

NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT

ALADDIN
BY
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ALADDIN

By Mark Llewelin

CHARACTERS:

Aladdin
Widow Twankey
Empress of China
Princess Jasmine
Kaboodle
Kerfuffle
Genie of the Lamp
Grand Vizier
Abanazar
Dim Sum
Charlie, the dog.

Chorus: Servants, townspeople, guards, voice of the cave.

ACT ONE:

1. The Palace Gardens
2. Widow Twankey's Parlour
3. The Princess's Chambers
4. Peking Town Square
5. The Princess's Chambers
6. The Mountains

ACT TWO:

1. Widow Twankey's Parlour
2. The Palace Gardens
3. The Kennels
4. The Palace Ballroom

ACT ONE:**SCENE 1: THE PALACE GARDENS**

AS THE CURTAIN RISES, THE CHORUS, AS SERVANTS, ENTER FOR/DURING THE NUMBER.

NUMBER The servants

THERE IS A FANFARE. GRAND VIZIER RUSHES ON.

VIZIER: Quick ó the Empress is on her way, turn your backs, turn your backs.
No one shall gaze on the face of the Empress.

CHORUS 1: No one?

VIZIER: No one!

CHORUS 1: Not even you?

VIZIER: Not evení .! Yes, Iam allowed. Iam ó important! Now, turn your
backs ó face the wall you ignorant nothings. No one must look at her.

ALADDIN: Why, is she ugly?

VIZIER: Aladdin ó shut it or Iðl í í ..

THEY TURN AS THE EMPRESS & PRINCESS ENTER.

VIZIER: Your majesty, GROVELLING, Your imperial leather! Come hither,
come thither ó through the gardens you go ó

EMPRESS: Oh Vizier, you do get on my ó nerves! Youøre as wet as the sea and
twice as salty!

VIZIER: Whatever you say oh beauteous prawn cracker!

PRINCESS: Mother, I wanted to have a word with you. Tonight is the Festival of
Lions in the town square and I was hoping ó

EMPRESS: I hope youøre not about to ask me what I think youøre about to ask me.

VIZIER: Exactly. We wouldnøt want to be asked that!

EMPRESS: Asked what exactly?

VIZIER: Well ó whatever it is sheø about to ask. She was thinking of thanking
and asking of somethingí í í you were thinking it too. I think we
all were. Werenøt we?

EMPRESS: Firstly ó sheø asking me not you and secondly, you havenø a clue whatø going on. So ó shut it fish face! You know Jasmine, I would love for you to be able to go to these things, festivals are such fun they tell me. But we are royalty and we cannot be seen to be enjoying ourselves. The people wouldnø like it!

PRINCESS: Oh mother!

PRINCESS SITS.

VIZIER: Empress, you are going to be late for the tour of the Peking Hospital.

EMPRESS: Oh yes, what am I doing at it?

VIZIER: Closing it.

EMPRESS: Ah yes, I love a good closing down.

VIZIER: Oh I know you do your imperial lemon chicken í í í .

VIZIER & EMPRESS EXIT.

PRINCESS: Itø all very well mother going on about serving people and not doing this and not doing that but ó I just want to have some fun.

A CHORUS MEMBER COUGHS.

Oh alright, you can all turn around. Theyøve gone.

CHORUS TURN AROUND.

CHORUS 2: Princess Jasmine, we could help you ó if you did want to go to the Festival of Lions.

PRINCESS: Help me? How?

CHORUS 3: The Festival starts tonight at 8 oøclock ó after dinner, you tell your mother that you are tired and want to retire to bed early.

PRINCESS: Yes.

CHORUS 1: Then you go to your room and get ready for the Festival ó everyone wears masks to the party so no one will recognise you.

PRINCESS: Yes, thatø true but -

CHORUS 2: And Dim Sum here ó

DIM SUM IS PUSHED FORWARD.

- will go to sleep in your bed in case anyone looks in on you.

PRINCESS: Um, she does look a little like me. It's a great idea but I don't want to lie to my mother.

CHORUS 2: There's food and dancing ó

CHORUS 4: And singing and boys!

PRINCESS: Boys? GIGGLES Yes! Alright then, Dim Sum - be in my bedroom at 8pm for the switch-over.

DIM SUM NODS.

PRINCESS: Thanks everyone!

NUMBER ó REPRISE.

AT THE END OF THE NUMBER, THE CHORUS & PRINCESS EXIT.
ALADDIN, WHO HAS BEEN PART OF THE CHORUS, IS LEFT ON HIS OWN.

ALADDIN: Isn't she gorgeous! That Princess Jasmine is a right corker if you ask me. TO AUDIENCE: Oh, we haven't been introduced, have we? My name's Aladdin and I work here at the Imperial Palace ó I'm a gardener you know. I look after the trees and the ponds and the lawns ó it's *very* exciting! But it's all worthwhile just for a glimpse of Princess Jasmine. Phew! What a stunner she is. And do you know what, this is just our little secret right, I think I'm falling in love with her. Not that we've ever spoken or anything but ó I think she'll feel the same about me if she ever notices me. But it won't come to anything ó it can't, I mean a Princess and a gardener! That's only in fairytales and pantomimes and ó

VIZIER ENTERS.

VIZIER: What are you doing Aladdin? Day dreaming again? On work time?

ALADDIN: No Vizier, I was just ó

VIZIER: Don't tell me? Willing the hedges to trim themselves? You are a lazy, good for nothing boy. In fact, you are one step away from an idiot.

ALADDIN: Oh, pleased to meet you.

THEY SHAKE.

VIZIER: I didn't mean me! You insolent boy, wait -til I go and speak with your mother.

ALADDIN: Oh don't go worrying her; you know she has a lot on her plate at the moment. Her new business is just taking off.

VIZIER: Taking off? I'd have her grounded! You haven't heard the last of it ó

VIZIER EXITS.

ALADDIN: Oh gosh, now I'd be in trouble. I'd better rush home and have a word with mum before he goes round and drops me in it. See you later!

ALADDIN RUSHES OFF. ENTER KABOODLE & KERFUFFLE

KER: LOOKING AT PAPER Well, I think this must be the place.

KAB: It's not a place, it's a palace. What does it say? READS: The Imperial Palace in Peking. That's just outside China.

KER: TO AUDIENCE: Oh, hello! Are you here for the job interviews too? We are ó it was in the (*local paper*) ó two security guards required. And that's us. Me and my brother. My brother and me.

KAB: Not that we've ever done security work before.

KER: Not that we've done *much* work before.

KAB: Well, not for long. Now, what did mother say?

KER: She said smile and be nice.

ENTER VIZIER. THEY SMILE BROADLY.

VIZIER: What are you two idiots looking at?

KER: We're here for the interviews sir.

VIZIER: Oh yes ó ASIDE Good lord, the only two applicants an' all. Well, well, tell me ó are you good at doing a variety of jobs?

KAB: I should be ó I've had eight jobs in the past three months.

VIZIER: What was your last job?

KER: Painting white lines down the middle of the road. The first week I did 18 miles, the second week 10 miles and the third week, 4 miles.

VIZIER: You painted less each week?

KER: Well, the paint tin was getting further way.

VIZIER: You're a matching pair alright.

THEY SMILE

Of idiots. But given you're the only applicants I'll take you on for a trial run. And what a trial it'll be! Now listen carefully, I am in charge here. In charge of everything don't you know? And you must do everything and anything that I tell you. Is that clear?

KER: Crystal.

VIZIER: Good. Now, you need to pass the entry exams. Are you ready?

KAB: As I'll ever be.

VIZIER: Good for your starter for ten. A boy is playing with fireworks, what do you do?

KAB: Let him off.

VIZIER: A boy is stealing batteries, what do you do?

KER: Charge him.

VIZIER: ASIDE: They get worse!! General knowledge of what was Ghandi's first name?

KAB: Goosey Goosey.

VIZIER: A woman is driving and knitting at the same time of what do you do?

KER: Shout: Pull over!

VIZIER: If a tin whistle is made of tin, what's a fog horn made of?

THEY SCRATCH THEIR HEADS

If sheep are made of wool, why don't they shrink in the rain?

THEY LOOK PUZZLED.

If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?

KER: You've got us there sir.

VIZIER: ASIDE Brilliant! What a pair of dim-wits! They'll do just as I say.

KAB: Thank you sir, thank you! You can trust us!

VIZIER: Welcome aboard lads! You're on my team now!

NUMBER Vizier, Kaboodle and Kerfuffle.
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2. WIDOW TWANKEY'S PARLOUR

THERE IS LOTS OF BARKING OF DOGS. WIDOW TWANKEY ENTERS.

TWANKEY: Well hello everybody! Welcome to my new enterprise ó Widow Twankey's Canine Kingdom, that's right we look after dogs. We brush them, bouff -em, tease them and please them. And I am the owner, Widow Twankey is my name and I live here, over the shop, with my son Aladdin. You'd have to wait until later to meet him because he's very busy; he's a gardener up the palace you know. Very well respected, a hard worker. REACTION You knew that already? You can't have, you haven't met him already? You have? Good lord, you've been busy. Ooh now, who'd like a chocolate eh? PULLS SWEETS FROM POCKET & THROWS THEM OUT Who's eaten theirs already? Did you like -em? Well, I thought you would ó the dog's do. You won't get distemper after those. Would you like to meet a little doggie woggie? EXITS & BRINGS ON PUPPET DOG. This is Frisky! Oh yes it is. Say hello to the boys and girls Frisky. BARK That's good. Frisky is a cross between a guard dog and a St Bernard ó he might bite your leg but he'd always go for help. He does. Now, he's due to go out for a run in the garden ó he wants to do his business you see. HE NODS Yes, he does. But I thought you'd like to meet him. BARKS He's excited to see you isn't he! Would you all give him a little wave. THEY DO That's great. I've got a good idea ó would you all like to bark to him? Right, go on then. THEY DO Well, that was not bad but I think the adults were letting the side down ó let's hear the dads bark. THEY DO Now let's hear the mums bark. THEY DO Now let's hear the wrinkly old granny and granddads bark. THEY DO Now, we'd all do it together. USING A WATER PISTOL, THE DOG WEES INTO THE AUDIENCE. He did what? I'm sure he didn't, well if he did, it's because you got him excited. You didn't widdle, did you Frisky? SHAKES HEAD THEN WEES AGAIN. He did! Oh Frisky, you are a naughty little doggie! TURNS & WEES AGAIN. DOORBELL Oh, there's somebody at the door. I hope it's a fella. Let's have a butchers. EXITS. RETURNS (MINUS DOG) BUT WITH ABANAZAR. Well, this is it sir ó my new venture ó so are you wanting to buy, boouf or barter? You're from out of town, I've not noticed you before ó and believe you me, I would have done.

ABANAZAR: You're very sharp. Yes, I'm visiting Peking in my search for a woman.

TWANKEY: A woman? What are you on - a speed dating away day? I've seen those advertised in the *(local paper)*.

ABANAZAR: LAUGHS Oh no, no, I'm looking for ó not just any old woman ó a particular one. One by the name OPENS PIECE OF PAPER & READS of Hyacinth Polkadot Twankey.

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TWANKEY: Hyacinth Polkadot Twí .. Hey, that's me!

ABANAZAR: You! I've found you at last?

TWANKEY: Hang on a minute, why do you want me? You're not from the tax office are you? I never knew I had to settle the rent on that flat in Kowloon, believe me. And you can't blame me for not declaring everything I earn for VAT ó it's all cash, I get very confused.

ABANAZAR: No, no, no, I'm not after your assets. I can't believe it's you ó I've searched high and low, but mainly low, for years. They told me I'd find you here ó the people in the pub down the hill ó the Chopstick and Egg Roll.

TWANKEY: I am known in there.

ABANAZAR: Yes, they had a painting of you over the mantelpiece.

TWANKEY: Keeps the children away from the fire.

ABANAZAR: Well you charming creature ó I am your brother-in-law. You were married to my brother, Twinky Twankey.

TWANKEY: Your brother?? Twinky never said there was another Twankey. ASIDE I wonder if this is true? He's not just after hanky panky? So many of them are! Sir, I'd have you know that if you're after hanky panky with a Twankey then the answer's no ó well ó WOBBLES HAND ó not until you've wined and dined me anyway. You minx! But if you really are Twinky Twankey's long-lost brother then that's another story. He never mentioned you -

ABANAZAR: Oh yes, well, I left home when I was just 12 ó left home to sail the seven seas in search of ó

TWANKEY: Sailors! Tell me about it.

ABANAZAR: No, not sailors ó spices and silks. I returned home last year whereupon I heard of the tragic death of my dear brother Twinky.

TWANKEY: Yes, it was indeed a tragedy. We knew something was wrong when he began to see spots before his eyes.

ABANAZAR: Did he see the Doctor?

TWANKEY: No, just spots. Then his hair started falling out. The doctor gave him something for that. A box. Then he began to get excessive wind.

ABANAZAR: Did you give him anything?

TWANKEY: We bought him a kite. The end came very rapidly and I can tell you this with my hand on my heart ó

ABANAZAR: What?

TWANKEY: It was a lovely tea. Warburtons bread and everything.

ABANAZAR: When I heard, I had to do something -

TWANKEY: And you came to find me. CYNICAL Yes, I can see it now ó penniless sailor gets home and thinks hey up, she must have been left a pretty penny. Well, just for the record your lay-about, idle brother left me with nothing. Not a penny to me name. It's taken years of doing washing and boiling rice to raise the cash I needed to set up this place. So, if it's a cheap ride you're after ó

ABANAZAR: No dear lady, you misconstrue!

TWANKEY: Oh no, it wasn't me ó it must have been one of the dogs. Sorry about that. WAFTS HAND

ABANAZAR: No, you have me wrong. I have sought you out because you are family, your son is family. And I'm not hard up ó far from it ó I returned a millionaire! I'm rich!

TWANKEY: Rich? Off socks and spangles?

ABANAZAR: Silks and spices, yes.

TWANKEY: Well I'll go to the bottom of our stairs.

ABANAZAR: Lots of lolly, oodles of doodles and caverns of cash!

TWANKEY: You're not bad looking, are you? When you get up close. And squint. Well, you'd be welcome to stay here ó

ABANAZAR: That won't be necessary; I have a suite at the (*local expensive*) Hotel.

TWANKEY: The (*Name*) Hotel! ASIDE Blimey, his bread is well buttered. Well, I must say ó I'm delighted to meet you ó

ABANAZAR: Abanazar.

TWANKEY: Abanazar Twankeyí í it's funny, Twinky never mentioned you.

ALADDIN RUSHES ON.

ALADDIN: Oh mum, I wanted to get to you first ó don't believe anything the Vizier says.

TWANKEY: Why? What's he going to say?

ALADDIN: That I'm idle and lazy.

TWANKEY: But you are idle and lazy. Sadly, just like your father. God rest his soul ó and all his family! And all that sail in them.

ALADDIN: And I think he's going to give me the sack.

ABANAZAR: So you are - ?

TWANKEY: Oh, this is Aladdin, my son and heir. And *your* favourite nephew of course. Isn't he the spit of our Twinky. GRABS ALADDIN'S FACE Got his eyes as well as his ways. PRODUCES HANKY, SPITS ON IT AND WIPES HIS FACE.

ABANAZAR: Indeed. Very reminiscent of my dear brother. Listen Aladdin, I'm in town for a few weeks and I could do with some help. Why don't you pack your job in and work for me? Assist with my affairs, bolster my business, polish me pie charts.

ALADDIN: Hold your horses! I didn't know I had an uncle.

ABANAZAR: You have now. Well, what do you say?

ALADDIN: Alright then. After all, we are family!

NUMBER Aladdin, Abanazar and Twankey

ENTER VIZIER.

VIZIER: Ah, Widow Twankey ó I've come to see you about your son.

TWANKEY: I thought you might have. He wants to see you -an all.

ALADDIN: Yes Vizier. I quit!

VIZIER: What?

ABANAZAR PULLS ALADDIN TO HIM.

ABANAZAR: Yes, the boy is working for me now.

VIZIER: And who are you?

TWANKEY: His Uncle Ava-banana!

ABANAZAR: Abanazar!

VIZIER: Really? Well, no one crosses me! EXITS.

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NUMBER - reprise

3. PRINCESS'S CHAMBER

THE PRINCESS IS READY FOR HER EVENING OUT. THERE IS A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

PRINCESS: Who is it?

CHORUS (OFF): The red dragon is getting very cold.

PRINCESS: Oh, that's the code. Now, what do I say? Oh yes! Then light his fire tonight.

DIM SUM AND TWO CHORUS ENTER.

Are you sure you're still willing to go through with this Dim Sum?

DIM SUM: Yes, of course. You deserve to be able to go out and enjoy yourself! and anyway, it's a masked ball so no one will know who you are. You can tell them you are me.

PRINCESS: Thank you! I'll be fine now.

CHORUS EXIT.

For too long I've been stuck in this palace surrounded by guards. I feel suffocated by it all! why can't I do the things normal girls do?

DIM SUM: Like what?

PRINCESS: Go out, party, have a good time. Boys!

DIM SUM: There are no princes out there Jasmine, and you can only marry a prince so what's the point?

PRINCESS: I don't meet any princes in here either. And if mother and the Vizier have their way I'll be single all my life. Anyway, who says I have to marry a prince? Hey?

DIM SUM: Every Princess before you has done that! it's tradition!

PRINCESS: Huh! Forget tradition!

DIM SUM: You need to finish getting ready. Where is your mask?

PRINCESS: Here - SHOWS HER MASK. HUGS DIM SUM. Thank you!

DIM SUM: Have a great night!

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PRINCESS PUTS MASK TO HER FACE.

PRINCESS: And you have a great sleep!

PRINCESS EXITS.

DIM SUM GOES TO THE WINDOW. SHE PULLS BACK THE CURTAIN & WAVES AS IF THE PRINCESS IS WAVING BACK AT HER. SHE CLOSSES THE CURTAINS & IS GETTING INTO BED WHEN THE DOOR OPENS. SHE PULLS THE COVERS OVER HERSELF. VIZIER ENTERS WITH KERFUFFLE & KABODDLE.

VIZIER: Something isn't right. Princess Jasmine.

MUFFLED -YES-

Princess Jasmine, show yourself!

NOTHING.

As I suspected HE PULLS THE SHEET BACK Dim Sum! What is the meaning of this? Why have you done this? Did you not think you would be punished? Is this the first time you have swapped places with the Princess? Now come, you know me well ó you know I am a friend. I just want to make sure that no harm comes to Princess Jasmine.

DIM SUM: No, it's not the first time. I have done this before Grand Vizier. Please do not punish me ó

VIZIER: We need to get the Princess back here. Now, I need you two to carry out my bidding. I don't know who to trust anymore and any of the existing guards could be bribed or corrupted. HE STANDS, THEY STAND EITHER SIDE.

I want you to go to the Festival and find the Princess ó and bring her to me. Not to her mother but to me personally. Do you understand?

BOTH: Yes sir. To you.

VIZIER: Good. Now, tie her up and then get off to the market square!

VIZIER EXITS.

DIM SUM: Please guards, I do not know you ó but please do not tie me up. I am no threat.

KAB: Well, it's what old Darth Vader told us to do.

KER: Yes, but I mean, she's just a young girl.

KAB: It's our first day you see so we have to go along with it all. We don't want to get the push on our first day do we Kerfuffle?

KER: Not really no. I hope we'll be here forever.

KAB: Yes, always on the job. Now, we need to get a grip. Get a grip.

KER GRABS HIM.

KAB: Not a grip of me. A grip of the situation. We are Palace guards now ó we're tough and ruthless.

KER: That's right ó INTO THE PART Rough and toothless. We seize people's assets! We're villains pure and simple.

KAB: I'm pure!

KER: And I'm -

KAB: Yes, so tie her up we will. Where's some rope? RUSHES OFF AND BRINGS ON TROLLEY. ON IT IS A ROPE & A JUG

DIM SUM: Please! Spare me!

KER: Spare you ó from being tied up? Never!!

DIM SUM: Not from being tied up. From the jokes.

KAB: Pure gold love, pure gold. TAKES ROPE & STARTS TO TIE HER UP

KER: SPINNING HER ROUND AS THEY WRAP THE ROPE ROUND
Once, twice and fifth.

DIM SUM: That was only three times. Maths not your strong point, eh?

KER: Listen love, there are only three kinds of people ó those who can count and those who can't.

KAB: TO TROLLEY, READING SIDE OF JUG What's this say? The magic drink of truth. Hey, the magic drink of truth! Let's have a slurp.

DIM SUM: That's the Vizier's. I wouldn't touch that.

KER: Take no notice ó go on!

KAB SLURPS SOME.

KAB: It tastes disgusting. It tastes like petrol.

DIM SUM: Now, isn't that the truth!

KER: I've had enough of this! She's tied up so let's go and find the Princess!

THEY RUSH OFF. DIM SUM FREES HERSELF.

4. PEKING TOWN SQUARE:

NUMBER Chorus

THE CHORUS MILL AROUND (ALL WEAR MASKS) UNTIL -

KERFUFFLE AND KABOODLE ENTER

CHORUS 1: Hey! The Festival of the Lions is a masked ball so you better get your masks on or you risk upsetting the Gods!

KER: Well, we don't want to do that!

CHORUS 2: Here!

HANDS THEM MASKS WHICH THEY PUT ON. THESE CAN BE TOPICAL & COMEDIC ONES.

KER: We look a right pair of lemons in these!

KAB: No change there then. Hang on, if everyone's wearing masks how do we find out which one is the princess?

KER: You're right! We need a cunning plan. EXIT

FANFARE. ENTER WIDOW TWANKEY AND ALADDIN.

TWANKEY: Evening all! REMOVES MASK Tis I o' the Widow Twankey! Well, what do you think of all this o' as many prawn crackers as can eat. Entertainment coming out of your ears and lots and lots of young hunks! Ooh, now, we need to find your Uncle.

ALADDIN: You're obsessed with him. It's uncle this and uncle that.

TWANKEY: You don't understand o' we've had to work our fingers í í THINKS I've had to work my fingers to the bone for you. And you know what that gives you!

ALADDIN: Boney fingers.

TWANKEY: No, not boney - HITS HIM ó a longing to get rich quick, that's what. Your uncle is rich and I intend for us to get our hands on his filthy lucre. I mean, he's not bad looking ó in the right sort of light.

ALADDIN: You can't be serious.

ENTER ABANAZAR. REMOVES MASK.

TWANKEY: Ah, so there you are!

ABANAZAR: Yes, tis I.

TWANKEY: Lovely to see you Abergaveny.

ABANAZAR: Abanazar! ASIDE I need to win this widow over, but how?

TWANKEY: What a beautiful night!

ABANAZAR: Yes, the sky is clear ó the moon is high!

TWANKEY: Yes, they'll be coming out soon.

ABANAZAR: The stars?

TWANKEY: No, me teeth! They're not me own. BIG SMILE You can see the maker's name if you look closely! Mind you, I'm a good kisser. PUCKERS UP

ABANAZAR: I'll take your word for it.

TWANKEY: I used to be very good at siphoning off petrol in the war.

ABANAZAR: Really! You know, Hyacinth ó may I call you that?

TWANKEY: You may ó you could always call me Hyacinth Polkadot if you wanted.

ABANAZAR: Yes, it's a most unusual name.

TWANKEY: My mother was a little dotty. You were saying ó

ABANAZAR: I was about to say how ravishing you looked this evening. I haven't seen anything this well preserved since I was at the (*local museum*).

TWANKEY: You have a way with words. Talk French to me!

ABANAZAR: Coq au vin.

TWANKEY: How romantic. Le petite chose.

ABANAZAR: You know French too.

TWANKEY: No love, your flies are undone. WIGGLES SMALL FINGER Your petite chose.

HE TAKES HER IN HIS ARMS

ABANAZAR: Don't fight this anymore ó

TWANKEY: Take me! Take me!

ALADDIN: LIFTING MASK Mother! PULLS HER TO HIM

TWANKEY: Oh, I don't know what came over me. WAVES TO ABANAZAR
You're right ó more decorum. Don't let him see how desperate I am.
AS HE NEARS: Well, Aber-dan-dabber-dozey, you seem ó

ABANAZAR: ANGRY: That was the Krankies.

TWANKEY: Don't get Krankie with me. So, Aber-dabber-ding-dong, you seem like a half decent catch to me ó so, if you'd like to escort me home after the ball I shall be most obliged.

ABANAZAR: Very well. I would be honoured. ASIDE Gosh, it's enough to make me puke. I mean, look at the old hag! More lines than the London Underground, more chins than the Chinese phonebook.

TWANKEY: ASIDE I think I've got him! Mind you, he doesn't appear very sharp to me. If brains were gunpowder I don't think he'd have enough to blow his turban off his head. Eh, mind you, he's rich and that's all that counts girls. Money can't buy you friends, but you do get a better class of enemy.

ABANAZAR PUTS MASK BACK ON.

ALADDIN: Mother! Will you stop it!

TWANKEY: Stop it! He could be our passport out of here. I could sell the dog business ó I could have me legs lagged for the winter ó and we could hot foot it to warmer climes. (*local coastal resort*) looked nice in the brochure. Hey, I've always longed to have fruit on the sideboard even when no one was ill. We could have them lovely soft toilet papers instead of the Peking Gazette.

ALADDIN: Hey! If we were rich ó

TWANKEY: Yes? Yes? Spit it out love!

ALADDIN: I could ask the Princess to marry me!

TWANKEY: Ask the - ? You must be joking! Even with money she wouldn't look twice at you! You are a dreamer. Why can't you settle for fruit and lagging. Keep your feet on the ground like me.

ALADDIN: I suppose you're right. Why would someone so beautiful ever look twice at me.

TWANKEY: Quite. Now, I'm going to get meself a mug of egg nog, are you coming?

ALADDIN: No, I'll stay here. And mope.

TWANKEY: Diddle yourself. MASK ON

TWANKEY EXITS.

ABANAZAR: ASIDE So that idle boy has dreams of marrying royalty. Well, I need him to do my bidding so maybe I'll use the Princess in my plan. What? You didn't think I was really his uncle did you? Of course not! I lied! That's what I enjoy most ó lying, cheating and double-crossing. I should have gone into politics. But as it is I am here to lure Aladdin to his death. LAUGHS AND EXITS

ALADDIN HAS HIS MASK BACK ON. A MASKED GIRL PASSES WITH A DRINK. IT HAS TWO STRAWS IN IT AND SHE STANDS NEAR HIM. HE TAKES A SIP AND SHE NOTICES. IT IS THE PRINCESS.

PRINCESS: Excuse me! That's my drink.

ALADDIN: I am sorry ó forgive me oh masked one.

PRINCESS: Maybe I will and maybe I won't. What is your name?

ALADDIN: Aladdin Twankey at your service.

PRINCESS: Well Aladdin ó why don't we dance?

NUMBER Aladdin and Princess

AT THE END, HE HOLDS HER. KERFUFFLE AND KABOODLE ENTER SNATCHING AT THE MASKS OF REVELLERS. THE VIZIER FOLLOWS.

VIZIER: If you want a job done properly, do it yourself! Go on with you ó find her you nincompoops!

KER: Yes sir. But she's not here!

THEY NEAR THE PRINCESS WHO RUNS OFF.

VIZIER: That one ó stop her!

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THE VIZIER & KERFUFFLE AND KABOODLE CHASE OFF.

ALADDIN: That girl's in trouble!

VIZIER BACK ON.

VIZIER: Clear the streets everyone! The party's over! Anyone found loitering will be executed!

HE EXITS AS THE CHORUS DISPERSE. ALADDIN IS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE WHEN THE PRINCESS APPEARS FROM A HIDING PLACE.

PRINCESS: Which way did they go?

ALADDIN: That way! POINTING OFF Why are they after you? What have you done?

PRINCESS: I can't tell you that. Please, do not betray me.

ALADDIN: I can help. I lost my job at the palace today & I'm no friend of the Vizier.

PRINCESS: You lost your job? You mean I won't see you again?

ALADDIN: What? Who are you?

HE LIFTS HER MASK.

Princess Jasmine!!

PRINCESS: Yes Aladdin, it's me. The Vizier must have discovered my plan.

ALADDIN: Then let me help you. Come and hide in the poodle parlour!

PRINCESS: No, I must face him.

NUMBER reprise

ENTER VIZIER, KABOODLE AND KERFUFFLE.

VIZIER: Ah, so there you are. I should have known it & hiding out with this lazy layabout.

PRINCESS: He's not lazy so watch what you say Vizier.

VIZIER: Silence!

ALADDIN: You seem to forget, you're just a servant too.

VIZIER: The Emperor gave me powers, powers to do anything I like. And Princess, your insolence has gone too far this time. Guards, seize her!

KAF: Well, I don't want to do I mean, she is the Princess.

VIZIER: If you want a job doing properly do Princess Jasmine you will learn to obey me!

ENTER EMPRESS

EMPRESS: Stop! What is the meaning of this?

VIZIER: Empress, your imperial spring roll, I was only do

EMPRESS: I know what you were doing. I heard everything. My husband the Emperor gave you too much power and now he is dead so you obey me and you'd better start doing what I tell you Vizier or you'd be out of work too! Now, Jasmine you have disobeyed me. I told you to remain at home, at the palace.

PRINCESS: But mother, I do

EMPRESS: WINKS Although, it was a good party, wasn't it? SHE PRODUCES HER MASK

PRINCESS: Mother!

EMPRESS: I'm not the old stick in the mud that you seem to think. Now Aladdin, you were walking my daughter home I suppose.

ALADDIN: Yes! Yes I was!

EMPRESS: You rather like Jasmine, don't you?

ALADDIN: I do!

EMPRESS: But to marry her would be out of the question. A Princess can only marry a prince. You know that, don't you? Both of you?

ALADDIN: Yes Empress.

EMPRESS: Very well. Away with you!

ALADDIN EXITS.

EMPRESS: Guards, you will escort us home!

EMPRESS, PRINCESS, KERFUFFLE & KABOODLE EXIT.

VIZIER: Drats and demons!

ENTER ABANAZAR. NO MASK.

ABANAZAR: Made a mess of that, didn't you.

VIZIER: And who are you sir?

ABANAZAR: Allow me to introduce myself ó I am Abanazar, a magician, a magic man from over the hills.

VIZIER: Magic?

ABANAZAR: Yes! I can make all kinds of things happen. I am in the area because I need to get my hands on a lamp. It is hidden in one of the caves around here and legend has it that only a boy named Aladdin will find it.

VIZIER: Aladdin?

ABANAZAR: Yes, I know! I have convinced his mother that I am his uncle and after you sacked him, I took him on as my assistant. I need him to retrieve the lamp because my magic doesn't work underground ó in a cave I have no power at all.

VIZIER: Why are you telling me all this?

ABANAZAR: I need the use of the Princess. Aladdin dotes on her, he will do anything she tells him. So I need her under my spell. You can help me there and there's a reward for you of course.

VIZIER: Help you plot against Aladdin and the Princess? That's brilliant, of course I'll help.

ABANAZAR: Excellent!

HONK OF HORN OFF.

Oh drat, here's Widow Twankey!

ENTER WIDOW TWANKEY.

TWANKEY: Oh here you are Aviemore. I've got some baked beans on a low light for your supper. It's the curried kind ó more wind for your money.

ABANAZAR: You have a way with words. I was chatting to my friend here.

TWANKEY: I know him alright. We all do. He's no friend of mine ó shake his hand and you want to count your fingers.

VIZIER: Charmed!

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TWANKEY: Yes, you should be ó a right old snake if ever I saw one.

ABANAZAR: Now, now, now ó we were just talking about you RUNS FINGERS UP HER ARM - about your beautiful looks, your beautiful brain!

VIZIER: And your beautiful son.

TWANKEY: Hey up! He's not going camping with you anymore!

ABANAZAR: Your son, my dear nephew. Yes, the Vizier and I were just discussing a trip into the mountains and we thought Aladdin could come along and act as our guide.

TWANKEY: Your guide? Well, he does know these mountains and caves like the back of his hand!

ABANAZAR: Caves too ha? Good ó then tomorrow we will be off.

TWANKEY: By the smell of you, you've gone off already. Anyhow, back up just a cotton picking minute ó what about me! I want to hear you say nice things about me first!

ABANAZAR: But of course! Look at you ó a unique woman with so many irritable ó I mean irresistible - features. Strong legs, broad shoulders and something to be relied on.

TWANKEY: You make me sound like an old bike. ASIDE Hey! Don't go making up your own jokes. No, no, it's been so many years since Twinky died, I want someone to ring my bell a bit.

VIZIER: Ring your bell? I think you've lost your clanger!

TWANKEY: I shall ignore him. No Ab Fab, I want you to come back to the poodle parlour and tuck into a bowl of curried beans with me and see what happens. What do you say to that?

ABANAZAR: I shall be deeply moved.

TWANKEY: Yes, just you and me and some drinks and some music and ó

VIZIER: Good luck mate! EXITS

ABANAZAR: ASIDE Don't leave me!

TWANKEY: Come on Abadabado ó I feel magic in the air.

NUMBER Abanazar and Twankey

5. PRINCESS'S CHAMBER

ENTER EMPRESS AND PRINCESS FOLLOWED BY CHORUS AS MAIDS.

EMPRESS: Thank you! I shall call you when I need you.

MAIDS EXIT.

PRINCESS: Oh mother, I am so sorry for going against your wishes. But you have to understand that I need some freedom, I need to get out of here.

EMPRESS: I know how you feel, I do. But you are a princess and I am the Empress ó we are not like ordinary people.

PRINCESS: So you keep telling me.

EMPRESS: This boy Aladdin ó you ó what? Fancy him?

PRINCESS: Mum! Well, he is good looking and funny and ó

EMPRESS: And he can only be a friend.

PRINCESS SITS ON BED.

How about if I allow you to do certain things ó under supervision?

PRINCESS: Would you?

EMPRESS SITS WITH HER.

EMPRESS: I keep telling you, I'm not so old that I don't know what it's like. Remember, I married your father ó I wasn't brought up in this palace like he was. I saw something of life even though I was a princess.

KISSES HER.

BANGING AT DOOR. ENTER VIZIER.

EMPRESS: What is it now? STANDS

VIZIER: I came to apologise your imperial fried rice. Maybe the princess has a point, maybe she should get out and about. There is some beautiful countryside around here that she's never even seen.

EMPRESS: My sentiments exactly. Goodness, you're almost human Vizier.

VIZIER: You're too kind. I was thinking ó

PRINCESS: I thought I could smell something burning.

VIZIER: Tomorrow I am going to go hiking in the mountains and I wondered if Princess Jasmine would like to accompany me.

PRINCESS: What? With you?

EMPRESS: Exercise, fresh air. Go on ó

VIZIER: A friend of mine will be coming along ó and his nephew.

PRINCESS: The answerø no mother.

VIZIER: Yes, his nephew ó Aladdin. I believe you know him.

PRINCESS STANDS.

PRINCESS: What time do we leave?

VIZIER: I thought you might change your tune. Be ready for 10 oøclock.

PRINCESS: I canø wait!

VIZIER: Good. LAUGHS Iøll take my leave, good night your imperial duck.

EXITS.

EMPRESS: Iøm going to have to watch you and this boy. Goodnight.

EXITS.

MAIDS ON FOR:

NUMBER Princess and Chorus

6. THE MOUNTAINS

ALADDIN ENTERS CARRYING A MAP.

ALADDIN: It's over here Uncle ó this is the spot you're looking for!

ENTER ABANAZAR

ABANAZAR: Over there? Are you sure? You're not having me on, are you?

ALADDIN: No. Calm down, calm down. Anyway, you haven't told me why this place is so important to you.

ABANAZAR: Never mind that. You're sure we're here?

ALADDIN: Of course I'm sure. I know this hillside like the back of my hand. To me it's just like home.

ABANAZAR: Really?

ALADDIN: Yes, filthy and full of strangers. So, now we're here what is it you want to do?

ABANAZAR: I'm not doing anything.

HORN

Ooh, excuse me!

ALADDIN: I told you not to eat so many of mother's curried beans. You want to be careful ó you could cause a mudslide.

ABANAZAR: Now listen ó and listen carefully! In that cave over there is a lamp and I want you to get it for me.

ALADDIN: A lamp? Get it yourself.

ABANAZAR: But I'm an old man ó you get it!

ALADDIN: You want me to go in that cave ó which is cold and dark and frightening and full of ghosts and ghoulies and ó

ABANAZAR: There are no ghosts and ghoulies!

ALADDIN: You say that now but I bet that's why you don't want to go in yourself. You're scared you'll be grabbed by the ghoulies too! No, no, no ó I'll buy you a lamp in the market. You could have one of those lava lamps! í .

ABANAZAR: Now you listen to me you idle, ignorant, idiot!

ALADDIN: Eye ó eye! Hey, it's not me who's stupid!

ABANAZAR: You're one step away from a nincompoop!

ALADDIN: Oh, pleased to meet you!

THEY SHAKE HANDS

ABANAZAR: Enough! TEARS MAP FROM HIM You will do as I say or else!
RIPS UP MAP

ALADDIN: You shouldn't have done that!

ABANAZAR: Why not?

ALADDIN: I don't know the way back down.

ABANAZAR: Well I wouldn't worry about it because without that lamp you won't be going back down!

ALADDIN: You don't scare me. There's nothing you can do or say to make me go in that cave. Nothing. N Ó O ÓT Ó

ENTER VIZIER WITH PRINCESS

ALADDIN: Princess!

PRINCESS: Aladdin!

ABANAZAR PRODUCES A KNIFE AND GRABS THE PRINCESS

ABANAZAR: Very well timed Vizier. Now Aladdin, what were you saying? Get in that cave now or the Princess gets it.

ALADDIN: You wouldn't.

VIZIER: I think he would.

PRINCESS: Aladdin, please ó

ALADDIN: I have no choice - but why do you want this lamp anyway?

ABANAZAR: Never you mind.

VIZIER: Because it's magic and ó

ABANAZAR: Shut it Dumbledore. Just get the lamp boy or she and your mother get it!