

NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT

ALICE
IN
PANTOLAND

BY

Eyres & Elder

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ALICE IN PANTOLAND

Cast List

HUMAN

Alice: Good, brave, resourceful - heroine of the pantomime.
Agatha : Alice's mother.
Albert : Alice's father.
Robber :

PANTOLIANS

Simple Simon: 'Link Man' or 'Buttons' type of character.
Bill: One of the two 'twits' .
Ben: The second of the two 'twits' .
Queen May: The Dame.
Trigger: Panto horse.
Fairy Queen:
Fairy Nuff: Apprentice Fairy.
Alan: The Principle boy.
Chamberlain:
Cameo parts: Wishee, Jack, Cinders, Princess, 1st Pantolian, 2nd Pantolian.

BADLANDIANS

Witch Whey:
Dameon:
Octo:
Abanazaah:
Captain Hook:

MONSTERS

Count Victor: Vegetarian vampire.
Dick: A were-duck.
Frank'nSteve: The Frankenstein monster with split personality.
Hetty the Yeti: Big hairy, female, romantic.
Kong: Gorilla

PIRATES

Bosun : Bossy.
Roberts: Sultry Pirate.
Martini: A drunken pirate.
Phew: Smelly/Blind, very stupid
Miles: Homely, motherly pirate.
Bonney: Feminist pirate.

CHORUS

Pantolians - Are the inhabitants of Goodyville and are all Pantomime characters, they include Jack, Cinderella, Dick, Beauty, Bo-Peep, Goldilocks, Puss, Snow White, Aladdin and an assortment of other Panto characters.

Fairies - Delicate, typical fairies, intended for the dancers if the ballet is to be used.

Various 'evil' creatures - bats, spiders, ghosts etc.

DANCERS

- a) Fairy dell - ballet,
- b) Badlands - modern,
- c) Chorus Musical Routines

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Synopsis of Scenes

ACT 1

Prologue Front of Tabs (FOT). A Humanland country scene - this is optional.
Scene 1 - A part of the Badlands - FOT
Scene 2 - Goodyville
Scene 3 - Humanland - FOT
Scene 4 - The Fairy Dell
Scene 5 - On the way to Castle Badia - FOT
Scene 6 - Goodyville
Scene 7 - A Street in Goodyville - FOT
Scene 8 - The Palace Kitchen

ACT 2

Scene 1 - The Badlands
Scene 2 - A Lane in the Badlands - FOT
Scene 3 - Inside Castle Badia
Scene 4 - The Pirate Ambush
Scene 5 - Sweet Goodbyes, A Path Near Goodyville - FOT
Scene 6 - Goodyville

Note

FOT is short for 'Front of Tabs'

S/L and S/R are used for 'Stage Left' and 'Stage Right' respectively.

Two sets of steps make effective rear stage entrances, one from the back of each side of the stage running towards the back centre, parallel to the front of the stage. They can be given false frontages to represent the outside of a castle, grassy banks and interior castle stairs. The back Flats can represent the walls of a castle for most outdoor scenes, and covered for the Fairy Dell and Badlands if desired.

Goodyville: This is a colourful, medieval type of village. Side flats represented the houses.

The Palace Kitchen: The side flats can be wall effect.

Badlands: This is a dark forest-like place. Dull grey-black side flats can represent both the outside scenes and the castle interior

Fairy Dell: This is woodland, a cheerful place. Green leafy side flats can be used to produce this effect.

Castle Badia: This is gloomy, dark and gothic.

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ALICE IN PANTOLAND

Cast of Characters

HUMAN

- Alice: Good, brave, resourceful - heroine of the pantomime, should be around 16/18 years old. A bit naive, living with parents and dominated by her mother. This is Alice after her adventures in Wonderland and through the looking glass. She is young enough to be fascinated by Pantomime yet old enough to be romantically attracted to Alan.
- Agatha : Alice's mother, domineering - a cameo part, won't let Albert get a word in!
- Albert : Alice's father, mild mannered - a cameo part, defers to Agatha.
- Robber : Stereotypical, very small cameo part, could be a young thug.

PANTOLIANS

- Simple Simon: Dashing, joking, lively character. Simon is the 'Link Man' or 'Buttons' type of character. Male, any age, rarely takes anything seriously.
- Bill: One of the two 'twits' Bill thinks he is the clever one with plenty of ideas and the more serious of the two, he tends to dominate Ben when he gets the chance and is often frustrated by what he sees as Ben's incompetence.
- Ben: The second of the two 'twits'; Ben is a bit gormless, but often gets the better of Bill. He is the Joker of the pair and is an amiable, easy going person.
- Queen May: The Dame, fussy, jokes about everything. She is technically the Queen of Pantoland and, though she never pulls rank or expects deference, she has authority and resourcefulness.
- Trigger: Panto horse, always comes to the rescue - really Alan under a spell.
- Fairy Queen: Small cameo part, needs to be delicate and gentle.
- Fairy Nuff: Apprentice Fairy, rarely gets it right - awful rhymes, limited wand power. Nuff is a trier and at first not even sure she wants to be a fairy. However fate puts her in the position of having no choice and she rallies to the task and comes up trumps!
- Alan: The Principle boy, he is dashing and brave. He appears halfway through Act 1 and is transformed from the horse when Alice kisses Trigger. Not over confident, he also is the romantic lead for Alice.
- Chamberlain: A small cameo part, male or female, introduces Pantoland and sets the scene.
- Cameo parts: Wishee, Jack, Cinders, Princess, 1st Pantolian, 2nd Pantolian. All small parts which add to the atmosphere and action. Generally male or female, typical pantomime characters.

BADLANDIANS

- Witch: Scheming, the brains behind the plot. Typical screeching, intimidating person constantly frustrated by the ineptitude of the associates. She should inspire fear.
- Dameon: Selfish, full of his own importance. argumentative. Could be a demon in costume and poise, not very bright, but enjoys being evil.

- Octo: Slow, hard of hearing (because of the webbing in his ears) has no idea of what mortals are afraid of or what harms them. Octo is a rather silly and pathetic character and is more misguided than evil. At the end his punishment is a reward.
- Abanazaah: Whining, cowardly, sneers at everything. Can be male or female (If female can be called Morgana), full of energy, wary of the Witch, but not intimidated by her.
- Captain Hook: Bloodthirsty, ominous character. Used for his familiarity from 'Peter Pan' although the script is written with a pronounced West Country accent, by removing the dialectical spellings, he could be played in the more familiar 'upper class' English as portrayed in the film 'Hook'. Could be renamed Blackbeard!

MONSTERS

(These are small 'extended chorus' characters who appear in the second act, they are all 'good' characters who should engage the sympathy of the audience and do, in fact, try to help the goodies)

- Count Victor: Vegetarian vampire, Count Dracula's brother, could speak with a foreign accent.
- Dick: A were-duck, rather ashamed at not being something more powerful.
- Frank'nSteve: The Frankenstein monster, but with split personality - having two brains. Quite a difficult part as the character has to speak in two voices and argue with himself!
- Hetty the Yeti: Big hairy, female, romantic and chases the males.
- Kong: Gorilla, has been deposed as 'King' Kong is sad about losing his girlfriend

PIRATES

(Small cameo appearances, other members of Hook's crew can be chorus parts. The pirates are all female as they are on a cultural exchange scheme with Hook's crew. Hook is not impressed!)

- Bosun: Bossy, can be played very vamp in Marilyn Monroe style, very feminine
- Roberts: Sultry Pirate, looking for romance.
- Martini: A drunken pirate.
- Phew: Smelly/Blind, very stupid
- Miles: Homely, motherly pirate, always willing to help.
- Bonney: Feminist pirate, fiercely active, will take no nonsense from Hook.

CHORUS

Pantolians - Are the inhabitants of Goodyville and are all Pantomime characters, they include Jack, Cinderella, Dick, Beauty, Bo-Peep, Goldilocks, Puss, Snow White, Aladdin and an assortment of other Panto characters.

Fairies - Delicate, typical fairies, intended for the dancers if the ballet is to be used.

Various 'evil' creatures - bats, spiders, ghosts etc.

DANCERS

Obviously could greatly support the chorus if desired/willing. Main routines suggested are

- a) Fairy dell - ballet,
- b) Badlands - modern,
- c) Chorus Musical Routines

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MUSIC

Song 1 - Page 4 - Introduction Song,
'There's No Business Like Show Business' or 'Happy Days Are Here Again'.
Chorus song, Lively, lots of movement.

Song 2 - Page 7 - Dame's song.
'I'm A Woman' or "Keep Young And Beautiful"

Song 3 - Page 10 - Bill & Ben's song.
'Side by Side' or 'Me And My Shadow'. Singalong style song.

Song 4 - Page 12 - Simon's song.
'Simple Simon Says'.
Pop song by 1910 Fruitgum Co., Shortened version to establish connection to Simon, can be used later as the 'house' song.

Song 5 - Page 18 - Fairy Ballet.
'Morning.' by E. Grieg. Rustic, gentle dance number. Classical.

Song 6 - Page 21 - Baddies song.
'Bad Moon Rising' by Credence Clearwater Revival.

Song 7 - Page 37 - Close of Act 1 song.
'We Are The Champions' by Queen or 'The Impossible Dream'

Song 8 - Page 38 - Badlands song.
'Thriller' by Michael Jackson (or 'I'm Bad'). Modern Dance.
Opening to Act 2. Up tempo, powerful song, controlled menace.

Song 9 - Page 45 - Pirates song.
'We're Pirates'
Bouncy comedy routine, parody to the tune of 'I am the Music Man' similar to that revamped in the recent record 'Star Trekking'.

Song 10 - Page 54 - Love Song.
'We'll Meet Again' by Vera Lyn or 'Dream'
Sad song, emotive and evocative, duet.

Song 11 - Page 54 - House song, 'Simple Simon Says' Reprise just the chorus of the song with the actions each time. (*An alternative is the traditional 'Think of a Cowboy all dressed in Black' a children's song, but using the following words:*

*Think of the Baddies, all dressed in black
They took the wands but we got them back
There was blood on the ceiling, blood on the ground,
Great big blobs of blood all around.*

Song 12 - Page 56 - Finale Songs & Walkdown. (*A compilation/medley of the previous songs can be used to bring on each character/group, then a reprise of Song 1 to end.*)

Incidental Music

- 1 - Page 2 - Ominous theme to witch's entry opening of the pantomime.
- 2 - Page 12+ - Classical 'Ompah' tune for the 'slap' routine
- 3 - Page 19 - Rustic, soothing music for Alice (Morning), turns comically threatening for the robber (Old movie style), then lively chase style for the confrontation with Trigger.
- 4 - Page 19 - 'Horsey, Horsey, Don't You Stop'. Played twice for horse/Alice dance.
- 5 - Page 61 - Batman theme, played for their entrance, the chase and their exit
- 6 - Page 67 - Light backing for the unfreezing of the Pantolians, could be reprise of 'Morning'
- 7 - Page 68 - Walkdown.



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PROLOGUE

(Front of Tabs, enter S/R Grandma Alice and her two grandchildren Janet and John. They stroll across the stage during the following dialogue. NOTE - This is an optional scene.)

Granny: It's so kind of you to visit your old Granny, and for coming on a walk with me.

Janet: But we like visiting you Granny Alice, you always have such interesting stories to tell.

John: And it's nice here in the country too.

Granny: I haven't been to this place since I was a little girl. *(They reach the bank which 'young' Alice will rest on later in the Pantomime).* This bank brings back some memories!

Janet: Tell us what happened Granny, please, please.

Granny: Let's make ourselves comfortable then *(They sit, the children at Granny's feet).* Now you remember I told you about what happened when I went down the rabbit hole into Wonderland don't you?

John: Yes, Granny Alice, we remember.

Granny: And I told you all about my adventures through the looking glass didn't I

Janet: Yes, yes, you did.

Granny: But my most exciting adventure started right here! That was the time when I went to Pantoland.

John: Pantoland? Where's that?

Granny: It's a magical land where all the people who you see in Pantomimes go to live when their shows are finished. You have the Princes and Princesses, Puss in Boots, Cinderella, Jack, Aladdin, oh everyone you can think of, they all live in Goodyville and all the Fairies, they live in the Fairy dell.

Janet: It must be wonderful there!

Granny: Yes, but it's also where all the baddies live as well - in the Badlands *(very distant rumble of thunder)*

John: What happened Granny, tell us please.

Janet: Yes, please, Granny, tell us.

Granny: Well close your eyes and listen. It all started when the Wicked Witch of the Southwest returned to Pantoland from visiting her nasty sister in the land of Oz.

(Lights fade on Granny and the children and the Witch makes her entrance as written in Act 1 Scene 1, during the flash Granny, Janet and John exit S/L)

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Act 1 Scene 1

(If the prologue is not used then the tabs are closed and the stage/audience is in darkness. A Pyro and lights flash S/R. The Witch of the Southwest is revealed - this entrance could also be done by using a model of the Witch on a broomstick 'flying' through the centre of the auditorium and into the S/R area, the pyro would then be used to mask the Witch's re-emergence from that area of the stage)

Witch: Ha, Ha Ha. *(Looks around)* Well it's nice to be back in Pantoland again, hasn't changed much I see. Well now, my name is Whey -W H E Y - and I'm the Wicked Witch of the Southwest, ha, ha, ha! *(audience boo)* You can stop that or I'll turn you all into toads *(points into audience)*, though in your case it would be an improvement! For over a hundred years good has always triumphed over evil, the good fairy wins and the wicked witch is banished. But not any more, oh no, no, no, no, nooooo. You see, my beauties, this year there will be no fairies to help the goodies, and without their magic, evil can win at last. Ha, ha, ha. *(audience boo)* Quiet you spineless shower, listen and learn. I have devised a plan so cunning you can brush your teeth with it! Now I shall call upon my evil allies and if we work together we shall be unstoppable. *(During her speech the Witch has moved to centre stage still in front of the tabs. She begins to chant)*

Evil spirits that do dwell,
In the place that you call Hell,
Send me agents of despair,
Traffic wardens and men with no hair,
Send me monsters, Ghouls and bring,
From the deepest pit, Octo, the Spider King.

(Lightning flash, music and smoke from the auditorium, enter Octo down stage right from the back of the audience)

Ha, ha, ha!

Now send me a Wizard bad,
Full of magic that's evil and sad,
I need the one everybody dreads to see,
Send the one called Ab-an-azaah to me

(Lightning flash, music, enter Abanazaah from auditorium stage left)

Ha, ha, ha

Finally send me the prince of sorrows,
The one to blacken all your tomorrows,
Dameon is one so wicked and sinister,
You know him better as the Prime Minister!

Ha, ha, ha

(Lightning flash, music, enter Dameon through centre of audience)

Now at last my friends we can join forces and win against the do gooders.

Octo: *(Silly laugh)* Yeuk, yeuk..

Dameon: What are you talking about Witch? This had better be important. I was just advising *(topical political leader)* on his new speech.

Witch: Listen you fools, if we all work together we can defeat the Fairy Queen and without her helping them, we can defeat the humans.

Dameon: Excellent! And I've got a great idea, we can enlist the aid of the most wicked pirate ever to sail the seven seas, the hideous Captain Hook - his pirate ship has just docked in Badlands port and I'm supposed to be meeting him here any minute now.

Aba: Good idea! We'll use him and then when we've defeated the goodies we'll get rid of him - no point in sharing the power is there? So where is he?

Dameon: *(Looking off)* Here he comes now.

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(Enter Capt. Hook)

Hook: Ah harr me hearties and shiver me timbers. What do we have we here?

Dameon: My good Captain, I'd like you to meet some friends of mine, we've got a plan to conquer the world and we thought you might like to join us.

Hook: Rule the world eh, I likes the sound of that!

Aba: *(To the witch)* And just how do you propose to defeat the Fairy Queen?

Witch: Here. *(She hands Abanazaah a book)* I've been reading through this old spell book and I've found a spell to freeze time. First we will freeze the village to keep those Pantolians from interfering, next we attack the Fairies and steal all their wands and without them they'll be powerless. From then on Pantos in Humanland will have no Fairies to rescue the heroes and so we will win! And just think of all the children who we'll be able to influence into our wicked ways.

Dameon: Fantastic!

Aba: Can't wait!

Hook: Ah Har.

Octo: *(Silly laugh)* Yeuk, Yeuk!

Witch: We CAN'T fail, quick, now let's go and prepare the spell.

{Blackout. Exit all}

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Act 1 - Scene 2

(Curtains open to very colourful village scene - this is Goodyville, the occupants are all various Panto characters with a wide variety of costumes and styles ranging from 'Aladdin' to 'Cinderella', other specifically recognisable characters can be used as well as those given in the cast/script. Opening Song - Song 1 - Music starts as tabs open, full chorus.)

(After the opening number the chamberlain enters. The villagers gather round eagerly.)

Chamb: Welcome, Kings, Queens, Princes and Principals. It is my honour to welcome you all and to announce the winner of this year's Pantoland village in bloom competition. The winners are: Slapstick on the Water. *(A group of the chorus jump up and down and congratulate each other)*

Chorus: Hooray.

Chamb: I trust you are all rested, and those of you who had summer seasons have now paid off your F.A.T, that's the 'Funny Ad-lib Tax', to the authorities. May I take this opportunity to remind you that for the past century humans have invited us Pantolians to earth, via the earthlift, at this time of year in order to entertain them. This year is no exception and soon we will be on our way to humanland to play at some of earth's finest and most luxurious theatres; such as The London Palladium -

Chorus: OOOH

Chamb: The Bristol Hippodrome.

Chorus: OOOOH

Chamb: The Brewhouse, Taunton *(replace with the name of a local theatre)*

Chorus: OOOOOH

Chamb: Roadwater Village Hall. *(replace with a local village hall)*

Chorus: Hooray *(& Loud cheers)*

Chamb: And not forgetting, *(name of your present venue)*

Chorus: Wow, Brilliant, Fantastic *(etc.)*

Chamb: So without further ado I shall place this year's cast lists up on the notice board and wish you all the very best in your pantos.

(The Chamberlain pins up the list and exit, the Pantolians gather round excitedly)

Wishee: Oh brilliant Bath Theatre Royal *(replace with well known local theatre)* with Jason Donovan and Kylie Minogue *(replace names with two current popular entertainers)*

Jack: Weston-Super-Mare with Dana. *(replace name with local town and person with well known celebrity)*

Cinders: Oh no Bristol Hippodrome *(replace name with large local theatre venue)* again with *(scream)* Little and Large.

(During this a princess is seen to look, burst into tears and sit downstage head in hands, sobbing.)

Wishee: What's wrong Princess?

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Princess: Oh! Oh! Boo Hoo

Wishee: Come on what's wrong didn't you get in this year?

Princess: *(Holding back the tears)* Oh no, I'm at the London Palladium in the West End for six months.

Wishee: What! That's brilliant, those must be tears of joy!

Princess: Oh no, its too upsetting, I can't tell you

Wishee: Come on it can't be that bad, tell me.

Princess: *(Deep breath)* I'm appearing with *(sob)* Des O'Connor!! *(replace name with current unpopular or 'joke' celebrity)*

(They both cry and hug)

Wishee: Come on, we'll go and tell Simon

(They exit calling Simon! Simon! When they have cleared the stage 'Simon' crosses the stage R to L doing tumbles and back flips, he re-crosses the stage in the same way but on exit there are crashing sounds, he staggers back on. - this depends on the acrobatic skill of the performer or possible 'stunt double', see production notes.)

Simon: Ooh, I've just had one of me funny turns! Hello. How are you? Fine, good, oh I am sorry to hear that, never mind perhaps it will grow back. Welcome Boys and Girls, Ladies and Gents and those who followed you in. My name is Simon, you know yours. First I'd like to say this *(pause)* This. Then I'd like to point out *(He points out)*. Oh it's nice to hear you laugh. I love laughter don't you?

Audience: Yes

Simon: I said I love laughter don't you?

Audience: YES!

Simon: Well I'm Simple Simon Prince of twits. Queen May is my mum, she's a real !!!###*****###!!!** *(sound FX)*. As Prince of Pantoland I'm in charge of keeping all the jokes. Yes I've got some of the oldest jokes in the world. Yes - you're quick tonight - you're going to hear them. My favourites are Knock Knock jokes, tell you what we'll do them together, lets try! When I say "Knock, knock" you call out "Who's there", then when I say a name like for example "Simon", you say "Simon who". Let's try it! Knock Knock

Audience: Who's there?

Simon: Isabel

Audience: Isabel who?

Simon: Isabel really necessary on a bicycle! Knock Knock

Audience: Who's there?

Simon: Egbert

Audience: Egbert who?

Simon: Egbert no bacon! Knock Knock

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Audience: Who's there?

Simon: Boo

Audience: Boo who?

Simon: There's no need to cry, it's only a joke! As well as being keeper of the jokes here in Pantoland, I am also the keeper of the Magic Records. This is one of my favourite magic tricks, which I hired to Paul Daniels last year, that reminds me he still owes me 27p for it. For this trick I shall need the assistance of a helper. Any volunteers? *(Simon chooses a member of the audience)* Thank you for helping. *(SIMON'S MAGIC TRICK: The trick is simple but very effective and also involves audience participation. Simon takes a pack of cards from his pocket, and asks the helper to think of a number between 1 and 10. He counts out the number of cards and replaces them. He then gives the cards back to the helper who counts the number out again, this time he keeps the card. Simon then asks him to tell him what the card is, Simon will then tell the person his card - see production notes for details on how to perform this trick).*

Simon: That was good, Oh well I'd better go and find mum. Knock knock?

Audience: Who's there?

Simon: Little boy

Audience: Little boy who?

Simon: Little boy who can't reach the doorbell! Bye *(he exits, waving)*

(There is a loud motorbike SFX, and after a few seconds the QUEEN enters on a Bicycle with a box in the basket panniers marked 'LOST PROPERTY'. She does a wobbly circuit of the stage and then gets off near S/L, props the bike against the wall and moves centre stage.)

Queen: Oh, hellooo! Fancy seeing you lot here, remember me, Queen of the May 19 umbulley dum, but everyone just calls me Queen May! It's nice to be here *(takes a step sideways)*, it's nice to be here too! *(steps backwards)*, and here, no, I should've stayed there! *(steps forward)*.

Well what do you think of my new transport? *(points to bike)* Its a Rolls Canardly, it's called that because it rolls down hills but can hardly get up them! I'm a bit worried about leaving it there, there's been a lot of petty nicking lately, I'd hate to loose it. I know, would you help me? If anyone goes near it call out 'NICKERS' as loud as you can then I'll come and chase them off. Will you? Let's try it, after three - 1, 2, 3 *(audience shout 'nickers')*. Is that the best you can do, I might as well give it away! Come on shout louder, I may be a long way away! Right then, after 3, 1, 2, 3 *(audience shout 'nickers')*. Well done I'm sure to hear that, but it probably isn't necessary, *(a 'nicker' enters and goes towards the bike)* most Pantolians are honest *(audience shout 'nickers')*, Oi you, you naughty nicker, get away from my bike! *(she chases the 'nicker' off - turns to audience)* Thank you, well done. The bike was my husband's idea, he said he'd buy me a bike to save money - my shoes wouldn't wear out so quickly! Yes he was a silly man. he drank paint and ate wallpaper because he wanted to be an interior decorator. He's in hospital now, he had a bad back so I rubbed gin on it and he broke his neck trying to lick it off! When I first met him he was just an enchanted frog! He has some disgusting habits that were left over from that time - he still catches flies with his tongue and only gets romantic at the bottom of a pond! I certainly won't be kissing any amphibians in the future!

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But that's enough about him, let me show you around. This is Pantoland, the happiest place in the universe, this is where all your Panto favourites go until pantomime time on earth comes round again. Over there is Jack's beanstalk, and that's the park for all the Panto animals, the horses' stables, geese's nest, bears' cave, puss' basket and the cow's shed. And over there is the Badlands (*thunder/lightning*), that's where castle Badia is and all the monsters live there, but we don't talk about them, and especially not about you know who!

(She gets the box from the bike and opens it) Anyway I found this box lost property in the village, perhaps you can help me identify the people who own these things - I'll give you a reward! Lets see now, what have we got! *(the first few are warm up joke items)* Anyone here called Smith? Here's your crisps! Anyone called Mackeson? Here's your stout! Now what about these?

(She removes each item one by one telling the audience what they are and encourages the correct response from them by giving as many clues as they need - each item relates to a well known fairy tale/Panto character. When each item is identified she throws a handful of sweets in the general direction of those who answer - needless to say each area of the theatre should be given a fair share!

Items can include any existing props or new ones and it is suggested that two items are used, possibilities are:

Lamp - Aladdin

Pumpkin - Cinderella

Small Pair of boots (fur inside, could fit a small animal) - Puss in Boots

Golden Egg - Mother Goose

Bowl of Porridge - Goldilocks

Seven Little Pick Axes - Snow White

A Spinning Wheel Needle - Sleeping Beauty

etc. etc.)

Queen: Marvellous! That's cleared that lot out! *(This is the intro to the song 2, change if a different song is used)* Well now, I bet I know what you're thinking, You're wondering how I manage to keep my fantastic figure and stay looking so beautiful aren't you? Do you want to know my secret? Do you?

Audience: Yes!

Queen: All right then I'll tell you ... It's ! *(See note on song two for appropriate introduction)*

(Song 2, 'Adapt the Queen's line to introduce the song, e.g. if 'Keep Young & Beautiful' is used then the line is ...It's my duty to keep young and beautiful. If the song is 'I'm a Woman' the line could be ... It's because I'm a Woman.)

Queen: Now I wonder where those two fools Bill and Ben are, they've just finished a summer show and owe me a lot of rent. I suppose I'd better go and find them. *(She exits calling 'William, Benjamin, Where are you' ...)*

(Enter Bill & Ben pushing a handcart with the inscription 'DER FASTEN FOODEN' on the side, they are wearing colourful German lederhosen style clothing.)

Bill: Ah, here we are Ben, back in Pantoland at last! Remind me never to take another Summer Season in Berlin again.

Ben: It wasn't *that* bad Bill, and look at these lovely clothes we got and this great new idea for making money - Fast Food. it'll go down great with the Pantolians.

Bill: I'm not so sure, just go through our menu again to check.

Alice in Pantoland

Ben: OK Bill, let's see ... *(his head disappears into the cart and as he names each of the items following he pulls out a 'sample' and shows it to Bill & the audience.)*
Hot Dogs *(shows smoking toy dog)*
Toad in the Hole *(dish from which a toad leaps)*
Hamburger Surprise *(A large bun)*

Bill: What's the surprise?

Ben: No Hamburger! *(opens bun to show no hamburger)*
Sausage rolls *(a huge 'sausage' but no roll)*

Bill: But that's just a sausage, where's the roll?

Ben: Coming up *(he 'rolls' the sausage across the stage to Bill)*
And of course our speciality, Sauerkraut - we'll make a killing with this!

Bill: I wouldn't be surprised, I've seen what you put in it - real kraut!

(A Pantolian enters, sees Bill & Ben and goes over to them)

Pantolian: Hello you two, haven't seen you around for a while *(looks around the cart)*
what's all this then?

Ben: It's a new concept in the production and consumption of edible matter - instant grub, why not try some.

Pantolian: Welllll, all right, but I've only got 10p, what can I have for that?

Ben: How about some crisps?

Pantolian: Sounds good, what flavours have you got?

Bill: *(This is said very fast with hardly any pauses for breath, Bill takes an exaggerated 'deep breath' each time.)* Salt & Goldfish, Cat & Rat, M4 Badger, Cheese and Mouse, Limpet Cocktail, Crow and Crumb, Worm & Maggot, A39 Rabbit, Dog Intestine, Boiled Bug, Essence of Vole *(deep breath)* or Plain.

Pantolian: Got any Chicken flavour?

Ben: No.

Pantolian: What have you got again?

Bill: Salt & Goldfish, Cat & Rat, M4 Badger, Cheese and Mouse, Limpet Cocktail, Crow and Crumb, Worm & Maggot, A39 Rabbit, Dog Intestine, Boiled Bug, Essence of Vole *(deep breath)* or Plain.

Pantolian: How about some Beef flavour?

Ben: Sorry, no demand for it.

Pantolian: Oh well, so what do you have?

Bill: Salt & Goldfish, Cat & Rat, M4 Badger, Cheese and Mouse, Limpet Cocktail, Crow and Crumb, Worm & Maggot, A39 Rabbit, Dog Intestine, Boiled Bug, Essence of Vole *(deep breath)* or Plain.

Pantolian: What about some bacon?

Ben: No, sorry, sold out of bacon.

Alice in Pantoland

Pantolian: Did you say you had some Prawn?

Bill: Salt & Goldfish, Cat & Rat, M4 Badger, Cheese and Mouse, Limpet Cocktail, Crow and Crumb, Worm & Maggot, A39 Rabbit, Dog Intestine, Boiled Bug, Essence of Vole (*deep breath*) or Plain.

Pantolian: In that case I'll just have Plain. (*he/she pays and is given a huge packet, as he/she walks off they open the packet. look inside, stop and turn back to Bill & Ben*) Hey there's something in here! (*(s)he pulls out a large model aircraft*) Why is there a BO-ING 707 (*or whatever model is used*) in my crisps?

Ben: Well you asked for PLANE ones!

(Bill & Ben fall about laughing, Pantolian exits. Enter 2nd Pantolian who sees Bill & Ben and goes up to them)

2ndP: I remember these from Humanland. Can I have a whassname, pigburger please.

Ben: Certainly, (*hands over huge burger*). That's 50p please.

2ndP: (*Pays*) Got any sauce?

Bill: Yes, (*points to a row of plastic bottles*), what would you like? Tomato, Brown or Mustard.

2ndP: Tomato please.

(Bill takes out the sauce bottle and points it at the burger held by 2ndP, he squeezes too hard and 2ndP gets splattered with red 'sauce')

2ndP: Er. I think I'll have some brown sauce instead.

(Ben gets the brown bottle and aims it at the burger.)

2ndP: No, no, stop.

(But it is too late, 2ndP gets covered with a dollop of brown sauce)

Ben: Oohh, sorry.

2ndP: Forget it, just give me some mustard.

(Bill takes out the yellow mustard bottle)

2ndP: (*Hastily*) It's OK. I'll do it myself.

Bill: Oh we can't let you do that, we pride ourselves on our personal service!

2ndP: I'd rather do it myself, really.

Ben: Well be careful then, these things can be tricky.

2ndP: You're telling me!

(2ndP puts the burger on the cart and takes the mustard bottle which (s)he holds over the top of the burger, (s)he leans over the bottle and squeezes it. A jet of yellow squirts upwards over 2ndP's face. - see production notes)

Bill: We did try to warn you.

Alice in Pantoland

Ben: Why don't you try some of our new boiling hot curry sauce? *(he takes a steaming metal can/bottle from the cart)*

2ndP: Er no, I don't think so *(2ndP backs away)*

Ben: *(Moving towards him with the bottle)* Oh go on, it's hot stuff!

2ndP: *(Moving hastily away)* Yes, yes, I'm sure it is, but I'd rather not. *(exits hastily)*

Ben: Huh. Some people got no sense of adventure!

(The next lines are the introduction to the song 'Side by Side' if an alternative song is used then these lines will have to be amended to suit)

Bill: It's no good, I'm fed up with being poor.

Ben: Yes, we aint got a barrel of money.

Bill: And these old clothes, everyone laughs at us!

Ben: .. and maybe we're ragged and funny.

Bill: Still we travel along ...

Ben: Singing our song ...

Bill/Ben: Side by side!

(Song 3 - Side by Side)

Bill: *(Walks over to the casting list notice)* Ben! Ben! we're doing Panto in Blackpool again this year, isn't that great news!

Ben: I suppose we'd better rehearse our new act if we're there again, you know, the one we just learned from our show in Germany.

Bill: Yes. lets do it now!

(The two face each other, turning sideways to the audience, the music starts, they clap their hands, slap their knees, clap each other's hands and Ben slaps Bill's face at the end of the sequence. Bill staggers slightly, and looks puzzled. The music starts again and the same routine is repeated. the music starts a third time and the routine is repeated, but Bill ducks at the end of the sequence so that Ben's slap misses him, however as he straightens up Ben slaps him on the rebound.)

Bill: I don't remember getting hit before.

Ben: It's something extra I thought of - good eh?

Bill: Er, yeeees, but I'd rather do it the other way round.

Ben: OK. no problem. change places.

(They change their position and the music starts again, but the actions are the same as before with Bill getting slapped.)

Bill: Wait a minute, I just got a great idea, lets try it as a trio!

Ben: No. no. I've got a better idea. Why not do it with three of us.

Bill: Er. Right. let's get Simon to join in with us.

Alice in Pantoland

Ben: Good idea!
(They both call Simon, Simon! until he enters)

Simon: Knock knock?

Audience: Who's there?

Simon: Arthur

Audience: Arthur who?

Simon: Arthur mo, I'm coming in.

Bill: We've got a great new routine and we'd like you to join in with us.

Ben: It's dead easy, just follow what I do.

Simon: Why not, It's worth a try.

(Simon stands facing Bill. Ben stands back gleefully anticipating Simon getting slapped. The music starts and Bill begins, Simon tries to copy him but makes a mess of it. Ben gets frustrated at Simon's efforts)

Ben: *(Pushing Simon out of the way - music stops).* No, no no, I'll show you, watch me.

(Ben takes Simon's place. music starts, routine is done and Ben gets slapped again)

Bill: Well I thought that went very well, what do you think Simon.

Simon: Yes, but I think that we should go through it at least ten more times just to be sure. how about it Simon?

Ben: *(Still staggering and rubbing his sore face)* OOOhhhhh!! I think that we should leave it for a few minutes.

Bill: Cor look a bike.

Ben: Where oh I see, why don't we fix it to our cart.

Bill: Brilliant

Simon: But that's mum's bike!

Bill: Oh, she won't mind.

Audience: Nickers.

(Queen May enters.)

Queen: Thanks you're splendiferous. What are you two doing with my bike?

Ben: Sorry.

Bill: Yes sorry, but it was his idea!

Ben: Oh, no it wasn't.

Bill: Oh, yes it was.

Ben: Oh, no it wasn't.

Alice in Pantoland

- Bill:** *(Encouraging the audience who will join in)* Oh, yes it was.
- Simon:** Stop it you two, I've just had an idea.
- Queen:** Well I hope you were sat down at the time.
- Simon:** No, it's a new game.
- Bill:** NO, not another one, remember your last game
- Ben:** How could we forget.
- Queen:** *(To audience)* He went Sky Diving.
- Bill:** Yes, all went well until his parachute got caught in his snorkel and flippers.
- Simon:** *(The music starts up over the next lines)* Come on it's easy.

(Simon starts to sing Song 4 - "Simple Simon Says", by The 1910 Fruit Gum Company. During the song the chorus enter and the song becomes a production number. The Dame, Bill and Ben form the backing singers, as Simon moves downstage and continues to sing. At the end of the song, the lights dim, thunder and lightning are heard, and Witch Whey's cackle is heard faintly. All on stage react with fear!)

- Simon:** What's that.
- Queen:** Sorry it's my new bean and prune diet.
- Bill:** *(Topical weatherman)* Ian McCaskill, said light showers, but that sounds like it's going to be very wet and windy!.

(The lights flash again thunder and lightning and Witch Whey's cackle are heard louder)

- Ben:** Look, is it a bird?
- Bill:** Is it a plane?
- Simon:** No, it's Witch Whey!

(As soon as Witch Whey's name is said everyone does a 'Pat-a-Cake' action ending with them twisting each others noses. This is the start of a running gag - see production notes)

- All:** Oh, Ouch, Hey, etc.
- Queen:** This is a silly superstition, I can't see how this ritual can protect us from the wicked witch.
- Simon:** Yes, but who would risk not doing it just in case it does work. You know the rules say that to ward off evil spells we must go through these actions every time someone says 'Witch Whey' or who knows what may happen

(Running gag, thunder lightning, Witch's cackle is heard louder still.)

- Queen:** I wish you wouldn't say that!
- Simon:** Say what mum?
- Queen:** Witch Whey.

(Running gag)

- Ben:** Now you said it!

Alice in Pantoland

Bill: Said what?

Ben: Witch Whey.

(Running gag. Thunder Lightning, Witch Whey's cackle, very loud)

Simon: Quick, everyone hide. She's coming.

All: Who!

Simon: Witch Whey! Oh no, look what you made me say.

(Running gag. During Simon's last few words the chorus and dancers react with sheer panic! This all happens at once. All on stage run to the wings trying to escape, but are forced back onto the stage by Hook, Octo, Dameon and Abanazaah. The fleeing Pantolians are rounded up into a group at the back of the stage. Bill, Ben, Simon and Queen May are downstage and react with fear to the situation. The scene is one of terror and panic! This is ALL going on as Witch Whey enters through the audience screaming, and loud thunder and lightning add to the effect.)

Witch: Ha, Ha, Ha, Ha, Ha. So my preeties, we meet at last, but not, I promise you, for the last time! You see I have a plan, and this year Pantos are going to be very different. My friends and I are going to steal the Fairies wands and without them they will be powerless to defeat me.

All: NO.

Simon: You can't do that, we won't let you, will we!

Bill/Ben: *(Moving forward)* You'll have to get past us first.

Witch: *(Moving towards them)* BOO!

Bill/Ben: Aaaaaah *(They run round the back of Simon and the Dame)*

Queen: Well I don't scare that easy. So how are you going to stop us from telling the fairies of your evil plan?

Witch: I shall cast a spell over all Pantoland, freezing it. Ha. Ha, Ha.

Queen: I'd better get my thermals on.

Witch: They won't help you.
I'll conjure up all my power,
For this will be my finest hour
Winds of north, east and west
Blow with all your strongest zest
Freeze them right to the bone.
Make them hard as rocks and stone.
Ha, Ha, Ha.

(All on stage react with fear as the Witch chants her spell. Sound effects of wind and lights flash as the spell is completed. The Witch also has a handful of glitter which she can throw at the end.)

All on stage then freeze. The principals in a comedy freeze

The Baddies then move forward to the very front of the stage. As they say the next few lines the Panto horse enters reacts to the frozen people and listens to the Baddies. Perhaps he can move closer to the Baddies step by step playing a game with Octo who keeps turning as he does the horse freezes etc. This should NOT become too funny as audience MUST know what is happening.)

Alice in Pantoland

Hook: Now we ought to make 'em walk the plank me hearties, Ah Har!

Dameon: Well Witch, that all went well

(Enter Trigger, unobserved)

Witch: Yes, but we must get those wands before the fairies get wind of our plans.
Once we have the wands then we will be able to go to Humanland and rewrite
all those happy endings

(The horse hears this and starts to exit slowly.)

Aba: Yes, I thought that we handled that very well, none of them escaped and now
we can carry on with the plan. What do you think Octo?

Octo: Eh?, pardon.

Aba: I said what do you think Octo?

Octo: *(He looks at his wrist)* Half past three

Dameon: He's got spider web in his ears again!

Aba: Oh, forget it.

Witch: Quiet you stupid fools. this time we'll win, Ha, Ha, Ha.

(Trigger will have exited by now. SFX of a lift moving down - see production notes)

Hook: What be that noise. tis coming from over there.

(Dameon goes to look.)

Witch: What is it?

Dameon: It's the earthlift Witch, and it's heading down.

Witch: Who's in it?

Dameon: I can't see.

Aba: Wait I'll use my powers. *(He starts to chant)* Hoomm, hoomm. I can see the
lift

Witch: Yes, go on

Aba: It's, it's, it's a horse!

Hook: The only good horse be a dead horse.

Witch: A horse. What harm can one horse do. Come on let's go to the Fairy Grotto
and get those wands.

(The Baddies exit. Tabs close.)

Alice in Pantoland

Act 1 Scene 3

(Enter Alice's parents, Agatha & Albert, Agatha is a domineering woman, Albert is meek and mild, every time he goes to say something Agatha silences him with a nudge in the ribs with her elbow.)

Mum: Alice, Alice! Come on, don't dawdle child!

(Alice enters)

Alice: Here I am. Why don't you two go on, I'll follow later. I just want to enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside.

Dad: Well I ... *(nudge)*

Mum: Be quiet dear, All right Alice but don't be too long.

Dad: And don't ... *(nudge)*

Mum: Hush Albert, I'm talking.

Dad: Yes Agatha.

Mum: *(To Alice)* And don't get your clothes dirty, you know how fussy grandma Ada is.

Dad: And I .. *(nudge)*

Mum: Don't interrupt dear.

Dad: Sorry Agatha

Mum: And don't be any later than 3.30 for tea ..

Dad: And I .. *(nudge)*

Mum: Let me get a word in dear!

Dad: Sorry Agatha

Mum: Be good and don't get into any trouble like the last time when you went down that horrid rabbit hole.

Alice: Yes Mum.

Dad: And I .. *(nudge)*

Mum: Will you be quiet for just a moment.

Dad: Yes dear.

Mum: And don't go near any strange horses, I know how much you love them, but keep away OK? Bye, bye then dear, we'll see you later. *(She exits determinedly)*

Dad: *(Following Agatha, protesting feebly)* But, but, but I didn't get to tell her that ..

(Agatha and Albert exit)

Alice: Bye mum. Bye dad. *(Aside)* Oh isn't it wonderful here. I wish I could stay here forever and ever. Granny's nice but she's all lavender and lace. Look, there's a nice place for a rest, and I can read my book.