

SLEEPING BEAUTY

A PANTOMIME

BY

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SLEEPING BEAUTY

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

FAIRY QUEEN
 LORD CHAMBERLAIN
 FAIRY MOONBEAM
 FAIRY SUNLIGHT
 FAIRY STARDUST
 CARABOSSE
 KING SEPTIMUS THE SEVENTEENTH
 QUEEN SYBIL THE SIXTH
 PRINCESS AURORA
 BARNEY . The Court Jester
 NANNY NORA
 BORIS)
 ANDY) THREE ROYAL SUITORS
 LIONEL)
 PRINCE MICHAEL
 BEAST OF THE FOREST

CHORUS: MEMBERS OF THE COURT

DANCERS: MEMBERS OF THE COURT / SPIRITS OF THE ENCHANTED FOREST

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT ONE

SCENE 1 THE ROYAL CHAPEL
 SCENE 2 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM . 18 YEARS LATER
 SCENE 3 THE PALACE GATES
 SCENE 4 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM
 SCENE 5 CARABOSSE'S LAIR
 SCENE 6 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM

ACT TWO

SCENE 1 THE ENCHANTED FOREST . 100 YEARS LATER
 SCENE 2 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM
 SCENE 3 THE PALACE GATES
 SCENE 4 THE PALACE BALLROOM
 SCENE 5 THE PETRIFIED FOREST
 SCENE 6 CARABOSSE'S COTTAGE
 SCENE 7 THE PALACE GATES
 SCENE 8 THE PALACE BALLROOM

Notes on the production

Although there are a number of scene changes, the production need not be too complicated. For instance the Chapel, Throne Room and Ballroom in the Palace can all be the same scene with just the furniture being changed. CarabossesqLair, the Palace Gates and Petrified Forest scenes can be played on tabs with a little set dressing and Carabossesqcottage can be flats with a sliding or revolving door on stage right.

The scene to end Act One, which shows the growing of the Enchanted Forest, can be easily staged a number of ways. The easiest is to fly in entwined branches, (possibly camouflage netting with painted rope and leaves attached), or pull them across on a tab track to cut off the main Throne Room scene. If either of these is impractical, the dancers could be dressed in green costumes representing trees and branches and carry extended pieces which they attach to various parts of the set or false pros. This scene starts Act Two and the procedure is reversed as Prince Michael cuts through the forest to reveal the Throne Room.

Of course if your company is able to mount a more extravagant production, the Chapel, Throne Room and Ballroom can all be different settings. Act One Scene 4 can take place in another part of the Palace or even in a Garden Scene.

A permanent false pros is used throughout the production and is designed to look like castle turrets. On the down stage right pros is a large button for *Barney's special surprise*. Set in the turret down stage left is the RAVEN that appears at various times during the production. This can be a puppet operated by a stagehand or perhaps set behind a gauze window and lit only when required. It doesn't have to be a Raven. Carabosse refers to it as her petqso it could be a dragon or some sort of mythical creature.

The Talent Contestqsequence in Act 1 Scene 4 can quite easily be adapted to whatever popular TV programme is on at the time.

All the characters are what you would expect to find in Pantomime with a number of small cameo roles. Prince Michael can be played by a boy or a girl, but Nanny Nora should be a typical Panto Dame. The character of Carabosse has often posed the question as to whether it should be played by a man or woman. In my version she is a banished royal fairy and therefore is played by a female. This, of course, gives another part to an actress and one with dramatic content usually found in male roles.

The placing of musical numbers and who sings them is suggested in the script, but it is up to the director to decide what to use. A word of advice: Pantomime audiences . particularly the younger members . like the story to keep moving, so don't make the musical sequences too long, especially ballads.

I hope you enjoy doing this version of Sleeping Beautyqand have a great success with your production.

Stephen Duckham

c 2009

ACT ONE
SCENE 1 THE ROYAL CHAPEL

MUSIC - UNDERSCORE

[The scene opens with the stage in darkness except for a spot DR where the FAIRY QUEEN is standing. SHE is looking at the darkness in the centre of the stage and wipes away a tear. SHE then turns and sees the audience.]

F.Q. Oh hello! I didn't notice you there! You'd have to forgive me but I can't quite overcome with emotion. Christenings always have this effect on me, especially Royal ones. *[SHE looks back at the darkness.]* Doesn't it all look lovely? *[Back to the audience.]* What's that? You can't see anything? Oh silly me, whatever am I thinking of. *[SHE makes a magic pass and the lights come up on the scene. In the centre is a beautifully decorated crib containing the baby PRINCESS AURORA. Standing either side is the KING and QUEEN. Also there is the LORD CHAMBERLAIN and the rest of the COURT. They are all looking at the crib.]* You see King Septimus the Seventeenth and Queen Sybil the Sixth have been blessed with a beautiful daughter and she has been christened Aurora.

KING *[Reaching into the crib and tickling the infant.]* Cuchi cool!

[The QUEEN pulls him away and indicates he should be quiet.]

F.Q. Everything is perfect down to the last detail. And to complete the ceremony my three most senior Royal Fairies and I are about to bestow our magical gifts on the tiny babe.

L/CHAMBER. *[HE beats his staff of office on the stage.]* First to approach the Royal Princess is Fairy Moonbeam. *[FAIRY MOONBEAM enters and crosses to the crib.]*

FAIRY MOON From Royal babe to fair Princess,
I give the gift of happiness.

L/CHAMBER. Second to approach is Fairy Sunlight. *[FAIRY SUNLIGHT enters and crosses to the crib.]*

FAIRY SUN To keep your heart so good and true,
I give the gift of love to you.

L/CHAMBER. Third is Fairy Stardust. *[FAIRY STARDUST enters and crosses to the crib.]*

FAIRY STAR With starlight dancing in your hair,
I give the gift of beauty fair.

L/CHAMBER. And lastly our most illustrious guest and guardian to us all, the Fairy Queen.

[The FAIRY QUEEN approaches the crib.]

- F.Q Your majesties, your daughter will grow up into a happy, loving and beautiful Princess, so my gift on this special occasion is .
- [There is a crash of thunder and the lights dim. The RAVEN appears in a turret down left and squawks loudly. CARABOSSE is heard off stage, her voice echoing around the palace.]*
- CARABOSSE Special occasion? If this is such a special occasion, why wasn't I invited?
- [The whole COURT looks around wondering where the voice is coming from.]*
- F.Q Carabosse!
- [CARABOSSE enters Down Left amid smoke and in a green light. ALL shrink back in fear.]*
- CARABOSSE Yes, that's right. It's me, Calabosse.
- F.Q You shouldn't be here.
- CARABOSSE And why not? Am I not also a Royal Fairy?
- F.Q You relinquished that title years ago when you started using your powers for your own evil ends and not for the well being of the court.
- CARABOSSE How dare you dictate to me how I use my powers. *[Suddenly charming.]* But I don't hold it against you today of all days. I'm sure it was an oversight on your part, your Majesties, that I wasn't invited. And as you've all been so generous with your gifts, I too wish to add my blessing to the infant Princess.
- QUEEN There's no need. Really ...
- CARABOSSE *[Sharply.]* But I insist!
- KING Oh all right. Thank you for your attendance!
- CARABOSSE Don't thank me too soon. *[Turning angry again.]* You haven't heard what gift I am about to bestow on your precious daughter! *[ALL show much concern at what is about to happen.]* Listen well all of you. The Princess shall indeed grow in grace and beauty, beloved by all who know her. But before the sun sets on her eighteenth birthday she shall prick her finger on the spindle of a spinning wheel and die!
- QUEEN Oh no!
- KING I order you to be banished from the Palace forever!
- CARABOSSE Threaten me all you like, but I am Carabosse, the invincible. Remember, before sun sets on her eighteenth birthday! *[With a great cackle of laughter SHE exits down left. The RAVEN cries out and disappears.]*

QUEEN Oh Septimus, what are we going to do?

F.Q Don't despair your Majesty. I still have my gift to give.

KING Then you can undo this awful curse?

F.Q Oh no. Carabosses' powers are much too great. *[SHE crosses to the crib.]* But I promise I will watch over you and protect you as best I can from any danger that may rear its ugly head. This is my gift to the fair Princess. *[The FAIRY QUEEN moves back down right as the lights dim on the christening scene.]* King Septimus, fearful for his daughter's life, ordered that every spinning wheel in the land be destroyed.

[The COURT dissolves and almost in silhouette we see people crossing upstage from right to left with cut out spinning wheels. After this the lights fade out except for the spot on the FAIRY QUEEN.] So now the years roll by and the babe grows into a happy child. *[A spot comes up centre stage and a LITTLE GIRL of about six stands in the light playing with a doll.]* And then into a studious young girl. *[Into the spot comes a GIRL of about thirteen reading a book.]* And finally a beautiful Princess. *[PRINCESS AURORA comes into the spot.]* Today is her eighteenth birthday. *[The spot on AURORA fades.]* The whole court is preparing for a great celebration. So that's where we will join them. *[SHE waves her wand and exits as the lights come up on -]*

SCENE 2 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM

[Two large thrones dominate the upstage area. The whole COURT is preparing for the birthday celebrations.]

MUSIC - OPENING CHORUS [CHORUS]

[At the end of the number BARNEY, the Court Jester, enters with four balloons coloured red, yellow, green and blue.]

BARNEY Hello everyone.

ALL Hello Barney.

BARNEY I've been blowing up balloons for the party. Oh I'm quite out of breath!

MAN They're very nice, but you know we've got an awful lot of red ones. *[HE bursts the red balloon and exits.]*

GIRL And I've always disliked yellow. *[SHE bursts the yellow balloon and exits.]*

2nd MAN And green is supposed to be unlucky! *[HE bursts the green one and exits.]*

2nd GIRL And nobody wants to be blue at a party! *[SHE bursts the blue one and exits. By now the entire CHORUS is off.]*

BARNEY *[To the audience.]* Oh look, they've taken my breath away!
[Sympathetic "Ahh" from the audience.] Never mind. I'm not going to be depressed. We're going to have a party for Princess Aurora and I'd let you into a little secret. I've got a special surprise for her as a birthday treat. It happens when you push this button. But no one must push it yet. *[HE reaches off stage and gets a sign that reads 'DO NOT PUSH' which HE hangs on the button.]* There, that should do the trick. But just to make sure no one ignores the sign I need someone to keep watch. *[Looks at the audience.]* I know . you're all my friends aren't you? *[Audience reaction.]* Well could you watch and let me know if anyone tries to push it? *[Audience reaction.]* Oh thank you. Just shout out ~~Barney~~, the button and I'll come running. Shall we have a practice? *[Audience reaction.]* OK, pretend I'm someone else and shout out when I reach for the button. *[HE crosses back to the centre of the stage and then turns to creep up on the button. The audience calls out.]* Oh, you've got to be a lot louder than that. Let's try again. *[HE repeats the process.]* That's much better. Now I know the surprise for the princess will be safe.

[The LORD CHAMBERLAIN enters.]

L/CHAMBER *[Announcing.]* Her Royal Highness, Princess Aurora.

MUSIC - FANFARE

[The CHORUS enters and bows as AURORA enters.]

AURORA Hello everyone.

ALL Happy birthday, your Highness.

AURORA Thank you all for making everything so perfect. I know today is going to be a very special day.

MUSIC - SONG (AURORA & COMPANY)

[Towards the end of the number a large birthday cake is wheeled on and out pops NANNY NORA.]

NANNY Surprise! Happy birthday.

AURORA Nanny, how wonderful. *[NANNY gets out of the cake. SHE is wearing a dress just like the cake. Some of the CHORUS wheel the cake off. BARNEY also exits.]*

NANNY I had to do something to make this day special for you!

AURORA You don't have to do anything special . you are special. For as long as I can remember you've always been there for me.

NANNY *[Getting tearful.]* Oh dear, I'm feeling all of a doo dah! *[SHE pulls out a large handkerchief, sobs into it and then wrings it out.]* Now come along all of you, take Her Highness into the nursery where there is a mountain of presents to be unwrapped!

- AURORA Presents?
- NANNY Of course. *[The rest of the CHORUS exit with AURORA.]* Well now let's have a look at who we've got here. *[SHE peers out into the audience.]* Oh what a motley crowd! I hope you're all ready to have a good time at Princess Aurora's party. Are you? *[Audience responds.]* You don't sound very enthusiastic! Are you all ready to have a good time? *[Audience responds – hopefully louder.]* Oooh, that's better. I'm Nanny Nora and I'm very pleased to meet you. *[SHE curtseys and a ratchet sound is heard.]* Oh dear! That's my whale bone corset! I think the whale's still in it! Anyway I'm glad you're in a mood to enjoy yourselves because I like a good do! It's been a long time since I had a good night out. Even when my husband was alive I could never drag him away from the TV. He'd sit there day after day staring at it with a bottle of Newcastle Brown and a packet of cheese and onion crisps! I don't know why I married him! I could have had eight husbands you know! Oh yes, the vicar told me. It's in the marriage service. Four better and four worse! *[SHE starts to get tearful.]* Then eventually he was taken from me! You know he had one motto in life: %it's better to give than to receive+. The trouble was he received and got fifteen years! So I'm on the look out for someone to share the twilight of my years with! You know between you and me I think that Barney fancies me! I do! Every time I smile at him his face sort of twists and he gets all hot and bothered! It's the first sign of passion welling up in a man! I'm sure he wants to make a commitment. He always telling me I should be committed. *[SHE sees the button.]* Hello what's this? Oh I wonder what'd happen if I push it? *[SHE goes to push the button. The audience shouts out and BARNEY runs on.]*
- BARNEY *[To audience.]* Thank you. *[To NANNY.]* Here, leave that alone.
- NANNY Oh Barney, you made me jump. *[NANNY crosses to him.]* Hello handsome! How about you and me hanging out at *[Name of local nightclub]* later? I hear . *[Name of a female pop singer.]* . is singing.
- BARNEY You've got to be joking. All that flouncing around with a hairy chest and deep voice.
- NANNY She's not that bad.
- BARNEY I'm talking about you! *[HE exits.]*
- NANNY Ohh, couldn't you just eat him?
- [The LORD CHAMBERLAIN enters and crosses close to NANNY.]*
- L/CHAMBER *[Announcing.]* Their Majesties, King Septimus the seventeenth and Queen Sybil the sixth. *[HE announces with such force that NANNY gets spittle in her face.]*
- NANNY I think he's sprung a leak!
- [The CHORUS enters and bows as the QUEEN enters with the KING trailing behind. THEY cross down stage.]*

QUEEN Septimus, come along. Don't dawdle!

KING Yes dear.

QUEEN Have all the invitations gone out for tonight's party?

KING Yes dear.

QUEEN Has the catering been taken care of?

KING Yes dear.

QUEEN Everything must be perfect for our darling daughter's birthday.

KING Yes dear.

QUEEN We don't want anything to go wrong, do we?

KING Yes dear . I mean no dear!

[PRINCESS AURORA enters.]

AURORA Hello mummy, hello daddy.

QUEEN Happy birthday my dear.

AURORA Thank you.

KING How's my little girl today?

AURORA I feel fine. But I'm not your little girl any more, father. I'm eighteen.

QUEEN Oh, I can hardly believe it. It seems like only yesterday when I held you in my arms for the first time. Everyone said you looked just like me!

KING But you were healthy enough, so we didn't worry! *[The QUEEN gives him a look.]*

AURORA Oh mummy, I'm so happy today. Everyone has been so kind.

QUEEN Nothing is too good for my precious Aurora. And to make this day complete, your father has some special news for you.

KING I have?

QUEEN Yes you have!

KING What's that?

QUEEN You know. *[SHE goes into an elaborate mime describing a marriage service.]*

KING Could you repeat that? *[The QUEEN mimes again this time humming the Wedding March.]* You know I really think you should get out more!

QUEEN Oh for goodness sake. Tell her about the wedding!

AURORA Wedding?

KING *[Stumbling over his words.]* Well you see, your mother and I thought that as you are now of age you might think about - you know, if you would like to - with some chap or other . if you were willing . and he was willing of course! Well, it might be a good idea to . you know . *[HE mimes diving.]* . take the plunge!

QUEEN *[Taking charge of the situation.]* What your father is *trying* to say is we think you ought to get married. It would be in the best interests of the Kingdom.

NANNY What about her interests?

KING Nanny, I think you can leave the affairs of State to us!

NANNY Yes, and a right state you'd get them in!

QUEEN Really Nanny, you take far too many liberties with His Majesty.

KING Who's been talking?

NANNY Oh I'm sorry your Maj, but I just can't bare to think of my little precious being married off to the first Prince that passes by.

QUEEN Neither can we. That is why we've arranged for some prospective candidates to be at the party tonight, so they can be properly vetted.

NANNY Ooooh, I'd vet 'em! When I've finished with them they'd be inspected, vaccinated and completely newtō . new men!

AURORA But I would like to have a say in who I'm going to spend the rest of my life with.

KING Of course my dear. No one is going to make you marry someone you don't like.

NANNY I think I should give them the once over! After eighteen years of looking after Her Royal Highness I think I know what sort of man would fight her fire! qas they say!

KING Who says?

AURORA Oh yes, let Nanny interview them. Please mummy.

QUEEN Oh very well. But whoever is chosen must get Royal approval.

AURORA Of course.

QUEEN Well that's settled then. *[SHE sees the button and crosses towards it.]* I don't remember seeing that button. What's it for I wonder? *[SHE goes to press it and the audience calls out. BARNEY runs on.]*

BARNEY *[To audience.]* Thanks very much. *[To QUEEN.]* Now, now your Maj. Leave that alone.

QUEEN What are you talking about?

BARNEY *[Aside, quietly to the QUEEN.]* It's a little surprise . for later.

QUEEN Oh I see. Talking of little surprises . *[To the KING.]* Come along Septimus it's time to inspect the rest of the palace.

KING Yes dear. *[QUEEN exits. KING speaks to AURORA.]* I'll see you later my sweet, have a lovely day.

AURORA Thank you daddy.

QUEEN *[Off.]* Septimus, I'm leaving.

KING I wish she would!

QUEEN *[Popping her head around the pros.]* What was that?

KING Coming my dear. *[THEY both exit.]*

NANNY *[To AURORA.]* Don't you worry my precious; I'll make sure the right man comes along for you. Who knows, the right man might come along for me too!

AURORA Oh nanny, what would I do without you? *[SHE gives her a kiss on the cheek.]*

NANNY Oh now stop that or else you'll have me going off again! *[SHE looks around.]* Well I don't see many decorations up for this festive day. Who's in charge of brightening the place up?

MAN Barney was looking after that.

NANNY Barney, light of my life. *[SHE puckers up to him.]*

BARNEY Gerroff!

NANNY Well what about the rest of the decorations?

BARNEY I was going to put up some balloons, but this lot had other ideas!

NANNY Get that box of decorations and let's get this party going.

[BARNEY gets a big box from off stage and the CHORUS help him and NANNY decorate the scene throughout the next number.]

MUSIC - COMPANY NUMBER (BARNEY, AURORA, NANNY & CHORUS)

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 3 THE PALACE GATES

[A front cloth. CARABOSSE enters down left in a spot. The RAVEN is in the turret.]

CARABOSSE So, eighteen years have passed since the King and Queen insulted me by not inviting me to the christening of their wretched daughter. Now I see there is to be another Royal occasion to which I have been left off the guest list. So I shall have to make sure my prophesy comes true, even though King Septimus has banned all spinning wheels from the Kingdom.

[The FAIRY QUEEN enters down right in a spot.]

F.Q Oh Carabosse, why don't you let bygones be bygones and leave the court in peace?

CARABOSSE No one treats me the way they did and gets away with it. My vengeance shall be swift and sure.

F.Q Just remember that we, the Royal fairies, have Auroras interests at heart and we will never let you harm her.

CARABOSSE Oh it's all you and the court and Aurora! No one is ever sympathetic to what I want.

F.Q I told you before, it's your own fault. If you had not chosen to deal in the darker side of magic this would never have happened. You should obey the rules.

CARABOSSE Rules! And who made the rules? You!

F.Q For the good of everyone.

CARABOSSE For the good of yourself you mean. Well it's about time I got a look in!

F.Q Oh Carabosse, I feel sorry for you.

CARABOSSE I don't want your pity. Now just leave me alone. *[FAIRY QUEEN exits.]* As I cannot be seen anywhere inside the Palace my faithful pet shall be my eyes and ears. Go my friend and inform me of everything that is going on. *[RAVEN lets out a cry of understanding and disappears. CARABOSSE sees the button.]* Oh, I wonder what happens if I push this. *[SHE starts to move towards it. Audience reacts and BARNEY runs on from stage right. CARABOSSE pulls her cloak over HER face so as not to be recognised.]*

BARNEY Now, now old woman, leave that alone.

CARABOSSE Sorry young man, I just stumbled towards it. I meant no harm!

BARNEY Oh, that's alright then.

CARABOSSE *[Aside.]* I must get back to my lair and plan the downfall of the Royal Palace and everyone in it. *[SHE exits.]*

BARNEY *[HE looks off.]* Oh look out, here she comes. The Palaces answer to -
[Name of well know personality. NANNY enters.]

NANNY Ah, there you are my little dream topping!

BARNEY What are you talking about?

NANNY Oh come on Barney, you know you can't resist me.

BARNEY What gave you that idea?

NANNY I can attract any man!

BARNEY You can't even attract flies!

NANNY Now don't be awful or I won't let you come out with me tonight.

BARNEY Where are you going?

NANNY To the dogs!

BARNEY Oh yes? Which trap are you in?

NANNY Come on Barney, you know you want to spend the rest of your life with me!

BARNEY I do?

NANNY You see, I knew it! *[SHE grabs him and tries to kiss him.]*

BARNEY *[Pushing her off.]* Oh, stop it. Stop it! Can't you be good for fifteen minutes?

NANNY With a bit of luck I'm good for the next fifteen years!

[PRINCE MICHAEL enters down right.]

MICHAEL Good day to you both.

NANNY *[Fluttering her eyes.]* Oh I say, and who might you be looking for?

MICHAEL I have heard there is a lady of rare beauty here at the Palace. I was hoping I might meet her.

NANNY Look no further, your dreams have all come true . your ship has come in . your lottery numbers have come up at last! Here I am handsome!

MICHAEL Er . I was under the impression that it was a *young* lady.

NANNY Well I'm only just pushing thirty!

BARNEY Pushing? More like dragging!

- MICHAEL Permit me introduce myself. I am Prince Michael of Murania and I have come to seek the hand of Princess Aurora in marriage and thereby form an alliance between our two countries.
- NANNY Oh how romantic! Barney and me are going to form an alliance between our two bank accounts!
- BARNEY Why don't you go and get ready to meet the candidates and I'll take Prince Michael to meet their Majesties.
- NANNY Oh yes, I've got lots to do. Their majesties are auditioning suitors for Aurora's hand. It's very exciting. I've got to give them the thrice over.
- BARNEY Don't you mean the once over?
- NANNY I know what I mean! *[Flexing her hands, SHE exits.]*
- MICHAEL Who was that?
- BARNEY Nora, Princess Aurora's Nanny - and I'm Barney, court entertainer and general everything else!
- MICHAEL I'm very pleased to meet you.
- BARNEY Likewise.
- MICHAEL Tell me are there many other candidates invited here tonight?
- BARNEY I wouldn't know. Everything has been organised in such a rush we don't know where we are!
- MICHAEL I've heard the Princess is woman of rare beauty.
- BARNEY Oh she is that. And a wonderfully warm personality, a dazzling smile, an infectious giggle and a stunning figure! Oh she could make the dullest man happy. I know she does me!
- MICHAEL But isn't Nanny Nora your intended?
- BARNEY That's right . shatter my dream!
- MICHAEL Oh sorry.
- BARNEY No, it's all right. The Princess must marry a suitable Prince as decreed by their Majesties. And, between you and me, you could stand a pretty good chance!
- MICHAEL Well thank you very much Barney. I hope you're right.
- [The LORD CHAMBERLAIN enters.]*
- BARNEY Oh Lord Chamberlain, this is Prince Michael another contender for the hand of the Princess.

L/CHAMBER Oh your Highness, I'm afraid you are too late. All the suitors have already been presented to their Majesties.

[At this point there is a light change and the FAIRY QUEEN enters and freezes the scene.]

F.Q. Now I really shouldn't do this, but the happiness of the Princess Aurora is very important to me. Prince Michael is a fine young man and I would be shirking in my duties as guardian to the Princess if I didn't at least allow them to meet! *[SHE waves her wand over the scene and exits. The others unfreeze.]*

BARNEY Go on Lord Chamberlain. Can't you slip another one in?

L/CHAMBER Oh I don't know. It's very irregular. If you would care to wait here I'll see what I can do. *[HE exits.]*

BARNEY I'll see you later. Good luck.

MICHAEL Thank you. *[BARNEY exits.]* What did Barney say? A warm personality, a dazzling smile and an infectious giggle. Oh Aurora you don't know how I've longed for someone like you to come into my life.

MUSIC . SONG (MICHAEL)

[At the end of the number HE exits as the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 4 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM
(See Production notes.)

[The scene is as before but the thrones have been replaced with a long table and three chairs. Set on the table are three buzzers and on the front are three lights that when lit show an X.]

L/CHAMBER *[Like a TV announcer.]* And now, the moment you've all been waiting for. We are proud to present the ever popular . How Do You Solve a Problem like The Palace Strictly Has Talent Idol, Not Just Any Prince Will Do! Please welcome tonight's judges King Septimus the Seventeenth, Queen Sybil the Sixth, and their lovely daughter, whose fate is to be determined tonight, Princess Aurora. *[Fanfare. The KING, QUEEN, and AURORA enter SR and walk to behind their table with 3 buttons USR. The CHORUS all move USL to form a crowd/audience on stage, watching the show]* And here are your co-host . Barney Ant and Nanny Dec! *[Or another pair of TV hosts.]*

[BARNEY and NANNY enter SL, crossing to centre stage.]

NANNY Oh, Thank you all for that warm hand on my entrance! *[BARNEY looks at her.]*

BARNEY *[Hurrying on.]* Yes, well, ò hello everyone. And what a great show we've got lined up for you tonight. So without further delay let's meet

the contestants who aim to prove once and for all that the palace strictly has got talentō ò ermm, idol. Indeed!

NANNY Our first contestant is Prince Boris.

[BORIS enters SL, carrying a trombone. HE has a strong German accent, wears lederhosen, a monocle and has a long Bavarian moustache. NANNY is looking at BARNEY as BORIS crosses and the trombone hits her on the backside.]

NANNY Oh, three pints please!

[BORIS turns to the KING and QUEEN and bows.]

BORIS *[Standing and clicking his heels.]* I am Boris and I am coming from Bavaria!

AURORA *[Sarcastically.]* Great. Nice lederhosen.

QUEEN Ah, Prince Boris. Weqe delighted you could make it.

BORIS *[Crossing up to her.]* Jar! Of course you are my little apple strudel!

KING I say, steady on old chap!

BARNEY And what do you do in Bavaria, Boris?

BORIS I am Prince! But when Iqñ not doing official duties I like to slap my thighs and blow my horn. Oom par, oom par!

BARNEY Stick it up your jumper.

NANNY And what is your act?

BORIS I shall play a traditional Bavarian lullaby on my trusty flugelhorn.

NANNY And what an impressive instrument it is! Off you go then.

[NANNY and BARNEY step back to allow BORIS to perform. HE does so emitting a cacophonous dirge as he stomps around the stage – CHORUS respond with horror- Judges QUEEN and AURORA press their Xs almost immediately but the KING seems to be quite enjoying it, so then AURORA reaches over and presses his button for him]

BARNEY *[BARNEY and NANNY step forward again]* Well that was certainly unusual. Thank you very much for that Prince Boris.

[BORIS walks USL and joins the crowd.]

NANNY Our next contestant is Prince Lionel.

[LIONEL enters SL. HE has a very British accent and carries an umbrella, which is up, and wears a bowler hat. HE crosses to centre stage and bows at the judges.]

- BARNEY Welcome Prince Lionel, where are you from?
- LIONEL I'm from Londinium, old bean, Jolly nice to meet you! Oh I say, it's finally stopped raining! *[Puts umbrella down.]* Been an absolutely beastly journey.
- QUEEN I'm sure you'd find our weather quite perfect all year round.
- LIONEL Splendid. Perhaps we can have a game of croquet and a spot of tea on the lawn, what?
- QUEEN What?
- KING What?
- AURORA Whatever!
- LIONEL Could really go for a spot of Earl Grey. I'm absolutely parched!
- BARNEY Nice to meet you, Lionel. Tell us about yourself.
- LIONEL There's not much to tell really. I get up in the morning and have a spot of tea, read the papers and have another cuppa. Then it's lunch, washed down with a cup of tea, followed by an afternoon at the races. Then it's home for dinner and.
- BARNEY A cup of tea?
- LIONEL Got it in one old boy. However did you guess?
- BARNEY Well you see I have second sight! I'm a medium you know!
- NANNY Yeah. It says so in the back of his underpants!
- BARNEY Dare I ask what you are going to do for us tonight?
- LIONEL Well if that's all right with you I'd like to sing a little aria.
- NANNY A what?
- LIONEL An aria.
- NANNY *[Looking at BARNEY.]* Can't wait. *[To LIONEL.]* Aria away then.
- [LIONEL performs. He sings very badly (The nursery rhyme 'I'm a little teapot' could be used) and all the buzzers go off. NANNY and BARNEY come forward again.]*
- NANNY Yes, thank you Prince Lionel, that'd do. *[LIONEL sulks back to the corner USL]* And next we have our third contestant, Prince Andy.
- [ANDY enters SL. HE wears and Australian hat complete with corks and joins NANNY and BARNEY CS]*
- BARNEY Thanks for joining us. And where have you come from today?

- ANDY Good day to you! I am Prince Andy of the Antipodes.
- KING Er - good day! And welcome to the court.
- ANDY *[To the KING.]* Nice to be here me old cobber! I say, is that little cracker the misses?
- KING Erm, yes, This is my wife, Queen Sybil.
- ANDY Strewth! A right cracking Sheila she is too you! I'll tell you what, Princess, if this is what you'll end up looking like once you've thickened out a bit you'll do me just fine!
- QUEEN/
AURORA *[Horried.]* Really!
- BARNEY Tell me, Andy, are you a celebrity where you come from?
- ANDY I am very well known in the Antipodes
- NANNY The where?
- BARNEY He says he is very big down under! *[NANNY nearly faints. BARNEY ignores her.]* And what are you going to do for us tonight?
- ANDY Tonight Barney, me old mucker, I am going to recite some poetry I have written.
- [NANNY and BARNEY step back to allow ANDY to perform.]*
- QUEEN Marvellous. Some real culture at last!
- ANDY Young Bruce, one day, said to his mum
I fancy some curry and rum!
After plate number two
He ran off to the loo
With a terrible pain in his o . *[All judges buzz their buzzers cutting off his last word.]* Tum! I was gonna say tum! *[ANDY looks surprised and joins BORIS and LIONEL.]*
- QUEEN *[Shaking her head.]* Oh!! Lord Chamberlain, this audience is at an end!
- KING Well frankly, I think I speak for us all when I say its going to be very hard to choose a winner. *[Mumbles of agreement.]*
- BARNEY But choose one you must. *[KING and QUEEN confer. AURORA ignores them.]*
- KING After much deliberation the winner is o o
- [The FAIRY QUEEN enters and freezes the scene.]*
- F.Q I see I shall have to take charge of this situation before a grave mistake is made. *[SHE unfreezes the scene as MICHAEL enters.]*

BARNEY Oh, a last minute contestant. Your Majesties, Prince Michael of Murania.

MICHAEL *[Staring at AURORA.]* No music, no poem, no song can describe her beauty.

[King presses his buzzer. Queen hits him]

KING *[Apologetically]* Sorry, õ I thought heø finished.

MICHAEL But if you permit me, I would like to try.

SONG - MICHAEL

[HE starts the song. Part way through the song NANNY dabs her eyes and speaks.]

NANNY Well, I think weøe got a winner!

QUEEN Oh, Iø quite overcome! I need a G and T!

KING Make mine a double. *[THEY exit with the LORD CHAMBERLAIN. The FAIRY QUEEN smiles and exits.]*

AURORA Oh Nanny! *[AURORA and MICHAEL stare at each other.]*

NANNY Happy dear?

AURORA Ecstatic!

MICHAEL I was told of your beauty, but all øe heard does not do you justice.

AURORA *[Turning away with a smile.]* Sir, you embarrass me.

MICHAEL Forgive me, my only wish is to be with you for the rest of your life . if youø let me.

[NANNY indicates to the others that the couple should be left alone. ALL exit leaving MICHAEL and AURORA to sing the duet. At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to...]

SCENE 5 CARABOSSES LAIR

[An area down stage left with a table containing bottles of potions, a bowl for mixing magic spells and a large book of spells. To one side is a spinning wheel covered with a large cloth. When the scene opens the RAVEN appears in the turret. It squawks loudly. CARABOSSE is heard off.]

CARABOSSE Coming my precious. *[CARABOSSE enters.]* You have news of what is happening at the Palace? *[RAVEN squawks, flapping its wings.]* I see! Suitors for the hand of that wretched Princess! Little do they know that whoever the lucky Prince is he'll never get to see his bride alive. She will be dead before the sunsets tonight and my prophecy shall be fulfilled. *[RAVEN squawks.]* Yes, I know the King had all the spinning wheels destroyed - but not this one. *[Pulls the cover off the spinning wheel.]* See how shiny and new it is. I've been keeping it safely hidden for eighteen years ready to spin its yarn and bring about the downfall of the Palace. *[RAVEN squawks.]* All that remains is for me to add the poison to the gleaming needle so when the Princess spins she will prick her finger and die. *[SHE laughs loudly.]* She has never seen a spinning wheel, so will not know what it is. And now to prepare the potion. *[SHE goes behind the table and opens the book of spells.]* Now let me see. Which one shall I use? *[Turns the pages.]* Ah yes. Here we are. The sleeping death. Nothing can wake her from an eternal sleep. She'll lay there forever more as a reminder to all of how I was wronged by the King and Queen. *[The RAVEN squawks. SHE starts to put the various ingredients into the mixing bowl.]*

MUSIC - INCANTATION

A pinch of deadly nightshade
The gnawing teeth of rats.
An ounce or two of dock weed
And add the wings of bats.
A scorpions sting, a viper fang
Of Dragons eyes I'll add two!
Now mix with claw of wolfhound
Into a poisonous brew!

[SHE picks up an object that resembles a claw and mixes the ingredients in the bowl.]

Perfect! Just the thing to send someone into a slumber from which they will never wake! *[SHE crosses with the bowl to the wheel and using the claw smears the needle with the potion.]* There. All done. *[To the RAVEN.]* I'll disguise myself as one of the villagers and say I've brought a present for Her Highness from her loyal subjects! She'll be so fascinated by it she'll have to try it and then one prick of her finger and - *[Through clenched teeth.]* - goodbye sweet Aurora! *[SHE covers the spinning wheel and prepares to leave.]* Come my precious pet, to the Palace without delay! *[SHE exits with the spinning wheel and the RAVEN disappears as the lights fade and the scene changes to*

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SCENE 6 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM

[As Scene 2. All the COURT is on stage plus NANNY and the three PRINCES. The LORD CHAMBERLAIN bangs his staff of office for silence.]

L/CHAMBER Their Majesties King Septimus the Seventeenth and Queen Sybil the Sixth.

MUSIC - FANFARE

[ALL bow and curtsey as the KING and QUEEN enter and cross to the thrones.]

QUEEN A decision has been made as to who has won the hand of our fair daughter Aurora. *[The three PRINCES step forward.]* Septimus.

KING *[Rising.]* Yes my love. *[To ALL.]* I have great pleasure in . who was he again?

[AURORA enters.]

AURORA Father. The man to whom I have given my heart is here. *[MICHAEL enters and AURORA takes his hand. A buzz around the court.]*

QUEEN Before we finally give our consent, I think we should know a little more about you.

MICHAEL My land is far from here, but we are a prosperous nation rich in silver and diamond mines.

KING Things are looking better already.

QUEEN Shh! *[To MICHAEL.]* What of your pedigree?

KING Mine's a pint!

QUEEN Be quiet!

MICHAEL My father has ruled over a peaceful land for the last thirty years. I, as his only son, will succeed him.

KING Capital!

MICHAEL Your Majesties, I came here because I had heard the stories people tell of your daughter and how kind, gentle and beautiful she is. Now I have met her I know those stories don't do her justice. I fell in love with her the moment our eyes met and I know there can be no one else in the world for me.

QUEEN Well .

AURORA Oh please say you'll give us your blessing. *[The KING and QUEEN look at each other, then at the other PRINCES and smile.]*

- QUEEN I think it would be an excellent match. *[A big cheer goes up except from the three PRINCES who cross to one side of the stage.]*
- BORIS This is an outrage. No one is ever snubbing our noble family like this. We have ways of making our displeasure known.
- LIONEL I think it's a bit of a rum go, coming all this way and going home empty handed. It's just not cricket. Heaven knows what mummy will say.
- ANDY All this effort Home and Away. Well I don't give a four X for this carry on! I don't know what the Neighbours'll make of it! *[ALL THREE exit.]*
- NANNY *[Crossing to AURORA.]* Congratulations my precious. I know you'll both be very happy.
- AURORA Thank you Nanny.
- KING Well now that's all settled why don't we get on with the party? *[Crossing to the button.]* Is this when they keep the drinks? *[HE goes to push the button. BARNEY runs on.]*
- BARNEY Naughty, naughty Kingy!
- KING I only wanted a small G & T!
- L/CHAMBER Your Majesties. My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen. In honour of this special occasion supper is being served in the Emerald Room. *[ALL exit except KING and QUEEN.]*
- KING All very satisfactory, isn't it my dear?
- QUEEN Yes. Oh all this talk of weddings reminds me of our big day.
- KING I say, steady on old girl!
- QUEEN Oh I know I'm no longer the youngest pea in the pod.
- KING *[Aside.]* More like an old string bean!
- QUEEN What?
- KING Ah but Sybil, you know that õ õ
[HE goes straight into the song.]
- DUET . KING AND QUEEN
[At the end of the number they exit as NANNY and BARNEY enter.]
- NANNY *[Wiping away a tear.]* Oh Barney, isn't it romantic? My little Princess is going to be married to that handsome Prince Michael. You know I feel as though I could walk down the aisle again.
- BARNEY Well it will be pretty lonely all by yourself.

NANNY Oh how could you? Keeping a girl dangling on a string all this time. Why don't you name the day?

BARNEY July the fifteenth.

NANNY Why July fifteenth?

BARNEY That was the first time I was kissed.

NANNY I don't remember.

BARNEY You weren't there!

NANNY Oh! How can you play with someone's emotions?

BARNEY Look, I'm not ready to settle down.

NANNY But we've been going around together for ten years.

BARNEY Well we don't want to rush things, do we?

NANNY You know there may come a day when someone will challenge you for my affections.

BARNEY I'd give in gracefully!

NANNY One day some big gorgeous hunk will turn to me and say . *[PRINCE ANDY enters.]*

ANDY Good day there darling! Which way to the bar?

NANNY *[Preening.]* Oh if it isn't Crocodile Dundee! This way handsome. *[SHE exits with ANDY. HE pinches her bottom as they go.]*

BARNEY Would you look at that. What a flighty piece! Well I might as well take advantage and make my escape. *[HE turns to go as CARABOSSE enters left wearing a disguise. SHE pushes on the spinning wheel still covered.]*

CARABOSSE *[In an old woman's voice.]* Hello there young man.

BARNEY *[Startled.]* Oh! Who are you?

CARABOSSE Just one of their Majesties loyal subjects from the village. I've brought a birthday present for the lovely Princess Aurora.

BARNEY That's very kind. If you leave it there I'd see that she gets it.

CARABOSSE Oh no! I must give it to her personally. It's a very delicate and unusual present and I must show her how to use it.

BARNEY Well I'd see if their Majesties can receive you.

CARABOSSE Oh no, just the Princess. We don't want to disturb the others, do we? Besides, when I've shown her how to use it she can delight the rest of the court with it.

BARNEY Whatever can it be?

CARABOSSE Patience young man. You'll have to wait until you've shown it.

BARNEY Very well. You wait here and I'll see if the Princess will see you. *[HE exits right. The RAVEN appears in the turret and squawks.]*

CARABOSSE What's that my pretty? The Princess is alone on the terrace? Good, then no one will know when she comes here. *[SHE gets more and more excited.]* She'll be so fascinated with the wheel she'll not notice how close the needle is. Her hand will move closer and closer and then .

[AURORA enters.]

AURORA Hello. I was told you had something for me.

CARABOSSE *[Bowing low.]* Ah, your Highness. Thank you for seeing me. I bring you a birthday gift from the people of the town.

AURORA Oh how kind.

CARABOSSE Your loyal subjects wish you all the happiness in the world and hope you'll treasure this present for years to come.

AURORA But what is it.

CARABOSSE It's a wondrous machine for creating golden thread to be made into beautiful gowns fit for a Princess.

AURORA *[Thrilled.]* And what is this wondrous machine called?

CARABOSSE *[Taking of the cover with a flourish.]* A spinning wheel!

MUSIC - SPINNING WHEEL UNDERSCORE

AURORA Spinning wheel? I've never heard of that before.

CARABOSSE It's newly arrived from a distant land. Yours will be the only one in the whole of the Kingdom.

AURORA *[Mesmerised by the spinning wheel.]* This is a wonderful gift. May I try it?

CARABOSSE Of course your Highness. Just start the wheel and let the thread run through your fingers. *[AURORA starts to operate the wheel.]* That's it. Slowly at first and keep the thread close to the needle. That bright, shiny needle! *[AURORA works the wheel. NANNY enters and calls her.]*

NANNY Aurora, Barney told us you've got another present.

- AURORA It's a spinning . *[SHE pricks her finger.]* Oh! I've pricked my finger. It's only a scratch. I . I *[SHE begins to faint. Music stops. NANNY runs to her.]*
- NANNY A spinning wheel! Oh no!! Aurora are you all right? *[The rest of the COURT including KING, QUEEN and BARNEY start to enter. Thunder crashes out as CARABOSSE throws off her disguise. Some of the COURT help AURORA to the steps of the thrones.]*
- CARABOSSE No she's far from all right. In fact she's near to death!
- QUEEN Carabosse!
- CARABOSSE Yes, Carabosse who you tried to banish and ignore. Well I told you eighteen years ago that I would get my revenge and get it I have. Your precious daughter will soon fall into a sleeping death from which she'll never awaken. A constant reminder of how you treated the great Carabosse. *[SHE roars with laughter and exits. The RAVEN squawks and disappears.]*
- QUEEN Oh what's to be done? What's to be done?
- KING Our guardian the Fairy Queen. She must be able to do something.
- QUEEN Yes the Fairy Queen. Summon the Fairy Queen.
- L/CHAMBER *[Calling off.]* Summon the Fairy Queen.
[The FAIRY QUEEN enters down right.]
- F.Q I heard your call your Majesty. What has happened?
- KING Carabosse was here. She's done something to Aurora.
- F.Q *[Seeing the spinning wheel.]* The spinning wheel. She must have pricked her finger just like the prophecy.
- BARNEY But what can be done? That dreaded creature said she was going to die.
- QUEEN Oh please do something to help our daughter.
- F.Q Carabosses' magic is all-powerful. I cannot change that. But I can add some magic of my own. *[SHE waves her wand over AURORA.]*
Not in death but just in sleep
The fateful prophecy you'll keep.
And from this slumber you'll awake
When true loves kiss the spell shall break.
- KING But how long will that be?
- F.Q To counteract Carabosses' magic she must sleep for one hundred years.
- QUEEN But we'll all be dead and gone by then!

F.Q No your Majesty for I shall make the whole court sleep. You will all awake when the spell is broken.

NANNY I shall be a hundred and thirty! *[To FAIRY QUEEN.]* Can you magic away any ageing lines?

BARNEY Give over. Her magic's not that powerful!

MUSIC - END OF ACT ONE AND BALLE

F.Q Now all prepare and while you sleep
A watchful eye on you I'll keep.
Sisters come and help me make
The Palace safe and all awake.

[The THREE FAIRIES enter. The whole court starts to fall asleep.]

Around the walls great vines will rise
Climbing high towards the skies.
An enchanted forest with brackens coarse
Will hold back any evil force.

*[The FAIRIES work their magic and bracken starts to appear.
MICHAEL enters.]*

MICHAEL What's happening?

F.Q Prince Michael, a terrible spell has cast on your beloved Aurora. You are the only one who can break it, but not before the passing of one hundred years.

MICHAEL A hundred years? How can I possibly help?

F.Q I will take you to a land where time means nothing. It will seem like but a day until you return to rescue your Princess.

MICHAEL I'll do anything. *[Looking across at AURORA and the sleeping court as the forest begins to enclose the scene.]* Anything!

F.Q Then come with me and I'll equip you with all you need to rescue the Princess.

MICHAEL Fear not Aurora. I promise I'll not fail you.

[HE is led away by the FAIRY QUEEN. The BALLE starts which shows the Palace being enclosed in the Enchanted Forest. Tangled vines fall from the flies as the DANCERS including the THREE FAIRIES weave their spell. The BALLE comes to a climactic end as the entire Palace is covered and the curtain falls.]

End of Act One

ACT TWO
SCENE 1 THE ENCHANTED FOREST

[The scene is the same as the end of Act One but now one hundred years later. The stage is covered in twisted bracken.]

MUSIC - INTRODUCTION TO ACT 2

[The FAIRY QUEEN enters down right followed by MICHAEL.]

F.Q So Prince Michael, although you have only spent a day in my domain one hundred years have passed down here. Are you now ready to face the Enchanted Forest?

MICHAEL I am your Majesty.

F.Q Then take this sword. *[The FAIRIES bring on a gleaming sword.]* It has magic powers to help protect you from harm. *[The RAVEN appears and squawks. CARABOSSE enters down left.]*

CARABOSSE What is this? Prince Michael alive after all these years? *[To the FAIRY QUEEN.]* This is your meddling.

F.Q He is my champion. Did you think by trying to poison the Princess with your evil spells that you would ever triumph over goodness?

CARABOSSE I saw how you created this forest around the Palace. Well let me tell you if anyone tries to penetrate the tangled brambles they will encounter my dark forces. No one will ever get to the Princess and wake her from the sleeping death!

F.Q Don't be too sure Carabosse.

CARABOSSE Oh I am sure. I warn you Prince Michael, you enter that forest at your peril!

MICHAEL *[Making a move towards CARABOSSE, his sword raised.]* Why you .

CARABOSSE *[Making a magic pass that stops MICHAEL.]* Ha! You puny Prince! You can't harm me. I'm Carabosse. I'm invincible! *[Thunder rolls. With a screaming laugh CARABOSSE exits. The RAVEN disappears.]*

MICHAEL Invincible? How am I ever going to defeat her?

F.Q Don't worry. Carabosse says she is invincible, but there is one thing she is vulnerable to.

MICHAEL What is that?

F.Q All in good time. First you must free the Princess.

MUSIC - THE ENCHANTED FOREST

[MICHAEL starts to cut through the bracken. During his search for the Palace HE encounters all sorts of evil creatures summoned up by

CARABOSSE. HE fights and defeats them and then continues cutting down the brambles until finally the Palace, covered in cobwebs, is visible.]

SCENE 2 THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM

[The scene is as it was at the end of Act One. EVERYONE, now covered with cobwebs, is still asleep. MICHAEL crosses up to AURORA and kisses her. SHE wakes up.]

- AURORA Michael.
- MICHAEL Aurora. I'm so glad you're safe. *[The rest of the COURT starts to wake up.]*
- KING Oh, I was having a lovely dream. I was marooned on a desert island with - *[Name of sexy film star.]*
- QUEEN Septimus, time to get up!
- KING Oh well, all good things must come to an end.
- NANNY Just fancy, we had a hundred years beauty sleep. I feel I have the face of a sixteen year old.
- BARNEY Well give it back to her before you stretch it!
- AURORA Is that true? Have we really been asleep for a hundred years?
- MICHAEL Yes, but now there's nothing to fear any more. The curse that wicked Carabosse put upon you is broken.
- KING My boy you have really proved your worth and shown how much you care for Aurora.
- QUEEN I see no reason why you shouldn't be married as soon as possible. *[ALL cheer.]*
- NANNY Wait a minute. He hasn't proposed properly yet!
- MICHAEL Dearest Aurora. would you do me the great honour of becoming my wife?
- AURORA With all my heart. *[THEY embrace. ALL cheer.]*
- BARNEY That must have been the longest courtship in history.
- NANNY *[Looking at him with a sigh.]* Oh I don't know.
- QUEEN We must have a grand ball to celebrate the engagement. I'm sure we're all refreshed after our long sleep and raring to go. *[ALL agree]* Lord Chamberlain, will you make all the arrangements?
- L/CHAMBER At once your Majesty.

- QUEEN Now we must go and inspect the rest of the Palace. Make sure everything is how we left it. Come on everyone; start clearing up. *[SHE moves to the exit. The COURT starts to clean up the Throne Room.]*
- KING *[To MICHAEL and AURORA.]* I'm so pleased for you both.
- QUEEN Septimus. I'm leaving.
- KING *[Rolling his eyes.]* Coming Sybil. *[KING and QUEEN exit.]*
- MICHAEL Aurora I promise to never let you out of my sight again for as long as we live.
- AURORA I know I'll always be safe with you here.
- NANNY *[Crossing to AURORA.]* Oh my dear I couldn't be happier for you both.
- AURORA Thank you Nanny. You will be my Matron of Honour won't you?
- NANNY Oh I'd be honoured. *[SHE starts to cry.]* A wedding! Oh it will be so beautiful.
- BARNEY Oh blimey. She's going off again. Come on now everyone. You heard what the Queen said. Let's get everything cleaned up. And let's have some music to do it to.

MUSIC - COMPANY NUMBER

[THEY do a number that involves the cleaning up of the Palace. At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to

SCENE 3 THE PALACE GATES

[As the lights come up the LORD CHAMBERLAIN enters.]

- L/CHAMBER So much to do. The Queen is giving out orders left, right and centre. Everyone is run off their feet. *[HE sees the button.]* Hello, what's this for? *[HE moves towards it as the audience shouts and BARNEY runs on.]*
- BARNEY Thanks kids. *[To LORD CHAMBERLAIN.]* Oi. You. Don't mess with me button!!
- L/CHAMBER Ah, just the person. The Queen has a very important job for you
- BARNEY For very important jobs you've come to the right man.
- L/CHAMBER Her entire wardrobe collection is a hundred years old she has had the whole lot dry cleaned. You must go down to *[Local dry cleaners.]* and pick them up.
- BARNEY Why me?

- L/CHAMBER Because it has to be done straight away. Here are the tickets. *[HE gives BARNEY the ticket and exits.]*
- BARNEY Her entire wardrobe! I do need some help. *[NANNY is heard singing "I feel pretty" off stage.]* Ah, the very person. *[NANNY enters in another outrageous outfit.]* Nanny, you are just the person I have been looking for.
- NANNY Oh after all these years you are finally succumbed.
- BARNEY You know how you are always saying your taste in design and colour is second to none.
- NANNY *[Preening.]* Well I do pride myself in keeping abreast of the latest designs in haute couture, as you can see from this simple little outfit!
- BARNEY *[With a roll of his eyes.]* Yes!!
- NANNY So how can I help you?
- BARNEY Well, the Queen wardrobe .
- NANNY - she wants me to pick out a new one for her?
- BARNEY Not pick it out . pick it up! *[HE slaps the tickets in HER hand and exits. NANNY turns to the audience.]*
- NANNY Well I don't know. Since I woke up from that long sleep I have had so much work to do I am worn out! *[SHE gets sympathy from the audience.]* I am a lot more worn out than that! *[More "ahs".]* I have just been do a bit of shopping. Oh the price of things. How things have gone up. It was quite a shock. Do you know I was in . *[Local store.]* . and I bought a bottle of gin, a bottle of whiskey, a couple of bottles of brandy, a crate of cider and a packet of ginger biscuits. When I got to the checkout the man said ~~that~~ that will be seventy two pounds and sixty eight pence+. I said ~~how much?~~ how much?+He said ~~seventy two pounds and sixty eight pence+~~ seventy two pounds and sixty eight pence+. I said, ~~you can put those ginger biscuits back!~~ you can put those ginger biscuits back!+I was hoping to visit my sister Flo. She lives in . *[Name of local district.]* where she is known as the town's leisure centre! She is moved into a new house, but do you know the walls are that thin. The other day she was poking the fire and she knocked the woman next door off her chair! And she is a bit dim my sister. She is taking driving lessons. Twenty four times she has taken her test. The last time the examiner said to her, ~~what is~~ what is the most common sign you see in the countryside?+and she said, ~~pick your own strawberries!~~ pick your own strawberries!+Mind you she is quite talented. She is a trained dancer. She can tap dance with the right leg, ballet dance with the left leg and between the two she has made a very good living! Anyway I am better get on. See you all later. *[SHE exits and after a moment CARABOSSE enters down left and the RAVEN appears in the turret.]*
- CARABOSSE So my spell has been broken by that wretched Prince Michael and the Princess is destined to spend the rest of her life with him. That is what she thinks. I am not easily beaten and still intend to destroy any happiness this court may be enjoying! I have a plan to kidnap Aurora and take her to my home where I was banished to on the other side of

the Petrified Forest. With all the powers of evil at my disposal no one will ever get to her again. She will spend the rest of her days locked away from the world. *[SHE laughs and the RAVEN squawks.]* Yes my pet, you shall play a part in my plan. I want you to cause a diversion at the ball tonight and when the Princess is left alone I will carry her off before her knight in shining armour can come to her rescue. I'll teach them. They'll never get the better of me, Carabosse the invincible! *[SHE laughs again and exits. The RAVEN disappears.]*

MUSIC . PROCESSIONAL

[The COURT in all their finery are crossing from L – R on their way to the ball. As THEY exit the scene changes to.....

SCENE 4 THE PALACE BALLROOM

MUSIC - GRAND WALTZ

[As the scene opens a grand dance is in progress. EVERYONE is there except NANNY and BARNEY. During the dance the LORD CHAMBERLAIN, at the top of the stairs, announces guests arriving.]

- L/CHAMBER Lord and Lady Curtain and their daughter Annette. *[THEY enter and cross into the scene.]* The Duke and Duchess of Key and their son Don. *[THEY enter. Many more odd names are announced and people enter and join in the dance. At the end MICHAEL and AURORA are down centre as the KING and QUEEN approach.]*
- AURORA Oh mother this is a wonderful ball. Thank you so much for organising it so quickly.
- QUEEN Well we have to celebrate your betrothal with some Royal protocol and style. After a hundred years the entire Kingdom has almost forgotten we exist!
- MICHAEL Your Majesties have we your permission to be married as soon as possible?
- KING Of course my boy. No sense in waiting around. A hundred-year engagement is quite long enough!
- L/CHAMBER Your Majesties, my Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen. To add further to tonight's celebrations we have a special item. *[HE announces the comic act with NANNY and BARNEY. NB. If preferred a speciality act or dance could be substituted at this point.]*

MUSIC . COMIC ACT/SPECIALTY OR DANCE

[At the end of the number the RAVEN appears in the turret squawking loudly.]

- L/CHAMBER CarabossesqRaven! That must mean she's somewhere near.
- BARNEY Perhaps already in the Palace.
- NANNY Oh I think I'm having conniptions!
- KING Make mine a double!
- QUEEN Oh no! Now what is she trying to do?
- KING Search the Palace everyone. She must be found and apprehended.
[The COMPANY starts to exit in all directions. MICHAEL crosses to AURORA.]
- AURORA Oh Michael.
- MICHAEL Don't worry, I'm not going to leave your side.
- CARABOSSE *[Off stage with a disguised voice.]* This way! On the terrace. Oh! Help me!
- AURORA Quick Michael, help the poor woman.
- MICHAEL No. I'd not leave you.
- AURORA I'd be all right. I won't move from this room.

[MICHAEL looks at her then, drawing his sword, he exits. AURORA moves up stage towards the stairs as CARABOSSE appears behind her carrying a blanket.]
- CARABOSSE *[Still in the disguised voice.]* Help, oh please help! *[SHE quickly moves to AURORA putting the blanket over her. AURORA struggles and tries to scream out.]* It's no use struggling Princess; you're my prisoner now. *[SHE starts to drag AURORA to the exit.]* By the time they return from that futile search we'll be a long way from here. Say goodbye to your family and your Prince. You'll never see them again! *[SHE laughs loudly and exits with AURORA. The RAVEN squawks and disappears. MICHAEL enters.]*
- MICHAEL That's odd, there's no one. *[HE sees AURORA has gone.]* Aurora!
[HE runs up the staircase calling.] Aurora!! *[The rest of the COURT come running on.]*
- QUEEN What's happening?
- KING Has she been caught?
- MICHAEL *[Crossing to them.]* Aurora has disappeared. I'm sure Carabosse has something to do with it.
- NANNY Oh no! Our precious Princess has been kidnapped!
- QUEEN Call out the Guards.

KING Send for the Army.

BARNEY Inform the Old Bill!

NANNY Fetch me a brandy.

BARNEY That won't do any good.

NANNY Just keeping my spirits up.

[The FAIRY QUEEN enters.]

F.Q Carabosse has carried off the Princess to her lair on the other side of the Petrified Forest.

QUEEN But how did this happen?

F.Q I told you Carabosse has great powers from dealing in dark magic.

MICHAEL There must be a way to defeat her.

F.Q Only one. Because Carabosse is so full of hate her whole being has become consumed by evil. If evil catches sight of itself it is instantly destroyed.

QUEEN What does that mean?

F.Q Carabosse must never see her reflection.

MICHAEL Is that the only way to destroy her?

F.Q Yes.

BARNEY But if that's the case she'd never have any mirrors in the house.

F.Q No. But I have something better than a mirror. *[Other FAIRIES bring in a shiny shield.]* This shield fashioned from Fairy silver is polished so brightly that it reflects everything. But be warned. I have no power in Carabosse's domain. When you meet it will be a fight to the death. Prince Michael, are you prepared to take the challenge and rescue Aurora?

MICHAEL Without any doubt.

F.Q Then take this shield and together with your sword may you be ever victorious.

MUSIC - SONG (MICHAEL & COMPANY)

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to]

SCENE 5 THE PETRIFIED FOREST

[The scene is a front cloth. CARABOSSE is centre stage dragging AURORA, whose hands are now tied, by a length of rope.]

CARABOSSE Nearly there.

AURORA Let go of me. Help!

CARABOSSE You foolish girl. No one can hear you out here. Soon we will be at my domain and there you will languish in a cell for the rest of your life.

AURORA Michael!

CARABOSSE You'll never see him again. You'll never see anyone . ever! Except me!

AURORA *[Turning away.]* Ugh!

CARABOSSE Oh you'll get use to it. I did. After your mother and father banished me from the court I had to live for years without seeing a soul until I had perfected my black magic and could plan my revenge. Now you can see how it feels to have no one.

AURORA It was of your own doing. Why couldn't you have been good like our other Fairy guardians?

CARABOSSE Good? *[SHE starts to get carried away.]* They had no excitement. No ambition. Always putting me down when I wanted to try out new spells. Always doing things according to Fairy law. Well not me! I knew there were greater things for me. I wanted everything and now I've got it. *[During this AURORA has slowly tried to make her escape. CARABOSSE turns and sees her.]* No you don't my pretty. *[Pulling the rope tight.]* You'll not get away that easily. And as a punishment for trying to there will be no supper for you tonight. *[The RAVEN now appears in the turret and squawks.]* What's that my pet? Prince Michael and the others are mounting a rescue mission?

AURORA Michael! I knew he'd come after me.

CARABOSSE Well let us see how well they cope with the Beast of the Petrified Forest.

AURORA Beast? What beast?

CARABOSSE Just watch and I will summon it from its cave.
[SHE chants a spell.]
Oh mighty creature of this desolate place,
Rise from your cave and show your face.
Destroy all those who foolishly
Attempt to stop my victory.

[There is a crash of thunder and a flash of lightening. The BEAST OF THE FOREST enters right. AURORA screams.]

Now let us see if your precious Prince Michael is brave enough to take on my loyal ally.

[SHE exits left dragging AURORA. The RAVEN disappears as the BEAST looks around and sees the button. HE starts to cross to it with his paw stretched out ready to push it. Audience calls. BARNEY comes running down the aisle from the back of the auditorium.]

BARNEY I'm coming! *[The BEAST quickly exits as BARNEY runs towards the stage.]* Oh thanks kids. Who was trying to push the button? *[The audience tries to explain but BARNEY can see no one around.]* A big hairy beast? Oh come on now you're having me on! *[Ad lib with audience.]* This awful forest is playing tricks on you. I think you must be hallucinating. *[HE gets stuck on the word and tries again.]* Hallucinating. I think you must be seeing things! I came running when you called and now I've lost the others. Have you seen them?

[From another part of the auditorium MICHAEL, KING and QUEEN enter. THEY make their way to the stage.]

KING There's no sign of an end to this forest.

QUEEN Oh I'm quite worn out.

KING You should have stayed at the Palace my dear.

QUEEN And leave you to cope on your own? That would have been a big mistake!

MICHAEL I'm going to see what's up this way. Why don't you all stay here and rest a while.

KING Good idea.

QUEEN Yes, but Michael don't be too long. You never know what's lurking in this awful looking place.

[MICHAEL exits left.]

BARNEY Where's Nanny Nora?

QUEEN She was following us.

BARNEY Oh don't tell me she's got lost! *[HE calls.]* Nanny Nora! *[The OTHERS call and get the audience to join in. NANNY enters at the back of the auditorium and makes her way to the stage, chatting to the audience as she goes. SHE has a bag of sweets and gives some to the children.]* Do keep up or we'll never get to rescue Princess Aurora.

NANNY Where are we now? I've never been this far from the Palace before.

KING The Fairy Queen said we had to cross the Petrified Forest. I guess this is it.

BARNEY I don't know about *it* being petrified. I'm scared to death!

NANNY Don't worry. I'm here to protect you.

BARNEY I wonder why I find no comfort in that remark.

QUEEN You don't think there is anything nasty lurking around here, do you?

BARNEY Don't worry. My friends out there will tell us if anything creeps up on us . won't you? *[Audience reacts.]*

KING Michael went to look over there, so I suppose we ought to follow him.

[THEY start to move to the left as the BEAST OF THE FOREST enters right. Audience shouts out. ALL stop and ask the audience what the matter is. The next sequence is where ALL but NANNY are chased off. A short song or rhyme can be used if required. The BEAST crosses to stand beside NANNY. SHE turns to see it.]

NANNY Oh hello! *[The BEAST nods.]* I bet I know what you're after. *[BEAST nods and moves closer.]* Well if you play your cards right you might get it! *[SHE takes out the bag of sweets.]* You're after my last sweet, aren't you? *[BEAST nods and claps hand.]* Do you think I ought to give it to him boys and girls? *[Audience reaction. NANNY turns to the BEAST.]* Oh all right then. I'm feeling in a generous mood. *[SHE holds out the sweet and then drops it.]* Oh dear. Silly me. *[The BEAST bends down to pick it up and NANNY gives it a swift kick in the backside. The BEAST falls flat on its face and NANNY runs off with a wave at the audience. The lights fade and the scene changes to]*

SCENE 6 CARABOSSE'S COTTAGE

[A sparsely furnished cottage with just a table and chair. On the table is a book of spells. A large oak chest is up centre. In it are cut out bats on fishing line that will fly out and up later in the scene. A door to the outside is right and another door left. There is a hidden door somewhere on the down right area of the stage. This is operated by means of a scone mounted on the right wall. It can either revolve or slide open. As the scene opens there is a spooks dance possibly done in U.V. (This can take any form and is left up to the discretion of the director.)]

SPOOKS DANCE

[At the end of the dance CARABOSSE enters dragging AURORA.]

CARABOSSE Here we are. Make yourself at home.

AURORA Help! Somebody help me.

CARABOSSE Save your voice. There's no one for miles. I'll be back shortly, meanwhile behave yourself or I shall be forced to make your stay even more unpleasant.
[She cackles with laughter and exits locking the door.]

AURORA *[Looking around.]* Oh this is an awful place. I don't think I'll ever manage to escape from here. Oh Michael, if only you knew what had happened . where I was . I know you'd come to the rescue. But I don't think I'll ever see you again.

SONG (AURORA)

[At the end of the song SHE starts to cry softly. CARABOSSE enters left and the RAVEN appears.]

CARABOSSE What's this? Crying again? You'd have to smarten yourself up my girl. I need you to look presentable. A Wizard who I am acquainted with is seeking a wife and I think you'd do very well.

AURORA I'd marry no one but Michael.

CARABOSSE You can forget all about him. He'd never get to you here.

AURORA He'd find a way, I know he will.

CARABOSSE Only in your dreams, dearie! No, you'd marry the Wizard and in exchange he'd give me the secrets to even more powerful spells and I'd be able to get rid of that pathetic Fairy Queen and her sisters once and for all. But he won't give you a second glance if your face is tear stained and your hair looks like you've been dragged through a hedge backwards! Now get cleaned up.

AURORA No! *[CARABOSSE crosses to her and grabs her wrist, twisting it.]* Ow, you're hurting me.

CARABOSSE You'd do as I say or I'd bring you so much pain you'd wish you were dead! Now wipe your face and do something with your hair.

AURORA *[Still tearful.]* Where is a mirror?

CARABOSSE *[Suddenly very wary.]* A mirror? There's no mirror in this house.

AURORA But how can I see to do my hair?

CARABOSSE You'd have to do the best you can. *[Under her breath.]* I'd not have a mirror anywhere near me.

AURORA What was that?

CARABOSSE Nothing! You'd stay locked in this room. *[SHE pulls the sconce to open the door.]* Get in there and I'd inform your future husband his bride is here! *[SHE pushes AURORA off and then closes the door. SHE then speaks to the RAVEN.]* Fly out into the forest my pet and inform me if anyone is foolish enough to try and rescue the Princess. *[The RAVEN squawks and disappears.]* Soon I shall have more power than I ever imagined and be able to destroy anyone who stands in my way. *[SHE laughs and exits left, locking the door after her.]*

MUSIC - SPOOKY MUSIC

[After a few seconds the right door opens and MICHAEL, his sword drawn, slowly enters. Carrying his shield, HE moves into the room as through the door come the QUEEN, KING, BARNEY and lastly NANNY. They ALL move about in their own areas and finally walk backwards bumping into each other centre stage. They ALL scream and then "Shh" each other.]

- QUEEN This must be Carabossesqplace. It's the only house we've come across for miles.
- BARNEY It's certainly eerie enough.
- KING *[Finding the book of spells.]* Look, here is a book of spells.
- NANNY Oooh! Has it got one in that keeps you looking forever young?
- BARNEY It's a book of spells, not miracles!
- MICHAEL We must search everywhere for Aurora before Carabosse discovers we're here.
- QUEEN *[Shouting.]* Aurora!
- MICHAEL Shhh! Quietly. *[They ALL creep about looking under the table, down stage left etc.]*
- NANNY *[At the chest.]* I wonder what's in here. *[SHE opens it and the bats fly out. ALL scream and then "Shh" each other. Michael, putting away his sword and laying the shield on the table, tries the right door.]*
- MICHAEL This door is locked.
- QUEEN Can you see a key anywhere?
- MICHAEL No.
- KING *[Centre stage - calling.]* Aurora? Aurora, can you hear me?
- AURORA *[Off.]* Daddy!
- QUEEN It's her. She's here! She's alive! *[ALL call joyously to AURORA then "Shh" each other again.]*
- MICHAEL Aurora, where are you?
- AURORA I'm in here! *[ALL look around not seeing the secret door.]*
- NANNY What does she mean 'a here+?
- BARNEY That wicked Carabosse has buried her alive!
- NANNY Oh don't be ridiculous! Hey you don't think they might know where she is, do you? *[SHE points to the audience.]*

BARNEY Of course. *[To the audience.]* We need your help. Can you tell us where Princess Aurora is? *[They ALL come down stage listening to the audience shout out. BARNEY is standing by the hidden door. Ad. Lib. with the audience.]*

NANNY I can't understand a word they're saying! It's quite worn me out. *[SHE hangs onto the sconce that works the door and BARNEY disappears. The door closes.]*

MICHAEL Where did Barney go?

NANNY He was here a second ago. Oh no, don't say we've lost him as well! *[SHE calls.]* Barney! *[ALL call and then "Shh" each other.]*

KING *[Taking off his crown and rubbing his head.]* This is all too much. I'm getting a headache! *[HE hangs his crown on the sconce. The door opens and AURORA come out. The door closes]*

ALL Aurora!

AURORA Oh it's so good to see you all. *[ALL gather round. MICHAEL embraces her.]*

NANNY Oh I'm so overcome with emotion! Everyone, everyone . group hug! *[They ALL go into a big hug.]*

KING Come on let's get away from this awful place. *[THEY start to exit right when there is a faint knocking sound. ALL freeze.]*

QUEEN What was that?

MICHAEL Where is it coming from?

BARNEY *[Faintly.]* Help!

NANNY Barney?

KING Where is he?

BARNEY Help!!

QUEEN He's in there.

NANNY Barney! Speak to me.

MICHAEL How do we get him out?

KING I've no idea. *[HE takes his crown off the sconce that triggers the door and it opens. BARNEY comes rushing out straight into NANNY'S arms. SHE grabs him and holds him tight.]*

NANNY Oh Barney, I thought I'd lost you forever.

BARNEY No such luck!

MICHAEL Come on now, we must get away before we're discovered. *[They ALL start for the right door. The RAVEN appears in the turret and squawks loudly. CARABOSSE burst through the left door.]*

CARABOSSE What is this? Leaving so soon? And with something that belongs to me!

MICHAEL *[Pointing his sword at her.]* Out of our way Carabosse. You'd better not hurt the Princess again.

CARABOSSE Do you think you can frighten me with that puny sword? Nothing you do can penetrate my magic. *[SHE casts a spell and the sword flies out of MICHAEL'S hand.]* Now you will feel the full wrath of my anger. I'll inflict excruciating pain on your whole body. *[SHE makes a pass and MICHAEL falls to the floor in agony.]* Your blood will start to boil in your veins. Your heart will reach bursting point. *[MICHAEL is now rolling in great pain.]*

AURORA Stop it, stop it. I'd do anything, but please don't hurt him!

CARABOSSE How pathetic you sound pleading for his worthless life!

KING I swear by my crown that I'll bring you to justice for what you *is* doing!

CARABOSSE *[Looking away from MICHAEL.]* As I've told you before nothing you do will ever harm me. I am Carabosse. I am invincible!

NANNY *[Moving down to CARABOSSE and putting fists up like a boxer.]* Oh really, you big bully! I know one way to stop you.

CARABOSSE And what's that Nanny Know-it-all?

NANNY *[Calling to MICHAEL.]* Prince Michael. The shield.

[MICHAEL, who is on the floor by the table, grabs his shield and holds it up.]

CARABOSSE *[Still looking at NANNY.]* A shield. What good will a shield do? *[SHE turns around to face MICHAEL and sees her reflection in the shield.]* Ahhhhh! My reflection! I must never look at my reflection! *[MICHAEL advances on her hold the shield in front of him.]* Keep away!

MUSIC - THE DEATH OF CARABOSSE

MICHAEL Come face to face with all your evil Carabosse. *[CARABOSSE is driven back. The lighting goes wild, the RAVEN is heard squawking and special effects generate the disintegration of CARABOSSE. When the lights return, CARABOSSE and the RAVEN are nowhere to be seen. ALL cheer.]*

KING Well done my boy.

[The FAIRY QUEEN enters down right.]

- F.Q Finally Carabosse has been defeated and once more peace and harmony can return to the land.
- BARNEY How did you know about her reflection?
- F.Q We Fairies have a few tricks up our sleeves where trouncing evil is concerned.
- QUEEN We had better get back to the Palace right away.
- F.Q My sisters will help you safely on your way. *[The three FAIRIES enter.]*
You'll be home in no time.
- AURORA How can we ever thank you.
- F.Q No need my dear. Just hurry home, you've got a wedding to arrange.
- QUEEN Oh my goodness yes, there's so much to be done. *[SHE heads for the right door. The KING is looking at the book of spells.]* Come along everyone. *[SHE exits as BARNEY and NANNY start to follow.]*
- KING Do you know there is a spell here that takes away the power of speech!
- QUEEN *[Off.]* Septimus, I'm leaving. *[The KING picks up the book and looks at the FAIRY QUEEN who shakes her head.]*
- KING No. Better not. *[HE puts the book down and exits with the OTHERS leaving MICHAEL and AURORA who sing a short reprise of an earlier song.]*

MUSIC - REPRISE (MICHAEL & AURORA)

[At the end of the number the lights fade and the scene changes to]

SCENE 7 THE PALACE GATES

[The QUEEN, KING and NANNY enter.]

- QUEEN Ah, finally home! At least with the Fairy Queen's help the journey back was a lot quicker!
- KING Yes, and a lot smoother.
- NANNY It was quite a thrill flying over the hills and forests. I wonder if it'll ever catch on!
- QUEEN Where are Aurora and Michael?
- NANNY Oh they went First Class!

KING And what about Barney?
[BARNEY enters looking quite ill.]

NANNY I don't think flying agrees with him!

KING Don't worry old son, I've got just the %pick me up+for you.

QUEEN Septimus, I don't want you getting blotto before the wedding!

KING No dear.

QUEEN Septimus.

KING Yes dear?

QUEEN I'm leaving. *[SHE exits.]*

KING I think I'm going to have engraved on my tombstone, %Sybil, I've left+
[HE exits.]

BARNEY Well, I'd be off too.

NANNY Not so fast. I've got something I want you to help me with.

BARNEY *[Slightly wary.]* What's that?

NANNY It's something for the wedding.

BARNEY W-Who's wedding?

NANNY Auroras and Michael's of course. Who did you think I meant?

BARNEY *[Relieved.]* I . . . er, oh no one!

NANNY It's a little song I've written and I want you and all your friends out there to help sing it.

BARNEY *[To audience.]* Oh I think we can do that, can't we?

MUSIC - SONG SHEET

[At the end of the sequence the lights fade out and the scene changes to

SCENE 8 THE PALACE BALLROOMMUSIC - FINALE

[As the scene opens the whole COURT is assembled and the DANCERS are performing celebratory dance. The CHORUS and DANCERS take their bow and break to each side of the stage. The PRINCIPALS take their bows in the following order.]

THREE FAIRIES
LORD CHAMBERLAIN
FAIRY QUEEN
CARABOSSE
KING & QUEEN
BARNEY
NANNY

[After taking her bow, NANNY calls for three cheers and AURORA and MICHAEL enter and take their bow.]

AURORA & MICHAEL

L/CHAMBER Our adventure now has ended
And true love has won the day.

F.Q Auroras safely with her Prince
And that's how it will stay.

KING It took a hundred years or so
For her to find her man.

QUEEN I hope it's not a hundred more
Til I become a gran!

CARABOSSE To be the best at magic spells
Was always my intention.

NANNY But all your spells have come to naught,
So be off and draw your pension!

MICHAEL The dark days are behind us
And ahead our future lies .

AURORA There's nothing more to say except .

BARNEY Wait a minute! It's time for the big surprise!

[HE runs to the button and pushes it. Lights flash, fireworks burst, streamers and balloons fall out of the air, whistles and bells sound. A grand display in celebration of the happy ending.]

MUSIC - FINAL CHORUS

[ALL wave good night as the curtain falls.]