

NODA Presents . . .

THE
SCARLETT
PIMPERNEL

Copyright 2017 by Steven J Yeo

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A note from the writer

The scarlet pimpernel was an ideal subject for a pantomime because it already had the cast assembled within the story. So, I changed a few names to aid with my story telling and to help with jokes within my story and set about with the most fun I have had in ages.

You can follow Lord Pierce Dear and Lady Rayne Dear and Noah Dear on an adventure to Paris to help save Prince Adonis Before and Dr. Whose from the Madame. But watch out, for the Madame has incompetent spies amongst their crew who may or may not foil their plans.

I hope you enjoy performing this pantomime as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Good luck,

Steven J Yeo

OTHER TITLES BY THIS AUTHOR

Frankenbolt's First Christmas
The Three Chocolatiers

CAST LIST

Principle roles

Lord Pierce Dear -

Lady Rayne Dear -

Noah Dear -

Prince Adonis before -

Madame Guillotine -

Citizen Aubergine -

Citizen Pino Keyo -

Supporting roles

Dr. Whose -

Watts -

Guard –

Chorus

Guests at both parties -

Villagers -

Crewmen -

LIST OF SCENES

ACT ONE

SCENE 1: A French village.

SCENE 2: The Bastille Prison.

SCENE 3: The comics (Front of tabs)

SCENE 4: The Dear residence.

SCENE 5: The galley of “the unsinkable two”.

SCENE 6: Meanwhile in France. (Front of tabs)

SCENE 7: The deck of “the unsinkable two” (part one)

ACT TWO

SCENE 1: The deck of “the unsinkable two” (part two)

SCENE 2: On the way to the Bastille (Front of tabs)

SCENE 3: The Bastille.

SCENE 4: Somewhere in France. (Front of tabs.)

SCENE 5: The voyage home.

SCENE 6: The double wedding party.

MUSIC/SONG SUGGESTIONS

Act 1: scene one

French accordion music “Sous Le Ciel De Paris” suggestion only

Act 1: scene two

1: The chorus dance and sing: Jailhouse rock, by Elvis Presley.

2: The Chorus and Madame Guillotine sing: Bad Guys from Bugsy Malone.

Act 1: scene three

3: The chorus and Pino Keyo sing “Charlie Brown” by The Coasters.

Suggested Alternative lyrics

Swap the words Charlie Brown for Pino Keyo and Pino Keyo to sing,
why is, everybody
always picking on me.

Act 1: scene four

4: The prince sings: It's my party, by Lesley Gore.

Suggested Alternative lyrics

Nobody sees that my beauty spot's gone.
The Pimpernel took it away.
Why can't they recognise me?
I am still the same guy.

It's my party and I'll cry if I want to, cry if I want to, and cry if I want to.
You would cry too, if it happened to you.

5: The chorus and cast to sing: Summer Holiday, by Cliff Richard.

6: Lady Rayne Dear sings: I feel pretty, by Leonard Bernstein from West Side story.

Suggested Alternative lyrics

I am pretty, oh so pretty
I am pretty and witty and gay
And I pity any girl who isn't me today.

I am charming, oh so charming
It's alarming how charming I am
And so pretty, that I hardly can believe I am.

See the pretty girl in the mirror there
Who can that attractive girl be?
Such a pretty face,
Such a pretty dress,
Such a pretty smile,
Such a pretty me
I am stunning, and entrancing.
I feel like running and dancing for joy.
I'll be loved
By that dashing pimpernel guy

Act 1: scene six

7: Chorus sing and dance “The Sloop John B” by The Beach Boys.

Suggested Alternative lyrics

We come on the unsinkable 2
All the members of the crew
Around the isle of white we did roam
Drinking all night
Got into a fight
Well I feel so broke up
I want to go home

So, hoist up the unsinkable sail
See how the main sail sets
Call for the Captain ashore
Let me go home, let me go home
I want to go home, yeah yeah
Well I feel so broke up
I want to go home

The first mate he got drunk.
Broke in the Captain's trunk,
The constable had to come and take him away
Sheriff John Stone
Why don't you leave me alone, yeah, yeah.
Well I feel so broke up, I want to go home

So, hoist up the Unsinkable sail
See how the main sail sets
Call for the Captain ashore

Let me go home, let me go home
I want to go home, let me go home
Why don't you let me go home?
(Hoist up the unsinkable sail)
Hoist up the unsinkable
I feel so broke up I want to go home
Let me go home

The poor cook he caught the fits.
Threw away all my grits
Then he took, and he ate up all of my corn
Let me go home
Why don't they let me go home.
This is the worst trip I've ever been on

So, hoist up the Unsinkable sail
See how the main sail sets
Call for the Captain ashore
Let me go home, let me go home
I want to go home, let me go home
Why don't you let me go home

Act 2: scene two

8: The chorus sing: 500 miles, by the proclaimers.

Act 2: scene four

9: Audience sing-along. "The Twelve Days at Sea" To the tune of twelve days of Christmas.

Suggested Alternative Lyrics

Swap the words "of Christmas my true love gave to me" for "At sea, my captain gave to me"

1st: A wet mop to clean the decks with.

2nd: 2 fishing rods. (Previously used by the two comics in act 1 scene 3)

3rd: 3 Granny knots. (On the same rope)

4th: 4 knives and forks. (Loose and noisily dropped each time)

5th: 5 toilet rolls. (On a string)

6th: 6 stripy tee-shirts. (On a string)

7th: 7 smoky kippers. (On a string)

8th: 8 sleeping hammocks. (On a string)

9th: 9 rags for cleaning. (On a string)

10th: 10 cuddly toys. (On a string)

11th: 11 feather dusters (an elastic band around them)

12th: 12 cups of water. (Contained in squirt guns)

(On every countdown after five the toilet rolls can be thrown into the audience for the crewman, who should sing five, to retrieve them for added fun. When they reach twelve, the squirt guns can be used to dampen the audience a bit for added hilarity)

Act 2: scene five

10: The crewmen/chorus sing: Sailing, by Rod Stewart.

Act 2: scene six

Period background music Waltz

Cast walk down music

SOUND AND LIGHTING EFFECTS

Act 1: Scene 2

Flash of lights
The sound of thunder
A puff of smoke
Eerie screeching sounds
Flash of lights
The sound of thunder

Act 1: Scene 4

Flash of lights
The sound of thunder
A puff of smoke
Flash of lights
The sound of thunder
A puff of smoke

Act 2: Scene 6

Flash of lights
The sound of thunder
A puff of smoke
Flash of lights
The sound of thunder
A puff of smoke

Act 2: Scene 1

A gun shot sound
Large splash sound

Loud slurping sound

Act 2: Scene 3

Metal doors closing sound

Keys turning in the lock sound.

Flash of lights

The sound of thunder

A puff of smoke

Act 2: Scene 4

Flash of lights

The sound of thunder

A puff of smoke

Act 2: Scene 5

The pre-recorded voice of king rat

Deep rumbling sound

Green flashing spot light

Large splash sound

PROPS LIST

Act 1: Scene 1

A newspaper

Act 1: Scene 2

Chains

The scarlet pimple Nail

A cream pie

A hand kerchief

Act 1: Scene 4

Drinks/glasses for the party guests

A piece of paper for the poem

Act 1: Scene 5

A large preparation area/box (**big enough for someone to be concealed in with four holes in the top**)

One large mixing bowl,

A large saucepan with a lid

Two over sized bags labelled flour and sugar.

A box of eggs

A rat hand puppet

Rolling pin

Small period gun

Act 1: Scene 6

A large map with "Meanwhile in France" written on the back

A stuffed pigeon

Large elastic band

Small fishing rod

Separate fishing line

Act 1: Scene 7

Beach chair

Suntan oil

Small period gun

A long plank of wood

Act 2: Scene 1

A long plank of wood on casters

A large piece of cake

A Mac Donald's soft drink cup and straw

A hammer and nails

Period gun

Act 2: Scene 2

Three sets of chains

10 Franc note (money)

Act 2: Scene 3

Scarlet pimple nail

Set of chains (Guard)

Act 2: Scene 4

A mop

2 fishing rods.

3 Granny knots. (on the same rope)

4 knives and forks.

- 5 toilet rolls. (on a string)
- 6 stripy tee-shirts. (on a string)
- 7 smoky kippers. (on a string)
- 8 sleeping hammocks. (on a string)
- 9 rags for cleaning. (on a string)
- 10 cuddly toys. (on a string)
- 11 feather dusters (an elastic band around them)
- 3 Soaker guns

Act 2: Scene 5

- Large chest/box big enough to conceal someone inside, with three holes in the top of it.
- Three small barrels labelled "Rum Whiskey and Wine" all with holes in the top and bottom.
- A rat hand puppet
- Small period gun
- Cream pie
- Hand Towel
- Rolling pin

Act 2: Scene 6

- Drinks/glasses for the party guests
- A cushion
- A golden nail attached to a ribbon
- A Royal sword

Costumes

The whole pantomime is set during the time of the French revolution of 1789 -1799 and all costumes could reflect this period.

Lord Pierce Dear:	Should be dressed in rags when he is in disguise as the scarlet pimpernel but dressed very affluently when as himself.
Lady Rayne Dear:	Dressed very affluently in huge bodice and hoop dress fitting this period. On the ship she could be dressed more tourist like for the voyage maybe an all in one swimsuit and sunglasses for on the deck scenes.
Noah Dear:	Dressed as a young lady befitting this period and no real need to change until the wedding scene.
Prince Adonis before:	Regal clothes but shabby due to time spent in the Bastille, same clothes through out and then very royal looking at the wedding scene.
Madame Guillotine:	Poor looking shabby dress plain looking and dirty throughout.
Citizen Aubergine:	Officer looking soldiers' outfit.
Citizen Pino Keyo:	Scruffy looking soldiers' outfit. Prim and proper uniform for wedding scene.
Dr. Whose:	Dirty rich looking after a long spell in the Bastille. Affluent and clean looking for wedding scene.
Watts:	All black butlers outfit not necessarily of the period.
Guard:	Poor looking rags until wedding scene when he can be dressed in an affluent costume like Lord Dear.
The chorus:	Can be dressed as poor farmers until the scenes with the ship where they can be dressed as sailors of the period.

ACT 1

SCENE 1 - A FRENCH VILLAGE

Classic French accordion music plays to set the scene and fades to background when the villagers speak. Three villagers enter front of tabs. VILLAGER #1 is carrying a newspaper. The three villagers stop centre stage and read the paper.

- VILLAGER #1:** He's gone and done it again.
- VILLAGER #2:** What's he done this time?
- VILLAGER #1:** It says here in [*local newspaper*] that the scarlet pimpernel has freed more lords and ladies from the guillotine in another daring raid.
- VILLAGER #3:** Wow! What happened?
- VILLAGER #1:** **(Pointing at the news paper)** Here look, read it for your self.
- VILLAGER #3:** I can't read; you know that. Please read it aloud for me.
- VILLAGER #1:** Oh yes sorry. It says here that as the guards were bringing seven prisoners to the morning's executions, the scarlet pimpernel without even firing a single shot over powered two of the guards and helped the prisoners escape to the river seine, where a boat called the unsinkable, whisked them away to England and safety.
- VILLAGER #2:** Wow! What else does it say?
- VILLAGER #1:** It says that Madame guillotine has placed a price of 10,000 francs, on his capture, dead or alive.
- VILLAGER #2:** How exciting.

VILLAGER #1: It's not exciting. It's terrible. As soon as we catch these aristocrats, the scarlet pimpernel sets them free. No one knows who he is or what he looks like.

VILLAGER #2: He sounds like kind of a hero to me.

VILLAGER #3: That must be a dozen times he's done that now. We catch them, lock them up, but before we can execute them, the scarlet pimpernel sets them free again.

VILLAGER #1 folds away the newspaper.

VILLAGER #1: Well, he may be a hero to the English, but he's not to us French. Any way come on you guys, back to work. If we don't get this corn harvested, we won't have anything to eat this winter.

The three villagers exit.

SCENE 2 - THE BASTILLE
PRISON

The curtains open to reveal a Bastille prison cell in Paris France. THE CHORUS enter and sing and dance to JAILHOUSE ROCK by Elvis Presley then exit.

SONG 1 "JAIL HOUSE ROCK by Elvis Presley (Suggestion only)

Lighting reveals there are two figures in the cell, PRINCE ADONIS BEFORE in chains and an unknown stranger lurking in the shadows.)

PRINCE: (Talks sadly) Oh hello everyone. It's nice to see some friendly faces at last. It feels like it's been ages since I was locked up here in the Bastille. My name is Adonis before, well, Prince Adonis before actually; that's why I'm in this prison cell, just for being an aristocrat. That means royalty or of noble birth. You know kings and queens, princes and princesses, lords

and ladies etc. The French people, or citizens as they are calling themselves, are arresting all of us aristocrats and chopping our heads off at the guillotine or.... **(He moves his thumb across his throat, making a throat cutting noise as he says Madame)** The Madame, as they call it, named after their horrible leader that witch, called Madame Guillotine. They're going to chop my head off in the morning.

LORD PIERCE DEAR steps from the shadows wearing a disguise.

LORD DEAR: Oh no, they're not.

PRINCE: Oh yes, they are.

LORD DEAR: Oh no, they're not.

Back and forth with the audience

PRINCE: Oh yes, they are, anyway who are you?

LORD DEAR: **(Looks both ways)** I am a friend of the aristocrats.

PRINCE: Are you Walt Disney?

LORD DEAR: No. The French call me the Scarlet Pimpernel. Sshh! But I am not him.

PRINCE: Who?

LORD DEAR: The scarlet Pimpernel.

PRINCE: Who's that?

LORD DEAR: Me.

PRINCE: You said you weren't him.

LORD DEAR: Who?

PRINCE: The Scarlet Pimpernel!

LORD DEAR: Sshh! **(Looks both ways)** No, I am not him. But I am here to rescue the Prince, Adonis before?

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