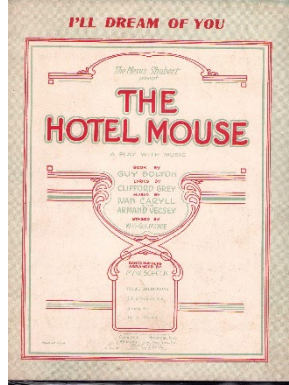


THE HOTEL MOUSE



The Hotel Mouse (1922) was originally titled *Little Miss Raffles*, but the composer died before finishing the score.¹ The story is set in Monte Carlo and concerns Mauricette, a young girl known to the police as “The Hotel Mouse.” She is an accomplished cat burglar and master of disguise. She has the uncanny skill to sneak in and out of hotels on the Riviera and steal jewelry from the rich patrons.²

So why was it originally called *Little Miss Raffles*?

Because of Raffles, a fictional character created in 1898 by E. W. Hornung, brother-in-law of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes. Raffles is a “gentleman thief,” supporting himself by carrying out ingenious burglaries. Raffles is an expert thief and like Holmes, he is a master of disguise.³

¹ Dietz, Dan. *The Complete Book of 1920s Broadway Musicals*, pp. 104–105, Rowman & Littlefield (2019)

² Wikipedia, *The Hotel Mouse (musical)*, retrieved September 11, 2024.

³ Wikipedia, *A. J. Raffles (character)*, retrieved September 11, 2024.