

NODA PANTOMIMES

PRESENT

Aladdin

The story of a boy who rubbed a genie
up the right way

By

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Welcome to the eighth pantomime in our series

In this pantomime we have taken a great story that is full of the mysteries of the Orient with all the magic, mystery and opportunity for comedy this story brings, and woven a pantomime full of witty one liners, comedy characters and a perfectly evil villain.

It has a traditional feel and is one that you will quickly recognise. But we have taken the tale and given it our little twist which we hope you think will make it unique. Whilst there is direction and suggestions for song breaks to help with interpretation, we realise, as always, that companies and other directors like the freedom to add and take out elements that may or may not suit their company. Feel free. The story lends itself to this and gives ample opportunity for groups to put in the local / topical feel, which is always important and let's face it, traditional in these productions.

Again, in our writing we have envisaged a production on a smaller stage with simple sets, but as always could well see these performed on a bigger stage and with bigger budgets having great effects and lavish scenery. Whatever you do with it, as always our motto is, 'make it fun'.

Best of luck

Rob and Leo

PS: If you do perform one of our pantos and let us know when it's on we'd love to try and come and see it. You can message us via our Facebook site, Robleo Productions. Thanks. L & R.

Others in the series

Cinderella

A Christmas Carol – the panto

Puss in Boots

Snow White

Jack and the Beanstalk

Robin Hood

Rumpelstiltskin

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Characters

Widow Twankey (M/F). The dame. A lazy, idle washer woman. Mother to Wishee Washee and Aladdin. Must be able to move, sing and have good comic timing.

Aladdin (M/F) The hero of our story. Can be played as a principal boy. Must be able to sing and move.

Wishee Washee (M/F) The put-upon brother of Aladdin. Comedy foil for Dame. Many comedic lines and could be quite knock-about. Must be able to sing, move and have good comic timing.

Princess Jasmine (F) Feisty princess. Love interest for Aladdin. Must be able to sing and move.

Coco (F) Princess Jasmynes hand maiden. Another feisty female. Also has some comic one liners, so must have good timing and be able to sing and move.

Sergeant Ping (M/F) One half of the comedy double act with PC Pong. Must be able to sing, move, have good comic timing and work with the audience

PC Pong (M/F) As per Sergeant Ping

Abanazar (M) The baddy! Must be able to at least put a song over, have good comic timing and work with the audience.

Shady Spirit (M/F) A small part only appearing in the first half (Scene 2) but has a great comic scene with Abanazar so needs good timing and a feel for comedy. Could take another part e.g. Genie of the Ring.

Sultan (M) A small male part. Works with the Grand Vizier

Grand Vizier (M/F) A fairly small part but good comic lines. Must be able to act and have good comic timing.

Genie of the Ring (M/F) Works with Aladdin. Good comic part so needs to be able to act and have good comic timing.

Genie of the Lamp (M/F) As per Genie of the Ring

Lola (Aladdin's pet parrot) – This can be either a person (M/F) or a puppet with puppeteer such as a rod arm puppet or just a glove puppet bird which perches around the stage. She speaks and squawks.

Chorus Not a huge involvement for the chorus but as always when they are on they are pivotal to the story and keeping the audience interested. Some lovely comic scenes for them to play plus the odd lines for a chorus 1 and 2.

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Act 1

- Scene 1** Bazaar full set. Then Abanazar's entrance, tabs can be drawn to set stage behind.
- Scene 2** Widow Twankey's Laundry.
- Scene 3** Still Widow Twankey's Laundry. Changes can be made by Chorus.
- Scene 4** Jasmine's garden. This can be tabs or another smaller set.
- Scene 5** Aladdin in prison. Front of tabs or smaller side set.
- Scene 6** Widow Twankey's Laundry.
- Scene 7** On the way to cave and cave which can be set behind tabs or an actual cave entrance.

Act 2

- Scene 1** Cave. This can be a small set in front of tabs with the next scene set behind.
- Scene 2** Scrubbers Yard
- Scene 3** Sultan's Palace. This can be a smaller set as it is only seen once behind which the next scene is set.
- Scene 4** Aladdin's Palace
- Scene 5** Starts front of tabs but is a quick change into Scrubbers Yard.
- Scene 6** Abanazar's / Aladdin's Palace. Of course, it is the same set as Abanazar has just had the palace transported.
- Scene 7** Front of tabs / cloth so walkdown can be set.
- Scene 8** Full set. Final walkdown song, bows and rhyme

Act 1

Scene 1

(Curtains open and lights up on a full scene. All the chorus plus Aladdin and the parrot Lola are on. It is the bazaar and Princess Jasmine's birthday so a day of great celebration. As the song comes to an end Aladdin starts to speak).

Aladdin *(To audience).* Hello boys and girls. My name is Aladdin *(Introduces his pet parrot)* and this is my pet parrot, Lola. She's been my friend ever since I found her just hatched out of her egg. Today is the great festival of Princess Jasmine's birthday. Funnily enough she has one every year. I can't remember the last time I had one. I think I'm still six years old. *(Looks round at the market).* I thought I would come around for a mooch. I'm quite hungry. I've not eaten anything since, well, early this morning when Mother made me my breakfast of dried porridge sweepings. Perhaps, I could just 'borrow' an orange? *(He moves towards the stalls looking quite furtive).*

Chorus 1 Clear off Aladdin. Keep your sticky mitts to yourself.

(Aladdin pinches an orange and a little chase ensues around the stalls. Could even be a dance. At an appropriate time, the chorus shout for the police).

(Lola squawks here and makes lots of noise).

Chorus 2 Help, help, thief! Police!

(A police whistle is heard off stage and on run the two police officers. As they enter Aladdin and Lola exit).

Pong Missed him again.

Ping We need to go and have a word with his mother. One of these days he is going to get himself into lots of bother.

Pong *(Look to audience).* Probably towards the end of act one if I'm not mistaken.

Ping That's as may be, but if he gets caught doing what he's doing he'll end up in prison. *(To audience).* It's not right is it boys and girls. You just can't go around stealing stuff. He needs to concentrate more on helping his poor mother sort out the laundry.

Pong I think you're right. If he made everyone drop their trousers in the laundry they'd make loads of money. *(Ping does a double take, but Pong carries on).* My pet frog got mixed up in my washing when I gave it to Widow Twankey the other day.

Ping Oh dear. What happened? Did your frog die?

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Pong He did sadly.

Ping It would be Widow Twankey's terribly strong detergent that killed it I suppose?

Pong Oh I don't think it was the detergent.

Ping What was it then?

Pong Got mangled. *(Gestures winding a mangle).*

Ping You daft d...c'mon let's go and see Widow Twankey, maybe she can have a word with him. Put him on the straight and narrow.

(Ping and Pong exit).

(The lights dim and a small side scene is quickly set for Abanazar, it is somewhere in the far east. Lots of smoke should be added for atmosphere. He is sitting at a table doing some incantations. A little cauldron is in front of him).

Abanazar *(As if making a great big incantation).* Eye of newt, toad's livers, wombat's tongue and to finish, *(works up to this)* spit of a wizard *(he spits).* *(Slight pause, then to audience, suddenly getting very upbeat).* Place all this in your oven at gas mark three and in half an hour you'll have a fabulous steaming stew. I do love the new Mary Berry *(or other popular cook of the day)* recipes. Now, where is that spirit when you need him? Spirit, oh spirit?

(Shady Spirit enters in a puff of smoke and flash of light)

SS You bawled, oh master? *(SS makes an elaborate bow).*

Abanazar I did indeed bawl as you put it. Have you made any progress on finding the lamp?

SS Yes.

Abanazar Good. *(He pauses for SS to say something nothing is forthcoming)*and...?

SS Ah, I see what you're doing, you're waiting for me to explain aren't you?

Abanazar Yes. *(He pauses again waiting for SS to say something)*and?

SS Oh sorry, that was you waiting again wasn't it?

Abanazar Right enough of this. You either start telling me where the magic lamp is or as a very resourceful wizard, I will find a way to whisk you back from whence you came where you will face all kinds of nasty things.

SS (*Comes straight in*). It's in a deep dark cave with lots of other wonderful treasures.

Abanazar Ha haa! Now I have it.

SS Not quite.

Abanazar Sorry?

SS No need to apologise.

Abanazar I am not apologising. What do you mean, not quite?

SS Only someone with a pure heart can open the cave.

Abanazar Well, that rules me out.

SS It does.

Abanazar What do you suggest?

SS You could join a monastery. Repent. Live a blameless life.

Abanazar No, not me you silly spirit. How do I get into the cave?

SS Ohh! There is only one person I know who can do what you ask.

Abanazar And who is that?

SS (*Delivered like a proclamation*). A boy. He lives in old Peking and his name is (*slight pause*) Aladdin.

(*Blackout, end scene*).

Scene 2

(*The lights come up on the outside of Widow Twankey's laundry. It should be set full stage. There should be a washing line and comedy clothes hanging up (big knickers, bloomers etc.) Once the scene is set Widow Twankey makes her entrance.*)

WT (*Spots the audience*). Oh hello! Welcome to my humble laundry. The cleanest establishment in the whole of Peking. I'm actually run off my feet with all the work I'm doing. Dashing here, running there. I have two sons Wishee Washee and Aladdin. They are both quite lazy. They never do anything (*At this point Wishee goes across the back with a basket piled high with washing and exits*). It seems I'm the only one doing anything round here. (*Wishee now comes on with a washing line and is trying to put it up. It is full of washing. He should be pulling it on, but it is fighting back. He pulls it and it pulls him back and he could end up on the floor. Eventually he pulls it across the stage and puts it up and now the stage looks full of washing*). I have so
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much to do I don't really have time to stand around and chat, but it is quite nice to meet you all. I feel like I actually know you. *(Starts talking with the audience giving Wishee time to set the line)*. What's your name etc? How do you do, my name is Widow Twankey etc? Anyway, must get on. *(Widow Twankey if able should back away from the audience and neck herself on the line as she turns around and maybe pratfall if possible)*.

WT *(Still on the floor)*. Wishee Washee!

(Wishee enters running).

Wishee You screamed Mother *(he bows)*?

WT Are you responsible for this?

Wishee No, I think you managed to fall over all by yourself.

WT Very funny.

Wishee *(To audience)*. We thought so didn't we kids?

WT I'm talking about the washing line. *(Wishee helps her up)*.

Wishee As it happens, yes I am responsible for the washing line. *(To audience)* Someone has to do something round here.

WT Very nicely done son. Keep up the good work. I'm off for a lie down. *(She pats him on the back and exits)*.

Wishee She is right about one thing though, Aladdin never does anything. It's no wonder we find it hard to make ends meet. If he put as much effort into helping round the laundry as he does getting chased by the Peking Police we'd all be millionaires.

(Ping and Pong enter).

Wishee Sergeant Ping, PC Pong. What an unexpected *(to audience)* not *(to Ping and Pong)* pleasure.

Ping We're looking for Aladdin.

Wishee Aren't we all. *(At this point Aladdin enters and turns and is about to go)* Wait!

(Aladdin stops and turns and all the while reacts to what Wishee is actual saying to him).

Pong Have you thought of something?

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Wishee (To Aladdin). You need to stay and help mother with the washing.

Ping Of course we'd love to, but we are very busy policemen.

Wishee (To Aladdin). And look at your trousers they're filthy. Take them off and get them washed.

Pong If you insist. *(He starts taking his trousers off to reveal big or strange undies).*

Ping That's taking things a bit too far.

(Aladdin starts walking off).

Wishee (To Aladdin). That's far enough.

(Aladdin stops).

Pong Quite right. *(He pulls his trousers back up).*

Ping Enough of this. Where is Aladdin

Wishee (To Aladdin). And now I think you need to leg it.

(Aladdin gives Wishee a big thumbs up and exits).

Pong I don't know what's got into you Wishee you're normally a lot nicer. We're going now. Tell Aladdin we want a word with him when you see him.

Wishee *(His attention is now back with Ping and Pong).* Sorry, what were you saying?

(Ping and Pong exit disgruntled).

Wishee *(To audience).* And there we have it. Aladdin's off to goodness knows where seeing goodness knows who and doing goodness knows what. And Mother? She's getting forty winks leaving me to do all the dirty work. Literally. Well, I suppose the washing isn't going to wash itself. Y'know, what I could do with is a genie. *(Pause).* What am I talking about that's just stuff from fairy stories, isn't it? And they always bring trouble.

(Wishee exits, blackout, end of scene).

Scene 3

(Lights up. It is still outside Widow Twankey's laundry. The sign Scrubbers Yard can be seen. Aladdin, Widow Twankey, Wishee Washee, chorus, are all on. There is a large laundry basket on stage. Everyone is excited and making a commotion as Princess Jasmine is coming to take her royal bath, Sergeant Ping and PC Pong enter).

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Pong Silence everyone. Fingers on lips. *(To audience)*. I'm not joking. I want to see your fingers on your lips. We have a very important message, in fact it is a royal decree and it is possibly the most exciting thing to ever happen in Scrubbers Yard.

Ping Gather round you scrubbers.

(Chorus titter fingers still on lips).

Pong *(To chorus)*. Who's that laughing? We will not have any laughing in this panto. *(To chorus)*. Right, my colleague here, Sergeant Ping, will now read out the royal decree and I want complete silence.

Ping *(Stands on a box or centre stage to address the chorus)*. Ahem! Citizens, subjects, big scrubbers and little scrubbers, scrubbers all.

(Chorus laugh behind their hands).

Pong Did I hear a titter? I'm watching you. Continue Sergeant.

Ping Right where was I? Oh yes. Today, as it's her birthday, her Royal Highness, Princess Jasmine, will be passing through Scrubbers Yard on her way to patronise the royal baths. It will be considered an act of treason, punishable by death, for anyone to look at the princess. Heads must be bowed and eyes averted at all times until she has left this disgusting yard. *(To audience)*. I have no idea why she would want to come to this hovel in the first place.

Pong *(Aside to Ping)*. How will they know when she has gone?

Ping We shall tell them.

Pong How will we know if we can't see?

Ping That's a good point, how will we know?

Pong We need some sort of signalling system.

Ping What about if we put a piece of rope across the end of the path with a bell attached to it, then when her head hits the rope the bell will ring.

Pong Great idea. Now scrubbers, I want this yard cleaned up and made fit for a princess. I don't want any smells, sights or sounds which may be offensive to the royal nose, which for some of you means that you need to leave, I'm looking at you Stinky Stan.

(A member of the chorus bows their head and exits as Stinky Stan. Everyone mumbles in disapproval, they still have fingers on lips.)

Pong Alright, fingers off lips.

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(Lots of excited chatter. Ping and Pong exit as if setting up the bell. As chorus start to clean they can possibly sing a song. Abanazar enters in disguise, unseen by the chorus.)

(End song).

Aladdin What about that Wishee, the princess is coming here.

Wishee I know but I can't help thinking it would be better for everyone if you went away for the rest of the day.

Aladdin What? And miss the chance of seeing the princess, no way.

Wishee But, that is the point Aladdin. You are not allowed to look at her. Oh dear, you are going to look at her aren't you and then you will get yourself arrested and then they will throw you into prison, then lop off your head for good measure. Why can't you just behave?

Aladdin Because behaving is no fun Wishee.

WT *(Taking Wishee to one side).* That brother of yours is planning to look at the princess isn't he?

Wishee Yes mother.

WT We need a plan to stop him or he will end up in the clink or worse.

Wishee As soon as we hear the royal fanfare then we will know the princess is arriving and we can bundle him into that laundry basket.

WT Great idea Wishee.

(Lights up on Abanazar who steps forward to speak to the audience. He looks at the sign Scrubbers Yard).

Abanazar Ahh, Scrubbers Yard. A filthy hole by any standards. So, this must be where Aladdin lives. And it seems I am in time to see the royal Princess Jasmine. Little do they know that one day all this, not Scrubbers Yard you understand, I mean the whole world, will be mine. All I need is the lamp in my grasp but for that I need the boy, Aladdin. I shall wait in the shadows and see if he shows himself.

(A fanfare is played to indicate the princess is on her way. Widow Twankey and Wishee grab Aladdin and bundle him into the basket).

(Ping and Pong enter).

Ping *(To all on stage)*. Eyes down everyone, the princess is here. And no looking until you hear the bell or else. *(Makes a cutting sign across his throat with his hand to indicate death)*.

(Princess Jasmine and her entourage enter and everyone is bowed down. Aladdin lifts the flap on the basket and is seen by Wishee. The princess is taking her time looking round).

Wishee *(Stage whisper)*. Aladdin what are you doing? *(He pulls the flap down only for Aladdin to lift it again)*.

Abanazar *(Hidden by his cloak he speaks to the audience)*. So, there is the boy Aladdin, the boy with a good heart. He seems a spirited fellow. All I need to do is to convince, persuade, coerce, oh come on let's be honest, force, Aladdin to do my bidding and then I can take over the whole world. Ha ha hahaaa.

(Whilst the entourage are still on stage a lamp seller enters – can be either in the auditorium or the stage - and rings a bell).

Lamp Seller *(Rings a bell)*. Oil for the lamps of China.

Pong The bell, it worked, they have gone.

(Everyone looks up and freezes as they realise they are gazing on the royal presence).

Ping Eyes down!

(Everyone immediately looks down again).

(The entourage exit and a second bell now rings off stage and the sound of someone being throttled is heard).

(The sound of a bell).

Off stage Aaaagh!

Ping Eyes up, they've gone! *(Casually to chorus)*. Did anyone think the princess was wearing a beautiful dress?

Chorus 1 Oh I thought it was most becoming, she suits pastel colours *(or whatever she is wearing)*. They make her eyes pop.

Ping PC Pong arrest that person. I said no looking. Now, would anyone else like to comment on the princess, perhaps regarding her green shoes with matching hat *(or whatever colour she is wearing at the time)*. *(silence)* Anyone?

Pong How do you know she had green shoes?

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Ping What?

Pong I said how do you know?

Ping (*Obviously lying*). I guessed that's all.

Pong You sure? Because you know it is a crime punishable by death to look upon the princess.

Ping Of course I am sure. She could have been wearing a purple belt and matching headdress for all I know.

Pong She certainly wasn't wearing that.

Ping How do you know?

(They look at each other for a moment in silence, both knowing the other has looked at the princess).

Pong Let's get out of here.

Ping Yes let's. *(To all on stage)*. And remember this never happened!

(Ping and Pong exit).

Aladdin Get me out of here Wishee.

Wishee Only if you promise not to follow the royal entourage. I can see what is going through your mind.

(Aladdin gets out of basket).

Aladdin But Wishee she was so beautiful.

Wishee I know, I mean I wouldn't know, I kept my eyes averted.

Aladdin Do you think she could ever....?

Wishee No!

Aladdin I hadn't finished, you don't know what I was going to say

Wishee (*Mockingly*). Do you think she could ever fall in love with a low down, scrubber from Scrubbers Yard, like me?

Aladdin I would not have used those exact words, scrubber seems a little harsh, but, well, yes, do you think?

Wishee No!

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(Wishee and Aladdin exit as all the chorus mime their excitement of the visit Abanazar steps forward into his light as the light dims on the chorus).

Abanazar Now I know where the street urchin lives, I need to plan my next move.

(Lights down to blackout, end scene).

Scene 4

(Lights come up on Princess Jasmine's garden. This can be a simple set in front of tabs. There should be a bench and places for Aladdin to hide. Perhaps a chance for Aladdin to open the scene with a song).

(End song if there is one. Aladdin steps forward and speaks to the audience).

Aladdin That's it! I have found my true love, though she doesn't know it yet. Is it possible to make someone fall in love with you even though they have never seen you? I do hope so. Anyway, I have heard she often comes to this garden after her royal bath to speak with her loyal handmaid in private and I am so smitten with her that I am hoping just to catch a glimpse of her royalness. A glimpse of her sweet nose, a glimpse of her sweet hands, a glimpse of.....

(Lola the parrot appears).

Lola Awk, fat bottom.

Aladdin her fat bottom. No, I didn't mean that. Lola you are a very naughty parrot. Princess Jasmine is most beautiful.

Lola Awk, beautiful.

Aladdin Correct.

(Noises off).

Aladdin Oh no! She's here already. If I am found then I will be for the chop. I'd better hide. Lola, you need to fly away.

(Aladdin hides and Lola exits as Princess Jasmine and Coco her handmaid enter. Coco is carrying a towel. They are talking).

Jasmineand would you believe it Coco, he wants to marry me off to some old ugly sultan!!

Coco Surely not. But you know he only has your best interests at heart.

Jasmine I should coco. *(Realises what she has said)*. No offense.

Coco None taken.

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Jasmine The only interest he has is in filling his coffers with a magnificent dowry. When I marry it must be for love. I don't care if they are poor or rich, so long as I love them and they love me of course.

(Chance for a song here. As the song finishes Aladdin picks up the dialogue whilst Coco and Jasmine perhaps sit reading or doing Jasmynes hair or some such thing).

Aladdin *(To audience)*. I'm still in with a chance then. Though I am sure she would love me more if I was stinking rich.

Jasmine *(Turns to Coco)*. What did you say?

Coco I didn't say anything.

Jasmine Strange, I thought I heard something.

(Lola the parrot appears and starts squawking and talking).

Lola Awk, who's a pretty princess. Awk, Aladdin loves Jasmine.

Jasmine Who is Aladdin?

Aladdin *(He jumps up and speaks to Lola)*. Shut up you stupid bird.

Coco *(She immediately hides Jasmine behind the towel. Jasmine peeps round it looking at Aladdin)*. That is no way to speak to the royal princess! Avert your gaze street rat or risk being beheaded.

Aladdin *(He drops to the floor on his knees and hides his head)*. Oh mighty princess, forgive me. But from the moment I saw you I have loved you. You fill my every thought, my every dream. You are my life. *(He looks up from his kneeling position and Jasmine pulls the towel across coyly)*.

Coco And if you look at her again she will be your death.

Jasmine Let him stand.

Coco Your Highness, what are you saying?

Jasmine I'm saying let him stand.

Coco But what can you possibly mean?

Jasmine Seriously? As he is kneeling let him stand up.

Coco Oh! But you are almost certainly sentencing him to death.

Jasmine Only if you tell my father. Well?

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Coco If you insist Your Highness.

Jasmine I do.

Aladdin *(He stands. To audience)*. Phew, that got a bit tense for a minute.

Jasmine *(To Aladdin)*. You are very brave risking your life like this.

Aladdin Yes I am aren't I.

Coco More like stupid.

Jasmine *(To Coco)*. Thank you for your insight now go and watch out for the police. If they turn up and find, *(turns to Aladdin)* sorry I don't even know your name, yet you risk everything for me.

Aladdin It is Aladdin, Your Highness. *(He bows)*.

Jasmine *(Thinks)* Ahh that Aladdin. I like that. *(To Coco)*. Coco, let me know if the police are coming so that brave Aladdin here can make his escape.

Coco As you wish Your Highness. *(She bows and exits)*.

Jasmine Now we are alone. What shall we do?

Aladdin I don't know really know. This is the first time I've been left alone with a girl.

(They have an opportunity here to sing a duet).

(End of song - Lola the parrot re appears).

Lola Awk. Kiss her stupid.

Jasmine I think you should do as the parrot instructs. *(She shuts her eyes and puckers up)*.

(Aladdin is about to oblige when Coco comes running back on).

Coco *(To audience)*. Just in time I think.

Jasmine *(Opens her eyes and looks at Coco)*. That's all a matter of opinion.

Coco You had better unpucker those lips and come with me now. The police are on their way this very minute and if they catch you getting all smoochy-smoochy with lover boy here, it will be the end of him and your father will have you married to Jumbo the Sultan in a heartbeat.

(They exit).

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Aladdin *(He talks to the parrot. He is obviously in love).* She is beautiful Lola. I have never met anyone like her.

Lola Awk. You're right she is a princess and filthy rich.

Aladdin And also extremely beautiful.

(Sounds off stage as the police arrive).

Lola Awk. Police. Bye!

(Lola exits).

Aladdin Oh no! I've daydreamed too long. The police are here.

(Ping and Pong enter).

Ping Now we have you Aladdin.

(A little chase ensues but Aladdin is eventually cornered).

Pong Stop running and come along quietly lad.

(They each take an arm and put his hands in chains).

Ping Good job you were by yourself and not fraternising with the princess, it could have gone so much worse for you. At least for stealing you will only have bits of you chopped off and spend twenty years in jail.

Aladdin Yes, I suppose it could have been much worse couldn't it!

(Black out, end scene).

Scene 5

(Lights up. Aladdin is in prison, which again can be a small side set or in front of a curtain. The lighting should be suitably grim. Either side of the prison are Ping and Pong. Aladdin steps forward and starts talking to the audience. Lola his parrot can be perched somewhere).

Aladdin It's a bit dark in here and unless there is a miracle it's going to get a bit darker, for me anyway. But I just know in my heart of hearts it's not going to end this way.

Lola Same here, I've seen the script.

Aladdin What was that?

Lola Nothing.

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Aladdin All I can think of is kissing Jasmine one last time.

Lola There hasn't been a first yet.

Aladdin (*Dreaming*). To take her in my arms and caress her hair...

Lola Calm down tiger.

Aladdin Sorry, I was getting carried away. But how am I going to get out of here? (*He drops back on his chair and puts his head in his hands*).

(*Lola exits*).

(*Abanazar steps out of the shadows and speaks to the audience*).

Abanazar That foolish boy. Getting himself locked up for stealing what? An orange. And for this he risks losing a limb. Well, I can't have that. For him to be of any use to me he must have a full set, so I see I am going to have to get him out. Luckily he is only being guarded by those two useless policeme...persons.

(*Abanazar rolls up his sleeves and waving his arms creates an incantation. There should be plenty of smoke and light effects. At this point some 'spirits' can come on a do a little dance to some music as Abanazar speaks*).

Out of darkness into light

Come spirits of the night

(*He looks at Ping and Pong*).

Help Ping and Pong to see

That they must set Aladdin free

(*Final flash and bang and the 'spirits disappear and Abanazar exits. Aladdin still has his head in his hands. Ping and Pong are a bit dreamy*).

Ping You know I've got a strange urge.

Pong I've told you before about your urges

Ping No, nothing weird.

Pong That's good. What is it then?

Ping I think I'm going to let Aladdin go free.

Pong Y'know I was having the same thought.

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Ping Aladdin! Wake up.

Aladdin (*Looks up*). Oh no, is it time?

Pong Time for what? (*Realises*) Ohhh. No, you don't need to worry about that. We've decided to let you go.

Aladdin Really? You're not just having a joke with me are you?

Ping Us be funny? That'd be a first. No, of course not (*opens jail door*). There you are free as a bird. Now fly away.

Aladdin (*Not quite believing it*). If you're sure. (*Steps out of the jail and backs away*). You're very kind.

Pong We are for sure.

Ping You'd better believe it

Aladdin Right then. See you later (*He runs off*).

Pong See you later, he said. What a sweet boy.

Ping (*As if coming out of dream*). Who's a sweet boy?

Pong (*Also coming out of dream*). That's very kind of you, I suppose I am.

Ping Am what?

Pong I don't know. This has all got a bit strange.

Ping (*He notices the jail door open*). Not as strange as that.

Pong Oh dear. We've lost another one haven't we.

(*Black out, end scene*).

Scene 6

(*Widow Twankey and Wishee are in the laundry. Widow Twankey is sitting down and Wishee is rushing around doing various jobs. He puts up the washing line but it keeps falling down. On stage is a washing basket, washing, plus a telephone which should look as oriental as possible and a bell. This is sitting on a little counter*).

(*Washing line drops*).

WT Sort out that washing line will you Wishee, there's a good boy. Oh, and get that washing basket and put it over there. (*Wishee picks it up and puts it down*). Not there, there. The floor needs cleaning as well and the fluff from the dryer needs This script is licensed for amateur theatre by NODA Ltd to whom all enquiries should be made.

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putting back in my belly button. And don't forget that we are having sausages for dinner. So, get to the butcher and get the oven on. *(Line falls again)*. That line's down again. *(To audience)*. It's so hard running a laundry especially with those two lazy boys of mine.

(Wishee stops with his hands on his hips glaring at Widow Twankey).

WT *(Seeing Wishee and speaks to audience)* Well, maybe not so much this one, but Aladdin is so lazy, and he is getting worse. We've hardly seen him since the day the princess came through the yard. *(Phone rings, Widow Twankey jumps up excited)*. Oh the phone's ringing, the phone's ringing ... *(runs to answer the phone)*.

Hello Twankey's laundry,

Open everyday 'cept Mondays.

We'll freshen up your socks and tops,

And even press your undies.

(Looks at phone then to audience). Oh, they've gone. To be honest we are moving towards an online system anyway. We already do the drying online and the hanging on line and the.... *(line falls down again)*. Wishee, what's happened to the online connection, it's gone again.

Wishee Alright, I'll sort it. I need a band to fasten it on.

WT Will this one do? *(Takes out a piece of narrow ribbon)*.

Wishee No, it's too thin, I need a broad band. *(Look to audience)*.

(Aladdin enters singing to himself).

WT Where have you been? I am trying to run a laundry here. Slaving away to keep a roof over your head and food on the table and what do you do, go gallivanting off around town without a care for your poor old mother.

Aladdin Sorry mother, it's just that.....

Wishee *(Interrupts Aladdin, imitating him)*.I can't stop spying on the princess, I am in love with her.

Aladdin You too! Anyway, I am here now, what do you want me to do?

WT Help your brother with the washing and drying. I have other work to do.

(Widow Twankey sits down and starts reading a magazine. Abanazar enters and rings the bell).

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Abanazar Hello, is anyone here?

WT *(Without looking, continues reading)*. Aladdin we have customer.

Aladdin *(Without any enthusiasm. He walks over as if to take the washing)*.

Hello Twankey's laundry.

Fast washes is what we do.

We specialise in stain removal.

Grass, ketchup, ink and poo – dle hair.

Abanazar *(To audience)*. How quaint. So, you're Aladdin are you, you little scamp?

Aladdin Yes. And who may I ask are you?

Abanazar *(Making a pronouncement)*. I am your long, lost, uncle.

Aladdin Long lost uncle, but I don't have an uncle either lost or found.

Abanazar You may not have heard of me. Your father and I got separated at birth. I was down on my luck for many years, but now I have made my fortune and I have returned to share it with my lovely family.

Aladdin Fortune you say.

Abanazar Yes.

Aladdin Mother!

WT Just take the washing and give him a ticket.

Aladdin Mother!

WT *(Reluctantly getting up from her chair)*. Do I have to do everything around here?

Aladdin *(To Abanazar)*. Tell her what you just told me.

Abanazar My name is Abanazar and I am the long-lost brother of Aladdin's father.

WT Do you make a habit of being long lost in your family then?

Abanazar No, why?

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WT 'Cause their dad has been long lost for the last twenty years.

Aladdin Tell her the rest, the bit about the fortune.

Abanazar Oh yes. I have made my fortune and I have returned to share it with my family.

WT Fortune you say. Well, let's have a little look at this fortune then.

(He shows her a bag of gold coins).

WT *(Suddenly very nice).* Very nice to meet your Uncle Avabanana, come over here and take a seat *(indicates her chair)*. We are very family friendly here.

Abanazar It's Abanazar.

WT That's what I said, Avaneucar. Now, let's talk about your fortune.

Abanazar Oh no, it is not just about the money.

WT Oh yes it is.

Abanazar Oh no it isn't.

(This goes on until interrupted by Abanazar).

Abanazar No, I wanted to spend time with you and to get to know my wonderful nephew Aladdin.

WT And Wishee Washee?

(Wishee listens to the rest of the conversation).

Abanazar Yes, him as well I suppose, but to get to know Aladdin my nephew, the one who will inherit my fortune.

WT *(Sounding a little suspicious).* So, you're the rich uncle I have never heard or known of, or anything ever before, ever. *(A sudden change of mood).* Well, all seems to be in order then. Generous brother in law returns with lots of money, what could possibly be wrong with that. *(Introduces Aladdin to Abanazar).* Aladdin, meet your Uncle Avada Kedavra.

Abanazar Aladdin, what a fine fellow you are. Now, I thought that we could get to know each other, maybe go on a camping trip together.

Aladdin You what? I'm not going on a camping trip, I have things to do here.

WT No you don't, you are relieved of your duties. You go and spend some quality time with your uncle Bananarama.

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Aladdin But mother.....

WT But mother nothing, go and we will look forward to your return. Oh and, feel free to bring back some more of that family gold.

(Abanazar takes Aladdin by the shoulder leading him off. Aladdin looks as though he might protest but goes with him).

Wishee *(To Widow Twankey).* Where is Aladdin going with that man?

WT He is off on a camping trip with your rich uncle.

Wishee Rich uncle? But who is going to help me in the laundry?

WT I think you mean who is going to help me in the laundry?

Wishee You? I end up doing everything around here.

WT Well, why am I so tired at the end of the day then?

Wishee *(To audience).* I honestly have no idea.

WT All this excitement has properly got to me Wishee. Be a good boy and get me a glass of wine, some trifle and a box of chocolates so I can take it all in.

Wishee Are you celebrating on your own?

WT No. I'm celebrating with my wine, trifle and chocolate. *(The line falls down again).* Oh Wishee, the lines down again, be a good lad.

(Blackout, end scene, draw tabs).

Scene 7

(As this is a quick change from the previous scene this can start front of tabs. Aladdin and Abanazar enter, they are on the way to the cave).

Aladdin Are we there yet?

Abanazar How old are you?

Aladdin Have you got anything to eat then?

Abanazar No!

Aladdin Can I have a drink?

Abanazar No!

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Aladdin Are we there yet?

Abanazar Listen sunshine, I mean my esteemed nephew. I will let you know when we are there, just keep walking. And don't dare say, are we there yet, again.

Aladdin *(To audience)*. Some people are so touchy. *(To Abanazar)*. Are weeee, in the vicinity thus far?

Abanazar Very funny.

Aladdin It is boring, all this walking. Can we play a game, you know like hide and seek?

Abanazar *(To audience)*. There will be plenty of hiding later, once I have locked him in the cave. Ha ha haaa. *(To Aladdin)*. No, just keep walking, I don't like games.

Aladdin What? Who doesn't like games? Only a really, really, evil person would not like games.

Abanazar Oh very well. What about I spy? I spy with my little eye, something beginning with 'S'.

Aladdin Sand?

Abanazar Yes.

Aladdin My go. I spy with my little eye something beginning with A.W.T.Y.

Abanazar A.W.T.Y? Erm. I don't know. A white toed yeti?

Aladdin No.

Abanazar A wild tempestuous Yankee?

Aladdin No.

Abanazar Oh I give in, what is it.

Aladdin Are we there yet!

Abanazar I told you not to say that.

Aladdin Der, A.W.T.Y. Are we there yet!

Abanazar *(To audience)*. I am going to throttle him very, very soon, *(Looks about him. As he does so the curtains part or lights come up on some rocks with appropriate music and sound effects plus smoke)*. Actually, yes we are there yet, I mean now.

Aladdin What? Is this it? I thought we were going camping to commune with nature, that kind of stuff? But, this is just a lump of dusty old rock.

Abanazar This rock may look old and dusty Aladdin, but I have a secret to tell you. You see within that piece of rock is a cave and within that cave is more treasure than you could ever dream of. More gold, silver, diamonds, sapphires and emeralds than you have ever seen in your whole life.

Aladdin That wouldn't need much, I haven't seen any.

Abanazar But....

Aladdin Yes.

Abanazar But....

Aladdin Carry on.

Abanazar I'm trying to be dramatic for goodness sake.

Aladdin Sorry. Perhaps you need to put a bit more into it. Everyone likes a big but. How about like this (*takes a deep breath*) buuuutttt!

Abanazar Alright then. (*He gets very dramatic*). Buuutt. (*Aladdin points at Abanazar's bottom as he says 'Butt' and puts one finger on his lips, sniggering to the audience as if it is their own joke between them and Aladdin*).

Aladdin Nearly there. Have another go, give it some oomph. Give it a bigger but, this time.

Abanazar Buuuutttttt.

Aladdin That's better. Now you've got me interested.

Abanazar Once we get the cave opened I need you to go in and collect the family jewels. All of it can be yours and you will be rich beyond your wildest dreams. All I ask is you get me a little rusty old lamp.

Aladdin What? You don't want any of the gold?

Abanazar Not a single carat.

Aladdin Hold on what's the catch? Why don't you just go in and get it yourself?

Abanazar Erm, because, well, erm, there is a curse.

Aladdin Well, won't the curse get me?

Abanazar No my dear inquisitive nephew. You see the curse only applies to people erm, to people over the age of forty, yes that's it.

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Aladdin And what does this curse do?

Abanazar It makes you wrinkly, grey and boring. Youngsters like yourself are not affected by the curse and I so want your lovely mother and brother to benefit from all the wealth that is contained within the cave. But, first we must open it by using the magic word. Now, I thought I had written it down *(looks on his hand and searches his pockets. Thinks)*. How about, *(gets dramatic)* Acarabanda? No nothing. What about *(dramatic again)* Carabadancra?

(Abanazar looks confused and again starts searching through his pockets trying to find the right spell).

Aladdin *(To audience)*. After three can you give him a hand please. One, two, three.

(Audience respond with, hopefully, Abracadabra).

Abanazar That's it. Abracadabra.

(The cave opens. There should be lots of grinding noises, light effects and smoke).

Aladdin *(Peers in)*. It looks quite dark in there.

Abanazar Darkness has never hurt anyone young man.

Aladdin No, it's the things hiding in the darkness that hurt.

Abanazar What could possibly be in there? It has been sealed for thousands of years, besides I am here.

Aladdin Exactly, you're outside. Maybe there is a very old and quite frankly, grumpy, cave rabbit. You did say there were lots of carrots in there. *(Takes a deep breath)*. Alright, I'm going in. *(Goes in and then comes out straight away)*. I saw something. It was big and black

Abanazar You saw something big and black in the complete darkness?

Aladdin Well, I think so.

Abanazar Get back in there.

Aladdin Alright here goes *(Goes in)*. *(Steps back out again)*. Nope, still couldn't see anything.

Abanazar Just get in there and retrieve the lamp you imbecile, I mean, dearest nephew. Please go and get me the lamp and don't forget the riches for your family.

Aladdin Right, I'm definitely doing it this time. *(To self)*. Be brave Aladdin. *(Puts one leg in)*. I'm in. *(Then out. He starts doing the hokey cokey)*. I'm out, now I've put

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my left foot in, I've put my left foot out, in, out, in out, *(starts singing)* I shake it all about.

Abanazar I am losing my patience Aladdin. Get in there and don't come out until you have the lamp. *(He pushes Aladdin into the cave. As he does so Aladdin grabs his hand and going into the cave takes the ring off Abanazar's finger).*

Aladdin Alright, no need to push.

Abanazar You are a thieving little street rat. *(To audience)*. He has my ring. Well he can keep it, as long as I get the lamp. *(Peering into the cave)*. Can you see an old rusty lamp?

(Aladdin at this point can be either seen or unseen as long as you can hear him).

Aladdin Give me a chance, my eyes are adjusting to the dark.

Abanazar Well, how long will that take?

Aladdin Three days.

Abanazar Foolish boy just find the lamp and give it to me.

Aladdin I have it. Why on earth do you want this old thing?

Abanazar *(To audience)*. It is so close I can almost feel it. *(To Aladdin)*. Never mind that. Hand it to me and then I will get you out.

Aladdin No way. Get me out and then I will hand it to you.

Abanazar Lamp first, Aladdin second.

Aladdin Aladdin first or no lamp at all.

Abanazar I am tiring of you. Give me that lamp or you will be locked in there forever.

Aladdin I thought I was your favourite nephew.

Abanazar Not anymore boy. I have lost my patience, now you are a-lad-in a cave. Ha ha ha haaa.

Magic cave do as I bid

Seal him in and keep him hid.

Aladdin Noo uncle.....

(Once again there should be lots of smoke, lights and sound effects. As the cave eventually closes).

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Abanazar *(To audience)*. I will have to find another way to get the lamp. He should be dead in a few days, then, I will search for another pure soul.

(Lights fade to blackout, end scene, end of act one).

Act 2

Scene 1

(As the curtains open the lights come up on the cave scene. It is reset perhaps in front of tabs or the next scene. Aladdin is surrounded by jewels and gold but is sitting on the floor looking very sad. He is imprisoned yet again. He sings a sad song of love etc. which could be accompanied by dancing sprites. As the song ends Aladdin stands up and starts monologuing to the audience).

Aladdin Would you believe it? I am stuck in another jail. But this time one of my own making. I shouldn't have trusted my Uncle Abanazar. That's if he is my real uncle and now I will never see my lovely brother Wishee, my cuddly mother or my precious Jasmine. Oh what is to become of me? Well, I do know one thing if I don't keep myself warm I am going to freeze to death in here. *(He rubs his hands together. There should be flash and lots of smoke and the genie of the ring appears behind him. There is now the usual behind you gag).* *(Looking about himself)*. That was a lot of smoke and nonsense for nothing. What was all that about? *(The genie is now waving at the audience who should be re acting)*. What? There is someone behind me. No. I'm just in an empty cave. I'll look this way, now this way. *(Goes left and then right. All the time the genie stays behind him)*. Alright then I'll look all the way round. *(The genie follows him round)*. See, no one! *(Genie can either jump out or just tap him on the shoulder or some such thing and of course Aladdin is shocked)*.

Aladdin What the ...!!

GR Steady, remember it's a family show.

Aladdin You shocked me.

GR I surprise myself all the time. Boo! *(He jumps)*. See I did it again. Spooky!

Aladdin Alright, enough of this nonsense.

GR *(Looks round)*. What is the show over?

Aladdin No. Where did you come from? One minute I was by myself, next minute, poof!

GR I do that a lot.

Aladdin That's two of us stuck in here then. I hope you don't eat much. There's only jewels and gold and I don't think we'll get very far on that.

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