

**ABC PLAYERS PLAY PROPOSAL FORM
2018-2019 Season**

Play: The 39 Steps

Author: Adapted by Patrick Barlow from an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon

Director: Celeste Parsons

Preferred Time: ___ Fall Winter Spring ___ Other (Christmas)

Cast Requirements: 3 - 6 Men, 2 Women, ___ Boys, ___ Girls, ___ Any
(The ensemble cast creates dozens of parts, with an actor possibly playing two parts in a single scene.)

Set Requirements: Bare stage with minimal set pieces: several cubes, folding chairs, armchair, table, banner and banner supports, wheeled countertop, door in a frame on wheels. These are combined with lighting and sound effects and imaginative miming to create a myriad of settings and effects, including a chase across the tops of moving railroad cars, the bridge across the Firth of Forth, and an airplane pursuing a man on foot across the Scottish moore before crashing. Think classic Alfred Hitchcock thriller meets Monty Python.

Other Technical Aspects (costuming, lighting, dialect, etc.): Basic costumes (possibly black and white) combined with many hats, coats, wigs, etc., to quick-change into different characters. British dialect needed for all; certain characters use Scottish, German, and perhaps Russian accents. Great opportunity for creative lighting and sound design.

Plot Synopsis: See attachment.

Other Comments: A wonderful opportunity for creative acting and technical work. If produced during the winter slot, would probably be less affected by winter weather than a play with a larger cast.

Budget Estimates:

Costumes	\$ 50.00	Royalties	\$ 1,020.00
Lights	\$ 600.00	Scripts	\$ 120.00
Programs	\$ 75.00	Set	\$ 50.00
Props	\$ 25.00	Sound Effects/Video	\$ 50.00
Publicity	\$ 650.00		
Rehearsal Space	\$ 0.00	TOTAL	\$ 2,640.00

ACT 1

Scene 1: Richard Hannay's Apartment. Hannay wanting something to do.

Scene 2: Cockney Music Hall, London. Compere and Mr. Memory perform. Annabella asks Hannay to take her home.

Scene 3: Hannay's Flat. Annabella reveals she is an agent being pursued by a mysterious foreign operative who has to do with "the 39 Steps." The foreign agent is trying to remove valuable intelligence from England, and she must stop him.

Scene 4: Hannay's Flat. Annabella is stabbed by an intruder, but manages to give Hannay a map to Alt-na-Shellach, an estate in Scotland. She also warns him against a sinister man with one finger joint missing before she dies.

Scene 5: Flat Lobby. Hannay swaps coat and hat with the milkman and leaves.

Scene 6: Hannay's Flat. Mrs. Higgins the charlady discovers Annabella's body.

Scene 7: Edinburgh Train, Day. Hannay shares a coach with two salesmen.

Scene 8: Edinburgh Station, Day. The salesmen read in the daily paper of Annabella's body being discovered. Hannay's description is given.

Scene 9: Highland Train, Day. Policemen search the train. Hannay ducks into a compartment with Pamela, hiding his face from the police by kissing her passionately. Despite his declaration to her of his innocence, she reveals his identity to the cops. Hannay climbs out of the compartment window, and the police pursue him across the top of the train.

Scene 10: Forth Bridge, Night. Hannay falls from the bridge into the water.

Scene 11: On the Moors. Hannay flees.

Scene 12: Crofter's Cottage (Outside). Hannay pays for shelter for the night; finds Alt-na-Shellach is 14 miles away on the other side of the Forth.

Scene 13: Crofter's Cottage (Inside). Margaret, the crofter's lovely wife, prepares supper.

Scene 14: Crofter's Cottage (Inside). Margaret wakes Hannay with word that the police are outside looking for him. She sends him away in the crofter's black coat with his Bible in the pocket.

Scene 15: Scottish Moors at Dawn. Hannay flees, followed by two pilots in an airplane, but the plane crashes. Hannay discovers that he has found his way to the doors of Alt-na-Shellach.

Scene 16: Alt-na-Shellach Exterior. Hannay is welcomed by Mrs. Louisa Jordan, wife of Professor Jordan, the owner.

Scene 17: Alt-na-Shellach Interior. A party is going on, but Mrs. Jordan goes to fetch her husband.

Scene 18: Professor's Study. Hannay tells Professor Jordan that he has come because of Annabella Schmidt. The Professor, showing that his little finger lacks one joint, shoots Hannay; he and Mrs. Jordan dance over Hannay's body.

ACT 2

Scene 19: Sheriff's Office. Hannay, who was saved from death by the crofter's Bible (which absorbed the bullet), reports that the Professor is a foreign agent, but the sheriff, a crony of the Professor, tries to arrest Hannay. Hannay flees. . .

Scene 20: City Streets. . . . Through the city. . .

Scene 21: Assembly Hall. . . . And takes refuge in an assembly hall, where he is mistaken by the assembly organizer for the speaker of the evening. Hannay improvises a brilliant speech, but unfortunately Pamela comes to the meeting, recognizes him, and brings in two police inspectors.

Scene 22: Assembly Hall. Hannay is to be questioned by the Procurator Fiscal, and the inspectors ask Pamela to come along and give her evidence.

Scene 23: Police Car. Hannay bets Pamela that the Procurator Fiscal will have one joint missing from his finger.

Scene 24: Police Car and Moor. A flock of sheep on the road and a storm in the mist brings the car to a halt. The inspectors leave the car to find the shepherd, first handcuffing Hannay to Pamela.

- Scene 25: Moor. Hannay drags Pamela over the moor, both of them becoming very muddy.
- Scene 26: The McGarrigle Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. McGarrigle welcome Hannay and Pamela as a newly married couple.
- Scene 27: Hotel Bedroom. Mrs. McGarrigle provides a sandwich supper, and Hannay persuades Pamela to get some sleep with him in the single bed. After he falls asleep, she slips her handcuff off and absconds.
- Scene 28: Hotel Lobby, Night Pamela sneaks down the stairs to find the two inspectors talking on the telephone with Mrs. Jordan. She overhears that the Professor has left for the Palladium to pick up "our friend" because he fears discovery with Hannay on the loose. The McGarrigles assure the inspectors that no young couple is spending the night, and they depart.
- Scene 29: Hotel Bedroom. Pamela tells Hannay she is convinced of his truthfulness, and tells him where the Professor has gone. He is furious that she didn't stop them.
- Scene 30: Palladium Stage. Hannay is in the audience, and spots the Professor in a box seat. Pamela joins him with apologies. The announcer introduces Mr. Memory's act, just as Chief Inspector Allbright arrives to arrest Hannay. Hannay realizes that Mr. Memory must know the secret that Professor Jordan wants to remove from the country, and asks him "What are the 39 Steps." As Mr. Memory begins to recite the answer, the Professor draws a gun and shoots him. Hannay struggles with the Professor and finally shoots him.
- Scene 31: Palladium Backstage. Mr. Memory expires.
- Scene 32: Outside the Palladium. Pamela and Hannay part.
- Scene 33: Hannay's Flat. Hannay and Pamela have married and had a child, and are celebrating Christmas.