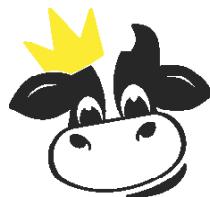


Aladdin
by John Birchley (2026)

Panto Scripts Perusal

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CAST

Abanazar – an evil magician

Widow Twankey – she runs the local laundry

Aladdin – our hero and Widow Twankey's son

Wishee Washee - Aladdin's brother

The Emperor of China – very important, quite old but confused at times

Princess Jasmine – his beautiful daughter

Sing Sing – Jasmine's handmaiden, best friend and confidante

Grand Vizier – Emperor's advisor

Chief of Peking Police – it's obvious

PC 27 - Police Officer who helps the Chief

Spirit of the Ring

Genie of the Lamp

A member of the Stage Crew

CHORUS of:

Citizens, traders, dancers and children of Old Peking

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First performed at the Norbury Theatre, Droitwich Spa 10th January 2019.

ACT ONE

Prologue Abanazar's Hideaway

Scene One The Market Place in Old Peking

Scene Two Twankey's Laundry

Scene Three The Gardens of the Emperor' Palace

Scene Four The Market Place in Old Peking

Scene Five A Rocky Path in the Mountains

Scene Six Inside the Cave of Jewels

INTERVAL

ACT TWO

Scene One The Market Place in Old Peking

Scene Two Twankey's Laundry

Scene Three The Gardens of the Emperor' Palace

Scene Four A Street in Old Peking

Scene Five Twankey's Laundry

Scene Six Abanazar's Hideaway

Songsheet

Walkdown/Finale The Wedding of Aladdin and Princess Jasmine

PROLOGUE

Abanazar's Hideaway

In front of closed tabs or gauze

Thunder and lightning, pyro if possible or budget allows

Abanazar enters SL into dim green lighting, he peers into a crystal globe.

Abanazar My journey has been long but I am near the end of my quest. I search for the thing which is rightfully mine. It's a lamp that I, Abanazar, greatest magician in the world deserve to own. It should be mine, mine! *(Evil laugh)* When I own it I shall become the richest and most important man in the world. *(Evil laugh)* I feel that lamp is somewhere near and I shall use my magic to learn where it is. I will summon the Spirit of the Ring to tell me exactly where I must look. *(rubs ring)*

SOUND 1

SPIRIT'S MAGIC MUSIC

The Spirit of the Ring appears SR, pyro if cost allows, as on all of Spirit's entrances

Spirit of the Ring Master! I appear to do your bidding.

Abanazar And have you found that lamp?

Spirit I have Master; you know your wish is my command.

Abanazar Tell me! I have waited too long for the lamp and the riches it will bring.

Spirit The lamp lies in a cave in the mountains near the city of Old Peking.

Abanazar Then take me there now!

Spirit I fear it is not that easy, Master. The lamp lies at the back of a deep, dark cave. To reach it you must be agile and sure of foot. This cave has a very narrow entrance and you would be unable to enter it yourself. You will need help.

Abanazar What? And share the riches the lamp will bring? Never!

Spirit Very well, Master... Is there anything else you require?

Abanazar *(aside)* I cannot let the lamp and all it will bring slip through my fingers; I am too near what I desire most. *(thinks, then to Spirit)* Do you know of someone whose help I might enlist for the task . . . someone perhaps who is in need of money and may not realise the dangers involved in such a quest.

If a gauze is available then it is possible for Aladdin, Twankey and Wishee Washee to appear behind it to the audience during the next two speeches.

Spirit As it happens I do, Master. In Old Peking lives a boy named Aladdin, he lives with his mother, the Widow Twankey and brother Wishee Washee; they are poor beyond belief and run the town's laundry, the boy has dreams of being rich. He fits the bill exactly.

Abanazar Aladdin it is then! This boy will help me with my plan and he won't even realise. *(Evil laugh)* It is time for this Aladdin to meet the uncle he never knew he had, his Uncle Abanazar. *(Evil laugh)* Come. Spirit, to Old Peking!

Abanazar and Spirit exit SL

Blackout

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ACT ONE SCENE ONE

Whole stage

The Market Place in Old Peking

Tabs/gauze out, full stage

Chorus of children and citizens of Peking in the Market place are in place or enter in groups during intro. A sign for Twankey's Laundry is on one of the shops on the backcloth. There are also a number of stalls on stage and shops on the back cloth perhaps with similar names to local shops; this may provide an opportunity for sponsorship/advertising.

MUSIC 1	CHORUS NUMBER
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As number ends chorus clear in groups to back and sides of stage.

Wishee Washee enters.

Chorus 1 Look everybody, it's Wishee Washee, Widow Twankey's son.

Wishee Hello, everyone!

Chorus Hello, Wishee Washee!

Chorus 2 How are you today, Wishee Washee?

Wishee It's another beautiful day in Old Peking but I'm sick of washing other people's clothes. Look at the state of my hands, more like prunes than fingers, all I ever seem to do is wash, wash, wash. It's the family business and my mother, Widow Twankey, works hard too. But my brother Aladdin never seems to be around. I work really hard, never have time off and because of that I don't have many friends. Oh, I don't think I can spend one day more in that laundry. *(suddenly notices audience)* Hello, what are you lot doing sitting there in the dark?

(Audience reaction)

You're very quiet, aren't you? We'll soon put a stop to that. *(to audience)* My name's Wishee Washee, I'm Widow Twankey's son, she has a laundry just over there *(indicates Twankey's Laundry)*. You might have just heard me say that. What are your names? *(pause for audience reaction)* ... Yes, I think I've got that. There are eight Britneys, seven Jacks, six Olivers, five Sarahs, an Ethel and a Kevin on the back row.... *(chance to*

acknowledge groups in the audience) Oh, if you're going to be here for a while would you like to be my friends?

(Audience reaction)

Wishee Wow, really? That's great. Will you say hallo when you see me? *(audience reaction)* Will you? Oh, thanks! But there's too many of you to remember all your names, so if I say 'Hallo you lot!' and you can say 'Hallo Wishee Washee!' Shall we try it?

Wishee exits and returns

Wishee Hello you lot!

(pause for audience reply, chorus joins in and encourages audience)

Wishee Well, that's not bad for a first time. But I bet you can do better, let's try again.

Wishee exits and returns

Wishee Hello you lot!

(audience replies, with help from chorus)

That's better! So we'll do that every time I see you, OK? And I've got another idea, can I try out one of my knock-knock jokes out on you. I've got loads of them. *(he has, there are some suggestions in the script but feel free to use your own, especially if you can find topical or local ones)* Do you know how knock-knock jokes work? *(explains if necessary)* Let's try one.

Knock, knock.

(Audience Who's there?)

Tank.

(Audience Tank who?)

You're welcome!

I've got loads more like that but I'd better get back, there's loads of washing to do and mum's always in a bad mood if she's left on her own for too long.

Widow Twankey enters, possibly through auditorium, with shopping baskets and makes her way through the crowd DS.

Wishee turns to go and comes face to face with Twankey, turns again and tries to get away before she sees him but fails.

Twankey There you are! *(Wishee still attempts to escape.)* Freeze!

(*Wishee freezes and turns to face Twankey*)

Wishee Hallo, Mum, didn't see you there!

Twankey Don't give me that you lazy little thing! I thought I'd find you here, don't you know how much work we've got to do? The Emperor's sent a set of Imperial table cloths from the Palace, he wants them washed and ironed for a banquet tomorrow.

Wishee But we'll never get them ready for tomorrow.

Twankey We have to Wishee. We're all in this together! The Emperor's only giving us a month's trial with the Palace laundry. We need the work and we need him to recommend us to all his friends on Facebook and Trip Advisor!

Wishee But isn't Aladdin at home, Mum?

Twankey Oh, Aladdin, (*sighs*) my darling boy, I think he had to pop out for a minute, you know how busy he is.

Wishee We're all busy, Mum, but it's a family business and I'm busier than Aladdin because that dreamer doesn't do his fair share, you let him get away with it because he's your favourite.

Twankey Now, now Wishee Washee, I won't hear a bad word said about Aladdin. In fact I won't hear a bad word said about either of you. You know I love you both. I know it's not been easy since your dear father died, (*produces handkerchief, sniffs, dabs eyes*) but we must stick together, one day all our dreams will come true.

Wishee Yes, and Aladdin's dreams will come true first because he gets more practise dreaming than I do.

Twankey (*angrily*) Enough! I'm fed up with this, you need to go home, there's work to be done.

Wishee OK, Mum, but if you see Aladdin you will send him home too, won't you? (*to Chorus*) Will you all help me look for him? Some of you go that way and some of you come this way with me. Bye, Mum, (*exits with Chorus*)

Twankey (*to audience*) Ooo, Hello everyone! It's lovely to see you all. Where have you all come from. (*picks audience member*) What about you, love, where have you come from? (*audience reaction, depending on answer*) Ooo! That's posh isn't it? or Well, it's nice to get out of the house, isn't it? I can see you've all dressed up for your evening out. Good job (*Local town*) has all those charity shops, isn't it? Have you dressed up because it's so cold today? Winter drawers on (*lifts skirt to show off voluminous bloomers*) and very fetching they look too! Here we are in the market place in Old Peking, it's a very good market. I'm Widow Twankey and I own a laundry. Have you heard of it? Do you know where it is?

(chance for *It's behind you* from audience if Twankey's Laundry appears on backcloth). Yes, that's Twankey's Laundry – The Best Laundry In Town. Well if I'm honest Twankey's Laundry – The Only Laundry in Town. We live in a flat upstairs - a very small flat. It's so small that when I chop onions in the kitchen everyone in the flat starts crying . . . and the flat next door too. So small, in fact, that when the postman comes if I open the back door quickly enough he can put all the bills straight in the dustbin. That's what I do with bills. We've always been short of money and it's got worse since my dear husband died. And I've got two growing boys to clothe and feed. I do love my sons but they're not exactly hard workers. Aladdin has so many ideas about making money but they never seem to come to anything. Wishee tries hard but he's not the sharpest tool in the box. He's a prawn cracker short of a takeaway. Ooo, I am getting down in the dumps, aren't I? Do you know what I do when that happens? I Sing Sing a song and it makes me feel better. It doesn't always make other people feel better but the doors have been locked so there's no escape now . . .

MUSIC 2

TWANKEY

As song ends Wishee enters with Aladdin.

Wishee Mum, I've found Aladdin! (to Aladdin) Tell Mum where you've been.

Aladdin Well I had another one of my ideas so I had to visit someone and then, well, I suppose I lost track of time.

Wishee I don't want to hear any more, Aladdin. How many ideas have you had that you were sure were going to make us some money?

Aladdin There have been a few, I suppose.

Wishee How many?

Aladdin I don't know exactly.

Wishee I do, you've had exactly twenty seven in the last month.

Aladdin Oh, that many?

Twankey (lovingly) He's always thinking up some little scheme to help his old mum.

Wishee And how much money have they made?

Aladdin I don't know exactly

Wishee I know exactly, nothing, zilch, nada!

Aladdin Well, some of the ideas are still in the planning stage. I am hoping to talk to the people on that programme on Chinese television, you know, Dragon's Den.

Chorus begin to re-enter gradually, all are back on stage before entrance of Chief of Police and PC 27

Wishee That will never work, you'd have as much success talking to the dragons at the Imperial Palace and they're statues!

Aladdin Oh, but if only I got the chance to pitch my ideas on TV someone will see that I have talent.

Wishee You've got no chance!

Aladdin Why not?

Wishee Because TV's not going to be invented for another two thousand years!

Aladdin Oh, yeah!

Washee You'll just have to dream of winning the Peking State lottery or marrying a rich girl like the rest of us.

Aladdin One day I will marry a beautiful girl and live in a big house and have lots of kids.

Wishee That's just what it is Aladdin, a dream, things like that don't happen to people like us.

Aladdin Perhaps they could, Wishee, perhaps they could. (sighs)

Twankey Right that's enough dreaming from both of you. Off you go back to the laundry and get to work, I'll be back as soon as I finish the shopping...

SOUND 2

POLICE THEME

Chief of Police and PC 27 enter, possibly on a tricycle. Each time they enter the theme from a different TV police programme or a police siren is heard and possibly a flashing blue light. The chorus of Citizens are very nosy and keen to find out what is going on and crowd round each time the police are on stage. Chief of Police and PC 27 try to keep the crowd to back and sides of stage with little success. Twankey is besotted with the Chief of Police, but he does not have the same feelings. Twankey notices the Chief of Police and waves. Giggling, she shooes Aladdin and Wishee away, they do not go far, watching Twankey and the Chief with growing amusement.

Twankey Cooee! Chiefy dear! How are you?

Chief Widow Twankey, it's lovely to see you, but I haven't got time to chat today, I am here on official business. The Grand Vizier is about to make a very important announcement.

Twankey But, it's so long since I saw you, when will I be able to see you again? What about supper tonight?

Chief We are very busy at the moment; there's been a bit of a crime wave in Old Peking and the entire Peking Constabulary is on the case.

Twankey But there's only you and PC 27 here.

Chief That's right; thanks to all the government cutbacks (and the threat of Brexit) we are the entire Peking Constabulary.

Twankey What's been happening then?

Chief A large hole appeared in the middle of the road outside the Imperial Palace overnight with no explanation.

Twankey What are you doing about it?

Chief Tell her PC 27

PC 27 (*consults notebook*) We are looking into it.

Chief And that's not all, all the toilets have been stolen from the Police Station.

Twankey Who did that?

Chief PC 27?

PC 27 (*consults notebook*) We are making enquiries, but at the moment we have nothing to go on.

Chief Anyway, Madam, as I said I am here on official business. Please do not obstruct me in the line of my official duties.

Twankey But what's the announcement about?

Chief If you let me do my job you will all find out. (*to PC 27*) PC 27, clear a space for the Grand Vizier to make his announcement!

PC 27 finally succeeds in clearing Citizens to the back of stage amid general excitement.

Chief Citizens of Peking, pray silence for the Grand Vizier !

SOUND 3**FANFARE**

The *Grand Vizier* and possibly attendants enter SR and take a place DSC.

Vizier (*unrolls a scroll and reads from it*) Citizens I bring you a royal decree from his Importance, the Emperor of Peking. His daughter, the Princess Jasmine, is soon to travel though the market place. Due to the Princesses high rank and incredible beauty none may look directly at her. All Citizens are ordered to turn their faces away, on pain of death!

Aladdin and **Wishee** emerge from the crowd

Aladdin What did he say?

Wishee (*imitating Vizier*) On pain of death!

Aladdin What's that mean?

Wishee It means that if you look at the Princess, then you be put to death.

Aladdin That would be painful.

Wishee (*having an idea*) Here, Aladdin, now's your chance.

Aladdin What do you mean?

Wishee Well, you were talking about winning the lottery and marrying a beautiful girl. Now's the chance to do them both at once.

Aladdin What are you on about?

Wishee Well, I've heard tell that Princess Jasmine is the most beautiful girl in the whole of Peking.

Aladdin Yes, that's what they say.

Wishee And if she's the Emperor's daughter, she's got to have a yen or two, hasn't she?

Aladdin Well, I suppose so.

Wishee Right, I dare you to look at the Princess as she goes past so you see who to marry to be rich.

Aladdin Oh, I don't know about that, you heard what the Vizier said, (*imitates Vizier*) "On pain of death!"

Wishee Ha! I knew you'd be too chicken to do it! You always have a lot to say, but you never follow through with your hare brained schemes.

Aladdin (suddenly brave) Alright, I'll do it!

Wishee I'll believe that when it happens!

Aladdin Just you wait and see!

Chief of Police, PC 27 and the Vizier's entourage sweep Aladdin away, he remains at the front of the crowd who turn away. During the Princess' and Sing Sing's conversation he manages to sneak a look at them without being seen by the Police officers.

SOUND 4

FANFARE

Enter SL Emperor of Peking, Princess Jasmine, Sing Sing and Senior Dancers as Imperial guards slowly, they halt CS, Princess Jasmine is enjoying being out of the Palace grounds. Emperor and Vizier go to DSR and converse quietly.

Princess Oh, it's so good to get out of the palace on such a beautiful day.

Sing Sing Princess, why do you insist on these visits to the market? Your father loves you dearly and gets you anything you want. You have servants who wait on you hand and foot and a long line of suitors competing for your hand in marriage.

Princess Oh, but my life can be so boring sometimes. Do you know I have never made a cup of tea for myself there's always been someone to do it for me.

Sing Sing And that's something to complain about? Thousands of girls would gladly swap places with you.

Princess And the suitors! They're all sons of Emperors from faraway lands who my father thinks would make a suitable match. He doesn't know what a girl really wants in a husband, all he thinks of is the dowry they can bring and the size of their kingdom. Why can't I just go out and find a husband like other girls?

Sing Sing But you're just not like other girls, you are the daughter of the Emperor of Peking, your father's right, money and status matter for someone in your position, not looks.

Princess No, I'm not having that! I will choose my own husband. Can you keep a secret?

Sing Sing Don't I always keep your secrets?

Princess Of course, you are my dearest friend. These walks are part of a plan, soon I will persuade him to allow me out on a trip on my own with only you as company. That's I shall begin my search for a husband, he will be my choice.

Sing Sing But your father would never allow you out of the palace without a guard.

Princess Just you wait and see ...

Emperor moves to Princess and Jasmine

Emperor Are we to stand here much longer, my dear, you know ordinary people make me nervous.

Princess But, Daddy dear, we've only just arrived, can't we stay for a little longer?

Emperor I really think we should be moving along, it'll soon be time for lunch and you have another visitor coming this afternoon.

Princess Not another one, you didn't tell me.

Emperor We need to find you a husband, my dear. Someone to help with the running of Peking – I'm not getting any younger you know – and neither are you.

Princess Of course, Daddy dearest, you know best. (*Turns towards Sing Sing and gives her a big wink*)

Emperor Vizier, tell the Chief of Police we are moving.

Vizier Of course, your importance. Chief! Off we go.

Princess (*to Sing Sing*) See, he's putty in my hands!

Sing Sing shakes her head, laughing, and follows her friend off stage. .

Crowd and Widow Twankey exit talking animatedly about the proceeding, Aladdin is left CS rooted to the spot with a blank expression on his face.

Wishee comes over to Aladdin and stares at him.

Wishee What's wrong with you?

(waves hand in front of Aladdin's face) Hallo! (*no reaction*) Wake up, stupid.

Aladdin remains immobile

Wishee shakes Aladdin

Aladdin (*coming to*) What? ... Where? ... Who was that girl?

Wishee She's the girl you're going to marry. She's going to solve all our money problems, don't you remember?

Aladdin She is so beautiful. That is the girl I'm going to marry.

Wishee Yeah, right!

Aladdin No, you don't understand. I love her, I loved her from the first moment I set eyes on her and I am going to marry her.

Wishee She's far too good for you! She doesn't even know you exist.

Aladdin But she will, I promise you, she will.

Wishee In your dreams! Right, I'm going back to the laundry and you'd better be there soon. *(exits)*

Half tabs/ half cloth comes in to facilitate scene change

Aladdin *(sighs)* Just you wait and see, Wishee, just you wait and see.

MUSIC 3

ALADDIN

Aladdin sighs and exits after song.

ACT ONE SCENE TWO

Half cloth or set on truck in front of half tabs depending on what you can manage.

Widow Twankey's Laundry

A washing line with items of clothing is slung across the stage. Two large front loading washing/drying machines are set CS, they should be big enough for Wishee Washee to get in through the front and the smallest member of the cast (if used) to be in from the beginning of the scene. If there enough space behind these machines Wishee can get off stage, without being seen by the audience, if not Wishee will have to wait for scene change.

Twankey and Wishee enter SR with baskets or piles of washing, Wishee drops his and turns to the audience.

Wishee Hallo, you lot!

Audience reaction

Knock, knock.

(Audience who's there?)

'Tish

(Audience 'Tish who?)

Bless you!

Twankey That's enough of that, there's too much to do today. We've got all the laundry from the Imperial Palace to get done.

They start sorting bags of laundry.

Wishee I hate this job, it's pants.

Twankey Yes, it's not the best job in the world.

Wishee I know what it is, it's pants, look! *(produces very large pair of pants from bag of laundry)* It's the Emperor's pants. *(waves them at Twankey or puts them on his head)*

Twankey What have I just told you? We've got too much to do to muck about. *(looking around)* LET'S GET ON WITH IT!!

They set about sorting laundry. Wishee begins to load the washing machine.

Twankey Let's get the first load on.

Wishee Where's the powder?

Twankey produces an enormous box of washing powder and puts some into the machine.

Wishee slams the door shut and presses some buttons or twiddles dials, then stands back.

Nothing happens

Wishee and Twankey look at each other. They press some more buttons

Nothing happens

Twankey What's wrong now?

Wishee The machine's not working

Twankey I can see that, don't say it's broken, not with what all we've got to do today. Is the door shut properly?

Washee (trying door) Yes.

Twankey Is it on the right programme?

Washee (checks) Yes.

Twankey Is it plugged in?

Wishee (checks) Yes

Twankey And turned on?

Washee (checks) Yes

Twankey Let's have a look then (she opens the door) ... Look you've put far too much washing in, you'll have to take some out, it'll never work with all that in there. You'll have to take some out.

Wishee What? But then it'll take longer to get it done.

Twankey Don't argue, get on with it.

Wishee starts to pull clothes out of machine

Twankey All the powder's on top, it's coming out with the washing, we'll have to put some more in.

Twankey picks up the box and turns round hitting Wishee and knocking him into the machine. Twankey does not see this and, thinking all is well, slams the door shut and presses the start button. The machine starts and shakes.

SOUND 5**WASHING MACHINE NOISES**

Twankey What's wrong with this thing ? Wishee? *(to audience) Where's Wishee gone? (realises what she has done and struggles to get the door open) Oh no! Wishee! (finally manages to get door open and looks inside, if you have been able to get Wishee out!)* Where is he? Oh, no, the washing automatically gets moved to the drier!

Twankey goes to drier and opens door. She either pulls out a doll or smallest member of the chorus dressed as Wishee.

Twankey Oh, my poor boy! The heat's shrunk him! Quick, I must get him to the hospital! Quick! *(picks up chorus member and exits) Nee-nah, nee-nah, nee-nah! (as ambulance siren)*

Blackout

ACT ONE SCENE THREE

Another half cloth or could be set on reverse of Twankey's laundry truck which is turned as scene changes.

The Gardens of the Emperor's Palace

A bench set in front of a beautiful garden.

Princess and Sing Sing sit on bench, doing hair, nails etc.

MUSIC 4

PRINCESS

As song ends Sing Sing holds up mirror for Princess to admire her hair.

Sing Sing There, Princess, what do you think?

Princess (fed up) Oh, it's alright I suppose.

Sing Sing But you are the most beautiful girl in all of Old Peking, any handsome Prince would faint were you even to look at him.

Princess That's all very well, but if I never meet a handsome Prince it doesn't matter what I look like, does it?

Sing Sing Don't despair, Princess, I'm sure that the man for you is nearer than you think and once you've met him you will live happily ever after.

Princess Do you really think so? (Sing Sing nods) It doesn't feel like it to me. If only I could get away from this Palace and meet real boys then, perhaps, I might find someone I could really love. (sighs)

Much fuss by Sing Sing

But now, I would like some peace and quiet, please leave me alone for a while.

Sing Sing tries to protest, but is silenced by the Princess' raised hand.

No, my mind is made up, off you go.

Sing Sing exits

Princess If only the man I am to marry was near, but that could never be true (sighs).

Aladdin enters, as if squeezing through a hedge if scenery allows, he brushes himself down and then sees Princess

Aladdin *(aside)* It's her! I knew it! Now all I have to do is introduce myself to her and ... and then what? Tell her that a boy from the only laundry in town, loves her and wants to marry her? She'd never even look at someone like me. I must get out of here before someone sees me and I am arrested by the Imperial guards.

Aladdin makes to go, suddenly the Princess realises he is there, she calls out stopping him in his tracks.

Princess What are you doing here? Don't you know that the penalty for entering the Palace garden is life imprisonment?

Aladdin *(turning to face Princess, head bowed)* Forgive me, I lost my way, I was looking for the...

Princess Looking for what? There are signs everywhere and six foot walls, you cannot have got in here by accident.

Aladdin I ... err...

Princess Don't stand there mumbling like a fool, don't you realise who you are talking to?

Aladdin Yes, your highness, I know exactly who you are.

Princess Well, at least have the manners to look at me!

Aladdin raises his head and looks directly at the Princess, they stand staring at each other, open mouthed.

SOUND 6

Tinkly falling in love instantly stuff

Aladdin and the Princess turn towards the audience and sigh deeply, then turn back to face each other.

And again if you really want to milk it.

Aladdin Your highness, forgive me, allow me to go now and I promise you will never see me again!

Princess No! *(pause)* you felt it too, didn't you? It wasn't just me, was it?

Aladdin What, your highness ? I don't know what you mean.

Princess Yes, you do, I know you do. It was . . . electricity, sparks inside of me. When our eyes met I found something I'd been looking for my whole life, it was like that for you too, wasn't it ?

Aladdin (quietly) Yes, your highness, I saw you in the Market Place this morning and knew you were the girl I must marry. (pause) But this is madness, it could never work, you are a Princess and I, well, you don't want to know.

Princess But I do, of course I do. Who are you? I must know everything about you.

Aladdin Well my name is Aladdin Twankey, my mother is the Widow Twankey, and we run a laundry. I have a brother called Wishee Washee.

Princess laughs

.. yes, I know, silly name and he's even sillier than his name, but he's my brother. Oh, I can't believe this is happening, good things don't happen to me.

Princess They do from now on. From now on only the best things will happen to us both, I know it!

Aladdin But you are a Princess and I am a laundry boy, how could it work?

Princess It will work, because we want it to ...

MUSIC 5	Aladdin & Princess song
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Towards the end of the song two courtiers or palace Guards enter, they are horrified to see an intruder in the Palace gardens and exit quickly.

As song ends Emperor, Vizier, Sing Sing and the Palace Guards enter. Aladdin and Princess attempt to hide, Guards prevent Aladdin getting away. Princess is comforted by Sing Sing.

Emperor What is going on here ?

Vizier Guards, seize the intruder! Summons the Chief of Police!

Palace Guards (junior dancers or the smallest members of the junior chorus) surround Aladdin and perform Kung Fu style routine. Aladdin cowers in fear.

SOUND 7 thing	Palace Guards number	Kung Fu fighting type
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At end of routine Palace Guards surround and seize Aladdin

Princess Daddy, tell them not to hurt him.

Emperor They'll do more than hurt him. What has he done to you, my dear?

Princess Nothing, Daddy, this is the man I'm going to marry.

Emperor and Vizier look aghast.

Emperor What are you talking about, my dear?

Princess You can forget all the other boring individuals you found for me; this is the man for me.

Emperor My dear, you know how carefully these things must be planned; you are not in a position to marry just anyone.

Aladdin I am not just anyone, I am Aladdin Twankey and I love your daughter. *(pause, as he realises what he is doing)* your importance.

Emperor What's love got to do with it?

Princess I love him and love changes everything.

Emperor is speechless

Vizier Your importance, allow me. *(turns to Aladdin)* Young man, answer some questions for me. What is your title?

Aladdin What do you mean my title, I'm not a library book.

Vizier No, are you a Prince, a Sultan perhaps?

Aladdin Oh, I see what you mean, no, I'm not.

Vizier Does your family rule a kingdom?

Aladdin No.

Vizier What do they do?

Aladdin We run a laundry, sir.

Laughter from Palace guards

Vizier Is it a profitable business, are you in possession of a fortune?

Aladdin No, we hardly have enough money to pay for the washing powder.

Vizier Have you, perhaps, won the Peking State Lottery?

Aladdin *(sighs)* Not yet, but it is a Double Roll Over this weekend and if I can find enough money ... sometimes you find some in the pockets of the clothes in the laundry ... *(Even*

more laughter from the Palace Guards, Aladdin notices and tails off slowly) No, sir, I haven't.

Vizier Have you any qualities that entitle you to marry the daughter of the most powerful man in Peking?

Aladdin Err ...

Princess Of course he does!

Emperor What is that, my dear?

Princess He loves me and I love him, Daddy, that's all that matters!

Emperor If only it were that simple, my dear.

Vizier A prospective suitor to the Princess of China must have a certain something. We like to say 'it'.

Aladdin It?

Vizier Yes, it!

Aladdin But what's it?

Vizier A substantial fortune! Well, have you?

Aladdin (mumbles) No . . . no, I haven't.

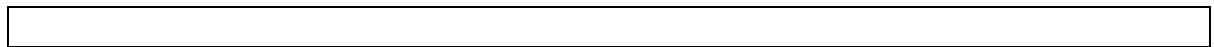
Emperor Young man, you might as well quit if you haven't got it. Guards, seize him and hand him over to the Chief of Police, a warning will suffice this time, but you will not find me as patient if this were ever to occur again...

Chief of Police and PC 27 enter and Guards hand Aladdin over to them.

... Aladdin, you are not welcome here unless you have the money that will keep my daughter in the manner to which she has become accustomed. (*looks Aladdin up and down*) In the unlikely event that you acquire a fortune in the next few days, or even years, then we may be able to discuss your marriage to my daughter. Until then, goodbye!

Princess is comforted by Sing Sing

Aladdin (*suddenly brave*) I shall be back, I will return with enough money to make you beg me to marry your daughter. Princess, don't cry. I will return!



All exit.

Blackout

PantoScripts Perusal