

# **Sleeping Beauty**

by

**Bradford**

**&**

**Webster**



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*SLEEPING BEAUTY***Cast List**

Although the cast list seems long, there are really only 11 principal characters. Added to this are a couple of characters, %Cannibal Chief+and %Sea Captain+who only make a relatively short appearance, but both require good acting skills.

The smaller roles were written to provide an opportunity for less experienced actors to take a speaking role. The %fairy tale+characters are ideal for confident youngsters to try.

Many roles can of course be %doubled+, if you are working with a small cast.

<b>Princess Rose</b>	The principal girl. Playing age 16years. Does not appear until middle of Act I, and sleeps until the end of Act II . but, a very important character!!
<b>Prince William</b>	The principal boy. Traditionally played by a female. Hero of the piece. Playing age approx. 20 years (or suitable to partner the princess).
<b>Fairy Lilac</b>	Fairy Godmother type. Narrates throughout, in rhyme.
<b>Fairy Lavender</b>	More attitude than Fairy Lilac, but still a good fairyq Narrates throughout, in rhyme.
<b>Fairy Lupin</b>	Nice, but dim . tries to rhyme, but canq seem to manage it. More of a comedy character than the other two fairies.
<b>Deadly Nightshade</b>	The Baddie of the piece. Able to work well with the audience, to encourage boos and hisses. Lines are in rhyme.
<b>Winifred Slaptickle</b>	Nanny to Princess Rose. Traditional Dame . flirty and funny.
<b>Harry the Jester</b>	The Simple Simonqof the story. Good ability to connectqwith the audience. Appears throughout the story.
<b>Queen Camellia</b>	The Queen. Definitely rules the roostq Mother of Princess Rose.
<b>King Basil</b>	The hen-pecked King. Father of Princess Rose.
<b>Snivel</b>	Deadly Nightshadeq snivelling henchman.
<b>Cannibal Chief</b>	One scene only, but an important comedy character.
<b>Hark, the Herald</b>	Just a couple of lines.
<b>Goldilocks</b>	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines.
<b>Hansel</b>	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines. (with accent, if poss).
<b>Gretel</b>	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines. (with accent, if poss).
<b>Little Red Riding Hood</b>	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines.
<b>Big Blue Balaclava</b>	Red Riding Hoodq big sister. One scene only. Just a few lines.

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**Cast List(cont.)**

**Captain Forsyth  
Harbourmaster  
Ticket-seller**

Old sea-faring type. Works well if **all three** roles are played by the **same person**, to portray the economy+style of the cruise

**Stage Hand &  
Set Designer**

Short appearance. Works well if your actual stage hand and set designer are willing to appear on stage. If not, it can be two members of the cast.

**Paperboy**

Non-speaking role. Start of Scene 2, only.

**Chorus Roles:**

Courtiers / Ship's Crew / Cannibals / UV blacks

**Scenes and Staging**

Don't be daunted by the large number of scene changes! The staging can, in fact, be fairly simple. The full-stage scenes are the Royal Palace+, the Cottage+, On Board Ship+and possibly Easter Island+. The Royal Palace+scene is used four times, and many of the shorter scenes can be played simply front of tabs+, if required.

Additional Notes appear at the end of the script.

**ACT I****Prologue**

Front of tabs or front cloth. Use a sparkly coach, if you can accommodate it, but it's not essential!

**Scene 1      The Royal Palace**

Full stage scene. Palace+backcloth. If possible, set a permanent raised platform, upstage. Add balustrades and a central staircase, to make it look more grand+.

**Scene 2      Outside Deadly  
Nightshade's Lair**

Front of tabs or front cloth scene.

**Scene 3      The Royal Palace  
(The Christening)**

Full stage scene. As Scene 1.  
Add a crib centre stage.

**Scene 4      On The Way To The  
Cottage In The Woods**

Front cloth or tabs scene.

**Scene 5      The Cottage In The Woods**

Full stage scene. A Woodland+back cloth, if possible (which can be re-used in Scene13). The cottage is practical (See Additional Notes).

**Scene 6      Deadly Nightshade's  
Lair**

Front cloth or tabs scene.

**Scene 7      The Cottage In The Woods**

Full stage scene. As Scene 5

**Scene 8      The Palace Kitchen**

A half-stage, possibly tabs scene. (see Additional Notes, for more details about this scene).

<b>Scene 9</b>	<b>The Royal Palace (Rose's Birthday Party) <u>Scenes and Staging (cont.)</u></b>	Full stage scene. As Scene 1.
<b>ACT II Prologue</b>		Full Stage. %Royal Palace+ As Scene 1. Centre stage is a bed, or simply a covered box, on Which Rose is lying, asleep.
<b>Scene 10</b>	<b>The Harbour</b>	Front of tabs or front cloth. Add props, such as barrels, crates and heavy rope, if required.
<b>Scene 11</b>	<b>On Board "The Bruce Forsyth"</b>	Full stage (possibly half stage) scene. A %Ship\$ Deck+cloth, or simply use nautical props.
<b>Scene 12</b>	<b>Deadly Nightshade's Lair</b>	Front cloth or tabs scene. As Scene 6.
<b>Scene 13</b>	<b>Easter Island</b>	Full stage (possibly half stage) scene. If you are Using a %Woodland+cloth for Scenes 5 & 7, re-use it here. Add a leafy gobo, or some green lighting, a few artificial tropical plants and some %Jungle+ sound effects.
<b>Scene 14</b>	<b>Deadly Nightshade's Lair</b>	Front cloth or tabs scene. As Scene 6.
<b>Scene 15</b>	<b>Outside The Palace</b>	This is a UV lit scene, so it will require a black cloth or curtains. Full or half stage, depending upon available space. If a UV setting cannot be accommodated, then replace it with a ballet or mime. (See Additional Notes).
<b>Scene 16</b>	<b>The Cellars Under The Royal Palace</b>	Front cloth or tabs scene
<b>Scene 17</b>	<b>The Royal Palace</b>	Full stage scene. As Scene 1.
<b>Song Sheet</b>		Front of tabs
<b>Finale Walk-Down and Bows</b>		Full stage. This can be as Scene 1, or as lavish a finale as desired

*SLEEPING BEAUTY*

**ACT I**

**Prologue**

*The three Fairies, Lilac, Lavender and Lupin, enter.*

*For a "grand entrance", and an elegant start to the panto, you could have them pulled on in a sparkling coach. Or they could be standing centre stage, in a pool of light, with some smoke or haze. Perhaps use a mirror ball, to add a magical effect.*

**Fairy Lilac**

Welcome, dear friends, young and old  
A wondrous tale will now unfold

**Fairy Lavender**

A long time ago, in a land, far away  
A beautiful child was born this day

**Fairy Lupin**

Our tale starts *Once upon a time* +  
And so begins our *story*

**Fairy Lilac & Lavender**

Pantomime!!

*Lilac & Lavender sigh, then try to explain to Lupin ....*

**Fairy Lilac**

There's a tradition that's as old as time  
That fairies always speak in rhyme

**Fairy Lavender**

It really makes us very terse  
The fact that you can't speak in verse  
Your poetry is really tragic.

**Fairy Lilac**

And if you can't rhyme . you can't do magic

**Fairy Lupin**

I try my hardest every time  
But I just can't seem to speak in *verse*

*Lilac & Lavender shake their heads in despair*

**Fairy Lavender**

You may well try, but you always fail *to*

**Fairy Lilac**

Now *we* really must begin our tale *to*

*(speaking to audience)*

A child was born to the king and queen  
The loveliest child you've ever seen

**Fairy Lavender**

The child's christening is today  
And that is why we're on our way  
We've had a special invitation  
To join in with the celebration

**Fairy Lupin**

Fairy Godmothers, all are we  
Fairies Lilac, Lavender ò and I

**Fairies Lilac & Lavender**

Me!!!

**Fairy Lupin**

*(puzzled)* I've already mentioned you two ò .

*Fairy Lilac & Lavender drag Fairy Lupin off stage, as the scene opens to The Palace Interior....*

**Scene 1      The Royal Palace**

SONG %Get Happy+ full chorus number

*Chorus of courtiers, guards, maids, servants etc – preparation for the christening*

*Harry enters. He is a very silly Jester*

**Harry**

Hello boys and girls, mums and dads, grannies and granddads, and ò ò anyone else who's come along for a really fab time! Welcome to the palace of King Basil and Queen Camellia, where everyone is getting ready for the Christening of Princess Rose. My name's Harry ò they call me Happy Harry. I'm the court jester. *(he does a silly dance, or juggles, or something)*. Here's a joke for you *(giggles)* ò .. Why don't cannibals eat jesters? ò ò . cos they taste funny! Taste funny!! Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! Oh, I'm sorry, that one just tickles me in the right place. And, it's good to know *(points at audience in a serious manner)* cos you never know when you might meet a cannibal ò ò ..  
Ooh, ooh, here's a good one, you might know this one ò . What's orange and sounds like a parrot? ò a carrot! *(pulls a large fake carrot out from under his tunic)* waaaaay!! *(throws carrot into wings)* Do you know, I'm having so much fun. You lot are all my new best mates. Even that geezer up there with the tank top, who looks like he'd rather be in the %Rose and Crown+ *(replace with name of local pub)*. I'm soooo happy! Are you happy?

**Audience**

Yes!

**Harry**

Jester-riffic! Tell you what . cos you're my new best mates, whenever I come on stage, I'd shout %Happy kids?!+ Then you can shout really loudly %Happy Harry!+ Can you do that? Brilliant!!! Let's have a go. Are you ready? Happy kids?!

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**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

*(folds his arms like a gangsta and looks disapprovingly at the audience)* There are a few people who aren't shouting "you in the tank top for a start" "Come on, kids, let's shake the foundations. Are you ready? One more time" "Happy kids?!"

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

Jester-riffic! Oh that was so much better. I am soooooo happy!

*Nanny Winifred Slaptickle enters. She has a baby under one arm and her hands full of supermarket carrier bags*

**Winnie**

Ooooh, I don't know what you've got to be so happy about. We've still got loads to do for the Christening party and I've only just done the shopping, and . *(notices audience)* ooooh! Where did that lot come from? What time did you put on the invitations? They're far too early!

**Harry**

Boys and girls, this is Winifred Slaptickle, or Winnie, as we like to call her. She's nanny to the baby Princess Rose.

**Winnie**

*(affronted)* I'd have you know, I am not a "nanny" "nannies" have had a lot of bad press of late "I am a Paediatric Observation Officer

**Harry**

Paediatric Observation Officer? *(thinks)* P.O.O.? Poo?

**Winnie**

Exactly.

**Harry**

So that's "Winnie" the poo? *(shrugs to audience)* It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it. *(to Winnie)* Hey, Winnie, why don't you say hello to the boys and girls?

**Winnie**

Ooh I can't, I'm shy

**Harry**

*(raising eyebrows)* That's not what that palace guard told me

**Winnie**

*(tidying hair)* I don't know what you mean "which one?"

**Harry**

Why? How many do you "know?"

**Winnie**

Oh, I only know the tall one ♂ . and the short one ♂ . and the blonde one, the dark one, the fat one, the thin one, the bald one, the hairy one ♂ .

**Harry**

All right! That'll do!

**Winnie**

I'm very popular. I have a lot of ♂ friends.

**Harry**

Yes, so it seems ♂ but how about saying hello to all of **my** new friends. Say hello to the boys and ♂

**Winnie**

*(flirting mercilessly)* Hello boys!

**Harry**

Winnie!! You're supposed to be saying hello boys and girls ♂ to the little boys and girls.

**Winnie**

I was talking to the big boys ♂ especially that hunk in the tank top ♂ you look a bit fed-up, dear ♂ . I'll come and cheer you up .

*Winnie makes to head off stage, Harry pulls her back*

**Harry**

Winnie!

**Winnie**

Party pooper! *(remembers)* Oooh, party! Let me show you what I bought. I got a special deal at Tesco . every little helps! Here, hold this for a mo.

*Winnie hands Baby Rose to Harry. Harry looks petrified as he holds the baby out in front of him, in two hands, like a delicate ornament he is afraid of breaking. Winnie puts the bags down, then picks them up one by one as she lists what she has bought*

**Winnie**

I've got 250 scotch eggs *(holds up bag)*, 180 Dairylea triangles *(holds up bag)*, 97 packets of Quavers *(holds up bag)*, 15 jars of pickled onions *(holds up bag – it's very heavy)*. And, out the back, I've got 24 catering-size tins of Smart Price baked beans and 43 gallons of Rola Cola. This lot'll help the party go with a bang.

**Harry**

*(cradles baby in one arm and wafts other hand in front of his nose)* You're not kidding

**Winnie**

It'll be a blast!

**Harry**

It's an ill wind ♂ *(wafts hand again)*

**Winnie**

It'd be a gas!

**Harry**

*(puzzled)* I can smell it already ò

*Harry sniffs air, holds up baby & reels at the reek coming from her bum. Winnie is sorting out the bags of shopping. Harry hands the baby to a passing courtier, who, reacting to the nasty niff, hands baby to another courtier, and another, until the baby is placed on balustrade of balcony at back of stage – this is going on behind the following dialogue*

**Winnie**

Then, after the buffet, you can tell some of your jokes and wedd all have a fabulous time.

**Harry**

Oh, I don't know about that

**Winnie**

Why not? I love your jokes.

**Harry**

Yes, I know, but I get really nervous in front of the King. And, when I'm nervous, I forget the ..erò er

**Winnie**

Punchline?

**Harry**

That's the thing. Look, it's started already. I'm really worried he's going to give me the sack.

**Winnie**

Calm down. You just need to practise. Let's have a go. Just pretend I'm the King. Big and useless.

**Harry**

That's easy enough.

**Winnie**

Watch it!

**Harry**

Sorry.

**Winnie**

*(puts nose in the air, to indicate royalty)* One would like to be amused.

**Harry**

Ok. What's orange and sounds like a carrot? ò a cauliflower  
*(He pulls out a cauliflower from beneath his tunic. Looks at cauliflower & looks depressed)*  
See what I mean?

**Winnie**

Oh dear. Never mind. Being funny isn't all about telling jokes . what about some visual comedy? I've got something outside with the rest of the shopping that might help (*she exits*)

**Harry**

(*shrugs*) Visual comedy? What's she up to?

**Winnie**

(*enters holding custard pie & shows it to audience*) Shall I?  
*Harry looks at Winnie, then audience, quizzically, thinking 'should I be worried about this?'*

**Winnie**

Shall I?

*Harry raises an eyebrow. Winnie looks as though she is about to splat Harry*

**Winnie**

Naaah (*she backs off*)  
 Oh, go on then! (*she splats Harry with the pie, then laughs, hysterically*)

**Harry**

(*wiping pie from his face. A little hurt*) Why did you do that? What did you do?

**Winnie**

Visual comedy! That's the funniest thing I've ever seen!

*King & Queen enter. King sees Winnie laughing hysterically. Queen frowns*

**Queen**

What on earth is going on here, Slaptickle?

**Winnie**

Oooh, Your Majesty, it's Harry. He's been making me laugh.

*Harry is looking decidedly disgruntled*

**King**

The jester? Making you laugh? About time too. Get you up there telling a few jokes tonight, what? Have the nobility rolling about

**Harry**

(*looking worried*) Oh dear...um

**Queen**

How delightful, dear. One is famous for hosting the very best parties. So long as it's all done with the utmost taste, we don't want anything risqué, do we dear?

**King**

(*disappointed*) No, dear  
 (*to jester*) Maybe later on, when she's a bit squiffy . she won't remember.

**Queen**

(*to Winnie*) So, is our little princess ready for her party?

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**Winnie**

Oh, yes, she's .. *(she looks at Harry and is horrified to see that he is not holding the baby. Gestures at Harry in desperate fashion)* ...she's er sleeping, yes, that's it, she's sleeping like a baby

**Queen**

Oh, really, how delightful. I think I might pop up and take a peek. She looks so .

**Winnie**

No!

**Queen**

Oh.

**Winnie**

I mean, she can't be disturbed. She needs her beauty sleep. Oh! Not that she's ugly I mean er oooh

**Queen**

Oh, never mind dear, we'll see her at the party. *(to King)* Come along, dear

**King**

Yes, dear.

*King & Queen exit*

**Winnie**

Phew, that was close.

*(turns to Harry)* You! You!!

*(Strides over to Harry, takes him by the shoulders and shakes him as she talks)*

What did you do with the baby?

**Harry**

I gave her to someone. I'm not good with babies

**Winnie**

We've got to find her! I know! Boys and girls, will you help us to find the baby? I said .. will you help us to find the baby?

**Winnie & Harry**

*(responding to audience)* Where? Can't hear you over where? Speak up ..

*Winnie & Harry turn to see baby on the balcony*

**Winnie**

Rose!!! *(rushes over to pick up baby)* Oh, my little princess

*(she hits Harry)* You fool!!! Come on. You bring the shopping. See you later boys and girls.

**Harry**

Bye, kids!

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Winnie & Harry exit

## Scene 2      Outside Deadly Nightshade's Lair

*Scary music to set the scene ... during this, a paperboy enters from back of auditorium. He is carrying his bag, and holding a copy of the 'Evening Telegraph' (or local newspaper). Music continues, paperboy whistles to himself. As he gets onto stage, a witch's cackle is heard from left wings – paperboy jumps. Runs off stage right, dropping newspaper downstage centre. Nightshade enters stage left*

### Nightshade

That disgusting stench I know too well  
 It's human children I can smell.  
 Oh, there you are . so I was right!  
 A nasty and revolting sight!  
 Children shouldn't be allowed  
 They're much too smelly and much too loud  
*(encourages boos from audience)*  
 Just keep quiet . or you will see  
 It doesn't pay to mess with me.  
 Isn't that right, S-  
*(she turns, expecting to see Snivel behind her)*  
 SNIVEL! Get out here! Now!

*Snivel, a rather frightened and dim-looking henchman shuffles onto stage, bent over & dragging one leg*

### Snivel

S-s-s-s-sorry mistress. I h-h-h-heard a loud noise and it scared me.

### Nightshade

That was me! You stupid wimp!  
 And why are you walking with a limp?

### Snivel

Oooh, it's me underwear, mistress, it's giving me terrible gip. I think the elastic's gone in me long johns.

### Nightshade

Oh for heaven's sake! Come here!

*She goes round behind Snivel and yanks his trousers up from the back, lifting him off the ground and straightening him up. Snivel's eyes bulge in surprise and not a little discomfort*

### Nightshade

Better?

### Snivel

*(high-pitched, unconvincing lie)* Yes  
*(notices audience)* Aaaargh!!!! What's that?!!! *(hides behind witch, then pokes head out)*

**Nightshade**

That . is just a bunch of harmless kiddies  
 One or two men, and a few old biddies  
 Just look at them . it's perfectly clear  
 A big bunch of losers, you've nothing to fear

**Snivel**

Are you sure?

**Nightshade**

*(shakes head in despair)*

Sometimes, you just can't get the staff  
 One henchman left . and this one's naff.  
 Last week I had fifteen or so  
 I had no choice, they had to go  
 They made me angry . something chronic  
 Made my G & T with too much tonic  
 I cannot tolerate mistakes  
 So I turned them into toads and snakes.  
*Snivel notices something behind him, he jumps and looks around, scared*

**Snivel**

Ooh! What's that?!

**Nightshade**

Now I'm left with this useless lump.  
 Even his shadow makes him jump.

**Snivel**

Ooh!? Shadow o where?!?

*Nightshade hits herself on forehead in despair*

**Nightshade**

How can I hope to rule this land  
 With **you** as my second in command?!

**Snivel**

Mistress, why do you always speak in poems? I thought it was just fairies who did that?

**Nightshade**

My dearest Snivel, there are all types of fairy  
 We're not all Tinkerbell and Julian Clary  
 Some fairies are bad, some, like me, are much worse  
 For our magic to work, we must all speak in verse.

*Snivel spots newspaper. He points at it and backs away*

**Snivel**

Ooooh! What's that?

**Nightshade**

Is that LITTER over there?

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It's something that I just can't bear  
 They really make me very bitter  
 The imbeciles who drop their litter  
 (to Snivel) Pick it up!

**Snivel**

Ooh, I'm scared, I don't know what it is. It might hurt me.

*Nightshade looks more closely*

**Nightshade**

It's a newspaper! We have one delivered every day . now pick it up . or I'll hurt you!!

*Nightshade very angry – moves towards Snivel*

*Snivel cowers & quickly goes to pick up the newspaper. He holds up the paper. Front page has big picture of baby & the headline says "Royal Christening Party Today"*

**Snivel**

Aaaah! Pretty baby.

*Nightshade snatches paper from Snivel*

**Nightshade**

Now, babies . they are **really** scary  
 I'm warning you ð be very wary  
 They're ugly and they're very smelly  
 They cry when you are watching telly  
 They quickly grow, and then, I fear,  
 Take all your money . and disappear.  
 (she reads the headline)  
 A party for the Princess? Today!!!  
 Without me!!! Oh, I'd make them pay!!

*Nightshade sweeps across to stage left, and exits. Snivel follows*

**Scene 3      The Royal Palace (The Christening)**

Chorus are %Guests+, some are %Servants+

**Lilac**

The Royal Palace, and here we are  
 The guests have travelled from near and far

**Lavender**

The grandest party of the year  
 And, as honoured guests, we three are here

**Lilac**

From the top of her head, to the tips of her toes  
 We really love the Princess ð Roger.

**Lilac & Lavender**

Rose!!

**Lupin**

Rose õ sorry.

*Harry enters*

**Harry**

Happy kids?!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

I said Happy kids?!!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

Jester-riffic! Ooh, it's the Fairy Godmothers: Fairy Lilac, Fairy Lavender and Fairy Loopy

**Lupin**

Lupin!

*Harry shrugs. Fairies to back of stage, with other 'guests'*

**Harry**

The party's about to start, but to tell you the truth, I'm a bit scared about having to tell jokes. I'm sure I'll get stage fright again and mess them up. Then the King will give me the sack for ruining his party. Maybe I could get Winnie to splat me in the face with a pie again? It's not exactly sophisticated comedy but, if it gets a laughõ

*Winnie enters, wearing an amazing party frock and carrying baby*

**Winnie**

I'm not splatting anyone. I don't want to get pie on my lovely new frock (*does a twirl*)  
Do you like it?

**Harry**

It's very õ

**Winnie**

Elegant? Chic? Stylish?

**Harry**

I was going to say %big+

**Winnie**

Humph.

*Winnie sashays over to cot and puts baby inside*

**Winnie**

It's taken me hours to get ready. I've done my hair, my make up & I even went to the beauty parlour.

**Harry**

Was it shut?

**Winnie**

Cheeky monkey!

*Winnie goes to clout Harry. Herald steps forward*

**Herald**

Their Royal Highnesses King Basil and Queen Camellia  
*King and Queen enter. Winnie and Harry stand to attention*

**King**

Ah, Slaptickle & Jester (to Winnie) Is my daughter ready for her Christening party?

**Winnie**

Oh, yes, your majesty. Been ready for ages & . Pretty as a picture, she is.

**King**

*(looks into cot)* Yes, she is rather, isn't she?

**Herald**

Their eminences, the Fairy Lilac, the Fairy Lavender and the Fairy Loopy.

*Fairies forward*

**Lupin**

Lupin!!

**Herald**

He *(indicating Harry)* said it was &loopy&

*Harry sniggers. Lupin gives him a mean look*

**Queen**

Thank you for coming to give your blessings to our daughter

**Lilac**

The honour is ours, Your Majesty  
Dear Princess Rose, our gifts to thee:

*The fairies step up to the cradle to bestow their blessings*

**Lilac**

This is the blessing I bestow &  
With grace and beauty you will grow  
*(waves wand)*

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**Lavender**

Worth more than gold, I give to you  
 True happiness, your whole life through  
*(waves wand)*

**Lupin**

Fair princess ò

*She is interrupted by Nightshade's grand entrance. SFX thunder etc*

**Winnie**

If no-one invited Jackie Stallone, then I think we've got a gate-crasher !

**Harry**

That's Deadly Nightshade! *(he cowers behind Dame)* Nasty piece of work.

**King**

What are you doing here?

**Nightshade**

Everyone is gathered for this Royal Celebration  
 What I want to know is . where's **MY** invitation?  
 Those pathetic fairies were invited  
 But the Grandest One of All is slighted.

**Lilac**

*(Standing up to Nightshade)*

Our blessings, to the child we bring  
 Invited by the Queen and King.

**Nightshade**

And like our other fairy guests  
 I'll make sure that this child is blessed

**King**

ò .. er ò . thank you ò

**Queen**

No, Basil, I don't trust her.

**Nightshade**

You forgot me . which you'll live to regret  
 Mine is a gift that you'll never forget  
*(goes to child in cradle)*  
 Before your sixteenth birthday's through  
 This curse of death I give to you.  
*(gasp from gathered throng)*  
 The cause? I'm happy to reveal  
 The spindle of a spinning wheel  
 You'll prick your finger . I do not lie!  
 Once blood is drawn . you'll surely die!  
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha!

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**King**

No!!

*Nightshade exits. Everyone is left looking shocked & distraught  
Queen goes to crib, looks at baby with sadness & despair*

**King**

(to fairies) Is there anything you can do? Can you stop this wicked curse?

**Queen**

Please say that you can do something.

**Lilac**

Do not despair . the Princess will live  
For we have one blessing yet to give.

**Queen**

You mean that you can break Nightshade's spell.

**Lilac**

I wish we could break this evil curse  
But Nightshade's spell, we can't reverse.

**King**

Then how can you help?

**Lavender**

We cannot break the spell, I fear  
But we'll try to make it less severe  
There's nothing more **we two** can do  
So Fairy Lupin . it's up to **you**.

**Queen**

Fairy Loopy? Oh dear õ ..

**Lupin**

Lupin! (*worried*) Ooooh!

**Winnie**

Go on dear, you can do it.

**Lilac**

You've got to try your best this time.  
The spell won't work if you don't rhyme.

**All**

Go on / you can do it etc

**Lupin**

I can't break the spell, but do not weep  
She will not die, she'll only õ ..

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*(other fairies mime 'sleeping' etc to encourage Fairy Lupin)*  
 õ õ õ sleep!

*Everyone pleased that she managed to get it right*

**Queen**

Sleep? But for how long?

**Lupin**

She'd slumber on in peaceful bliss  
 until woken by her true love's õ  
*(Other fairies mime kiss)*  
 õ kiss!

**Winnie**

She's only a week old . she hasn't even got a boyfriend yet!

**King**

I have an idea!

**Queen**

There's a first time for everything!

**King**

We must burn every spinning wheel in the land! If there are no spinning wheels, then she will not prick her finger on a spindle

**Queen**

Goodness me, Basil, that's a jolly **good** idea! I take back everything I said!

**King**

Good! õ erõ what **did** you say?

**Queen**

õ it doesn't matter now. *(to fairies)* Is there nothing more that you can do to keep Rose safe?

**Lilac**

Deep in the forest, where nobody goes  
 Lies a quaint little cottage, that nobody knows  
 The only way to allay your fears  
 Is if Rose lives there for sixteen years.  
 Not as a princess but as a peasant  
 A life that's simple, safe and pleasant.

**Queen**

For sixteen years? My baby?! I must go with her!

**Lavender**

You cannot join Rose on this secret mission  
 A disappearing Queen will arouse much suspicion.  
 Nurse Winnie's the one, if you get my gist  
 It needs to be someone who won't be missed.

**Winnie**

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Thanks, Lav!

**Queen**

Then, Winnie, I am entrusting you with my daughter's life.

**Winnie**

That's a big responsibility, Your Majesty – can I take a friend with me?

**Harry**

You haven't got any friends.

**Winnie**

Then I'll have to take you instead.

**Harry**

I can't go. I'm the court jester. I owe it to my audience, to stay. It's my profession. I'll stay here for as long as I have a job.

**King**

Herald!

*King whistles to Herald, who brings on a sack and hands it to Jester*

**Harry**

What's this?

**King**

It's the sack.

**Harry**

Oh – *(disappointed but not surprised)* Better go and pack.

*Harry milks audience for sympathy, as he exits*

**Queen**

Oh, Basil, I'm going to miss her so much.

**King**

So am I Camellia, but it's for the best.

**Queen**

*(to Winnie)* You will take care of her, won't you?

SONG %Take Good Care of My Baby+

**Scene 4 On the way to the Cottage in the Woods**

*Old lady enters carrying a spinning wheel – 2 courtiers/guards struggling to take it from her.*

*Finally get wheel, and give her wool & knitting needles in return.*

*Winnie & Harry enter. Winnie is pushing the pram. Harry is loaded up with luggage.*

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**Harry**

Happy kids?!!!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

And I will be . when I've put this lot down. I wouldn't mind, but they're all Winnies (to Winnie)  
Did you have to pack so many clothes?

**Winnie**

Humph! I don't know what you mean - but I've still got the feeling I've forgotten something.

**Harry**

Forgotten something?! Surely you've got everything. *(Harry holds up all the cases)*

**Winnie**

I haven't brought much. That case is for my dresses, that case is for my shoes, that one's for my wigs, and that big one is for my smalls.

**Harry**

*(laughing)* Smalls? Your smalls?! You must be joking! You don't have smalls, you have bigs!

**Winnie**

Well! *(Winnie is affronted)*

**Harry**

*(continues laughing)* No, not bigs - massive - enormous...

*Winnie smacks Harry over back of head*

**Harry**

Ow! *(rubs his head)*

Are we there yet? I'm getting tired - I could do with a nap.

**Winnie**

Nap?! Nap?! Aaaargh! I've forgotten the nappies. You wait here. *(she exits, in a hurry)*

**Harry**

This could take a while.

*Winnie enters at high speed, with a big bag of nappies, which she hands to Harry*

**Harry**

Gee, thanks.

*They set off again*

**Harry**

Are we there yet?! I could do with a drink.

**Winnie**

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Drink?! Aaaargh! I've forgotten the baby's bottles! You wait here! (*rushes off*)

**Harry**

I don't believe it.

*Winnie rushes back on, carrying a big bag with "bottles" written on it. She hands it to Harry. Harry just gives her a disgruntled look. They set off again*

**Harry**

Are we there yet??! I'm sweating (*adjusts his legs to illustrate that his crevices are getting a bit sweaty*) I could do with changing my ð

**Winnie**

Changing?! Aaaargh!!! I've forgotten the changing bag! You wait here! (*rushes off*)

**Harry**

(*exhausted, and struggling to stay upright*) Oh, for heaven's sake!

*Winnie rushes back on, with changing bag, which she hangs over Harry's head*

**Harry**

I feel like a packhorse.

**Winnie**

Well, you look like a jackass.

*They set off again*

**Harry**

Are we there yet??!! The baby will have grown up by the time we get there ð

**Winnie**

Don't be silly. The baby ð . BABY!!!! Aaaargh!!! I've forgotten the baby!

*Winnie rushes off. Harry collapses under all of the bags.*

*Blackout*

## **Scene 5 The Cottage in the Woods**

*Winnie and Harry enter. Winnie pushes pram in through the doorway of the cottage*

**Winnie**

I think baby Rose needs a nappy change ð

**Harry**

(*Follows Winnie through door, drops luggage – quickly changes mind. Wafts hand in front of nose*) Oh-oh, perhaps I'd wait out here for a bit ð

**Winnie**

Oh no you don't ð you can help!

(*Winnie reaches out an arm and drags Harry inside*)

*Goldilocks enters, skipping along, happily, perhaps singing to herself la la la la la la. She goes up to the door and knocks. Winnie opens door, she is holding a smelling nappy and is looking a bit tetchy*

**Winnie**

Yes.

**Goldilocks**

Is this the Three Bearsqottage?

**Winnie**

I beg your pardon!

**Goldilocks**

Is this the Three Bearsqottage? My name\$ Goldilocks.

**Winnie**

The Three Bearsqottage? The Three Bearsqottage?!! *(she backs Goldilocks away as she speaks. Then indicates herself)* Do I look like a bear?!

**Goldilocks**

*(looks Winnie up and down)* We-ellō .

*Harry comes out of the cottage. He is wearing a white plastic apron & rubber gloves*

**Harry**

Oh! Hello. Who\$ this?

**Winnie**

*(to Harry)* She thinks I look like a bear. Do I look like a bear to you?

**Harry**

Oooh dear, those are two words that should never be put together in the same sentence. Youq ò ò *(indicates Winnie)* ò .. and ðareq Uuuurrrgh!! It conjures up some nasty images.

**Goldilocks**

Excuse me! *(Harry and Winnie look down at Goldilocks)* The story says that I go to a cottage deep in the forest ò . where the Three Bears live. So is this the Three Bearsqottage or not?

*Winnie is getting mad, now. She lifts the nappy, ready to throw it at Goldilocks*

**Goldilocks**

I guess not! *(she runs off)*

*Harry & Winnie go into cottage*

*Lights fade down, leaving just the cottage lights on*

**Winnie**

*(off stage)* Goodnight, Harry. Goodnight, Rose.

**Harry**

*(off stage)* Goodnight, Winnie. Goodnight, Rose.

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**Baby Rose**

*(off stage)* Ga ga ga ga ga ga.

*Cottage lights off. Stage lights up again  
Fairy Lilac enters*

**Lilac**

Princess Rose was safe, at last  
And the days and weeks flew quickly past.

*Lilac exits  
Harry comes out of the cottage*

**Harry**

Happy kids?!!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

Jester-riffic!

*Hansel and Gretel enter, dropping a trail of breadcrumbs. Harry notices them*

**Harry**

Hello there. We don't see many people about these parts, where are you two off to?

**Hansel**

We are looking for our father.

**Harry**

Well I wouldn't go that way if I were you. The path's not very clear and it's very easy to get lost

**Gretel**

It is all right. We are leaving a trail of breadcrumbs, so that we can find our way out again.

**Harry**

Well, how very sensible. Good luck finding your dad!

**Hansel**

Thank you. Coming, Gretel?

**Gretel**

Yes, Hansel.

*Hansel & Gretel continue towards wings. Harry goes inside cottage. Winnie enters, following the trail of breadcrumbs & sweeping them up with a dustpan & brush, as Hansel & Gretel exit at opposite wings*

**Winnie**

*(to audience)*

I mean, honestly, some people have just got no idea. They just throw their rubbish on the floor without a second thought. We have to be careful . there's people around who don't take kindly to littering. I'd better get this swept up, quickly

*She continues. Then returns to cottage  
Stage lights dim, leaving cottage lights on*

**Winnie**

Goodnight, Harry. Goodnight, Rose.

**Harry**

Goodnight, Winnie. Goodnight, Rose.

**Toddler Rose**

Goodnight, Winnie. Goodnight, Harry.

*Cottage lights off. Lights up on stage  
Fairy Lavender enters*

**Lavender**

The weeks passed by, then months, then years  
Our heroes soon forgot their fears.

*Lavender exits. Little Red Riding Hood enters, followed by Big Blue Balaclava. They knock on the cottage door. Harry opens door & steps out*

**Harry**

We don't want double-glazing, or a conservatory . and we don't want to change our electricity supplier, because, basically, we haven't got any electricity .

**Red**

Grandma?

**Harry**

You what?

*Winnie out of cottage*

**Winnie**

Who is it?

**Red**

Grandma?

**Winnie**

Grandma? Grandma?! You're going to find yourself in serious trouble, my girl, if you can't even recognise your own grandma! Who are you, anyway?

**Red**

*(looks to audience & shrugs) I'm Little Red Riding Hood (pulls red hood onto her head) See?*

**Winnie**

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Oh, yes, of course. But who's this?

**Red**

This is my sister.

**Winnie**

Oh, hello. And what's your name?

*Blue seems shy*

**Red**

*(to Blue)* Put it on.

**Blue**

I don't want to.

**Red**

Put it on.

**Blue**

I feel silly.

**Red**

*(to audience)* This is why she didn't get into any of the storybooks. *(to Blue)* Nobody's going to laugh at you. Put it on, and tell them what your name is.

*Blue pulls out blue balaclava from pocket & puts it on. Winnie & Harry stifle a guffaw*

**Blue**

*(not happy)* My name's Big Blue Balaclava.

**Harry**

Big Blue Balaclava??!!

**Blue**

*(really not happy)* Yes!

*Winnie & Harry fall about laughing. Blue glares at Red, then stomps off stage. Red shrugs, then follows*

**Red**

Blue! Blue!

*Winnie & Harry into cottage*

*Stage lights down, cottage lights on*

**Winnie**

Goodnight, Harry. Goodnight, Rose.

**Harry**

Goodnight, Winnie. Goodnight, Rose.

**Rose**

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Goodnight, Winnie. Goodnight, Harry.

*Fairy Lupin enters*

**Lupin**

The prettiest girl you've ever seen  
Rose would soon be a sweet adolescent?

*Lupin shrugs & exits*

*Lights up on stage*

*Snow White appears – she is looking very happy and is singing "Some day my prince will come" quite loudly, in a high voice.*

*Winnie opens the door, she is wearing a nightie and a nightcap, with her hair in rollers.*

**Winnie**

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS!!!!!!?

*Snow White, horrified, turns and runs off*

## **Scene 6 Deadly Nightshade's Lair**

*Offstage – Nightshade's cry of anguish. She enters*

**Nightshade**

I'm doomed to fail! It can't be true  
That sixteen years are almost through  
Princess Rose, alive and well,  
Is hidden from my cunning spell.  
SNIVEL!  
*Snivel enters*

**Nightshade**

Any news, my useless Snivel?

**Snivel**

I've looked everywhere, mistress

**Nightshade**

Everywhere??! You're talking drivel!

**Snivel**

I did, mistress. And I even took a picture with me so I could be sure.

**Nightshade**

A picture? What picture?

**Snivel**

From the newspaper, mistress

*(Pulls out the folded up front page from the 16-year-old paper, with the baby princess's photo on it)*

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I bin checkin it against everyone, mistress  
*(holds it up beside his face)*  
 It's not me, mistress  
*(holds it beside her face)*  
 No, it's not you, mistress.

**Nightshade**

*(stands open-mouthed, as it dawns what he has been doing. She hits Snivel)*  
 That's sixteen years ago, you twit!  
 Don't you think she might have changed a bit?

**Snivel**

I don't know, mistress. I don't know nuffink about babies 'cept that they're cute  
*(holds up picture & points)* Aaaaah, baby  
*(To Nightshade)* And **you** haven't changed at all in 16 years. And **I** haven't changed at all in 16 years *(points at audience)* .. and **they** haven't changed in 16 years either.

**Nightshade**

Aaaaaaarggggghhhhh!!!! Come with me, Snivel *(grabs him by scruff of neck)* We're going to find this 'baby' .. if it kills you!

*Snivel gives an "ulp!" look to audience, as they both exit*

**Scene 7 The Cottage in the Woods**

*Outside the cottage, Winnie is taking in washing from the line, including some of her 'enormouses'. Turns to see audience*

**Winnie**

Oooh, hello boys 'oh, and girls. Doesn't the time fly when you're having fun? And it has been fun. Rose has been such a joy to bring up. I can't believe it's been nearly 16 years. Have you met her, yet? No? Oh, she's a delight *(calls into cottage)* Ro-ose!  
*A delightful young lady emerges from the cottage*

**Rose**

Yes, Winnie.

**Winnie**

Could you give me a hand with my smalls? They're much easier to fold when there's two of you.

*Together, they fold an enormous pair of bloomers & put them into the washing basket*

**Rose**

I'll take this inside for you, Winnie.

**Winnie**

Oh, thank you dear, you are a treasure.

*Rose goes into cottage*

**Winnie**

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Isn't she just adorable?

*Harry comes out of cottage*

**Harry**

Happy kids??!!!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

Jester-riffic! *(to Winnie)* I can't believe little Rose is going to be 16 soon.

**Winnie**

Oh, I know, I was just saying to the boys and girls

**Harry**

And she doesn't even know she's a princess yet.

**Winnie**

*(indicating for Harry to keep his voice down)* Shh! I know. And we can't tell her until after her sixteenth birthday. Until she's safe.

*Rose enters from cottage, carrying a book of Fairy Tales*

**Rose**

What are you two old maids gossiping about?

**Harry**

Oh, we were just saying that we can't tell you

**Winnie**

*(hits Harry)* We were just saying that we're off to collect firewood.

**Rose**

Can I come?

**Winnie**

No dear, you stay here, where it's safe . . . where it's sunny.

**Rose**

*(looking a bit puzzled)* Oh . . . ok.

**Winnie**

Bye, dear. We won't be long.

*Winnie and Harry exit*

**Rose**

I always have to stay here. I just wish that I could meet someone new, someone handsome and exciting . . . like the princes in this book I've been reading. But he doesn't have to be a prince . . . or rich, even . . . just kind, and gentle . . . and *(clutching book to chest, she spins around)* simply wonderful!

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*Winnie enters*

**Winnie**

Oh, and Rose, if you hear anyone approaching, don't forget to

**Rose**

to run inside and lock the door (*she looks disappointed*). Yes, Winnie.

**Winnie**

Good girl. See you soon, then (*she exits*)

**Rose**

If only Winnie would let me meet just one person

*SFX of galloping horse approaching*

**Rose**

Oh! I'd better get inside (*she goes into cottage*)

**Prince**

(*offstage*) Whoa!

*Galloping stops*

*Prince enters, carrying his cloak and mopping his brow*

**Prince**

Phew, it's warm work, riding at this time of year

(*drops his cloak down on floor at front. Notices cottage*)

Excellent. A peasant's cottage. I should be able to charm a drink out of them. I just hope they don't recognise me. It's terrible, you know, being a prince. Everyone you meet is all "Oh Prince William, you must meet our daughter, she's the prettiest girl in the village and she never is. Not that I'd mind if she wasn't. It's just that they only want me for the money and the title. Not for me. That's where I'm off to now, another party, for another princess. Anyway, that drink!"

(*strides to cottage & knocks on door. No answer. Shrugs and goes to pick up cloak*)

Oh well. Can't be that far to the palace now, can it?

*Rose opens the cottage door, slowly, and peeps outside, then steps outside*

**Rose**

Hello.

**Prince**

Oh, I thought there was no-one in there (*turns to see Rose*)

*Love at first sight!*

**Prince**

Oh, but there is someone in there and you're someone. You know, you know.

**Rose**

Oh, and so are you.

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*They stare at each other for a moment. They move towards each other but then Rose backs off*

**Rose**

I ò I ò shouldn't really talk to strangers.

*Rose turns away coyly*

**Prince**

I'm no stranger, I'm Prin . *(stops himself & shakes head)* ò . my friends call me Bill. And you are the most beautiful girl I've ever seen. *(Rose turns back to face Prince)* You must be named after a flower, or the sunshine, or a song ò .

**Rose**

I'm Rose.

**Prince**

I knew it.

SONG *Finally Found*+or similar

*Winnie & Harry return*

**Winnie**

Rose!!

**Rose**

*(turns to see Winnie, she knows she has been a bad girl)* Winnie! Harry!

**Winnie**

Harry! Look! A man!

**Harry**

*(looks around, not registering that Prince is a man)* Where?!

**Winnie**

There! Look! With our little Rose.

**Harry**

Oh, yes, sorry. I keep forgetting it's a pantomime.

**Winnie**

Well, don't just stand there! See him off!

**Prince**

I say, what's all the fuss about?

**Harry**

*(strides up to Prince & grabs him by scruff of neck)*

Right you! You're not wanted here! Off you go!

*Harry marches Prince down off stage & towards auditorium door. Prince protests, but to no avail*

**Rose**

*(rushes forward)* No!!

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*Winnie catches her. Rose cries*

**Prince**

Wait! What are you doing? Don't you know who I am? What about my horse?

**Harry**

Wed post your horse on to you. Now be off with you! *(he throws him out then dusts off his hands as he walks back)*

**Rose**

Oh why, Winnie? Why?

**Winnie**

We can't have you holding hands with just anybody. I mean, who was that boy? Where did he come from?

**Rose**

His friends call him Bill. I don't know where he's from . I didn't get the chance to ask!

**Winnie**

I'm sorry, dear. You'll understand one day. One day soon.

**Rose**

I want to understand now!

*Rose cries again. Winnie hugs her, then holds her shoulders*

**Winnie**

All right, dear, I'll tell you.

**Rose**

*(taken aback)* Tell me what?

**Winnie**

There's a reason you can't go holding hands with any Tom, Dick or Ernie .

**Harry**

Bill?

**Winnie**

Yes.

**Rose**

Yes?

**Winnie**

You're a princess.

**Rose**

What?!!

**Harry**

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You're a princess

**Rose**

No, I heard what she said, but ..**what?!!**

**Winnie**

So that's why you can't hold hands with just anyone. He has to be a prince.

**Rose**

But . . . if I'm a princess then my parents must be

**Winnie**

A King and Queen? They are. And you'll meet them soon, after your sixteenth birthday.

**Rose**

No! I won't wait! If I **am** a princess, I demand to see them now! They have a lot of explaining to do!

**Winnie**

Rose, it's complicated we have to wait it's for your own good.

**Rose**

*(picking up the prince's cloak, and holding it close)*  
I'm not staying here a moment longer *(runs off stage)*

**Winnie**

Rose! Wait!!

*Winnie & Harry run after Rose. Fairies enter*

**Lilac**

Things didn't happen quite to plan.

**Lavender**

Our scheme was thwarted by a man.

**Lilac**

Rose should have stayed just one more day  
Until she's safe from evil's sway  
But back to the palace, a day too soon  
Princess Rose is sulking in her room.

**Lavender**

She's angry with her mum and dad  
But Winnie hates to see her sad  
So she's planning a sixteenth birthday treat  
A party, with lots of things to eat.

**Lupin**

So, Winnie is baking, and trying to make  
Princess Rose a birthday bun.

**Lilac & Lavender**

Cake!

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*Fairies exit*

## **Scene 8 The Palace Kitchen**

### **Winnie**

Well, here I am, back in the palace after nearly sixteen years. I've had a bit of catching up to do with the palace guards, mostly with the

*Winnie tidies her hair. Harry enters*

### **Harry**

Happy Kids?!

### **Audience**

Happy Harry!

### **Harry**

Jester-riffic! I'm REALLY happy with the King gave me my job back.

*Rose enters, face set in a scowl, and stomps across the front of stage, exiting to the opposite wings. Winnie flinches. King enters, followed by Queen*

### **King**

Rose, darling with the

### **Queen**

Talk to her, dear.

### **King**

I'm trying to with Rose!

*They continue across stage, and exit after Rose*

### **Winnie**

Not everyone's happy with poor Rose with so that is why we're arranging a surprise party to cheer her up. And I'm going to make a special cake.....

### **Harry**

I want to make a cake.

### **Winnie**

You can't cook! Last week you made moussaka with a real moose, ratatouille with a real rat, and with the

### **Harry**

I made a nice spotted dick for pudding with the

### **Winnie**

Let's just get on with baking this cake

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**Harry**

Please let me helpõ please, please, please, plõ eeeeõ ase?!

**Winnie**

Well, there will be a lot of guestsõ . so we might need two cakes. You can make your own õ . just do everything I do õ .

*Winnie moves around 'kitchen' collecting equipment etc. Harry follows close behind, imitating her every move. Winnie realises...*

**Winnie**

õ .. what are you doing?

**Harry**

Doing everything you doõ ..

**Winnie**

*(shakes head. Returns to table to start making the cake)*

Bowl!

**Harry**

Bowl!

**Winnie**

Spoon!

**Harry**

Spoon!

**Winnie**

Butter!

**Harry**

Butter!

*They put butter in their bowls. Harry puts his in, still in the wrapper*

**Winnie**

Sugar!

**Harry**

Yes, honey?!

*Winnie lifts wooden spoon, as if going to hit Harry. Harry flinches*

**Harry**

õ .sugar!

*They put sugar in their bowls. Again Harry puts in the bag*

**Winnie**

Eggs! õ . One õ .. two õ .. three! *(as she carefully cracks each egg into her bowl)*

**Harry**

Eggs! *(he juggles with the eggs, then puts them, unshelled, into bowl)*

**Winnie**

ō . and beat it!

*Harry, obviously upset, makes his way off stage*

**Winnie**

ō Harry! Where are you off to?

**Harry**

You told me to %beat it+ō

**Winnie**

The cake! ō . Beat ō the cake!!

**Harry**

Oh ō . Okō .. *(proceeds to hit the mixture in the bowl with his wooden spoon)* naughty, naughty, cake!

**Winnie**

Harry!? ō oh, never mindō .. *(shakes head, and continues with her cake)* Self-raising flour!

**Harry**

*(Harry has his flour bag attached to his fingers with fishing line. He 'raises' the flour, as if by magic)* Self-raising flour! *(puts whole bag into bowl)*

**Winnie**

Transfer, carefully, into the baking tin

**Harry**

Transferring careō . *(the whole mess just falls into the tin) ... whoops!*

**Winnie**

ō .and into the oven, to bake.

*Winnie puts her cake into one oven and Harry puts his in the other, watching Winnie all the time*

**Winnie**

...Id put the timer on . make sure its cooked to perfection. *(thinks)* I'm not usually a gambler but perhaps we should have a little bet, on whose cake turns out best?

**Harry**

Good idea! Whoever loses ō has to wear a really stupid costume in the finale!

**Winnie**

*(confidently)* Fine by me! The boys and girls can decide who wins.

*Rose enters, face still like thunder, and stomps across stage*

**Winnie**

ō . Hello, Rose! we're making you a ō ..  
*(Rose exits)*

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ō cake!

*King enters, looks flustered & is obviously looking for Rose. Winnie & Harry point towards where Rose has exited. King exits. Winnie & Rose look to the other wing, in expectation – Queen enters, looks at Winnie & Harry. Winnie & Harry point her in right direction  
Timer rings*

**Winnie**

Ooh! Time to get the cakes out! Don't forget our little competition!

*They remove cakes from oven –Winnie's is a bit of a disaster!*

**Winnie**

ō oh!

*Harry's is a masterpiece – fully iced and decorated, three tiers. Winnie does a double take*

**Winnie**

ō OH!

**Harry**

Not bad, eh? Now, what about that competition?

**Winnie**

No, I don't think we'd bother with that ō . we haven't really got enough time ō

**Harry**

It won't take long to decide (*looks at each cake*) will it, boys and girls? Could we bring on the clap-o-meter (*clap-o-meter is brought on*) ō . Now, who thinks that Winnie's cake is the best?

*Winnie tries to gee up audience, but knows she has lost. Clap-o-meter hardly registers*

**Harry**

ō . And who thinks that my cake is the best?

*Clap-o-meter off scale. Harry goes all oscar-esque as clap-o-meter is taken off*

**Harry**

Oh, thank you, thank you! ō I can't overcome with emotion ō . Look! Even the cake is in tiers!! ō . in tiers!! Get it?

**Winnie**

(*wants revenge*) It's not just about how it looks ō it's about how it smells ō

*Harry smells his cake*

**Harry**

Mmmmō .delicious!

**Winnie**

Try mine..

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*Harry goes over to sniff the cake. It smells pretty awful*

**Harry**

Yuk!

**Winnie**

You need to get a bit closer, to smell it properly

*Harry now has his face very close to the cake*

**Winnie**

and it's not just about smell . it's about taste!

*With that, she shoves Harry's face into the cake. Winnie laughs*

**Harry**

*(Harry looks up, with a facefull of cake) You!...You!!!*

**Winnie**

*(laughing) ooh, I'm sorry!*

*Winnie hands Harry a cloth, he wipes his face then clearly has an idea*

**Harry**

Mmmmm! Actually, it's really lovely! *(he pushes Winnie to stand over her cake)* You really should smell it

**Winnie**

Do you think I'm stupid .? You want me to bend down and smell this cake?

*Harry stands behind Winnie. He indicates to each wing and two helpers bring a cream pie for each hand*

**Winnie**

and then what will you do oh, I wonder? You'd have to be a bit more inventive than that, to catch me out ..

*Harry splats a "pie" each side of Winnie's face, sniggers, then skips away*

**Winnie**

Oooh!!! You little . I'd get you for that .

*Winnie chases Harry off stage*

*Blackout*

## **Scene 9 The Royal Palace (Rose's Birthday Party)**

*Courtiers are bustling around – getting ready for the birthday party*

*Rose enters*

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SONG . %Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen+

*King enters, looking around*

**King**

I say, has anyone seen myō

*(he notices Rose. Rose folds her arms and turns her back on the King)*

Ah, there you are, Rose.

*(he approaches Rose. As he reaches her, she turns to face him)*

**Rose**

It's not fair, Daddy! It's just not fair!

**King**

Oh, Rose, my dearest Rose. I know all this must be very difficult for you but, fear not, a handsome prince is coming to sweep you off your feet. That'll cheer you up!

**Rose**

Oh, no, Daddy!

**King**

Apparently Prince William's quite adorable. I have it on extremely good authority that he's very good-looking. And he's very rich. It won't be hard to fall in love with him, I'm sure

**Rose**

But Daddy, don't you understand, I've already fallen in love

**King**

What? ō .. **What???!!!**

**Rose**

I met him in the forest, Daddy. Oh, he's simply wonderful

**King**

*(starting to panic)* Butō but, you can'tō it's just tooō . Oh dearō I'd better go and get your mother. She's so much better at this sort of thing. Please don't run away again. It's really not saō no, no, no ō *(He exits)*

**Rose**

Why do I get the feeling people are keeping something from me? *(she goes to front corner of stage, to sulk)* I can't believe that, yesterday, I was so happy. I was a peasant girl, living in a cottage in the woods. And now ō now I'm a princess ō I should be even happier, but ō .

**Herald**

The Prince William!

*Rose doesn't hear the announcement and continues talking. Prince enters, looks around. There is no Royal Welcome. He raises his hands in despair*

**Rose**

ō .but how can I be happy now, if I can't be with Bill? *(she puts her hand to her face)*

**Prince**

*(has move to opposite front corner of stage, to sulk)*

Marvellous! I come all this way, I'm half-mugged by some peasant in a jester costume. I have to walk the rest of the way and then I don't even get a royal welcome when I arrive. I'm giving them two minutes and then I'm going back to the forest to find Rose.

*As he says "Rose", he turns towards her, and she towards him. They look at each other, then do a double take*

**Prince & Rose**

You?!

**Prince**

Rose!

**Rose**

Bill!

*They rush towards each other and link hands excitedly*

**Rose**

What are you doing here?

**Prince**

I could ask you the same question. It's so wonderful to see you again! I thought I'd never see you again.

*They both realise that they shouldn't be seen together, they quickly let go hands, and back away from each other*

**Rose**

*(looks back towards the room)* No, I mustn't see my father.

**Prince**

No, I mustn't see my father.

**Rose**

I'm supposed to be meeting someone. It's my parents' idea. I mustn't see my father.

**Prince**

I know. Parents. What can you do with them? I'm supposed to be meeting someone too. Some awful princess.

*Rose looks up, stunned*

**Prince**

My father expects me to marry her because this kingdom is in a very strategic position.

*Rose lets slip a small laugh – she can't believe it. Prince is trying to be serious*

**Prince**

Trade routes, or something. Why are you laughing? This isn't funny. I really might have to marry this girl.

**Rose**

*(still smiling)* Oh, it's just that the person I'm meeting . my father has it on extremely good authority that he is quite adorable. Very good looking, apparently

**Prince**

*(not happy)* Oh, really.

**Rose**

Now what did he say his name was? Oh, I know, it was ò Prince William.

*Prince's mouth drops open. He slouches forward as if his brain has fallen out. He shakes himself back upright*

**Prince**

No!

**Rose**

Yes!

**Prince**

**Princess** Rose?

**Rose**

Yes! **Prince** William!

*They fall into each other's arms, spin around, hold hands & step back to look at each other with joy and wonder.*

*King enters*

**King**

Right, Rose, your mother's coming and she's going to talk some sense into you ò

**Rose**

Daddy! Daddy! It's all right! It's wonderful! Look, this is the boy I was telling you about!

**King**

*(stops dead in his tracks) Whaaaaat????!!!! (he can't believe what he is hearing. He notices that they are holding hands. He points to their hands, shaking with anger) Whaaaaaaat?????!!!!!!!*

**Rose**

You remember? The boy I met in the woods, the one I said I had fallen in love with ò . *(Rose & Prince gaze lovingly at each other)* ò .. but it's all right, Daddy ò

**King**

All right????!!!! All right????!!!! It most certainly is not all right. Guards!!!

**Rose**

ò but Daddy!!

**King**

I will not hear another word! Guards!!! Where are they?

**Prince**

Your Majesty, you should listen to yourõ

**King**

You!!! I do not take advice from peasants! Particularly when there's a rich prince turning up any second.

**Prince**

But I'm not a peasant õ

*Harry enters, looking around to see what all the commotion is about*

**Harry**

What's all this racket, then?

*Harry spots Prince. Prince spots Harry*

**Harry & Prince**

You??!!

*Harry approaches Prince*

**Prince**

Now, waitõ !

**Harry**

*(ignoring Prince & grabbing him by scruff of neck)* I told you before õ keep away from Rose!

**Prince**

You're making a big õ !

**King**

That's it, Jester. Throw him out! We don't want his sort in here. Ha ha!

**Rose**

No, don't!

*Harry escorts the struggling Prince from the palace. As he leaves, he turns pleadingly ...*

**Prince**

Rose!

**Rose**

Bill! Daddy, no!!

**King**

That's the last we'll see of him!

*Queen enters, with Winnie following. Queen looks around*

**Queen**

Oh, I thought he'd be here.

**King**

Who, dear?

**Queen**

Prince William, dear.

**Rose**

Oh, Mummy! Winnie! (*rushes over to a confused Winnie & buries her head in her chest*)

**King**

Yes, well, I can't think where he's got to, should be here by now, what?

**Queen**

But I heard the Herald announce him.

**King**

Did you, dear?

**Queen**

Yes, I did, dear. (*to Herald*) Herald! Come here!

*Herald approaches, nervously*

**Queen**

Herald, did you, or did you not announce Prince William?

**Herald**

(*looks around, worried*) Umō I did, your majesty

**Queen**

Well, where is he?

**Herald**

Wellō it's hard to sayō .

**Queen**

Really? Why?

**Herald**

Wellō ō after the Prince held hands with the Princess, the King called him a peasant, and then the fellow in the jester outfit threw him outō

**Queen**

Oh, ō ō ō ō ..

*Harry enters, wearing the Prince's jacket/cloak. Brushing off his hands*

**Harry**

Job done!

**King**

(*panicking*) Jester! What have you done with him????!

**Harry**

*(taken aback)* What? Well, me and the guards .. we õ er..

**King**

Prince William!!!! Where is he????!!!

**Harry**

*(the truth dawns)* Youõ donõ mean the õ *(mimes his actions in throwing out Prince, then grimaces)* Ahõ .

**King**

Quick! Go and get him back! *(to anyone that will listen)* Did I mention that his fatherõ very, very rich?

**Harry**

Umõ . Getting him backõ not going to be so easy. Weõ .erõ didnõ just throw him out, weõ erõ stripped himõ cos he had very nice clothes for a peasantõ . *(he touches Prince's cloak, nervously, while King stands open-mouthed)*

õ õ then, weõ .erõ tarred himõ . cos we had some left over from that job we did for the councilõ ..and we õ er õ feathered him õ oh and remember that sack you gave me 16 years ago? Well, we tied him up in that and threw him onto a boat that was about to leave the harbour.

**King**

What??!!!!

**Harry**

I said, getting him backõ õ

**King**

I heard what you said!!!! Go and get him back!....Now!!! How dare you manhandle a prince of the realm!

*Terrified Harry exits in a rush*

**Winnie**

Oh, your madge, is that fair? I mean, **you** thought he was a peasant too andõ .

**King**

Right!! Slaptickle!! For that, you can go and help him! Off you go!

**Winnie**

*(gobsmacked)* Well, Iõ never been so õ . Huh! *(she stomps off)*

*King is breathing heavily and in a bit of a state. Rose is just confused looking from one parent to the other, still very upset*

**Queen**

Calm down dear, youõ do yourself an injury!

**King**

Calm down?! Calm down?!! Iõ just tarred and feathered the most eligible bachelor in the known world õ

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**Queen**

Yes, I know dear ō but our priority at the moment is to keep Rose safe until midnight ō

*Rose looks up*

**Rose**

Safe?! Safe from what??

*King and Queen realise they've let something slip. Sharp intake of breath, they quickly look at each other, then at Rose then ... big flash and a bang. Nightshade appears*

**Nightshade**

From me!

**King**

You!!!

*Queen gasps*

**Queen**

No!!!!

**King**

Guards!!!

*Nightshade raises her arms*

**Nightshade**

Nobody move!!!!!!

*Light/sound effects (Everyone freezes).*

**Nightshade**

*(to Rose)* Apart from you, my dear.

Little Rose, won't you come here?

*Rose moves, trance-like towards Nightshade*

**Nightshade**

Your father thought he'd got this planned

He destroyed every spinning wheel in the land.

*(Clicks fingers - Snivel enters with spinning wheel, which he brings to front of stage.)*

But I kept this as a souvenir

Come, look a little closer, dear.

*Rose goes towards spinning wheel*

**Nightshade**

The spindle, see it glisten and shine

**Touch it** ō then you will be mine.

*Still in a trance, Rose touches the spindle, she gasps as she pricks her finger. She stands, looks woozy, then slumps to the floor*

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**Nightshade**

Ha ha ha ha ha ha ò

*Dramatic music*

*Blackout.*

*INTERVAL*

## Act II

### Prologue

*Rose is asleep, lying centre stage, on bed, where cradle used to be. Royals and courtiers are all sleeping*

#### Fairy Lilac

The final hour of the final day  
The wicked fairy got her way.  
Enticing Rose to spin some thread,  
She left our poor princess for dead.

#### Fairy Lavender

But years ago, we vowed to keep  
Dear Rose alive ò so she's just asleep  
But all in the palace voiced their fears  
That Rose might sleep for a hundred years

#### Fairy Lupin

It's a very long time to stay in bed  
And, if she did, they'd all be ò . gone

#### Fairy Lilac

And so we cast a magic spell  
For all in the palace to sleep as well  
In peaceful slumber, they'd remain  
Until the princess wakes again

#### Fairy Lavender

One hundred years, the story goes  
That's far too long asleep, for Rose  
We'd do everything within our power  
To have her awake within the hour!

#### Fairy Lilac

And, as you know, the spell is this  
Rose will awake with true love's kiss  
Rose's love for Bill is true  
But how can we tell if he loves her too?

SONG %Shoop Shoop Song+

#### Fairy Lilac

So, no time to waste, we must find the prince  
He was seen in the harbour, but nowhere since.

#### Fairy Lupin

We must find the prince, and we must be quick  
But don't mention boatsq. cos I get sea . (*puts hand to mouth as if she is about to throw up*)

#### Fairy Lilac & Lavender

Come on!

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*Dragging Fairy Lupin off, they all exit*

**Scene 10            The Harbour**

*Dame and Jester enter*

**Harry**

Happy kids!?

**Kids**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

That's jester-riffic! But I can't not. If I don't find Prince William, I can't for the chop.

**Winnie**

So, which boat did you put him on?

**Harry**

I don't know . the one that was just about to leave.

*Harbourmaster enters carrying a small buoy with a for sale sign where its flag would be. He is singing "Boy for Sale" from "Oliver!"*

**Harbourmaster**

Buoy, buoy for sale!

*H'master spots Winnie and Harry*

**Harbourmaster**

Ahoy, landlubbers! Where be you wanting to lay anchor? The clouds are gathering and there's a fine swell on the old briney.

**Harry**

Eh?!

**Winnie**

Where do we want to go . . . and the sea's a bit choppy+

*(Harry gives her a look)*

I had a bit of a fling with an old seadog once . . . made my head swim a few times, I can tell you!

**Harry**

Winnie! *(to Harbourmaster)* The boat that left this morning . . . where was it going?

**Harbourmaster**

Three vessels a day sail from these shores . . . all at the same hour . . . the slow boat to China, the fast boat to Timbuktu and the slow-slow-quick-quick-slow Christmas ballroom cruise to Easter Island . . . or is it the Easter ballroom cruise to Christmas Island?

**Harry**

So, the prince could have been on any one of those three boats?

**Winnie**

Well, we've got to get him back somehow ò . we'll have to split up and follow those three boats.

**Harry**

I know you never went to school but even you must have noticed that there's only two of us and there's three boats.

**Winnie**

Oh yes. Oh dear, what are we going to do?

*Three fairies rush in*

**Fairy Lupin**

Wait! Do not worry, do not fear,  
Fairies Lilac, Lavender and Lupin are ò available!

**Fairies Lilac & Lavender**

Here!!

**Fairy Lupin**

What they said.

**Harry**

Lilac, Lavender, Loopy ò can you help us to find Prince William? If I don't get him back, the King's going to do me a mischief.

**Lupin**

I'll do you a mischief if you don't stop calling me Loopy!

**Fairy Lilac**

We've terrible news, I'm sad to say  
Nightshade's curse came true today.

**Winnie**

You don't mean? Not Rose?

**Fairy Lavender**

She merely sleeps, the truth is this  
We need Prince Bill for true-love's kiss.

**Harry**

Then you've got to help us find him. Oh, but we don't know where he is. He's gone to either China, Timbuktu or Easter Island.

**Winnie**

Could you magic us there?

**Fairy Lilac**

Magic powers we have, indeed  
But only to use for the greatest need

**Fairy Lavender**

The magic we have, we must retain  
To bring the prince back home again.

**Harry**

You mean we've got to sail after them? It'll take weeks.

**Winnie**

Oh well, it could be worse. And I've always fancied going on a cruise ò

**Harry**

You've got a point ò the food ò . the drinks ò .

**Winnie**

ò ..the sailors!

**Harry**

Well, what are we waiting for? We'd better get some tickets.

**Harbourmaster**

I think I know someone who can help you there. Wait on.

*Harbourmaster exits.*

*Ticket Seller enters (Harbourmaster with a different hat)*

**Ticket Seller**

You want tickets for the next departures? Well, we're pretty much booked up. Had a special offer on, you see. We've just got one berth left for China, one for Timbuktu and three for Easter Island.

**Fairy Lilac**

I feel that now forces our hand  
On how to split our happy band.  
I'll take China ò

**Fairy Lavender**

ò Timbuktu for me  
Which means it's Easter for you three.

**Ticket Seller**

That'll be a penny each plus the usual harbour taxes and five guineas an ounce for any extra baggage.

**Fairy Lavender**

Cost Cutter Cruisesq. nice and cheap  
The Ryanairq of the ocean deep  
To get a seat . you have to fight  
And the baggage allowance is really tight.

**Harry**

Does that mean we'd have to leave Winnie behind?!

**Winnie**

Oooh, you cheeky monkey!

**Harry**

And what about when we find Prince William? Can you magicus back, then?

**Fairy Lilac**

To get home quickly, we must know well  
The getting home quickly magic spell

**Harry**

Jester-riffic!

**Fairy Lupin**

Can you just go through it, one more time?  
To make sure that I know the ..erō verse

**Fairy Lilac**

You really have to learn this well  
Without a rhyme . there is no spell  
Ready ō %Magic spell, magic trick  
Take us home, double-quick+

**Fairies, Winnie & Harry**

*(they repeat it, so that the audience are familiar with it)*

%Magic spell, magic trick  
Take us home, double-quick+  
%Magic spell, magic trick  
Take us home, double-quick+

**Winnie**

Yes, I think we'll remember that one ō .. now we need to get a move on ō last one aboard\$ a squashed sardine.

*Fairies, Winnie and Harry exit quickly*

**Scene 11 On Board the Bruce Forsyth**

*Three weeks later on board the ballroom cruise to Easter Island.*

*Curtains open on the crew/passengers dancing to the Blue Danube in full ballroom dancing gear. Captain, who is Harbourmaster/Ticket Seller in another hat, is dancing with Winnie and Harry is dancing with Fairy Lupin. Builds up to a full Busby Berkely number. As it finishes everyone applauds apart from Winnie, Harry and Lupin who look exhausted and stagger to the front of the stage, bent over and gasping for breath. Lupin is also looking a bit seasick. Captain goes back to the poop*

**Harry**

Happy kids?!?!?

**Kids**

Happy Harry!!!

**Harry**

Jester *ō* (*gasp*) *ō* riffic! But I'm not sure I can take much more of this slow-slow-quick-quick-slow cruise. Three weeks of waltzing! Ballroom dancing looks so easy on the telly.

**Winnie**

I'm getting a bit tired of it myself. I've danced with Captain Forsyth dozens of times and he still hasn't invited me back to his cabin for *ō* %offee+.

**Fairy Lupin**

Is it really part of this mission  
To win the dancing *ō* *ō* . contest?

**Harry**

Competition! No, not really, but then I don't think we've got much chance of winning

**Winnie**

But we've got to try! Then Captain Forsyth can take me back to his cabin to look at his trophy cabinet. (*Calling out*) Oh Captain, Captain Forsyth! Yoo-hoo!

*Captain makes his way to front*

**Captain**

Avast ye lubbers. Aaarrrr, what siren song has drawn me fore from aft?

**Harry**

Eh!? Winnie??

**Winnie**

Um *ō* he says %ello+.

*Winnie doesn't look entirely sure that her translation is correct*

**Harry**

Oh. Er, captain, we were just wondering, could you give us any tips for tonight's dancing competition?

**Winnie**

What about a change from waltzing? What about a tango (*she moves in close to the Capt.*)  
A change of style might pep us up a bit, a change of pace, bring the lights down low, our bodies move in closer *ō* as we lose ourselves in the latin rhythms *ō* ..

**Harry**

Winnie!! Calm down.

**Captain**

A change from waltzing? Oh, I don't know about that, waltzing be in my blood *ō* or is that rum? I can never remember.

**Winnie**

Let's just get on with it! Last chance before the big final! Come on Big Boy!

**Fairy Lupin**

*(through gritted teeth)* Any more dancing on this deck

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And I might have to *(hands go up to her neck)* wring my  $\delta$  hands in frustration

*STAGE CREW enter carrying a large water hose*

**Captain**

Aaargh, we're being boarded.

**Harry**

What are you doing out here?

**Stage Hand**

The director wants a bit more reality ..... you know, you're supposed to be at sea. She wants waves crashing onto the deck, lots of spray. That sort of thing.

**Captain** *(looking worried)*

But this be my vessel  $\delta$  aaargh  $\delta$  I suppose ... if that's what she wants .....

*SET DESIGNER enters wearing large shirt with splatters of paint all over it*

**Set Designer**

What on earth is going on here?

**Captain**

I've a feeling we're all about to get very wet .....

**Harry**

.... director's orders.

**Set Designer**

Oh no you don't ..... it took me months to paint this set and no-one is going to ruin it by pouring gallons of water all over my scenery.

**Stage Hand**

But she said .....

**Set Designer**

I don't care ....

**Stage Hand**

Well .... what are we going to do? They've already turned the water on!

**Set Designer** *(looking round)*

I don't care . so long as it's aimed away from my scenery....

*(indicates towards audience)*

... now where's this director .....

*SET DESIGNER stomps off*

**Stage Hand**

OK, you heard what he said .....

*STAGE CREW turn to face audience*

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**Stage Hand**

After three .... one ..... two ....

*Harry, Captain and Winnie and Fairy 3 put their hands over their eyes*

**Stage Hand**

..... three

*Confetti cartridge is fired over audience.*

*STAGE CREW exit laughing.*

*Winnie, Harry, Captain and Fairy shake their heads*

**Captain**

Land ahoy!!

*Blackout*

**Scene 12      Deadly Nightshade's Lair**

*Nightshade is sitting outside in a deckchair with a cocktail glass in her hand. She's had a few already*

**Nightshade**

It's been very quiet at the palace  
 Since I treated Rose to a touch of malice  
 I've finally evened up the score  
 For their dear daughter is no more  
 To celebrate my little spree  
 I'll have another G & T ☺ SNIVEL!!

*Snivel enters*

**Snivel**

Yes ò mistress ò .

**Nightshade**

First ò you've completed your task, no doubt?  
 And been to the palace, to check things out?

**Snivel**

Oh, yes mistress.

**Nightshade**

And did you see them wreathed in sorrow  
 With no hope for a bright tomorrow?

**Snivel**

Erm ò not exactly, ma'am.

**Nightshade**

Not exactly??

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**Snivel**

Exactly.

**Nightshade**

What? (*mild confusion*) What? Were they not weeping?

**Snivel**

No mistress.

*Nightshade is taken aback*

**Nightshade**

Not sobbing?

**Snivel**

No.

**Nightshade**

Not blubbing?

**Snivel**

No mistress.

**Nightshade**

What? So if no-one's crying, howling or mewling  
What exactly are they doing?

**Snivel**

They're sleeping, mistress. Like lickle babies. Aaaaaah.

**Nightshade**

Sleeping? At a time like this?

**Snivel**

Oh yes, mistress, they're sleeping everywhere ò in the bedrooms, in the bathrooms, in the ballroom, in the kitchens, in the gardens, on the stairs ò

*Nightshade holds up her hand to stop him*

**Nightshade**

I fear that something is amiss.

**Snivel**

That's you, mistress.

**Nightshade**

What?

**Snivel**

You're a **miss**, mistress, aren't you, cos no-one's ever wanted to marry you cos you're so mean and horrid and ò

*Nightshade hits Snivel*

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**Nightshade**

Snivel!!!! Someone may be trying to thwart me  
 But one thing my life of evil taught me  
 They will meddle all they can  
 But theyd **never** stop my wicked plan.

*Nightshade turns to audience*

**Nightshade**

Oh no they won!

*(Etc)*

**Nightshade**

**Silence!!!!** Snivel!

Get back to the palace and find out  
 What this sleeping lark is all about.

*She slumps back down into deckchair.*

*Blackout*

**Scene 13      Easter Island**

*Jungle, with jungle-type noises.*

*Winnie, Harry and Lupin enter looking scared and jumping at every sound*

**Harry**

H-happy kids????

**Audience**

Happy Harry!!

**Harry**

J-jester-riffic!!

**Winnie**

Ooooooh, I don't like this. It's very sc-sc-scary.

**Harry**

Just try to r-r-relax. There's n-n-nothing to worry about. We just need to find the p-p-prince and then g-g-get out of here.

**Winnie**

But I've heard all sorts of stories about these Pacific islanders. They'll stick you in the c-c-cooking pot as soon as I-I-look at you.

**Fairy Lupin**

Oooh, I d-d-don't want to end up as a main course  
 With chips and peas and tomato & ketchup.

**Harry**

Will you stop it! You're scaring me. I'm sure the natives are really friendly and  
*Music starts, islanders dance on for:*

SONG/DANCE %Jungle Rhythm+(from Disney's %Jungle Book 2+)

*During song, Winnie, Harry and Fairy Lupin have garlands placed around their necks.*

*Chief steps forward. Winnie, in particular, is still very wary*

**Chief**

Welcome strangers from far-away lands to our little island. I am the chief.

**Harry**

Oh, thank you. *(turns to Winnie)* Well, isn't that nice. They seem very friendly. I don't know what you were so worried about.

**Winnie**

So, you don't think they're cannibals, then?

*Chief overhears this and is aghast*

**Chief**

What? I don't believe it! You European imperialists are always imposing your outmoded stereotypes on cultures that don't conform to the western ideal!

**Harry**

So you're not cannibals, then?

**Chief**

Oh, sorry, did she say cannibals? Oh, yes, we're cannibals. Not had much choice since we had our fishing quota cut off again.

**Winnie**

*(holding up her garland)* So this is not so much a welcome garland as a bouquet garni.

**Harry**

Does this mean you're going to eat us?

**Chief**

Oh no. We're already got our menu sorted out for tonight. Would you like to meet the meat.  
*(calls out)* Bring on the dish of the day!

*Prince is dragged in struggling and a large cooking pot is wheeled on*

**Winnie**

Prince William!!!

*Harry rushes towards the prince*

**Harry**

Your highness, I

*Prince sees Harry and stops struggling*

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**Prince**

You!!! (*Prince tries to back off*) Oh no, not again! (*Turns to his captors*) Don't let that madman near me! Quick, put me in the pot! Anything's better than that lunatic fool!

*Prince leaps into the pot with little help from the islanders*

**Harry**

But your highness, we've come to rescue you. I'm sorry about the tar and feathers thing, I really am.

**Prince**

You keep back! You're not coming near me!

**Winnie**

But your Princeness, Rose needs you. She's been put under an evil curse and only your love can break it.

**Prince**

Rose? My Rose? Why didn't you say so? Help me out of here.

*Chief steps forward*

**Chief**

Stop!!! It is written by our great god Jamie Oliver that, once the dish of the day is in the pot, he must not be removed until tender and lightly seasoned, with a garnish of parsley – unless something tastier comes along, of course.

*Harry thinks for a moment, then turns to Winnie*

**Harry**

I've got a plan.

*Harry turns to chief*

**Harry**

Oh chief, don't you think the Prince looks a bit scrawny? I really don't think there's enough of him to go round.

**Chief**

He'd do. I was just going put on some extra potatoes.

**Harry**

If you're interested, I've been marinating myself in Guinness, olive oil and garlic for the past 25 years. And there's more than enough of me for everyone.

**Winnie**

Harry! What are you doing??

*Chief is definitely interested. She starts moving around Harry, testing his meaty bits*

**Harry**

I'm sure you'd rather have me in your pot. I'd give you and your people a nice, tender main course. The prince is all sinewy. Eat him and you'd be picking bits of him out of your teeth for weeks. Why not let me swap places with him?

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**Winnie**

Oh, I see. Yes chief, Harry's been force-feeding himself for months. There'd be even be enough left over for sandwiches tomorrow.

*Chief steps forward. Raises hands*

**Chief**

I have decided! Take the scrawny one out of the pot and put the butterball in instead.

*Prince is lifted out of the pot*

**Harry**

Wait! On one condition. You let my friends go.

**Chief**

Yes, yes! Just get on with it. My tummy is rumbling.

*Harry is carried over to pot*

**Harry**

Run, you lot. I'll see you in a bit. It's all under control.

*Winnie, Fairy Lupin and Prince exit. Harry is put in pot*

**Harry**

Oh chief, talking of lunch, did you hear about the man who was ill after he ate a dozen snooker balls?

**Chief**

No

**Harry**

Yes, he didn't eat enough greens. Ha ha ha ha ha.

*Chief is dismissive as she adds things to the pot and picks up cook book to check recipe*

**Chief**

Yes, yes

**Harry**

And chief, what do you call a camel at the North Pole?

**Chief**

I don't know

**Harry**

Lost! Ha ha ha ha ha ha. And how do you catch a squirrel? Climb up a tree and act like a nut!

*Harry sucks in his cheeks and stays very still and tries to look, as best he can, like a nut. Sudden realisation from the chief*

**Chief**

What? No!

*Chief gasps. Gasps from other islanders, they all take a step back*

**Chief**

How could we have been so foolish? We've been tricked.

*(Chief slaps herself in the forehead.)*

I see it now. The ridiculous clothes, the silly hat, the idiotic grin, the terrible jokes – No matter how hungry I may be, I am not eating a jester – **because they taste funny**. Get him out of my pot!!!!!!!

*Harry is thrown out of the pot. He throws off a string of onions from round his neck. He looks around*

**Harry**

Let off.

*Harry exits*

**Chief**

Find the others! They can't all be jesters. I want my supper!

*Islanders exit – opportunity for a “comedy chase” here.*

*Winnie, Prince and Lupin enter from opposite direction again.*

*They look around*

**Prince**

Let not sure we've got time to wait for your jester friend. I know he saved me but we've got to get back to rescue Rose from this awful curse.

*Harry runs backwards from opposite direction again, looking into wings as if seeing if anyone is following him*

**Winnie**

Maybe the boys and girls can help us find him. Boys and girls, have you seen Harry?

*To choruses of “behind you!” Harry wanders directly behind the group with back to them and then to other side of stage*

**Winnie**

Where? Really?

*Winnie, Prince and Lupin look to where he was a moment ago. They then turn to see him*

**Winnie, Prince & Fairy Lupin**

Harry!!!

*Harry jumps, spins round, falls over, gets up and then rushes over to group*

**Harry**

Am I glad to see you three.

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**Winnie**

Oh, Harry, how did you escape?

**Harry**

I overcame my stage fright. But the natives are restless. We'd better get out of here.

**Prince**

But how?

**Winnie**

The getting home quickly spell! I almost forgot. It's all yours Fairy Loopy.

**Fairy Lupin**

Lupin!! OK, here goes.

Magic spell, magic trick

Take us home, double õ ..erõ . dutch?

Oh, I can't rememberõ ..doubleõ .

**Harry**

õ . vodka?

**Lupin**

Doubleõ .er

**Winnie**

õ .. knitting?

**Lupin**

Doubleõ er

**Prince**

Bacon cheeseburger, with fries?

**Harry**

I know, I'd ask my best mates . they'd help us! Happy Kids?!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!!

**Harry**

I will be, if you can remember the spellõ .

Magic spell, magic trick

Take us home, doubleõ .

**Audience**

Quick!!

**Lupin**

We're going as fast as we can!

**Harry**

No, that's the word! Thanks, kids! Over to you, Fairy **Lupin**.

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**Fairy Lupin**

Ok, all huddle together  
 Magic spell, magic trick  
 Take us home, double-quick!

*Pyro flash*  
*Blackout*

**Scene 14 Deadly Nightshade's Lair**

*Nightshade is trying to find the Alka Seltzer amongst her various spell ingredients.  
 Snivel enters carrying a pile of newspapers.*

**Nightshade**

Snivel! You miserable little pest  
 Have you completed your latest quest?

**Snivel**

Um er er don't know, mistress. What's a quest?

**Nightshade**

You've been to the palace, you've snooped around.

**Snivel**

Oh er, yes.

**Nightshade**

So, quickly, tell me what you've found.  
 Hurry! My patience is wearing thin.  
 It's no wonder that I'm on the gin.

**Snivel**

Oh found at the palace? Yes. These mistress. On the front step. Not been read.

**Nightshade**

Are they newspapers, my little geek?  
 They haven't delivered mine for over a week.

**Snivel**

That's cos you turned the paperboy into a cute lickle bunny rabbit when he dropped his sweetie paper on the floor.

**Nightshade**

Of course I did. Forgetful of me.  
 Now pass them here. Let me see!  
*(reads headline of each newspaper, then throws it to ground)*  
 %Princess Dead . The Kingdom Weeps+  
 Ha-ha! *(throw)*  
 %Princess Not Dead . Only Sleeps+  
 What!?! *(throw)*  
 %Hunt Is On For True Love's Kiss+  
 No!! *(throw)*  
 %Prince is Found . Will Soon Be Bliss+

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*(Stares open-mouthed. Throws hurriedly, desperate to see final paper)*

Prince Returns . At Palace Today+

Oh, no . not if I get my way!

*She storms off stage left*

**Snivel**

Oh dear ð this is where it gets really scary.

## **Scene 15 Outside the Palace**

*Prince, Fairies, Winnie and Harry enter*

**Fairy Lilac**

We're near the palace now, my dear

But you must go alone from here

Though I fear Deadly Nightshade, if she can,

Will try to devastate your plan.

**Prince**

Can you help me?

**Fairy Lavender**

The hero, alone, must do his duty

For the kiss thing to wake up sleeping beauty.

**Fairy Lupin**

Prince William . you really are a noggin

Do you want **everyone** to see you snogging?

**Fairy Lilac**

Fairy ð Lupin ð !

**Fairy Lupin**

I think I'm getting the hang of this rhyming thing!

**Fairy Lilac**

A magic shield I give, to ward off malice.

**Fairy Lavender**

A magic sword to help you reach the palace.

**Prince**

Thanks! But hopefully, I won't need them ð

**Fairy Lilac**

That's the way, be of good cheer

Now we'll try to sneak in at the rear.

*3 fairies exit*

**Winnie**

Best of luck, your highness.

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## Scene 16     The Cellars under the Palace

*Fairly dark. Spooky music underscores*

*Jester, Lilac, Lavender & Lupin enter, looking lost*

**Harry**

I think it's this way ð ..

**Lilac**

Are you sure this is the way, my dear?

It's very dark - we're lost, I fear

**Harry**

erð . maybe it's this way?ð .

**Lavender**

This way! That way! Which is right?

This jester doesn't seem too bright

**Lupin**

Harry's not lost, he knows the way

**Lavender**

We really must find Rose ð (*sarcastically*) ...**today!!!**

**Harry**

They're right, Loopy . I've got us lost ð .. I think we're in the palace cellars ð .

**Lilac**

That worried look upon your face

Tells me we shouldn't be in this place

**Harry**

The palace cellars are supposed to be ð .. hauntedð

**Lilac**

Oh dear

**Lupin**

Oh dear

**Lavender**

There's nothing to fear

**Lupin**

I don't believe in ghostsð

**Harry**

I didn't believe in **fairies** ð ..

**Lupin**

Ooooh!

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**Harry**

Don't worry! My best mates, out there, will tell us if they see anything! ..won't you kids?!

**Audience**

Yes!!

*Ghost appears. Audience shouts. Look wrong way. Ghost off etc....*

**Harry**

Oooh, Mummy!!

*Ghost Mummy appears  
More ghosts & shouting*

**Lilac**

My poor knocking knees  
Harry, **call for help – please!**

**Harry**

But, who we gonna call? ẽ ẽ .

*Enter Winnie, in 'Ghostbusters' garb, complete with Dyson backpack. To 'Ghostbusters' theme tune. She gets rid of the ghosts*

**Harry**

Quick! Let's get out of here!

*All quickly exit*

**Scene 17 The Royal Palace**

*Princess is lying asleep on bed centre stage with king, queen and courtiers all around her.  
All are sleeping.*

*Prince enters still carrying sword and shield. He goes immediately over to Rose. He lays down his sword and shield*

**Prince**

At last! Oh, Rose, my dearest Rose ẽ ẽ . er ẽ ẽ . *(he looks a bit unsure of what to do)* ẽ right, what next?,

*Fairies rush in, a little dishevelled after their cellar experience. They see that the Prince is not making a move to kiss Rose*

SONG %Kiss the Girl+(from Disney's %Little Mermaid+)

**Prince**

Here goes, then ẽ #true love's kiss+

*Prince leans over Rose and kisses her softly. Prince stands. Nothing happens*

**Prince**

Oh no! It hasn't worked. *(looks around in panic, then back at Rose)* Oh, Rose. Am I not your true love? *(Prince shakes his head)* I mustn't think like that. I'm sure I am. Rose, I love you with

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all my heart ð and more. There's only one thing for it. I keep kissing her until something happens.

*Prince leans over and kisses Rose again. This time she lifts her arms and wraps them around him. They stay in their embrace for a short time*

**Prince**

Rose! Oh Rose! You're awake!

*Rose sits up and prince helps her to her feet*

**Rose**

Oh, Bill! I thought I'd never see you again.

*They embrace, then release and hold hands*

**Prince**

But I don't understand. Why didn't you wake up when I kissed you the first time?

*Rose turns away embarrassed*

**Rose**

Oh ð I did. I just wanted you to kiss me again.

**Prince**

(Laughs) Oh, Rose!

*Everyone else wakes up and gets to their feet*

**Rose**

Daddy! Mummy!

**Queen**

Rose, darling.

*Queen and Rose embrace*

**King**

Ah, Prince William, well done, my boy. *(he goes to embrace Prince then thinks better of it and shakes him by the hand)*. I always knew you'd make a worthy son in law.

**Prince**

Of course you did, your majesty.

*Winnie and Harry rush in*

**King** *(sees fairies)*

Ah, Fairies Lilac, Lavender and Loopy - well done! It's worked, you see. True love's kiss and all that. Jolly good show. This calls for a proper celebration ð without any interruptions, what!

**Winnie**

Have I got time to change into a party frock?

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*There is a thunder clap and the lights flash. Nightshade enters*

**Nightshade**

*(very angry)*

You thought I'd gone . but I'm still here!  
It's time for you to quake in fear!

**Queen**

Oh no! Not again!

*Everyone backs off, but the Fairies, who come to the fore*

**Nightshade**

Now, I will make you truly squirm.  
I'll turn each one into a slug.

**Fairy Lilac**

She's back but she is weak this time.  
Listen! She cannot speak in rhyme.

**Nightshade**

Your prince may have hurt me but don't you worry  
When I'm through with you, you'd all be upset.

**Fairy Lavender**

If we stand together and our aim is true  
We have enough power to, at last, defeat you!

*Three Fairies stand together facing Nightshade, as if in a duel. Fairy Lupin needs to be at the front*

**Nightshade**

The time has come, there'd be no mistakes  
I'll turn you all into puny ò (one last supreme effort) ò SNAKES!!!!

*Thunder clap. The three fairies are holding their wands together in front of them. Their wands are knocked back as they absorb the curse, then they hold their wands together above their heads*

**Fairy Lupin**

You think you are the Queen of Mean  
But you're not the worst we've ever seen  
You're no Ann Robinson or Margaret Thatcher  
We'd take that curse and ò right back atcher!!!

*The three Fairies, as one, point their wands at Bad Fairy. There is another thunderclap, flashing lights and a puff of smoke (?) Nightshade has disappeared and, in her place, there lies a small snake. Harry rushes forward and picks up the snake. It wriggles and jiggles in his hand*

**Harry**

Quick, bring me something to put her in.

*Herald rushes on with sack, which he gives to King, who hands it to Harry. Harry looks at King*

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**Harry**

Not for me, I hope.

**King**

No, not for you, jester. For her!

*Harry shoves snake into sack, then holds sack up his head triumphantly. Everyone cheers*

**Everyone**

Hurray!!!!

**King**

Now then, about that party! I think these two young people certainly have something to celebrate!

SONG %Da Do Ron Ron+

*Blackout*

**Song Sheet**

*Harry enters*

**Harry**

Happy kids!

**Audience**

Happy Harry!

**Harry**

Jester-rific! I think I'm the happiest I've ever been. Rose is safe, and she's about to get married to the Prince. We got rid of that awful Deadly Nightshade . well, it was the fairies who did that õ

*Lupin enters, looks around, surprised*

**Lupin**

Oh, I'm sorry, I thought this was the way to the õ

*Lupin turns and is about to exit*

**Harry**

Loop-y! Wait!

*Lupin turns and stomps over to Harry*

**Lupin**

Will . you . stop . calling . me . Loopy! Please!

**Harry**

Sorry. Lu-pin. I was talking to the boys and girls about the way you got rid of Deadly Nightshade. It was amazing!

**Lupin**

*(bashful)* Oh, it was nothing

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**Harry**

Nothing?! The way you did the whoa-oa (*he mimes the wand hand going back*) ... and then the wahay! (*he mimes throwing the wand hand forward*). It was awesome!

**Lupin**

(*grins and shrugs*) It was a bit wasn't it? I've never really done anything like that before.

**Harry**

Lupin, are you alright? You're not speaking in rhyme.

**Lupin**

Oh, it's OK, I'm off duty. Talking of off duty, I'm really looking forward to the big wedding ð and the party afterwards

**Harry**

Yeah, it's going to be jester-rific. There'll be loads of dancing and singing and ð (*sudden idea*)... Tell you what, why don't we have a bit of a sing-song now, to warm up our voices? The boys and girls can all join in

**Lupin**

Great idea! But what can we sing?

**Harry**

I know just the thing. I've even got the words in my pocket

*Harry pats his pockets, but can't find the song sheet. He spots something off stage*

**Harry**

Oh, look! There they are! I must have dropped them. Wait a second.

*Harry fetches the Song Board*

**Lupin**

Oh, wow, great song!

**Harry**

I know. It's one of my two favourite-est songs in the whole world. It was a choice between this and Bohemian Rhapsody ð . but I couldn't fit all the words for that one on the board

**Lupin**

Well, what are we waiting for? Shall we have a sing-song then?

**Harry**

Are you going to join in, boys and girls? ð I said Are you going to join in, boys and girls?!!

Jester-rific!

Music, maestro, please.

**Sing-a-long-song "If you're happy and you know it"**

**Harry**

That wasn't bad for a first try

**Lupin**

*(acting innocently, but mischievously)* But I think my lot over here were a bit better than your lot over there

**Harry**

Oh no you weren't

**Lupin**

Oh yes we were!

*Etc.*

*Harry and Lupin decide to have a competition, to see whose side is best.*

*May decide to have some children up on stage to help.*

*More singing. Decision. Prizes for the helpers.*

**Lupin**

Ooh, that was great fun! I've almost forgotten where I was going *(starts to realise .... she was on her way to the 'Ladies'. She jigs about a bit)* Oh, I remember! *(exits hastily)*

**Harry**

Anyway, we've got a wedding to go to! See you later!

*Harry exits*

**Finale**

Walkdown bows to a reprise of 'Da Doo Ron Ron'

*Company / musicians bows*

FINALE SONG 'Rocking Around The Christmas Tree' or a suitable upbeat number.

## **Additional Notes**

### **Music Content**

Your choice of music is important; choose songs that are suited to your company and your audience. In general, it is best that songs are well-known and kept fairly short. Up-tempo songs work well, but you will usually need to include at least one slower ballad, or love song. It is likely that most of your audience will be familiar with chart music, rather than musicals. Our choices for this pantomime include a number of 60s songs, which seem to work well ~ written years before many of the audience were born, but recognised from their use in TV adverts etc.

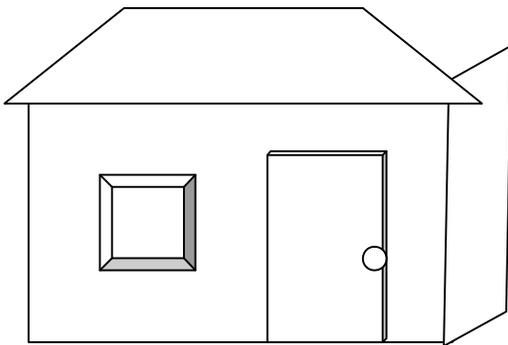
Whatever you choose, remember that the performance of any copyright music (including those suggestions made in this script) is subject to permission and payment of royalties.

The Performing Rights Society licenses most popular songs and also collects royalties.

### **Staging**

#### **1. The Cottage**

This can be a solid building, if you have storage space. If not, make it hinged and foldable. There should be an opening door in the front.



The sides of the cottage can be hinged to fold inwards, thus saving space during storage.

Make sure that it is built to be secure and safe when opened out and in use. Use corner braces, and stage weights, for added stability.

The back may need to be masked with a curtain, depending upon where the cottage is situated on stage.

#### **2. The Kitchen Scene**

##### Ovens

This is a basic box-shape. Ideally, it needs to look like two separate ovens, in one unit. Or, if it is easier, have two separate ovens. Each oven door needs to open. Inside, there has to be enough room to store the ready-prepared cakes (one of which is a three-tiered cake).

##### The Cakes

Winnie's cake is best made in a solid cake tin (the type with fairly high sides). Make the cake inside with yellow sponge, brushed with brown paint, to give a cake-like finish. It needs to look a bit grotty, so it's quite easy to make. Leave a sunken hole in the centre. This is where the cream (shaving foam) will be put.

Harry's cake is best made from card and papier mache, or buy the polystyrene cake-shaped blocks that cake decorators use to practice on. Use plastic wedding cake pillars, glued between the tiers. Decorate with small artificial roses and ribbon.

#### **3. UV Forest Scene**

This type of scene can be very effective using ultra violet lighting.

This script is licensed for amateur theatre by NODA Ltd to whom all enquiries should be made.

[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk) E-mail: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)

UV lit scenes are quite expensive and time-consuming to produce, but when done well, they can look magical.

#### Branches:-

Each of the operators holds one %bramble/tree branch+. The branch needs to be as large as the operator can manage to control.

The brambles and trees are made from artificial %greenery+. To make something that will look big enough on stage, you may have to attach a number of pieces, to lengths of tube (pipe cladding is good, because it bends a little, to look like a tree branch). Cable ties make good %bramble spikes+. Undercoat it well (especially the plastic), so that the UV reactive paint will adhere to the surface. This is a very time-consuming process, but it makes a very effective UV forest.

#### The Dragon:-

The dragon costume is worn by a tall person. The head of the dragon can be modelled around a box. It will look more effective if the mouth is open, with %fire+coming from it. The body and wings are fabric. Drape the wings over sticks, held by the operator. Shape the edges of the wings to resemble dragon wings. Undercoat and UV-paint the head, and use UV fabric paint for the body and wings.

Initially, the dragon is hidden behind a black drape, which is pulled away at the right moment to reveal the dragon.

#### The Prince:-

Paint the prince's sword and shield with undercoat, followed by UV paint. The prince will have only his back to the audience for this scene, so make sure that the sword and shield are held so that they are visible. Spray the back and sleeves of the prince's costume with blacklight spray, or paint with UV fabric paint.

#### The Operators:-

The operators must be dressed completely in black, including hoods, socks and gloves. Usually, it is best to use dancers for this job, as they are more nimble, with good spatial awareness. Attach handles to each branch, for ease of operation.

The operators stand at the wings, each side of the stage & hold their branches pointing in towards centre stage. The more operators & branches, the denser and more effective the forest.

#### The Action:-

To a dramatic piece of music, we see the branches and brambles %growing+across the stage, blocking the prince's path. The Prince sets about chopping down each branch with his sword. This is timed with the music, one branch at a time. When the last branches %fall away+, the dragon is revealed. A short fight ensues, before the prince plunges forth with his sword, the dragon falling, dead (with an off-stage scream from %Nightshade+). The prince stands, sword and shield aloft as the music reaches a crescendo and the lights black out.

NB When using UV reactive paint, make sure that there are no gaps in the paintwork (or any paint where it shouldn't be!). Use a sufficient number of UV lighting tubes. Ensure that all other light sources are switched off (including the musicians' lights). And a UV scene must have a black background!

It is not essential to use UV for this scene. A similar scenario could be acted out as a ballet. The dancers could either hold branches of %brambles+, or they could actually %be+the brambles, using their bodies and suitable choreography to create the %forest+.

#### **4. The Trick Hosepipe**

A long length of wide-diameter hose is rigged-up to hold a large hand-held confetti cartridge in one end. The hose should be long enough to reach from the wings to the front of the stage. The pull cord of the confetti cartridge is threaded through a hole made on the underside of the hose, and this is held, discretely by the stage hand. At the relevant moment, he pulls the cord, to fire the confetti out into the audience.