

# ON THE WAY TO A MOZART CONCERT

by Carole L. Cooney

Leopold Mozart, scheduled many piano concerts to be played by his children, Marianna, nicknamed Nannerl, and Mozart, nicknamed Wolfie. They traveled to people's fancy houses and even to the palaces of Princes and Princesses, and Lords and Ladies. Mozart loved to wear beautiful clothes, most of which were given to him as gifts for his remarkable piano playing.

Setting: Mozart's home; a palace

Characters:

Narrator

Mozart

Marianna (Nannerl) – his sister

Leopold – his father

A Palace Servant

A Princess

Anna – their mother

Two Maids

Various nobles at the palace

**Mozart:** (pantomiming the words he is singing)  
Nannerl, we're going to the Prince's house  
in a big brown carriage.  
After we get there and we play  
Is there going to be a marriage?

**Marianna:** (laughing) No!

**Mozart:** To a town far away  
Our horses quickly go  
We'll be cozy-wozy  
But our toe-sies. will freeze in the snow. (laughing )

**Marianna:** Oh, Wolfie! You're so silly.

**Mozart:** What shall I wear, Nannerl? This lavender cloth suit is getting too small. Do you think the Princess will give us some splendid clothes like the last one did? I love my gold sword and I know I look so grown up whenever I wear it.

(skipping about and singing)  
What shall I wear to the Princess' Ball ?  
What shall I wear to piano play?  
Look up and down and turn and sway  
Don't you trip or else you'll fall!

**Marianna:** Wolfie, Father will be waiting for us so please hurry and get dressed. (going to the wardrobe) Here, Wolfie, this blue velvet suit is the one I like best. You look so handsome when you wear it.

**Mozart:** All right. I suppose it will do. It will look nice with my gold sword!

**Narrator:** Two maids helped Marianna and Mozart dress. Marianna's dress was made of taffeta sprinkled with lacy flowers and Mozart's suit was made of blue velvet with gold trim. Their hair was combed and powdered in the latest fashion. Once dressed, they rushed to the carriage where their father stood waiting.

**Leopold:** (sternly) Well, children it's about time you were ready. Get in the carriage quickly. We don't want to be late. Today you are playing for Princes and Princesses at the Palace.

**Mozart:** (bowing before he enters the carriage) Oh, Alice, we're going to the Palace!

**Marianna:** (whispering) Who are you talking to, Wolfie?

**Mozart:** (smiling broadly) Just Alice, which rhymes with palace.

**Leopold:** Enough nonsense, Wolfgang! Please be serious. *Think* about your music.

**Mozart:** My music! Oh, yes, Father. (He starts humming "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

**Narrator:** It was a bitter cold afternoon when the Mozarts arrived at the Palace. There was frost on the leaves and pools of mud on the ground.

**Leopold:** Children *do be very careful* when you step out of the carriage. I DON'T want you to spoil your clothing! You must look proper and respectful.

**Marianna and Mozart:** (seriously) Yes, Father.

**Narrator:** The Palace Salon was filled with very richly dressed Princes and Princesses and Lords and Ladies. They were standing in groups talking quietly while they waited for the Mozart family.

**Servant:** (3 loud taps the floor with a long stick) Princes and Princesses, Lords and Ladies, may I present The Mozart Family.

**Narrator:** Marianna and Mozart led the way followed by their father, Leopold and their mother, Anna. Little Mozart walked as if he were a king, looking straight ahead seriously. Suddenly, his foot slipped and down he fell. A little princess let out a little scream and rushed to help Mozart.

**Princess:** (a little scream) Oh! Mozart! (rushes to him and kneels) Please let me help you.

**Mozart:** (He reaches up, grasps her hand and kisses it. Looking into her eyes, he speaks) Will you marry me?

**Narrator:** The little Princess blushed as she helped Mozart rise from the marble floor. Smiles and gentle applause rose from the crowd. Marianna and Mozart played their very best that day and the noble people were enchanted by their talent.