

THEATER WEEK

The Pied Piper's Wild West Show

A Rootin' Tootin' Adventure By Better Than Broadway Productions

The legend of the Pied Piper's Wild West Show begins in the old Western town of Goodbye Gulch. For many years, the town was plagued by millions and millions and millions of rats. The town folk had had enough of the vermin and threatened the Sheriff and the rest of the Political Party to take some action, or ***“get out of town!”*** The Political Party decreed that whoever could rid the town of the rats would receive one hundred golden nuggets.

Word spread throughout the Texas territory, and the meanest, toughest, most ornery outlaws came to rid the town of the rats and collect the one hundred golden nuggets. Each one failed, scared away by the sheer number of rats. The town folk thought that they might have to live with the rats forever, until one day The Pied Pipers came to town. The town insisted that their fair was over, and that there was no need for entertainers. The Pipers explained that they were not there to entertain, but to rid the town of the rats. The town folk laughed at the idea of musicians being able to conquer the rats. The Pipers insisted so the town promised them the money if they accomplished the task. Goodbye Gulch never thought for one minute that some flute players would be successful. The Pipers played their magical flutes and the rats followed them out of town, to the edge of the cliffs, where the rats jumped off into the ocean!

The town was thrilled to be rid of the rats but had no intension of paying the Pied Pipers the one hundred golden nuggets. A group of kids, the “children with canes”, thought it was unfair! Everyone said to them, ***“Be quiet and stop messing around!”*** The Pipers returned to collect their reward and the town broke their promise. The Sheriff threw the Pipers out of town. Knowing that the musicians were treated unfairly, the children with canes offered to pay the Pipers what they were owed, even if they had no money. The Pipers were moved by their offer, but swore revenge on the town folk that were dishonest, hoping they could teach them all a lesson. Once again the Pipers played their haunting melody but this time it wasn't the rats that followed, it was the children of Goodbye Gulch. They followed the curious tune out of town to a place called “Pleasureland”. The children with canes tried to keep up with the other children, but they weren't able to. When they arrived at Pleasureland, the gates were closed. It was all a part of the Pied Piper's master plan.

Back in Goodbye Gulch, the Parents were worried. “Where were all the children?” they wondered. The children with canes rushed back to town and told the parents where the children were but no one believed them. The Pipers returned also and explained that it *was* the truth and that the children of Goodbye Gulch were locked inside Pleasureland. They added that the only ones who could free their children were the children with canes. So they played the magical flutes and released all of the children from Pleasureland. The reward of one hundred golden nuggets was finally paid to the Pipers. Everyone in Goodbye Gulch learned that lying to and laughing at people is not the way to be. The Political Party decreed that to celebrate everyone's good fortune they should have another fair! **YEEHAW!**

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Cast of Characters for

The Pied Piper's Wild West Show

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The Pied Pipers

The Sheriff

The Marshall

The Mayor

The Town Council

The Governor

David Cassidy & the Sundance Kid

Tough Tessie, Tough Toby, Tough Tina, Tough Tabitha

Billy the Baby

Miserable Sadie

Children with Canes

The Parents of Goodbye Gulch

The Children of Goodbye Gulch