

## **FIGATROLL and the Three Billy Goats Gruff**

**Music by Rossini** (*The Barber of Seville, La Cenerentola*)

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CHARACTERS: (cast of four)

The Gruff family- Millie Goat, soprano  
Silly Goat, mezzo,  
Willie Goat, tenor

Figatroll-baritone  
Pizza delivery guy, played by tenor  
Karate Instructor, played by baritone  
Consultant, played by baritone

SET:

Nonbridge scenes can use any background desired. Same backdrop will be used for karate and consulting scene.

Bridge-It is suggested that the impression of a bridge will serve the purpose, e.g. the side or sides of the bridge set directly on the floor like a fence. The singers will walk behind the rail when they are on the bridge. If a bridge is constructed, it will have to be sturdy enough so as not to tip when one person stands on the far edge.

Figatroll's Place- To the side of the bridge, a lamppost with a sign "Under the Bridge".  
Could be attached to bridge for ease of scene changing.

PROPS:

Pizza box, earphones, yellow pages, picture book

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EXCERPT:

Scene-Bridge

*Largo al factoturn from Barber of Seville*

Figatroll: (Singing)

LA, LA...

I AM THE TROLL THAT LIVES UNDER THE BRIDGE, I AM!

I AM THE SOUL THAT NOBODY UNDERSTANDS!

LA, LA..

OH, WHAT A LIFE I LEAD, NOBODY KNOWS ME,  
THEY DON'T KNOW ME!

IT IS SO LONELY UNDER THE BRIDGE, UNDER THE BRIDGE!

I AM SO TALENTED,

I SHOULD BE PATENTED,

I CAN SING PIANO, I CAN SING FORTE,

I CAN SING CLEARLY, NO ONE WILL HEAR ME,

NO ONE TO CHEER ME, NO ONE COMES NEAR ME,

NOBODY KNOWS MY NAME, IT IS AN AWFUL SHAME,

NOBODY KNOWS MY NAME, IT IS AN AWFUL SHAME,  
NOBODY KNOWS MY NAME, MY NAME!

(Spoken) It's

(Singing) FIGATROLL, FIGATROLL..

(Spoken) Oh, to have a friend!

(Singing) MY FRIEND!

(Spoken) Eh!

(Singing) FIGATROLL! GO WHERE?

FIGATROLL HERE, FIGATROLL THERE,

FIGATROLL YES, FIGATROLL NO,

FIGATROLL FAST, FIGATROLL SLOW,

FIGATROLL COME, FIGATROLL GO!

OH, WHAT A FRIEND I'D BE,

THERE'D BE NO END TO ME,

EAGER AND WILLING, I'M ON THE SPOT,

NO MATTER WHAT, NO MATTER WHAT,

NO MATTER WHAT, NO MATTER WHAT!

(Spoken) Sing for you???

(Singing) AH, BRAVO, FIGATROLL, BRAVO, BRAVISSIMO!

AH BRAVO, FIGATROLL, BRAVO, BRAVISSIMO!

WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL, MARVELOUS, MARVELOUS,

SINGING LIKE THAT ON A STAGE YOU SHOULD BE!

LA LA LA, LA LA LA, LA LA LA, LA LA LA, LA LA LA, LA LA LA,

WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL, MARVELOUS, MARVELOUS,

WONDERFUL, MARVELOUS, SINGING LIKE THAT ON A STAGE YOU SHOULD

BE!

LONELY SINGER, MISUNDERSTOOD ME,

IF THEY KNEW ME, HOW NICE MY LIFE WOULD BE,

MY LIFE WOULD BE, MY LIFE WOULD BE!

(Speaking) I know they all think I'm big and mean and ugly. No one has ever gotten close enough to find out any differently. I've never even heard anyone say my name right.

Pizza guy: (Quickly entering with pizza box, listening to earphones) Pizza for Mr. Pig In a Hole!!

Figatroll: (Firmly, but quietly) That's Figatroll.

Pizza guy: Did you say Bigga Bowl??? Sorry, but our pizza only comes in a box, not a bowl.

Figatroll: (Louder) My name is Figatroll. My name is MR. Figatroll.

Pizza guy: FFFFFffffffgggga...did you say TROLL????!!!!?? What's this address again?

(checks box) Under the bridge!...AAHH!! Here's your pizza!! I'm getting out of here!

*Largo tag plays as Pizza Guy runs out. Troll settles down to eat pizza.*

*Barber of Seville Act I intro begin- Piano, pianissimo*

Millie: Come on! Come on! (to off stage Willie who will enter when he is out of pizza hat) We won't be able to figure out the best way across the bridge until we see it for ourselves. Then we can make a plan.

Willie: (can still be offstage) No! You go first!

Millie: Not me. You know I scare easily.

Silly: I'll go first. Now, piano, everybody!

Willie: You want to play the piano, now?

Millie: It's a musical term, doofus. It means quietly.

Silly: (singing) PIANO, PIANISSIMO, DON'T MAKE A PEEP,  
MAYBE THE TROLL WILL BE ASLEEP, WILL BE ASLEEP,

All three: PIANO, PIANISSIMO, DON'T MOVE A SMIDGE,

Silly: THERE IS THE BRIDGE!

All three: THERE IS THE BRIDGE!

Silly: PIANO!

M & W: PIANO!

All three: THERE IS THE BRIDGE!

Music ends.

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BECAUSE I'VE HEARD THE THINGS THEY'VE SAID ABOUT ME!  
FIRST A MURMUR, HE IS HAIRY,  
THEN A WHISPER, HE IS SCARY,  
THEN THE RUMOR MILL IS GRINDING,  
FAINTLY HUMMING, NOW UNWINDING,  
THEN IT SUDDENLY DEVELOPS,  
COMING NEARER UNTIL ALL IT WILL ENVELOP,  
FIRST A MERE DO YOU SUPPOSE SO,  
THEN A CERTAIN YES I KNOW SO,  
A VOLCANO, A TORNADO, A VOLCANO SOON WILL BLOW!

(Spoken) He eats children!

(singing) WHAT BEGAN AS INNUENDO,

(Spoken) He ate our veterinarian!

(singing) SOON IS SWELLING IN CRESCENDO,

(Spoken) I'm a vegetarian!

(singing) GOSSIP HEARD WITH FEAR AND WONDER,  
SPRINKLES TURNING INTO THUNDER,  
GROWING LOUDER BY THE HOUR,  
BEATING, POUNDING, FULL OF POWER,  
SHRIEKING, BANGING, BOOMING, CLANGING,

RIPPING, TEARING EV'RYWHERE,  
HITTING, HARMING, MOST ALARMING,  
IT'S A FUSILLADE OF BULLETS  
FROM THE SCATTERGUN OF GOSSIP!  
AND THE VICTIM, POOR ACCUSED ONE,  
WRETCHED, SLANDERED AND ABUSED ONE,  
HAS TO HIDE AWAY IN SHAME  
AND WISH HE NEVER HAD BEEN BORN!  
(repeat last line)

Scene change.

Goats come running one, doing jumping jacks and other aerobic exercise.

All goats: (chanting in rhythm of army drill)

One, two, three, four, who is it we're training for?

Mean troll (1,2), mean troll (3,4) !!

Willie: Are you sure all of this is necessary?

Silly: Absolutely. A fit goat is a safer goat.

Millie: Do we really need karate lessons?

Silly: (Doing fast karate move that scares Millie, nods) Hi---eee—YA!

Instructor: (entering, looking somewhat amazed at clumsy Silly) I am your sensei—  
your karate instructor. I see we have a lot of work ahead of us. We begin with

*La calumnia – Barber*

(Singing) LET ME TELL YOU WHY NO ONE LIKES ME,

I AM CRABBY, SO THEY DESPISE ME,

I AM CRABBY FOR A REASON,

KINDNESS NEVER IS IN SEASON,

deep breathing—to empty the mind of any thoughts not related to karate.

Millie: Easy for Silly. Her mind is already empty.

Silly: Very funny.

Instructor: Karate is the art of self defense. It is not for bullying or attacking.

Silly: What's the matter, Willie?

Willie: (who has been breathing deeply and slowly, leaning back as he inhales, forward as he exhales, barely moving his lips as he replies) There's a bug on my lip. (Inhales dramatically again and grimaces) (Big gulp sound.) There WAS a bug on my lip. I think I just swallowed it.

Millie: Gross!

Instructor: Now we work on stance. Very important. See horse stance. Requires muscle

strength and balance.

All emulate horse stance. Deeply bent knees, arms up and elbows bent.

Instructor: We are concentrating. Always concentrate. Never look down. Eyes on opponent. Now, some basic moves.

S & W stand. Millie stays stuck in horse stance.

Instructor: (to Millie) I said MOVES.

Willie: He said Moves, Millie.

Millie: (wincing) I can't move. I'm stuck.

Silly: (as she and Willie help Millie out of position) Guess all your muscles are in your mouth.

Instructor: Ah, in karate, we are not discourteous. We show respect to others. We bow to our opponent. (all bow) (demonstrating) We learn moves. Blocking. Punching. Kicking. A series of moves is called kata. The kiai or loud shout focuses our physical and mental energy. (Bedlam as goats mimic his moves and yells. Goats spastically fall or collapse to floor)

Instructor: (in discouraged voice to audience as goats crawl away) I hope they didn't hurt themselves. (Calling after goats) See you next week? (Bows to audience and exits)