

Molly Brown! She was Unsinkable

Marilyn Warsofsky



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ArtAge Publications

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Readers Theatre: *Legendary Ladies and their Gents* by Marilyn Warsofsky is a collection of five plays based on historical women characters. For ten years, she toured the shows throughout her community. Actors and audiences loved the combination of rich history with solid theatre. We think you will too! The book includes:

[Molly Brown She Was Unsinkable.](#) Full of spirit, this is Molly Brown's tale of rags to riches and her courage when the *Titanic* was sinking.

[Amelia Earhart and the Powder Puff Derby.](#) This is the story of Amelia Earhart and nineteen other female aviators who competed in the harrowing, first All Women's Transcontinental Air Race in 1929. What a story!

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[The Harvey Girls: They Tamed the West.](#) In the Old West when your train stopped at the depot, you ate in Fred Harvey's restaurants which were famous for good food, friendly service, and the famous Harvey Girls who won the hearts of travelers.

[Pauline Cushman: The Union Spy.](#) This true, but little-known story, is the tale of a brave woman who helped the Union Army win the Civil War. She was a legend!

You can order plays from *Readers Theatre: Legendary Ladies and their Gents* as individual e-scripts or get all of them in a hard copy book.

MOLLY BROWN! SHE WAS UNSINKABLE

By

Marilyn Warsofsky

CAST

MOLLY: Tough, strong, inquisitive. It's her way and nothing is going to stop her.

STORYTELLER: Helps tell Molly's story from rags to riches.

HISTORIAN: Gives you a flavor of the times.

OBSERVER/SOCIAL DIRECTOR: Onlooker not involved.

MOTHER: Wants the best for Molly. She is against Molly's decision to go out West.

TOWNIE: Part of the town, disapproves of some of Molly's action.

DANIEL: Molly's big brother. Protects and looks after her.

JOHNNY BROWN: A miner who loves Molly no matter what. He becomes very rich.

MRS CRAWFORD-HILL: Quite rich, snob, social climber.

Production Notes:

At the director's discretion, the cast can provide adlibs and overlapping lines. Several parts have only a few lines, and performers can be doubled as necessary.

Place

Ohio, Leadville, & Denver Colorado, Europe, the *Titanic*

Time

1880's through 1912

STORY: This is Molly Brown's rags to riches tale. It portrays her relationship with silver miner, Johnny Brown, and her fabled courage to save people on the sinking *Titanic*.

STORYTELLER: Molly Brown! She was Unsinkable!

CAST: We'll conquer the West
We'll make it our own
We'll travel forever
To places unknown
Our wagons are small
Our hopes are so high
We'll stand very tall
And look to the sky
A new life a new hope
No one can deny

STORYTELLER: The West. It sounded romantic and adventurous.

HISTORIAN: It was the time of the Gold Rush.

OBSERVER: Tales of Rags to Riches.

HISTORIAN: Social climbing of the nouveau riche.

OBSERVER: The lifestyle enjoyed by millionaires in America's Gilded Age.

STORYTELLER: Now, in a little town in the Midwest, a mother and a strong-willed daughter were having a heck of an argument.

MOTHER: What's wrong with living in Hannibal, Missouri? Your Pa and I have lived here since we left Ireland. Your grand-folks too!

MOLLY: I want adventure. I want to see the world! Don't you hear me? I don't belong here.

MOTHER: Don't you sass me, Miss Margaret Tobin.

MOLLY: I'm not, I'm not. I just want to go out West to Leadville, Colorado.

MOTHER: No respectable girl would go there by herself.

MOLLY: Please let me go to Leadville. Maybe I can stake me a claim, and we'll all be rich.

MOTHER: Your big brother, Daniel, is out there, and he's ain't doing much.

MOLLY: I'll go and live with him. Maybe I'll bring him luck, too.

MOTHER: You ain't even 18 yet. You better stay home.

MOLLY: When I'm 18 I'm going and nobody's gonna stop me.

OBSERVER: And nobody did.

STORYTELLER: She packed a suitcase, a knapsack, an old straw bonnet.

OBSERVER: And what little money she had saved.

STORYTELLER: She took a train, and then hired a buckboard to get her to the dirty, wild town of Leadville.

(CAST ad libs rowdy town noises.)

TOWNIE: I seen her, tired and dusty but excited, as she jumped off the buckboard.

DANIEL: Look who's here. Little sister Maggie. How ya doing honey? Momma wrote me you'd be a-comin'.

MOLLY: Well, I'm here! And don't call me Maggie, I wanna be called Molly.

DANIEL: Okay, Maggie Tobin. I'll call you Molly. If that's what you want. Let's get ya settled in.

TOWNIE: I watched Molly's brother yank her arm and start her walkin' through town.

OBSERVER: The sky was gray, and the clouds very dark. The wind was blowing and the streets muddy.

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