

BEAUTY & THE BEAST SYNOPSIS

This script allows for the set and costumes to be lavish or simpler if performed by a smaller group on a tighter budget. I had always worried about the difficulties of casting young, dashing males as a beast, so this script has a twist to allow for older actors to play key parts in the tale. Beauty and the Beast is not one of the stories originally associated with traditional pantomime, but it does translate well because of its clear structure of Good versus Evil. This Pantomime was winner of the Wharfedale Festival of Theatre, Pantomime section in 2010. It was hugely enjoyable to perform as it ticks all the boxes for story, fun, laughter, music and that all important slapstick.

In order of appearance

- FAIRY GRACE** Female . She acts as the story teller. Opposite to the ~~h~~addieq She keeps the story going and is pivotal in the rescue of the villagers from the castle. Singing required.
- EVIL ELECTRA** Female . She really is a nasty piece of work. Not necessarily a witch, perhaps more ~~u~~oyalq. but certainly evil. She is responsible for the imprisonment of the Beast. Singing required.
- MANUEL** Male . Comedy part. He is a Spanish waiter who works for Big Sam. He lives with Dame Ella, and to earn extra money also helps her in her bakery. He is totally in love with Cecile. Singing and comedy timing are essential.
- CECILE** Female . A sexy French waitress who works for Big Sam. Keen on Manuel. Singing essential.
- BIG SAM** Male - Belle and Kelleq's father. Idea based on ~~S~~wedish Chefq He is a jolly fellow who owns the Bistro. Does not necessarily have to be a singer.
- BELLE** Female . Principal girl. A young, beautiful and gracious daughter of Big Sam. She is gentle and kind hearted, even able to ~~u~~allqfor the Beast. Singing essential.
- KELLE** Female - Belleq's sister. Complete contrast in any way you can! An element of freedom in the role but she should be spoilt, demanding and lack all of the qualities Belle possesses. Does not necessarily have to be a singer.
- DAME ELLA** Male . A traditional Pantomime dame. She is a cook, who owns her own bakery and cake shop. She needs comedy timing to be able to carry off the breakfast routine in Scene Three. Should be able to carry a tune.

FREDERICK	Male or Female - Valet to Prince Jasper. A loyal servant who supports the Prince through his adventures. No solo, but is part of the chorus singing.
PRINCE JASPER	Female - Non-identical twin of Julius/Beast. A traditional principal boy whose life has been destroyed by Evil Electra. Finding courage, he sets off to fight for the freedom of the people he loves. Singing essential.
BEAST	Male - Non-identical twin of Jasper. Only in Act Two and not seen in human form until the final scene.
STAN DUPP	Male or female . One half of the comedy duo and employee of Evil Electra. Jailer, rent collector. Required to sing
BEN DOWN	Male or female - The other half of the duo and also an employee of Evil Electra. Also jailer and rent collector. Required to sing.
WISE OWL	Child part - Singer and dancer. A part which can introduce a chorus member to the ranks of principal.

Dick Whittington SYNOPSIS

This is an up to date script in terms of its music, yet still provides the fun and tradition of the ever popular Dick Whittington. This is an ideal production for a small stage, yet can easily be transformed into a large production. There are strong characters within, yet still plenty of opportunities to bring in new and less experienced cast members, helping to build them into the stars of the future. Parts include:

In order of appearance

Fairy Bowbells	Female . The traditional Dick Whittington goodie who acts as a narrator of the show. She is completely in charge and embraces her contact with the audience. She has no fear of the Rats. Singing essential.
Dick Whittington	Female . Principal Boy. Arrives from Yorkshire in search of wealth and happiness. As the title role, this character should completely own the story and the stage. Confident and should have an excellent rapport with Tommy, the cat. Strong singer required.
Tommy	Child . Either male or female. Needs to mime and be able to portray a wide range of emotions.
Fitzwarren	Male . Alice's father and owner of the store. Used to being in charge, but is evermore becoming the victim of Queen Ratifa

and her evil plans to gain control. Is quite well to do, but obviously losing his money quickly.

- Billy Dough** Male . (Cockney!) Comedy role. Son of Dame Dilly and works for Alderman Fitzwarren, although can be a little lazy. Must have a good rapport with the audience. Singing role.
- Alice Fitzwarren** Female . Principal Girl. Daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren. A confident young lady who falls for the charms of Dick Whittington. A strong singer required.
- Queen Ratifa** Female . Baddie of the show. Intent on becoming the most powerful in London and will stop at nothing to achieve this. Works with her ~~the~~ Rat Pack Singing essential.
- Vermina** Female . part of Queen Ratifa's ~~the~~ Rat Pack Vile and submissive towards the Queen. Will do anything to please her mistress. Singing part.
- Ratman** Male . Also part of Queen Ratifa's ~~the~~ Rat Pack Equally vile and submissive towards the Queen and will also do anything to please his mistress. Singing part.
- Captain Cockle** Male . Comedy duo. Obviously the one in charge. Characterisation needed. Must be able to sing. Timing is absolutely essential.
- Burley Bosun** Male . Comedy duo. Stooge to Captain Cockle. Open to characterisation, however, is not necessarily interested in the female characters of the group! Must be able to sing. Timing is absolutely essential.
- Dame Dilly Dough** Male . Larger than life and should have excellent rapport with the audience. Works for Alderman Fitzwarren and mother of Billy Dough. A singing and comedy role. Timing is essential.
- Sailor** A small walk on part in Act Two. This is ideal for one of the younger chorus members and will allow them to develop their stage skills. Timing and singing essential.

ROBINSON CRUSOE SYNOPSIS

This well-loved story is the tale of a young man called Robinson, who is deeply in love with Polly Perkins, the daughter of the local Squire. True to form, the Squire does not care for the young man, that is of course until he overhears Jack, Robinson's brother, telling Ma Crusoe that Robinson has found a treasure map. Squire Perkins immediately offers the use of his one remaining ship, The Scurvy Privateer, so they can set sail in search of the treasure. There is a great deal of fun and games on board ship, until Davi Jones, in his quest to find and keep the treasure, ensure that the ship sinks. All is not lost, as Amphitrite summons the help of Girl Friday to guide all of the castaways to safety upon the Gold Island. With all good pantomime tales, there is a twist at the end, and there is happiness for everyone.

The cast includes:

- Ma Crusoe** Male . Dame and mother to Robinson and Jack. Larger than life, needs to have a good rapport with the audience. Not a great deal of singing, needs to be able to put across a song in a more comedic style. Ma a key part of one of the slapstick routines and must be prepared to commit to the practice of this or the routine will not work . timing is essential.
- Robinson** Female . typical principal boy. Needs to be strong and traditional. Must be able to sing.
- Jack** Male . comedy solo. Needs excellent timing as he is involved in some slapstick. Not a part which is full of funny lines, so needs the ability to bring that little bit extra to the role. An idea would be to base the character on Ali G to give it more character. Must be able to sing.
- Squire Perkins** Male . father of the Polly. Has been wealthy but nobody realises that most of his money has now gone. Needs to be the one in charge, but doesn't have to be done in a nasty way. Turns into the King of the Island at the end, delivering his song in an Elvis style. Therefore, must be able to sing.
- Polly Perkins** Female . principal girl. All-round loveliness, almost twee. Cares deeply for Robinson even though her father doesn't like for the relationship. Must be able to sing.
- Felicity Futtocks** Female . almost like a second principal girl, but Felicity has to be larger than life. Plenty of scope for comedy for the person who is prepared to invest in the part. Create a character of your choice.
- Mrs Futtocks** Female . Felicity's mother. Again, needs to be a character and this could be anything! She is put out that her husband is at

sea, most of the time. Doesn't think twice about being a little flirtatious if the need arises. Needs to be able to put across a song rather than be a strong singer.

Capt Rehab Male . regular Captain of Squire Perkins's ships. Although a feared pirate, he is not necessarily the baddie. Must be able to sing, and will need to commit to the slapstick routine in terms of practice or the sketch will not work.

Lieu Futtocks Male . one half of the comedy duo. This character is loosely based on Sgt Wilson from Dad's Army. Very polite and laid back . has to be, as he is married to Mrs Futtocks. (The word *futtocks* is a nautical term and is the rope in the rigging of a ship.) Group singing rather than solo.

Able Seaman Male or Female . the other half of the comedy duo. Has a stutter

Spanker and is obviously the sillier of the pair. (The word *spanker* is another nautical term and is a type of sail on a sailboat.) Group singing rather than solo.

Dr Foster The town doctor who goes along for the ride! Turns into the Island **Witch Doctor**. Has a song. A fun part for the right person.

Davi Jones Male or Female, so either Davy or Davina. NASTY . the most horrible baddie. Needs to be almost manic in the performance. Lots of boos are needed from the audience.

Amphitrite Female . Goddess of the sea. Calm, serene, always comforting those in need.

Girl Friday Female - Helps Robinson to try to find the treasure. Without knowing, is very attractive to Jack. Must be able to sing.