

NODA PANTOMIMES
PRESENT

Snow White

The story of a beautiful girl who couldn't resist a knock at the door

By

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Welcome to Robleo Productions!

This is the fourth pantomime written by us, Rob Fearn and Leo Appleton. Snow White is another great tale which we couldn't resist and although a pantomime, has given us opportunity to flesh out some of the bigger characters to add not only real drama but also a good deal of fun.

Again, it's been a pleasure to write this script, thinking up new jokes and occasionally re hashing old ones. All the characters are there and we even have the 'seven' as well, judiciously renamed to save any litigation. (*Sneezy apparently is the only name that can be legally used as it is not under copyright*).

We understand that sometimes words need to be changed or lines altered to meet new requirements or to shoehorn in the occasional topical joke or 'ad lib'. Please feel free. There are also some suggestions for where a song or chorus number could be slotted in. These are only suggestions. Music though should always be played to cover any scene changes.

In this panto we have also made use of glove puppets as the animals that interact with Snow White and although done simply can add another dimension to the performance which the kids (and adults) really enjoy.

Finally, as we write these pantos specifically for our local group, they are perfect for the smaller stage but equally with a bigger budget and cast think they would transfer to the larger theatres as well (well we would wouldn't we).

In any case, I hope you thoroughly enjoy it and, whatever you do, have fun!

Rob and Leo

PS: If you do perform one of our pantos and let us know when it's on we'd love to try and come and see it. You can message us via our Facebook site Robleo Productions. Cheers. L & R.

Other scripts

Cinderella
A Christmas Carol
Puss in Boots
Snow White
Jack and the Beanstalk
Robin Hood
Rumpelstiltskin
Aladdin
Sleeping Beauty

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Characters in order of appearance

Queen (F)

Small part. Only appears in the opening scene.

Billy (M)

Is kind of a narrator but provides a diversion with Cake Bandit. Has a lot to do.

Cake Bandit (F)

Works closely with Billy and although doesn't have a lot of lines is often on stage and has a lot of 'business'. She is loosely disguised a bit like Zorro but reveals she is actually a lovely girl called Poppy and Nurse Edith's niece in Act 2 Scene 9.

Lord Chamberlain (M)

A small male role and would or could double up with something else.

Belinda the Very Good Witch (F)

A small role but a nice cameo for a female which should / could double with something else.

Mirror (M / F)

A big part working closely with Stepmother. Comedy timing required and could be male or female. *To create the illusion of a mirror, a frame is placed around the head of the actor and in the frame are some LED lights which the actor controls. When Mirror speaks the lights are turned on and off as required.*

Chorus 1 (M / F)

Small part but big chorus presence. Often has a comedy line, so timing essential.

Chorus 2 (M / F)

As above

Nurse Edith (M / F)

Probably considered the 'Dame' role. Comedy timing essential.

Stepmother (F)

Big female role (*although we could see a decent male taking the part*). Needs to be able to put the character across, sing and has some comic lines.

Snow White (F)

Female role. A bit 'ditzzy' but lovely part to play. Works obviously with the 'dwarves' needs to be able to act and sing.

Gary (M / F)

Works closely with Larry and Barry and any of the three could be women if necessary. Is the bigger of the three parts and these are the huntsmen who take Snow White out into the forest to kill her. Probably needs to be able to sing and have good comic timing.

Larry (M / F)

As for Gary but smaller role.

Barry (M / F)

As for Gary but smaller role.

The following are the dwarves. They are on a lot and some have more to say than others. But all the others still need to be able to react to what is going on. They don't necessarily have to be small in size. Any of these could be men, women or children and a mixture would be nice.

Bossy

A larger role. He is always thinking about food and should be able to sing and needs comic timing.

Smiley

A bit dozy. Has spoonerisms as his 'thing'

Drowsy

Doesn't say much, if anything, but is a big part of the comic acting and timing and will need great facial expressions.

Grouchy

Probably the senior of the seven. Has a lot to say.

Smarty

A lot to say but again good interactions necessary, especially with Drowsy.

Sneezy

The only one allowed an original dwarf name. Sneezing is his thing – but only when there is danger.

Shy

Doesn't say much but if he does it is usually to the audience.

Man, Woman, Woman with baby

Small parts little to say but in some nice scenes and some comedy lines.

Prince (M / F)

Only appears towards the end of the panto so is not a big part but essential to the story and gets to sing and also gets the girl.

Entourage / chorus

Big part and definitely essential and should be used as much as possible.

Scenes

There are only a small number of scenes in this panto none of which need to be elaborate if the budget is limited. Below are some suggestions for the scenes.

- Stepmothers castle (*a full painted castle back drop with coats of arms hung up*). It is also lit to make it more atmospheric
- Stepmothers boudoir (*this can just be front of tabs if necessary or set within the Stepmothers castle*)
- Forest scene (*This can be a painted curtain or just some free standing trees / scenery. When this was first performed the forest trees were made of material attached to plastic mesh from a garden centre made up into a curtain and then hung on a curtain track which proved to be extremely effective*).
- Dwarves cottage (*Back cloth with prop table and chairs and day bed / chaise*)
- Princes Castle (*This can be the stepmother's castle re dressed with different coats of arms and with brighter lighting*).

PROPS**ACT One****Scene 1 – Full stage in Stepmother castle / Front of tabs / Full stage in Stepmothers castle.**

Spinning wheel

Cake

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Various boxes wrapped as presents
 Box of jewels
 Moses Basket
 Wand (for Belinda)

Scene 2 – In front of tabs / Full stage in Stepmothers castle

Two or three boxes of presents, wrapped
 Novelty hammer (optional)
 Big cake
 Stethoscope

Scene 3 – Full stage Stepmothers castle

Ye Olde Board game and dice
 Board pieces
 Bag of coins
 Glove puppet animals / puppet animals (Squirrels, rabbits, mice).

Scene 4 – In front of tabs

Cake on a paddle
 Cloth for over the mirror

Scene 5 – Forest scene

Posy of flowers / basket
 Axe (*not real preferably*)
 Potion container
 Sign – ‘no animals or Snow White were hurt in the making of this Panto’

Scene 6 - Full stage, Stepmothers castle

Box for ‘heart’
 Axe
 Four false beards

Scene 7 – Forest scene / Dwarves Cottage

Woodland puppets
 Table, chairs or benches
 Chaise or day bed
 Big hanky for Sneezy
 Seven clipboards

Scene 8 – Full stage, Stepmothers castle

Table
 Baking bowl
 Box for ingredients
 Apron
 Chef’s hat and whites
 Imitation flowers
 Pegs
 Small bottle of cola / fizzy drink
 Big fancy imitation sponge cake

ACT Two (Props continued)

Scene 1 – In front of tabs then Dwarves Cottage

Piece of paper – Billy
 Table, chairs or benches
 Seven paper lunch bags
 Brushes / mops / duster
 Teapot cups and saucers
 Bag for Stepmother

Scene 2 – Full stage Stepmothers castle

'Baby' in pink
 Hair comb

Scene 3 – Front of tabs / Forest scene / Dwarves Cottage

Fishing rod / cane with cake attached on the line
 Sheet for Snow White
 Mock pie
 Sign – 'it is morning'
 Various hats and coats for the dwarves
 Pinnie / duster for Snow White
 Cloak for Bossy
 Salesman disguise for Stepmother
 Box of cleaning products
 Bottles
 Hair comb
 Snow Whites cloak

Scene 4 – Front of tabs / Dwarves cottage

Tray of imitation cakes
 Disguise for Cake Bandit (*glasses and fake moustache*)
 Box of groceries
 Apple

Scene 5 – Front of tabs / full stage Stepmothers castle

Numerous imitation cakes

Scene 6 – Stepmothers boudoir / Dwarves cottage

Day bed or chaise surrounded by flowers (*false*)
 Crown for Prince
 False beards for Gary, Larry and Barry

Scene 7 - Stepmothers Boudoir

Invitation (*Nurse Edith*)

Scene 8 – The Princes Castle (*Stepmothers castle re lit and re dressed*)

A scroll for Billy
 Beards for Gary, Larry and Barry

Scene 9 – Front of tabs and song sheet

None

ACT ONE

Scene 1

(Full stage, Stepmother's castle. The scene opens onto a dimly lit stage just picking out the queen. She is sitting by herself at a spinning wheel. She is singing, perhaps a baby song).

Queen *(Suddenly).* Oww! *(She has pricked her finger. She speaks to the audience).* Well, under some circumstances I would be worried about doing that. But not today as this is not about Sleeping Beauty. So instead I'm going to make a wish.

(Magical music starts).

Grant me a girl with lips like rubies, and skin as white as snow

Then give her hair as black as coal and a tall handsome man for a beau

Make her sweet graceful and pure, and to be all that she can be

Let her grow up in a home full of love filling her with kindness for all to see

(She starts to sing again and as she finishes the lights go down, curtains come in).

(Front of tabs).

(The music continues as Billy stumbles onto stage as if shoved on. He tries to get off the stage (ad libs occur) but hands shove him back on. He starts to speak, looking a little unsure).

Billy Hello everyone. I'm Billy. *(Looking round).* I've no idea what I'm going to say to you. In fact, I'm making this up now. They gave me a script, but I can't remember all that drivel. *(Thinking).* What about hobbies? Do you have any hobbies *(Interplay with audience re hobbies).* Baking! That's what I like to do, bake cakes. I've been watching that Great British Bake Off on repeat. I can't bake them, but I am very good at eating them. In fact, I could eat one now. Has anyone here got a cake? No, now I feel sad. *(Ahhh hopefully. A cake appears on the side of the stage).* What's that? It's a cake!! *(Picks it up and smells it like it's the most wonderful thing ever).* Shall I eat it, shall I? It's not mine but it smells wonderful Mmmmm! *(Starts to walk as if in a dream and trips and cake drops on the floor).* *(Billy picks it up).* It's ruined! My lovely cake is full of fluff. *(Licks the cake).* Literally! *(Takes hair from mouth).* Yes, that's Fluffy the poodle from next door. Look, I really do love cake so, if you see one will you let me know? Shout 'Billy the cake' and I'll come running. Right shall we have a go? I'll walk off and you pretend you've seen a cake a give me a shout. *(A cake actually appears and the audience should shout. Billy runs on unaware that there really is a cake).* Well done! That's great, thanks. I'm bound to get my cake now. *(As he is doing this Cake Bandit walks past Billy and picks up the cake).*

Cake Bandit Ha ha Haaa! The Cake Bandit strikes again! (*Cake Bandit runs off*).

Billy Oh there really was a cake! Drat that Cake Bandit. Never mind. If you see another one you will give me a shout won't you and I'll try and eat it before that bandit nicks it? Well, I suppose we'd better get on with the story. Just remember, this story is not important. The most important thing is, if you see a cake give me a shout! I need to get to it before that sneaky Cake Bandit. Bye!

(*Billy exits*).

(*The curtains open onto a full stage which is well lit and the scene continues with the queen, Lord Chamberlain, Nurse Edith and all chorus on stage celebrating the birth. There is a Moses basket on stage next to Nurse Edith*).

(*Song*).

(*As the song ends presents start arriving for the princess Snow White who is on stage in the Moses basket being looked after by Edith. Music accompanies some more of the chorus as they bring in boxes of jewels etc. then hand them over to the Lord Chamberlain or the queen. Last but not least is the magic mirror brought in by Belinda the Very Good*).

Lord Chamberlain (*To the Queen*). Your Majesty, may I introduce Belinda the Very Good from the Land of Oz (*pause, look to audience*) 'tralia. (*Belinda curtseys to the queen. They could sing a song or there could be music*).

Belinda (*Talking in a fairy voice*). Dear people of the fair land of Molotovia. Today we all celebrate with you the birth of the beautiful princess Snow White and we bring you a most treasured gift. (*Indicates Mirror*).

(*All the chorus gather around Mirror that has been standing there to see what it is. Hushed voices are heard discussing it. They almost blot it out of sight. A voice with some attitude is then heard*).

Mirror Back off people nothing to see here! For crying out loud, I can't even breathe.

(*Chorus back off looking mystified at this thing, leaving Mirror polishing itself. Belinda moves forward for an aside with the audience*).

Belinda Frankly, we're pleased to be rid of it. It's most rude.

(*Queen comes forward to speak with Belinda*).

Queen Belinda it's magnificent. (*Looking at Mirror*). Er er what is it?

Mirror (*With disdain*). What is it, what is it? If you must know (*walking forward, talking to the whole stage*), I'm a mirror, but a special kind of mirror. I always tell the truth.

(Looks at people in the chorus). You, you're too fat, (sees someone else) you need glasses, (someone else again) and you, your hair, oh dear.

Belinda *(To audience). See what I mean. (Back to Mirror). Enough truth now Mirror. (Waves her wand and Mirror stops mid chat). And now I must leave. Until I see you all again*

(Starts to sing an appropriate fairy song as she exits).

(The entire chorus again crowd round Mirror daring each other to ask it a question).

Chorus 1 Go on you do it. *(Shoves Chorus 2 forward).*

Chorus 2 No you. *(Shoves Chorus 1 back).*

Chorus 1 *(Reluctantly). Alright I'll do it. (To Mirror). Will I ever meet my true love?*

Mirror *(Lights on). No! (Lights off).*

(Chorus 1 looks very despondent).

Chorus 2 *(To Mirror) Do you have to be mean?*

Mirror *(Lights on) Yes! (Lights off).*

Edith *(Looking at it in awe. She moves away from the baby to look at this mysterious thing and speaks as if to the ether). Grandad, are you there on the other side?*

Mirror *(Lights on). I'm a flamin' mirror not (famous medium) (lights off then lights on again as Edith is walking away). And I'm not a medium either. (Looks at Edith). And neither are you looking at your bum! (Lights off, Edith looks shocked).*

(Queen comes forward and speaks to the audience).

Queen This is so perfect, I feel as if nothing could ever go wrong.

(All chorus turn to audience knowingly and with menace, sing as one).

Chorus *Den de den den deeern!*

(Blackout, curtain).

(End of scene).

Scene 2

(In front of tabs).

Billy *(Gets shoved on, and he speaks to the wings).* Will you not do that! *(To audience).* I can't stop, we're running out of time and its only scene two. In case you fell asleep or the kid in front was eating his crisps too loudly, here's a summary. *(Billy can act out or interpret).*

***The old queen pricked her finger and gave birth to Snow White
Sadly though, the good queen died and so to make things right
Her dad the king getting lonely gives a wife another whirl
A new mother so he thought for his lovely baby girl
The new wife isn't quite as nice, she's evil proud and vain
But not as annoying as the magic mirror who really is a pain (pane).***

Anyone got a cake? No? Alright I'm off! *(Looks at someone in the audience).* Hold on are you the Cake Bandit? *(Pulls out mask and checks out the face).* No, no the Cake Bandit is actually quite good looking. See yer later.

(He exits).

(Full stage. Curtains open on all chorus who have been attending the wedding of the new queen and now stepmother of Snow White. There are still a couple of boxes of presents on stage. There can be a song for the chorus.)

(End song).

(Chorus 1 & 2 move forward)

Chorus 1 Wasn't it terrible about the old queen, such a shame going the way she did.

Chorus 2 You're making it sound like she's taken the tram to Fleetwood. *(Or another such place).* She's dead!

Chorus 1 Don't say that. I can't even bring myself to say the word.

Chorus 2 What Fleetwood? I know what you mean, Fleeetwoood ugh! It makes me shudder.

Chorus 1 No not Fleet..., I mean that word, dead, that's what I mean.

Chorus 2 You've just said it you barm pot. I don't know why I bother talking to you. *(Back on subject, a slight pause).* The old queen was so lovely and Snow White is just like her.

Chorus 1 And as for that new queen, well what can I say..... *(Stepmother has appeared and is listening in and starts to approach the two talking but is spotted by Chorus 1)*..... she's a lovely woman and so light on her feet!

Chorus 2 *(Spotting Stepmother)*. You're so right, she like an angel's breath!

(Stepmother gives them a haughty look and is preening herself on stage).

Chorus 1 *(Stage whisper to Chorus 2)*. After seven pints and curry!

Stepmother *(To the chorus in general)*. Thank you peasants for your presents but your presence is no longer required. *(She starts to wave them away laughing to herself for being so clever)*.

Chorus1 *(Picks up a present and is about to leave)*.

(The chorus hesitate to leave waiting to see the outcome of this).

Stepmother *(To Chorus 1)*. What are you doing?

Chorus 1 You said you didn't want my presents.

Stepmother No, I want your presents, but not your presence.

Chorus 1 I'm getting confused here, do you want my presents or not?

Stepmother Drop the box and leave. *(Waves a key)*. Or you're favourite to end up in my very new dungeon. *(Chorus 1 drops the box- perhaps the sound of something breaking - and exits.)*. That's right now all of you OUT! *(All the rest of the chorus exit. Stepmother laughs an evil laugh to herself)*.

Everything seems to be working out so well. I have married my king who is half way around the known world looking for my wedding gift, the poor fool. My subjects fear me and I'm still the most beautiful woman in the whole of the land *(oh no you're not moment)*. Oh yes I am and I'll prove it. Mirror!! Come here.

(Mirror enters).

Mirror *(Being obsequious)*. You bawled oh mighty queen.

Stepmother Oh shut up. I don't know what people see in you.

Mirror Well, that does depend who's looking.

Stepmother You know what I mean.

Mirror Yes, sadly I do. Now I'm here what do you want?

Stepmother Mirror, mirror on the wall, (*look to audience as Mirror is standing up*) figuratively speaking, who is the fairest of them all?

Mirror You do know that I am Snow White's mirror don't you?

Stepmother (*Menacingly*). I think on reflection that you now belong to me Mr Mirror or do you want (*stressing*) a smashing time with your beloved Snow White? (*Removes a hammer from dress. Can be a novelty hammer*).

Mirror (*Hastily changing mind. To audience*). Well, she's not going to like this.

Stepmother I'll ask you again Mirror, who is the fairest in this land?

Mirror (*Still to the audience*). Snow White's just come of age which means this old bird is coming second from a long way back. But I have to tell the truth. I always tell the truth. (*To Stepmother*). Your Highness you're (*to audience*) not (*back to Stepmother*) the most beautiful woman in the land.

Stepmother What was that Mirror? Did you whisper something? Say it again.

Mirror (*To audience*). Oh dear!

***If I said you were ugly I'd be lying to myself
But it seems your beauty has kept you off the shelf
Rarely does anything outshine the queen's fair face***

(*Stepmother seems to be enjoying this until...*).

Except in this instance where Snow White is more beautiful than you.

Stepmother How can you say that?

Mirror I can only apologise for the rhyme collapsing at the end there.

Stepmother No, not that, although it was pretty shabby. I mean the, Snow White is more beautiful than me, bit.

Mirror I'm sorry Your Highness. Don't feel bad, nothing could replace you.

Stepmother Why, thank you Mirror. (*Flattered for a moment*).

Mirror Don't thank me, I do mean 'nothing' could replace you.

Stepmother (*Loses her patience with Mirror*). Get out!

Mirror I see you want to be alone with your thoughts, or in your case, alone!

(*Mirror exits quickly as the stepmother threatens to throw the hammer*).

Stepmother *(To audience)*. I shall not cry, it ages you, or so they say. I can't believe it. Up until two days ago I was the fairest in the land but now it seems that spotty oike, or as you know her, Snow White, has bloomed into a beautiful young woman. Do you think I should get some work done? *(Pulling her face around)*. What shall I get done first? *(Perhaps a few responses from audience)*. No, no, the only thing I need done is Snow White. Ha Ha haaaaa!

(Lights fade to black out as the curtains close).

(Lights up. In front of tabs a big cake appears. Audience should react, Billy the cake etc. Billy runs on).

Billy *(Not seeing the big cake)* Have you seen one where is it? What does it look like? *(Audience should respond. As Billy is walking around the stage he steps on it).*

Billy *(Being very sad, he picks it up)*. Oh deary me another lovely delight gone to cakey heaven! Not even snaffled by the thieving Cake Bandit. Somebody ring Mary Berry *(or other topical baker)* I have a casualty for her. *(Gets a stethoscope out as if listening to its heart beat)*. No, it's at peace now or at least in pieces. *(Billy exits full of pathos, music should reflect this)*.

(Blackout).

(End scene).

Scene 3

(Optional: A song and dance for the chorus could set here to open the scene full stage / palace and as they exit they could set the table / chairs and board game for Nurse Edith and Snow White).

(Nurse Edith and Snow White are in the palace. They are playing a board game, an old fashioned version of Monopoly. There are two chairs and a little table set down stage left).

Edith *(She rolls the dice)*. Thank goodness a double dragon. Here's two hundred gold pieces that should get me out of the dungeon. *(Hands over a bag of coins)*. Now to build a hamlet on Pigswill Place! *(She rubs her hands in glee at the thought)*.

Snow White Nurse Edith, you take this game far too seriously and I just get upset at the thought of those poor people being displaced from their homes

Edith First of all, I've told you before I know it's just a game and secondly you say I take it too seriously?

Snow White I'm sorry you're right. Maybe it's just being cooped up day after day in the palace. If only Stepmother would let me go out and play with the bluebirds and

squirrels and dance with the rabbits in the meadow. They all seem to understand me you know and they're ever so helpful with the tidying up.

Edith *(To the audience)* Lovely, but none too bright. I haven't the heart to tell her that it's me that puts her washing away at night. Yes, we did have squirrels, rats and mice, until I called Rentokil because those vermin don't have funny little hats and jumpers, they tear everything to pieces and they stink like old mops.

Snow White *(Still in a day dream)*. Who are you talking to?

Edith Just some squirrels.

Snow White Where are they? *(Looking for them)*.

Edith They've gone now. *(To audience, a slight pause)*. To their furry little graves!

Snow White *(Thinking)*. Nurse Edith now I'm eighteen, do you think my lovely new stepmother would allow me to go out more, see the country and meet my people?

Edith Well, a lovely stepmother might, but this one I'm not so sure.

Snow White Don't be like that, you know she's very fond of me.

Edith She's very fond of jelly babies, some would say she loves jelly babies, but she still bites their heads off!

Snow White What are you trying to say? I'm not following you?

Edith What I'm trying to say is Oh I give up.

(Possible song from Edith).

(As the song ends Snow White just shakes her head at Nurse Edith as if she is just being silly and carries on with the game. Either way Edith speaks to the audience. Snow White is oblivious).

Edith Don't get me wrong, I love Snow White to bits but she just thinks the best of everybody and I'm afraid that new mother of hers is up to no good.

Snow White *(Still playing the game)*. Nurse Edith, You've landed on Camelot Castle incurring Lancelot's wrath and you have to pay two hundred shillings and a herd of sheep but I'll let you off with five shillings.

Edith *(To audience. Snow White carries on playing the game)*. See, I told you she was sweet, she always lets me win. *(Big stretch and yawn)*. Anyway it's getting way past my bedtime and I need my eight hours beauty sleep. *(Points to a man in audience)*. Looks like you've just had six. *(Stressing)*. I said six! Time for bed, tarrah!

(She goes to exit).

Snow White (*Shouting to Edith as she goes off stage*). Night night nurse, don't let the bed bugs bite.

Edith (*Pokes head back onto stage*). It's not the bed bugs I'm bothered about, it's those flippin' squirrels!

Snow White (*Starts to tidy away the game*). Where are those squirrels when you need them? (*Squirrel appears – member of chorus, dressed in black with a glove puppet on*). There you are. Are you going to help me tidy up? (*Puppet nods his head yes to Snow White then turns and shakes his head, no, to the audience*). (*Other chorus members appear with an assortment of glove puppet animals on. They should also be dressed in black. The music strikes up and she can sing an appropriate song whilst ad libbing to the hand puppets*).

(*End of song*).

(*Blackout, curtains*).

(*End scene*).

Scene 4

(*In front of tabs. A cake appears and the audience should shout 'Billy the cake' and Billy runs on but by the time he gets there the cake has disappeared*).

Billy Where is it then? I thought you said there was a cake? It's gone! Never mind as I'm here I might as well update you on what's going on in the castle. The queen's had that very rude mirror for a couple of months now and she has asked it every single day (*mimics the stepmother*) 'who is the most beautiful in all the land?' And she always gets the same answer back, 'Snow White'. As you can imagine she is getting a bit peeved. I think things are going to take a nasty turn, particularly for Snow White.

(*Cake Bandit appears with the cake behind Billy. Behind you moment. Billy ad libs with the audience going first left then right Cake Bandit isn't spotted by Billy. Finally, he does spot the Cake Bandit who runs off and Billy gives chase*).

Billy Oi you, you little cake thief you. Come back with my creamy sponge delight.

(*Billy and Cake Bandit exit*).

(*Blackout*).

(*Tabs open and lights up on Stepmother's boudoir which has been set behind the tabs. Opportunity for a song by the stepmother. Mirror is on but covered by a cloth*).

Stepmother Mirror, I have given you weeks to reflect on my beauty. *(To audience)* Oh I do like my little puns. So I shall ask you again. Who is the most beautiful in all the land?

Mirror *(Covered by a cloth it just mumbles. Stepmother has her back to it).*
Mmmmm, mmmm!

Stepmother Speak up fool.

Mirror *(Mumbles again).* MMMmmm Mmmm!

Stepmother *(Turns and sees it covered).* Oh silly me. *(Takes the cover off).*

Mirror That's better now I can see. *(Sees Stepmother).* No, I can see you, that's not better.

Stepmother *(Threatens it with the cover again).*

Mirror Alright but not the cloth again. What do you want? *(To audience).* I actually know what she wants. She's very persistent and there are only so many ways I can tell her she is not as beautiful as Snow White.

Stepmother *(Waves away his comments, spooky music as the spell is spoken).*
Mirror, mirror, on the wall who's the fairest of them all?

Mirror *(Speaks in rhyme as if in a trance).*

I have spoken this before

But I'll tell you again once more

Just as you command

Snow White's the fairest in this land

(At this the Stepmother becomes very angry).

Stepmother Snow White, Snow White, always Snow White! Well not for much longer. *(She shouts)* Huntsmen!

(Three bumbling huntsmen come running on).

Gary *(Afraid).* Your most excellent Majesty! *(Deep bow).*

Larry *(More afraid and trying to outdo Gary).* Your most excellent, beauuutiful Majesty. *(Elaborate bow).*

Barry *(Tries even harder but struggles).* Your most stunningly beautiful, excellent er, er,

Mirror *(Stage whispers to Barry)*. Gorgeous.

Barry Gorgeous ... er *(Looks again to the mirror for inspiration)*.

Mirror Intelligent.

Barry Oh yes, intelligent. *(He likes this and again looks to the mirror for something else)*.

Mirror *(Slides this one in)*. Hideous monster of the deep.

Barry *(Without thinking)*. Hideous monster of the deep. *(Smiles like it is the best compliment ever but then realises)*. Hideous monster of the deep? No, I didn't mean that, it was the mirror.

Stepmother *(Throws cloth over Mirror after a disdainful look)*. Enough of your miserable fawning! I have a job for you.

Larry *(Quite excited)*. A job! Ooo how lovely, a job. We've not had one of those for a long time.

Stepmother Yes, but this is a very specific job. And if done well and to my orders it will come with its own rewards. *(To audience)*. Perhaps death! And that's if they do it well!

Gary Very well, your most excellent Majesty. *(The others look like they may start again. Stepmother waves them quiet)*. May I ask what the job is?

Stepmother You may. I want you to take Snow White out hunting in the woods. *(The Huntsmen react thinking it is a good job, until)*. I want you to take her to the furthest reaches of the forest and kill her. And to prove that you have done this I want to see her heart!

Gary *(Drops to his knees pleading as do Barry and Larry though they are not sure why)*. Your Majesty, ask anything of me but not this. I can't do it.

Stepmother You can and you will! *(Being quite evil now and speaking to all three)*. I know where you live and who your family are. If you do not kill Snow White your precious families will perish at the hands of the wild beasts that roam the swamplands. Now go and do my bidding or risk my wrath! *(She turns her back on them and they back away, Gary is beside himself, the other two pull funny faces at her as they back out)*.

Stepmother *(To audience)*. And there, I thought it was going to be such a dull day!
(Blackout).

(End scene).

Scene 5

(The curtains open on a forest scene / front of tabs. Snow White is having a lovely time and is carrying a basket containing a posy of flowers she has picked. Gary, Larry and Barry are with her. Gary has an axe in his belt and is feeling very unsure about the whole process. There could be sounds of birdsong).

Snow White What a beautiful day. I'm so glad you asked me to come. *(Larry and Barry giggle).*

Gary *(Looking sad).* So am I.

Larry *(Rubbing his feet leaning on Barry).* My heart's not really in this long walk though.

Barry No, *(stage whisper)*, but Snow White's is. *(They giggle again like school children at this pun. Snow White is oblivious).*

Snow White *(She turns to Gary).* Can we rest here for a while? It's such a lovely spot.

(She kneels down to pick flowers or to arrange her basket of flowers etc.)

Gary Of course you can. As you command. *(He bows to her and then to speaks to the audience).* She is so young and beautiful and is loved by everyone who knows her. How can I kill her just because the wicked queen is so jealous of her youth and beauty? But kill her I must or risk the lives of my wife and children. *(He starts to creep up behind Snow White, stops and takes the axe out of his belt to check the sharpness of the blade. Barry and Larry talk to him. All the while Snow White is unaware).*

Larry *(Stage whisper to Gary).* Well, get on with it.

Barry Yeh, chop chop! *(Barry and Larry again laugh at this pun).* Then we can get back to the castle and claim our reward as well as being in time to see the new puppet show. *(Sounding like a film announcer), 'Punch and Judy – The Return.*

Larry Don't get too excited, it won't be as good as *(same film announcer voice), 'Punch and Judy – this time it's personal'.* Never are these sequels.

Gary Will you stop it about puppet shows. I have to carry out this deadly deed and I'm not sure I can do it. *(Gives the axe to Barry).* Here you do it.

Barry No fear. *(Gives the axe to Larry).*

Larry What am I supposed to do with this? *(Looks at Snow White).* No chance. *(Gives the axe back to Gary).*

Gary *(Resigned)*. I suppose I'll just have to do it then. *(To audience)*. Right! I'm going to do this so shut your eyes and please don't warn Snow White. *(He starts to creep up on her again and the audience should be reacting. Gary stands axe poised behind Snow White as she talks to the audience)*.

Snow White *(To audience)* What's the matter is there a lovely forest creature behind me? No. What is it, a beautiful butterfly then? *(She turns and sees Gary, axe raised)*. Oh it's you. I thought there was a lovely woodland creature there. Did you see it?

Gary *(Thinking on his feet)*. Er, yes, that's right but it was a big vicious bear and I have just chased it off with er, er, this axe. *(Indicating the axe as if it has almost just appeared in his hand)*.

Snow White Gary, you're wonderful. Thank you. *(She gets up and gives him a peck on the cheek. Again to the audience)*. And thank you for warning me but as you can see I don't really need you to as I have my gallant woodsmen to protect me. *(She again settles down to her flowers and Gary has another 'bash' being urged on by the other two. Snow White is facing out front and Gary is creeping up on her again his finger to his lips to tell audience not to say anything. It's a 'behind you' moment)*.

Snow White *(To audience)*. Why are you shouting? What is it? That big vicious bear again? Don't worry my wonderful brave huntsmen will protect me. They won't let anything harm me. *(Without turning round)*. Gary, is that big vicious bear here again? Please take care of it for me will you, but don't hurt it I wouldn't want it to lose its head or anything.

Gary Of course not Your Highness. *(He raises the axe and is about to strike when she turns round)*.

Snow White Why Gary, whatever are you doing?

Gary *(Flustered looking at the other two)*. Er erm, the er, sun had come out and I was using it to shade you. I wouldn't want your beautiful er, er, skin to get all tanned.

Snow White *(Somewhat taken aback and mildly concerned)*. Oh! Alright. Well I'm just going over there into the shade to have a rest. Please watch out for the vicious bear and the er, sun. *(Snow White gives him an odd glance and moves away from the other three to lie down. The Huntsmen move forward and talk)*.

Gary *(In stage whisper as he moves to the others)*. I can't do it. I just can't do it! I'd even rather be shopping at ASDA. *(To audience)*. Other supermarkets are available.

Larry What do we do now?

Barry Yeh, Mr Cowardy Custard!

Gary That's fine coming from somebody who is scared of his own shadow.

Barry No I'm not.

Gary *(Pointing to the ground at Barry's feet)*. Well, what's that then?

Barry Aagh! *(He hides behind Larry)*. Has it gone?

Gary I rest my case! No, we will have to come up with another plan.

(All three think comically. Snow White is still oblivious).

Larry I know, we could Nope we don't have a cannon!

Barry What about Nah, too messy. *(He shakes his head)*.

Gary I don't know what you two are thinking about and personally I don't want to know, so this is what we are going to do. *(Takes out a container)*. In here is a potion to make Snow White become Sleeping Beauty for a few hours by which time we will be long gone. When she wakes she will be lost and alone and with any luck no one will ever see her again.

Larry Not a bad plan. But what do we do about the heart bit?

Gary Way ahead of you. You know I mentioned ASDA, well they have a great butcher so we'll just get one from there and when we give it the queen she will be none the wiser.

(All three smile and nod at being so clever and as Gary holds the potion up they all look at it like it is the Holy Grail)

(Lights fade to black out).

(End of scene).

Scene 6

(Curtains open onto a full stage. They are back in the palace. The three bumbling huntsmen are on with the queen who is eager for details and the box containing the 'heart').

Stepmother *(With sarcasm)*. Welcome back my 'brave' huntsmen. So, it took all three of you did it? Hah!

Larry *(Unthinking)*. Actually it didn't take any of us.

Stepmother Sorry? What was that? *(As if not hearing right)*.

Gary (*Gives Larry a look*). No, what Larry means is when we were out in the woods (*thinking*), a vicious bear jumped out on her and killed her and we had to scare it off so we could bring back our proof. (*Indicating the box*).

Stepmother (*Takes the box, opens it and talks to the contents*). Dear Snow White. Not so pretty now hey. Ha ha haaa!

(*Stepmother exits. As she does, Nurse Edith enters from the other direction and spots her*).

Edith (*Goes to check that the stepmother has gone*). What are you three up to with her? No good I'll be bound.

Gary Actually, we've just been doing a job for her.

Edith Then I was right the first time, up to no good! What has she had you doing? Harassing some old lady? Poking bunny rabbits with sharp sticks?

Larry No, we've been out in the woods.

Barry We went for a long walk, (*pause*) and then came back again.

Edith You're all very strange! Anyway, have you seen Snow White? I haven't seen her for a couple of days and every time I speak with the wicked stepmoth... (*corrects herself*) the queen, she gets very evasive and starts laughing like this. (*Gives an imitation of the queen's evil laugh*).

Larry (*Jumps and looks round*). That's very good. I actually thought she was here. Do it again.

Edith (*Starts to do the laugh again*) Ha Ha .(*Realises what she is doing*). Stop it! Have you lot seen Snow White or not?

Gary I can't lie to you Nurse Edith, we have seen her.

Larry That's right we have, about two days ago. But we don't know where she is now.

Gary I'm telling the truth and actually so is Larry for a change. We did see her two days ago and he is right we don't know where she is now.

Edith (*Looking from one to the other*). What have you lot been up to? Tell me now or you're going to be in a lot of bother. (*Starts to roll her sleeves up revealing big tattoos on her forearms*).

Gary It all started when the queen asked us to do a job, which was to take Snow White for a walk, a very long walk, and (*pause*) kill her.

(Edith goes to swoon).

Barry And Gary took his axe and was going to do just that.

Edith What! Kill Snow White how could you?

Gary Exactly! I couldn't.

Edith Oh good.

Gary So, I gave her a sleeping potion and we left her in the woods to be eaten by wild animals.

Edith That's alright then. *(Realising what he has said)* Eaten by wild animals?

Gary We also had to give the queen proof that we'd killed her. She wanted Snow Whites heart.

Edith Was that what was in the box then? *(Looks off to where Stepmother exited)* But how, if you didn't kill Snow White?

Gary *(Pats his back pocket as in the Asda advert).* A trip to the supermarket butchers sorted that out.

Edith Well that will only keep her happy for so long. When she asks Mirror who is the fairest in the land, then, as they say, the jig will be up.

Larry Gary, what's all this about a mirror?

Barry Oh no the mirror, the mirror, not the mirror! *(Turns to Larry, now normal).* What mirror?

Gary I must admit I'd forgotten about that thing. But she's bound to have been eaten by now. I've never seen such ravenous squirrels.

(There is a scream off from Stepmother. She has checked with Mirror and now knows Snow White is still alive).

Stepmother *(Screaming).* Huntsmen!!

Edith That'll be your queen screaming for you then. Put these on. *(She hands them big false beards).*

Gary Where on earth?

Edith Don't ask I'm always prepared. Quick put them on. *(All of them put on their disguises including Nurse Edith).*

(Stepmother runs on stage looking for the Huntsmen and sees the disguised four and doesn't recognise them).

Stepmother Have any of you seen the huntsmen and speak the truth or it will be the worse for you.

Gary Not me.

Larry Not me.

Barry Not me.

Edith *(In a very deep voice).* Not me.

Stepmother *(Turns to go and then slowly turns back to give Edith a long look).* Don't I know you?

Edith *(Again in a deep manly voice, could squeak a bit).* No Your Majesty I'm just a simple village person.

Stepmother Riiiiight, well remember tell me if you see the huntsmen. *(Storms off).* Where are those huntsmen!

(She exits. They remove their disguises).

Edith That was close. I'm still very cross that you left Snow White in the woods but I'm glad she's alive. But you must leave this land now with your family and never look back or the wicked stepmoth.. *(corrects herself)* queen will hunt you down and kill all of you. I'm going to start searching for Snow White. You three need to make yourselves scarce.

(She exits leaving the three on stage who can either exit or sing a song).

(End of song)

(Blackout).

(End of scene).

Scene 7

(Curtains open on a woodland scene or it can be front of tabs. Snow White is lost in the woods and talks with some woodland creatures (which can be members of the chorus with hand puppets).

Snow White *(Walking through the wood).* That wasn't very nice, leaving me all alone in the woods. *(Some animals appear).* It's a good job you're here otherwise it would be very scary.

(Song from Snow White).

(End song, Snow White exits briefly and re enters the Dwarves cottage as the tabs / Forest is cleared. The cottage can be a painted back drop of an interior or full stage just set with a table and chairs and somewhere to hang up their coats/cloaks and perhaps a day bed or couch that Snow White can sleep on. An actual door is not necessary).

Snow White *(She speaks to the audience).* What have we here? A lovely little cottage. *(She looks round).* Hello, I said hello is anyone in? Nobody's home I wonder where they are. *(Sees the beds and chairs etc.)* How cute, and that bed looks so comfy and I'm so tired. Perhaps I could lie down just for a little while and shut my eyes. *(She settles down on the bed and falls asleep).*

(The dwarves arrive and are perhaps singing an appropriate song. When the song stops the dwarves are making themselves at home, hanging up their coats and cloaks. If no song the following dialogue needs to be amended).

Bossy I always feel better for a good sing on the way home.

Smiley *(Agreeing with him).* Can't seat a good bing

Bossy Precisely! I couldn't put it better myself.

Drowsy *(Whispers to Smarty).*

Grouchy *(Being a little bit gruff).* Smarty, what's Drowsy saying.

Smarty *(Looks at Drowsy).* Say it again.

Drowsy *(Whispers again but more animation).*

Smarty Alright, no need to shout! He says that someone's in the cottage.

(Dramatic music!).

Bossy *(Arms wide as if holding back the others).* Stand back and let me deal with this. At least Sneezy's not sneezing so it can't be anyone evil. *(Sneezy takes out a big spotted hanky and blows his nose).* I'll go and check.

(Big thumbs up from Shy, Drowsy leans his head on a shoulder and nods off).

Grouchy Hang on a minute who elected you boss?

Bossy You all did, that's why my name is Bossy.

Smarty No, I think you'll find we called you Bossy 'cause you're bossy!

END OF SAMPLE