

A PLACE CALLED NEVERLAND

MUSIC BY JIMMY JEWELL

LYRICS BY NICK STIMSON

TRACK

1

$\text{♩} = 90$

Fadd9

mp

Fadd9/E

Fadd9/D

When you fall a - sleep_ you dream_ a - bout_ a place called Ne-ver - land_

6

Gm^{II}

Fadd9/A

B^bmaj⁹

There are pi-rates and_ red in - di - ans_ and sea and gold-en sand_

10

C^{II}

Fadd9

Fadd9/E

Fadd9/D

and you think it's just_ a sil - ly dream_ that will fade when morn-ing breaks_

A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR

TRACK

2

WORDS AND MUSIC BY RICHARD M SHERMAN AND ROBERT B SHERMAN

♩ = 110

G Gdim G D¹³ D⁷ G *mf* B^bdim D⁷

1. In ev - 'ry

5 G

(1.) job that must be done, there is an e - le - ment of
 (2.) fea - ther - ing his nest, has ve - ry lit - tle time to
 (3.) bees that fetch the nec - tar from the flo - wers to the

8 B^bdim

fun. You find the fun and snap! The job's a
 rest. While ga - ther - ing his bits of twine and
 comb. Nev - er tire of ev - er buzz - ing to and

ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL

BACKGROUND

Seussical is a musical inspired by the popular children's books by Dr Seuss, particularly *Horton Hears a Who!* The show opened on Broadway in 2000, followed by a shorter and simpler Off-Broadway revival in 2007. A cut-down one-act 'Theatre for Young Audience' version has also proved popular.

Kind-hearted Horton the elephant discovers a tiny planet in a speck of dust, inhabited by microscopic beings called 'Whos'. Horton promises to protect the planet and puts it in a clover plant for safety. But of course all the other jungle animals just laugh at him and think he's mad. Meanwhile Jo-Jo, an inhabitant of the planet, echoes his thoughts.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Horton, outcast and alone, is sitting by a flower which – as only he knows – contains a tiny planet. The situation is a very odd one, but you have to perform this song with absolute seriousness. Always remember that, no matter what anyone else may say, this is very important and *you are right*. Notice how Horton constantly draws a very clear distinction between himself (I've done this, I've got that) and the other animals (let them laugh, they don't know). Use this contrast to drive the song forward: let their stupidity and ignorance give you renewed self-belief. Being 'alone in the universe' isn't necessarily a bad thing – it's what makes you unique and 'gives you wings'.

The lyrics take Horton from a very small, specific spot in the jungle to wonderful imagined worlds both large and small. Experiment with staging to find ways of conveying this sense of space and potential to the audience. How much movement is necessary? How little? Does the fact that Horton is an elephant influence your physical performance?

SINGING TIPS

This song is great for trying out different dynamics. There's some repetition in the tune and the words, and it really adds to a performance if repeated phrases can be varied.

Practise some scales, up and down, singing quietly, loudly, or going from quiet to loud or loud to quiet. Do you find that you naturally tend to get quieter as you sing down a scale? Notice that many of the phrases in this song are descending phrases. Don't let the last part of the phrase disappear, especially if you're singing softly.

One extra thing to take care of here is that you don't let the words run into each other too much. For example, make sure you sing 'I'm alone' and not 'I malone', and 'They all' and not 'They yall'.

BEYOND THE SONG

When *Seussical* was first performed, critics weren't sure whether the show was aimed at children or adults. What do you think are the essential components of a children's show? Which of these might adults most enjoy?