

## SYNOPSIS

It's an usual day for the town of Maienfeld. Heidi, an orphan girl who had been living with her aunt Detie, since her mother's untimely death four years ago, is leaving the town to live with her grandfather on the mountain, because her aunt has taken a new job in Frankfurt.

The townspeople are horrified to learn about Heidi's departure. They have not seen the old man in many years and have conjured all sorts of stories about him.

Initially, Alp is gruff with Heidi. It is not long, however, before she is able to win him over. Heidi also makes friends with a goatherd, Peter.

Meanwhile, in Germany, Clara's father endeavors to find her a companion. Clara is quite frail, confined to a wheelchair, and without friends. Detie decides that Heidi would be the perfect companion for Clara and takes her from the mountain and her grandfather.

Clara is immediately besotted with Heidi – and the two girls become fast friends. Frau Rottenmeier, the housekeeper, is less certain.

Although Heidi is doing well in Frankfurt, she misses her grandfather and longs for Switzerland. It is Clara who ultimately decides that Heidi must return to the mountain.

Heidi triumphantly returns to the mountain to the surprise and delight of her grandfather. Peter is happy to see Heidi, as well, though he senses a change in her.

Many months later, Clara makes a visit to spend a month in the Alps with Heidi and Peter. In a fit of jealousy, Peter lashes out at Clara and hurls her wheelchair down the mountain. Grandfather lectures Peter angrily about the folly of anger. Clara is delighted to be free of her wheelchair. The commotion has caused the townspeople to gather on the mountain. They reunite with Alp. In the triumphant final scene, the three children begin a memorable walk up the mountain.

Time: Long ago past

Place: An Alpine village in Switzerland and Frankfurt, Germany.

Characters:

HEIDI - an orphan girl living in Switzerland

GRANDFATHER/ALP – her grandfather

PETER – a young goatherd who lives in the mountains

CLARA – a little girl who lives in Frankfurt

AUNT DETIE – Heidi’s aunt who is moving to Frankfurt

FRAU STRASSER – a townspeople in Maienfeld

FRAU MUENSTER – a townspeople in Maienfeld

HERR REINGOLD – a townspeople in Maienfeld

MAYOR STRASSER – a townspeople in Maienfeld

BOY – a paper boy in Maienfeld

FRAU ROTTENMEIER – the housekeeper in Clara’s home in Frankfurt

FATHER – Clara’s father

TINETTE – a servant in Clara’s home

SEBASTIEN – a servant in Clara’s home

DAISY – a goat

DUSKY – a goat

TURK – a goat

SNOWFLAKE – a goat

*The four townspeople will also “triple” as the individuals in Clara’s household and the goats. Peter will double as the young paper boy. Clara will also double as a chorus person in “Home.”*

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT I

<b>NAME Page</b>	<b>CHARACTERS</b>	<b>CD Track</b>	<b>Script</b>
A TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD.	Ensemble	1	3
GOSSIP SEQUENCE #1	Townspeople	2	8
EVERYTHING	Heidi & Clara	3	13
KEEPING YOU IN LINE	Peter, Heidi & Goats	4	19
HOME	Townspeople	5	25
GOSSIP SEQUENCE #2	Townspeople	6	29
CHORES SONG	Grandfather, Heidi & Peter	7	31
FAREWELL, MY MOUNTAINS	Heidi & Aunt Detie	8	41

### ACT II

WEEDS!	Frau Rottenmeir, Clara & Servants	9	44
WITH THE WIND IN MY HAIR	Heidi & Clara	10	50
GOSSIP SEQUENCE #3	Townspeople	11	55
WORDS GET IN THE WAY	Grandfather & Peter	12	56
WEEDS/Reprise	Frau Rottenmeier	13	59
EVERYTHING/Reprise	Heidi & Clara	14	61

GOSSIP SEQUENCE #3	Townspeople	11	72
A TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD/ HOME REPRISE	Ensemble	16	75

[90 minutes running time with intermission ]

ACT I

*(Sound Cue #0: Pre-Show Alpine music)*

*Scene. The small Alpine village in Switzerland where Heidi lives. A typical morning.*

*(Sound Cue # 1: A Typical Day in Maienfeld)*

**SONG: A TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD (CD Track 1)**

*Everyone moves with precision, as though they were part of a giant clock. It is their daily routine, sweeping walks, greeting one another, delivering the morning newspaper.*

FRAU MUENSTER  
SUN COMES UP.  
CHURCH BELLS CHIME.

NEWSBOY

DING! DONG!

VILLAGE CLOCK  
KEEPING TIME.

CUCKOO.  
CUCKOO.

SWEEP THE PORCH  
FREE OF GRIME  
A TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD.

A TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD.

HEIDI

Aunt Detie, I'm so excited!

AUNT DETIE

(buttoning her dress) Child! Stop fidgeting!

HEIDI

What does he look like?

AUNT DETIE

Old.

*HERR REINGOLD enters.*

FRAU MUENSTER  
SUN COMES UP.

BOY

HERR REINGOLD

IT'S TIME TO BAKE MY

CHURCH BELLS CHIME.

VILLAGE CLOCK

KEEPING TIME.

SWEEP THE PORCH

FREE OF GRIME

A TYPICAL DAY  
IN MAIENFELD.

DING! DONG!

CUCKOO!  
CUCKOO!

YUM YUM.

HEIDI

How long will it take us to get there?

AUNT DETIE

A long time.

HEIDI

But we'll be there by nighttime, won't we?

AUNT DETIE

I certainly hope so.

FRAU MUENSTER

*(Sings)*

EVERYTHING RUNS LIKE CLOCKWORK.

BOY

TICK TOCK.

CUCKOO.

HERR REINGOLD

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE.

BOY

YUM YUM.

FRAU MUENSTER & HERR REINGOLD

EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR BUSINESS.

BOY

A SHOCK.

IT'S TRUE.

FRAU MUENSTER

*(To DETIE)*

A FACT WE ALL MUST FACE.

BOY

DUM DEE DUM.

BREAD.

.  
IT'S YUMMY WITH A  
SPREAD.

TRY IT.

A TYPICAL DAY  
IN MAIENFELD.

*MAYOR STRASSER enters.*

F. MUENSTER STRASSER <i>(Sings)</i> Sun comes up.  way Church bells chime.  Village clock  street, Keeping time.  Sweep the porch Free of grime  Everything's hunky dory. And so we begin our story. story. On a typical day in Maienfeld.	BOY  <i>(Sings)</i>       Ding! Dong!     Cuckoo! Cuckoo!  Yum yum.    Tick tock! Cuckoo! Ding! Dong!	H. REINGOLD  <i>(Sings)</i>  It's time to bake my  bread.  It's yummy with a  spread.  Try it.  Everything's hunky dory. And so we begin our story.  On a typical day in Maienfeld.	M.  <i>(Sings)</i>  It's a very nice day As I'm making my  Frau Muenster.  Every morning I greet people out on the  Herr Reingold.  The roses, So red. And oh, The Bread! And so we begin our  On a typical day Maienfeld.
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*(Music underscoring continues.)*

HEIDI

Mayor Strasser! Mayor Strasser! You'll never guess. I'm going to live with my grandfather!

MAYOR STRASSER

Really? Your grandfather on the mountain? (To Detie) Are you mad?

HEIDI

You know him?

MAYOR STRASSER

He was a friend.

AUNT DETIE

(Pompously) I've been offered a job in Frankfurt. With a very prominent family.

HERR REINGOLD

You can't just leave with her with him. It's --

AUNT DETIE

I don't think it's any of your business. Unless you'd like to take her?

HERR REINGOLD

Well, I...

AUNT DETIE

Or perhaps you would, Frau Muenster.

FRAU MUENSTER

Me?

AUNT DETIE

I didn't think so.

FRAU MUENSTER

*(Sing)*

EVERYTHING'S OUT OF KILTER.

BOY (out of sync)

TICK TOCK.

CUCKOO.

HERR REINGOLD

EVERTHING'S OUT OF WHACK.

BOY

*(out of tune)*

DING! DONG!

MAYOR STRASSER

SHE HASN'T A SUITCASE.

BOY

NO SUITCASE,

IT'S TRUE.

AUNT DETIE

HER CLOTHES ARE ON HER BACK!

BOY

BOO HOO.

FRAU MUENSTER

It's an outrage!

AUNT DETIE

*(Sings)*

THE DECISION'S MINE.

*Modulate*

F. MUENSTER STRASSER (Sings) Sun comes up.  Church bells chime.  Village clock  Keeping time.  Sweep the porch  Free of grime.  Nothing is Neat and tidy Without our beloved Heidi! ON A TYPICAL  DAY IN MAIENFELD.  So long!	BOY  (Sings)  Ding! Dong!  Cuckoo! Cuckoo!  No yum yum. Nothing is Neat and tidy Without our beloved Heidi! ON A TYPICAL  TICK TOCK! Cuckoo! So long! Boo hoo!	H. REINGOLD  (Sings)  How can I bake my bread?  I should have stayed in bed.  Buy it.  Nothing is Neat and tidy Without our beloved Heidi!  TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD.  So long!	M.  (Sings)  It's a very sad day. Heidi going a- way, Frau Muenster.  Never more to meet, in the store or street, Herr Reingold.  The roses look dead.  And oh,.. Nothing is Neat and tidy Without our beloved Heidi! TYPICAL DAY IN MAIENFELD.  So long!
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*ALL wave goodbye on button.*

*Heidi runs to hug Herr Reingold, Frau Muenster, and Mayor Strasser.*

*HEIDI takes one last look at her little town, and exits, following Detie out of sight up the mountain.*

FRAU MUENSTER

(looking at Mayor Strasser) Well, don't just stand there! Do something!



MAYOR STRASSER

What would have me do?

FRAU MUENSTER

You're the mayor! Stop them!

MAYOR STRASSER

My dear Frau Muenster, we may not like it, but if Detie wants to take Heidi to live with her grandfather then that's—

FRAU MUENSTER

Terrible is what it is!

HERR REINGOLD

It's a pity, that's for certain.

*(Sound Cue #2: Gossip Sequence #1)*

Old man hasn't been right since all that business--

MAYOR STRASSER

(sadly) Yes. I know it.

**SONG: GOSSIP SEQUENCE #1 (CD Track 2)**

FRAU MUENSTER

*(Sings)*

IN A RAMSHACKLE HOUSE  
ON THE SIDE OF A HILL  
LIVES A STRANGE OLD MAN,  
HERR REINGOLD  
A MEAN OLD MAN.

MAYOR STRASSER

FOR FOUR LONG YEARS  
HE HAS LIVED ALL ALONE  
ON THE SIDE OF THE HILL.

FRAU MUENSTER

AND HE KEEPS TO HIMSELF  
AND HE DOESN'T SPEAK A WORD  
EXCEPT TO THE BOY  
WHO MANAGES THE HERD

MAYOR STRASSER

HARUMPHING  
AND GRUMPING  
WHILE THE WORLD GOES ON BELOW.  
ALL THREE  
BUT IT WASN'T ALWAYS SO.

FRAU MUENSTER  
HE ONCE HAD A HOUSE  
IN THE HEART OF TOWN,  
AND A DAUGHTER WHOM  
HE DOTED ON.

MAYOR STRASSER  
THEN TRAGEDY CAME  
LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT  
AND HIS HEART WAS GONE.

HERR REINGOLD  
AND HE PACKED UP HIS GRIEF  
AND HE CLIMBED UP THERE  
WHERE HE HIDES FROM THE WORLD  
AND GROWS HIS HAIR,  
REFUSING TO MINGLE  
WITH HIS NEIGHBORS DOWN BELOW.

ALL THREE  
THAT WAS FOUR LONG YEARS AGO.

FRAU MUENSTER  
THEY SAY **THAT** HIS BEARD  
HAS TURNED TO ICE.

HERR REINGOLD  
AND HE TALKS TO HIMSELF  
AND DINES ON MICE.

FRAU MUENSTER  
HIS NAILS ALL CURLING UNDER,

MAYOR STRASSER  
AND A VOICE THAT BOOMS LIKE THUNDER!  
*Sound of thunder cracking!*

ALL THREE  
BUT IT WASN'T ALWAYS SO.

*(Sound Cue #2.5; Fade out of Gossip Sequence #1)*

*Heidi and Aunt Detie arrive at a tiny, worn cottage. Heidi peers through a window. Two goats appear. Aunt Detie is startled and shrieks. Heidi giggles and reaches out to pet them. Detie then knocks on the door.*

*Grandfather answers, gruffly.*

GRANDFATHER

Who's there?

*Aunt Detie looks uncertainly at Heidi*

DETIE

(false cheeriness) It's me Alp. Detie. Heidi's aunt on her father's side? I need to speak with you. It's very important.

GRANDFATHER

Go away!

*Heidi and Aunt Detie look at each other.*

*Aunt Detie knocks again.*

AUNT DETIE

(to Heidi) Sometimes your grandfather can be a little moody, that's all. Nothing to worry about.

HEIDI

Let me try.

*She knocks rapidly at the door.*

Please open the door, won't you?

GRANDFATHER

What did I just...? (startled, realizes who she is, for a moment he is overcome)

HEIDI

Hello.

GRANDFATHER

Hello.

AUNT DETIE

This is your granddaughter.

GRANDFATHER

I know who she is. (a beat) She has no business being up here. Take her home--

*He goes to shut the door.*

HEIDI

But she can't. I've come to live with you!

GRANDFATHER

(to Aunt Detie) What? What does she mean?

AUNT DETIE

It's true. I'm leaving Maienfeld. I'm going to work for a family in Frankfurt.

HEIDI

A very prominent family.

GRANDFATHER

Take her with you then. (he starts to shut the door again)

AUNT DETIE

(pushes the door open) I can't. They won't allow it. (he begins to interrupt) You're the only other living relative the child has. You have to take her. (a beat) She's a good child. Generally.

GRANDFATHER

And when she starts to fuss and carry on at night, what then?

HEIDI

I won't fuss. I won't carry on.

AUNT DETIE

Child, please--

GRANDFATHER

(kneeling down to Heidi) How old are you now?

HEIDI

(counting out on her two hands) Seven.

GRANDFATHER

And what am I supposed to do with a little girl on a mountain?

AUNT DETIE

She could be quite helpful to you. She's--

GRANDFATHER

With what? My farming? My cows? My goats?

HEIDI

(delighted) Are those YOUR goats?

AUNT DETIE

--You don't want to take her in? Fine! Do what you like with her, then. But I am going to be on that train to Frankfurt! Today. This job is very important to me. And I haven't worked hard all my life so that--

GRANDFATHER

ENOUGH! Go to Frankfurt! And don't come back here again!

*Aunt Detie casts a guilty look at Heidi. Heidi is petting the goats. Aunt Detie looks at her uncertainly. She begins to take Heidi with her. Grandfather stops her.*

AUNT DETIE

But, what about--?

GRANDFATHER

Leave her here.

AUNT DETIE

Really? (she pulls a long note from her a pocket, which she reveals with a flourish, speaking hurriedly) I took the trouble to make a list of things you should know, just in case.

GRANDFATHER

I don't need a list.

DETIE

Very well. (to Heidi, almost giddy with happiness) Be a good child. Mind your grandfather. And try not to talk too much, alright?