

Out of Her Tree (Act 1)

Theme:

Tira, a native wood sprite, was tricked into an old hollow oak and captured by mag indian tribe 200 years ago. Tira is accidentally released by a woodsman cutting tr area. Tira victimizes people by assuming the female character most desired by that they are 'hooked', she turns on them, sometimes mentally destroying them, sometimes their heart. All fun for her. Whenever she has the opportunity to sabotage someone she does.

When the young man doesn't fall for her characters, Tira falls for him. He fall and Tira decides to destroy both Amanda and her family. Amanda isn't so easily des though her brothers and father are easily led.

Finally, all her current victims team up to trick her into a hollow tree, where s again. Life is an adventure, with danger and evil present. You need help sometime trouble and danger.

A dense copse of woods in the Shenendoah valley of Virginia. Recently opened for u and hikers have begun to use the area, which is hundreds of years old.

Three basic sets. One with thick oak tree in the center of a copse of trees, and on many leveled stone bottom next to the 'steep slope' mountain face on the right. The felled needs to come and go as necessary. The third will be a trail which forks and point to another toward the top of the mountain.

A rocky mountain face called 'Steep Slope' is on the right side as part of the scene

Cast of Characters:

Tira - A female wood sprite who has been trapped for 200 hundred years in a tree these woods. Mischievous and bad, she bores easily and enjoys causing trouble fo humankind. She is able to change her 'look' to become any kind of woman she wishes. know it's her by the long feather she always wears down the back of her hair.

Lumberjack - Will - Our hero. He is true and open. Enjoys life; smiles often.

The Millers:

A Father, his two adult sons and adult daughter, out on a camping/hiking/rock climbing trip.

The father - Franklin Sr. tough, but kind. thinks each of his boys are soft and toughening up to take on a vicious world and win. Cynical, because he lost his wife years ago and believes the world is his enemy. Loves his kids, but has a hard time showing it.

Older son - Frank Jr- Trying to impress his father. Arrogant acting, ruthless, bus man. Suspender type. Looking for a woman to use as a vehicle for getting ahead i world. Preferably dumb, proper, rich, and good looking (tailored type).

Younger son - Harry - Also wants to impress his father, but never can seem to do anything right. Useless, lazy type. Looking for a woman to take care of him. out; sloppy. Preference for a woman: Maternal, soft, easy going, tolerant.

Daughter - Amanda - Good and open. She knows what her family is, and accepts them and loves them anyway. Interested in the adventure of life.

Thug - Robby Lee - Has just robbed a gas station, and is on the run, after his car

breaks down. He runs into the woods and wants to hide out for a few days. Mean violent. Preference in a woman: Tough, sexy, type who will take his abuse and will of his needs.

Smaller Characters:

Grandfather - tells the story of Tira

Granddaughter - Debbie

Teenaged boy - Jimmy nice voice. Glasses, kind of nerdy. Really, any kid with an at His parents

-

Intro: Overture (medley of all the songs).

Scene setup: Act 1:

Everyone in the park is pretty friendly, just like in a real national park. They no pass, speak occasionally, etc.

It is late in the day. Will, the lumberjack, has been working on cutting down an oak for some hours, and has gotten it chipped out at an angle, ready to fell in the Dressed in old khaki pants and a flannel shirt, with old work shoes, he is a well bu man. He has cut down an old oak tree, then has decided to cut off a round cap to m coffee table. He is tired, and decides to go home for the night. He leaves the st tree shake and Tira begins to squeeze out of the chipped area. Dressed in an indi dress with fantasy scarves ofmany colors, streaming in all directions. She climbs o and hollers, and begins to sing an introductory song about how she has been trapped hundreds of years, all because she played so many pranks on a nearby village that th indian villagers tricked her into entering the tree by giving her whiskey, and then she was unable to get herself out. She looks forward to having her revenge on huma

Act I Scene 1.

Scene 1: Sunset. Will is working on cutting down an enormous oak tree. decides to call it a day, and he leaves the stage. We see something pushing up on Tira climbs out of it.

Will

offstage "Man, am I tired. Hums as he picks up his tools. What a long day. But

Song 1. Groggy, then exuberant intro into Tira trapped song. She runs a

Tira

"Am I really free? I have been asleep for so long. I can't remember..." She tr memory free, moves around a little, then she begins to remember. "I was with Falco I'm so confused. Wait. It's beginning to come to me."

Tira sings Tira's song:

There were leaves falling away as
autumn hues turned winter gray
I was young and having fun that day
Suddenly my world was changed
when I was tricked and trapped by braves

and this tree became my living grave.

Now I'm free and you'll see
just how fun life can be
they'll be no one to stop me now.
I'm back
 tough
 playing, rough
armed with tricks of my own.

Falcon Feather was so handsome,
he was a favorite of the tribe
He was looking for a servant girl -
When I'd finished with his services
I took some of his pride
He resented the fact I'd lied

I become anyone I desire to become
and play until I tire
And some
 expect
 me to stay as I seem
but that's not me
Some try to stop me permanently

Bucking horse was such a rebel
he was looking for a tiger
I was happy to become his kitty cat
for awhile
I'd enjoyed his burly kisses and his
manly sudden fires
But he seemed to take offense when he found I was a liar

I become anyone I desire to become
and play until I tire
And some
 become
 angry at what I've done
And try to stop me violently

There were leaves falling away as
autumn hues turned winter gray
I was young and having fun that day

@copyright Marcie Rollins, Feb 14, 1998 All rights reserved.

Tira hears movement coming down the mountain, and hides herself, as Robby Lee, a man about 25 with many tattoos, wearing beat up navy work pants and a gas station gray w with the sleeves torn out, clambers down the mountain, with a dirty knapsack on one which he carries the 50 dollars he has just stolen. He is muttering to himself, dec will show everyone at home what tough is -

Robby Lee

"If they think I can be brought down so easy, they're crazy. That gas station didn't as I hoped they would, and the car broke down, and Joey ran out on me, but I'm still (Thunderously):" DANG!" I can't believe I didn't do better. Just my luck. Ugh! everything being so crummy. I'm gonna rest a little, then find somebody to beat the then steal some clothes and a car- then I am out of this hole, and things are gonna

He sits down to count the money and hums part of Say Baby:

I can push you, I can shove you
I could break your little neck.
I'm the loudest and the baddest
send me smiling ...

Tira appears behind Robby lee, as a tough, sexy type in jeans and a tight tube top, blonde wig.

Robby Lee jumps up, and pulls a knife from his side holder:

Robby Lee

"Whoa, where'd you come from, cutie pie?"

Tira

"I've been walking these woods all my life. Just on my way home tonight. You'r tall drink a water, - what's your name?"

Robby Lee

Robby moves toward her, and says: " Whew, I thought this was gonna be a lonesome h but things are lookin up! Come here a minute, and I'll tell you all you need to k

{He grabs her left arm, pulls her to him, sings the rest of Say Baby, and gets re back into the tree, forcing her into a kiss, holding the knife toward her neck. give in, then all of a sudden, surprises him by taking his knife, grabbing his hand his arm behind his back.}

"Hey, what are you doing?" Robby protests, "Who ARE you?"

while Tira dances him around, takes the stuff out of his knapsack, and discards eve except for 2 magazines, one girly and one woods survivor mag. Tties him with his b straps, and sings her part of Say Baby:

Say Baby

Robby Lee:

Say baby, how bout a little kiss here
hey baby, it's just a start; have no fear
I'm ready for somethin hot here
so give me what I want here

I can push you, I can shove you
I could break your little neck.
I'm the loudest and the baddest
send me smiling on my trek

So baby, will you give me somethin hot here?
Now baby, want to show me what you got here?
Don't hide your body from me, come on baby - share
Maybe I'll be nice, maybe you can make me care

I can push you, I can shove you
I could break your little neck.
I'm the loudest and the baddest
send me smiling...

Tira turns the tables:

Want to push me, want to shove me?
Want to break my little neck?
You may be loud, you may be bad
but you're no more than a redneck
Music...

So baby, did I give you somethin hot there?
Now baby, want to show me what You got there?
From the fire in your eyes I can see you care
Maybe you can tell I never planned on playing fair..
Want to push me, want to shove me?
Want to break my little neck?
You may be loud, you may be bad
but you're no more than a redneck

Your little ego isn't even worth my time
Your little viciousness can't even touch me - slime..
Maybe I'll cut off your fingers with their grime -no
think that I'll just leave you for the hungry rats..

Come on - friends' - (call)dinnertime...

@copyright Marcie Rollins November 15, 2002 All rights reserved.

to introduce Tira as bad, tough, sprite. Fun, clipped as she pushes Robby Lee ar
when she leaves him, she takes those with her.

Tira:

"I'm exactly what you expect in life. Mean, sneaky, sleazy, sexy, and I'm just the

Robby Lee

"Hey, when I get loose, I'm gonna make you sorry you ever set eyes on me..." She in

Tira

"What makes you think I'm gonna set you loose?"

She tosses the knife into the air, and it falls between his legs, standing straigh
his legs, she finishes tying him with the knapsack straps, and leaves him. He stru
up by using his knees, and gets loose; runs off.

As she walks off stage, she sings:

"I become anyone I desire to become
and play until I tire
And some
expect
me to stay as I seem
but that's not me" (from Tira's song)

LIGHTS DOWN ABRUPTLY on one side (forward)
of the stage, while lights on the other (further back) come up, showing a campground

ACT 1, SCENE2:

Scene setup: Groups camping. The Miller family can be seen at the far corner of
the stage getting ready to go to clean up and go to bed.

A grandfather tells the story of an evil wood sprite. At another campfire a bratty (Jimmy) complains about camping. He steps into a big hole and sticks his hand into a large pot of water.

Meanwhile, in the rest of the campgrounds, scattered groups are setting up tents, their suppers by the fire, talking among their groups.

Debbie:

"Granddaddy, what's a sprite?"

Granddaddy:

"It's a fairy, honey. Or a monster, sort of. They can live anywhere. This one lives in an oak tree."

Debbie:

"Was she magic?"

Granddaddy:

"Well, if you believe the story, Debbie, she was. It's said she could change herself into a woman."

Debbie:

"What do you mean?"

Granddaddy:

"Well, I'm not really sure about it, but the story that was passed down to me said she was totally evil, but kind of mischievously mean - she would figure out what a man liked and then she would play-act as if she WAS that kind of woman."

Debbie:

"But how do you know?"

Granddaddy:

"My great-great-great granddaddy Falcon passed the story down to his son, and on it was passed down to me."

Debbie:

"Well, how did they get rid of her?"

Granddaddy:

"They didn't. A lot of good men were broken hearted after she got through with them, your great-great-great granddaddy. The only way the tribe got rid of her evil was to kill her."

Debbie:

"How?"

Granddaddy:

"Well, the story is that they lured her into a hollow tree with whiskey, and then she was there forever. Now lay down, and dream of happier things than a mean old wood sprite."

The lights fade out on those two, then come up on Jimmy, who is whining to his fath

Jimmy"

"Daddy, can't we go home now? I've already missed STARSHIP WARRIORS and tomorrow I'm gonna miss Freddy Haines soccer party????? This is sooooo boring. "

Jimmy

"Jimmy, you used to love camping. Tomorrow I thought we'd wake up early in the m cook breakfast over the fire, do some fishing, hike up Steel Slope, and then rappe Doesn't THAT sound exciting????!!!"

Jimmy

"No, not really. I was a little kid the last time we came. Now I'm into REAL exci Computer games and movies and virtual reality."

Daddy:

"Jimmy, you have no idea what REAL excitement is. We are STAYING. Get ready for be

The father watches Jimmy get settled, makes eyes at his wife as if to say: "what ar with him?", and walks off a bit with his wife. They start the song quietly, then louder, till it is a production number.

Sometime during the song: Robby Lee, looking hungry, steals some food from a campsi no one sees except Jimmy, whose father doesn't listen as the kid tries to point it

Mother: "Do you think we should give up and go home?"

Father: "Absolutely not. He'll see how great it is after awhile. Plus, you and I camping in way too long. I'd say we need some nature/together time."

Mother: "We DO love it here. " (He nods). "And it has been a long time since we go time In the woods..." They smile

Song: We love the parks.

We love the Parks

Father's and Mother's voices, quietly at first:

We love the parks, the great National Parks,
we put up the tents and we're camped,
It begins with a hike,
long walks, fires at night
a wilderness foreign land

Father of whiny kid: Moonlight - brings romance out in me

Whiny kid(Jimmy): I try - to avoid poison ivy and bears

Add some voices:

We love the park
one day and we start
to become a part of the land

Wake up at daybreak
bathe in the lake
Father: All through the day hold my hand

Mother: Wading - through a cold rushing stream
Jimmy: cold or hot, I'd just rather stay clean

Ooh, they love the park
the family lark
they drag me each year to this hole
Awakened by howling
God knows what's prowling
picking bugs out of my hair

Why - can't we just go and see
Mickey, and the rest down at disney, no

All:

We love the parks
unbelievable art-works
painted each day just for us
By the end of each day
we're ready to pray
and to thank God for life, in the park

One Voice:
Seasons will change
Birds will nest and deer range

Male Voice:
The terrain won't rest
it will put you to test

All:
nature brings out your best
In the park...

Repeat.

Bridge to higher key and execute dance routines (about 2 minutes) off the slope pro

@copyright: Marcie Rollins
December 29, 1998. All Rights reserved

Daddy:

"Ok Jimmy, settle down now and get some sleep. We've got a big day tomorrow."

Lights at the campfires dim out.

ACT 1 SCENE 3: The next day

Scene 1: The next morning. You can see the side of the mountain, which has good footholds for acrobatics on the deep right of the stage. There are lines laying o side for people to use to climb and rappel with. It's cold. Folks are moving aro other, saying good morning, moving off into different directions.

Background: Young Jimmy is hanging off the side of the mountain upside down, hollering to pull him up. His father - absentmindedly looking at rocks, finally notices and

Middle: Will walks past the corner or the stage, saying good morning to all, moves a big hat).

Foreground:
The Miller family

This morning, as Amanda cleans up breakfast, and the guys begin to play on the mountain side, playing like little boys.

Frank Sr:

"Amanda, you are so good. You teach; you keep your apartment up, and you still come help me with the boys all the time. I wish you'd relax a little; take some time to find a good man to spend your life with. A Catholic boy would be nice."

Amanda:

"Daddy, I'm fine. I'm enjoying my life. "

Frank Sr:

"You, know, I believe you. That's what makes you so special. But the boys. Ugh on them. It's time for them to make lives for themselves. Quit acting like when mom passed, we've done all right, but maybe I missed a lesson with them."

Harry:

"Oh, come on dad - what's the rush? We're fine at home. At least till we get married

Frank Sr:

"Wrong answer. You can't look to others to take care of you. You have to learn to take care of yourselves, boys. "

Frank Sr. sings. Amanda keeps working.

Song: GROW UP
6/8

Franklin Sr: "Oh Frankie, You're going to have to make your own way soon. You're over the Irish lilt:

You've had a home my boys
You've both been schooled my boys
Now don't be fools my boys
It's about time - Grow up

You have to clothe yourself
You have to feed yourself
You've got to think of others too
It cannot be 'just you'

Get a place; Make a plan
Look ahead; Grow up
Feeling scared; so was I
Time to more than show up

It's time to find a job
It's time to take a wife
You'll need to show you've learned
That 'rights and wrongs' are true

Time to look down the road
Taking your share of the load
Shave off that 3 day growth
Don't be a baby; grow up!

I'll be here; I'd be proud
What are you waiting fo-or?
Pay your bills; Keep it cool
Look inside; Grow up

You've had a home my boys
You've both been schooled my boys
Put away some of your toys,
And Grow up...

Copyright @ Marcie

Each boy perceives it according to their personality

GROW UP Part 2- THE BOYS SING WITH DAD

You've had a home my boys
You've both been schooled my boys
Now don't be fools my boys
It's time to now Grow up

Why oh why say daddy
do we have to go?
Can't we think about this
4 more years or so

You have to clothe yourself
You have to feed yourself
You've got to think of others too
It cannot be 'just you'

What if I can't find work
What's the rush to roam?
Who will take care of me
Let me stay at home..

Get a place; Make a plan
Look ahead; Grow up
Feeling scared; so was I
Time to more than show up

Live with you; eat with you
What's the rush; slow down
We're not scared; it's not
Some more school; slow down

Time to look down the road
Taking your share of the load
Shave off that 3 day growth
Don't be a baby; grow up!

You can't make me grow up
I'm not ready yet
I can't even show up
Without my hair wet

I'll be here; I'd be proud
What are you waiting fo-or?
Pay your bills; Keep it cool
Look inside; Grow up

Grow up; shmo up
N -o; N-o
He'll change his mind; forg
In a week or s-o

You've had a home my boys
You've both been schooled my boys
Put away some of your toys,
And Grow up...

We -'ve got a ho-me
And e-ven-tual-ly
we'll put away some of our to
and Grow up...

Copyright @ Marcie

We see the same guy Tira was walking with being carried out on a stretcher in the

stage.

The men sing separately, then as a male trio. Amanda watches with amusement and affection. Tira watches also, seated on a tree branch, in her original outfit

ACT 1, SCENE 4:

Scene Setup: A copse of trees behind the oak. Several scenes in the first half of in front of the curtain, as Tira flexes her adaptable illusion muscle. Will gets hit down. Tira tries to seduce him.

We see Will whistling as he works on sawing down the tree. A bough falls, hits him the head. It obviously hurts a lot. Will hollers, then sits down, kind of stunned. He decides to lie down for a bit. He falls asleep. Tira walks onto the stage and sees him lying against the tree.

Tira:

"Well, what is this? Another little man pushing his abilities, I see. Sleeping. at least this one is good looking! Mmm, and isn't he though... and large! Well, about to become attracted to one of these! I'll be what he's looking for when he arrives and play my games - enough to entertain me for the afternoon anyway... but, I wonder what type he IS looking for, this one. Well, if he can't talk, I'll just have to be what these creatures want, and that should be good enough! Let's see; sexy, of course, passive, but not too passive. Feminine." She wanders around the tree, and appears on the other side in tight jeans, a feminine blouse, and 'candies type' tennies. A re

She thinks for a moment, then drops to Will's side, and puts on her most concerned expression and shakes him gently by the shoulder. This has no effect, so she shakes him roughly until he comes awake protesting defensively.

Will:

"Hey, hey!"

Tira:

"Oh. Sorry. I was worried when I wasn't able to wake you, and I saw the bough fall from the oak. {solicitously} Are you feeling all right?"

Will:

{slowly, kind of looking around, figuring out where he is and that a woman is leaning over him} "Umm, yes, I'm fine. The branch fell and gave me quite a lump, so I lay down for a while and I guess I fell right asleep. - long pause - I think everything is ok, except I don't know who you are. I've never seen you here in these woods before." {Doubtfully, looking at her} "Are you on a hike?"

Tira:

"Oh, no, I live right near here."

Will:

[friendly] - "Really? Me too. I've been woodcutting in these woods since I've been here and I've always lived nearby. In fact, I'm part indian." Tira says: "Oh, really? I don't see it", and Will says: "except I thought I knew everyone that lives around here". Tira replies "guess not" and he says it too "guess not", and smiles, acceptingly.

Tira decides to move around, show some allure...

Tira

"It must get lonely up here, with just the mountains and the wind for company. Or you have a family?"

Will:

"No, I'm all alone. Usually I don't mind it. I guess I'm used to it. But sometimes I thought I would have found the right woman earlier in my life, but I haven't been t

Sings The independent life Tira realizes she has failed to attract Will with this persona.
The Independent Life

It's an independent life I lead
Got its good and bad points I'll concede
But until I get myself married
It's the independent life I'll lead

I come home with sawdust in my pores
I've got dirt under my nails.
Workin day to day with guys I know
I don't need more time with males...

Sucker for Ms. Wrong
Got a problem, I'm right there
Never lasts too long
Ms. Right must be hiding somewhere.

I can risk it all in word or deed
Got more room in my bed than I need
It gets lonely once my door is keyed
It's the independent life I lead

Sucker for Ms. Wrong
Got a screw loose, I'm right there
Never lasts too long
Ms. Right must be hiding somewhere.

My sister has a name for this
Serial mon-og-a-my
My father is starting to worry that
I won't extend my family tree

I just cook for one
I just hike for fun
Keep my self on the run
Still looking for someone

It's an independent life I lead
Got its good and bad points I'll concede
But until I get myself married,
It's the independent life I lead

Copyright © Marcie Rollins December 16, 2002

Will:

"Well, I'm done for the morning. Would you like me to walk you home?"

Tira:

"No no, I'll just be on my way too. Maybe I'll see you again in these woods."

In an aside: "He is not drawn by this woman, I must have miscalculated. Maybe I'll try an outdoorsy athletic type. More challenge than I've had for 200 years. could be the lump on his head. We shall see..."

INTERMISSION:
