

SCRIPT

Stage directions are suggestions only.

Owners of a valid performance licence for Micromusicals | The Little Mermaid may photocopy this script.

SCENE 1

optional incidental music
(overture)

1

9

17

fade if required



forward to next track

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SONG 1 | WELCOME TO THE OCEAN WORLD

(PAGE 18)

ENSEMBLE enters stage in groups or standing in a semi-circle. Wearing sea-life costumes or holding cardboard cut-outs of underwater plants and animals, selected cast members 'swim' across the stage at varying times during the song. The rest of the *ENSEMBLE* sway back and forth slowly, either in time or in counterpoint, as if underwater.

ALL

**Welcome to the ocean world.
It's a world of delight,
a wonderful sight!
You can see all the fish and mammals;
you'll wish that you could go there.**

**Welcome to the ocean world.
There are blue whales and sharks
and undersea parks.
You can swim by a reef,
get right underneath
the surface of things.**

**No-one is sure what is down there.
Mermaids and kings of the sea?
Cities are lost in the waters.
Where can they be?**



forward
to next track

NARRATOR 1 and *NARRATOR 2* stand at each corner of the stage.

NARRATOR 1

[to audience]

Welcome to our ocean!
Oceans are large bodies of water and they are very deep.
This is the deepest, and all the way down at the very, very bottom is our kingdom.
A kingdom ruled over by the Sea King.

THE SEA KING walks to the front of the stage and looks out over the audience.

NARRATOR 2

In our kingdom there are mermaid families.

Enter members of the *ENSEMBLE* in mermaid families and school groups.

THE SEA KING welcomes them. *SISTER 1* (a mermaid) enters and stands beside *NARRATOR 2*.

NARRATOR 1

A mermaid is a creature who is half human, half fish – with a tail instead of legs.

SISTER 1 points to her costume, then winks at audience.

NARRATOR 2 In one mermaid family there were six daughters.

SISTERS 2-5 playfully enter the stage, laughing and giggling.

NARRATOR 1 The youngest daughter, and the littlest of the mermaids, was called Marina. She was known for her beautiful, sweet singing voice.

MARINA - THE LITTLE MERMAID enters, trailing behind the other five. She is humming to herself and dancing lightly.

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SONG 2 | AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

(PAGE 20)

The ENSEMBLE sings as the SEA KING walks, circling the stage. He says hello to the mermaid families and school groups who bow to him as he passes by. SISTERS 1-5 follow him, laughing, and giggling. The SEA KING orders them to behave. MARINA trails behind. She stands in the centre of the stage and stops to daydream.

ALL

**At the bottom of the sea the Sea King rules.
There are plants, there are fish, there are mermaid schools.
Six little mermaids live down there,
and the youngest one has a face so fair.**

**She has a tail but she has no feet,
and she sings like an angel; her voice so sweet.
Skin so soft it would make you cry.
Eyes as blue as a summer sky.**

**She would love to visit the world above
where she dreams of finding someone to love.
Her desire is a human soul,
so the ocean surface is her goal.**

The ENSEMBLE exits the stage. MARINA is left behind on stage. She kneels and combs her hair with her fingers.



forward
to next track

NARRATOR 2 If they are kind and do good deeds, mermaids become Spirits of the Air, which means they can live as long as three hundred years!

NARRATOR 1 Marina had not yet become a Spirit of the Air. She was impatient and wanted to go to the world above the ocean right away!

GRANDMOTHER enters.

GRANDMOTHER Marina! Hurry, please - you mustn't keep your sisters and I waiting!

MARINA Grandmother, when can I go to the ocean surface?
I want to visit the world above! I'm tired of living here.

GRANDMOTHER You will make your trip to the surface and see the world of humans, but not until you're fifteen years old.

MARINA But I want to know what's up there now! Why do I have to wait? Why?

GRANDMOTHER That is the rule of the Sea King.
Now, not another word Marina, you must come home straight away!

GRANDMOTHER exits. Marina is left alone on stage.

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SONG 3 | I WISH THAT I COULD TRAVEL

(PAGE 22)

MARINA sings to audience and looks longingly into the distance.

MARINA

**I wish that I could travel
and see the world up there.
I hear that stars shine brightly
and music fills the air.
I'd like to go much sooner,
not wait till I'm fifteen.
It all sounds so exciting,
these things I've never seen.
I want to go there
and see things for myself.**

SISTERS enter as they sing and watch MARINA from a distance.

**I'm sure I'll find a prince there
who'll want to marry me.
He'll want to meet a mermaid
who lives beneath the sea.
The waiting's nearly over
and then the sun will shine
on me and my beloved.
The world will soon be mine.
I want to go there
and see things for myself.**

SISTERS move towards MARINA.

SISTERS

**She dreams of going up there.
She really cannot wait
to see the world above her
before it is too late.**

**She wishes she could travel
and see the world up there.
She's heard that stars shine brightly
and music fills the air.
She'd like to go much sooner,
not wait till she's fifteen.
It all sounds so exciting,
these things she's never seen.**

SISTERS hug MARINA

MARINA **I want to go there
and see things for myself.
I want to go there
and see things for myself.**



forward
to next track

NARRATOR 2 Before the mermaids could swim to the ocean's surface, they had to have the official consent of the Sea King

The SEA KING enters with GRANDMOTHER. The six SISTERS line up excitedly. The SEA KING motions for SISTER 1 to step forward. He points upwards. She looks at her sisters excitedly, he nods at her, GRANDMOTHER kisses her forehead and SISTER 1 'swims' off the stage.

NARRATOR 1 And having waited...

SISTERS 2 and 3 step forward. The SEA KING points to the sky and nods. GRANDMOTHER kisses each sister's forehead. They swim away.

NARRATOR 2 ...and waited...

SISTERS 4 and 5 step forward. The SEA KING points to the sky and nods. GRANDMOTHER kisses each sister's forehead. They swim away.

NARRATOR 1 ...and waited even more...

MARINA goes to step forward, SISTER 5 pushes her out of the way and steps forward. The SEA KING points to the sky and nods. GRANDMOTHER kisses her forehead. She swims away.

NARRATOR 2 ...at last Marina, the Little Mermaid, was fifteen!

The SEA KING motions to her, looks at GRANDMOTHER and nods. He exits the stage. GRANDMOTHER kisses her forehead.

GRANDMOTHER Goodbye my sweet Little Mermaid. Please be careful.

GRANDMOTHER exits. MARINA begins to swim around the stage.

NARRATOR 1 Up, up she went.
She swam right up to the surface - as light and sparkling as a beam of sunshine.

Members of the ENSEMBLE cross the stage with the animal cut-outs or costumes from the first song, MARINA swims by and waves to them. Then, 6-8 members of the ENSEMBLE (including the PRINCE) enter holding a cardboard cut-out of a ship. They look out over the water. MARINA is scared. She hides downstage behind one of the NARRATORS.

NARRATOR 1 The sea was calm, and as she looked across the water, straight ahead of her Marina saw a ship. For the first time in her life she could hear music and singing, and as the sun set and the sky started twinkling with stars, sailors on board lit hundreds of brightly coloured lanterns.

Some members of the ENSEMBLE on the boat hold lanterns; others hold mugs, food, or musical instruments. They are having a party.

NARRATOR 2 The Little Mermaid swam right up to the window of the main cabin and looked inside. There were lots of people there, eating and drinking and dancing to the music, but right away she noticed a handsome boy.

MARINA is curious. She swims up to the ship. She sees the PRINCE.

NARRATOR 1 All of a sudden, a terrible storm blew up and the ship was in danger.

MARINA hides behind NARRATOR 2.

The winds grew stronger, the rain fell heavier, and the waves stretched taller and taller. Marina was horrified as she watched the young man swept overboard.

MARINA Surely, he will drown!
(to NARRATOR 1)

Members of the ENSEMBLE come on to the stage and become the storm. They run quickly, back and forth, past the ship holding long pieces of blue and grey fabric, or cut-outs of rainclouds with lightning. As the storm builds in intensity the group surrounds the ship; then, on cue, they pull it apart and scatter off stage. The people on the ship are thrown into the sea. MARINA finds the PRINCE amongst the drowning crew. As she takes his hands and lifts him up, the rest of the crew melt off the stage and they are left alone.

NARRATOR 2 She swam through the waves until she reached the young man, and she carried him to a nearby beach and laid him on the sand. He was very ill and had fallen fast asleep.

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SONG 4 | I HAVE YOU IN MY ARMS

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MARINA leads the PRINCE across the stage, holding his hand. The PRINCE walks as if in a trance, and listens to MARINA'S beautiful voice.

MARINA **I have you in my arms but you don't know me -
a mermaid with no legs and a tail.
But if you wake, it just won't work - you're human.
My search for love is one that's doomed to fail.
It's daybreak and land is here before us,
we've reached a place of safety, but I must go.
I'll leave you on the sand, beside the ocean.
How you were rescued you will never know.**

The PRINCE sits down and slowly falls asleep. MARINA sings to the audience.

**My heart is torn, I think that he could love me,
but now I realise it's a dream.
How could a human learn to love a mermaid?
My quest is not as easy as it seems.
It's daybreak and land is here before us,
we've reached a place of safety, but I must leave
and find some way that we can be together.**

MARINA sits beside the PRINCE and holds him in her arms.

It has to happen. I must just believe.



*The PRINCESS enters. MARINA sees her and is frightened.
She runs and hides behind one of the NARRATORS.*

NARRATOR 1 A young girl, a princess from a neighbouring kingdom, was walking along the seashore when she noticed the young man lying on the sand. Marina had left him lying there and was watching from behind some rocks.

The PRINCESS sees the PRINCE. She rolls him over and looks at his face.

PRINCESS My goodness, it's Prince Stefan! Prince Stefan! Wake up!

She shakes him. The PRINCE groans and slowly starts to open his eyes.

What is he doing here? He must have been on the ship that was wrecked last night.
I must go for help.

She quickly leaves to get help. The PRINCE sits up, shaking his head.

MARINA (*hiding*) Oh dear! He is waking up and that girl said he is a Prince!
But he won't know who has rescued him. He'll think it was her!
How will he ever know it was me?

MARINA starts to approach the PRINCE, but the PRINCESS enters with a blanket and two or three members of the ENSEMBLE. They help the PRINCE to stand, put the blanket around him, and help him off the stage. MARINA looks on from her hiding spot then exits the stage.

NARRATOR 1 Marina dived sadly into the water and returned to her home at the bottom of the sea.

The NARRATORS walk to centre, talking to the audience

She was right - the Prince didn't know who had rescued him -
he did think it was the Princess who had found him on the beach.

NARRATOR 2 The Little Mermaid now wanted even more to become human so that she could see the Prince again. Desperate for help, she went to a Sea Witch for advice.

The NARRATORS switch sides of the stage. The SEA WITCH enters with two SERVANTS (ENSEMBLE members). She is looking at a book of spells. MARINA enters.

MARINA Please, I have come to ask for advice. I want to go and live on the surface. I want to be a human. Can you help me?

SEA WITCH I can help you, Marina. I have a potion that will give you legs like a human. But if you take it, you will never be able to talk or sing again.

The SERVANTS shake their heads in warning.

If you do you will be in constant pain when you walk.

The SERVANTS nod their heads vigorously.

And if the Prince marries someone else, you must leave the land, but you will not be able to return to your sea home either. You will disappear.

The SERVANTS look at her anxiously.

I think you should forget your dream of marrying a human. Think about what good and kind things you can do to become a Spirit of the Air.

SERVANTS Yes! Become a Spirit of the Air, beautiful Marina!

MARINA Please - I must see the Prince again. Give me the potion. I want to do this.

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SONG 5 | THIS POTION WILL GIVE YOU LEGS

(PAGE 30)

The SEA WITCH and MARINA stand together. SERVANTS circle them, as if doing magic. The SEA WITCH sings. She pulls the potion from her pocket and raises it to the sky.

SEA WITCH **This potion will give you legs,
but nevermore will you sing or talk;
and every step you take
will cause you pain when you walk.
Are you willing to do this?**

**If he marries someone new,
if you're unable to see this through,
you will disappear, you'll be
neither on land or on sea.
Are you able to do this?**

The SERVANTS look on. MARINA grabs the potion and drinks it. She begins to spin, as she does the mermaid tail comes off (perhaps aided by SERVANTS and the SEA WITCH) and she stands on her two legs. She looks at them and then faints into the arms of the SERVANTS.



forward
to next track

NARRATOR 1 The Little Mermaid eagerly took the potion and then fell into a faint. The Sea Witch took pity on her and magically sent her back to the surface.

The SEA WITCH and SERVANTS lay MARINA on the ground. The SEA WITCH casts a quick spell and exits the stage with her SERVANTS.

NARRATOR 2 When Marina awoke, she found herself lying on the ground near the Prince's palace. The Prince, out on his daily walk, found her and brought her back to the Palace. He thought she was very beautiful.

The PRINCE enters. He sees MARINA as she is beginning to wake up. He rushes to her and helps her stand. His friends from the palace (two or three ENSEMBLE members) enter and they all meet her.

NARRATOR 1 The Prince liked Marina very much and allowed her to stay at the palace, but he was surprised by the fact that she couldn't speak. He grew very fond of her, and perhaps even loved her, but was still so grateful to the Princess who he thought had saved him from drowning.

MARINA sits with the PRINCE, silently. The PRINCESS enters and the PRINCE goes to her. They exit the stage together. MARINA is left alone on stage.

NARRATOR 1 He loved her, and eventually the Prince asked her to marry him.

MARINA looks up hopefully.

The Princess, that is.

MARINA drops her head and weeps.

NARRATOR 2 On the morning of the Prince's wedding to the Princess, the mermaid's sisters appeared from the sea. They had a knife given to them by the Sea Witch.

The SISTERS appear; one is carrying a knife. MARINA is startled by their presence, she stands up.

SISTER 1 The Prince is not going to marry you.

SISTER 2 You're not really a human...

SISTER 3 ...but neither are you a mermaid.

SISTER 4 The Sea Witch said you could never come back to the kingdom of the sea.

MARINA'S head droops.

SISTER 5 But there is a way...

MARINA looks up.

SISTER 1 The only way you can reverse what's happened is to bathe your feet in the blood of a human that you love. If you do this, you'll get your voice back and will be a mermaid again and be allowed to return to the sea.

SISTER 2 You must kill the Prince.

NARRATOR 1 The Little Mermaid was horrified.

MARINA shakes her head vigorously, as if to say "NO!". She holds her hand to her heart as if to say 'He is my love!'

SISTER 3 You must give up this idea of being a human and gaining a soul and think about what good deeds you can do that will turn you into a Spirit of the Air...

SISTER 4 ...just like us.

SISTER 5 It's up to you, Marina.

She hands MARINA the knife. The SISTERS exit.

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SONG 6 | I CAN'T DO THIS

(PAGE 32)

The *PRINCE* and *PRINCESS* enter, they are dressed for the wedding.
MARINA sings but they cannot hear her.

MARINA

**I can't do this;
 I love him too much,
 so I'll throw away the knife
 and set him free.
 I can't stay here
 once he marries
 but neither can I go back to the sea.
 This was never meant to be.**

MARINA runs and hides behind one of the *NARRATORS* again.

PRINCE

**I'm so happy,
 I'm being married
 to the girl who saved my life
 down by the sea.**

The *PRINCESS* exits stage right.

The *PRINCE* kneels at the front of the stage.

MARINA approaches from behind and holds the knife up.

The moment of decision comes: she throws the knife into the sea stage left with all her might.

**But I wonder
 where the girl is
 who never spoke a single word to me;
 it remains a mystery.**

The *PRINCE* exits without ever seeing her.

MARINA looks out at the audience.



forward
to next track

NARRATOR 2

The Little Mermaid did something completely selfless – she put the Prince's happiness above her desire to live forever. But sadly the Sea Witch's warning became true: as the Prince and Princess got married, the Little Mermaid disappeared.

MARINA exits stage left.

NARRATOR 1

She could no longer live on the land, but she couldn't return to the sea either.

NARRATOR 2

Perhaps she should have taken the Sea Witch's advice not to take the potion in the first place?

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SONG 7 | DOWN, DOWN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

(PAGE 34)

The *ENSEMBLE* enter with either cardboard cut-outs or in costume of different fish and sea animals. They are dancing.

ALL **Blow out your bubbles, waggle your tail.
Don't make any trouble, you just gotta sail!
'Cause this is a day that's groovy and cool;
all the little Sea kids goin' back to school!**

KATIE BLOWFISH steps out of the line to wave at the audience. *STELLA STARFISH* is admiring herself in a hand mirror. *EBENEZER SEA SLUG* is teasing another fish.

**Hey, Katie Blowfish, go get in line!
And you, Stella Starfish, you're lookin' just fine!
Ebenezer Sea Slug, don't be a fool!
Time for all us sea kids to go back to school!**

They jump back into line. As they sing they get into a classroom formation, sitting on the floor, still grooving.

**Down, down, down at the bottom of the sea,
way down here, you just have to agree:
we have more action, we have more fun
than all those land lovers under the sun!**

OLIVER OYSTER walks in front of them drinking from a teacup, he stops and looks at the students.

**Oliver Oyster, finish your tea.
Tell us who our teacher is going to be.
We will all work hard for someone we like,
'cause it's time for school for marlin, bream and pike.**

**Down, down, down at the bottom of the sea,
way down here, you just have to agree:
we have more action, we have more fun
than all those land lovers under the sun!**

OLIVER OYSTER reaches in his pocket and brings out an envelope. He waves it in the air before moving to stand at the head of the class. The *ENSEMBLE* reacts excitedly and in anticipation.

OLIVER OYSTER Ahem, ahem, it gives me great pleasure to announce the name of our new teacher here at the school of fish. The name of our new teacher is...

(he opens envelope and reads)

...MARINA, THE LITTLE MERMAID!

Great gasps and cheers from the sea kids: 'We thought we'd never see you again!' as *MARINA* enters, followed by her *SISTERS*, *GRANDMOTHER*, the *SEA KING* and the *SEA WITCH*..

MARINA

I thought I'd never see you
 or my home 'neath the sea.
 The land above was never
 a place where I could be.
 The Sea King let me come back,
 gave me a chance to live
 but I must do the right things
 and I must learn to give.
 'Cause I'm a mermaid
 who lives beneath the sea.
 A Spirit of the Air
 is all I want to be.

Cheers from everyone for MARINA

SEA KING

Let's celebrate!

WHOLE CAST dances and parties in celebration

ALL

**Down, down, down at the bottom of the sea,
 way down here, you just have to agree:
 we have more action, we have more fun
 than all those land lovers under the sun!**

**Down, down, down at the bottom of the sea,
 way down here, you just have to agree:
 we have more action, we have more fun
 than all those land lovers under the sun!**



THE END

