



# Cinderella

by John Birchley

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PantoScripts Sample

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## CAST LIST

CINDERELLA

BUTTONS

PRINCE CHARMING

DANDINI

BARON

BARONESS

BOMBAY, an Ugly Sister

SAPPHIRE, another Ugly Sister

BOBBY, a Broker's Man

CLIVE, a Broker's Man

FAIRY GODMOTHER

MAJOR DOMO

FOOTMAN

Chorus of Villagers, Huntsmen, Children and Ball guests

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act One Scene 1 A Forest glade near Woodvale

Scene 2 The kitchen of Hardup Hall

Scene 3 The Forest

Scene 4 Outside Hardup Hall and the kitchen of Hardup Hall

Scene 5 Somewhere in Woodvale

Scene 6 The kitchen of Hardup Hall, early the following evening

### INTERVAL

Act Two Scene 1 The Palace Ballroom

Scene 2 The Forest

Scene 3 Hardup Hall

Scene 4 Somewhere in Woodvale, the next day.

Scene 5 Hardup Hall

## ACT ONE

### SCENE ONE

*A Forest glade near Woodvale. Early morning.*

*The scene opens with the whole chorus as VILLAGERSs singing and dancing to welcome the day in Woodvale.*

<b>MUSIC 1</b>	<b>VILLAGERS – see p 67 for music suggestions</b>
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*At end of song VILLAGERSs clear to reveal Prince CHARMING and DANDINI have entered US, much fuss and bowing as they realise who it is.*

**VILLAGER 1** Look who it is!

**VILLAGER 2** Dandini, the valet to the Prince.

**VILLAGER 3** But who's that handsome fellow with him?

**VILLAGER 4** It's Prince Charming.

**VILLAGER 5** He's even better looking than they say.

*General agreement between Villagers*

**DANDINI** Villagers of Woodvale we are here with an invitation, (*excitement from Villagers*) his highness, Prince Charming of Woodvale will tell you himself of the good news.

**CHARMING** As you all know today is the day of the Royal Hunt. Important visitors from across the kingdom will be here and I know many of you will be joining us in the hunt.

*VILLAGERS react excitedly*

But more importantly, if the hunt goes well I intend to throw a celebration ball tomorrow night.

*More excitement from Villagers*

And I want as many of you, my loyal subjects and friends, especially the ladies, to join me tomorrow at the Palace.

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**VILLAGERS** The Palace!?

**CHARMING** Yes, the Palace!

**VILLAGERS** What us?

**CHARMING** Yes, you.

**CHARMING** Yes, come to the Palace tomorrow and celebrate a great day for Woodvale. Dandini, my valet, will personally deliver invitations to you all. I hope that he will be a busy man tomorrow.

**VILLAGER 6** Hurrah for Prince Charming!

**VILLAGERS** Hurrah!

**DANDINI** And now off you go to prepare.

*Villagers exit variously, leaving Charming and Dandini*

**DANDINI** A popular move, your highness, no doubt about that.

**CHARMING** Yes, Dandini, a lot to look forward to, some excellent sport and I am going to hold the largest ball in the history of Woodvale. Who knows I may even meet the girl who is to become my princess there.

*Charming and Dandini exit*

## **SCENE TWO**

*The kitchen of Hardup Hall.*

*A fireplace or kitchen range etc. with perhaps two stools either side of the fire.*

*Buttons enters, he carries an opened letter.*

**BUTTONS** *(to audience)* Hello, everybody! *(Waits for reaction)* My name's Buttons. And how are you all? *(Reaction)* I'm glad you're ok but I've forgotten what that feels like. Things have been bad here at Hardup Hall, I might be out of a job soon. *(Indicating letter)* All the Baron ever seem to get is bills. My job here's all I have. I'm the last servant left here, I don't know what I'd do if I lost my job.

*Encourages audience reaction.*

*Cinderella enters, with a besom and busies herself at rear of stage.*

And if I had to leave I would never see Cinderella again (*indicates CINDERS over his shoulder to audience*) that's her, I think she's lovely. She's the Baron's daughter but since his wife died a year ago he treats her more like a servant. She's always sad, I try to cheer her up by telling jokes but it doesn't always work. Would you like to hear one of my jokes? (*Waits for audience reaction*) Okay, what about this one? (*Thinks for a moment*) I know (*clears throat*) what's a frog's favourite drink? (*pause*) Croaka-cola! Cinders didn't think it was very funny either. No matter how hard I try she spends all day moping, she thinks no one loves her anymore but . . . shall I tell you a secret? (*pause for reaction*) I do. I'm in love with her, I have been since the first moment I saw her and I've decided that today's the day I'm going to tell her, I can't wait any longer. Here goes, wish me luck!

*Buttons turns to Cinders.*

**CINDERS** (*realising she is not alone*) Buttons! You made me jump, how long have you been there?

**BUTTONS** Just a moment, Cinders. How are you today?

**CINDERS** Oh, the same as usual, Buttons, all I ever seem to do is work, I'm always tired and I'm fed up.

**BUTTONS** I know, Cinders, I'm sure things will improve soon; you must look on the bright side. That's what I try to do, in fact there's a song that I sing to myself to help, would you like to hear it?

**CINDERS** If it's what keeps you happy, Buttons, then, yes, I would.

<b>MUSIC 2</b> <b>BUTTONS AND CINDERS</b>
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**BUTTONS** Does that help, Cinders?

**CINDERS** It's kind of you to try to help, Buttons, but I work all the time and my father's just taken himself away on holiday, can we really afford that?

**BUTTONS** Well, he must think so. But we get on well don't we, Cinders? I do enjoy being with you.

**CINDERS** Yes, Buttons, so do I. I don't know what I'd do if you weren't here with that smile of yours and your jokes.



**BUTTONS** *(turning away from Cinders, trying hard to find the right words)* I'm glad you've said that because it's exactly how I feel Cinders and I was wondering ...

*Cnders is not listening, she has picked up something and is polishing it furiously.*

... I was wondering ...

*(he turns to face Cinders)*

...if you...

*(he realises that Cinders is not listening to him)*

...Oh, Cinders!

**CINDERS** *(starts)* Sorry Buttons, I was miles away. What were you saying?

**BUTTONS** *(sad, feeling that the moment has gone)* Nothing, Cinders, it's not important.

**CINDERS** What is that letter, Buttons, it's not another bill?

**BUTTONS** This is much worse than any bill.

**CINDERS** Oh, dear, what is it?

**BUTTONS** It's a letter from Quick, Grabbit and Runn, the debt collectors. It says that as your father is behind with his payments for almost everything they are sending men round to *(refer to letter)* 'seize property to the value of outstanding debts'.

**CINDERS** Oh, no, Buttons, that's terrible, what are we going to do?

**BUTTONS** Well, I don't think that they will find much worth having, your father has sold everything of value already. But I do wish he were here to face them himself.

*Baron Hardup enters, stage left, bags and suitcases weigh him down.*

**BUTTONS** *(to audience)* Well, I wonder if all my wishes will be answered so easily, it is a pantomime, I suppose.

**BARON HARDUP** Hello, my dear *(drops bags and hugs Cinderella)* how are you?

**CINDERS** Father, you're back, and not a moment too soon.

**BARON** Whatever's wrong my dear?

**CINDERS** Buttons, will tell you father?

**BARON** Oh, you're still here are you? Hurry up because I have some exciting news for you.

**BUTTONS** It's all in this letter, your lordship, it arrived today. *(hands letter to Baron)*

*BARON reads letter getting more and more frustrated as he does so, Buttons clears bags and cases US*

**BARON** *(as he reads letter)* What ... how dare they? ... Preposterous! *(finishes reading letter and puts it in his pocket)* Well, my dear, it seems that I have arrived in the nick of time, I think my news will help. *(takes Cinders by the hand)* You know how lonely I have been since your dear mother died and I know how sad you have been. Now that is over ... while I was away I met someone who I thought was wonderful *(aside)* – and rich - luckily she thought so too. Cinderella, darling I want you to meet ...

*Baroness Hardup enters, she is old, ugly and bad tempered, she inspects the surroundings and is obviously not impressed with what she sees.*

My new wife, your new stepmother!

**CINDERS** *(shocked, but trying to be polite)* Father, this is such a surprise! *(turns away in horror)*

**BARON** I know my dear, it all happened very quickly, but we got on so well, I'm sure it's the right thing to do *(aside)* at least I hope it is! *(turns to Baroness)* Lucretia, my dear, welcome to Hardup Hall. Do you like what you see?

**BARONESS** Not so far, there needs to be some serious changes around here.

**BARON** If you say so, my dear.

**BUTTONS** Baroness, my name is Buttons, may I take this opportunity to welcome you to Hardup Hall?

**BARONESS** No, you may not, Brambles. Servants only speak to me if I speak to them first, you had better remember that - make sure all the other servants know too.

**BUTTONS** It's Buttons, your ladyship.

**BARON** I'm afraid there are no other servants, my dear, I did tell you that times have been hard recently.

**BARONESS** Well who is going to do all the things that servants do?

**CINDERS** That's where I come in.

**BARONESS** (*aghast, to Baron*) Who is that?

**BARON** That's my daughter, Cinderella, didn't I tell you about her? She has looked after the Hall and me since my first wife died so sadly.

**BARONESS** You never mentioned you had a daughter!

**BARON** Well it never seemed to be the right time. But I'm sure you'll soon get to know each other.

**BARONESS** Well, since she's has been so successful as a servant she can stay one.

**CINDERS** Father, say something! Do Something!

**BARON** (*to CINDERS*) I will, my dear, but now is not the right time.

**BUTTONS** Well, if you won't I will have to. (*to BARONESS*) Now look here your ladyship, Cinderella is the Baron's daughter, she's not just a servant and I really **don't think ...**

**BARONESS** (*cutting him off*) That's obvious if you **did** think you would realise that you are just a servant as your employer's wife so I can fire you. If you were to lose your job here you'd have nowhere to go. Am I right Bourneville?

**BUTTONS** (*nods*) It's Buttons, your ladyship.

**BARONESS** Well in that case you had better think before you open your mouth again, hadn't you, Bromsgrove?

**BUTTONS** (*nods again, then produces a TV remote control and presses PAUSE, to audience*) Do you know, everyone, I really hate it when someone gets my name wrong, (*points to costume*) I mean there are clues everywhere. Do you think you could help me? Every time the Baroness calls me by the wrong name can you all shout out **'IT'S BUTTONS!'**? (*audience reaction*) Will you? (*audience reaction*) Thank you, let's give it a try. What if she says Beetroot? (*audience reaction*) Did you say anything? You can do better than that, let's try again. What if she says Belgium? (*audience reaction*) That's better. Right let's rewind a bit shall we?

*Presses remote control again, those on stage rewind to where they were.*

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**BUTTONS** Well, if you won't I will have to. *(to BARONESS)* Now look here your ladyship, Cinderella is the Baron's daughter, she's not just a servant and I really **don't** think ...

**BARONESS** *(cutting him off)* That's obvious, Bumbles,

*Buttons encourages audience to shout 'It's Buttons!' gives them a thumbs up when they do.*

... if you **did** think you would realise that you are just a servant and I am your employer's wife so I can fire you. If you were to lose your job here you'd have nowhere to go. Am I right?

*Buttons nods and looks sheepish*

*Banging and loud raucous voices are heard off stage.*

**BARON** What's that? Buttons are we expecting any guests?

*Buttons is too taken aback to reply, but the Baroness gets in first anyway*

**BARONESS** They are not guests. Now it is time for my little surprise! *(calls off stage)* This way, my darlings! These are my daughters!! Let them in Branstons!

Audience 'It's Buttons! encouraged by Buttons

*Baron is shocked, Cinders and Buttons support him.*

*The Ugly Sisters burst onto the stage carrying suitcases and bags, they are younger, even more gruesome versions of the Baroness. They end up in a heap in the middle of the stage.*

**BOMBAY** *(getting to her feet and seeing her mother)* Mummy! That's where you are! *(goes to Baroness and hugs her)*

**SAPPHIRE** *(also picking herself up, elbowing Bombay out of the way)* We've been looking everywhere for you!

**BARONESS** And now you're here. My dears, this is my new husband Baron Hardup, your new stepfather.

*Uglies look him up and down*

**BOMBAY** *(looks Baron up and down, she is unimpressed)* Very nice Mummy, does he have lots of money for us to spend?

**SAPPHIRE** (*even less impressed*) Seen one step father, seen them all.

*Baron is about to introduce Cinders, but doesn't get the chance.*

**BOMBAY** As I was saying, Mummy, we got lost in that dreadful village, it's full of ordinary people, you know the sort of people who chew gum and wear baseball caps backwards.

**CINDERS** I think the villagers are nice people, they're some of my best friends.

**BOMBAY**

**SAPPHIRE** (*together*) WHAT ... IS ... THAT?????

**BARON** Why, girls, that is my daughter, Cinderella, your new step sister.

*Uglies look at each other bemused*

**BOMBAY**

**SAPPHIRE** (*together*) But we've never had one of those before .....

AAAHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Uglies run round and round in ever decreasing circles and collapse in a heap together. Others look on in astonishment.*

**BARONESS** (*distraught*) My babies! Don't just stand there, do something!

*Cinders and Buttons each help an Ugly to their feet and onto the stools, BARON and Baroness fan them with handkerchiefs, lots of fuss.*

**BOMBAY** (*as she recovers*) Mummy, we don't want one of them! Make it go away!

**SAPPHIRE** It's horrible! Why can't it be just us?

**BARON** But I thought you'd all get on together. It would be nice for Cinders to have some company; you can help each other with all sorts of things.

**BOMBAY** (*now fully recovered and thinking clearly again*) Oh, don't you fret, step father dear, she will be able to help us with things.

**SAPPHIRE** (*also recovered*) Yes, she can help us, can't you my dear? You can help us with everything, just you wait and see.

*Uglies get up and tower over CINDERS.*

**BARON** Oh, good, I can see you will get along splendidly. Now you must all be tired after the journey you've had, let me show you to your rooms to freshen up. Buttons, the luggage!

*BARON and BARONESS exit stage right, Uglies load luggage onto BUTTONS and push him off.*

**BOMBAY** What's that smell? Are you wearing a new perfume?

**SAPPHIRE** Do you like it? It's called 'One night in Paris'

**BOMBAY** What about mine? *Raises armpit for Sapphire to smell, Sapphire gags*

**SAPPHIRE** Err, what's that?

**BOMBAY** It's called 'Wet weekend in Wherever' (*local town/area*)

**SAPPHIRE** Time for a song, I think.

**BOMBAY** (*to audience*) You'll never guess which one!

<b>MUSIC 3</b>	<b>UGLY SISTERS</b>
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*Exit*

### SCENE 3

*The Forest. Later that day.*

*The scene opens with some of the junior chorus/dancers on stage as woodland creatures, others join them as dance begins.*

<b>MUSIC 4</b>	<b>INSTRUMENTAL – dance for woodland creatures</b>
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*Chorus exit as dance ends, except one creature that appears to be caught on a branch or a root.*

*Cinders enters, carrying a basket to collect twigs for kindling.*

**CINDERS** (*seeing creature and going to them*) What have you done? Don't be scared I'm only going to help. (*untangles creature*) There, that's better, isn't it, off you go then.

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*Cinders watches as creature exits*

**CINDERS** *(speaking to audience as she picks up twigs)* Poor thing, I hope it'll be all right. *(sighs)* That horrible pair have sent me to collect wood for the fire but I'm glad to be out of the house. They only stop arguing when they're giving me lists of things to do. I thought things were bad before they arrived but I never thought they could get so much worse.

*Fairy Godmother dressed in a cloak as an old woman enters SR she too carries a basket and struggles to pick up twigs*

And I don't think Daddy is happy, I don't know why he married that woman, perhaps she has loads of money. But that's not everything, is it? Not if we're going to be unhappy *(sees Fairy Godmother)* Oh, I thought I was on my own, hello,

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** Why, hello, my dear, I didn't see you there. I'm just collecting a few twigs to get the fire in my little cottage started *(sighs)* but everything seems to take so much longer now than it used to *(bends down very slowly to pick up a twig)* Oh, my poor old back.

**CINDERS** Here, let me do that for you, *(bends down and picks up twigs for Fairy Godmother)* there you are.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** *(taking twigs)* Thank you, that is good of you.

**CINDERS** No need to thank me, I'd do it for anybody, here, take these *(takes twigs she has gathered out of basket and holds out to Fairy Godmother)* I can easily collect some more.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** *(taking twigs)* Thank you, what a kind girl you are.

**CINDERS** I will always help people if I can.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** Not only people is it, my dear, I saw you a moment ago helping that poor creature.

**CINDERS** I didn't think anyone else was around.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** Oh, I see a lot of things.

**CINDERS** Do you? Well, yes, I try to help all living creatures.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** And you really do make a difference. You'll be rewarded for it, my dear.

**CINDERS** But you don't need to be rewarded for doing the right thing. But it doesn't seem to have done me much good recently.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** But it will, believe me, it will.

**CINDERS** I hope you're right.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** Oh, I am, my dear. Now I must be getting back, goodbye, my dear, until we meet again.

**CINDERS** Take care, I can walk with you to your cottage if you'd like.

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** That won't be necessary, you've already done more than enough.

*They part going off in different directions, Cinders continues to pick up twigs US. Fairy Godmother goes to exit but returns DSC and talks to audience.*

**MUSIC 5 FAIRY GODMOTHER THEME**

**INSTRUMENTAL** (something twinkly)

*Heard quietly under dialogue.*

**FAIRY GODMOTHER** *(to audience)* So that is Cinderella. She really is a good girl, as good as I was told. She's going through a bad time, but things will get better. That's where I come in *(pulls back hood of cloak)* her Fairy Godmother. I'll look after her, I'll see that everything's alright in the end, you wait and see. And now, goodbye, my dears.

**CINDERS** *(coming to front of stage)* Perhaps I could come and visit you one day, just to make sure you're alright ..... *(sees no one is there)* ... Oh, she's gone. I'd better collect some more kindling before I go back, I expect those two will have more jobs for me to do. *(exit)*

*Dandini and Charming enter, they are dressed for hunting.*

**CHARMING** How are the preparations going, Dandini?

**DANDINI** Preparations are going well, your highness, for the hunt and the ball. The guests have begun to arrive, the royal horses are all groomed and fed, the kitchen staff are all working overtime to spring clean the palace and the ballroom is being decorated – just in case!



**CHARMING** Just in case? You know as well as I do, Dandini, the ball is the most important part, that's why every unmarried girl in the kingdom must be invited. My parents are concerned that I am not yet married they want an heir to the throne. Well, all seems to be going splendidly, you've done a fine job, Dandini.

**DANDINI** Thank you, your highness, we have much to look forward to, but the thing I'm looking forward to most is having a rest tonight.

**CHARMING** You are lucky Dandini, I have all those important guests to entertain tonight, I have to remember who is who, the names of all their wives and children and these things always go on so, I'll be lucky if I can relax before midnight. It's one of the drawbacks of this job you're always under pressure to say the right thing, to be seen with the right people.

**DANDINI** Eating the best food in the kingdom? Drinking the best wines? Being photographed with Lizzo *(or?)* for Wotcha Bab magazine? That's the kind of pressure I would hate!

**CHARMING** It sounds as if you doubt me, Dandini.

**DANDINI** Well, your highness, there do seem to be some benefits.

**CHARMING** Well, why don't you try it?

**DANDINI** Your highness?

**CHARMING** There's a little time until the hunt starts, until then, you, my friend, will be the prince.

**DANDINI** I don't understand.

**CHARMING** *(taking off jacket)* Here, give me your jacket/sash.

*DANDINI does as he is told, CHARMING hands over his jacket/sash. They put each other's on.*

**CHARMING (cont'd)** There, now you will see, for just a few hours you will carry the responsibility of the kingdom and I will be able to relax. Right, go and do princely things ... don't just stand there, off you go!

**DANDINI** *(haughtily)* I beg your pardon, my man?

**CHARMING** I said off you go *(realising)* oh, I see what you did there. *(bowing)* Might I suggest that you make your way back to the palace, your highness?

**DANDINI** That's better! I think I shall. I will see you later, my man. *(exits SL)*

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**CHARMING** Well, at last I have a chance to see how other folks live. I think I will stroll into the village and see what is going on ...

*CINDERS enters SR*

... wait a moment! What a beauty! Perhaps I shall have more fun here. *(turns to CINDERS)* Good day to you.

**CINDERS** Oh, sir, you startled me.

**CHARMING** I'm sorry I didn't intend that. A beautiful day, isn't it? *(to audience)* She is beautiful!

**CINDERS** It is, sir, but you must excuse me I have a lot of work to do. *(to audience)* What a handsome gentleman! *(turns to go)*

**CHARMING** But what brings you to the forest today?

**CINDERS** *(turning back)* I was collecting kindling sir, but I must go, my sisters will be expecting me.

**CHARMING** Sisters? And are they as pretty as you?

**CINDERS** Sir! You have made me blush.

**CHARMING** Then I must apologise again. May I ask your name and where you live?

**CINDERS** My name is Cinderella, I live not far from here. And you, sir, may I ask your name?

**CHARMING** Why, I am Prince Charming ...'s valet. Dandini's my name and I live at the palace.

**CINDERS** That must be a very important job.

**CHARMING** Oh, yes, he takes some looking after, I can tell you, wouldn't know where he was without me.

**CINDERS** Nothing wrong with taking a pride in your job.

**CHARMING** Why, thank you, and I would not be doing my job properly if I did not ask if you had heard about the celebration ball the Prince intends to have tomorrow night to celebrate the success of the hunt.

**CINDERS** I'd heard about the hunt, but not the ball.

**CHARMING** Well, now you have and you must be there, the prince wants all the villagers, especially the unmarried girls to be there. You're not married, are you?

**CINDERS** No, I'm not.

**CHARMING** *(to audience)* Better still! *(to Cinders)* Then you must be there! Invitations will be delivered tomorrow, do say you will be there.

**CINDERS** I really don't think I would be able to.

**CHARMING** Nonsense, it's almost a royal decree! You must come, I'll make sure you get an invitation.

**CINDERS** Thank you, I really would like to come ... but you must excuse me now. Goodbye.

*They turn in opposite directions to go, Cinders pauses DSL, Charming DSL*

**CINDERS** *(to audience)* What a wonderful man and an invitation to a royal ball ... if only!

**CHARMING** *(to audience)* What a wonderful girl. Could she be the one ... if only!

*They sing together, but on separate sides of stage.*

<b>MUSIC 6 CINDERS AND CHARMING</b>
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*CHARMING and CINDERS exit*

*Villagers enter variously in groups excited making their way onto the stage.*

**MAJOR DOMO** *(reading from a scroll)* His majesty, Prince Charming welcome visitors from far away and nearby to the annual Woodvale hunt. He hopes for a good day's sport and many visitors to tonight's celebratory ball, to which all unmarried ladies are invited.

**VILLAGERS 8** Look, here they come!

*Huntsmen enter SL moving to SR as if they are riding horses or dancers cross stage as if they are being hunted*

*Reaction from Villagers*

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*Huntsmen/ dancers exit SR*

**VILLAGERS 9** Was that it?

**VILLAGERS 8** No, here they come again.

*Huntsmen enter SR moving to SL*

*Reaction from Villagers*

*Bombay and Sapphire enter SL riding horse costumes/ hobby horses and make a circuit of the stage. Villagers react unfavourably.*

*All exit*

#### SCENE 4

*Outside Hardup Hall. A cloth or in front of half tabs but ideally the doors should be practical and open in some way and marked to indicate they are part of Hardup Hall, perhaps with H on each of them.*

*Bobby and Clive enter SL or through the auditorium (works best if there are side aisles), Bobby carries a clipboard, they are obviously looking for something, they come to front of stage.*

**BOBBY** Well, it must be around here somewhere, that old man said just around the corner and we've walked for ten minutes since then.

**CLIVE** What's it called again?

**BOBBY** I can't read it in this light, can you pass me your glasses?

**CLIVE** Okay, *(to nearest audience member)* pass my glasses along the row, will you?

**BOBBY and CLIVE** *ad lib if necessary*

Come on we haven't got all day!

Don't even think about pinching them

**BOBBY** *(when glasses arrive consulting clipboard)* Hardup Hall, we need to speak to Baron Hardup. Pass them back, can you, thanks everyone.

**BOBBY and CLIVE** *ad lib if necessary*

**CLIVE** I hope it's going to be easier than that last job in (*local town*) I reckon it was the most difficult we've ever had.

**BOBBY** That was your fault, it's not much fun taking things from people who've fallen on hard times, especially when you insult the customers! Fancy asking that woman what her monkey's name was.

**CLIVE** How was I to know it was a baby? It was the ugliest thing I've ever seen.

**BOBBY** I agree, but I had the sense not to say so. You need to be subtle in this profession; you need to show some decorum.

**CLIVE** Decorum, what's decorum?

**BOBBY** Don't you know?

**CLIVE** I thought it was what you did to apples before you cooked them.

**BOBBY** How did I end up working with you?

**CLIVE** It's because you wasted your time at school.

**BOBBY** I didn't waste my time, I didn't used to go.

**CLIVE** That's what I mean.

**BOBBY** Most of the teachers hated me, not like you, you were always teacher's pet.

**CLIVE** I was not teacher's pet!

**BOBBY** Oh, yes, you were!

*Hopefully audience will join in*

**CLIVE** Oh, no I wasn't!

**BOBBY** Oh, yes, you were!

**CLIVE** Oh, no I wasn't!

**BOBBY** Oh, yes, you were!

**CLIVE** Oh, no, I wasn't!

**BOBBY** (*cutting audience off*) You were! You were! You were!

**CLIVE** Wasn't! Wasn't! Wasn't!

**BOBBY** You were, you were teacher's pet, why else would they keep you in that cage at the back of the classroom?

**BM** We're wasting time, what's the name of this place again?

**BOBBY** Hardup Hall.

**CLIVE** (*pointing to front doors*) Looks like we're here, let's get on with it. (*goes over to front doors*) See if anyone's at home. (*knocks on door, waits*)

**BOBBY** Try again.

*CLIVE tries again*

**BOBBY** Looks like a wasted journey.

**CLIVE** I'm not wasting my time, let's try the door.

**BOBBY** You can't do that!

**CLIVE** Yes, I can - they often leave front doors unlocked out in the country.

**BOBBY** No, I mean you can't because it's illegal.

**CLIVE** It's not illegal.

**BOBBY** It is, it's illegal.

**CLIVE** No, it might be unlawful but it's not illegal.

**BOBBY** That's what I said isn't it?

**CLIVE** No, there's a difference between unlawful and illegal.

**BOBBY** OK, I give in, what is it? What is the difference between unlawful and illegal?

**CLIVE** Well, unlawful means against the law ...

**BOBBY** ... that's what I said!

**CLIVE** Let me finish! Unlawful means against the law and illegal is ... (*giggles*) ... is ... a sick bird of prey!