

**THE MOST ABSURD
XMAS MUSICAL IN THE
WORLD ... EVER!**

Script adaptation by

**LYNDSEY ADAMS, MICHAEL JOHNSTON,
MARK WHEELER & STUART WHITE**

from an absurd story by

MARK & RACHEL WHEELER

Music by

JAMES HOLMES

SchoolPlay Productions Ltd

15 Inglis Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3HU

THE MOST ABSURD XMAS MUSICAL IN THE WORLD . . . EVER!

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CAST

6m, 6f, & 10 m or f plus chorus.

**The King of the Bower of Bliss.
The Queen of the Bower of Bliss.**

Sleeping Beauty

Alan Beauty (*Her husband*)

***Bianca Beauty** (*Their daughter*)

Nanny

The Fairy (*Ideally male!*)

***Bad Fairy**

Double "O" Slow-on-the-Uptake

Double "O" Stupid

***Goodie Six**

Goodies 1-5

***Little Goodie**

***Witch**

Hansel

Gretel

Father Christmas

Fairy Tale Folk of the Bower of Bliss The Goodies

Bad Fairy's entourage

Paramedics

denotes singing role.* **PRODUCTION NOTES

This (most absurd) Xmas musical was originally performed by the Oaklands Youth Music Theatre, Southampton.

We were very keen to present it as a promenade production inspired by the Mystery Plays staged by the National Theatre (where God appeared from a fork-lift truck) in the 1980's. I wanted the Witch in our production to use the same idea but we were never able to get our act together well enough to do this. One "steal" we did manage from the National Theatre's productions was to fill our theatre with a haze of "smoke" prior to the arrival of the audience, creating a superb atmosphere under the colourful theatre lights but be careful not too much or no-one can see anything.

The resultant promenade production of this musical was one of the most memorable "events" that I have been involved in. Some of the audience were initially suspicious of standing and walking around but were really taken in by the style of presentation and all who spoke to me said how much it had added to the "experience". The magical image of the little children in the "audience" (yet on "stage") with their hands in the air trying to catch the snow as it fell (from the snow machine) is one that will remain with me for ever. The sense of unembarrassed "participation" by the audience was fantastic!

There were those who chose not to attend as they were too worried by the promenade nature of the play to counteract this I would strongly urge you to provide a good number of seats (preferably raised) for those who do not want to participate as promenaders and perhaps even charge extra for them as a disincentive!

Rehearsing a promenade musical was unbelievably easy. It seemed to stage itself. Journeys can be done in "real" space through the audience is particularly exciting. Do be clear as to where you want the audience to be for each scene and have some experienced members of the chorus in a shepherding role at key moments throughout the performance.

The video of the musical was the best we have ever produced the camera roves with the audience and is able to get very close to the action, which really works.

Finally *please* do not be put off by the promenade aspect. The play would obviously work in a traditional theatre it would be different and no doubt some of the sections may even benefit. I offer the promenade as a tried and tested alternative. Please contact me via SchoolPlay Productions Limited if you would like to discuss it.

Mark Wheeler.

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by Lyndsey Adams, Michael Johnston, Mark Wheeler and Stuart White.

Music by James Holmes.

ACT I

SCENE 1 Outside The Bower of Bliss Palace.

(The PEOPLE of the BOWER of BLISS are waiting outside the Palace perhaps dancing. Every time the Bower of Bliss is populated there should be two obviously disguised people later to be revealed as HANSEL and GRETEL. Nothing is to be done that might draw the audience's attention to them by any other member of the Bower of Bliss they should be completely ignored but always there. ALAN is in his house, engaged in some unusual activity such as juggling or sculpting carrots.... anything that is unusual, legal and imaginative! Each time they are involved in a "home" scene this activity should be developed or repeated).

MUSIC No. 1 - FANFARE

*The KING and QUEEN enter to the **THE ROYAL FANFARE** and take up their position).*

King & Queen: Welcome to our annual celebration in the Bower of Bliss.

King: Now forty years have passed without Baddies to hiss.

(The CROWD cheer).

Queen: This is your chance to show you support us
And see our ageing heroes from very close quarters.

King: Who, years ago scared the Baddies away,
Risked their lives, so that here, we can all stay
There were *(indicating each in turn)*
Cinderella, Goldilocks and Snow White.

Queen: And Jack (who can't be with us), sends his best by satellite.

King: And from Hansel and Gretel five years on, still nothing concrete
To explain their disappearance in the middle of the neeght. [*sic*]

Queen: However, there's good news from Sleeping Beauty
who has asked me to announce:
The discovery of her first baby, in a famous brand
margarine tub weighing six pounds one ounce.

(Loud cheers).

King: So, let's sing a song to celebrate this ridiculous this absurd
event.

Queen: *(Waving a big card).*

Oh, and make sure you all sign this card before it is sent!

MUSIC No. 2 - ISN'T THIS ABSURD?

Goodie Six: *A brand new bouncing baby has bounced into our land
A moppet mite, a little tyke that we don't understand will
Raise an eyebrow, raise a curtain, raise a certain smile
Raisins will be on the menu in a little while.*

All: *(Refrain)*

*Isn't it absurd? The daftest thing you ever heard.
The bird that purred in lemon curd is always much preferred.
But when it does it's third purr it turns into a car
And drives away the toothpaste at eighty miles an hour.*

Goodie 1: *It doesn't make sense*

Goodie 2: *So don't be too intense
And search for deeper meanings or a hidden age-enda.*

Goodie 6: *A brand new bouncing story we'll bounce into your mind
A senseless one, a stupid one we hope you do not find it
Very boring, too appalling, three you go to sleep*

All: *Four: There are no swear words so we will not need a "bleep"!*

All: *(Refrain)*

*Isn't it absurd? The daftest thing you ever heard.
A musical at Xmas time that wants to be absurd
But now you're here you ought to stay and stay until the end
Even though the critics claim it drove them round the bend!*

Goodie 6: *An outline of your brief
Suspend your disbelief
And conjure up a world where anything can ha-ppen!
Isn't it absurd? The daftest thing you ever heard
A musical at Xmas time that wants to be absurd
But now you're here you ought to stay and stay until the end
Even though the critics claimed it drove them round the bend!*

SCENE 2 Sleeping Beauty's House.

(FAIRY enters and rings the doorbell of the BEAUTY'S HOUSE).

Alan Beauty: *(Getting up).* It's all right love, I'll get it. *(He opens the door).*

Fairy: Hello, is this 76 Fairy Tale Road?

Alan: No, 76 Fairy Tale Boulevard.

Fairy: You don't happen to know where Fairy Tale Road is do you?

Alan: Never heard of it I'm afraid.

Fairy: I don't suppose that you've got a new born baby in the house have you?

Alan: What a coincidence! My wife had a baby.... well about fifteen minutes ago.

Sleeping Beauty: *(Shouting from inside).* Who is it?

Alan: He looks like a fairy.

Sleeping: Does he have any identification?

Alan: He's got wings.

Sleeping: They might be just stuck on, try and pull them off, just to make sure.

Alan: Would you mind if I just tugged at your wings? *(He does so).*

Fairy: No, go ahead.

Alan: *(Calling to his wife).* No need to worry dear, he's definitely a fairy!

Sleeping: *(Coming to the door).* Ooh let me see, I haven't seen a proper one for ages! *(As she sees the FAIRY).* Wow!!!

Fairy: Well, I'm here to offer you a once in a lifetime, never to be repeated, one in a million chance for your kiddie to become the next famous fairy tale character, dependant upon whether or not you accept the gift of erm *(searching through handbag)* this one's the gift of music.

Alan & Sleeping: Wow! Aren't we the lucky ones?

Fairy: You certainly are!!!

Alan & Sleeping: What do you want in return?

Fairy: Nothing!!!

Alan & Sleeping: Nothing? This is unbelievable

Fairy: That's because it's a fairy tale.

Alan & Sleeping: Oh yes of course how stupid.

Fairy: I just need you to fill in some details for this form. So, name?

Alan: Well, I'm Alan Beauty and this is my wife, Sleeping.

Fairy: She looks wide awake to me!

Sleeping: No, that's my name, Sleeping Beauty now can we get on with it?

(ALAN fills it in miraculously quickly and hands the form back to the FAIRY).

Fairy: So, how would you like the gift to be delivered? Wand? *(Gets out a huge Magic Wand)* or bottled milk?

Sleeping: I think she'd rather have the Wand that's what I had when I was a little girl.

Fairy: So, where's the baby?

Sleeping: She's asleep.

Fairy: *(Patronising).* Wake her up then!

Sleeping: Actually, I've only just

Fairy: Wake her up!!!

Sleeping: Okay Okay *(Rushes off and returns with a doll).*

Fairy: You can't fool me so easily!

Sleeping: What?

Fairy: That's a doll look it's head comes off you can't do that to real babies!

Sleeping: You'll have to come this way then.

All 3: Moments later and the gift of music was coursing through the baby's veins.

Fairy: Oh, just before I go there is one more thing.

Alan & Sleeping: Yes?

Fairy: I forgot to mention that there may be a huge problem.

Alan & Sleeping: A huge problem?

Fairy: One that could lead to the complete annihilation of the Bower of Bliss.

Alan & Sleeping: The complete annihilation of the Bower of Bliss?

Fairy: Your baby is going to encounter a baddie

Alan & Sleeping: *(Running to hide behind the settee).* A baddie?

Fairy: A Baddie who will try to destroy your fairy-tale land!

Alan: Why didn't you warn us before?

Fairy: It's so obviously a necessary part of being a mythical fairy tale character but there is some good news.

Alan & Sleeping: *(Poking heads up above the settee).* Oh yes?

Fairy: Yes, I predict I predict that she will use this magical gift to unite the

Bower of Bliss with the Baddies so they can never again even want to pose a threat to you!

Alan & Sleeping: Ooh, how handy!

Fairy: Anyway, I've got to be going. I've got to see a puppet about a nose. Bye!

(Exit in a puff of smoke!)

Sleeping: I can't wait to tell everybody.

Alan: They'll shout "hurrah" and throw flowers at us!

Sleeping: They'll be so thrilled when they discover that our Bianca will be able to use this gift to unite the Bower of Bliss with the baddies

Alan: Everyone will shout "How wonderful! We can't believe our luck!!" and throw money and expensive stuff at us.

Sleeping: Do we have to say anything about our baby bringing a baddie to the Bower of Bliss?!!!

Alan: No!

Sleeping: No!

Alan: No, we can't because everyone will shout "Oh no a Baddie!!! You stupid pair of Beauties, go away and never come back!!!" and throw stones and knives and rubic cubes and other pointy objects at us!!!!

Alan & Sleeping: What are we going to do?

Alan: If the King finds out he might try to do something to her!

Sleeping: *(Offstage there is the sound of a baby crying)*. What's wrong with her now?

Alan: Don't you worry yourself my dear I'm sure that Nanny can deal with her.

Nanny: *(Entering, flustered carrying a nappy, concealed in it is a portable cassette player)*. Oh Madam, Sir, look what Bianca has done in her nappy!

Alan: She's a baby what do you expect

Nanny: You don't understand. She's produced a

Alan & Sleeping: Yes?

Nanny: produced a portable cassette player together with a pre-recorded tape.

Alan & Sleeping: No wonder she was crying so much poor little thing.

Nanny: The tape is a new symphony the label says it's composed by Bianca Beauty

Alan & Sleeping: Composed by Bianca?

Nanny: Look! *(She shows them the label)*. She's only a few hours old and well just listen!

MUSIC No. 3 - A SIMPLE SYMPHONY

(Played through the tape player).

Alan: Give that to me! (*Grabbing the tape player pulling the cassette out and throwing it away. Composing himself again and grabbing NANNY violently*).
Listen Nanny! Don't mention this to anyone.

Nanny: We should celebrate go out and play it to everybody!

Alan: You don't tell anyone anything about this so shut-up about it right now!
(*ALAN places a bin on NANNY'S head*).

Nanny: (*From underneath the bin*). You can rely on me!

Alan & Sleeping: And so we did for the next nine years

Bianca: (*Entering as a nine-year old*). Mum dad I've written another symphony it's strange none of the other children at my fairy tale school write symphonies. Do you think they're normal?

Alan: We even kept it secret from Bianca.

Sleeping: But in our heart of hearts we knew

Alan & Sleeping: This secret couldn't be kept for ever.

All: Dun dun der!!!

SCENE 3 *Outside the Bower of Bliss Palace.*

MUSIC No. 4 - **THERE'S A BADDIE ON THE WAY**

REFRAIN 1:

Bad Fairy & }	<i>There's a baddie on the way</i>
His Entourage:}	<i>To cause some disarray</i>
	<i>There's a baddie on the way</i>
	<i>To cause some disarray</i>
	<i>To your brand new fairy tale star</i>
	<i>You'll need to be prepared</i>
	<i>You'll be very scared</i>
	<i>It's the baddest baddie in our repertoire!</i>

REFRAIN 2:

Bad Fairy, }	<i>There's a baddie on the way</i>
His Entourage}	<i>To cause some disarray</i>
& Goodies: }	<i>There's a baddie on the way</i>
	<i>To cause some disarray</i>

*To your / our brand new fairy tale star
You / We'll need to be prepared
You / We'll be very scared
It's the baddest baddie in our/their repertoire!*

VERSE

**Bad Fairy & }
His Entourage:}** *And we've got monsters who will give you no reprieve
Cruel witches who'll make you grieve
And we've got goblins who'll deceive
And trolls all trained to thieve
And our "Joker" is the giant up our sleeve.... our sleeve.*

Repeat REFRAIN 2:

**Bad Fairy, }
His Entourage }
& Goodies: }** *There's a baddie on*

Repeat VERSE:

**Bad Fairy, }
His Entourage }
& Goodies: }** *And we've got monsters*

Repeat REFRAIN 2:

**Bad Fairy, }
His Entourage }
& Goodies: }** *There's a baddie on*

SCENE 4 The Bower of Bliss Palace.

King: Last night, as you know, we received a threat
From the Baddies in Baddie Land
Queen: And it's sure made me sweat!
King: They say there's a Goodie who's destined for fame
Queen: And this has riled the Baddies so we must root out your name!
King: So, tonight, Special Agents Double O Stupid and Slow-on-the-

Uptake

(Enter SPECIAL AGENTS)

King: will try to identify this fairy tale mistake.

No-one can enjoy themselves if we don't dig out this rot.

Queen: Should no-one be found then then Xmas WILL be stopped.

(CROWD gasp).

King: So our two Special Agents we're relying on you.

King & Queen: Be on your way waste no time let's see what you can do!

All: So off they went with a spring in their step which proved most annoying
and caused their feet much pain!

MUSIC No. 5 - DOUBLE AGENT ANTICS

*(The CROWD cheer and the SPECIAL AGENTS do a lively Dance pastiche of
secret agent style film credits to the music).*

SCENE 5 Outside, then inside the Beauty's House.

*(Speaking over a "Walkie-talkie", DOUBLE O SLOW pretends to be a fictional
Science Fiction Character making appropriate vocal noises and 'fighting'
with his/her torch).*

Double O Slow-on-the-Uptake: *(As Science Fiction character).* "I have you now
Skook Whyorkah"

(Fx. of walkie-talkie sound in between speeches).

Double O Stupid: Grow up Double O Slow! You're stupid!

Slow: No! You're Double O Stupid! I'm Double O Slow Slow-on-the-Uptake!

Stupid: You know what I mean! Now shut up and come on!

Slow: Er? OK! *[Machine gun-like laugh which is SLOW'S trademark whenever (s)he laughs].*

Stupid: Double O Slow-on-the-Uptake I'm standing right outside the target household.

Slow: Double O Stupid so am I! I'm standing right next to you!

Stupid: You really are stupid!

Slow: No! You're stupid I'm Slow

Stupid: I'm going in! (*Bursting in melodramatically and addressing ALAN and SLEEPING*). Right! This is a stick up so stick your walls up and put your backs against your hands! (*ALAN and SLEEPING are confused*). No! Stick your hands up and pretend to wash your pants!

Alan & Sleeping: But we haven't got any paint!

Slow: Well, why don't you make yourselves comfortable then?

Stupid: But be sure to answer our questions if that's OK?

Alan & Beauty: Sounds like fun!

Stupid: Now, would you happen to know where we can find this new fairy tale hero?

Alan: No! And what makes you suspect us? we're no more suspicious than a robber in a bank brandishing guns.

Beauty: Or any top ranking politician!

Stupid: Obviously you know nothing. Still worth a try. See you. (*They go to leave*).

Alan: Before you go Would you happen to know where we can find a good dentist to fill the cavity you've just left in our wall?

Nanny: (*Entering*). What's all this noise?

Slow & Stupid: Don't worry! We just burst through your wall.

Nanny: You're not those infamous special agents looking for the new fairy tale hero who will bring Baddies to our land?

Slow & Stupid: Yes we are how did you guess?

Nanny: I wondered how long it would take you to realise that she was here!

Slow & Stupid: Are you saying you know of the whereabouts of this person?

Alan: No no you don't do you Nanny?

Nanny: Well, actually, actually I don't

(*ALAN sighs relief*).

Double O's: If we don't find out the King and Queen have said they're going to cancel Xmas!

Nanny: Cancel Xmas?

Alan & Sleeping: Cancel Xmas?

Double O's: Yes!

Nanny: Hadn't we better

Sleeping: (*Warning perhaps kicking her à la pantomime*). Nanny!

Alan: If you want any chance of living happily ever after

Alan & Sleeping: Keep your mouth shut! (*Puts the bin on her head*).

Slow: Come on Nanny (*Taking the bin off and stroking her hair*) nice Nanny

Nanny: I can't, but I'll go and see Bianca tell her that there's two special agents here, and that she'd better keep quiet about her amazing gift because if they hear any of her music they might think

Double O's: Yes?

Nanny: You might think that she's the next famous fairy tale character.

Alan: Oh that's right Nanny! (*Takes the bin and puts it back on NANNY'S head*).

You might as well tell them that this gift of music was given to her by a fairy!

Sleeping: Alan! What do you think you're doing? (*Takes the bin and puts it on ALAN'S head*). If you're not careful you'll be telling them that the fairy said Bianca is the Baddie bringer!

Slow: And I thought I was stupid!

Stupid: No! I'm Stupid! You're Slow Slow-on-the-uptake!

Slow: Sir Slow after the King finds out our amazing discovery

Stupid: And Sir Stupid! (*Both laugh in their individual style*).

Double O's: Quick! No time to lose.

Stupid: Slow.... go and fetch the girl!

MUSIC No. 5a - DOUBLE AGENT ANTICS [REPRISE]

("DOUBLE AGENT ANTICS" strikes up there may be a battle eventually SLOW returns with a bundle containing the Doll from the previous scene).

Slow: Got her!

Double O's: To the King!

(Exeunt).

SCENE 6 *Inside the Palace*

(The two AGENTS arrive in front of the KING and QUEEN out of breath).

Stupid: Your Royal Highnessssssss!

Queen: Ahh! Double O Stupid!

Stupid: Your Majesty's, I

Slow: and me!

Stupid: with a little help from Double O Slow-on-the-Uptake, I have, as commanded by your magnificences, captured the *(whispers)* Goodie who's destined for fame.

King: Well done Stupid and Slow you deserve your rewards.

Queen: Two more fools for the House of Lords!

(KING laughs STUPID and SLOW copy him politely and perhaps overdo it somewhat).

Stupid: We are indeed honoured Sirrah.

Slow: Are we?

Queen: How do we know they're telling the truth?

King: *(Irate).* If they're found to be lying we'll punish this pair.

Queen: Rip out their lungs and pull out their hair.

King: Dissect their gizzards to ensure their demise

King & Queen: To teach Stupid and Slow not to tell porky pies!

Stupid: *(To SLOW).* Are you sure you've got the right person?

Slow: Yeh. I'm sure!

Stupid: It's not unknown for you to mess things up?

Slow: Me?

Stupid: Yes you you're so stupid ...!

Slow: No! You're stupid I'm

Stupid: *(Shouting).* Shut up and show me the Baddie bringer. *(SLOW unwraps the bundle revealing the doll from the BEAUTY household).* I can't believe it!

Slow: What?

Stupid: I really can't believe it!

Slow: What?

Stupid: It can't be true!

Slow, King & Queen: What?

Stupid: Slow's actually got it right for a change!

(The CROWD cheer).

Queen: Give her to me! *(The QUEEN snatches the BABY from the SECRET AGENTS and by now it is clear for all to see that it is a doll. She addresses the doll angrily).* Now listen! You have been found guilty of being a Baddie bringer of the highest degree. I have no choice but to sentence you to death! Off with your head! *(She pulls off its head!).*

King: *(Taking the DOLL and attempting to replace its head).*

Now, now my queen, remember what we said
Throw her in jail but first replace her head

(Passes DOLL to QUEEN).

Announce that the baddie bringer's been caught and we're elated
And be sure to make it clear that Xmas is reinstated.

(They all cheer).

Queen: Our fairy-tale land is safe once again.

King & Queen: Goodie Six sing the Bower of Bliss Anthem to serenade these absurdly brave men!

All: With hearty voices the people of the Bower of Bliss sang their Anthem and they were proud self satisfied and smiled a sickly smile that only fairy tale folk can smile.

(EVERYONE smiles).

MUSIC No. 6 - THE BOWER OF BLISS ANTHEM

Goodie 6: *All the world's a stage aspiring to fairy tales
Where evil's been removed, where only good prevails.
Skipping scenes that are too heart rending
Always find the happy ending
A lifetime's journey leads to fairy tale.*

All: *So sing sing out loud
That we're proud to be allowed
To dream our lives as a fairy tale crowd.
So sing loud and clear
Standing here we'll raise a cheer
For fairy tales and the fantasy frontier.
A lifetime's journey leads to fairy tale.*

All: *Praise to all the powers who let us live our lives this way
Honour and respect them now and every day.
We won't forget those fairy tale icons
Crushed the baddies made them bygones
A lifetime's journey leads to fairy tale.*

All: *So sing out loud etc.*
Final time

Little Goodie *(solo on last line):*
A lifetime's journey leads to fairy tale.

SCENE 7 Inside the BEAUTY'S House.

(NANNY has the bin on her head).

Sleeping: Nanny, you're going to come up with an idea that can get us out of this mess!

Nanny: Me?

Alan & Sleeping: Yes, you!

Nanny: Easy! You'll have to make Bianca wear a disguise!

Alan & Sleeping: A disguise?

Nanny: Disguise her as

Alan & Sleeping: Yes?

Bianca: *(Entering excitedly as NANNY makes out that she is reading the newspaper).* Mum, Dad, Nanny, come into the conservatory I've just composed an amazing tune it would make a wonderful Xmas song if only I could find a talented lyricist

Alan: Bianca there's something your mother has to say to you.

Bianca: Quick then because I want to play you this tune it's the best one I've ever composed!

Sleeping: Sit down sweetheart! *(Under her breath).* Alan, I thought you were going to help me!

Bianca: Why mum what's going on?

Alan & Sleeping: Bianca we've decided to

Bianca: Yes?

Sleeping: How can we tell her?

Bianca: Take a deep breath and spit it out. It can't be that bad!

Alan: Bianca, sit down please.

(SHE sits down).

Alan: No stand up.

(She does so).

Alan: No, sit down.

Bianca: I'll sit *(Sitting)*. but I want you to just tell me whatever it is!

Alan & Sleeping: *(Deep breath)*. We've decided to make you wear a disguise.

Bianca: A what?

Alan & Sleeping: We've decided to dress you up as a as a

Nanny: A cactus!

Alan & Sleeping: We've decided to dress you up as a cactus!

Sleeping: Not a spiky one.

Alan: A rubbery one.

Bianca: You're winding me up!

Alan: We can't risk anyone suspecting that you are the infamous future fairy-tale character with the gift of music.

Bianca: And me walking around dressed up as a cactus will stop people suspecting?

Alan: I don't want an argument about it!

Bianca: *(Standing)*. I don't want to be a cactus!

Alan: This is my house and when you're in my house you'll do what I say.

Sleeping: Alan! Calm down.

Bianca: Why can't you just go out and lose me in the woods like they used to in the olden days? *(Sits stropily)*.

Sleeping: I wish it were that simple

Alan: But it isn't.

Sleeping: There is something else. Bianca, I think you'd better sit down.

Bianca: *(Standing.... in a rage)*. I am sitting down!

Alan: Don't argue with your mother. If she says you'd better sit down then then you must be standing up so sit down and listen to what she's got to say.

(BIANCA sits).

Sleeping: To what we've both got to say.

Alan: Yes to what

Bianca: Just get on with it!

Alan & Sleeping: Right! (*Deep breath*). We can't allow you to compose any more of your music.

Bianca: You can't do this to me!

Alan: Oh yes we can! Special agents have been out in force tonight searching for you we managed to dupe them into taking your doll but

Nanny: (*Taking off her bin*). It's only a matter of time my dear it's for your own good your mum and dad are only trying to protect you.

Bianca: You're the Baddies all of you far worse than any goblins or witches I've ever read about

Alan: You could be in prison now if it weren't for

Bianca: I'd rather be in prison than well at least I could play my music there and I wouldn't have to dress up as as a cactus!

Sleeping: I think you'll look very well you'll look just like a cactus!

Bianca: I don't want to look like a cactus!

Nanny: Well, how about a Pantomime cow?

Bianca: That'd be a bit better, but

Alan: I've got it!!! When alone in the house you can dress normally and play your music quietly but when we go out or if we have any visitors you could be the back of a pantomime cow! Nanny you can be the front (*Aside*). that'll shut her up!

Sleeping: Good well that's decided then!

Alan: Now everyone happy, I suggest we all get ready for Xmas.

Sleeping, Alan, Bianca and Nanny: Magically the whole of the Bower of Bliss was conveniently transported through time into

(*ALL enter and take up places for the **WHERE OH WHERE IS SANTA?** song*).

All: Xmas Eve.

SCENE 8 The Bower of Bliss.

*MUSIC No. 7 - **WHERE OH WHERE IS SANTA?***

Little Goodie: *All night we waited for Santa to come
As the hours passed by we became more glum*

*The sound of sleigh bells that we all wished to hear
They could not be heard. They never came near.*

(Snow from a snow machine falls on the CAST - & AUDIENCE)

**Children & } Oh where oh where is Santa?
Goodies: } Santa never came
Xmas day will be ruined
It will never be the same.**

**Goodies: All night we waited for him to appear
He didn't show up he didn't come near
The children awoke and they leapt out of bed
When they saw there's no presents they all turned and said....**
**Children: Oh where oh where was Santa?
Santa never came
Xmas Day will be ruined
It will never be the same.**

**Children & } Oh where oh where was Santa?
Goodies: } Santa never came.
Xmas Day will be ruined
It will never be the same.**

Little Goodie: Why hasn't he come?

Goodie 1: What can we tell the children?

Children: Was it something WE did?

Goodie 2 & 4: He might have got stuck up a chimney.

Goodie 3 & 5: Maybe his sleigh broke down.

Goodie 6: Carrots!

Children: Santa may never visit us again! *(They cry loudly).*

Little Goodie: What are we going to do? Goodie 6 you always have good ideas.
What do you think?

Goodie 6: *(Leaping up in the air and exclaiming).* Carrots! Little Goodie
Carrots.

Goodies: Carrots Goodie 6?

Goodie 6: It has to be! Carrots. Lets go and see the King!

Goodies: *(Marching to the Palace).* Carrots! Carrots! Carrots! etc.

SCENE 9 *Outside The Bower of Bliss Palace*

Queen: (*Appearing from her balcony*) What is the meaning of all this noise?

Goodie 6: Carrots your highness!

Queen: I heard what you said but I don't understand why you keep saying it!

All Goodies (except Goodie 6): Because (*THEY all look at one another with a puzzled expression*) Why are we saying it?

Goodie 6: Carrots explain why Santa didn't come!

(*Silence and more puzzled looks*).

Other Goodies: What are you talking about Goodie 6?

Goodie 6: You always need a carrot to dangle in front of someone's nose.

Other Goodies: You're speaking in riddles!

Goodie 6: The reindeer!

Little Goodie: I've got it! The reindeer didn't bring Santa to our houses because we didn't leave any carrots out for them!

Goodie 6: Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings!

Goodie 5: Santa always came before and we didn't leave any carrots out then either!

(*The other GOODIES murmur agreement*).

Goodie 6: That proves it they got so fed up that they decided not to bring him this year!

Goodies: There is no doubt about it Queen no doubt at all!

Queen: So what are we going to do about it?

Goodies: What are we going to do?

Little Goodie: Goodie number six what ARE we going to do? You seem to have all the answers!

Goodie 6: No! I only have MOST of the answers. I certainly don't have the answer to this particular problem! It's made all the worse by the fact that here in the Bower of Bliss we have no carrots.

Goodies: We know what they look like.

Goodie 6: But we don't really know what they do.

Goodies: (*Panicking*). So what are we going to do? King, Queen, please tell us what to do!

King: (*Cogitating*). The reindeer crave carrots that's why they did not come
So if we want Santa back we had better find some!

Verily, the predicament we are in needs no repetition
What we need is a colossal carrot competition.

All: A carrot competition? Yes! (*Jumping up and down celebrating*). A carrot competition!

King: So give you a week to put your minds to this test
Then I'll award a prize to the carrot that's the best!

Goodies: So off they went full of a competitive spirit shouting
(*Exit chanting*) Carrots carrots carrots!

SCENE 10 - Inside the Beauty's House

Bianca: I hate dressing up as a pantomime cow!

Nanny: I much prefer wearing my bin the cow costume is so hot!

Bianca: It's not just that, it's well

Nanny: At least you can still compose your music.

Bianca: But no-one ever hears it.... especially my new festive tune how I wish I could find a talented lyricist. Nanny?

Nanny: Yes dear.

Bianca: Do you know what I think?

Nanny: No dear.

Bianca: I think that Santa ignoring us this year has got nothing to do with the carrots I think

Nanny: Yes?

Bianca: I think.... he didn't come because because my music has to remain a secret This new Xmas tune is a sign. Santa won't return to the Bower of Bliss until I find a lyricist who can complete my Xmas song.

Nanny: Bianca!

Bianca: This song alone has the power to bring Santa back!

Nanny: I don't want ever to hear you say anything like that again and don't say it to your parents or they'll be furious.

Bianca: What can they do?

Nanny: They could disguise you as a cactus!

Bianca: I'd forgotten about that! Why are parents so cruel?

Nanny: They're doing it for your own good.

Bianca: And it hurts them more that it hurts me yes I know but there's only one thing for it! Quick close all the windows I can feel a song coming on!

Nanny: Ok my dear just make sure you don't sing it too loud! (*NANNY rushes off*).

MUSIC No. 8 - LET ME WEAR A DRESS

Bianca: *A Pantomime Cow is not what I wanted to be
It could surely harm me psychologically
Why do my mum and dad seem so ashamed?
My music must be heard for it to become acclaimed.*

*My bed of roses puts a thorn in my side
My fairy tale gift means I have to hide
I need someone to be on my side
Why can't anyone understand?*

*I wish that I was the girl who lived next door
Not a stupid cow made to stamp upon the floor
Help me to get myself out of this mess
Let me be normal let me wear a dress!*

*Parents never do what you want them to.
Mine said "I love you"
Then made me go out and "moo"?*

*My bed of roses puts puts a thorn in my side
My fairy tale gift means I have to hide
I need someone to be on my side
Why can't anyone understand me?*

END OF ACT I

ACT II

SCENE 11 *The Bower of Bliss, Village Square.*

MUSIC No. 9 - PANTO COW BLUES

Goodie Six: *I woke up this morning what did I hear?
A "moo" in the meadow loud in my ear.
So soon after breakfast I made my way
Right down to the meadow what's this cow say?
Still those sad moo's this cow has got the blues.*

*So where did she come from? why is she here?
A-Mooing so sadly when I go near.
As normally cows are cheerful creatures.
In making the best of their big features.
Ain't got no clue why is she looking so blue?*

All: *For years we've been waiting for a Pantomime Cow.
But we've never had one till now
Why should we be given one that's looking so sad?
She should count her chickens cos Bliss ain't that bad.*

Goodie Six: *We'll try and befriend her get her to smile
We'll find her a bull who's got some real style*
(The cow reacts violently)
*A candlelit meadow loving frantic
We'll pump up the music how romantic
Dream it's all true and lose those Panto Cow Blues?*

All: *For years we've been waiting for a Pantomime Cow.
But we've never had one till now.
Why should we be given one that's looking so sad?
She should count her chickens cos Bliss ain't that bad.*

Goodie 1: Just look at the time!

(GOODIES 1-6 look at their fairy tale watches).

Goodie 6: Oh no!

Goodies: One week has gone by already. What shall we say to the King?
Goodie 2: How can we admit to the King and Queen that, even after all this effort, we only managed to make one carrot?
Little Goodie: And that was eaten by the pantomime cow.
Goodie 4: The King and Queen will be most upset.
Goodie 5: They'll be furious!
Goodie 3: Do we have to tell them?
Goodie 6: I know! We could buy some inflatable ones from the fairy tale beach shop.
Goodies: We haven't even got a fairy tale beach!
Goodie 6: Ah, but we do have a fairy tale beach shop!
Goodies: How silly of us to forget!
Little Goodie: But it's closed.
Goodies: How do you know?
Little Goodie: I went there the door won't open.
Goodie 6: It hasn't got a door!
Little Goodie: That's probably why it won't open!
Goodie 1: So, what are we going to do?
Goodie 2: There's nothing we can do!
Little Goodie: (*Hopefully*). Unless something magic was to happen!
Goodies: Fat chance of that!

(Enormous BANG and puff of smoke. The WITCH appears, carrying a sack. The GOODIES scream!).

Witch: Fairy tale folk of the Bower of Bliss Fear ye not my form, for I am come in friendship. These days of mine are nearly done but before I take my leave of these shores I bid thee allow me to minister to thy needs. Last Xmas Santa abandoned thy land. Next Xmas he will return unto thee but with my help he shall return.
Goodie 6: Aren't you from Baddie Land?
Witch: 'Tis of no import from whence I come.
Goodie 5: This could be a trick.
Witch: Ignore me at thy peril. Without me Santa may never return to thy shores.
Goodie 6: What we need is carrots. I can't imagine you have many of them.
Witch: Here in this sack are carrots a plenty.
Goodie: Carrots?
Witch: Carrots a plenty!
Goodie 3: What do you want in return you sinister old hag?
Witch: Something very simple. I require thee to bestow unto me the one heralded

as thy next fairy tale big shot.

Goodies: Is that all?

Witch: Deliver her unto me and these carrots are thine!

Goodie 6: What do you want with her?

Witch: Delay no further and deliver her unto me!

Goodies: Easy!

Stupid: (*Entering carrying the doll*). Only moments later and OO Stupid

Slow: and me!

Stupid: (*Ignoring SLOW*). Were in front of the Witch with (*To the WITCH*).
the child who Stupid most skilfully caught.

Slow: And me!!

Stupid: Shut up!!

Witch: A ha! Good! Now she is mine. (*Taking the CHILD*). But wait! This is a
doll!

Goodies: What do you mean a doll?

Witch: This is a doll! See it's head comes off. (*SHE throws it into the
AUDIENCE*).

Goodies: It is a doll. Stupid and Slow must have got it wrong!

Witch: These silly games could ruin thy Xmas forever more. I shall return in two
days. If thou hast the real child thy luminary, these carrots shall be thine
.... and Santa shall return! Two days and no more!

(*A bang and a puff of smoke and she disappears*).

Goodie 6: Stupid and Slow must be punished. But how should they be
punished?

Goodies: 1,2,3,4

MUSIC No. 10 - THE PUNISHMENT SONG

Goodies: *We'll hang draw and quarter you then do it again
We'll chuck you in a dungeon full of monsters and then
We'll splatter you with cow pats and put you on a rack
Get the bogey man to scare you so you'll have a heart attack.*

*We'll swing you round in circles and send you in a spin
We'll tip you upside down and stuff you in a pedal bin
We'll poke you with hot pokers and you'll say "it's not fair!"
Force your head right into someone's really sweaty underwear.
We'll feed you full of bogeys until you're feeling sick*

*We'll sit you in a room and make you do arithmetic
We'll shout at you and laugh at you and hang you from a crane
Then I'm sure you'll understand
Well I hope you'll understand
Yes, I'm sure you'll understand not to be bad again!*

(Repeat first verse).

King: *(Appearing on his balcony).*

Stupid and Slow you have upset us all
Lowered our spirits and made us feel small.

Queen: So an absurd mop fight to the death is what we want to see
Where one of you will die....

King: and the other can go free.

Queen: But live with the guilt of killing his best mate

King: So fight to decide which of these will be your fate.

MUSIC No. 11 - STUPID MOP FIGHT

(Cheering from the CROWD. Mops and buckets are used and a comic fight ensues with accompanying STUPID MOP FIGHT. As SLOW is about to drown STUPID, smothering his face with the mop, the fight is suddenly stopped by NANNY throwing off the Pantomime cow head and shouting).

Nanny: Stop! It's all a mistake! It wasn't the Special Agent's fault. We tricked them!

Queen: Put your head back on Pantomime Cow and shut-up! I haven't enjoyed myself so much in ages!

Nanny: Sleeping Beauty tricked them!

Goodies: Sleeping Beauty?

Nanny: Yes, her and her husband, Alan.

Alan: She's mad! Don't listen to her.

Nanny: If I show you my bottom - you'll see that what I say is true!

Queen: We don't want to see your bottom! We want to see someone killed!
Continue the Mop fight!

Nanny: My bottom is really the next famous fairy tale character.

Queen: Oh no it's not!

Nanny: Oh yes it is!

(BIANCA BEAUTY is revealed as she removes the back end of the Pantomime cow).

Goodies: Bianca Beauty?

Alan & Sleeping: No! She's just an ordinary little girl.

Nanny: If she's so ordinary why should they choose to dress her up as the rear end of a Pantomime Cow?

Goodies: Mmmmm? *(Slowly coming to a realisation).* Aahh! So that no-one notices her?

Nanny: Exactly. On the day that she was born, they were visited by a fairy who gave her a gift a free gift the gift of music.

Alan: See! The woman's as mad as as mad as the Mad Hatter's maddest piece of madness:

Bianca: No! It's true. I am gifted! I have written 15 symphonies and 453 tunes.

Nanny: They're the best in the world!

Bianca: And my most recent one is a Xmas tune it is music that will bring Santa back into our land! All I need is a lyricist!

King: Stupid and Slow, if you want your jobs back
Seize that girl and toss her in a sack.

Queen: Throw her in gaol 'til the witch reappears.

King: Hand her over, get the carrots and we'll have the best Xmas in years!

(STUPID and SLOW bundle BIANCA into a handy sack and exit with her).

Queen: Her parents too should be locked in gaol.

King & Queen: Perverting fairy tale justice is beyond the pale!

(GUARDS take them off, screaming etc.).

Goodies: I wonder where the witch is?

(With a bang and a puff she reappears).

Witch: Two days are passed Bring me the child and no tricks this time! No dolls, pantomime cows or wild daffodils!

Stupid: We'd better just check that she's not a wild daffodil!

Slow: *(To BIANCA).* Are you a wild daffodil?

Bianca: I'm not answering any of your stupid questions!
Slow: She's not answering any of our stupid questions.
Stupid: Then test her!
Slow: How?
Stupid: (*A moments thought*). Does she look like a wild daffodil?
Slow: I'll have to consult my book! (*Looks in a book*). She's definitely not in this book!
Stupid: That's because it's a Thomas the Tank Engine book!
Bianca: All right! I admit it! I'm not a wild daffodil!
Slow: That's just what any wild daffodil would say!
Bianca: (*Shouting*). I'm not a wild daffodil!
Slow: Ok.
Witch: Enough of this insanity! Hand over thy luminary!
Stupid: Yes, your putridness!
Witch: (*As they do so*). And here is my sack!

(*She exits in a puff of smoke*).

Nanny: (*Rushing forward to look in the bag*). Well. I've never seen carrots like these ones. They're small, round and green!

(*She plucks a Brussels sprout out of the bag. EVERYONE gasps shocked!*).

King: We should never have trusted her of that I have no doubt
For what you see before you is a Brussels Sprout!
Goodies: Brussel Sprout?
Queen: Stupid and Slow, this is your fault! Why didn't you realise that she was
tricking us? Now we don't have anything! No hero! No carrots, no Santa.
But we do have one thing
Stupid & Slow: What's that your Queeniness?
Queen: An entertaining mop fight! To the death this time!

(*EVERYONE cheers*).

Goodies: Yeh!
Stupid: You must think we're both stupid! Well, we're not! I'm Stupid OO
Stupid.
Slow: But I'm OO Slow Slow-on-the-Uptake!
Stupid & Slow: Licensed to succeed!
Queen: But you haven't!

Stupid: We always succeed on the
Stupid & Slow: on the second attempt.
Slow: Always?
Stupid: Almost always. This time there'll be no stopping us
Both: We will succeed! (*THEY march off*).

King: Return at once
(*THEY return*).
King: Who said you can depart?
You're no use to us you're not that smart!

Both: We can! We can! Let us explain.

King: Then be sure not to drive me around the bend
King & Queen: For if you fail this time both your lives will end!

Stupid: Sire! No-one has commented upon the fact that there are two strange people living here in the Bower of Bliss. Indeed no-one appears to have even noticed them. No-one that is except for me and my good friend Slow.
Slow: Which two strange people?
Hansel & Gretel: We're not strange! We're just in disguise! OOPS!
Stupid: We were actually talking about these two strange people (*indicating a couple together in the AUDIENCE*) but you'll do because
Stupid & Slow: we know who you are!
Hansel & Gretel: We're not Hansel & Gretel, if that's what you were thinking!
Stupid: Prove it! Take off your coats!

(*THEY do so, only to reveal traditional HANSEL & GRETEL costumes*).

All: You are Hansel & Gretel!
Hansel & Gretel: No we're not!
All: Yes you are!
Hansel & Gretel: No we're not!
All: Yes you are!
Hansel & Gretel: No we're not!
All: No you're not!
Hansel & Gretel: Yes we are!
All: Hah!!!
All (except Stupid & Slow): (*To STUPID & SLOW*). So what if they are Hansel & Gretel?

Stupid: They are the only ones who have ventured into Baddie Land, who know where the witch lives and the witch is the only one with the carrots.

Everyone else: Oh yes. Now we understand.

King: Stupid & Slow what a clever idea one that will make you both rich.

Queen: IF you go and get those carrots and defeat the wicked witch.

King: So good luck all four of you and hurry along
To speed you on your way we'll sing you a song.

Little Goodie: Can Goodie Six sing us his carrot song?

King: Oh what fun we haven't heard that in years.

King & Queen: We'll make myself comfortable and pin back our ears.

MUSIC No. 12 - I'M A CARROTY GUY

Goodie 6: *Here in the Bower of Bliss is something that I miss.
They're orange and quite long and the subject of this song!*

Refrain: *I've hankered after carrots
This hankering makes me cry
I've hankered after carrots
For years we've had no supply.
Surely they'll be back for a chewy crunchy snack.
Where did they go? And why, I don't know
Woh-oh I'm a carrotty guy*

All: Refrain 2: *I've / he's hankered after carrots
This hankering makes me/him cry
I've / he's hankered after carrots
For years we've had no supply
Surely they'll be back for a chewy crunchy snack.
Where did they go? And why, I don't know
Oh I'm/he's a carrotty guy.*

Goodie 6: *Everyone has a love in their life
Some go out and find a wife
Some like sport and some like eating
My love of carrots takes some beating
Carrot posters adorn my walls
Guess what's embroidered on my smalls?
Have no doubt I'm truly obsessed
I've just had a carrot tattooed on my chest.*

(GOODIE 6 rips open shirt revealing tattoo!)

Repeat Refrain 2 & this alternative ending:

Goodie 6: *Woh-oh I'm / He's a carrotty
 Such a carrotty
 I'm / He's a carrotty guy!*

SCENE 12 Baddie Land. The Witch's House.

(The witch's cottage is decorated with musical notation and carrots grow in her garden. CCTV and other Security equipment is evident. There is a closed treasure chest in view inside the cottage and another box / cupboard marked "Carrots").

Hansel: Here we are I think!

Gretel: It looks so different this isn't our witch's house.

Hansel: It must be.

Gretel: Where are all the sweets, chocolates and gingerbread? All I can see is musical notation and security cameras.

Stupid & Slow: Security Cameras?

Slow: *(Approaching the cameras and waving).* Hello Mum.

Hansel: Don't be stupid!

Slow: I'm not Stupid I'm Slow Slow-on-the-Uptake!

Hansel: The witch will see you if you

Witch: *(Appearing suddenly).* If you what?

Hansel: Nothing!

Stupid: *(Adopting phoney American accent).* Now you listen here! And you listen good! We're here to get the carrots

Slow: And to defeat you by sticking you in the microwave when you aren't looking!

Hansel / Gretel: *(To SLOW).* Stupid!

Slow: How many times do I have to tell you I'm Slow!

Stupid: *(To WITCH as he covers SLOW'S mouth).* Look we're not really going to stick you in the microwave!

Slow: You said you

Hansel / Gretel: (*Covering SLOW'S mouth as he / she interrupts*). I mean, would we do something like that to you?

Witch: You can't! I haven't got a microwave!

Slow: You ought to get one they're brilliant for defrosting things and re-heating meals and fish

Stupid: Well, if you think we'll be leaving here without the carrots or the girl well, you've got another think coming!

Witch: The girl? Bianca?

Stupid: Yes. Bianca. Hand her over!

Witch: She's free to leave!

Stupid: Where is she?

Witch: She's inside in my recording studio.

Hansel, Gretel, Stupid & Slow: Recording Studio?

Witch: She's in there laying down a funky backing track for I am a lyricist.

Hansel, Gretel, Stupid & Slow: Lyricist? It's all beginning to fall in place!

Witch: My magic microphone told me that the most talented composer in the fairy tale universe lived in the Bower of Bliss that's why I kidnapped her, little knowing that coincidentally she was searching for a lyricist. We've just completed work on a song for Hallowe'en (*Taking a hand-written sheet from her cloak*) would'st thou like to see the lyrics?

Hansel: Go on then.

(*WITCH hands the lyrics to HANSEL who shows them to the others*).

Hansel, Gretel, Stupid & Slow: "Twilight screaming from a disembodied head At a Halloween party where the guests are living dead!" Wow! These are outrageous! Fantastic!

(*STUPID dons some unusual glasses*).

Hansel: (*Addressing the WITCH*). Can you hold on for a moment?

(*HANSEL and GRETEL huddle and whisper*).

Slow & Stupid: (*Whispering across the stage to one another*). I thought it was rude to whisper!

Gretel: (*Approaching the WITCH, smoking a fat cigar*) Some years ago we, came across a chest full of gold

Witch: How strange. The witch who did live here before me was robbed of her gold by two vile children. Surely this can be no more than another strange

coincidence?

Gretel: 'Fraid so Witch Go on Hansel.

Hansel: and in all those years we have failed to find an appropriate way to invest it.

Gretel: That is

Hansel & Gretel: Until yesterday.

Gretel: When co-incidentally we set up a publishing company and well

Hansel: We'd like you to become our first signing.

Hansel & Gretel: (*Adopting American accents both flaunting long cigars*). We believe we can make you famous!

Witch: Buy my song? Make me famous? I'd do anything to be famous!

Slow: Anything?

Witch: (*Now highly stylised - over the top - and in a dream world of her own*). Yes anything!! It's been my lifelong dream to be number one and perform on Top of the Pops!

Slow: You'd do anything?

Witch: Yes, anything at all!

Slow: Like flying around on a broomstick wearing one of those stupid pointed hats

Witch: Almost anything.

Stupid: (*Pointing at the chest that does not have carrots written on it!*) Would you give us all of the carrots over there in that chest?

Witch: What makest thou think carrots are in that chest?

Stupid: I've got my special carrot detecting glasses on!

Witch: I would but there are no carrots in that chest I keep them here in this cupboard marked "Carrots"!

Stupid: So, if they publish your song, and they can get you to number one

Hansel & Gretel, Stupid & Slow: You will give us the carrots?

Witch: Deal!

Hansel & Gretel: You'll never guess what?

Stupid & Slow, Bianca & Witch: Yes we can.

Hansel & Gretel: Go on then?

Stupid & Slow, Bianca & Witch & any Goodies: Only one week after Bianca and Witch fulfilled both their ambitions by appearing on Top of the Pops singing their new number One hit

Hansel, Gretel, Stupid & Slow: "Hallowe'en".

SCENE 13 *Top of the Pops Studio, in the Bower of Bliss.*

MUSIC No. 13 - HALLOWE'EN

Witch: *Full moon shining throws a light across the road
For a black cat to formulate a plan with the toad.
A candle lit pumpkin face behind the window pane
Nightmarish thoughts wreck the children's sleep again.*

Refrain:

All: *Hallowe'en, have you seen, a broomstick flying across the sky?
Hallowe'en, haven't you seen, the human remains in the steaming
pumpkin pie?
Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha*

Witch: *Twilight screaming from a disembodied head
At a Halloween party where the guests are living dead
Shadows are looming in a very scary form
Ghosts in your bedroom, it's surely not the norm!*

Repeat Refrain, Dance, Verse 1 & Refrain x 2.

SCENE 14 *Outside the Palace Balcony in the Bower of Bliss.*

Queen: A witch at number one in the Bower of Bliss! Whatever next?

(She promptly dies and is attended to / taken off on a stretcher by a variety of paramedics / medics).

King: *Stupid and Slow, you were sent to get carrots to bring Santa back
Not return with a Baddie and give my Queen a heart attack.
It seems to me that all you have done
Is made it possible for this Baddie to have a number one!
And, if I'm not mistaken, she's now more popular than me!
Stupid and Slow this is treason how do you plea?*

Slow: Don't you know?

King: Don't I know what?

Slow: Don't you know how to plea?

King: (*Becoming irate*). I want to know how you plea!

Slow: (*Demonstrating*). Well, I tend to kneel down on one knee, put my hands together as though I'm praying and

Stupid: Please your Kingliness don't harm me it's all Slow's fault

King: Both of you are equally to blame
Neither of you show any shame
I must bestow upon you the punishment to which you are suited
No more chances! 6 a.m. tomorrow, you'll both be executed!
Guards arrest them
(*Aside*). How I detest them!

Witch: Stop!!! The merry fools have done what thou asked, thou stupid rhyming King! I am here! I have the power to entice Santa back! And if thou still hast need of them I have the carrots (*She pulls one out of the sack*).

All: Hand over the carrots! Hand over the carrots!

Witch: Patience for there is more to behold. The girl I appropriated may return unto thee for I need her no further.

Goodie 6: We don't want her!

Goodies: We want the carrots!

Bianca: The carrots have no power. It is us, Witch and I alone, who have the power to bring back Santa.

All: We want the carrots!

Witch: Hear first what your enchanted child has to say.

Bianca: When I was a child, I was visited by a fairy.

Goodies: Well I never did!

Bianca: I was given the gift of music.

Goodies: How nice!

Bianca: This gift, he said, will do two things.

Goodies: They're so clever now not like the old days.

Bianca: It will unite the Bower of Bliss with the Baddies, so we will never again be threatened by them. The song "*HALLOWE'EN*" symbolises this union.

Goodies: So it does!

Bianca: Also my special gift the gift of music, the fairy said, will have the power to resolve any problem we encounter here in the Bower of Bliss.

Goodies: What your music could make Santa return?

Bianca: My music WILL make Santa return.

Goodie 6: But she hasn't given us the carrots!
Bianca: You're looking for the wrong sort of carrot!
Goodie 6: We're not that simple there is only one sort of carrot!
Goodies: Goodie 6 is right!
Bianca & Witch: Goodie 6 is wrong!
Little Goodie: My Goodie 6 is always right!
Bianca & Witch: Our song is Santa's carrot.
Goodie 6: We want the real carrots.
Bianca: So long as you allow us to perform our new Xmas song on Xmas Eve at midnight.
Goodies: Sing what you like when you like and yeh we'll listen won't we? (*All agree vocally*). Just give us the real carrots!

(*The WITCH throws the carrots to the CROWD*).

Goodies: Hooray!

MUSIC No. 13a - I'M A CARROTY GUY! [REPRISE]

All: (*Singing, collecting and then serenading the carrots*).

*We / I've hankered after carrots
This hankering makes us / me cry
We / I've hankered after carrots
For years we've had no supply
Surely they'll be back
Our chewy, crunchy snack.
Where did they go?
And why, we / I don't know
Woh oh He's/I'm a carrotty*

Goodie 6: *Such a carrotty*
All: *He's / I'm a carrotty guy!*

(*THEY exit with the carrots*).

Bianca: But Witch, no-one seems interested in our song!
Witch: 'Tis nothing to concern thyself with my dear we shall sing our song and Santa shall once again visit the Bower of Bliss. Come we must deliver thy parents from their cell.
(*THEY exit*).

Goodies: We shall prepare for Xmas.

MUSIC No. 14 - THIS YEAR'S XMAS

All: *Everyone is busy making everything right
Making it festive, making it bright
Wanting this Xmas to beat all the rest
This year's Xmas will be the best!*

*Stockings hanging ready by the fireplace
Sherry for Santa should light up his face
Mince pies help him make it through the night
And don't forget a carrot for the reindeer to bite.*

(Snow from a snow machine falls on the CAST - & AUDIENCE).

*This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
That everyone will recall
This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
Cos everyone's having a ball.
This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
For someone to fall in love
For them this Xmas will be the Xmas
A fairy tale sent from above.*

*Xmas time is a time for forgiving!
Xmas is a time for good cheer!
Xmas is a time for beginning!
Merry Xmas! Merry Xmas!
Merry Xmas and a Happy new year!*

SCENE 15 *Sleeping Beauty's House*

(ALAN and SLEEPING engaged in their imaginative activity.... only this time in slow motion. The scene is played out in exaggerated slow motion - sound and visually - until the instruction to return to normal motion).

Bianca: *(Entering)*. Mummy! Daddy! *(ALAN and SLEEPING over-react)*. It's me! Your long lost fairy tale daughter.

Alan & Sleeping: Bianca! You're safe! We thought we'd never see you again!

Bianca: You thought you'd never see me again! But, here I am safe and sound!

Alan & Sleeping: *(Pointing at WITCH)*. Who's that?

Witch: I am a Witch.

Alan & Sleeping: *(Everything suddenly returns to normal speed)*. A Witch! Aaaargh!

(They run off).

Nanny: *(Entering, wearing her part of the pantomime cow costume, but carrying the head)*. What's all this noise?

Bianca: Mum and Dad have just run off!

Nanny: Bianca, I've told you a thousand times not to leave the gate open.

Bianca: Oh, I'm not that bothered if I never see them again, they weren't always that nice to me Do you know Witch, they even made me dress up as the back end of a pantomime cow.

Nanny: Yes, *(Fondly)*. I remember that well in fact I was just wondering if it would be possible for me to become a pantomime cow permanently but I can't find a bottom *(Suddenly notices WITCH)* Who's that?

Witch: I am a Witch.

Nanny: A Witch! Aaaargh! *(She runs off)*.

Stupid & Slow: *(They enter in slow motion cueing BIANCA and NANNY to perform in slow motion as well)* We heard some Aaaargh's in your house

(They break down the [imaginary] wall in a very elaborate slow motion mime - with appropriate vocal sound effects and slow motion over-reactions from NANNY and BIANCA. As soon as they are in the house everything returns to normal motion)

Stupid & Slow: and were wondering if everything's all right.

Bianca: Everything's fine.

Stupid & Slow: Everything?

Bianca: Well, there is one problem.

Stupid & Slow: Yes?

Bianca: No-one seems that interested in hearing our Xmas song! What we need is an agent.

Stupid & Slow: A-ha! We're agents special agents.

Witch & Bianca: Just what we need!

Stupid & Slow: (*Suddenly noticing WITCH*) Who's that?

Witch: I am a Witch.

Stupid & Slow: Aaaaaaaaaaaaaargh! (*They jump on the spot, run in circles, but do not run off. Finally they stop "aaahing"*). We shouldn't be scared, we met you a couple of scenes ago.

Witch & Bianca: You are stupid!

Bianca: No! Don't tell me! I know! You're Slow and he's Stupid!

Slow: Well, actually no! You see, throughout this musical we've been in disguise!

Stupid & Slow: In disguise as each other.

Slow: I am really Double O Stupid.

Stupid: And I am really Double O Slow Slow-on-the-Uptake!

Bianca: Why have you undertaken such an elaborate confidence trick?

Stupid & Slow: So no-one NO-ONE will know who we are because we're undercover special agents.

Stupid: There were times when even we were confused

Stupid & Slow: But we worked it out!

Slow: So, now you know our true identities

Stupid & Slow: What do you want us to do?

Bianca: Get everyone ready to hear our Xmas song, so Santa will appear.

Stupid & Slow: (*Mock genie!*). Your wish is our command!

(They do an elaborate mime with vocal sound effects of the GENIE'S disappearing explosion which does not make them disappear so after acknowledging the failure they run off).

SCENE 16 Outside in the Bower of Bliss and the Royal Balcony.

King: People of the Bower of Bliss I hope your Xmas will be really good
And that all of you have loads and loads of steaming Xmas pud!
The carrots should be ready for the reindeer to eat
To ensure Santa visits each and every street.
And on the stroke of midnight we'll hear Bianca's Xmas song.
Please be patient it won't last too long
Hang on a minute who is that?

Witch: I'm a Witch!

King: How silly of me to forget
You're the one performing is everything set?

Witch: Have we the microphone?

Stupid & Slow: Yeh.

Witch: Speakers?

Stupid & Slow: Yeh.

Witch: Lights?

Stupid & Slow: Yeh.

Witch: The song?

Stupid & Slow: Yeh.

Witch & Bianca: We're ready!

Stupid & Slow: And It's midnight!

Slow, Stupid, Witch & Bianca: Let's go! The world premiere of the carrot that
will bring Santa to the Bower of Bliss. One-two-three-four!

(Silence).

Witch & Bianca: Slow, Stupid? Where are our instruments?

Stupid & Slow: Instruments? As you know we always succeed on the
second attempt

Slow (currently Stupid): *(Pointing to the WITCH).* Who on earth is that?

Witch: I'm the Witch, Stupid.

Stupid: No, I'm Stupid!

Slow: No I'm Stupid now!

Bianca: Anyway the instruments?

Slow: As we were saying

Stupid & Slow: We always succeed on the second attempt.

Slow: And we have everyone in the Bower of Bliss equipped with their own
personal stereos

(EVERYONE gets one out and puts them on)

Slow: and a tape of your song we recorded secretly while you were rehearsing!
Ready for switch on?

All: Fingers are on buttons!

Stupid & Slow: Here it is the world premiere of the carrot that will bring Santa
to the Bower of Bliss. A one-two-three-four!

(EVERYONE turns their personal stereo on. Over the speakers can be heard the

sound as it would be heard by one not wearing the headphones. SANTA appears on high in a haze of smoke).

All: Look! There's Santa!

Santa: Hello there boys and girls Santa's back in town.

Goodie 6: The carrots have made Santa return!

Bianca & Witch: No Santa must have heard our song!

Goodie 6: How could he have done.... you didn't even perform it!

Stupid & Slow: We sent Santa a tape.

All except Witch & Bianca: The carrots!

Bianca & Witch: Our song!

All except Witch & Bianca: The carrots!

Bianca & Witch: Our song is Santa's carrot!

King: Does it really matter who is right
What's important is that Santa's here tonight!

All: Who's that?

Witch: It's a (wo)man in the audience.

All: Audience! Aaaargh! We'd better sing a song!

Goodie 6: What sort of song?

Little Goodie: A sentimental end of show song Goodie six.

Goodie 6: Without any mention of carrots?

All: Without ANY mention of carrots!

MUSIC No. 15 - SENTIMENTAL END OF SHOW SONG

(During this song SANTA hands out sweets/gifts to CHILDREN in the AUDIENCE)

All: *It's the end of the show we've told you our tale
Shown goodies and baddies uniting.
Now we'll stand as a chorus and sing our last song
Happy endings are always inviting.
Forgive us this cliché but it's good so here goes
Holding candle lights up to the night sky
We will aim for emotions to bring on the tears
We love seeing mums and dads cry.*

*It's the end of the show this is our last song
We'll sing it with undieing feeling*

*There's some "Ah's" for the children to sing in a while
Their beauty should send you all reeling.*

(Ah's in the background).

*We're hoping you've liked all the twists in the story
How everything tied up so neatly
So it's time for the sentimental end of show song
To round off this evening completely.*

Ah

(With Dance. The Ah's continue for the remainder of the song).

Children: *Forgive us this cliché but it's good so here goes*
All: *A solo voice singing so sweetly*
Little Goodie: *Yes, it's time for the sentimental end of show song*
All: *And it rounds off this evening complete completely.*

MUSIC No. 15a - ISN'T IT ABSURD? THIS YEAR'S XMAS [REPRISE]

Goodie 6: *A brand new bouncing story we've bounced into your mind
A senseless one, a stupid one we hope you do not find it
Very boring, two appalling, three; you went to sleep*
All: *Four: there were no swear words so we didn't need a "bleep!".*

Refrain 2

*Wasn't it absurd? The daftest thing you ever heard.
A Musical at Christmas time that wants to be absurd
But you've been good you've remained you've stayed until the end
Even though we tried to drive you right around the bend!*

(Snow from a snow machine falls on the CAST and AUDIENCE).

*Everyone is busy making everything right
Making it festive, making it bright
Wanting this Xmas to beat all the rest
This year's Xmas will be the best!
Stockings hanging by the fireplace
Sherry for Santa should light up his face*

*Mince pies help him make it through the night
And don't forget a carrot for the reindeer to bite.*

*This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
That everyone will recall.
This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
Cos everyone's having a ball.
This year's Xmas will be the Xmas
For someone to fall in love
For them this Xmas will be the Xmas
A fairy tale sent from above.*

MUSIC No. 15b - I'M A CARROTY GUY! [FINAL REPRISE]

All: *(As the CAST leave the stage)*

*We / I've hankered after carrots
This hankering makes us/me cry
We / I've hankered after carrots
For years we've had no supply
Surely they'll be back
Our chewy, crunchy snack
Where did they go?
And why, we / I don't know
Oh oh He's / I'm a carroty*

Goodie 6: *.... Such a carroty*

All: *He's / I'm a carroty guy!*

THE END

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