

THE UGLY DUCKLING

Based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen

Music by Jacques Offenbach (from *The Tales of Hoffman*)

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Characters:

Mother Duck (soprano)

Father Duck (baritone)

Sassy Duck (mezzo)

Junior Duck (baritone)

Hugo Duck (tenor)

Lady Duckadent (mezzo)

Chad Duck (mezzo)

Dr. Ego (baritone)

Igor (soprano)

Set: Outdoor scene- backdrop should include tree and edge of pond

Enchanted Forest- scary scene with stuff hanging from trees

Props: calendar tacked on tree, telephone, two smaller eggs and one larger egg from which ducklings will hatch, towels/snorkels, political signs, banner made to move above backdrop with sky background and flying swans(or abstract facsimile e.g.silver streamers), small suitcases, identical hats/feathers for dream scene, sign for "Enchanted Forest"/arrow, winter hat and scarf for Hugo, Dr. Ego cape or hat with name on it (little mirrors on cape?), magic stone, Ego Energizer Bunny battery charger, magic mirror, rain poncho with Hugo's name on it, Mickey Mouse ears, stuffed Donald Duck, fun gimic for finale (streamers or lights)

EXCERPT:

Music.

Sassy: Let's pretend, Mommy.

Mother: What do you want to pretend?

Sassy: Let's pretend we're beautiful, elegant swans.

LOVELY SWAN, OH LOVE-LY SWAN, I SEE- MY FINE REFLECTION,

I SHALL FLOAT ON MAGIC WINGS, OH LOVE-LY, LOVELY SWAN!

S & M: GLIDING, GENTLY WE SHALL FLOAT,

THE VELVET WATER HOLDS US,

FEARING NEITHER MAN NOR BOAT,

WE'RE WATER'S ROYALTY,

SO SHALL IT ALWAYS BE, NATURALLY, ROYALTY,

SO SHALL IT ALWAYS BE, WATER'S ROY-ALTY!

LOVELY SWAN, OH, LOVE-LY SWAN, WE SEE OUR FINE REFLECTION,

WE SHALL FLOAT ON MAGIC WINGS, OH LOVELY, LOVELY SWAN!

S: YOU ARE QUEEN OF THE SWANS,

M: YOU ARE PRINCESS OF SWANS,

S & M: LOVELY SWAN, OH LOVELY SWAN.

On final measures of song, the banner of swans (or silver streamers) flying, appears and disappears.

Hugo: Look!

Mother: Those were the swans.

Hugo: They are beautiful.

Sassy: The beatifullest.

Mother: I am happy with my sweet ducklings, right here.

Hugo: Even though one of them is ugly.

Mother: Nonsense. You're just different.

Hugo: Is that why the others are so mean to me?

Mother: Oh, Hugo, it will get better. I know it will.

All exit.

Offstage voices: BAAA!(sheep) How baa-aad can a duck look??? MOOO!! MOOoove over ugly!! He is so ugly! The ugliest animal in the barnyard. He doesn't fit in with the other ducks. He doesn't fit in anywhere. Outta the way, ugly!

Hugo: (offstage) OW!!

All enter.

Mother: It's not getting any better. Poor Hugo. It's bad enough now. But if we migrate South with the others, it will be worse. Traveling makes them cranky. There will be more ducks and more mean remarks. Birds of a feather flock together, you know.

Sassy: I'll help look after him, Mom. I'll pluck the feathers of anyone who picks on him.

Mother: Maybe we should just stay home this year.

Sassy: But, Mom, Dad is already there!

Junior: (tantrum) I wanna go to Florida! I wanna go to Florida!

Sassy: I thought al ducks went south for the winter.

Mother: Most do.

Junior: I wanna go to Disney World! I wanna go to Disney World! I wanna meet Donald Duck!

Hugo: I'm not most ducks. I could stay here.

Mother: I could stay here with you.

Sassy: MOM!!!! Don't make me fly without you!! I barely know how to get off the ground!
My wings are weak! What if I get airsick??? What if I puke?? What if I forget to flap???

Hugo: I can stay here by myself.

Dr. Ego: SHINE AND GLOW, PRECIOUS STONE,
SEND FORTH YOUR DECEPTIVE REFLECTION,
SHINE AND GLOW, PRECIOUS STONE, AND CAST YOUR MAGIC SPELL,
BRING THAT DUCKLING TO MY POWER,
HE'S STRAYING FAR FROM HIS NEST, WANTS TO BE LIKE THE REST,
HEART AND SOUL, WE WILL CLAIM, AS PAPER BURNS INTO FLAME,
HEART AND SOUL, WE WILL CLAIM, I NEVER LOSE- THIS GAME, AHH.

Hugo enters< mesmerized

SHINE AND GLOW, PRECIOUS STONE,
SEND FORTH YOUR DECEPTIVE REFLECTION,
SHINE AND GLOW, PRECIOUS STONE,
THOSE WHO DESERVE, THEM YOU WILL SERVE.

Dr. Ego: (evil voice) Salutations, Hugo!

Hugo: You know my name???

Dr. Ego: And now, (flashing hat or cape with name on it) you know mine.

Hugo: (slowly) Drego??

Dr. Ego: (insulted) DOCTOR Ego!!...And my annoying little assistant, Igor.

Igor: (dumbly happy) Hugo, Ego, and Igor.

Dr. Ego: Dr. Ego to you. Well, to everyone, for that matter.

Hugo: (shy and uncertain of the last name) Doctor...

DE: (evilly) EGO.

Hugo: (hopefully) Dr. Ego....?

DE: Yesss???

Hugo: What was that song you were singing?

Dr. Ego: (cooly) What song?

Hugo: Shine and glow...

Igor: (to audience) Sounds like a floorwax.

Hugo: To the stone..

DE: (smugly) What stone?

Hugo: (eagerly) The one that grants a wish!

DE: (quickly bearing down on Hugo) You mean thissss one?

Hugo: (startled) Uh...I think so. W-w-w-would it grant my wish?

DE: And what is your wissssh, Hugo?

Hugo: To be like everyone else---all the other ducks.

DE: Exactly like all the others?

Hugo: (more confident) Yup. So no one would make fun of me anymore. I want to fit in. Same look, same walk, same feathers, same talk, er...quack.

DE: You want to BLENNNND in? You don't want to ssssstand out? (Hugo nods) Why, that's our sssspecially!!

Hugo: SSSSSplendid.

DE: I just need the magic sssamenesssss mirror. I sssshall return. (exits)

Igor: You go, Hugo!

Hugo: (misterpreting, goes into playground dance) Oh, yeah! You go, girl. Except I'm not a girl...Technically, I'm not a boy...I'm a duck, actually. You go, duck, you GO!!...

Igor: No, I mean GO. Get out of here. You don't want to be like everyone else!!! You'll end up like me and all the other creatures that came to Dr. Ego because they didn't like themselves. Now, we're all the same---exact replicas. We can't even think for ourselves.

Lovely Swan

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The musical score consists of several systems of staves. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second system introduces a vocal line with lyrics written below the notes. The third system continues the vocal line and includes a piano accompaniment with a bass clef. The fourth system features a piano accompaniment with a bass clef and includes the instruction "Ped." (pedal) and an asterisk "*". The fifth system continues the piano accompaniment. The sixth system includes the instruction "(Curtain rises)" above the staff and "rit." (ritardando) below the staff. The score is marked with various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

EXTENDED

Moderato

Sassy:

N. Lovely swan, oh love-ly swan, I

pp

Tea *

N. see - my fine re - flec - tion, I shall float on

Tea *

N. ma - sic wings, oh love - ly, love - ly swan!

Tea *

Mother:

G. Gliding, gently we shall float, the vel - vet wa - ter holds us,

Sassy:

N. Gliding gently we shall float, the vel - vet wa - ter holds us,

Tea *

G. Fearing nei-ther man nor boat, We're wa-ters roy-al-ty — So

N. Fearing nei-ther man nor boat, we're wa-ters roy-al-ty, —

G. shall it al-ways be — — — — — Natu-rally roy-al-ty — — — — — I

N. So shall it al-ways be, roy-al-ty

G. all our ma-jes-ty — — — — — wa-ters roy-al-ty

N. In all our ma-jes-ty, roy-al-ty

G. vos bai - sers, vos bai - sers Ah!
 far a - way, far a - way. Ah!

N. Ver - sez - nous vos bai - sers.
 Speeds these mo - ments a - way!

*Red. ** *Red. ** *Red. **

G. Lovely swan, oh love - ly swan, we see - our fine re - flec - tion

N. Ah!
 Ah! Lovely swan, oh love - ly swan, we see - our fine re - flec - tion

SOPRANO *pp*
 (bouches fermées) Ah!
 (humming) Ah!

TENOR *pp*
 (bouches fermées) Ah!
 (humming) Ah!

BASS *pp*
 Ah!
 Ah!

pp

*Red. ** *Red. ** *Red. ** *Red. **

G. *sf*
We shall float on ma-gic wings, on love-ly, lovely swan

V. *sf*
We shall float on ma-gic wings, oh love-ly, lovely swan

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

G. *f*
Ah!
Ah!

V. *f*
You are princess of swans

p You are queen of the swans *f* I am princess of

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

ah!
ah!

g. *pp* Lovely Swan —, Oh love — ly Swan Ah! — Ah! —

n. Swans Oh — love — ly Swan —, love — ly Swan

Ah! Ah!

Ah! Ah!

Ah! Ah!

pp

pp * *pp* * *pp* * *pp* *

g. ah! ah! ah! ah!

n. *pp* Ah! Ah! ah! ah!

pp ah! ah! ah! ah!

pp ah! ah! ah! ah!

Ah! Ah!

pp * *pp* * *pp* *

ppp

G. ah! ah! ah! ah!

N. ah! ah! ah! ah!

ppp

ah! ah! ah! ah!

ppp

ah! ah! ah! ah!

ppp

ah! ah! ah! ah!

G. ah! ah! ah! ah!

N. ah! ah! ah! ah!

ah! ah! ah! ah!

ah! ah! ah! ah!

ppp

(Giulietta et Nicklausse entrent en scène, venant lentement de la galerie du fond)
(Giulietta and Nicklas come on stage, entering slowly from gallery at back)

(in *M.M.*) Shine + Glow

Andante poco mosso

d'hui
arms!

pp *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

p

D. Shine and glow, _____ pre - cious stone, _____ Send forth your de -

pp

D. *ceptive* re - flec - tion, Shine and glow, _____ pre - cious

p

D. stone, _____ and cast your mag - ic spell. *Bring that*

Bring that

D. duckling to my po- wer, He's straying

pp leggeriss. *p* *mp*

D. far from his nest — Wants to be like the

D. rest, Heart and soul we will claim,

poco animato *cresc. poco u poco ed appassionato*

D. As pa- per burns in the flame —

fallarg. *Lento*

Heart and soul we will claim, I ne-ver lose this

f *colla voce*

a tempo

game — Ah! Ah! Shine and glow, pre-cious

fp *a tempo* *pp* *ppp*

stone, Send forth your de-captive re-flec-tion, Shine and

glow, pre-cious stone, Those who de-serve Them

rall. *rall.*

you will la, at my ti re-less

prey, help-less

p *p* *p*

serve

re-less

molto dim. *pp* *ppp*