Acting Edition

The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful (And Her Dog!)

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SAMUEL FRENCH

Acting Edition

The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful (And Her Dog!)

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concord
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THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF DR. WONDERFUL (AND HER DOG!) was commissioned by the Kennedy Center and premiered at the Kennedy Center's Family Theater in Washington, DC, on October 17th, 2011. The production was directed by Sean Daniels and music directed by Christopher Youstra, with scenic design by Misha Kachman, costume design by Kathleen Geldard, lighting design by Bree J. Lilienthal, sound design by Veronika Vorel, and prop design by Dreama J. Greaves. Orchestrations for this production were written by Charlie Rosen. The cast was as follows:

DR. WONDERFUL . . . . . Jessica Frances Dukes
NEWTON . . . . . .Jason Lott
BEN . . . . . Nickolas Vaughan
MOM . . . . . .Gia Mora

CHARACTERS

DR. WONDERFUL – a young girl with glasses and lab coat
NEWTON – a dog dressed like her, a loving but hyper friend
BEN – her best human friend, also loving and hyper
MOM – so kind, cool, and clever

SETTING

Dr. Wonderful's lab/detective agency (her room) and outer space.

TIME

Now.

AUTHORS' NOTES

Pronounce "Uranus" – *UR-uh-nus*. Trust us. Have fun!

Throughout the score, certain vocals are marked as **VOICES** (sometimes specified as **ETHEREAL VOICES**, **SPECTACULAR VOICES**, etc.) These should be prerecorded for playback during performance.

Please:

- Assemble a group of singers. Singers can be cast members or additional vocalists. Any gender combination is appropriate.
- Record vocals to sound present and clear, not distant or processed to sound "offstage."
- Match the musical timbre and style indicated in the score.

BUT if you prefer to use onstage vocals, or any kind of heightened theatrical device that uses live singers or expands the ensemble, go for it!

MUSICAL NUMBERS

01. Prologue: Journey to the Core . . . . . Wonderful, Newton, Mom & Voices*
02. Wonderful . . . . . .Wonderful
03. Science Is Everywhere. . . . . .Company*
04. Mom in a Weird Hat . . . . . Instrumental
05. Super Science Man . . . . . .Wonderful & Voices*
06. The Scientific Method. . . . . Wonderful & Newton
07. Supah Stah . . . . . .Voices*
08. We'll Build a Spaceship. . . . . .Wonderful & Voices*
09. When Something Is Closer. . . . . .Ben & Wonderful
10. Solar Fusion . . . . . .Company*
11. We've Got No Choice. . . . . Wonderful, Newton & Voices*
12. Rocking the Science . . . . . .Company*
13. Planets . . . . . Wonderful, Newton, Ben & Voices*
14. I-Know-I-Know-I-Know . . . . . Wonderful, Newton, Ben & Voices*
15. Wow . . . . . .Company
16. Finale: Science Is Everywhere . . . . . .Company*
17. Bows: Solar Fusion . . . . . Instrumental

* denotes cues with prerecords.

Scene One

(The delightfully busy laboratory, detective agency, and bedroom of **DR. WONDERFUL** *greets us. What a place! The walls are filled with constellations; a big globe spins in the corner; there are computers and screens on brightly colored tables, even a few bubbling glass beakers and cool posters of famous scientists doing funny things.*[*]*)*

[MUSIC NO. 01 – PROLOGUE: JOURNEY TO THE CORE]

START TRACK 01

*(***DR. WONDERFUL** *and* **NEWTON** *bring the room to life as they burst in the door...)*

VOICES.

AH!

WONDERFUL.

EV'RY DAY CAN BE
A WILD MYSTERY
A JOURNEY TO THE CORE
OF ALL THAT'S AWESOME!

NEWTON.

TOTALLY AWESOME!

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WONDERFUL.
WHEN I GET HOME FROM SCHOOL

WONDERFUL & NEWTON.
WE EXPERIMENT IN COOL.

WONDERFUL.
A JOURNEY TO THE CORE

NEWTON & VOICES.
A JOURNEY TO THE CORE

ALL.
OF ALL THAT'S AWESOME!

*(**WONDERFUL** checks the candy jar – empty!)*

WONDERFUL. It's just amazing.

NEWTON. Amazing!

WONDERFUL. Stunning.

NEWTON. Stunning!

WONDERFUL. Possibly the biggest thing in the history of recent events.

NEWTON. *Yes!*

(Underscoring cuts out.)

What are we talking about?

WONDERFUL. Mom's out of butterscotch.

NEWTON. WHAT?

WONDERFUL. That never happens. She always has butterscotch!

NEWTON. Oh My Dog – This is not happening.

WONDERFUL. Our first mystery of the day.

*(**NEWTON** runs into the audience, checking the kids to see if they have the butterscotch: "Did you see my butterscotch? Did she take it? Did you?")*

*(**WONDERFUL** searches the room – finds a butterscotch wrapper on Newton's dog bed…)*

WONDERFUL: Newton! I think I know how we can get that butterscotch back.

START TRACK 02

NEWTON. You do? How?

("Think" flashes somewhere.)

WONDERFUL. We have to…

WONDERFUL & VOICES.
THINK THINK THINK.

NEWTON & VOICES. *(Getting audience to join in.)*
THINK THINK THINK.

*(**WONDERFUL** draws a butterscotch on the blackboard…)*

WONDERFUL. I'm so close to an answer if I –

NEWTON & VOICES.
THINK THINK THINK.

WONDERFUL. The answer's right there if I can –

*(Gradually **WONDERFUL** turns the drawing of the butterscotch into…Newton!)*

NEWTON & VOICES.
THINK THINK THINK.
THINK THINK THINK.
THINK THINK THINK.

WONDERFUL. I've got it! I've got it! Actually… *you've* got it.

START TRACK 03

*(**WONDERFUL** yanks butterscotch candies out of **NEWTON**'s coat – they pour out everywhere.)*

*(**MOM** enters.)*

ALL. *(With* **VOICES.***)*

TODAY WE'LL TAKE A RIDE

WITH SCIENCE AT OUR SIDE.

IT'S A FUNDERFUL DAY.
HOME-RUN-DERFUL DAY.

WONDERFUL.
A WONDERFUL DAY.

BECAUSE I'M WONDERFUL!

DOCTOR WONDERFUL!

AND MY DOG.

THAT'S MY DOG.

THAT'S MY MOM.

NEWTON.
I'm sorry I took the candies.

I just love butterscotch so much!

Here it comes –

Dr. Wonderful day!

That's her real name.

AND HER DOG.

I'M THE DOG.

MOM.
I'M THE MOM.

NEWTON.
BACK TO ME.
NEWTON.
THE DOG!

START TRACK 04

ALL. *(With* **VOICES.***)*
DOG!

Scene Two

*(***WONDERFUL** *is suddenly bummed.)*

NEWTON. How did you know I had the candy? I mean, I'm a *genius* at hiding stuff. That's what I do. All the time. You are just –

[MUSIC NO. 02 – WONDERFUL]

WONDERFUL.
WONDERFUL.

NEWTON. Which is why they call you –

WONDERFUL.
WONDERFUL.

Except you should tell that to the Junior Science Explorer Club.

MOM. Tell them what, sweetheart?

WONDERFUL. That they should let me into the club. And make me president. And also mascot.

MOM. Why won't they let you in?

(To **NEWTON***, now on the bed.)* Off.

WONDERFUL. They said I have to be in high school.

MOM. Well you can't help that.

WONDERFUL. And I can't go on the eighth-grade astronomy trip.

MOM. Because you're not in eighth grade.

WONDERFUL. *And* I can't take Intro to Astrophyics!

MOM. Because it's at the college!

WONDERFUL. But it's "Intro." And I just wanna try some *real* science.

MOM. You can. Right here.

WONDERFUL. *Mom.*

MOM. If you can solve a science mystery from your own room? I bet those kids at the high school –

WONDERFUL. And the college?

MOM. And the college would be pretty impressed. Just saying.

*(***MOM** *exits.)*

WONDERFUL. That would be pretty impressive… *(Like this next word is the best word in the English language.)* and *educational.*

NEWTON. Or maybe we could just quit this science stuff and do something fun.

WONDERFUL. *(Not having anything that looks like fun.) Can't you see we're having fun.*

NEWTON. *(A little freaked out.)* Absolutely.

But maybe we could have a *normal* afternoon and play a *normal* game? Fetch!

(He throws something for her to fetch. She glares.)

WONDERFUL. No.

NEWTON. But I wanna play! And all this science talk is bumming me out.

[MUSIC NO. 03 – SCIENCE IS EVERYWHERE]

START TRACK 05

WONDERFUL.

SOME PEOPLE THINK THAT SCIENCE IS HARD OR DULL.

NEWTON. And boring and lame.

WONDERFUL.

AND SOMETIMES THERE ARE EQUATIONS.

NEWTON. Blahblahblah…

WONDERFUL.
AND MEASUREMENTS.

NEWTON. Make it stop.

WONDERFUL.
AND PATIENCE.

NEWTON. See? This is hard.

WONDERFUL.
ONLY HARD UNTIL YOU TRY.
ASK AWAY, ASK A WHY.

SCIENCE IS EV'RYTHING WE DO.
IT'S PART OF ME AND SURELY PART OF YOU.
IT'S OCEAN WAVES, STARS AND SKY,
MEDICINE, IT'S YOU AND I!

NEWTON. But it's not *really* me, right?

WONDERFUL. It's totally you.

SCIENCE IS EV'RYWHERE WE LOOK.

NEWTON. What about there? Or there!

WONDERFUL.
NOT JUST HOMEWORK SHUT UP IN A BOOK.

NEWTON. Don't *say* homework!

WONDERFUL.
INNOVATION, EXPLORATION,
TRAVELING, IMAGINING,
HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY,
ALL THROUGHOUT OUR GALAXY…

NEWTON. Galaxies are cool…

WONDERFUL.
WITHOUT SCIENCE
THERE'D BE NO AIRPLANES SOARING.

NEWTON. There wouldn't?

WONDERFUL.
OR FIREWORKS FLARING.

NEWTON. Ohhh, I love fireworks.

WONDERFUL.
LIGHTING UP THE AIR.
WITHOUT SCIENCE
LIFE WOULD JUST BE BORING.

NO ENGINEERING, SAILBOAT STEERING,
LAVA FLOW, FOOTBALL THROW,
PENDULUM, AND POCKET WATCH.
ROLLER COASTERS, BUTTERSCOTCH –

NEWTON. Butterscotch?

WONDERFUL.
BUTTERSCOTCH IS SCIENCE.

Candy-making is all about chemistry and butterscotch was served...*in space!*

START TRACK 06

WONDERFUL & NEWTON.
SCIENCE IS EV'RYWHERE
WE GO.

MOM & BEN.
OOH.

MOM & BEN.
YEA YEA OOH.

NEWTON.
RUNNING FAST

MOM.
OH SO FAST.

WONDERFUL.
OR REDWOOD SLOW.

MOM & BEN.
YEA YEA OOH.

NEWTON.
AEROPLANES AND HURRICANES!

WONDERFUL.
IRISES AND VIRUSES.

NEWTON.
NOBEL PRIZES, LASER BEAMS,

WONDERFUL & VOICES.
HIGH RISES AND MONOTREMES!

NEWTON. *(Spoken in rhythm.)*
MONOTREMES?

WONDERFUL. *(Spoken in rhythm.)*
MONOTREMES.

NEWTON, WONDERFUL & VOICES.
MAMMALS THAT LAY EGGS!

ALL.*
FRICTION!

MOM.
GRAVITY!

ALL.
OXYGENIC PHOTOSYNTHESIS IN CYANOBACTERIA
DURING THE PALEOPROTE'ZOIC ERA!
WITHOUT SCIENCE
THERE'D BE NO AIRPLANES SOARING
OR FIREWORKS FLARING

FEMALE RIFF VOICE.
OHHH

ALL.
LIGHTING UP THE AIR
WITHOUT SCIENCE

LOW MALE VOICE. *(Spoken in rhythm.)*
SCIENCE

ALL.
LIFE WOULD JUST BE BORING.

---

* **ALL** includes **VOICES** throughout Track 06.

ALL.

IT'S EV'RYONE, EV'RYTHING,
EV-
'RY-
WHE-EH-EH-EH-
EH-EH-EH-EH-EH-EH-ERE!

WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

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