

Dedicated to my son, Brock

FOREWORD

Who or what is the mysterious being that plays the piano in the music room at school after dark? After musical rehearsal, Chris and friends seek to find out — only to encounter Deputy Barney, who is naive but well-meaning. Convinced that the mysterious musician is a ghost, Deputy Barney and the kids meet with Principal Taylor and their music teacher, Mr./Mrs. Appleby. The adults, led by Deputy Barney, sneak back into school that night and discover the phantom is Floyd, the custodian, who is taking piano lessons. After having a good laugh over the situation, they decide to play a trick on the kids before revealing the identity of the phantom.

THE PHANTOM OF THE MUSIC ROOM is a humorous, melodramatic, modern-day mystery which will enable students to discover the excitement of classical music.

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PERFORMANCE TIME — Approx. 30 minutes

- SAM: What was that?
- AARON: A piano.
- SAM: (*impatiently*) I know it was a piano. But who or what was playing the piano?
- KIDS: (*ad. lib.*) I don't know, I didn't look, Search me, etc.
- CHRIS: (*stands up and slowly goes to center stage. The others follow.*) (*dramatically*) I know what it was.
- KIM: What was it, Chris?
- JESS: Tell us.
- CHRIS: (*stares at audience*) It was a . . . a ghost!
- KIDS: (*with looks of panic*) A ghost?
- CHRIS: Yes.

THERE IS A GHOST

(Kids and Chorus)

Music from *Funeral March*
by FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Slowly (♩ = ca. 56)

KIDS: ③ *mp* (sing both times)

There is a ghost. There is a ghost.

CHORUS: *p* (2nd time only)

There is a ghost. There is a ghost.

Slowly (♩ = ca. 56)

mf

mp (play R.H. 2nd time only)

5

There is a ghost in the mu-sic room at school. There is a ghost in the mu-sic room at school.

There is a ghost. There is a ghost. There is a ghost. There is a ghost.

SURPRISE ENCOUNTER

(Kids and Barney)

Music from *Surprise Symphony*
by JOSEPH HAYDN

Mysteriously (♩ = ca. 108)

SAM: Let's get out of here! AARON: Shh! Be quiet!

KIDS:

⑤ *p* (form a group center stage)

Mysteriously (♩ = ca. 108)

p

Some-one's sneak-ing up on us.

7 and tiptoe backwards towards stage right)

Time to make an *sim.* ex - o - dus. Back a - way so qui - et - ly, Stay so calm, not

sim.

12 BARNEY:

(kids freeze)

⑬ *p* (enters stage right and tiptoes backwards towards center stage)

pan - ick - y. Tip - toe, tip - toe, make no noise. Now's no time to lose my poise.

p

(Barney and kids back into each other and scream) *ff*

17

Thought I heard a noise out here. Care - ful, nev - er fear! Aah!

ff