

NODA Presents

# **The Old Woman Who Lived in The Shoe**

## **The Panto!**

**BY DAVID CRUMP**

There was an old woman,  
Who lived in a shoe;  
She had so many children,  
She didn't know what to do.  
She gave them some broth,  
Without any bread;  
She whipped them all soundly,  
And sent them to bed

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## **Noda Pantomimes**

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## Synopsis of Scenes

### ACT 1

- Scene 1: The Village Fete
- Scene 2: Near Farmer Furrow's Farm
- Scene 3: Outside Boot Cottage
- Scene 4: Near Farmer Furrow's Farm
- Scene 5: A Room at Boot Cottage

### ACT 2

- Scene 1: Prologue
- Scene 2: The Cobblers Shop
- Scene 3: Near Farmer Furrow's Farm
- Scene 4: The Bakery
- Scene 5: Near Farmer Furrow's Farm
- Scene 6: Outside Boot Cottage
- Scene 7: Community Song

A note on scenes: The script is designed to work on a stage with limited or no flying facilities so there is always a front of tabs scene between main stage scenes to allow for scene changes. However, if the theatre enables quicker changes then the front of tabs scenes may be incorporated into full stage scenes.

## **Musical Numbers**

### **ACT 1**

Song 1: Walking on Sunshine - Chorus

Song 2: Everybody's got somebody but me (Hunter Hayes) – George

Song 3: I can hear the bells (Hairspray) – Alice

Song 4: My Brother – Eton, Roughly and Tipton

Song 5: Thinking out loud (Ed Sheeran) – Alice and George

Song 6: These boots were made for walking - Nanny

Song 7: My House (Matilda) – Nanny and Kids Chorus

### **ACT 2**

Song 8: Busy doing nothing – Sam and Mr Minute

Song 9: When I grow up (Matilda) – Kids Chorus

Song 10 Hushabye Mountain - Alice

Song 11 Friendship – Sam and Alice

Song 12 Easy Street – Baron, Burt and Barney

Song 13 Man wanted – Nanny

Song 14 Flash Bang Wallop – Chorus

Song 15 Community Song – Farmer Furrow Had a Farm

A note on music: These songs have been suggested as they fit well with the story and the characters, but you can chose alternatives to suit your own production and cast's abilities. Minor adjustments to dialogue in order to introduce the song are permissible, but this should be done with great care. Minor tweaks might be made to lyrics in order to suit the story and characters.

## Characters

**Nanny Rose Trellis** – The Old Woman herself, the Dame who runs the village orphanage at Boot Cottage

**Baron Bootblack** – The Baddie. The Village Squire intent on flattening the village to make room for his new farm – or is he?

**George Bootblack** – Principal Boy. The nephew of Baron Bootblack who falls in love with Alice. He is a New Zealander so needs an Ozzie accent.

**Alice Trellis** – Principal Girl. Eldest daughter of Nanny Rose.

**Arthur Minute** – The Cobbler. He is a ‘Geppetto’ type character, a heart of gold but a bit absent minded. He has trouble pronouncing his ‘s’ as he has a lisp

**Shiny Sam** – A travelling shoe shine boy, he is the main audience participation character and has a heart of gold.

**Burt and Barney Buckle** - the comedy double act – They are the father and son village idiots & local builders. Barney is the stupider of the two but both are pretty daft. They both wear dungarees and bowler hats. This has also been played as father and daughter in some productions – Burt and Betty Buckle.

**The Genie of the Boot** – Good Spirit protecting the children and Nanny from the Baron. He or she is a bit of a drama queen.

**Farmer Furrow** – The tenant farmer on the Baron’s Estate. He is responsible for providing the wheat for the bread and needs more land. He is a jolly, likeable soul who doesn’t realise the Baron has an evil plan. His is a strong comedy part as he is a consistent comic link between scenes and should be played with a west country accent.

**Mrs Bun the Baker** – The Baker is pompous and full of her own self importance as chairwoman of the shopkeepers guild. Her bakery is doing very well and needs to expand, she needs more wheat so supports the expansion of the farm. Could be changed to a man if this suits your cast, with minor amendments from ‘she’ to ‘he’ in the script.

**Miss Take The Schoolteacher** - She is a likeable character but is at her wits end with the children.

**Eton** – A boy of about eight, he is a geeky brainy child, who is at the ”why?” stage.

**Roughley** – The tearaway. A boy of about seven who is clearly the trouble maker.

**Tipton Cut** – A girl of about three. She is very cute but knows how to wrap people round her little finger. Depending on the location of your panto her name should be changed to some other backstreet location – Tipton Cut being a Black Country canal basin!

*The Children Should be Played by Adults*

**ACT 1****Scene 1: The Village Fete**

*(The scene is the square in the Village of Cuddleton. There is a central podium and a banner saying 'Cuddleton Village Fete', bunting, etc. There is a large ribbon across the podium.)*

**SONG 1: Walking on Sunshine - Chorus**

*(At the end of the song Mrs Bun enters, she steps onto the Podium, there are cheers from the crowd. She wears a chain of office around her neck.)*

Mrs Bun: Thank you Ladies and Gentlemen. As chairman of the Shopkeepers' Guild, it is my pleasure to declare the Cuddleton village fete open!

*(The Crowd cheer as he cuts the ribbon.)*

Mrs Bun: There'll be Morris Dancing later, but first there's free cider tasting in the beer tent *(The crowd exit at a gallop!)* Does that appeal to anyone? *(noticing they're gone)* Oh, 'ere wait for me!! *(He exits)*

*(Sam enters, he is carrying a shoe shine box and has polish on his face.)*

Sam: Shoe shine! Shine your shoes, come on roll up. Where is everybody? *(Noticing the audience)* Oh thank goodness you're here – I thought I'd turned up on the wrong night! Hello boys and girls. There is a fete here today isn't there? *(Audience shout yes!)* I said, is there a fete here today? *(Audience shout yes louder)* Great, I'm on the lookout for customers, I shine shoes you see. Oh I should introduce myself – I'm Sam, Shiny Sam to my friends, not that I've got many friends. To be honest I haven't got any friends. I'm an orphan you see *(Audience Ahh,)* It's sadder than that *(Audience Ahh louder)*, and I wander from village to village trying to make a living shining shoes – Shiny Sam the Shoe Shine Boy that's me. I know, will you be my friends? *(Audience shout yes!)* I said will you be my friends? *(Audience shout yes louder)* That's brilliant, I know when I come on will you shout 'Shiny Sam the shoe shine boy!' and then I'll know I'm not on my own. Shall we try it? Right then *(He runs off and back on again)* Hello folks! *(Audience shout)* Oh dear, that wasn't very good was it? Let's try again *(He does this as many times as necessary to warm up the audience)*. Now take your right hand hold it high, now wipe the spit of the back of the head in front of you. Perhaps, we'll just stick to 'Hello Sam' Can you remember that? Brilliant, thanks boys and girls, it's lovely to have some new friends. Well I won't do much business standing here chatting to you lot, see you later!

*(Sam exits. Chorus enter looking miserable. Farmer Furrow and Mrs Bun enter downstage.)*

Mrs Bun: Sorry the cider ran out folks but there's tea and coffee in the vicarage garden.

*(Chorus voice their obvious disapproval)*

Villager 1: If you will let Rose Trellis into a beer tent what do you expect!

Mrs Bun: I didn't know she'd turn up, *(To Farmer Furrow)* I don't know how she's got the nerve to show her face around here.

*(Nanny enters, she carries a shopping basket and a bottle of cider.)*

Nanny: Morning all!

Furrow: I don't know how she's got the nerve to show that face anywhere.

Villagers: Get out of it! You should be ashamed of yourself!

Nanny: What's up with you lot?

Villager 2: You've just single handedly drained the free cider tent.

Nanny: There was something about it I really liked.

Villager 2: What?

Nanny: The word 'free'.

*(Chorus exit moaning about her.)*

Mrs Bun: That's not why you're unpopular. It's this business with the Baron.

Nanny: Never mind that old swindler. Now Bunny I need to pick up my bread order for the kiddies.

Mrs Bun: Sorry Nanny but I'm not prepared to supply you any more until you come to your senses.

Nanny: What! But what'll I feed all the children?

Mrs Bun: That's your problem.

Nanny: Come on, we've been friends a long time. I seem to remember you and me being more than friends once upon a time Farmer Furrow.

Furrow: Ar, well you're going back now Nanny, I only had a small holding in them days.

Nanny: It never bothered me.

Mrs Bun: Listen, the Baron's agreed to buy every house in the village there's only two people who are being stubborn, you and the cobbler.

- Furrow: You're standing in the way of progress Nanny.
- Nanny: It's not progress to knock down the village just so you can expand your farm.
- Furrow: It's not just me, Mrs Bun is expanding an' all.
- Nanny: Yes well she wants to lay off her pies.
- Mrs Bun: Demand for bread is going through the roof, my scones are selling like hot cakes, I need more wheat.
- Furrow: And I need more land to grow it on. This way we can turn this valley into wheat fields.
- Nanny: I've lived here all my life, I'm not moving out of my little place.
- Mrs Bun: Look, everyone's living in houses that are falling down. You're living in a old boot for goodness sake.
- Furrow: Then there's the lady who lives in a hat.
- Mrs Bun: The binman, he lives in a skip
- Furrow: That fella what lives in a jockstrap.
- Nanny: He's a very unsavoury sort.
- Mrs Bun: It'll be lovely to have new houses, I need a larger building for the bakery.
- Nanny: Rubbish, what better place for a bakery than in a cottage loaf? Come on how about that bread?
- Mrs Bun: Not until you change your mind.
- Nanny: What about a roll? (*suggestively to Farmer Furrow*) You always used to like a roll Farmer Furrow.
- Furrow: Gerrof!
- Mrs Bun: My decision is final.
- Furrow: Do as you're told or there'll be trouble.
- Nanny: (*To audience*) Oh he's so masterful.

(*Mrs Bun and Farmer Furrow exit. Sam enters. Nanny blows her nose loudly and starts to cry.*)

Sam: Hello folks! (*Audience react*) Are you all right?

- Nanny: Not really, I've had a very up and down sort of morning.
- Sam: How do you mean?
- Nanny: It started with trampolining before breakfast, then I got to the fete early and I struck lucky straight away.
- Sam: On the tombola?
- Nanny: No, I met this chap on the Waltzers. Moustache, scar, broken nose - I'd managed to disguise all those with make up - so I went over and chatted him up. He was gorgeous, just like you.
- Sam: Thanks very much, you're not bad yourself.
- Nanny: Flatterer. I was beautiful once, briefly from the back. Now when I lie in the garden the cat tries to bury me.
- Sam: You were saying, about this fella you met at the fair?
- Nanny: Oh yes, well he took me back to his place, you should have seen it, there were cuddly toys everywhere, turned out he was a real softy. I said to him, have I been the most exciting woman you've ever loved?
- Sam: And what did he say?
- Nanny: He said I could have any prize from the bottom shelf.
- Sam: Oh.
- Nanny: So I've been drowning my sorrows in the beer tent. Now it seems like the whole village is against me.
- Sam: Why would you think that?
- Nanny: Baron Bootblack, he's the squire round here, he wants to redevelop the whole village, replace all our houses with new ones up the hill.
- Sam: That sounds nice.
- Nanny: A couple of us won't sell. Anyway, I don't know why I'm telling you all this, who are you?
- Sam: I'm Shiny Sam the Shoeshine boy.
- Nanny: Shiny Sam, the shoe shine boy? That's not easy to say with nocturnal teeth.
- Sam: Nocturnal teeth?

- Nanny: Yes, they come out at night. I'm Rose Trellis, but you can call me Nanny.
- Sam: Don't you like the name Rose?
- Nanny: Bit of a thorny subject, everyone calls me Nanny cause of all my children.
- Sam: How many have you got?
- Nanny: I've just had another baby, that makes twenty five. I decided I wanted to know a child starting with twenty five letters of the alphabet.
- Sam: How come you didn't want to know a child starting with all twenty six?
- Nanny: I don't know Y. I'm officially the oldest mother in the country.
- Sam: That's amazing.
- Nanny: Not really, once you've had your fourth it's like shelling peas. I've got so many I don't know what to do. I've taken in all sorts of waifs and strays, so my place has become the village orphanage.
- Sam: I'm an orphan myself.
- Nanny: Don't look at me, I can't take anymore. I'm in the middle of doing the place up. That's another reason I won't sell to the Baron.
- Sam: It must be costing him a fortune to buy all the houses.
- Nanny: It's a buyers market, haven't you heard there's a regression? And I have to spend a fortune on essentials like nappies, baby milk, rusks, ferrero roche, gin.
- Sam: I know how you feel, I'm constantly hard up.
- Nanny: Really? I'll make a note of that.
- Sam: I can't remember the last time I could afford chocolate.
- Nanny: It's the credit crunchie. Look I've got a basketfull here I've been saving up for the kiddies. Some of them are only just past their sell by date. Would you like some?
- Sam: Yes please, and could my friends have some too?
- Nanny: Oh, hello! I didn't see you sitting in the dark eavesdropping you nosey parkers.
- Sam: Would you like some sweeties? (*Audience – Yes!*)

Nanny: I don't know, they look fat enough already to me. Are you sure you want some? (*Audience – yes!*). Put your hands up and shout 'I want some sweeties'. (*They do*). Oh no, that's not very good, lets sing it. Come on (*sings*) 'I want some sweeties' (*They do*). Still not right. There's something wrong here – lets just try the left hand side of the audience – come on shout 'I want some sweeties' (*They do*). No still not right, how about just the first ten rows – that's it 'I want some sweeties' (*they shout*) – No, no still something wrong – lets try just this second row here – go on. (*they shout – she points out one man*) It's you mate. What's your name? (*Let's assume it's Keith*) I can see we're going to have trouble with you Keith – now pay attention, because I'll be asking questions later.

Sam: Come on Nanny. (*They throw sweets*).

(*They throw out the sweeties to the audience.*)

Sam: It's very generous of you to share your sweets with us.

Nanny: That's me all over. A big sweetie.

Sam: What can I do in return?

Nanny: You can do me a favour, will you drop my daughter's shoes into the cobblers? (*Gets shoes from her basket*) They're a bit smelly, but it's all right because they've been in with the sweets. I'm running late, the kiddies will be finishing school soon so I must get back.

Sam: Will do, where does he live?

Nanny: In a surgical truss on the High Street. You can't miss it, it's holding up the two buildings either side of it.

Sam: I'm sure I'll find it. And I'll get a tin of new shoe polish from him while I'm at it.

Nanny: You'll be lucky, it's in very short supply you know.

Sam: Is it?

Nanny: Oh yes, we're experts on polish round here. You know Baron Bootblack I was telling you about him earlier?

Sam: Yes.

Nanny: Good, I'm glad you're following the plot. He made his money mining polish.

Sam: I didn't know shoe polish was mined.

Nanny: Where did you think it came from?

- Sam:           Wilkinsons (*or other well known shop*).
- Nanny:        Yes, but it has to be dug out of the ground first, it's a very rare commodity these days. It's a real problem for me, what with living in a shoe.
- Sam:           You live in a shoe?
- Nanny:        Yes, that's why the cobbler's on my side. He's renovating the place for me, there's not many cobblers who could handle a shoe repair on that scale?
- Sam:           How big is it?
- Nanny:        Size 134. I got it at a giant boot sale, it's my pride and joy and I'm not letting the Baron knock it down.
- Sam:           I'm on your side.
- Nanny:        You're the only one. I don't know what I'm going to give the kiddiewinks for their tea, the baker's just cancelled my bread order.
- Sam:           What about something simple, like a broth?
- Nanny:        Broth, where do I buy that from?
- Sam:           If you buy sweets in a sweet shop, cakes in a cake shop and fish in a fishmongers, you must buy broth in a ....
- Nanny:        Perhaps I'll make my own.
- Sam:           Don't worry, I'll help you save your shoe - I'm sure my new friends will help too – won't you? (*Audience – Yes!*)

*(Chorus enter gradually.)*

- Nanny:        (*To Audience*) Oh you are lovely. If you meet me at the stage door after, I'll show you my appreciation – especially you Keith (*pointing to the man on the front row*). Now Sam get a wriggle on, he stops cobbling early on fete days.
- Sam:           Will do. Bye folks!

*Sam exits.*

- Nanny:        What a nice lad. Oh look here come the Morris dancers. (*Morris dancers dance on*) Morning Morris, Morris, Morris, Morris (*to audience*) isn't it funny how they're all called Morris....Bye folks!

*(She exits. Mrs Bun and Farmer Furrow enter. Mrs Bun steps on the podium.)*

Mrs Bun: Now you will all know that this is an exciting year, with plans for the new village well underway. And it's all thanks to one man, so lets put our hands together for the one and oily, I mean one and only Baron Bootblack!

Chorus: Hooray!!

*(They freeze. There is a sinister chord – the Baron has entered at the back of the crowd and steps onto the Podium. Lights change and he is in a green spotlight.)*

Baron: Ha Ha Ha! What idiots! The entire village thinks I'm a hero if only they knew! You see, I'm no hero, I'm a villain, yes that's right. I'm a bad 'un.

*(He steps downstage left still in green light.)*

Baron: Who were you expecting, the tooth fairy? I'm Baron Bootblack, I have black hair, a black outfit, a black beard and a black heart.

*(There is a puff of smoke. Genie enters into spotlight stage right.)*

Genie: And black teeth.

Baron: And black tee.... What! Who are you?

Genie: I am the Genie of the Boot.

Baron: The what?

Genie: The Genie of the Boot. I am a magical spirit who hides away inside Nanny's shoe.

Baron: What? That scruffy old shoe is so crowded with 'kiddies' *(he grimaces as he says this)* you couldn't hide Kate Moss *(or other thin celebrity)* sideways in there.

Genie: I am in her soul.

Baron: Oh very funny.

Genie: *(Sings)* 'I'm a soul man'

Baron: Give me strength.

Genie: Nanny is a wonderful woman, she has the heart of a lion.

Baron: Yes, a man eating lion. She's a trouble maker.

Genie: Without her, twenty five little children would be homeless.

Baron: That would be a bonus, I could give them all jobs down my shoe polish mines, unpaid work but rewarding, for me!

Genie: You really are a nasty piece of work aren't you?

Baron: I try, I try. Pretty soon your old boot will be mine. I'm going to own all the houses and then I'm going to flatten them.

Genie: Oh yes, your plan to build a new village. I know all about it.

Baron: Oh you do, do you?

Genie: Whatever you're up to, me and my friends here will stop you. They've already offered to help Shiny Sam the shoe shine boy save the orphanage.

Baron: Slimy Spam the shlo..*(gets tounge twisted)* Who?

Genie: You will help us wont you boys and girls?

Audience: Yes!

Baron: Be quiet. You pathetice excuse for an audience.

Genie: I shan't detain you any longer, I suggest you get back to enjoying the fete.

Baron: Enjoying myself? With that lot? It's a fete worse than death.

Genie: Keep a look out for me boys and girls, bye!

Baron: Now, back to business, where was I? Oh yes, I was conning the villagers out of their homes. Ha ha, Oh boo all you like, then sit back, relax and watch a master villain at work.

*(He steps up to the podium. Lights change and chorus unfreeze and continue their applause as before.)*

Baron; Thank you, thank you for that warm welcome. I am here to announce that I've just appointed the men who will be building your new houses.

Villagers: Hooray! Who are they? When will they be built?

Baron: They are the well known local family firm of Buckle and Son.

Villagers: Oh no! You're joking?

Mrs Bun: Really Baron, are you sure? They're not exactly.....

Baron: I believe in supporting local tradesmen and here they are now.

*(Burt and Barney enter, Barney has wellies on with L and R (the wrong way around), he has a black eye. Barney stands on one leg.)*

Villager: *(To Barney)* Are you Burt Buckle?

Barney: No this is Burt Buckle, he's my dad.

Burt: That's right, I'm Burt and he's Barney, he thinks I'm his dad.

Villager: I've been trying to get hold of you for days, I asked you if I could have a skip outside my house on Monday.

Burt: I'm not stopping you.

*(Chorus start to exit in disgust. Baron moves downstage to them.)*

Burt: I tell you Barney, with this big job for the Baron, we're going places.

Villager: The sooner the better *(exits)*

Barney: What places are we going Dad? Will it be like a holiday?

Burt: We've already been on holiday son.

Barney: Where did we go dad?

Burt: I don't know, your mother bought the tickets.

Baron: Buckle you're late. I told you to be here at eight thirty.

Burt: Hang about. *(He extends the tape measure on his belt)* thirty eight, that's the trouble, we're two inches too soon.

Baron: You're a bit of a nut aren't you Buckle.

Burt: Yes, that's why me and the lad work together so well, I'm a nut and he's a spanner.

Baron: *(noticing Barney's black eye)* Why has he got a black eye?

Burt: Last night's audience were throwing vegetables.

Baron: What hit you?

Barney: A tin of carrots.

Baron: I see. Now listen, my nephew is due to arrive any minute, he's flown over from New Zealand, he's a Polish engineer.

Burt: I thought you said he was from New Zealand

Baron: Polish, not Polish (*as in the country*). If you see him send him over to Bootblack Hall.

Burt: Right you are, we'll carry his luggage.

Baron: Why?

Barney: If he's flown over from New Zealand his arms'll be tired.

Baron: I give up. (*Baron exits.*)

Burt: So now you've met the Baron. It's not easy meeting men of power and influence is it?

Barney: No, but I thought he handled it very well.

(*Builders exit opposite side. Sam enters.*)

Sam: Hello folks! (*Audience – Hello Sam!*) I've dropped off Nanny's shoes at the cobblers, and I've bought his last tin of shoe polish. Mind you I haven't been able to find a single customer.

(*George enters.*)

Sam: Hang on, hang on.....my luck might be about to change.

George: (*In a New Zealand accent*) G'day mate, is this Cuddleton?

Sam: It certainly is, home of Shiny Sam's Shoe Shine, the finest.....

(*Sam kneels down and goes to polish his shoes.*)

George: No thanks. You can always see your face in my shoes. I'm in the trade you see.

Sam: What you're a shoe shiner too?

George: Strewth no. I mean I'm in polish. I'm a polish engineer.

Sam: That's funny you sound Australian.

George: Polish not....Oh never mind, I get it a lot. And I'm not Australian, I'm a Kiwi. Most of the worlds reserves of polish are down under.

Sam: *(Trying to seem intelligent)* Yes so I understand, underground and that.

George: I mean in the Antipedes.

Sam: Of course you do. Well I can't stand around talking shop with a fellow polish professional, I've work to do.

*(Sam exits, chorus enter – all loved up couples holding hands or arm in arm.)*

George: What a funny bloke. G'day boys and girls. I'm George, it's great being back in England, I haven't been here since I was a nipper. I hear you have some lovely British girls and all my friends are married or have girlfriends so I'm on the lookout for the future Mrs George Bootblack. I know it's wrong to look for a wife, I should really be looking for a single woman. Perhaps finally I'll meet Miss Right!

## **SONG 2 – Everybody's Got Somebody But Me - George**

### **Scene 2: Near Farmer Furrows Farm.**

*(Front of tabs scene - There is a gate and Farmer Furrow is leaning on it as Burt and Barney enter op side.)*

Furrow: If it isn't Burt and little Barny Buckle, I remember you when you were a boy sprout. I don't see as much of you as I used to.

Barney: That's 'cause I wear long trousers now.

Burt: The Baron's got us doing odd jobs for him.

Furrow: You're both odd so that should be all right.

Burt: 'Ere, you still got that pig with the wooden leg?

Furrow: That's a very interesting tale.

Barney: Pigs have got very interesting tails, all curly they are.

Furrow: One night we was all in bed asleep when the farmhouse caught fire. We'd have all been gonners if it weren't for that pig.

Burt: What did it do?

Furrow: It jumped out of its pen, knocked the front door down and woke us all up.

Barney: Blimey!

- Burt: So why has he got a wooden leg?
- Furrow: Not long after he rescued us from the fire, we had a terrible storm, I had to get all my animals to safety, like Noah I was.
- Barney: Dad, when Noah was on the ark, what did he eat?
- Burt: Fish.
- Barney: How did he catch them?
- Furrow: By fishing over the side.
- Barney: He can't have had many.
- Burt: Why not?
- Barney: He only had two worms.
- Furrow: So anyway, with all the rain, I got stranded in the flood. I'd 'ave had it if it weren't for my pig. It heard my cries and went and fetched help. Yep saved my life twice that pig did.
- Barney: You still haven't said why it's got a wooden leg.
- Furrow: When you've got a pig that good you don't eat it all at once. (*Farmer Furrow exits*)
- Barney: I'm not used to being on a farm Dad, all the new sights and sounds.
- Burt: And smells.
- Barney: You're right. 'Ere Dad, is that a cow pat? (*pointing at the ground in front of them*)
- Burt: It looks like a cow pat.
- Barney: (*Kneeling down*) It smells like a cow pat.
- Burt: (*Picking some up*) It certainly feels like a cow pat (*Passing some to Barney*).
- Barney; (*Licking his fingers*) It tastes like a cow pat.
- Burt: Mind you don't step in it. Come on.
- (*They exit. Sam enters, Mr Minute enters opposite side.*)

- Sam: Hello folks! (*Audience hello Sam*). Look, it's the cobbler from the village.
- Mr Minute: Oh it's you again, twice in one day, I've finished those shoes, I was just taking them up to Nanny Rose's.
- Sam: Do you know her?
- Mr Minute: Everyone knows her. I had a little fling with her a few years ago, she was beautiful then, all pink and dimples.
- Sam: She's a bit different now.
- Mr Minute: Yes, now she's all drink and pimples. 'Ere you wouldn't come with me would you?
- Sam: With pleasure I'd like to see this famous place.
- Mr Minute: Good, I don't like going without a chaperone, she's liable to jump on a man if he's on his own.
- Sam: It's not right at her age. How old is she?
- Mr Minute: Let's just say she's approaching middle age for the third time. How was that polish I sold you?
- Sam: I haven't used any yet, no customers. I know, I could cheer up Nanny by offering to clean her giant shoe for her.
- Mr Minute: Oh she'd love that. You're a super lad, what's your name sonny?
- Sam: Shiny Sam the Shoe Shine Boy.
- Mr Minute: Shiny, sham, the ssss. Oh dear. Arthur Minute. Pleased to meet you.
- Sam: We've already met. I bought in those shoes for Nanny remember?
- Mr Minute: Oh yes, so you did. Mind's going. You know the doctor's given me some tablets for memory.
- Sam: Do they work?
- Mr Minute: Do what work?
- Sam: The memory tablets.
- Mr Minute: I don't know, I can't think where I've put them.
- Sam: I'll help you find them if you like.

Mr Minute: You're a good lad. You know I've been looking for someone to help out in the shop, do you fancy a job?

Sam: I don't know much about shoe repairs.

Mr Minute: It's simple really, for instance what do you think cow hide is chiefly used for?

Sam: Holding the cows together?

Mr Minute: We'll work on it, come on.

*(They exit, Alice enters she is not wearing any shoes.)*

Alice: *(Sings)* Oh what a beautiful morning, oh what a beautiful day, I've got a beautiful feeling....

*(George enters opposite side.)*

George: *(Sings)* Everything's going my way!

Alice: Oh! You startled me.

George: Sorry, it's just you have a lovely singing voice.

Alice: Thank you, and you have a lovely...er hat.

George: *(Holding out his hand)* George.

Alice: That's a funny name for a hat.

George: No I mean I'm George.

Alice: Oh, I'm Alice.

George: G'day Alice.

Alice: I haven't seen you in the village before.

George: Just arrived, I'm headed for Bootblack Hall.

Alice: Why would you want to go there? Baron Bootblack's a right nasty piece of work.

George: He's my uncle.

Alice: Oh sorry. You don't sound like you're a local.

- George: My parents moved to New Zealand years ago, I haven't been to the village since I was a boy.
- Alice: Whereabouts in New Zealand are you from?
- George: Walla Walla.
- Alice: I heard you the first time.
- George: Why aren't you wearing any shoes?
- Alice: I've only got one pair and they're at the menders. We don't have a lot of money you see.
- George: Sorry to hear that.
- Alice: All our money goes on food for my brothers and sisters, we used to spend a fortune on bread, now we're having to make do with Mom's gold soup.
- George: Gold soup?
- Alice: Yes, she makes it with twenty four carrots.
- George: I hope it tastes better than it sounds, thanks for the directions. (*He starts to exit*) What a lovely Shelia!

(*George exits.*)

Alice: (*Shouting after him*) It's Alice! Gosh, he's lovely.

### **SONG 3 – I can hear the bells - Alice**

### Scene 3: Outside Boot Cottage

*(A full stage set – outside Boot Cottage. There is a section of white picket fence downstage, and upstage there is a large boot with a practical door in it. The door has two door knockers on it. The boot is as large as possible. There is a pram just behind the fence s.r. There is a wishing well in the garden set u.s.l. Nanny enters.)*

Nanny: Hello boys and girls, still here? You must be gluttons for punishment.

*(Miss Take enters from the door in the shoe, looking decidedly frazzled.)*

Nanny: Oh ‘eck, ‘ere she is, Miss Take the schoolteacher. I’ve got so many kids she comes and does the lessons here now. *(To Miss Take)* Morning!

Miss Take: Nanny, thank heaven you’re back. You really must do something about these children of yours. They’re running amuck.

*(Kids all come running out of the house and into the garden, they are fighting, playing cowboys and indians, whooping, etc. Roughly is holding a watermelon.)*

Nanny: *(politely)* Children! *(no response)* Children! *(no response)*  
*(aggressively)* Kids!! *(no response)*

*(She blows a whistle – they all stop instantly.)*

Nanny: Line up you horrors.

*(They all line up.)*

Nanny: How are they all getting on with their lessons?

Miss Take: *(Walking along the front row)* This one *(pointing to Eton)* is a charming little boy, very bright.

Miss Take: This one *(pointing to Roughly)* on the other hand, well if he was any more stupid, he’d have to be watered twice a week.

Nanny: I gave him an apple for you yesterday, and I wanted to make sure you got it ‘cause they don’t grow on trees you know.

Miss Take: Oh yes, and I gave him a little kiss to say thankyou. Today he bought me this watermelon.

Nanny: Dirty little devil. All right you lot come on, back inside, playtimes over. Left right, left right, left right.

*(The kids all march off into the house.)*

Nanny: You see, they've been living in a shoe so long they're all in step. Instep, get it. *(To audience)* Oh please yourselves.

Miss Take: I must go, wedding planning to get on with. *(She exits)*

Nanny: Ooh yes wedding planning, *(to audience)* the teacher's marrying the dairy farmer, it'll never work out, they're like chalk and cheese.

*(Children exit to house. Nanny ushers them all in, Tipton, Eton and Roughly are last.)*

Roughly: Mom, can me and Eton play out for another five minutes?

Nanny: All right.

Tipton: Mom, can I play with the boys?

Nanny: No boys are too rough

Tipton: If I find a smooth one can I play with him?

Nanny: If you find a smooth one I'll play with him myself. Five minutes.

*(Nanny exits into the shoe, Roughly takes of Eton's cap and throws it down the well.)*

Eton: I say! That's my cap.

Tipton: Naughty Roughly.

Eton: You rotter.

Roughly: Rotter Roughly, I quite like that.

Eton: I'm going to tell on you, you're terrible you are. And don't stand so close to me, I've just had me breakfast.

#### **SONG 4 – My Brother – Eton, Tipton and Roughly**

*(At end of song, Nanny comes back out of the house.)*

Nanny: Come on that's your lot, get back inside.

*(Kids go inside and Nanny comes downstage. Mr Minute and Sam enter.)*

Nanny: The next song will be sung accapulco, that means without music, on account of how after the song you've just heard the band have walked out.

Sam: Hello folks! *(Audience – hello!)* Hello Nanny!

- Nanny: Hello you two.
- Mr Minute: Garden's looking lovely this year.
- Nanny: Yes, and I've got tomatoes in a glass slipper round the back.
- Sam: What's that pretty flower growing around the door?
- Mr Minute: Oh, my bloomin memory. What's the name of that flower, smells nice but thorny.
- Sam: Rose?
- Mr Minute: That's it! *(To Nanny)* Rose, whats the plant growing around your door?
- Nanny: I don't know - I'm not much of a gardener, last week three of the rocks in my rockery died.
- Mr Minute: I've been telling Sam here all about the Baron.
- Nanny: It's all too much for me at the moment, what with the new baby and everything.
- Mr Minute: Oh yes, congratulations.
- Sam: Did you know Nanny's the oldest mother in Britain?
- Mr Minute: *(To Nanny)* Come on then, let's see him.
- Nanny: You'll have to wait till he cries.
- Sam: Why?
- Nanny: I can't remember where I put him.
- (Baby cries.)*
- Nanny: Oh there he is now. *(She gets him out of the pram)*
- Sam: What makes you so sure Baron Bootblack is a baddie?
- Mr Minute: No doubt about it, you can tell he's a villain, with his hooked nose, his black hair, and his little beady eyes.
- Nanny: Here's my new baby – and this one's mine too.
- Mr Minute: *(Taking him in his arms)* Oh look at the lovely little fella, with his hooked nose, his black hair and his little beady eyes.

- Sam: I still can't get over the fact you've got twenty five children.
- Nanny: Everytime someones says 'shoo' to a child, this is where they come. Only six of them are mine. I've been in love five times.
- Sam: But you said six children.
- Nanny: I was in love with one of them twice. I've buried five husbands.
- Mr Minute: And one of them was actually dead.
- Nanny: Men have never been able to resist me.
- Mr Minute: And they don't half try. *(He passes the baby to Sam)*
- Nanny: Trouble is, I'm bootylicious you see, it's a curse. Mind you there's never been anyone I loved as much as you Arthur.
- Mr Minute: Leave off Nanny.
- Nanny: *(She approaches him intent on a cuddle)* Do you remember kissing me goodnight leaning against this fence all those years ago?
- Mr Minute: *(Backing away)* I've tried to block it out!
- Nanny: Let's do it once more for old times sake.
- Mr Minute: Ah help!
- (She grabs Mr Minute and gives him a big kiss against the fence. He shakes around as if very excited – she eventually lets him go, he staggers forward.)*
- Nanny: Blimey Arthur, what's got into you? You didn't get that excited when we were twenty one.
- Mr Minute: The fence wasn't electrified then.
- Nanny: Oh I'd forgotten that. It's to keep the Baron away. I'm frightened he'll knock the place down while I'm out.
- Sam: You've got a lovely place here *(looking round the garden)* Is that a wishing well?
- Nanny: Yes, it works as well. As well – get it?
- Sam: How do you know it works?
- Nanny: My second husband fell down it.

- Mr Minute: I bought your daughter's shoes back, you owe me five pound per foot.
- Nanny: It's getting very expensive, it'll get to the point where I can't buy them shoes at all. I'll have to paint their feet black and lace up their toes.
- Sam: I was thinking that I'd do you a favour and shine your boot for you, since I've got an extra large tin of polish and no customers
- Nanny: Oh isn't he lovely? I could just eat him up, if only I had a saucepan big enough.
- Sam: *(Passing the baby back to Nanny)* I think he's had a little accident.
- (She smells the baby's bottom.)*
- Nanny: Accident my eye, he does it on purpose. I'll get the kids to do it – they're very dessicated. *(Shouts)* Kids! Get out here.
- Sam: I still can't believe how they all fit in there.
- Nanny: I do have to shoehorn them into bed at night.
- (Eton, Roughly and Tipton enter.)*
- Nanny: Ah, these three are mine, *(pushing forward Eton)* this is Eton.
- Sam: That's an unusual name.
- Nanny: Oh yes, all my kids are named after the place where they were conceived. In his case behind the bike sheds at some posh school.
- Eton: When I grow up I want to be an archaeologist.
- Mr Minute: I wouldn't do that, your career'll be in ruins.
- Nanny: And this is Roughly. That reminds me of the how as well as the where.
- (Pushes Roughly forward – he is holding a jar with a goldfish in it.)*
- Nanny: He's a little tearaway, when he was born he was so ugly the midwife slapped his dad.
- Mr Minute: You're very quiet sonny, are you shy?
- Roughly: Mom gave me a pound not to say anything about your lisp.
- Nanny: Get out of it! Of course when I had those two I was working as a florist, ones a budding genius and the others a bloomin' idiot.

- Mr Minute: *(To Tipton)* And who's this little treasure with the lovely freckles.
- Tipton: Them's measles.
- Nanny: Ah yes, the apple of my eye, the cutest little bubin of them all. Tipton Cut.
- Mr Minute: Measles is a bit like love isn't it. We all have to go through it.
- Nanny: Now Roughly, did you put fresh water in Stanley's jar?
- Sam: Who's Stanley?
- Nanny: His goldfish.
- Roughly: He hasn't drunk the water I gave him yesterday yet. *(Nanny clips him round the ear)*
- Sam: You said you had six children? We've only met four.
- Nanny: Well my eldest boy Greg, he's working in the prison service.
- Roughly: He's in jail.
- Nanny: Thank you Roughly. Go on get back in the house, you're an embarrassment to me. *(The kids exit into the boot)*. *(To Sam)* Greg's on remand accused of stealing a bunch of bananas but we're sure he'll get off on appeal.
- Sam: Greg? That's not a place.
- Nanny: Not Greg, Greggs. I've not been able to eat one of their hot sausage rolls since. And there's my eldest daughter, Alice.
- Sam: Is there a town called Alice?
- Nanny: It was a holiday romance.
- Mr Minute: Where is she?
- Nanny: I've sent her out to get me some new tights.
- Mr Minute: I noticed yours were looking a bit wrinkled.
- Nanny: I'm not wearing any.
- Mr Minute: *(Changing the subject)* Oh look, here she comes now.

*(Alice enters, she is carrying a shopping bag and a large tube of ointment labelled 'Preparation J'.)*

Sam: *(To audience)* Crickey folks – she's gorgeous.

Alice: Sorry I'm late mom, no-one would serve me in the village. I had to go all the way to Snogsville to get them, and I got your cream from the chemist.

Nanny: *(Taking the ointment quickly, then addresses the audience)* It's preparation J, that's like preparation H but two letters stronger. Now, Alice you take the baby and go and set the table, Arthur'll help you. You'll both stop for tea won't you?

Sam: Do we have a choice?

Nanny: No.

Mr Minute: All right, but no more funny business.

Nanny: No chance of that, we used all the good jokes in last years panto.

*(Mr Minute and Alice go into the house.)*

Sam: Can I do anything?

Nanny: I can think of a few things, but first we'll have a cuppa. *(Getting an electric kettle out of the pram)* Tie this kettle to the rope and throw it down the well.

Sam: You can't do that, it's electric.

Nanny: Don't be silly, you can't have an electric well.

Sam: Not the well, the kettle.

Nanny: Of course, silly me – just pull up the bucket then would you?

*(Sam winds up the rope there is a bucket of water on the end of it. Nanny dips the kettle in the bucket instead.)*

Nanny: That's much better.

Sam: Can I have a drink? I'm parched.

Nanny: Help yourself.

*(She pours some of the water out of the kettle into a cup and Sam starts to drink it. Nanny lowers the bucket back down the well.)*

Nanny: 'Course this water's never tasted the same since my husband drowned in it.

*(Sam spits it all over her.)*

Nanny: Now look what you've done.

Sam: Are you all right?

Nanny: Am I all right?

Sam: I asked first.

Nanny: *(Indicating the audience)* Did you see how they all laughed when I got wet then?

Sam: They've got a cruel streak haven't they?

Nanny: I'll show 'em, bring that bucket back up.

*(He winds the handle and a bucket appears from the well, this time it is full of tissue but the audience don't know that.)*

Nanny: Right, we'll see now won't we. *(She goes down into the audience)* Anyone fancy a drink? Come on....*(looking at Keith on the front row)* Not you, you're wet enough for both of us. Here we are, right in the middle, you look like you haven't had a bath for a few months *(To the audience at large)* What do you think folks – shall I? *(Holds the bucket as if about to throw water over them – Audience react)*. All right then you asked for it *(throws the bucket, it is of course just full of confetti)*

Sam: Come on Nanny, you've had your fun.

Nanny: *(By now sitting on Keith's lap on the front row)* Not yet I haven't, for you Keith the fun is just beginning.

Sam: I thought we were having tea?

*(Alice enters from the house)*

Nanny: Spoilsport. *(To man in audience)* Just keep it warm for me Keith, I'll meet you in the interval.

Alice: Mom, we haven't got any milk.

Nanny: Nip along to Farmer Furrows' dairy and squeeze us a pint.

Alice: Won't be long.

*(Alice exits)*

- Sam: A moment without you seems like a year.
- Nanny: (*Who is now back on stage*) You smooth talking devil – all right I give in, I'm all yours. (*She grabs him*)
- Sam: Not you! I meant Alice.
- Nanny: I'll have you know young men want what I've got.
- Sam: Yes, muscles and the ability to grow a moustache
- Nanny: I'm going off you.
- (*They walk to the door.*)
- Sam: 'Ere, why do you have two door knockers?
- Nanny: One's a spare in case the battery runs out in the other one.
- (*They exit into the house. George enters he walks up the garden path.*)
- George: Crikey, what a place!
- (*He stops at the door and knocks on both knockers. Nanny opens it but doesn't really notice him.*)
- Nanny: How unusual a man who bangs twice? I thought that was just the postman.
- George: You had such a lovely pair of knockers I had to try them out.
- Nanny: We don't want your smut round here thank you very much. (*sees how handsome he is*) Oh I don't know though.
- George: Is this Boot Cottage?
- Nanny: Blimey, he's observant as well. Yes, and I'm Rose Trellis, what can I do for you? And believe me there's not much I won't do.
- George: I'm George Bootblack.
- Nanny: Bootblack? As in Baron Bootblack?
- George: Yes, I'm his nephew, he's asked me to come and persuade you to sell Boot Cottage.
- Nanny: You can tell him from me that he could send Brad Pitt (*or some other handsome actor*) I still wouldn't succumb to his charms.

George: I gather you've got quite a few children, wouldn't it be better to have a bigger place?

Nanny: I'd slam the door in your face, but this scenery's been made by amateurs (*pause here as she goes towards the house*), so I'll close it gently (*pause again*) and make the noise myself.

*(She closes the door.)*

Nanny: (*Offstage*) Bang!

George: I'll take that as a no.

*(George walks back down the path as Alice enters, carrying a bottle of milk.)*

Alice: Hello again, what are you doing here?

George: Meeting the woman of my dreams.

Alice: Oh, where is she?

George: I'm talking about you.

### **SONG 5: Thinking Out Loud – Alice & George**

*(At end of song Nanny enters from house.)*

Nanny: Alice! What are you doing fraternizing with the enemy?

Alice: What do you mean?

Nanny: This layabout, he works for the Baron, he's trying to get us out of the house. Stay away from my daughter.

Alice: I don't care who he is, love is blind.

Nanny: If that's true how come lingerie is so popular?

George: Please Mrs Trellis, I want to go out with your daughter.

Nanny: Yes, well I want to hold on to George Clooney by the ears, life's a constant disappointment. (*She starts hitting him with a broom*) Go on get out of it before I set the dog on you.

George: Till we meet again Alice.

Nanny: He's a big 'un, he's a cross between a rottweiler and a border collie – he'll rip off your arm then go for help.

*(George exits. Nanny follows him to the wings still threatening.)*

Nanny: And don't come back.

Alice: Mom? Are we getting a dog?

Nanny: *(Shushing her)* No we're not getting a dog - come on, that nice Sam is still here. We're having tea and crumpets, he doesn't know about the crumpet yet.

*(Sam enters from house.)*

Sam: Hello folks! I thought while we're waiting for the milk I could make a start on the polishing? *(Noticing Alice)* Oh, hello again.

Alice: Hello.

Sam: *(Shyly)* Hello.

Nanny: *(To audience)* Great conversationalists aren't they?

Alice: I'd better take this milk inside.

Nanny: I'll do it *(takes the milk from her)*, you stay and have a chat with Sammy boy, you make a lovely couple.

Alice: I can't

Nanny: Course you can, go on don't be shy

Alice: No I really can't

Sam: Why not?

Alice: I'm dying for the loo. *(She runs off into the house).*

Nanny: You know, I can't remember anyone ever going to the toilet in a pantomime before.

Sam: *(Lost in his own little world)* She's wonderful.

Nanny: Oh blimey – he's lovestruck.

*(She throws the milk in his face.)*

Sam: What did you do that for?

Nanny: To cool your ardour - and if it gets any ardour I'll do it again.

- Sam: I'm soaked.
- Nanny: You're a drip I'll give you that.
- Sam: Alice is lovely Nanny, do you think she might come to the pictures with me?
- Nanny: She might, but there is one stumbling block.
- Sam: What's that?
- Nanny: They haven't been invented yet, and listen there's a tall handsome stranger been chatting her up.
- Sam: Who?
- Nanny: George Bootblack, the Baron's long lost nephew. Actually he can't have been that much of a stranger 'cause I've just told you who he is – anyway, he's gorgeous so you'd better move quick.
- Sam: But I don't know what to say to her.
- Nanny: Listen, all you have to do is act casual. (*He assumes an awkward pose leaning on the fence*). I said act casual, not act like you're in casualty. Just relax, think of a charming opening line that's all important. Have a go on me. (*He goes as if to grab her*) Get off, I mean try the line out on me.
- Sam: Right, here I go then. (*Tries to look cool and fakes an American accent*). Hey baby how about we ditch this crowd and swing by the diner for a milkshake?
- Nanny: Don't go mad, you're not in Grease.
- Sam: Did I sound Greek?
- Nanny: Just be yourself and say what comes into your head.

(*Alice enters from the house.*)

- Nanny: Now remember Sam, act cool, a smooth opening line is all important, keep your composure – something classy, something intelligent. Here she is now - Alice, Sam's got something he'd like to ask you.

(*Alice has now come downstage to Sam.*)

- Alice: Yes Sam?
- Sam: (*Takes a moment to compose himself*) Was it a number one or a number two?

Nanny: (To audience) Smooth.

Alice: What a question! You are funny.

Sam: Am I?

Alice: And it's very nice of you to offer to polish the boot for us.

Sam: I'd forgotten about that.

Nanny: I hadn't, get cracking. Here's some brushes.

*(Nanny gives them some brushes from her apron pocket and exits into the house, Alice goes over to the boot. Sam gets a pair of step ladders from off stage. Alice goes up the steps, Sam holds on to them at the bottom so his head is just at her bum height.)*

Alice: Thanks for holding the ladder for me Sam, you're such a gentleman.

Sam: Yes, that's so me isn't it.

Alice: Wait a minute, shouldn't you be up the ladder?

Sam: Oh right.

*(They swap places. Sam rubs the boot. There is a flash and a puff of smoke, the Genie of the Boot appears. Sam almost falls off the ladder.)*

Genie: Yes, Oh master?

Alice: What on earth?

Sam: Who are you?

Genie: I am the Genie of the boot.

Sam: I should have guessed, no normal person would walk around in that hat.

Genie: You have four wishes.

Alice: Isn't it usually three wishes?

Genie: We're doing a special, buy three, get one free.

Sam: I wish for ten more wishes.

Genie: Sorry, you can't wish for more wishes, it's against the rules

- Sam: Oh, well I wish (*he whispers into Genie's ear*)
- Genie: Sorry you can't wish for someone to fall in love with you.
- Sam: I wish someone would tell us the rules.
- Genie: You can't wish for more wishes or for someone to fall in love with you. Now – what's your last wish?
- Alice: But we haven't had any wishes yet!
- Genie: You've had three, that leaves one.
- Sam: What a swizz!
- Genie: That's the trouble with these special offers, you have to watch the small print.
- Sam: Some genie you are.
- Genie: Charmin' well if that's how you feel, I'm off.
- (*He starts to walk off.*)
- Alice: Wait! Aren't you going to dissapear in a puff of smoke?
- Genie: No I'm all puffed out. (*He/She exits*)
- (*Nanny enters from the house.*)
- Nanny: Right you two, I'm off down the town to have my corns ostracised, watch the kids.
- Alice: Mom, we've just seen a Genie.
- Nanny: And I'm Christina Aguilera, get on with that polishing. (*Exits singing*)  
I'm a Genie in a bottle.
- (*Blackout.*)

#### **Scene 4: Near Farmer Furrows Farm.**

(*Front of tabs scene - George enters stage right looking miserable. Baron Bootblack enters stage left.*)

Baron: *(Audience are hopefully booing)* Oh boo all you like. *(They do)*. Is that the best you can do? Looking at the state of you I'd have thought you were full of boos! *(more boos)* Silence!

George: Goodday uncle.

Baron: How did you get on?

George: Nanny will never sell the shoe. And now Alice thinks I'm a baddie.

Baron: You will be, once I've finished with you.

George: Uncle – you still haven't explained why you got me to come all the way back from New Zealand, it can't have just been to try and talk Nanny out of selling the shoe?

Baron: All in good time, now get back to the Bootblack Hall, I'll explain everything later.

*(George exits. Burt and Barney enter, Barney looks miserable.)*

Baron: About time, what's the matter with him?

Burt: His mate Gavin has died of indigestion.

Barney: I can't believe Gav is gone *(Gaviscon)*.

Baron: Now, since you're my henchmen I have a job for you.

Burt: We do have a slight problem with being henchmen.

Baron: What's that?

Barney: Neither of us knows how to work a hench.

Baron: I want you to go and see Nanny. Tell her I've given up trying to buy her shoe, and since she doesn't want a new house, I'm prepared to help her with her renovation instead.

Barney: That's very nice of you

Baron: Yes, isn't it.

Burt: Quite out of character.

Baron: Then, once you're in there I want you to smash the place up a bit *(he curls his large moustache)*

Barney: And straight back into it.

Burt: I like the way he curled his moustache in an evil way then. Not many people can pull of a moustache like that you know.

Barney: I can (*He pulls off the Baron's moustache*).

Baron: Ow! (*Hastily sticking it back on*). Listen you idiots! (*Regaining his composure*) I want you to convince Nanny that the place is falling down, rip up the floors and damage the walls. Now get cracking – ha ha!

Burt: That we can do, come on Barney. Let's go and visit the old woman.

Barney: Dad, why do women live so much longer than men?

Burt: They don't have wives son.

*(Burt and Barney exit.)*

Baron: Ha! I'll get Nanny out of that house one way or the other. Before long all those little kiddies will be working down my shoe polish mines. Ha! Ha!

*(Dame enters opposite side.)*

Nanny: There you are. I want a word with you Baroni.

Baron: What now?

Nanny: Oh, your moustache isn't on straight (*He corrects it*). Is it a moustache or have your eyebrows come down for a drink?

Baron: You can talk – you've drawn your eyebrows on much too high.

Nanny: Ooh!

Baron: You look surprised.

Nanny: That's 'cause I've drawn my eyebrows on much too high.

Baron: They still look lovely.

Nanny: Don't try that charm on me, I'm impervious to flattery.

Baron: I expected nothing less from a woman as sophisticated as yourself.

Nanny: (*Completely melting into his arms*) Oh you smooth talking devil.

- Baron: Nanny, we go back a long way, I remember you before you were old and ugly.
- Nanny: Yes, I used to be young and ugly.
- Baron: Why not sell me Boot Cottage and we'll sail off into the sunset together?
- Nanny: *(Coming to her senses)* Wait a minute, I'm not falling for that. You haven't even got a boat. You've fooled me before, there was a time I thought you had feelings for me.
- Baron: I did have a feeling for you, nauseousness.
- Nanny: Then I realised you loved someone else.
- Baron: Who?
- Nanny: Yourself. From now on I'm not going to take it lying down.
- Baron: There's a first time for everything.

## **SONG 6 - THESE BOOTS WERE MADE FOR WALKING - Dame**

*(Blackout.)*

### **Scene 5: A Room at Boot Cottage**

*(The scene is a room at Boot Cottage. The room is about to be decorated, there is a pasting table and a chair. On the table is a pasting brush, underneath it is a bucket of 'paste' and two rolled up pieces of wallpaper about 2m in length. There should be three further buckets full of 'paste' and three tins of 'paint'. There should also be an empty bucket without a bottom and another with a small hole in the side which could be blocked with your finger. The paste should be made up from shaving foam watered down, the paint is the same but with more water and some food colouring. Practice making this up and have a go with it at rehearsals in order to get the consistency right. There are three coats, a towel, a piece of sandpaper, a hammer and large nails on the table. This is the classic panto decorating scene and must be very carefully rehearsed and very messy to be fully effective. You have the whole interval to clear up!!)*

*(Alice enters)*

Alice: While Sam does the outside, it's about time I got started on this room,

*(There is a doorbell sound.)*

Alice: Now who's that?

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*(Nanny, Burt and Barney enter. Barney is carrying a pair of step ladders and a screwdriver. Burt is carrying a large toolbag.)*

Nanny: I found these two loitering on the doorstep. What can I do for you two layabouts?

Burt: The Baron sent us.

Nanny: Alice go to your room, this could get ugly.

Alice: Bit late for that isn't it?

*(Alice exits. Nanny approaches the builders menacingly.)*

Nanny: I've just told him and I told that nephew of his this afternoon, I'm not moving so you can sling your hook.

Barney: *(Terrified)* He knows. He's given up trying to buy the place off you.

Nanny: What are you doing here then?

Burt: Since you're the only villager that won't be getting a new house, the Baron thought it only fair that we help you finish renovating yours.

Nanny: Really? *(Relaxing)* Oh how lovely. My little talk with him obviously worked. It'll be nice to get some help from professionals - have you much experience?

Burt: Oh yes. Allow me to present my credentials. *(He opens his toolbag and she peers in).*

Nanny: What beauties! I see you've come equipped.

Burt: Oh yes, and I've bought my step ladder.

Barney: He doesn't get on with his real ladder.

*(Burt puts the step ladder upstage.)*

Nanny: *(To Barney)* Why have you got that screwdriver?

Barney: Dad said you'd got a screw loose.

Nanny: That's rich coming from you.

Burt: Where do you want us to start?

Nanny: I was just about to decorate this room so you can have a go at that.

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Burt: Right, you go and stick the kettle on and leave it to the experts.

Nanny: Fair enough – how many lumps?

Barney: There's just me and my dad.

Nanny: Never mind. I'll go and get some water from the well (*She exits*).

Barney: Where shall we start Dad?

Burt: Son, decorating is all about good preparation.

Barney: Right (*He starts taking deep breaths and doing stretches*)

Burt: What are you doing?

Barney: Preparing myself.

Burt: No I mean, everything needs a good rub down.

*(Barney takes the towel and starts rubbing it over his arms)*

Burt: Not you, the woodwork. Here (*he passes him a piece of sandpaper*) you know what that is don't you?

Barney: A map of the desert?

Burt: You just hold this bucket, I'll stir the paint up.

*(Burt gives him the bucket with no bottom and pours paint into it. It of course goes all over his shoes.)*

Barney: Dad?

Burt: Yes?

Barney: My shoes are dirty.

Burt: Why can't you do anything without making a mess?

Barney: It was the bucket, it had a hole in it.

Burt: Right, we'll use this one.

*(He picks up the bucket with the hole in the side and gives it to Barney. Barney makes sure he has his finger over the hole as Burt then fills it with paint.)*

Burt: That's better. Now hold on while I get up the ladders.

*(Burt steps up the ladders, Barney passes him the bucket and takes his finger off the hole. As Burt goes up the ladder the paint comes out of the hole and into Barney's face.)*

Barney: Dad?

Burt: What now?

Barney: It's happened again dad.

Burt: Will you be careful. You're making a right mess. Now get the paste ready, I'll get the paint.

*(Burt comes down the steps and puts on the three coats.)*

Barney: What you doing Dad?

Burt: With this paint you have to apply three coats.

*(He gets another tin of paint (this needs to be quite full) cradled in his arms. Barney puts a bucket of paste at the bottom of the steps.)*

Burt: Now hold on to these steps.

*(Barney holds the steps as Burt goes up them, he sloshes the paint all over Barney as he goes up.)*

Barney: Dad?

Burt: Now what *(looking down)*. How do you manage it?

Barney: Sorry dad. *(he sits on the chair)*

*(Burt comes down the ladder and steps straight into the bucket of paste. He hops around with it stuck on his foot.)*

Burt: Don't just stand there sitting down. Help me get this off.

*(He pulls the bucket and they both fall over.)*

Burt: *(Getting up)*. Perhaps we should do the papering first it's not so messy.

Barney: Right

Burt: Start stripping.

*(Music starts – 'The Stripper', Barney starts to dance around and undo his dungarees.)*

Burt: *(Threatening the orchestra)* Hold it! Hold it! I mean strip the old wallpaper.

Barney: Why don't we just paper over what's there already, she'll never know.

Burt: That's the best idea you've had all day. You can paste the paper.

*(Burt gets the bucket of paste and holds it in his arms. Barney puts the paper on the table but every time he unrolls it, it rolls back up again. Eventually he puts his foot up on the table to hold one end while he pastes it.)*

Burt: That's it, now get the paste.

*(Barney puts the brush in the bucket and as he takes it out runs it up Burt's face.)*

Burt: Oy!

Barney: What? Am I doing it wrong?

Burt: Here *(he puts the paste on the brush for him and passes it to him)*

Barney: Thanks.

*(He is about to paste the paper when Burt stops him.)*

Burt: Hang on, you're pasting the wrong side of the paper.

Barney: Oh sorry. *(he pastes the underside of the table).*

*(Burt grabs the brush and pastes the paper himself.)*

Barney: How did you learn to do this Dad?

Burt: Runs in the family son, your Grandad was decorated twice in the war. *(He holds up the paper and passes it to Barney)* Now take this paper and put it on the wall.

*(Barney walks up the step ladders, as he does so he treads on the paper so that by the time he gets to the top there is only a little bit left.)*

Barney: Dad?

*(Burt sees what's happened and passes the hammer and a nail to Barney who nails the one small piece of paper to the wall.)*

Burt: This is going to take all night. Right I'll do it myself. You come and hold this paper.

*(Burt unrolls the second roll of paper onto the table. Barney holds one end with his fingertips, he bends down so that his face is at the level of the table. Burt pastes the paper and goes straight up Barneys face with the brush. Burt holds up the paper. Barney wipes his eyes on the back of his dungareess.)*

Burt: Oy, look at the mess you've made.

Barney: You started it.

Burt: Yeh, and I'm going to finish it.

*(He picks up the last bucket of paste and pours it down Barneys trousers. Barney looks down at it and goes slowly and deliberately to the table, picks up Burts hat and fills it with paste. This final sequence is funniest if it is slow and deliberate with both comics now resigned to the fact they've got it coming and making no attempt to stop it. Barney puts the hat full of paste on Burts head – there is a small hole in the top of the hat and it squirts out as Barney pushes the hat down. They look at each other and shake hands.)*

Burt: I think we've done a nice job there.

Barney: Hang on, don't forget what the Baron said.

Burt: Oh yes.

*(He gets out of his toolbag some cardboard cut outs 'cracks' - which look like large black zig zag lines. These are prepared with bluetack or hooks on them so that they can be fixed quickly onto the walls. They stick them on just as Nanny enters.)*

Nanny: What's happened? My beautiful kitchen! What a mess!

Burt: Sorry lady but we've got some bad news.

Nanny: What?

Barney: Subsidence.

Nanny: Eh?

Burt: You've got a massive crack.

*(Nanny looks at the audience and just shakes her head as if to say 'don't go there')*

Barney: This whole place is sinking.

Nanny: I didn't even realise we were sailing.

Burt: You'll have to move out.

- Nanny: But we've got nowhere to go?
- Barney: The Baron might look after the kiddies for you if you ask him?
- Nanny: Oh I don't know, what do you think boys and girls? Shall I let the Baron look after the kiddies? (*audience shout No!*) Are you sure? (*No!*)
- Burt: Have you got any other friends?
- Nanny: There's Keith. (*To man in audience*) Can we stay with you Keith? There's twenty five of 'em, and they'll all want en-suet. Mind you, we've only just met – perhaps its a bit premature, and if it is I'm definately not staying.
- Barney: What about Mr Minute?
- Nanny: Of course! (*Shout offstage*) Kids! (*Genie enters with a raincoat on and a suitcase.*) Who are you?
- Genie: I'm off.
- Nanny: That's a funny name.
- Genie: I mean I'm out of here, I don't want the place falling down on my head.
- Nanny: I must be seeing things
- Barney: No, we can see him (*or her*) as well.
- Nanny: Alice said something about a genie in the shoe. Apparently when you rub it something magical appears.
- Barney: I've got something like that.
- Genie: Come on kids!
- (*Chorus of Kids enter. Nanny starts crying.*)
- Nanny: Children I'm afraid we have to go.
- Roughly: I don't, I've just been.
- Tipton: I've been in my pants.
- Nanny: Let's change them then.
- Tipton: I haven't finished yet.

Burt: I don't know what you're so upset about Nanny, anywhere's better than this old boot (*Barney and Burt exit*)

Eton: I don't want to leave mummy.

Nanny: Nor me son, nor me.

## **SONG 7 – My House – Dame, Genie and Chorus**

### **END OF ACT 1**

### **ACT 2**

#### **Scene 1: Prologue**

*(Baron enters stage left.)*

Baron: So you're still here are you? How are you enjoying my moment of triumph?

*(Genie enters stage right.)*

Genie: You are a bit like a Triumph - clapped out.

Baron: Oh it's you. I thought you'd gone off in a strop.

Genie: No, it's just that I don't have a lot to do in the first half. So I sat in the bar during the interval.

Baron: *(Indicating the audience)* Didn't this lot recognise you?

Genie: No, I changed my hat. How's the cruel evil mastermind part working out for you?

Baron: *(Breaking out of character into that of a luvvie)* Quite well really, I think I've got the evil laugh now. Hang on – we've started.

*(Both realise they're on stage)*

Genie: Oh yes!

Baron: *(Back in character)* It won't be long now. Nanny has left Boot Cottage. Before you know it I'll have knocked it down and made all her kiddies into my slaves. Ha Ha Ha!

Genie: Oh yes, I see what you mean about the laugh.

Baron; *(Luvvie again)* Yes I'm quite pleased with it.

Genie:           *(Back in character)* You'll never get away with it Baron.

Baron:           I already have and in less than an hour, I'll have won!

Genie:           Baron, you're cruel and heartless.

Baron:           I know, the villagers have no idea what fate awaits them.

Genie:           No I mean, telling the audience they've got to sit through another hour of this. Did you see the look on the faces?

Baron:           That's fear, you're terrified of me aren't you?

Audience:       No!

Baron:           Oh yes you are.

Audience:       Oh no we're not.

Baron:           Oh yes you are. *(Audience continue for as long as you can keep this up!)* Silence, I've had enough of this. Just watch it you lot or I'll make the lot of you into broth, and the backstage lot can be the 'crewtons'. Ha Ha Ha!

*(He exits.)*

Genie:           Don't worry boys and girls, we'll save the day won't we? *(Audience – yes!)* Great, see you later.

*(Blackout.)*

## **Scene 2: The Cobbler's Shop**

*The Scene is a cobbler's shop interior. There is a counter, a till, boxes and shop paraphernalia. Various props are set under the counter (see script). There is a sign on the counter 'Don't go elsewhere to get robbed – try us first'. Mr Minute is behind the counter. Sam enters.*

Sam:             Hello folks! *(Audience – hello!)* That's the last of the shoe boxes sorted out Mr Minute, what's next?

Mr Minute:      You really are a hard working lad Sam. I just wish we had a few more customers. Since we stood up to the Baron the villagers have fallen out with me.

## **SONG 8 – BUSY DOING NOTHING - Sam and Mr Minute**

Sam:             Things might be about to change, here comes someone now.

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*(George enters.)*

George: Goodday, I'm George Bootblack.

Sam: Oh, it's you.

George: That's not much of a welcome.

Mr Minute: What can I do for you sir?

George: Actually I was looking for some ladies shoes.

Mr Minute: Was it something for your wife or something expensive?

George: They're a gift for a friend.

Sam: I doubt if you've got any friends round here mate.

George: You don't know anything about me.

Mr Minute: What size is the young lady?

George: That's a bit personal.

Mr Minute: The shoes?

George: Oh, I see, I've no idea.

Mr Minute: Anything else we can't help you with?

George: *(Getting ticket out of pocket)* I know it's a long shot, but I found this old ticket from before we emigrated. It's for some shoes my dad left with you to repair, but it is ten years ago. I don't suppose you still have them after all this time?

Sam: You left them here ten years ago?

*(Mr Minute takes the ticket and looks at it. He looks under the counter.)*

Mr Minute: Would you believe it, they're here!

Sam: That's amazing.

George: Brilliant.

Mr Minute: They'll be ready Tuesday.

George: I get the feeling I'm not very welcome here.

- Sam: You work for the Baron, what do you expect?
- George: I don't get it, all he wants to do is build you all a new village.
- Mr Minute: Some of us want to keep our houses, they may be old, they may be falling down, they may be full of mice and damp but we .....actually why do we want to keep our houses?
- George: I've only been here a short time, but I really like you Brits. Especially that Alice who lives in the shoe. Do you know her?
- Mr Minute: I've known her since she lived in a bootie.
- George: Do you think you could put in a good word for me?
- Sam: I can think of a few words but none of them are good.
- Mr Minute: I can think of two – get out!
- George: Charming.
- (George exits. Miss Take enters, Sam takes a broom and exits.)*
- Miss Take: Morning Arthur.
- Mr Minute: Morning Lavinia, nice of you to still shop here.
- Miss Take: I'd popped into Mrs Bun's next door for a loaf so I thought I'd drop in and let you know not everyone in Cuddleton hates you.
- Mr Minute: Thank you, that means a lot.
- Miss Take: But most of them do.
- Mr Minute: Oh.
- Miss Take: She's sold out again today, that bakery is booming, and Mrs Bun asked me to try and persuade you to change your mind about selling your shop to the Baron, apparently she's meeting him later.
- Mr Minute: No, I can't let Nanny down. Now can I tempt you with anything?
- Miss Take: All right, I'll buy a wasp.
- Mr Minute: We don't sell wasps.
- Miss Take: But you've got one in the window.

Mr Minute: This is a shoe repair shop, and we also sell umbrellas, gloves and scarves. And with the shoe polish shortage I'm always looking for new lines.

Miss Take: So are the writers of this rubbish. Now then let me see. I'll have some fur gloves please.

Mr Minute: What fur?

Miss Take: To keep my hands warm of course.

Mr Minute: One pair of fur gloves coming up (*he gets a pair from under the counter*).

Miss Take: No wait, I'll have a scarf instead.

Mr Minute: There you go (*passing her the scarf*)

Miss Take: I'm not sure. What else have you got?

Mr Minute: Umbrellas? Shoes?

Miss Take: Do you have any crocodile shoes?

Mr Minute: Ah, now you're talking – what size is your crocodile?

Miss Take: I'll have an umbrella. (*he puts one on the counter, she passes him back the scarf*) There you take that back. (*She picks up the umbrella and starts to exit*)

Mr Minute: Wait a minute, you haven't paid for the umbrella.

Miss Take: But I swapped the scarf for it.

Mr Minute: Of course. Wait a minute you didn't pay for the scarf.

Miss Take: No, I gave you the gloves for it.

Mr Minute: Of course. Wait a minute you never paid for the gloves.

Miss Take: No well I didn't have them, Bye!

*(She exits. Mr Minute stands looking confused. Sam enters.)*

Sam: Hello folks! (*Audience – hello!*)

Mr Minute: I think I've just been diddled by a woman.

Sam: At your age I'd be glad of anything you can get.

Mr Minute: Listen Sam, it's been a long day, can you just deliver these shoes to Doctor Martin and we'll call it a night.

Sam: Right you are, back in a Green Flash.

*(Sam exits. Nanny enters followed by Alice, Eton, Roughly, Tipton and chorus of children. Nanny is in tears. Roughly is carrying a jam jar with a goldfish in it (a piece of carrot will do for this))*

Nanny: *(Orchestra start sad music)* Oh woe is me, woe is me, *(to orchestra)* all right don't overdo it. *(music stops)*. Woe is me.

Mr Minute: Oh dear lady, whatever's happened?

Alice: We've had to leave Boot Cottage.

Nanny: It's subsidising. We're desperate, so I thought of you.

Mr Minute: I'm not sure how to take that.

Nanny: Do you think you could put me up?

Mr Minute: I've told you no funny business.

Nanny: I mean me and the kids, can we stay till you can repair the shoe?

Mr Minute: But I don't have enough room?

Nanny: They'll make do in here, they've all been to Bootcamp *(To Mr Minute)* I assume I can have your bed?

Mr Minute: But where will I sleep?

Nanny: Your bed.

Eton: Please Mr Minute, the walls are cracked and the roofs falling in.

Tipton: *(As cute as can be)* Yeh. we're from a broken home.

Mr Minute: How can I resist that lovely little face.

Nanny: You're only human.

Mr Minute: I wasn't talking about you. All right you can stay.

Kids: Yeh!

Nanny: Thank you Arthur. We've had a tough time lately.

- Mr Minute: I'm sure things will turn out all right eventually.
- Tipton: When I grow up, I'm going to bash that Baron on the nose.
- Eton: When I grow up, I'm going to kick him in the shins.
- Roughly: When I grow up, I'm going to marry a super model.
- Nanny: I think you're missing the point son. One day you'll all be able to stick up for yourselves.

### **SONG 9 - WHEN I GROW UP – Kids Chorus**

*(The kids run around and get settled quickly - lying around the floor in sleeping bags and blankets.)*

- Nanny: That's the spirit kids, now settle down.
- Roughly: Mom, I can smell bread.
- Mr Minute: It's Mrs Bun's bakery next door.
- Nanny: I might go round there and give her a piece of my mind.
- Mr Minute: Can you afford to give any away?
- Nanny: Cheek!
- Mr Minute: Anyway she's not in, she's gone to a meeting with the Baron. Come on, they're all settled, let's sit in the parlour, take the weight off your mascara.
- Nanny: You don't have to ask me twice.

*(Mr Minute and Nanny exit. Alice sits centre stage.)*

- Tipton: Alice I'm still hungry.
- Roughly: I want some bread.
- Alice: I'm afraid Mrs Bun won't sell any to us. Now come on all of you get to sleep.

### **SONG 10: HUSHABYE MOUNTAIN - Alice**

*(Sam enters, the kiddies settle down and go to sleep.)*

- Sam: Hello folks! *(audience hello!)*

- Alice: Ssh, they're all asleep
- Sam: Sorry. (*quietly*) Hello folks. (*Audience whisper back?*) What are you all doing here?
- Alice: Mr Minute said we could stay here for a while, but it's a bit cramped.
- Sam: Oh dear, well you can have my bed tonight if you like. I'll sleep under the counter.
- Alice: Dear Sam, you're a good friend.
- Sam: Alice? Since we're here just the two of us and all the kiddies are asleep. Could I ask you something?
- Alice: Of course.
- Sam: It's a bit personal.
- (*All the kids suddenly draw closer – they are obviously only pretending to be asleep.*)
- Alice: You can tell me anything.
- Sam: I was just wondering, if, well if you'd marry me?
- Alice: Oh Sam!
- Sam: Only I think you're the most wonderfulest person I've ever met.
- Alice: Sam, I'm sorry I can't marry you.
- Sam: Oh go on, just this once.
- Alice: I'm very fond of you Sam but I love another.
- Sam: Another what?
- Alice: I think I've fallen for George.
- Sam: The Baron's nephew?
- Alice: Yes, I know it's silly, it's just that when I see him I go all bubbly inside.
- Sam: You want to stop eating Nanny's broth.
- Alice: I'm really sorry Sam, can we still be friends?
- Sam: Of course, I'm not really the sort of character who gets the girl am I?

Alice: No.

Sam: You don't have to agree.

Alice: I'll always be your friend Sam.

**SONG 11: Friendship – Sam and Alice**

Alice: Never mind Sam, there's bound to be a girl out there for you. (*She kisses him on the cheek.*)

Sam: I don't think I'll ever wash that cheek again, come to think of it, I can't think when I last washed it.

*(Alice gets up and starts to exit.)*

Alice: Goodnight Sam.

Sam: Goodnight Alice.

*(Alice exits. Sam takes his blanket and goes behind the counter to sleep. Roughley wakes up.)*

Roughly: *(shaking her)* Tipton. Wake up.

Tipton: Is it morning time?

Roughly: I've got an idea how we can get some bread.

Tipton: I love bread.

Roughly: We could sneak in next door while everyone's asleep. The baker's gone out I heard Mr Minute say so.

Tipton: Very naughty – leggy smack smack.

Roughly: There might be some cakes.

Tipton: OK, Eton, him goody two shoes - will tell on us.

Roughly: He's asleep. *(To goldfish)* Come on Stanley

*(Tipton and Roughly exit on tiptoes. Genie enters.)*

Genie: Ah, look at them all, it's like the audience at a Coldplay *(or some boring band)* concert. *(He wanders around sprinkling fairy dust)* A little fairy dust to help them sleep soundly. *(Starts singing)* Mr Sandman, bring me a dream, *(Kids all lift their heads and sing the 'bom bom bom boms')* make it the sweetest that I've ever seen ....

*(Nanny and Mr Minute enter.)*

Nanny: Oy, Perry Como. What do you think you're doing?

Genie: I'm sprinkling.

Nanny: Well go and do it in the bathroom you dirty girl.

Genie: No, it's fairy dust to help the children sleep.

Mr Minute: They'll all wake up thinking they've got dandruff.

Nanny: *(She takes the bag of fairy dust)* They don't need this, I put some brandy in their cocoa.

Genie: I'll go then, since I'm surplus to requirements. *(Starts to exit looking dejected – Audience Ahh!)*

Nanny: *(To audience)* Don't encourage her. Go on get out of it, I've got enough on my plate.

Genie: Remind me to talk to you about portion control.

*(Genie exits.)*

Mr Minute: Have you had problems with her before?

Nanny: Oh yes, I'm always finding fairy folk prancing about, it's like having mice, I must put some traps down.

Mr Minute: Ah, they're all sleeping like babies.

Nanny: Anyone who says 'sleeping like a baby' has obviously never had one. What people should say is 'sleeping like a middle aged man in front of Match of the Day after Sunday lunch.'

Mr Minute: I always wondered what it would be like to have kids of my own.

Nanny: You can share this lot if you like, you might be stuck with us for a little while anyway.

Mr Minute: I shall have to get them all a key for the front door. Blimey that's a lot of keys to cut.

Nanny: Why don't you invest in a machine and do it yourself?

Mr Minute: What a shop that does shoe repairs, hats and gloves and key cutting? That would never work. Well, I'm off to my campbed.

Nanny: Good, you look like you've had it.

Mr Minute: I'm sure I'd have remembered that. Night night.

*(He exits.)*

Nanny: *(Quietly)* Goodnight my little cherubs. Are you all asleep?

Kids: Yes!

Nanny: Thank goodness for that *(realises and reacts)*.

Kids: *(Who are actually all awake)* Night mom!

Eton: Mother can you bring me a drink?

Nanny: No Eton, I'm going up to bed, go to sleep.

*(Nanny exits and stamps quickly in the wings as if going up stairs. NOTE: this stamping business must be done quickly – the audience will find this amusing in itself, when she eventually comes on still doing it, it must be fast paced.)*

Eton: Please mother can you bring me a drink?

*(Stamping noise again, before she enters.)*

Nanny: I said no, you'll be wetting the bed.

*(She exits – stamping noise again.)*

Eton: But I'm thirsty, please bring me a drink.

*(Stamping noise again - she enters.)*

Nanny: I'm not telling you again, if I have to come down stairs again you'll get a good hiding. In fact thinking about it I forgot to whip you all soundly before sending you to bed tonight.

*(Exits – stamping noise again.)*

Eton: Mother?

*(Stamping noise, this time Nanny enters and is still stamping quickly as she does so.)*

Nanny: *(To audience)* Oh I'm still doing it *(Stops stamping)* What?

Eton: You know when you come downstairs to smack me?

Nanny: Yes.

- Eton: Can you bring me a drink?
- Nanny: That's enough now Eton. You're normally such a good boy, not like your brother. Talking of which, where is Roughly? (*She starts looking around*) And Tipton? Oh blimey don't tell me I've lost a couple.
- Eton: They've broken into the bakery next door to get some bread. Roughly's a thief!
- Nanny: Yes, well he takes after his dad, he stole my virtue. Come on we'll have to get them back. (*To audience*) Which way did they go kids? Did they go this way? Did they go that way? Oh thanks – wish us luck!

*(They exit. Blackout.)*

### **Scene 3: Near Farmer Furrows Farm**

*(Front of tabs scene, as before. Burt and Barney enter.)*

- Burt: That's a job well done.
- Barney: Thanks Dad.
- Burt: I'm proud of you Barney my son, you've turned out better than I expected. Do you remember when you were born?
- Barney: No I was too young. Why?
- Burt: You were nearly christened Aday Buckle, 'cause me and your mom took one look at you and said, let's call it a day.
- Barney: Mom said I was a lovely baby.
- Burt: No you were an ugly baby, in fact you were so ugly the dog wouldn't lick your face.
- Barney: And look at me now. Partners with my Dad.
- Burt: I don't know about partners, I mean when we're at work I don't want you to think of me as your dad, or a boss. More as a friend who's never wrong.

*(Baron enters.)*

- Baron: There you are. Well done on getting the old woman out of the shoe. I can't believe you actually did something right.

- Burt: Neither can we.
- Baron: Wouldn't it be terrible if someone were to accidentally on purpose drive a bulldozer into it?
- Burt: Doing things accidentally on purpose is what we're good at.
- Baron: Excellent, once the shoe is demolished she'll sell me the land for a song and I, I mean we, will be rich!

**SONG 12 – EASY STREET – The Baddies**

- Baron: Off you go then, get on with it.

*(Burt and Barney exit. Mrs Bun and Farmer Furrow enter.)*

- Mrs Bun: Evening Baron.
- Baron: What do you want?
- Furrow: We were wondering when you're going to make a start on the new village?
- Mrs Bun: Now that you own all our houses.
- Baron: Don't worry - you'll all get what's coming to you soon enough, so if you don't mind fatty.
- Mrs Bun: I'm not fat – I'm jolly.
- Baron: Yes, jolly fat.
- Mrs Bun: Outrageous, don't you know who I am?
- Furrow: Do you want me to go and find out for you?
- Mrs Bun: I am the chair of the Shopkeepers' Guild, the niece of Sir Kate and Sidney Pudding, I can trace my ancestry right back to Attila the Hun.
- Baron: I see, the upper crust. That makes all the difference, what I should have said was, get lost you stuck up pompous oaf.
- Mrs Bun: Well! Come on Furrow we're leaving.
- Furrow: *(Sings)* Don't go changing to try to please her, we love you just the way Ooh Ah.

*(Mrs Bun and Farmer Furrow exit. George enters.)*

- George: Uncle?
- Baron: What now? How is an evil mastermind supposed to plot and plan and scheme when he's constantly interrupted by idiots?
- George: I'm not an idiot, I was chief engineer at the polish mine – Kiwi's are famous for our polish.
- Baron: But my boy, that's why I need you here.
- George: How do you mean?
- Baron: It's polish I'm after!
- George: But there's no polish here.
- Baron: That's where you're wrong. The entire village is built on the largest natural polish field in the country, black gold my boy!
- George: So that's why you wanted me here, to help you mine the valley? But that means the villagers have been sitting on a fortune.
- Baron: They don't know that do they? And now I own their houses it's too late!
- George: How do you sleep at night?
- Baron: Lying down.
- George: At least they'll all get nice new houses, that's some consolation.
- Baron: You really think I'm going to spend a fortune building them all new houses. Of course not, I'm simply going to turf them out and they can fend for themselves.
- George: That's awful - you can't!
- Baron: Watch me. We need Boot Cottage most of all, that's where the polish is closest to the surface, we start there.
- George: But what about Alice? I want to marry her.
- Baron: You always did like the simple things in life. Forget about Alice? Nanny and her kiddies moved out today.
- George: That's awful.

Baron: Yes isn't it, and now they're homeless they'll be desperate for help. It won't be long before I have twenty five little workers, they'll be ideal to get down the tunnels.

George: You wouldn't!

Baron: I'll be rich (*Rubbing his hands in glee*) and you can share it all with me, with your brains and my.....brains, we'll be unstoppable.

George: Uncle or no uncle – I don't want any part of this.

Baron: What!

George: I'm going to tell them the truth.

Baron: It doesn't matter - you're too late. This time tomorrow, boot cottage will be history!! Ha Ha Ha!

*(Baron exits.)*

George: I've been a fool. What will Alice think of me?

*(Genie enters.)*

Genie: I reckon she loves you too much not to forgive you.

George: Who are you?

Genie: You know if I had a pound for everytime someone says that. Never mind who I am, I'm here to help you, you will marry Alice I'm sure of it.

George: Her mother wouldn't allow it.

Genie: Remember that when a man and a woman get married two people are made happy, the wife and her mother. She'll come round to the idea.

George: I hope you're right.

Genie: Right now, Nanny and Alice need your help.

George: Where are they?

Genie: They're staying with Mr Minute and are just about to get into a load of trouble. If you get over there now you might just be able to save the day.

George: Thanks. Whoever you are.

*(George exits.)*

Genie: Poor lad, it's not easy living with a money grabbing miser. But they make great ancestors!

*(Blackout.)*

#### **Scene 4: The Bakery**

*(The scene is Mrs Buns bakery. There is a table centre with a large mixing bowl, the bowl already has some dough in it. There is a recipe book on the table. Roughly and Tipton enter.)*

Roughly: See I told you we could get in.

Tipton: Where's the bread?

*(Nanny and Eton enter.)*

Nanny: And what do you think you're doing out of bed?

Roughly: We're fed up of broth without any bread mom.

Nanny: All right, since we're here, take a couple of loaves and we'll leave some money on the counter

Tipton: There isn't any bread mom.

Nanny: That's lucky there isn't any money – they must be sold out.

Eton: We could make some bread, mumsy.

Nanny: Good idea. Eton you find the recipe *(he picks up the recipe book)* how convenient. Tipton you find me something to stir it with, Roughly – you just stay out of the way.

*(Tipton exits.)*

Nanny: Now then, what's first?

*(Reading the book.)*

Eton: We need ingredients.

Nanny: *(She looks around for someone to get them but can only see Roughly, reluctantly she has no choice).* Roughly, you'll have to get those. Even you can't mess that up.

*(Roughly puts his jam jar on the table and exits.)*

Eton: Don't be mad at Roughly mother, sometimes he just gets carried away.

Nanny: He'll be carried away unconscious if he doesn't watch it.

*(Roughly returns carrying two giant ants (if you can't make these props just use a small box as if full of ants.))*

Roughly: Are they greedy enough for you?

Nanny: What are they?

Roughly: You asked for greedy ants.

Nanny: Stupid boy, fetch me a little flour.

*(Roughly exits. Tipton enters carrying a bowl of currants.)*

Tipton: Can't find spoon, found currants.

Eton: You don't need currants in bread.

Nanny: No but they're lovely aren't they – go-on we'll stick them in *(she eats some)*. Oh they're nice, I love currants - Where did you get them?

Tipton: Rabbit hutch.

*(Nanny spits them out.)*

Eton: Try again Tipton.

*(Tipton exits. Roughly enters carrying a rose.)*

Nanny: What's that?

Roughly: A little flower.

Nanny: Gawd help us. *(She throws the rose into the bowl)*, that goes in. Water next.

*(Roughly takes the jamjar and pours some water into the bowl.)*

Roughly: Sorry Stanley.

Nanny: A bit fishy but it'll be all right.

*(Stanley falls into the bowl. A prop plastic fish is best for this.)*

Nanny: Stanley! He can't breath. *(She grabs the fish and performs CPR on it on the table)* Come on Stanley – stay with me.

Eton: I don't think its working.

Nanny: You're right, this fish has had his chips.

*(She drops him into the bowl. Tipton enters carrying a toilet brush and puts it in the bowl.)*

Nanny: Now a quick stir *(She stirs it with the toilet brush)*. That's it.

Eton: We knead the dough.

Nanny: We certainly do, you don't think we're doing this for nothing do you? I'm skint.

Eton: No I mean knead the dough.

Nanny: Why didn't you say so. *(She takes the dough out of the bowl)* That's turned out suprisingly well. *(She drops it on the table)*.

*(Roughly and Tipton stick their fingers into it.)*

Nanny: Get your hands of it, we don't want any germs.

Eton: Is the table clean?

Nanny: Now you mention it, no. *(She wipes the table over with the dough, including the legs and floor)* That's it.

Eton: Now we have to cook it.

Nanny: Right, you kids go and find the oven. And Roughly, do not put Eton's head in it.

*(They exit.)*

Nanny: Oh they're such lovely little things, they're lacking a father figure, and I've tried to find one. I must have tried every man in the village, no-ones ever really measured up.

### **SONG 13 – MAN WANTED (from Copocobana) – Nanny**

*(During song.)*

Nanny: What about you Keith? Fancy having a go. You'd be all right Keith, you're over fifty aren't you?

*(Kids enter carrying a freshly baked loaf.)*

Nanny: That turned out better than expected. Now let's get out of here.

*(Mrs Bun enters .)*

Mrs Bun: What are you doing in my shop?

Nanny: Oh dear, we seem to have wondered into the wrong house, we were looking for our shoe and now I've put me foot in it.

Roughly: What's that thing 'round her neck?

Eton: That's her chain of office.

*(Roughly has gone to grab Mrs Bun's chain of office.)*

Mrs Bun: You're coming with me. We'll see what the police have to say about this.

Roughly: What happens if you pull it?

Nanny: She gets a hot flush.

*(George enters.)*

George: Not so fast.

Nanny: *(As if in slow motion)* She gets a hot flush.

Mrs Bun: Keep out of this!

*(George puts the bowl of ingredients on Mrs Bun's head.)*

Nanny: Where did you come from?

George: Run!!

*(Blackout.)*

### Scene 5: Near Farmer Furrow's Farm

*(Front of tabs scene - Farmer Furrow is leaning on the gate as usual. Burt and Barney enter. Farmer Furrow is singing.)*

Furrow: 'When I fall in love, it will be for heifer'..Morning lads

Burt: Afternoon

Furrow: What's today's odd job then?

Burt: Demolition of Boot Cottage.

Barney: I don't like it Dad, I can't help feelin' the Baron's not telling us the full story.

Burt: Don't let your mind wander son, it's not strong enough to be out on its own.

*(Barney sticks his tongue out at Burt.)*

Burt: 'Ere don't try pulling funny faces with me, I can pull a much funnier face than you.

Barney: I know, but look at the start you've got.

Burt: Why don't you grow up stupid

Furrow: He has grown up stupid.

*(Burt chases Barney off. Mrs Bun and George enter.)*

Mrs Bun: Nanny and three of her kids have broke into my bakery.

Furrow: Where are they now?

Mrs Bun: They gave me the slop, I mean slip, thanks to George here. They've done a runner.

George: They were starving.

Furrow: Have you seen Nanny? She doesn't look like she's starving.

*(Mr Minute, Sam and Alice enter)*

Sam: Hello folks! *(Audience – Hello Sam!)*

Alice: Oh George! *(she runs into his arms)* something terrible's happened.

- George: I know but there's only a few pages of it left.
- Mr Minute: Nanny and the three kids, they've gone missing.
- Mrs Bun: Good, now the rest of us can enjoy our new homes in peace.
- George: There aren't going to be any new homes – it's a trick.
- Sam: Ooh I love tricks, have you seen that magician – Dynamo?
- Mr Minute: I was going to see his show, Dynamo, but he was charging too much.
- Alice: We used to have a dog that did magic tricks – it was a labracadabrodor.
- George: Listen! My Uncle's lied to you. All he wants is to flatten the village and mine the polish that's hidden underground.
- Furrow: What?
- George: You'll all be out on your ears, and he'll be rich.
- Mrs Bun: We've been double crossed!
- Sam: Now she's a hot, crossed bun.
- George: Mrs Bun, you and Farmer Furrow go and find Nanny. Alice you and get the other kids. The rest of us will go to Boot Cottage and stop Burt and Barney before it's too late.

*(Blackout)*

### **Scene 6: Outside Boot Cottage**

*(The scene is once again the garden of Boot Cottage, Burt and Barney are leaning on their sledghammers as Baron enters.)*

- Baron: I've come to check on progress.
- Burt: Baron, would you punish someone for something they didn't do?
- Baron: Probably not.
- Burt: Good
- Barney: We haven't done any work.
- Baron: What, why not? I thought you'd have this place knocked down by now.

Burt: We've always been late starters.

Barney: I didn't get a birthmark until I was eight.

Burt: We've decided we'd like something from you up front.

Baron: How about a thump on the nose?

Burt: That'll do it, come on Barney.

*(They make as if to start knocking down the shoe. George, Mr Minute and some chorus members enter)*

George: Not so fast Uncle. I've told them everything.

Baron: You're too late, I already own the entire village – no-one can stop me now. *(To Burt and Barney)* Get on with it you idiots.

Burt: 'Ere who you calling an idiot?

Baron: If the shoe fits?

Barney: You've got an enormous foot.

George: He's double crossed you all, there aren't going to be any new houses.

Burt: But we've got a verbal contract.

Baron: That's not worth the paper it's written on.

*(Nanny enters with Eton, Roughly and Tipton. Followed by Mrs Bun and Farmer Furrow.)*

Mr Minute: Oh Nanny!

Nanny: Oh Arthur.

Furrow: We found them boarding a flight to Rio.

Nanny: *(Sings)* Rio, Rio by the Sea-o. I was absconding to far away climes and all the S's.

Mr Minute: *(With his lisp)* sea, sun...

Nanny: I'll do it, sea, sun, sand and sherry.

*(Alice enters with the kids, she is carrying the baby.)*

Alice: Mom! Is everything all right?

Nanny: It is now, thanks to George.

Alice: Oh George you're such a hero. *(She takes his hand)*

George: I know.

*(Sam enters)*

Sam: Hello folks – looks like you're in trouble Baron!

Baron: I've done nothing illegal, I bought your houses fair and square.

George: But uncle there's one thing you're overlooking.

Baron: What?

Barney: Your great big hooked nose.

George: Nanny didn't sell you Boot Cottage.

Baron: What?

Nanny: Who cares? It's falling down.

Burt: No it isn't. The Baron told us to fake the whole thing.

Mr Minute: So now the boot is on the other foot *(he advances towards the Baron who backs away to the well)*

Baron: Now half a minute.

Mr Minute: That's me! *(He pushes the Baron down the well – there is a loud splashing sound).*

Baron: Aagh!

Sam: It does work!

Nanny: *(Grabbing him)* Oh Arthur!

Burt: *(Looking down the well)* I think he's kicked the bucket.

Alice: But what now? Everyone's lost their houses.

Sam: I wish nobody had signed those papers.

*(There is a puff of smoke and the Genie appears.)*

Genie: About time you used that last wish. I was beginning to wonder why I was even in this show. As of this moment, everything is back as it was.

Alice: Sam, you've saved the day!

All: Hooray!

Genie: Nanny, you and all your children can move back home.

Mr Minute: With all this too-ing and fro-ing, I really must start selling luggage.

Mrs Bun: There is the small matter of breaking and entering.

Genie: You don't want to press charges against Nanny do you?

Furrow: We don't want to press anything against Nanny.

Nanny: That's not what they said when her husband (*pointing at Mrs Bun*) worked in Greggs. And you Farmer Furrow, it's obvious you went to a good school, Eton wasn't it?

*(Note: If Bun is male. Then the line should be 'That's not what you said when you worked in Greggs Bunny...'.)*

Furrow: Ar, I studied pharmacy but I didn't pass my exams, you needed two As and a B to get into University. I only got an E an I, and an O.

Alice: What does that get you.

Furrow: A job as a farmer.

Mrs Bun: But since then you've been outstanding in your field.

Nanny: And you Arthur, remember when we were younger and you used to take me on them exotic holidays – Alice Springs, Roughly, up the canal at Tipton.

Mr Minute: How could I forget!

*(Eton grabs Farmer Furrow, Roughly and Tipton grab Mr Minute.)*

Kids: Dads!

*(Baron climbs out of the well dripping wet.)*

Sam: What about the new baby, what is his name anyway?

Nanny: Bootblack Coalhouse. Here you go Baron, say hello to your son and heir, the orphans are going to inherit the lot!

- Baron: No! I'm going back in. (*Tries to get back in the well, The builders stop him and Nanny gives him a cuddle*)
- Nanny: Come on, we'll be one big happy family.
- Baron: I suppose so. (*Nanny passes him the baby – if possible the prop baby should squirt into his face as if being sick*)
- All: Ahh.
- Mr Minute: Will you make me husband number six Rose Trellis?
- George: Alice I love you terribly.
- Alice: You're not that bad.
- George/ Mr Minute:  
Will you marry me?
- Alice/Nanny: We do! (*They grab each other*).
- All: Hooray!
- Sam: I feel a bit left out. No-ones ever loved me.
- Nanny: Sam, we all love you. Don't we boys and girls?
- Mr Minute: You're not an orphan any more. Come and live with me and Nanny in Boot Cottage.
- Sam: Thanks....Dad.
- Mr Minute: Don't push it.
- Genie: It's like Christmas day at Fathers for Justice.
- Mr Minute: Only no-one's dressed in a mask and cape.
- Nanny: There's plenty of time for that later cheeky.
- Furrow: 'Ere Nanny, we're all sitting on a gold mine.
- Barney: I thought it was a polish mine.
- Sam: You're all rich!
- All: Hooray!

Nanny: I do love a good wedding!

**SONG 14 - FLASH BANG WALLOP - Chorus**

*(Blackout.)*

**Scene 7: Community Song**

*(Front of tabs scene - Nanny and Sam enter.)*

Nanny: Wasn't that lovely?

Sam: Hello folks! *(Audience – hello Sam)*

Nanny: Hey, I've worked out why you're called Shiny Sam.

Sam: Why's that?

Nanny: You've got so much shoe polish on your face, you don't have to wash – they just buff you up.

Sam: What an exciting few days.

Nanny: Yes, I didn't realise there were so many bad jokes about shoes and boots did you boys and girls?

Sam: The Baron certainly got the boot at the end!

Nanny: Do you think all this money will change us?

Sam: Yes, we'll be much richer.

Nanny: What happens next, only I'm off with Keith *(man in audience)* in a minute.

Sam: How about a singsong?

Nanny: What shall we sing?

Sam: It needs to be a song about shoes, can you think of anything?

Nanny: Not really

**SONG 15 - COMMUNITY SONG– Farmer Furrow Had a Farm - Nanny, Sam and Audience**

Nanny: Yours weren't much good, I'd put them outside the binmen come tomorrow.

Sam: You were great folks – give yourselves a round of applause.

Nanny: Come on, we've got to get ready for the weddings.

Sam: Bye boys and girls.

**Tabs open onto - Walkdown**

Chorus of Kiddies  
Tipton, Roughly and Eton  
Miss Take, Farmer Furrow and Mrs Bun  
Burt and Barney  
Baron  
Sam and Mr Minute  
George and Alice  
Nanny Rose

**Closing Rhyme**

Alice: And now our show has ended

George: The Baron's had the boot

Mr Minute: We're rich beyond our wildest dreams

Burt/Barney: And we've all had a hoot

Genie: That magic helped there is no doubt

Baron: I guess I had to lose

Sam: Now everyday when you go out

Nanny: Make sure you shine your shoes

**Finale Song – Crash Bang Wallop**

**THE END**

## Props List

### ACT 1

#### Scene 1:

- Opening ribbon and large scissors
- Shoe shine box/kit
- Shopping basket
- Bottle of cider
- Hanky
- Tape measure
- Pair of shoes

#### Scene 2:

- No props

#### Scene 3:

- Wishing well with practical bucket of water
- Cup
- Pram
- Baby in blankets
- Watermelon
- Whistle
- Large tube of 'preparation J'
- Electric Kettle
- Bucket with tissue paper
- Bottle of milk
- Step ladders
- Cleaning brushes

#### Scene 4:

- False moustache

#### Scene 5:

- Decorating equipment for paper hanging routine (see detailed notes in scene)
- Papering table
- Paste
- Buckets
- Bowler hat with hole
- Pasting brush
- Wallpaper
- Stepladders
- Two stick on 'cracks'
- Hat stand
- Three coats

- Sandpaper
- Towel
- Hammer and nails
- Toolbag
- Screwdriver
- Paint/slosh
- Chair
- Suitcase

## **ACT 2**

### Scene1:

- No props

### Scene 2:

- Shop counter
- Till
- Shop paraphernalia
- Show repair ticket
- Broom
- Pair of shoes
- Fur Gloves
- Scarf
- Umbrella
- Shopping basket with bread in it
- Jam jar with goldfish in it
- Bag of fairy dust

### Scene 3:

- No props

### Scene 4:

- Table
- Mixing bowl containing dough
- Recipe book
- Large 'ants' (toys)
- Currants
- Rose
- Large plastic goldfish in jar
- Toilet brush
- Loaf of bread
- Mayors chain of office

Scene 5:

- No props

Scene 6:

- Sledgehammers
- Baby – ideally with trick so can spray in Baron's face
- Wishing well

Scene 7:

- No props