

NODA Pantomimes Presents

ALADDIN

BY

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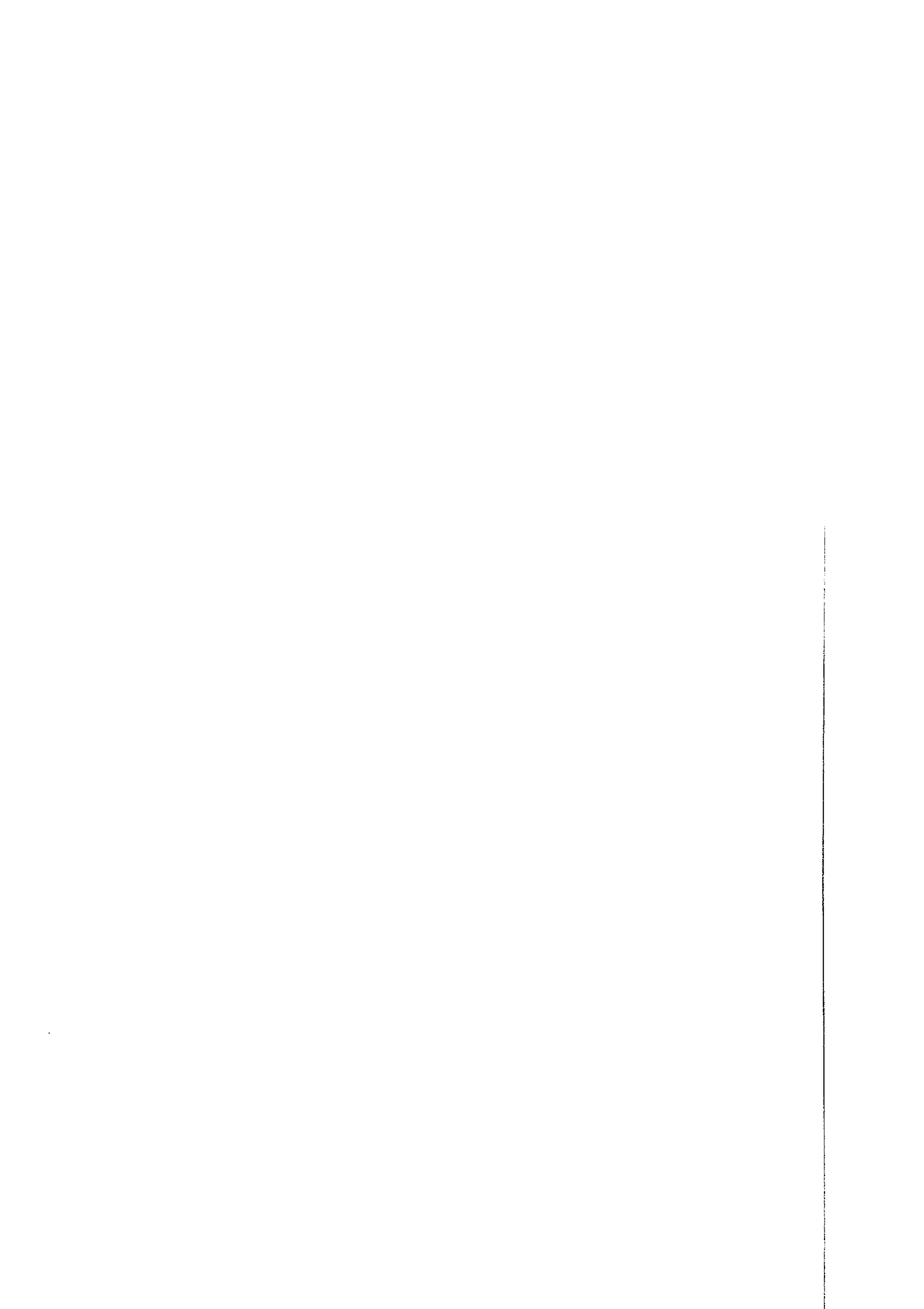
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THE ADVENTURES OF ALADDIN

BY ROBERT MARLOWE

CHARACTERS

ALADDIN	-	A cheeky rascal.
WIDOW TWANKY	-	His Mum, a poor laundress.
WISHEE WASHEE	-	Her other son.
EMPEROR OF CHINA		
PRINCESS BALDROUBADOR	-	His daughter.
PRINCE PEKOE	-	His son.
THE GRAND VIZIER	-	His Prime Minister.
LADY SO-SHI	-	Vizier's daughter.
ABANAZER	-	A Wizard.
PING	}	- Chinese policemen.
PONG		
GENII OF THE RING		
SLAVE OF THE LAMP		
VOICE OF TUTANKHAMEN'S MASK		
TOWNSFOLK, MARKET SELLERS, LAUNDRY MAIDS, JEWELS, ARABIAN SLAVES.		

SYNOPSIS

ACT 1

SCENE 1	Valley of the Kings.
SCENE 2	City of Peking.
SCENE 3	The Street of a Thousand Lanterns.
SCENE 4	Widow Twanky's Laundry.
SCENE 5	The Mountain Pass of Kweilin.
SCENE 6	The Enchanted Cave of Jewels.

INTERVAL

ACT 2

SCENE 1	Back in Peking.
SCENE 2	Royal Wedding Procession.
SCENE 3	The Gardens of the Jade Palace.
SCENE 4	The Harem of Abanazer in Arabia.
SCENE 5	The Street of a Thousand Lanterns.
SCENE 6	The Imperial Reception in the Silver Pagoda.

NOTES ON PRODUCTION

This pantomime is written to enable a simple or elaborate presentation depending on your financial situation. Do try to achieve the magical effects as much as possible though, for it is the essence of pantomime. Some of the gags may appear too saucy for your organisation. If so it is possible to eliminate without spoiling the general layout. Musical suggestions are purely for your guidance as to style of number required. Your Director will obviously have some of his own ideas but please always remember to make your choice pertinent to the plot. If your Society hires sets and costumes, then hopefully you will get what you require, but if you have to make sets and costumes then you will find fairly detailed suggestions at the beginning of each scene, and search in children's picture books for inspiration. Always aims for bright and simple effects. You will find that a full or half set is preceded by either a front cloth or tabs. If tabs, then endeavour to have an indicative piece just to establish mood and place.

N.B.

As these pieces in front of tabs would have to be placed in a blackout, do get your stagehands to dress in black including shoes (soft) so that they are virtually invisible.

CHARACTER ANALYSIS

- ALADDIN - Young and boyish, good singing voice and legs.
- PRINCE PEKOE - Second 'boy' role, details ditto to above.
- PRINCESS - Young and pretty with good singing voice.
- SO-SHI - Second Girl role, details ditto to above.
- WIDOW TWANKY - Robust style, good sense of timing essential.
Dames must always be played as a man in skirts, NO female impersonations. Can be any age but middle is more correct, she/he is Mother to adult sons after all.
- WISHEE WASHEE - Youngish brash personality.
- EMPEROR - Character Actor. Age range 40-60.
- VIZIER - Ditto above.
- POLICEMEN - Ping: Any age. He is the straight man, always in control.
Good timing essential.
- Pong: The fall guy. Again any age. Timing essential, also good singing voices.
Both these roles are fairly detailed within this script if followed correctly.
- ABANAZER - Strong personality actor with good singing voice if possible.
Any age.
- GENII (female)
and
SLAVE (male) - Young with good figures.
- Dialogue is minimal in these roles.

VOICE OF TUTANKHAMEN can be played by any of the above actors if necessary for he does not appear.

There are odd lines for chorus members.

ACT 1

SCENE 1

Valley of the Kings

This is a front cloth prologue. Get your props department to design a fairly large scale head in the style of Tutankhamens which can be easily copied from a book of Egyptology. It should ideally have a separate lower jaw hinged to open and close to give the impression of speaking. This is two dimensional of course, and your stage measurements will dictate its size but do aim as large, eerie and frightening as possible. This is placed centre with a pair of incense burners flanking it. Lighting is mainly blue and the hiring of a smoke machine would enhance not only this scene, but the cave scene also. If the eyes of the head could be rigged with small electric bulbs this would all add to the desired creepy effect. The voice of the head will obviously be spoken through an offstage microphone.

As curtain rises we see only the mask through the gloom.

There is a flash to one side and immediately we see Abanazer standing in the rising smoke.

ABANEZER Oh Mighty Oracle of the East, I come before you to seek your knowledge.

MASK (with jaw opening and closing if possible and eyes flashing. Echo chamber microphone would also enhance off stage voice).
Who is this that dares to approach?

ABANEZER It is I, Abanazer, illustrious wizard of the Orient, who seeks your aid.

MASK Speak forth thou infidel of trickery.

ABANEZER 'Tis rumoured that within this world there burns a lamp of awesome power. Whoever possesses this lamp shall gain control of the universe thus making man his slave for evermore.

MASK No rumour this, such a lamp does exist!

ABANAZER (Excitedly) Tell me, mighty miracle of memory, where this lamp can be located.

- MASK** Deep within the caves of Kweilin behind the Rock of Sesame lies this lamp, untouched by hand for ten thousand years.
- ABANEZER** (Beside himself with excitement) Quickly! Quickly! Tell me in which country these caves are situated.
- MASK** Across the China Seas must you journey to the fair city of old Peking, but take heed for the lamp can only be removed by a youth of poor but honest means, and a native of that land.
- ABANEZER** The lad then I must seek at once without ado. I shall summon further aid!
(He raises his arms twisting an ornate ring on one hand.)
- ABANEZER** First once, then twice this ring must turn to bring the help for which I yearn. This golden treasure of the Dynasty Ming contains the Genii of the Ring!
(A flash and as smoke clears we see the Genii who makes obeisance to Abanazer).
- GENII** Master - you summoned me?
- ABANEZER** Yes Genii of the Ring, I command you in a flash to transport me to Peking!
- GENII** It shall be done Oh Master!
(She waves her arms. Thunder and lightning effect and if possible ignite a further flash box centre front stage, which is followed by a total BLACKOUT during which we hear a sound effect of rushing and whistling wind.)

N.B.
The pantomime of Aladdin being very magical is enhanced tremendously by the use of flash boxes. Care must be taken to conform with safety requirements, but do endeavour to set boxes within vicinity of artistes entrance so that they appear to emanate from the flash.
Sound effects easily obtainable from any good record shop, Samuel French Ltd. or B.B.C. Information Dept.
Whilst your show can be performed without these effects remember their inclusions will go a long way to creating the "magic" which is pantomime.

END OF PROLOGUE

ACT 1

SCENE 2

City of Peking

As lights come up we see a bustling streetmarket with flower sellers, lantern vendors, merchants with spice trays, bird sellers with small bamboo cages, wind chime vendors etc. Many of these things are easily obtainable throughout the Soho area in London or any large city that has a Chinese area, and not too expensive either. Endeavour to create pagodas etc. If making your own sets this subject can have skeletal frames with rush matting sides, all painted brightly. Remember red is much used in Chinese decor, it is considered a lucky and joyous colour. A good cyclorama is of course essential for depth. Chinese lanterns suspended also firmly establish the atmosphere. Follow childrens story book illustrations for your inspiration.

(Suggested opening number "Come to the Super Market in Old Peking". This was made popular by Eartha Kitt and is sold by NODA Pantomimes.

Otherwise use a Chinese styled standard such as "Limehouse Blues" or "Chinatown". Have opening routine sung and danced by full chorus as a rousing contrast to the Prologue. At finish, ENTER WISHEE WASHEE).

WISHEE

Hello! My name's Wishee Washee. Oh yes, I know it's strange but I didn't have a name until I was ten. Aaaaah! Come on, don't be mean. Aaaaah! (Audience hopefully will sympathetically respond). Then when I reached ten my Mum was always wishing I'd washed, so Wishee Washee I became!! Do you know my Mum? You don't? Here, lean forward, I'll let you into a secret. My Mum had her face lifted. Yes she has, in fact she's had it done so many times, when she sits down her mouth opens! (pause) That's not a dimple on her chin, it's her navel! True! And is she knockneed? She went into the Chemist shop for some talcum powder. The chemist said, "Certainly Madam, walk this way". She said, if I could walk that way I wouldn't need the talcum powder. And my Dad was bandy. He was! With Mum knockneed and him bandy, when they danced together they looked like a food mixer!!! But we've lost my Dad now! Aaaaah. (Audience response) He went out for some chop suey one day and when he came back we'd moved! So my Mum's a widow now! Ooh listen, I think I can hear her coming.

(Chorus have responded to Wishee but now EXIT).

(Up tempo music and if you have a clever props dept. a two-wheeled rickshaw would be an excellent entrance vehicle for Widow Twanky, pulled by a barechested specimen of manhood. It stops centre stage and he helps her off.)

RICKSHAW COOLIE Oi loi chung chee Jane?

MRS. TWANKY No! No! No! **You** Tarzan! **Me** Jane!
——— Go indoors and lay down, I'll come and talk to you later. Ooh he gets so confused at times!
(He EXITS with rickshaw. If this prop is impossible then just cut to straight Entrance. Widow carries shopping bag.)

WISHEE Hello Mother, we were just talking about you.

TWANKY I bet you were being rude. (To audience) Was he boys and girls?

WISHEE Oh no I wasn't! (Do this deliberately to elicit a reply).

AUDIENCE (with Twanky) Oh yes he was!

WISHEE Oh no I wasn't!

AUDIENCE Oh yes he was!

WISHEE (Enquiringly) Was I?

AUDIENCE Yes!

TWANKY I knew it. Trust you to let me down behind my back, in front of my face. Tell me have you had a washee Wishee?

WASHEE Of course I have Mother.

TWANKY Where did you have it?

WISHEE In the spring.

TWANKY I said where, not when! You're just like your Father, rest his soul. (To audience) I'm, a widow you know. Aaaaah. Come on show a bit of sympathy. Aaaaah! Mind you, I had a fairytale wedding, it was Grimm! But what a clever man he was, a chicken farmer! He bred chickens with four legs.

WASHEE Really Mother, what did they taste like?

TWANKY I dunno, we never caught any. (aside). Boy could they move, faster than a dose of salts!!!

WISHEE Oh Mother I don't believe you. Anyway where've you been?

TWANKY I've been to the English takeaway (to audience). Oh yes we do! We have English takeaways here in Peking. Do you know what they sell? Fish and chips! We've even got an Irish giveback. Very up-to-date we are. But seriously Wishee, I had to go to the Doctors this morning.

WISHEE Why Mother?

TWANKY I'm suffering from morning sickness.

WISHEE What did he say?

TWANKY Get up in the afternoon! I told him I was down in the dumps and he thought that was where we lived! Such a rude man.

WISHEE Don't get upset Mother. Hey what have you got in your bag?

TWANKY I've been shopping (to audience) Shall I show you? Look here's some fortune cookies. Who'd like one. (She throws about half a dozen out to audience. These easily obtained from Chinese shops) There we are - catch. Now what else have we got? (rummages in bag) Is anyone getting married? Lady over there! Here, have some rice! (Throws handful of rice over audience) Does anyone like fireworks? Here we go, have some crackers. (Throws separate cream crackers) OOOh Wishee, look what I've got here, hundred year old eggs. (Takes out egg box and holds up egg) Yes, the genuine article. Oops ugh, look at that. (She accidentally breaks egg in her hand and we see it trickle through her fingers. Catch it in box). Oooh, what a mess and phew, it sure is a hundred years old, probably more. Never mind I've got another. (This time she takes out one that is either blown or hard boiled) Now who'd like this one, anybody? (She walks menacingly back and forth selecting a victim, finally heaves it out. Take care to throw gently if hard boiled, they can hurt if hurtled).

WISHEE Oh Mother, that's no yolk!!!

TWANKY EGGSactly! Whishee have you seen your brother Aladdin about?

WISHEE Last time I saw him he was off to get some apples from the Emperor's orchard.

TWANKY (Dismayed) Ooh, that little ragamuffin. I've told him before not to go into the Palace Gardens. He'll get us all imprisoned before he's much older.
(Great commotion offstage and townsfolk ENTER in general confusion being chased by the Policeman)

POLICEMEN Where is he? Where is he? He's under arrest when we can find him.

TWANKY Who are you searching for?

PING A ragged lad seen climbing into the Emperor's Orchard.

PONG A ragged lad seen climbing into the Emperor's Orchard.

PING (Swipes Pong with truncheon) Don't keep repeating everything I say.

PONG (To Twanky) Don't keep repeating everything I say (Hits her with his truncheon).

TWANKY I didn't say a word (Pushes Pong)

PONG (To Ping) She didn't say a word (Pushes him).

PING (Hits Pong again) Oh, shut up.

PONG (Hits Twanky with his truncheon) Oh, shut up.

TWANKY (Sizing up to him) Watch it or I'll push your mush down into your Chicken Chow Mein.

POLICEMEN (Together) You watch it, we're the Emperor's bodyguards.

PING I'm Ping!

PONG I'm Pong!

TWANKY And I'm off. Come on Wishee - run!
Play the foregoing at speed for best effect. They EXIT,
pursued by Policemen.
Crowd now gather excitedly round a large laundry basket
marked "Twanky's Washeteria" which has been pushed on by
a couple of the townsfolk. They place in centre stage down
front and throw back the lid. ALADDIN springs up).

ALADDIN Hello everybody. (steps out) Phew, that was a narrow escape.
(Boys push basket off)

1ST GIRL Oh Aladdin, you're so adventurous.

2ND GIRL Weren't you afraid of being caught by the Emperor's guards?

ALADDIN Gosh no. Remember, he who dares wins.

1ST MAN What's it like inside the Palace Gardens?

ALADDIN It's wonderful. Cherry blossom everywhere and peacocks
strutting on the lawns, and you'll never guess who I saw
sitting by the goldfish pond.

CROWD (awed) Who?

ALADDIN (Proudly) The Princess.

CROWD (Horrified) OH No!

ALADDIN OH Yes. She's so beautiful with skin like alabaster and hair
the colour of ebony.

3RD GIRL But Aladdin, you know it's been decreed that whoever gazes
on the Princess shall be put to death.

ALADDIN I don't care. It would be worth it to have looked upon such
perfection.

2ND MAN (laughing) Why I do believe you're in love.

ALADDIN (Defensively) I'm not! (Song)
(This is a direct cue into song. As it's difficult to find
sufficient Chinese styled numbers one must select appropriate
songs to fit the situation. My suggestion here is: "I'm Not at
All in Love" from 'The Pajama Game', changing the words

where necessary into male tense as it's being sung by a male character and the original was female. Use your chorus exactly as in the original score with big finish.

At finish the Chinese Policemen ENTER intent on making way for the Grand Vizier. They don't notice Aladdin who creeps off).

POLICEMEN

Make way! Make Way! Make way for His Most Excellent Highness the Grand Vizier!

(Crowd all drop to their knees and prostrate themselves. ENTER VIZIER. Policemen flank him).

VIZIER

Listen carefully, you scum of the orient, the Emperor's daughter, the beautiful Princess Baldroubador comes this way and the law decrees that any of lowly birth who gaze on her be put to death. Therefore, unless you wish your head to be parted from your body I suggest you clear the streets.

(Crowd quickly rise and disperse off with frightened glances and mutterings).

PING

(Grandly repeats Vizier) I suggest you clear the streets.

PONG

(Repeating Ping) I suggest you clear the streets!

PING

(Hits Pong) Don't repeat what I say.

PONG

(Goes to hit Vizier who's standing by his side but stops himself just in time) Don't repeat Whaaaa!

VIZIER

(To Pong) You are next to an idiot.

PONG

That's what I was thinking. (Realises his gaff).
We'd better leave as well.

(They rush off as a fanfare heralds the approach of Princess. She must be carried on a litter concealed behind drawn curtains and attended by SO-SHI).

SO-SHI

(Crossing to Vizier) Father, what are you doing here?

VIZIER

Making sure the streets are clear. But daughter why are you so agitated?

SO-SHI

(Uncomfortable) It's er...er - nothing Father.

PRINCESS (From behind curtains) So-Shi! So-Shi, are the streets clear?

SO-SHI (Going towards litter) They are Your Highness.
(The litter attendants place it down, withdraw curtains and the Princess steps out. So-Shi and Vizier bow deeply. Attendants prostrate themselves).

PRINCESS Please! Please! Let's not be so formal - rise! (They do so) If it wasn't for that stupid decree that no one must gaze on me without fear of death, then I could mix with my people and enjoy myself.

VIZIER Your Highness, it is your illustrious Father's rule.

PRINCESS I know, but he does live in the past. I do so wish to meet the ordinary people, to be able to stroll through the streets alone.

SO-SHI But that's impossible Highness.

PRINCESS (Thoughtful) Is it So-Shi! Tell me, is it not so that you've arranged a rendezvous with my brother Prince Pekoe?
(So-Shi looks uncomfortable, her father is astonished).

VIZIER Is this true So-Shi?

SO-SHI It is Father. We love each other very much.

VIZIER But nothing can come of this my dear. You know the Prince must marry within the royal circle and you are only a commoner, albeit of high birth and accomplishments.

PRINCESS But times are changing Vizier and my father must change with them. So-Shi, I have an idea. You must take my place on the litter - after all no one has ever seen me - then you can meet Prince Pekoe whilst I can wander through Peking unrecognized. Oh it will be such an adventure.

VIZIER But this is madness Your Highness.

PRINCESS It is my desire, please obey me.
(They bow and So-Shi gets into litter and is carried off followed by an unhappy Vizier).

PRINCESS To be free to pass through the streets is such a simple desire yet so hard to accomplish.

(PRINCESS sings here. Suggested number "This is my Lovely Day" from Bless the Bride.) (At finish ALADDIN rushes on. Police whistles are blowing off stage. He circles stage and EXITS same side as he entered but on a lower wing. Princess remains centre stage whilst this happens around her. Next the Policemen rush on blowing whistles. They stop and notice Princess but don't realise who she is. Again play the following swiftly.)

PING Excuse me Miss!

PONG Excuse me Miss!

PING Have you seen!

PONG Have you seen!

PING A ragged boy!

PONG A ragged boy!

PING Don't keep repeating after me (hits him)

PONG Don't keep repeating after me (Goes to hit Ping).

PING (Menacingly) You dare.

PONG Alright I will (Swipes Ping an almighty whack which fells him)

PRINCESS Gentlemen please stop fighting. Who do you seek?

PING & PONG A boy.

PRINCESS He went that way. (She points opposite direction to the way Aladdin left).

PING & PONG Thank you Miss (They EXIT blowing whistles).

ALADDIN (Entering) That was very kind, thank you.

PRINCESS Why do they seek you?

ALADDIN I was seen in the Emperor's Gardens. (He looks more closely) Excuse me, but haven't we met.

PRINCESS I er don't believe so (She shields her face with fan).

ALADDIN But I recognise your voice.
(Suddenly the Policemen rush on followed by townsfolk.
General commotion).

PING There he is - Seize him!

PONG There he is - Seize him!

PING Don't keep !

PONG Don't keep !

PING Oh never mind. (Swipes him) Arrest that boy.
(They seize Aladdin. A fanfare brings on the Grand Vizier.)

VIZIER What is happening here?

PING This is the boy Sire who got into the Palace Gardens.

PONG This is the boy Sire who (Ping hits him).

VIZIER (Thundering) What - and now he's seen the Princess also.

ALADDIN The Princess? But I don't understand (It suddenly dawns)
No surely not But yes of course, I recognised your
voice.

PRINCESS I'm sorry I didn't mean to cause you any further trouble.
Forgive me.

ALADDIN Of course I do. Now that we've met I shall willingly take my
punishment.

VIZIER The Emperor approaches. Bow down you lower middle
classes.

(Direct cue into full chorus number from 'Iolanthe' (Peers
Chorus 'Loudly let the trumpet bray). EMPEROR ENTERS
with attendants. All prostrate themselves except the
Principals.)

EMPEROR Rise objects. I - er mean, subjects! What is happening
here.

VIZIER This lad, Your Imperial Majesty, was seen talking with the Princess.

EMPEROR What! How dare he. Prepare his execution as an example to all others who would dare to do the same.

PRINCESS Oh, no Father please spare him. He meant no harm. Have mercy!

EMPEROR Silence my beloved, I have decreed his fate.
(The police force Aladdin to his knees with his hands tied behind his back. The VIZIER takes a sword and prepares his stance. TWANKY and WISHEE rush on).

TWANKY Why Aladdin, what on earth are you doing down there?

ALADDIN Well Mother, one thing's for sure, I'm not getting up.

EMPEROR We are just about to cut his head off.

TWANKY If you do, he'll **never** speak to you again!

WISHEE And he'll have no-where to put his hat either!

EMPEROR Silence! Prepare to meet your fate.
(VIZIER raises sword over Aladdin's head. All wait fearfully and start to count as VIZIER brings sword down slowly taking measure before the final swipe).

CROWD One (pause) Two!
(A flash in footlights and ABANAZER ENTERS.

ABANAZER Stop. Before this deed you finish
My magic power you'll all bemoan,
Aladdin's life you won't diminish
As I turn you briefly all to stone.
(Lightning and thunder effect and everyone is struck to stone statues. Make sure no one moves at all. Even Aladdin is turned to stone.

ABANAZER (Snapping his fingers under Aladdin's nose).
Come boy, we must get away from here.

ALADDIN (Bewildered) I say, what's happened here?

ABANAZER

Just a temporary measure. Hurry, they'll not stay like that forever.

ALADDIN

Just a moment, let me have my revenge.

(The following needs to be carefully worked out for maximum effect. ALADDIN moves the Principals about though they must move stiffly as though still entranced. Use a ratchet effect for limb movements from the wings. Firstly he places Widow Twanky immediately facing Emperor and raises her hand to his face in the "Cocking a snook" attitude. He then places Vizier behind the Emperor in a bent forward position with the sword in line to strike Emperor's backside as Vizier straightens up. Behind Vizier he places Ping standing on one leg with other knee raised then Pong is placed behind Ping in similar attitude. Remember rest of cast **must** remain like rock.)

ABANAZER

Hurry boy, we have far to go.

ALADDIN

Just one more moment. (He goes over to Princess who doesn't move). Goodbye Princess, I'll return one day when I've made my fortune and claim you as my bride (he kisses her cheek). Now for my final trick!

(He walks down line of statues he's just set up, takes a mighty kick at Pong's rear who in turn straightens his bent leg which strikes Ping's rear, whose bent leg also strikes the Vizier who suddenly straightens up bringing the sword slicing up between the Emperor's legs. This is a chain reaction effect which should be completed smoothly and swiftly for maximum reaction. After kicking Pong, Abanazer grabs Aladdin's arm and rushes him off. As Emperor is struck he lets out a mighty yell which activates company back to life. Reprise of "Bow down you Lower Middle Classes". Make this short and bright to:-

BLACK OUT

ACT 1

SCENE 3

The Street of a Thousand Lanterns

This is a frontcloth. If you have to do it in tabs then if you have had a string of lanterns hanging across top of stage in the previous scene, make sure these are forward of your tabs so that they form the main decor of this scene. Swing some more lanterns in on arms from each wing space.

Lighting should be fairly low key at beginning.

(ABANAZER ENTERS followed by ALADDIN).

ABANAZER Come on boy, hurry, unless you want to get caught.

ALADDIN Just a minute, tell me why are you helping me like this?

ABANAZER It's a long story lad, but I'm your dead Father's long lost brother.

ALADDIN I didn't know he had a brother.

ABANAZER Well, as a young man I went in search of my fortune in Africa and now I've returned to seek out my family. It seems I arrived just in time.

ALADDIN Then you're my Uncle!

ABANAZER Indeed I am Aladdin. Tell me boy, am I mistaken or have you indeed fallen in love with the Princess Baldroubador?

ALADDIN Oh yes Uncle, I have, but she could never marry someone as poor and low born as I.

ABANAZER That is where I can help you. Come with me and I will show you riches beyond the dreams of avarice. I will make you the richest man in the world then you can return and claim the Princess as your bride.

ALADDIN Can this be true, I must be dreaming. (To Audience) Oh boys and girls, do you think I should go with my Uncle Abanazer?

AUDIENCE (Hopefully) No!

ABANAZER Oh yes he should.

AUDIENCE Oh no he shouldn't.

ABANAZER Oh yes he should.

AUDIENCE Oh no he shouldn't.

ABANAZER If you don't shut up I'll turn you all into toads.

ALADDIN I really think I should go for I do so want to be rich enough to marry the Princess. O.K. Uncle, lead the way.

ABANAZER (To Audience) Aha! See. You lot mind your own stinking little business or I'll change your popcorn into slugs. Squelchy Slugs! Ha! Ha! Ha! Yah, boo sucks!
(They EXIT. Lights become brighter.
(ENTER POLICEMEN).

PING Now come on, we must pull our socks up. I want to get promotion.

PONG Yes come on, we must pull our socks

PING Stop repeating everything I say. (Hits him with truncheon)
You know you remind me of my Mother except for the moustache.

PONG But I haven't got a moustache.

PING No but she has. Tell me how's your wife?

PONG Compared to whom!!

PING Don't be like that, she's a lovely lady and very high born.
When she was born they fired twenty one guns.

PONG Yes, pity they all missed. And has she got a big mouth, enormous. She's on holiday at the moment and do you know she called me from New York yesterday.

PING Really!

PONG Yes and she didn't use a 'phone. Told you she had an enormous mouth.

PING I don't believe it. Why your wife's always improving her looks.

PONG Yes, she spends a fortune on beauty products but only one thing really works.

PING What's that?

PONG Distance. (pause). I think when a wife reaches forty you should be able to change her for two twenties.

PING Is it true you married her for the money her Father left her?

PONG Of course not. I'd have married her no matter who left her the money.

(Opportunity here for number - "The Two Gendarmes". If not required then go straight into following).

(ENTER WISHEE)

WISHEE Hello Ping.

PING Hello Washee.

PONG Hello Washee.

WISHEE Oh hello, thought I could smell a Pong! What are you doing.

PING We're after a man who's stolen ten gallons of Syrup of Figs.

WISHEE Have you caught him?

PONG No, he's still on the run (Ping hits him)

PING Now Wishee, I'm sure you'd like to purchase a ticket for the Policeman's Ball wouldn't you?

WISHEE I've got no yen to (collapses in giggles). Oh I say, no yen - get it - no yen. Oh well, please yourselves.
(Ping and Pong gaze back stoneyfaced deliberately not getting it.)

PONG Don't be mean, we only hold a policeman's ball once a year.

WISHEE Well there's no answer to that. Oh very well, but I'm only coming if you've got a cabaret.

PING (Declaiming) Have we got a cabaret!

PONG (Enquiringly) Have we got a cabaret?

PING (Hits him) Of course we have. We are doing the cabaret.

WISHEE Can you play an instrument?

PING Can we play an instrument! Why when Pong was a baby he used to play on the linoleum.

WISHEE (Amazed) Really!

PONG (Warming to the idea) Yes. My music teacher says there's only two things stopping me getting to the top.

WISHEE What are they?

PONG (Proudly) Talent and ambition.

PING You should have heard his last concert. He got a sitting ovation and shouts of less.

PONG That's true. My Manager says I can't sing! Can't dance! Can't act! and I'm dirty and unmusical. I'll make a big pop star!

PING Have you heard of "Who's Who?"

WISHEE Yes. Why?

PING He's in the sequel - "What's That"!

WISHEE He sounds pretty dumb to me.

PONG I'll have you know I'm a fast thinker. We had trouble in the prison last week and quick as a flash I called in the army and had the troublemakers evicted - so there!

(WIDOW TWANKY rushes on)

TWANKY Help police! Police!

PING What can we do for you Madam?

TWANKY Someone's just broken in and stolen a cake I've baked.

PONG You don't need us. I should call a Doctor!

TWANKY Oooh, I've never been so insulted! (To Wishee) And what are you giggling about. Are you inferring I can't cook?

WISHEE (Stops giggling) Well, I can't get my fork in your gravy!

TWANKY That's done it, I'll never cook for you again.

WISHEE Will you put that in writing? I couldn't eat that meat pie you had for lunch today.

TWANKY I'll have you know I've been making pies since before you were born.

WISHEE Yes. I think that was one of 'em!

TWANKY Anyway what are you doing here? I thought you were at school?

WISHEE I was sent home because the boy next to me was smoking.

TWANKY Why should you be sent home because the boy next to you was smoking?

WISHEE I set fire to him!

TWANKY That's it, I've had enough. You're nothing less than a juvenile detergent. Back to the laundry I'm going to "clean" you!
(She bundles Wishee off, protesting)

PING (To PONG) I say smarten up, here comes His Imperial Highness Prince Pekoe.

PONG I say smarten up here comes his

PING I've just said that. (hits him).
(They bow low as PRINCE PEKOE ENTERS)

PEKOE Tell me have you seen my sister's Lady-in-Waiting?

PING The Lady So-Shi Your Highness!

PONG The Lady So-Shi Your Highness!

PEKOE Yes.

BOTH No! (They hit each other with truncheons).

PEKOE Then leave me, I'm expecting her at any minute.
(They bow low exiting backwards)

 (ENTER SO-SHI looking back over her shoulder).

PEKOE (Runs to her) There you are So-Shi, I thought you weren't
coming!

SO-SHI I'm so fearful Pekoe that your father will find out about us.
He will not approve for I am not of Royal blood.

PEKOE Don't worry. I'm sure I can persuade him to change his mind
when he knows how much we love each other. (Cue into love
duet).
(Musical Director needs to find a suitable love song here.
Could be a pop number or standard but do ensure that the
words are applicable. I make no suggestions because the pop
scene changes constantly).

BLACK OUT AT CONCLUSION

ACT 1

SCENE 4

Widow Twanky's Laundry

This is half or full stage. Easily made with the skeletal frames from Scene 2 but this time with lines of washing criss crossing and suitable notices around with Chinese styled writing appertaining to laundry. Use the basket Aladdin arrived in in first scene as decor which has "Twanky's Washeteria" on the side. Scene opens with a bright singing and dancing routine. If a local dancing school is taking part this is a good spot to set a tap routine. Again seek a Chinese-styled number like "Slow boat to China" or the old George Formby song "Mr. Wu".

(WIDOW TWANKY ENTERS at end).

TWANKY What are you all doing wasting my time. Go on, back to the ironing board at once. Shoo, Shoo!
(They ALL EXIT. ENTER WISHEE wearing a turban).

TWANKY What are you wearing that turban for Wishee?

WISHEE I've just got a job on the buses Mum.

TWANKY Is that part of the uniform?

WISHEE No, but if I wear it I can get sikh pay. (Pause) Get it, Sikh pay. Sick pay. Oh, well, please yourselves. (To Twanky) I will have my little joke.

TWANKY (Drily) That's what your father said the day you were born. Now Wishee, take it off. You know I'm really worried about Aladdin. What can have happened to him?

WISHEE Don't worry Mum, ha can look after himself. He's always going off on adventures. He'll be back soon.

TWANKY I hope so. By the way Wishee, who won that raffle you were selling tickets for?

WISHEE As a matter of fact Mum, I did. Wasn't I lucky?

TWANKY (Drily) Yes. (pause) Who won second and third prizes then?

WISHEE By a strange coincidence Ping and Pong did. Weren't they lucky?

TWANKY Yes.

WISHEE By the way Mum, you didn't pay me for your ticket!

TWANKY (Triumphantly) No! Wasn't I lucky!
(She EXITS. A fanfare and ENTER the VIZIER)

VIZIER (To Wishee) Is this the laundry of the Widow Twanky.

WISHEE Yes Sire, she's my Mother.

VIZIER Then summon her. The Emperor approaches.
(PING and PONG ENTER and flank the entrance. Fanfare and EMPEROR ENTERS. Wishee gives a piercing two fingered whistle.)

WISHEE Oi Mum, you've got company!
(TWANKY bustles on drinking from a bottle of Scotch).

TWANKY (Burps) Oooops pardon. (Place hand over mouth)

VIZIER How dare you belch in front of the Emperor.

TWANKY Sorry I didn't know it was his turn.

VIZIER Silence. His Imperial Highness wishes to know the whereabouts of your son Aladdin.

TWANKY I've no idea your Mint Imperial. Please forgive him, he meant no harm. He's only a poor boy of high spirits, just like his Mother.

VIZIER (Eyeing bottle) Yes, we got wind of that.

EMPEROR Leave us, I would speak with this **good** woman alone

TWANKY (Simplering) Oh Sire (Curtseys), thank you for recognizing quality.
(VIZIER, WISHEE and POLICEMEN EXIT)