



Sleeping Beauty

by Bradford and Webster

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PantoScripts Sample

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SLEEPING BEAUTY

Cast List

Although the cast list seems long, there are really only 11 principal characters. Added to this are a couple of characters, “Cannibal Chief” and “Sea Captain” who only make a relatively short appearance, but both require good acting skills.

The smaller roles were written to provide an opportunity for less experienced actors to take a speaking role. The “fairy tale” characters are ideal for confident youngsters to try. Many roles can of course be “doubled”, if you are working with a small cast.

Princess Rose	The principal girl. Playing age 16years. Does not appear until middle of Act I, and sleeps until the end of Act II – but, a very important character!!
Prince William	The principal boy. Traditionally played by a female. Hero of the piece. Playing age approx. 20 years (or suitable to partner the princess).
Fairy Lilac	Fairy Godmother type. Narrates throughout, in rhyme.
Fairy Lavender	More attitude than Fairy Lilac, but still a ‘good fairy’. Narrates throughout, in rhyme.
Fairy Lupin	Nice, but dim – tries to rhyme, but can’t seem to manage it. More of a comedy character than the other two fairies.
Deadly Nightshade	The Baddie of the piece. Able to work well with the audience, to encourage boos and hisses. Lines are in rhyme.
Winifred Slaptickle	Nanny to Princess Rose. Traditional Dame – flirty and funny.
Harry the Jester	The ‘Simple Simon’ of the story. Good ability to ‘connect’ with the audience. Appears throughout the story.
Queen Camellia	The Queen. Definitely ‘rules the roost’. Mother of Princess Rose.
King Basil	The hen-pecked King. Father of Princess Rose.
Snivel	Deadly Nightshade’s snivelling henchman.
Cannibal Chief	One scene only, but an important comedy character.
Hark, the Herald	Just a couple of lines.
Goldilocks	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines.
Hansel	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines. (with accent, if poss).
Gretel	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines. (with accent, if poss).
Little Red Riding Hood	As in the fairy tale. One scene only. Just a few lines.
Big Blue Balaclava	Red Riding Hood’s big sister. One scene only. Just a few lines.

Cast List(cont.)

Captain Forsyth Harbourmaster Ticket-seller	Old sea-faring type. Works well if all three roles are played by the same person , to portray the “economy” style of the cruise
Stage Hand & Set Designer	Short appearance. Works well if your actual stage hand and set designer are willing to appear on stage. If not, it can be two members of the cast.
Paperboy	Non-speaking role. Start of Scene 2, only.
Chorus Roles:	Courtiers / Ship’s Crew / Cannibals / UV blacks

Scenes and Staging

Don’t be daunted by the large number of scene changes! The staging can, in fact, be fairly simple. The full-stage scenes are “The Royal Palace”, “The Cottage”, “On Board Ship” and possibly “Easter Island”. “The Royal Palace” scene is used four times, and many of the shorter scenes can be played simply “front of tabs”, if required.

Additional Notes appear at the end of the script.

ACT I**Prologue**

Front of tabs or front cloth. Use a sparkly coach, if you can accommodate it, but it’s not essential!

Scene 1	The Royal Palace	Full stage scene. “Palace” backcloth. If possible, set a permanent raised platform, upstage. Add balustrades and a central staircase, to make it look more “grand”.
Scene 2	Outside Deadly Nightshade’s Lair	Front of tabs or front cloth scene.
Scene 3	The Royal Palace (The Christening)	Full stage scene. As Scene 1. Add a crib centre stage.
Scene 4	On The Way To The Cottage In The Woods	Front cloth or tabs scene.
Scene 5	The Cottage In The Woods	Full stage scene. A “Woodland” back cloth, if possible (which can be re-used in Scene13). The cottage is practical (See Additional Notes).
Scene 6	Deadly Nightshade’s Lair	Front cloth or tabs scene.
Scene 7	The Cottage In The Woods	Full stage scene. As Scene 5
Scene 8	The Palace Kitchen	A half-stage, possibly tabs scene. (see Additional Notes, for more details about this scene).
Scene 9	The Royal Palace (Rose’s Birthday Party)	Full stage scene. As Scene 1.

Scenes and Staging (cont.)

ACT II		
Prologue		Full Stage. "Royal Palace". As Scene 1. Centre stage is a bed, or simply a covered box, on Which Rose is lying, asleep.
Scene 10	The Harbour	Front of tabs or front cloth. Add props, such as barrels, crates and heavy rope, if required.
Scene 11	On Board "The Bruce Forsyth"	Full stage (possibly half stage) scene. A "Ship's Deck" cloth, or simply use nautical props.
Scene 12	Deadly Nightshade's Lair	Front cloth or tabs scene. As Scene 6.
Scene 13	Easter Island	Full stage (possibly half stage) scene. If you are Using a "Woodland" cloth for Scenes 5 & 7, re-use it here. Add a leafy gobo, or some green lighting, a few artificial tropical plants and some "jungle" sound effects.
Scene 14	Deadly Nightshade's Lair	Front cloth or tabs scene. As Scene 6.
Scene 15	Outside The Palace	This is a UV lit scene, so it will require a black cloth or curtains. Full or half stage, depending upon available space. If a UV setting cannot be accommodated, then replace it with a ballet or mime. (See Additional Notes).
Scene 16	The Cellars Under The Royal Palace	Front cloth or tabs scene
Scene 17	The Royal Palace	Full stage scene. As Scene 1.
Song Sheet		Front of tabs
Finale Walk-Down and Bows		Full stage. This can be as Scene 1, or as lavish a finale as desired

SLEEPING BEAUTY

ACT I

Prologue

The three Fairies, Lilac, Lavender and Lupin, enter.

For a “grand entrance”, and an elegant start to the panto, you could have them pulled on in a sparkling coach. Or they could be standing centre stage, in a pool of light, with some smoke or haze. Perhaps use a mirror ball, to add a magical effect.

Fairy Lilac

Welcome, dear friends, young and old
A wondrous tale will now unfold

Fairy Lavender

A long time ago, in a land, far away
A beautiful child was born this day

Fairy Lupin

Our tale starts “Once upon a time...”
And so begins our story

Fairy Lilac & Lavender

Pantomime!!

Lilac & Lavender sigh, then try to explain to Lupin

Fairy Lilac

There’s a tradition that’s as old as time
That fairies always speak in rhyme

Fairy Lavender

It really makes us very terse
The fact that you can’t speak in verse
Your poetry is really tragic.

Fairy Lilac

And if you can’t rhyme – you can’t do magic

Fairy Lupin

I try my hardest every time
But I just can’t seem to speak in ... verse

Lilac & Lavender shake their heads in despair

Fairy Lavender

You may well try, but you always fail ...

Fairy Lilac

Now ... we really must begin our tale
(speaking to audience)
A child was born to the king and queen
The loveliest child you’ve ever seen

Fairy Lavender

The child's christening is today
 And that is why we're on our way
 We've had a special invitation
 To join in with the celebration

Fairy Lupin

Fairy Godmothers, all are we
 Fairies Lilac, Lavender ... and I

Fairies Lilac & Lavender

Me!!!

Fairy Lupin

(puzzled) I've already mentioned you two

Fairy Lilac & Lavender drag Fairy Lupin off stage, as the scene opens to The Palace Interior....

Scene 1 The Royal Palace

SONG "Get Happy" full chorus number

Chorus of courtiers, guards, maids, servants etc – preparation for the christening

Harry enters. He is a very silly Jester

Harry

Hello boys and girls, mums and dads, grannies and granddads, andanyone else who's come along for a really fab time! Welcome to the palace of King Basil and Queen Camellia, where everyone is getting ready for the Christening of Princess Rose. My name's Harry ... they call me Happy Harry. I'm the court jester. *(he does a silly dance, or juggles, or something)*. Here's a joke for you *(giggles)*..... Why don't cannibals eat jesters? cos they taste funny! Taste funny!! Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! Oh, I'm sorry, that one just tickles me in the right place. And, it's good to know *(points at audience in a serious manner)* cos you never know when you might meet a cannibal

Ooh, ooh, here's a good one, you might know this one What's orange and sounds like a parrot? ... a carrot! *(pulls a large fake carrot out from under his tunic)* wahaay!! *(throws carrot into wings)* Do you know, I'm having so much fun. You lot are all my new best mates. Even that geezer up there with the tank top, who looks like he'd rather be in the "Rose and Crown" *(replace with name of local pub)*. I'm soooo happy! Are you happy?

Audience

Yes!

Harry

Jester-riffic! Tell you what – cos you're my new best mates, whenever I come on stage, I'll shout "Happy kids?!". Then you can shout really loudly "Happy Harry!". Can you do that? Brilliant!!! Let's have a go. Are you ready? Happy kids?!

Audience

Happy Harry!

Harry

(folds his arms like a gangsta and looks disapprovingly at the audience) There are a few people who aren't shouting... you in the tank top for a start ... Come on, kids, let's shake the foundations. Are you ready? One more time ... Happy kids?!

Audience

Happy Harry!

Harry

Jester-riffic! Oh that was so much better. I am soooooo happy!

Nanny Winifred Slaptickle enters. She has a baby under one arm and her hands full of supermarket carrier bags

Winnie

Ooooh, I don't know what you've got to be so happy about. We've still got loads to do for the Christening party and I've only just done the shopping, and – *(notices audience)* ooh! Where did that lot come from? What time did you put on the invitations? They're far too early!

Harry

Boys and girls, this is Winifred Slaptickle, or Winnie, as we like to call her. She's nanny to the baby Princess Rose.

Winnie

(affronted) I'll have you know, I am not a 'nanny' ... 'nannies' have had a lot of bad press of late I am a Paediatric Observation Officer

Harry

Paediatric Observation Officer? *(thinks)* P.O.O.? Poo?

Winnie

Exactly.

Harry

So that's ... Winnie ... the poo? *(shrugs to audience)* It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it. *(to Winnie)* Hey, Winnie, why don't you say hello to the boys and girls?

Winnie

Ooh I can't, I'm shy

Harry

(raising eyebrows) That's not what that palace guard told me

Winnie

(tidying hair) I don't know what you mean which one?

Harry

Why? How many do you know?

Winnie

Oh, I only know the tall one and the short one and the blonde one, the dark one, the fat one, the thin one, the bald one, the hairy one

Harry

All right! That'll do!

Winnie

I'm very popular. I have a lot of ... friends.

Harry

Yes, so it seems ... but how about saying hello to all of **my** new friends. Say hello to the boys and ...

Winnie

(flirting mercilessly) Hello boys!

Harry

Winnie!! You're supposed to be saying 'hello boys and girls' ... to the little boys and girls.

Winnie

I was talking to the big boys ... especially that hunk in the tank top ... you look a bit fed-up, dear I'll come and cheer you up –

Winnie makes to head off stage, Harry pulls her back

Harry

Winnie!

Winnie

Party pooper! *(remembers)* Oooh, party! Let me show you what I bought. I got a special deal at Tesco – every little helps! Here, hold this for a mo.

Winnie hands Baby Rose to Harry. Harry looks petrified as he holds the baby out in front of him, in two hands, like a delicate ornament he is afraid of breaking. Winnie puts the bags down, then picks them up one by one as she lists what she has bought

Winnie

I've got 250 scotch eggs *(holds up bag)*, 180 Dairylea triangles *(holds up bag)*, 97 packets of Quavers *(holds up bag)*, 15 jars of pickled onions *(holds up bag – it's very heavy)*. And, out the back, I've got 24 catering-size tins of Smart Price baked beans and 43 gallons of Rola Cola. This lot'll help the party go with a bang.

Harry

(cradles baby in one arm and wafts other hand in front of his nose) You're not kidding

Winnie

It'll be a blast!

Harry

It's an ill wind... *(wafts hand again)*

Winnie

It'll be a gas!

Harry

(puzzled) I can smell it already ...

Harry sniffs air, holds up baby & reels at the reek coming from her bum. Winnie is sorting out the bags of shopping. Harry hands the baby to a passing courtier, who, reacting to the nasty niff, hands baby to another courtier, and another, until the baby is placed on balustrade of balcony at back of stage – this is going on behind the following dialogue

Winnie

Then, after the buffet, you can tell some of your jokes and we'll all have a fabulous time.

Harry

Oh, I don't know about that

Winnie

Why not? I love your jokes.

Harry

Yes, I know, but I get really nervous in front of the King. And, when I'm nervous, I forget the ..er...er

Winnie

Punchline?

Harry

That's the thing. Look, it's started already. I'm really worried he's going to give me the sack.

Winnie

Calm down. You just need to practise. Let's have a go. Just pretend I'm the King. Big and useless.

Harry

That's easy enough.

Winnie

Watch it!

Harry

Sorry.

Winnie

(puts nose in the air, to indicate royalty) One would like to be amused.

Harry

Ok. What's orange and sounds like a carrot? ... a cauliflower

(He pulls out a cauliflower from beneath his tunic. Looks at cauliflower & looks depressed)

See what I mean?

Winnie

Oh dear. Never mind. Being funny isn't all about telling jokes – what about some 'visual comedy'? I've got something outside with the rest of the shopping that might help *(she exits)*

Harry

(shrugs) Visual comedy? What's she up to?

Winnie

(enters holding custard pie & shows it to audience) Shall I?
Harry looks at Winnie, then audience, quizzically, thinking 'should I be worried about this?'

Winnie

Shall I?

Harry raises an eyebrow. Winnie looks as though she is about to splat Harry

Winnie

Naaah *(she backs off)*
 Oh, go on then! *(she splats Harry with the pie, then laughs, hysterically)*

Harry

(wiping pie from his face. A little hurt) Why did you? What did you ...?

Winnie

Visual comedy! ... Funniest thing I've ever seen!

King & Queen enter. King sees Winnie laughing hysterically. Queen frowns

Queen

What on earth is going on here, Slaptickle?

Winnie

Oooh, Your Majesty, it's Harry. He's been making me laugh.

Harry is looking decidedly disgruntled

King

The jester? Making you **laugh**? About time too. Get you up there telling a few jokes tonight, what? Have the nobility rolling about

Harry

(looking worried) Oh....er.....um

Queen

How delightful, dear. One **is** famous for hosting the very best parties. So long as it's all done with the utmost taste, we don't want anything risqué, do we dear?

King

(disappointed) No, dear ...
(to jester) Maybe later on, when she's a bit squiffy – she won't remember.

Queen

(to Winnie) So, is our little princess ready for her party?

Winnie

Oh, yes, she's *(she looks at Harry and is horrified to see that he is not holding the baby. Gestures at Harry in desperate fashion)*she's ... er ... sleeping, yes, that's it, she's sleeping like aer...baby

Queen

Oh, really, how delightful. I think I might pop up and take a peek. She looks so –

Winnie

No!

Queen

Oh.

Winnie

... I mean, she can't be disturbed. She needs her beauty sleep. Oh! Not that she's ugly ... I mean ...er ...oooh...

Queen

Oh, never mind dear, we'll see her at the party. *(to King)* Come along, dear

King

Yes, dear.

King & Queen exit

Winnie

Phew, that was close.

(turns to Harry) You! You!!

(Strides over to Harry, takes him by the shoulders and shakes him as she talks)

What....did....you....do....with....the....baby?

Harry

I...er...gave her to someone. I'm not good with babies

Winnie

We've got to find her! I know! Boys and girls, will you help us to find the baby? I said..... will you help us to find the baby?

Winnie & Harry

(responding to audience) Where?Can't hear you...over where? Speak up.....

Winnie & Harry turn to see baby on the balcony

Winnie

Rose!!! *(rushes over to pick up baby)* Oh, my little princess

(she hits Harry) Youfool!!! Come on. You bring the shopping. See you later boys and girls.

Harry

Bye, kids!

Winnie & Harry exit

Scene 2 Outside Deadly Nightshade's Lair

Scary music to set the scene... during this, a paperboy enters from back of auditorium. He is carrying his bag, and holding a copy of the 'Evening Telegraph' (or local newspaper). Music continues, paperboy whistles to himself. As he gets onto stage, a witch's cackle is heard from left wings – paperboy jumps. Runs off stage right, dropping newspaper downstage centre.

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Nightshade enters stage left

Nightshade

That disgusting stench I know too well
 It's human children I can smell.
 Oh, there you are – so I was right!
 A nasty and revolting sight!
 Children shouldn't be allowed
 They're much too smelly and much too loud
(encourages boos from audience)
 Just keep quiet – or you will see
 It doesn't pay to mess with me.
 Isn't that right, S-
(she turns, expecting to see Snivel behind her)
 SNIVEL! Get out here! Now!

Snivel, a rather frightened and dim-looking henchman shuffles onto stage, bent over & dragging one leg

Snivel

S-s-s-s-s-sorry mistress. I h-h-h-heard a loud noise and it scared me.

Nightshade

That was me! You stupid wimp!
 And why are you walking with a limp?

Snivel

Oooh, it's me underwear, mistress, it's giving me terrible gip. I think the elastic's gone in me long johns.

Nightshade

Oh for heaven's sake! Come here!

She goes round behind Snivel and yanks his trousers up from the back, lifting him off the ground and straightening him up. Snivel's eyes bulge in surprise and not a little discomfort

Nightshade

Better?

Snivel

(high-pitched, unconvincing lie) Yes...
(notices audience) Aaaargh!!!! What's that?!!! *(hides behind witch, then pokes head out)*

Nightshade

That – is just a bunch of harmless kiddies
 One or two men, and a few old biddies
 Just look at them – it's perfectly clear
 A big bunch of losers, you've nothing to fear

Snivel

Are you sure?

Nightshade

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(shakes head in despair)

Sometimes, you just can't get the staff
One henchman left – and this one's naff.

Last week I had fifteen or so

I had no choice, they had to go

They made me angry – something chronic

Made my G & T with too much tonic

I cannot tolerate mistakes

So I turned them into toads and snakes.

Snivel notices something behind him, he jumps and looks around, scared

Snivel

Ooh! What's that?!

Nightshade

Now I'm left with this useless lump.

Even his shadow makes him jump.

Snivel

Ooh!? Shadow ... where?!?

Nightshade hits herself on forehead in despair

Nightshade

How can I hope to rule this land

With **you** as my second in command?!

Snivel

Mistress, why do you always speak in poems? I thought it was just fairies who did that?

Nightshade

My dearest Snivel, there are all types of fairy

We're not all Tinkerbell and Julian Clary

Some fairies are bad, some, like me, are much worse

For our magic to work, we must all speak in verse.

Snivel spots newspaper. He points at it and backs away

Snivel

Ooooh! What's that?

Nightshade

Is that LITTER over there?

It's something that I just can't bear

They really make me very bitter

The imbeciles who drop their litter

(to Snivel) Pick it up!

Snivel

Ooh, I'm scared, I don't know what it is. It might hurt me.

Nightshade looks more closely

Nightshade

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It's a newspaper! We have one delivered every day – now pick it up – or I'll hurt you!!

Nightshade very angry – moves towards Snivel

Snivel cowers & quickly goes to pick up the newspaper. He holds up the paper. Front page has big picture of baby & the headline says "Royal Christening Party Today"

Snivel

Aaaah! Pretty baby.

Nightshade snatches paper from Snivel

Nightshade

Now, babies – they are **really** scary
I'm warning you ... be very wary
They're ugly and they're very smelly
They cry when you are watching telly
They quickly grow, and then, I fear,
Take all your money – and disappear.
(she reads the headline)
A party for the Princess? Today!!!
Without me!!! Oh, I'll make them pay!!

Nightshade sweeps across to stage left, and exits. Snivel follows

Scene 3 The Royal Palace (The Christening)

Chorus are "Guests", some are "Servants"

Lilac

The Royal Palace, and here we are
The guests have travelled from near and far

Lavender

The grandest party of the year
And, as honoured guests, we three are here

Lilac

From the top of her head, to the tips of her toes
We really love the Princess ... Roger.

Lilac & Lavender

Rose!!

Lupin

Rose ... sorry.

Harry enters

Harry

Happy kids?!

Audience

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Happy Harry!

Harry

I said Happy kids?!!

Audience

Happy Harry!

Harry

Jester-riffic! Ooh, it's the Fairy Godmothers: Fairy Lilac, Fairy Lavender and Fairy Loopy

Lupin

Lupin!

Harry shrugs. Fairies to back of stage, with other 'guests'

Harry

The party's about to start, but to tell you the truth, I'm a bit scared about having to tell jokes. I'm sure I'll get stage fright again and mess them up. Then the King will give me the sack for ruining his party. Maybe I could get Winnie to splat me in the face with a pie again? It's not exactly sophisticated comedy but, if it gets a laugh...

Winnie enters, wearing an amazing party frock and carrying baby

Winnie

I'm not splatting anyone. I don't want to get pie on my lovely new frock (*does a twirl*)
Do you like it?

Harry

It's very ...

Winnie

Elegant? Chic? Stylish?

Harry

I was going to say "big".

Winnie

Humph.

Winnie sashays over to cot and puts baby inside

Winnie

It's taken me hours to get ready. I've done my hair, my make up ... I even went to the beauty parlour.

Harry

Was it shut?

Winnie

Cheeky monkey!

Winnie goes to clout Harry. Herald steps forward

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Herald

Their Royal Highnesses King Basil and Queen Camellia
King and Queen enter. Winnie and Harry stand to attention

King

Ah, Slaptickle...Jester... *(to Winnie)* Is my daughter ready for her Christening party?

Winnie

Oh, yes, your majesty. Been ready for ages Pretty as a picture, she is.

King

(looks into cot) Yes, she is rather, isn't she?

Herald

Their eminences, the Fairy Lilac, the Fairy Lavender and the Fairy Loopy.

Fairies forward

Lupin

Lupin!!

Herald

He *(indicating Harry)* said it was 'Loopy'

Harry sniggers. Lupin gives him a mean look

Queen

Thank you for coming to give your blessings to our daughter

Lilac

The honour is ours, Your Majesty
 Dear Princess Rose, our gifts to thee:

The fairies step up to the cradle to bestow their blessings

Lilac

This is the blessing I bestow ...
 With grace and beauty you will grow
(waves wand)

Lavender

Worth more than gold, I give to you
 True happiness, your whole life through
(waves wand)

Lupin

Fair princess ...

She is interrupted by Nightshade's grand entrance. SFX thunder etc

Winnie

If no-one invited Jackie Stallone, then I think we've got a gate-crasher !

Harry

That's Deadly Nightshade! *(he cowers behind Dame)* Nasty piece of work.

King

What are you doing here?

Nightshade

Everyone is gathered for this Royal Celebration
 What I want to know is – where's **MY** invitation?
 Those pathetic fairies were invited
 But the Grandest One of All is slighted.

Lilac

(Standing up to Nightshade)
 Our blessings, to the child we bring
 Invited by the Queen and King.

Nightshade

And like our other fairy guests
 I'll make sure that this child is blessed

King

..... er thank you ...

Queen

No, Basil, I don't trust her.

Nightshade

You forgot me – which you'll live to regret
 Mine is a gift that you'll never forget
(goes to child in cradle)
 Before your sixteenth birthday's through
 This curse of death I give to you.
(gasp from gathered throng)
 The cause? I'm happy to reveal
 The spindle of a spinning wheel
 You'll prick your finger – I do not lie!
 Once blood is drawn – you'll surely die!
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha!

King

No!!

*Nightshade exits. Everyone is left looking shocked & distraught
 Queen goes to crib, looks at baby with sadness & despair*

King

(to fairies) Is there anything you can do? Can you stop this wicked curse?

Queen

Please say that you can do something.

Lilac

Do not despair – the Princess will live

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For we have one blessing yet to give.

Queen

You mean that you can break Nightshade's spell.

Lilac

I wish we could break this evil curse
But Nightshade's spell, we can't reverse.

King

Then how can you help?

Lavender

We cannot break the spell, I fear
But we'll try to make it less severe
There's nothing more **we two** can do
So Fairy Lupin – it's up to **you**.

Queen

Fairy Loopy? Oh dear

Lupin

Lupin! (*worried*) Ooooh!

Winnie

Go on dear, you can do it.

Lilac

You've got to try your best this time.
The spell won't work if you don't rhyme.

All

Go on / you can do it etc

Lupin

I can't break the spell, but do not weep
She will not die, she'll only

(other fairies mime 'sleeping' etc to encourage Fairy Lupin)

..... sleep!

Everyone pleased that she managed to get it right

Queen

Sleep? But for how long?

Lupin

She'll slumber on in peaceful bliss
'til woken by her true love's ...

(Other fairies mime kiss)

... kiss!

Winnie

She's only a week old – she hasn't even got a boyfriend yet!

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King

I have an idea!

Queen

There's a first time for everything!

King

We must burn every spinning wheel in the land! If there are no spinning wheels, then she will not prick her finger on a spindle

Queen

Goodness me, Basil, that's a jolly **good** idea! I take back everything I said!

King

Good! ...er...what **did** you say?

Queen

...it doesn't matter now. (*to fairies*) Is there nothing more that you can do to keep Rose safe?

Lilac

Deep in the forest, where nobody goes
Lies a quaint little cottage, that nobody knows
The only way to allay your fears
Is if Rose lives there for sixteen years.
Not as a princess but as a peasant
A life that's simple, safe and pleasant.

Queen

For sixteen years? My baby?! I must go with her!

Lavender

You cannot join Rose on this secret mission
A disappearing Queen will arouse much suspicion.
Nurse Winnie's the one, if you get my gist
It needs to be someone who won't be missed.

Winnie

Thanks, Lav!

Queen

Then, Winnie, I am entrusting you with my daughter's life.

Winnie

That's a big responsibility, Your Majesty ... can I take a friend with me?

Harry

You haven't got any friends.

Winnie

Then I'll have to take you instead.

Harry

I can't go. I'm the court jester. I owe it to my audience, to stay – it's my profession. I'll stay here for as long as I have a job.

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King

Herald!

King whistles to Herald, who brings on a sack and hands it to Jester

Harry

What's this?

King

It's the sack.

Harry

Oh ... *(disappointed but not surprised)* Better go and pack.

Harry milks audience for sympathy, as he exits

Queen

Oh, Basil, I'm going to miss her so much.

King

So am I Camellia, but it's for the best.

Queen

(to Winnie) You will take care of her, won't you?

SONG "Take Good Care of My Baby"

Scene 4 On the way to the Cottage in the Woods

Old lady enters carrying a spinning wheel – 2 courtiers/guards struggling to take it from her. Finally get wheel, and give her wool & knitting needles in return.

Winnie & Harry enter. Winnie is pushing the pram. Harry is loaded up with luggage.

Harry

Happy kids?!!!

Audience

Happy Harry!

Harry

And I will be – when I've put this lot down. I wouldn't mind, but they're all Winnie's *(to Winnie)*
Did you have to pack so many clothes?

Winnie

Humph! I don't know what you mean..... but I've still got the feeling I've forgotten something.

Harry

Forgotten something?! Surely you've got everything. *(Harry holds up all the cases)*

Winnie

I haven't brought much. That case is for my dresses, that case is for my shoes, that one's for my wigs, and that big one ... is for my smalls.

Harry

(laughing) Smalls? Your smalls?! You must be joking! You don't have smalls, you have bigs!

Winnie

Well! *(Winnie is affronted)*

Harry

(continues laughing) No, not 'bigs' ... 'massives'! ... 'enormouses'!...

Winnie smacks Harry over back of head

Harry

Ow! *(rubs his head)*

Are we there yet? I'm getting tired - I could do with a nap.

Winnie

Nap?! Nap?! Aaaargh! I've forgotten the nappies. You wait here. *(she exits, in a hurry)*

Harry

This could take a while.

Winnie enters at high speed, with a big bag of nappies, which she hands to Harry

Harry

Gee, thanks.

They set off again

Harry

Are we there yet??! I could do with a drink.

Winnie

Drink?! Aaaargh! I've forgotten the baby's bottles! You wait here! *(rushes off)*

Harry

I don't believe it.

Winnie rushes back on, carrying a big bag with "bottles" written on it. She hands it to Harry. Harry just gives her a disgruntled look. They set off again

Harry

Are we there yet??! I'm sweating *(adjusts his legs to illustrate that his crevices are getting a bit sweaty)* I could do with changing my ...

Winnie

Changing?! Aaaargh!!! I've forgotten the changing bag! You wait here! *(rushes off)*

Harry

(exhausted, and struggling to stay upright) Oh, for heaven's sake!

Winnie rushes back on, with changing bag, which she hangs over Harry's head

Harry

I feel like a packhorse.

Winnie

Well, you look like a jackass.

They set off again

Harry

Are we there yet??!! The baby will have grown up by the time we get there ...

Winnie

Don't be silly. The baby BABY!!!! Aaaargh!!! I've forgotten the baby!

Winnie rushes off. Harry collapses under all of the bags.

Blackout

Scene 5 The Cottage in the Woods

Winnie and Harry enter. Winnie pushes pram in through the doorway of the cottage

Winnie

I think baby Rose needs a nappy change...

Harry

(Follows Winnie through door, drops luggage – quickly changes mind. Wafts hand in front of nose) Oh-oh, perhaps I'll wait out here for a bit ...

Winnie

Oh no you don't ... you can help!

(Winnie reaches out an arm and drags Harry inside)

Goldilocks enters, skipping along, happily, perhaps singing to herself la la la la la la la. She goes up to the door and knocks. Winnie opens door, she is holding a smelling nappy and is looking a bit tetchy

Winnie

Yes.

Goldilocks

Is this the Three Bears' cottage?

Winnie

I beg your pardon!

Goldilocks

Is this the Three Bears' cottage? My name's Goldilocks.

Winnie

The Three Bears' cottage? The Three Bears' cottage?!! *(she backs Goldilocks away as she speaks. Then indicates herself)* Do I look like a bear?!

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