



Aladdin

by Peter Denyer

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NODA Presents

**ALADDIN
& HIS
WONDERFUL LAMP**

by

Peter Denyer

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PantoScripts Sample

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A NOTE FROM THE WRITER

Aladdin is one of the most popular pantomimes of all time. The story is very strong as we see the switchback ride of Aladdin's fortunes, from poverty-stricken laundry boy to wealthy suitor of The Emperor's daughter; robbed of both his new-found wealth and his promised bride, Aladdin travels to Africa to rescue his Princess and claim her hand in marriage.

Although the story has many of the usual pantomime characters, with a Dame, Widow Twankey, a lovable idiot, Wishee Washee, and a pair of hopeless bunglers, Ping and Pong, it also has probably the most complex villain of all, in the part of Abanazar. The evil magician is involved throughout the show and needs to be played by someone who is not just a "baddie" but also capable of comedy timing.

The Laundry Scene is an opportunity for slapstick fun, and the Cave Scene and Genie provide magic and mystery, and I can assure you that the scene when Abanazar steals the lamp provides a chance for a lot of audience participation!

Whether played by male or female the part of Aladdin is the one the audience identify with; he is optimistic, ambitious, cheeky and brave. Keep the impetus of the plot moving and you will have a pantomime that has something for everyone!

Good Luck!

PETER DENYER

OTHER TITLES AVAILABLE BY THE SAME AUTHOR

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

CINDERELLA

DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

MOTHER GOOSE

ROBIN HOOD AND THE BABES IN THE WOOD

SINBAD THE SAILOR

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS

THE SNOW QUEEN

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

This script, like all Peter Denyer Pantomimes, was originally produced by Kevin Wood with a professional cast. Over the years the structure and dialogue were adapted to suit the requirements of the many star actors who appeared in the show. In 1997, at the invitation of NODA, the scripts were subjected to a cleansing process returning them to something like their original form, removing the quirks demanded by particular actors, and adding stage directions and technical tips, thereby making them more suitable for licensing. During the 1998/99 Season there were over sixty productions by amateur societies. Following their comments and suggestions, the scripts were revised again in 1999, in 2000, and once more in 2005/6 - this is the version you have here.

We thought you would be interested to know a little about the background to the piece, and the various actors who have played the roles. So we've trawled through the archives and come up with this potted history. This version of ALADDIN was first produced in Cheltenham in 1984. Since then we have produced it at The Orchard Dartford, The Theatre Royal Brighton, The Wyvern Theatre Swindon, The Hackney Empire, The Gordon Craig Theatre Stevenage, The Devonshire Park Theatre Eastbourne, The Harlequin Theatre Redhill and The Marlowe Theatre Canterbury.

Over that time, amongst the many fine actors who have appeared, were the following notable performers;

Aladdin	Barbara Windsor, Peter Duncan, Lucy Benjamin and Daniel MacPherson.
Twankey	Colin Devereaux, Peter John, Christopher Biggins, and Eric Potts.
Wishee	Paul Hendy, Bobby G (Bucks Fizz!), Jeff Stevenson, and Andrew O'Connor.
Abanazar	Christopher Timothy, Colin Baker, Brian Hibbard and Philip Madoc.
Emperor	Donald Hewlett, Peter Russell, Scott St Martyn and Ben Warriss
Princess	Erica Hoffman, Joanna Ampil, Jessica Muschamp and Lucy Morgans

ABOUT THE WRITER

PETER DENYER has been writing for the theatre for more than thirty-five years, he has also directed hundreds of plays, musicals, and pantomimes, and in 1986 became the Artistic Director of Kevin Wood Pantomimes. Peter's pantomimes have been hailed as the best in the field, and his scripts cover the full canon of titles. Each Christmas there are countless presentations, making Peter one of the "most produced writers" in the country. But in spite of his success as a writer, it was as an actor that Peter became best known to the general public, with over two hundred television appearances to his credit. He is probably best remembered as the delightfully dopey Dennis in Please Sir! and The Fenn Street Gang, Michael in Agony, Malcolm in Thicker Than Water and Ralph in Dear John. What is not so well known, is that Peter's love and life long connection with the stage began as an amateur with the Erith Playhouse back in the mid-sixties. In producing these scripts for your use, he feels he has gone some way to completing the circle.

CAST LIST

Principal Roles

Aladdin -
Widow Twankey -
Wishee Washee -
Abanazar -
The Emperor of China -
Princess So-Shi -
PC Ping -
PC Pong -
The Genie of The Lamp -
The Slave of The Ring -

Supporting Roles

Willow Pattern Plate Narrator -
The Voice of Ra -
Mah-Jong -
Abanazar's Guard -
Sergeant Wong (Child) -
Mini Wishee Washee (Child) -
Aladdin's Palace Page (Child) -

Chorus

Citizens and Children of Peking -
Laundry Workers -
Jewel Ballet Dancers -
Willow Pattern Plate Actors -

LIST OF SCENES

ACT ONE

- PROLOGUE: The Temple at Thebes
- SCENE 1: The Waterfront in Old Peking
- SCENE 2: The Street of A Thousand Goldfish
- SCENE 3: Widow Twankey's Laundry
- SCENE 4: The Imperial Palace
- SCENE 5: In the Midst of The Mysterious Mountains
- SCENE 6: The Magic Cave
- SCENE 7: The Jewelled Garden

ACT TWO

- SCENE 8: Widow Twankey's Laundry
- SCENE 9: The Street of A Thousand Goldfish
- SCENE 10: The Garden of Aladdin's Palace
- SCENE 11: The Temple at Thebes
- SCENE 12: The Palace in Africa
- SCENE 13: Back Home in Peking
- SCENE 14: The Pagoda of Perpetual Bliss

ACT ONE - PROLOGUETHE TEMPLE AT THEBES**MUSIC CUE 1: OVERTURE (INSTRUMENTAL)****MUSIC CUE 1a: ABANAZAR'S ENTRANCE (INSTRUMENTAL)****FX1: THUNDER****ABANAZAR is revealed beside a burning brazier.**

ABANAZAR: Behold! The cloud-wracked moon climbs to its zenith in the midnight sky! Tonight I, Abanazar the Sorcerer, shall learn the secret of universal power. Oh mighty Ra, Lord of the Sun, Giver of Fire, make me ruler of the world and I will crush your enemies forever. This precious incense I offer thee; Oh noble Ra, hear my plea!

ABANAZAR scatters incense on the brazier, which glows.**FX2: A RUSHING WIND****The voice of RA, the SUN-GOD, is heard over an off-stage microphone.**

RA: Abanazar...Abanazar!

ABANAZAR: **[Kneels]** Speak, my Lord; your servant listens.

RA: If thou would'st rule the world...find the Ancient Lamp of the Orient - its Genie is the most powerful spirit on earth.

ABANAZAR: Where is this lamp?

RA: It lies in a deep, dark cavern in far-off China.

ABANAZAR: China's a rather large place, my Lord - could you be more specific?

RA: All further answers lie close to hand, Abanazar...close to hand.

The wind dies away. The brazier glows again.

ABANAZAR: Tell me more, Great Lord, I do not understand...what can he mean? "The answer lies close to hand". I have nothing close to hand...except this ring; I bought it twenty years ago, from a brigand in Baghdad. Could it bear an inscription that will lead me to the Lamp? I will clean it...

ABANAZAR rubs the ring...Flash: Enter THE SLAVE OF THE RING.

SLAVE: Hail master, what is your will?

ABANAZAR: Oh, weird apparition, who art thou?

SLAVE: I am the Slave of the Ring, I serve whoever wears it. All knowledge of the world lies within me. Speak master, what is your desire?

ABANAZAR: All knowledge? Tell me, Spirit, do you know the whereabouts of the Ancient Lamp of the Orient?

SLAVE: Yes, great master.

ABANAZAR: Praise be to Ra! Once that lamp is mine I shall control its Genie - and with his magical might I shall rule the world!!

SLAVE: It is true that the Great Djinn of the lamp is all-powerful...but the lamp can never be yours.

ABANAZAR: I'll be the judge of that. Now tell me where it is.

SLAVE: It will do you little good master, for it is written that The Ancient Lamp of the Orient may only be retrieved from the Cave of the Jewels by one "Aladdin"; the son of the laundress, Twankey, of Old Peking.

ABANAZAR: Aladdin, eh? Well this wretched boy shall find the lamp for me. Take me to him.

SLAVE: To hear is to obey.

The SLAVE bows and exits.

MUSIC CUE 1b: UNDERSCORE (INSTRUMENTAL)

ABANAZAR: So, the lamp will soon be mine. Hahaha!
Tremble mortals, for soon you'll see
What terrible powers await for me.
No pocket money, no outings or treats -
The first things I'll ban will be ice cream and sweets!
Holidays and fun always give me a fright...
So you'll all go to school from dawn till midnight!
I'm the wickedest wizard that ever there's been -
Let me tell you...it's wonderful being so mean!
Enough! There's no power that's too far above me
I'll soon be back. Don't you just love me...?

ABANAZAR exits: Blackout: Cloth/Tabs out revealing...

SCENE ONE

THE WATERFRONT IN OLD PEKING

MUSIC CUE 2: OPENING SONG - Full Chorus and Children
At the end of the number The CHINESE POLICEMEN, PING and PONG enter.

PING: That's quite enough singing and dancing, thank you! Clear the streets!

PONG: Clear the streets! Move along there - clear the streets!

1st MAN: Hey, you two...what's all the shouting about?

PING: The Emperor and his daughter, the Princess So-Shi, are on their way to the Royal Baths! Clear the streets!

2nd MAN: Hang on, I can't hear the procession.

PONG: No – that's because they haven't left the palace yet. Clear the streets!

3rd MAN: Then why start clearing the streets now? You're an idiot, Pong!

PING/PONG: We are not idiots!

ALL: Oh, yes you are!

PING/PONG: Oh, no we're not!

ALL: Oh, yes you are!!

PING/PONG: Oh, no we're not!

ALL: Oh, yes you are!!

PING/PONG: We are police constables.

PING and PONG put their hands behind their backs, bend at the knees and say "Evenin' all!"

PONG: Look - we're only doing our job.

PING: You know as well as we do that if anyone is caught looking at the Princess the penalty is...sheck!

PING and PONG draw their fingers across their throats: the CITIZENS and CHILDREN repeat the sound and gesture, questioningly.

PING/PONG: Exactly...[Repeats gesture]...They have their head chopped off!

PING: Which is why we are telling everyone to...

WIDOW TWANKEY is heard shouting "Clear the streets!"

PONG: Who said that?

1st WOMAN: Well...it sounded like Widow Twankey...

WIDOW TWANKEY is heard shouting "Clear the streets!"

ALL: It is Widow Twankey!

PONG: She shouldn't be shouting that...

PING/PONG: That's our job; we're the police constables!

PING and PONG do "Evenin' all!"

PONG: We'll have to have a word with her. Now, come on everyone, clear the streets!

PING, PONG and the CITIZENS exit.

MUSIC CUE 3: WIDOW TWANKEY'S SONG

WIDOW TWANKEY enters during the song introduction with a small shopping basket full of sweets on her arm and a large bundle of laundry which she puts down.

TWANKEY: Ooh, hello everyone! Are you enjoying yourselves? Why, what are you doing? I'm sorry I'm running a bit late, but I've just been having a look around old Peking market. It was ever so busy. All these big, butch, burly blokes bashing about. They were pushing me from behind – they were squashing me from the front – they were squeezing me all over.....I'm going again tomorrow! Oh, I haven't introduced myself yet, have I? My name is Euphemia Twankey and I live here in Old Peking above my laundry with my two sons. There's Wishee Washee...he's a prawn cracker short of a takeaway, bless him, and there's my Aladdin. He's a lovely lad. And they've been ever so good to me since their poor father passed away. He keeled over and snuffed it in the vegetable patch. I was cooking Sunday lunch at the time. I'd sent him out to cut a cabbage, and he never came back...[Aah]...It was sadder than that!...[Aah]...I was heartbroken...[Aah]...So I did the only thing I could...I opened a tin of peas instead! Oh, look at my basket. I'm always doing this – buying far too much when I'm at the market. I don't suppose any of you lot likes sweets, do you?

TWANKEY throws the sweets into the audience.

Now listen, I can't stay here chatting all day. I'd better be getting back to my laundry. I've got so much to do.

PING and PONG enter.

PONG: 'ere, you can't leave this laundry lying all over the street.

TWANKEY: Well I couldn't carry it another step...Do you know I've been up since six, manipulating me mangle. It's always the same, I work my fingers to the bone, and what have I got to show for it?

ALL: Bony fingers!

TWANKEY: Alright, alright - I never said it was original!...And I thought [**Name of the venue town**] was such a classy place! Anyway I can't be carrying the washing around any longer, I mean I'm nearly twenty-nine, I've got to learn to slow down.

PING: You'd better learn to add up too!

TWANKEY: How dare you! How very much dare you - I've never been so insulted in my life!

PONG: Oh, you must have been!

TWANKEY: Watch it!

WISHEE WASHEE is heard shouting "Clear the streets!"

PING: There's someone else doing it now!

TWANKEY: That's Wishee Washee's voice! I was wondering where he was.

WISHEE WASHEE is heard shouting "Clear the streets!"

PONG: It's not fair!

WISHEE WASHEE enters with a laundry cart/tricycle.

WISHEE: Morning, all!

ALL: Morning, Wishee Washee!

TWANKEY: Where have you been, Wishee Washee?

WISHEE: [**Taking a monk's robe from the cart**] I've been to collect the washing from the monastery, Mum.

TWANKEY: The monastery?

WISHEE: Yes, they've got lots of "dirty habits"!

TWANKEY: Wishee!! Well, you can take these sheets for me - I'm going to toddle off home and put the kettle on.

WISHEE: Will it suit you?

TWANKEY: Don't start! Do you two constables crave a cuppa?

PING: No, thanks very much, someone's got to clear the streets! Come along now, move!

PONG: The Emperor will be here soon...clear the streets!!

PING and PONG exit.

TWANKEY: Don't dawdle, Wishee Washee; if you get a peep at the Princess it's...**[Draws finger across her throat]**...Scheck!

WISHEE: I know, Mum.

TWANKEY: ...And if you see your brother, Aladdin - tell him to hurry home... there's a lovely, large, load of laundry, left, lying on the lawn! By-ee!

WISHEE: By-ee!

TWANKEY: **[To The AUDIENCE]** By-ee!...

**WIDOW TWANKEY gets response from The AUDIENCE and exits.
WISHEE WASHEE encourages the audience to respond to him.**

WISHEE: Whew! What a day! Mind you, it is not always like this, really I have a terrible life...you unsympathetic lot! I said, I have a terrible life...**[Aah]**...it's always been the same; when I was little we were ever so poor...**[Aah]**...we were poorer than that...**[Aah]**...we were so poor I never even had a pair of shoes...**[Aah]**...Mum used to paint me feet black and lace me toes up! Hey, do you want to be in my gang? Do you? No I am sorry you can't be, because to be in my gang you've got to shout louder than that. Do you want to be in my gang? Well, everytime I come on stage, I'll shout "watcha gang", and I want you to shout "watcha Wishee". Will you do that for me? Right, let's have a little practice. I'll just go off and come on again and we'll try it. **[WISHEE goes offstage and enters again]** Watcha gang!

AUDIENCE: Watcha Wishee!

WISHEE: Have you all gone home? My costume's louder than that. Let's try again. **[WISHEE goes off and comes on again]** Watcha gang!

AUDIENCE: Watcha Wishee!

WISHEE: That's brilliant. Now you're all in my gang.

**FX3: SPORTS CAR APPROACHING.
FEMALE CHORUS enter screaming.**

WISHEE: What's up?

Enter PONG.

PONG: Slow down, will you?! Slow down!!

WISHEE: What's going on, Pong?

PONG: It's your blessed brother! In his new vee-hickle!!

Enter PING.

PING: I can't stop him!

MUSIC CUE 3a: ALADDIN'S ENTRANCE (INSTRUMENTAL)
Enter ALADDIN in a rickshaw, drawn by MAH-JONG, one of the MALE CHORUS.

ALADDIN: Hi, Wishee!

WISHEE: Hi, Aladdin! What a great vee-hickle! What type is it?

ALADDIN: It's a Rolls Canardly!

WISHEE: A what?

ALADDIN: A Rolls Canardly...see it rolls down hill and can 'ardly get up again!

PONG: Whatever it's called, you can't park it there - the Emperor's procession is on its way!

MAH-JONG: **[Still running on the spot]** I'm waiting for my fare!

PING: If you're not careful we'll impound it in the Police Pound and if you want it back again...

PING/PONG: You have to pay a pound!!

ALADDIN: Keep your cool! It's only on a test drive! Thanks, Mah-Jong, you can take it back to the garage now, I'll decide whether I'm going to buy it later.

MAH-JONG: By the time you can afford it...I'll need an MOT!

MAH-JONG exits with the rickshaw, followed by PING, PONG and the FEMALE CHORUS.

ALADDIN: **[Looking at The AUDIENCE]** Hey! Who are this lot?

WISHEE: Oh, they're all my gang - they're very friendly!

ALADDIN: Great!...Le-Ho-Ma!...Hey, don't they speak Chinese?

WISHEE: It doesn't sound like it.

ALADDIN: Do any of you speak Chinese? Are you sure? Oh well, it's ever so easy, I'll teach you. Now, if you want to say "How are you" in Chinese, you say "Le-Ho-Ma". What was that? Le-Ho-Ma! Good! And if you want to say "Very well, thank you" you reply "Ho-Ho!". Let's show them, Wishee "Le-Ho-Ma?"

WISHEE: Ho-Ho!

As WISHEE says "Ho-Ho!" he raises his fists to head height, extends his index fingers, and waggles them twice.

ALADDIN: You could do that, couldn't you? Right, Le-Ho-Ma! Very good! But you've got to do this...**[Repeats WISHEE's gesture]**...when you say "Ho-Ho!" - or it means something completely different! Ready, Le-Ho-Ma! Ho-Ho! Great!

WISHEE: They're not as stupid as they look, are they? Mind you - that would be difficult!! Only joking! Well, I can't stand here talking to you all day, I'd better get back to the laundry.

WISHEE gets his laundry cart.

ALADDIN: Don't you ever get fed up working in the laundry, Wishee?

WISHEE: Of course I do - but you've got to make a living somehow, brother!

WISHEE exits.

ALADDIN: There's got to be more to life than washing other people's sheets! I don't know how, yet - but one day I'm going to make my fortune.

Enter PING and PONG.

PING: Clear the streets! Come along, everybody; clear the streets!

ALADDIN: But I'm the only one here.

PING: **[Looking around]** You're right!

ALADDIN: **[To the AUDIENCE]** They're getting worse, you know!

FX4: SOUND OF TRUMPETS AND MARCHING FEET.

PING: Shift yourself - that's the Emperor's procession, it's on its way!

ALADDIN: I think I'll stay and ask the Emperor to pay his bill - he owes us for three years laundry.

PING: Don't be daft, if you catch sight of the Princess it's...

ALADDIN: **[Stopping him]** I know! **[Draws his finger across his throat]** Scheck! I've always wondered why we're not allowed to look at the Princess, perhaps she's really ugly! I bet she's bald and covered in spots!

PONG: Well she's not worth losing your head for then, is she?

PING and PONG exit shouting "Clear the streets!!"

ALADDIN: **[To the AUDIENCE]** What do you think? Shall I risk it? Shall I stay and see the Princess? Right! They're getting close - I'd better find somewhere to hide.

ALADDIN hides. The sound of marching feet gets ever louder. Finally The EMPEROR enters - he is pushing an old pram or a disguised supermarket trolley, containing an ancient, horn-type, wind-up gramophone, an axe and various "bath" props - sponge bag, towel, loofah, etc. The EMPEROR reaches centre stage.

EMPEROR: Company Halt!

The EMPEROR takes the needle off the record and the sound of trumpets and marching feet stops abruptly.

EMPEROR: Come along, So-Shi! Stop lagging behind!

PRINCESS SO-SHI enters, she has a large, brown-paper bag, with two eye-holes cut out of it, over her head.

SO-SHI: Father, can't I take this bag off my head now?

EMPEROR: Certainly not! We don't want any common people feasting their eyes on your beauty.

SO-SHI: But there's nobody here! I'm taking it off! **[Takes bag off]** I look nearly as ludicrous as you do.

EMPEROR: What do you mean?

SO-SHI: Look at you! Pushing that dirty old pram around!

EMPEROR: Emperors are supposed to be preceded by mighty armies.

SO-SHI: But we haven't got a mighty army - only that silly old gramophone. Why don't we stop pretending, and let everyone know we're poor?

EMPEROR: What do you mean "poor"? I simply have a cash-flow problem.

SO-SHI: You're broke!

EMPEROR: A purely temporary period of financial embarrassment.

SO-SHI: You're skint!

EMPEROR: Alright! I'm skint! But we must continue with the pretence until the fabulously wealthy Prince Pekoe arrives from Japan.

SO-SHI: Oh, he's not visiting us again, is he? He's such a bore!

EMPEROR: Well, this time it isn't just another state visit. This time he's staying.

SO-SHI: Staying? But why?

EMPEROR: Well, because, he's going to marry you!

SO-SHI: MARRY ME? But he must be ninety.

EMPEROR: A venerable age for a bridegroom.

SO-SHI: And he's so fat - he must weigh twenty stone!

EMPEROR: Possibly.

SO-SHI: And he dribbles when he talks!!

EMPEROR: Well, nobody's perfect.

SO-SHI: I don't care how rich he is - **[Stamps her foot]** - I won't marry him!

EMPEROR: Excuse me, Miss Impertinence! I may be in somewhat straitened circumstances but I am still The Emperor of China, and if I tell you to marry Prince Pekoe - you will marry him!

SO-SHI: But Father...

EMPEROR: Silence! On with the procession! **[Winds the gramophone]** By the left - quick march!

FX5: MARCHING FEET.
The EMPEROR exits with the pram.

SO-SHI: Father! Oh, what's the point! It's not much fun being a Princess, you know. I'm never allowed to meet anyone my own age...but I'm sure there must be a boy somewhere who'd love me for myself and not just because I'm the Princess of China.

ALADDIN emerges from hiding.

ALADDIN: This could be your lucky day!

SO-SHI: Oh! Who are you? What are you doing here?

ALADDIN: I just wanted to make sure you weren't bald and spotty!

SO-SHI: What?!

ALADDIN: Just a joke.

SO-SHI: I hope you know that it is forbidden to gaze upon me - and that by lingering here you could lose your head.

ALADDIN: I've already lost it - to you!

SO-SHI: **[Shocked but flattered]** Really! **[Moves away from him]** What's your name?

ALADDIN: Aladdin, your Highness; at present I'm only a laundry boy - but I'm ambitious, I'm determined to make a success of my life somehow.

SO-SHI: Why do you tell me this?

ALADDIN: Because when I'm rich, Princess, I shall ask for your hand in marriage!

SO-SHI: What nonsense you talk. Aladdin, you must go – if he finds out that you've seen me, he will kill you!

ALADDIN: Who will?

SO-SHI: My father.

ALADDIN: Your father?

The EMPEROR is heard calling "So-Shi!"

SO-SHI: My father...!

The EMPEROR enters, followed by PING and PONG, who are pushing the pram. At the sight of SO-SHI and ALADDIN he stands transfixed - incoherent with rage.

EMPEROR: Ah!

ALADDIN: Your father?

EMPEROR: Ah!!

SO-SHI: My father!

EMPEROR: Ah!!!

ALADDIN: A man of few words.

EMPEROR: Ah-rest that boy! PC Ping - do you hear me? Arrest him!

PING: Yes, your Empireship. **[Goes to ALADDIN]** Er...er...

EMPEROR: What are you waiting for? Seize him!

PING: Oh - yes...er...er...excuse me, Aladdin; do you mind if I seize you?

ALADDIN: **[Holds his hands out]** Be my guest.

PING: Thanks very much. **[Holds ALADDIN's hands behind his back]** I've got him, sir!

EMPEROR: I am all powerful and must be obeyed. I suppose you realise the penalty for perusing the Princess?

ALADDIN: You don't mean...excuse me, Ping...Scheck?

ALADDIN frees his right hand, so that he can make the throat cutting gesture, then lets PING hold him again.

EMPEROR: Exactly! **[Repeats gesture]** Scheck!

SO-SHI: Don't be ridiculous, Father: Aladdin hasn't done anything wrong, he was only...

EMPEROR: Silence! He has broken the law and must be punished. PC Pong summon the Royal Executioner!

PONG: Excuse me, your Hugeness- but you haven't got a Royal Executioner.

EMPEROR: Why not?

PONG: He was axed. I mean he was dismissed - when you were cutting down on staff. I mean...

EMPEROR: Never mind! I shall appoint a replacement...you, Pong - chop his head off!

PONG: Oh not me, your Imperial Leather! I'm not a Chopper Offerer, sir, I'm a Police Constable.

EMPEROR: You, Pong, are a Chinese noodle!

ALADDIN: Excuse me, your majesty, but I'm looking for a new job, and it must be great being an executioner - if you want to get a-head in life!

EMPEROR: You, my boy, are exempt from the post on the grounds that your first task would be to chop your own head off! Ping, force him to his knees, Pong get me the axe from the pram, I've always been a great believer in do-it-yourself!

The EMPEROR starts doing exercises, flexing his muscles.

PING: At once your honourableness...er...er...would you mind kneeling down, please, Aladdin?

ALADDIN: Certainly, Ping. **[Kneels]**

PING: That's ever so kind of you.

SO-SHI: Stop all this nonsense at once, Father! All Aladdin did was speak to me!

EMPEROR: Which is more than enough to warrant his death!

PONG brings the axe from the pram.

PONG: Here you are, your majesticals. **[Accidentally hits The EMPEROR with the head of the axe]** Ooh, I'm ever so sorry, sir!

EMPEROR: Imbecile! Give it to me - give it to me!

PONG: Yes, Sir! **[Hits him again]** Oh dear!

EMPEROR: Idiot!! Get out of the way, you bungler, I'll handle this myself.

The EMPEROR takes the axe, as he draws it back over his head he hits PING.

PING: Ow!

ALADDIN: Ooh - the Emperor strikes back!

EMPEROR: Out of the way, nincompoop! Right...

As The EMPEROR raises the axe, the head falls off.

PONG: Ooh look, your end's dropped off.

EMPEROR: I can see that, you imbecile!

SO-SHI: Well I'm glad! Now you won't be able to cut Aladdin's head off.

EMPEROR: Don't you believe it, I've got a pair of nail-scissors in my sponge bag.

The EMPEROR goes to the pram.

SO-SHI: No, Father. Be sensible! Aladdin meant me no harm.

ALADDIN: Indeed not, sir. In fact, one day I mean to marry your daughter.

EMPEROR: You? Marry my daughter? Don't make me laugh! **[Laughs]** I said "Don't make me laugh"! So-Shi is going to marry a millionaire - not a pauper like you! Pong, wind the gramophone. I shall let you off this time, boy, but I warn you - after my bath I'm going chopping for a new shopper...I mean shopping for a new chopper! So-shi...come!

PONG has overwound the gramophone, when The EMPEROR puts the needle down...FX6: MARCHING FEET AT DOUBLE SPEED.

EMPEROR: **[Running on the spot]** You fool, Pong!! It's too fast!!!

PONG: Sorry, your Majesty.

EMPEROR: You'll pay for this, Pong. Keep up, So-Shi.

The EMPEROR and PONG exit in double time.

SO-SHI: I suppose I should be going to.

ALADDIN: Don't go yet, Princess. We could get to know each other a bit better.

The CITIZENS and CHILDREN enter.

SO-SHI: Well, I'm not sure that I should.

ALADDIN: Come on, a few minutes can't hurt. Let's have some fun.

MUSIC CUE 4: SONG FOR ALADDIN, SO-SHI AND CHORUS

At the end of the song: Blackout: Cloth in.

FX7: SOUND OF SPACE SHIP/JET PLANE LANDING.

Lights up revealing...

SCENE TWO

THE STREET OF A THOUSAND GOLDFISH

The SLAVE OF THE RING enters.

SLAVE: This way, Great master...

Enter ABANAZAR.

ABANAZAR: We've travelled far through time and space
Now tell me, Slave - what is this place?

SLAVE: This is the Street of A Thousand Goldfish, Great Master, in the City of
Old Peking.

ABANAZAR: And this is where the boy, Aladdin, lives?

SLAVE: I will lead you to the laundry of his mother, the Widow Twankey.

ABANAZAR: Then do so, and lest you should be tempted to deceive me, remember that
once the lamp is mine your puny powers will no longer be of any use to
me; and if I so wish, you will be confined in this ring for ever! Now, lead
on!

SLAVE: Yes, Great Master.

The SLAVE OF THE RING exits.

MUSIC CUE 4a: UNDERSCORE (INSTRUMENTAL)

ABANAZAR: So, my time of triumph now draws near,
With Aladdin's help I've naught to fear,
The lamp and its Genie I shall take!

So tremble children, quiver!, quake!

For I, Abanazar will be Lord,
Feared, worshipped and adored!
Ha Ha Ha!!!
Don't you just love me?

ABANAZAR exits. Blackout.

SCENE THREE

WIDOW TWANKEY'S LAUNDRY

MUSIC CUE 4b: SCENE CHANGE (INSTRUMENTAL)
WISHEE WASHEE is discovered doing some ironing.

WISHEE: Watcha gang. Oh I do hate doing the ironing - it makes you feel so flat! But it's always my job, you know. Mum won't touch it since she had that nasty accident. She was ironing the curtains...and she fell out of the window! Oh no! Look what I've done...**[Holds up a vest with a large hole burnt in it]** Ooh, my Mum'll kill me when she sees this.

WIDOW TWANKEY is heard calling "Wishee Washee"

WISHEE: **[Hides the vest behind his back]** Don't tell her, will you kids?

Enter WIDOW TWANKEY.

TWANKEY: Wishee, I need a hand, we've got a bunged-up boiler...Hello, there's a funny smell in here.

WISHEE: Well don't look at me!

TWANKEY: What have you been up to?

WISHEE: Nothing, Mum.

TWANKEY: I hope you're not lying to me, Wishee.

WISHEE: Oh no, Mum.

TWANKEY: 'Cos you know what happens to little boys who tell lies, don't you?

WISHEE: Yes, Mum - they become Members of Parliament.

TWANKEY: Wishee! Just a minuet...what are you hiding behind your back?

WISHEE: Nothing, Mum.