

NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT

ALADDIN

by

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CAST

IMMORTALS

The Slave of the Ring (Shapely young woman)

The Genie of the Lamp (Man)

MORTALS

Abanazar (A bit of a magician, but not much of one)

Widow Twankee

Aladdin (Her son)

Wishee Washee (Her other son)

The Emperor of China

Princess So-Shi (The Emperor's daughter) ó pronounced ðSO SHYö

Grand Vizier

Chief of the Emperor's Police

The Emperor's Police (Men)

Chorus of Dancing Girls

Singing Girls

Kiddies Chorus

SCENES

ACT I

Prologue	The Rock of the Magic Ring	Tabs
<u>Scene 1</u>	Market day in old Peking	Full set
<u>Scene 2</u>	A street in Peking ó late that evening	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 3</u>	The Royal Palace gardens	Full set
<u>Scene 4</u>	On the way to Widow Twankee's	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 5</u>	Widow Twankee's Chinese laundry	Full set
<u>Scene 6</u>	The Mountain Pass	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 7</u>	Inside the cave	Full set

INTERVAL

ACT II

<u>Scene 8</u>	Widow Twankee's laundry	Full set
<u>Scene 9</u>	The Emperor's Pavilion	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 10</u>	Aladdin's Palace	Full set
<u>Scene 11</u>	Outside Peking	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 12</u>	Abanazar's African Fortress	Full set
<u>Scene 13</u>	Back in Peking	Tabs or front cloth
<u>Scene 14</u>	The Feast of a Thousand Lanterns	Full set

MUSIC NOTE

Play on and play off music is always brief, say 12 bars maximum

Music Cue

OVERTURE (1)

Prologue – The Rock of the Magic Ring Tabs

(After Overture lights dim to blackout. Deafening discord. Lights up to reveal Abanazar on stage in a state of extreme exultation. He is holding aloft a ring. A rock and a steaming cauldron may also be seen. Violin tremelo or similar through his first speech. (2)

(3)
 Abanazar At last the magic ring is mine. For centuries embedded in its hiding place in the rock, the ring now encircles my finger (*he puts it on*) the finger of Abanazar ó Wizard and weaver of magic spells. And now to test its mystic powers. Legend has it that I should turn the ring thrice on my finger. So be it ó Once! ó Twice! ó Thrice!

(Flash. Enter Slave of the Ring. Cut music)

Slave I am the slave of the ring. Master I await your command.

Abanazar Then hear this my command. Give me riches beyond the wildest dream of mortal man.

Slave Alas, master, such a command is not within my power. There are many things I can do and yet I cannot create wealth.

Abanazar Curses. What kind of slave is this that cannot heed my command?

Slave Be not so hasty master. Wealth I cannot provide ó yet I will tell you where it can be found.

Abanazar Speak slave. Tell me where!

Slave In far off China, lies the city of Peking. High in the hills nearby, buried in an underground cave you will find untold treasure. Treasure which has lain undisturbed for over 2,000 years.

Abanazar Gold, silver, rubies, diamonds, emeralds, pearls ó all these things, Slave?

Slave Yes Master. Yet none of these compare with the greatest treasure of all. A plain brass lamp.

Abanazar A common lamp? Don't trifle with me, slave.

Slave Hear me, master. Whoever owns the lamp ó commands the Genie of the lamp. And the Genie of the lamp will grant any wish. Wealth, titles, kingdoms, compared to which the contents of the cave are nothing.

Abanazar I like the sound of this. Book me a single ticket to Peking.

Slave Thence I will transport you, but you will need courage and daring before the lamp is yours.

Abanazar Courage and daring are strangers to me, yet with my native cunning I have never failed to find a friend to take the risks for me. Therefore my beautiful slave, transport me to Peking in far-away China.

Slave Master, I heed your command.

(Flash. Black-out)

Scene 1

Full set

A Market Day in Old Peking

(Opening number as tabs open. Singing girls, dancing girls and kiddies chorus "Supermarket in old Peking" or similar. Sampans and junks are visible on the river cloth and there are fishermen among the market traders and customers. The Square is crowded in a typical oriental way. A water carrier is in evidence. (4)

Stalls in the market place have signs over them – "Tes Co", "Mori Son", "Co Hop", As Da"

Fanfare. Enter Vizier) (5)

Vizier As Grand Vizier to the Emperor of China, all highest of the high, I hereby decree that the streets of Peking must be cleared.

All *(Protesting)* But it's market day etc. *(ad lib)*

Vizier Silence! In fifteen minutes, Chinese Summer Time, the Emperor and the Princess will pass this way.

All Ohhh! *(Half in excitement, half in awe)*

Vizier Doors must be bolted. Shutters must be shutted. No one may cast eyes on the Princess or under penalty of torture and death or Chinese style. Waste no time, your fifteen minutes are passing rapidly *(Looks off)* The water clock on yonder wall has sprung a leak. *(Crowd pack close together)* Where is the Emperor's Chief of Police?

1st Girl Nearby *(Vizier says "good" after each line until it dawns on him what is happening)*

2nd Girl Close at hand)

3rd Girl Ever alert)

4th Girl Busy as usual) *(Crowd open out to show up particular stall up centre)*

5th Girl Lying low)

6th Girl Ear to the ground)

Vizier In other words or asleep. *(Pulls aside curtains round stall to reveal Chief of Police asleep underneath)*

All Wakey! Wakey! *(Chief suddenly awakens and rolls himself out. Looks at Vizier's feet through magnifying glass. Police Chief wears pebble glasses. Follows up Vizier looking through magnifying glass. When he gets to the face he screams)*

- Chief Where were you on the night of the 24th?
- Vizier Breathing, which is more than you'd be in a minute.
- Chief How so? ó Illustrious Vizier.
- Vizier The Emperor and Princess pass this way in ten minutes dead. Clear the streets or that's what you'd be. Understood?
- Chief Understood!
- Vizier I'd be away to the Teahouse of the Chinese Ty-Phoo. *(Exit Vizier)*
- Chief The police force of Peking. *(Salutes.)* The keenest and most efficient police force in the world ó *(Derisory laugh from crowd)* And I'm their chief. Now to summon my men. *(Blows whistle – nothing happens)* Now to summon my men. *(Blows whistle again and nothing happens.)*
- Chief *(Shouting out)* The Chief of Police is giving away free bottles of whiskey. *(Enter police from all directions to play on music "Chinatown" quick tempo)* (6)
- (They dash on bump into each other and fall down. They are an ill-assorted bunch, all shapes and sizes. They are all dressed in full police uniform as near like Keystone Cops as possible but none of them fit. General impression is that everyone has the wrong uniform on. When they enter, they rush on and pile up in a different position or heap each time and "freeze" into a comic heap for a second.)*
- 1st Policeman Where's the free whiskey?
- Chief You're too late for the whiskey. Here's the soda. *(He squirts police with siphon, they rise)*
- (Laughs)* I always said every time you come on parade you make a splash. Line up. *(They charge around and finish up in another heap.)*
- Chief Now I've some very important instructions for you. The only trouble is I can't remember what they are. So I'd tell you what I always tell you ó look out for pickpockets.

- Police *(Turning and looking at crowd)* Always look out for pickpockets. *(As police say this and look at crowd and Chief looks at police, one of crowd picks Chief's wallet out of his pocket)*
- Chief Always look out for pickpockets and keep your hand on your wallet. *(Discovers it's gone)*. Where's my wallet?
- Police *(To each other)* Where's his wallet?
- Chief Search everybody. *(Police all search each other)*. Come on, come on, who's got it?
- 1st Girl The thief went that way.
- Chief Which way?
- Crowd That way *(All point in different directions)*
- Chief After him. *(Police all move in different directions, bump into each other, flattening Police Chief. "Chinatown" play off quick tempo.)* (7)
(They exit running all over him on the ground and doing Keystone jumps, holding helmets on and waving truncheons.)
- Chief *(Picking himself up from the floor)*. The Pekin police are on the trail and the Pekin police always get their man. *(Uproar off-stage. Police re-enter to "Chinatown" music bringing on Aladdin)* (8)
- All Aladdin.
- Aladdin *(Freeing himself effortlessly from police)* Hello, everyone. And a Chinese welcome to my friends in blue.
- Chief Hello, hello, hello, hello ! *(Singsong)*
- Aladdin Hello
- Chief Where were you on the night of the 24th?
- Aladdin In my pyjamas.
- Chief Make a note of that ó ösleeps in pyjamasö. *(All police write on each others backs)*. What's your name?
- Aladdin Aladdin.
- Chief Make a note of that and watch the spelling A-L double L double D and a DIDIN! Now what can we do for you sir?
- 1st Policeman The stolen wallet, sir.
- Chief *(To Aladdin)* Ah yes, I understand that someone's stolen your wallet.

- Aladdin No they haven't.
- Chief Alright then, stolen your pyjamas.
- Aladdin No they haven't.
- Chief Then why are you wasting valuable police time? Remember time is money. Money! Wallet! Now I remember, it was my wallet. You've been deceiving me. I shall remember you. I never forget a name.
- What was it again?
- Aladdin Bart Simpson (*Or other topical name*)
- Chief Make a note of that. Bart Simpson. (*Police write on each others backs*). And where were you on the night of the 24th?
- (*Gong sounds offstage before Aladdin can reply*) The Emperor! The Princess! Now I remember my instructions. Clear the streets.
- Aladdin Certainly. (*He helps police to clear all off stage. Ad lib dialogue and Aladdin tip-toes off unseen by police. All crowd have now made exit except for police*).
- Chief Where's the prisoner?
- 1st Policeman Gone. You told us to clear the streets.
- Chief Fools, idiots, after him. (*Police and chief do comic exit to "Chinatown" (9) play off music*)
- (*Gong sounds three times. Play on music. Enter Wishee and Dame who (10) carries large shopping bag*)
- Wishee Who keeps banging that gong?
- Dame I've no idea. It sounds like a customer announcement at Sainsbury's. I'd tell you what, I've never known it so quiet on market day. There's nobody out spending.
- Wishee They've nothing to spend. They're saving up to pay next year's Council Tax.
- Dame Pekin should never have gone in with (*local large*) Met. It's quiet though. It's like Aberdeen on a flag day.
- Wishee It's not quite deserted Mam. Look at all these people out here. (*Indicates audience*) I'm Wishee-Washee.
- Dame And I'm Widow Twankee. They do look a nice lot, don't they?
- Wishee Yes, and they've all come to enjoy themselves, so we'd make sure they do. (*To audience*) We want you all to join in and have a good time. Will you do that? (*Yes from audience*) I don't think they understand me. I'd talk to them

in Chinese. (*Deliberate and loud*) Me can't hear you. Will you join in with us? (*Pointing*).

(*Yes from audience again*) Right, I'll tell you what we'll do. Every time I come on, I'll ask you a daft question ó and whatever I ask, you answer ðChopsticksö. We'll have a practice ó I'll go off (*He does so*) (*He re-enters*)

Wishee Are you ready? (*If audience says YES*)I You should have said ðChopsticksö,
OR (*If audience says CHOPSTICKS*) You've played this game before.

Dame (*To audience*) Now remember the answer is ðChopsticksö.

Wishee (*Enters. To audience*) What are we all going to have for supper tonight?

Audience Chopsticks.

Wishee That wasn't very loud ó let's try it again. (*They do so. Work this routine every time Wishee enters with lines like*

- *What did we all get for Christmas?*
- *What does the Musical Director pick his nose with?*
- *What's the best thing to eat when you're hungry?*
- *What does Tiger Woods play golf with?*
- *What do Wayne Rooney's legs look like?*
- *Or any other topical reference. On some audiences have two or three in quick succession.*
- *E.g. What's Widow Twankee wearing on her feet? Chopsticks*
- *What does she file her toe nails with? Chopsticks*
- *What does she brush her false teeth with? Chopsticks*
- *Widow Twankee who is on at the time re-acts to this with "Cheeky lotö*

Dame Now stop messing about ó have a look at the stalls and I'll see what money we've got left. (*She tips a huge quantity of bank notes out of her bag onto the stall. During the following she is counting.*)

Wishee That's a lot of money, Man.

Dame Don't you believe it. These days it'll buy nothing. I bought two kilos of sugar last week and had to use my Visa card. Everything's on hire purchase.

Wishee They're even selling canaries on higher perches.

- Dame What are they selling? (*Carrying a wad of notes*).
- Wishee Special offers. Star bargains and two for ones.
- Dame Two for one what?
- Wishee One economy size.
- Dame And what do you get?
- Wishee A giant mini pack.
- Dame Mini pack of what?
- Wishee Coupons off your next purchase.
- Dame I haven't made my first purchase yet. Anyway I shall have to have some toothpaste.
- Wishee What sort?
- Dame I don't care. Just some toothpaste ó (*Interrupted in her counting each time by Wishee*)
- Wishee Blue, green, red or white?
- Dame Immaterial.
- Wishee I don't know that brand. You can have stripes.
- Dame My teeth have stripes ó any toothpaste.
- Wishee What flavour?
- Dame (*Explodes*). I don't care what flavour, I don't care what size, I don't care what colour, I don't care what consistency. Flavour, size, colour, consistency does not matter. Not one jot nor tittle, just get me some toothpaste,
- Wishee Ordinary or sensitive?
- Dame Oh, never mind. What vegetables have they got?
- Wishee Spanish onions, welsh leeks, Brussel sprouts, Guernsey tomatoes, French beans and Jerusalem artichokes.
- Dame I thought we were in China. It's just like the United Nations. Look, get me some potatoes.
- Wishee Old or new? Bagged or loose?
- Dame Don't start that again. Buy half a sackful and make them small ones, then they don't weigh so much carrying them home. Oh, and while we're here, we're going to get you a new suit. Look there's some jackets here. Take your

- Kaftan off. (*Wishee does so. He is wearing a white vest with a large red sun on it*)
- Dame You must have that operation. And to think it was only a pimple yesterday. (*Brings all necessary clothes for routine*).
- Wishee It's the sun sinking in the vest.
- Dame Try this one. (*Wishee tries on a small coat*). It might be a suit, but it doesn't suit you.
- Wishee I'd jack-it in. Jacket in ó Oh never mind. (*Tries on coat which is too large*). It's too big.
- Dame You'd grow into it.
- Wishee I'd disappear into it.
- Dame Don't argue, try the trousers. (*Wishee goes behind stall and discards pair of over trousers, reappearing in matching trousers to coat*). Come here ó let's see you. It could do with letting out.
- Wishee It could do with chucking out.
- Dame How do you feel?
- Wishee Alright, but the trousers are a bit tight under the arm pits.
- Dame Come here. I want to look at the hem on those sleeves. (*Gets hold of sleeve*).
- Wishee Get off. (*Pulls away. Sleeve comes off*) (*Items of clothing are fastened with Velcro for this business*)
- Dame Now look what you've done.
- Wishee I'm armless.
- Dame You're gormless. Stand still. (*She pulls other sleeve off in making him stand still. Getting hold of lapels*) Stop pulling things to pieces. (*The lapels come away in her hand*) Will that jacket pull down?
- Wishee I should think so. Everything else has done. (*Wishee pulls rest of jacket off which pulls away from the neck and drops off*.)
- Dame You've ruined that coat. Now be careful with those trousers. Whatever you do, don't stretch the waistband.
- Wishee It's alright ó look.

- Dame Oh yes, quite a bit of play in them. (*Pretends to pull them from behind, at back as if elastic and finishes still holding them.*) I like them. We'll have these trousers. Where's my purse?
- Wishee In your basket. I'll get it. (*Wishee walks away. Trousers pull apart and drop off. He is wearing gaudy underpants.*)
- (*Enter Aladdin running. He bumps into Wishee.*)
- Aladdin Wishee
- Wishee Aladdin.
- Aladdin Who do you play for? (*Makes as if to dash off*).
- Dame Hey. Our Aladdin come here. If you're running, there's somebody chasing you. What's up?
- Aladdin The police are after me.
- Wishee If they see me like this, they'll be after me.
- Dame You're right. Let's all hide. (*Police whistle offstage*).
- Aladdin Too late, they're coming.
- Dame Stand still. Pretend you're a dummy. (*To Wishee*) No effort for you.
- (*They all stand like tailors dummies*)
- Wishee (*Breaks and looks at other two*) It looks like a meeting of (*local*) Council.
- Dame Get back (*He does so. Police whistle. Enter police to "Chinatown"* (11) *music – pile up in ridiculous pose*)
- Chief Lost him again. I wonder which way he went. If only that dummy could talk.
- Wishee (*Coming to life*) He went that way.
- Chief Thank you. (*Moves to go. Realises*) Arrest that man. (*Wishee runs off*)
After him.
- (*All police exit chasing Wishee*)
- Dame Of if it isn't one, it's another. Anyway perhaps you can tell me why there's nobody about?
- Aladdin The Emperor and the Princess are coming this way. For anyone who casts an eye on the Princess, the penalty is death.
- Dame I'm off. I'm too young to die. Come on! (*Exits*).

- Aladdin I'm staying. I want to see the Princess ó they say she's the most beautiful girl in the whole of China.
- (Gong sounds offstage.)* Here comes the procession. I must hide. *(He crouches behind a stall)* (13)
- (Gong sounds again. Enter Emperor, Vizier, Princess, hand-maiden and guards in procession)* (14)
- Vizier Poorest of the poor, lowest of the low, bow to the might of the highest of the high, the Emperor of all China.
- Emperor Alright, that's enough, or else it'll be time to go home. In any case there's no one about.
- Vizier Thus no one can cast eyes on the Princess.
- Princess How pointless it all is. If no one sees me ó I see no one.
- Emperor Soon the time will come for your betrothal. All the noblemen in the land shall meet you. From them I shall pick your husband to be. Till then no commoner may gaze upon you.
- Princess How lonely you make my life. Alright then. If I'm to be lonely I'll be alone.
- Emperor But your shopping expedition, my dear?
- Princess Leave me to it. You may all go.
- Vizier That will never do. Oh dear me, no, no, no, no, no, - *(Ad lib in musical fashion)*
- Emperor *(To Vizier)* Have you finished? I give the orders round here.
- Princess Please, Daddy!
- Emperor The streets are quiet, you may explore the market alone ó with your handmaiden.
- Princess *(She curtseys)* Your majesty. *(She turns away to the stalls).*
- Emperor Come, Vizier. We will seek refreshment. A bowl of coffee I fancy.
- Vizier I know the very place. The Coffee Bar of Ken Co.
- Emperor Will it take long?
- Vizier No, it's instant. *(All exit except Princess and handmaiden).*
- Princess *(Looking at stalls)* What beautiful silks ó and see, lace as delicate as the tracery of the summer flowers.

- Handmaiden See my lady, these glittering trinkets.
(Aladdin emerges from hiding place during this dialogue)
- Princess And this necklace. Never have I seen such beauty.
- Aladdin *(Half to himself)* Never have I seen such beauty.
- Princess *(Spins around)* What are you doing here?
- Handmaiden By gazing at the Princess, you put your life in peril.
- Aladdin *(Thinking fast)* Er ó I have no choice beautiful Princess. But a moment ago, I fell and sprained my ankle.
- Princess *(Understanding)* How unfortunate. Which one?
- Aladdin Er ó this one. *(He starts limping)*.
- Princess You poor boy. You must rest. Come and sit over here.
- Aladdin *(Walking eagerly and normally across)* Princess, you've smiled at me.
- Princess My smile has apparently cured you.
- Aladdin *(Suddenly limping round again as if in pain, but this time limping with the other leg)* Ah! Oh! The pain.
(He sits beside her)
- Princess Which ankle was it you sprained?
- Aladdin *(Uncertainly)* Er ó this one ó no ó *(He realises that she knows that he is not injured. They both laugh together)*
- Princess Now tell me, what were you doing in the market place?
- Aladdin Waiting to see you of course. They told me you were the most beautiful girl in all China
- Princess Really!
- Aladdin But they were wrong.
- Princess Oh!
- Aladdin You're the most beautiful girl in the world.
(Cue for duet Aladdin and Princess. Following two lines spoken over (15) intro to number)
- Princess No one has spoken to me like this before.

- Aladdin No one like me has ever seen you before. (*End of number*)
- Princess (*To Handmaiden*) You must say nothing of this. (*To Aladdin*) Tell me, quickly, and then you must go. What is your name?
- Aladdin Aladdin. Princess when may I see you again? I care nothing for the risk involved.
- Princess I shall not give away our secret. But I cannot arrange any such meeting. (*Moves quickly and whispers to Handmaiden. Aladdin slightly downcast, strains to hear. Princess moves away, Handmaiden moves to Aladdin*)
- Handmaiden The Princess takes her afternoon stroll in the palace gardens. There is a seat alongside the pool by the weeping willow ó but the Princess has told you none of this.
- Princess Come. (*To Handmaiden. They both exit*)
- Aladdin What a beautiful girl! What a beautiful day! My luckø in. The seat ó by the pool ó in the palace gardens ó I shall see my Princess again tomorrow afternoon. Uh-uh- but how can I get into the gardens? Iøll find a way over the nine feet wall. Today I feel ten feet tall. (*Reprise last part of (16) previous duet. Exit Aladdin*)
- (*Enter guards who form double line. Re-enter Emperor and Vizier*)
- Emperor I might have known it. No sign of my daughter. Vizier call the police. (*Vizier blows whistle. Police enter to "Chinatown" play on. Comic entrance business and pose*)
- Chief You rang, your majesty?
- Emperor I should have knocked ó knocked your head. You should have been here five minutes since.
- Chief Why, what happened?
- Emperor Nothing I hopeí You should have been here to guard the Princess, and now she has wandered off. We must locate her at once.
- Chief And to do that we must find her first.
- Vizier Find her first what?
- Emperor Now donøt you start.
- Chief Fear not, Sire. The might of the Pekin police is at your disposal. We shall search high and low, hither and thither, up and down, sideways and backwards. (*All police do appropriate movements during this and finish with a bump*). We shall commence our enquiries at the palace.
- Emperor Why at the palace?

- Chief. You say she vanished. And I saw her vanishing ó through the palace gates and into the palace. I saw her with my own eyes. Here have a look. (*Hands glasses to Emperor*).
- Emperor (*Grimly*) If I had my Chinese ceremonial sword with me, I'd wrap it round your neck.
(*Exit Emperor and Vizier and guard*)
- Chief (*To police*) Here that boys? Knighted at last.
- Police Congratulations (*They surround him – he disappears from view. Enter Abanazar to melodramatic music play on. He sees them*) (18)
- Abanazar Excuse me. I'm looking for the chief of police. (*Police part to reveal Chief on floor in a dishevelled state. He picks himself up and dusts himself down*).
- Chief Who are you?
- Abanazar Abanazar. A poor pedlar.
- Chief Then you'dl just have to free wheel. Where's your bicycle?
- Abanazar I haven't got a bicycle. Pardon me, but I'm at a loss.
- Chief Hear that men. He's lost his bicycle. A job for the police. We must find it. Search the town. Follow me. (*Exit Chief and police in comic untidy fashion*) (19)
- Abanazar The streets are uncommonly quiet. No matter, in my guise as a pedlar, I'dl go from door to door until I find a brave young boy to trick into helping me on my journey. He shall be the means by which I shall get my hands on the magic lamp. For him the risks ó for me the rewards! Ee I'm a bad'un ó And I hate children. (*If kids "Boo"*) Oh, eat your sweets. (*Enter Wishee – he is worried*)
- Wishee Excuse me, I don't know what you're selling but can I ask you a question? I'm looking for my brother. Have you seen him?
- Abanazar Does he look like you?
- Wishee Just from the feet down. He's as handsome, strong and good looking as me.
- Abanazar Is that so?
- Wishee (*Imitating him*) Yes, that's so-o-o. But I'm a bit worried about him you see. We're not supposed to be walking in the streets, but Aladdin is so brave and foolhardy ó I'dl bet he's never gone inside. He just doesn't care about danger. If we had a father he wouldn't carry on like this, but my mother lets him get away with owt.
- Abanazar (*Thinking*) No father, eh?

- Wishee Not now. Dad ran off to sea. Did did a bunk in a Chinese junk but the sail of the junk hit his head with a clunk and the junk sunk. So did Dad. (*Audibly sighs*)
- Abanazar (*Suddenly has an idea*) Wait a moment ó what did you say your brother's name was?
- Wishee Aladdin.
- Abanazar Can it be?
- Wishee I've just said so.
- Abanazar Just a minute, what do you call you mother?
- Wishee Mam!
- Abanazar No, no. no. Her surname, can it be -?
- Wishee Twankee. Widow Twankee.
- Abanazar (*Aside*) The boy's a fool. (*Hugging him and pushing him down*) At last ó I have found the family of my dear departed brother. My name is Abanazar. I am your uncle. You are my nephew ó Aladdin is my nephew and your mother is my sister-in-law.
- Wishee (*From floor*) Do you mean we're related? (*Rises*) You'd better come round to our house.
- Abanazar I wouldn't presume on your hospitality. It might come as rather a shock to your mother's nervous system. You break the news to her. Meanwhile, I will establish myself in suitable accommodation and pay my respects at her convenience.
- Wishee Well, she usually uses the one in the bus station.
- Abanazar Till we meet again. (*Abanazar exits*)
- Wishee Oh, wait -till I tell my mother about this. Whether she'll believe me or not I don't know.
- (*Enter Aladdin, he calls everybody on*)
- Aladdin Alright ó come on ó everybody out ó the market can begin again now ó etc (*Enter chorus*)
- 1st Girl Has the Princess gone?
- Aladdin Yes, she's safely back in the palace.
- 2nd Girl How do you know?
- Aladdin Never mind how I know. I know!

Wishee *(Taking his aside)* How do you know?

Aladdin Because, I've actually seen the Princess. Not only that, she smiled at me and I talked to her.

Wishee Well I've just been talking to our uncle.

Aladdin Oh! ó Eh, we haven't got an uncle.

Wishee We have. He was long lost till I found him.

Aladdin I'm going to tell mother my news.

Wishee My news is better than your news.

Aladdin 'Tis not. My news etc. *(They exit arguing ad lib)*

(Market cries are heard again) ðWho'dl buyö - ðSatins, silks, etc (Chorus finish singing reprise of opening number) (20)

FADE TO BLACKOUT AT END

CLOSE TABS OR DROP FRONT CLOTH

Scene 2

Tab or
Frontcloth

A Street in Peking ó Late that Evening

Comic's play on music

(21)

(Enter Wishee, he is dressed to kill) Hello kids. (Work "chopsticks" routine. Enter Dame in magnificent evening dress)

Dame Wishee, where are you? Don't try avoiding me ó I'm furious. I spend all year ó slaving away ó in my laundry ó giving special attention to the Emperor's smalls ó and on the one night of the year I get a chance to enjoy myself, you spoil it. We get invited to the Grand Vizier's annual banquet for palace staff, and what happens? You disgrace yourself and humiliated me ó my -Hueø has never been so -miliatedø

Wishee Well, I didn't know he was talking about the chicken when he said øwho wants stuffing?ö

Dame It started before that. What did you say to begin with?

Wishee Pass me some of those -Horses Doovresø

Dame It's pronounced HorsDøeuvres.

Wishee It looks like -Horses Doovresø

Dame And when will you learn that soup is a beverage and not a gargle.

Wishee It wasn't a proper meal.

Dame There were two kinds of fish.

Wishee Yes, going off and gone off.

Dame You didn't have to say so.

Wishee You didn't need to say so.

Dame And when they announce that the waitresses will serve the salad without dressing, you don't stand up and say øGet -em offö. And what did you say when they served the French fries?

Wishee Chuck us a chip.

Dame And when they served the chicken?

Wishee Bung us a leg over, Delia.

Dame What you should have said was ó pass me a portion of dark meat.

- Wishee Dark meat?
- Dame Yes. You always refer to the legs as dark meat and the breast as white meat.
- Wishee You don't.
- Dame You do.
- Wishee Well I'm going out with one of those waitresses, so I know what to say now.
- Dame What will you say?
- Wishee I shall sit down and say "Come and sit on my dark meat and let me snuggle up to your white meat."
- Dame And when they serve the main course, Beef Strogonoff, Bourguignon, Specialite du Chef a la maison. You don't say "haven't you got any H.P. sauce?"
- Wishee I like H.P. sauce.
- Dame You should have behaved better with the Grand Vizier's wife sitting on your right hand.
- Wishee I don't see why. I needed it to eat with.
- Dame Well it was very nice of them to remember it was my birthday. They gave me a lovely cake and didn't it look nice with all those candles lit.
- Wishee I don't know. I couldn't get near it for the heat.
- Dame I managed to blow them all out.
- Wishee And the chandeliers went out in sympathy.
- Dame And another thing " (Looks at Wishee) What's that sticking out of your top pocket?"
- Wishee Er " a propelling pencil.
- Dame *(Takes spoon from pocket)* With jam on it? G. V. " Grand Vizier *(Turns spoon over)* E.P.N.S. Emperor's Palace new spoon. *(Breaks into tears)* All these years, I've taught you to be honest. Tried to bring you up on the straight and narrow. Guarded you against wicked ways. And how do you repay me " steal spoons.
- Wishee It's silver not steel.
- Dame I don't care. "

Scene 3

Full Set

The Royal Palace Gardens

(Suggested décor for scenery Willow pattern style – pink and blue – little bridges – pagodas etc. There are two ornate garden seats. There is a practical wall across half the stage.

Opening number Ensemble as guests with fans, kimonos etc. doing traditional Chinese formation routine. With little steps and bowing. Gong sounds off stage. Everyone Prostrates themselves as royal party enters – comprising Emperor, Vizier, Princess and Guards.) (23)

Emperor *(To Princess)* Come my dear! Take the air. The palace gardens are almost at their best.

Princess Daddy we can hardly stroll about with everyone lying on the ground.

Emperor Indeed, indeed. Grand Vizier. *(Vizier claps hands and everyone gets up. They group and bow as he passes each particular group.)* Oh, how I love my flowers. Take a deep breath my dear and smell the magic of the misembryanthemum, the richness of the rose, the excitement of the azelias.

Princess And which to you is the fairest flower of them all?

Emperor *(stopping)* You my dear. And when the gardens are in full bloom, then shall you life blossom.

Vizier Your majesty is referring to the possible betrothal in the near future of her highness the Princess.

Emperor I know what I am referring to.

Princess And I know too. I will have none of it, daddy. I will marry a man I love and no one else.

Emperor But my dear. The coffers of the treasury need replenishing and what better way than to arrange your marriage to a rich Prince of the Orient.

Princess I shall never agree unless he is the man I love.

Emperor Don't let us argue about it on a beautiful day like this. The Grand Vizier has arranged some entertainment for us. What is it Grand Vizier?

Vizier Your Majesty it is a tale of love. *(He claps his hands. The guests settle. The royal party sits.)*

(Enter kiddies. They mime the Willow pattern story in Chinese Theatre style with suitable announcements identifying the characters. At the end, guests and royal party applaud. Kiddies exit after taking bows to short reprise of (23). Gong sounds off stage – See Addendum for story) (24)

- Emperor *(Aside to Vizier)* Is it tea time already?
- Vizier No sire. The afternoon audience within the precincts of the palace await your presence.
- Emperor Then we must go. *(To Princess)* Come my dear.
- Princess May I be excused just for once? Permit me to enjoy the peace of the garden. I shall sit near the pool of the weeping willow.
- Emperor Won't you be lonely?
- Princess Oh no. *(Meaningly)* I shan't be lonely.
- Emperor Very well my dear. *(To all)* Come! *(Exit to ceremonial music, all but (25) Princess who looks offstage right and left)*
- Princess This is madness to think that a boy such as Aladdin would risk his life by entering the palace grounds. No sign of him beside the weeping willow or elsewhere. Perhaps my handmaiden was mistaken in thinking he would come. *(Princess moves as if to exit)*
- Aladdin *(Calling from offstage in loud whisper)* Princess *(Aladdin's head appears over wall)* Are you there? *(Climbs astride wall)*
- Princess No! Er or yes. I mean or *(She is flustered)*
- Aladdin *(Sees Princess)* There you are. *(Makes sweeping gesture and falls off wall into garden)*
- Princess Aladdin. *(She crosses to help Aladdin)* You've fallen. *(She helps him up. Slow rise – they hold their gaze)*
- Aladdin So I have. For you. Oh, Princess, forgive me. I realise I can never be worthy of you. *(Duet Aladdin and Princess)* (26)
- Princess You risk your life in coming to see me. A man can offer no more.
- Aladdin One day I shall. It may not be a fortune I offer, but never again will I be content to remain or Aladdin the Ne'er or do - well, without a penny to his name. I'll make something of my life for now I have something to strive for. Someone to love. When shall I see you again?
- Princess Here a week hence.
- Aladdin Promise.

- Princess Promise. (*Whistle heard offstage*) It's the police. They must have heard us talking. You'd better go quickly. Till next week. (*She blows him a kiss and exits*)
- Aladdin So fortune has smiled on me at last, but not for long if I don't make myself scarce. (*He runs to wall and jumps but fails to scale it at first attempt. In so doing he drops his hat. Shouting and whistling is heard.*) Too late, I'd better hide. (*He does so without exiting. Enter police and Chief. Comic entrance business to 'Chinatown' play on music*) (27)
- Chief I knew I heard a stranger's voice. There he is.
- 1st Policeman Where?
- Chief Gone. Disappeared. We must trace his whereabouts.
- 1st Policeman Whereabouts?
- Chief Hereabouts
- 2nd Policeman At 4 o'clock or thereabouts.
- Chief In this vicinity or round about.
- 1st Policeman We are police officers.
- Chief Or layabouts. You're useless. There's not one proper bloodhound in the Pekin police force.
- 3rd Policeman Why not?
- Chief We're all Pekinese. (*All except Chief quickly drop on hands and knees – bark and yell as if dogs on the scent. One picks up Aladdin's hat and brings it back*)
- Chief Whoever we're looking for, he's ahead.
- 4th Policeman How do you know?
- Chief Here's his hat. Search for clues. (*Chief and police search for clues. In so doing they form a ramp of backs by the wall which Aladdin quickly runs up and over wall to drum effect leaving police sprawling on the floor.*)
- Emperor (*Enter Emperor, Vizier and Ensemble*) Chief of police. Explain yourself.
- Chief I saw voices, heard shadows and proceeded at regulation speed to the scene of the crime.
- Vizier And what did you find ó a heap of policemen sprawled on the ground.

Scene 4

Tabs or front cloth

On the Way to Widow Twankees

Abanazar *(Enter to melodramatic music)* At last the time has come for me (30)
to implement my evil plans. EeøIøm a badøun. Iøm well on the way to
finding the magic lamp. The lamp which will enable me to rule the world.
Danger lies ahead, but the boy Aladdin shall take the risks for me. I shall use
him and discard him like an outworn glove. His bravery, his recklessness will
take me to my goal. Then a book token for Aladdin and the magic lamp for
me. And now to find the boy ó I shall introduce myself as his long lost uncle.
Aladdinø brother already believes me ó his mother soon will, and then
Aladdin will be putty in my hands. EeøIøm a badøun.

Chief *(Enter Chief and police to 'Chinatown' play on music – they take up* (31)
comic pose) Excuse me , sir, can you account for your movements on the
afternoon of this morning?

Abanazar I was alone in my room.

Chief Have you any witnesses to that effect?

Abanazar Certainly, I saw myself in the mirror.

Chief A perfect alibi. I know an honest man when I see one.

Abanazar Why do you ask?

Chief Why not? No turn must remain unstoned in our search for the man who
scaled the palace wall, cast eyes on the Princess and then made for the frontier
leaving only two clues.

Abanazar And these were?

Chief A set of footprints.

Abanazar At the frontier?

Chief No, on the back here. *(Police who are in row turn round. They each have
two footprints on their back. The general effect is as if someone was running
across them when lined up)*

Abanazar You mentioned another clue.

Chief This hat. We shall try this hat on the head of each inhabitant of Pekin. The
city population is 12,000. Half of them are women, so our search is narrowed
down to 24,000.

Abanazar You must know all the addresses in Pekin.

Chief I do. Iøve got a good one here given to me by a sailor from Singapore.

Abanazar I'm looking for a woman named Twankee.

Chief *(Looking down his list)* Twankee ó Twankee ó yes, here we are ó Twankee, no hankey- pankey. Twankee's Chinese laundry ó Detergent Buildings ó Mucktub Mount ó Rinsewell ó down by the river. You can't miss it. Drop in sometime. *(Turning to police and holding up hat)* And now men, up and hat'em.

(Comic business, they collide. Exit Chief and police to 'Chinatown' play off music) (32)

Abanazar One step nearer. Now I know where the boy Aladdin lives out his squalid life. And now to dupe him, use him and drop him back into the squalor. Eee! I'm a bad'un and I hate children. Oh eat your sweets!

(Ad lib. To audience "Boos". Exit Abanazar)

Aladdin *(Enter. He is running and out of breath)* That was a narrow escape from the palace. And now I've lost my hat. *(He moves to exit. Enter Kiddies).*

1st Kiddie Hello, Aladdin.

Aladdin Hello, kids.

1st Kiddie Where are you running to? Are you in trouble again?

Aladdin I suppose so.

2nd Kiddie You don't look worried.

Aladdin I'm not. Whenever things go wrong I just count my blessings and smile. *(Number Aladdin and Kiddies., "Count Your Blessings and Smile" type – cue can be altered according to music choice)* (33)

END OF NUMBER. FADE TO BLACKOUT.

TABS OPEN AS PLAY ON MUSIC NO. 34 STARTS

Scene 5

Full set

Widow Twankee's Chinese Laundry**Note: Contact writers for lather recipe and trick rollers for wringing machine**

(The scene is the backroom of Widow Twankee's house which also serves as a laundry with old fashioned washing equipment Comics' play on music (34)

(There is a notice on the wall – 'Lady wants washing. 12 weeks work guaranteed. Apply Widow Twankee'. Dame and Wishee are discovered on stage. Dame is ironing)

Dame Now I'll finish this ironing while you sort the clothes out ready for the next wash.

Wishee Sort'em. There aren't any clean ones.

Dame Then sort'em into two piles. Mucky ones and filthy ones. *(Wishee starts sorting. Dame is ironing)*

Wishee Emperor's vest ó which pile?

Dame Neither. It'll do another month.

Wishee Whose are these roll-ons? *(Picking out roll-ons with weights on the bottom)*

Dame They belong to the Emperor's wife.

Wishee Why do they have weights on?

Dame To stop her roll-ons rolling up and catching her under the chin, it's very painful. I know, it's happened to me.

(Breaks into song and starts to iron a pair of stiffened bloomers which she hangs over edge of ironing board. Irons round shape of bloomers – business fancy work with iron when ironing crutch) Those should please the Emperor's wife. (Meanwhile Wishee is holding up a three cup bra. Dame notices).

Wishee Funny woman, the Emperor's wife.

Dame *(Crosses and inspects them)* One for the pot. While we're on with this stuff we might as well do some of ours. Have you put your underpants in?

Wishee They're here. *(They are long-johns. He holds them up).* And do me a favour will you. Don't starch them this week. They were so stiff last week they nearly cut off my retreat.

Dame Don't make such a fuss.

- Wishee It's alright you talking, but somebody got up for me in a bus because they thought I'd two wooden legs. (*Wishee picks up very small pair of socks*) Oh, mother, you never told me.
- Dame Told you what?
- Wishee These little socks ó you're not ó but I thought ó you can't be ó after all these years ó (*etc. ad lib*) And you never told me ó
- Dame Well I'm telling you now. They're yours. They've shrunk. Oh, give'em to me. Here, you take this iron ó (*bus.*) ðIt's hot, Hold it by the handle, idiot. (*Wishee starts ironing and Dame sorts clothes into basket away from Wishee*)
- Wishee My uncle's never been in has he?
- Dame What uncle?
- Wishee That uncle that I met in town. Uncle Abanazar.
- Dame You haven't got an uncle, you met no uncle. He's just a pigment of your illumination
- Wishee Is this iron hot enough?
- Dame Test it ó the way I do. (*Wishee spits on it*) You're not doing it properly. Do it like this. (*Dame spits. Wishee gets it in the eyes*) Have another try. (*Wishee spits again*) No, no. Use your tongue (*Business sticking out tongue*) (*Wishee copies her but touches tongue with iron. Flash. Business Wishee pulls face, puffed out cheeks, arms flailing*) Oh, get on. (*Dame goes back to sorting clothes. Wishee starts dive bombing with iron, making machine gun noise, causing Dame to spill clothes from basket. She put clothes back in basket when Wishee repeats business but goes off end of board onto Dame's backside. Dame yells – holds position for a moment.*)
- Aladdin (*Offstage*) Mother.
- Wishee It's our Aladdin.
- Aladdin (*Entering*) Hello.
- Dame We're busy doing the laundry.
- Aladdin Good-bye.
- Dame Come here, I want a word with you.
- Aladdin Uh-uh! What have I been doing now?
- Dame You know well enough, you've been seeing the Princess again.

Aladdin What if I have?

Dame You fancy her don't you?

Aladdin What if I do?

Dame In fact you fancy yourself starting courting at your age. I've a good mind to send you to bed with only a slice of bread and jam.

Wishee If he's started courting, he'll need more than bread and jam. Open a tin of meat.

Dame *(To Wishee)* Just get on with that ironing.

Aladdin Well I'll get my tea.

Dame Have you washed your hands?

Aladdin Yes.

Dame Let's have a look. *(Aladdin holds out hand)* It's dirty.

Aladdin I know.

Dame In fact it's filthy. I've never seen such a dirty hand.

Aladdin Wait until you've seen the other one.

Dame Have you really washed them?

Aladdin Yes.

Dame Well why do they look like that?

Aladdin They dried a funny colour.

Dame I'll give you a funny colour. *(She 'swings' at him, he ducks and runs off. Bell rings).*

Wishee There's someone knocking at the door. *(Knocking at door)*

Dame Go and answer the bell.

Wishee Come in, it's a shop. *(Enter Abanazar)*

Abanazar It is I. *(To Wishee)* Nephew.

Wishee Uncle.

Abanazar Just call me Nunkie.

Wishee I like that ó Nunkie. He looks like a Nunkie.

Dame He looks more like a monkey.

Abanazar *(To Dame)* And who might you be?

Dame I might be Madonna, but Im not.

Abanazar Pity. Never the less, the sight of you gladdens my eyes. I am your long lost brother-in-law.

Dame I never had a brother-in-law.

Abanazar Your late husband was my youngest brother ó surely he mentioned me?

Dame Not even when he was sober.

Wishee You don know my uncle. Hes been in North Africa all these years.

Dame Has he lived all his life in North Africa?

Wishee Not yet.

Abanazar I was sorry to hear my late brother had *(pause)* gone.

Dame Oh yes, hes gone. In fact he ought to be there by now.

Wishee And its warmer where hes gone than it is in North Africa.

Dame Ah, but we were very happy together, we never had a row in the house.

Abanazar Really!

Wishee They always went into the back yard.

Abanazar How touching to hear about ones kith and kin. Please feel free to call me Abanazar.

Dame Aba-which-what?

Abanazar Abanazar. And may I call you Doris?

Dame If you like, but my names Freda.

Abanazar Of course. Freda Twankee.

Dame Are you sure me and you and him are one and the same person?

Abanazar My brother had two sons, one of them Wishee-Washee ó the second one normal ó by name, Aladdin.

- Dame Well, that proves it. My second son is called Aladdin.
- Abanazar I'd like to meet him.
- Dame *(Calling off)* Aladdin. Come and meet your long lost uncle.
- Aladdin *(Enters)* Hello uncle, glad you've found us after all this time *(Crosses to exit opposite side)*
- Dame Just you pay a bit of respect. He might be a rich uncle for all you know. He's a problem is that lad. I wish I could find him a job.
- Abanazar As it happens, I could find him a job.
- Aladdin Oh, no.
- Abanazar An interesting job, a challenging job ó not without danger and excitement.
- Aladdin Perhaps I might be interested.
- Wishee Well that's as well, 'cos I'm not.
- Abanazar I want you to come with me my boy, to search for a cave high up on a mountain side, several days journey from Pekin.
- Aladdin A crummy cave on a mouldy mountainside ó not likely.
- Abanazar Come on, my boy. I'd make it worth your while.
- Aladdin No.
- Abanazar Why not?
- Aladdin I'm in love with the most beautiful girl in the world, that's why not. Crikey that reminds me, I must go and look for my hat ó
- Dame You haven't got that hat again have you? And I've sewn your name in it twice.
- Abanazar What's that, boy, about a hat?
- Aladdin Oh nothing, I just lost it yesterday.
- Abanazar You didn't by any chance lose it over the Palace wall did you?
- Aladdin Yes ó er ó no! What if I did?
- Abanazar The police are after the owner of that hat. Come with me my boy ó and you won't even be here when they come round.

- Aladdin Oh dear, I don't know what to do.
- Wishee I know what I'd do.
- Dame And I know what you're going to do ó you're going. We want no police trouble here. You're becoming a right juvenile detergent.
- Aladdin Alright, I'll do it. When do we start?
- Abanazar The sooner the better for your sake and mine.
- Aladdin Goodbye, Mother.
- Dame Goodbye ó and don't come back 'till things quieten down.
- Aladdin Goodbye, Wishee.
- Wishee You've got out of doing that ironing again. *(Exit Aladdin)*
- Dame Eh, and don't get your socks wet.
- Abanazar At last the boy is mine. *(Aside) EeøI'm a bad 'un. (Exit Abanazar)*
- Dame Now we've lost half-an-hour so we'll have to be quick, 'cos I've borrowed that wash tub from Victoria Beckham. Is it full of water?
- Wishee I don't know.
- Dame See how much water there is in there. *(Pushes Wishee's head into tub which has lather in it. Wishee emerges with lather on face, but his head is still over the tub).*
- Wishee I've got soap in my eyes.
- Dame Well go and get a towel. *(Dame begins rubbing clothes in tub. Wishee crosses stage blind man fashion).*
- Wishee Where's the towel?
- Dame It's on the wringer handle. *(Wishee goes to wringer. Puts one hand on rollers and grasps towel and wringer with other hand and turns handle).*
- Wishee My hand! My hand! *(Dame releases hand by turning handle reverse direction.)* My fingers! *(Appears to have two missing).*
- Dame Oh, and they do take some scraping off the rollers. *(Mimes replacing fingers to sound effect.)* Whatever were you doing?
- Wishee I just put my hand here. *(Puts hand on rollers)*

- Dame There's no harm in that ó but you just haven't got to twine it like this. (*Dame turns handle*).
- Wishee My hand! (*He releases himself*)
- Dame Oh, let me get on. (*Dame goes back to rubbing clothes – flicks lathered garment back and hits Wishee with it. Repeat business. Wishee retaliates by taking lathered garment from tub, wringing it in hands and suddenly flicking Dame on bust. Dame retaliates by pulling up Wishee's shirt and rubbing lather on Wishee's stomach.*) Now put those clothes through the wringer while I have a sit down. My feet are killing me. (*Dame sits on stool and takes off one shoe to rub feet. Wishee appears to take a long stocking from clothes basket near Dame but actually begins to pull off long 'cod' stocking from Dame's leg. Wishee mangles this and it falls in drip bath. Dame reacts. Wishee now has wet stocking in bundle in his hands.*)
- Dame (*Shouts*) Wishee! (*Wishee startled and stocking shoots up in his face*). Put my stocking back where it belongs.
- (*Wishee non-plussed, but suddenly lifts Dame's skirt up and throws stocking up between her legs.*)
- Oh, Ah! Ah!
- (*Wishee laughs while Dame takes ladling can containing lather and mimes dipping it into wash tub as if to fill it. She holds it behind her back. Wishee's laughter has almost subsided. Dame short laugh. Wishee short laugh. Repeat in turn.*)
- Dame Funny that ó wasn't it?
- Wishee Yes.
- Dame So's this. (*Pours contents of can over Wishee's head. Door bell rings – Wishee and Dame freeze*). Bell's ringing.
- Wishee So am I. Wringing wet. (*Police whistle heard. Chief of Police enters*).
- Chief (*Brandishing hat*) I want the owner of this hat. It's your son Aladdin.
- Dame (*Playing for time*) Er ó he's not here.
- Chief Well, where is he?
- Dame He's gone mountaineering.
- Chief Up that mountain there? (*Gesturing one direction*).
- Dame No. Up this mountain here. (*Gesturing opposite direction*).

- Chief I can't see him.
- Wishee *(Having an idea)* Stand over here and look through the window. *(Dame understands. They manoeuvre Chief with ad lib lines and movements until he is standing and backing into a large bath of lather).*
- Chief I still can't see him.
- Wishee You must take one step further back.
- Chief *(Chief is going to, but turns, sees bath and realises).* Oh no you don't.
- Wishee and Dame Oh, yes we do. *(They push him into bath full of lather. Both laugh).*
- Wishee Eh, mam, we do have some fun, don't we?
- Dame Yes, we haven't got much money but we do see life.
- (Close tab curtains as Wishee and Dame step in front of them and start singing duet. "Outside always looking in" type)* (35)

END OF MUSIC NUMBER

FADE TO BLACKOUT. LATHER FROM SLAPSTICK SCENE SHOULD ALL BE UPSTAGE OF TABS. MOP ANY STRAY PATCHES

SET ROCK PIECE

LIGHTS UP

Scene 6

Tabs or front cloth

The Mountain Pass

(Rock-piece which is cave entrance, covered by a moveable boulder piece) (36)

Aladdin *(Enter Abanazar and Aladdin to melodramatic play on music)* Why did you have to drag me out here, uncle? I'm tired and hungry and I don't see the point of it all.

Abanazar You will, lad, you will. Keep going.

Aladdin For how long ó and what are we looking for?

Abanazar The entrance to a cave ó a very special cave. It must be here somewhere.

Aladdin Oh, look for it yourself. I've had enough.

Abanazar Then rest boy, rest. Your task begins when I have found the cave. I'll go in search. I'll reconnoitre ó I reckon I've got it. Ee! I'm a bad man. *(he exits)*.

Aladdin So far away from my Princess. So tired and so pointless a journey. One cave is very much like another ó what's so special about this one. I'd much rather be back home ó seeing my Princess. She's wonderful and I'm the luckiest boy in the world. The sooner we find the cave, the sooner I shall go back to her. Of course, I feel better already. I'll start to look for the cave. *(He looks round)*. But, there's no cave here. On this part of the mountain there are no caves to my knowledge. Oh, it's hopeless. *(He leans against the rock)*. Wait a minute. Am I imagining things or did this boulder move slightly. It's worth a try. *(He tries to move it)* No, I can't shift it. Perhaps the two of us could. Uncle! Uncle! Come quickly. *(Enter Abanazar to melodramatic play on music)* (37)

Abanazar What is it, my boy?

Aladdin I think I've found the cave, but the entrance seems to be blocked with a boulder, and I can't move it.

Abanazar If this is the cave we're looking for, the magic of Africa will move it. Stand back boy. *(Abanazar takes container of magic powder from his pocket)*.

Abanazar Blood of a lizard, eye of a frog, tail of a scorpion, nose of a dog. Mix them together, brew them like tea. Now watch the rock, boy ó open Sesame *(Throws powder at rock, there is a flash, and the rock in the cave entrance moves aside to reveal an opening)*.

Aladdin Cor, I haven't seen anything like that since the Fish and Chip shop caught fire.

- Abanazar We've done it. (*Grabs Aladdin in embrace and dances round*). We've done it, boy. (*Change of tone*) In you go, boy. (*Aladdin makes as if to go in and then stops in opening*).
- Aladdin Wait a minute, before I go in, I want to know why I'm going in. What have we come for?
- Abanazar Just go in the cave, boy.
- Aladdin I want to know.
- Abanazar This cave contains riches such as you thought never existed. Riches beyond the dreams of avarice.
- Aladdin For me?
- Abanazar Maybe, but not unless you go in my boy. For myself I do not seek any of these riches ó I only want one thing.
- Aladdin One thing. What?
- Abanazar (*Chuckles*) I'll tell you when you've entered the cave.
- Aladdin Alright. (*Looks into cave. Turns – knees are knocking to sound effect*) I'm not sure about going in the cave. It's dark and I'm frightened.
- Abanazar Nothing to be frightened of.
- Aladdin Then why don't you go in?
- Abanazar The opening is rather small for one of my advanced years. Get in boy, get in.
- Aladdin (*Disappears into cave. Calls from off*) I'm in.
- Abanazar Good!
- Aladdin (*Reappearing*) I'm out again.
- Abanazar Try again my boy. The second time isn't as bad as the first.
- Aladdin Alright. (*Business*) I'm in again.
- Abanazar Good.
- Aladdin (*Quickly out*) I'm out again.
- Abanazar Well get in again.
- Aladdin Alright, I'm in again. (*Pause then out*) I'm out again.

- Abanazar Get in again.
- Aladdin I don't think I'll bother. I can't believe your rotten old cave holds any riches.
- Abanazar You'd never know if you don't go in. See boy, this gold ring encrusted with diamonds of Africa. A fore-taste of the jewels you will find in the cave. The ring is yours if you will enter the cave.
- Aladdin (*Looking at ring still held by Abanazar*) Oh, uncle, it's beautiful. Alright, I'll do it. Give me the ring.
- Abanazar When you've been in the cave, and found for me what I seek.
- Aladdin No, not now. Or you go in yourself.
- Abanazar You insolent young (*then recovering his composure*) Ha! Ha!
- Aladdin Now!
- Abanazar Alright. (*Gives him the ring*) In you go boy.
- Aladdin Oh well, here goes. (*Aladdin enters cave. Exit*)
- Abanazar At last. My moment of triumph is near. Aladdin will find the magic lamp and give it to me. The boy does not even know its value. Ha, ha, ha.
(*Melodramatic music*) (38)

FADE TO BLACKOUT. STRIKE ROCK PIECE

OPEN TABS WHEN ALADDIN READY TO DROP DOWN INTO
CAVE FROM ROCK ENTRANCE DEEMED TO BE AT A HEIGHT
UPSTAGE

Scene 7

Full set

Inside the Cave

(As scene opens muted version of melodramatic music. Aladdin appears to be dropping to the floor of the cave at the end of a rope. Abanazar is at a height holding other end. (39) The cave is dark and gloomy and has assorted rock pieces on which jewels repose in open Boxes and visibly draped. There is a figure of Buddha with practical mouth, upstage.)

Aladdin Alright, uncle, I'm down.

Abanazar Can you see anything?

Aladdin Yes.

Abanazar What?

Aladdin You. Is the sun still shining out there?

Abanazar Yes.

Aladdin It's so dark and gloomy down here, I can't see anything.

Abanazar Your eyes will soon become accustomed to the gloom.

Aladdin I hope so, or I'm coming back up that rope. Wait a minute or I'm beginning to see now. *(Stage lights up a little – jewels littering the chests and rocks on stage are seen to glisten).* Uncle, I'm frightened, there's a lot of eyes watching or

Abanazar Eyes?

Aladdin No, it's in. Uncle, this cave is full of jewels. Uncle, they're everywhere or jewels all around.
(Stage lights increase a little more and unlit oil lamp is seen.)

Abanazar Never mind that boy, tell me one thing, can you see a lamp?

Aladdin A lamp, what sort of a lamp?

Abanazar A wonderful lamp or can you see it boy?

Aladdin No, I can't

Abanazar Look again.

Aladdin I'm looking. Don't shout at me uncle. It's alright for you up there. Now let me see. Yes, I've found it. Oh no, this can't be the one, this is just an ordinary oil lamp.

- Abanazar Let me look. (*Aladdin holds it up*). That's the one, boy, bring it here.
- Aladdin What, this dirty old thing ó uncle we could help ourselves to a full sack of precious stones. Why do you want a dirty old lamp?
- Abanazar Do you question me boy? Give me the lamp.
- Aladdin I'm blowed if I will. Tell me why you want it.
- Abanazar Mind your own business.
- Aladdin No, I won't. I shan't give you the lamp unless you tell me why you want it.
- Abanazar Curse you ó once and for all give me the lamp, or I'll roll back the boulder and leave you in the cave to rot.
- Aladdin You wouldn't do that.
- Abanazar Oh, wouldn't I. Then hear my curse.
- May you have massive corns on each of your toes. Be covered with pimples, and warts on your nose.
- In (*local named*) Street may you walk smelling sweet ó with takeaway curry all over your feet.
- May you fall in the gutter and slip on your knees ó and be smothered with batter and fish cakes and peas.
- May your football team lose each time that they play ó may your players be red carded at home or away.
- May you go for a stroll and get lost in the fog ó may your lottery ticket be chewed by the dog.
- May the Brewery stop brewing your favourite beer ó may your income tax go up, several times in one year.
- When you've been to Tesco whatever the price ó may the girl on the checkout charge each item twice.
- When you look for a wife that is pretty and neat ó may you find one that's ugly and fat with cold feet.
- When you least want your mother-in-law she'll appear - may she come for a week and stay for a year.
- May you stay in this cave and be haunted with dread ó until you're so frightened, you wish you were dead.

And soon you will be. Dead as far as the world is concerned. Goodbye Aladdin. You may be a Aladdin but you'll never be a A-lad-out. EeøIøm a badøun. (*Demonical laughter. Abanazar throws down rope and rolls boulder over cave entrance. Aladdin has become more and more scared and unsure during the curses*).

Aladdin (*Quietly*) Uncle? (*louder*) Uncle! (*loud*) Uncle! (*beating fists against rock to echo sound effect on voice*). Heø left me. Iøm alone. (*The cave is slightly darker since the boulder was rolled over*). Whatø that? ø itø so spooky in here. (*Music starts – Kiddies as Bat-like figures appear to busy, menacing ballet music. They swoop across the stage and 'attack' Aladdin. When (40) the music finishes and the figures disappear he is hopelessly frightened, despondent and close to tears*).

This terrible cave, I must be going mad. All these riches and theyøre no use to me at all. Must I stay here ø am I doomed to die? (*Snaps fingers*) What a fool I am. The words we used to get me in the cave should get me out. Iøll try. Open Sesame. (*Nothing happens*) Open Sesame. (*Still nothing happens*) Just my luck, the spell doesnø work from inside the cave. Well thatø it then. I donø know what to do. (*Aladdin wills the children in the audience to tell him to rub the lamp*). What can I do? How can I possibly get out of the cave? If only someone could tell me ø etc.

Audience
Children

Rub the lamp.

Aladdin

Rub the what?

Audience
Children

The lamp. Rub the lamp, etc

Aladdin

(*After playing them on, takes the lamp*) I donø see what rubbing the lamp can do. Still it could do with a clean. Alright, Iøll try it. Here goes. (*Nothing happens*) Perhaps I ought to rub harder. (*He does so. There is a flash. The Genie of the lamp appears*).

Genie

Your word is my command.

Aladdin

Who are you?

Genie

I am the Genie of the lamp. To rub the lamp is to command my presence. I am your slave ø you are my new master.

Aladdin

Your new master?

Genie

Yes. My last master died one thousand years ago. You stand in the burial place of a young King. He was my master ø and the lamp was his ø since then the lamp has lain unused in this cave gathering the dust of centuries.

Aladdin

Iøm locked in here. A slave is of little use to me.

- Genie Try me out, master.
- Aladdin Alright. I'm hungry. I wish, I wish, I had a ham sandwich. (*Genie produces one from nowhere with a flourish*).
- Aladdin (*Taking a bite and speaking with his mouth full*) Ó Marvellous. (*Suddenly*) Oh!
- Genie What's the matter, master?
- Aladdin No mustard.
- Genie To hear is to obey. (*Flourish*) The mustard is now in your sandwich.
- Aladdin You're joking. (*Opens sandwich and looks*) No you're not. That was magic Ó you really are a wonderful slave.
- Genie Try me with something difficult.
- Aladdin More difficult?
- Genie Much more difficult.
- Aladdin Alright. I will. Light this cave that I may see all its wonders and treasures.
- Genie To hear is to obey. (*Genie with a gesture starts the traditional music (41) for ballet and brings up the lights*) Gold that glitters shall gladden your eyes. (*Gold cascades from Buddha's mouth onto stage*) Precious stones clawed from the earth and polished to perfection. As blue as the blue of the skies Ó the sapphire. (*Dancer is blue, dances briefly as sapphire appearing from rock on stage which lights up blue.*)
The ruby. (*Dancer is red as ruby in rock lights up red.*)
The purest stone of all Ó the diamond. (*Dancer in silver dances, diamonds light up white.*)
Behold master, your treasure. (*All dancers enter as different jewels – all jewels glow at once*).
- Aladdin Genie of the lamp Ó my everlasting thanks. And now to return to Peking and win my Princess. Help me gather the riches.
- Genie You have no need of the riches. Do not despoil the cave. Merely take the lamp and the world is yours.
- Aladdin (*Taking the lamp and standing on rock*) This wonderful lamp shall remain my most precious secret Ó yet soon the whole world shall know the name Ó Aladdin. (*Ballet music swells – tableau with dancers and kiddies round rock. Genie prostrates himself before Aladdin.*) (42)

HOUSE CURTAIN FOR INTERVAL

Entracte (43)

Scene 8 Full set

Widow Twankee's Laundry

(Incidental music lullaby) (44)
 (The set is the same as Scene 5. It is early morning. Dame and Wishee are discovered asleep. Wishee is seated in wash-tub with newspaper over head. Dame is asleep in trick armchair Wishee wakens and stretches to ratchet sound and gets up. Music stops)

Dame What time is it?

Wishee Six o'clock. The sun's not up yet.

Dame You shouldn't be either. What are you doing wandering about at this hour?

Wishee I'm a little stiff.

Dame You're a big stiff. Get back to sleep.

Wishee I haven't asked them a question yet.

Dame Well I'm going to ask them this time. Kids, what do Wishee's legs look like when he's sat in that tub?

Audience Chopsticks!

Wishee Why do I have to sleep in the wash tub?

Dame Cos it's more comfortable than the ironing board. Get back to sleep. (They do so)

(Aladdin's head appears through the door).

Aladdin Hello! (Sung) (Head disappears)

Dame I've told you. (To Wishee) Go back to sleep.

Aladdin (Head appears again) Hello! (Head disappears)

Dame One more word out of you and I'll teach you some new ones you've never heard of. Go back to sleep. (They do so)

(Aladdin enters through door. He is dressed as he was when he set off for the caves but is now carrying the lamp on a cord over his shoulder. He looks at Wishee and Dame. Picks up enamel bucket and a short stick.)

Aladdin This'll wake them up. (Rattles stick in bucket. Wishee who has been bending forward dozing, suddenly falls out of wash tub and puts head in a plastic

bucket on floor. Dame jumps bolt upright with the arms of the chair still in her hands, the rest of the chair drops to pieces on the floor.)

- Dame That's the last bit of furniture I'd ever buy at MFI.
- Aladdin Mother!
- Dame So you're back.
- Aladdin Of course. Where's Wishee?
- Wishee *(From floor where he still has head in bucket – muffled reply)* Woo! Woo!
Woo! *(Dame pulls bucket from Wishee's head.)*
- Aladdin Wishee! I didn't recognise you with your head in a bucket.
- Wishee No, I look a little pale that way.
- Dame *(To Aladdin)* Where have you been, who've you been with, what have you
been doing? ó It's a lie.
- Aladdin You'd probably not believe this.
- Wishee She'd definitely not believe it. She didn't believe me when I came in late ó
when the last bus didn't run because it lost a wheel just before it ran into the
canal ó
- Dame Oh, shut up!
- Aladdin Well you see, there was this big cave.
- Dame I knew it! You've been pot-holing again. You have, haven't you? With that
lamp ó and just look at your shoes.
- Aladdin *(Rather cleverly)* The only cave I've been in was full of treasure.
- Dame And you're full of wind ó full of what?
- Aladdin Treasure. Jewels, gold and things.
- Wishee Things?
- Aladdin Yes, things ó and stuff.
- Dame And have you brought any things and stuff back home?
- Aladdin No I haven't. I just left them there in the cave.
- Dame Pull the other one.

- Wishee *(Pushing Dame aside)* Just a minute. Do you mind if I handle this? *(To Aladdin)* Look, our kid, if you're going to tell any tall stories, I'd save them for the police ó they're looking for you. The Emperor's got his back up and you've been varnished.
- Aladdin Varnished?
- Wishee You've been varnished from the Kingdom.
- Dame Banished from the Kingdom. You've been condemned to a life of Exlax ó exile.
- Aladdin Don't worry mother ó don't worry about anything. I'll be alright now that I've got my Genie.
- Dame I'm having no more of your girl friends here. Your Jeannie!
- Aladdin This Genie is not a girl ó he's a kind of man. He's very old ó one minute he's here and the next minute he's not ó he's all powerful and he's promised me all kinds of things.
- Wishee Sounds like *(current Prime Minister)*
- Aladdin The best thing I can do is to introduce you two.
- Wishee We know each other already.
- Aladdin To the Genie ó the Genie of the lamp. Look mother, all you have to do is rub this old lamp.
- Dame Not me. I've spent all yesterday doing my brasses, I'm not going to start again.
- Aladdin Alright then, I'll do it. Here we go. *(He rubs lamp – Flash – Genie appears)*
- Genie Master, your wish is my command.
- Wishee What's he do, this Genie?
- Aladdin Anything.
- Dame Do you mean we can ask for something and he'll make it happen?
- Aladdin That's right, just try him.
- Dame Shall I?
- Wishee Yes ó go on, have a go.

- Dame Excuse me, I've always wanted one of those big baskets of fruit like they raffle at the Townswomen's Guild.
- Genie To hear is to obey. (*Genie claps hands, there is a flash – basket of fruit appears*).
- Dame By gum, it works.
- Wishee Can I ask for something?
- Aladdin Of course.
- Wishee Sometimes when Aladdin goes away for long spells, I feel lonely. To keep me company I'd like a twin brother.
- Genie To hear is to ó
- Dame Just a minute. We don't want another one like him. Ask Flash Harry for something else.
- Wishee Well, I've always fancied a cheque book and my own bank overdraft.
- Dame You don't want that. If you can't think of anything sensible, don't bother.
- Wishee Well, can I have an apple?
- Dame Yes, go and get an apple.
- Genie An apple, master. (*Genie produces one 'out of the air'*).
- Dame You needn't have troubled, he could have had one of those from my basket. Eee, you have to be careful what you say.
- Aladdin Now, are you convinced?
- Dame You can't help being can you?
- Wishee No arguing ó the proof of the pudding lies in the eye of the beholder.
- Dame Well I shall have to start my day's work.
- Aladdin Mother, you needn't work any more. Don't you understand. We can afford anything we want, we can do anything we want ó all we have to do is ask the Genie.
- Dame Eeø If your poor father had lived to see this day, he's have died of surprise. Talking of your father, reminds me ó where's your uncle?
- Aladdin He tried to trick me. If I never see him again it'dl be too soon. Well, I'm off.

- Dame You've just come back.
- Aladdin I'm off to see the Princess.
- Wishee You'd be lucky. There's a big do on at the Palace today.
- Dame They're announcing the Princess's betrothal & once they've sorted out who it is.
- Wishee There's going to be a procession of scooters.
- Dame Suitors. You wouldn't think he's studied Chinese at school, would you?
- Aladdin In that case there'll be one more suitor for the hand of the Princess. A prince of the Orient, wealthier and more powerful than any other.
- Dame And who might that be?
- Aladdin His mightiness Prince Haroun-al-Rashid Ruler of the lands of the Rising Sun & in other words, me.
- Wishee I always thought 'The Rising Sun' was a pub in Accrington (or nearby town).
- Aladdin With the help of my Genie & anything and everything is possible. (*Exit Aladdin and Genie*)
- Dame Well, would you credit it & our Aladdin once again & he's fallen head first on his feet.
- Wishee He still hasn't straightened things out with the police.
- Dame (*Whistle is heard offstage*) Talk of the devil. (*Banging on door offstage*)
- Wishee They're here. It's the police. They're still after Aladdin.
- Dame What shall we do?
- Wishee I wish we had that Genie here.
- Dame It's no good wishing any more, 'cos we haven't.
- Chief (*Offstage*) Open up. Resistance is useless. You are the police and we are surrounded.
- Dame Let them in & we shall have to try and straighten things out.
- Chief (*Wishee opens door. Enter Chief to 'Chinatown' play on music*) (45)
It's been reported to us that the fugitive Aladdin has entered this house.
- Dame Well even if he did, he isn't here now.

Chief I'll be the best judge of that ó search the house.

Dame Over my dead body.
(A search ensues to extended version of 'Chinatown' play on music as (46) background to chase with Chief and police trying to search house and Dame and Wishee trying to stop them and hinder them. Plenty of ad lib noises and shouts and directions given. Search in bucket, tub ,and chair. Dame and Wishee hit police with any articles of clothes from basket and put one policeman in tub, buckets over heads of others – twine one man's arm up mangle, while held there pull belt of his trousers so that they fall down and belt him).

Chief Aladdin must be somewhere.

Dame *(Sarcastically)* Oh yes, he's hiding in my apron pocket.

Chief Hear that men. Search Widow Twankee.

Dame Don't you dare lay a hand on me. Come on Wishee.

*(Chase starts as tabs close. They both go into audience by steps connecting stage with auditorium at stage left pursued by police. Comics come back up stage right steps and down steps left again. Wishee goes up side aisle stage left and runs to back of hall. Dame goes up side aisle stage right. Police circle stage until Dame and Wishee call 'Yoo-Hoo' and hide in seats near front of hall. Police come down into hall both sides. Men to back of hall as Dame and Wishee regain stage where they pick up coiled clothesline and two sticks to fell each of the police in turn to sag at knees as they come back on stage. Comics rope Police together.)
 (All this business takes place in front of tabs)*

FADE TO BLACKOUT

MUSIC 46 CUTS

INCIDENTAL MUSIC NO. 47 STARTS

Scene 9

Tabs or Front Cloth

The Emperor's Pavilion*(When platform and thrones set, bring lights up.**Emperor and Princess discovered seated on a small platform* (47)*They are attended by Vizier and Ensemble as courtiers.**Fanfare as lights come up.)* (48)

Emperor Are you ready my dear?

Princess I suppose so, as ready as I shall ever be.

Emperor Will you never forget that young fool Aladdin?

Princess You do not forget the one you love.

Emperor It is your duty my dear to marry according to your station. Your husband must, above all, be wealthy.

Princess I am resigned to my fate.

Emperor I wish you would not put it like that. There have been plenty to choose from, and we have some cracking good ones on the short list. Vizier!

Vizier Your Majesty?

Emperor Let the procession of suitors commence. *(Fanfare)* (49)Vizier *(Reading from scroll)* The first claimant to the hand of the Princess is The Prince Chung Ling Soo from the province of Manchuko. He brings silks and satins fit for a goddess. All these and a casket of diamonds.*(Enter Prince to music – he bows. He is followed by a Kiddie as page who carries his gifts and puts them at the feet of the Princess. She gives a curt acknowledgement).*Vizier His serene Highness, the ruler of Turkistan. He offers spices from the Orient and a casket of sapphires. *(Repeat business)*. From the Isles of Seringapatam, Merinka, their mighty King. He offers ornaments fashioned of coral and a casket of South sea pearls. *(Repeat business. Enter a messenger bearing a scroll)* Your Highness is a late claimant presents himself for your worthy consideration.

Emperor Who is this?

Vizier Your Majesty, I advise you to give him an audience.

Emperor Very well.

- Vizier *(Reading from scroll)* Prince Haroun-al-Rashid, ruler of the lands of the Rising Sun. Gifts too numerous to mention ó as countless as the stars in the sky ó as boundless as his love for the Princess. *(Enter Aladdin followed by rest of Kiddies as pages carrying gifts).*
- Aladdin As a humble token of my love, I offer these treasures to the fairest in the land. This is but a small portion of my wealth, which is vast, but would never be as great as my love for you. *(A short reprise of previous duet started by Aladdin only. Princess recognises him and joins in).* (51)
- Princess Aladdin!
- Vizier Aladdin! Arrest that man.
- Emperor One moment, I need time to think. Is this wealthy Prince who proclaims his love for my daughter, truly Aladdin?
- Aladdin I am Aladdin.
- Emperor You dare to admit this?
- Aladdin I have dared my life before now just to see the Princess.
- Emperor A lad of spirit. *(To Princess).* Well my dear, the final choice is yours.
- Princess I choose Aladdin.
- Emperor A wise choice indeed from every point of view. Countermand the warrant for Aladdin's arrest. Let there be rejoicing ó Grand Vizier, start the preparations for the wedding.
- (Processional music starts, Aladdin and Princess embrace. The couple lead off the spectacular procession, during which all gifts are carried off in splendour.)* (52)

FADE TO BLACKOUT AND THE STAGE IS CLEARED

AS TABS OPEN OR FRONT CLOTH RAISED, BRING LIGHTS UP ON SCENE 10.

FADE OUT PROCESSION MUSIC NO. 52

Scene 10

Full set

Aladdin's Palace

(It is suggested that for ease of scenery changing, scenes 10, 12 and 14 should be one basic set with variations, provided they can be made to look sufficiently different. There is a small table upstage, on which are props for magic act. Aladdin's lamp is prominently displayed on a pedestal. Ensemble are on stage as Aladdin's household and guests.)

(Royal mood music) (53)

(Fanfare. Enter Wishee and Dame – they are flashily and comically dressed. The guests all bow and curtsy as music cuts) (53a)

Dame Welcome everyone to the Palace of my son, Aladdin. But how he got it built in one day, I shall never know. Who could the builders be?

Wishee Barretts *(or name of local builder)* You are now in the room of the brass lamp, and you have been listening to the Duchess of Paraffin. Conducted tours on the half hour, visiting the blue room, the pink room and the smallest room. Do not miss the Safari Park, petsøcorner and the vintage rickshaw museum. Coffee will be available in the summer house ó you will find me in the grounds. *(All exit excitedly except Dame and Wishee).*

Dame Look, it's not a money making job. We've got all the money we want. Our Aladdin rubbed his lamp. This Palace appeared from nowhere ó fully furnished ó no mortgage ó hot and cold chamber maids in all rooms. Autumn colour schemes and spring mattresses. We're aristocracy now, so don't let them know how you was brung up.

Wishee Alright, I'll behave because it's the concert tonight isn't it?

Dame It is. The concert I'm organising for Aladdin. In honour of the Emperor.

Wishee Are we having Robbie Williams?

Dame We are not. I'm going to do my magic act.

Wishee Eh, are you? Can I help you, mam? Go on, let me, mam. I'll behave.

Dame Oh well, alright.

Wishee *(To audience)* I'm going to help me mam do her magic act. I'm ó

Dame Shut up. We'll have a practice. I'll get the props, you announce me. *(She goes upstage for table).*

Wishee Right. Ladies and gentlemen, for your especial entertainment ó that magician extraordinaire ó The Great Nellie.

- Dame *(Dame has returned with table with props)* Pardon?
- Wishee I said you're a Great Nellie.
- Dame Look, stand over there. *(Wishee stands upstage of table and quietly pulls out bucket from ledge under table)* Ladies and Gentlemen, my first trick is the travelling coin trick. My partner will place three coins on that plate and cover them with a cloth. *(Wishee does so with flourish dropping the coins onto the plate, one by one and replacing plate on table)* I will now take the sealed metal box *(does so and takes a few steps away)* and using my mental powers, transfer the coins through space from the plate into the box. I shall now go into a trance. *(Makes suitable noises)* Journey through space coin number one. *(Makes suitable arm gesture to suggest movement of coin. Wishee who has six extra coins, unseen by audience, drops a coin in the bucket.)* Number two. *(Repeat business)* Number three *(Repeat business)*. *(She then shakes box which has contained some coins from the outset.)*
- Wishee Eh, mam, that's clever.
- Dame I haven't finished yet. We now come to the difficult bit. Getting the coins back again. *(Goes into trance. Repeat business for coins going back)*. And there you are, back, where they started. *(Shows them on plate, taking care not to rattle box which is now supposed to be empty)*.
- Wishee That was good. *(To audience)* You see I was really dropping these coins in this bucket and they never really passed 'o *(said as he reveals bucket)*.
- Dame Shut up. I'm working under difficulties tonight.
- Wishee I know. You're sober.
- Dame It's you.
- Wishee I'm only helping. I'm helping me mam.
- Dame *(Shouting him down)* We will now do the disappearing bucket trick. *(Wishee is holding the bucket which he has brought down stage with him and now puts down)*. I now pass this cloth to my partner and we cover the bucket. *(Wishee and Dame are now holding the cloth by two corners. The cloth hangs down in front of them with the bucket hidden behind it. Under cover of this, Dame hangs bucket on a hook on the back of Wishee's costume)*. I now say the magic words 'o Bucketo 'o bucketee 'o bucketa 'o and lo! The bucket has disappeared. *(She whisks cloth away.)*.
- Wishee That was brilliant. I'm helping me mam 'o
- Dame Just a minute, you're not going to tell them how it was done, are you?
- Wishee Oh, no.

- Dame Good. Go and get the piece of wood for the next trick.
- Wishee Right. (*Wishee turns and goes upstage and we all see the bucket hung on his back as he exits.*)
- Dame (*In desperation, then recovering herself*) Oh!! ó Ladies and Gentlemen. I shall now use my mental powers to cut a piece of wood into two with a single sharp blow of my hand. (*Wishee reenters with long piece of wood, which he holds horizontally in outstretched hands. It appears as one piece, but is cut in two and he holds the join in the hand furthest from Dame*). I shall now concentrate, concentrate and cut the wood ó zing!! (*Makes downward striking action with hand. Wrong end of wood falls to the floor*).
- Wishee (*To audience*) Im helping me mam. Did you see that trick? It worked cos Im helping her.
- Dame Idiot, you were holding the wood the wrong way round. Ive had enough of you. I shall do one more trick.
- Wishee Youll let me help you, wont you mam? (*To audience*) Im helping me mam, I am. Im going to help you arent I mam?
- Dame (*Ominously*) Oh yes, youre going to help me. (*She has got a large jug of water from offstage*).
- Wishee What are we doing?
- Dame This is the disappearing water trick.
- Wishee The disappearing water trick. (*To audience*) My mams going to make some water disappear and Im going to help her. You want to watch this, its going to be good. Mam, where are you going to make the water disappear to?
- Dame (*Looking pointedly to top of Wishee's trousers and pulling waistband out and back*) Guess.
- Wishee I dont know. (*He suddenly realises*) Oh, no, you cant do that.
- Dame You said you were going to help me, remember?
- Wishee (*To audience*) You dont want her to pour that water down my trousers do you? Oh, no, you dont.
- Audience (*Encouraged by Dame*) Oh, yes we do. (*Play business*)
- Wishee (*Going to exit*) I dont want to help any more.
- Dame Come here. (*Puts funnel in his trousers, starts pouring water down*). The disappearing water trick. (*It is soon obvious that his trousers are not getting*

wet. Dame is puzzled). That's funny I can't understand that. (*Wishee smiling – not worried*) Well I don't know where it's going.

- Wishee I do. (*Pulls hot water bottle out of trousers and exits laughing*).
- Dame (*Fanfare from offstage*) Oh dear, is it that time, that'll be the Emperor (54) and our Aladdin. (*Moves conjuror's table upstage again*)
- Emperor (*Enter Emperor, Vizier, Aladdin and Princess to a repeat of fanfare*) (55) Well, I'm certainly very impressed with everything I've seen my boy. What a beautiful palace you have here.
- (*Dame gives ladylike cough*)
- Princess I'm so glad you like it daddy. (*Dame coughs louder*)
- Aladdin Of course I'm planning some extensions already. (*Dame gives loud and chesty throat clearance*)
- Emperor (*Noticing Dame*) Ah! The Dowager Twankee.
- Dame Charmed! Charmed! (*Curtseying – ratchet sound as back locks*)
- Emperor Are you doing anything for that back?
- Dame Why should I? It never does anything for me.
- Emperor Would you let the Grand Vizier try a bit of acupuncture?
- Dame I'm game for anything once my back's better.
- Aladdin Mother, why don't you go and busy yourself with palace affairs?
- Dame I will. I'll go and make out my laundry list. Mind you, there isn't a decent laundry in town since I gave up. (*Exit Dame*)
- Vizier One think I shall never understand, Prince Aladdin, one day this palace simply wasn't here and the next day it was.
- Aladdin (*Off guard*) Thanks to my Genie.
- Emperor Pardon?
- Aladdin My genie ó us of an architect.
- Princess And that's a secret. Aladdin won't even tell me.
- Aladdin I'll tell you someday.

- Vizier Your taste in furnishings and ornaments is admirable. It must have cost you a pretty penny. May we see the rest of the apartments?
- Aladdin *(Relieved)* By all means.
- Princess Follow me, Daddy. Although I'm still getting lost in here myself. *(Exit Emperor, Vizier and Princess)*
- Aladdin In future, I'd better be careful what I say. I don't want anyone to know that the Genie built and furnished my palace for me. Not in months, not in weeks, not in days, but in the twinkling of an eye. I've married my Princess ó who could ask for anything more? I'm as grand as the Emperor himself. *(Snaps fingers)* No, I'm not. There's one thing I've been meaning to put right. The Emperor has a police force and I haven't. *(Picks up lamp and rubs it)*. Genie, Genie, wonderful Genie, are you there?
- Genie *(Flash. Genie appears)* Master, your wish is my command.
- Aladdin I'd like a police force.
- Genie A police force?
- Aladdin Any difficulty?
- Genie Oh, no, no, Master. But what size of police force?
- Aladdin *(To himself)* Well, it must not be bigger than the Emperor's or he might get annoyed. *(To Genie)* Just a small police force.
- Genie A small police force. You shall have a police force, Master, and I can assure you it will be small *(Laughs)* To hear is to obey. *(Music tremolo)*
- (Genie claps hands. Flash and disappears. Kiddies enter to musical intro, dressed as Police force. Smallest kiddie as sergeant with stripes on one arm. Aladdin, amazed then laughs)*
- A Genie with a sense of humour. I asked for a small police force and this one's certainly small. Come on men, show me what you can do. *(Number Aladdin and Kiddies. They line up with smallest kiddie in middle. She (56) steps forward – points to sergeant's stripes – salutes.)*
- Kiddie Hello, hello, hello ó What's all this here? *(Steps back, number begins. At end of number exit Kiddies and Aladdin)*
- Princess *(Enter Princess looking for Aladdin after she has called off stage)* Aladdin. *(As she enters)* I've shown them all round the palace and they think ó Oh, he's not here. Aladdin, where are you? I'll go and look for him. *(Moves as if to exit)*
- Abanazar *(Offstage)* New lamps for old ó new lamps for old. *(Princess claps hands. Enter handmaiden)*

- Handmaiden You called Princess?
- Princess What is that cry I hear outside?
- Handmaiden It's only an old pedlar.
- Abanazar (*Offstage*) New lamps for old. New lamps for old.
- Princess What is his call?
- Handmaiden New lamps for old. But I can hardly believe that.
- Princess Unlikely, but that's what I thought he said. I wonder if I could get a new lamp for this old one of Aladdin's. Bid him enter. (*Exit Handmaiden*)
- Abanazar (*Offstage*) New lamps for old. New lamps for old.
- Princess I did hear him correctly. What an odd way to do business.
- Handmaiden (*Enter Handmaiden followed by Abanazar dressed as a pedlar*) The pedlar, your highness.
- Abanazar Oh, mighty Princess, you do me the favour of inviting me into your wondrous palace.
- Princess What do you offer?
- Abanazar I offer a new lamp in exchange for an old one.
- Princess Show me your lamps.
- Abanazar (*Holding one up*) See how beautiful they are. But you wouldn't have an old lamp in a palace as beautiful as this.
- Princess We have as a matter of fact.
- Abanazar Show me, pretty Princess. (*Princess gets lamp from pedestal*)
- Princess Here it is. This is the one.
- Abanazar (*Aside*) The lamp. 'Tis the very one. Give the old lamp to me, Princess, and you shall have a new one in exchange.
- Princess It is very tempting but I think I should ask Prince Aladdin.
- Abanazar (*Violently*) No ó (*Gently*) No need to bother him. Think how surprised and pleased he would be at getting a new lamp for an old one. Don't ask me how I can make the offer. There are tricks to every trade. But I can assure you the new lamps are perfect.
- Princess I'll do it. The old lamp is the only thing in the palace which looks out of keeping. Give me the new lamp. (*Abanazar does so*).

- Abanazar All yours, with the compliments of an old pedlar. And now the old lamp, if you please.
- Princess Here you are. *(She gives Abanazar the lamp)* I must take the new lamp to show Aladdin. *(Exit Princess and Handmaiden)*
- Abanazar *(Villainously laughing)* At last the lamp is mine. Aladdin's wealth shall be no more, his palace shall be in ruins and his new life disintegrate. Revenge is sweet. Ee I'm a bad'un. *(He rubs the lamp. Flash – Genie appears).*
- Genie Your wish is my command. I am the slave of the lamp and whoever owns the lamp is my master.
- Abanazar I command you to destroy this palace and leave it no more than a heap of rubble.
- Genie To hear is to obey. *(Genie claps hands. As far as possible the palace disintegrates before our eyes. Thunder and lightening. Melodramatic music brisk temp. Enter ensemble as courtiers who dash out panic stricken) (57)*
- (Abanazar and Genie walk forward in front of tabs curtain which closes behind them. Abanazar in spotlight with Genie).*
- Abanazar Aladdin's palace is no more, and now Genie I command you to transport me back to North Africa. There you will build me a palace even more magnificent than the one which you have just destroyed.
- Genie To hear is to obey. *(Claps hands. Flash – thunder).*

BLACKOUT (DURING WHICH MUSIC 57 CUTS. ABANAZAR AND GENIE EXIT AND PRINCESS AND ALADDIN ENTER AT OPPOSITE SIDE TO THEM)

Scene 11

Tabs

Outside Pekin

Princess *(Princess and Aladdin discovered on stage)* How can you ever forgive me?

Aladdin *(Helplessly)* I was so proud of the Palace I built for my Princess.

Princess I never realised the lamp was so important.

Aladdin My own fault. I should have explained to you. For that reason I blame myself.

Princess There is no palace, but we still have each other.

Aladdin We married because we loved each other. But I can never forget I married a Princess, and your love remains a refuge for me in time of trouble.

(Duet Aladdin and Princess) (58)

Aladdin I feel better now. I'll search the world far and wide to retrieve the lamp and get my own back on Abanazar.

Princess Abanazar?

Aladdin The crafty old man. There's no time to lose, I must start my search at once.

Princess A keepsake by dear. Take this locket and wear it always. It holds my likeness. *(She gives him locket)*

Aladdin Dear Princess, I leave you this ring I've given to me by my wicked uncle.

Princess A strange gift indeed from one who is responsible for our misfortune.

Aladdin It is my one remaining possession. Please take it. *(Aladdin starts to take ring off. Suddenly looks at it)* One moment. It is indeed a most peculiar ring. I must confess I've never studied it before. It seems to turn and yet not move round on my finger. Let's see what happens if I turn it the other way. *(He turns ring. There is a flash)*

Slave *(Slave of the Ring appears to music tremolo)* Master I am the Slave of the Ring. (59)

Aladdin Can I believe my eyes. Genie of the lamp, and now Slave of the ring. My luck's still in.

Slave My powers are but humble compared to those of the Genie, yet I may be able to help you. What is your wish?

Aladdin Can you tell me the whereabouts of Abanazar?

Slave I can. Even now he is in North Africa.

Princess Africa? Oh Aladdin, you have set yourself an impossible journey.

Slave Nothing is impossible, Princess.

Aladdin You mean you can transport me there?

Slave I can with the magic power bestowed on me.

Princess *(Firmly)* Then let us go.

Aladdin I canø allow you to come with me.

Princess I canø allow you to go on your own. *(They look at each other. Aladdin makes up his mind)*

Aladdin Alright. Slave of the ring, transport us both to Africa.

Slave It shall be done Master. Close your eyes.

LIGHTS DIM ó MUSIC TREMOLO (60)

FADE TO BLACKOUT

Scene 12*(See notes at start of Scene 10)*

Full set

(Lights up and bridge music fades)

(As scene opens Abanazar is eating from a bowl of fruit or sweet-meats. He is reclining on a divan. Girls stand round as slaves etc. Dancers as acrobats and dervishes perform a hectic routine. 'Firedance' type) (61)

(The setting is 'Desert North Africa' Two slaves are fanning Abanazar with palm fronds)

Abanazar This is the life. Wallowing in wealth and lounging in luxury. Center Parcs was never like this. Leave me now, I wish to consult my financial adviser. *(They all exit)*. Ha! Ha! Ha! Just my little joke. I have no need of an adviser. The lamp is mine, and the Genie my slave. Slave to all my wishes and provider of my new found wealth. Here in the middle of the desert I am safe ó no one shall find me. *(To audience)* Excuse me while I have a private gloat. *(Goes to lamp which is on pedestal in Area A within a four-sided iron grill up stage right)* Lovely, lovely lamp. To think that once you were wasted on that fool Aladdin. Aladdin and his Princess proved no match for my trickery. Eee, Iøm a badøun. And now to take a stroll round the hanging gardens. Thatø where I am to be found in the heat of the day. Just hanging around. Ha! Ha! Ha! *(Exit Abanazar. Music tremolo. Lights dim. Lights build to full. Aladdin and Princess discovered on stage in same position as last scene to give impression of having been "beamed up and down". They look around to see where they have "landed")* (62)

Aladdin So this is Abanazarø desert palace.

Princess And here we are thanks to the Slave of the ring. What now, Aladdin?

Aladdin Now to try and find the lamp before anybody finds us. Where can it be? *(Turns – suddenly sees the lamp)* Princess ó look there it is. *(They run to the lamp)*

Princess Behind bars.

Aladdin Letø see if they will open. *(They both pull at the downstage side of the bars)*. Itø no use, itø locked.

Princess See if you can reach the lamp. *(Aladdin tries to reach through bars)*

Aladdin No use again. *(Enter two guards who see Aladdin and Princess and draw their scimitars)*.

Guard Stay where you are. *(Aladdin and Princess spin round and find the scimitars at their throats. Guard calling off -)* Master, master, intruders. *(Enter other guards and Abanazar)*

- Abanazar Well, well, well. What a pleasant surprise. Welcome to my African desert palace. I've reserved a room for you. Guards, show them to their quarter. *(Guards "lock" Aladdin and Princess in other half of cage Area B by swinging grill across as per illustration across. The locking action is mimed)*
- (To guards)* The next time one of my guards lets an intruder slip past him into the palace, will be the last. Heads will roll. Dismiss. *(Guards hurry off. To Aladdin and Princess now in Area B)* I thought I'd seen the last of you. This time I must make sure. Two little love birds in a cage, locked in the heart of my African Fortress. Destined to die in the heat of the desert. Microwaved to a crisp. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! So you've come after the lamp. You shall see the lamp. *(Takes lamp from pedestal in Area A and holds it up)* See, who would have thought that a dirty old lamp like this would prove such a valuable treasure to who indeed, Princess? *(Aladdin seizes bars at downstage)* You'll not escape, Aladdin.
- For see I hold the key to your captivity. *(Puts key and lamp on floor in front of cage, Area B)* There it is beside the lamp. Both beyond your reach, and so they shall remain. Feast your eyes on them as you slowly starve. Now to prepare your death warrant. That won't take long. I keep a supply in stock. Eee! I'm a bad'un. *(Exit Abanazar)*
- Aladdin So near and yet so far. *(Kneeling to try and reach through grille for the key.)*
- Princess Aladdin to the ring to turn the ring on your finger.
- Aladdin Of course, why didn't I think of that. *(He rises)*
- Princess Quickly.
- Aladdin Here goes. *(Aladdin turns ring. Flash. Slave of the ring appears. Music tremolo)* (63)
- Slave Master.
- Aladdin Am I glad to see you again. Get us out of here as quickly as you can.
- Slave Easily done, Master. *(Claps hands. Flash – grille swings open pushed by Aladdin under cover of flash. Aladdin and Princess emerge).* Anything else, Master?
- Aladdin Not for the time being. Just disappear, I have a plan. *(Exit Slave)*
- Princess *(Looking off)* Somebody is coming.
- Aladdin Quick to back behind bars. *(They return behind grille to their previous position in Area B. Enter Abanazar with scroll, he stands in Area A by pedestal)*
- Abanazar And now to add my signature to the death warrant. *(Over his shoulder as he starts to sign on pedestal)* Are you two love birds a little cramped in your cage? Ha! Ha! Ha!

- Aladdin Not really, thank you. Try it for yourself. (*Swings grille across in front of Abanazar to close off Area A*) Got you. Quick the key.
- (Aladdin holds grille closed despite Abanazar's attempt to escape. Princess picks up key and locks grille to secure Area A. Aladdin snatches up lamp from where it was placed outside area B)*
- Now I have the lamp. One word out of you and you're a dead man.
- Abanazar Mercy, have mercy. Look, I never signed the death warrant. Take the lamp but spare my life.
- Aladdin Though you may not deserve it ó mercy is granted. With the lamp in my possession once more, I can afford to be generous in all things. (*Aladdin releases Abanazar by unlocking grille Area A*) Call your guards and the entire household. Explain to them that the palace is mine. I am their new master.
- Abanazar Guards, guards. (*Enter guards*) Summon my slaves. (*Enter slaves and remaining guards*)
- Aladdin Well, go ahead.
- Abanazar You see before you, Aladdin, your new master. (*They all bow to Aladdin*)
- Aladdin This palace is mine. Abanazar is stripped of all wealth and power. I hereby grant all slaves of the palace, their freedom. (*All cheer. Aladdin holds up his hand to silence them*) Abanazar faces a long lonely journey across the desert. Provide him with food and wine ó to last him seven days. Thus sufficient mercy has been shown. (*Guard gives Abanazar flask and food taken from where fruit is on divan*)
- Abanazar A flask of wine, a handful of food ó little enough for a good honest citizen, have you no sympathy for a poor old man? (*Ensemble turn away and shun him. He turns to audience*) Will no one show me sympathy or pity?
- (Audience boo)* Please yourself. I hate people anyway, and most especially I hate children. I'm still a bad'un.
- (He exits to hoots of derision from those on stage and audience)*
- Aladdin At last my dear, our troubles are over. The lamp shall be used not selfishly but for the good of all.
- Princess My love for you is greater now than ever before.
- (Reprise last 8 bars of duet with ensemble backing)* (64)

END OF MUSICAL NUMBER, FADE TO BLACKOUT, TABS CLOSE

Scene 13

Tabs

Back in Pekin*(Enter Dame as lights go up)*

Dame Ladies and gentlemen. Boys and girls. I must say that I'm glad Aladdin's got his lamp back. It means we needn't buy any National Lottery tickets ever again. I feel like singing at the top of my voice, and at great expense I've got a wonderful guest singing star to join me in a duet.

You've heard of the three tenors, well we couldn't get Placido Domingo 'cos he was on his holidays at Benidorm 'cos we couldn't get Jose Carreras 'cos he was already booked at *(local)* Working Men's Club 'cos but we have got the biggest and best of them all 'cos direct from La Scala, Milan, may I present Signor Luciano Wisheegrotte.

(Enter Wishee in "Fatman" suit with black beard and wig. Mimes to "Nessum Dorma" – shortened to finish).

Wishee *(After number)* Ladees and Sheentelmaina, bambinos. For my encore I seeng to you songa of artbreak when lover as travel away by boat on sea. *(Note, deep breath "My Bonnie lies over the Ocean" interrupted by Dame)*

Dame Now just a minute, I'm supposed to be singing with you. Start again. *(They sing one chorus).*

Wishee *(Sings his "cod" version)*

My breakfast lies over the Ocean

My dinner lies over the sea

My stomach's in such a commotion

Oh bring Alka-Seltzers to me.

Dame Sing it properly and let's get the audience to join in. *(Business getting audience to sing and ordering them to stand up and sit down each time the letter "B" appears in the lyrics)*

All My honny lies over the ocean

My honny lies over the sea

My honny lies over the ocean

Oh hring hack my honny to me.

Bring hack, Bring hack oh Bring hack my Bonny to me to me

Bring hack, Bring hack oh Bring hack my Bonny to me to me

(Ad lib gags to audience)

- That lady there doesn't know whether she's coming or going.
- Life's all ups and downs, isn't it?
- Somebody there has finished up on somebody else's knee.
- If this audience sings much louder, they'll drown the band. Good idea. It's time somebody drowned them.

END OF MUSICAL NUMBER

FADE TO BLACKOUT

TABS OPEN FOR BOWS AS LIGHTS GO UP

Scene 14

Full set

The Feast of a Thousand Lanterns*(Walk down and bows to previously used bright production number)* (66)*(Music cuts out for Tag Lines)*

Wishee From old Peking to Mountain Cave

Dame We've followed Aladdin, the mischievous scamp

Princess As he found adventure, riches and fame

Aladdin With the help of the Genie and the wonderful lamp

FINALE NUMBER

HOUSE CURTAIN

BRIGHT PLYOUT MUSIC (67)

ADDENDUM –**Narration of “The Willow Pattern Story” mimed by children**

Picture a weeping willow, a breathtaking pagoda, a graceful bridge over a fast flowing stream and a pair of lovebirds forever kissing.

Once there was a wealthy mandarin (Child steps forward and bows to identify character). The mandarin had a beautiful daughter, Koong-See (Daughter curtsies) promised in marriage to Ta-Jin, a haughty warrior duke. (Duke bows). She did not love him (Daughter turns back on duke). Instead she fell in love with Chang a young gardener. (Chang bows).

Although they were not allowed to meet face to face a pair of turtle doves carried messages from one to the other and their love deepened.

Chang sent Koong-See a love poem in a shell which floated down the stream, past the pagoda and into the hands of his sweetheart.

On the eve of the planned wedding of Koong-See to Ta-Jin a great party was in progress. Chang borrowed the robes of a servant and came unseen to Koong-See's room. They embraced and ran away together, escaping down the stream in a small boat carried by the tide.

The mandarin, the duke and his warriors gave chase but could see nothing of the young lovers from the bridge over the stream.

Koong-See and Chang settled on a distant island, farming the land around and living happily for several years.

The embittered duke then had an idea. He released the two turtle doves from the mandarin's garden and followed their flight. They headed straight for Koong-See and Chang's farmhouse and the warriors followed in their wake.

The wicked duke laid waste to the farmland and set fire to the house where the lovers were hidden. In vain they tried to escape but it seemed they were destined to die in each other's arms.

At this point, touched by their plight, the Gods transformed Koong-See and Chang into lovebirds. Miraculously they flew away and lived a life of eternal love.

Appendix A**DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTERS****IMMORTALS**

The Slave of Ring Shapely young woman with ability to deliver lines clearly and lay the foundations for the plot

The Genie Imposing dignified man ideally looking good bare chested. Booming voice

MORTALS

Abanazar Typical pantomime villain able to exchange banter with comics

Widow Twankee Traditional panto dame, bossy mother style

Aladdin Principal boy, mischievous and on the cheeky side. Pop singer and dancer

Wishee Washee Leading comic exploiting naughty boy side of his personality

The Emperor Regal air, commanding but slightly fussed at times

Princess So-Shi Principal girl, pop singer and dancer. Keen to break the bonds of royalty

Grand Vizier Subservient to the Emperor but self important to everyone else.

Chief of Police Crazy incompetent leader of the police ó always shown up and comes off worst

Emperor's Police A force of slapstick óKeystone Copsö

Important Note:

Pop singer means not necessarily a straight singer but certainly someone with an ability to put over a number.

Appendix B

“ALADDIN”

Production Notes (Scene by scene in addition to those in the script)

- Prologue** Set flashpan downstage of Slave and well away for safety.
- Scene 1** SFX each time Police bump into each other, trip and fall (Drum rolls, rimshots and scatter crashes). Also applies to disorganised entrances and exits.
- Dame tips money on to stall SFX (cymbal tinkling) to count it.
- Wishee wears two pairs of trousers at once to speed up apparent change. Jacket which pulls apart is velcroed or very lightly tacked.
- During duet for Aladdin and Princess, Handmaiden makes herself as inconspicuous as possible examining the finery at the stalls.
- When Abanazar hugs Wishee the actions are false and exaggerated. Wishee is physically shaken with the vigour of it all and falls in a heap. (SFX rimshots and drum rolls)
- Scene 2** Spoons which Dame pulls out and drops are wired together for ease of handling.
- Scene 3** The practical wall is the most important scenery feature. Some flowers should be visible either on the backcloth or in pots. A largish pot with plant is useful for Aladdin to hide behind.
- Aladdin's run up and over the wall is easier than it may sound as long as the police are braced and Aladdin does not wear shoe heels too high and pointed
- Scene 4** Footprints on policemen's back are sewn on in off-white horizontally to form a trail across.
- Scene 5** When Dame irons crutch of Emperor's wife's pants SFX (cymbal tinkle)
- Wishee opens out three-cupped bra cup by cup to SFX (coconut block)
- When Wishee takes iron SFX (cymbal tinkle)
- Spits SFX (cowbell) each time.
- Flash for touching iron with tongue. Set flash well downstage of Wishee for safety.
- Wishee voices own machine gun noise (er er er er er er).
- When iron catches Dame's backside SFX (bass drum)
- Dame takes swing at Aladdin SFX (siren whistle)

Abanazar's line "It is Iö is melodramatic in the extreme. He embraces Wishee with a hug.

Replacing Wishee's two fingers is to SFX (coconut block twice).

Whenever wringing machine handle is turned SFX (football rattle for ratchet sound)

Each time lathered garment is flicked SFX (rimshot)

Rubbing lather on Wishee's stomach SFX (cowbell tinkles)

Long "codö" stocking needs to be about 2/3 mtrs long. When Wishee is startled with "codö" stocking in his hands SFX (rimshot). When stocking is thrown up Dame's skirt SFX (siren whistle)

Dame's lather can is ready filled with lather.

Bath of lather is ¾ filled with sponge cushions. These have ¼ layer of lather on top to look like bathful of lather.

Scene 6 Movable boulder piece is like small sliding door.

Flash for rock slider is well downstage of it for safety.

Aladdin's knees knocking (SFX coconut block)

Scene 7 Abanazar rolling boulder can be out of sight and therefore covered by SFX (rumble on drums or recorded rumble with echo)

Each time from now on when Aladdin rubs lamp flash should be well downstage of him for safety. When Genie appears he does so through smoke of flash as it is subsiding. (The same applies to entrances of Slave of the Ring). Ham sandwich is palmed to appear out of Genie's garment.

Buddha's mouth has short shutte upstage of it down which riches can be fed from offstage as line demands.

Scene 8 The trick chair is normal but arms remain in Dame's hands while surrounding spindles fall down once arms are lifted up by Dame. Not as tricky as it sounds!

When Genie claps hands for fruit to appear, flash should be set well downstage of him for safety. Fruit basket is placed on stage under cover of smoke.

Apple "out of the air" is palmed from out of Genie's garment.

Plenty of miscellaneous SFX for police search and chase.

Clothes line is used to rope police together at end of scene.

Scene 10 As far as possible, Kiddie's police line-up should be costumed in same shade of blue as adults. Also similar helmets.

Abanazar's line - At last the lamp is mine - SFX (cymbal zimmer ending in cymbal crash on flash)

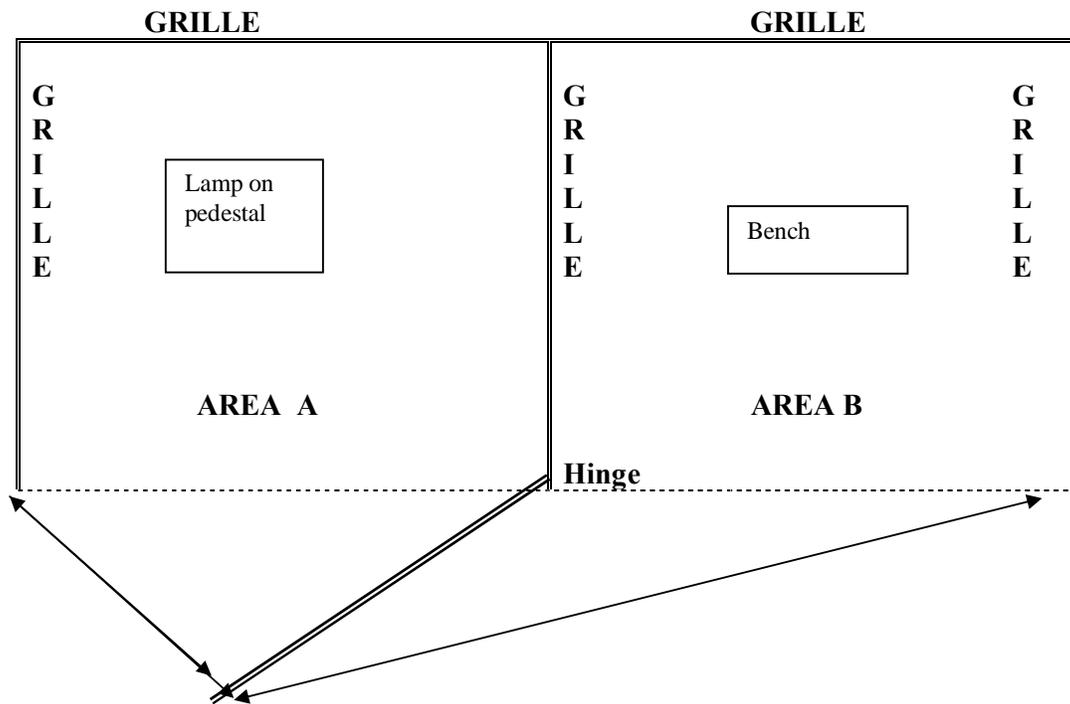
Disintegration of palace can be achieved mainly by knocking furniture over, scattering props, ensemble stumbling and falling in disarray. Lightning helps a lot. Thunder and screaming is essential. When tabs close with Abanazar and Genie downstage any debris upstage can be struck.

Scene 11 Ensure Abanazar and Genie have made their exits before lights up on closed tabs for Aladdin and Princess to enter.

At end of scene Aladdin and Princess must assume recognisable -transporting- pose to replicate at start of Scene 12.

Scene 12 When Abanazar exits for his stroll, stage empties as escort is formed to follow him off.

Study diagram of cage carefully (provided). The layout is simple, lightweight and easily workable. No practical locks are needed but care must be taken not to open accidentally what is supposed to be locked.



Size of the whole grill (area A plus area B) depends on the overall size of stage but ideally should take up no more than 1/3 of the stage. Minimum size should be big enough for 2 people to be locked in an area.