, but it's me, all right. Now, could you please help me get out of here? My dress is caught in this mousetrap.

UNCLE DOLL

You're alive!

ANNABELLE

You're really alive!

TIFFANY

Hooray!

*(THEY run to AUNTIE SARAH, but the SPIDER blocks their way.)*

ANNABELLE

Look out! The spider!

AUNTIE SARAH

*(in a firm, authoritative voice)*

Tegenaria—sit!

*(The SPIDER sits.)*

AUNTIE SARAH

Good girl. Now rub her tummy.

UNCLE DOLL

I beg your pardon?

AUNTIE SARAH

Rub her tummy.

ANNABELLE

*(whispers)*

Tiffany, you do it. You like spiders.

TIFFANY

You're closest.

AUNTIE SARAH

It's alright, my darlings. Tegenaria is my friend. She keeps close watch over me.

*(ANNABELLE closes eyes and reaches out and rubs the SPIDER's tummy. The SPIDER kicks her legs, wiggles and giggles with happiness like a dog.)*

TIFFANY

She likes it!

*(The girls gather around the SPIDER while UNCLE DOLL starts to pull away the cobwebs from AUNTIE SARAH.)*

UNCLE DOLL

Auntie Sarah, it's you. It's really you.

AUNTIE SARAH

Yes. I feel a bit like a frog who has been hibernating at the bottom of a pond, but it's me.

UNCLE DOLL

I missed you so. Why ever did you leave?

AUNTIE SARAH

I was on a glorious adventure following one of Tegenaria Duellica's relatives. I climbed to the attic one moonlit night and there she was, in all her glory! I was inches from saying hello when suddenly the attic door flew open.

ANNABELLE

What did you do?

AUNTIE SARAH

I ran, of course.

TIFFANY

Of course.

AUNTIE SARAH

Someone was putting away boxes and piles of clothes. I tried to hide in this corner, when all at once I heard a snap! My dress was caught and I was trapped.

ANNABELLE

But couldn't you wiggle out of your dress?

AUNTIE

I tried and tried, but I'm sewn into it. And my sleeve is caught, too. See?

ANNABELLE

That's just awful.

TIFFANY

No kidding. Forty-five years in a mousetrap? Whoa.

AUNTIE SARAH

*(surprised)*

Did you say forty-five years?

TIFFANY

That's big time Missing in Action.

AUNTIE SARAH

And who, may I ask, are you?

TIFFANY

I'm Tiffany Funcraft. Nora's doll.

AUNTIE SARAH

Who on earth is Nora?

ANNABELLE

Kate's sister.

UNCLE DOLL

Kate is Annie's daughter and Katherine's granddaughter.

AUNTIE SARAH

Katherine a grandmother? She was just a little girl when I went away.

ANNABELLE

Auntie Sarah, we have a lot of catching up to do.

*(BOBBY runs in, howling as if being pursued.)*

BOBBY

Help! He's after me.

ALL

Bobby!

UNCLE DOLL

Who's after you?

BOBBY

The Captain!

AUNTIE SARAH

Who?

UNCLE DOLL

He's the family cat, and loves nothing more than chasing and catching us in his big sharp claws.

AUNTIE SARAH

This is not good. Not good at all.

ANNABELLE

Bobby, what have you done?

BOBBY

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. I wanted to help. Please don't be mad.

ANNABELLE

I'm not mad, I'm frightened.

TIFFANY

Where's the cat now?

BOBBY

He was right behind me. But I think I lost him at the stairs.

AUNTIE SARAH

The stairs? Quickly, help me out of this trap. If you can lift that iron bar we can release my skirt and sleeve.

UNCLE DOLL

Bobby. grab the end of this rope. Girls, pull the skirt away.

AUNTIE SARAH

And when I'm free, we'll run for the drainpipe on the other side of the attic.

BOBBY

The bar's too heavy.

TIFFANY

The sleeve is tearing.

UNCLE DOLL

Tie the knot tight. We can do it, Bobby.

AUNTIE SARAH

Don't worry about the sleeve. Concentrate on the skirt.

ANNABELLE

I'm trying, I'm trying.

SFX: BIG ANGRY CAT MEOW

*(ALL freeze, slowly turn and look in direction of the cat.)*

AUNTIE SARAH

*(in a low, calm voice)*

Nobody move.

**SONG #9: ONE CHANCE**

AUNTIE SARAH

LISTEN CLOSELY, UNCLE, TAKE THE CHILDREN



AND LEAD THEM QUICKLY TO THE DRAINPIPE NOW.

UNCLE DOLL  
AND LEAVE YOU HERE ALONE TO FACE THE DARKNESS?

AUNTIE SARAH  
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW.  
THIS IS OUR—

ONE CHANCE  
TO SAVE THE CHILDREN, YOUR  
ONE CHANCE TO GET AWAY

UNCLE DOLL  
NO CHANCE I'D EVER LEAVE YOU,  
I'M STAYING, COME WHAT MAY.

BOTH  
ONE CHANCE TO DO THE RIGHT THING,

AUNTIE SARAH  
WHEN I COUNT TO THREE

BOTH  
ONE CHANCE

AUNTIE SARAH  
FOR YOU TO SAVE THEM

UNCLE DOLL  
ONE CHANCE TO SET YOU FREE

ANNABELLE  
THERE'S JUST NO WAY WE CAN OUTFRAN THE CAPTAIN

TIFFANY  
DON'T I KNOW, IT'S JUST TOO FAR, FAR, FAR

ANNABELLE  
UNLESS I PLAY A TRICK THAT LEADS THE CAPTAIN  
AWAY FROM WHERE WE ARE.

TIFFANY  
*(alarmed as she realizes what ANNABELLE intends to do)*  
Annabelle?!

ANNABELLE

IT'S MY  
ONE CHANCE  
I HAVE TO TAKE IT  
ONE CHANCE—THIS IS IT

TIFFANY

NO CHANCE  
YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT  
THAT CAT WILL SMASH YOU ALL TO BITS

BOTH

ONE CHANCE  
TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE,  
TO DO THE BEST THING FOR MY FRIEND

ONE CHANCE

ANNABELLE

I'M GLAD I MET YOU

TIFFANY

NO! THIS IS NOT THE END!

ALL

ONE CHANCE  
TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE  
ONE CHANCE  
TO SAVE US ALL

ONE CHANCE!

BOBBY

THIS IS MY CHANCE!  
I CAN HELP, I'M NOT TOO SMALL

ALL

ONE CHANCE  
TO DO THE RIGHT THING

AUNTIE SARAH

WHEN YOU HEAR ME COUNT TO THREE

ALL

ONE CHANCE

ANNABELLE, UNCLE DOLL  
THIS IS MY CHANCE

UNCLE DOLL  
MY CHANCE TO SET YOU FREE

ANNABELLE  
NOW IT'S ALL UP TO ME!

AUNTIE SARAH  
One!

AUNTIE SARAH/ANNABELLE  
Two!

ALL  
Three!

*(They spring into action. UNCLE DOLL frees AUNTIE SARAH, he and AUNTIE SARAH shepherd BOBBY and TIFFANY toward the drainpipe.)*

UNCLE DOLL  
Got it!  
*(Meanwhile ANNABELLE picks up a crayon, struggles to carry it in the opposite direction from the others.)*

ANNABELLE  
Captain, over here!

AUNTIE SARAH	UNCLE DOLL
Follow me!	Bobby, give me your hand!

*(The CAPTAIN yowls fiercely, TIFFANY turns and points in horror as Annabelle raises the crayon like a spear.)*

TIFFANY  
*(screams)*  
Annabelle, no!

Music ends, BLACK OUT

***TRANSITION MUSIC: theme from SAD THING into the theme from NEVER DO THAT***

***SCENE 10: In the garden in front of the Doll House MUSIC***

*(PAPA holds a telescope and is peering off towards NORA's room. MAMA enters.)*

Any sign of them? MAMA

No. Nothing. PAPA

I'm so worried. MAMA

So am I, my dear. PAPA

How could they take such a risk? MAMA

Breaking all the rules! PAPA

Leaving without a word. MAMA

Yes. PAPA

And Uncle Doll with them. MAMA

We'll have to have a serious talk with—Wait. Wait! Here they are! PAPA

*(AUNTIE SARAH, UNCLE DOLL, TIFFANY, BOBBY race on out of breath. MAMA and PAPA greet AUNTIE SARAH with ecstatic hugs.)*

Auntie Sarah. My dear Auntie Sarah! MAMA

Welcome home! PAPA

MAMA

At last!

AUNTIE SARAH

*(looks around, concerned)*

Where's Annabelle?

MAMA

Isn't she with you?

UNCLE DOLL

No, we took the drain pipe.

AUNTIE SARAH

And she took the stairs.

BOBBY

Oh, no. The Captain!

PAPA

What about the Captain?

*(TIFFANY, BOBBY, UNCLE DOLL, AUNTIE SARAH exchange looks, wondering who's going to break it to MAMA and PAPA.)*

UNCLE DOLL

We were in the attic—

BOBBY

And we found Auntie Sarah—

AUNTIE SARAH

Then Bobby came—

UNCLE DOLL

And Annabelle was so brave!

MAMA

*(gets it, gasps)*

No!

PAPA

*(doesn't get it, more frustrated than ever)*

What about the Captain?

*ANNABELLE runs in from behind them.*

ANNABELLE

*(triumphantly)*

The Captain has an enormous yellow crayon stuck in his nose!

ALL

Annabelle!

*(The exploring party run to hug ANNABELLE.)*

MAMA

This is all so confusing. Everyone disappeared.

PAPA

We didn't know where you'd gone.

MAMA

Or if someone had taken you.

*(to AUNTIE SARAH)*

Auntie Sarah, I thought you ran away on purpose.

AUNTIE SARAH

Pish tosh! I was on an expedition. Tracking spiders.

BOBBY

The tegeitaria duellica.

AUNTIE SARAH

Well done, Bobby!

TIFFANY

Bob's an expert.

UNCLE DOLL

And Annabelle's a hero. She had the courage to go find Auntie Sarah.

BOBBY

And fight the cat!

ANNABELLE

We never would have had the courage to go looking for Auntie Sarah if it weren't for Tiffany.

AUNTIE SARAH

My thanks to each and every one of you for not giving up on me. Oh my dears! It's amazing how life can change in a moment.

**SONG #10: WHEN A SAD THING BECOMES A GLAD THING**

AUNTIE SARAH

WHEN IT LOOKED FOR A TIME THAT I HAD LOST MY CHANCES  
WHEN IT LOOKED FOR A TIME THAT I WAS DOWN, DOWN, DOWN  
THEN THE FOUR OF YOU CAME TO MY RESCUE  
AND TURNED THINGS RIGHT AROUND.

WHEN A SAD THING BECOMES A GLAD THING  
EVERYTHING IS RIGHT  
THE STARS SHINE EVEN BRIGHTER TOO  
IT'S LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE

ANNABELLE

WHEN A SAD THING BECOMES A GLAD THING  
THE DARKNESS FADES AWAY  
AND WITH A NEW DAY COMES THE DAWN

ALL

AND IT'S SUNSHINE FROM NOW ON

UNCLE DOLL

I USED TO WALK AROUND IN SUCH A CLOUD  
OF SADNESS ALL AROUND  
EYES DOWN AT THE GROUND  
NOW I LOOK AROUND AND FEEL SO LIGHT

ALL

THE FUTURE LOOKS SO GOOD AND OH SO BRIGHT!

WHEN A SAD THING BECOMES A GLAD THING  
LIFE IS LIKE A SONG  
THAT MAKES YOU WANT TO SING ALONG  
ITS ONLY GLAD THINGS FROM NOW ON

TIFFANY/ANNABELLE

OH-WAY-OH!

ALL

GLAD THINGS, GLAD THINGS FROM NOW ON

TIFFANY, ANNABELLE, BOBBY

OH-WAY-OH!

ALL

GLAD THINGS, GLAD THINGS FROM NOW ON!

*(LIGHTS dim on the family and focus on ANNABELLE, who smiles and addresses the audience. MUSIC continues under the next dialogue.)*

**SCENE 12: In the garden**

ANNABELLE

It's funny. We've lived at Wetherby Lane for over a hundred years and never had the kind of excitement that we've had today. I think it all has to do with meeting Tiffany Funcraft.

**Music intro begins.**

TIFFANY

*(steps up beside her, addressing house)*

I'm her best friend.

ANNABELLE

Really?

TIFFANY

In the whole wide world.

**SONG #11: WETHERBY LANE—FINALE**

ANNABELLE

LOOK AT US,  
WE'RE TOGETHER

TIFFANY

THE TWO OF US,

BOBBY

Three!

*(TIFFANY and ANNABELLE smile, ruffling his hair.)*

TIFFANNY

FRIENDS FOREVER,  
NOW I'LL ALWAYS HAVE SOMEONE TO SHARE

ANNABELLE, TIFFANNY

EACH BRAND NEW ADVENTURE

IN THE WORLD  
WAITING OUT THERE,  
EVERYWHERE,  
IF WE JUST DARE  
TO TAKE A CHANCE,  
SEE ALL THERE IS TO SEE.



TIFFANY

One day we might even go to the basement.

BOBBY

Or the roof!

ALL THREE

Or—

*(they gasp, then whisper)*

—the garage!

ANNABELLE

Every day's a new adventure here at Twenty-six—

ALL

WETHERBY LANE!  
WHERE LIFE CAN BE ONE GREAT GAME  
AND EV'RY DAY BRINGS CHANGES BOLD AND NEW

WE NEVER COMPLAIN OF LIFE  
AT WETHERBY LANE,  
IT'S SOMETIMES CHILLING, ALWAYS THRILLING!

(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,  
(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX  
TWENTY-SIX WETHERBY LANE.

(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX,  
(clap clap) TWENTY-SIX  
TWENTY-SIX WETHERBY LANE.

OUR LIVES WILL NEVER EVER BE THE SAME!

CURTAIN