

The Trials of Robin Hood Audition Monologues

Note: These monologues are not taken from the script. However, they were selected to allow you to develop the characterization of one of the following four individuals featured in the play. For audition purposes, gender is NOT important. If you like a monologue and believe that you can perform it well, by all means perform it. Since we have a large percentage of females auditioning, we have requested permission to cast the role of Prince John as an evil female lead. Thus, the name change, Princess Johnnie, reflects this deviation from the original script. The plan is to stay with tradition and cast a male as Robin Hood and to cast a female as Maid Marian. The casting of the Sheriff of Nottingham will be awarded to the individual best suited for that role. Please, prepare one of the following monologues for your 5-minute audition time on Tuesday, January 18. Incorporate as much animation and energy as you can! Regardless of which monologue you select; you will be considered for all roles in the play. Individuals with the strongest auditions, will be asked to come to Call Backs on Thursday, January 20 from 7-9:00PM. If your name appears on the Call Back list, you should plan to stay for the entire time on Thursday evening.

**** In order to audition, you MUST have an Emergency Medical Authorization form on file with Ms. Frank and your audition form completed and signed by a parent/guardian. ****

Robin Hood (“lusty” charismatic & mischievous leader)

I’ve called you here as freeborn Englishmen, loyal to our king. While he reigned over us, we lived in peace. But since Princess Johnnie has seized the regency, Guy of Gisbourne and the rest of the traitors have murdered and pillaged. You’ve all suffered from their cruelty: the ear loppings, the beatings, the blindings with hot irons, the burning of our farms and homes, the mistreatment of our women. It’s time to put an end to this! Now, this forest is wide. It can shelter and clothe and feed a band of good, determined men, good swordsmen, good archers, good fighters. If you’re willing to fight for our people, I want you! Are you with me? ... That you, the freemen of this forest, swear to despoil the rich only to give to the poor, to shelter the old and the helpless, to protect all citizens rich or poor, Norman or Saxon. Swear to fight for a free England. To protect her loyally until the return of our King and sovereign Richard the Lion Heart. And swear to fight to the death against our oppressors!

Marian (heroine who appears serious but must possess good comedic timing)

Go ahead, Princess Johnnie, throw me in the dungeon. I won’t be in there long. Robin Hood, hero of Nottingham will rescue me. I have read about him in many books, and everyone in the kingdom is talking about him. He is brave and strong, and a hero to all the people. He is returning money to the poor and keeping order in this unjust society. And, while I’ve never seen him, I just know that he is handsome, dashing, and so very strong. My father says that boys between that ages of fourteen and twenty-three should be locked away because they aren’t good for anything but fighting, stealing, and being rude to their elders. You do know that you’ll inherit this entire estate someday, so you have to start taking things seriously. Anyway, listen, you’re probably wondering why I’m all dressed up like this. I’m wearing my traveling cloak. I’m going away. For three years, to Aquitaine. My father insists.

Princess Johnnie (Dangerous, calculating with an evil laugh)

All the world's a stage, and all you men and women full of layers. My God, that was almost perfect. I should be a poet. Eh? Ha?! (Evil laugh) I hereby welcome you to our meeting of the Barons of the Northern Shires here at Nottingham Castle, which is owned by our host, the charming and sometimes reliable Sir Guy of Gisbourne. I have just finished my daily count of money in the royal vault and I am not satisfied. Therefore. I want to pass a new decree that there is to be a raise in taxes. All citizens of Nottingham and the surrounding areas will double their current taxes giving me 95% of their weekly wages, (Evil laugh) Now I realize we have a good deal more to discuss tonight, but I trust that you will adopt the new French custom and put your weapons under your chairs, enjoy a peaceful supper, and dismember each other after the pudding. (Evil laugh) You may now begin eating.

Sheriff of Nottingham (main antagonist; an unjust tyrant but inwardly a coward)

I-I've tried to catch him, but it's like threading a needle! I've sent my very best men to the forest. I told them to find him, but he's hard to pin down, he's just so clever, and he pulls all sort of roguish tricks, like that one he did to you with the button when he made your head go up and down like a puppet, which is how he got my sword out of my hand. So, there's been a little change of plans. We are going to kidnap Maid Marian, but instead of taking her back to the castle, we are going to stay here, in Sherwood Forest. Robin Hood, after seeing his lovely Maid Marian kidnapped, will follow us. We will hide, and when he arrives, we will jump out and capture that rotten scoundrel! (Evil laugh)