

NODA PANTOMIMES

Present

Snow White

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

By

Rob Fearn & Leo Appleton

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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 dwarfs 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!

Leo and Rob

Previous scripts

Cinderella
A Christmas Carol
Puss In Boots

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 ditzy 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.

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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

Various boxes wrapped as presents

Box of jewels

Moses Basket

Wand (for Belinda)

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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 heartq
 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

Babyqin 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 morningq
 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

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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 curtsey's 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 ò ..

(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 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 am a flaming mirror not (famous medium) (lights off then lights on again as Edith is walking away). And I am 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 it's 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 ò ò *(Stepmother has appeared and is listening in and starts to approach the two talking but is spotted by Chorus 1).* ò . she's a lovely woman and so light on her feet!

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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*).

Chorus 1 (*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'd 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 ooke, 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!

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(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?

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Edith Just some squirrels.

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

Edith They're 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 ò . 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're landed on Camelot Castle incurring Lancelot's wrath and you have to pay two hundred shillings and a herd of sheep but I'd 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're 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 flipping 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 puppets 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 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!

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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, beautiful Majesty. (*Elaborate bow*).

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

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

Barry Gorgeous er 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),* ~~P~~unch and Judy . The Return.

Larry Don't get too excited, it won't be as good as *(same film announcer voice),* ~~P~~unch 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'd 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 ð .. Nope we don't have a cannon!

Barry What about ð . 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'd 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 stepmother *(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 White's 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'd 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

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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 Sneezzy's not sneezing so it can't be anyone evil. *(Sneezzy 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'd find we called you Bossy 'cause you're bossy!

Bossy *(Stopping in his tracks).* Oh!

Smarty I tell you what we'd all go and see who it is. And if it's very small or a little animal we'd beat it up or eat it. If it's very big or a bear we'd leg it. OK?

Grouchy Sounds like a plan Smarty. Right are we ready? *(They all nod).* Come on then. *(They begin to creep around in an exaggerated manner and start to look; there could be even moments where they scare each other. Drowsy is sleep walking and is about to walk off stage when Smarty turns him round and points him in the right direction).*

Smiley *(He suddenly shouts out).* Hellooooo! Is anyone here? *(Silence).* Just as I thought not a foddy to bind.

Drowsy *(Starts whispering to Smarty again).*

Grouchy What's he saying Smarty?

Smarty He says there's somebody lying on the bed *(couch)* over there.

(They all turn as one to look at the 'bed' in an exaggerated manner and suddenly they all spot Snow White).

All: Gasp!!

Bossy I'm with Smarty here. I say if it's tasty we eat it.

Smiley *(Going over to look at Snow White).* Well, we can't eat this; she's a young girl and perry vitty she is too.

Sneezy Well, wake her up. Then we can find out who she is and what she's doing here.

(Snow White wakes up with a start).

Snow White Oh! Who are you?

(All the dwarves huddle trying to hide behind each other. Bossy gets shoved to the front).

Grouchy *(Leaning round Bossy).* What's more to the point who are you? *(Now being very soft).* And aren't you lovely. *(Gruff again).* And what are you doing here?

Snow White *(She gives them a very warm smile and they all look like they are falling in love with her).* My name is Snow White and I got lost in the woods. In fact I think my huntsmen friends were trying to kill me, probably on the orders of my stepmother. I have a feeling she doesn't really like me. Then I found your cottage and I was so tired I had to lie down. Thank you very much for letting me stay but now I suppose I must be going. *(Makes as if to leave, but takes her time).*

Drowsy *(Whispers something).*

Smarty I agree, we can't let her go, she might be in danger.

(The others all voice their agreement, 'yes you're right' 'she should stay' etc.)

Bossy *(Generally to others).* Well, say something then.

Shy *(Stage whisper to others acting very coy).* You do it, I can't.

Grouchy Alright then I'll do it. *(Clears throat and starts to speak still a bit gruffly).* Snow White, you don't have to leave *(he has an idea)* we have a vacancy for a cleaner.

Bossy What about a cook, we could really do with a cook.

Grouchy And a cook.

Snow White That is most kind of you all. Now you know who I am, perhaps you could introduce yourselves?

Grouchy We are the seven dwarves.

(Possible song from Dwarves).

Snow White Dwarves? But aren't you all supposed to be ... *(indicates with hand something smaller, now looking at the rest of them)* and you're all ... *(Indicates something now quite tall with her hand).*

Grouchy *(Stage whisper to Snow White).* Don't mention that, it's a touchy subject.

Snow White Ohhh. *(Not quite sure).*

Grouchy *(Continuing).* I'm Grouchy

Snow White Yes you are.

(As the dwarves are introduced Snow White curtseys to them and they each say hello in turn).

No, my name is Grouchy and this is Smarty, Shy *(he is hid behind Bossy and just waves a hand from round the back of him)*, Sneezzy *(waves his hanky at her)*, Bossy, Drowsy *(he waves at her)*.

Drowsy *(Whispers something to Smarty).*

Snow White Does he speak?

Smarty Not very loudly. As a baby he was scared by three bears that came to eat his porridge and he's not said a word out loud since.

(Drowsy nods his head in agreement).

Grouchy Right, enough of the back story, where was I? Oh yes, and finally this is Smiley.

Smiley *(He gives a deep bow).* So meesed to pleat you.

Snow White *(She curtseys).* And I'm meesed to pleat you too! *(She laughs).* So, when shall I get started?

Grouchy *(Getting official).* Hold on, hold on, there is an interview process.

Snow White Alright then, this should be fun. *(To audience)*. I think. *(She settles down on the floor)*.

(It all gets a bit formal. The dwarves get out clipboards and Bossy's can be much bigger. They start to ask questions).

Grouchy How do you make an Apple Turnover?

Snow White Well, you can try and persuade it or if not give it a stern talking to.

Grouchy Good answer, next?

Bossy Where would you weigh a pie?

Snow White I'm not quite sure, on some scales?

Bossy No, no, no. Tell her boys. *(He starts to conduct them)*.

All Dwarves *(Singing)*. Somewhere over the rainbow weigh a pie

Smarty Now, how would you manage with all the cleaning up after seven, filthy, untidy and thoroughly disgusting dwarves? *(Sees the others looking at him)*. Should there be such a group.

Snow White This is an easy one. I'd just sing a song and all the birds, squirrels and rabbits would come in and help me.

Drowsy *(Drowsy whispers into Smarty's ear)*.

Smarty I agree. Three butties short of a hamper!

Shy *(To audience)*. I'm too shy to speak to her, hence my name. *(Picks someone in the audience)*. Would you ask her a question for me, would you? Oh thank you. Would you ask her if she will read us bed time stories? I do love a bed time story.

(A member of the audience should ask the question).

Snow White Of course I will. Funnily enough, I have one about an evil stepmother I've been working on.

Smiley Can you bow a sutton?

Snow White No, but I can bow a ribbon.

Smiley Noo! *(Stressing)*. Bow suttons!

Snow White Oh I see. *(Laughing)*. Sew buttons. Yes, my faithful nurse taught me how to do that when I was a small girl.

Sneezy Would you look after us if we fall sick? When I was small, well smaller, my mother would always tuck me up in bed and give me hot lemon drinks and comics to read. Would you do this?

Snow White Of course I would. *(Pause, innocently)*. What's a lemon?

Drowsy *(Whispers to Smarty)*.

Smarty Good question! Drowsy wants to know if you will lock the door and not answer it to anyone and keep yourself safe when we are out working in our diamond mines.

Snow White Oh! *(Slightly surprised)*. Yes, I suppose so. Do you really think I am in danger?

(They all nod their heads).

Snow White Oh! *(Even more surprised)*. Well if that's the case then yes I will.

Grouchy Right, we've all asked our questions, gather round men.

(They all get into a huddle to discuss the outcome).

What do you think? Has she got the job?

Bossy I'm already thinking about her apple turnover.

Smarty I think so. I don't think Drowsy has ever said so much.

Shy *(In a stage whisper)*. I just think she's lovely and I would hate for anything horrible to happen to her.

Sneezy We must all pledge to take care of her for as long as she needs us.

(Chance for a song from dwarves. As the music fades Grouchy speaks with her).

Grouchy *(To Snow White grumpily)*. Well, I suppose you've got the job then. Dusters are under the sink.

(Blackout, Curtains).

(End of scene).

Scene 8

(In front of tabs or curtains. The lights come up on a table with baking implements on it. Billy has an apron on and is ready to cook).

Billy I'm fed up with that Cake Bandit stealing all my cakes so I've got a plan. I'm going to make my own. To do this I have my own recipe that's been in the family for

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hundreds of years. I've also been offered some help and in fact it is our very own Nurse Edith (*Indicates with arm and the Nurse Edith enters dressed as a comic chef*).

(They bring on the table with ingredients. The recipe card is huge and there is a big bowl on the table).

Billy Shall I start Edith?

Edith Get the ingredients out Billy. First we need flour.

Billy (*Reads recipe*). It doesn't say daisy or marigold so we'd have them both.

(Hands the ingredients with flourish, which are some imitation flowers and a pair of yellow rubber gloves, to Edith who stirs them into a bowl).

Edith Ooh yes that will give it a nice rubbery texture.

Billy Now we need, oh I can't read it, the writings a bit faded here. (*Struggling*). Half a dozen legs, that can't be right.

Edith (*Pops her leg onto the table revealing bloomers etc.*) Here love have one of mine.

Billy (*Averting his eyes*). We can't do that Edith. We'd have to change your name.

Edith What to?

Billy Eileen! (*I lean!! Billy leans over to one side and waits for the penny to drop. He looks at the recipe again*). Oh I can see what it is, Pegs, half a dozen pegs. (*Billy hands the pegs to Edith who stirs it all.*)

Edith That's looking better. Now we need some sugar. Have we any sugar Billy?

Billy I don't think so,

Edith What else can we use? (*They think*).

Billy (*Billy picks up a small bottle of cola and is about to take a drink*).

Edith Stop! Cola is full of sugar we'd use that.

Billy (*Looks at Edith. He is about to take the top off the bottle then stops himself and drops the bottle into the mixing bowl. Edith stirs it again.*)

Edith (*Looking at the recipe*). It says here that I should bake this over a clay fire pit for two days. But I have a convection oven so I'd have to adjust it so by my reckoning that's two minutes.

(Edith places the cake in the oven and shuts the door. This can either be an 'oven' or works just as well placing it off stage. The mess will be replaced by a splendid 'sponge' cake. The two minutes, or less can be filled with Billy and Edith getting the audience to name songs with food references. The more random the better.

Bake me up before you go girl

American Pie

Food Glorious Food

Green Onions Booker T and the MGs

If you knew you were coming I'd have baked a cake

(They both end up doing patta cake, patta cake).

The bell goes off to signal cake is done. Edith takes the done cake out of the 'oven' and it's all decorated).

Edith What do you think Billy? *(Edith holds it out to Billy who takes it).*

Billy It's lovely and no sign of a soggy bottom.

Edith Ooh thank you Billy.

Billy Not you, the cake. But quite a muffin top.

Edith Where? *(Edith looks at the cake).*

Billy Not the cake, you.

Edith Well I'm not going to stop here and be insulted. I'll go over there instead. *(She goes to the other side of the stage and speaks to the audience).* Do you think I've got a muffin top? *(Audience respond) Steady!! (She points into the audience).*

(Billy at this point is staring longingly at his cake. Cake Bandit sneaks on and pinches the cake out of his hands and runs off. At which point there should be a lot of audience noise. Edith is unaware and then turns back to Billy).

Edith What's all that noise about? *(Spots the cake has gone).* You greedy little . . . Have you eaten all that cake?

(Billy starts to protest).

Edith That's it that's the last time you get your hands on my vanilla sponge.

(Edith storms out leaving Billy holding the empty plate looking forlorn).

(Blackout).

(End scene).

Scene 9

(Stepmother's boudoir is set front or behind tabs. As the lights come up Stepmother and Mirror are there. There has been a passage of time of three weeks).

Stepmother So, my shiny faced friend it's three weeks since those hapless huntsmen left Snow White in the forest. Surely, that is long enough for her to have been eaten by a passing bear.

Mirror That depends.

Stepmother On what?

Mirror Three things actually. *(Pauses disinterestedly).*

Stepmother *(Impatiently).* Yes?

Mirror Well, firstly, do bears live in the woods?

Stepmother Of course they do, I've seen them myself, though strangely they all ran away from me. All I saw was bear bottoms.

Mirror *(To audience).* Bare bottoms. *(Laughs).* She's that wicked she doesn't even know she's made a joke! *(Back to Stepmother).* Secondly, has Snow White got enough meat on her bones to offer a bear a hearty meal?

Stepmother Of course she has. To me she looks like a decidedly well rounded and suitably succulent pig.

Mirror Thirdly, have you ever heard Snow White sing?

Stepmother Of course I have. What has that got to do with anything?

Mirror What happened when she started singing?

Stepmother I did a little tidying to pass the time until she stopped her infernal noise. In fact, quite a lot of tidying actually and it was in Snow White's bedroom and I left it immaculate. Come to think of it, it was like I was under a spell. Oh, I see what you're saying Mirror, all she has to do is sing and animals including bears and even those beastly little squirrels will be entranced to do her bidding.

Mirror Exactly. So come on you old trout, ask me the same question you always do.

Stepmother What did you call me?

Mirror I said *(emphasising)* no doubt you want to ask me your question.

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Stepmother Oh yes, the question (*composes herself making the question very dramatic*). Mirror mirror on the wall... (*Gets interrupted by Mirror*).

Mirror (*Anticipating the answer*). Snow White!

Stepmother What? She's still alive! Well then Mirror where is she?

Mirror Oh dear! She's got me. I always have to tell the truth.

**Snow White wandered in the woods she was lost but found her way
To a little cottage in a glade and there she is today
Surrounded by the plucky seven who guard her day and night
Safe from all who seek to harm their lovely friend Snow White**

Stepmother Those bears are useless. If you want a job doing, do it yourself. Leave me Mirror.

(*Mirror exits*).

Stepmother (*To audience, front of stage*) I need a plan. Somehow I need to get to Snow White. (*Thinking*). I have it! I'll disguise myself as a hideous old crone. I know seeing me here like this it's hard to imagine. (*Preens herself and the audience responds*). Quiet you hideous little monsters. I'll then pretend to be a peddler, selling my wares. (*Mimics a crone's voice*). Would you like a new bodice? It will make you look so beautiful. *Ha ha haaa*. I'll let her try it on and when she ties it up it will go so tight she won't be able to breathe and hey presto no more Snow White. (*Laughs again*).

(*Possible song here from Stepmother*).

(*Blackout, curtains and end of scene and Act 1*).

ACT 2

Scene 1

(*In front of tabs or curtains*).

Billy (*He stumbles on stage and speaks to the wings*). Ok, Ok, don't push me. I am more than capable of reading a simple announcement. (*Pulls out a piece of paper*). (*To audience*). They're not very happy with me, said I should be spending more time telling you about the story and less time bothering with cakes. I ask you, is Snow White really more important than a juicy fruit cake? (*Audience respond*). OK you may have a point, but now I have to read out what they have written and I am not allowed to add or subtract a single word.

Voice off: Get on with it!

(Very wooden or unenthusiastic). Here are the facts so far. Snow White is living with the seven dwarves in the forest and the wicked Stepmother has found out where she is staying and plans to kill her by adopting an evil disguise. *(Now more animated).* Oh no! Come on dwarves protect Snow White!

(Billy exits and the curtains open on the dwarves cottage. Snow White has their lunch packs ready to go and is saying goodbye).

Snow White I have made all your lunches so collect them as you go and you might get a kiss as well.

(The dwarves all line up and get pecks on the cheek from Snow White as she hands them their lunches in bags).

Dwarves *(They start to sing as they exit).*

Grouchy *(As the song fades he pokes his head back onto the stage).* Remember, Snow White do not open the door to anyone until we return.

Snow White I won't forget, I promise.

Smiley *(Smiley pokes his head back on stage).* Be careful Snow White and keep the loor docked.

Snow White *(Realising).* Oh door locked. I will goodbye. *(She waves them off).* *(To Audience).* I suppose I better get on with tidying up. I need to stop all this moping and get on with the mopping. Normally I sing and then my friends come to help me.

(Perhaps a song here. If not straight on with the action).

(There's a knock at the door).

(To audience). That's somebody at the door. Who could it be? I bet Bossy has forgotten his lunch, shall I go and look? But wait a minute, I promised the dwarves I wouldn't speak to anyone. I know I'll have a peep through the window instead. *(She either looks through a window or looks off stage).* It's only a tired old lady peddling her wares. She can't possibly do me any harm, can she? I'll invite her in for a moment to rest.

(Snow White goes off stage or opens the door and Stepmother disguised as an old crone enters).

Come in old crone and take the weight off your frail brittle bones. That's it, come and rest your varicose veins and put your bunions up for a moment. *(Speaking loudly and patronisingly).* DO YOU WANT A CUP OF TEA? DO YOU LIKE IT WEAK, LIKE THEY HAD IT DURING THE WAR?

Stepmother (*To audience*). Cheeky whipper snapper, who does she think she is? I am so going to enjoy this. (*To Snow White*). Er, thank you young lady but I am fine.

Snow White Well, at least take a seat.

(*Stepmother sits*).

Stepmother (*To audience*). The nerve of the girl. (*Back to Snow White*). I won't stay long dear, I am just selling my wares. I need the money. (*Makes as if she is crying*). To pay for my grandmother's hip operation.

Snow White Grandmother? I don't mean to be rude but you're ancient. How old is your grandmother?

Stepmother (*To audience*). And there she is, being rude. (*To Snow White*). She is one hundred and forty two.

Snow White That's incredible! She must be the oldest person alive.

Stepmother (*Sarcastically out to the audience*). Yes yes, whatever. She's very old and frail and she's in the Guinness book of records. Now, enough about her, let's get on. (*Nice again*). I have the perfect thing for you young lady.

Snow White You do? How wonderful, what is it?

Stepmother It's a bodice.

Snow White A bodice? Why would I need a bodice?

Stepmother (*To audience*). Because she's been eating all the pies, little Miss Piggy face. (*To Snow White*). I mean it enhances the feminine figure and I have it in your colour as well. (*To audience*). Insipid! (*To Snow White*). Here, why don't you let me help you tie it on and then you can decide if you like it or not.

Snow White That would be very kind. (*Stepmother places it round Snow White's waist and tightens it. Snow White gasps*). I fear that is a little too tight.

Stepmother Sorry my dear just let me adjust it again. (*She moves behind Snow White's back to make it tighter*).

Snow White It keeps getting tighter and I can't breathe. (*Snow White swoons and collapses to the floor in a dead faint*).

Stepmother (*Triumphantly*). Ha ha ha finally she is out of my hair. (*Tears off her wig / disguise and standing over Snow White says sarcastically*). You're at least ninety you old crone. Take the weight off your frail brittle bones. Well now you're soooo dead you snivelling sickly servant girl. Ha ha ha.

(*In the distance we hear the dwarves returning*).

Dwarves *(Singing a song off stage).*

(At this Stepmother swooshes off stage her cloak flowing behind her as she disappears).

(The Dwarves enter and see Snow White on the floor and they freeze dramatically).

(Black out).

(End scene).

Scene 2

The scene opens on the full stage. The entire chorus are present. Stepmother is full of herself after her assumed success with the bewitched bodice. She has not yet spoken with the Mirror. She addresses her courtiers who have been called together and they are scared stiff of her. Opportunity for a song by the chorus or Stepmother or both).

Stepmother *(In a very happy mood).* How lovely to see you all on this very sunny day. *(To audience not heard by chorus).* All the better for knowing that pest Snow White is dead. *(Oh no she's not oh yes she is etc. etc.)* They do say that a bodice is very attractive. I thought it looked dead good on Snow White Ha Ha Haah. *(Back to courtiers).* My wonderful courtiers how charming you all look. You! *(Points to a man).* Have you lost weight?

Man 'Course I have you haven't fed us for three days.

Stepmother Oh you, you tease you. *(Dismissing him through gritted teeth).* *(To woman in chorus).* And you, have you had something reduced?

Woman Yes, my bank balance, you've stopped paying us.

Stepmother I do love it when we can, what do you call it *(slight pause)*, banter like this. *(Goes to woman with baby).* What a delightful little fellow.

Woman with Baby It's a girl!

Stepmother Well, she's still delightful, couchie, couchie coo!

Woman with Baby *(Hides the baby from Stepmother).* You're not eating her!

Stepmother Of course not! In a moment I am going to shower her with gifts. *(Calls off stage)* Mirror. Mirror, come here.

(Mirror enters).

Mirror You bawled your smugliness.

Stepmother Pardon?

Mirror You called your ugliness.

Stepmother You do realise I did hear you the first time and that is just as bad. Would you like to try again and make it sound like something nice?

Mirror Errrrm. No.

Stepmother I don't care as today is going to be the best day ever. *(Big build up and turns to face the audience awaiting the answer she knows should come)*. Mirrooor, Mirrooor, on the wall, who is the fairest of them all.

(All the courtiers lean in waiting with baited breath for the answer).

Mirror You are ò

Stepmother At last! Yes!!

Mirror ò ò . not the most beautiful in the land.

Stepmother *(Almost a double take)*. How can that be? I left her for dead!

(Courtiers oooohhh at that).

Mirror That may be. But the dwarves returned just in time as she was taking her last breath and cut the bodice from her. *(Goes into rhyme)*.

***Snow Whites beauty is the gift that keeps giving
Cause no matter what you do she just keeps on living!***

(All courtiers laugh out loud at the joke until Stepmother glares at them).

Stepmother *(To Mirror)*. You think you're so funny. When this is all done you'll be laughing on the other side of your fa... er glass. I am going to send you for re cycling. *(Turns to go off but before that speaks to the courtiers)*. Don't think I'm going to forget this. Your food, *(points to the man)* gone! *(Points to woman)*. Your wages, gone and your children *(deathly pause)* ò ò .?

Woman with Baby Is she still getting presents?

Stepmother *(Goes to say something then storms off)* ò .. Aaaagh!

Courtier 1 *(Slight pause)*. I thought she took that very well.

Woman with Baby And she didn't say no to the presents.

Mirror And what's more to the point *(to audience)* and totally relevant to the plot *(back to chorus)* Snow White is still alive.

(Chorus and Mirror all cheer and perhaps burst into song).

(At end of song they all exit including Mirror. Lights remain up and Stepmother enters after the chorus has exited and speaks to the audience. Dialogue will require amending if there is no song).

Stepmother Let them have their little sing song for now but they'll be singing a whole different tune when I've finished with them. *(Takes out a comb from her pocket as if to comb her hair and starts thinking aloud)*. I need another plan to kill Snow White. How about a chair dangled over a shark infested pit. That always seems to work. I could leave twenty minutes before the chair drops allowing her plenty of time to escape, I mean suffer. No, too simple. *(Taps the comb into her palm thinking and sees the comb)*. Ahaaa, I have it, a poisoned comb! That should do the trick and I can fool her with yet another devious disguise. Ha ha ha.

(Final laugh and exit).

(Black out).

(End scene).

Scene 3

(The scene opens front of the main curtains. Billy comes on to update the audience on what's happening).

Billy Hiya! You've not seen any cakes have you? *(Audience react)*. I've not heard from you for a while. A bit like Snow White really we've not seen her at the palace for ages and we've worried that her, *(whispers)* wicked stepmother, might have done her in! I've heard though that her faithful nurse Edith has gone looking for her. *(Cake Bandit comes on with a cake on the end of a line and dangles it above Billy's head)*. Hang on I can smell cakes!

(Billy instigates the behind you moment going left then right and then Billy finally spots Cake Bandit and chases after him and they exit).

(Curtains open on Edith walking through the forest, either secondary tabs or actual backdrop).

Edith *(To audience)*. I've been out walking in the woods for ages to see if I could see any sign of Snow and just as I thought not a flurry. *(Shades eyes and looks off stage)*. What's that, three blackbirds and a squirrel with a sheet? That will be our Snow doing the cleaning.

(Exits shouting 'Snow White, Snow White').

(The lights go down and the tabs or cloth go out to reveal the dwarves cottage).

(Lights up as Edith enters the dwarves cottage. Snow White is folding the laundry).

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Edith (*Sees Snow White*). Snow White there you are. (*Snow White looks up and runs to her to give her hug. But also gives her a quick check as if not convinced she is who she thinks she is*). I've been looking for you all over. (*Edith steps back*). What are you doing?

Snow White I'm sorry Nurse Edith just making sure it's really you. I've had a few problems. I know I've not been in touch but I don't think it is terribly safe for me at the castle at the moment. I've got a feeling that someone is trying to kill me, namely my stepmother. In fact I had a narrow escape with a corset the other day.

Edith I know what you mean love, mine's killing me.

Snow White Well mine nearly did. If it wasn't for the seven er dwarves then I'd be a dead Snow right now.

Edith (*Looking round*). My dear are you alright? (*Gives her a quick once over*). Yes you look fine. So, who are these seven, er, dwarves?

(The dwarves start singing off stage).

Snow White Here they are now.

(The dwarves enter and they see Nurse Edith).

Grouchy Quick grab the ugly one. She's obviously here to kill Snow White.

(The dwarves grab Nurse Edith and hold her).

Snow White No! Let her go she's my faithful nurse, Edith.

Bossy Are you sure? She's quite ugly.

Edith I'm still here you know.

(They begin to let her go).

Smarty Sorry. It's just that we're concerned that Snow White is in danger and we thought you were er, dangerous.

Edith Well I'm not. (*Drowsy almost asleep snuggles into Edith and hangs on*). But if he doesn't let go it might be a whole different story!

Grouchy (*Nudges Drowsy and drags him off*). Wake up! You're about to be bashed if you're not careful.

Drowsy (*As if waking from a dream starts shadow boxing. Edith can hide behind one of the dwarves or Snow White*).

Smarty Calm down tiger! It was a dream.

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Drowsy *(Drowsy whispers to Smarty).*

Smarty He says he was dreaming he'd just been woken from a big fluffy bed by a ferocious bear and was fighting for his life. *(To Drowsy)*. Never mind it was just a dream there's no bear and no ferocious animal just her. *(Points to Edith)*.

(Drowsy as if seeing her for the first time jumps shocked).

Smarty It's only Snow White's nurse come to make sure she's alright.

Drowsy *(Drowsy whispers to Smarty).*

Smarty I know she's quite ugly and looks like a man ò *(Smarty puts down Drowsy)*.

(Edith interrupts).

Edith No seriously, I am still here! Anyway it's getting late and if I'm not to be missed at the palace I need to leave. I certainly don't want any awkward questions, especially from Cruella de Vil. So you take care of yourself Snow White and you lot *(she gives them a hard look)* make sure you keep her safe.

All dwarves We will / Of course etc.

Edith I must hurry I've left a stew on the go, *(pause)* and he's waiting for me by the gnarled oak. *(Shouts and waves off)*. Won't be long Stew! Yoo-hoo!!

(As she exits they all wave).

Snow White *(As she waves)*. Right! Talking of food I've made you all supper.

Bossy Oooh lovely and this is exactly what I've been talking about as well *(slight pause)* food! What is it?

Snow White I've baked you all a pie. *(She picks up a 'pie' off the table to show them, they all get very interested)*.

Grouchy What's that sticking out of it?

Snow White I had a problem with the legs.

Grouchy The legs of what?

Snow White The otter. It's otter pie.

Grouchy Otter pie?

Snow White Well not strictly, I couldn't find any otters so I used a weasel, but apparently you just add some chilli powder and that makes it ~~otter~~.

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(All freeze. Blackout. In the blackout they alter their clothing as if it is the next day).

(After a short pause the lights come back up. A sign appears to say 'it is morning' and the dwarves are once more off to the mines. Snow White has a pinny on and is quite busy with a duster or some such thing and the dwarves are getting their coats and hats on to go to work).

Snow White *(Putting a hat on Drowsy).* There now that will keep you warm on your way to work.

Drowsy *(Whispers to Smarty).*

Smarty I know she'd be all alone, but she must take care of herself.

Grouchy Drowsy's right. Snow White you need to know how to take care of yourself. So, if you see anyone who looks like this, *(Bossy hunches himself up and throws a cloak round himself)* don't talk to them or let them in OK.

Snow White Alright I won't. But you've no need to worry I won't be fooled again.

Shy *(To audience).* Oh yes she will, so if you see the wicked stepmother will you shout and warn Snow White? Maybe if you help it will keep her safe.

(Audience react).

Shy Good!

Snow White Did you say something Shy?

(Shy just shakes his head and hides behind the others).

Grouchy We can't stand around here all day we've work to do. Are we all ready? *(The dwarves nod and say 'yes' 'righto' or something like that).* Right let's go!

(Perhaps some kind of work song here by the dwarves and Snow White could join in).

(After the song, if there is one, Snow White waves them good bye and busies herself in the cottage when there is a knock on the door).

Snow White *(To audience).* Whoever can that be? Now, should I let them in? No, I don't think so. I'd just ask them what they want. Hello out there, what is it you want?

Stepmother *(Her voice just disguised a bit from off stage or from behind the door).* It's the Better Eze salesman. I have a bag full of lovely goodies to help make your day that much easier. All our products are especially formulated for cleaning up after dwarves, especially if there are seven of them.

Snow White (*Again to the audience*). That's lucky because they are dwarves, well at least they used to be and let me see, (*she counts them off in her head*), yes there are seven of them. You'd better come in then. (*Snow White opens the door or goes off stage to bring in Stepmother disguised as a salesman. She is dressed as a sales rep with false moustache and hat and bag to make her look like a man*).

Stepmother Thank you Snow, er I mean young lady and what a lovely little cottage. I have a lot of cleaning products and I can let you have all these today as a reward for opening your door. (*Stepmother hands over a few bottles*).

Snow White (*To audience*). I can't see a cloak and it doesn't look like a wicked old crone so I must be alright. (*Looking at the bottles*). Thank you this is most kind and I am sure they will help improve the smell a bit. Eau de Squirrel gets a bit pungent after a while.

Stepmother (*In her own voice*). Yes I can tell. (*She wafts her hand under her nose. Then back to the disguise*). Er, yes I can tell.

Snow White (*Looks at Stepmother curiously*). Do I know you? You seem familiar to me.

Stepmother (*As if reading from a script*). No I have never met you in my life.

Snow White Well never mind and thank you for visiting me it does get lonely here during the day with only the animals for company.

Stepmother I can imagine. As it happens I have a very special offer and looking at your hair you could do with it. It is a comb. But not just any comb. As it goes through your luscious locks it provides vitality, youthful looks, perfect skin, and oh yes, combs your hair.

Snow White (*She ponders the statement*). Vitality, youthful looks, perfect skin. (*Then concludes*). I could really do with my hair combing.

(*Stepmother pulls her face at this*).

And it is such a pretty comb. Wait a moment though I do know someone else that would benefit from this, my stepmother. She has lovely hair but could do with the other bits.

Stepmother (*Almost out of character*) Oh could she, you, you *ō* (*Back in character*) ... Lovely thoughtful young lady. You must tell me where she lives but perhaps try the comb for yourself first.

(*Snow White puts the comb into her hair and dramatically drops to the floor in a dead faint. For the coming script Snow White ideally should be behind a table or chair*).

Stepmother (*Triumphantly revealed*). Success at last. Now, back to my mirror and if any other beauties (*or name of famous beautiful actress*) have moved into town they're for it as well.

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(Stepmother sweeps off stage as she exits).

(There is a slight pause and the dwarves enter as if returning from work and of course don't see Snow White just yet).

Bossy Can't beat an early finish Friday. I'm starving. I hope Snow White has got on with our supper.

Grouchy Just so long as it's not chicken again. She makes everything taste like squirrel.

Sneezy That's because it is squirrel! Ah ah ah tisshooooo! *(Big blow of nose).*

(They all look at him as they know what it means when he sneezes).

Shy *(To audience).* Somethings not right, Sneezy is sneezing. Has somebody been here?

(Audience should react).

Smiley Perhaps Snow White has just gone out for a walk?

Grouchy Oh you're really *dopey* don't think so her cloak is still here. *(Shouts)* Snow White, where are you?

(Drowsy spots Snow White).

Drowsy *(Whispers to Smarty and points to the fallen Snow White).*

Smarty *(Running to Snow White).* Quick she's over here. *(They all run over and pick her up and lay her on a bed or sit her on a chair).*

Bossy Is she breathing?

Grouchy Barely, anyway stand back I'm the *doc* around here. *(Shouting in a dramatic fashion).* Snow White, wake up, wake up!

Bossy *(Sarcastically).* Oh yes, I forgot, shouting loudly is just above mouth to mouth in the medical book for bringing someone round. Here let me try?

(Bossy makes a big thing of puckering up and is about to go in for the mouth to mouth when Smiley removes the comb from Snow White's hair with a flourish).

Smiley Hey everyone have you seen this, it's a covely lomb *(lovely comb).* *(He takes it out).*

(They all look at the comb, distracted by a shiny object, Bossy mid pucker, Oh yes, very nice, smashing etc. Snow White begins to wake up).

Smarty (*Notices Snow White stirring*). Look, Snow White is waking up.

(*Bossy looks disappointed*).

Grouchy My dear are you alright?

Snow White (*Slightly confused*). Yes, yes. I must have nodded off or something.

Bossy Can you remember what happened?

Snow White I think so. A salesman came and left me some cleaning things and as a present for being such a good customer he gave me a lovely comb. (*Spots the comb in Smiley's hand*). That's it. He said it would make you young and beautiful and your hair all shiny.

(*Smiley looks at the comb, moves to the front of the stage and tries it himself. He of course falls down in a dead faint*).

Drowsy (*Whispers to Smarty*).

Smarty (*Looking at Smiley on the ground*). No he's not very bright is he!

(*Blackout*).

(*End scene*).

Scene 4

(*Front of tabs*).

(*A member of the chorus comes on carrying cakes and says they have too many and that they will leave one for a lucky passer-by. The audience should shout 'Billy the cake' and Billy comes on and gets the cake*).

Chorus 1 (*Carrying a plate of cakes*). What a lovely day for a walk but I'm carrying way too many cakes. I am going to lighten my load and leave one here for some lucky person to find.

(*Audience should react with 'Billy the cake' and Billy runs on*).

Billy Did someone shout cake? What, has some one left a cake? (*He sees it and picks it up*). How lovely and it looks so yummy as well. (*Starts to show the audience*). Would you like to see it? Isn't it scrum diddly umptious?

Cake Bandit (*He appears thinly disguised perhaps with some glasses, false nose and different hat and clears his throat*). Hahhum! Might I see the cake, it does look delicious. Do you mind if I look at it more closely, my eyes are not very good?

Billy (*Hands the cake over*). Yes of course, but please look after it.

Cake Bandit (*Peering at it through his glasses*). It is a lovely cake.

Billy (*Generally focussing on the audience*). I'm really going to enjoy that with my cup of tea in a minute

Cake Bandit (*Turns his back and takes off his glasses and puts on his mask*).

Ahhaah! But now it is mine! (*The Cake Bandit runs off. Billy goes to give chase but stops*).

Billy What's the use I'm never going to get my cake am I? Well, I suppose I'd better tell you what's happening at the Palace. The queen or as we know her, the wicked stepmother, is very angry Snow White survived and of course Mirror's been very cheeky to her about that. She's locked herself in her boudoir. She's been there for days. I've heard she's been consulting with a wicked witch somewhere out west to get an evil spell to finish Snow White off for good, so I do hope that the dwarves take good care of her. See you later. (*Shouting off as he exits*). Have you any digestives left to go with my tea? He's nicked me cake again!

(*The curtains open on the dwarves cottage to reveal Snow White busy. There is another knock at the door. It is the stepmother thinly disguised as a delivery man with a box of groceries*).

Snow White (*Shouting off stage or speaking to a closed door*). Hello, who is it?

Stepmother (*Voice off disguised*). I am the Asco Delivery man and I've got some groceries for you.

Snow White (*To audience*). I didn't know we'd ordered any, (*shouting off stage*) you'd better come in then? (*Being a bit suspicious as Stepmother enters*). Did they say who it was when they ordered it?

Stepmother Didn't say much. I think he was shy.

Snow White Shy? That is unusual.

Stepmother I suppose it's better than being bossy or grouchy.

Snow White I know they can be a bit much sometimes.

Stepmother Hang on, are you being a smarty or what?

Snow White No, I'm being Snow White, but now I'm feeling confused, though that isn't a dwarf you understand. (*Shaking her head*). I could do with a lie down I think.

Stepmother (*Full of meaning*). You'd have plenty of time to do that after we've checked the order (*adds*) luv! (*Gets a list out*). Right, we've got everything on the list except we've had to swap the Cox's Pippins for the Red Superlicious.

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Snow White And I do like a Cox's Pippin. What do the Red Superlicious taste like?

Stepmother It's a taste to die for, *(to audience)* magical I'd say! A bit like a Red Delicious, but so much better. Here have a bite. *(Stepmother offers Snow White an apple to bite in to).*

Snow White *(Takes the apple and is about to bite it and stops. Speaks to the audience).* It looks so lovely, but whenever I take things lately I just keep getting into trouble. But it is such a lovely looking apple.

Stepmother What's the matter *(adds)* dearie? Afraid of a little apple? Here then, let me have a bite first. *(Stepmother carefully looks at the apple and bites it).* There! And very nice it is to. *(Stepmother hands the apple back to Snow White).*

Snow White *(To audience)* It seems alright. *(To Stepmother).* Perhaps just a little bite then?

Stepmother Mind you don't bite where you've bitten. Try the lovely red side and get the full taste.

Snow White Oh yes you're right that does look red and juicy. Here goes. *(She takes a bite clutches her throat and drops in a dead faint – again).*

Stepmother Ha Haaaa! Success at last. *(Removes her disguise if possible and looks at Snow White).* Not so pretty now are we. Let's see you get out of this one. And if I ever find those huntsmen you've a few more bits of fruit they can try. *(She swoops off and as she does so we hear the sound of the dwarves singing as they return).*

(The dwarves enter chatting).

Sneezy *(As he enters he sneezes).* That's not a good sign.

(They spot Snow White on the floor).

Grouchy *(Runs to her).* Snow Whites on the floor again.

Bossy *(Not too concerned).* It'll be alright. Either take the bodice off or the comb out of her hair. I wonder if she made some tea?

Smarty She doesn't have any of those things on and this is no time for food.

(Bossy looks dejected).

(Drowsy goes to check Snow White).

Drowsy *(He whispers to Smarty).*

Smarty She's not breathing, that can't be good.

Shy *(To the audience)*. He's not called Smarty for nothing is he.

Grouchy There's no sign of injury. I think she's been poisoned but this time I think she's dead.

(They all crowd round Snow White and lift her up onto the table / bed and sing a mournful song).

(End song, blackout).

(End of scene).

Scene 5

(Back in the Castle, full stage. Cakes litter the floor. The audience should shout for Billy but he enters slowly looking downcast, forlorn and full of melancholy. He speaks to the audience).

Billy It's been some time since Snow White ate that apple and the dwarves have continued to watch over her. I have not been able to eat a single cake. I simply have no interest in them anymore. My Battenberg's been battered, my Black Forest Gateaux's suffering deforestation and my Victoria Sponge is, *(does Queen Victoria imitation)* no longer amused.

(Billy sits on a chair at the side of the stage his head in his hands).

(Cake Bandit has been following him, picking up the cakes as Billy passes them, though he is looking less pleased with each one he collects as he realises that Billy has no interest in them anymore).

(Cake Bandit sits down next to Billy).

Cake Bandit What's wrong Billy?

Billy *(Still sad)*. Oh hello Cake Bandit.

Cake Bandit There are some cakes over there, see if you can beat me to them. *(Stands up as if to race him).*

Billy I won't if you don't mind my cake eating competitor. You help yourself though, fill your boots.

Cake Bandit But it's no fun without you. Whatever's got into you?

Billy I'm so sad Mr Bandit. The saddest most sadly sadness that this sad world has ever known.

Cake Bandit Has PoundBakery (*or other local bakery*) gone into administration?

Billy No much worse than that.

Cake Bandit It canq be (*hysterical*).

Billy Itq true.

Cake Bandit (*Cake Bandit stops crying abruptly and is back to normal*). What is?

Billy Snow White is still lying dead.

Cake Bandit (*Hysterical again*). Oh no I canq bear it not Snow White. Why is it always the good that die young? She had the world at her feet, so much promise, a life unfulfilled, a flame snuffed out just as it was burning at its brightest. (*Calm again*). Hang on, still dead, are you absolutely sure?

Billy Yes, quite sure, it is beyond doubt.

Cake Bandit How do you know?

Billy Because I spoke to Mirror and he said (*in a spooky mirror like accent*) she is not in this world.

Cake Bandit Well if not in this one, where is she then?

Billy If sheq not in this world then she must be in the next.

Cake Bandit Is she now? Because actually, every night I leave this world for another one.

Billy You mean you go to Lytham? (*Or some such local night spot*).

Cake Bandit No silly. I mean that sometimes when Iqn sleeping I dream Iqn a bird, or playing centre forward for Blackpool FC (*or another local club*).

Billy I get it. Although Snow White playing up front might be an improvement!

Cake Bandit So you see when Iqn dreaming I could be anywhere in the whole world, doing anything, but for all the world, I am still in this one.

Billy And what, you think that Snow White is merely asleep?

Cake Bandit (*Putting arm around Billy*). I donq know that for sure, but Iqve been to the dwarves cottage and she looks the same today as she did not so long ago when she was in the castle.

Billy You may be on to something Cake Bandit. Perhaps she hasnq changed after all.

Cake Bandit So now do you fancy a race to that cream bun over there? (*Indicates bun on the floor*).

Billy (*Enthused again*). Sorry my banditry friend but I have much more important work to do. (*To audience*) People all hope has not been lost. I believe that Snow White may not be dead and just in an unconscious sleep, (*adds as an afterthought*) though I fear Blackpool FC (*or another local club*) are without a discernible pulse.

(*Squirrel appears and whispers to Billy*).

Billy Hold on. My friend tells me that a prince and his entourage are on their way to visit Snow White, maybe they will be able to help? Now, we have only one more thing to worry about and that's the wicked stepmother.

(*Blackout, curtain*).

(*End scene*).

Scene 6

(*Front of tabs in Stepmother's boudoir. She is preening herself. Mirror is also there*).

Stepmother Mirror, it is time for my weekly check in. You know the question and the answer so make yourself useful.

Mirror Wicked queen you have performed some dreadful deeds but I fear what you have done to Snow White is your worst.

Stepmother (*Sarcastically*) Everyone's a critic! (*Goes into rhyme*).

Mirror *Mirror standing there,*

Tell me true, am I fair?

Am I the fairest in the land?

Or is there someone else to hand?

Mirror No, the answer is the same as last time. (*Rhyming back*).

There is no one fairer than yourself who lives upon this land

There was and her names Snow White, but she suffered by your hand

She's in limbo neither alive nor dead but you must remember this

One day she might return to life brought back by a true loves kiss.

Stepmother Thank you Mirror for your warning but it's hardly likely is it? (*To audience*). Who said fruit was good for you? Ha ha ha haaahhh!

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(Mirror and Stepmother exit).

(Curtains open onto the dwarves cottage. Snow White is laid out on a table surrounded by flowers and the dwarves are round the table as if in mourning. Some are dabbing their eyes and blowing their noses looking upset indeed).

Drowsy *(Whispers to Smarty).*

Smarty Yes, she still looks very beautiful.

(All the dwarves sigh as one).

All Ahhhhhhh!

Grouchy She's obviously not dead, but might as well be. It must be a dreadful spell the wicked stepmother has wrought.

Bossy Well, is there no way to break it? I'm a bit peckish and could even fancy a bit of her squirrel, I mean chicken pie.

Shy *(To audience).* As usual Bossy is thinking about his stomach. I just wish there was a way we could bring Snow White back to this world.

(Just then noises off. The sound of horses perhaps and of men speaking.)

Smiley Oh no mad ben. *(Pointing off).*

Smarty Mad ben? Ah bad men! Quick guard Snow White.

(They all gather round Snow White as if protecting her)

(Enter the prince, the three huntsmen plus as many chorus as possible. The prince is the handsome hero type. He wears a royal crown and should look like a prince).

Grouchy Stop there! Who are you and what do you want?

Prince I am Prince Phillippe from the land of Coronovia. Weeks ago when my three trusted huntsmen arrived they told of this wondrous angel that sleeps the sleep of death. *(He points to the three huntsmen they are Gary, Larry and Barry).* When I heard their story I was determined to come and see her for myself and wake her.

(The prince sees Snow White and moving the dwarves goes to her side).

Prince *(Almost in awe).* Even in death she is the most beautiful girl I have ever seen. Surely a true loves kiss will wake her? *(Goes to kiss her but is stopped by Grouchy).*

Grouchy Hang on you just can't go slobbering over everyone you see laid out. Wait a minute.

(Grouchy calls all the dwarves together to discuss it. The prince calls his men over and they talk).

Grouchy What do you think? *(Looks at the prince)*. He looks genuine enough.

Bossy It's worth a try and I can have that oven on in a shot.

Smiley I think he's a real prince and we, I mean Snow White has nothing to lose.

Grouchy Ok. What about you Drowsy what have you to say?

Drowsy *(Rubs his eyes as if waking and makes as if to speak out loud then whispers to Smiley)*.

Smarty As Drowsy says he has a crown and servants so he must be a prince and I agree as well. Tell him to get on with it.

Sneezy And I'm not sneezing so he must be alright, I think.

Shy *(To audience)*. Well this is it then. True loves kiss. It's got to work or that's it, shows over!

(Grouchy breaks from the huddle).

Grouchy Well, Prince Phillip of the Underworld regions

Prince Coronavia!

Grouchy Whatever! Get on with it.

(The prince turns his attention again to Snow White. Music could build the tension).

Prince *(To Snow White)*. You're the most beautiful, radiant being I have ever seen. Your story has travelled many hundreds of miles and everything that they have said about you is true and although I have only seen you now I feel that I shall love you forever. *(Turns away from Snow White to speak to Grouchy, music stops)*. She hasn't got a squeaky voice has she?

Grouchy No!

(Bossy exits and the music resumes as the prince returns to Snow White. The chorus or Prince could sing a song here. As the music fades the prince picks the dialogue up).

Prince Good, then I shall indeed love you forever. *(Kisses her and steps back)*. Arise Snow White from your slumber. *(Dramatic music and lights but nothing happens)*.

(Bossy re-enters and the music fades out lights come back up).

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Bossy Has it worked? Ovens on! Chicken pie. Mmmm.

Prince *(Tries again)*. Arise Snow White! *(Still no movement)*.

Shy *(To audience)*. Oh dear this is a bit unfortunate. We have a whole load more script but if we can't wake Snow White that's it. Better pack your crisps up and we'll see you next year.

Prince Stop! This is not the end. If I can't wake her then she will come with me back to my kingdom where I have the best physicians and wizards in the land.

Smarty What? You're in BUPA? Hogwarts?

Sneezy What else can we do? We've got to give it a try. She just can't stay like this forever can she?

Grouchy Then it's with a heavy heart that I ask you to take her and try to restore her to this world.

(All the dwarves remove their caps as the prince directs the huntsmen and some of the chorus to carry Snow White out. As they exit with Snow White the dwarves watch into the wings offering advice).

Bossy Now be careful don't..

Smarty ð . drop her and watch out ð .

Sneezy ð for that ð

Bossy ..squirrel!

(Big off stage clatter).

Grouchy Too late! They've dropped her. Wait! What's going on? *(All the dwarves start to gather round)*.

(The three huntsmen run back on along with the other chorus members).

Gary Well that was unusual *(puts beard on)*.

Larry Very odd *(puts beard on)*.

Barry Not odd, strange *(puts beard on)*.

(The Prince enters).

Prince It's a miracle!

(Snow White enters).

All Dwarves Snow White!

Snow White Hello everyone. *(A little confused)*. Have I been away? *(The dwarves make a fuss of her as Grouchy speaks to the prince)*.

Grouchy *(To the prince – pulls him to one side)*. What happened?

Prince When my inept huntsmen dropped her she fell to the ground and a bit of apple was dislodged from her throat.

Snow White *(As if she is telling the dwarves her story)* ò ò ..and the last thing I remember was eating an apple from the delivery man.

Grouchy *(To Snow White)*. It appears the apple was bewitched and caused you to fall into a never ending sleep of death. But then the prince rescued you.

Snow White *(Turning to the prince and as if seeing him for the first time)*. And rescue me he did.

(She moves to him as he introduces himself).

Prince I am Prince Phillippe from the land of Coronovia. *(He bows. Snow White is immediately in love as is the prince)*.

Snow White And I am Snow White, Princess from the land of Molotovia. *(Curtseys to him)*.

Prince How have you ended up here amongst all these *(pause)* men?

Snow White If I was to say it was a long story I wouldn't be lying.

(All the dwarves nod and agree).

Prince *(Goes down on one knee)*. Then Snow White if you will be my wife you will have the rest of your life to tell me about it.

Snow White *(She takes his hand as a sign of acceptance)*.

(Lights soften and they step forward. Curtains close).

(Song from Snow White and Prince).

(End of song).

Prince Now my love I'll take you away to my kingdom where we will be married at once and rule as king and queen for the rest of our lives.

(They embrace and exit).

(End of scene).

(Blackout).

Scene 7

(Front of tabs in Stepmothers boudoir. Mirror is also on).

(Opportunity perhaps for a duet or just a solo).

Stepmother Yknow Mirror, its hard being the most beautiful woman in this land, the constant facials, ye olde paparazzi. All that standing still while they draw you.

Mirror Yeh, Iye heard a good rubber can take pounds off you.

Stepmother Snipe all you will but its taken a good deal of effort to be the most beautiful woman in this land.

Mirror And lets not forgot the enchanted clothing, poison and mystical fruit.

Stepmother Whatever are you trying to say?

Mirror Do I need to spell it out? *(As if hearing something)*. Hang on, news flash coming in. Go on ask me?

Stepmother Ask you what?

Mirror Yknow, the question?

Stepmother Not again. Its always the same answer. Its me of course.

Mirror Oh go on just for old time sake.

Stepmother Alright, *(As if repeating an old hackneyed saying that she already knows the answer to)*. Mirror Mirror on the wall who is the fairest of them all?

Mirror *(Audience)* Well Im glad she asked. *(Back to Stepmother)*.

You, my Queen, are fair so true.

But a new young Queen is fairer than you.

Also *(name of famous good looking celebrity)* has moved in round the corner and is a lot better looking than you!

Stepmother *(Annoyed but to audience)*. Well, *(sarcastically)* hurrah! No mention of Snow White so it seems she has at least succumbed to my evil magic. But who can this pretty upstart be? Perhaps I should pay her a visit, Iye some Red Superlicious left over. Maybe *(name of famous good looking celebrity)* would like one as well.

(Nurse Edith rushes in).

Edith There you are your slyness. *(Curtseys)*.

Stepmother What?

Edith An invitation, Your (*emphasising*) Highness

Stepmother Give it here woman (*looks to the audience*), or whatever you are.

Edith It smells lovely and it's come all the way from Coronovia.

Stepmother Coronovia you say. (*Reads invite*).

The King and Queen respectfully request

Your presence, as an honoured guest

Your beauty is legend, your kingdom is fine

You have a nice castle but it's not as good as mine!!

Stepmother (*To audience*). How timely. (*To Mirror*). Is this the young queen you spoke of?

Mirror (*Turns off light. Goes dark*).

Stepmother (*To Audience*) How can there be someone more beautiful than I?

Mirror (*Light back on and indicating Nurse Edith who is still stood there*). She's more beautiful than you are. (*Light off*).

Stepmother (*To audience*). If nothing else it will be interesting. I wonder where I put my spare corset?

(*Blackout*).

(*End of scene*).

Scene 8

(*Opens on a full stage. It is the castle scene but slightly different as they are now in the kingdom of Prince Phillip and he has married Snow White. All the chorus are on along with the stepmother perhaps dressed differently as they are in a different kingdom. The huntsmen are present but are still in disguise. Billy is there dressed as a page boy*).

(*An opening song may be appropriate*).

(*End of song Billy steps forward*).

Billy *(In his best announcers voice) (To Stepmother), Your Highness, (To the rest of the court) my lords, ladies and gentlemen may I introduce their Highnesses, the new King and Queen of Coronovia!*

A big fanfare ensues and the entire chorus cheer except for Stepmother who moves to the side to get a better look at them particularly the queen who is so beautiful. The king and queen (Prince and Snow White) enter. Snow White has her face partially obscured by a veil or fan. Once on stage she reveals her face and the stepmother gasps.

Stepmother Ohhhhh!

(The chorus turn to her and she feigns a coughing fit).

(All chorus laugh).

Stepmother *(Sarcastically).* No, no, I'm quite alright, thank you for your concern.

Snow White *(Steps forward).* Thank you all for coming. My husband and I ÷ ..

(Chorus laugh and clap).

÷ ÷ are grateful for your good wishes and huge amount of presents which I can't wait to open.

(Chorus laugh again).

Before the festivities start I would like to present something myself. *(She points at the three huntsmen)* You three come here. *(They look around as if Snow White could mean another 'three')*. Yes you three! *(They move forward)*. kneel! *(They kneel)*.

Snow White First of all I know who you really are. Gary, Larry and Barry the three huntsmen from Molotovia. *(As Snow White speaks they remove their beards and bow their heads ashamed. The stepmother can react and be quite angry).* And through your inept ways you actually saved my life by dropping me and thereby releasing me from the hold of the enchanted apple.

My dear husband would have you executed for your previous treachery. *(They cling to each other in terror. Snow White continues as if giving a big proclamation).* But, I forgive you and give you your freedom.

(Chorus cheer).

Stepmother *(She can't take anymore and utters an unheard outburst).* Oh come on! They tried to kill you.

Snow White *(Still to Huntsmen).* Also, were it not for what you did I would not have met my wonderful friends the magnificent seven from the woods who kept me safe.

Stepmother *(To nobody in particular)*. Really! Three near death experiences and all they can sing is Hi Ho. You actually do live in the realms of fantasy.

Snow White *(She continues unaware)*. Also to the animals in the woods who kept me company, I thank you.

(Chorus cheer and they chat amongst themselves as the Stepmother rants to the audience).

Stepmother Those ravenous squirrels would have eaten her in a heartbeat. I can't take this any longer! *(Now directed to Snow White. The chorus stop and listen and react to what she is saying)*. You! With your beautiful complexion and flowing dark hair, I can't stand you. You have been a thorn in my side since I first met you with your simpering ways. I should have done away with you then. But no you just kept smiling at me and liking me and doing nice things for me. It makes me feel ill! *(She now realises that her outburst is in full view of the court and the Prince)*. Your Majesty, I don't know what has come over me, perhaps I am under a spell, I feel faint *(pretends to swoon)*.

Prince: So, this is the evil stepmother who tried to hurt you?

Stepmother *(Stops swooning resignedly)*. Kill, actually.

Prince Er kill you. *(To Snow White)*. What would you have me do with her?

Snow White I should have her executed really for all she has tried to do to me. But I can't do that. So she must be banished from both Coronovia and Molotovia for ever to earn her living amongst the beasts of the swamp. *(Turns to Gary, Larry and Barry)* And whilst you have your freedom it comes at a price. You must make sure she never returns so you will be her guardians for as long as she lives. Take her away.

(Gary, Larry and Barry grab the stepmother and take her off to the cheers of the chorus).

Prince And now that has all been resolved, let us carry on with the festivities.

(Music strikes up and the chorus pick up the mood).

Billy Your Majesties may I introduce your friend and long time glassware, The Mirror. *(Enters with lights flashing and dancing)*.

Your friends from the forest, the Seven Dwarves. *(They all enter dancing)*.

And your nurse since you were a baby, Edith. *(She runs on and gives Snow White a big hug and then curtseys to the two)*.

Billy *(To audience)* And they all lived happily ever after!

(End song).

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(End scene).

(Curtain).

Scene 9

(Song sheet in front of tabs with Billy, Edith and Cake Bandit).

Billy *(To audience)*. That all ended quite well didn't it. I'm glad they got rid of that horrible stepmother. *(Nurse Edith and Cake Bandit enter)*. Hey Nurse Edith, what are you doing here? *(Sees Cake Bandit)*. And with the Cake Bandit as well?

Edith Cake Bandit? What are you talking about Billy?

Billy There, next to you. *(As if introducing him)*. Hello, this is the Cake Bandit, my nemesis, the one who steals all my cakes.

Edith Oh this isn't the Cake Bandit, this is my niece, Poppy. *(To Cake Bandit)*. Take that silly mask off.

(Cake Bandit takes off her disguise to reveal she is a girl).

Billy Poppy! You mean the Cake Bandit is a girl?

Edith Well, I am fairly sure my niece is a girl, otherwise she would be my nephew, but I don't know anything about this Cake Bandit.

Billy But what about the mask and the cape and...

(Edith interrupts).

Edith She's always changing, last year it was Frozen, the year before that it was Pirates of the Caribbean and this year it's Zorro.

Poppy Sorry Billy, but I so enjoyed our little game.

Billy But you're...you're...you're...

Edith She's Poppy!

Billy No, you're beautiful. *(Quite taken with her)*.

Poppy I just wanted to get your attention Billy and I knew you loved cakes and then one thing led to another.

Billy So, you're not really trying to steal my cakes.

Poppy No, not at all, and in fact I have made one especially for you. *(A splendid cake is brought on)*.

Billy This is fantastic, unbelievable.

Poppy What the cake?

Billy No! you. I feel like I'm on top of the world, I feel like dancing, like shouting, like singing.

Poppy and Edith Like singing a song together?

Billy Exactly!

(Music starts for songsheet. They all sing getting the audience involved with actions etc.)

(End of song sheet which might be a couple of iterations they shout their goodbyes and exit.)

(Curtains open full stage for the final walk down music and the company enter to make their bows. At the end of the walk down all the main characters line up for the final rhyme.)

Billy ***Snow White has found her true love and it looks like I have too.***

Cake Bandit ***We don't fight over cakes at all. We make them big enough for two (Perhaps share a bite of a big cake).***

Nurse Edith ***Both my charges are now happy so I can think just of myself. Now where are those burly woodsmen to take me off this shelf?***

Gary ***We almost let the side down but didn't follow through.***

Larry ***I mean, who could kill the fair Snow White.***

Barry ***Knowing they'd face the likes of you? (Looking at Edith).***

Larry ***A lucky slip got us off the hook and is a lesson for us all***

Barry ***Do not swallow your food too quick, chew it first to make it small.***

Grouchy ***Can we get this over with, time is running late?***

Bossy ***Yes you're right, I'm with you, it's time that we ate.***

Smiley ***I'm just happy to be here, but before we end this day, I'd like to say a sentence in the wight ray.***

Sneezy ***I always have a hanky, it's something that I do whenever she's around here she make me ah ah ah (says the next bit which obviously doesn't rhyme) actually I'm alright.***

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Shy *I'm so glad Snow's so happy, just wish it was with me but I suppose this is it, the way it's meant to be.*

All *Ahhhh.*

Smarty *(Turns to Drowsy). So what do you want me to say for you, just come and whisper near?*

(All chorus react when they actually hear Drowsy speak in a posh voice).

Drowsy *Your hairy lughole in this case is not required my dear. I did have quite bit to say about this fifth rate show but my gagging clause has bound me so now you'll never know.*

Stepmother *So, finally I get my chance. To tell you some home truths. That wretched Snow White's hideous and her prince is so uncouth. Those dwarves are such an irritant, those weak woodsmen (mockingly) think they're strong. Yet it's little old me who's banished. Did I do something wrong?*

(Not in rhyme, speaking to Mirror).

Mirror could I just ask you one teeny weeny little question?

Mirror *No! I'm tired of people asking who's the fairest of them all. We all have beauty in us whether short (looks at dwarves) or thin or tall. So at Christmas time remember it's not the look that we achieve, it's about the love we give to others and the love that we receive.*

(Final song). (Final bow). (Close curtain).

(End show).