

**Olivia**  
Junior Script  
by  
Malcolm Sircom

Published by

**Musicline Publications**

**P.O. Box 15632**

**Tamworth**

**Staffordshire**

**B78 2DP**

**01827 281 431**

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**LIST OF CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE****Scene One**

Chorus of Orphans  
 Dicken  
 Mrs. Murdstone  
 Olivia  
 Orphan 1  
 Orphan 2  
 Orphan 3  
 Orphan 4

**Scene Two**

Dicken  
 Olivia

**Scene Three**

Annie  
 Chorus (of Fagin's Gang)  
 Chorus (of Londoners)  
 Doris  
 Ebenezer Scrooge  
 Eliza Doolittle  
 Fagin  
 Flo  
 Gentleman  
 George Bernard Shaw  
 Lamplighter  
 Olivia  
 Queenie  
 The Artful Dodger  
 The Fat Lady

**Scene Four**

Charlotte  
 Eliza Doolittle  
 Emily  
 Girl 1  
 Girl 2  
 Girl 3  
 Girl 4  
 Mrs. Dilber  
 Olivia  
 Poor School Girls

**Scene Five**

Annie  
 Charlotte  
 Doris  
 Ebenezer Scrooge  
 Eliza Doolittle  
 Emily  
 Fagin  
 Flo  
 Olivia  
 Queenie  
 The Artful Dodger

**Scene Six**

Annie  
 Doctor Watson  
 Eliza Doolittle  
 Mrs. Hudson  
 Placard Girl  
 Sherlock Holmes

**Scene Seven**

Chorus  
 Criminal (Dodger)  
 Daughter (Olivia)  
 The Judge  
 The Police Constable  
 The Usher

**Scene Eight**

All

## LIST OF PROPERTIES

### Throughout

Olivia & Annie wear lockets round their necks.

### Scene One [Orphanage]

Sign reading “Mrs. Murdstone’s Orphanage for Girls” ..... Scene Prop  
 Table set with bowls and spoons ..... Scene Prop  
 Benches for the girls to sit on (Optional) ..... Scene Prop  
 Tureen of slop with ladle set on table ..... Scene Prop  
 Bunch of keys hanging from waist ..... Dicken

### Scene Three [Covent Garden]

Green flowers in buttonholes ..... 2 or 3 men in Chorus  
 5 baskets of flowers ..... The Flower-Sellers  
 Coin ..... Gentleman  
 Mittens ..... Scrooge  
 Walking stick ..... Scrooge  
 Handkerchief or tissue ..... Flo  
 Penny ..... Fagin  
 Top hat (Optional) ..... George Bernard Shaw  
 Two wallets ..... George Bernard Shaw  
 Two one pound notes ..... George Bernard Shaw  
 Two opera tickets ..... Artful Dodger  
 Lamplighter’s pole ..... Lamplighter  
 Wagnerian outfit: breast plate, spear, horned helmet etc. .... The Fat Lady

### Scene Five [Covent Garden]

5 baskets of flowers, as before ..... The Flower-Sellers  
 3 Collecting tins ..... Olivia, Emily & Charlotte  
 Coins and notes ..... The Crowd  
 3 coins (could be in a purse) ..... Ebenezer Scrooge

### Scene Six [Sherlock Holme’s Study]

Tray of tea and Victoria sponge, with appropriate crockery ..... Mrs. Hudson or Scene Prop  
 Placard reading “The Savoy Theatre” ..... Placard Girl

**Scene Seven [Savoy Theatre]**

Long table and chairs or benches, courtroom style .....Scene Prop  
Handkerchief ..... The Judge  
Five pound note ..... The Criminal

**Scene Eight [Covent Garden]**

5 baskets of flowers, as before ..... The Flower-Sellers

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

### **STAGING**

**Scene One** is set inside Mrs Murdstone's Orphanage for Girls. It is a terrible, dismal and drab place. A refectory table is centre stage and set on it are basic bowls with spoons, a steaming cauldron of vile gruel and a serving ladle. There can be basic benches or forms for the girls to sit on.

**Scene Two** is set in front of a cloth or the house tabs and is a link scene allowing the main set to be changed from the Orphanage to Covent Garden. It needs little in the way of set props, but could utilize such items as a sign post or mile stone, field gate etc.

**Scenes Three, Five & Eight** are full sets with a backdrop revealing Covent Garden. If space permits, there could be costermonger barrows or wagons, otherwise the backdrop could suggest their presence.

**Scene Four** – Mrs Dilber's Poor School for Girls can be a half set with the next scene set behind it. Tabs, cloth or flats depicting the interior of an early 1800's classroom and maybe a couple of desks and forms would complete the set; nothing too elaborate in terms of set props as it is a quick change to the next scene.

**Scene Six** being Sherlock Holmes's study is depicted by a vast array of books and some comfortable chairs. There is probably a desk or bureau that Holmes would sit at when writing his notes. It is not crucial to the plot however.

**Scene Seven** – on stage at the Savoy Theatre – is depicted by a courtroom setting. A small dock for the convict to appear in and a lectern or similar, with a gavel and block will indicate the courtroom. This may be enhanced with forms for the jury or whatever as resources allow. It is a stage setting though and not intended to be an accurate courtroom setting.

### **CHOREOGRAPHY**

In **Track 1**, the girls march in tempo in three distinct groups, along the lines of "Food, Glorious Food" in the film Oliver. They group up for the ending.

**Track 2 – Slop:** The Orphans, including Olivia go up to the table, collect their bowls and spoons, then return to their places, sit cross-kneed or on forms, and eat the slop, all in the tempo of the song.

In **Track 7 - Good Times**, Fagin's gang appear, either behind a gauze, or in greenish lighting to make them ghost-like, and acknowledge their names in the song with a small arm gesture.

**Let's Go To The Opera – Track 8** has a waltz set within it for the chorus to waltz on to and off to the Opera House.

In **Track 11 - The Charity Rag**, there is an opportunity for the charity collectors to be choreographed to the music as they collect the donations from the crowd.

## **COSTUME**

Much of the costume for this show draws on that used for other popular shows of the period, such as Oliver, My Fair Lady, Ebenezer Scrooge etc. Specifically, certain characters should be costumed as follows:

<b>Olivia</b>	Long, ragged skirt. Lacy top and shawl. All dirty and unkempt.
<b>Mrs. Murdstone</b>	Ankle length pinafore front dress, blouse with lace sleeve cuffs, mop cap.
<b>Eliza Doolittle</b>	Ankle length skirt, apron, bloomers, blouse, velvety jacket, matching hat.
<b>Annie</b>	As above.
<b>Queenie</b>	As above.
<b>Doris</b>	As above.
<b>Flo</b>	As above.
<b>Mrs. Dilber</b>	Ankle length skirt, blouse, jacket.
<b>Mrs. Hudson</b>	Ankle length pinafore front dress, bloomers, blouse with lace cuffs, mop cap.
<b>Emily &amp; Charlotte</b>	As Olivia.
<b>Placard Girl</b>	As Olivia.
<b>Chorus of Orphans</b>	As Olivia for girls, shorts, boots ragged shirts, flat caps for boys.
<b>Orphans 1-4</b>	As Olivia.
<b>Poor school girls</b>	As Olivia but not ragged, dirty or unkempt.
<b>Girls 1-4</b>	As Olivia but not ragged, dirty or unkempt.
<b>Londoners &amp; Opera-goers</b>	Period style costume, including parasols for the ladies.
<b>Gentleman</b>	As Londoners (no parasol!).
<b>Dicken</b>	Well worn trousers and boots. Shirt with rolled up sleeves, flat cap.
<b>Ebenezer Scrooge</b>	Black Trousers, spats, black shoes, black waistcoat and jacket, top hat and overcoat with cape. Walking cane.
<b>George Bernard Shaw</b>	3 piece suit (could be tweed), shirt with collar and tie, top hat and, of course, full beard.
<b>Fagin</b>	Battered hat, tatty, non-matching 3 piece suit and large overcoat. Shirt with cravat.
<b>The Artful Dodger</b>	Crumpled top hat, large overcoat, dirty shirt and cravat.

<b>Lamplighter</b>	Anything pertaining to the period. Some wore bowler hats and brown tweed suits but anything of the era would be fine.
<b>Sherlock Holmes</b>	Classic costume with Deer-stalker hat.
<b>Doctor Watson</b>	Classic costume with bowler hat.

## **LIGHTING AND SOUND**

### **Lighting**

**Scene One** is set in Mrs Murdstone's Orphanage, which is a dim and dreary place. However, the lighting needs to allow the audience to see the characters and therefore, whilst the overall effect is dingy, specific acting areas need to be illuminated. If possible, use yellows etc. to give the right effect. There is a 'window' off stage to which the orphans run to watch the chase when Olivia escapes. This can be effected by a spotlight set in the wings, with perhaps a bluish tinge and a 'window effect gobo' focused onto the stage floor.

**Scene Two.** No specific lighting required.

**Scene Three** needs coolish lighting if possible, to create a morning feel to Covent Garden. Later in the scene (when Fagin's gang appears at Song 7) the lighting is brought up on the gang using floor lights and spots with a greenish tinge to them. The lighting returns to normal at the end of the song. Progressively, the lighting should warm throughout the scene as the day unfolds so that by the time the lamplighter enters, we have moved through to evening. A spotlight should be focused on the 'Fat Lady' as she enters for her song.

**Scene Four** requires no specific lighting effects.

**Scene Five** should be lit as for the start of **Scene Three**.

**Scene Six** – in Holmes's study - would benefit if possible, from general lighting to enhance the feel of the period: possibly light from a window, gaslights illuminating the room with a yellowish tinge, or something else along those lines. A spotlight is required at the end of the scene to illuminate the character carrying the placard, to separate the actor from the main scene.

**Scene Seven** is set on stage at the Savoy Theatre. If you have the resources, just make it very theatrical with the lighting, remembering that footlights were the norm for this period.

**Scene Eight** should be brightly lit for the Finale of the show.

### **Sound Effects (SFX)**

There are no specific sound effects required in this show.



**SCENE ONE: MRS. MURDSTONE'S ORPHANAGE FOR GIRLS**

*(There could be a sign on the back wall reading Mrs. Murdstone's orphanage for girls. The setting is as drab and dismal as possible. There is a table set with bowls and spoons, a steaming cauldron full of goo, and a serving ladle.)*

**TRACK 1: ORPHANS**

*(The first group of Orphans marches on.)*

**GROUP 1:** ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
SHUT UP IN AN ORPHANAGE DAY AND NIGHT.

*(The second group marches on. The two groups sing simultaneously:)*

**GROUP 1:**  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
AH.

**GROUP 2:**  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
WORKING HARD AS SLAVES,  
DO YOU THINK THAT'S RIGHT?

*(The third group marches on. The three groups sing simultaneously:)*

**GROUPS 1 & 2:**  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
AH.  
AH, AH.

**GROUP 3:**  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
NOBODY TO LISTEN  
TO OUR PLIGHT.

**ALL:** MRS. MURDSTONE IS IN CHARGE.  
**GROUP 3:** SHE'S ROUGH,  
**GROUP 2:** SHE'S TOUGH,  
**GROUP 1:** SHE'S EVER SO LARGE.  
**GROUP 3:** SHE TREATS US LIKE WE WERE DIRT.  
**ALL:** SHE'S LIKE A SERGEANT-MAJOR IN A SKIRT!  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
SHUT UP IN AN ORPHANAGE DAY AND NIGHT.  
ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS, ORPHANS,  
NO-ONE CARES ABOUT YOU WHEN YOU'RE OUT OF SIGHT!  
**(SHOUTED)** IT'S NOT RIGHT!

*(After applause, all the Orphans start girl-chatter. Enter Mrs. Murdstone, a fearsome, cruel, middle-aged female.)*

**ORPHAN 3:** It's Mrs. Murdstone!