

ALADDIN

(PANTOMINE)

by

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OVERTURE, MEDLEY OF SONGS SUNG FROM THE PANTOMIME

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**ACT ONE - SCENE ONE :** CHINESE VILLAGE, ROW OF SHOPS. TWANKEY'S LAUNDRY. THE "T" IN THE SIGN HANGING SIDWAYS. SIGN IN WINDOW "GET YOUR HANKIES DONE AT TWANKEY'S". BIG GONG BROUGHT ON AND STRUCK. ALL VILLAGERS STOP IN THEIR TRACKS AND FREEZE, FIRST FEW BARS OF "BOW BEFORE THE MIGHTY EMPEROR" ARE HEARD.

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*Enter Grand Visier*

GRAND VISIER

Make way for their Imperial Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Sechuan.

*Everyone goes down of their faces. Two guards enter and pose centre stage as a guard of honor.*

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SONG : HE'S THE EMPEROR OF SCHWUAN

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*Enter Dragon Emperor and Empress*

\*

EMPEROR

\*

*(clears throat, working up to a speech.)*

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EMPRESS

\*

*(pokes him with her fan.)*

\*

Get on with it then

\*

EMPEROR

So sorry, dear. All right everybody, you can get up now. It's only me, Emperor Fong. You can stop groveling.

EMPRESS

No, you can't, you miserable, horrible peasants! Get down on your knees where you belong.

*(she hits him with her fan)*

\*

EMPEROR

Oh I say, isn't that a bit...

\*

*(she hits him again)*

\*

Yes dear, sorry dear, anything you say.

\*

*(he fumbles with scroll)*

\*

\*

I've got a very important announcement to make. My beautiful daughter, the Princess Yum Yum .....

\*

*(aside to audience)*

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\*

I don't know why she is so beautiful...I mean, look at her mother.

\*

EMPRESS

\*

\*

What was that?

\*

*(she hits him again)*

\*

EMPEROR

Nothing. I was just saying that she looks just like her mother. My beautiful daughter, Yum Yum the delicious, is now of a marriagable age and the Empress and I have made out a list of qualifications required of any suitor.

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*(he reads the list out loud)*

\*

1. He must be twenty-one or over.
  2. He must live in District 10 or 11.
  3. He must own at least one Mercedes.
  4. He must have at least 200 million in his bank account.
  5. And...oh well...he just has to be filthy rich.
- Oh, and the Princess must love him.

EMPRESS

What? I never said that. Who put that in? We don't want any of that silly nonsense. You've been watching one of those TV romances again. I warned you about that. As soon as my back is turned, you're filling the girl's head with all sorts of silly ideas about handsome young men and love - ugh!. Wait till I get you home. All candidates must present themselves before my Public Scrutiny Committee with their qualifications tomorrow afternoon at four o'clock. That's it. Time for Dim Sun at the Mandarin.

*Gong is sounded. Emperor, Empress, Visier, Princess and Guards exeunt. There is general relief all round. Villagers rise and get on with normal activities, shopping, sweeping etc.....*

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VILLAGER

What's the matter with you Aladdin? Why are you looking so miserable?

ALADDIN

I'm just so unhappy. You see, the Princess is so beautiful and I'm so much in love with her but what can I do? I don't have any money. I don't have a rickshaw much less a car. I just work in my mother's laundry. I had to leave school early to help at home. I will never make my fortune washing clothes. If only I could find a way of making lots and lots of money, then perhaps I could marry the Princess.

WIDOW T

*(off stage)*

Aladdin! Aladdin! Where are you? Why haven't you washed these clothes? You good for nothing, lazy, undutiful, unfilial...

*She emerges*

Ah, there you are. I suppose you've been staring at the Princess again, you idle waster. There's piles of laundry still to do and you haven't collected the laundry from the Palace.

ALADDIN

I'm sorry, Mother, it's just that...

WIDOW T

Don't "just that" with me, lah. You get off and collect the laundry at the Palace. Otherwise, there will be no supper for you. Go on. Be off with you.

ALADDIN

Yes mother. I will leave now.

*Exits.*

WIDOW T

What a terrible boy. I don't know why I put up with him. Oh, I think I see children. Is there anybody there? You're so quiet I can't hear you. Is there anybody there? Oh good, I thought you had all gone home. Have you brought your mums and dads with you? What? I can't hear you. Well, you have to be nice to them. Buy them an treat in the interval. I've been keeping up with the "Speak Mandarin" campaign you know...can I practice my Mandarin on you? I've only learnt a little bit so far.

*(Very slowly and distinctly)*

Ni how ma...any good? Well, some of you should be alright. Go on, say something in Mandarin. Oh, you do speak good Chinese. I go for my lessons at the British Council and they're hopeless. I haven't got time to study anyway. I have to do all the washing. Wash, wash, wash, all day long, seven days a week. Talk about productivity. Would you like to meet my other children? They are beautiful. I'll call them for you. Gong Ci...Fa Cai...come to Mummys.

*Enter Gong Xi dressed as Fonzie and Fa Cai as a punk rocker, purple streaks in hair etc..*

GONG CI

Cool baby, what's happening man?

WIDOW T

Isn't he charming? Such a good boy. He's doing really well, you know earning so much money. Runs a knitting circle for ladies in distress. They knit some wonderful things. \*

GONG CI

Here mum, a little bit of bread. Buy yourself a loaf

*(hands her a wad of cash.)* \*

WIDOW T

Such a good boy. And this is our Fa Cai. She's very bright you know. She's first in her class at the University of Sandwich. Now don't be shy. Come on, say something to the boys and girls, go on...say something.

FA CAI

*Takes a typical punk rock stance, flutters her eyes, wiggles her bottom and says "hello". exits.* \*

WIDOW T

Aren't they lovely? I must admit they don't help much in the laundry but then they are doing other important things and there's always Aladdin and my new helper. I just got him last week. His name is Abdul. He's a nice boy. Abdul? Where are you?

*Abdul's face appears around the corner.* \*

*He is hitching up an obviously disobedient dhoti* \*

ABDUL

Coming Missy

*Still valiantly trying to control his dhoti* \*

WIDOW T

Oh, get on with it you silly man. I want you to go and help Aladdin collect the laundry.

ABDUL

Ys Missy, anything you say Missy. You hot Missy? You want fan?

*Rushes off and brings back portable fan which he blows up her skirt.* \*

WIDOW T

Oh, that's lovely. Now listen...

*Pushes fan away*

Go collect laundry from palace with Aladdin. Got it? \*

ABDUL

Oh yes Missy. Go laundry collect palace.

WIDOW T

No. Go palace collect laundry. With Aladdin.

ABDUL

I go Missy. Go collect Aladdin from palace. Laundry.

WIDOW T

No you silly...never mind lah. Go palace. Go on lah.

*Exit Abdul*

His English is dreadful - but never mind, he'll soon learn. Now I must get back to my laundry or I'll never get everything done.

MUSICAL INTRO INTO SONG "I'M BUSY DOING NOTHING WORKING THE WHOLE DAY THROUGH." AFTER SONG...

WIDOW T

Bye children, see you all later. Bye. \*

*Exit* \*

*END OF SCENE ONE* \*

**ACT ONE - SCENE TWO :** FRONT OF TABS. \*

*Aladdin enters dragging along a large hamper of laundry. He pulls it to centre stage then sits down on it exhausted.* \*

ALADDIN

Oh dear children. What shall I do? I'm so unhappy. The Princess Yum Yum is so beautiful. How will I ever become rich so that I can marry her?

*Enter Abdul*

Hello Alassin. Oh you very sad Alaffin. What's the matter with you? You got pain?

ALADDIN

Hello Abdul. No, I haven't got a pain and if I tell you what's wrong, you must swear to keep it a secret. Can you keep a secret Abdul?

ABDUL

Me? I keep secret so secret I not even tell myself.

ALADDIN

Well, if you promise not to tell anyone...

ABDUL

I swear.

ALADDIN

I'm in love with the Princess Yum Yum and she's in love with me. We meet every time I collect the laundry and... her parents are going to force her to marry somebody who's terribly rich and probably old and horrible. So, you see why I am so unhappy. And it was my birthday yesterday I did so want a new I Phone but mother always says we are very poor, but Gong Ci and Fa Cai always get what they want. All I got was some bubble mixture.

*Pulls out bubble mixture and demonstrates.*

ABDUL

My mother always say, Abdul, you not worry about what you not got, you worry about what you have. So Abdul got nothing so Abdul never worried. And my mother she always say, then sing sad song make happy.

ALADDIN

No. You mean when sad, sing a song to make you happy.

ABDUL

Yes, that's what I saw. When happy make sad sing song.

ALADDIN

All right. Let's sing song. Children, will you sing with me. You will? Thank you. Perhaps something will happen and I will be able to marry the princess.

SONG: "ZIPPEDEE DOO DAH" .

ALADDIN

That was wonderful children. Thank you I'm feeling much better.

WIDOW T

*Off stage*

Aladdin, Ala din? Where's that laundry? Hurry up.

ALADDIN

Come on Abdul. We must get back home as fast as we can.

*Aladdin and abdul make a speedy exit loud flash and bang at side.  
Sound of amplified hideous cackle.*

*Enter Abaneezer*

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

Oh, what a silly boy that Aladdin is. He didn't know that his wicked Uncle Abanazer was listening to every word.

*Lots of hissing from the audience required*

\*

\*

I'll soon sort him out. Grovel.. Grovel... Where are you? Come here you horrible little toad.

GROVEL

*He bows obsequiously*

\*

Yes your most wonderful nastiness. What horrible things can I do for your wickedness?

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

Stop trying to be polite. Go and find out where Aladdin lives. I want to pay him a little visit.

GROVEL

Are you planning a wonderful nasty deed oh Master?

ABANEEZER

\*

Never you mind you revolting creature - no I'm going to be nice...

*Hideous Cackle*

GROVEL

At once your wickedness.

ABANEEZER

\*

Once I get hold of the magic lamp I will be the most powerful man in the world. I shall rule the world. But first I have to get someone with a pure heart...Yuk...to get me the lamp because only that person can enter the magic cave of the Severn Winds. Aladdin will suit my purposes perfectly and once i get the lamp, I shall turn him into something horrible. As well as all those goody-goody villagers. Ha Ha Ha Ha!

*Hideous Cackle*

*END OF SCENE 2*

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**ACT ONE - SCENE THREE.** INSIDE TWANKEY'S LAUNDRY. SIMPLE BARE WALLS. ONE DOOR, ONE WINDOW, WASHING LINE, ORDINARY MANGLE, ONE CONSTRUCTED MANGLE, CLOTHES FAN, BIG TUBS, IRONING BOARD AND IRON, FOUR BASKETS OF WASHING.

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*Enter Widow T in her everyday wash dress*

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WIDOW T

Come on children, it's time to do today's wash. Come on Gong Ci...Fa Cai?... Where Are they? Aladdin? Abdul?

ALADDIN

*(Off stage)*

Coming Mother.

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WIDOW T

Mind, there's a lot to do today. They are a dirty lot in this village I can tell you. Now, where's my list? Ah... there it is.

*Enter Aladdin*

Now Aladdin, will you check the laundry against this list?

ALADDIN

Yes mother.

WIDOW T

Abdul!

*Bellows*

Abdul

*Abdul enters finishing off his Nasi Lemak*

ABDUL

Sorry Missy. No finish Makan. Tak kerjan till makan.

\*

WIDOW T

Look, I want a bit less makan and a bit more work. Check this basket. Where does it come from?

ABDUL

Says Serangoon Road...

*Enter gong ci and fa cai*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh, there you are you two. What have you been?

GONG CI

*(Combing his hair)*

Sorry mum, but I've had to go to a productivity meeting to discuss some quality control circles.

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WIDOW T

Well, you can start being productive by washing those shirts. Over there. Fa Cai, where have you been?

FA CAI

I've been doing my homework mummy like a good little girl.

WIDOW T

That's a good girl. Now, get on with that ironing.

FA CAI

Yes mother.

WIDOW T

Now where was I? Oh yes, that's right. Where did you say it came from?

ABDUL

Well, it's full of dirty dhotis.

WIDOW T

Yes, that's right. And don't get them mixed up with the tablecloths this time. Imagine what a shock they got at the restaurant.

ABDUL

Yes Missy.

WIDOW T

Now, where's this from? Bin Tong Park. Oh dear, curry stains again. They must be doing a lot of entertaining up there. What a lovely sari, Aladdin. Special treatment for these clothes. You know who they belong to - it's confidential laundry.

ALADDIN

Right away, mother.

WIDOW T

Now, what's in here? A Churka hat? It must be from Oxley Road. Oh yes, so it is. That one must be the last... Oh no, there's more. Where's this one from? The Mandarin Hotel. Oh that's always very clean. They have a nice class of people there. What's this?

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*Holds up an enormous bra*

\*

Dear me, Dolly Parton must be in town. You learn a lot about people when you do their laundry. You do, you know.

\*

ALADDIN

There mother. That's all been checked.

WIDOW T

Good boy. Gong Ci? Have you got those shirts finished?

GONG CI

Yes ma.

WIDOW T

Well, don't just stand there. Give them to Abdul to put through the mangle. Abdul, mangle the shirts. I said mangle not tangle them you silly boy.

ABDUL

Oh yes, missy, Abdul mangle shirts. O.K. Lah, can do.

WIDOW T

Fa Cai, give him a hand with the mangling please.

FA CAI

Oh mother, do I have to? I've just put my new green nail polish on. It'll be all ruined.

WIDOW T

Never you mind your green nail polish. Get on that mangle.

ABDUL

Hippy missy turn mangle, Abdul put shirts in.

*Fa cai starts turning handle of mangle without looking. The mangle should be constructed with a detachable handle and two large sponge covered rollers which will move apart enough for abdul's arm and hopefully half his body to go into.*

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*Abdul starts feeing in shirts but does not let go. his arm and then more of him are pulled into the rollers.*

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ABDUL

Missy, Missy, help. Abdul in mangle. Help!

WIDOW T

Quick Fa Cai, turn it the other way.

*Handle breaks off.*

\*

FA CAI

Oh dear, it's broken off.

ABDUL

*(half way through mangle)*

Oh missy, missy, help Abdul. Abdul getting flat as pancake.

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WIDOW T

Quick Gong Ci. Get hold of his legs. Pull him.

*Fa cai starts pulling his arms while gong ci pulls his legs.*

\*

WIDOW T

Now pull...

ABDUL

Ooooooooooh, missy. Abdul soon be ten feet long.

WIDOW T

*(To Fa Cai)*

No, you push. Push you idiot. Look what you're doing to the boy. Push.

\*

FA CAI

I am pushing.

ABDUL

Now Abdul only three feel long.

*After much panic and flurry, aladdin releases the catch on the mangle to free the rollers.*

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\*

ALADDIN

There. That's it.

*Gong ci and fa cai both fall over. Abdul emerges and does drunken walk across the stage. abaneezer and grovel catch aladdin's attention through the window. aladdin goes and opens the door and talk to abanazer. Grovel is dismissed.*

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ABDUL

Oh missy. Abdul feel funny. Everything go going inside. Abdul not like laundry. Abdul stay in kampong, play football kampong style. Alamah... Abdul very poorly...

WIDOW T

Dear me. We must get some new machines. All this old stuff is no good. But where will we get the money to buy new washing machines? We're so poor. (Looks in purse) I've got three dollars and ten cents and that's in Malaysian coin. What are we going to do?

*Aladdin brings abaneezer to his mother.*

\*

ALADDIN

Mother, mother. Look who is here.

WIDOW T

Oh yes

\*

*(with recognition)*

\*

It's a man.

\*

*(Dead pan )*

\*

ALADDIN

It's my rich uncle Abanazer.

WIDOW T

But he doesn't have a...

ABANEEZER

\*

Indeed he has my good woman. I am your late husband's only brother. And I have come to settle my wealth on my dear nephew Aladdin.

WIDOW T

\*

But he didn't have a brother - Oh THAT brother! Yes, he was always talking about you - morning, noon and night. How I love my handsome brother Aza... banana he used to say. Have you a wife?

ABANEEZER

\*

Ten.

WIDOW T

Well, one more and you could run a hockey team.

*(she smiles engagingly)*

\*

ABANEEZER

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Aladdin, did your father ever show you the field outside this town where we played so merrily? The field with the cave? It is difficult to find.

ALADDIN

No, I don't think he did.

ABANEEZER

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Oh, I'm surprised. Widow Twankey, if you will excuse Aladdin from his chores, perhaps I could take him now to find it. I am impatient to see the spot again.

WIDOW T

Oh, take him, he's no use here. Now behave yourself, Aladdin. Have you got a clean hanky?

ALADDIN

Really mother, I am twenty one.

ABANEEZER

Come Aladdin. Do not tarry. I'm sure I know the way.

*(rubs hands gleefully and cackles to himself)*

Within the hour... within the hour...

*Abaneezer and Aladdin exit*

ABDUL

What a funny old fellow.

WIDOW T

Keep a civil tongue in your head. Such a fine, rich gentleman. Now help me with this wringing... we'd better use the other mangle.

*Abdul is frightened of the mangle. eventually fees widow t's skirt in it.  
Scene ends with her frantically trying to free herself.*

*END OF SCENE THREE*

**ACT ONE - SCENE FOUR. FRONT OF TABS. OUTSIDE THE CAVE.**

ABANEEZER

And now, my boy, give careful heed  
There's just one little thing I need  
I have a little job for you  
Which only a brave lad can do  
A task I give to you alone  
See yonder, do you see that stone?

That huge rock on the mountainside  
That stone a wondrous cave doth hide  
Behind the stone an entrance small  
Will lead you to the cavern wall.

ALADDIN

But won't the cave be dark inside

ABANEEZER

Perhaps it might be... but I have tied  
A rope to help you down - and then  
You'll find you're in a wooded glen.

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ALADDIN

A forest growing underground?

ABANEEZER

But like no forest elsewhere found  
The branches are of silver made  
The fruits of rubies, leaves of jade  
But do not waste your time with these  
For on beyond the treasure trees  
You'll see a rocky ledge, on which  
A lamp stands in a little niche  
Bring me that lamp - and take this charm  
Whose power may keep you safe from harm.

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*Abaneezer gives Aladdin the ring.*

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ALADDIN

What? This old thing? What does it do?

ABANEEZER

It may be of some use to you  
It's an old thing... I've had it years  
Just rub it and the Slave appears  
Eager to serve you at every whim  
But as you will find, she's pretty dim  
As genie's go, she's worse than none  
I need a bigger, better one.

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*Aladdin rubs the ring. lights down. loud flash/boom slave of the ring  
appears, disheveled and scruffy.*

\*  
\*

ABANEEZER

You see what I mean...

\*

SLAVE

You called, Oh Master. What can I do for you, Master?

ALADDIN

I called but I don't know what for... I've never seen a genie before.

SLAVE

Well really, there was I, happily sunbathing at the Club Med when the alarm went. I thought you needed something urgent - or at least Cinderella's coach and six white horses.

ALADDIN

I'm sorry. Of course that's what I wanted. Please give me a demonstration.

SLAVE

Nothing to it.

*Slave makes very confident passes. Magic music, something animal appears holding wok and fish slices. Growls violently then goes off.*

\*

\*

ABANEEZER

You see why I want a new genie.

\*

\*

SLAVE

No, well, I'm not very good with animals. Would you like to see some lightening or a nice roll of thunder, perhaps?

ALADDIN

No. I don't think so. I'm hungry. How about a nice McDonald's hamburger and french fries?

SLAVE

That's easy...

*Makes confident passes. Slightly uncomfortable pause. Three bags of crisps descend from on high.*

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Oh well, I'm not very good on food either. I can do some very good card tricks and I can foretell your future.

ALADDIN

No thanks, I don't want to be unkind, but honestly if you told me anything, I don't think I'd believe it.

SLAVE

Don't be like that. You haven't seen the very best I can do. Concentrate... and I'll bring on the Talentime finalists.

*Fanfare then roll of drums. All very impressive. Enter dishelved and sleepy trishaw driver plus trishaw*

\*

\*

Where on earth has Clifford Pier gone?

*Pedals off shaking head and puzzled.*

\*

SLAVE

Oh lord! Anyone want to see a card trick?



*Exits in a hurry.*

ABANEEZER

You won't get that much help I fear  
But still - don't worry - I'll be near  
You're better off without that slave  
Come on Aladdin - to the cave.

*END OF SCENE FOUR*

**ACT ONE - SCENE FIVE : INSIDE THE CAVE**

THE BACK OF THE CAVE IS FORMED BY A FULL SIZED GAUZE BEHIND WHICH THE COURT SCENE WILL BE SET. ON THIS GAUZE ARE THE JEWEL TREES. SOME JEWEL TREES ARE SET DOWNSTAGE FOR ALADDIN TO TAKE A FEW HANDFULS OF JEWELS. THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE IS A GAP IN THE GAUZE SET AS HIGH AS BALCONY SIGHT LINES PERMIT. ABANAZER WILL MOUNT A LADDER BEHIND THE GAUZE TO SPEAK THROUGH. THIS CAN BE STRUCK BEFORE THE GAUZE BECOMES TRANSPARENT.

*As the lights come up aladdin is climbing down the last two feet of the rope hanging from the entrance to the cave.*

ABANEEZER

The lamp, Aladdin... the lamp, get the lamp.

ALADDIN

Yes, alright, but I can hardly see down here - it's very dark (Aladdin blunders into the tree). Oh, how marvelous. Uncle, Uncle, it's just as you said. The trees are hung with jewels. They're enormous.

ABANEEZER

Yes, yes, but don't waste time with them. Get the lamp.

*Aladdin hastily pushes a few jewels into his pockets and gropes his way for the lamp. As he approaches it, a strange light flickers around it.*

ABANEEZER

Have you got it? At the end of the cave... on a ledge?

ALADDIN

No, its very dark. Oh, I see it. Why, it's just an ordinary old lamp.

ABANEEZER

That's what I said it was you stupid boy. Fetch it. Bring it to me!

*Aladdin goes to pick it up. Weird music is heard.*

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

Give it to me...Give it to me...GIVE IT TO ME!

ALADDIN

\*

Now am I going to get up again? I need both hands to climb the rope.

ABANEEZER

\*

Put the lamp in your pocket. Don't rub it. You will have to hold it.

ALADDIN

So how can I climb the rope?

ABANEEZER

\*

Tie the rope carefully to the lamp and I'll pull it up first. Then I'll get you out.

ALADDIN

Oh no, I have a feeling that once you've got your hands on this stupid old lamp, you'll forget all about it.

ABANEEZER

\*

Do as you're told. Give me that lamp you peasant urchin.

ALADDIN

Come and get it!!

ABANEEZER

\*

*Furious and snarling he tries to enter the cave.*

\*

Curses. I cannot enter. The cave will not let me in. I know how to deal with you Aladdin... and while I am gone you will wait for me here. You, you will wait for me because I shall close up the cave. You might wait here forever.

\*

*Hideous cackle. Closes hold up with a stone with noise of great rumble and crash.*

\*

\*

*All is gloomy. Sound of dripping water in the cave.*

\*

ALADDIN

Someone's forgotten to turn off the tap.

*(Turns on tap on wall and noise stops.)*

\*

I don't think I like this place very much. What should I do now?

\*

*To audience in hopes of getting a response.*

\*

What: Clean this moldy old lamp here? Give it a rub? Do you think that's a good idea? I hate cleaning. Anyway, if I were to rub the lamp, terrible things might happen... like maybe a genie might come bursting out with a puff of smoke. You wouldn't want that to happen, would you? Yes? Could a genie help me get out of here and help me marry the princess? Don't worry, I'll rub the lamp right away.

*Takes out a large pocket handkerchief and rubs the lamp furiously.  
Nothing happens.*

See, I told you nothing would happen. This lamp isn't magic. You've all been reading too many story books and fairy tales.

*Huge boom/flash. BIG Genie emerges in puff of smoke. Big Genie's voice should be amplified if possible as it should be a booming type voice.*

BIG GENIE

Great master - what is your command?

ALADDIN

Good heavens, a real genie. I was expecting a funny little one like last time.

BIG GENIE

The last time

*The laughter of the genie echoes deafeningly around the cave.*

ALADDIN

Remind me not to tell this one any funny stories.

*Genie laughs again.*

ALADDIN

SILENCE!!

*Genie stops obediently in mid laugh.*

ALADDIN

Well, what's your speciality?

GENIE

The marvels of mankind... the treasures of the East.

ALADDIN

If you mean rubies, emeralds and so forth, I've already got a pocketful of the biggest jewels you have ever seen.

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\*

## GENIE

Oh no, Master we must move with the times. I can give you the best, most incredible computer hardware and software. Apple or Orange... with or without pips (laughs).

## ALADDIN

No, I don't need a computer to find the princess - I know where she is. What I do need are some fine clothes and I must get to the palace by four o'clock. All candidates for the hand of the princess must present themselves at that time.

## GENIE

Nothing easier, Oh master. You will be dressed in the very best finery and be at the palace in food time... bit first, allow me to dine and entertain you.

*Claps hands, enter slave with tray of food and drink. Places it at Aladdin's feet. Bows and exits bowing.*

*As Aladdin speaks next line, music begins and three or four dancers appear and get ready to dance. All bow to Aladdin.*

## ALADDIN

Oooh... Chicken wings.. .all my favorites .

*As Aladdin stuffs his face with the food, the dancers dance a Chinese dance with fans. Very pretty and graceful. At end of dance they bow and go off.*

## GENIE

And now... THE PALACE...

*Lights change so that the previously solid looking gauze now becomes transparent. Abanazer's ladder, of course, has been struck before this point. The court is visible plus a crowd of people. Aladdin tries to enter but cannot.*

Wait oh Master... the final piece of magic...

*Lights go out for gauze to be raised. Aladdin exits to dress in finery. Genie exits. There is a loud sound of rushing wind plus some strange chords from the orchestra. When the wind noise dies away, the voices of singers are heard singing "Welcome to the mighty emperor". When all is ready, lights come up.*

\*

END OF SCENE FIVE

\*

## ACT ONE - SCENE SIX: COURT SCENE AFTER THE BLACKOUT. \*

*Enter two guards with halberds who stand either side of the royal throne. Fanfare, big gong.. Enter Dragon Emperor and Empress dressed magnificently.*

WIDOW T

*From the crowd where she is mixed in.*

Ooh, isn't this exciting. Look at Yum Yum - isn't she beautiful? I wonder who is going to be the lucky man to marry her.

VISIER

*Loudly*

Silence...Pray silence for her most Imperial Majesty, Ruler of the Seven Seas, Knight of the Bath, Terror of the emperor - The Dragon Empress. The one and only...

VOICE FROM CROWD

Get on with it!

VISIER

I've forgotten her name. What is your name?

EMPRESS \*

*(coyly)* \*

Florence

VISIER

...the one and only Florence!

CROWD

Hurrah...Hurrah...Hurrah..

*Getting feebler and feebler...*

EMPRESS

Ladies and gentlemen, peasants and everybody else in my kingdom. My husband and I...or rather me and my husband have invited you all here to our little palace to witness the selection of the most marriagable young man for our daughter, Princess Yum Yum. You have already heard the list of qualifications required, so I won't bother you by reading them out. I would just like to say that we've had a lot of applicants...haven't we dear?

*The Emperor by this point has fallen asleep* \*

Wake up you silly idiot!

*Empress hits Emperor*

EMPEROR

Yes dear...no dear...I'm sorry dear...anything you say dear...

EMPRESS

Right. Now, Mr. Grand Visier, will you kindly call the first suitor.

VISIER

Call Suitor Number One

*(Voice off, "call suitor number one)*

\*

*Enter suitor dressed as much like J. R. Ewing or current famous cowboy as possible. Huge hat.*

EMPRESS

Welcome to the Court of Sechuan. Now, you must remember that I have to consult with the Royal Astrologer and we have to know which sign of the Chinese zodiac you were born under. But first of all, what's your name?

J.R.

Ma name's J. R.

\*

EMPRESS

What do you mean J.R.? You can't have a name like that. It's like calling someone P.M. Or SBC. Haven't you got a proper name like everyone else?

\*

J. R. EWING

J.R. Ewing

\*

\*

EMPRESS

Who?

\*

EMPEROR

*(whispers frantically)*

It's him . You know, the one from...you know where.

\*

EMPRESS

Who ? From where?

EMPEROR

You know. Ewing from over there...Dallas

EMPRESS

Oh, him...oh well, he must be very rich. Well now, Mr. J. R. Chewing. What are you? What sign?

\*

J.R.

It's a snake. I'm the most low down, nastiest, meanest, richest snake in all Texas. And I aim to marry Yum Yum.

EMPRESS

You're a snake, are you? Well, lets see if that's alright - you see my daughter is a monkey. \*

*(Loudly)* \*

Mr. Astrologer.. \*

*Grand Visier hurriedly changes his hat into Astrologer's hat. Scrabbles in his pockets for the book.* \*

Get a move on. Can my daughter marry a snake called J. R.? \*

VISIERS

Oh most wonderful, terrible and mighty, awesome and..

EMPRESS

All right, we've had enough of that. Can my daughter, Yum Yum, marry a snake?

VISIERS

According to the great book, only snakes can marry rats.

EMPRESS

Here, let me see that book. You're right. Well, isn't that a pity! I'm very sorry, Mr. Coming, I mean Going, no I mean...Ewing. It doesn't look as if you're the right sort of person for our YumYum. Now, who's next?

VISIERS

Call Suitor number Two

*Echo from wings then over mic.* \*

"Faster than the speed of light, faster than an express train...It's Superman" \*

CROWD \*

Hurrah!

*Extremely diminutive superman bounds in aged about 10.* \*

EMPRESS

Mind, you're a bit small, aren't you?

SUPERMAN

I can grow and I can fly!

EMPRESS

Well, that's not much good, is it? You can't go flying around when you've got the washing up to do, can you? Now, before we look into particulars, what are you?

SUPERMAN

I'm Superman Junior, what do you mean?

EMPRESS

Not who you are, what you are? What sign? You see, I'm a cow...

EMPEROR

You can say that again.

EMPRESS

*(Hitting him)*

Nobody asked you, you rude little man.

\*  
\*

*(Turning Back)*

Now, what sign were you born under?

\*  
\*

SUPERMAN

I see what you mean. I'm a rabbit.

EMPRESS

Astrologer?

*(Visier rapidly changes hat again))*

How do rabbits and monkeys get on?

\*

VISIERS

Oh most wonderful, terrible, mighty and awesome...

EMPRESS

Oh shut up. Just look in your little book.

VISIERS

According to the great book of prognostication, it is written that rabbits and monkeys are a most happy combination. And they will have many sons and many daughters and they will breed like rabbits and all be little monkeys.

EMPRESS

Oh that's wonderful. Now Mr. Superman, let's see the color of your money. You must be able to keep Yum Yum in the style she's been accustomed to.

*Superman brings out a very small savings book.*

\*  
\*

This is a bit small, isn't it?



*Superman tries to hide it.*

\*  
\*

Give it here.

*(Looks up and frowns)*

\*  
\*

How much? Two dollars and fifty cents?

*Crowd laughs*

\*  
\*

That wouldn't keep our yum yum in ice cream. Why have you got so little money?

SUPERMAN

Well, I keep rescuing people but nobody ever pays me.

EMPRESS

Well, I'm very sorry. You can't marry Yum Yum. You should stop saving people.

*Superman starts to cry.*

\*

EMPEROR

Oh, the poor lad.

*Crowd OHHHHHHH*

\*  
\*

Give him a lollipop.

*(Big lollipop is handed over).*

\*  
\*

There you are sonny. Don't you sorry Superman, I'm sure you'll get your Krypton factor back again soon.

EMPRESS

Right. Now who's the next one? It'd better be somebody good this time.

*(Visier changes his hat to Visier's hat and continues)*

\*

VISIERS

Call the last suitor for the hand of the princess Tum Tum.

*(Echo)*

\*

*Enter Fu Man Chewy made to look as fat and ugly as possible.  
Mustache down to the ground.*

\*  
\*

CROWD

Boo, Hiss, etc.

EMPEROR

Quite everyone.

*(Loudly)*

Silence...Right. What's your name sonny?

FU MAN CHEWY

My name is Fu Man Chewy. Lichest man in village; lichest man in all China. Have twenty-five Mercedes, Llolls Lloyce, live in Belmon Load in house sullounded by stuffed pallots and bloxer dogs worth 20,000 dollar.

EMPRESS

Oh that's wonderful. You're just the man we've been looking for. But can you tell me what sign you are?

FU MAN CHEWY

Born under lat.

EMPRESS

Under what?

FU MAN CHEWY

UNDER LAT.

EMPRESS

Oh, under Rat. You're a Rat.

FU MANY CHEWY

Me filthy lich lat.

EMPRESS

Astrologer

Visier changes hat. Can a monkey marry a lat? I mean Rat?

VISIERS

Great book say - When Rat and Monkey meet, sound of little feet.

EMPRESS

That sounds all right.

YUM YUM

Mother, you can't marry me to him. He's so fat and ugly. Besides, he's twice my age.

EMPRESS

That doesn't magger, look at the decrepit old idiot I married.

\*  
\*

\*

\*

YUM YUM

Father, you can't do this to me. Remember your promise.

EMPEROR

I'm sorry, Yum Yum, but...wait a minute...make him show us what he's worth - he might be just fooling us.

EMPRESS

Quite right. You never can be too careful these days.

*Fu Man Chewy turns around. He has the United Overseas Bank Symbol on his back. He produces a two foot by one U.P.B. Passbook. Big Gasp of amazement from crowd.*

\*  
\*  
\*

EMPRESS

*(Looking inside. )*

\*  
\*

Oh very nice - oh look at this, seven figures.

YUM YUM

Mother, you can't. I beg of you. Don't marry me to him, he's horrible .

\*

*(Sob. Sob.)*

\*

EMPRESS

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very pleased. Me and my husband are very pleased to announce the engagement of our daughter...

*Lights down, big boom, enter Aladdin with puff of smoke. Lights up on Aladdin dressed superbly.*

\*  
\*

ALADDIN

Stop. I have come to claim the hand of Yum Yum.

EMPRESS

That's all very well - but who are you? And what do you mean by arriving like that in a puff of smoke, frightening everyone to death?

ALADDIN

My name is Aladdin and I live in the village with my mother, Widow Twankey.

EMPRESS

Well you can't marry Yum Yum. I wouldn't dream of letting my daughter marry the son of a washer woman.

ALADDIN

Yum Yum will never have to work in the laundry for I am now richer than the richest man in China. Here, have these jewels as a present. Now will you have me as a son-in-law?

That's all very well...but what about your savings?

ALADDIN

Abdul!

*Abdul enters with a six foot high Hong Kong Shanghai Bank book.*

\*

CROWD

OOOOOOOohhhhhhhhh.....

\*

\*

EMPRESS

Well, I never. I don't think I've ever seen one as big as that

*Examines contents*

Goodness gracious it's full up.

\*

*Gasps of amazement from the crowd.*

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am pleased to announce the engagement of my daughter Yum Yum to Aladdin.

\*

*Crowd cheers*

\*

YUM YUM

Oh thank you mother, thank you father. Thank you everybody. But how did you do it Aladdin? How have you become so rich?

ALADDIN

I will tell you all about it later when you come to serve tea to my mother in our house. In the meantime, let us all rejoice and prepare for the wedding.

*Music begins - song "For he's going to marry Yum Yum. All merrily dance. At end of song Yum Yum waves goodbye to Aladdin and all except Aladdin and Widow T exit.*

\*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh Aladdin, you have done well. Look at those lovely clothes

ALADDIN

Mother, all our troubles are over. Here's some money for you. Make sure that you get the house all beautifully clean and tidy for Yum Yum's visit. Remember, we can't be fully married until she has served you tea.

WIDOW T

Oh, thank you Aladdin. What a wonderful boy you are. I won't ask you where you came by all this wealth. Here, pinch me, will you?

ALADDIN

Why do you want me to pinch you?

WIDOW

Please, go on and pinch me...just to make sure I'm not dreaming.

ALADDIN

I promise you you're not dreaming, mother. Look - you go down Orchard Road and buy yourself anything you want. There's plenty more where that came from. And get some decorators to do the house. I must go and see Yum Yum. Take this lamp home and put it in a SAFE PLACE.

*Aladdin exits*

\*

WIDOW T

I'm so excited. I can't believe it, can you? It's like winning the Lotto. All those years of slaving over a hot tub...and now to be rich. I must keep calm. I know, I'll go down Orchard Road. I must go to the Gucci shop. Oh I'm going to look wonderful. I can't think what Aladdin wants with a nasty, battered old lamp like this...especially now that he is rich. I think I'll get some of those big earrings, all dangly. Now that I'm rich, I might even be able to find myself a husband. Isn't this exciting? Now, while I go and do my shopping - you go and buy Mum and Dad an ice cream. I'm sure you'd like one, wouldn't you? ...And they don't get out very often. I'll be back in fifteen minutes, and you can all help me tidy up the laundry so it will be ready for Yum Yum You won't go away will you? I don't know what to do with this silly old lamp. See you all later. Goodbye!

*Widow T trips up and makes her usual undignified exit*

\*

END OF ACT ONE AND CURTAIN. MUSIC AS CURTAIN CLOSES.

***ACT TWO - SCENE ONE***

\*

FRONT OF TABS. OUTSIDE THE CAVE.

\*

*Strange music. Loud crash/boom signaling entry of Abanazer in spot.*

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

Heh heh heh heh...That stupid old woman and her silly son. I'll have my revenge on them. How dare he steal my lamp. When I get my hands on the lamp I'll have them all turned into frogs...which reminds me...Grovel - come here you miserable specimen of humanity.

\*

*Enter Grovel obsequiously*

\*

GROVEL

Yes, your most abominable horribleness. Can I do something nasty for you?

ABANEEZER

Yes Grovel. I want you to go down to the market and find me a disguise - I want to look like a trader. I have a wonderfully wicked plan which will put the lamp into my hands. While you are there, buy half a dozen cheap lamps. I'm going to get that lamp if it's the last thing I do... and then Aladdin and his silly Yum Yum will be under my control and I shall be master of the world. Go, you horrible piece of rat glue - get me my disguise.

*Abaneezer sweeps off*

GROVEL

*(To audience)*

Yes, your nastiness...Thank goodness he's gone. I do hate all this nastiness. Isn't he horrible? Well - he wasn't always horrible. As a matter of fact he use to be very nice but he got bitten by a hungry ghost once. And he's never been the same.

ABANEEZER

*(Off Stage)*

Get going you...

GROVEL

I'm going!

*Exit Grovel*

(ABANEEZER, GROVEL)

**ACT TWO - SCENE TWO INSIDE OF LAUNDRY**

*Inside of laundry same as before but row of new washing machines. Table and chair. Enter Widow T dressed to kill. Enormous earrings, Gucci printed in gold on her knickers underneath it all. She is carrying a "crocodile" handbag and the lamp.*

WIDOW T.

Hello, children. Do you like my new dress? I got a lovely handbag...it's crocodile/ -look

*Gets hands caught*

They gave it to me after your mums and dads caught while I was away? Good. Now - where were we? Ah yes. I've got the decorators coming this afternoon. I've chosen some lovely wallpaper. We're going to have it really posh for when the princess comes to tea. Isn't this exciting? Now, what a, I going to do with this silly lamp? I can't think what Aladdin would want with it...it's all bashed. It must be very old...

*Abanazer appears outside the window in disguise with a tray of lamps.*

ABANEEZER

New lamps for old...New lamps for old...New lamps for old...

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Aladdin has been such a good boy I'll get him a new one instead of this old one. Do you think that's a good idea children? (RESPONSE)

\*

\*

*(Response hopefully will be NO NO NO)*

\*

ABANEEZER

Buy your lamps from ...New lamps for old ones...

\*

WIDOW T

*(To audience)*

No? You must be crackers. I get a lovely new lamp for this rotten old one.

\*

\*

\*

*(Response)*

\*

\*

It's a what? Magic lamp? Don't be silly, you don't have magic lamps nowadays. That's just in stories. Here, lamp seller. Come here.

*She opens the door to allow Abaneezer in*

What will you give me for this old lamp?

\*

ABANEEZER

THAT old lamp? Who wants a horrible old lamp like that?

\*

WIDOW T

I know it's not very nice...I'll tell you what - I'll throw in a free wash with it. Here, let me take your clothes

*Grabs him*

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

*Extricates himself.*

\*

No...No...Just give me the lamp - that horrible lamp and I'll give you a beautiful new one. Look, choose whichever you wish.

\*

*He shows off his selection ending with a pretty shade on a lamp with a battery in it. This has a false plug which he puts in his mouth and then switches on.*

\*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh that's lovely, I'll have that one.

*Abaneezer hastily gives her the lamp and grabs the magic one.*

\*

ABANEEZER

\*

*Crowing in triumph*

\*

At last...at last, the lamp is mine.

\*

*(Aside)*

\*

\*

Now to lay my plans carefully and even the beautiful Yum Yum will be mine!

*Abaneezer exits cackling horribly.*

\*

WIDOW T

What a funny fellow. He reminded me of somebody. Oh, here come the decorators. Hello boys, I see you've brought all your stuff.

*Enter Pete, Jim and the Foreman with two ladders, two planks, rolls of paper and buckets of paste. At best, there would be a large tarpaulin covering the entire floor area which is flown to remove all the mess as soon as the scene ends.*

\*

\*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Now don't you dare make a mess because I've got the Princess Yum Yum coming and I want it all looking very posh. Here, let me give you a hand...

*She picks up a plank. Jim is bending and she knocks him over with it, turns with the plank to say sorry and whacks Pete.*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh, I'm sorry.

*Foreman takes plank from her*

\*

FOREMAN

You go and make us a cup of tea and let us get on with the job.

WIDOW T

Quite right. I'll go and make some tea.

*Exits.*

\*



## FOREMAN

Right lads, lets get on with the job. Jim - you start pasting the paper while Pete and I measure the paper.

## PETE AND JIM

Right boss

*Foreman and Pete unroll the paper in front of Widow T's exit. Jim is behind over a large bucket of paste on the other side of the unrolled paper. Enter Widow T with two mugs on a tray.*

\*  
\*  
\*

## WIDOW T

Here you are boys, tea up. Oooooops.

\*

*She trips over the edge of the tarpaulin and crashes through the paper. Tea things go flying. She falls on the back of Jim whose head goes in to the bucket of paste.*

\*  
\*  
\*

Oh, I am sorry. Oh dear, dear me. I am sorry. Don't worry I'll clean it up.

*Widow T produces a cloth from the bottom of the leg of her knickers and gives it to Jim to wipe his face.*

\*  
\*

## WIDOW T

There. Don't worry I'll make some more tea.

\*  
\*

*Exits after picking up mugs and tray.*

\*

## PETE

Here...you got a right mouthful there. You'll have to be careful we don't stick your lips together. Come on, let's get some paste on this paper.

\*

*Jim and Pete unroll some paper on the table. Jim goes to get paste and the paper rolls up again. He tries again, then angry, puts his brush on it to hold it down while he gets a bucket of paste. He gets it and begins angrily splashing paste on the paper getting lots all over Pete while giggling and whistling. Foreman sets up ladders at the back.*

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

## FOREMAN

All right lads, hand me the first piece. I've got it measured.

## PETE

*(Wiping his face angrily)*

All right boss. Here it is.

\*  
\*

*He hands foreman the pasted sheet. Foreman starts off up the ladder. Widow T enters, knocks the ladder and foreman slips getting wrapped up in the paper.*

\*  
\*  
\*

WIDOW T

Do you want one lump or two? Dear me, aren't you clumsy. Oh and what a mess you're getting into. There, there. Now don't let us lose our tempers.

*She drags out cloth from the other leg of her knickers and wipes him down after helping him up.*

\*  
\*

FOREMAN

Right lads. Come on. Let's have another sheet .

\*

*Sets up ladders and plank.*

\*

PETE

\*

*(To Jim)*

Its my turn to put the paste on.

\*  
\*

FOREMAN

Okay. Now get a move on. Otherwise we'll be here all day.

WIDOW T

That's right boys. Would you like some biscuits? I'll go and get you some.

*Widow T exits*

\*

PETE

Give me the paper Jim.

*Jim lays sheet of paper on table. Pete secures one end with bucket and grabs brush. Jim as to hold the other end down. Pete begins to paste very lavishly ending each stroke with a broad sweep right up Jim's front going higher and higher and higher until he pastes his face.CE.)*

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

JIM

I think you missed a bit.

\*

*Clears paste from his face and gets his own bucket of paste and brush.Pours some paste in a pile in the middle of the paper then slaps it with his brush covering Pete.*

\*  
\*  
\*

FOREMAN

Right lads, lets be having that sheet.

*Enter Widow T with tray, mugs and biscuits. She carefully avoids edge of tarpaulin, avoids ladder and walks backwards putting foot into bucket of past. She struggles to get her foot out of the bucket , falls, grabs hold of Foreman who then falls off plank knocking Pete who is holding a bucket of paste which goes over Widow T.* \*

PETE

Oh dear, I am so sorry

*(Killing himself laughing)* \*

JIM

*(Suppressed laughter)* \*

Here boss...you're not making a very good job of that. \*

WIDOW T

If you think that's so funny...all over my beautiful new dress...

*Widow T picks up a bucket of paste and sloshes it over Pete and Jim.* \*

FOREMAN

HA HA HA

*Pete and Jim clear the paste off themselves. Both look at the foreman then nod in unison. Both pick up brushes and begin to paste foreman, ending up with bucket of paste poured down foreman's trousers. General mirth all around.* \*

*Enter theatre manager from audience.* \*

MANAGER

What do you think you're doing? Look what a mess you've made. You don't do this in my theatre. It's all been decorated at great expense. Look at all this mess. I'm going to have to stop the show. \*

*Widow T comes up behind with a bucket of paste. Indicates to children should she tip it over the manager?* \*

WIDOW T

Shall I?...Shall I? \*

*(Hopefully a good response of Yes.)* \*

*Decorators and Widow T proceed to ver the manager who chases them all off stage.* \*

*Enter Aladdin and Yum Yum*

\*

ALADDIN

Welcome Yum Yum to my home. Dear me...What a mess...What has been going on?

YUM YUM

Don't worry Aladdin. I'm sure there's an explanation.

ALADDIN

Mother, mother...it's me. Yum Yum's here...

*Enter Widow T without her dress in her Gucci underwear, Gucci in gold letters on her knickers.*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh dear Aladdin it's you...and the Princess. I'm so sorry, we had a bit of trouble with the decorators.

\*

*Feverishly goes around tidying up. Brings over chair for Yum Yum.*

\*

YUM YUM

Thank you, let me help.

WIDOW T

Abdul, Abdul, where are you? He's never there when he's needed, that boy.

\*

*Enter Abdul*

\*

Abdul, get some more tea...and get me a clean dress, I quite forgot. Hurry up boy.

ABDUL

Yes missy...Me hurry missy, Very hurry missy. Go get tea, missy...Go get dress, missy. Alamah... missy... what a mess. Hello Princess missy. Me be very quick missy.

\*

*(Dead straight to the audience)*

\*

Absolutely typical, isn't it?

\*

WIDOW T

*(Very refined and posh)*

\*

Oh Aladdin, you'll never guess. I've got a wonderful surprise for you. You know that horrible old lamp you gave me to look after? Well, I've exchanged it for a beautiful new one. There was this silly old lamp seller who let me have the new one for the old one. A real bargain!

\*

ALADDIN

Oh no mother. What have you done? That was a magic lamp. Didn't anyone tell you? The Genie of the lamp is under the power of the possessor of the lamp.

It was the Genie who gave me all this money. I got all the diamonds and jewels from the Cave. Mother, what have you done?

WIDOW T

Oh, I'm sorry, Aladdin. I didn't know. Nobody told me ...

*(To audience)*

Shush, don't tell him.

ALADDIN

We must get the lamp back. What did the lamp seller look like?

WIDOW T

Well, that's funny because he reminded me of someone. I'm just trying to think...

ALADDIN

Think mother. Otherwise all is lost and the Emperor will not allow me to marry Yum Yum. He'll probably banish me. Think mother...

WIDOW T

I'm thinking...I'm thinking. Can you help me children? Who was it? What?

*(Response)*

Yes, that's it. He was just like your Uncle Hava Banana.

ALADDIN

I might have guessed...Quick, we must get after him before he can use the power of the Genie.

*Enter side stage his voice muffled*

ABANEEZER

Too late Aladdin.

*Evil cackle)*

I am master of the Genie of the Lamp and everything is under my power.

*Small flash bang*

And in order to teach you a lesson, I'm going to turn you into a frog. But first I'll have the beautiful Yum Yum.

*Very big flash boom. Stage into darkness. Yum Yum and Aladdin both exit as they speak in the blackout.*

YUM YUM

Help me Aladdin. Help me. He's taking me away...Aladdin...

ALADDIN

Yum Yum...I can't move...Help, I'm turning into my legs...Help...Croak, Croak, Ribbit... Ribbit.

*Lights come up on Widow T on stage alone with a rubber frog.*

\*

WIDOW T

Oh dear, Oh dear. This is dreadful. Aladdin? Yum Yum? Where are you? What's happened to them? What's happened to them? What's that frog doing...Dear me, that must be Aladdin. That wicked Uncle Abanazer has turned him into a frog. What are we to do? Come here, froggy, froggy...Come here.

*Picks up frog*

\*

We'll have to do something about this. You'd better be careful Aladdin or they'll have your legs served up at a top restaurant and that wouldn't be very funny, would it? What shall I do? I know, I'll put you in this bucket. Oh, what's that?

\*

*(Notices ring dropped by Aladdin)*

\*

\*

It's a ring. It's made of gold. We'll have to look after that. I'll give it a bit of a polish.

*Enter Slave of the ring with puff of smoke through trapdoor if possible.*

\*

SLAVE

What do you want now? I'm sick of all this coming and going.

WIDOW T

Oooooo...you did give me a shock. Who are you?

SLAVE

I could ask the same of you. You've aged a lot since I saw you last. I'm the Slave of the Ring silly. Who did you think I was?

WIDOW T

Well, you couldn't have appeared at a better time because Aladdin's wicked uncle has just turned him into a frog...LOOK!

SLAVE

Ugh! How disgusting. What a state to be in. So what do you want me to do?

WIDOW

Well, can't you change him back again? Back to Aladdin?

SLAVE

I don't know. I'm not very good at that sort of thing...you see it's not my field, turning people into frogs. I'm much better at the simple stuff, you know, making people dumb...that sort of thing.

WIDOW T

But will you have a try? Poor Aladdin. He'll never be able to marry Yum Yum like that. Please have a try.

SLAVE

All right, I'll have a go. Now I have to concentrate very hard...Scrimshaw...Scrumshaw, silly goats and dog, change poor Aladdin back from a frog.

*Makes magic passes in dramatic fashion. Nothing happens. Looks at frog. Meanwhile Widow T is gesturing frantically because she cannot speak.*

\*  
\*  
\*

SLAVE

Dear me. Wrong again. I'll have to give up this job and be a conjurer or something. Scrimshaw...Scrumshaw...frog in a sack bring Widow Twankey's sweet voice back.

*(Widow T gets her voice back, a bit squeaky at first.)*

\*  
\*

WIDOW T

Thank goodness for that.

\*

SLAVE

I did it...I told you I was much better at making people dumb.

WIDOW T

That's a fat lot of good. Oh, go away and practice.

*Slave goes to side but not off stage*

\*  
\*

What are we going to do? Aladdin's a frog. Yum Yum's been captured. The house is a mess. The next thing, the Empress will walk in and order us all to be executed.

\*

*Enter Emperor followed by Empress*

\*

EMPRESS

What's happened? What's happened? Where's my darling little Yum Yum?

\*

*(Sob Sob)*

\*

EMPEROR

Oh shut up you silly old bag. You're no good in a crisis. Now, what's happened to Aladdin and Yum Yum?

WIDOW T

Please excuse, your most illustrious majesties. Aladdin has been changed into a frog. Look!

EMPEROR

Ugh. How disgusting!

WIDOW T

By his wicked uncle Abanazer and Yum Yum was taken away by him to his castle.

EMPRESS

What? Abducted by your uncle? What sort of family is Yum Yum marrying into? Look here - if our Yum Yum doesn't return to the castle by tomorrow, you will all be executed.

WIDOW T

*(To audience)*

What did I tell you?

\*  
\*

EMPRESS

And that's a promise. So you'd better do something and fast.

*Empress exits.*

\*

EMPEROR

Oh dear, I am sorry about this. Aladdin's such a nice young man.

*Calls after Empress...*

How are you going to execute a .frog?

\*

*Exits*

\*

WIDOW T

There's nothing for it. I shall have to rescue Yum Yum myself. Oh Aladdin, what a mess we're in. Still, we've got the Slave of the Ring...and there's Abdul..and I'll get Gong Ci and Fa Cai. Abdul? Gong Ci? Fa Cai?

*Enter Gong Ci and Fa Cai*

\*

WIDOW T

\*

Now listen, because it's urgent. We all have to rescue the Princess because Uncle Abanazer has taken her away to his castle. Aladdin's in here

\*

*They all look at the frog and go UGH!*

\*

So we have to try to make him change Aladdin back again. All clear? It's a good job I've been taking some Tai Kwan Do lessons. Right, everybody, we've got to go to Abaneezer's castle.

\*

\*



GONG CI

But he's kind of frightening ma...and he's living in that horrible great Castle over by Mirkwood.

FA CAI

Yes and they say that nobody ever goes there because there are ghosts.

GONG CI

Ghosts? That's not groovy. Ghosts give me the shivers.

FA CAI

Mother, we can't go there. If he turned Aladdin into a frog, goodness knows what he'll turn us into. \*

WIDOW T

I'm just as frightened as you children, but if we don't do something about Aladdin and Yum Yum, the Empress will have us executed tomorrow! Besides which, I've been signing cheques all down Orchard Road and if there's no money in the bank, we're finished. Now you two go and get Abdul while I have my Tae Kwan De...Do (whatever) lesson. Off you go. Get some supplies and you'd better get some weapons. \*

*Exit Gong Ci and Fa Cai* \*

And you, Madam Genie, start practicing your best magic because we've got to get that lamp back. I'm going for my Tai Kawando Lesson just to brush up my technique \*

*Starts to go, remembers bucket, gives bucket to Slave and rapidly does a karate chop. Exits to side. Curtain closes. (* \*

Look after Aladdin while I'm away, will you? \*

SLAVE OF THE RING \*

*From in front of the curtains* \*

Do this, Do that. It's no fun being a Genie, I can tell you. As soon as you're stuck into a nice film on the television, somebody rubs you up and down and Oops a daisy you're running around having adventures and then end up a frog- sitting...Oh isn't he horrible? I don't know what I'm going to do with you. I'll go and check my spells. If I'm up against the Genie of the lamp, it's going to be a bit of extra homework. \*

*Exit Slave of the Ring plus bucket. Moving without a break into scene three front of tabs. Enter Widow T dressed in Karate gear. Works her way across the stage doing Kung Fu kicks and shouts, etc.* \*

END OF SCENE TWO

\*

ACT TWO SCENE THREE.

\*

WIDOW T

Oh dear, I nearly frightened myself to death. I'm good you know. Wait till I get near Uncle Abanazer...it'll be

*Ugh, Ugh, Aarch, she does the kick stop demonstration and hurts herself.*

\*

\*

Ow, that hurt. I'm a pink belt you know. Twenty-first van. Here comes my instructor. OOOOH, he's lovely. Look at those shoulders. What a body! Brrrrrrrrr.

*Enter instructor who comes to centre, bows to audience, Widow T bows towards him, he bows to her and they bump heads. Instructor goes into a real Tae Kwan Do routine, Widow T grovels on the floor.*

\*

\*

\*

INSTRUCTOR

This week, Widow Twankey, we have breaking tiles.

\*

WIDOW T

Oh breaking tiles...I'll go and get my hammer.

INSTRUCTOR

No, you will break the tiles with the fist and the strength of your will.

WIDOW T

With my fist? You must be joking.

INSTRUCTOR

I'm not joking. I will show you how.

*Claps, on come two acolytes with the table and tiles.*

\*

WIDOW T

You'll never break one of those with your fist.

INSTRUCTOR

Stand back. First prepare the will...then the body...

*He prepares and breaks the tile.*

\*

WIDOW T

That's marvelous. Isn't that wonderful children? I must have a go at this. If I can do this, old Uncle Abanazer won't stand a chance.

*Enter one of the acolytes with a very large polystyrene brick, places it on table.*

\*  
\*

WIDOW T

Hey...that's bigger than yours. I'll never break that!

INSTRUCTOR

Yes you will. Now, stand like this. Draw all your strength into your hands. Concentrate the will. Release...Ah Soh...

WIDOW T

All right.

*Performs a complete parody of the earlier breaking with her hand over her eyes. She smashes the brick.*

\*  
\*  
\*

I did it. Ahurrah. Now for Uncle Abanazer...Ahhhhhhh Soooooooo.

*Exit widow and instructor Blackout. Table and tiles are removed and then one spot appears side of stage. Enter one very frightened abdul, backwards.*

\*  
\*  
\*

ABDUL

Oh ear...me very frightened...spirits of dead...Oh alamah...Abdul scared...

*Gong Ci and Fa Cai have entered also in a following spot from other side during this speech, also backwards. They bump in middle of front tabs. Screams, etc.*

\*  
\*  
\*

GONG CI

Oh it's you, Abdul. Mother told us to meet you at the end of the woods. She said she'd be here after her lesson.

\*

ABDUL

Missy no here Missy no come. Missy eaten by hungry ghosts. Abdul go home before he eaten by hungry ghosts. Go home to kampong.

FA CAI

No you don't. We're all in this together. Someone's coming...quick...hide.

*They crouch down at side of stage together. Widow T calls and enters from the opposite side of the stage - off stage.*

\*  
\*

WIDOW T

COOOOO... EY COOOOO... EY...Oh there you are. I saw you lot a mile away. I don't like this place. Where's that Genie? I'll just have to rub the ring.

\*

*Widow T rubs the ring really fiercely. Enter Slave with something approximating an earthquake. Everyone jumps out of their skin.*

\*  
\*

WIDOW T

There you are. Can't you make a bit less noise?

SLAVE

Well, I wish you wouldn't rub me so hard. It tickles, you know. Well, what do you want this time?

WIDOW T

Have you got Aladdin?

SLAVE

He's quite safe. He's in my pocket. I've just put his name down for the Muppet Show.

WIDOW T

This is going to be very dangerous so I'm going to get the children to help me. Now, you will help us, won't you children? Good. Now, if you see anything frightening, you shout out. Right? Just shout out. That's it. Come on, let's get to the castle. \*

*A skeleton appears on the opposite side of the stage of their proposed exit. Children hopefully shout. They come back. \**

What? Over there? What was it? (RESPONSE) A skeleton? I'll go and have a look. Over here? Where? Here? There's nothing there. No, there's nothing. You must have been seeing things. \*

*A skeleton appears on the other side of the stage. Hopefully children shout. \**

Where? Over there? You're not just kidding, are you? \*

*Walks over \**

Here? There's nothing there. Now stop kidding. You're just playing jokes on poor old Widow Twankey. There's nothing there. \*

*Stage has not been set for forest. Castle gate and wall. Fairly minimal. The wall must be small enough for the mice to swarm over. Curtains up to each character. Lights go down. Reveal skeleton. \**

WIDOW T

You're just fooling. \*

*Lots of shouts from audience. They all turn and see the skeleton behind them. Lots of screams and shrieks and Slave, Abdul, Widow T., Gong Ci and Fa Cai all race off stage. \**

*More shouts from audience. \**

*They all turn and see the skeleton behind them. Lots of screams and shrieks and Slave, Abdul, Widow T, Gong Ci and Fa Cai all race off stage.*

*Skeleton Dance. Music: Fossils from Carnival of the Animals. At end of dance, skeletons exit. Lights dim.*

## **ACT TWO - SCENE FOUR**

*Lights come up on Yum Yum in the castle behind the big door which should be a barred window big enough for Yum Yum and Abaneezer to be seen through it. Spot comes up on Yum Yum speaking behind the barred window.*

YUM YUM

*(Very miserable)*

Oh dear. Aladdin's uncle has imprisoned me in his castle. What has happened to Aladdin? I'm so unhappy. How can I ever get out of here? I shall be here forever and ever.

*Some little mice emerge out of the shadows to look at her. They rub their eyes as if crying. One then whispers to other and indicates off stage. Suddenly they scamper off. Abaneezer enters.*

ABANEEZER

Well Yum Yum, have you changed your mind yet? I'll not let you out of this dungeon until you agree to marry me.

YUM YUM

I shall never agree to marry you. You're old and ugly and horrible... and you turned Aladdin into a frog, didn't you? I hate you. You're a cruel person and I'll never, never marry you.

ABANEEZER

Be careful what you say to me or I shall get the Genie of the Lamp to turn you into a frog as well. You have until dawn tomorrow to change your mind about marrying me.

*Exit*

YUM YUM

Well at least if I'm a frog I can be with Aladdin...Oh dear

*(Cries)*

*Enter small mouse followed by others.*

MOUSE #1

\*

*(In front of window)*

\*

Don't cry, Princess. Please don't cry...

\*

YUM YUM

Who's that? Who's there?

MOUSE #2

Don't be frightened Princess. We'll help you.

YUM YUM

But who are you?

MOUSE #3

We're the mice of the castle. We live here in the dungeons.

YUM YUM

Can you help me?

ALL MICE

We'll try. Tell us what to do.

\*

YUM YUM

But you're only little. It's very good of you to want to help but against the Genie of the Lamp in the hands of Abanazer you won't be able to do anything.

MOUSE #1

But we can. We can get all the other mice to help.

MOUSE #2

We can even take messages without Abanazer even noticing us. He doesn't even know we're here.

MOUSE #3

We can travel anywhere in the castle through the mouse holes.

YUM YUM

Oh, you're wonderful. Bless you. Will you take some messages for me?

ALL MICE

Yes we will. Tell us.

YUM YUM

Find Aladdin and tell him where I am . Take this message to my father at the Imperial Palace

*(Throws paper through bars)*

\*

Will you also try to find Aladdin's mother, Widow Twankey to tell her what's happening? \*

ALL MICE

We will.

MOUSE #3

And I shall go to the great Rat King to tell him what the wicked Abanazer has been doing.

YUM YUM \*

Good luck...I do hope they can do something. Goodbye.

ALL MICE

Goodbye.

*Mice exit. Yum Yum goes from window as spot fades on her. Lights dim. Enter Abdul shivering with fright in spot up side of stage. Gong Ci, Fa Cai enter nervously after him. Abdul does not see them yet.* \*

ABDUL \*

Heeeeeeeellp ...Gong Ci...Fa Cai...Widow Twankey...Heelp!! \*

*Gong Ci grabs Abdul relieved to find him. Abdul nearly faints with fright.* \*

GONG CI \*

Oh there are you Abdul. We thought we were on our own.

FA CAI

Where have you been? I've been looking everywhere for you. Those skeletons nearly got me.

*Widow T enters nervously.* \*

WIDOW T

Children? Children? Where are you? Oh, there you are. My what a relief. I thought I was never going to get away. It's a good job the children warned us. We got away just in time. Now this must be Uncle Abanazer's castle. What a dreadful place. Look at the size of that door. How are we going to get in? I hope there aren't any rats or mice...I can't stand rats...they make me go all funny. Come here you lot, let's have some bright ideas from you. How do we get through that door? Come on, Fa Cai, you've got all those O Levels. Surely you've learned something.

*The rats, led by King Rat with crown appear slowly and silently behind Abdul, Gong Ci and Fa Cai as Widow T speaks..* \*

\*

Now, we're all quite safe, because the children will shout if there's any danger. Won't you children? \*

*Hopefully some will be shouting YES.* \*

That's right. If there's any danger you shout. \*

*More shouts* \*

*While Widow T has been talking, the rats have grabbed Abdul, Gong Ci and Fa Cai, put hands over their mouths and tied them up in a bundle with a rope.* \*

KING RAT

We will have that fat human. She will make good eating. We will put her in a pudding and serve her up for dinner.

WIDOW T

Oh dear. Rats? Where did you come from? What do you mean pudding? Me? No, please. Not a pudding. I won't taste nice. I'm too tough, too much gristle...oh dear... \*

KING RAT

Tie her up and bind her fast. But before the feast, the dance...

*Rat dance. Suggest Beatle number "Get Back" all up tempo a La Rite of Spring? Dance only included if there are enough rats.* \*

KING RAT

And now we must prepare the guests for cooking, Bring them forth.

ABDUL

No, no no...Master Rat. No eat poor Abdul. He never do bad things again. He always be good Abdul. Eat Widow Twankey...she very naughty lady but no Abdul...

KING RAT

Silence. It is written in the ancient books that humans will be the destroyers of the earth and therefore, we rats, preservers of nature must keep the humans in check. Bring me the great knife!

WIDOW T

Knife? Oh no. Please your majesty. I'm very sorry. I shall never be rude about rats. They will always be my friends. I'll have them to tea every Sunday, I promise.

KING RAT

Be quiet. Soon you will be a rich juicy stew useful to the earth for the first time in your life. Thank you.

*Takes the knife.* \*



*Small mice enter and are aghast at what they see.*

Now, by the shared mysteries of the Earth, we offer up this human polluter, destroyer of the forest, dirtier of the great seas...

\*

*King Rat raises the knife...*

\*

SMALL MICE

Stop...stop...stop...stop...you mustn't, please your Majesty.

KING RAT

What is it little ones? Why do you disturb the sacrifice of these worthless humans?

MOUSE #1

They have done no harm. They have come to rescue the Princess Yum Yum from the wicked Abanazer, who is living in this castle.

*The prisoners nod frantically.*

\*

MOUSE # 2

Her son Aladdin was turned into a frog by the Genie of the Lamp...Abanazer stole the Lamp from Aladdin.

\*

MOUSE #3

Please don't hurt them. We promised to help the Princess. They are good people. They are not like the others.

KING RAT

I have heard of the great magic of the Genie of the Lamp against whom we have no power; what can we do to help? I did rather fancy this fat one for my dinner.

\*

MOUSE # 1

Please, your majesty. We know the way in and out of the castle. We'll find the Lamp and bring it to you.

KING RAT

But that is stealing. Rats and mice never steal...it is written in the great book.

\*

MOUSE #2

Maybe just this once since we will be returning the Lamp to it's rightful owner.?

\*

\*

KING RAT

\*

*(To audience)*

\*

\*

I will just ask all these people. Do we help these humans? \*

*(Hopefully a response of YES.)* \*

ALL RATS AND MICE

*(At the same time...)* \*

Yes! \*

KING RAT

So be it. Let it be written in the great book. Forward little ones. Rats to the gates. There is no human place which we rats cannot enter. Bring the Lamp of the great Genie to me and we shall return it to Aladdin.

*All rats and mice pour in great surge over the castle wall. King Rat unties all his prisoners.* \*

KING RAT

I will release all you humans. You can count yourself very lucky. I happen to be extremely hungry. Still, perhaps we'll find a new stray travelers later on...perhaps this Abanazer chap.

GONG CI

Thank you your majesty. I'm so sorry we bothered you. We were just trying to help our brother Aladdin.

KING RAT

That's very good of you. Did you say your brother had been turned into a toad of something? Where is he?

WIDOW T

I'd quite forgotten about him. Dear me. Where did we leave him?

FA CAI

Didn't you leave him with the Slave of the Ring? \*

WIDOW T

That's right...but where's the ring? I put it in my pocket. It's gone. Dear me, we'll never get Aladdin back now. It must have fallen out when you were chasing me down there. Quick, everybody, look for the Magic Ring.

*Widow T during chase around auditorium gives ring to stage club member in aisle. They give the ring to a child to take up on stage.* \*

WIDOW T

Thank goodness. What a clever boy/girl. Here, have a Widow Twankey lollipop.

*Widow T produces lollipop and gives it to the child who goes back to his/her seat.* \*

## SMALL MICE

*Enter joyfully bringing with them the Lamp.*

We've got it. We've got it. Look, we've got it.

WIDOW T

Well done. But first we've got to find Aladdin. I'll have to call the Slave of the Ring.

*She rubs the ring very violently. Three large explosions. Then small puff of smoke. Slave appears.*

SLAVE

Ooooh, there you go again. Rubbing me in the wrong place. What is it now? Who are all these furry people?

WIDOW T

Stop messing about. Where's Aladdin? What have you done with him?

SLAVE

What have I done with him? I've had to froggy sit all night. He's been driving me mad with all his croaking. Never shuts up. He's in my pocket. What do you want me to do?

WIDOW T

Hold on. We'll have to get the Genie of the Lamp. Here, give me the Lamp. What are you suppose to do with this?

*She opens the top.*

Are you inside there Mr. Genie? What shall I do?

GONG CI

Just rub it like the Ring.

WIDOW T

Oh, all right.

*She rubs the lamp. There is a great flash, bang, etc. Puff of smoke. Enter the Genie of the Lamp.*

GENIE

Who called the great Genie of the Lamp? I hear and obey. What is your command?

WIDOW T

Please Mr. Genie, could you turn my son Aladdin back from being a frog?

GENIE

You speak and it is done.

*Lights down, puff of smoke. Enter Aladdin. Lights up, Aladdin resplendent.*

\*  
\*

EVERYONE

Hurrah!!!

ALADDIN

Well done mother. Thank you everybody and thank you Slave of the Ring...though your your pocket is a bit stuffy.

\*

*Roll of thunder, Enter Abaneezer.*

\*

ABANEEZER

What's all this? How did you get back into your own shape? What are you rats and mice doing here? It seems that you haven't learned your lessons and must be taught it again. Wait til I get the lamp...

\*

WIDOW T

Too late you horrible old goat. Aladdin has the Lamp.

*Gives lamp to Aladdin.*

\*

ALADDIN

Seize him. Bind him fast and we'll take him to the Emperor. Let him decide what to do with him. And now...to free the Princess.

KING RAT

I don't think I want him. Looks a bit too tough and nasty even for us rats.

ALADDIN

And now to rescue Yum Yum!

\*

*All Exit.*

\*

*End of Scene Four. Curtain down.*

\*

*End of Scene five is played in front of tabs while Scene six is being set up again behind curtain.*

\*

\*

***ACT TWO - SCENE FIVE FRONT OF TABS (SCENE SIX IS BEING SET UP AGAIN BEHIND CURTAIN.)***

\*

*Enter Aladdin and Yum Yum re-united.*

\*

YUM YUM

Thank goodness you're safe, Aladdin. I thought I was going to be in that dungeon forever.

ALADDIN

It was thanks to the mice. They were very brave.. What would we have done without them? I thought I was going to be a frog forever and ever. From today we shall never be parted. I promise to take good care of the Lamp.

YUM YUM

It's wonderful, isn't it. I feel so happy

*They give each other a big hug.*

\*

ALADDIN

Look, here comes Abdul.

*Abdul enters.*

\*

ABDUL

Hello Master and Missy. Oh naughty, naughty. Abdul no look. You give Missy big kissy.

ALADDIN

*(Laughs)*

You were very brave Abdul, thank you for rescuing us.

\*

\*

ABDUL

Abdul brave like lion. He fight skeletons. Kill many hungry ghosts. Now Abdul going to be very rich. Have big Mercedes, big house. No talk to old friends who not too rich. Put nose in air.

YUM YUM

Oh Abdul, you'll still talk to us though...won't you?

ABDUL

Talk to you Missy cos you rich too. Now got to make preparation for wedding at palace. Emperor say - Abdul, you in charge, you big man now - have big wedding feast. God down Cold Storage, buy everything. Now got to get music. What music you want? Heavy rock

*Does mock disco dance.*

or all smooth sound

\*

*Does Victor Sylvester.*

Me like Matthew and the Mandarins.

\*

\*

*Strums imaginary guitar.*

\*

ALADDIN

Yum Yum, what music do you want for the feast?

YUM YUM

I don't know...something happy...we'll have to have something everyone would like.

ALADDIN

I know, let's practice. Let's sing a funny song with the children. Let's sing

*Whispers to Yum Yum and Abdul and they both nod.*

Right. We'll practice the words first. They're very easy. Let's try. You say them after me:

"John Browns' baby's got a cold upon it's chest so they rubbed it with camphorated oil

*Aladdin leads audience in learning the words and then actions with the tune. Rock baby, tap chest, running action. Ten children are then invited on to the stage to help. All sing song with actions. The song is then sung omitting the word "baby" then one more time putting in a cough for the word cold. If going well you can do it again and omit the word chest.*

ALADDIN

That was wonderful. Thank you all. I think these children deserve a reward.

*At beginning of scene, Aladdin brought on with him a bag containing packets of sweets and some loose in the bottom. The children on stage are given packets and sent back to their seats.*

Oh, there are some left. Who's good at catching?

*Aladdin puts the bag down and yum yum and Abdul help to fling the loose sweets at the audience.*

YUM YUM

See you all at the wedding. Goodbye.

ALADDIN AND ABDUL

Goodbye.

*All exit.*

*End of Scene 5*

**ACT TWO - SCENE SIX. FINALE, COURT SCENE**

VISIERS

Silence for his Imperial Majesty, Emperor of Sechuan.

EMPEROR

The Court is now in session. Call forth the prisoner.

VISIERS

Call forth the prisoner.

*Enter two guards hauling in Abanazer.*

\*

EMPEROR

Abanazer. You are accused of abducting the Princess Yum Yum, turning Aladdin into a frog and generally making people miserable, the penalty for which is...What is the penalty?

VISIERS

I shall have to consult the book.

*Brings out very small notebook.*

\*

\*

Now let me see. Littering - 500 lashes. No that's not it. Mother-In-Law bashing - no that's in the rewards section. Funny! Let's see - ah yes - abducting princesses. Penalty? Oh dear, that's horrible. Three years in Sentosa. Now, turning people into frogs? That's even worse. Six years on a very noisy HDB estate. Now the last one. Making people miserable. The penalty for which is to be boiled alive. I should think so too.

EMPEROR

Right. You have heard the charges, Abanazer. How do you plead?

ABANEEZER

\*

Oh, guilty your majesty. Horribly guilty. I'm so sorry to have been so bad. You see I had such a hard childhood. I failed my PSLE and my Mum and Dad never liked me. They just liked my brothers and sisters ...

\*

*(Crying)*

\*

and they had stereo Walkmans and records of the Bee Gees and went to football matches...and I didn't have anything and they wouldn't let me play with their toys.

\*

\*

*He continues to cry and the entire courts starts to cry as well.*

\*

EMPEROR

There you are, you've done it again. You've made everyone miserable. It's not good enough. People who make others miserable will not be tolerated. I sentence you to be boiled alive. The sentence to be carried out immediately.

ABANEEZER

\*

Thank you your majesty.

EMPEROR

Bring out the boiling pot.

VISIERS

Bring on the pot. Bring on the pot.

*Enter Grovel while pot is brought on.*

\*

GROVEL

\*

Mercy, Mercy your great majesty. Do not condemn my master to this horrible death. I know he's bad, but he's not all bad. In fact sometimes he's only quite bad. There was once when he was nearly good!

EMPEROR

No, I'm sorry. We can't make any exceptions unless it's covered by the book. Do any of the exemptions apply in this case Grand Visier?

VISIERS

Let me see. No, I don't think so...

*Looks in book.*

\*

Cabinet Ministers, expectant mothers, taxi drivers, engaged couples. Do any of these apply to you Abanazer?

ABANEEZER

\*

No, I'm afraid not.

GROVEL

I'll marry him. He'll be an engaged couple then.

EMPEROR

You can't marry him. You're a boy. Boys don't marry boys.

GROVEL

Will anyone here marry him then? Please? Is there no one who will save my master?

EMPEROR

It doesn't look like it.

*Enter Widow T in gorgeous clothes carrying a shopping bag containing carrots, 2 onions, small packet of MSG and bottle of Maggi seasoning.*

\*

\*

WIDOW T

I hear we're having a boiling. Oh what fun. I've brought a few vegetables just to improve the flavor. He's going to take a bit of boiling. Carrots, a couple of onions, some MSG and a little drop of Maggi Thatcher. Perhaps not. We don't want to spoil it. Now, where's my recipe book?



*Pulls out small book.*

Here we are. Boiled Uncle Abaneezer

\*  
\*

GROVEL

Widow Twankey, will you marry him?

\*

WIDOW T

Marry who love?

GROVEL

Him.

WIDOW T

Him?

GROVEL

Yes, him.

WIDOW T

Me...marry him?

GROVEL

Yes.

WIDOW T

But he is going to be boiled alive. He won't be much fun after that, will he?

GROVEL

Not if you agree to marry him. Then he won't be boiled alive.

WIDOW T

Oh I don't know. You see, he told me a lot of lies and he made us all very miserable and he turned my son Aladdin into a frog. And, look at him. He doesn't exactly look like Rocky, does he? More of a sort of elderly Duncan Watt. Still, I suppose he isn't that bad...and at my age..., Well, I'm not exactly in my first bloom, am I? Let's have a look at your teeth. Have you been vaccinated? Can you dance?

*Emperor claps, disco music plays. Abaneezer does a really funky sexy dance.*

\*  
\*

WIDOW T

I'll have him. Come here you wild thing. Ooh, you make my heart sing...

EMPEROR

Abanazer, I here declare officially that since you have promised to marry Widow Twankey and as long as you promise never to make anybody unhappy again, you are released from your punishment.

ABANEEZER

Thank you your majesty.

\*

*Gives Emperor a big kiss. In fact, he kisses everybody.*

I promise I shall make everyone happy from now on.

\*

*Widow T and Abaneezer exit.*

\*

*Enter Aladdin in resplendent attire.*

\*

EMPEROR

Very good. Aladdin, is everything ready for the wedding?

ALADDIN

Yes, everything is ready, your majesty. Everyone's coming. I've invited them all. Before they arrive, your majesty, I would like to present you with this gift as a mark of my affection and loyalty.

EMPEROR

Goodness me. Isn't that fantastic? I've never had one of those. Will she do anything I ask?

SLAVE OF THE RING

Yes, oh master.

\*

ALADDIN

Well, she'll try. She is getting better. She's very good at making people dumb but not too good at changing them back from frogs.

\*

*Enter Empress.*

\*

EMPRESS

What do you mean by having the boiling without me? How dare you! You knew you weren't suppose to start without me. How many times do I have to tell you, etc...

*(Nagging furiously.)*

\*

*Emperor whispers in the ear of the Slave of the Ring who puts a spell on the Empress. She is still nagging away but now completely inaudible.*

\*

\*

EMPEROR

Yes dear. Quite right dear. Now you come and sit here. Aladdin, go and get Yum Yum. I declare that from this day hence, there will be a national holiday. Anyone found working or not enjoying themselves will be banished from the kingdom. Let the celebrations commence.

*Music. Tune of "Oh What a Wonderful Scene." Enter down steps at side of thrones. First the rats and mice, all bow.*

\*

\*

*Depending on doubling of parts, the other suitors, Big Genie, Gong Ci  
and Fa Cai, Abaneezer, Widow T. and Aladdin and Yum Yum.*

\*  
\*

*A rainbow descends at the back.*

\*

*Abdul rushes on.*

\*

*ABDUL*

Missy, Missy, something terrible...in the sky. Rainbow and no rain.

ALADDIN

Don't be silly Abdul. Rainbows are beautiful.

KING RAT

It is the great giver's sign of a blessing.

\*

*All sing "Oh What a wonderful Scene".(*

\*

***FINAL CURTAIN.***

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**OPENING CHORUS**

*If you want to know who he is*

*He's the Emperor of Sechuan*

*Oh many a vase and jar*

*On many a screen and fan*

*He figures in lively paint*

*His attitude's queer and quaint*

*You're wrong if you think it ain't*

*Oh \_\_\_\_\_*

*If you think he is worked by strings*

*Like a Chinese Marionette*

*You don't understand these things*

*It is simply Court etiquette*

*Perhaps you suppose this throng*

*Can't keep it up all day long*

*If that's your idea you're wrong*

*Oh \_\_\_\_\_ Oh \_\_\_\_\_*

*If that's your idea, you're wrong.*

*For he's going to marry Yum Yum*

*Yum Yum*

*There's no other suitor so loaded with love*

*He was half the POSB*

*Lucky B (or "or the B")*

*So join our expressions of glee*

*His credentials now are the best*

*The best*

*With diamonds and emeralds and sapphires and rubies*

*And gold bars stuck in his vest*

*His vest.*

*He's rich as rich could be*

*He has certainly passed the test*

*Test, Test*

*His bank book was the best*

*Best, Best*

*He's now ready to marry the princess*

*To marry, to marry his Yum Yum*

*Without making her horrible majesty*

*Very very glum*

*Sing hip-hip-horrah, a wedding well sing*

*Sing hip-hip-horrah, a wedding well sing*

*We'll see, we'll see, we'll see. (HOORAH!)*