

ALADDIN

A Pantomime by

STEPHEN DUCKHAM

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aladdin

CAST

ABANAZAR
 SLAVE OF THE RING
 SERGEANT CHOP A Chinese Policewoman
 PC SUEY A Chinese Policeman
 ALADDIN
 WISHEE WASHEE
 WIDOW TWANKEY
 EMPEROR
 PRINCESS JASMINE
 NOTSOSHY Her Handmaiden
 GENIE OF THE LAMP

CHORUS OF TOWNSPEOPLE, SPIRITS OF THE CAVE, SLAVE GIRLS AND GUARDS

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

SCENE 1 ABANAZAR'S LAIR IN EGYPT
 SCENE 2 OUTSIDE THE TWANKEY LAUNDRY IN PEKING
 SCENE 3 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY
 SCENE 4 THE PRINCESS'S BOUDOIR
 SCENE 5 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY
 SCENE 6 INSIDE THE LAUNDRY
 SCENE 7 THE HILLS OUTSIDE PEKING
 SCENE 8 INSIDE THE ENCHANTED CAVE

ACT TWO

SCENE 1 OUTSIDE THE TWANKEY LAUNDRY
 SCENE 2 THE STREET OF A THOUSAND TAKEAWAYS
 SCENE 3 ALADDIN'S PALACE
 SCENE 4 THE STREET OF A THOUSAND TAKEAWAYS
 SCENE 4a IN THE AIR (Optional)
 SCENE 5 ABANAZAR'S PALACE IN EGYPT
 SCENE 6 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY
 SCENE 7 ALADDIN'S PALACE

[Please Note: If required Act Two Scenes 2 and 4 can be played as Behind the Laundry]

PRODUCTION NOTES

This Pantomime can be staged as simply or as lavishly as your facilities allow. Suggestions for basic settings are as follows:

Act One

- Scene 1 Black front tabs with areas down left and right lit. The tea urn for the running gag should be permanently set down right.
- Scene 2 Full set with backcloth or cyc. The laundry with practical door is the only large piece of scenery required. All the rest can be flats or curtains.
- Scene 3&5 Front cloth or running tabs
- Scene 4 A small inset or another set of tabs with furniture set in front.
- Scene 6 A three-quarter set backed by a cloth. The washing machine can be a simple three-sided piece plus top with a hinged lid. If it is possible to create bubbles either from a bubble machine or foam, so much the better. The washing machine should be set by the wings to allow the operator access. The explosion can be a maroon or sound effect.
- Scene 7 A second front cloth or running tabs. The rock piece is set stage left and the cave opening is operated from the wings.
- Scene 8 Rock pieces at various heights can be set on an open stage and backed by a set of black tabs. If limited space does not allow for a full transformation, the black tabs could open part way to show the cyc. and sunlight outside. Props should ensure that the jewels paraded before Aladdin be as bright and colourful as possible.

Act Two

- Scene 1 Repeat Act 1 Scene 2 with the addition of some hanging Chinese lanterns.
- Scene 2, 4&6 A third front cloth or repeat Behind the Laundry or running tabs.
- Scene 3 This scene can be backed by a cloth or cyc. with balustrade and three arches downstage of it. The rest of the scenery can be richly coloured drapes if pillars are not practical.
- Scene 4A* This scene is only possible if realistic looking flying carpets can be used. These could be trucks or scissor lifts with carpets on top and smoke or dry ice for cloud effect.
- Scene 5 As Scene 3 but with distant palm trees and/or pyramids visible through the arches.
- Scene 7 If it is possible to do a finale walkdown all the better. If not then repeat Act 2 Scene 3.

* A flying carpet device is available. If you would like more details on the device and the availability and hiring charge, contact:

The Production Manager
 Talisman Theatre Company
 Barrow Road
 Kenilworth
 CV8 1EG
 email: talisman.stage@btinternet.com

Effects

Effects can be expensive and are not essential to the success of your production. If it is possible to use flashes, so much the better, but a simple lighting effect followed by a blackout while the Slave or the Genie enters works just as well.

Notes on the washing machine are covered in the Laundry scene description.

The tea urn should be just a prop. It is advisable to mime drinking the tea so liquid is not spilt and the scenes keep going.

Characters

- Aladdin: Loveable dreamer, but with ambition. Can be played male or female as a Principal Boy. Important to be a good singer.
- Widow Twankey: Big hearted and comic. Always larger than life in character and of course has an outrageous wardrobe. Should always be played by a man for full comic effect.
- Wishee Washee: Aladdin's younger brother. Knock-about comic with a good rapport with the audience. Needs to be a good all round entertainer.
- Abanazar: The villain of the piece. Interacts with the audience and must always retain the upper hand when the boogie starts.
- Princess Jasmine: Principal Girl. Lovely to look at but with a mind of her own and a determined nature. Strong singing voice required.
- Emperor: Fussy and authoritative father figure.
- Notsoshy: Handmaiden to the Princess. A forthright jolly hockey-sticks type of girl, perhaps with a slight lisp. Comedy interaction with Wishee Washee.
- Sergeant Chop: A Policewoman. Knock-about comedy part with a sharp official delivery.
- PC Suey: A Policeman. Other half of a comedy duo. Slow on the uptake. It is funnier if he is taller than Chop.
- Slave of the Ring: Rather than be the typical type of magical character, she should be played as though things are a bit of a chore for her . especially with Abanazar.
- Genie of the Lamp: Physically he should be quite stunning. He is a cool character and makes much of the rap dialogue.
A note about the rap. If, in rehearsal, more modern rap phrases or words are found to work, please feel free to alter them. But always keep in mind that 'less is more' and don't overdo the speeches.

Aladdin is first and foremost a pantomime adventure and the action should not let up for a moment. Every pantomime needs pace and this one in particular relies on speed of dialogue.

The comedy sequences, of course, must be timed, but the rest of the action must move swiftly along to ensure the maximum audience enjoyment.

The placing of musical numbers and who sings them is suggested in the script, but it is up to the director to decide what to use. A word of advice: Pantomime audiences . particularly the younger members . like to story to keep moving, so don't make the musical sequences too long, especially the ballads. I recommend no number should be more than two minutes.

I hope you enjoy doing this version of Aladdin and have a great success with your production.

Stephen Duckham

ACT ONE
SCENE 1 ABANAZAR'S LAIR IN EGYPT

[A dimly lit scene taking up the area Down Left. The imposing figure of ABANAZAR stands holding a large ancient looking book. On the middle finger of one hand HE wears an impressive ring. HE reads, quickly turning the pages until he finds what he is looking for.]

- ABANAZAR At last! At last! The ancient rhyme to complete the puzzle that I have been trying to solve for years. The whereabouts of a magic lamp. A lamp that holds the power to make me the greatest magician in the whole Universe! *[HE recites, reading from the bottom of the left-hand page.]*
 From ancient times a hidden cave
 Holds wonders to behold.
 Jewels and rings, exquisite things
 Of silver and of gold.
 But most of all a magic lamp
 That brings you everything,
 Is waiting to be found by you
 Just outside *[HE looks up at the right hand page.]*
 Bognor Regis! *[Or nearby town.]*
 That can't be right. *[HE looks again and then exclaims.]* Oh no! A page is missing! All these years of searching and I still don't know the answer. *[HE snaps the book shut.]* I know I'll get my servant . the Slave of the Ring . to tell me. *[HE rubs the ring on his finger. The SLAVE OF THE RING appears down right. She is older than one would expect and has a rather motherly approach to things.]*
- SLAVE *[Sounding rather bored.]* Here I am to do your bidding, master.
- ABANAZAR I need to know the last line of the rhyme.
- SLAVE What rhyme is that?
- ABANAZAR *[Impatiently.]* The rhyme in this book that tells me where the magic lamp is.
- SLAVE But I've told you a thousand times dear, I cannot divulge its whereabouts. You alone must solve the riddle.
- ABANAZAR Couldn't you give me a little hint?
- SLAVE No, sorry dear.
- ABANAZAR Oh you're no use to me at all.
- SLAVE Well if that's how you feel I'd be off.
- ABANAZAR No. Wait. *[Attempting to be nice.]* If I have a guess, could you tell me if I'm right or wrong?
- SLAVE Well o o o
- ABANAZAR Oh go on. Just for me!
- SLAVE Oh anything for a quiet life.

ABANAZAR *[Getting excited and quickly scanning the rhyme again.]* ò ò .. But most of all the magic lamp that brings you everything. Everything! It has to be a place that rhymes with everything?

SLAVE Clever you!

ABANAZAR Tring? *[SLAVE shakes her head.]* Worthing? *[SLAVE shakes her head again and rolls her eyes.]* Woking? No. No. A lamp wouldnd be found in places like that. Itç a mystical piece. From the East. Thatç it. It has an oriental origin. *[The penny drops.]* lœe got, lœe got it! Peking! Itç in Peking in China. *[Looking at the SLAVE.]* lœn right, arend I?

SLAVE Well itç ten out of ten for effort, anyway!

ABANAZAR *[Delighted with himself.]* Oh lœn brilliant. And when I get the lamp I shall be even greater.

SLAVE But youœe got to get it first.

ABANAZAR Thatd be easy. I know the magic word to open hidden caves and then ld just walk in and claim it for myself.

SLAVE *[Slowly shaking HER head.]* Oh no no no no ò ò ò ...

ABANAZAR No?

SLAVE You cand.

ABANAZAR What do you mean?

SLAVE The cave has a protective power surrounding it. Only an innocent youth who has no prior knowledge of what the lamp can do may enter the cave. If a scheming old sorcerer like you should go in, all the treasures would vanish into the mists of time and the cave will reseal itself.

ABANAZAR *[Angry at what she called him but restrains himself.]* Then Slave of the Ring I command you to locate such a youth who will assist me in my quest.

SLAVE I do know of such a boy who resides in the city of Peking.

ABANAZAR *[Frustrated.]* Well? His name? His name?

SLAVE His name is Aladdin, son of a laundry woman.

ABANAZAR Then take me to his home straight away.

SLAVE What right now?

ABANAZAR This very minute.

SLAVE But itç lunchtime!

ABANAZAR This instant. Do my bidding or suffer the consequences.

SLAVE Alright. Alright. Donç get your beard in a twist. *[SHE chants.]*

Aladdin is the youth we seek,
So in old Peking we'll take a peek!

[SHE makes a pass and the lights blackout. The scene changes to

SCENE 2 OUTSIDE THE TWANKEY LAUNDRY

[Stage left is Widow Twankey's Laundry. Stage right has other buildings and all have an oriental design. The backcloth depicts a continuation of the street and in the distance we can see the Emperor's Palace. Other buildings' facades are seen up stage including the Imperial Baths up right. Other entrances are down stage right and left. A ledge is attached to the false proscenium on which is situated an oriental tea urn and cup. A sign above it reads. "China Tea. – Soothing and Calming." As the scene opens it is a hive of activity with the CHORUS singing the opening song.]

OPENING NUMBER

[After the number a police siren is heard off. Music from a TV Police Series is played. The lights black out and SERGEANT CHOP enters. SHE is wearing a Chinese police outfit in yellow with red trimming. A British police helmet with a flashing blue light on top. SHE is a typical sergeant, full of self-importance and always on duty. As SHE arrives centre stage the lights return.]

CHOP PC Suey? PC Suey, where are you?

SUEY *[Off.]* Coming Sergeant. *[HE runs on also wearing a Chinese police outfit, British helmet but only one glove. Quite the opposite of the Sergeant HE treats everything as a bit of a joke. HE bumps into CHOP and EVERYONE laughs.]*

CHOP What do you think you are doing?

SUEY Sorry Sergeant.

CHOP We are the pride of the Peking Police Force, not some pantomime knockabout team!

SUEY *[Having heard it all before.]* No Sergeant.

CHOP We must conduct ourselves with the utmost professionalism.

SUEY *[Rolling eyes.]* Yes Sergeant.

CHOP What's the motto of the Peking Police Force?

SUEY *[Not listening.]* Three bags full, Sergeant!

CHOP WHAT?

SUEY *[Realising.]* Er . I mean . always do your duty.

- CHOP Right. And don't you forget it. *[Notices his gloved hand.]* Why are you only wearing one glove?
- SUEY Well I heard the weather forecast this morning. *[Gestures with glove-less hand.]* It said it was going to be warm. *[Holds up gloved hand.]* but on the other hand it might turn cold! *[ALL laugh.]*
- CHOP You idiot! *[SHE addresses the CHORUS.]* Now listen everyone. I have a special announcement. As protectors of the royal personages it has come to our attention that a stranger has been climbing the tree outside the Palace garden to get a quick butchers at her Highness, Princess Jasmine.
- SUEY *[Not hearing correctly.]* Princess Has Been?
- CHOP Jasmine, idiot.
- SUEY You can't call the Princess an idiot.
- CHOP Shut up! *[Continuing.]* As I was saying, a stranger has been seen trying to look at the Princess, which as you all know is a very serious crime with the most severe punishment. *[ALL react.]*
- SUEY Ohhh yes. It's horrible. *[HE starts to describe graphically.]* First they hang you upside down by the ankles and throw rotten vegetables at you. Then they put you in the stocks and throw rotten meat at you! You end up in a right stew! *[HE comes face to face with CHOP who is staring at him.]*
- CHOP When you're quite finished.
- SUEY Sorry Sergeant.
- CHOP There is a price on this ruffian's head, so if anyone sees a lad in .
[At this point ALADDIN enters up right and waves to the crowd.]
- 1st MAN Hello Aladdin.
- CHOP *[Not seeing ALADDIN.]* - yes, a lad in the vicinity of the Emperor's Palace, they must report it to one of us at once. *[ALADDIN moves to one side. CHOP and SUEY are not aware he is there.]*
- 1st WOMAN But who is he?
- 2nd WOMAN What does he look like?
- CHOP Ah ha! We have an eyewitness description of him.
- SUEY Yes. *[Consults his notebook.]* My mother's next door neighbour's second cousin's number one son told my mother's next door neighbour's second cousin, who told my mother's next door neighbour, who told my mother, who told me!

- CHOP *[Grabbing the notebook and hitting SUEY. ALL laugh.]* He is believed to be wearing . *[SHE now describes what ALADDIN is wearing.]* Has anyone seen him?
- ALL *[Ad lib.]* No sorry. Doesn't ring a bell. Not anyone from around here etc. etc.
- CHOP We'll keep your eyes peeled. This villain must be apprehended. *[To SUEY.]* Come on Suey, we must be on our way. At the double. *[CHOP and SUEY run at double time around the stage, bump into each other and exit.]*
- ALADDIN What an idiotic pair. How did they ever get into the police force?
- 2nd MAN Aladdin, have you been climbing the walls of the Palace again?
- ALADDIN Well . maybe just for a quick peek into the garden.
- 3rd WOMAN One of these days the Peking Police will catch you.
- 1st MAN And then you'll be for the chop!
- ALADDIN *[Hand to his throat.]* Mm, I know. But it's worth it if I can see the Princess Jasmine.
- 1st WOMAN Oh you have got it bad.
- ALADDIN *[Sighing.]* I know. But she is the most beautiful girl in the whole of Peking.
- 2nd MAN And you're just the son of a lowly washerwoman, so you stand no chance with the Princess, even if you did get to meet her.
- ALADDIN Don't be too sure of that. I intend to make something of myself. Become someone important and then I can ask her to marry me!
- 2nd WOMAN How do you intend to do that?
- ALADDIN *[Hesitantly.]* Well . I don't know just yet. It may be a problem, but one I intend to overcome.

SONG . ALADDIN AND CHORUS

[At the end of the number a lot of noise and shouting is heard off and WISHEE WASHEE enters on an old broken down bicycle with a laundry basket piled high with washing attached to the front.]

- WISHEE *[As he enters.]* Watch out. Runaway laundry basket approaching. Help! Clear the road. *[The CHORUS runs off as HE circles the stage, narrowly missing ALADDIN and disappears into the wings. There is a sound effect of him crashing into all sorts of things.]* Owwww.
- ALADDIN Wishee what are you doing? *[WISHEE staggers back on with various articles of washing around his shoulders and carrying the rest in the basket.]*
- WISHEE Mum asked me to collect the laundry from our regulars, so I thought I'd use that old bike.

ALADDIN But the brakes on that haven't worked for years.

WISHEE So love just found out!

ALADDIN Here, let me give you a hand. *[HE takes some of the washing and they put the basket by the laundry door.]*

WISHEE Thanks Aladdin. Although Mom asked you to do this job. Where have you been all morning?

ALADDIN Oh just out for a walk.

WISHEE A walk, eh? *[Suddenly in a panic.]* Oh no not to the Palace again. You've been looking at the Princess, haven't you?

ALADDIN Oh Wishee, she's so beautiful. I couldn't resist it.

WISHEE But can you resist being arrested? If you're caught you'll be strung up and o o o

ALADDIN So everyone keeps telling me. But what else can I do? Love just got to meet her.

WISHEE You may as well put that idea right out of your head. Even at today's Royal Parade the Emperor has insisted that all eyes be averted when she passes by.

ALADDIN *[Surprised.]* Royal Parade? You mean she'll be walking through these very streets today?

WISHEE *[Wishing he hadn't said that.]* No! No I didn't mean that. I meant the other side of town. *[Pointing into the audience.]* Way, way over there.

ALADDIN You said these very streets.

WISHEE No . no I didn't. *[Pushing his hands to his mouth.]* Look . I'm eating my words! Rewind! I never said anything.

ALADDIN Oh this is just the chance love been waiting for. I'll try to attract her attention and get her to talk to me.

WISHEE NO!!

ALADDIN Thank you Wishee. *[HE exits into the house left. WISHEE paces around the stage.]*

WISHEE Thank me? For what? Giving them a reason to arrest you? Then what will happen? I'll have to do all the work . that's what! *[Dithering all over the stage.]* Oh I'm all of a dither . *[To someone in the audience.]* . are you all of a dither, missus? No? Well you should be. This is a worrying situation. My lovesick brother could get himself into a lot of bother. Oh I must calm down. *[Sees the sign down right.]* Hello, what's this? *[Reads.]* China Tea . Soothing and Calming+ Just what I need. *[HE pours himself a cup, drinks and starts to relax.]* Ha! That's better. I feel much calmer now. I must remember this. Never

know when I might need another one. I know . do you think you could help me? *[Audience reaction.]* When you see me getting all of a dither about something and I say *‘I’m worried+’* will you remind me to have a cup of tea? *[Audience reaction.]* Will you? Oh that’s wonderful. Just shout out *‘have a cup of tea+and that will remind me.’* Shall we have a trial run? When you hear me say, *‘I’m worried+shout out ‘have a cup of tea+’* Here we go then. *[HE walks around the stage.]* Oh that brother of mine. He gets himself into all sorts of trouble. I do worry about him . I am . *‘I’m worried.’* *[Audience shouts out, but WISHEE doesn’t hear them. HE crosses down stage.]* Did you shout? Well I didn’t hear you. You’d have to shout really loud to remind me. Let’s have another go. *[HE resumes walking around the stage.]* I wish Aladdin wouldn’t go looking at the Princess. If he gets caught it’d be the end of him. Oh I am worried. *‘I’m really worried.’* *[Audience shouts out and WISHEE turns, smiles and pours a cup of tea.]* Oh that was much better. *[HE drinks.]* Now I’ve got nothing to worry about!

TWANKEY *[Off left.]* Wishee. Wishee, where are you?

WISHEE Oh that’s Mom. She’d be wanting all this laundry. *[The door to the left house opens and WIDOW TWANKEY enters. SHE holds up an enormous pair of brightly coloured bloomers in front of her.]* Mother! Pull you skirt down when you bend over!

TWANKEY *[Lowering the bloomers.]* They’re not mine, you cheeky young thing. They’re from a new client. *[Reading the label.]* A Mrs S. Claus, care of the North Pole. *[SHE gives him the bloomers.]*

WISHEE But it’s miles away. Can’t we post them?

TWANKEY No, she’d need them right away. It gets very draughty sitting on a sleigh in the middle of winter.

WISHEE Not only draughty! *[Holding his nose.]* Behind a load reindeers.

TWANKEY Now Wishee, no farō . *[SHE realises what SHE was about to say and changes her mind.]* ō . farmyard jokes! I want you to help me hang out the last lot of washing.

WISHEE But Mum ō ō

TWANKEY Don’t *‘but Mum+me.’* It’s a beautiful day. Really good drying weather.

WISHEE *[Crossing to the house left and picking up the basket.]* All right Mum.

TWANKEY *[Calling after him as he exits.]* And get that brother of yours to give you a hand. *[To the audience.]* He’s a good lad really. *[SHE peers out into the auditorium.]* Well it’s nice to see you all. Are you all together or haven’t you been introduced? What? You don’t know each other? We can’t have that. Here in Peking we’re a friendly lot, so let me introduce myself. *‘I’m Widow Twankey and I run this Garment Cleansing Establishment! That’s laundry to you lot! Now what are your names? Come on, don’t be shy. Everyone shout out their name after three. Ready? One . two . three.’* *[The audience shouts out.]* There we are. Now all of you know me and I know all of you! But do you know each other? *[Audience reaction.]* That’s easily solved. Turn to the person next to you. *[SHE encourages them to do so.]* Now repeat after me.

[SHE should wait until the audience responds to each phrase.] Hello. . How are you? . I'm very pleased to meet you. . Do you come here often? . Lend me a fiver! *[Audience reaction. WIDOW TWANKEY quietens them down and continues.]* There . now we're all friends. I like to have friends . 'cos I was very lonely as a child. *["Ah's from audience.]* I was! Nobody would talk to me 'cos I was so ugly. When I was born the midwife slapped my parents! And they never bothered with me. They were in the iron and steel business. Mom used to iron and Dad used to steal! Then I met my husband. What a charmer he turned out to be. When we got married he told me my life would be like a fairy tale. He was right, it was *Grimm!* I had to tell the neighbours that he had royal connections. He was always away at Her Majesty's pleasure! But I do have my two sons who give me a hand in the laundry . now and then. Talking of them, where have they got to with the washing? *[SHE crosses to the house left and calls.]* Wishee. Aladdin. Where's that clothesline? *[SHE crosses back to down centre.]*

- ALADDIN *[Off.]* Coming Mum. *[HE enters and crosses down to TWANKEY. WISHEE follows him holding the end of a washing line that has to be long enough to stretch across the stage into the wings. On the line is a varied assortment of clothes.]*
- WISHEE We've pegged all the clothes on.
- TWANKEY *[Pointing off right.]* Tie it off over there.
- WISHEE Right O, Mum. *[HE exits pulling the washing line. During the next dialogue HE should run around the set to re-enter through the laundry door. Stagehands keep the line travelling across the stage.]*
- TWANKEY *[To ALADDIN.]* And where have you been since first thing this morning?
- ALADDIN Oh just around and about.
- TWANKEY Yes . around and about the vicinity of the Palace, I'd bet.
- ALADDIN Well, I may have passed by.
- TWANKEY Oh Aladdin, what have I told you? You'd get caught one day and then where will I be? No number one son to carry on the business.
- ALADDIN Oh Mum, I don't want to spend the rest of my life working in a laundry. I've got ambitions. I've got dreams.
- TWANKEY Dreams are all well and good, but they don't pay the off licence bill or I mean the rent.
- ALADDIN One day I'd have enough money to buy a hundred laundries.
- TWANKEY You'd better buy a farm as well to keep all those flying pigs in! *[SHE crosses right and calls off.]* Have you tied that line off Wishee?
- [WISHEE enters from the laundry holding the other end of the line.]*
- WISHEE Nearly there Mum. *[HE crosses right, trips and falls and the line goes whizzing off.]*

- TWANKEY Now look what you've done. All the washings fallen onto the dirty street. I'd have to do it all again! *[SHE starts to push them both off right.]* Come on. There'd be no lunch for either of you until it's done. *[With ALADDIN and WISHEE protesting they ALL exit right. The lights dim slightly and ABANAZAR enters down left.]*
- ABANAZAR *[Looking around.]* Peking. My search for the lamp is nearing its end. Now all I have to do is find this boy Aladdin and persuade him to retrieve the lamp from the cave. I'd summon my slave of the ring to guide me to where he is. *[HE holds up his hand and rubs the ring. The SLAVE OF THE RING appears down right.]*
- SLAVE Here I am to do your bidding, master. But be quick about it will you, the East Enders omnibus *[Or another TV programme.]* is about to start!
- ABANAZAR This boy Aladdin that you spoke of. I wish you to find his home. Where is it?
- SLAVE Is that all? Have you dragged me out here just for that?
- ABANAZAR Don't speak to me like that! You are my slave, now answer my question.
- SLAVE All right, dearie. Keep your hair on! It's where you'd expect it to be in pantomime.
- ABANAZAR Eh?
- SLAVE *[Slightly sarcastically.]* It's behind you!
- ABANAZAR What? *[HE turns and sees the laundry.]* Widow Twankey's Laundry. Ah yes. The son of a washerwoman. This must be the place. *[To the SLAVE.]* That will be all. *[SHE rolls her eyes at the audience and exits down right.]* Now I can get to the boy, gain his confidence and have him retrieve the magic lamp from the hidden cave. And then the whole world will be mine. *[HE laughs evilly. Audience 'boo' and HE turns on them angrily.]* Oh be quiet you pathetic lot or I shall turn you all into Chinese dragons. *[Does a double take at someone in the audience.]* which in your case would be an improvement. *[There is a commotion and WISHEE and ALADDIN enter right both carrying a large pile of washing. WIDOW TWANKEY follows.]*
- TWANKEY I want every bit of this washing done again before tonight or else there'd be no lunch, no dinner and no supper! Go on get in there and get started. *[WISHEE and ALADDIN exit into laundry - ad libbing.]*
- ABANAZAR *[Approaching TWANKEY.]* Madam, have I the honour of addressing the owner of this fine establishment?
- TWANKEY *[To the audience.]* Oh girls, it's - *[Name of film or pop star.]* Yes, that's right. I am Tomasina Twankey, widow of the parish.
- ABANAZAR Splendid. I've just come o ñ ñ ñ
- TWANKEY You've come to get your laundry done. *[SHE sniffs at him.]* And not a moment too soon! We've got a special offer on this week. Cut price deals on all underwear. Knickers are down!

ABANAZAR No madam, I've not come about laundry, I've come about your son Aladdin.

TWANKEY Aladdin? What do you want with him? *[Suddenly thinking he is with the police.]* Oh it's not about him trying to get a look at the Princess is it? I've told him about it and he's promised never to do it again. *[SHE falls to her knees.]* Oh please don't take him away from me! *[SHE starts pleading and wailing.]* I need him here to help me in the laundry. I'm an old woman and I need all the help I can get.

ABANAZAR Madam I õ õ

TWANKEY *[Suddenly normal voice.]* Hang on, I haven't finished yet! *[Back to pleading.]* It's hard enough trying to make ends meet. Ever since my husband passed on life's been getting more and more difficult. *[SHE clings to his robes. Big dramatics.]* Oh sir, please don't take him, I beg you. Please! Please! PLEASE!! *[Normal voice again as SHE gets up.]* All right - you can carry on now.

ABANAZAR I merely wanted to tell him that I am his long lost Uncle. Uncle Abanazar.

TWANKEY Uncle Howsyerfather? I've never heard of you.

ABANAZAR That's because I've been away for many, many years, roaming the globe in search of gold and jewels.

TWANKEY Gold and jewels? Does that mean you're rich?

ABANAZAR Filthy rich!

TWANKEY And you've come to us for a good wash!

ABANAZAR I've realised all too late in life that no matter how much money you have, you're penniless without a family around you.

TWANKEY I should be so poor!

ABANAZAR So you see as Aladdin is your eldest son and I have no one else in the world . he will be heir to my fortune.

TWANKEY Well that'd be nice for him õ õ õ *[Realising what he has said.]* Heir to your fortune? You mean he's going to be rich?

ABANAZAR Eventually.

TWANKEY *[Running to the laundry door.]* Aladdin! Aladdin come here . quickly.

ALADDIN *[Off.]* I thought you wanted this washing doing.

TWANKEY Never mind the washing. Come here. *[ALADDIN enters and crosses down to them. WISHEE follows.]* This is your long lost Uncle Aberystwyth!

ABANAZAR Abanazar.

TWANKEY He's come all the way from sunny Wales to meet you! *[Aside to ALADDIN.]* And he's got some very exciting news.

ALADDIN Long lost Uncle? I didn't know father had a brother.
 TWANKEY *[To ABANAZAR.]* Come to think of it, he never mentioned you.

ABANAZAR I was the black sheep of the family. I left home many years ago.

WISHEE *[Aside to ALADDIN.]* I don't know whether you should trust him Aladdin. He looks a bit mysterious to me.

ALADDIN What do you mean?

WISHEE I don't know, but let's be careful. He looks a bit scary. I'm worried he's not who he says he is. I am . I'm very worried. *[Audience calls out. WISHEE has a cup of tea.]*

TWANKEY *[To ALADDIN.]* He's very rich and wants to share his lolly with us.

ALADDIN Really?

ABANAZAR Life has been good to me my boy. And as recompense for deserting the family all those years ago, I want you to benefit.

TWANKEY Oh just think of it. No more washing and ironing.

WISHEE No more *scrumping* and saving!

ALADDIN So Uncle, this fortune you say you've amassed. When are we going to see it?

ABANAZAR Soon. Very soon. There's something I want you to do for me first.

ALADDIN I thought there'd be a catch.

ABANAZAR No, there's no catch. I just want help with a little job and as a reward you'd have wealth beyond your imagination.

TWANKEY Sure, you don't want him to rob a bank, do you?

ABANAZAR *[Laughing.]* Rob a bank . you'd be able to buy your own bank this time tomorrow.

WISHEE I say! Do you need a hand?

ABANAZAR *[Sharply.]* No! *[Softly.]* No thank you. Aladdin will be able to manage on his own. *[Taking ALADDIN to one side of the stage.]* I'll explain everything later. Meet me at sunset behind the laundry.

ALADDIN Sunset behind the laundry.

TWANKEY *[Hearing this and turning to WISHEE.]* Sunset behind the laundry.

WISHEE *[Turning to no one.]* Sunset behind the ò ò *[HIS voice trails off.]*

ABANAZAR Soon everything you've ever wished for will become a reality. Until later. *[To the others.]* Goodbye . family! It was a pleasure to finally meet you all. *[Laughing evilly towards the audience, HE exits down left.]*

ALADDIN Oh Mum, I can hardly believe it. We're going to be rich!

TWANKEY And I shall finally have enough money to get that *[Name of current pop idol.]* CD.

WISHEE And I'd get the latest *[Name of a young children's TV programme.]* video!
[ALADDIN and TWANKEY give him a strange look.]

TWANKEY Come on. Let's go and start making plans. *[ALL THREE exit into laundry. CHOP is heard calling off stage.]*

CHOP *[Off.]* Make way for the Emperor and the Princess Jasmine. *[The CHORUS enters excitedly. CHOP and SUEY enter up stage and cross down centre.]* Stand aside all you rabble. His Celestial Highness comes.

SUEY *[Pushing the crowd back.]* That's right . make way for his Cholesterol Highness!

ENTRANCE OF THE EMPEROR AND PRINCESS . CHORUS

[The EMPEROR enters and crosses down centre. He carries a large fan. PRINCESS JASMINE follows him. SHE has a veil covering her face. NOTSOSHY, her handmaiden accompanies her. As the number ends the EMPEROR bows to the ensemble left then right and in doing so bumps into SUEY.]

EMPEROR Oh! My royal dignity has been damaged. *[He regains his composure.]* Good and loyal citizens of Peking. I come among you today for a very special reason. Sergeant Chop, read the proclamation.

CHOP *[Bowing.]* At once, O mighty one. *[SHE unrolls a scroll.]* His Imperial Highness decrees that as the Princess Jasmine has reached her twenty first birthday, a suitor for her hand will be sought.

SUEY Only her hand? What about the rest of her?

CHOP *[Pushing him over.]* Be quiet . idiot. *[Continues reading.]* Candidates will only be considered if they are of a highborn family. *[Begins to roll the scroll.]*

EMPEROR *[Aside to CHOP.]* And have pots of money!

CHOP And have a personal fortune.

EMPEROR That's right. No time wasters please! *[To CHOP.]* Continue Sergeant.

CHOP As the ancient law of this land decrees that no one may look upon the face of the Princess until the marriage ceremony, all must avert their eyes and retire.

SUEY But I'm only twenty-six. I'm too young to retire.

CHOP Retire from this place, nincompoop.

SUEY Oh I see. *[To the CHORUS.]* All right, everyone scarper. No peeking at the Princess. *[CHOP and SUEY disperse the crowd.]*

CHOP Move along now. *[The CHORUS exit.]*

SUEY *[To the EMPEROR.]* All clear your Chicken Chow Meinship!

CHOP No-one around, Highness.

EMPEROR Thank you, Sergeant. *[CHOP goes to exit. SUEY just stands there. The Emperor glares at him.]* Well?

SUEY Yes thank you, your Mountainship, although I have had a bit of a twinge in my left leg!

CHOP *[Shouting.]* PC Suey! *[SUEY crosses to her.]* Move it! *[SHE pushes SUEY into the wings and they both exit.]*

EMPEROR Now Jasmine, you may remove your veil. We are quite alone.

JASMINE *[Removing the veil.]* This law is quite ridiculous father. Why do I have to keep myself covered up when all the other girls can show their faces to anyone?

EMPEROR You are not like all the other girls. You are a high born Princess and must behave like one. This tendency you have of disobeying convention is most worrying. You must change your ways if we are to make a successful marriage for you.

JASMINE And that's another thing. Why can't I choose whom I am to marry?

EMPEROR *[Getting exasperated.]* There you go again. The law states quite plainly that I shall decide who will have your hand. Besides we need to make a good match with someone who's got a bit stashed away! The royal coffers are in dire need of an injection of cash!

JASMINE So that's it. I'm just being sold off, am I?

EMPEROR I didn't mean to. It's just that. Oh Jasmine just do what the law dictates and let that be an end to it. Now I'm going to take my morning constitutional at the Imperial Baths. When I get back I hope you are in a more agreeable state of mind. *[HE exits into the building up right, bumping into the door as he goes. ALADDIN appears at the laundry door and sees JASMINE.]*

JASMINE *[To NOTSOSHY.]* Oh did you hear that, Notsoshy? *[NOTSOSHY is just like her name. A girl who is full of life and fun. Possibly a "jolly hockey sticks" type. A good friend and companion to the Princess.]*

NOTSOSHY Certainly did your Highness.

JASMINE Sold off to the highest bidder. It's just not fair. *[SHE starts to cry and NOTSOSHY comforts her.]*

ALADDIN *[To HIMSELF.]* It's the Princess and she seems upset. I must speak to her. *[HE comes out.]* Your Highness.

JASMINE *[Turning away and replacing her veil.]* Oh!

NOTSOSHY Who are you? Don't you know it is death to look on the face of the Princess?

ALADDIN I would gladly give up my life to gaze on one who is so beautiful.

NOSOSHY How do you know her Highness is blessed with such beauty?

ALADDIN Because I have seen her.

JASMINE *[Turning round.]* What?

NOTSOSHY How could you? Her face is never revealed to anyone outside the Imperial Court.

ALADDIN No, but when she is walking in the Palace gardens she is plainly visible from the branches of the large willow tree.

JASMINE You have climbed that tree? But it's very dangerous.

ALADDIN I would climb a thousand trees just to get a fleeting glimpse of you, your Highness.

JASMINE *[Aside to NOTSOSHY.]* He is rather handsome, don't you think?

NOTSOSHY Your Highness, remember what your father said.

JASMINE But father's not here. *[SHE crosses to ALADDIN.]* So if you have already seen me there's not much point me wearing this veil. *[SHE removes the veil.]*

ALADDIN None whatever.

NOTSOSHY I say, your Highness. We could be getting into hot water!

JASMINE *[Turning to her.]* Keep a watch for my father. I want to talk to this headstrong young man.

NOTSOSHY But think of the trouble we could all be in.

JASMINE Oh please Notsoshy, let me have a little adventure. Leave us alone for just a few minutes.

ALADDIN *[Leading NOTSOSHY towards the entrance to the baths.]* Yes Notsoshy, leave us alone for just a few minutes.

NOTSOSHY Don't think you can get round me that easily.

ALADDIN *[With a wink and a smile.]* I would never presume such a thing! *[NOTSOSHY exits into the baths and ALADDIN returns to JASMINE.]*

JASMINE Would you really give up your life . just to see me?

ALADDIN Indeed.

JASMINE What is your name?

ALADDIN Aladdin.

JASMINE Aladdin. *[Laughing.]* I don't know whether you are very foolish or impetuously exciting.

ALADDIN The latter, I assure you. Oh Princess, you don't know how long I've dreamed of this moment.

JASMINE I too have dreamed that one day I would meet someone. Someone very special.

DUET . ALADDIN AND JASMINE

[At the end of the number they embrace. NOTSOSHY comes running on from the baths.]

NOTSOSHY Your Highness, your father is returning.

JASMINE Aladdin! Quick, you must hide.

ALADDIN But I can't leave you now.

JASMINE You must or else you will be arrested.

NOTSOSHY Yes. And they'll perform the most awful torture on you. Really gruesome with thumbscrews and hot poker!

JASMINE Notsoshy. Don't.

NOTSOSHY Well I was only saying o o o o

EMPEROR *[Off.]* Jasmine. *[JASMINE quickly replaces her veil and NOTSOSHY runs over to ALADDIN, pushes him behind her as the EMPEROR enters. He is not carrying his fan.]* Jasmine you'd never guess who I've just bumped into in the baths. Prince Pekoe. And what do you think . he's looking to get married again.

JASMINE Prince Pekoe? But he's very old.

EMPEROR Yes dear . and very rich. I've invited him round for tea so you can get properly acquainted.

JASMINE Father!

EMPEROR Now no arguments. This may just be the chance we've been waiting for. Come along; let us get back to the Palace. *[HE starts to leave then turns back.]* Oh I've left my fan in the baths. Fetch it for me, will you Notsoshy?

NOTSOSHY *[Dithering about. Still hiding ALADDIN.]* Er o o but um .

EMPEROR Quickly. We haven't got all day. *[SHE tries to back off with ALADDIN behind her.]* What are you doing girl? *[HE sees ALADDIN.]* Who's that?

ALADDIN *[Coming into view.]* My name is Aladdin your Highness and I am in love with your daughter.

EMPEROR *[Open mouthed.]* You? My daughter? *[HE calls.]* Police! Sergeant Chop where are you?

JASMINE Aladdin . run. *[TWANKEY enters followed by WISHEE.]*

TWANKEY What's all the shouting about? *[Sees the EMPEROR.]* Oh it's your Royal Flush! *[SHE curtseys.]*

EMPEROR Stop that boy.

[Pandemonium breaks out as ALADDIN tries to get away. CHOP and SUEY enter and get caught up in the melee as do the CHORUS. Everyone is bumping into everyone else. ABANAZAR enters down left to see ALADDIN almost caught.]

ABANAZAR *[Casting a spell.]* Abracadeeze. Everyone freeze! *[ALL become statues in ridiculous poses except ALADDIN.]*

ALADDIN Uncle! What's happened?

ABANAZAR Temporary paralysis! Quick run, but don't forget our rendezvous later.

ALADDIN I won't . and thank you. *[ALADDIN runs off.]*

ABANAZAR Let's see if you'll still be thanking me when your usefulness comes to an end. *[HE laughs evilly and turns to the ensemble.]* Abracadoove. Everyone move! *[HE exits down left. EVERYONE unfreezes and the pandemonium continues as the lights fade and the scene changes to*

SCENE 3 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY

[A front cloth scene. As the lights come up ABANAZAR is discovered down left.]

ABANAZAR That foolish boy almost ruined my plans by nearly getting himself caught. I shall have to keep an eye on him until he has served his purpose. Now all I need to know is where the magic cave lies hidden. Time to once more summon the Slave of the Ring. *[HE rubs the ring and the SLAVE appears down right.]*

SLAVE *[Yawning.]* Ohhh, I was just having forty winks when I got this wake up call! I was dreaming that - *[Name of film star.]* . and me were all alone on this desert island. Just us and the sea and the sand!

ABANAZAR I'd give you sand. You'd be buried up to your neck in it if you don't do my bidding.

SLAVE All right, dear. All right. What do you want now?

ABANAZAR I am in Peking and have found the boy Aladdin. Now I wish to know the whereabouts of the magic cave.

SLAVE Oh you do, do you? Well I hope you've got a good pair of walking boots.

ABANAZAR Why is that?

SLAVE Because it's high in the mountains outside the city.

ABANAZAR Just tell me where.

SLAVE To the West of the town climb a steep mountain pass,
There at the top in a deep cold crevasse
The cave that you seek by a rock is concealed,
Open the cave and your prize is revealed.

ABANAZAR *[Rubbing his hands.]* My prize. The magic lamp! All these years of waiting and very soon it will be mine. Then nothing can stop me from becoming Abanazar, the most powerful man.

SLAVE Oil! Can I go now? I want to get back to . *[Name of film star.]*

ABANAZAR *[Irritably.]* Yes, yes. Go! *[The SLAVE exits.]* I must go too and prepare for tonight and the final part of my plan to become ruler of the universe. *[The audience 'boo'. HE snarls at them and exits left. WISHEE runs on from stage right, out of breath.]*

WISHEE Oh boys and girls. Did you see what happened? Aladdin managed to escape, but only just. Oh I was worried for him . I was very worried. *[Audience shouts and WISHEE has a cup of tea.]* Oh that's better. Mother has gone for a lie down and I said I'd go and look for Aladdin and try and keep him out of trouble. *[HE looks off stage.]* Oh here he comes now. *[ALADDIN comes running on.]*

ALADDIN Wishee. You haven't seen the police have you?

WISHEE No, but they're looking for you all over Peking.

ALADDIN I'd have to find somewhere to hide. Any ideas?

WISHEE No, but you'd better find somewhere soon . *[HE looks off stage.]* . cos here they come.

ALADDIN *[Running behind WISHEE.]* Quick hide me.

WISHEE Oh dear. I'd try to distract them. *[To the audience.]* Will you help me? *[Ad lib with audience. CHOP and SUEY come running on.]*

CHOP Hey, you there. Has a young lad come running this way?

WISHEE A young lad?

CHOP That's what I said.

WISHEE What did he look like?

SUEY Well he had a body, two legs, two arms . *[CHOP hits him.]*

CHOP He's a young ruffian who has broken the law by looking at the Princess.

WISHEE Oh there's no one around here who's looked at a Princess, *[To the audience.]* has there? *[Audience reaction.]*

SUEY Are you sure about that?

WISHEE Oh quite sure. My friends would have seen him too and they haven't. *[To audience.]* . have you? *[Audience reaction.]*

CHOP *[Peering out at the audience.]* Are they all to be trusted?

WISHEE Oh yes, they're from *[Name of local area.]*. They're all very honest folk . *[To audience.]* aren't you? *[Audience reaction. CHOP and SUEY now look out at the audience. During the next sequence ALADDIN makes his escape.]*

CHOP I'm not so sure about that. They look a dodgy lot to me. What do you think Suey?

SUEY I think you're right Sarge. I think this fellow here and that lot out there are hiding something. *[WISHEE now starts an "Oh no we're not" sequence. Towards the end of it WIDOW TWANKEY enters.]*

TWANKEY What's going on?

WISHEE Oh Mom, these two are looking for the boy who looked at the Princess this morning.

TWANKEY Oh he's not around here.

CHOP How do you know that?

TWANKEY *[Pointing in the opposite direction to where ALADDIN went.]* Because he's over there.

SUEY Where?

TWANKEY By that big willow tree near the Palace wall.

CHOP He's going to have a butchers at the Princess again! After him. *[In an effort to make a quick exit CHOP and SUEY fall over each other.]*

WISHEE Oh Mom, do you know where Aladdin is?

TWANKEY Yes. He's back in the laundry. No one will think of looking for him there.

WISHEE Oh I hope not. All this fuss has got me very worried. Very worried indeed. *[Audience reacts and WISHEE has a cup of tea.]*

TWANKEY I don't know about drinking tea. We've got to get back and make a start on that laundry. Come on.

[NOTE: If the duet for Chop and Suey is not required end the scene here.]

WISHEE All right Mom. *[SHE pushes him off stage as CHOP and SUEY run back on.]*

TWANKEY No luck boys?
 CHOP No, but we'll catch him. It's only a matter of time.
 SUEY No one can escape the boys in blue.
 CHOP Yellow. The boys in yellow!
 SUEY Oh yes!
 TWANKEY Knowing you're around makes me feel really safe! *[SHE exits.]*

NUMBER . CHOP AND SUEY

[At the end of the number THEY exit as the lights fade to blackout and the scene changes to]

SCENE 4 THE BOUDOIR OF THE PRINCESS

[A small inset tastefully decorated with an oriental chaise covered with pillows of various sizes and colours. JASMINE is sitting on the chaise with the EMPEROR standing to one side. NOTSOSHY is in attendance.]

EMPEROR Now really Jasmine, this won't do. At least see Prince Pekoe and talk to him.
 JASMINE Father how could you even think that I would want to marry him. He's older than you!
 EMPEROR Jasmine!
 JASMINE Well he is. And he's deaf. I'd be hoarse in a week trying to make myself heard.
[NOTSOSHY giggles and gets a look from the EMPEROR.]
 EMPEROR Well I'd admit he's not much of a catch, but he's rich. And a marriage like that would benefit our country.
 JASMINE But what about me? I don't want to marry for money; I want to marry for love.
 EMPEROR I'm afraid in affairs of state you have very little to say on the matter. Now be a good girl and tidy yourself up. I shall expect you to join us shortly.
 JASMINE But ò ò
 EMPEROR Jasmine, that is a royal command! *[HE exits.]*
 JASMINE *[Almost in tears with rage.]* Oh how could he? How could he?
 NOTSOSHY Oh steady on there your Highness. There must be a way out of all of this.
 JASMINE *[Defiant.]* I'd run away. That's what I'd do. I'd go where no one knows me.

NOTSOSHY Very few people know you now, your Highness, as you are forbidden to appear in public.

JASMINE That's right. I shall finally be free to come and go as I please.

NOTSOSHY Then there is the problem of where to live.

JASMINE *[With a frown.]* Oh . yes.

NOTSOSHY And what to do about food.

JASMINE Well õ õ õ õ

NOTSOSHY And what to wear. Your fine clothes would be a dead give-away in the streets of Peking.

JASMINE *[Deflated.]* Oh Notsoshy, you're right. I'll be found out in no time.

NOTSOSHY I'm afraid so your Highness.

JASMINE Oh what am I going to do? *[A thought comes to her.]* If only Aladdin could come and whisk me away.

NOTSOSHY *[Shocked.]* Aladdin?

JASMINE Oh yes. You must admit that he is handsome.

NOSOSHY Well I suppose so, in a peasantry sort of way.

JASMINE And so exciting. Imagine him climbing trees to catch a glimpse of me, and declaring his love for me to my father.

NOTSOSHY Bid of a chump I'd say.

JASMINE Why is it that the one man I feel something for is likely to be arrested at any minute?

NOTSOSHY *[Her hand to her throat.]* Oh, your Highness.

JASMINE What am I going to do?

NOSOSHY Well right now your father will be expecting you.

JASMINE Don't remind me.

NOSOSHY I'd prepare a bath and scent it with aromatic oils. Maybe after that you'd feel a little better.

JASMINE Thank you Notsoshy. What would I do without you?

NOTSOSHY Run your own bath! *[SHE snorts a laugh and exits.]*

JASMINE Oh Aladdin. Would that you were a Prince and could take me away from all this.

SONG . PRINCESS

[At the end of the song the lights fade and the scene changes to]

SCENE 5 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY

[The front cloth as in scene 3. WISHEE enters.]

- WISHEE Do you know boys and girls I'm rushed off my feet. There's so much work to be done I don't know whether I'm coming or going. I've nipped out for a breather while Mom wasn't looking. She's too busy making sure the police don't find Aladdin. That brother of mine is so determined to see the Princess again. And that could mean the end for him. Oh I am worried about him, I'm really worried. *[Audience reaction. WISHEE has a cup of tea. NOTSOSHY enters carrying a big bag of washing. WISHEE turns and bumps into her and her washing spills out onto the stage.]*
- NOTSOSHY I say. Watch where you're going.
- WISHEE Oh I'm terribly sorry. *[HE looks at her and is immediately smitten.]* Oh!
- NOTSOSHY It's a good job I was on my way to the laundry and not collecting clean clothes.
- WISHEE Let me give you a hand. *[THEY start to put washing back into the bag.]* I'm Wishee Washee. I work at the laundry.
- NOTSOSHY *[SHE looks at him for the first time and is attracted.]* Oh do you?
- WISHEE Yes. And I promise to personally handle your . *[HE realises he is holding a bra.]* . your ö ö ö
- NOTSOSHY *[With a smile SHE takes the bra and puts it in the bag.]* Well I hope you handle them with care!
- WISHEE *[Flustered.]* Oh I didn't mean . oh now I've said the wrong thing!
- NOTSOSHY *[Laughing.]* That's all right.
- WISHEE How come I've not seen you around here before?
- NOTSOSHY I don't usually do this, but we're a bit short staffed at the Palace.
- WISHEE Oh I see. *[Realises what she has said.]* The Palace?
- NOTSOSHY Yes.
- WISHEE You work at the Palace?
- NOTSOSHY That's what I said. I'm handmaiden to Her Royal Highness, Princess Jasmine.
- WISHEE *[In a panic.]* Oh my goodness. I've looked at you. Now I'll be exterminated. Oh I'm worried. I'm very, very, very worried. *[Audience reaction. WISHEE drinks a quick cup of tea.]*

NOTSOSHY There's nothing to be afraid of. That law only applies to the Princess.

WISHEE Oh thank goodness!

NOTSOSHY I say. You don't know a boy called Aladdin, do you?

WISHEE *[Back in a panic.]* Aladdin?

NOTSOSHY He's the one the police are after for looking at my mistress. Does he live around here?

WISHEE Around here? No he lives miles away.

NOTSOSHY Then you do know him?

WISHEE NO!

NOTSOSHY Then how do you know he lives miles away?

WISHEE Er . because he doesn't live around here so he must live miles away!

NOTSOSHY That's a pity. The Princess really likes him and would love to see him again.

WISHEE She would? *[NOTSOSHY nods.]* Oh that's good 'cos he'd really like to see her again. *[NOTSOSHY looks at him.]* I mean . I suppose he'd like to see her again . if he lived around here . which he doesn't . because .

BOTH - he lives miles away.

NOTSOSHY Wishee, - *[SHE moves towards him rather seductively]* - you do know him.

WISHEE Ohhhh! Please don't tell anyone.

NOTSOSHY Of course not.

WISHEE He's my brother.

NOTSOSHY Your brother?

WISHEE Don't let them catch him. Please.

NOTSOSHY Don't worry Wishee. I shan't say a thing. *[Close to him.]* It'd be our little secret.

WISHEE I say I don't even know your name.

NOTSOSHY Notsoshy.

WISHEE I can see that, but what's your name?

NOTSOSHY That is my name, silly. *[SHE looks off stage.]* Oh look out. Here comes the filth!

[CHOP and SUEY enter at a run.]

CHOP *[Out of breath – running on the spot.]* We're looking for a felon.

WISHEE What kind of melon?

CHOP Not a melon . a felon. *[To SUEY who is also running on the spot.]* Read the description.

SUEY *[Reading from his notebook.]* He's wearing . *[Describes ALADDIN'S costume.]* . and likes climbing trees and peeking at Princesses.

NOTSOSHY Oh . *that* felon.

SUEY *[Gasping for breath.]* Yes.

NOTSOSHY Yes.

WISHEE)
NOTSOSHY) *[Together pointing in opposite directions.]* He went that way.

CHOP Thank you. *[CHOP exits one way and SUEY the other.]*

WISHEE Oh thank you for helping out.

NOTSOSHY No problem. What are friends for? *[SHE gives him a slap on the back that sends him reeling.]* We are friends, aren't we?

WISHEE *[With a look and a grin at the audience.]* Definitely.

DUET . WISHEE AND NOTSOSHY

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to]

SCENE 6 INSIDE THE TWANKEY LAUNDRY

[The scenery depicts laundry hanging to dry and packets of washing powder and conditioners. Entrance from the street is stage right. Stage left is a large top-loading washing machine. A sign prominently displayed reads – "DO NOT OVERLOAD". A large packet of washing powder stands by the machine. Up centre is a basket of washing that will be used later in the scene. At the opening of the scene the CHORUS GIRLS are helping WIDOW TWANKEY complete the folding of a pile of washing. The Ensemble Number is optional.]

NUMBER . GIRLS AND WIDOW TWANKEY

[At the end of the number (if used) WIDOW TWANKEY speaks to the GIRLS.]

TWANKEY Thank you for giving me a hand girls. I don't know what happened to Wishee Washee. He was supposed to be doing this.

GIRL Don't worry, Mrs Twankey. We're glad to help.

- TWANKEY Thanks again girls. *[The GIRLS exit right waving goodbye. When they have all gone TWANKEY looks around to make sure she is alone.]* You can come out now. *[From behind the washing machine, ALADDIN appears.]*
- ALADDIN It's very cramped back there.
- TWANKEY If you didn't go around breaking the law, you wouldn't have to hide.
ALADDIN Don't worry mother. After Uncle Abanazar has taken me to find my fortune all our worries will be over and I'll be rich enough to officially ask the Emperor for Jasmine's hand in marriage.
- TWANKEY Uncle Abanazar. I'm still not sure he's all he's cracked up to be. Are you sure it's safe to go with him?
- ALADDIN I've got to. If all he says is true it would mean you could say goodbye to washing and ironing.
- TWANKEY Ohh, what a dream. At the moment all the money I get is tainted!
- ALADDIN What do you mean?
- TWANKEY It taint mine.
- ALADDIN I must go and get ready.
- TWANKEY All right son. *[ALADDIN exits left.]* Oh I do hope that Abergavenny isn't leading him into more trouble. I couldn't stand it. The strain of it all is making me feel very old. Look at me. I'm just a pale imitation of my former self. *[Audience reaction.]* It's true. I used to be a very attractive young woman. All the boys in the neighbourhood were after me. When I met my husband he said I'd got an hourglass figure. Now look at me. All the sand has gone to the bottom! I was in Mr Yang's corner shop the other day and asked for a pint of milk. He said he'd only got 'Long Life'. I said 'How long will it last?' He said, 'It'd see you out!' They say you're as old as the person you feel. I tried feeling the butcher's boy, but I still look 100! *[WISHEE WASHEE enters right.]*
- WISHEE Hello Mom. You'd never guess what's happened to me.
- TWANKEY There's no time for your fanciful stories. We've still got a lot more washing to do.
- WISHEE But Mom õ õ õ
- TWANKEY Later Wishee. We must get on. Now bring that basket over here. *[WISHEE picks up the basket and joins TWANKEY at the washing machine.]* Put it all in the machine and add the soap powder in.

[WISHEE puts the clothes in then picks up the soap powder packet, removes the 'Do Not Overload' notice and places it on the floor in front of the machine and goes to pour in the powder. The box is empty.]
- WISHEE Oh dear, we're out of powder.
- TWANKEY Run down to the Chinese supermarket and get another one, there's a good boy. We must get this washing done.

WISHEE Yes Mom. *[HE exits right.]*

TWANKEY And while he's doing that I'm going to have a nice cup of tea. *[SHE exits left. After a beat NOTSOSHY enters right with her bag of washing.]*

NOTSOSHY Hello. Anyone around? Mrs Twankey, I've brought my weekly wash. *[No reply.]* Oh she must be out. *[SHE crosses to the machine and starts to put her washing in.]* I'll just pop it in the machine and call back later. *[SHE exits right. TWANKEY enters left carrying a large teapot.]*

TWANKEY That's funny. I thought I heard someone calling me. Oh well, back to my tea. *[SHE exits left as the EMPEROR enters right. HE also carries a bag full of washing.]*

EMPEROR Hello. Anyone around? Mrs Twankey, I've brought my weekly wash. *[No reply.]* Oh she must be out. *[HE crosses to the machine and starts to put his washing in.]* I'll just pop it in the machine and call back later. *[HE exits right. TWANKEY enters left carrying a large teapot and a bottle of gin.]*

TWANKEY That's funny. I'm sure I heard someone calling me. Oh well, back to my tea. *[SHE exits left as CHOP and SUEY enter right. THEY also carry a bag full of washing each.]*

CHOP Hello. Anyone around?

SUEY Mrs Twankey?

CHOP We've brought our weekly wash.

SUEY She must be out. *[THEY both cross to the washing machine.]*

CHOP We'll just pop it in the machine. *[THEY do so.]*

SUEY - and call back later. *[THEY exit right as TWANKEY enters left with just the bottle of gin.]*

TWANKEY *[With a slight stagger.]* There's no doubt about it. I shertainly heard someone calling. *[SHE takes a swig from the bottle and totters towards the machine. ALADDIN enters left.]*

ALADDIN I'm all ready to go Mom.

TWANKEY Oh Aladdin, now you take care of yourself and come back *shafely*. I mean safely!

ALADDIN And a lot richer I hope. *[WISHEE enters right with a packet of soap powder.]*

WISHEE I've got a new box of powder Mom.

TWANKEY Oh thank you Wishee. Put some in the machine and turn it on. *[WISHEE and TWANKEY are by the machine. WISHEE puts some powder in and switches the machine on. It starts to vibrate. ALADDIN is about to exit right when HE sees someone coming.]*

ALADDIN Oh no! Look the Emperor is coming. If he sees me I'm done for.

TWANKEY *[Running down centre.]* Quick. Hide behind me. *[ALADDIN runs behind TWANKEY as the EMPEROR enters right.]*

EMPEROR Ah Widow Twankey, there you are. I just popped back to tell you we put my washing in the machine.

TWANKEY What? *[NOTSOSHY enters right.]*

NOTSOSHY Mrs Twankey, I just popped back to tell you we put my washing in the machine.

TWANKEY You too? *[CHOP and SUEY enter right.]*

CHOP Mrs Twankey.

SUEY We've put our washing .

BOTH - in the machine.

TWANKEY But you mustn't overload it! *[SHE runs to the machine that is now making a dreadful noise and vibrating wildly. WISHEE is trying to hold on to it. The others see ALADDIN.]*

CHOP That's him!

SUEY The boy up the tree.

EMPEROR The one who looked at my daughter? After him. *[ALADDIN tries to escape but the way off right is blocked so he turns and runs left.]*

NOTSOSHY Oh cripes! *[SHE exits quickly right.]*

NOTE: *If it is practicable to easily get into the auditorium, ALADDIN should run down one of the aisles followed by CHOP, SUEY and the EMPEROR. TWANKEY follows trying to help ALADDIN escape. If this is not possible then a choreographed chase around the stage should ensue. While this is happening the machine starts to bubble over with soapsuds and WISHEE tries to attract WIDOW TWANKEY'S attention. At a suitable point in the action ABANAZAR appears and calls to ALADDIN.]*

ABANAZAR Aladdin. Follow me. *[ALADDIN runs towards him and follows him off pursued by the others. TWANKEY runs to centre stage watching him go.]*

WISHEE *[Shouting.]* Mom! The machine!

[The machine explodes with a loud bang. TWANKEY faints into WISHEE'S arms and the lights black out. The scene changes to]

SCENE 7 THE HILLS OUTSIDE PEKING

[A front cloth with the entrance to the cave stage left. A large practical rock covers the entrance. It is night time. ABANAZAR enters carrying an old lantern.]

ABANAZAR This must be the top of the hillside where the cave is located. *[HE looks back off stage.]* That lazy boy has sat down for another rest so I will take this opportunity to summon the Slave and make sure *lq̃n* in the right place. *[HE rubs the ring and the SLAVE appears down right.]*

SLAVE *[Yawning.]* Did you summon me?

ABANAZAR I did.

SLAVE Do you know what time it is? I just had my cocoa and was off to bed.

ABANAZAR Well now you can tell me if *lq̃n* in the vicinity of the magic cave.

SLAVE You followed my instructions didn't you? To the West of the town climb a steep mountain pass *õ õ õ*

ABANAZAR Yes, yes I did all that.

SLAVE And this is the deep cold crevasse.

ABANAZAR Yes.

SLAVE Then just look for the large rock concealing the cave.

ABANAZAR *[Crossing to the rock.]* Is this it?

SLAVE Well it's the only rock I can see around here.

ABANAZAR Not very impressive. I expected it to stand out more.

SLAVE What do you want? Gold plated panels and a door chime?

ABANAZAR At least I found it.

SLAVE *[Yawning again.]* May I go now?

ABANAZAR *[Impatiently.]* Yes, yes. Be gone. *[SLAVE exits right.]* Soon all the treasures within shall be mine. Especially the magic lamp. *[ALADDIN enters right.]*

ALADDIN Who were you talking to Uncle?

ABANAZAR *[Spinning round.]* Eh? Oh no one . just myself.

ALADDIN You want to be careful. You know what they say about people who talk to themselves?

ABANAZAR What?

ALADDIN They hear a lot of twaddle!

ABANAZAR Come here. We have arrived at my secret cave.

ALADDIN *[Looking at the rock.]* You mean this is where the fortune is stored.

ABANAZAR Yes.

ALADDIN It's an odd place to keep your treasures. *[Wary.]* I'm not sure whether I believe you.

ABANAZAR Why should I lie to you? I promised you wealth didn't I? I could easily have kept it all for myself.

ALADDIN I suppose so.

ABANAZAR Then let's get on with it. Stand back while I recite the words that will reveal the entrance to the cave.
From East and West, from South and North
All Earthly powers I call forth.
Combine your strength and instantly
Reveal the entrance now for me.

[Thunder and lightning crashes around them and with a grinding noise the rock slowly starts to roll aside.]

ALADDIN The rock. It's moving!

ABANAZAR *[Wide-eyed with excitement.]* Finally.

ALADDIN How did you do that?

ABANAZAR I have powers you can't begin to comprehend. Now quickly, I want you to climb into the cave.

ALADDIN What for?

ABANAZAR You want to see all the treasure don't you?

ALADDIN Yes.

ABANAZAR Then get in there.

ALADDIN And all the treasure I find I can keep.

ABANAZAR Everything. Except an old lamp. That's the only thing I want.

ALADDIN An old lamp? What do you want that for?

ABANAZAR Sentimental reasons. It belonged to my Great Grandmother's Godmother's Uncle!

ALADDIN A close family relation then?

ABANAZAR *[Impatiently.]* It's a family heirloom. That's all I want. The rest is yours. But get in there quickly.

ALADDIN *[Peering through the entrance.]* It looks very dark and gloomy.

ABANAZAR You're not afraid are you? A big strapping lad like you!

ALADDIN Then you'd come with me?

ABANAZAR Not likely! I . er mean . I should stay here and guard the entrance . in case any undesirables come along and try to steal the treasure.

ALADDIN *[Unsure about going in.]* And you're sure there's nothing to fear in there?

ABANAZAR Nothing at all. Now get in quickly.

ALADDIN All right. Here I go. *[HE climbs through the entrance.]* I'm in.

ABANAZAR Good.

ALADDIN *[Coming out.]* I'm out again.

ABANAZAR Aladdin don't make me angry. You wouldn't like me when I'm angry!

ALADDIN OK. *[HE climbs through the entrance again.]* I'm in.

ABANAZAR Good!

ALADDIN *[Coming out again.]* I'm out again!

ABANAZAR *[Raging.]* What is the matter with you?

ALADDIN I thought I heard a noise. Perhaps there's a scary monster down there. I've got nothing to protect myself with.

ABANAZAR *[Taking off his ring.]* Here take this.

ALADDIN A ring?

ABANAZAR It's a magic ring and will protect you. Not that you need protecting. There is nothing in the cave that will harm you.

ALADDIN Well . OK. Here I go. *[HE enters the cave again.]*

ABANAZAR *[Calling after him.]* Can you see anything?

ALADDIN *[Off.]* No. It's pitch black in here.

ABANAZAR Keep going. Your eyes will soon acclimatise. *[To the audience.]* That idiot boy. What he doesn't realise is that as soon as he hands me the lamp I will seal the entrance and leave him down there to perish. By the time morning comes I shall be back in Egypt and proclaim myself ruler of the Universe. *[HE laughs loudly to himself as the lights fade and the scene changes to.....*

SCENE 8 INSIDE THE CAVE

[The whole scene is made up of various rock pieces that will later transform to show the jewels of the cave. Up left is a high rock piece with steps down from the cave entrance that is seen at the top of the rock. Set into a rock piece on stage right is the lamp. There is very little light as the scene starts. A shaft of moonlight shines through the cave entrance and picks up ALADDIN who is halfway down the rock.]

ALADDIN What an awful place. I can hardly see anything. I wonder where the treasure is. *[HE calls up to the entrance.]* Uncle. Uncle are you there?

ABANAZAR *[Appearing at the entrance.]* Have you found the lamp?

ALADDIN I haven't found anything. Where is all the treasure you told me about?

ABANAZAR It's deep inside the cave. If you give me the lamp I can light it and show you the way.

ALADDIN That's a good idea. But I can't see the lamp. Just rocks, rocks and more rocks.

ABANAZAR Keep looking. It must be there.

ALADDIN I can't see it.

ABANAZAR You stupid boy, you're not looking hard enough.

ALADDIN If you want it that badly come down here and help me search.

ABANAZAR I'm warning you boy, if you disobey me you will rue the consequences.

ALADDIN *[Shouting back at him.]* I don't trust you any more, Uncle. I'm coming out.

ABANAZAR *[Quickly.]* NO! I'm sorry, I didn't mean to shout. Just find the lamp and everything else down there is yours.

ALADDIN Well . all right. *[HE looks around the cave. The lamp starts to glow and ALADDIN sees it.]* I've found it!

ABANAZAR At last! At last! Give it to me.

ALADDIN *[Picking it up and looking at it.]* It really is a battered old thing.

ABANAZAR That doesn't matter. Just bring the lamp to me.

ALADDIN While I'm here I might as well start collecting some of the treasure.

ABANAZAR *[Impatiently.]* There's plenty of time to do that. Hand me the lamp.

ALADDIN Why are you in such a hurry to have it?

ABANAZAR *[Shouting.]* I won't tell you again. Give me the lamp.

ALADDIN *[Putting the lamp back on the rock.]* I think you've got me down here under false pretences. There is no treasure.

- ABANAZAR There is. There is.
- ALADDIN Then when I've found it you can have the lamp . and not until.
- ABANAZAR You foolish boy. You have sealed your fate. You'll stay down there until you rot and your bones turn to dust.
- ALADDIN *[Panicking.]* What?
- ABANAZAR *[Chanting.]* This foolish act has brought about your doom. Close up this cave and let it be your tomb.
- [The rock starts to roll across the entrance.]*
- ALADDIN *[Running up the rock piece.]* No! Uncle I didn't mean it. Don't shut me in here. *[The rock finally closes up and the shaft of moonlight is extinguished. A dim blue light is all that illuminates the scene and we can just see ALADDIN on the rock.]* Uncle! Please let me out. You can have the lamp. I don't want it. And you can keep the treasure as well. *[Silence.]* He's gone. What am I going to do? *[HE comes down the rock to stage level.]* I'll never get out of this awful place. *[HE starts to feel cold and shivers.]* Oh it's so cold in here. *[HE rubs his hand together and sees the ring.]* The ring Uncle Abanazar gave me. He said it was magic and would protect me. I wonder how it works. *[HE rubs the ring and the SLAVE appears down right.]*
- SLAVE Now what? I've only just got to sleep. *[Sees ALADDIN.]* Oh I'm sorry. I didn't know I have a new master. *[Bows to ALADDIN.]*
- ALADDIN Master?
- SLAVE I am slave to whoever wears the ring.
- ALADDIN I say.
- SLAVE Now dear, what is it that you require of me?
- ALADDIN Can you get me out of this dreadful cave?
- SLAVE Alas dear, this cave is enchanted and can only be opened by one who has a greater power than I.
- ALADDIN How will I find out who that is?
- SLAVE Don't panic! The answer is close at hand master dear! *[Spelling it out.]* The magician Abanazar almost had it within his grasp. *[With a nod and a wink SHE bows and exits right.]*
- ALADDIN Almost had it within his grasp? What can she mean? *[Sees the lamp starting to glow again.]* The lamp! She must mean the lamp. *[HE picks it up and looks at it.]* I wonder how it works. *[NOTE: If the audience starts to shout out at this point ALADDIN should play along with it and finally rub the lamp.]* There may be some instructions on it, but it's so dirty I can't make anything out. Perhaps if I give it a rub. *[A flash and the GENIE OF THE LAMP appears by the rock piece stage right. The cave is now bathed in a warm glow of red light.]* Ahhh! Who are you?

- GENIE *[Salaams and then goes into a rap dialogue.]*
Greetings dude . for years I've been hidden,
But now I'm here to do your bidding
- ALADDIN I don't understand.
- GENIE I'm the Genie of the Lamp and your personal slave,
Just tell me all the things that you crave!
- ALADDIN This is incredible.
- GENIE You've got it in one, but believe what you see,
The answer to all your dreams is me!
- ALADDIN All my dreams? You mean I can have anything I want in the whole world.
- GENIE Jewels and clothes just take your pick,
Or perhaps you have your eye on a special chick. *[ALADDIN reacts to this.]*
I can see you do . now don't be a meany,
Just put me to work . I'm your personal Genie.
- ALADDIN Wait! Just hold on there. This is too much to take in. You can give me wealth?
- GENIE Easy peasy!
- ALADDIN And a fine Palace to live in?
- GENIE In the flash of those baby blues it'll be yours.
- ALADDIN And a whole new wardrobe for my mother?
- GENIE Oh come on! Challenge me, baby, challenge me!
- ALADDIN This is fantastic. But wait. What about getting out of here?
- GENIE Now you're talking But before I start breaking these walls down, how'd you like
to see some of the wonders of this little ol' cave?
- ALADDIN Wow!
- GENIE I can see that your eyes are popping
So why don't we do some Christmas shopping?

THE WONDERS OF THE MAGIC CAVE

[The GENIE moves ALADDIN down right out of the light and during the next sequence either he is replaced by a double or quietly exits to effect a change. Four types of jewels are paraded before ALADDIN by members of the CHORUS, each one introduced by the GENIE. The parade can take whichever form the director wishes, but the whole scene should become transformed with jewels, gold and silver.]

In the great big ocean depths are seen,
Shining jewels of Emerald Green.

[Emeralds are paraded.]

Night black seams within Earth's core
In crystal fountains diamonds pour.

[Diamonds are paraded.]

Come on guys bring into view
Icy stones of sapphire blue.

[Sapphires are paraded.]

From the good old Phoenix forged in fire
Rubies for your heart's desire.

[Rubies are paraded. At the end of the sequence the GENIE makes a magic pass and ALADDIN is transformed into resplendent clothes.]

ALADDIN Genie, this is fantastic. I can't thank you enough.

GENIE *[Presenting the lamp to ALADDIN.]*
Now you've joined the high flying club,
Whenever you want me just give it a rub!

SONG . GENIE, ALADDIN AND CHORUS

[Towards the end of the number ALADDIN holds the lamp high as the Jewel Carriers group around him.]

The Curtain Falls

End of Act One

ACT TWO
SCENE 1 OUTSIDE THE TWANKEY LAUNDRY

[Early evening at The Festival of Lanterns. The set is the same as Act One Scene 2 with the addition of a number of Chinese Lanterns hanging across the street and from various buildings. The CHORUS is on celebrating the Festival in song and dance. During the number WISHEE enters and joins in.]

CHORUS NUMBER

HEE Everyone enjoying themselves?

ORUS [Ad lib.] Yes Wishee.

HEE Have any of you seen Mom?

↓ No. The laundry is all closed up for the day.

WOMAN And where's Aladdin? Don't tell me the Peking Police finally caught up with him?

WISHEE Oh no. He should be along shortly. [HE turns to speak to the audience.] Oh dear. I do hope he's all right. Going off with that Uncle Abracadabra or whoever he is. I think he's a bit of a dodgy character, don't you kids? [Audience response.] I didn't like the look of him and when Aladdin went off with him I got worried. I got very worried. [Audience shouts out and WISHEE has a cup of tea. NOTSOSHY crosses to WISHEE.]

WISHEE Notsoshy, I didn't know you were coming to the Festival.

NOTSOSHY It's my day off. I came here to find someone.

WISHEE You've found him.

NOTSOSHY Not you silly.

WISHEE [Disappointed.] Oh.

NOTSOSHY Oh I don't mean I'm not pleased to see you. I am. But I'm on a mission for the Princess.

WISHEE A mission? What's it about?

NOTSOSHY Well . [Whispering.] . she's gone and fallen in love.

WISHEE [Shouting.] In love?

NOTSOSHY Shhhh! [A few people look round.]

HEE Who with?

NOTSOSHY Your brother Aladdin.

HEE AL . [NOTSOSHY claps her hand over his mouth.] . Aladdin?

NOTSOSHY Yes. She's really upset because the Emperor wants her to marry some Prince.

WISHEE I know Aladdin's potty about her, but not that she felt the same way.

NOTSOSHY Ever since they met yesterday morning she's talked of no one else. I've come to try and arrange a secret meeting.

WISHEE Well that will be difficult. Aladdin's not here.

NOTSOSHY Where's he gone?

WISHEE He went off with his Uncle Abbey National last night and hasn't returned yet.

NOTSOSHY The Princess will be disappointed.

WISHEE But this has given us a chance meeting of our own.

NOTSOSHY Oh I say Wishee, you are a one! [SHE gives him a nudge that sends him flying.]

WISHEE [Rubbing his side.] And you're so . strong!

NOTSOSHY [Getting close to him.] My little dishy Wishee.

WISHEE My not so shy Notsoshy! [THEY look as though they are about to kiss when JASMINE appears down left. SHE wears a hooded cloak and her veil is in place.]

JASMINE [Quietly.] Notsoshy.

NOTSOSHY [To WISHEE, not seeing JASMINE.] Your voice has changed.

JASMINE Notsoshy. Over here.

NOTSOSHY [Crossing to her.] Princess. Why have you left the palace unattended?

JASMINE I couldn't wait any longer. Have you found him?

NOTSOSHY He is not here, your Highness. He left last night and has not yet returned.

JASMINE Oh dear.

NOTSOSHY [Indicating WISHEE.] This is his brother, Highness.

JASMINE Hello.

WISHEE [Turning away in a panic because he has looked at her.] Ohhhh. Please your Highness . if I look at you I could be excommunicated!

JASMINE Don't worry. No one will recognise me like this.

CHOP [Off up left.] Make way. [SHE enters followed by SUEY.] Make way for his Uppermost Highness.

SUEY His Topmost Tallness. [The Emperor appears up left.]

CHOP His Elevated Exaltedness.

SUEY His õ õ õ

EMPEROR All right. Get on with it!

CHOP/SUEY His Celestial Highness, the Emperor. [ALL bow to the EMPEROR.]

JASMINE My father. He mustn't see me. [NOTSOSHY and WISHEE stand in front of her.]

EMPEROR Good-evening all. I hope you are enjoying the Festival of Lanterns.

CHORUS [Ad Lib.] Very much, your Highness. Most beautiful. Etc. etc.

EMPEROR [Seeing NOTSOSHY.] Ah, Notsoshy. Enjoying your day off?

NOTSOSHY Indeed, your Highness.

EMPEROR And who is this with you?

NOTSOSHY This is my friend Wishee Washee.

EMPEROR Wishee Washee? Didn't I see you in Widow Twankey's laundry yesterday?

WISHEE [Dithering about.] Er õ possibly, your Importantship!

EMPEROR When we were trying to catch that boy Aladdin? [JASMINE gasps and the EMPEROR notices her.] And who is that hiding behind you?

NOTSOSHY Er, that's my sister, Veryshy!

EMPEROR I didn't know you had a sister. Hello my dear. [JASMINE nods, trying to hide her face.] Doesn't say a lot, does she?

NOTSOSHY She's a girl of very few words, Highness.

EMPEROR I suppose that could be looked on as a blessing! Oh well I must continue my royal walkabout. [To CHOP and SUEY.] The fun fair next. I want to have a go on - [He says the name of the newest pleasure park ride.] Go on you two, announce me. And make it short this time. [EMPEROR, CHOP and SUEY exit down right. The CHORUS begins to drift off.]

NOTSOSHY That was a close shave.

WISHEE [Feeling his throat.] You're telling me. Oh while he was here I got worried. I got very worried. [Audience reacts. WISHEE has a cup of tea.]

JASMINE Thank you both for not giving me away. [WIDOW TWANKEY is heard off singing a well-known tune. SHE enters from the laundry in an outrageous dress resembling a lampshade/lantern design.]

TWANKEY Hello all!
WISHEE Mother! What have you got on?

TWANKEY Oh it's just a little number I picked up to wear at the Festival. Do you like it? The man in the shop said I would light up . [Well-known night-club.] . next time I went in.

WISHEE Light it up? I should think you'd set fire to it!

TWANKEY Has anyone seen Aladdin? Is he back yet?

WISHEE No. I've looked everywhere, but there's no sign of him.

TWANKEY He was out all last night and all day today with nothing to eat and no change of clothes.

WISHEE Does that mean he's a dirty stop out? [HE giggles at his joke. All the others just look at him and he slowly stops laughing.]

TWANKEY I'm very worried about him.

WISHEE [Moving towards the tea-urn.] Do you want a cup of tea?

TWANKEY No I don't want a cup of tea! I want my son back.

WISHEE We all do. [Indicating JASMINE.] Even the Princess is looking for him.

NOTSOSHY Wishee!

WISHEE [Realising what he has said.] I mean . er õ õ õ

TWANKEY Princess? [SHE looks at JASMINE.]

WISHEE Er . the Princesses handmaiden. [HE grabs NOTSOSHY and pulls her forward.] Mom this is Notsoshy. Handmaiden to Princess Jasmine.

NOTSOSHY [Vigorously shaking TWANKEY's hand.] I'm very pleased to meet you Mrs Twankey.

TWANKEY Likewise, I'm sure. [Holding her wrenched arm . to the audience.] She's very butch for a handmaiden.

JASMINE [Pushing the hood of her cloak back and removing her veil.] It's no good. I can't stand this. Mrs Twankey, I am Princess Jasmine.

TWANKEY [Attempting a curtsy.] Oh your majesty, your highness, your very important personship! But what brings you into this part of town?

JASMINE I want to see Aladdin again.

TWANKEY Again?

JASMINE Ever since we met yesterday I can think of nothing but him.

TWANKEY Now let's get this straight. We are talking of my son Aladdin? The one with the patches in his britches, the scrapes on his shins and the tide mark around his neck?

JASMINE [Dreamily.] Oh yes.

TWANKEY [To the others.] Is she off her rocker?

NOTSOSHY [Aside to TWANKEY.] I'm afraid it's true. She has got a thing about him.

TWANKEY Well I'm sorry Princess dear, but you'd have to forget him. Your father will kick up a pretty stink if he finds out what's been going on. And goodness knows what'd happen to us. [JASMINE burst into tears and runs off down left.]

NOTSOSHY I'd better go after her. [SHE exits. Suddenly the lights dim and a strange noise is heard.]

TWANKEY Oh no. Don't tell me . [Local Council.] . haven't paid the electricity bill again!

[The lights get dimmer and begin to flash. The strange noise builds and then suddenly cuts off. The lights return and ALADDIN, still in his resplendent clothes, is standing centre stage. The lamp is attached to his belt.]

WISHEE [As they all cross to him.] Aladdin!

TWANKEY Oh son, you're back. [Looking at Aladdin's resplendent clothes.] And your front!!

WISHEE Where have you been?

TWANKEY And where did you get all that clobber? You've not been shoplifting at . [Local store.] . again?

ALADDIN It's a long story, but Mom I've done it. I've found my fortune.

TWANKEY Then it was all true? Your Uncle Avabanana came good?

ALADDIN I did it without the help of Uncle Abanazar.

WISHEE What do you mean?

ALADDIN We found the cave that he spoke of, but he locked me in it when I didn't give him the object he wanted.

TWANKEY What was that?

ALADDIN [Holding up the lamp.] This.

WISHEE What? A dirty old lamp?

ALADDIN It may be dirty, but it holds the answer to all our dreams.

TWANKEY That thing?

ALADDIN Yes. Shall I show you how it works?

TWANKEY If this is another one of you schemes .

ALADDIN It isn't I promise you. Now stand back and watch. [HE rubs the lamp. There is a flash and the GENIE appears down right. Hidden in his costume should be the jewels he will require during the following sequence.]

TWANKEY [Not seeing the GENIE. SHE sniffs.] Here, that woman next door has been keeping pandas again!

GENIE Howdee folks, hope I didn't shock ya
But I can do things that will really rock ya!

TWANKEY [Staring at HIM.] Oh girls, it's . [Names a famous personality known for his physique.]

GENIE Tell me what you require
Be it rubies or sapphire
And in a twinkling of an eye I will bring all you desire!

TWANKEY [To ALADDIN . after a beat.] He's not from around here, is he?

ALADDIN This is the Genie of the Lamp.

TWANKEY Really? [Pointing to the GENIE'S physical attributes.] But how do you get all that . into there. [Points to lamp.]

GENIE I can make myself thin
As a pin
And get myself in.
I'm a versatile Djinn!

TWANKEY I'd bet you are.

ALADDIN Mom, the Genie is the answer to all our problems.

TWANKEY [Eyeing up the GENIE.] Well he's certainly the answer to one of mine!

ALADDIN How would you like a necklace of diamonds and pearls?

TWANKEY [Open mouthed.] How would I - ?

ALADDIN Genie, a beautiful necklace for my mother.

GENIE No need to ask twice [Lighting effect and the GENIE produces a necklace.]

How is this for some ice?

TWANKEY [Taking the necklace and putting it on.] Oh Aladdin, it's . it's . [To the GENIE.] Got anything else to give away? [The GENIE produces a small padded cushion that has a number of brooches and bracelets on. TWANKEY starts to pin the various items onto her dress.]

WISHEE [Who has been standing open mouthed at all that is happening.] How does he do that?

ALADDIN It's the most wonderful magic.

TWANKEY [Showing off her jewels.] Look. I'm completely encrusted!

ALADDIN What about you Wishee? What would you like?

HEE Me?

ALADDIN Yes. Would you like some new clothes? A new rickshaw? How about a season ticket to . [Name of local football team.]

WISHEE Oh I'd like all of those. But I'd really like a copy of the new - [Well-known children's annual.]

ALADDIN [Laughing. To the GENIE.] Can you manage that?

GENIE That's a tough one Boss, but don't be distraught. Just let me give the matter some thought. [HE exits down right.]

WISHEE This is amazing.

ALADDIN One thing - you must both promise never to tell anyone else about the lamp. If it were to be known that this is the key to our good fortune, someone might steal it and then we would be back where we started.

WISHEE Oh I promise.

TWANKEY So do I. I'd never tell another living soul. I swear on the grave of your Great Aunt Take-a-way Lil.

ALADDIN She's not dead.

TWANKEY If she heard about this the shock would kill her!

ALADDIN Just so long as no one finds out about it . especially Uncle Abanazar, or whoever he is.

HEE What happened to him?

ALADDIN Who knows? When I finally got out of the cave he had disappeared.

TWANKEY Why that no good trickster. If I set eyes on him again I'd give him what for.

ALADDIN Somehow I don't think we'd be seeing him again.

TWANKEY I hope you're right. Now I don't know about you lot, but I'm off to the festival to show off my new acquisitions. [SHE exits up right.]

ALADDIN Oh Wishee, all this new-found wealth won't bring me true happiness unless I can be with the one person who means more to me than all the riches in the world.

WISHEE Don't be silly. I'm not going anywhere!

ALADDIN Wishee, you know what I mean.

[JASMINE enters down left unseen by ALADDIN. NOTSOSHY follows.]

WISHEE You want to see Princess Jasmine again?
ALADDIN More than anything.

WISHEE It's a pity you haven't got eyes in the back of your head!

ALADDIN What? [HE turns round and sees JASMINE.] Jasmine.

JASMINE Aladdin? Is that really you? [THEY embrace. WISHEE stands watching them. NOTSOSHY crosses to him, takes him by the ear and they exit right.]

SHORT REPRISE ACT ONE DUET . ALADDIN AND JASMINE

[At the end of the number they embrace. The EMPEROR enters followed by CHOP and SUEY. During the following the CHORUS enters.]

EMPEROR What is the meaning of this? Peking constabulary arrest that man. [CHOP and SUEY grab hold of ALADDIN.]

JASMINE Father please don't do this.

EMPEROR Jasmine, I will deal with this. [To ALADDIN.] You have been caught canoodling with my daughter, which is a crime that carries the ultimate punishment.

ALADDIN Your Imperial Highness. Before sentence is carried out, may I be permitted a word?

EMPEROR You are allowed that . but make it quick. I haven't been on the Ghost Train yet.

ALADDIN It is true I have been seeing your daughter because I love her and I know she loves me.

EMPEROR The impudence of the young fool. Take him away. [CHOP and SUEY start to drag ALADDIN away.]

ALADDIN Wait. I understand you require your daughter to enter into a marriage that will secure the prosperity of the country.

EMPEROR Yes. Something that can't possibly concern you.

ALADDIN Oh but it can.

EMPEROR What?

ALADDIN I have wealth beyond your imagination and I would gladly give it all away just to be with Jasmine.

EMPEROR Where is this wealth? [TWANKEY enters right followed by WISHEE and NOTSOSHY.]

TWANKEY [Showing off her jewels.] How about these for starters?

EMPEROR [Staring at TWANKEY's bosom.] My what an impressive sight.

TWANKEY [Giving him a shove.] Flatterer!

ALADDIN There are rooms full of jewels like these in my new palace, which is being built at this very moment.

EMPEROR [Breaking out into a smile.] Well this does shed a new light on the matter. Rooms full of them you say?

ALADDIN Your Highness, may I offer you the hospitality of my new palace at a special banquet in your honour tonight? There I will show you treasures that you have only dreamed of . and, if I may, ask officially for your daughter's hand.

EMPEROR My boy. Welcome to the family.

[JASMINE and ALADDIN embrace as the COMPANY cheer.]

PRODUCTION NUMBER

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to
ō ō ō]

SCENE 2 THE STREET OF A THOUSAND TAKEAWAYS

[If a third front cloth is not available this scene may be played as ~~u~~Behind the Laundry As the lights come up, ABANAZAR is standing down left.]

ABANAZAR May a thousand curses rain down on that wretched boy. May the plague of a million locusts ravage the house of Twankey. [Getting more and more worked up.] May an epidemic of gargantuan proportions afflict future generations of that accursed name and may [Local football team] get relegated! [Boos from audience. HE reacts.] You shrivelling worms! You all think that that boy Aladdin is some sort of a hero, don't you? You foolish mortals. I ought to work my magic and condemn you all to watching hours and hours of [Name of a dreary TV programme.] I've seen to it that Aladdin will never again feel the sun on his face.

[ALADDIN enters right.]

ALADDIN Wrong again, Uncle.

ABANAZAR You! But how õ ..?

ALADDIN It was extremely kind of you to point me in the direction of this wonderful lamp.

ABANAZAR [Astounded.] The lamp! You found the lamp.

ALADDIN Indeed I have and what a treasure it has turned out to be. Just as you said.

ABANAZAR Why you . Idl make your body burn with the flames of Hell . Idl õ õ

ALADDIN [Rubbing the lamp.] Stop right there. [The GENIE appears down right.]

GENIE What's happeningBro?

ALADDIN This miserable creature seems to be getting very hot under the collar. I think he needs to cool down.

GENIE For being such an obnoxious bloke,
In the nearest sewer Idl give him a soak! [HE makes a pass.]

ABANAZAR [Screaming.] NO!! [The lights blackout for a second and when they return ABANAZAR has gone. We hear his screams dying away and then a loud splash. ALADDIN and the GENIE give each other a high fiveq]

ALADDIN Well done Genie.

GENIE Oooh that makes the job worthwhile!

ALADDIN How is my new palace coming on?

GENIE All finished master. [HE indicates front and ALADDIN looks out with awe.]

ALADDIN It is fabulous.

GENIE Not bad, even if I do say so myself.

ALADDIN Not bad? It's amazing. The Emperor will surely be impressed and will have no hesitation in allowing me to marry his daughter.

GENIE Then Idl be off and start to bake,
A fat free, fruit filled, marzipan, icing topped
Twenty-two tier weddingcake! [HE exits. WISHEE enters left in a worried state.]

WISHEE Aladdin! Aladdin youd never guess.

ALADDIN What is it Wishee?

WISHEE That Uncle Owthedevilareya! lqye just seen him flying through the air.

ALADDIN I know.

WISHEE Oh he's coming to get you. He'd cast a spell on you and turn you into something horrible. And then he'd do the same to me. Oh I'm worried, I'm very worried. [Audience shouts out and WISHEE has a cup of tea.]

ALADDIN Calm down Wishee. I've ordered the Genie to put him well and truly out of harms way.

WISHEE Are you sure?

ALADDIN Quite sure.

WISHEE Oh that's all right then.

ALADDIN [Pointing front.] What do you think of your new home?

WISHEE [Looking out.] Wow! Are we going to live there?

ALADDIN Yes. Do you like it?

WISHEE It's fantasmagorical!! Do I get my own room?

ALADDIN You can have a whole suite of rooms.

WISHEE My own bathroom too? [ALADDIN nods.] Just think . no more standing under a leaky roof to have a shower!

ALADDIN You see Wishee, I always said one day things would work out for us.

TWANKEY [Off left.] Yoo-hoo Aladdin. Are you there? [WIDOW TWANKEY, in an outrageous new dress, enters left.] Hello boys, what do you think of my new frock?

ALADDIN Well it's different!

WISHEE [Open mouthed.] Words haven't been invented to describe it!

TWANKEY [Rhyming like the GENIE.]
That Genie is a whiz with a sewing machine.
I gave him this pattern out of my magazine.

WISHEE Which one? Car Maintenance Weekly?

TWANKEY He's running another one up for me for the party tonight. Something scintillating in puce and lemon with an usherette on each shoulder!

ALADDIN Well you'd certainly be the centre of attention.

TWANKEY Now I've got a list of things we need for the party tonight.

ALADDIN But Mom, the Genie will take care of all that.

TWANKEY You're working that poor man to death. He's been rushed off his feet organising my new wardrobe and getting me the latest Paris perfumes. [WISHEE and ALADDIN look at each other.] Besides he won't know all the things I like, so I've made a list. [SHE takes out a rolled up list and

holding one end lets it drop to the floor. WISHEE picks up the other end and starts reading.]

WISHEE A crate of Guinness, a crate of lager, a bottle of Johnny Walker, a bottle of Gordon's Gin, Crème de Menthe frappe and a bottle of Coca-Cola. Who's the Coca-Cola for?

TWANKEY You of course. I want you to have a really good time! Now run down to the supermarket and organise everything. [SHE looks off.] Look the Emperor is coming. I want to have a chat with him as we're practically related!

ALADDIN Come on Wishee, I'll give you a hand. [ALADDIN and WISHEE exit right as CHOP and SUEY enter left. THEY end centre - either side of TWANKEY and running on the spot.]

CHOP Make way for his Highness .

SUEY His Lowness .

CHOP His Greatness .

SUEY His Smallness .

CHOP His Boldness .

Y His Shyness .

[The EMPEROR enters left.]

EMPEROR Oh for goodness sake go and issue some parking tickets on . [Name of road where the theatre is located.]

CHOP Yes your Mountainship. Parking tickets at the ready. [They BOTH pull out a book of tickets.] Yellow lines - on the double. [Still running they BOTH exit right.]

EMPEROR Ah Widow Twankey.

TWANKEY Your Celestial Highness-in-law . almost!

EMPEROR That is a fine boy you have.

TWANKEY Yes, with a fine bank account.

EMPEROR I think he will make my daughter very happy.

TWANKEY I can see he's put a smile on your face as well.

EMPEROR Oh I do like a big wedding.

TWANKEY So do I. I've had three you know.

EMPEROR You've been married three times?

TWANKEY Yes, and it was quite strange really. My first husband was born on St. David's Day so he was called David. My second was born on St. Andrew's Day so he was called Andrew and my third was born on St George's day.

EMPEROR What was he called?

TWANKEY Arthur! *[SHE giggles and gives him a nudge.]*

EMPEROR I think our two families are going to get on very well, don't you?

TWANKEY Indup õ .. Indrupõ .. *[SHE can't say indubitably.]* Yes we do. *[The music starts for the next number.]* Oh listen, they're massacring our tune. Shall we dance?

EMPEROR I don't dance.

TWANKEY Of course you do, because you know Empyõ ..

DUET . TWANKEY AND EMPEROR

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 3 ALADDIN'S PALACE

[A very ornately grand scene. Across the back are three oriental arches beyond which is a balustrade. The centre arch is much larger than the two either side. In between the arches are plinths. Grand pillars are right and left of the scene and the night sky is clearly visible. As the scene opens the party is in progress with the COMPANY indulging in the latest dance craze. Taking part in the number are ALADDIN, JASMINE, WISHEE and NOTSOSHY.]

COMPANY NUMBER

[At the end of the number CHOP and SUEY appear up centre.]

CHOP *[Announcing.]* His Imperial Highness, Emperor Chu Chin Chow Mein!

SUEY *[Also announcing.]* And the Widow Tomasina Twankey.

[The EMPEROR and TWANKEY enter up right and cross down stage. SHE is wearing yet another outrageous creation.]

ALADDIN Hello Mother. Are you having a good time?

TWANKEY I'd say. It reminds me of my coming out ball!

WISHEE Oh no, we're back in the realms of fantasy!

EMPEROR *[To JASMINE.]* Well Jasmine, everything seems to have worked out very satisfactorily. Aladdin seems to be a fine fellow.

JASMINE *[Teasing him.]* I'm glad you like him father, but are you sure you still don't want me to marry Prince Pekoe?

- EMPEROR Prince Pekoe? Oh no, on reflection I think you were right. He was a little too old for you. [JASMINE and NOTSOSHY glance at each other and smile. The EMPEROR addresses EVERYONE.] Citizens of Peking . friends. It gives me great pleasure to officially announce the betrothal of my daughter, Princess Jasmine to Aladdin Twankey. [EVERYONE cheers as ALADDIN crosses to JASMINE and they embrace.]
- TWANKEY [With a tear in her eye.] Oh I'm filling up with emotion.
- EMPEROR [Putting an arm around her.] There, there my dear. Let me comfort you.
- TWANKEY Here watch it. No hanky panky with Twankey.
- EMPEROR I was merely offering a little solace at this very moving time.
- TWANKEY It's where your hands are moving I'm worried about. I wasn't born yesterday you know.
- EMPEROR I think we are all agreed on that.
- ALADDIN *[Addressing the COMPANY.]* My dear friends, I am so pleased to see you all here on this joyous occasion. In the next room is a magnificent banquet for you all to partake of.
[The COMPANY starts to exit. When they are off the lights dim slightly and ABANAZAR enters down left.]
- ABANAZAR So this is the fabulous palace Aladdin has had built for himself. The palace that should be mine. And it will be . very soon. I'd show that meddling youth that he can't upset my plans. I am the great Abanazar . no one shall get the better of me. *[HIS voice rises in a crescendo. If the audience reacts he should respond and then continue with the speech.]* I intend to get that lamp and then nothing can stop me fulfilling my every dream. But I will bide my time. *[HE looks off right.]* Someone is coming. I will wait in the shadows until an opportune moment presents itself. And then I shall finally get my prize. *[With a snarl at the audience HE exits down left. ALADDIN enters right and starts to cross the stage. JASMINE follows.]*
- JASMINE Aladdin. Where are you going?
- ALADDIN Some old school pals of mine have just arrived. I'm going to the gates to meet them.
- JASMINE *[Noticing the lamp.]* Why do you always carry that old lamp around with you?
- ALADDIN *[Taken aback at HER question.]* Oh . well . it's er ò I keep it in case of an emergency. You never know when you'd need a light!
- JASMINE But it looks so shabby on the belt of your fine clothes. Why don't you leave it here?
- ALADDIN Well .
- JASMINE I'd hate your friends to think you've got no dress sense. Leave it here with me.

ALADDIN Oh, I suppose you're right. *[HE crosses up to a plinth.]* I'd leave it here, but make sure no one touches it.

JASMINE Of course.

ALADDIN I won't be long. *[HE exits up left. JASMINE moves up to wave him off as NOTSOSHY runs on down right.]*

NOTSOSHY *[Laughing.]* I say, it's the strangest thing I've ever heard. *[SHE runs over to stage left looking off.]*

JASMINE *[Following her.]* What is it Notsoshy?

NOTSOSHY *[Turning.]* Oh Princess, forgive me. I didn't realise you were here.

JASMINE What are you looking at?

NOTSOSHY That old man in the courtyard.

JASMINE What is he doing?

NOTSOSHY He's chanting something. Listen.

[In the distance we can hear ABANAZAR chanting in a creaky voice.]

ABANAZAR New lamps for old. New lamps for old.

JASMINE What is he saying?

NOTSOSHY It sounds like a new lamps for old Highness.

JASMINE New lamps for old? Why would anyone make an offer like that?

NOTSOSHY He's just an old man. His mind must be wandering. Would you like to return to the banquet, Highness?

JASMINE Yes, I think I'd better. *[They BOTH start to cross right. ABANAZAR is heard again.]*

ABANAZAR *[Off.]* New lamps for old.

JASMINE Wait. I have an idea. Call the old man in here.

NOTSOSHY In here Highness?

JASMINE Quickly before he leaves.

NOTSOSHY *[Thinking she has gone mad.]* Yes Highness. *[SHE crosses to stage left as JASMINE runs up to the lamp and picks it up.]* You there. Old man with the lamps. Come in here.

JASMINE Aladdin is always carrying this old thing around with him. Think how surprised he'd be when he finds a brand new one in its place!

NOTSOSHY I'm sure he'd be very grateful. *[ABANAZAR enters down left. HE wears a hooded cloak and carries a pole with a number of shiny new lamps attached.]*

ABANAZAR You called to me my lady?

NOTSOSHY Yes. My mistress wishes to speak with you.

ABANAZAR What may I do for you, most beautiful lady?

JASMINE Is it true you are offering a new lamp for an old one?

ABANAZAR Yes, indeed.

JASMINE How is it that you are able to make such a generous gesture?

ABANAZAR All my life I have been a lover of beautiful things. And what better way to admire beautiful things than by the light of a bright shiny lamp.

JASMINE How very true. *[Showing him the lamp.]* I have an old lamp here. Would you be willing to exchange it for a new one? *[ABANAZAR looks at the lamp and slowly stretches out his hand towards it. His fingers shake in anticipation of touching it.]*

ABANAZAR Nothing would give me greater pleasure.

NOTSOSHY Highness. Are you sure Aladdin would want you to change it? *[JASMINE pulls the lamp away – much to ABANAZAR'S frustration.]*

JASMINE Perhaps I should wait until he returns and ask him. Could you wait for a few moments?

ABANAZAR Alas, my lady, I have to leave this very minute . on important business . out of town.

JASMINE Really?

ABANAZAR I'm afraid so. So if you would like to take advantage of my offer ò ò ò

[JASMINE looks at the old lamp then at the new ones and finally decides.]

JASMINE Very well. I'd take that one. *[SHE points to a new one, but before she can take it ABANAZAR grabs the old lamp from her and throws the others away.]*

ABANAZAR At last! At last, the lamp is mine.

JASMINE *[Startled.]* What are you doing?

ABANAZAR *[Flinging off his cloak.]* Claiming what rightfully belongs to me.

NOTSOSHY But that lamp belongs to Aladdin.

ABANAZAR Not any more. It's mine, and so is its power. *[HE rubs the lamp and the GENIE appears down right.]*

GENIE My appearances get faster and faster . *[HE sees ABANAZAR with the lamp.]* Hey what's this . I got a new master?

ABANAZAR You have indeed Genie, and I wish you to transport me, this rather fetching female and the whole of this palace to my homeland of Egypt.

GENIE No sooner said than it is done.
Off to Egypt for some sand and sun! *[HE puts on a pair of sunglasses. The lights start to go wild as the GENIE makes a pass.]*

NOTSOSHY *[Backing towards the wings stage right.]* Princess.

JASMINE Find Aladdin. Tell him what's happened.

ABANAZAR That foolish boy can't help you now. Genie. Away!

[The GENIE turns his back on the audience and raises his arms as though indicating the palace should rise up. Thunder and lightning crash out as the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 4 THE STREET OF A THOUSAND TAKEAWAYS

[As Act 2 scene 2. The lights come up to find the EMPEROR, CHOP and SUEY on stage looking surprised. WIDOW TWANKEY and WISHEE enter right. They are back wearing their old clothes.]

EMPEROR What is the meaning of this?

WISHEE Look at us. Where are all our fine clothes?

TWANKEY Oh no! My lovely new frock. I told people I shopped at Harvey Nichols and now they think I go to Oxfam! *[ALADDIN enters also back in his old clothes.]*

ALADDIN My palace. What's happened to my palace?

EMPEROR Never mind your palace. Where's my daughter.

ALADDIN Jasmine. She's not here?

[NOTSOSHY rushes on out of breath.]

NOTSOSHY Your Highness. A terrible thing.

EMPEROR What's happened?

ALADDIN Where's Jasmine?

NOTSOSHY He took her.

ALL Who?

NOTSOSHY That old man. The lamp seller.

ALADDIN Lamp seller? What do you mean?

NOTSOSHY This old man came to the palace offering to exchange old lamps for new ones. The Princess went to swap that old one of yours and as soon as he got hold of it he flew off to Egypt with the Princess and the palace.

CHOP We have here a serious case of kidnap and theft.

SUEY Not to mention flying without a pilots licence.

ALADDIN This is terrible.

EMPEROR You're telling me. It's a capital offence to lose my daughter!

ALADDIN It's got to be Abanazar

NOTSOSHY Abba who?

ALADDIN My so-called Uncle. The fiend has got hold of the magic lamp and now nothing will stop him.

EMPEROR The Peking police force will have to take charge of the situation.

ALADDIN I'm afraid they are no match for the likes of Abanazar.

CHOP Are you calling our capability into question, young man?

SUEY Think we're not up to the job?

ALADDIN He has in his power a Genie who has the ability to move mountains. He could destroy you with the wave of his mighty hand.

[CHOP and SUEY look at each other then at the EMPEROR.]

CHOP Your Highness, we would like to offer our resignations!

EMPEROR Nonsense. We've all got to think of a way to get Jasmine back.

TWANKEY And my new Dior winter outfit!

WISHEE The situation seems hopeless.

ALADDIN *[Suddenly having an idea.]* Wait a minute. The last time everything seemed hopeless the Slave of the Ring gave a helping hand.

NOTSOSHY Slave of the Ring?

ALADDIN Yes. Let's see if she can help again. *[HE rubs the ring. There is a flash and the SLAVE appears down right.]*

SLAVE Oh hello dear, don't tell me you haven't found the lamp yet?

ALADDIN Found it and lost it again.

SLAVE Now that is careless dear. Who's got it now?

ALADDIN Abanazar. He tricked his way into my palace and took everything back to his home in Egypt. Please help us to get them back.

SLAVE Oh now you're asking the impossible. I can't go meddling with the power of the Genie. I only do the little tricks. You know. Tips on the Grand National, picking the lottery numbers . that sort of thing. I couldn't bring your palace back here.

ALADDIN Then all is lost.

ALL *[Looking down. Dejected.]* Oh.

SLAVE But I could take you all there.

ALL *[Looking at the SLAVE. Smiling.]* Oh?

ALADDIN You can?

SLAVE Nothing simpler dear. How does a flying carpet ride appeal to you?

TWANKEY Oh I say, it's Hertz Rent-a-Rug!

[NOTE: If it is possible to do a flying carpet scene use the following dialogue. The alternative ending to this scene is found at the end of the script.]

SLAVE Get into two groups. *[They group as follows – EMPEROR, CHOP and SUEY on one side and ALADDIN, TWANKEY, WISHEE and NOTSOSHY on the other.]* That's right now fasten your safety belts and prepare for take off.

FLYING MUSIC

[The music comes up as the lights fade to a spot on each group. The front cloth rises and we are in

SCENE 4a UP IN THE AIR

[It is a night sky or star cloth with two flying carpets in front. Each group gets onto a carpet. Dry ice or smoke swirls around to give a cloud effect. The SLAVE waves to them and exits as the flight starts. The music segues into a number for ALL of them.]

SONG . ALADDIN, TWANKEY, WISHEE, EMPEROR NOTSOSHY, CHOP AND SUEY

[During the song the SLAVE could enter in a spot Down Right and say the following:]

SLAVE In preparation for landing please make sure your seat back is in the upright position and your tray table is stowed. *[SHE exits.]*

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 5 ABANAZAR'S PALACE IN EGYPT

[The scene is the same as scene 3, but this time visible through the two small arches are palm trees and through the centre is the base of a pyramid with a Sphinx in front. An ornate oriental seat or pile of cushions is on stage left. On it sits ABANAZAR. The lamp is now attached to his belt. HE is being entertained by a troupe of SLAVE GIRLS performing a dance. 2 MALE GUARDS stand in attendance.]

[NOTE: If scene 4a is used and time is required to clear the carpets, a set of front tabs could close and the dance start in front of them. When ready the tabs open to find ABANAZAR watching the dance. As the dance draws to a close ABANAZAR yawns and claps his hands.]

SLAVE GIRLS DANCE

ABANAZAR Yes yes, very nice. You can save the rest for later. *[The GIRLS bow and exit. HE calls to the GUARDS.]* Have the Princess Jasmine brought to me. *[The GUARDS bow and exit.]* Time to give the Genie a call I think. *[HE rubs the lamp. There is a flash and the GENIE appears down right.]*

GENIE What's happenin'?

ABANAZAR I wish you wouldn't speak like that when you address me.

GENIE Brother, I walk the walk
And I talk the talk!

ABANAZAR Really? Well I happen to detest all that ridiculous rapping and require you to talk in a way I understand.

GENIE Oh you mean in a *[HE names a heavy accented dialect such as Birmingham or Liverpool.]* accent?

ABANAZAR Certainly not. A perfect Oxford accent will be acceptable. *[The GENIE looks at him then gives a shrug and speaks in an affected English accent.]*

GENIE Very good, your lordship. How may I please your lordship?

ABANAZAR This evening I wish you to create a magnificent dinner for me. I intend to celebrate finally becoming the most powerful man in the universe. *[JASMINE is heard shouting at the GUARDS.]*

JASMINE Get your hands off me. Let go I say.

ABANAZAR And that troublesome Princess will be my personal slave. It's time she was taken down off that high and mighty pedestal and made to do some menial tasks.

[The GUARDS brings her on.]

ABANAZAR *[Clapping his hand.]* Leave us. *[The GUARDS bow and exit. The GENIE is about to go but speaks – in his usual way - aside to JASMINE.]*

GENIE Be careful sister what you say and do,
 Cos he has got some plans for you! *[HE exits.]*

ABANAZAR Jasmine, my dear. How enchanting you look.

JASMINE Don't you dare address me in such a familiar way.

ABANAZAR Come, come now. Is that the way to speak to your master?

JASMINE Master?

ABANAZAR Yes. You are to be my personal slave for the rest of your life.

JASMINE Then I hope my life is very short.

ABANAZAR But why? As my slave I can give you everything your heart desires.

JASMINE The only thing I desire is to be back home with Aladdin.

ABANAZAR *[Angry at the mention of Aladdin's name.]* Aladdin? He is helpless without the power of the magic lamp. He'll never find us here, so you can forget all about him.

JASMINE Never.

ABANAZAR Oh you will . in time. For too long you have enjoyed the finer things in life and it is only I who can give them to you.

JASMINE I'd rather be a pauper in the streets than spend a minute longer staring at your repulsive face.

ABANAZAR *[Angry again.]* Take care what you say to me. My patience is limited. Perhaps some time locked away in your room might temper your tempestuous attitude. *[HE calls.]* Guards! *[The GUARDS enter and bow.]* Take our guest to her room and lock her in. *[The GUARDS drag the protesting JASMINE off.]* Finally everything I've ever wanted is within my grasp. That headstrong girl will learn to respect me in time, but maybe I should consider the possibility that Aladdin may come searching for her. Love, although blind, does have very strong ties, so there is the chance he may discover where we are. I should protect this palace from any intruder. But how? *[HE gets an idea.]* Of course. The Great Pyramid that holds the tombs of my ancestors. I'll call upon it to repel anyone who dares to enter here uninvited. *[HE crosses up to the centre arch and looking at the Pyramid, chants a spell.]*
 Oh ancient guardian of a time long past,
 My command is clear.
 Rise up, bring forth your might and destroy
 All who enter here.

[A crash of thunder echoes around the palace. ABANAZAR laughs wildly and exits left. After a moment ALADDIN pops his head around a pillar stage right. The EMPEROR then pops his head around below ALADDIN'S. NOTSOSHY'S head appears even lower down and finally WISHEE'S on the floor. All the heads except WISHEE'S disappear and then ALADDIN, EMPEROR and NOTSOSHY enter. As each one comes on WISHEE reacts as though they have stepped on his backside. HE cries out "Oww" each time

– the last one being very loud. The OTHERS turn around and “Shhh” him. HE stands and joins them.]

- NOTSOSHY I can't believe this is the same palace that Aladdin created.
- EMPEROR No. It looks so different. Sinister even.
- WISHEE Oh dear. I feel very worried. *[Audience reacts and WISHEE has a cup of tea.]*
- ALADDIN We must find Jasmine as soon as possible and then try to retrieve the lamp.
- EMPEROR I hope she's all right. That fiend will have a lot to answer for when I catch up with him.
- NOTSOSHY Where's Mrs Twankey got to?
- ALADDIN I don't know. She was feeling a bit airsick after the carpet ride.
- [There is a groan from off right. Two hands appear clutching the pillar on stage right and then WIDOW TWANKEY enters looking the worst for wear.]*
- TWANKEY Oh, if only the floor would stop going up and down.
- WISHEE Mom, we've landed.
- TWANKEY We may have landed, but my stomach is still looping the loop!
- ALADDIN Just take some deep breaths. You'll be fine in no time.
- TWANKEY That's easy for you to say. You were in first class. I think I was in the cargo hold!
- ALADDIN Wait a minute. I think I know what to do. *[HE rubs his ring. The SLAVE appears down right.]*
- SLAVE Oh you got here safe and sound then?
- ALADDIN Safe, but not exactly sound. My mother is in need of something to settle her stomach.
- SLAVE Oh dear we are looking a little green, aren't we? How about a pick me up?
- TWANKEY Oh no more picking up please. We only just come down.
- SLAVE How about this? *[SHE produces a bottle of gin.]*
- TWANKEY *[Perking up at the sight of the bottle.]* Oh you're a spirit after my own heart! *[SHE drinks quickly from the bottle and hands it back to the SLAVE.]* That seems to have done the trick.
- ALADDIN Before you go can you tell us where the Princess Jasmine is being held?
- SLAVE Abanazar has her locked up in her room and watched by his guards. You'll be in great danger if you try to rescue her, dear. This palace is very different from when it was in China. You must all be very careful.

ALADDIN We will, but I must get to Jasmine. Will you take me to her?

SLAVE If you really insist.

ALADDIN I do.

NOTSOSHY I'm coming with you. My mistress will need me.

SLAVE Follow me then. *[SHE exits followed by ALADDIN and NOTSOSHY.]*

EMPEROR *[Sounding worried.]* Now they've left us alone, what are we going to do?

WISHEE I don't know. I feel as though it's time for another cup of tea!

TWANKEY Well just listen to you two grown men. What a couple of babies. I'm not going to let the thought of that scary old Abanazar frighten me. *[Two heavy footsteps are heard. TWANKEY clings to the men.]* Ahhh! What was that?

WISHEE I d-d-d don't know! *[Two more footsteps.]*

EMPEROR Someone's coming. *[The sound of marching feet on gravel is heard.]*

TWANKEY Quick. Hide! *[THEY run up to one of the arches and hide. The footsteps get nearer and then CHOP and SUEY march onto the stage. CHOP stops centre stage and SUEY bumps into her.]*

CHOP Be careful!

SUEY Sorry Sarge.

CHOP Now we're here we must take charge of the situation. You look over there . *[Points right.]* And I'll look over here. *[SHE moves to the left as SUEY moves right. THEY circle the stage and end by bumping into each other back in the centre. THEY scream and run right and left.]* What do you think you are doing?

SUEY Sorry Sarge.

CHOP Stop saying 'Sorry Sarge'.

SUEY Sorry Sarge.

CHOP Ooooh! Keep looking. *[Each looking off either right or left they move up stage until they are near the pillar where the others are hiding. TWANKEY, EMPEROR and WISHEE pop their heads around the pillar – one above the other again – and speak.]*

TWANKEY)
 EMPEROR) Hello!
 WISHEE)

[CHOP screams and jumps into SUEY'S arms. The OTHERS come out from behind the pillar.]

TWANKEY *We wondered where you two had got to.*

CHOP P C Suey.

SUEY Yes Sarge?

CHOP Put me down!

SUEY Yes Sarge. *[Does so.]* Sorry Sarge. *[CHOP hits him.]*

EMPEROR You know I don't like it here. We could be discovered any minute.

WISHEE Yes. What if something creeps up on us? This place is so vast you need eyes in the back of your head.

TWANKEY Well we've got them.

CHOP Where?

TWANKEY *[Pointing to the audience.]* Out there. Hundreds of them.

SUEY Oh yes.

TWANKEY *[To the audience.]* We need your help. You will help us, won't you? *[Audience reacts.]* We're going to do something that's never been tried in pantomime before! We want you to shout out the immortal words *"He's behind you"* if you see anything strange. Could you do that? *[Audience reacts.]* Oh thank you.

EMPEROR That's them sorted out. Now what do we do while we wait for Aladdin?

TWANKEY We're going to try another brand new idea of mine.

WISHEE What's that?

TWANKEY We're going to sing!

NUMBER . TWANKEY, WISHEE, EMPEROR, CHOP AND SUEY

[ALL start to sing when a CREATURE enters behind them. This can be a Mummy, a Ghost or even an Egyptian Sphinx. The "He's behind you" sequence follows with first CHOP and SUEY being scared off, followed by the EMPEROR and then WISHEE. TWANKEY is left singing the song when SHE realises she's on her own.]

TWANKEY Where's my backing group *[Or name of well-known pop group.]* gone? *[Audience reacts and indicates the CREATURE. SHE turns to see it.]* Oh hello. Do you want to be part of my group? *[The CREATURE nods.]* Come on then . big finish. *[THEY both finish the number either vocally or a dance routine. After the applause ABANAZAR enters down left.]*

ABANAZAR What's going on here?

[The CREATURE sees him, screams and runs off.]

TWANKEY Everyone . quick. Old Ali Baba is here!

[ALL the others except JASMINE come running.]

ABANAZAR *[Seeing ALADDIN.]* So Aladdin, we meet again. I underestimated you. I overlooked the fact that your determination only outweighs your foolishness. *[HE holds up the lamp ready to summon the GENIE.]*

ALADDIN That's right. Summon the Genie to do your dirty work.

ABANAZAR No. I think it's about time I took care of you . once and for all!

[Fight. ALADDIN is almost defeated, as ABANAZAR holds the sword to his throat.]

Now the Genie can incarcerate you until the sands of time run out.

ALADDIN There something else you overlooked *Uncle*.

ABANAZAR What's that?

ALADDIN The gift you gave to me.

ABANAZAR Gift? What gift?

ALADDIN *[Rubbing the ring.]* This one. *[The SLAVE appears down right.]*
SLAVE What a busy day! *[Sees ABANAZAR.]* Oh my gawd, it's him again.

ABANAZAR *[Aghast.]* The Slave of the Ring.

ALADDIN *[To the SLAVE.]* Deal with him.

SLAVE For being such a scheming liar,
Make the lamp as hot as fire.

[ABANAZAR suddenly starts to react as though the lamp was red hot.]

ABANAZAR Ooooh! Ahh! *[HE juggles it from one hand to the other. The OTHERS on stage intercept it and it passes from one to another until it is back in ALADDIN'S hands.]*

ALADDIN Now to deal with this slimy sorcerer once and for all. *[HE rubs the lamp and the GENIE appears down right.]*

GENIE Now what's the buzz?

ALADDIN Genie, this miserable creature needs to be taught a lesson. Have you a suitable punishment for all the wicked things he has done?

GENIE Well I could take him below the ocean deep
Where the song of the whales would deprive him of sleep.
Or sit him on top of a mountain high
And make him count all the stars in the sky.
But wait . but wait I got a thought cominqthrough
Tell me if this idea grabs you?
For beinqsuch an objectionable chap

Until the end of his days he'll have to listen to rap!

ALADDIN Perfect.

[The GENIE makes a pass and the latest rap sound is heard.]

ABANAZAR NO!!!! *[HE is drawn off stage against his will. HIS cries fade, as does the sound.]*

ALADDIN One more thing Genie. Please bring Princess Jasmine back to us.

GENIE Well then boss, if that's your wish,
Here she is, that tasty dish!

[JASMINE enters and runs to ALADDIN.]

JASMINE Aladdin. *[THEY embrace.]*

EMPEROR Oh Jasmine, you're safe. And it's all thanks to you, my boy.

TWANKEY Now you've got to admit. He is suitable son-in-law material.

EMPEROR I can't think of anyone I'd sooner have in the family.
[ALL cheer.]

ALADDIN Then without any further delay let's get back home to Peking.

REPRISE – (ALADDIN'S FIRST SONG)

[A short reprise at the end of which the lights fade and the scene changes to]

SCENE 6 BEHIND THE LAUNDRY

[The front cloth scene. On stage down right and left from the previous scene are the GENIE and the SLAVE.]

GENIE *[Eyeing up the SLAVE.]* Well babe, how did you like your supersonic ride back home?

SLAVE Well the ride was fine, but I didn't think much to the in flight entertainment.

GENIE You mean my rapping
Didn't get you clapping?

SLAVE No, I'm more of a *[Latest pop idol.]* fan myself.

GENIE *[Astounded.]* What? I see I have some serious educating to do on you.

SLAVE Oh you do, do you?

GENIE Yeah. And where better to start than with a cosy meal for two back at my pad.

SLAVE What, that dirty old lamp?

GENIE It may be dirty from the outside, but believe me the interior is top of the range. And it has oil fired central heating!

SLAVE Really? Well that sounds a lot better than my icy diamond home in the ring.

GENIE *[Offering her his arm.]* Forget that ring
Let's go and swing.

SLAVE *[Crossing to him.]* If you've got what I crave
I could be your slave!

GENIE Now you're getting it baby. *[With a big wink at the audience HE exits with HER. WISHEE runs on from the other side.]*

WISHEE Well here we are home safe and sound. We've sold the laundry and we're all living in Aladdin's palace. He and Princess Jasmine are going to get married and guess what. Notsoshy and me are going steady. Yes we are. There might be another wedding before very long. I'm just waiting for Mom. She's trying on another dress the Genie whipped up for her. I hope it's a full length one. I don't know whether you've noticed but she's a bit hairy for a woman. She has this thing for shaving her legs. It's called a lawn mower. *[HE starts to laugh as WIDOW TWANKEY enters in another outrageous outfit.]*

TWANKEY *I heard that.*

WISHEE Sorry Mom. I say would you like to hear a joke?

TWANKEY A joke? But your jokes are never funny.

WISHEE This one is. You'd like it.

TWANKEY Go on then.

WISHEE Why don't they have telephone directories in China?

TWANKEY I don't know. Why don't they have telephone directories in China?

WISHEE Because there are so many Wings and so many Wongs you might wing the wong number! *[HE falls about laughing as WIDOW TWANKEY just stands still – straight faced.]*

TWANKEY For telling that terrible joke you've got to stop here and help me.

WISHEE To do what?

TWANKEY We've got to learn a special song to sing at Aladdin's wedding.

WISHEE A special song? Do you have the words?

TWANKEY Of course. The Genie wrote them out in big letters so all our friends can join in. *[SHE claps her hands and the words of the song sheet fly in. They are written in Chinese lettering.]* There we are. *[To the audience.]* Now I'd sing it

first and you follow the words. *[Audience reaction.]* What's that? You can't read Chinese? *[To WISHEE.]* Oh Wishee, what are we going to do?

WISHEE Don't panic. I've learned a few tricks of my own. *[HE makes a magic pass and the words change to English – or HE removes the board with Chinese lettering to reveal a translation underneath.]*

TWANKEY Oh splendid. Now we can all sing together.

SONG SHEET

[THEY ad lib into the song sheet, invite some children onto the stage and have the usual competition. At the end THEY wave goodbye and exit. The lights fade to blackout and the scene changes to ò ò ò ò ò ò ò]

SCENE 7 ALADDIN'S PALACE

[Either the same as Act 2 Scene 3 or else a traditional Finale set. The CHORUS and DANCERS are on. The COMPANY takes its bow in the following order.]

FINALE

CHORUS
DANCERS
SLAVE OF THE RING
GENIE OF THE LAMP
CHOP & SUEY
EMPEROR
ABANAZAR
NOTSOSHY
WISHEE WASHEE
WIDOW TWANKEY
FANFARE

ALADDIN & JASMINE

[The WHOLE COMPANY takes a bow. The GENIE starts his final rap and gets the OTHERS to join in.]

GENIE *[In rhythm.]* All right . let's see what you've learned from your genial neighbourhood Genie! *[HE indicates ABANAZAR and starts to chant.]*
My latest pupil's here to show
He's now a better chap.

ABANAZAR In penance for my evil ways
I've learned to speak this rap!

SLAVE You've heard our ancient story

EMPEROR We hope we've told it true.

CHOP The facts have all been noted down

SUEY By the boys in blue! *[CHOP glares at him.]*

NOTSOSHY I've got myself a real cool dude
And no one else will do.

WISHEE But after drinking all that tea
I need to find the loo!

TWANKEY I always knew my lovely lad
Would prove to be a champ.

JASMINE And so goodbye to all of you

ALADDIN From me *[Big finish.]* and my fabulous lamp.

ALL Goodbye. *[THEY wave and start the Final Chorus.]*

FINAL CHORUS

The Curtain Falls

End of Act Two

Alternative ending to Act 2 Scene 4

TWANKEY Oh I say, it's Hertz Rent-a-Rug!

NOTSOSHY *[Looking off right.]* A flying carpet. I say, how exciting.

SLAVE Everyone follow me to the departure lounge! *[SHE exits down right.]*

SONG . ALADDIN, TWANKEY, WISHEE, EMPEROR NOTSOSHY, CHOP
AND SUEY

*[At the end of the number they ALL exit. The lights fade and the scene
changes to ...]*