

CASTING/AUDITION INFORMATION

Dark of the Moon

Written by Howard Richardson & William Berney

Directed by Jenny Martin

PRODUCTION DATES:

Open Auditions: Feb 16 10am-4pm and Feb 17 1pm-5pm 2019

Callback Audition Date: TBD

Company Meeting/1st Rehearsal: August 25, 2019

First Tech: September 29, 2019

Performance Dates: September 21-October 5, 2019 (weekends only)

School Performances: None

SUMMARY OF SHOW:

This perennial favorite is based on the haunting folk ballad of "Barbara Allen." Set in the Smoky Mountains, it recounts the story of John, a strange "witch boy" who upon first beholding the beautiful Barbara Allen immediately falls in love. He is given human form to woo and marry her on the condition that she remain true to him.

AUDITOR(S): Jenny Martin (Director)

CHARACTERS/CASTING NEEDS:

14 men, 11 women

John: Witch Boy (age range: 18-30) in love with Barbara Allen, a human. He should be able to play 18 years old. The role is very physical and actor should be able to portray differences in mortality and immortality through physical movement. Sort of an Appalachian "Edward" from the Twilight series.

Conjur Man: (age range: 30-102) He is an old mountain man who lives in both the mortal and immortal worlds. He is strange and wise; the role can be funny as well as haunting. A country-Yoda so to speak.

Dark Witch: (age range: 18-30) one of the witches that make up John's "family." Should be able to move well! Animal/surreal-like movements will be choreographed to suggest "otherworldly-ness."

Fair Witch: (age range: 18-30) one of the witches that make up John's "family." Should be able to move well! Animal/surreal-like movements will be choreographed to suggest "otherworldly-ness."

Conjur Woman: (age range 30-102) a female counterpart to the Conjur Man, earthy and homespun, but a little more mischievous and wicked. She walks more on the side of "black magic."

Hank Gudger: (age range: 18-25) Actor must be able to play at least 18. He is an innocent youth in town who has a secret romance. He should be simple, likeable and genuine.

Edna Summey: (age range: 18-30) Actress must be able to portray 18. She would be a bully if anyone actually paid her any attention. She is the bitter rival of Barbara Allen. Even though she is very judgmental of Barbara's less than stellar morality, it turns out her moral compass is also off.

Mr. Summey: (age range: 40+) Father to Edna, Barbara Allen's rival, and married to Mrs. Summey, the local midwife. He is also the owner of the General Store. His family is sort of always in competition with the Allen's, but in a way the

relationship reminds us of the Olsen's and the Ingalls' in "Little House of the Prairie." Mr. Summey, much like Mr. Olsen, is not immune to a healthy competition but often embarrassed by his wife and daughter's overt distaste of the Allen family.

Mrs. Summey: (age range: 40+) She is the local midwife, mother to Edna, Barbara Allen's rival, and married to Mr. Summey, the owner of the local grocery store. Her family is sort of always in competition with the Allen's, but in a way the relationship reminds me of the Olsens and the Ingalls in "Little House of the Prairie." With Mrs. Summey, much like Mrs. Olsen, often going out of her way to be 'above' fighting with the Allen family, though one senses that the "lady doth protest too much."

Miss Metcalf: (age 30+) She is the local spinster. She is described as pretty. And while the script doesn't specify her profession, one pictures her as the local school teacher or librarian. She is a romantic, blushes easily (mainly because it is proper) but enjoys the attention she receives from the local single gentlemen.

Mr. Atkins: (any age) A member of Uncle Smelicue's band that plays most, if not all, of the music in the show. He sings some and preferably plays banjo or fiddle, This could be adjusted to guitar depending on the versatility of the other musicians.

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Uncle Smelicue: (age range: 40+) Everybody in town refers to him as "Uncle" which means it is more than likely a nickname. He is jovial and fun. Likes to tease and flirt. He is a master showman, and can entertain at the town dance as well as spin a ghost story for the locals. The script calls for him to play guitar.

Floyd Allen: (age range: 16-20) Actor must be able to play younger (supposed to be 15) than Barbara Allen. He is her younger brother. He is comical and a pest as most brothers are. He moves from being the sort of stock type of a younger brother to becoming a boy terrified of the curse that his sister is bringing on the family.

Mr. Bergen: (age range: 40+) He is the hen-pecked and much-put-upon husband of Mrs. Bergen, the town busybody and father to Ella.

Mrs. Bergen: (age range: 40+) She is the bossy town busybody, married to Mr. Bergen, and mother to Ella.

Burt Dinwitty: (age range: 16-25) Actor must be able to play young. He is a champion of Marvin and friend of Hank, so he can be either a young man who looks up to Marvin or one of his bully peers.

Greeny Gorman: (age 50) A Townsperson.

Hattie Heffner: (any age) A Townsperson.

Marvin Hudgens: (age range: 18-30) A mortal boy who is desperately in love with Barbara Allen. He is quite possibly a humorless version of the sinister "Gaston" in "Beauty and the Beast." He's muscular and brutish, referred to as the "strongest man in the county." Marvin is also clever and manipulative. In his simplified thinking, he devises a disastrous way to ensure that Barbara and John's relationship will be a rocky one.

Barbara Allen: (age range: 18-30) must be able to portray 18. She is a naïve, lusty young woman who falls madly in love with John. Must be comfortable with the very ADULT situations that happen to her during the course of the play. She is both proud and haughty and very vulnerable. The character goes through a huge roller coaster of emotional pain and physical attacks.

Mrs. Allen: (age range: 40+) Barbara Allen's mother. She is a woman of God, a hard working, no-nonsense woman of the

mountains. She is as loving to her family as a woman of her background could allow herself to be. She does have moments of fun and whimsy, but catches herself and makes the choice to be mindful of her place and station. She is very concerned about her daughter's opportunities to be married and Barbara's less than perfect morality.

Mr. Allen: (age range: 40+) Barbara Allen's father. He begins as a fun, caring, parent, almost like a TV sitcom dad, but is finally pushed into the role of desperate father. He begins an impenetrable force.

Ella Bergen: (age 16- 25) A young girl in town.

Preacher Haggler: (age range: 40+) He is the local preacher. Rustic and comical, but also able to conjure up fire and brimstone and make his congregation quake with fear of hell and damnation. His blind faith is manipulated and used against him as he becomes truly blind in his lack of compassion and blurs the line between right and wrong.

AUDITION PROCEDURES:

Professional actors should be prepared to present a monologue and have a headshot/resume that details their credentials. All actors should be prepared to read from the script. Actors may be asked to attend a callback audition at the discretion of the director.

REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS:

Rehearsals will be held at the Mountain Heritage Center located at 113 Green Mountain Drive in Burnsville and at Parkway Playhouse, located at 202 Green Mountain Drive. Performances will be at Parkway Playhouse. Any/all known conflicts should be disclosed prior to or at auditions and confirmed at the first company meeting.

Additional calls for the purposes of costume fittings, research, PR, and other issues pertaining to production will be scheduled as needed by the Production Manager/Stage Management.

TENTATIVE REHEARSAL DAYS AND TIMES:

Sundays-Thursdays 6:30pm

Saturdays 10am

Tech Week - Sunday-Friday 6pm

COMPENSATION:

Actors who present a professional audition and meet the associated criteria will be paid a modest stipend.

NOTIFICATION:

ASAP via email or phone call no later than March 31. Due to time constraints the theatre will only notify those persons we intend to cast. Actors may be asked to attend a callback audition at the discretion of the director.