

NODA presents

DICK WHITTINGTON

A traditional pantomime tale

Written by

Vickie Burns

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NODA LTD
 15 The Metro Centre
 Peterborough PE2 7UH
 Telephone: 01733 374790
 Fax: 01733 237286
 Email: info@noda.org.uk
www.noda.org.uk

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SYNOPSIS

This is an up to date script in terms of its music, yet still provides the fun and tradition of the ever popular Dick Whittington. This is an ideal production for a small stage, yet can easily be transformed into a large production. There are strong characters within, yet still plenty of opportunities to bring in new and less experienced cast members, helping to build them into the stars of the future. Parts include:

In order of appearance

- Fairy Bowbells** Female . The traditional Dick Whittington goodie who acts as a narrator of the show. She is completely in charge and embraces her contact with the audience. She has no fear of the Rats. Singing essential.
- Dick Whittington** Female . Principal Boy. Arrives from Yorkshire in search of wealth and happiness. As the title role, this character should completely own the story and the stage. Confident and should have an excellent rapport with Tommy, the cat. Strong singer required.
- Tommy** Child . Either male or female. Needs to mime and be able to portray a wide range of emotions.
- Fitzwarren** Male . Alice's father and owner of the store. Used to being in charge, but is evermore becoming the victim of Queen Ratifa and her evil plans to gain control. Is quite well to do, but obviously losing his money quickly.
- Billy Dough** Male . (Cockney!) Comedy role. Son of Dame Dilly and works for Alderman Fitzwarren, although can be a little lazy. Must have a good rapport with the audience. Singing role.
- Alice Fitzwarren** Female . Principal Girl. Daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren. A confident young lady who falls for the charms of Dick Whittington. A strong singer required.
- Queen Ratifa** Female . Baddie of the show. Intent on becoming the most powerful in London and will stop at nothing to achieve this. Works with her Rat Pack. Singing essential.
- Vermina** Female . part of Queen Ratifa's Rat Pack. Vile and submissive towards the Queen. Will do anything to please her mistress. Singing part.
- Ratman** Male . Also part of Queen Ratifa's Rat Pack. Equally vile and submissive towards the Queen and will also do anything to please his mistress. Singing part.

- Captain Cockle** Male . Comedy duo. Obviously the one in charge. Characterisation needed. Must be able to sing. Timing is absolutely essential.
- Burley Bosun** Male . Comedy duo. Stooge to Captain Cockle. Open to characterisation, however, is not necessarily interested in the female characters of the group! Must be able to sing. Timing is absolutely essential.
- Dame Dilly Dough** Male . Larger than life and should have excellent rapport with the audience. Works for Alderman Fitzwarren and mother of Billy Dough. A singing and comedy role. Timing is essential.
- Sailor** A small walk on part in Act Two. This is ideal for one of the younger chorus members and will allow them to develop their stage skills. Timing and singing essential.

ACT ONE

PROLOGUE

In front of the curtains. We hear the sound of Bow bells. Fairy Bowbells enters through the curtains and moves to stand SR.

Fairy Bowbells Do you hear that sound? It is the sound of Bow bells. They are calling the hero of our Pantomime to old London Town. Who is the hero, I hear you ask?

She puts her hand behind her ear and listens. When there is no response, she tuts and shakes her head.

Fairy Bowbells You need to do much better than that. The audience has to join in . that is if you are to enjoy the full Pantomime experience. I shall try again . only once though mind you! I am a very busy Fairy. **(She repeats) Who is the hero, I hear you ask? (Places her hand behind her ear again)**

Audience Who is the hero?

Fairy Bowbells That is a much better effort. I can now continue. The hero of this tale is a lad called Whittington. Dick Whittington. He is a poor Yorkshire boy who heads to London to seek his fame and fortune. He has been told the streets are paved with gold.

Dick enters through the audience, carrying a knapsack. He joins Fairy Bowbells on stage. Fairy Bowbells announces his arrival.

Fairy Bowbells **(Pointing to Dick)** Here he comes now.

Dick walks towards the stage speaking to the audience as he approaches.

Dick I am a poor Yorkshire boy who heads to London to seek his fame and fortune. I have been told that the streets are paved with gold.

Dick finishes centre stage.

Fairy Bowbells That is right Dick, you are within sight of your dream of riches.

Dick Are the streets really paved with gold?

Fairy Bowbells Only to those who become heroes.

Dick Me? A hero? Oh no I am not!

Fairy Bowbells **(Encouraging the audience)** Oh yes you are!

Dick Well if we're to be friends, then we had best introduce ourselves.
(Offering to shake hands) My name is Dick. What's your name?

Tommy shrugs.

Dick Don't you have a name?

Tommy shakes his head.

Dick Well that will never do. I shall call you Thomas!

Tommy, obviously unhappy, hisses and spits.

Dick **(Laughing to the audience)** Obviously you don't like that name!

Tommy whispers to Dick.

Dick Ah! But I can call you Tommy. Well hello Tommy . it's a pleasure to meet you.

They shake hands. Fairy Bowbells moves centre stage to join them.

Fairy Bowbells And so Dick, with your new companion, you can now begin your adventures in London. To become a hero and find your just rewards will take a little time. May I suggest you start by finding a job?

Dick I must find work, for at the moment I am penniless. **(To Tommy)** Unless you have ... **(Tommy immediately shakes his head vigorously)** I guess that's a no-then!

Fairy Bowbells Now come on Dick, you must move along.
Tommy here will keep you strong.

She signals for them both to leave through the curtains. They exit.

Fairy Bowbells His journey as our hero, won't be calm.
There is a chance he'll come to harm.
It won't be long before you'll see .
Our villain who you will agree .
Is so so so disgustingly vile
She makes all Londoners run for a mile.

But let's not worry about her yet.
There's a chance, us all, she won't upset.
Now now, come on, don't look so down
As we follow Dick to London town.

Fairy music and she exits through the curtains.

SCENE ONE***Outside Fitzwarren's Shop***

Full stage. Typical London with flats that can equally represent the Docks. All Chorus, Billy and Alderman Fitzwarren are on stage.

SONG

WHO WILL BUY

Fitzwarren Good morning everyone. What a beautiful day it is.

Chorus Good morning, Alderman Fitzwarren

Fitzwarren Have you brought me some fresh flowers for the shop young lady?

Rose Seller Only the very finest for you Alderman. I've brought you beautiful red roses.

Fitzwarren Well as it's near Valentine's Day, I'll be able to double the price. And what about you young lady? Have you brought me fresh milk?

Milkmaid Only the freshest milk. Straight from Farmer *[insert local name]*'s farm.

Fitzwarren That's what I like to hear.

Strawberry Seller I have lovely fresh strawberries, Alderman.

Knife Grinder And all your knives are as sharp as can be.

Fitzwarren Excellent service everyone. Bring it all into the shop.

Fitzwarren turns towards the shop, SR, but it's closed.

Fitzwarren What's this? The shop is closed! Where on earth is Billy?

Billy moves down from US.

Billy Ere I am Fitzzy!

Fitzwarren Don't Fitzzy me, you cheeky young man.

Billy Sorry . keep your Fred on.

Fitzwarren My ~~F~~red on? You're not making sense.

Billy Fred Astaire! Hair!! **(To audience)** Come on . keep up!

Fitzwarren You are late again.

Billy I'm sorry Alderman. It's just that me little brother Willy swallowed me alarm clock and I had to get him to the hospital last night.

Fitzwarren Swallowed your alarm clock?

Billy Swallowed it ~~æ~~le. That~~ç~~ why I~~q~~n late.

Fitzwarren Does it bother him?

Billy Bother ~~im~~? No! But it bothers me. Every time I go to wind it up, ~~æ~~ bites me finger!

He starts to laugh at his own joke. All the way through this, the chorus begin to exit. USL, USR and SL. All except Rose Seller, Milkmaid, Strawberry Seller and Knife Grinder.

Fitzwarren Oh for goodness sake, get the shop open. And where~~ç~~ that good for nothing mother of yours?

Billy She~~d~~ be along shortly. She~~ç~~ just finishing this morning~~ç~~ baking for the shop.

Billy enters shop, SR. The four sellers move DS.

Rose Seller Alderman! I think it~~ç~~ a disgrace.

Fitzwarren What~~ç~~ a disgrace?

Milkmaid So do I. The town is overrun with rats. They~~q~~æ everywhere. I even found one in my bath this morning.

Fitzwarren What was it doing there?

Milkmaid The breast stroke, I think?

Fitzwarren You could cook a ~~æ~~at-atouille~~q~~with them!

Knife Grinder Don~~ç~~ be ridiculous. We~~q~~æ heard about your plans to become Lord Mayor of London . and if I were you, I~~ç~~ form some serious plan of action. That is of course if you don~~ç~~ want Alderman [*insert name of local councillor*] to beat you to the job.

Fitzwarren Alderman [*insert name*]? S/He has no plans on how to deal with the rats, unlike me! I discussed my plans with Alice only yesterday.

Alice enters from the shop, SR.

Alice Did I hear my name mentioned?

Strawberry Seller Your father was telling us about his supposed plans to rid us of these rats.

Alice **(Turning to her father)** What plans are those Father?

Fitzwarren **(Encouraging her to join his scheme)** You remember Alice. My plans!

Alice **(Realising)** Oh yes, of course Father. those plans! Excellent plans if I may say so too!

Strawberry Seller Well I wish you ~~d~~ say what they are.

Fitzwarren But that would be telling.

Alice Yes, that would be telling!

Knife Grinder Your plans had better be good. ~~s~~ all we can say, or you ~~d~~ have no chance of being Lord Mayor. Let ~~s~~ go and find out what Alderman [*insert name*] plans are. I suspect they may be a little grander than yours.

The sellers exit – SL.

Alice Was I meant to understand any of that Father?

Fitzwarren I was trying to stall people about my intended plan to rid the town of rats.

Alice You mean you ~~e~~ finally come up with a plan?

Fitzwarren No my dear. That ~~s~~ the problem. And if I don ~~d~~ think of something quickly then not only will I have no chance of becoming Lord Mayor, but we shall have no stock left in the shop. They ~~e~~ eating us out of house, home and shop!

Alice Don ~~d~~ worry father, I ~~m~~ sure you ~~d~~ think of something soon. Let ~~s~~ go inside and have a nice cup of tea. It ~~d~~ help you think of something.

They exit into the shop – SR. The stage darkens and sinister music is heard. Queen Ratifa, Ratman and Vermina enter from USL. Queen Ratifa is laughing evilly.

Ratifa That foolish Alderman thinks he is clever enough to hatch a plan to rid the town of me!

Vermina How dare he, Your Majesty. He is a weak and foolish man.

Ratifa He knows no better than to mess with my own evil plans.

Ratman Have you decided what you are going to do?

Ratifa Do? **(Shouting)** Do?! I, Queen Ratifa shall do nothing. It is you, my faithful servants who shall be doing!

Ratman I apologise, Your Majesty. Have you decided how best we can serve you?

Ratifa As a matter of fact, I have. Vermina . have you managed to destroy the Alderman's stock?

Vermina Very nearly, Your Majesty. The rattlings have gnawed their way through most of it.

Ratifa But it's taking too much time.

Ratman You must be patient.

Ratifa I will not be told to be patient. I need results now.

Ratman Then we need to speed up the Alderman's demise.

Vermina And how can we do that?

Ratifa **(Sinister)** Poison!

Vermina) Poison?
Ratman)

Ratifa My very own rat poison!

Ratman And where do we place this . poison?

Ratifa Where it will do the most damage.

She hands over a small vial.

Ratifa Enter the Alderman's shop and pour this into his freshest milk.

She laughs evilly, joined by Ratman and Vermina. They are goading the audience.

Audience Boo!

Ratman Go ahead . boo all you like. It's a dastardly plan.

Vermina The very best, Your Majesty.

Ratifa **(Smugly)** I know! Fitzwarren will drink the milk for his breakfast . and then

She mimes choking by putting her hand round her neck. Ratman and Vermina do the same.

Vermina And with luck . the same fate for his pretty little daughter!

Ratifa In you go . do not fail me.

Ratman Do not worry. By the end of this very day, Fitzwarren will be no more. Come Vermina.

Ratman and Vermina exit SR into the store.

Ratifa **(To audience)** Soon Fitzwarren will be no more. I shall take his Alderman's chain and then the way will be clear for me to become Lord Mayor of London. My filthy rattlings will be able to live in the dirt and grime they so like. The stench will be immense! **(She laughs evilly)**

Fairy Bowbells enters from USR and moves FSR.

Fairy Bowbells Just wait a minute, you evil rat. I think you'd find that your plans have a flaw.

Ratifa You would say that. I think you're jealous of my brilliance. A plot to beat all plots.

Fairy Bowbells But you forget that I appeared first. I've already appointed a hero who will foil your plan.

Ratifa **(Looking around)** I see no-one near to foil my plan.

Fairy Bowbells Just bide your time, he'd be here soon.

Ratifa And by that time the Alderman will be poisoned and I shall have claimed his chain! **(Moving to exit DSL)** You're too late Fairy Bowbells! Ha ha ha!

Queen Ratifa exits again, challenging the audience.

Fairy Bowbells **(Moving to FCS)** Oh dear. I didn't consider she'd go as far as poisoning people. It looks as though it's not enough to make Dick and Tommy our heroes. I need more help. Now let me see.

She starts to cast a spell.

Fairy Bowbells Alderman Fitzwarren is not well
Which is why I need to cast this spell.
I need to come up with a notion
Which will nullify that nasty potion.
But who can help, you do exclaim?
I know, I'd go and find the Dame!

Fairy exits SL. Captain Cockle and Burley Bosun enter USL.

Bosun Here we are Captain Cockle. Alderman Fitzwarren's store.

Captain Aharr!

Captain nudges Bosun and sends him flying.

Captain Belay there. Splice the mainbrace. Shiver me timbers, yer scurvy dogs. Aharr!

Bosun Why do you say that?

Captain Because it's what all experienced sailors say.

Bosun But I don't say that.

Captain That's because you're not an experienced sailor.

Bosun But I am! I'm a Boatswain.

Captain **(Spitting)** You pathetic pirate. It's not boatswain. It's Bosun! A real pirate always drops his ~~sw~~!

Bosun reacts as though Captain is spitting in his face.

Captain Well now we've established you are a Bosun . what is your first name?

Bosun It's Burley. Burley Bosun!

Captain **(Confused)** Is that because you think you are butch, strong and all muscle?

Bosun No . it's because that's where I'm from. Burley in Wharfedale.

Captain I might have expected a foolish answer like that.

Bosun I'm as clever as you are.

Captain That's what you think. I'll test you then. Suppose you were in the Pacific Ocean and facing north. What would be on your right-hand?

Bosun Oh, that's easy. My thumb and four fingers.

Captain **(Ignoring him)** Then suddenly a terrible storm blows up. The waves are a hundred feet high. What do you do?

Bosun I'll throw out an anchor, Captain. **(He runs to SR and pretends to throw out an anchor)**

Captain Then another storm blows up from another direction. The waves are now two hundred feet high. What do you do now?

Bosun now runs SL, throws another imaginary anchor.

Bosun I'll throw out another anchor Captain.

Captain **(Continuing to over dramatise)** And now an even worse storm brews. The waves are five hundred feet high. What do you do now?

Bosun **(Running to the back of the stage)** I'd throw out another anchor.

Captain Wait a minute. Where are you getting all these anchors from?

Bosun Same place, you're getting all these storms from. Anyway, what are we doing here?

Captain We are here to see Alderman Fitzwarren. He be enquiring about a crew for his ship. Seems he needs to re-stock his shop.

Alice comes out of the shop and places a bucket of red roses by the door.

Captain **(Nudging Bosun)** Look at that beauty. She be a right looker. Ask her if she wants to shiver ye timbers!

Bosun Oh I could never do that. She's not my type.

Captain That be nonsense. Ye need to show her what a true sailor is made of.

Bosun I'd rather not, Captain.

Alice re-enters the shop as the song starts.

SONG

BALLAD OF CAPTAIN AND BOSUN

At the end of the song, Alice comes back out of the shop to place another bucket of flowers. She feels unwell and leans against the shop, wiping her brow. Captain and Bosun run to catch her as she falls. They 'fan' her as Dick and Tommy enter from SL.

Dick **(Shouting)** Here! What do you think you two are doing? Leave her alone.

Tommy runs over to 'tackle' the pair.

Bosun **(To Tommy)** Leave me alone. I've done nothing wrong.

Tommy chases the Captain and Bosun off USR.

Captain **(Exiting)** Quick! We'd see Fitzwarren later.

Tommy walks back down stage with a 'done and dusted' clap of his hands as Dick goes to help Alice.

- Dick Are you alright, Miss?
- Alice Yes, thank you. I just came over a bit funny. I actually think they were trying to help me.
- Dick Well if you don't mind me saying, I didn't like the look of them at all. However, they have given me an excuse to help such a pretty girl. Tell me . what is your name?
- Alice It's Alice. Alice Fitzwarren. My father owns this store.
- Dick Do you know if he has any vacancies? I've just arrived from Yorkshire and I am in need of work.
- Alice You'd have to ask him yourself. But you must excuse me . I'm on my way to run an errand. I'm sorry I can't talk longer. I wish you luck and good fortune in London.

Alice exits CSL but as she does, she deliberately drops her purse. Tommy sees it and picks it up.

- Dick **(To audience)** I can't believe my luck. She must be the reason I've been drawn to this part of London. I think I've fallen in love.

Tommy nudges Dick to draw his attention to the purse.

- Dick What's the matter Tommy?

Tommy indicates that it has been dropped by Alice.

- Dick What. You mean this is Alice's purse.

Tommy nods.

- Dick Then I must return it at once. I shall speak to her father in the shop.

Dick knocks on the door of Fitzwarren's store. Billy answers.

- Billy An what can I do for you? The shop ain't open yet.

- Dick I found a purse, and I believe it belongs to a young lady called Alice Fitzwarren.

- Billy Ere . you're a bit honest for round these parts. What you after?

- Dick Me? Nothing. Well actually I am after a job. I don't know if there's anything going here?

- Billy Oh, yer after an Uncle Bob?

- Dick Uncle Bob?

Billy Corn on the cob!

Dick Corn on the cob?

Billy Job!

Billy Actually, I don't feel well this morning. I feel a bit Moby Dick.

Dick Don't you mean Tom and Dick! **(A knowing look to the audience – feeling smug at the attempt)**

Billy Don't you start getting cheeky.

Fitzwarren comes out of the shop.

Fitzwarren What's going on here?

Billy This geezer has found young Alice's purse, Sir.

Fitzwarren I am most grateful young man. Can I offer you a reward?

Dick Oh no Sir. I do not wish for money.

Billy **(To audience)** Listen to ~~im~~. ~~I~~ don't want money!

Dick Well actually, I do want money, but I want to work for it.

Billy **(To audience)** ~~I~~ wants to work for it?

Dick Even my cat would work for you Sir.

Fitzwarren Can he catch rats?

Dick **(Looking at Tommy for approval – and gets it)** Of course he can.

Fitzwarren Then I shall hire you on a trial basis, starting now. I think ~~lo~~ve eaten something which hasn't agreed with me. Get into that shop and start work.

Dick Thank you, Sir. We won't let you down. Come on Tommy.

Dick and Tommy enter the shop.

Fitzwarren Where is that good for nothing mother of yours? She should have been here half an hour ago.

Billy She'll be ~~ere~~ here soon, Sir. Just putting her slap on as I left.

Fitzwarren That could take hours.

Enter Dame Dilly – USR.

- Dilly ~~U~~re cheeky. I heard that! You can't rush when dealing with such natural beauty as mine!
- (To audience)** Well hello, hello, hello . . . pleased to meet you, I'm Mrs Dough. Although to my friends I'm known as Dame Dilly. And I'm sure we'll become friends very quickly. Do you like my nice pink dress? It's my favourite colour.
- Fitzwarren Why are you so late this morning, Dame Dilly?
- Dilly I was right on time with my baking. Buns in the oven. I have to admit my baps are even looking fine today! And never fear children, I even remembered . . . sweeties!
- Billy That'd cheer everyone up, Mum. Everyone's feeling a bit Sue Lawley **(nursing his stomach)** Poorly!
- Dilly Oh that'd never do. Sweeties should cheer everyone up! **(She throws one sweet to each side of the audience)** There you go.
- Billy Mum! Stop being so Sean Bean.
- Dilly I'm not being mean. **(Points out to the audience)** But that lot out there are so miserable they don't deserve any more sweets.
- Fitzwarren **(Moving SR of Dame – still appears poorly)** You're being a bit tight.
- Dilly Call it deflation!
- Billy I know what'd get this lot going. A competition. I like a competition. ~~U~~re boss, you can take that side **(SR)** and I'd take this side **(SL)**.
- Dilly And I'd be the judge! The loudest side wins sweets!
- Billy We'd sing it through once . . . then all you have to do is sing as loud as you can.
- Dilly You'd better tell ~~u~~m the words! Are you ready?

Billy, Dilly and Fitzwarren sing through the song.

SONG

NICE ONE DILLY

- Fitzwarren Right . . . my side first. Now come on . . . sing as loud as you can. That's if you want sweets!

Fitzwarren leads the audience SR in the song. Some of the chorus enter USR and join in their side. They clap and cheer as the side does well.

Dilly Oh I say. That was very good.

Billy I bet my side can do better.

Billy leads the audience SL in the song. More chorus enter USL and join in his side. They also clap and cheer as the side does well.

Dilly Well I really don't know what to do now. You all did so well.

Dame Dilly decides a winner and throws out sweets to the winning side – perhaps being generous and giving some to the losers, too! Alice enters from SL.

Alice Daddy . I don't feel well at all.

Fitzwarren Now you come to mention it . I don't feel too good myself.

Billy Me neither!

They are all clutching their stomachs, wiping their brows.

Dilly **(Suddenly)** That's it!

Fitzwarren That's what?

Dilly That's why I was late! Just as I was finishing my baking, a rather lovely lady came by and asked me to make up a special potion. She said that people would suffer if I didn't follow the recipe to the letter and bring it immediately to the shop.

Fitzwarren Well give it here. I'll drink anything to make this pain go away.

SONG

DAME DILLY WEARS PINK

The remaining chorus enter to join in the song. At the end, the curtains close.

SCENE TWO

A London Street

In front of the curtains. Queen Ratifa, Ratman and Vermina enter through the fire curtains.

Ratifa I cannot believe my plan . my beautiful rat poison . has been foiled. And by a pathetic, putrid fairy at that.

Vermina A most excellent plot too, Your Majesty. What shall we do now?

- Ratifa Your rattlings will need to keep gnawing away at Fitzwarren's stock.
- Ratman I don't know if you've heard, but Fitzwarren has hired a new boy and his cat this very morning.
- Ratifa And what of it? Why should that concern me?
- Ratman If this cat is any good, then he may be the undoing of your plan to dispose of the Alderman's stock.
- Ratifa Have you not trained your rats?
- Vermina **(Nudging Ratman)** Of course we have trained them. To the very highest standards.
- Ratifa Then a cat should be no trouble for them.
- Vermina If you say so.
- Ratifa It is what you say that counts. Do you doubt the ability of your rattlings?
- Ratman Not so much doubt, it's just that we wouldn't want anything else to go wrong.
- Ratifa Very well. You shall need to visit the store again. Make it seem that this new lad and his cat are no more than common thieves.
- Ratman And how do we do that?
- Ratifa I have seen the Alderman's safe in the shop. The stupid man hides the key in his cash box. When no-one is looking, take the key and empty the safe.
- Vermina But what if we can't find his cash box?
- Ratifa Very well. I shall visit the shop first. I will find his cash box and leave it on the counter for you to find.
- Vermina Oh excellent, Your Majesty. That will make it easy to break into his safe. What shall we do with the money? **(Eagerly)** Keep it?
- Ratifa Not this time. Our time for wealth comes later in the show. Place the money upon the boy. Then make your escape.
- Ratman Excellent plan!
- Ratifa I know **(She laughs)** There really is no-one badder than me!

The audience boos her as the three of them encourage it.

SONG

BAD, RAT WITH A CROWN

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SCENE THREE***Inside Fitzwarren's Store***

In front of the curtains. There is a sign which has appeared SL through the reds which says the store will be open in 5 minutes. Some of the cast enter through the audience. They end up on stage, forming a queue, behind the sign. Ratman and Vermina stand SL. Queen Ratifa and two children stand SR. Captain, Bosun and a final child stand CS. They queue patiently – music to 'HOT STUFF'. At the end – they all walk off stage, through the curtains. They open to reveal Dame Dilly behind the counter.

Dilly There you all are! I've just been thinking about our little singalong, earlier. It would make a super call-out. So, this is what I want you to do. Every time I come on stage, I want you to shout out 'Nice one Dilly!' Shall we have a practice?

Dilly walks into the wings, then re-enters.

Audience Nice one Dilly!

Dilly Oh I say, that's never do. Let's try it again . but this time . louder!

She walks off stage again and then re-enters.

Audience Nice one Dilly!

Dilly Much better! As you already know, My name is Dame Dilly. My sister, Sarah, was a cook for Alderman Fitzwarren . that was until she got a better offer from [*insert name of another local group*]. Then off she went. So, I took her job. **(To a man in the audience)** Do I have a husband? Ooh, you're a bit forward! What's your name?

Man Bill.

Dilly I'm sorry?

Man Bill!

Dilly No . I heard you . I'm just sorry! I was married, but unfortunately he fell into a huge vat of granulated coffee. It was a terrible way to go but at least it was instant. Actually, I've been married four times. Four better, four worse, four richer and four poorer.

Enter Billy from CSR.

Billy Why are you late this morning mother? The Alderman had a right Brad Pitt when you didn't show.

- Dilly As well as the baking, then having to make that compound . how was it by the way?
- Billy Worked a treat. I feel much better. That ache in me Matthew Kelly has gone now.
- Dilly Well after that, the postman came and I got a letter from my opticians.
- Billy What did it say?
- Dilly It was really bad news. **(Dilly starts to weep into a hanky).**
- Billy **(Comforting her)** There, there Mum. It can't be all that bad.
- Dilly It was! The optician told me I was colour blind.
- Billy Colour blind?
- Dilly Yes **(Sobs)** It came as a real bolt out of the orange, I can tell you!

**The doorbell rings and in walks Queen Ratifa from US.
Billy is behind the counter which is CSR.**

- Ratifa I'm glad to see you're not busy. I haven't time to spare.
- Billy Good morning Madam. We are here to offer you our very best service.
- Ratifa How is your bacon this morning?
- Billy Mine was horrible now I come to think of it. Fatty! **(Looking at Queen Ratifa)**
- Ratifa I beg your pardon.
- Billy Me bacon. Very fatty.
- Ratifa Well I want mine lean.
- Billy Which way?! **(He leans to one side)**
- Ratifa Forget the bacon. What about sausages?
- Dilly Leave this one to me Billy. You go sort out those shelves.
- Billy moves SL and busies himself.**
- Dilly Now then Madam. Sausages you say. Well we only have the very best. Stored carefully in our cellar. Let me get them.

Dilly mimes going down stairs behind the counter to the sound effect of footsteps. Then walking back up, bringing with her, thin sausages. Queen Ratifa looks behind the counter and finds the cash box which she places on the counter.

Ratifa What on earth do you call those things? They are far too thin. I want a thicker sausage.

Dilly If you say so. I think I'll take the escalator.

Dilly slides down behind the counter to the sound of a glissando.

Ratifa Are they pork, vegetarian, beef sausages or what?

Dilly What?

Ratifa I mean how do you sell them?

Dilly slides back up to a rising glissando with a chain of thicker sausages.

Dilly To be perfectly honest, I have no idea at all.

Ratifa I mean how much are they?

Dilly Oh! They are three pound a yard.

Ratifa I'll take a metre.

Dilly puts the sausages in a bag and hands them over.

Ratifa How much do I owe you for the sausages?

Billy **(Moving across to Queen Ratifa)** That'd be three pound, sixty two.

Ratifa Do you want the sixty two?

Billy Er, yes . otherwise, they'd be three pounds.

Ratifa Good day.

Queen Ratifa exits USL. Billy and Dilly are both laughing.

Billy Well I hope they brighten up her day!

The door bell goes and Child One enters. Dilly goes to serve.

Dilly Now then dear, what can I get you?

Child One I'd like some sweets please.

Dilly You'd like some sweets? What kind of sweets would you like?

Child One I don't know. Can you tell me what kind of sweets you've got?

Dilly **(To audience)** Bless. S/He wants to know what kind of sweets I've got. Well, I've got

Jelly Tots
 Pear Drops
 Haribo and
 Lollipops.
 Sherbert Pips
 Cherry Lips
 Love Hearts and
 Double Dips.
 Candy Mice
 Coconut Ice
 Bon Bons and
 Sugar Mice.
 Drumsticks
 Dolly Mix
 Jelly Beans and
 Pick n Mix.

The child goes up to the shop door and calls out.

Child One They've got loads of sweets in this shop!

A second child enters the shop.

Child One Go on. Ask her what she's got.

Child Two What sweets have you got?

Dilly **(This time faster!)** Jelly Tots
 Pear Drops
 Haribo and
 Lollipops.
 Sherbert Pips
 Cherry Lips
 Love Hearts and
 Double Dips.
 Candy Mice
 Coconut Ice
 Bon Bons and
 Sugar Mice.
 Drumsticks
 Dolly Mix
 Jelly Beans and
 Pick n Mix.

Child Two **(Speaking to Child One)** But I want a Curly Whirly.

Child One **(To Dame)** S/He wants a Curly Whirly.

Dilly Well I haven't got a Curly Whirly. Here, take a lolly each and be on your way like good little children.

The children exit USR.

Billy Kids these days. Want it all! Never satisfied with what they've got.

Enter Child Three. And speaks to Dilly. S/He points to a shelf full of toys – high up CSL.

Child Three I'd like one of those Elsa dolls, please.

Dilly **(Looking up)** Oh you would, would you? Billy, fetch me the step ladders.

Billy **(Bringing them over)** Here they are mother, one pair of step ladders.

Dilly Thank you Billy. **(To the Child)** An Elsa doll you said?

Child Three Yes please.

Dilly climbs the ladders to retrieve the doll.

Dilly **(Hands over the doll)** One Elsa doll. You can take the steps back now Billy. That'll be sixpence. Now off you go.

The Child pays and exits. Child Four enters as Billy takes the step ladders back.

Child Four Hello . could I have that fish up there?

Dilly You want that fish? Up there?

Child Four Yes please!

Dilly Would you like an aquarium?

Child Four I don't mind what star sign it is!

Dilly You cheeky little monkey, you. Billy . bring the step ladders.

Billy I wish you'd make your mind up!

Billy fetches the ladders.

Dilly **(Climbing)** Going up! Coming back down!

Child Four I don't want that one. I want the other one.

Dilly Oh for goodness sake. Why didn't you say?

She climbs the ladders again to get a second fish.

Dilly There you go. That'll be sixpence.

The child pays and exits USR. Child Five enters.

Dilly Now. Before we start. Do you want an Elsa doll?

Child Five No!

Dilly Do you want a fish?

Child Five No!

Dilly Good. Billy . you can take the ladders back.

Billy You sure this time? Too an'fro. Back an'forth. Makes a man dizzy.

Billy takes the ladders back.

Dilly Now, what can I get you?

Child Five I'd like one of those action figures up there.

Dilly I'd give you some action, right on your behind. Come here you!

Dilly chases Child Five around the stage and then off through the shop door, USR.

Dilly I've had enough. I'm going for a lie down. You two can look after the shop.

Dilly exits CSR.

Billy I could do with a bit of a lie down meself. It's ten o'clock and still no sign of Dick.

Dilly The Alderman put 'im to work clearing out the store room.

Billy Well 'e needs to be in 'ere. I don't see why we should be running the shop when 'e's about.

Billy **(Calling off stage)** 'Ere Dick. You're wanted in the shop.

Enter Dick and Tommy. Dick puts his knapsack on the counter.

Dick What do you want us to do?

Billy Well you can tidy and serve in the shop for a start. I have just got to run an errand.

Billy exits out of the shop USR.

Dick Well Tommy, it looks as though it's just you and me.

Alice enters CSR.

Alice Hello Dick. I'm glad you managed to find a job.

Dick It's all thanks to you.

Alice How do you mean?

Dick If you hadn't dropped your purse, then I couldn't have found it and returned it to your father. I think I impressed him by not wanting a reward. How can I ever repay you?

Alice You really don't need to.

Dick One day I will. **(He takes Alice's hand).**

Alice It's really nice having you around.

Dick One day Alice, I shall make my fortune. I'll become rich and maybe even be successful enough to become Lord Mayor.

Alice Lord Mayor? What grand plans you have, Dick.

Dick I feel it's my destiny. One day I want to be the richest and most respected man in town. And when I am, Alice, I shall ask for your hand in marriage.

SONG *MARRY YOU*

During the song, Tommy sits on the counter, obviously enjoying the song.

Alice I can't see how my father could object. especially if you're going to be so rich. I'd better leave you to your work.

Dick Shall I see you later?

Alice exits CSR. Enter Ratman and Vermina USL.

Ratman Good day to you, young Sir.

Dick Good day. What can I get for you?

Ratman walks to SL and Dick follows as Vermina creeps to the cash box to remove the key to the safe. Tommy sees her and goes to try to get Dick's attention. Dick ignores Tommy.

Dick Not now Tommy. Can you see Tom dealing with a customer?

Ratman Which one of these toys would you recommend as a birthday present?

Dick They are all of the highest quality. I can recommend them all.

Ratman I think that one **(pointing up)** on the very top shelf.

Dick Tommy . bring me the step ladders will you?

Tommy does so, but is still trying to watch what Vermina is doing. Having got the key, she goes to the safe, takes a bag of gold and places it into Dick's knapsack. She then puts the key back.

Vermina **(Having done the deed)** I don't think any of those are suitable. I've heard there's a much better shop down the road.

Ratman You're right. The quality just isn't up to scratch. **(To Dick)** We shouldn't waste any more of your time.

They exit USR. Tommy is still trying to mime out what has happened – but Dick is having none of it.

Dick **(Putting the ladders back)** I don't know what the matter is Tommy, but you are behaving very strangely.

Captain and Bosun enter the shop USL.

Captain Belay there, splice the mainbrace and shiver me timbers, yer scurvy dogs. Aharr! **(Nudges Bosun)**

Bosun I wish you wouldn't keep nudging me like that Captain. It's starting to hurt a bit now.

Captain Time yer toughened up, Bosun.

Dick Good morning gentlemen **(Going to greet them)** What can I do for you this fine morning?

Captain We be here to see Fitzwarren. He wants us to sail his ship so we can replenish his store room.

Dick Are you both sailors?

Bosun Oh yes. My Daddy was a Pretty Officer and he thought it would be the more perfect job for me. **(Nudges Captain)** Whoopsy, me hearties.

Captain **(Shouting to Bosun)** It's not ~~W~~Whoopsy!

Bosun **(To audience)** It is sometimes!

Captain Is Fitzwarren here? We haven't got all day, you know.

Dick I'll go and fetch him for you.

Dick exits CSL. Tommy meanwhile circles the two sailors making them feel rather uncomfortable.

Bosun I don't like pussy cats, Captain.

Captain You really do need to toughen up.

Bosun I am trying Captain, honestly.

Fitzwarren enters.

Fitzwarren Ah, there you are. Are you ready to set sail on my ship? The store room is looking decidedly empty.

Captain We are recruiting the final crew members and will set sail tomorrow morning. Bosun . have you briefed the crew on the voyage ahead?

Bosun Oh yes, Captain. I have given them a full training schedule.

Captain And what is on that schedule?

Bosun I thought we'd do some handicrafts!

Captain Do I have no authority on my own ship? I don't feel in control of my own Poop!

Bosun I know what you mean. I think it's the spices they put in the curry at *[insert name of local takeaway]*.

Fitzwarren I don't mean to interrupt, but if you're quite finished.

Captain I think we agreed on a bag of gold, Alderman.

Fitzwarren We did indeed.

Tommy perks up at what is about to happen. The cat tries to warn Dick as Fitzwarren goes to get the key out of the cash box and open the safe. Fitzwarren opens the safe – it is empty.

Fitzwarren What's this? The gold has gone!

Billy comes back into the shop as Alice re-enters CSR.

Alice What's the matter, Daddy?

Fitzwarren The gold in the safe has gone. Someone has stolen it.

Alice Are you sure? I can't believe anyone could do such a thing.

Fitzwarren addresses Billy.

Fitzwarren You were here alone. Did you borrow the money?

Billy Not me, Sir. Never seen no bread or honey. Honest.

Tommy runs DSL – head in hands – expecting the worse.

Fitzwarren Well . I know you two are stupid, but you're honest. **(Approaching Dick)** What about you, young man?

Dick I'd never take your money, Alderman.

Fitzwarren Then you would mind if I check your knapsack?

Dick Please feel free. I have nothing to hide.

Fitzwarren opens the knapsack to discover the bag of gold.

Fitzwarren Aha!

Alice Oh Dick!

One by one, down the line, they all express their disappointment just by saying 'Dick's' name.

Dick But I didn't, honest.

Fitzwarren Then how do you explain this?

Dick I can't Sir, but I guarantee that I did not take that money.

Dick turns to Alice.

Dick Alice, I promise you I didn't do this and I shall prove my innocence. But for now you'd just have to trust me. I must leave and cannot return until I have unveiled the truth.

Dick grabs his knapsack and exits with Tommy through the audience.

Dick Come on Tommy . its time for us to leave. **(They exit)**

Alice runs to her father.

Alice Oh my Dick. **(She sobs)** Please believe him father. There must be some kind of explanation. He couldn't possibly do something so wrong.

Fitzwarren I'm sorry Alice, but all the evidence does point to Dick.

Captain moves towards Fitzwarren.

Captain Is that our gold, Alderman?

Fitzwarren It is Captain. Make sure you spend it well.

Bosun Hurry up Captain, we've got crew to re-crew-t! **(He nudges the Captain in return)**

Fitzwarren If you're short of crew, then you may take my staff, if it will help you?

Captain Are they any good?

Billy moves forward.

Billy I think you'd like me and my mother up to the job. Anything you want . just ask. Mother is a great cook. Bakes the best food around.

Captain Well that be sorted then Bosun. We seem to have ourselves a full crew.

Alice turns to Fitzwarren.

Alice Daddy, do you think I could go with them? I'm so sad and I think it'd help me get over Dick.

Billy I'd look after her Sir.

Bosun She'd get to see the world!

There is 'a call of the ship'.

Captain Time to inspect the ship, me hearties. We set sail at nine.

As the curtains close, Alice is comforted by Fitzwarren, Billy is celebrating his upcoming voyage. Captain and Bosun exit the shop. The hornpipe is heard.

SCENE FOUR***A Road Back Home***

In front of the curtains. Queen Ratifa comes through the curtains followed by Ratman and Vermina.

- Ratifa **(Laughing evilly)** At last my plans are working.
- Vermina It was a piece of cake. That foolish boy had no idea that it was I that took the money and planted it upon him.
- Ratifa You did well, Vermina. I shall see you are well rewarded.
- Vermina Thank you, Your Majesty. Your villainy was truly immense.
- Ratifa **(Smugly)** It was, wasn't it?
- Ratman What is our next move?
- Ratifa Now that the boy and his cat are gone, the rattlings will be free to carry on gnawing at Fitzwarren's stock.
- Vermina His shop will be empty in days!
- Ratman He'll be on the scrapheap in no time.
- Ratifa And that is where he must stay.
- Vermina What will happen when his ship returns?
- Ratifa We must make sure that his ship never returns.
- Ratman Sink it!
- Vermina Without a trace!
- Ratifa That is indeed my next plan. We shall hideaway on Fitzwarren's ship. It sets sail tomorrow morning, and we, and your rattlings, will stow away beneath the deck.
- Vermina How do you plan to sink the ship?
- Ratifa That will be easy. I shall summon the most violent storm. At the same time, you will instruct your rattlings to gnaw a hole in the hull of the ship.
- Ratman The ship will surely sink! But how shall we escape?
- Ratifa You will have the lifeboat ready for us. Everyone else will perish at sea.
- Vermina I like this plan. But how will you rid London of Whittington?

Ratifa Fitzwarren's daughter will be on the ship. He won't be far away from her. He'll creep aboard to be near her.

Vermina So Dick Whittington will be gone!!!

Ratman Fitzwarren will be ruined!

Ratifa And I shall be able to take my rightful place as Lord Mayor of London. **(To audience)** And you lot out there will be the first to kneel at my feet!

Ratman Oh yes you will!

Audience Oh no we won't!

Ratman)
Vermina) Oh yes you will!

Audience Oh no we won't!

Queen Ratifa raises her hands to quieten the audience.

Ratifa **(Pausing – then quietly)** You will! Ha ha ha! Let us get ready to sail.

The three of them exit through the curtains. Dick and Tommy enter through the audience.

Dick How could it all go so horribly wrong, Tommy? Things were looking so bright. I had a job, I was earning money.

They are on stage and sit FSL, next to a sign which points to London and [name of location].

Dick Are you hungry?

Tommy nods and points to Dick's knapsack.

Dick I've not much to eat Tommy. but whatever I have, I'll quite happily share with you.

Dick takes some food out of the knapsack and gives some to Tommy.

Dick Don't rush it Tommy, it's all that I have. I'm so tired. I think I'd rather just rest for a while.

Dick falls asleep. Fairy Bowbells enters through the curtains and stands FSR.

Fairy Bowbells It seems that Queen Ratifa has once again attempted to thwart my plans. It is no worry. I have something up my sleeve.

Fairy Bowbells addresses Tommy.

Fairy Bowbells Tommy, you have done well so far, but you need to stay close to Dick's side.

Tommy nods eagerly.

Fairy Bowbells You will need to guard him . and keep him safe. Finally Tommy, it will be your job to help Dick see off Queen Ratifa. If you can do that, then the legend will talk of Dick Whittington and his Cat!

At this, Tommy stands and takes a champion's pose.

Fairy Bowbells Dick, listen to the enchanted bells.
What you do next they will you tell.
They ring in every steeple tall.
A message to you . do you hear their call?

We hear the bells ring out. Quietly at first.

Fairy Bowbells Turn again, Whittington
Lord Mayor of London.

Turn again, Whittington
Lord Mayor of London.

**Fairy Bowbells repeats this as she exits through the
reds. Dick wakes up.**

Dick Tommy! We must head back to London. I don't know my true path, but I do know it is back in London. We must take our chance.

Dick stands and collects his belongings.

Dick Back to London!

They exit through the audience.

SCENE FIVE

London Docks

**The curtains open to reveal some of the chorus as
sailors, working dockside.**

Captain Heave ho, me hearties and shiver ye timbers!

Sailors Aye aye, Captain.

Captain And shiver mine whilst you're at it.

Enter Alice CSL carrying a suitcase. Billy follows and stands SL.

Alice Oh how I miss my Dick! **(She pauses)** No, honestly, I do. I cried all night. I hope this voyage will help cheer me up. Daddy says I have to be really careful because quite often sailors can be really depressed as they don't have much female company.

Enter Bosun USR and walks down, pushing Alice to one side to get to the Captain. She moves to Billy.

Bosun **(Calling out cheerily)** Yoo hoo! Here I am, Captain.

Captain About time, Bosun. **(Shouting to all)** We sail with the tide.

Bosun **(Shouting also)** We sail with the tide.

Captain **(Pointing upwards)** Don't just stand there, you need to check the mast. I want you to climb to the top of it.

Bosun No! **(Defiantly)** If I go up there, you'd have set sail before I come down..

Captain Oh please stop your whinging. Help me get these passengers aboard.

Captain and Bosun go to collect cases from Alice and Billy. Dick and Tommy creep on CSR, trying not to be seen. However, Alice does see them.

Alice **(Runs across stage)** Dick, what are you doing here?

Dick I needed to see you Alice. I didn't take the money, Alice. You must believe me.

Alice I do Dick, but it's father we need to convince.

Dick And what's the likely chance of that?

Alice It's possible. Why don't you come on board with us? It'd give us time to plan a way to get you back into Daddy's good books.

Dick It'd better try and sneak on board. Come on Tommy.

Alice tries to help Dick and Tommy stowaway on board. Enter Ratman and Vermina from DSL.

Ratman The Queen was right. The Whittington boy is right there.

Vermina By her side. Just as she predicted.

Ratman So it seems that the plan to sink this ship will also see the demise of Whittington.

Vermina And his cat!

Queen Ratifa enters CSL and joins Ratman and Vermina.

Ratifa Is the ship ready to sail?

Vermina Very nearly. We have good news, Your Majesty. Whittington is onboard.

Ratifa I am never wrong.

Ratman The job should be easy. The crew are merely a bunch of beginners. They won't know what to do when the storm hits.

Enter Dame Dilly CSR – arms open to the audience waiting for her call out.

Audience Nice one Dilly!

Dilly Thank you! Captain, wait for me! **(To audience)** Do you like my new outfit? It's a battleship dress. Top decks cleared for action!

Captain moves CS and begins to shout.

Captain **(To Bosun)** Are we ready to sail?

Bosun Aye, Captain.

Captain Time to cast off! All aboard, me hearties. Time to pipe up the crew.

The principals onstage position themselves. Alice is CS. Dick and Tommy – UCS. Billy and Dame – USR, Queen Ratifa, Ratman and Vermina DSL. Captain and Bosun stand to the right of Alice. During the song, Fairy Bowbells and Fitzwarren enter and stand DSR. The rest of the chorus enter.

SONG

SAIL AWAY

ACT TWO

SCENE SIX

On the Saucy Sal

SONG

IN THE NAVY

Chorus, Captain, Bosun, Billy and Alice are all on stage.

Captain Good morning, me hearties.

Chorus Good morning, Captain.

Captain **(To Sailor)** You! Take the wheel.

Sailor Where do you want me to take it?

Bosun Here, you. Don't you speak to the Captain like that. **(A look to the audience)** That's my job!

Captain The rest of you get back to work. I want this ship looking shipshape.

Chorus Aye aye Captain.

One of the Sailors approaches Bosun as the Captain ushers the chorus off stage to their various jobs.

Sailor Do I have to work on this ship? I'd quite like a holiday after a stressful winter.

Bosun I think you'd find the Captain expects everyone on board to pull their weight.

Sailor Well I weigh very little, so I won't be doing much pulling as you call it. **(Moves up to man the ship's wheel).**

Dame Dilly enters through the audience to the music of 'Don't Cha'. She is dressed in denim shorts and sailor top.

Dilly Yoo hoo!

Audience Nice one Dilly!

Dilly You remembered! Well done. **(To others on stage)** Anyone got a deck chair?

Captain Yer not here to sunbathe. There's jobs to be done.

A bell rings.

Billy **(To Captain)** ~~E~~re, there's someone at the front door!

Bosun But we haven't got a front door. **(Confused)** Have we Captain?

Captain The bell tells us the time and it tells us that it is now time to work. Bosun, give out those mops.

Bosun Aye, aye, Captain. **(Passes out the mops)** All given out Captain.

Captain **(Speaking to Bosun)** Now fall in!

Bosun Pardon?

Captain Fall in!

Bosun **(Runs to the side of the ship, crying)** But I don't want to fall in, Captain. I can't swim!

Captain Yer fool. I didn't mean ~~fall in~~to the sea. I meant fall into line with the others.

Bosun Well why didn't you say?

Billy, Alice, Sailor, Dilly and Bosun all line up.

Captain Shut up! Now then, attenshun, at ease, shun, ease, shun, ease, shun, ease. **(They all jump, legs apart, legs together, speeding up until looking tired and ridiculous).**

Dilly **(Throws mop down)** I wish you'd make your mind up.

Captain Pick it up.

Dilly No!

Captain Pick it up.

Dilly No!

Captain Will you pick that up?

Dilly No I will not.

Captain **(Politely)** Please pick it up?

Dilly Errr. No. I don't want to.

Captain **(Extremely politely)** Just for me?

Dilly Errrrrr. No!

Captain **(Calmly)** Oh, very well then, don't.

Captain turns and walks away, then suddenly turns back and shouts.

Captain PICK IT UP!

Bosun jumps into Dilly's arms, dropping his mop.

Bosun Oh please don't shout, Captain. Me nerves are shivered just like me timbers.

They all adjust themselves back into line.

Captain Stand at ease. Stand easy.

Bosun leans on his mop, with his legs apart. The Dame kicks his mop through his legs and Bosun falls to the floor.

Captain Now, from the right, number.

They all begin to dance with their mops.

Captain What do you think yer doing?

Billy We thought you said Rumba!

Captain I said . number! Pay attention. From the right, number.

Billy One.

Alice Two.

Sailor Two.

Captain Again.

Billy One.

Alice Two.

Sailor Two.

Dilly Wait a minute. **(Speaks to Sailor)** How can you be two?

Sailor I'm not I'm only one.

Dilly **(Pointing to Billy)** No, he's one!

Sailor **(Nudging Alice)** I was always suspicious!

Captain Right, this is how you present arms. **(Takes a mop)** One, two, three, four. **(Shouts and presents arms then throws mop onto the floor)** And that's how you do it!

The mop is picked up.

Captain Now, once again, present arms.

Crew One, two, three, four.

They present arms badly then throw their mops to the floor.

Captain **(Getting frustrated)** Oh! Pick up your mops and shoulder arms.

They do, but Dilly puts hers on the wrong shoulder.

Captain No, no, no! You put it on this shoulder **(tapping his own left shoulder)**.

Dilly puts the mop onto the Captain's shoulder.

Captain No, no, no! **(Points to Bosun)** Put it where he's got his!

Dilly puts it on the Bosun's shoulder.

Captain You're an idiot! **(Grabbing the mop and puts it on Dilly's own shoulder)** That's where you put it! Right, now for some exercise. Do as I do. **(Runs up and down on the spot)** One, two, one, two, as if you were riding a bicycle.

Crew One, two, one, two, as if you were riding a bicycle.

This is repeated and during this, Dilly stops and rests on her mop.

Captain What do yer think yer doing?

Dilly I'm free wheeling!

Others stop.

Captain I've had enough. Squad..... attentshun! Left turn.

They all turn left except Dilly who turns right to face Bosun.

Dilly **(Blows a kiss)** Hello sailor!

Bosun Hello darling!

Captain Squad..... quick..... Wait for it!..... Quick march!

They all march in a circle and lead off CSR. Captain follows. Alice moves US to speak to the sailor at the wheel. Enter Dick and Tommy CSL.

Dick **(Stretching)** Oh my goodness. That lifeboat was cramped.

Tommy also stretches.

Dick I must find Alice and tell her we managed to stow away. **(To audience)** Has anyone seen her?

Audience She's behind you!

Dick Oh no she isn't!

Audience Oh yes she is!

Dick Oh no she isn't!

Alice walks downstage and taps Dick on the shoulder.

Audience Oh yes she is!

Dick **(Turning to see her)** You're right! She is! Oh Alice, it's so good to see you.

Alice And you too, Dick.

Re-enter Captain and Bosun.

Captain Now then, who have we here, Miss Alice?

Alice Captain, this is my friend Dick Whittington.

Bosun **(Nodding to acknowledge him)** Dick.

Dick Good day, Captain, it's a pleasure to meet you.

Bosun I don't remember seeing your name on the crew list.

Alice You don't? I'm sure his name was there, along with his companion, Tommy, here.

Captain A cat!? Well you'd have to work your passage. Your cat too.

Dick That is no problem. Tommy here is an excellent mouser.

Tommy demonstrates the ability to catch a mouse/rat.

Bosun Oh I say, that was very good. Quick Captain. Get that cat below decks, I'm fed up of chasing those wretched rodents. Oh I'm so happy I feel like a song.

Dick Well, you don't look like one!

SONG

I TURN AND LOOK OUT TO SEA

This is sung by Captain, Bosun, Alice, Dick, Dilly, Billy and Sailor who enter as required. Captain starts the song, standing CS.

*When I get up in a morning
When I get up in a morning
When I get up in a morning
I turn and look out to sea*

Captain does a full 360° turn, anti-clockwise and uses his right hand to peer out to sea.

Bosun joins the Captain CS and stands on his left. He sings.

*When I get up, I stretch my arms in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms in a morning
Then I turn and look out to sea.*

Bosun opens both arms out wide which hits the Captain in the chest. Bosun also does the 360° turn, anti-clockwise, raising his right hand to peer out to sea, which then also hits the Captain on the back of his head.

Alice joins the pair, standing on the Captain's right hand side.

*When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
in a morning
Then I turn and look out to sea.*

Alice opens both arms out wide which hits the Captain in the chest. She then bends down to touch her toes, which means when the Captain looks round to see who has hit him in the chest he doesn't see her. As she does the 360° turn, she is on the Captain's right, so she doesn't hit him as she looks out to sea. The Captain acknowledges this to Bosun, feeling rather pleased.

Dame Dilly enters and positions herself in between Captain and Bosun.

*When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
and spray myself in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
and spray myself in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes
and spray myself in a morning
Then I turn and look out to sea.*

Dilly stretches her arms out and hits both the Captain and Bosun. As she touches her toes, Captain and Bosun are left looking at each other, but then look away as Dilly stands up. She ‘elbows’ each of them in turn as she sprays underneath her arms. As she does her 360° turn, it is the Captain who is slapped again on the back of his head.

Dick joins the group and stands next to the Bosun on his left side.

*When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks in a morning
Then I turn and look out to sea.*

Dick stretches out his arms, hitting only Bosun who looks into the wings when Dick bends down to touch his toes. Bosun gets ‘elbowed’ as Dick sprays and is then bumped as Dick bends down to put on his socks. The ‘bump’ travels down the line knocking each of them in turn. The usual 360° turn will ensure the Bosun is hit again.

Billy and Sailor run on pushing into the line. Billy is between the Captain and Dilly, Sailor between Dilly and the Bosun.

*When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks, and dress
myself in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks, and dress
myself in a morning
When I get up, I stretch my arms, and touch my toes,
and spray myself, and pop on my socks, and dress
myself in a morning
Then I turn and look out to sea.*

As Billy and Sailor have joined the line in the middle, the Captain, Dilly and Bosun will be the main targets of the routine. The same routine as above but with the addition of 'dressing'. Billy and Sailor should mime putting on a jacket which will 'punch' either side of the line. The rest of the actions are the same as all the others.

ALL – I TURN AND LOOK OUT TO SEA!

One by one, they do the 360° turn and use their right hand to peer out to sea. This should start with Alice and move down the line, so they are all hit on the back of the head – apart from Dick.

During the song, the chorus bring on benches, which are required for the next song. At the end of the song, Captain heads off stage CSR and indicates for Dick, Tommy and Bosun to follow him.

Captain Follow me!

Dick Aye, aye, Captain!

Dilly, Alice, Billy and Sailor walk US meeting Ratman and Vermina who enter CSL. They move to stand DSL. The others chat on deck.

Vermina It shouldn't take long now. The rattlings have been gnawing away since we set sail.

Ratman This time, we should please the Queen. If she gets what she wants, then she should reward us well.

Vermina Fine clothes, expensive jewels. If she becomes Lord Mayor of London, then we shall only have the very best.

Ratman And not a moment too soon. We have worked hard to bring her plans to fruition.

Queen Ratifa enters from CSL. The audience boo.

Ratifa Oh please be quiet. You're getting rather boring now. As the baddie, didn't you know I was a magician? **(Speaking to one member of the audience)** I could turn you into a prawn cocktail just like that **(clicks fingers)** and that's just for starters! Ha ha ha!

Ratman The ship will sink at your very command. The rattlings have done well.

Captain Stay calm everyone!

The Principals move from side to side making the most of a full stage.

Bosun She's going down, Captain.

Captain Abandon ship. Man the life boats. Each man for himself.

The thunder and lightning continues as the curtains close. We hear several splashes.

SCENE SEVEN

A London Street

In front of the curtains. Queen Ratifa enters through the curtains and stands CS.

Ratifa And so, we are back in London. The crew of the Saucy Sal lie in Davy Jones's locker. The rattlings have eaten everything in Fitzwarren's store. Things couldn't possibly be better.

She calls out.

Ratifa Ratman! Vermina!

They enter through the curtains – standing either side of Ratifa.

Ratman We are here, Your Majesty. As always, your faithful servants

Vermina You must be pleased with the result of your plan.

Ratman As soon as the storm hit, the ship went down in minutes.

Vermina The poor Alderman has lost his precious daughter and all his staff

Ratman And don't forget that Whittington boy and his pesky cat!

Vermina It was genius to ensure there was only one lifeboat to be used.

Ratman And that we were the ones to use it.

Vermina I thought it was quite a pleasant journey back to England.
(Mocking) It even helped me get over the sad news about the demise of the ship.

Ratifa It could not have gone better. You need to watch and learn.

Ratman We do indeed. We are learning from the very best.

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Ratifa Mmm. The very best!

SONG

QUEEN RAT FUNK

The song starts in front of the curtains, but they open to reveal a half stage. There are rattlings joining in. At the end of the song, the rattlings huddle CS as Ratifa, Ratman and Vermina move DSL. Enter Fairy Bowbells.

Fairy Bowbells You look quite smug, although I don't know why.

Vermina The Queen has ensured all on board have died.

Fairy Bowbells But how do you know, when you did not stay?

Ratman The Queen has made sure that she did get her way.

Fairy Bowbells I am here to inform you, your plan did not work.
(Aside) I must make sure they don't see me smirk.
I too have magic, which did save the day.
I think you will find you did not get your way.

It may interest you, that as I do voice
The crew of the ship, their safety rejoice.
All safely returned to old London town.
Your plan did not work, as none of them drowned.

Ratifa You lie . my plan was fool proof.
Planned to an inch to get rid of that youth.

Fairy Bowbells You underestimated my power, this Panto is mine.
And now is the time to see your decline.

She casts a spell and Dick and Tommy enter SR. This works well as a dance/fight routine to dramatic music with the dialogue spoken over. Tommy immediately pounces upon the rattlings huddled CS and chase them off SL and SR. Tommy then creeps towards Ratman and Vermina.

Dick Be careful, Tommy.

Queen Ratifa removes herself from the group and tries to escape without being seen, SL.

Dick Just wait there you evil rat.
You'll take your turn with Tommy the cat.

Tommy has chased Ratman and Vermina off stage. Tommy now turns to address Queen Ratifa. They circle each other.

Dick Be careful Tommy. She is a vile and wicked creature.

Fairy Bowbells Fear not Dick. I shall magic a sword.
Take it from Tommy so Queen Rat can be floored.

Fairy Bowbells waves her wand and a splendid sword slides on stage to Tommy. Tommy grabs the sword and hands it to Dick who, with a swift turn points it at Queen Ratifa. She is pinned up against the flat, SL.

Ratifa It seems you do win, after all that.

Fairy Bowbells I warned you I would. This is one special cat.

Ratifa Don't worry about me . I'll just move along.

Dick Set you free? I think not, in jail you belong.

Fairy Bowbells Tommy take the sword from Dick and be away with this vermin.
Lock her up and make sure you throw away the key.

Tommy takes the sword from Dick and pushes Queen Ratifa through the audience, keeping the sword pointed on her as they exit through the back of the hall.

Fairy Bowbells **(She hands over a bag of gold)** And now young Dick, it is time to return to claim your reward. As you and Tommy have defeated Queen Ratifa, you will be rewarded handsomely. You may use this money as you see fit. Oh . and as well as the money, a very special announcement awaits!

The sound of Bowbells is heard as Dick exits through the audience and the reds close.

SCENE EIGHT

Outside Fitzwarren's Shop

The curtains open to reveal a full stage. There are small groups of Chorus gathered.

Chorus One You must be pleased to see Alice return safely.

Fitzwarren I can't begin to tell you how relieved I am. When I got news of The Saucy Sal sinking, I thought I'd lost everything.

Alice enters from the shop, CSR.

Alice What was that you were saying father?

Chorus Two He was just saying how relieved he was to have you home.

Chorus One And what of Dick? What happened to him?

Alice He came on board ship with us, but since our return to London, he's been nowhere to be seen.

Fitzwarren He's probably avoiding me since the missing gold incident.

Alice I swear Dick didn't do it Daddy. He's far too honest. I truly believe that.

Fitzwarren After all my worries, I'm sure I'm not even bothered whether he did take the gold or not.

Puts his arm around Alice.

Fitzwarren I'm just glad you're home safe and sound.

Dame Dilly and Billy enter from the store CSR.

Dilly **(Staggering)** I'm so tired after that disastrous voyage, I can't go any further. I'm absolutely knickered.

Billy Ere Mum. You sure you actually mean that?

Dilly Oh yes. Definitely knickered. My breath is coming in short pants.

Fitzwarren calls across to Dame Dilly.

Fitzwarren Have you done any baking this morning?

Dilly Have you seen your storeroom? It's empty! I even went down to *[insert name of local shop]* to buy some provisions. The assistant told me that eggs are going up again. That should surprise a few chickens!

Billy What are you going to do with the store, Alderman? You're nothing to sell anymore.

Fitzwarren There's only one thing I can do. Shut up shop.

Everyone on stage gasps in dismay.

Chorus Two You can't possibly close the store Alderman Fitzwarren. It'd be like *[insert name of local town]* soon. All the good stores gone and more coffee shops and charity shops in their place. Whatever should we all do for our provisions?

Fitzwarren I'm sorry, but if I have no stock to sell and no money to buy stock then I can see no alternative.

Town Crier enters USR and makes a grand announcement.

Town Crier Oh Yay! Oh Yay! I hereby announce that on this very day . Mr Richard Whittington is to become Lord Mayor!

Alice **(Squeals)** Did you hear that, Daddy?

Town Crier Excuse me, but I haven't finished yet. Mr Richard Whittington is to become Lord Mayor of all London town.

Dick and Tommy enter USR. Dick sees Alice and runs to meet her.

Dick Have you heard the news Alice? I'm to be Lord Mayor!

Alice I've just heard, Dick. It's marvellous news.

Billy Couldn't happen to a nicer bloke, Dick me old chum. Got any jobs going?

Dick What are you talking about? You work for Alice's father.

Fitzwarren Not any more. I'm shutting up shop.

Dick But why would you close a much needed store?

Alice Daddy has no stock left after the rats destroyed it all. And because the ship sank, we didn't bring anything back with us.

Fitzwarren And I have no gold left to purchase more supplies.

Alice Daddy, please don't. I told you Dick didn't steal your gold.

Dick She's right Sir, I didn't steal anything. I can't explain what happened, but I am not lying.

Dick calls Tommy across. He's been entertained by the Chorus.

Dick Tommy . a word, if you please.

Tommy moves to Dick and he whispers into the cat's ear.

Dick So, you agree Tommy?

Tommy nods.

Dick Sir, my cat Tommy and I were given a reward for defeating the Queen of all rats. We would like you to have it.

Dick hands over the bag of gold. Fitzwarren looks into the bag.

Fitzwarren But this is ten times the amount of gold I lost.

Dick We'd like you to use it to save your shop.

Fitzwarren But what can I give you in return?

Dick There is only one thing I want . that's if you agree, Alice. I would like the hand of your beautiful daughter.

Fitzwarren Well it seems everything has worked out perfectly.

Dick What do you say Alice? Will you marry me?

Alice Of course I will. Is tomorrow too soon?!

All Hooray!

SONG

GET HIM TO THE CHURCH

SCENE NINE

Singalong and Finale

The audience can hear the song 'Love Lifts Us Up Where We Belong' from 'Officer and a Gentleman'. The curtains open to reveal Captain carrying Bosun onto the stage. They are both dressed in Navy dress whites, ready for the finale.

Bosun It was nice of Dick and Alice to invite us to their wedding.

Captain Extremely generous. I think it'd be a while before our next voyage, shiver me timbers. I'm a bit sick of the sea.

Bosun I like being back on terracotta.

Captain Don't you mean terrafirma?

Bosun I don't know what on earth you're talking about, Captain. Ooh, I've got a good joke. Shall I tell it to you?

Captain Go on then!

Bosun What do you call a fish with no eyes?

Captain I don't know. What do you call a fish with no eyes?

Bosun Fsh!

Captain You really are silly, Bosun. Haven't you got any better jokes than that?

Bosun How about this one. What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?

Captain I don't know. What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?

Bosun A nervous wreck!

Captain Enough of these ridiculous jokes. It's time to sing a song.

Bosun But they've sung one already.

Captain Well they can sing another one. **(Points to changing rooms)** Have you seen how long it takes that lot to get ready for the finale!

Bosun Can we sing a nautical song? Something about the sea?

Captain Of course we can. Now we're near the end of the show, can I call you Burley?

Bosun Of course you can. As long as I can call you.... Er what is your name?

Captain **(Whispers to Bosun)** But don't tell anyone. It's just that my mother was expecting a girl.

Bosun Bonny, your secret is safe with me. In fact that makes me think of the perfect song.

SINGALONG

MY BONNY LIES OVER THE OCEAN

FINALE

LAMBETH WALK

SONG SUGGESTIONS

OVERTURE

Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner

This is a great song for setting the scene, as it gets the audience in the mood for this classic tale.

HERO

Dick and Fairy Bowbells

There are a number of options available for this song. I decided to use the Enrique Iglesias version, with Dick leading the lyrics 'Can I be a hero, Fairy'?

WHO WILL BUY

Chorus, Billy and Alderman Fitzwarren

This classic song from 'Oliver!' allows you to use the street criers who can easily come from your chorus. I used young teens – which allowed them to develop skills to help them move forward in future productions.

BALLAD OF CAPTAIN AND BOSUN

Captain and Bosun

A take on 'The Ballad of Freda and Barry' by Victoria Wood. Words written carefully can allow Bosun to exclaim 'I can't do it!' whilst the Captain tells him to 'Just do it!' With the right duo, this could go down a storm.

NICE ONE DILLY

Billy, Alderman Fitzwarren and Dilly

A sing-a-long based on the tune of 'Nice One Cyril'. I found this a great way to get the audience involved from the onset – plus an opportunity to give out those all important sweets!

DAME DILLY WEARS PINK

Dilly, Billy, Alderman Fitzwarren, Chorus

Words re-written to 'Lily the Pink'. I brought in names of the chorus to personalise it to our group. Eg 'Harry Evans, does lots of impressions'.

BAD RAT WITH A CROWN

Queen Ratifa, Ratman, Vermina and Rattlings

Re-written to the tune of 'Bad, Bad Leroy Brown. An audience toe tapper!

MARRY YOU**Dick and Alice**

This Bruno Mars version was a real hit.

SAIL AWAY**Full cast and chorus**

A parody of 'One Day More' from Les Miserables. I waited until I had cast to write the words to this to enable me to match parts to vocal ability. A good musical director will be able to achieve this – and I have to say, this was our show stopper. We even reprised it at the end of the show.

IN THE NAVY**Captain, Bosun, Billy, Alice and Chorus**

A well-used and well liked opening to Act Two. I suggest a shortened version of around two minutes as the original is a bit long.

I TURN AND LOOK OUT TO SEA**Captain, Bosun, Alice, Dilly, Dick, Billy and Sailor**

Sung to the tune of 'One Finger One Thumb'

QUEEN RAT FUNK**Queen Ratifa, Ratman and Vermina**

This was the most popular song of 2015. It is easily rewritten to form part of the story and is popular with young adults members of the cast who were our 'Rattlings'.

GET HIM TO THE CHURCH**Dick, Alice, Alderman Fitzwarren, Dilly, Billy and Chorus**

A rousing number from 'My Fair Lady' which helps bring the show to its conclusion.

MY BONNY LIES OVER THE OCEAN **Captain and Bosun**

A second sing-a-long based on the fact that the Captain's name is actually Bonny Cockle.

LAMBETH WALK**Full cast and Chorus**

This is without doubt the only finale for this Pantomime. Our audiences loved the fact that even with all our so called modern music, we

still were able to satisfy the musical needs of our older audience members.