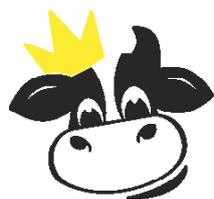




# Robin Hood

by Colin Barrow

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## **THE SCRIPT**

An easy script to work with at almost any venue and stage size. This is not the most common of pantomimes in today's favourites and yet, it delivers all that is expected of a traditional pantomime. So, whether you are working on a tight budget or finances a plenty, this script will give you an equally great production. With carefully selected jokes that fits the script throughout, it gives humour to all age groups. An amusing script that's fun to produce and entertaining to watch.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Robin Hood and his merry men have an encampment in Sherwood Forest. They hear of wealth travelling through the area that fits with their, 'steal from the rich to give to the poor' motto. Except, this is Maid Marian and her sister Maid Molly travelling with guards on their way to visit their uncle, King John. Fortunately, King John and Robin Hood are friends as King John is generous in helping those who are less well off. But, the Sheriff of Nottingham, is quite the opposite to King John and will take, take and take through raising taxes or confiscating goods. The King fears that although he has no taxes to pay, the Sheriff will find a tax to place on the King. So, King John sets about hiding things of value in Sherwood Forest. The Sheriff devises a plan to capture Maid Marian and demand a ransom for her release. But Maid Marian is never captured as Alan A'Dale takes her place pretending to be her and becomes locked in the dungeon instead. Bumsqueak, the Sheriff's sidekick also pretends to be Maid Marian with his cunning plan! With three Maid Marian's and only one of whom is the real one, the Sheriff needs to have his comeuppance; and soon!

**Running Time:-** Two hour's approximately in two acts (*not including the interval*)

## **CHARACTERS**

**King John:** (m)

**Fairy:** (f)

**Alan A'Dale:** - (m/f) A wandering minstrel and one of Robin's merry men

**Will Scarlet:** - (m/f) A Bowman and one of Robin's merry men

**Little John:** - (m/f) A Bowman and one of Robin's merry men

**Friar Tuck:** - (m/f) A monk and one of Robin's merry men

**Robin Hood:** - (f) Principal boy

**Maid Marian:** - (f) Principal girl

**Molly Bendover:**- (m/f) Dame, older sister to Maid Marian

**Sheriff of Nottingham:** - (m) Villain

**Bumsqueak:** - (m/f) Sheriff's sidekick

### **A cameo part**

**Queen/King Mouse:** - (m/f) a small non-speaking part to do a simple dance routine

### **Chorus:**

*(If you have one)* And/or adult/child members wishing to participate

## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

**Casting:-** The casting can be quite flexible to suit your available performers. Although some are best played by a male, it would be quite possible for them to be played by a female if your performer availability dictate to do so.

**Chorus:-** This script can be used with or without a chorus. Where there are chorus speaking lines and you have no chorus, these can be delivered by performers or adult/child members.

**General staging:-** The scenery and lighting can be as simple and easy as you wish, especially if a tight budget and logistics have a strong influence with your production. This also applies to costuming and properties, and still providing a brilliant pantomime. Of course, if budget and logistics dictate otherwise, the skies are the limit!

**Scenes:-** The script is written to use three full stage scenes and two front cloth scenes. These are not set in stone and re-name some scenes if you wish to run more cloths. Likewise, if you are running with limitations the full stage scenes could use the same backdrop of a nondescript mottled effect, then dress each scene where needed to suit its title. The front cloth scenes could be done in front of curtain, or again in front a nondescript mottled effect cloth.

**Set dressing:-** Dressing for the scenes is entirely up to you and the stage space available. It will also depend on what type of backdrops you are using too. For those working with no chorus will have more stage space available to dress.

**Misc:-** Additional jokes can be slotted in where or if you feel they are required to your choosing.

## MUSIC AND DANCE

**Song/dance numbers:-** The script is written to allow the *maximum time* of ***one minute to one and a half minutes*** for each song or dance routine. In each case, choosing and ending to give a natural finish. These can be shorter but watch if too many run longer as this could alter the pantomime's whole running time.

*Not all character song slots need to be used.* They are there as ideal spots if you wish to use them. This helps those cast who do not feel comfortable singing to opt out. Additional songs can be added at your own discretion if you feel the need to do so.

You do not need to use all the slots allocated for chorus song/dance numbers, especially if your chorus numbers are very low. Select, the slots most suitable to your chorus.

If you are working without a chorus and not using the song/dance slots allocated. You can add an extra cast member song or two or lengthen the other cast songs allocated slightly to make up the time.

All song/dance numbers are to your own choice. This allows the cast who are involved to select something that's comfortable for them.

**Song/dance not with time restrictions:-** The opening number, Principle boy and girl duet, the community song and finale song can take their own natural time length as they are important numbers. By keeping to these parameters, the production will run at a good pace; and be fresh and entertaining to your audience.

**DISCLAIMER:- The performing licence of this script does NOT include permissions, licences or royalties of ANY music/songs used with the staging of this script.**

For **ALL** music and song selected to stage this script, any royalties, licenses or permission has to be obtained by **YOU** the group, club or company according to the music performing rights laws. **These include ALL parody suggestion given with-in the script.**

*(The majority of premises are registered and you **must** contact to make sure the music/song selections used comply with the licence held by the premises. Do this prior or at the start of rehearsal to avoid complications near, or on the production dates.)*

## **CHARACTER GUIDELINES**

The type and the amount of costume changes are entirely at your own discretion. In general, the character names give rise to their types of costumes.

*Friar, Alan, Will, John and Bumsqueak can be played by male's, or female's acting the parts as males. These are all played with different levels of comedy.*

**KING JOHN:** Best acted by a male. Regal in costume and wears a crown. Quite a comedy part.

**FAIRY:** Best acted by a female. The usual fairy type character but has moments of comedy throughout.

**ALAN A'DALE:** A wandering minstrel and one of Robin's merry men. Has a flamboyant costuming that stands out from the other characters. Always seen with a stringed instrument (*unless otherwise stated in the script*) of your availability and choice. In some scenes the character wears a dress and poses as Maid Marian. The dress/dresses used must be identical to those worn by Bumsqueak also pretending to be Maid Marian. These dresses **do not** need to be identical as those worn by Maid Marian. The use of wigs, head dresses, etc, are to your own visions to complete the look.

**FRIAR TUCK:** A monk that appears to be the camp's cook and one of Robin's merry men. Wears a robe and sandals. Played as a very rotund character with rosy cheeks and the usual stereotype bald head and hair.

**LITTLE JOHN:** One of Robin's merry men, a bowman. Costume to how you see the character.

**WILL SCARLET:** One of Robin's merry men, a bowman. As the name suggests, his costume would predominately be on tones of red.

**ROBIN HOOD:** Principal boy and played by a female. Costume to your own visions.

**MAID MARIAN:** Principal girl and played by a female. Wears medieval style female costuming.

**MOLLY BENDOVER:** Dame and Maid Marian's older sister. The usual Dame character and costuming to fit.

**SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM:** Villain and best played by a male. Costume to your own ideas and discretion. For one scene he is costumed in regal Kings type clothing. He can have a staff to give a more powerful stance or a whip/riding crop.

**BUMSQUEAK:** The Sheriff's sidekick. Costume to your own visions. In some scenes he wears a dress and poses as Maid Marian. The dress/dresses used must be identical to those worn by Alan A'Dale also pretending to be Maid Marian. These dresses **do not** need to be identical as those worn by Maid Marian. The use of wigs, head dresses, etc, are to your own visions.

### **Cameo part**

**THE QUEEN/KING MOUSE:** Nonspeaking. This can be anyone who has some level of dancing ability to close the scene. The dancing can be as simple as you wish. If you have a chorus, you may wish that one can play this part. Costumed in white with a crown is ideal. *(There is also opportunity for chorus members to join the Queen in her dance if that suits your needs as white mice)*

**CHORUS:** *(if you have one)* **And/or adult/child members wishing to participate**

## **SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**

### **ACT ONE**

**Scene one**... The Forest (full stage)

**Scene two**...A Woodland Glade (front cloth)

**Scene three**...The Forest (full stage)

**Scene four**...At The Sheriff's Castle (front cloth)

**Scene five**...Inside The Sheriff's Castle (full stage)

### **ACT TWO**

**Scene one**...The Castle Dungeons (full stage)

**Scene two**...At The Sheriff's Castle (front cloth)

**Scene three**...Inside The Sheriff's Castle (full stage)

**Scene four**...A Woodland Glade (front cloth)

**Scene five**...The Forest (full stage)

## **ACT ONE**

### **SCENE ONE**

#### **THE FOREST (Full stage)**

***The stage is dressed for Robin's encampment in the forest. Set is a fire with a cooking pot. The fire glows softly by an electric light.***

***The scene opens with cast and/or chorus to sing/dance opening number. If the cast is used, they exit after the number. Set King up stage so she can exit first if the cast is used for the opening number. All chorus remain on stage.***

#### **Opening number.-**

***King enters stage right and crosses the stage in a panic! He carries as much valuables as possible.***

**King:** The Sheriff of Nottingham is about! The Sheriff of Nottingham is about! I must hide these before he takes them instead of my money for taxes. I don't have any taxes to pay, but like all tax collectors, they invent tax on something so they can have jolly ups on my money! **(Exiting stage left)** The Sheriff of Nottingham is about!

***Fairy enters stage right. During the Fairy narrative, Little John, Will Scarlet and Friar Tuck enter. Friar goes to the pot and stirs the contents, whilst John and Will tend to bows, arrows, etc.***

**Fairy:** A brave young outlaw,  
who stole from the rich and gave to the poor.  
Worked hard and tireless, to show the Sheriff, the door  
To help the King, he fought well,  
then was caught, and placed, where all is not well.  
Locked in the dungeon, no prospect of bail,  
this could be the end, of our story, to tell.  
But fear not my friends, he won't surrender,  
nor remain locked up, as an offender.  
He will break free, from this dungeon  
after all, it'll be soon time, for luncheon! **(Exits right)**

**Alan A'Dale enters in a rush**

**Alan:** The Sheriff's guards are coming! The Sheriffs guards are coming!

**They go into panic not knowing what to do or where to go. Alan stands stage centre just watching the mayhem in awe. Friar picks up a bucket that has some water in it from the wings.**

**Friar:** **(running around the stage with the bucket)** I got to put the fire out! I got to put the fire out!

**At this point Will is near the fire and Friar throws some water missing the fire and hitting Will in the face.**

**Will:** You great lummoX, Friar. **(Points)** That's the fire, not me! **(Not moving and brushing the water off himself)**

**John grabs the bucket from the Friar and Friar runs across the stage.**

**John:** **(running around the stage with the bucket)** The guards will see the smoke! The guards will see the smoke! **(Throws the water at Will hitting him in face and missing the fire)**

**Will:** You great banana brain, John. **(Points and jumping up and down with rage)** That's the fire, not me!

**Alan:** Me thinks John not happy. Me thinks John needs cooling down. Me thinks...

**Friar cutting in and grabs the bucket nudging Alan away**  
**Friar:** Me thinks you should shut your trap. **(Runs around with the bucket)** I got to cool him down! I to cool him down! **(Does a false trip, misses the fire and John; throws the water off stage)** Ooer! **(Backing away)** Me thinks I've just dampened a guard down!

**Alan:** **(looking toward where Friar threw the water)** Me thinks, you've hit Robin Hood!

**Robin enters wiping his face. The fire begins to lose its glow**

**Robin:** Who done that?

**Friar:** **(passing the bucket to John)** Not me.

**John:** **(quickly passing the bucket to Will)** Not me!

**Will:** **(quickly passing the bucket to Alan)** Not me!

**Alan not knowing who to pass the bucket too stands innocently and looks at Robin.**

**Alan:** Oh hello, Robin. **(Offering the bucket)** Would you like a bucket? It's only had one careful owner - and it belongs to Friar Tuck. **(Passes the bucket to Friar)**

**Friar:** **(passing the bucket to John)** It belongs to Little John

**John:** **(passing the bucket to Will)** It belongs to Will Scarlet.

**Will:** **(holds the bucket and blows his cheeks out)** I've heard of pass the buck, but never pass the bucket! Still, I suppose I can tick receiving this pail off my bucket list! **(Passes the bucket off stage)**

**Robin:** **(to audience)** It's times like these I wish I worked solo. **(Glances at the fire)** Your fire is going out Friar! Do something about it?

**Friar:** Oh, heck. The stew will be going off the boil! I'll need to blow at the flames. **(Runs to the fire, faces his backside to it and lifting his robe)**

**All:** **(alarmed)** No Friar Tuck! That's not the way to get the fire going again!

**Friar:** **(returning disgruntled)** Please yourselves, but don't blame me if it's under cooked and cold.

**Alan:** What's new? Its always like that!

**Robin:** Well men, it is nice to be back into the safety of our camp here in Sherwood Forest. Because from here we...

***The following lines can be dispersed between the merry men if you have no chorus***

**1<sup>st</sup>:** We rob the rich!

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** We give to the poor!

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** We eat well!

**4<sup>th</sup>:** We drink plenty!

**5<sup>th</sup>:** And we don't change our underpants until we're given a new pair for Christmas!

**1<sup>st</sup>:** We have trouble in our green and pleasant land.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** The nastiest man with a devilish hand.

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** No good, not kind, not nice at all.

**4<sup>th</sup>:** A horrible man that takes from all.

**5<sup>th</sup>:** He has a face like rotting ham.

**All:** It's the Sheriff of Nottingham!

**Robin:** And it's the Sheriff that worries me now. There's great value heading this way.

**Friar:** Why is that Robin? Is there a delivery of ..... (***name of sweets***) coming our way?

**Robin:** No.

**Will:** Is it gems stones and gold?

**Robin:** No.

**John:** Are we all getting a new mobile phone each?

**Robin:** No.

**Alan:** Am I going to get a new instrument to play with?

**Robin:** No.

**All:** Then what is it?

**Robin:** It's the fairest maiden you have ever seen. Pretty, she is more than that. Beautiful, she is more than that. Absolutely gorgeous, she's more than that too.

**All:** Here we go again. Robin is falling in love with a girl. And you know what that means?

**Alan:** I got to strum my instrument and play a tune whilst looking the other way. So he and she can play a tune together!

**Robin:** When love strikes, it's like a powerful disease. And we men tend to get it very badly.

**Alan:** I wish I could get it badly. But all those I find appetising always look the other way and give me the heave ho!

**All:** **(except Alan)** Never mind Alan, one day someone will love you and give your heart a right good happy feeling!

**Song:-**

**Will:** There is one little problem, Robin. This fair maiden may not like you, let alone love you!

**Robin:** Then there are two little problems with this fair maiden that approaches. She travels with boxes, cases, and chests. All of which I suspect are full of very valuable things.

**Friar:** Now there's a dilemma. Robin is in love with the fair maiden, but she is perhaps rich. And we steal from the rich to give to the poor.

**John:** Does this fair maiden travel alone?

**Robin:** She travels with guards and an old woman.

**All:** **(except Robin)** Three little problems with this fair maiden!

**Will:** Couldn't we pounce on the guards and return to two little problems?

**Alan:** Speaking for myself, I don't mind pouncing on a guard - or even two!

**Friar:** I'll belly flop onto the old woman?

**Robin:** Let's get rid of the guards and the old woman and then play it all by ear.

**Alan:** I always play it by ear.

**All:** **(exiting except Alan)** We know; and sometimes it's like a cat in pain crying!

**Alan:** That's because some compose their music, whereas I decompose it!

**Song:-** ***Alan sings verse of something funny and sung badly. If the instrument has strings, some can be played randomly not fitting the music. On the second verse he exits singing.***

***King enters rapidly with several empty boxes that contained quantities of sweet packets/chocolate.***

**King:** I must hide my midnight tuck shop. The Sheriff's got a sweet tooth and will take these without even asking. Now, I had a lollipop joke to tell you and forgot it. And the lollipop was on the tip of my tongue too! Oh well, never mind. I tell you this one instead. The wife accused me of stealing her Kit Kat's! I said to Queenie, "give me a break!"

***Sounds of shouting from Molly off stage***

**King:** Here comes trouble I have no doubt. **(Exiting)** I got to hide my tuck shop!

***Molly enters on some form of wheeled transport, circles the stage, and falls over. Getting up she adjusts her padding, clothing and hair.***

**Molly:** Well, really. **(Shouts off)** I was told the brakes were fixed on this thing.

**Voice off:** They've been fixed not to work!

**Molly:** **(pushing the transport off into the wings)** I'll fix you in a minute, so you won't work! **(To Audience)** Hello boys and girls, my name is Molly Bendover. **(Does the actions)** I bend over forwards; I bend over backwards and I bend over sideways. **(Puffs out)** There, that's my keep fit done for the day! I'm the sister of Maid Marian and we are the nieces to King John. And I hear there's a lot of rough, hairy, strong, manly men about. But I'm not worried 'cause I'm wearing my hand grenade dress. Just pull out the pin and its every man for himself! But my delicate sister Marian, there's no knowing what they might do to her. And I hear there's an outlaw around these parts called Robin Hood. So, I think I need to keep my beady eye about and get one foot into the camp of this outlaw. **(plump herself up)** Now, I think we could have a bit of a secret code going on between us. So, when I say, "Boom Boom Boom" you wave your arms in the air and let me hear you say 'way -ooh' **(Do business)**

**Song:-**

**Fairy enters right sobbing, she carries a broken wand.**

**Fairy:** Oh dear! Oh dear! Oh dear!

**Molly:** What is it dear, is your stick broken?

**Fairy:** **(offended)** This is not a stick...it's a wand! And it's broken in two **(showing)** look?

**Molly:** Well, look on the bright side. You have a small stick with a star and a small stick without a star!

**Fairy:** Are you stupid or something?

**Molly:** I'm just the something! So, who are you?

**Fairy:** **(still sniffing)** I'm a - a fairy?

**Molly:** We had one of those. We stuck her on top of the Christmas tree and had a red tree light up her skirt.

**Fairy:** Why?

**Molly:** Because the people next door did a cheap option and just cut the bottom off a washing up liquid bottle and stuck that on the tree for a 'fairy!' Apparently, they said it will last twice as long as the next top seller!

**Fairy:** But without my wand I have no power.

**Molly:** If I don't eat eggs, pickled onions and beans I got no power either! So, are you a woodland Fairy then?

**Fairy:** I suppose I am. You see I'm cleverer than a Pixie, less naughty than a leprechaun, better looking than elf, less sexy than a nymph and better looking than a sprite!

**Molly:** What's Sprite?

**Fairy:** It's lemonade in disguise! **(Looking at the wand)** But what am I going to do about my wand?

**Molly:** Some would say where to put it! But my suggestion would be to see if a carpenter can fix it. I'm sure there is one in Nottingham.

**Fairy:** Perfect, that's what I'll do. Because I must be ready with my wand to bring magic when trouble strikes. **(Exits right)**

**Molly:** Seems it's not just strange men to be wary of in these parts. There's a few other odd folk here too! **(Goes to the pot and sniffs)** Poo! Smells like ..... **(local person or celebrity)** stinky old boiling socks! And that gives me an idea. I'll get something to eat and bring it to the those that live in this camp. That will be a sure way to get one foot into this band of outlaws and keep an eye on my sister at the same time. **(Exits)**

**King enters with toilet rolls, one or two are unravelling.**

**King:** I must prepare for emergencies. As they say, 'life is like a toilet roll. The closer you get to the end, the faster it goes!' And you all know why the toilet paper couldn't cross the road, don't you? It got stuck in the crack! I suppose I could leave sandpaper on a toilet roll for the Sheriff to pinch. At least that will wipe the smile off his face! Right, I must go and stash this away for our usage as the alternative is a roll of gaffa tape! **(Exiting)** And I don't fancy an all-in-one wipe and wax!

**Will, Alan, John, Friar, Robin and Marian enter. Two lead on Marian who is protesting**

**Marian:** Unhand me. Let me go, you brutes. **(Breaking free)** Wait till my Father finds out, he'll feed you to the crows.

**All:** Not the crows!

**Marian:** **(with vengeance)** Yes, crows.

**All:** Lets hope the crows stick together and become velcro's!

**Friar:** This Fair Maiden is feisty like a wild cat with belly ache.

**Marian:** **(to Friar)** Get out of my way you great lump. **(Goes to slap Friar who ducks down and hits Will instead. Will staggers and falls over)** You lot couldn't knock the skin off a rice pudding! **(Moves to exit)**

**Robin enters and stops the exit of Marian. Their eyes meet.**

**Robin:** **(bringing Marian stage centre)** I apologise for my men, they are not used to seeing one of such beauty. I do hope you have not been hurt?

**Marian:** **(more genial)** I'm made of strong stuff and can fend for myself. **(Indicates the merry men)** What did this lot do?

**Alan:** I went to ballet school. **(Pirouettes around)**

**W & J:** We did ballroom dancing. **(Starts waltzing around the stage)**

**Friar:** I did tap dancing and fell into the sink bum first! **(Tap dances)**

**Robin:** And the plug hasn't been seen since! **(Shouts)** Will you lot stand still and stop looking bigger pratts than you already are? **(Introducing himself)** I'm Robin Hood. **(Holds out his hand)**

**Marian:** **(takes his hand)** I'm Maid Marian. My sister and I are travelling North.

**Alan:** **(un-pleased)** Oh, don't tell me there is another like you?

**Marian:** My older sister Molly.

**Will:** If she looks anything like you, I'm interested!

**John:** Where is this sister of yours?

**Marian:** I'm not sure. She tends to do her own thing and wander off from time to time.

**Friar:** And what happened to that old woman who travels with you?

**Marian:** **(puzzled)** Old woman? **(Realising)** Oh, you mean my sister!

**All:** **(except Marian)** That's your sister?

**Will:** I retract my earlier eagerness and I'm now not interested!

**Alan:** **(shudders)** To think I may have leapt on your sister if she hadn't gone walk-about. **(Proudly)** At least the guard I brought to the ground seem to enjoy it as he gave me his card. **(Reads it)** Justin Time. Specialist in personal services. Twenty-four-hour service, swiftly and with style. **(Tucks it away)** I can see a good tune being played there!

**Robin:** You say your name is Maid Marian. But who are you exactly?

**Marian:** We are the Bendover sisters. Our father owns Bendover castle, and we are King John's nieces.

**Robin:** King John and I are friends. Please, will you have some food with us?

**Marian:** I'd love to, I'm starving. What's on the menu?

**Friar:** Purloined steak.

**Marian:** Don't you mean sirloin steak?

**John:** No - it's purloined - we nicked it!

**Molly and chorus enter. Molly has a basket on her arm containing slices of stage prop fruit cake.**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom.

**Audience reaction.**

**Molly:** I've been to the bakery and got some heavy cake for you.

***Molly passes one slice of cake to Will, who drops it with a heavy thud near Molly's foot.***

**Molly:** Be careful you great oaf, that nearly damaged my dainty little pinkies.

***Molly passes a piece of cake to John, who staggers about with the weight and drops it. She offers a piece to Robin and with both hands he lifts it out of the basket with effort. With a sudden heave he lifts the cake out and bops Friar on the head who is looking on closely. Friar falls over.***

**Molly:** **(to Friar)** What are you doing down there?

**Friar:** Making sure gravity still works. **(Wriggling and trying to get up)**

**All:** And does it?

**Friar:** I reckon so. **(Struggling)** As it won't let me get up again!

***Two help Friar to his feet as Molly offers a piece of cake to Alan.***

**Molly:** How about you?

***Alan takes the cake with all watching. Just as he is about to take a big bite, he makes out he's seen something and gasps pointing. All look to see what it is, Alan throws the cake off. As they look back again at Alan, he is chomping and wiping his mouth with his hand.***

**Alan:** A perfectly baked perfection!

**John:** If you don't mind me saying, you don't look like sisters.

**Molly:** That's easily explained. Me being the oldest, took all the good looks; my sister being the younger had to have what was left!

**Marian:** What my sister, Molly, means. By looking less expensive ...

**Molly:** **(quickly interrupting)** Cheap!

**Marian:** ... we keep a lower profile and less likely to be spotted by the Sheriff of Nottingham or his guards.

**Robin:** **(to Marian)** But you are not dressed cheap?

**Marian:** My sister was referring to herself dressed very bargain basement. However, I'm clothed more refined by not overdoing it.

**Molly:** **(laughs lightly)** She always says that believing she's prettier than me.

**All:** **(not Molly or Marian)** Marian is much prettier.

**Molly:** **(unamused)** So that is what you think, eh? Well, if the Sheriff hears of our visit, he will demand taxes are paid and pinch our belongings. **(More proud)** At least he'll pinch next to nothing from me as it seems I am cheap!

**Robin:** You'll get no argument from me. However, I suggest you both stay with us in safety whilst we come up with a plan. What do you say chaps?

**All:** Aye!

**Song:-**

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE TWO**

### **A WOODLAND GLADE (front cloth)**

***The Sheriff enters stage left on a child's hobby horse. He has a riding crop; on the end of it there's a piece of candy rope/licuorice rope attached. Following is Bumsqueak with two coconut halves making the sounds of horse's hooves. The coconut halves are joined by a string and around Bumsqueak's neck. They either circle the stage front or cross over and back depending on space. Sheriff stops and Bumsqueak does another lap/crossing with the Sheriff looking on.***

**Sheriff:** ***(stopping Bumsqueak)*** Oi! Bumsqueak! I've stopped.

***Bumsqueak comes to the front of the horse and holds it whilst the Sheriff dismounts by passing his leg over the stick.***

**Sheriff:** Give Henry some hay and oats, Bumsqueak, there's a good fellow?

***Bumsqueak exits stage left with the hobby horse.***

**Sheriff:** ***(sniffs)*** I can smell tax dodgers. ***(Looks out to the audience)*** Aha, I knew I could smell you. I have a nose to sniff out those who have not paid me money. It's time to show some authority around here, show who's boss. No one journeys through here without paying for it. Robin Hood and his band of hooligans try to oppose my authority, but I'll teach them a lesson. Oh yes I will! ***(Audience participation)*** And what is more, I have a feeling in my bones that this outlaw, this Robin Hood, is wishing to bring more trouble to my door. I will not have it; I will not allow it. I shall show the people of Nottingham what happens to those who defy me! I shall increase the the reward to fifty gold pieces on the heads of outlaws and a hundred gold pieces on the head of Robin Hood. ***(Laughs menacingly)*** How wonderful it is to mighty and powerful with everyone hating my very existence.

**Song:-**

**Bumsqueak enters stage left with the coconut halves.**

**Sheriff:** Ah, there you are, Bumsqueak. What news have you regarding these two women who are passing through?

**Squeak:** The guards that travelled to protect them were knocked to the ground and we now have them in prison. But the two sisters escaped and have vanished into thin air.

**Sheriff:** Vanished my eye. I wager my Sunday best underpants that they are with Robin Hood and his outlaws.

**Squeak:** But Master. You have no Sunday best underpants as you lost them on the horse that couldn't lose that came in last!  
**(Looks away)**

**Sheriff:** And now my silk underpants with hot lips printed all over them are filtering someone else's bumsqueaks!

**Squeak:** **(turns to face Sheriff)** You called my name, Master?

**Sheriff:** I call you all sorts of names, most I can't repeat in public! Now, where were we?

**Squeak:** Well, **(Moves Sheriff)** You were there like that **(Returns to how he was)** I was here like this. And we are both here at ..... **(production venue)**

**Sheriff:** **(bops Bumsqueak)** You blithering idiot! **(Waving the riding crop at him)** I'll give you this in a minute!

**Squeak:** Actually, I'm a bit hungry, I'll have it now. **(Takes a bit of the candy/liquorice rope end and eats it with overstated chomping)**

**Sheriff:** **(looks at the end of the crop)** You've eaten the end of it! And it was only ten minutes ago I was poking the dung heap with it disturbing all the flies.

**Bumsqueak suddenly stops chomping, feels sick puts coconut halve to his mouth and runs off stage.**

**Sheriff:** That will stop him eating the end off my authority!

**Bumsqueak re-enters moaning without the coconut halves.**

**Sheriff:** Stop your wailing? Now, I do hope nothing has happened to those two sisters? Especially Maid Marian.

**Squeak:** *(dreamlike)* Yeah, especially Maid Marian!

**Sheriff:** *(tapping Bumsqueaks bottom with the riding crop)* That's enough of that sappy stuff. I only want Maid Marian to deliver a pernicious plot.

**Squeak:** *(puzzled)* Oh! Is that like the stinky stuff, 'hold de toilet'?

**Sheriff:** *(taps him with riding crop)* No it's not! Pernicious - I plan to capture Maid Marian and send a letter of monetary demands to her father whilst pretending to be Robin Hood.

**Squeak:** Oh, I see. Maid Marian's father is pretending to be Robin Hood!

**Sheriff:** You are a twit! I will pretend to be Robin Hood and that I have captured Maid Marian. I shall demand a ransom and that she will not be released until I have been paid.

**Squeak:** What about her sister, Molly?

**Sheriff:** No one would pay a ransom for her. Anyone would be glad to get rid of that one. Do you know, she even gave her father food poisoning?

**Squeak:** It was better than paying for it!

**Sheriff:** The doctor said that he was suffering from a 'culinary squittage.'

**Squeak:** That's better than a culinary blockage! Because that's like a chicken laying an Ostrich egg making the eye's bulge out!

**Sheriff:** No pain, no gain! Right! Let's go and begin to make plans.  
**(Taps Bumsqueak repeatedly off stage left with the riding crop)**

**King enters stage right with some rolled up floor carpet/rug.**

**King:** I've told Walter Wall carpeting that I've removed the more valuable ones. Don't want the Sheriff getting his hand on these - or his feet. I've left the mouse mat for Mickey to sleep on! But do you know what really surprised me? Under the carpet was a Mexican! He kept shouting **(exiting stage left)** underlay, underlay! Underlay, underlay!

**Robin and Marian enter stage right.**

**Robin:** Word has reach me that the Sheriff knows that you and your sister are here.

**Marian:** Oh, lummy. That is the last thing I wanted to hear.

**Robin:** But worry not, Maid Marian. I have a plan and my men will help.

**Marian:** They're a rather odd bunch, aren't they?

**Robin:** That's what makes them outlaws.

**Marian:** Why do you call Little John, little?

**Robin:** That's a bit personal.

**Marian:** Why is Will Scarlet, Scarlet?

**Robin:** That's personal too as they say he's hot stuff.

**Marian:** And is Friar Tuck's name also personal?

**Robin:** He was thrown out of the monastery for skinny dipping in the moat. Apparently the other monks kept shouting, "Friar, wear something and tuck it in!" Hence his name, Friar Tuck!

**Marian:** Dare I ask about Alan A'Dale?

**Robin:** Oh, he's just a wandering Minstrel.

**Marian:** A sort of Humbug?

**Robin:** More of a Dolly Mixture I'd say!

**Marian:** And then we have you, Robin Hood. A well-known outlaw who steals from the rich and gives to the poor. That makes me wonder, are you going to steal from me?

**Robin:** I might steal a kiss.

**Marian:** But not my money?

**Robin:** Not your money. You see, there is a boundary, a rule to whom I steal from. There are people like yourself and your family, that includes King John by the way. Who are rich and help the poor handsomely without question. **(With some resentment)** Then we have the rich, who gives nothing to the poor. Those are the greedy rich, the rich that just wish to get richer, like the Sheriff of Nottingham.

**Marian:** That's all right then. Only, if we are going to become closer, I couldn't allow myself to do so if you had plans to steal my wealth.

**Robin:** You wish for us to become close, do you?

**Marian:** I wouldn't mind. What are your feelings?

**Robin:** If you're asking, "is it love that I feel?" I do believe it is.

**Marian:** That's good. Because that's what I feel too. And my mother always said, "it only takes one sip to know if it's a good bottle!"

***They kiss.***

**Robin:** And the verdict is, what?

**Marian:** You're a good bottle!

***They laugh***

**Song:-**

**Marian:** And what is this plan, to keep us away from the Sheriff?

**Robin:** The biggest part, is still in the making and will probably develop by, 'playing it by ear', as it were. But the first part is simple, and I shall need the assistance of Alan A'Dale.

**Marian:** The Wandering Minstrel?

**Robin:** He will be perfect for the task ahead. ***(Leading Marian off)***  
Come, we must act sooner rather than later.

***They both exit as the lights fade.***

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE THREE**

### **THE FOREST (full stage)**

***The scene can open with a chorus number if wished. All remain on stage after the number.***

***King enters stage right with large empty picture frame.***

**King:** I think I saw Bumsqueak near my Castle doing a bit of surveying. So, I thought I had better hide this valuable work of art. **(Looks through the frame)** I don't want to be caught with this, or I'll be framed! I expect I look much more in shape and athletic through this. And I'll tell you why; it's because of the paint thinner! Well, I can't stop here making you laugh and being an art-tickle. **(Exiting stage left)** If I'm not careful someone else might come into the picture.

***Fairy enters stage right with a repaired wand that bends in the middle.***

**Fairy:** As predicted, love begins to blossom. And so far all is well. But as you heard, the Sheriff is after money. And he will go to any lengths to get his hands on it too! He tried to make me pay once, apparently, I owed him a Fairy Tax. He said, when I turned Cinderella's coach from a pumpkin to a golden coach, it had become a long-term capital gain. And that meant there was a tax to pay. Fortunately, I had an accountant called Iva Loophole and he magically made the tax bill disappear. But as you can see, poor King John is getting so worked up and hiding all his valuables away from the Sheriff. **(Chuckles)** But the King will have to keep his mouth shut, as he got a gold crown in there! Well, I've had my wand fixed, look. **(She moves her hand so the wand droops looking at it and sighs)** I bet Harry Potter never had a droopy wand! If only there was medication that would bring a wand back to life! Oh well, I'm sure it will still do the trick, when I cast my spells.

**Song:-**

**The chorus can join in with a choreographed dance as fairy sings. All exit after the song.**

**Molly, enters. She has a parcel with her. In the parcel (a wrapped box) is a loose biscuit box containing broken crockery**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom.

**Audience reaction**

**John enters.**

**John:** What have you there, Molly?

**Molly:** It's a present I must post. It's a twenty-one-piece china set.

**John:** I wouldn't send it through the post. Because I'll show you what happens. First, the postman drops it into the sack **(Takes the parcel from Molly and drops it)** Then he throws it back over his shoulder. **(Picks up the parcel and throws over his shoulder)** Then at the sorting office they will stamp it like this. **(Kicks the parcel about)** Then they will pick it up and throw it into another sack. **(Picks up the parcel and throws it to the stage side as Will enters and catches it)**

**Will:** Hello, what's this then? **(Gives the parcel a shake)**

**Molly:** A forty-eight-piece china set for a present. I thought that maybe after some consideration that I'd send it by airmail.

**Will:** Oh, I wouldn't do that. That's just asking for trouble.

**M & J:** Is it?

**Will:** Yes, look I'll show you. Firstly, the luggage man will throw it onto the plane like this. **(Throws the parcel across the stage)** Then the plane hit bad weather and turbulence **(picks up the parcel)** and shake your parcel about like this. **(Vigorously shakes the parcel)** Then at the other end, the luggage man with throw it **(throws to Molly)** onto the

conveyor belt. And that could mean a cup might get chipped and you wouldn't want that, would you?

**Molly:** No, I wouldn't want a cup to be chipped.

**Friar enters.**

**Friar:** Hello, what's going on here?

**Molly:** I got a present and thought maybe I'd send it by boat.

**Friar:** What is it?

**Molly:** **(shakes the parcel)** It's a ninety-six-piece china set.

**Friar:** Oh my, my. You can't send a parcel by boat.

**Molly:** I don't know why, but I'm sure you're going to show me.

**Friar:** **(takes the parcel)** This is what happens. The man on the dockside throws the parcel to the man on the boat and he misses, and it hits the deck like this. **(Throws the parcel)** Then he picks up the parcel **(pick it up)** and drops into the hold like this. **(Drops the parcel in front of him)** But the parcel lands on the man's head that's in the hold and he's not very pleased. So, he kicks it out of the way in temper. **(Kicks the parcel across the stage)** Then when the boat arrives at the other end, **(picks up the parcel)** the parcel is thrown off the boat like this and lands on the dockside. **(Throws the parcel)** Then the man on the dockside picks up the parcel and throws it onto the waiting truck like this. **(Throws the parcel to the stage side and King enters with a box that contains a biscuit box and some broken china)**

**King drops his box and catches the parcel being thrown by the Friar.**

**King:** What's this?

- Molly:** **(goes up to the King)** Hello, Uncle John. It's a present from my father of a family heirloom that he wished to be delivered to you.
- King:** How exciting. What is it?
- Molly:** **(takes the parcel and shakes it)** A seven-hundred-piece china set! What's in your parcel?
- King:** **(picks up his parcel)** It's a very valuable little cherub.  
**(Shakes the parcel)**
- Friar:** I think a little bit has broken off and is now a very valuable little angel!
- John:** Are you off to get your little cherub – err now an angel valued?
- King:** No. I'm hiding it so the Sheriff won't tax my little cherub with the little bit broken off.
- Will:** I shouldn't worry, your Majesty. I expect the little bit is small enough to be exempt from any tax.
- Molly:** **(placing her parcel on top of the Kings)** There you are, I decided to deliver this by hand instead of any courier services. And we're exempt from washing it up too!
- King:** **(crossing the stage to exit)** Thank my brother – your father enormously for the set of china. I shall hide it away from the Sheriff. But I fear I may have to send it to the repair shop to stick my little cherubs broken bit back on **(Exits)**
- All:** **(calling after the King)** Don't send it by ..... **(a courier service.)** They will just leave it on the doorstep to get knicked!
- Molly:** So, Friar Tuck, have you always overseen the cooking?
- Friar:** Not at all. I went to the job centre and said that I wish to be outstanding in my field. They gave me a job as a scarecrow! That's when I met Robin and joined his merry men.

**Will:** Have you ever been in love, Molly?

**Molly:** It's a hobby of mine and I try to enjoy a bit each week. But you know what hobbies are like? They are very off and on. And my hobby tends to more off than on.

**John:** That sounds familiar as my last girlfriend didn't last. Nice girl too, she was called Miss Much.

**Molly:** Didn't Miss Much love you?

**John:** Greatly, but it was her father that disapproved and threw me out of the bedroom window!

**Will:** I went out with her twin sister. She was called Miss Much too.

**Molly:** And what happened?

**Will:** She didn't miss much either and was much the same as her sister. **(Sniggers)** I landed on top of John when I was thrown out of the window!

**Friar:** Landing in a thorny bush was a recipe for disaster! It took me days to remove all those thorns. I didn't mind as I got a strong stomach; but I couldn't face cooking anything that resembled sausages for a few weeks!

**Alan enters.**

**Alan:** Where's Robin? He said he wanted to see me regarding a plan.

**John:** He's with Marian at the kissing gate down by the lake.

**Alan:** What are they doing down there?

**All:** Kissing!

**Alan:** Then I hope he doesn't kiss her nose because that smells!

***Robin and Marian enter with Chorus***

**Robin:** Here you all are; good. Alan A'Dale, I need your help to pull a very important plan off.

**Alan:** ***(proudly)*** I'm always willing, able and a teensy-weensy bit excited when asked to pull something off!

**Robin:** I need you to disguise yourself as Maid Marian.

**Alan:** ***(unimpressed)*** You want me to wear a Harvest dress where everything is safely gathered in?

**Robin:** Wear what you like as long as you look good enough to be Marian.

**Alan:** But if I'm seen in a dress, people will talk!

**All:** They already do!

**Alan:** Why do you want me to do this?

**Marian:** The Sheriff has plans to capture me and get my father to pay a ransom with added tax. So, if he captures you instead, Robin will come up with a plan before the Sheriff realises it's you and not me. That way you won't receive a hurt that's worse than death.

**Alan:** What sort of hurt will I get if the plan fails?

***All in unison with a sword movement and makes a swishing sound.***

**Friar:** And what comes off will make a good gravy!

**Molly:** And that will save going on a diet to lose weight!

**All:** You will be elevated to be top man in Robin Hood's band of men riding through the glen!

**Song:-**

**All exit after the song**

**Sheriff and Bumsqueak enter stage left**

**Sheriff:** This is where my plan will start to take action.

**Squeak:** What is this place?

**Sheriff:** It's where Robin Hood and his outlaws hang out. Now, listen very carefully, I shall say this only once. I want you to pretend to be Maid Marian.

**Squeak:** **(takes a step back with shock)** What did you say?

**Sheriff:** I said, "I want you to pretend to be Maid Marian."

**Squeak:** But I look nothing like her!

**Sheriff:** A wig, a bit of make-up and a dress no one will notice the difference. Especially Robin Hood.

**Squeak:** It's the "especially Robin Hood" that worries me. I mean, what did he made Marian do?

**Sheriff:** I don't believe he made her do anything. She does it voluntary without question! **(Soothingly)** And what's there to worry about?

**Squeak:** A heck of a lot if Robin thinks I'm Marian and takes me to a quiet place for a little tete-a-tete! **(Takes a step or two away then turns back)** And whilst I'm pretending to be a reject from the dolly factory, what will you be doing?

**Sheriff:** I will have the real Maid Marian captured so I can pretend to be Robin Hood and send her father a ransom demand for her release. The real Robin Hood will be none the wiser as you and he will be making eyes at each other at a romantic spot in the forest. Then, when the ransom is paid, I'll let Maid Marian go and you return to my Castle as Bumsqueak. Robin Hood will get the blame for the capture and the ransom of Maid Marian then be sent to prison.

**Squeak:** And what if it goes wrong?

**Sheriff:** As long as you do all the things your mother told you not to do, what is there to go wrong?

**Squeak:** How long have you got for me to tell you?

**Sheriff:** Three seconds. **(Counts)** One, two, three. Right times up, let get the plan into action. **(Pushes Bumsqueak off stage left and also exits himself)**

**King enters stage right quickly with a laptop computer or desk top computer screen and keyboard. He stops stage centre.**

**King:** Oh dear, I've had such a dilemma on whether to leave the computer so the Sheriff might get a virus from it. Or, remove it in fear that he might access my money through a data bank! But I did have to brush a great big spider off it as it was making a website! I guess he was hoping for a computer bug for a byte to eat! **(Begins to exit)** At least that was better than the cat sat on the computer keyboard keeping an eye on the mouse. **(Exits)**

**Robin, Marian, Friar, Molly, Will, John and chorus enters. Friar has a rolled up scroll**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom!

**Audience reaction**

**Will:** Hey, Friar Tuck. What's that you got there?

**Friar:** I had a text message to say a letter was on route. I found this scroll on the root of an oak tree.

**John:** What does it say?

**Friar:** **(unravels the scroll and reads it)** It is my pleasure to invite Maid Marian to the Castle for an audience with the Sheriff. RSVP ASAP.

**Marian:** What does RSVP ASAP mean?

**Molly:** Roast spuds veggie pie apple sauce and peas.

**Marian:** Tell him I'm not interested.

**Robin:** **(to Marian)** Don't you see what this means. The Sheriff will play right into our trap with us sending Alan 'A'Dale to the Sheriff pretending to be you.

**Will:** We will need to go as well if we want to catch the Sheriff and give him his comeuppance.

**Friar:** But he'll recognise us!

**Robin:** Not if we go in disguise.

**Marian:** I'll need a good disguise not to be recognised by the Sheriff.

**John:** You'll be like one of us and not noticed at all.

**Molly:** What about me?

**John:** I doubt you'll be noticed even as you are!

### ***Molly reacts***

**Robin:** Then it is settled. Friar Tuck, reply to the Castle that Maid Marian will attend. We will change our appearances and if Alan A'Dale gives a performance of his life, he might be nominated for an Oscar! Are we together men?

**All:** **(not Molly)** We are!

**Robin:** And you, Molly Bendover?

**Molly:** I'll be right with you at the back ready to leg it at the first sign of trouble!

**Robin:** Then it's off to the Sheriff of Nottingham's Castle!

**Song:-**

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE FOUR**

### **AT THE SHERIFF'S CASTLE (front cloth)**

***King enters stage right with a loose bundle of underwear and a brief case. As he gets stage centre he drops it all by accident***

**King:**       **(annoyed)** Oh bother. **(To audience)** I heard the Sheriff will take the shirt off your back without flinching. I can't run the risk of him taking our underwear without giggling! I must hide it. **(Holds up a pair of ladies underpants with a hole in them)** These are a pair of the wife's 'thunder wear!' and as you can see, they have received some storm damage. **(Holds up a small pair of red briefs with white fur edging)** These I use when I'm pretending to be Santa Clause. So when I take them off I'm Saint Knicker-less! **(Picks up the briefcase)** I suppose you're wondering what I'm doing with this case? It's where I keep my briefs! **(Holds up a bra with a bunch of stage prop lettuce leaves attached to the outside of one cup)** This belongs to the Queen. I said, "those lettuce leaves look uncomfortable dear?" She replied, "those are just the tip of the iceberg darling!" **(Bundling everything up to exit)** At least the Queen has stopped wearing her Star Trek knickers designed by William Shatner. **(Exiting)** People asked me, "why does the Queen walk like that?" I replied, "it's because her majesty has 'Shatner Knickers!' **(Exits stage left)**

***Fairy enters stage right.***

**Fairy:**       If you've been following the story, you may have detected that things are becoming a little complicated. The King will soon forget where he has hidden all his belongings. We are now about to have three Maid Marian's. And Robin and his band of men, including the real Maid Marian and her sister Molly, are going to the Sheriff's Castle in disguise. Now, I don't mind a bit of mystery, but it's getting I won't know who's who with all these disguises. And that's when it gets tricky if I need to apply my magic to the bad guys. **(Sighs)** I suppose I can only hope that the Sheriff doesn't decide to disguise himself as Superman! Or he'll be gone in a flash and we won't be able to end our story! **(Exits stage right)**

**Sheriff enters stage left. He has a purse with ten stage prop pound coins in it.**

**Sheriff:** I don't know what you're moaning about. You look fine.

**Bumsqueak enters stage left shuffling as Maid Marian with knickers around the ankles. And has a handbag.**

**Squeak:** I look a fool.

**Sheriff:** Robin Hood won't know the difference between you and the real Maid Marian.

**Squeak:** Am I a splitting image of her then?

**Sheriff:** More of a smudged water colour if truth be told. **(Sees the knickers)** And what's that around your ankles?

**Squeak:** **(bends to pull them up a bit)** It's my knickers, the elastic broke! **(Suddenly let go of the knickers and pulls the dress hem close)** Phraw, there's an icy cold draft blowing up the channel! I could get frost bite!

**Sheriff:** Not to worry, Robin will thaw you out.

**Squeak:** That's what bothers me.

**Sheriff:** Look, all you have to do is go to their camp, laugh and be merry, join in with the party games and keep your hand on your penny!

**Squeak:** I'd prefer fifty pence.

**Sheriff:** With that icy draft going up your leg, you've reviewed a final reduction mate.

**Squeak:** Permanently out of stock more like! Anyway, where's my payment for the job?

**Sheriff:** What do you want money for?

**Squeak:** A new pair of knickers for a start.

**Sheriff:** *(passes him a pound)* Here's a pound.

**Squeak:** That won't even buy the replacement elastic for my drooping drawers!

**Sheriff:** Will ten pound do then?

**Squeak:** I want fifty quid. I want something expensive and silky smooth to the touch.

**Sheriff:** Okay. How much have I given you already?

**Squeak:** *(showing)* One pound.

**Sheriff:** One pound! *(Gives another)* Two pounds. When is it midnight?

**Squeak:** Twelve O'clock.

**Sheriff:** Twelve! *(Gives another pound)* Thirteen. What date is your birthday again?

**Squeak:** The twenty first.

**Sheriff:** Twenty one! *(Gives another pound)* Twenty two, *(and another)* twenty three. And how old will you be?

**Squeak:** Thirty three.

**Sheriff:** Thirty three! *(Gives another pound)* Thirty four, *(and another)* thirty five. I heard some ladies went into .....  
*(local cafe/tea shop).*

**Squeak:** For tea?

**Sheriff:** Yes, Forty! *(Gives another pound)* Forty-one, *(and another)* forty two. Do you know how old I am?

**Squeak:** Forty nine.

**Sheriff:** That's right, forty nine! **(Gives last pound)** And fifty. There you are fifty pounds paid in full. **(Moves to exit right)**

**Squeak:** Hey, where are you going?

**Sheriff:** Maid Marian is on her way in response to my invitation. So, I need to be ready to welcome her. All you need to do is replace her for a few days, a week at the most until the ransom is paid with added taxes. And if things begin to get a bit romantically technical with Robin Hood, say you've got a headache! **(Exits)**

**Squeak:** **(calls off stage left)** And be offered more Paracetamol than what's on the shelves in the Chemist. **(Looks at the money)** Talk about the value of money not worth as much as it was. This has already shrunk to ten quid! **(Puts the money in the handbag. Then with his back to stage right, tries to pull up the knickers)**

**Alan A'Dale enters stage right costumed the same as Bumsqueak without the costume malfunction.**

**Alan:** **(sees Bumsqueak pulling knickers up toward the knees)**  
Have you got a problem, love?

**Bumsqueak stands bolt upright quickly letting go of the knickers so they slowly slip down again**

**Squeak:** **(turning to see Alan)** My elastic has broken!

**Alan:** **(offering toward the knickers)** Do you need a hand?

**Squeak:** **(backs away)** No, no. It's okay. A bit of fresh air will do no harm! **(Realising Alan is wearing the same; taken aback)**  
Oh, you're wearing the same as me. I got mine in a sale.

**Alan:** **(proudly)** Then I bought mine before you as I paid full price. I'm Maid Marian and I'm on my way to see the Sheriff at his invitation.

**Squeak:** I can't say I've ever met the Sheriff. **(Introducing herself and realising she can't say Maid Marian)** I'm Maid - err, umm, I'm Maid in Dagenham. I'm a cross between a Ford Fiesta, Popular, Focus and Cortina and tend to go on holiday in Capri! I'm a knife throwers assistant and he must have nicked my knickers with a blade. **(Sees the instrument)** I see you got a thing!

**Alan:** Oh, yes. I play with it often as it helps to keep it in tune. I see you have a handbag?

**Squeak:** I never go without it. It contains everything possible except money! I say, if you're Maid Marian you must know Robin Hood. What's he like?

**Alan:** He's lovely and very considerate. He always takes his hat off and never lets me sit on damp ground when we are - you know - being romantic.

**Squeak:** And what do you say to Robin when - you know - you don't want to be romantic?

**Alan:** I can't say I ever have. I've always thought it rude to say no.

**Squeak:** **(aside)** I was afraid of that. **(Looks at Alan)** You know, if anyone saw us, they'd think we're sisters.

**Alan:** Do you know, I was thinking just the same. It's like we're twins.

**Both:** **(does a high five)** Girl power!

**Song:-** **Any song with Sisters as the main subject.**  
**After the song, they cross each other so Alan exits stage left and Bumsqueak exit stage stage right**

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE FIVE**

### **INSIDE THE SHERIFF'S CASTLE (full stage)**

***Up stage centre, two throne type chairs can be set if wished but not essential.***

***If you are using the two chairs, the Sheriff and Alan (as Maid Marian) can be sat watching the chorus routine (if it is performed). If no chairs are used, they enter after the chorus routine or on the scene opening.***

***The scene can open with a chorus number if wished. After the number all remain on stage.***

**Sheriff:** So, what do you think, my dear?

**Alan:** It's all very nice at first glance.

**Sheriff:** And you play an instrument I see?

**Alan:** It gives me something to do with my hands.

**Sheriff:** Please, allow me to put it somewhere safe. ***(Takes the instrument and either a chorus girl takes it off stage or the Sheriff passes it off stage)***

**Alan:** You will be careful with it won't you? Only I've just replaced the G-string and you'd be surprised of the alternatives that was sent only to get a bum note from them!

**Sheriff:** ***(takes Alan's hand and leads to down stage centre)*** It's not many that have the privilege to view my private quarters. What is your opinion of them?

**Alan:** ***(a quick glance at Sheriff)*** Quite acceptable from what I can see. But it's rather like buying a car is it not. The body work looks great at first glance, but it's when you get under the bonnet that things are not quite what you expected.

**Sheriff:** You prefer quality then?

**Alan:** Every time. I see no virtue in making do when better is available. And I must tell you of a funny thing happened on my way here.

**Sheriff:** And what was that?

**Alan:** I met a mirror image of myself going in the opposite direction. Of course, I was the better looking and didn't have elastic problems with the draft excluders.

**Sheriff:** That sounds like Maid - **(suddenly realising he can't say Marian)** sounds like, Maid in Dagenham. Not one of Henry Ford's popular models. Lots of back firing and grating gears!

**Alan:** I did hear her Bumsqueak a few times.

**Sheriff:** Well, Maid Marian. Now you are here as my guest. May I show you more of my Castle? I'm sure you'll find the dungeons most interesting.

**Alan:** I've always wanted to see a proper real-life dungeon.

**All exiting**

**Sheriff:** **(on exiting leading Alan)** Perfect. We shall go there first!

**Music starts and Fairy, Molly, Maid Marian, Robin, King, Little John, Will Scarlett and Friar Tuck enter in an order of your choosing. Costume in short (above the knee) monk's robes of various colours. Contrasting coloured underwear of various types can be worn underneath. Padded out stomachs, typical monk hair with bald spot. They enter dancing in a line rather like 'Tiller Girls'. A comical dance routine commences. Choose something up beat and bouncy. If it can work, a few can allow their stomach padding to slip and have the need to shove it back up during the routine. Fairy costume can be filled out more with petticoats to fit her character. If the Fairy doesn't wish to do the whole routine. She can lead on and stand to the side and watch the rest. The King wears his crown.**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom!

***Audience reaction***

**Molly:** Who's flipping idea was it to be trendy Monks?

**Friar:** Mine.

**All:** **(except Friar)** Why?

**Friar:** I had I a fancy to do something quite outrageous!

**King:** Next time, don't! **(Trying to pull the hem down)** I feel a complete twit.

**All:** **(except Friar)** We all do!

**Marian:** **(see the King)** Uncle John, what are you doing here?

**King:** I thought it was an opportunity to see what goes on inside these walls. And to act like Sherlock Holmes regarding my tax bill.

**Will:** For why?

**King:** I'm looking for any deductions!

**John:** I wonder where Alan A'Dale is?

**Fairy:** With any luck keeping the Sheriff occupied.

***Alan gives a loud screech from off stage.***

**Fairy:** And by the sounds of it, Alan's having a lot of fun doing so!

**Marian:** Now we are here, Robin. What happens next?

**Robin:** Ah, well, that's where we play it by ear.

**Friar:** The last time you told us to play it by ear, we ended up with Maid Marian (**indicates Molly**) and a ruptured mattress.

**Molly:** (**to Friar**) At least my ruptures are kept in captivity with corsetry. Not like yours that's allowed to roam free and wild.

**John:** As I see it, whilst Alan is pretending to be Maid Marian...

**Alan quickly gives another loud screech from off stage**

**John:** And entertaining the Sheriff. We need to have a snoop about to see what's what and then trap the Sheriff bringing him his comeuppance.

**Fairy:** That's my department. I've done a lot of comeuppances with my wand in the past.

**Molly:** Then make sure the thing is fully charged to give the Sheriff ten thousand volts and turn his hair to nylon when required!

**Will:** I've had a thought. We know where the Sheriff is by Alan's vocal enjoyments...

**Alan quickly gives another loud screech from off stage**

**Will:** But what about Bumsqueak?

**King:** Bumsqueak's my department. I've got a diploma in keeping a fart one step away from disaster!

**Robin:** (**to Maid Marian**) You had better stay close to your sister, Maid Marian.

**Marian:** And what are you going to do, Robin?

**Robin:** Well...

**All:** We know. (**All begin to exit except Robin**) You're going to play it by ear.

**Robin:** It seems I'm alone and left to my own devices. But whatever I do, I do it for Marian.

**Song:-**

***Bumsqueak enters as Maid Marian holding up his knickers***

**Squeak:** There you are, Robin. I've been looking for you everywhere.

**Robin:** But you've been keeping the Sheriff occupied. I heard you; we all did.

**Squeak:** I haven't!

**Robin:** Oh yes you have!

**Squeak:** Oh no I haven't!

***Audience participation in favour with Robin***

**Robin:** So where have you been then?

**Squeak:** Looking for you in the forest at the camp.

**Robin:** I'm here, not there.

**Squeak:** I know that now, don't !!

***Sheriff enters stage left***

**Sheriff:** What's going on here?

**Robin:** Oh, lummy. He's the last one I want to see.

**Squeak:** **(to Sheriff)** I'm here with Robin Hood.

**Robin:** **(nudges Bumsqueak so he staggers away)** Don't tell him that, Alan, you twit.

**Squeak:** **(puzzled)** Alan? But...

**Sheriff starts laughing raucously as Bumsqueak and Robin look puzzled.**

**Robin:** What's tickling the Sheriff?

**Squeak:** Maybe he's wearing goose down Y fronts and they're tickleing his fancy.

**Sheriff:** You fools! I sent Bumsqueak to your camp pretending to be Maid Marian as I have the real Maid Marian locked safely up in the dungeons.

**Robin:** Actually, you haven't Maid Marian at all. That's Alan A'Dale you've got locked up looking the same as this one.

**Sheriff:** What! I've been tricked! I have been diddled! Grab him Bumsqueak and off to the dungeons with him?

**They both grab Robin and exit**

**Robin:** *(on exiting)* But - but - this is not what I had in mind when I was playing it by ear!

**Marian, Molly, King, Will, John, Friar, Fairy enter with chorus**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom!

**Audience reaction**

**Marian:** Where's Robin Hood?

**All:** *(To audience)* Have you seen him?

**Audience reaction**

**All:** *(to audience)* He's been taken to the dungeons, you say?

**Audience reaction**

**Molly:** You know what this means don't you?

**All:** What?

**Molly:** That twit Robin Hood will be playing it by ear next to that twit Alan A'Dale who can't play a thing by ear.

***Robin and Alan screeches loudly from off stage***

**Marian:** Oh, my poor Robin. What do you think happening to him?

***Robin and Alan screeches loudly from off stage***

**King:** Being made to watch ..... ***(T.V programme)*** by the sounds of it!

**Marian:** ***(to Fairy)*** You're a Fairy. Do something?

**All:** ***(except Fairy)*** Yes, Fairy. Do something?

**Fairy:** Just a moment I need to get my poise right! ***(Shakes herself and takes a fairy pose)***

In a fix Robin has got,  
with Alan A'Dale to the dungeon they've got.  
Locked up tightly, so not to escape,  
not even room, to slither down the grate.  
To the rescue, we must go,  
it's the only way, to end the show.  
A magic spell, is what's needed here,  
with a song and dance, to save them, with cheer!

**Song:-**

**BLACK-OUT**

**INTERVAL**

## **ACT TWO**

### **SCENE ONE**

#### **THE CASTLE DUNGEONS (full stage)**

***Dress the scene at your discretion. This is to include Robin and Alan being held captive and a few piles of junk that includes a child's potty underneath a pile of something.***

***Robin and Alan are on stage for the scene opening.***

***The scene can open with a chorus number if wished. After the number they exit the stage***

**Alan:** What's going to happen to us, Robin?

**Robin:** At the moment I'm not sure.

**Alan:** What do we do if we want a wee wee?

**Robin:** At the moment I'm not sure.

**Alan:** What do we do when we are hungry and need food?

**Robin:** At the moment I'm not sure.

**Alan:** You're not sure about much are you?

**Robin:** Only that the others are here and they will save us.

**Alan:** Are you sure about that?

**Robin:** Not really.

**Alan:** You'd be no good on ..... **(T.V game show)**

***Noises off stage then Bumsqueak enters by pulling on a rope/stage prop chain still as Maid Marian. He gets a little on stage, struggling, whilst delivering his line. He comes to an abrupt halt.***

**Squeak:** Stop your moaning and groaning. Just get in here and quick!

***Suddenly, Bumsqueak is pulled off stage.***

**Squeak:** ***(re-entering pulling the rope/chain)*** You can't escape. Get in here you dogs?

***Molly, Marian, Friar, Will, John and King enter. They are all linked together with a long rope/stage prop chain. The King does not have his crown.***

**Suggestion:- Music to do with dogs is played as each enter with their hands held like paws at chest height.**

**Molly:** Boom boom boom.

***Audience reaction***

**Will:** Poo. What is this place? It smells like Friar Tucks cooking?

**Friar:** Do you mind! It takes skill to burn a tin opener!

**Squeak:** It's the Castle dungeons.

**King:** ***(falls to his knees with overstated emotion and acting)*** I plead for your mercy! I plead for your kindness! I plead for your forgiveness. I plead...

**Squeak:** ***(cutting in)*** What a flipping pleader you are!

**King:** ***(crest fallen)*** Do you mind! I'm acting. I've been rehearsing to get this line correct on for ages.

**All:** And you're showing the rest of us up!

**Molly:** That's nothing new.

***King stands***

**John:** ***(vague)*** Err, what are we supposed to be doing?

**Marian:** We've been brought to the dungeons because the Sheriff saw through our disguises. If only Robin was here, he'd know what to do. And he won't be happy that we've been captured either!

**Robin:** I am here. And I'd sooner you came to rescue us and not be entries at Crufts in the class for best mongrel!

**Alan:** Speaking for myself, I'm sure I'd be supreme champion.

**All:** A supreme plonker!

**Alan:** **(offended)** Well, really. That's the last time I do you all a favour and wear a dress in public!

**Squeak:** **(fixing his end of the rope/chain to something)** That's the ticket. Now you've broken the ice and got talking, you'll be fine. **(Begins to exit)**

**Friar:** Hey! Where are you lollipoping off too?

**Squeak:** Looking this good don't just happen, you have to work at it with beauty products. **(To Molly)** You look extremely tired and should try it sometime. **(Exits)**

**Molly:** **(calls after Bumsqueak)** It's difficult to find products that work when you've been extremely tired since two thousand and ten!

**John:** We've been in trouble before, but this looks serious.

**Robin:** Not serious, just interesting. Now, there must be a way out of here?

**Molly:** Of course there's a way out! We came in through it. But before we can break out the way we came in. We must break free from our restraints.

**Alan:** I just want to break free!

**Song:-**

**Marian:** I've just realised. Where's the Fairy?

**All look vaguely toward Alan**

**Alan:** I'm from ..... **(a place)** I say nothing!

**Marian:** I mean the one with the wand and said she could do magic spells. She's not been captured and in the same difficulties as us.

**Will:** If you ask me, I knew that she would spell trouble!

**John:** We need to detach ourselves from each other. Then try to escape.

**All:** **(except John)** How?

**John:** By a miracle, I guess!

**Fairy enters stage right**

**Fairy:** Your miracle is here.

**King:** **(to audience)** You always get one that turns up late!

**Fairy:** I've just had to give assistance to a fairy that's always taking bells apart. **(To audience)** Oh, she's such a 'Tinkerbell'!

**Robin:** We need your help to break us from these restraints.

**Fairy:** I'm sure I can do something. **(Shakes herself and takes a pose)**

I eat my peas with honey,  
I've done it all my life.  
It makes the peas taste funny,  
but it keeps them on my knife!

**All:** That didn't work, look? **(Showing still tied/chained up)**

**Fairy:** That was just a little warm up; **(shakes herself)** to get me in the mood.

***A burst of music can be played and all dance to it. (Thirty seconds or so is fine)***

**All:** Now you're in the mood get on with it!

**Fairy:** **(shakes herself and takes a pose)**  
Roses are red,  
violets are blue.  
Free these people,  
as they might need the loo!

***All release themselves from restraints***

**All:** That's better.

**Alan:** But I wish you didn't mention the loo, Fairy. Because it has sent a message my plumbing.

**Molly:** In places like this you always find something to use.

***They look about and Marian finds the child's potty.***

**Marian:** Here you are! A perfect porta potty.

**Alan:** **(grabs it and begins to exit rapidly)** If you'll just excuse me. I need to facilitate the facilities in private. **(Exits)**

**Will:** Hey, Friar Tuck! Didn't you get into a bit a bother once with a potty?

**Friar:** Did I ever. In fact, I'm still a wanted man for it.

**Robin:** I'm unaware of this story.

**Friar:** I used to warm the head Abbot's metal enamel potty in the morning because in the monastery it was so cold. So, I always put it in the oven at gas mark two for a ten minutes.

**Robin:** Sounds nice and toasty warm.

**Friar:** But on this day, I got confused and put it in the oven on gas mark ten for two minutes! It was that hot that when the head Abbot sat on it, the potty burned a ring of confidence on his confidence!

**Marian:** Were you charged for the offence?

**Friar:** Yep – Arson! But I escaped and been on the run ever since.

**John:** How did you escape, Friar Tuck?

**Friar:** I sewn two and half pairs of trousers together to have five legs and put them on.

**Molly:** I bet they fitted like a glove!

**Friar:** Then covered my top with leaves.

**King:** And became a rustler!

**Friar:** No, a leafy monster with five legs! And then when the guard came, I frightened him so much, that I escaped.

**Molly:** That got us nowhere in a flipping hurry, didn't it? We ain't got no leaves or trousers!

***Alan re-enters with potty containing some confetti or similar***

**Alan:** I don't want to worry you all. But unless the Fairy is a master lock picker. Whilst availing the facilities I saw the door lock is a real monster and no way can be broken or picked.

**Fairy:** Ah, but tonight, Mars is aligned with Jupiter.

**King:** We want to get out, not listen to our horoscopes!

**Fairy:** You misunderstand me, your Majesty. When these two planets are in conjunction, on that night, the Queen mouse dances.

**John:** Fairies been sniffing her armpit and is high as a kite again!

**Fairy:** I'll have you know that I use forty-eight hour under arm Fairy liquid to stop all that. No, tonight at midnight, the Queen mouse will enter the dungeon and dance. And whilst she dances, we escape through the door she has left open.

**Robin:** Then we must stay awake until midnight.

**Will:** Alan A'Dale can sing and keep us awake.

**Alan:** I can't. The Sheriff took my instrument.

**Marian:** Can't you play the potty instead?

**Alan:** It's not empty!

**Robin:** Just do your best, Alan and sing something.

**Friar:** **(grabs the potty)** If I empty the contents I'll be able to drum out a little bing-a-bang tune on it whilst Alan sings. **(Throws the contents out onto the musicians or audience)**

**Alan sings something off key with Friar really in the groove drumming the potty base as all react. The light darkens a little and a moonlight beam is evident. Alan stops as soon as Fairy begins to speak.**

**Fairy:** Look? The moon is shining, it must be coming up to midnight.

**Molly:** Thank goodness for that. His voice was putting my false teeth on edge.

**Fairy:** We must all move back and let the Queen Mouse do her dance. Then as she dances, we escape.

**Friar:** Will she be alone or have lots of other mices with her?

**Fairy:** Sometimes she's alone and sometimes she has mices with her.

**Molly:** *(with sarcasm)* I do so like a definite exact answer!

**Music starts quietly.**

**Fairy:** Let s merge into the background?

***All move up stage as the music become louder and the Queen mouse enters. Chorus as mice can enter if wished. The characters exit and the Queen (and chorus) continue to dance. It's possible that as this happens, the lights go out and Ultraviolet lighting is used instead for the remainder of the routine.***

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE TWO**

### **AT THE SHERIFF'S CASTLE (front cloth)**

***Sheriff and Bumsqueak enter stage left. Bumsqueak is still costumed as Maid Marian. Sheriff carries the Kings crown.***

**Sheriff:** ***(laughing)*** Now that's what I call a result. I got the lot of them locked in the dungeons and anytime time now, the ransom money from Maid Marian's father will arrive.

**Squeak:** And you've got the King in the dungeon too!

**Sheriff:** Perfection! Perfection! Perfection! When I get the Kings brother's money for the release of Marian, which of course she won't ever be released. I, as Sheriff of Nottingham will take over and become King myself. Then the peasants will pay, pay, pay. And Robin Hood and his mates can stay locked in the dungeons to rot! ***(Places the Crown on his head)*** So, what do you think?

**Squeak:** Very Hôte couture!

**Sheriff:** ***(parades regally)*** And it makes me feel, regally regal. And no one will take it from me.

**Squeak:** And what about me? Will you knight me so I will become Sir Bumsqueak? I could even be Sir Bravefart!

**Sheriff:** I'll think about it. I wouldn't want you to blow you cover!

**Squeak:** And how much longer must I stay as Maid Marian?

**Sheriff:** I suppose you can go back to normal now. Whatever normal is for you.

**Squeak:** I'd like that. Being a woman is all very well but being one didn't come with any instructions for a man to follow.

**Sheriff:** There's no point. Men don't the read the instructions anyway until it all goes wrong. And surprisingly you sort of grasped being a female.

**Squeak:** I could have done with some guidance regarding the broken knicker elastic though!

**Sheriff:** All you needed was a safety pin.

**Squeak:** I did use one and I punctured myself in a delicate spot!

**Sheriff:** At least you got the point of using one in an emergency. **(Moves slightly away regally)** I suppose I ought to find some regal clothing to go with my crown if I am now to be King? What do you think?

**Squeak:** I'm not allowed to think. It's not in my job description.

**Sheriff:** **(pompous)** Quite rightly too. After all, we can't have two clever clogs at the top. I by myself will be more than sufficient. **(Exits left)**

**Squeak:** If his head gets much bigger, we shall have to widen the doors.

**Alan enters stage right (with instrument and still as Maid Marian)**

**Alan:** Oh, it's you, is it?

**Squeak:** **(to Alan)** Oh, it's you, is it?

**Marian enters stage left.**

**Marian:** Oh, it's you two, is it?

**Squeak:** You should both be in the dungeon all locked up?

**Marian:** We've escaped.

**Squeak:** And what about the others?

**Alan:** They've escaped too.

**Squeak:** Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear. The Sheriff won't like that. He wasn't best pleased when I trained the fish in the garden pond to escape.

**A & M:** How can you train fish to escape?

**Squeak:** I trained A Koi, B Koi and C Koi to escape whilst everyone chased after D Koi!

**Marian:** The question is now, what do we do with you, Bumsqueak?

**Squeak:** I'd prefer if you did nothing so I can go and tell the Sheriff all is not well. To tell him that Robin Hood, his merry men, and the King have escaped from the dungeon.

**Alan:** And he'll blame you for it!

**Squeak:** *(repeating proudly)* And he'll blame me for it! *(Realising)* Oh lummy, I don't fancy my chances with that. The Sheriff will probably cut me from *(runs finger across his throat)* from ear to ear *(runs finger from chin to groin)* and from here to there. And the last place you want ticking with a blade is 'there!'

**Marian:** There is a solution.

**Squeak:** Oh I like solutions. A nice pint of beer is my favourite solution.

**Alan:** You can have as many pints as you like if you leave the Sheriff and become another of Robin Hood's merry men.

**Squeak:** It's always an advantage to be on the winning gang. And the way I see it, the Sheriff could soon be on the losing gang.

**M & A:** Oh yes. The Sheriff will soon be the loser and will become just a name that will go down in history.

**Squeak:** Okay, it's a deal. I will join Robin Hood to steal from the rich and give to the poor. In fact, I know where the Sheriff holds all of his money, so we can give that to the poor for a start.

**Alan:** **(pleased)** Perfect!

**Marian:** But we can't have three Maid Marian's. I am to be the only one and I wouldn't want Robin confused and marry the wrong one.

**Alan:** There goes my hopes!

**A breaking of wind sound is heard.**

**Squeak:** There goes my sigh of relief.

**Marian:** But I am wondering if maybe you should remain pretending to be me for just a little while longer.

**A & B:** Why?

**Marian:** Because in confusion victory can be won. When the Sheriff is about to get his comeuppance, if he can't make up his mind which one of us is Maid Marian. That will be the window of opportunity to conquer him.

**Squeak:** I can see where you're coming from.

**Alan:** **(with slight puzzlement)** Coming from! I didn't know she'd been anywhere!

**Marian:** So, for now, we shall stay as we are. We shall be like the three trees at the start of Sherwood Forest.

**A & B:** Three trees?

**Marian:** Yes. A treesome!

**All:** And the best things always come in threes!

**Song:-**

## **BLACK-OUT**

### **SCENE THREE**

#### **INSIDE THE SHERIFF'S CASTLE (full stage)**

***The scene can open with a chorus number if wished. All remain on stage after the number.***

***The Sheriff enters stage left in regal attire and the crown.***

**Sheriff:** **(parades)** I think this suits me well. Oh, yes, I can see I was born to be King. Just like I was born to be nasty and make everyone pay high taxes to me! And now, I can be both.  
**(Laughs)** Sometimes I could hate myself for being so dastardly horrid, but that is not often, in fact, it's very rare. Now, back to business, so those outlaws and the King have escaped from my dungeon, have they? No matter; they will not get far. And when Bumsqueak catches up with them and brings them to me. I will drop them down the deepest Water Well never to be seen again. Splash! Splash! Splash!  
**(Glances about)** Where is Bumsqueak? Always in the way when you don't want him and never here when you do need him. Not to worry, as they say, "if a job is worth doing, then do it yourself." And that's just what I shall do. I shall be the one to get rid of the King, Robin Hood and his outlaws for good. But I may just spare the fair Maid Marian from any such fatality. To rid the world of such beauty would be a shame; and such beauty would grace this castle very pleasantly. I shall go in hiding and lay in wait for all to gather here; and then - and then I will rid them for good. **(Exits stage left laughing)**

***Chorus exits the same time as the Sheriff.***

***Robin and Marian enter from stage right in their normal costumes.***

**Robin:** The Sheriff is not here!

**Marian:** He can't be far away.

**Robin:** I worry if you should be here at all. For when I come face to face with the Sheriff.

**Marian:** And miss a good old punch-up! I don't think so, I want to watch.

**Robin:** The Sheriff might try a cowardly trick and you'd become involved.

**Marian:** I'd like to see him try. All my life I've had to fight my sister to get the best cakes and sweets. And when you win past my sister, I've had the best training ever!

**Robin:** As long as you're careful.

**Marian:** **(assured)** I will, and I already have a back-up plan in place anyway. **(Softer)** So, when the Sheriff has been sorted out for good, what happens next?

**Robin:** **(takes her hand)** What happens next, Marian, is that we get married.

**Song:-** ***A love duet***

***Molly, King, Will, John and Friar enter. In normal character costume***

**Molly:** Boom, boom, boom!

***Audience reaction***

**Will:** We can't find the Sheriff anywhere.

**King:** And I've just had a horrible thought.

**All:** What horrible thought?

**King:** I can't remember where I have hidden all my valuable things.

**John:** We know the forest like the backs of our hands. We'll soon find your valuables, your Majesty.

**King:** And what of my crown and Kingdom?

**Friar:** If I know Robin Hood, he'll have something up his sleeves.

**All:** ***(hold the arms out in front)*** Like two arms!

**Robin:** Well, actually I'm...

**All:** We know, 'playing it by ear!'

**Robin:** No. I have conversed to a higher level.

***All look up***

**Molly:** All I can see is the Sheriff's pet crow flying about.

***A sound of a zooming plop (or similar) is heard, and Molly puts her hand to her eye***

**King:** That's one eye that's been cured from wrinkles by nature's way!

**Molly:** Can you pass me some paper, please?

**Friar:** It's flown away and too late to wipe it's bum now.

**Molly:** To wipe my eye with you cloth head!

***John reaches a pair of silky underpants from the wings that have a big hole in the seat of them***

**John:** Here you are, Molly! ***(Gives her the underpants)***

**Molly:** ***(wiping her eye)*** Thank you. It's a nice soft warm fabric.

**John:** It's a pair of my underpants! I took them off just now as it said in the script that you needed something to wipe your eye.

**Molly:** *(holds them up showing the hole)* But there's a great big hole in them!

**John:** That's because it's my satin underpants and I've sat-in them for too long!

**Molly:** I suppose that's better than 'thunder pants' and blowing the great big hole in them!

**Will:** Where's Alan A'Dale?

**Marian:** He's with Bumsqueak and they are both still pretending to be me.

**Will:** Why?

**Marian:** Its safety in numbers.

***Alan and Bumsqueak enter costumed identically as two the Maid Marian's. They can enter either singing a short comedy song, or enter to a song recording. They finish stage centre.***

**Marian:** You see, Robin. The three of us will confuse the Sheriff if he tries to play any tricks or draw his sword.

**Robin:** He wouldn't dare draw his sword at a female of the opposite sex.

**Alan:** I drew my teacher Miss Hinkinbottom once on the blackboard. She wasn't happy; it was a comedy sketch!

**Squeak:** In geography I was terrible at drawing the boundaries between countries. I was told that I was borderline incompetent!

**Robin:** *(agreeing)* Yes, I can see the advantage of confusion being fortuitous.

**Sheriff enters stage left.**

**Sheriff:** Well look what we have here. This is a mighty gathering of unfortunates that's going to come to a grisly end.

**Robin:** *(stopping the Sheriff)* Not so fast, Sheriff. First, you must get rid of me before you touch the others.

**Sheriff:** *(grabs Bumsqueak with arm around the neck from behind)* I'll take Maid Marian for security.

**Squeak:** But Master, it is me.

**Sheriff:** *(realising and looks)* Oh yes, it's Bumsqueak. You're one of those thrumps that was born skinless, flies wingless and sings till the gas has run out! *(Grabs Alan from behind in the same way)* I take you instead my dear.

**Alan:** Oh, I say. Are you continuing from where you left off in the dungeon!

**Sheriff:** What! *(Releasing and looks)* Oh my word it's you again. A genetically modified outlaw! *(Grabs Maid Marian from behind in the same way)* Then it will be third time lucky, I now have the real Maid Marian.

**Molly goes to the Sheriff**

**Molly:** Actually, I'm the real Maid Marian, we swapped our names for a lark.

**Sheriff:** *(releasing and looks at Molly)* You swapped your names for a lark?

**Molly:** I was a Wren and for a Lark swapped my name to be with a Robin.

**Sheriff:** *(looks at her eyes)* Why is one eye all wrinkly and the other all smooth?

**Molly:** The smooth one just had a natural biological face pack as I did this. *(Looks up)*

**A sound of a zooming plop (or similar) is heard as Molly places her hand to the opposite eye as before.**

**Molly:** Can someone please pass me something to wipe my eye?

**A clothing garment is passed to Molly and wiping her eye clean**

**Molly:** If I ever catch that crow of yours it's destined for a batter overcoat and deep fried!

**Friar:** That sounds tasty; a crow fritter.

**Sheriff:** *(looks at Molly)* I fear I have sent a letter asking a reward for the wrong thing.

**All:** *(except Sheriff)* What wrong thing?

**Sheriff:** That your father will not pay a ransom for your return. He'd be more likely to pay a fee to lose you!

**Molly squares up to the Sheriff raising fist**

**Molly:** Let's see what an in-depth discussion with your eye ball with one of these will reward you with, shall we?

**King:** *(pulls Molly away)* Now, now.

**Molly:** He's very, "now, now." and if I had my way he'd be very, was, was!

**Robin grabs the Sheriff from behind twist the Sheriff's arm up his back.**

**Robin:** Now you've got one hand behind your back, lets deal with you once and for all.

**Friar:** That's it, Robin. Truss him up like an oven ready chicken!

**John:** Shall I find a nice long rope for him to dangle off the end, Robin?

**Sheriff:** Oh no, not that. I admit I've been a teensy-weensy little bit naughty.

**Will:** **(sarcastically)** Huh! "A teensy-weensy bit naughty!" Do me a favour mate!

**Sheriff:** Maybe not as kind as I should have.

**Alan:** Personally, I was waiting for a bit more rough!

**King:** The Sheriff has been cruel.

**Marian:** Mean!

**Squeak:** Nasty!

**Robin:** A grotty miser.

**Sheriff:** What if I was to cut taxes to twenty percent?

**All shake heads, 'no'.**

**Sheriff:** Fifteen then?

**All shake heads, 'no'.**

**Sheriff:** Ten?

**All shake heads, 'no'.**

**Sheriff:** Five percent?

**All shake heads, 'no'.**

**Sheriff:** A big fat nothing?

**All:** Oh, yes. We like big fat nothings!

**King:** Well, that's saved me a job of lowering all the taxes to benefit all!

**Marian:** But what are you going to do with the Sheriff now?

**Molly:** Tie him to a post in Nottingham square for the dogs to use!

**King:** The dogs are very choosy in Nottingham.

**John:** That's why they will cock-a-leggie at the Sheriff and leave everything else dry!!

***Fairy enters stage left. Chorus enters behind the characters.***

**Fairy:** I have a better idea. After all, who wants to see the Sheriff being the biggest carbuncle ever tied to a post in the pretty square of Nottingham?

**All:** ***(except Sheriff)*** The Fairy has a point!

**Fairy:** ***(chuckles)*** Actually, my star has five points all of which are working perfectly.

**Robin:** What is your plan, Fairy?

**Fairy:** I think an old relic like the Sheriff should be displayed with other old relics gathering dust. I suggest I turn him into a statue and bung him into the museum.

**Sheriff:** No! No! Anything but that!

**All:** ***(except Sheriff)*** Yes! Yes! That sounds perfect!

**Fairy:** So be it! ***(Shakes herself and takes a pose)***  
Turn this evil, dastardly, man,  
into granite, that's harder than sand.

In the museum, the rogue's gallery, he'll stay  
to remind folk, that crime, doesn't pay!

***A flash pod could go off here if wished. The Sheriff stands rigid and motionless.***

**All:** Hooray!

**King:** ***(takes the crown off Sheriff and places it on his own head)***  
Mine I think and, on my head where it belongs. ***(With distaste)*** Just take him away! I don't want to see his ugly mug again!

***Will and John take the Sheriff off. They can use sack trucks for this or a wheel barrow.***

***Robin takes Marian by the arm.***

**Robin:** And are you, Maid Marian, or Maid Molly?

**Marian:** I'm Maid Marian. Maid Molly does that swap thing when trouble looms and always loves a good fight.

**Friar:** So are you and Maid Marian going to get married, Robin?

**Robin:** That's the plan, providing Maid Marian has not changed her mind.

**Marian:** I haven't. And when we are married, we shall make sure no one is poor and all will have the needs they require!

**All:** Hooray!

**Robin:** That's providing you are happy with that your, Majesty?

**King:** If my niece Marian is to be your wife, I believe it's the perfect arrangement.

**Marian:** Oh, Unlce. I'm so pleased that you're pleased and I know father will be pleased too.

**Alan:** And if the clairvoyant is pleased, she'll be a happy medium too!

**King:** Oh, no. I've just remembered. I left the Queen sat on the throne.

**Molly:** Very comfy, I'm sure.

**King:** Not her throne chair, the one that has a flush. I left her sat whilst I went to find where I had hidden the toilet paper to take some to her. Then I got distracted and joined you lot to enter the Sheriff's Castle in disguise.

**Alan:** At least she's got something to go on whilst waiting for you.

**Squeak:** And the best seat in the house!

**King:** But what am I to do, the Queen be in a foul mood.

**Alan:** The Queen could use the toilet brush!

**King:** Oh no. It has to be soft quilted paper.

**Robin:** I'm sure the Sheriff has some very luxurious quilted multi ply you can take to the Queen?

**Molly:** There, we've reached the bottom of that problem and the King won't be blamed for being a party pooper!

**Robin:** In that case, its time to party.

**Song:-**

## **BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE FOUR**

### **A WOODLAND GLADE (front cloth)**

**Molly, Bumsqueak enter**

**Molly:** Boom, boom, boom.

**Audience reaction**

**Squeak:** I say, Molly. Are you looking for a husband?

**Molly:** I've been looking for years and years. Well, maybe not that many years as I'm still a young chick. Why?

**Squeak:** I'm detached you see and would like to be attached.

**Molly:** Like velcro?

**Squeak:** I wouldn't be a rip off!

**Molly:** That's okay then. Because I'm saving up to velcro my bedroom walls and I'm sticking to it!

**Squeak:** I was wondering if you'd fancied a life with me?

**Molly:** To be Mrs. Bumsqueak?

**Squeak:** Bumsqueak is my nickname given to me by the Sheriff. My real name is Cuthbert Faartz. That's **(spells it)** F-A-A-R-T-Z.

**Molly:** So, I'd be called, Molly Faartz?

**Squeak:** It's not a name to be sniffed at!

**Molly:** That depends on what I've been eating!

**Squeak:** What do you think?

**Molly:** I'm not exactly flush with suitors at present. So, I suppose a beggar can't be a chooser. I'm game if you are!

***Bumsqueak grabs Molly in his arms and sweeps her off her feet and gives her a kiss. Then with a romantic touch***

**Squeak:** Your eyes are like deep pools of water.

**Molly:** Blue and sparkling!

**Squeak:** Dark and mucky!

**Molly:** I have lips that are sweet and dainty.

**Squeak:** You have lips like an industrial drain plunger!

**Molly:** So, what do you suggest we do?

**Squeak:** ***(drops Molly)*** I think we should stop all this lovey dovey stuff and sing a song.

**Molly:** That's not what I had in mind. ***(Getting up)*** My voice has been completely trained by a professional, you know.

**Squeak:** And escaped to roam free howling like a lost cat!

**Molly:** ***(climbing onto Squeak suggestively)*** Only so that when we are alone, I can purr into your ear!

**Squeak:** ***(pushing her off)*** I think you should purr off and let's get this lot singing. ***(To audience)*** What do you think boys and girls, shall we sing a song?

***Do business with audience***

**Community song:-**

**BLACK-OUT**

## **SCENE FIVE**

### **THE FOREST (full stage)**

***The scene can open with a chorus number of wished. After the number they go into the walk-down followed by the characters as set by the director.***

***If no chorus number is performed, the full company go into walk-down starting with the chorus (if you have one) as set by the director.***

**Molly:** Boom, boom, boom.

### ***Audience reaction***

**King:** This tale has found a happy end

**Robin:** And I have found a bride and friend

**Marian:** With taxes nil and a forest free

**Friar:** The country lives so happily

**Will:** No more evil will rule this land

**John:** We'll work together hand in hand

**Squeak:** Robin and his band of men

**Alan:** That includes me, his minstrel friend.

**Fairy:** We all wish you a fond farewell

**All:** From Robin Hood and Maid Marian, as well!

**Finale song:-**

**CURTAIN**

## **LIGHTING**

There are no specific lighting requirements asked for by the script other than one. All lighting is to your own discretion and availability.

**Act One scene one and three:-** A lighting effect for the camp fire is required that can be raised and lowered in it's brightness.

## **SOUND AND SFX**

There are no specific sounds requirements asked for by the script other than the few listed below. All sounds and effects are added at your own discretion

**Act two, scene two:-** A loud raspberry/breaking of wind sound

**Act two, scene three:-** A zooming plop noise (*and repeated again further in the scene*)

**Act two, scene three:-** A flash pod pyro (*optional*)

## PROPERTIES

The properties listed are required by the script. Additional properties and set dressing is to your own discretion.

### ACT ONE

#### **Scene one:**

- A fire with cooking pot on stage
- Stage prop valuables - **King**
- Fairy wand (*used throughout unless asked differently*) - **Fairy**
- 2 x bows/arrows/staffs - **Will, John**
- Stringed instrument of your choice (*used throughout*) - **Alan**
- Bucket with a small amount of water in it - **Friar**
- Bow and quiver (*used as and when throughout*) - **Robin**
- Empty large sweet boxes (*outers*) - **King**
- Wheeled transport - **Molly**
- Broken wand (*in two pieces*) - **Fairy**
- A large amount of toilet rolls - **King**
- Basket with slices of stage prop cake (*one heavy to sound when dropped*) - **Molly**

#### **Scene two:**

- Child's hobby horse - **Sheriff**
- Two coconut halves joined by a length of string - **Bumsqueak**
- Riding crop with an edible sweet (*liquorice or similar*) on the end - **Sheriff**
- Rolled up rugs/ carpet pieces - **King**
- 

#### **Scene three:**

- Empty large picture frame - **King**
- A wand that bends half way up the stick - **Fairy**
- A well wrapped parcel that contains a biscuit box that contains some broken crockery - **Molly**
- A well wrapped parcel that contains a container that contains broken crockery - **King**
- Laptop computer and/or keyboard and/or computer screen - **King**
- **Rolled up scroll - Friar**

#### **Scene four:**

- Loose bundle of underwear and a brief case - **King**
- Purse containing 10 x stage prop £1 coins - **Sheriff**
- Handbag - **Bumsqueak**

**Scene five:**

- Two throne chairs set on stage (*optional*)

**ACT TWO**

**Scene one:**

- Dress the dungeon to your own discretion to include - a few piles of unwanted items/cloths that under one is a child's potty. And restraints or prison cage/s for Alan and Robin
- Long rope or long stage prop chain - **Characters and Bumsqueak**

**Scene three:**

- A silky/satin pair of underpants with a hole in the seat - **Off stage**
- A comical clothing garment - **Off stage**