

GOODY TWO-SHOES

by

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GOODY TWO-SHOES

Characters

Immortals

Fairy Rainbow

The Cobbler of Shoeland

Mortals

Robin Goodfellow (A Jack of all trades)

Alderman Leonard Lacehole (Mayor of Cherry Blossom)

Cleverclogs (The Town Clerk)

Agatha (The Old Woman who lives in a show)

Goody (One of Agatha's daughters)

Charlie (Agatha's eldest son)

Duke Ganelon (A villain if ever there was one)

Male and female ensemble

Dancers

Kiddies Chorus

Agatha's children consist of dancers and kiddies chorus ó preferably a mixture of boys and girls of different ages

Remainder of company play villagers

SCENES

Scene 1	The Village of Cherry Blossom	Full set
Scene 2	The Typhoo Tea Garden	Tabs
Scene 3	Inside the Old Woman's Shoe	Full set
Scene 4	Saxone Square	Tabs
Scene 5	Inside the Old Woman's Shoe (the following day)	Full set
Scene 6	Hush Puppy Hill	Tabs
Scene 7	The Cobbler's Magic Grotto	Full set

INTERVAL

Scene 8	A Mountain Glade	Full set
Scene 9	Deep in the Enchanted Forest	Tabs
Scene 10	Outside the Wellington Inn	Full set
Scene 11	The Council Chamber (The same evening)	Tabs
Scene 12	Inside the Old Woman's Shoe (That night)	Full set
Scene 13	The Town of Awlö Square	Tabs
Scene 14	of The Last	Full set

Note: Front scenes are intended to be played in front of tab curtains but front cloths could be used if available. Full sets are prepared while tab scenes are being played.

	<u>Music Cue</u>
Overture	(1)
Scene 1	Full set

The Village of Cherry Blossom

*(Open with Maypole number dancers and ensemble incorporating all associated May-Day festivities. During applause Cleverclogs enters. His manner is that of "Uriah Heap" (2)
There is a fanfare as he collects crowd around him at centre.) (3)*

1st Ensemble Whoø that fanfare for?

Cleverclogs The fanfareø a formal welcome for my favourite fellow.

2nd Ensemble Whoø that?

Cleverclogs Me.

3rd Ensemble Who are you?

Cleverclogs The name is Cleverclogs. Your newly appointed Parish Clerk.

4th Ensemble Surely youøre not working on May-Day.

Cleverclogs A Parish Clerkø work is never done.

5th Ensemble But May-Day is the day when everybody can do as they like.

Cleverclogs Donø argue with me. I have certain powers. I can arrange for the Wheelie Bin men to give your house a miss for two weeks on running.

6th Ensemble Rubbish.

Cleverclogs Exactly. Youøll be up to your ears in it.

7th Ensemble Run away and play. *(All laugh)*

Cleverclogs I shall stay here and work. Yonder stands the house built as a shoe *(pointing right)*. The oldest council house in the village of Cherry Blossom. I bring May-Day tidings to the occupier.

1st Ensemble Thatø Agatha ó the old woman who lives in the shoe.

- Cleverclogs** The old woman who won't be living in the shoe unless she pays her rent by noon today.
- 2nd Ensemble** You don't mean to say you'd turn her out of house and home.
- Cleverclogs** Lock, stock and barrel. I'd sell every stick of furniture she's got unless she settles for the rent she owes. That's my May-Day game.
- 3rd Ensemble** Excuse me Mr Cleverclogs, but can you swim?
- Cleverclogs** As a matter of fact I can't.
- 4th Ensemble** Well now's your chance to learn. To the duck pond with him *(Some dancers grab him and frog march him off left. Others stay on stage – all cheer at the sound offstage of a big splash).*
- 5th Ensemble** That's dealt with him.
- 6th Ensemble** For the time being.
- 1st Ensemble** We'd better warn Agatha.
- 3rd Ensemble** Better still. Let's tell Goody. She'd know what to do. *(Girl knocks on door. All shout "Goody" – other ensemble re-enter. Entrance music for Goody. (4) Enter Goody right barefooted. They surround her at centre.)*
- All** Hello, Goody!
- Goody** Hello everyone. Did I hear someone asking for mother?
- 1st Ensemble** It's the new Parish Clerk. He came to serve a summons for the rent.
- Goody** Poor old mother. We shall be turned out into the street.
- 2nd Ensemble** Can't Agatha pay the rent?
- Goody** We're so poor. In my whole life I've never had a pair of shoes.
- 3rd Ensemble** What can we do to help?
- Goody** Enjoy yourselves. Don't worry about us. We shall manage 'o we're the original happy family. *(Cue for bright number, Goody, dancers and ensemble (5) All exit at end of number. Enter Cleverclogs left)*
- Cleverclogs** *(Announcing)* His worship the Mayor of Cherry Blossom, Alderman Leonard Lacehole. *(Play on Lacehole. Enter Lacehole left, he is big, bluff, common (6) and somewhat brainless.)*
- Lacehole** What do you have to keep saying that for? - Everyone knows who I am. 'O Honest Len Lacehole, friend of the people. Anyway there's no-one about.

- Cleverclogs** Don't be too friendly today sir.
- Lacehole** Why not?
- Cleverclogs** This is the house where I had trouble serving the summons.
- Lacehole** Well, we've got to get the council rents in somehow. There's a good horse running at Wetherby this afternoon. *(Knocking on shoe door right, Agatha opens door, she carries a tea-pot. Sweeps round stage as orchestra plays bright (7) entrance music. She stops in front of Lacehole.)*
- Agatha** You rang the bell?
- Lacehole** Is your name Agatha?
- Agatha** Yes, and I didn't vote for you.
- Lacehole** You owe the council some rent. Where do you keep your money?
- Agatha** Everything I have is in this tea-pot.
- Lacehole** Let's have it then. *(Agatha throws contents of tea-pot into his face and shuts door after exiting back into house).*
- Cleverclogs** You begin to appreciate my difficulties?
- Lacehole** *(Wiping his face)* Ring that bell. *(Cleverclogs does so)*
- Agatha** *(Opening the door)* You knocked?
- Lacehole** I did. What about the rent?
- Agatha** What about the repairs?
- Cleverclogs** We haven't done any repairs.
- Lacehole** *(To Cleverclogs)* Blockhead. *(They stand left of Agatha at door).*
- Agatha** I've a list of complaints written in my shorthand notebook. Here. *(She throws Lacehole toilet roll – retaining other end. As she reads each complaint she tears off a leaf).* One 'o every time it rains this shoe leaks. Two 'o it's five years since you polished my uppers and renewed my laces. Three 'o I need a new inner sole in my living room and if you look outside my heels come off.
- Lacehole** Anything else?
- Agatha** Yes. There's a nail stuck up in the bathroom just where you sit down. This house was built on a shoestring.
- Lacehole** We've got no money for repairs.
- Agatha** And I've got no money for rent.

- Cleverclogs** No money! You must have spent your life doing nothing.
- Agatha** I must have spent my life doing nothing? Just a minute. IØl disprove that. Meet the family. *(She now stands right of door)*. Everyone out. *(Dancers and kiddies enter from house one by one in a crocodile fashion led by Goody to orchestra accompaniment of "Boys and Girls come out to play")* (8)
First of all thereØs Goody. I donØ know what IØd do without Goody. Then thereØs Andy, Mandy, Benny and Penny, Billy and Milly, Cecil and Ethel, Danny and Fanny, Harry and Marie, Izzy and Lizzie, Johnny and Bonny, Larry and Carrie, Peter and Greta, Rudie and Judy, Teddy and Heddy. Then thereØs this one – number twenty three ó we havenØ given her a name yet *(Adjust number of names to number in family who are now lined up from Goody at left to right centre, left of Lacehole)*.
- Lacehole** Why not?
- Agatha** WeØve run out. Now, just tell me one thing ó do you still think IØve spent my life doing nothing?
- Cleverclogs** YouØve spent your life doing nothing about the rent.
- Lacehole** Quite correct. HereØs a summons giving details of the rent you owe. *(Giving it to Agatha)* Pay up by 12 noon or out you go, I promise you. *(As he exits down right)*. Vote for Lacehole. The candidate who keeps his promises . *(Exit Lacehole and Cleverclogs laughing. Play off)* (9)
- Agatha** *(Crossing centre with Goody at her left. Family gathers upstage round them)*. Now we shall have to have a family conference. Just a minute. I knew there was somebody missing. WhereØs Charlie?
- All** *(Yell at top of voices)* Charlie!! *(Agatha startled)*
- Charlie** *(Off stage right)* Hello?
- Agatha** Come here. *(Enter Charlie from house to play on "Charlie is my darling")*. He wears night cap, nightshirt and boots and stands right of centre) (10)
- Charlie** Is there summat up or summat?
- Agatha** Yes, there is and you should have been up long since. Just look at you. How many times have I told you not to open the door in your nightshirt?
- Charlie** I havenØ got a door in my nightshirt.
- Agatha** What are you doing wandering about?
- Charlie** I came out for a drink of water.
- Agatha** In your nightshirt?
- Charlie** No, in a jug.

- Agatha** Go and get dressed. (*Charlie takes off cap and nightshirt. He is dressed already and wears long shorts*).
- Charlie** (*Suddenly notices audience*) Eh, look at all these people. 'ōAlright kids?'ō (*There will be some response*). Well they seem a friendly lot but they're not saying much. Look, when I say 'ōAlright kids'ō, I want you to shout 'ōRight Charlie'ō. Let's have a try 'ō Alright kids?'ō
- Audience** 'ōRight Charlie'ō. (*Ensemble on stage join in*)
- Charlie** Not bad, trouble is the big kids 'ō the Mums and Dads, Grandmas and Grandpas, aren't making enough noise. Just give 'em a nudge kids, go on, nudge 'em. Now we'll try again 'ō 'ōAlright kids?'ō
- Audience** 'ōRight Charlie'ō.
- Charlie** (*To audience*) There you are, I'm a right Charlie.
- Agatha** We know (*To her children on stage*) Now listen, we can't pay the rent. So you've got to raise some cash. Off you go, all of you. See what money you can earn doing an odd job.
- Charlie** Try milking a bull 'ō that's an odd job.
- Agatha** That's enough of that 'ō off you go. (*All exit left except Agatha, Charlie and Goody*) Goody 'ō go and set the table. If we're going to be turned out at 12 o'clock, we'd better have an early lunch.
- Goody** All right mother. (*Kisses Agatha and exits into house*).
- Charlie** Is there summat up or summat?
- Agatha** There's a summons up or summat and there's summat up with the summons.
- Charlie** Summat up with the sums on the summons?
- Agatha** Summat up with the summary of the sums on the summons 'ō sum it up. (*Passes it to Charlie, he goes through calculation. Passes it back to Agatha*) Well?
- Charlie** There is summat up.
- Agatha** Idiot. (*Reading from summons*) Let me have a look. Legal costs £5.50. Where are we going to get £5.50?
- Charlie** Change a £10 note.
- Agatha** Fool. You'd have to sell your blazer and cap.
- Charlie** Who to?
- Agatha** Take it to that second hand clothes shop. See what you can get for it.
- Charlie** I could get a job modelling in this blazer.

- Agatha** Who for?
- Charlie** (*Posing*) Firths. (*substitute name of local school outfitter*)
- Agatha** Weøve no time for that. Get in that shop.
- Charlie** (*Taking off cap*) You see that cap there? On that cap I used to have my badge for the school tiddlywinks club.
- Agatha** Have they thrown you out?
- Charlie** Yes, I tiddled when I should have winked. (*Charlie replaces cap dead straight and poses again*) Marks and Spencer.
- Agatha** Get in that shop. (*Charlie exits left to presumed offstage shop. Agatha mutters, studying summons. Charlie re-enters without blazer and cap*) How much did he give you?
- Charlie** (*Handing over money*) £1.
- Agatha** How much?
- Charlie** (*Adding some more*) Fifty.
- Agatha** (*Reading summons*) Postage 25 pence. (*To Charlie*) See what heød give you for your old cap. (*Charlie pulls cap from pocket – puts it on. Pulls down ragged jersey he was wearing under blazer. Poses*)
- Charlie** Poundstretcher. (*or name of local discount store or market stall*)
- Agatha** Get off. (*Charlie goes into shop and returns minus cap*)
- Charlie** There you are then. 25 pence. Is that the lot?
- Agatha** It is not. Arrears of rent £55.55.
- Charlie** (*Reacts and stutters*) Fifty-five øp-p-pounds ø fifty f-f-five pence.
- Agatha** I thought that would make you splutter. Well weøve got to raise it somehow. Now take off your jersey ø thatøø worth 75 pence. Now what about your tie ø nice tie ø couple of quid. (*Takes off tie. Dialogue ad lib trying to make up total sum as Charlie gradually strips down through several articles listed in turn by Agatha, take off*) (1) Jersey (2) Trousers (3) Shirt (4) Shirt. “What are you wearing two lots for?” “Cold weather” (5) Football kit (6) Shirt “You don’t have to wear them all”. “You won’t buy me a wardrobe” (7) Underpants. “There’s at least 50p there. “You never mind what there is there” (8) Numerous pairs of underpants. Charlie – “Get ‘em off” each time (9) Last pair “That’s a nice pair of underpants” – “Yes and I’m not taking those off”. Charlie and Agatha engage in furious discussion as to whether total has been raised or not. A man enters left pushing a hand cart with a notice reading “OXFAM CLOTHES COLLECTION”. He looks at pile of clothes and pleased, loads them onto his cart. Starts to exit left.)

- Man** Thank you very much.
- Both** You're welcome ó Eh just a minute (*React and chase after him. All exit left – Play off*) (11)
- Goody** (*Enter Goody from house*) Lunch will be ready in half an hour. ó That's funny there's no-one about. I thought I heard mother and Charlie arguing as usual. I wonder where they are now?
- Robin** (*Off stage*) Goody!
- Goody** Well that doesn't sound like Charlie.
- Robin** Goody!
- Goody** And it's certainly not mother. (*Begin play-on music. Last eight bars of duet to follow*) I know who it is. It's Robin. (*Enter Robin left as play on finishes*) (12)
- Robin** Robin Goodfellow ó Jack of all trades, at your service. (*Flourish and bow*)
- Goody** Robin.
- Robin** There was I thatching farmer Brown's roof ó quietly earning my living when suddenly I thought ó blow everything, let it rain, let it shine ó farmer Brown can wait. But I can't wait. I must see Goody, right now, this very minute to remind her.
- Goody** Remind me?
- Robin** Yes to remind you, that as far as I am concerned, rain or shine, the world's a brighter place when Goody smiles. (*Cue for duet. Goody and Robin exit into house hanging sign on door "Do not Disturb". Lights dim to green*) (13)
- Duke** (*Enter Duke left to musical play on*) Ha ó Ha! May I introduce myself. (14) The name is Duke Ganelon. (*Pronounced GANNYLONN*) keep an eye on me ó I'm dangerous. Twenty years ago my niece, an orphan babe, was placed in my care. The babe, a girl, was heir to a large fortune. Within days I disposed of her, abandoning her in the forest. Ha óha. (*Wicked laugh*) The way was now clear for me to enjoy the fortune. Then I was thwarted. In some mysterious manner the fortune was spirited away. For years I have sought the answer to the mystery ó with no success. Still I follow every clue. (*Lights to full again*) Only today rumour reached me, that an orphan girl, by name Goody, lives here. Could it possibly be ó I wonder. (*He knocks at shoe door. Enter Goody from house*).
- Goody** (*Smiles*) Good-day sir.
- Duke** (*Backing away centre to face audience*) The girl! The girl! This face appears before me as a face from the past.
- Goody** Can I help you, good sir?

- Duke** *(Aside)* The baby girl. *(To Goody violently)* You have no right to be alive.
- Goody** I don't understand.
- Duke** *(Seizing her)* Who are you? Your name. Your name I say.
- Goody** Let me go, please let me go.
- Duke** Not until I learn a little more about you.
- Goody** Robin, Robin, help me! Help me!
- Robin** *(Enter Right from house)* Let go of her. Unhand her I say. *(Robin throws Duke to one side).*
- Duke** You interfering young Jackanapes. *(Makes as if to strike Robin but Robin deals with him)*
- Robin** Have you had enough?
- Duke** *(Calming down)* My apologies. I was upset. The girl reminded me of a *(Has second thoughts)* a of someone I once knew.
- Goody** I hardly think so. You are a nobleman, and I only a poor orphan girl.
- Duke** Where were you born girl?
- Robin** What business is that of yours?
- Goody** It's alright Robin. I don't mind who knows. I only know I was found abandoned in the forest and brought up by the Old Woman who lives in yonder shoe.
- Robin** Be off with you. Nobleman or not. Come Goody. *(Robin and Goody exit into house)*
- Duke** *(Slowly)* It is she. After all these years she lives. Now to turn the chance meeting into profit. The girl knows not her own birthright. Unwittingly she may give me some clue, so that I may be the one to find her fortune. Once found, the money shall cause me no problems. I shall merely spend it a on wicked things a wine gums, women and instant scratch cards. Keep an eye on me, I'm dangerous. *(Duke exits left laughing. Play off music)* (15)
- Fairy** *(Play on Fairy who enters down right carrying pair of red shoes)* (16)
There goes an evil man. He shall not harm dear, sweet, kind Goody. Ahead of her lies a long journey. Robin will protect her as best he may, and yet she will find herself in need of my fairy powers. *(Holding up shoes).* This pair of magic shoes I give to her. As long as she shall wear them and remain kind and unselfish she shall enjoy my help and protection. Soon she will find herself making a wish that the problems of another will be solved. Because of her unselfish thoughts her wish will be granted. For by then she will be the owner of the magic shoes.

(Places shoes on door step. Waves her wand and with a movement of her other hand produces a card from 'thin air' – [held at back of wand] – touches the card with the wand and places it between the shoes - saying) For Goody. (Taps on door of shoe house – to suitable knocking sound effect and exits. Play off. Door opens. Enter Goody) (17)

Goody No one here, and yet I thought I heard a knock. *(She sees the shoes)* What's this? A pair of shoes. *(Picks up shoes and card and read the card)* "For Goody". A pair of shoes for me *(moving away from door)*. Who could have been so kind as to leave such a lovely gift on my door step? Robin! Robin! Come here quickly. *(Enter Robin from house)* Look what I've found.

Robin A pair of shoes. Rather nice shoes.

Goody Especially nice. They're mine.

Robin Yours? Try them on. *(She does so)*

Goody Oh Robin, how comfortable they are. Almost as though they had been made just for me.

Robin Perhaps they were.

Goody Never have I worn shoes before. A pair of shoes of all my very own. One for each foot. OF TWO SHOES!!!

Robin Yes, Goody Two-Shoes. And that's what I'll call you from now on. Goody Two-Shoes.

Goody And now I'm going to show my shoes to everyone. Children! Boys and girls, everyone! Come and look at my new shoes. *(Enter some dancers and kiddies as Agatha's children and ensemble as villagers from all directions)*

All *(Excitedly ad-lib)* What lovely shoes of where did you get them? They were given to you? Goody has some new shoes etc. *(Hand bell is heard. Enter Cleverclogs left ringing bell followed by Lacehole)*

Lacehole Everybody happy?

All Yes.

Lacehole We'll soon alter that. What time is it?

Cleverclogs Twelve noon precisely.

Lacehole I'd better check that by consulting my new wrist watch. It's Russian. *(Looks at watch)* I make it quarter past!

Cleverclogs It must be gaining.

Lacehole I told you. It's Russian ("rushing")

- Robin** Just a minute. What's going on here?
- Goody** They've come to turn us out.
- Robin** Just let them try.
- Lacehole** There's no argument. I've got the law behind me. (*Looks round for Cleverclogs who has moved away*) Where is he? Oh you're there. Stop wandering about.
- Goody** It's no good Robin. We've no money to pay the rent.
- Robin** But ó
- Lacehole** But nothing. (*To Cleverclogs*) Fetch the old woman out of the shoe.
- Agatha** (*Enter Charlie and Agatha from shoe*) Who are you calling an old woman? Charlie, he called me an old woman.
- Charlie** Very observant. (*To audience*) Alright kids?
- Audience** Right Charlie. (*Lacehole and Cleverclogs are left of centre and other principals right of centre*)
- Lacehole** Judgement is now served in the case of me versus her ó The rents in arrears.
- Charlie** In her ears?
- Lacehole** In arrears.
- Charlie** Well they're big enough.
- Agatha** Ignore him. Children, I know you've done your best. How much did you manage to earn? (*Ad lib as several children give her money*) ó Two-pence, nine-pence, three-pence ó etc (*Counting*) That makes £4 twenty three pence. (*Sees smallest child standing there and takes coupons from her*) and half a dozen free vouchers from Tesco.
- Cleverclogs** Definitely insufficient.
- Lacehole** And what's more it's not enough.
- Cleverclogs** The eviction order takes effect and the household contents will be auctioned.
- Lacehole** In other words, you're out and we're in. Cleverclogs, bring out the best piece of furniture they've got. (*Cleverclogs exits into house and immediately re-enters with a small oak chest*)
- Agatha** We shall never raise the money, even by selling the furniture.
- Goody** But it's all so unfair. Unfair on the children and unfair to you. I wish, I wish that somehow all your troubles could be solved. (*There is a lightening effect* (18)

and drum roll. The trunk lid suddenly flies open – manipulated by Cleverclogs. At this, all shout)

- All** (In surprise) OHH!
- Goody** Look, mother, look. (*Pointing in chest*)
- Agatha** (*Surprised, snatches it*) There's some coins in here now. I could have sworn it was empty.
- Lacehole** Let's have a look.
- Agatha** You get your hands off. (*Bangs down lid on Lacehole's hand*) I'll do the looking. (*Agatha runs hands through money*) It's full of coins. Well I've heard of Piggy Banks but this is ridiculous.
- Goody** It's almost as though my wish had come true.
- Charlie** And it's all for me mam, isn't it mam 'o I'm going to have a wish 'o I wish, I wish 'o
- Agatha** I wish you'd shut up.
- Cleverclogs** Pay up, the rent is due.
- Lacehole** Quite right. You've no choice.
- Charlie** We have. We could buy the house now if we wanted to mam, couldn't we mam? My mam'd deal with you, my mam will, won't you mam?
- Agatha** If you say 'mam' again I'll thump you.
- Charlie** Sorry mam. Now then my man, how much do you want for the house?
- Cleverclogs** Tell them 'o er - £300.
- Lacehole** But it's a give away at that price.
- Cleverclogs** It's alright, they can't afford it.
- Lacehole** £300.
- Agatha** Just a minute. They're not all coins. There's thick bundles of notes here. £100 in each. What did you say? £300. There you are (*gives them to Lacehole*) One, two, three. After all these years, the house is mine. And we've plenty left over in case.
- Charlie** I thought it was in a chest.
- Lacehole** Only £300. I've twisted myself. What shall I tell them at the estates department?
- Cleverclogs** Tell them you sold it for £200. We'll split the other £100 between us.

- Lacehole** Good idea. Ninety for me and ten for you ó come on. (*Exit Lacehole and Cleverclogs left*)
- Robin** How wonderful. You'dl be able to stay in the house after all. It's yours now.
- Agatha** And we've a bit of cash left over. I'm going to treat us all to a meal out. Children go and get ready. (*Exit dancers and kiddies into house*)
- Charlie** Where are we going? McDonalds?
- Agatha** Just wash your hands and comb your hair.
- Charlie** Why do you have to spoil everything. (*He exits into house*)
- Goody** Now don't get too excited mother. There are things money can't buy.
- Agatha** I know. There's twenty of them in there, washing their hands and combing their hair. (*Exit Agatha*)
- Goody** It seems at long last our luck has changed.
- Robin** My lucky day was the day I met you.
(*Cue for number, Robin, Goody and ensemble reprise number which Goody and ensemble did earlier in the scene*) (19)

FADE TO BLACKOUT. TABS CLOSE

Scene 2**Tabs**The Typhoo Tea Garden

(Open with number. Several ensemble as McDonalds staff. Bright (20) number "Everything stops for Tea", or "Let's have a Party". Song and dance routine, towards the end kiddies enter left with party accessories joining in non dancing finish. Reprise – play off for ensemble who are staff and enter Agatha and Charlie left. Agatha wears outfit which is "tea" orientated, e.g. tea pot hat, cups as earrings, sugar lumps as necklace. Charlie is carrying a big bag with McDonalds written on it. He has large numbered cards in the bag.)

Charlie Alright kids.

Audience *(and kiddies)* Right Charlie.

Agatha Now, have you all had a hot-dog? (*"Yes" from kiddies and Charlie*) Have you all had some hamburger? (*"Yes"*), Have you all had chips? (*"Yes"*) Have you all had some ice-cream? (*"Yes"*) You've all had enough then.

Smallest Kiddie No.

Charlie What are you complaining about?

Kiddie There was no pop-corn.

Agatha Is there anything else anybody wants?

2nd Kiddie Yes.

Agatha What do you want?

2nd Kiddie I want to be sick.

Agatha Don't you dare. You get your moneys worth same as anybody else. Come on everybody. Time to pack up. The party's over.

Charlie *(Singing)* The party's over.

Agatha Shut up. Everybody out. *(All kiddies boo and groan)*

Charlie Leave it to me. *(Shouts)* Last one home doesn't get to watch the Simpsons. *(All kiddies exit left hurriedly)*

Agatha Neither do any of the others.

Charlie Why not?

Agatha Television's gone bust. Now pay the bill.

- Charlie** I didn't bring any money.
- Agatha** I distinctly told you to put it in my handbag.
- Charlie** I did. Where is your handbag?
- Agatha** I haven't brought it. We've got no money to pay the bill.
- Charlie** I've got an idea. We'll stop the first person that comes along and have a bet with him. I know a game we can't lose.
- Agatha** What do I do?
- Charlie** Stand there and I'll tell you what to do. (*Enter Lacehole and Cleverclogs right.*) Well, if it isn't Ant and Dec. Do you know, I knew you were coming.
- Lacehole** How did you know?
- Charlie** Telepathy. I read other people's thoughts.
- Cleverclogs** I don't believe in telepathy.
- Charlie** You will when you've seen our demonstration. I have here nine cards numbered from one to nine. With the help of my charming assistant I bring you the Science of Telepathy.
- Agatha** Who's your charming assistant?
- Charlie** You. I will now blindfold you. (*He puts scarf round her mouth. She splutters and pulls it away*)
- Agatha** Round my eyes ó you fool. (*Puts it over eyes*)
- Charlie** Madam Agatha ó can you see my hand?
- Agatha** No.
- Charlie** Thank goodness, it's mucky. (*Produces numbered cards from bag*) Now would one of you two gentlemen hold up a card and Madam Agatha will tell you the number on the card.
- Lacehole** I don't believe it.
- Cleverclogs** Nonsense.
- Charlie** If the gentleman does not believe me perhaps he would care to have a bet.
- Lacehole** Alright. I will have a bet. £20. (*He puts money down. Lacehole picks up a card with number four on*)

- Charlie** This gentleman is holding up a card. Tell me the number. Concentrate. (*Taps Agatha four times on shoulder*)
- Agatha** Number four.
- Charlie** Correct. (*Charlie picks up money. Repeat betting business another twice for larger amounts of money. Then Cleverclogs has an idea and produces thick felt pen, alters figure one on card to a nought. Money is placed. Cleverclogs hands nought card to Lacehole who displays it. Charlie doesn't know how to tap nought.*)
- Agatha** Come on.
- Charlie** (*To Lacehole and Cleverclogs*). Wouldn't you like to pick another number?
- Agatha** Come on. What's happening?
- Charlie** (*To Agatha*) Nothing is happening. What is happening?
- Agatha** I don't know. You haven't done anything.
- Charlie** Exactly. I haven't done anything. I've done nothing. What have I done?
- Agatha** You haven't done anything. (*Charlie exasperated kicks Agatha up backside*)
OH!
- Charlie** That's it. *õOö.* (*Agatha takes off scarf, Charlie picks up stake money. They exit quickly right to reprise of "Nice cup of Tea" play off.*) (21)
- Lacehole** That's done it. We're broke again.
- Duke** (*Enter Duke left. He sees Lacehole and Cleverclogs, takes wad of notes from pocket and starts counting*) 9132, 9133, 9134 (*As he counts Lacehole and Cleverclogs from right of centre cross, hypnotised. Duke suddenly stops counting, screws up note and throws it away*)
- Lacehole** What's wrong with that?
- Duke** I always throw away the dirty ones.
- Lacehole** Dirty or clean, I could use it.
- Duke** There's many more where that came from if you care to do a job for me.
- Both** You're on.
- Duke** I want you to follow (*He moves to exit left. They follow. He stops. They stop*) ó a certain girl who lives in this village. Follow her everywhere and keep in touch with me. I'll issue you with walkie talkies like the police. Walk this way. (*Minces off*)

- Lacehole** If we walk that way, we will be in trouble with the police. (*They mince off to "Nice cup of Tea"*) (22)
- Fairy** (*Enter Fairy right and cross centre but no further*) The evil duke may plot and plan, but all his plans will come to no avail. The hour of destiny is here for Goody Two-Shoes. I command her to appear. (23)
- Goody** (*Enter Goody right looking rather bewildered. She speaks out front*) Am I dreaming? What am I doing here?
- Fairy** Goody Two-Shoes.
- Goody** (*Turning and seeing her*) I don't understand.
- Fairy** I am your good Fairy. I am here to help you. It pleased me to give you a pair of magic shoes.
- Goody** (*Looking down*) My shoes ó magic shoes. (*crossing to right of Fairy*). Don't tell me you want them back.
- Fairy** (*Crossing extreme right*) Fear not. The shoes carried one wish ó you used your wish wisely and unselfishly, therefore you shall learn the secret of the magic shoes. But first I must tell you who you really are. Your father was a wealthy nobleman.
- Goody** My father ó a nobleman?
- Fairy** When he died, in order to protect the family fortune from you uncle and guardian, the wicked Duke Ganelon, it was spirited away and hidden in a place known only to the magic Cobbler or Shoeland.
- Goody** Shoeland ó where is that?
- Fairy** Over the high mountain on the far side of the enchanted forest. Take your shoes to Shoeland show them to the magic cobbler and you will learn where the wealth is to be found.
- Goody** May I make the journey with Robin Goodfellow?
- Fairy** By all means. He is a man good and true.
- Goody** Then I must find him so that we may make a start.
- Fairy** You would be most unwise to travel through the forest during the hours of darkness. Tomorrow shall be the day of your great adventure. In the meantime guard the shoes carefully, for remember the cobbler will reveal the secret to whoever has the shoes and to no-one else. (*Exit Fairy right*)
- Robin** (*Off stage left*) Goody ó Goody Two-Shoes. (*Robin enters left*) I've been looking for you everywhere.
- Goody** At last I've learnt the secret of the shoes.

- Robin** What is the secret?
- Goody** Whoever takes them over the high mountain to the cobbler of Shoeland shall learn the whereabouts of a vast fortune.
- Robin** That's good enough for me. When do we start?
- Goody** Tomorrow. *(Cue for reprise of duet and exit right)* (23A)
- Duke** *(Mysterious music Duke enters slowly left. It is obvious he has overheard)* (24)
I can't believe my luck. I overheard every word. *(crossing slowly centre)* This fortune must be the family fortune I've coveted for years. Now I need the help of my two accomplices. *(Produces transmitter and pulls up aerial)* Duke to agents one and two. Report to me. Here, now. *(Enter Lacehole and Cleverclogs left very quickly)*
- Lacehole and Cleverclogs** Right.
- Duke** This is your assignment. The girl Goody, has a pair of shoes. I need them. It's your job to break into the house known as the Old Woman's Shoe and steal a pair of red shoes.
- Cleverclogs** And while we're in the house, where will you be?
- Duke** Standing guard outside. You will bring me the shoes, having left a duplicate pair in their place. For this small service I will pay you £10. And now to obtain a pair of substitute shoes. Follow me boys. *(He crosses left)*
- Lacehole** Where to?
- Duke** Hot foot to Shoes Unlimited. *(or name of local shoe shop – play off)* (25)

BLACKOUT

Scene 3

Full set

Inside the Old Woman's Shoe

(Set should have practical window and door if possible. There is a rocking chair left of a large dining table at centre and a dining chair right of table. There is a practical fire-place upstage left. For details see Scene 12. Musical intro "Home Sweet Home" as tab curtain opens. Agatha is discovered knitting. She (26) is sitting in rocking chair. Charlie is sitting at table. He is supposed to be doing his homework but is flicking pieces of paper with a ruler. He flicks one at Agatha)

Charlie Alright kids.

Audience Right Charlie.

Agatha Have you finished your homework?

Charlie No.

Agatha Why not?

Charlie -Cos I haven't started it.

Agatha You didn't do any work last time. I wasn't very pleased with your school report.

Charlie I told -sir- you wouldn't be, but he would send it.

Agatha Well, get on with your homework or you won't learn anything.

Charlie I learnt a lot in school today.

Agatha Good. What did you learn?

Charlie I learnt that those sums you did for me last night were wrong.

Agatha Get on with it.

Charlie *(Picking up pen)* Right ó

Agatha And tell that lot upstairs to get ready for bed. *(Charlie exasperated puts pen down again and rises)* ó and tell them to wash their hands *(Charlie same business)* ó and tell them to clean their teeth. *(Charlie same business)* ó and if they're all back down inside ten minutes, Goody will sing them a bed-time song, - have you told them?

Charlie No, you told me to do my homework. *(Enter one kiddie right)*

Agatha *(To kiddie)* You tell -em instead.

- Kiddie** Get ready for bed ó wash your hands ó clean your teeth ó ten minutes, bed-time story. We know, its gets monotonous. (*Kiddie ducks off quickly right. Charlie is seated again*)
- Agatha** Charlie, have you done your homework?
- Charlie** This is a recorded message ó Charlie, have you done your homework? Charlie, have you done your homework?
- Agatha** Don't be cheeky.
- Charlie** I'm stuck.
- Agatha** What are you stuck with.
- Charlie** We've to write an essay on óWho I would like to have been in historyö.
- Agatha** Well?
- Charlie** I can only think of Hitler ó and I wouldn't want to be Hitler ó He lost.
- Agatha** What about Napoleon?
- Charlie** No, he lost as well.
- Agatha** I wouldn't have minded being Josephine.
- Charlie** Did she lose anything?
- Agatha** Frequently ó But she seemed to lead a very happy life. You see, Napoleon went to the Battle of Waterloo, and when he came back he found she's been carrying on with another man.
- Charlie** How did he find out?
- Agatha** He found a pair of boots in the house and he said whose are these?
- Charlie** What did she say?
- Agatha** She said óthey're only Wellingtonsö.
- Charlie** I can't think of anybody.
- Agatha** What about Washington. (*Charlie falls to floor. Comes round*) What's the matter?
- Charlie** It was what you said.
- Agatha** I only said óWhat about Washingtonö?
- Charlie** I thought you said óWhat about washing, sonö.

- Agatha** NO! no! no! George Washington.
- Charlie** Who's he?
- Agatha** He was America's most famous President. He lived in the 18th century. If he'd been living today he would have been even more famous.
- Charlie** He would. He's be over 200 years old.
- Agatha** Would you like to hear about George Washington?
- Charlie** I suppose I might as well 'o there's nothing on television.
- Agatha** George's father was a very shy man. He had 16 children. George was neither the eldest nor the youngest.
- Charlie** He was 8th from the front of the bathroom queue.
- Agatha** Mr Washington farmed 80 acres of colonial soil. He had field upon field of wonderful waving wheat. Lovingly tended by his farm labourer, Allman.
- Charlie** Allman.
- Agatha** If Mr Washington said feed the hens, Allman would feed the hens. If he said spread the manure heap 'o
- Charlie** He'd go on feeding the hens.
- Agatha** Now listen, one day 'o
- Charlie** Which day?
- Agatha** Well 'o one day. Friday. Yes, it was Friday.
- Charlie** Which Friday?
- Agatha** Which Friday? (*Exasperated*) The - first Friday after Christmas.
- Charlie** Was it snowing?
- Agatha** How do I know whether it was snowing?
- Charlie** Well you're telling the story.
- Agatha** I am when I get the chance. One Friday 'o the first Friday after Christmas, the Washington family were sitting round the table having breakfast.
- Charlie** What kind of a table?
- Agatha** It had a green cloth.

- Charlie** A snooker table.
- Agatha** Ye ó No! There was Mr Washington and the children having breakfast.
- Charlie** Where was Mrs Washington?
- Agatha** I don't know ó in bed.
- Charlie** Lazy dolly. What was she doing in bed?
- Agatha** She was reading the 'News of the World'.
- Charlie** Oh. On a Friday?
- Agatha** Yes. It was an early edition.
- Charlie** No football results?
- Agatha** No. Now Mr Washington said to George ó 'Go into the garden and play, but what ever you do ó don't cut down any of the trees'.
- Charlie** Not without first axing.
- Agatha** So George went into the garden. It was on the edge of a cliff. At the bottom of the garden was a cherry tree laden with cherries.
- Charlie** On the first Friday after Christmas?
- Agatha** It was an early spring. By the time Mr Washington went into the garden, there was the cherry tree felled to the ground. He said 'Who has cut down my favourite cherry tree?' and little George replied, 'Father I cannot tell a lie. It was I ó I cut it down'. His father took him on his knee. Patted him on his head with his hand for being a good boy and telling the truth.
- Charlie** Very touching that. That reminds me of a story I heard.
- Agatha** Who was it about?
- Charlie** An American called Mr Bathington.
- Agatha** Bathington?
- Charlie** (*Correcting himself*) Showerington.
- Agatha** Showerington?
- Charlie** Yes. The bath tap had got stuck.
- Agatha** Did he farm 80 acres?

- Charlie** He farmed 800 acres. And do you know what he grew?
- Agatha** What?
- Charlie** Tired. He had field upon field of wonderful shredded wheat. Lovingly tended by himself and his farm labourer Allbran.
- Agatha** Allbran worked for him?
- Charlie** Allbran would work for anybody. Early one Sunday, the first Friday after Christmas, the family were sitting on a snooker table watching ‘Match of the Day’. Mr Showerington told his son, master Showerington, to go out and play but under no circumstances to go near the little wooden outside loo, which was at the bottom of the garden on the edge of a cliff.
- Agatha** Did he do as he was told?
- Charlie** No. After a time he did go near the outside loo, and he pushed it over the cliff.
- Agatha** Ohhh! Was his father cross?
- Charlie** He went berserk. He said ‘Who pushed the loo off the edge of the cliff? Tell me the truth. So master Showerington said, ‘I cannot tell a lie. I pushed the loo and it fell down the cliff.’
- Agatha** And I suppose his father took him on his knee and patted him on the head for being a good boy and telling the truth about the loo.
- Charlie** No, he beat the living daylights out of him.
- Agatha** Mr Washington didn’t do that when the cherry tree fell down.
- Charlie** No, but he wasn’t sitting in it at the time.
- Agatha** Look, it’s time you were off to bed.
- Both** Now don’t argue ó I’ve told you once ó it’s time you were in bed. And don’t forget to say your prayers.
- Charlie** I won’t. I’ve a special prayer tonight. *(Puts hands together)* Please make Paris the capital of Italy.
- Agatha** That’s a funny prayer. Why do you say that?
- Charlie** -Cos it’s the answer I gave in the geography exam. *(Exit Charlie right before music quietly starts.)*
(Enter right dancers and kiddies as Agatha’s children with Goody. All (27) except Goody wear nightdresses, they all carry candles. Quiet play on. Bedtime number “Home is where your heart is” or “Bedtime Story”)
- Agatha** Now dome on. Gather round everybody and Goody will sing us a bedtime song. *(Number Goody and children. This is a quiet vocal with kiddies in groups around*

Goody. During the number Agatha 'lights' their battery powered candles and all take applause, still in groups.) Come on children. You've all got your candles lit. Follow me upstairs. (Reprise number. Agatha exits right followed by kiddies. Goody takes off shoes and leaves them in prominent position. All have exited by last few bars of music with Goody and smallest child last. Goody blows candle out on last note. They exit.

Stage is now in semi darkness. Mysterious music. Two figures appear. Lacehole enters by window left, Cleverclogs enters by door left unaware of each others presence. Each pulls out transmitter)

- Cleverclogs** Hello, hello, are you there?
- Lacehole** Yes, I'm here.
- Cleverclogs** What is your position?
- Lacehole** I am now inside the shoe. Where are you?
- Cleverclogs** *(Having turned and seen him puts transmitter away).* Here
- Lacehole** *(Almost dropping his transmitter with shock)* Wer-hey!!!! I can't make this thing work. *(Tosses it aside. It starts to work with Duke's voice)*
- Duke** *(Over amplification)* Hello, hello, are you there?
- Lacehole** *(To Cleverclogs)* Don't start that again.
- Duke** Duke Ganelon here.
- Lacehole** *(To Cleverclogs)* You said that without moving your lips.
- Cleverclogs** It's not me. It's the Duke over the transmitter.
- Lacehole** *(Down on hands and knees, talking to transmitter on floor)* Hello! Hello!
- Duke** Pick me up, stupid. *(Lacehole does so and rises)* What do you mean by keeping me waiting out in the street? Are the shoes there?
- Lacehole** I'll look by the table. *(Crosses to table and puts down transmitter).*
- Duke** Are the shoes there? Over.
- Cleverclogs** *(Into his transmitter)* They're by the table. Over
- Duke** On it? Over.
- Cleverclogs** No, not on it. Under. Over.
- Lacehole** *(Shouting deliberately)* They're here by the table. Not on it, or over, but under. Over.