



Goldilocks and the Three Bears

by Stephen Duckham

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GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARSCHARACTERS

Jocko	The Carnival Barker
Tommy	The Carnival Magician
Gloria	His assistant – engaged to Jocko

Sophie Sawdust	Owner of the Carnival
Madam Zarina	A Clairvoyant
Goldilocks	Gaspar's ward

Gaspar Grey	An evil money lender
Swindle	} His assistants
Filtch	

Father Bear
Mother Bear
Baby Bear

Gorilla

Edmund)
Ermengarde) Goldilocks' ancestors –
Rufus) portrait characters
Grandmother)

Chorus of Carnival Folk

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**ACT ONE**

SCENE 1 THE MAIN CARNIVAL THOROUGHFARE

SCENE 2 ANOTHER PART OF THE CARNIVAL

SCENE 3 SOPHIE'S CARAVAN

SCENE 4 ANOTHER PART OF THE CARNIVAL

SCENE 5 THE COTTAGE OF THE THREE BEARS

SCENE 6 ANOTHER PART OF THE CARNIVAL

SCENE 7 THE MAIN CARNIVAL THOROUGHFARE

ACT TWO

SCENE 1 THE STAGE OF THE MAIN ATTRACTION

SCENE 2 THE WOODS NEAR DEADWATER MANOR

SCENE 3 DEADWATER MANOR

SCENE 4 ANOTHER PART OF THE CARNIVAL

SCENE 5 THE STAGE OF THE MAIN ATTRACTION

PRODUCTION NOTES

SCENERY

This Pantomime can be staged as simply or as lavishly as your facilities allow. Suggestions for basic settings are as follows:

ACT ONE

- Scenes 1 & 7 Is a full set depicting a Carnival with entrances right and left. Sophie's caravan entrance is stage left, and down stage right is a small tent belonging to Zarina. If Zarina's tent is impractical, the table and stool may be set in front of a sign saying "Madam Zarina".
- Scene 2,4,6 Is a front cloth depicting the grounds of the Carnival. If you do not have a front cloth, this scene can be played on tabs with additional pieces or props, suggesting the sideshows.
- Scene 3 Is a half set. It is useful to have a door into the caravan, but not essential.
- Scene 5 Is a three-quarter set. The important items in this scene are the table, three different-sized chairs and three beds – again, different sizes.

ACT TWO

- Scene 1 & 5 Is a full stage depicting the interior of a tent for the main event.
- Scene 2 Is a front cloth or tabs.
- Scene 3 Is a full set. It is important to have the portraits visible and the clock and secret hiding place well-positioned. If space is limited, it may be as well to build this set permanently at the back of the stage.
- Scene 4 As Act One Scene 2
- Scene 5 As Act Two Scene 1, with wedding decorations added. (If there is limited room, this scene can be a repeat of the main Act One set.)

CHARACTERS

GLORIA, JOCKO and **TOMMY** are all stock Carnival characters.

GOLDILOCKS should, of course, have golden hair and be a good singer. If she has any theatrical skills, these can be incorporated into the act with the Three Bears.

SOPHIE SAWDUST is the typical panto Dame. Big-hearted and with an instant rapport with the audience. She, together with **JOCKO**, provides a large part of the panto comedy. If possible, at every entrance, she should have on a different costume.

THE THREE BEARS. Costume is all-important and, as they have dialogue in their scene, do make sure they can be heard. The dialogue suggests certain performing skills that they each have, but these can be changed depending on what each actor can do.

ZARINA should first appear to be an old woman. Perhaps bent, with a croaky voice and a shawl covering most of her head. When she reveals herself as a younger woman, she stands upright with the shawl around her shoulders and speaks in her normal voice.

GASPAR is the villain of the piece. He will no doubt be 'booped' at every opportunity, but should never let the audience get the upper hand.

SWINDLE and **FILTCH** are his two assistants. Neither has been blessed with much intelligence. If anything, **SWINDLE** is a little more 'with it' than **FILTCH**. They should provide visual knockabout comedy.

THE ANCESTORS appear first as portraits and are awakened by Zarina. They are seen from the waist up only.

PantoScripts Perusal

ACT ONEMUSIC – OVERTURESCENE 1 THE MAIN CARNIVAL THOROUGHFARE

[The curtain rises on a colourful exterior scene of the fairground. On stage left is an entrance to SOPHIE'S caravan, and down stage right is a tent belonging to MADAM ZARINA, the clairvoyant. Inside the tent is a small round table with a stool on either side. On the table is a crystal ball. There is a tent flap that is closed. Other tents and sideshows are depicted on the backcloth. When the scene opens, the various characters in the Fair are on stage singing an up-tempo song.]

CHORUS NUMBER

[The COMPANY finishes the opening number. After the applause, the CHORUS, GLORIA and TOMMY exit. JOCKO crosses downstage to address the audience.]

JOCKO

Hello everyone, I'm Jocko. And welcome to all the fun of the fair. Well, I must say you seem like a very nice bunch. I bet you can't wait to see the delights of the fair, can you? *[The audience responds, and JOCKO'S smiling face disappears.]* Oh dear, is that the best you can do? You're supposed to be here to enjoy yourselves! You sound as though you've just come back from a wet weekend in Weymouth! Now come on, liven yourselves up. I'm the chief barker here, and it's my job to keep everyone happy. Are you all happy? *[Reaction.]* It doesn't sound as though you are! I think you can make more noise than that. *[He picks on a lady in the audience.]* I know you can, I heard you ordering a pint of Guinness at the bar before you came in! *[To them all.]* Come on now, are you all happy? *[Reaction.]* That's better. Whenever I see you, I'm going to call out my catch phrase. I'll shout out, 'Are you happy?' and you shout back, 'We're happy, Jocko.' Would you do that? *[Audience reaction.]* Let's have a try, shall we? *[HE exits, then runs back on.]* Are you all happy? *[The audience responds. HE might do it a second time.]* Great stuff. Now we really can have a good time. And I'd better introduce the rest of the Fairground troupe. *[HE calls off.]* Hey, all of you. Come and meet my new friends. *[The COMPANY, including GLORIA and TOMMY, enter. JOCKO introduces each of them.]* This is Tommy, our world-famous magician. Well, he's world famous in – *[Names a local town.]* Only joking. He's got plenty of tricks up his sleeve. *[TOMMY bows.]* And this is Gloria, his glamorous assistant. *[GLORIA executes a move she would normally do during the act and then bows. JOCKO speaks aside to the audience.]* I'll let you in on a little secret. We're engaged. Well, I'm engaged – Gloria's still thinking about it! She's been thinking about it for ten years! *[GLORIA gives him a shove. HE then points to other members of the company.]* And that's Mike, who looks after the dodgem cars, Emma, who's in charge of the 'win a soft toy' stall – *[HE can use the name of the actor and call out a few others if required. Finally, he crosses to ZARINA'S tent.]* And in here is Zarina, the clairvoyant. You'll meet her later. At the moment, she's chatting with her uncle Charlie.

TOMMY

I thought he was dead.

- JOCKO** He is!
- GLORIA** But where's Sophie? I've not seen her since breakfast.
- TOMMY** She went down to the town to give out leaflets advertising the Fair. She should be back anytime now. *[A voice is heard from the back of the auditorium.]*
- SOPHIE** Did somebody call? *[SOPHIE SAWDUST comes down an aisle wearing an outrageous costume. SHE carries a large bag containing a sandwich, a selection of sweets and a pile of leaflets. SHE gives out leaflets to the audience.]* There you are, sir, come and see our terrific fair. Bring your lovely wife. Oh, it's not your wife! Well, bring her anyway! *[SHE makes her way towards the stage, giving out more leaflets and ad libbing with the audience, eventually arriving on the stage.]* Hello, you lot.
- ALL** Hello Sophie.
- JOCKO** How did you get on in the town?
- SOPHIE** Oh, wonderful. I noticed there was a sale on at – *[SHE names a well-known local clothes store.]* – and picked up this bargain. What do you think? *[SHE does a twirl.]*
- GLORIA** *[Horrified.]* Sophie!
- TOMMY** How could you possibly afford that?
- SOPHIE** The assistant said it had been reduced.
- JOCKO** From what? A hot air balloon?
- SOPHIE** Now don't be cheeky. I'm a very snappy dresser.
- JOCKO** Yes. Every time she gets dressed, something snaps!
- SOPHIE** I thought it was rather fetching.
- JOCKO** It's a pity the shop won't come and fetch it back!
- SOPHIE** Now listen here. I know we're going through a bit of a rough patch, but that shouldn't stop a girl from treating herself once in a while.
- GLORIA** *[Sympathising.]* Well, I suppose one little indulgence won't hurt. And it was in the sale.
- TOMMY** *[Noticing a label attached to the back of SOPHIE'S dress.]* Sophie, you've left the price tag on. *[HE pulls it off.]*
- SOPHIE** *[Quickly.]* Oh thanks. I'll take it. *[SHE grabs the label, but not before JOCKO has seen it.]*

JOCKO Two hundred and fifty pounds?? [*SOPHIE puts the label down her bosom as JOCKO makes a grab for it.*]

SOPHIE [*Slapping his hand.*] Here, keep your hands off. Down there's by invitation only.

GLORIA It's an awful lot of money.

SOPHIE And it's my money, so we'll hear no more about it. Anyway, I think we'll get a good crowd in tonight. [*To the audience.*] You'll all come and see my spectacular Carnival and Fair, won't you? [*The audience responds.*] There, you see. The showground will be bursting at the seams.

JOCKO A bit like that dress!

GLORIA Does that mean we should get our wages on time this week?

SOPHIE Where do you think you are? Centre Parks? Anyway, go on, all of you. Back to your stalls and get ready for the rush!

[ALL exit, except TOMMY.]

TOMMY Don't worry, Sophie. I think your new dress is very – er – er

SOPHIE [*With a questioning look.*] Very er – er?

TOMMY Yes, I thought you'd agree! [*He sees her 'look'.*] I'd better go and perfect my disappearing act! [*HE exits quickly.*]

SOPHIE [*To the audience.*] You like my new frock, don't you? [*Audience reaction. SOPHIE thinks most of it is complimentary.*] Well, at least some of you have good dress sense! [*Pointing to someone in the audience.*] Not everyone, but most of you! *SHE puts the shopping bag on the steps to her caravan.* I suppose I'd better tell you a bit about myself. As you've already gathered, my name's Sophie Sawdust and I own this lovely Carnival and Fairground. My husband left it to me when he passed on to that Big Ferris Wheel in the sky. We were a juggling act. We used to juggle with clubs, plates, balls – anything you can think of. And I'm still juggling, but now it's the books! To keep this place going, I've had to take out a loan from Gaspar Grey. You don't know him, do you? [*Audience reaction.*] No – and you don't want to. Nasty piece of work. He makes – [*Name of current TV villain.*] – seem like a saint! And today is the day I have to pay it back. But I'm afraid the piggy bank's empty. [*SHE should get a sympathetic "Ah" from the audience.*] No, it's emptier than that! [*Bigger "Ah".*] But I'm not going to worry about it. I always believe that something will turn up. Whatever problems I've got, they all fade away when I see a happy crowd enjoying themselves.

SONG & CHORUS – SOPHIE AND COMPANY

[SHE starts to sing, and one by one the COMPANY enters and joins in. At the end of the number, they all exit. From behind one of the tents, GOLDILOCKS, a lovely young girl with golden hair, appears. SHE looks around to see if everyone has gone and slowly moves into the scene. SHE sees SOPHIE'S bag on the steps of the caravan and, crossing to it, looks in and finds a sandwich. SHE starts to eat. TOMMY enters and sees her. HE is captivated. GOLDILOCKS (LOCKS) finishes the sandwich, still not noticing him.]

TOMMY Would you like another one?

LOCKS *[Spinning round. Frightened.]* Oh! *[SHE goes to run away.]*

TOMMY No! Please don't run away. *[SHE stops.]* Are you very hungry? *[SHE nods, not looking at him.]* I could find you something more to eat. *[Slowly, SHE turns to look at him.]* Sophie's sandwich isn't really a substantial meal.

LOCKS I didn't mean to steal it. I've never done anything like that before in my life.

TOMMY Well, I won't tell if you won't! My name's Tommy. What's yours?

LOCKS Goldilocks.

TOMMY *[Staring at her.]* What a perfect name.

LOCKS Thank you.

TOMMY Where are you headed? *[GOLDILOCKS shrugs.]* Are you running away from somewhere - *[SHE turns away.]* - or from someone?

LOCKS *[Nodding.]* From my guardian. Oh, please don't tell on me. I couldn't bear to go back. He's such a mean man. I feel as though I'm a prisoner. He never lets me go anywhere or do anything.

TOMMY I wouldn't dream of telling on you. But this guardian of yours - won't he come looking for you?

LOCKS Yes, I'm sure he will. That's why I've got to get as far away as possible.

TOMMY Why don't you hide here?

LOCKS Here?

TOMMY Why not? Surely he'd never think to come looking for you at a carnival?

LOCKS I don't know. I've tried to run away before, but he's always found me.

TOMMY He can't keep you against your will.

LOCKS Legally, he can until next week. My twenty-first birthday. It was my late father's wish.

TOMMY That's awful. *[SHE starts to cry.]* Now don't you worry, you'll be safe here. I'll introduce you to Sophie. She owns the Carnival and is like a mother to us all.

LOCKS But she mustn't know why I'm here. No one must.

TOMMY *[Thinks and then gets an idea.]* I know. We'll find you something to do here. Is there anything you are good at?

LOCKS I've always loved animals. When my father was alive, I had my very own pony.

TOMMY Perfect. We don't have anyone who can ride our horse in the daily Carnival parade. Why don't I suggest to Sophie that you do it?

LOCKS *[Getting excited at the prospect.]* And I could help out with the cleaning and grooming.

TOMMY There you are. Problem solved.

LOCKS *[Suddenly sad again.]* Oh, but what if she doesn't want to give me a job?

TOMMY Just leave Sophie to me. I think I can do a pretty good job of persuading her.

LOCKS Oh Tommy – are you sure?

TOMMY From now on, your life is going to change for the better.

DUET – TOMMY AND GOLDILOCKS

[At the end of the number, SOPHIE enters from her caravan.]

SOPHIE Oh, hello, Tommy. Who's your friend?

TOMMY Sophie, this is Goldilocks. She's just arrived.

SOPHIE Goldilocks. What a pretty name. And so fitting with all that lovely hair.

LOCKS *[Rather shyly.]* Thank you.

SOPHIE I'm Sophia Semolina Sawdust, but you can call me Sophie.

LOCKS I'm very pleased to meet you.

SOPHIE And I'm very pleased to meet you! *[SHE curtseys, and there is a bone-cracking sound.]* Oh dear, my backbone's done something awful to my coccyx again! *[SHE notices the locket around GOLDILOCKS' neck.]* Oh my, what a pretty locket.

LOCKS It has pictures of my parents. Father gave it to me before he died and told me to keep it safe.

- SOPHIE** How sweet. What a lovely thing to do.
- TOMMY** Sophie, I've had the most wonderful idea. Goldilocks is a very good horseback rider. *[GOLDILOCKS looks at him and goes to speak, but he continues.]* So, I thought she could lead the daily Carnival parade on our white stallion, Prince.
- SOPHIE** Oh, I don't know
- TOMMY** It would be such a thrill for the crowds – especially the children.
- SOPHIE** *[Thinking it over.]* Well, I suppose it is quite an impressive sight to have Prince lead the parade.
- TOMMY** So?
- SOPHIE** *[Smiling.]* So - we'll give it a try. The salary's not much, but there's a warm place to sleep and as much food as you can eat.
- LOCKS** Thank you so much.
- SOPHIE** *[Going to pick up her shopping bag.]* Talking of food, I had a sandwich somewhere in here. *[SHE looks inside the bag.]* That's funny, it's gone! Don't tell me we've got mice.
- TOMMY** *[Quickly taking GOLDILOCKS'S hand.]* Come on, I'll show you where you can stay.
- [TOMMY and GOLDILOCKS exit left.]*
- SOPHIE** Well, they seem to have hit it off. She seems like a nice girl, and we did need a new horseback rider. *[ZARINA, the fortune-teller, enters from the tent. SHE appears old and unsteady. A shawl is around her head.]* Oh, hello Zarina. *[To the audience.]* This is Zarina, our clairvoyant. She told me yesterday you were coming! *[Crossing to her.]* How are you today?
- ZARINA** *[In an 'old lady' voice.]* Just the same. Creaking back, aching bones. I couldn't be better!
- SOPHIE** Poor dear!
- ZARINA** Was that someone new I just saw with Tommy?
- SOPHIE** Yes. Her name is Goldilocks. She may be joining us as a horseback rider.
- ZARINA** Oh, very good. I'm sure she'll make quite an impression.
- SOPHIE** I think she has already. With Tommy at least!
- ZARINA** Where is she from?

- SOPHIE** You know, I don't know. I really ought to find out. She was here with Tommy, and the next thing I agreed to give her a job. *[Slightly worried.]* Oh dear, do you think I've done the wrong thing?
- ZARINA** I'm sure she's fine. If you like, I'll consult the stars. See what they tell me.
- SOPHIE** Good idea. *[THEY cross into ZARINA'S tent and sit on either side of the table.]*
- ZARINA** *[Circling her hands over the crystal ball.]* The mist is clearing.
- SOPHIE** This early morning fog can be a real nuisance.
- ZARINA** Ah, yes. Taurus is entering the house of Sagittarius.
- SOPHIE** Oh, let's invite Leo and Virgo, and we can have a knees up!
- ZARINA** But Gemini and Aries are casting a cloud on the proceedings.
- SOPHIE** Party poopers!
- ZARINA** But wait.
- SOPHIE** Yes?
- ZARINA** I see something.
- SOPHIE** Yes, yes?
- ZARINA** A figure approaching.
- SOPHIE** What sort of figure?
- ZARINA** A tall, dark one.
- SOPHIE** Oh at last, Brad Pitt – *[Or another film star.]* – is coming for me! *[SHE calls.]* I'm here, Brad.
- ZARINA** It's all very confusing. The picture isn't clear.
- SOPHIE** Shove another fifty p in the meter.
- ZARINA** I'm sorry. The picture is fading.
- SOPHIE** Have you switched over to HD?
- ZARINA** It's no good. The crystal will tell me no more.
- SOPHIE** *[Standing and moving out of the tent.]* Well, that's a lot of good.
- [JOCKO enters and calls to the audience.]*

- JOCKO** Are you happy? *[Audience responds. HE gives thumbs up.]* Great stuff. *[To SOPHIE.]* Sophie, you're wanted at the dodgems. The steering's gone on one of the carts.
- SOPHIE** Oh no! *[SHE crosses to her caravan and picks up a toolbox.]* Where's Mike and the Mechanics when you need them?? *[SHE exits with JOCKO. ZARINA moves out of her tent and turns her back to the audience to watch them go. SHE then turns front and pulls back the shawl around her head to reveal a younger person.]*
- ZARINA** *[In a normal voice.]* Hello there. Now we're on our own, I can tell you who I really am. My name is Zarina, but I'm more than a clairvoyant. I'm here to watch over Goldilocks. A whole new life is about to open up for her, but there are those who would try to rob her of what is rightfully hers. I have been given the task to make sure no danger befalls her. That's why I disguise myself as an old woman. But for the time being, it must remain our secret. *[SHE notices someone approaching.]* Ah, I see the villain of the piece is coming. I'll go back to my tent and observe what he's up to.
- [SHE replaces the shawl and exits into the tent, pulling the curtain across the entrance. The lights dim slightly, and GASPAR GREY enters down left. HE is a sinister-looking man and carries a whip.]*
- GASPAR** *[HE calls off left.]* Swindle. Filch. Come on, you two idiots, I haven't got all day. *[SWINDLE and FILTCH, his two assistants, enter. SWINDLE is the more assertive of the two. FILTCH is, to say the least, vague. SWINDLE carries a hat with a piece of the brim missing. Presumably, Prince, the horse, found it tasty.]*
- SWINDLE** Coming Mister Grey. *[Holding his hat up.]* Look, that big brute of a horse has just taken a bite out of my hat! It's got a big hole.
- FILTCH** Well, it should fit your big head.
- SWINDLE** I don't think I like your attitude.
- FILTCH** It's not my attitude – it's your hat he chewed!
- GASPAR** *[Cracking whip.]* Will you two shut up? We've got to search this place to see if my ward, Goldilocks, is hiding here.
- SWINDLE** What makes you think she would have come to a carnival?
- GASPAR** She's hidden in all sorts of places when running away from me before.
- FILTCH** *[Ever the simpleton.]* Well, if she keeps running away, doesn't that mean she doesn't want to live with you?
- GASPAR** *[Getting angry.]* But she has to live with me. *[With his whip under FILTCH'S chin.]* It's a condition of her father's will. Besides, I'm going to marry her.

- SWINDLE** Oh, congratulations, boss. When's the happy day?
- GASPAR** As soon as we find her. According to her late father's will, when she reaches the age of twenty-one – in a week's time – she'll inherit Deadwater Manor, the family home, and all the land that goes with it. Somewhere hidden in that Manor is the old man's fortune. I have been searching for it for years, ever since he died. But its whereabouts have eluded me so far. The only way that I can get my hands on her – *[HE chuckles evilly. NOTE: This should happen every time HE mentions the inheritance.]* – inheritance is if I marry Goldilocks. Then, if anything should *accidentally* happen to her, the fortune becomes mine!
- SWINDLE** But you're already rich. Haven't you got enough money?
- GASPAR** *[Greedily.]* You can never have enough money.
- FILTCH** You sound like – *[Name of a millionaire.]*
- SWINDLE** How do you know Goldilocks will marry you?
- GASPAR** She will if she knows what's good for her. She has a roof over her head, food on the table, and clothes to wear. What more does she want?
- FILTCH** *[Smiling inanely.]* How about a bit of love and tenderness?
- GASPAR** *[Snarling.]* Love and tenderness? What use are those? Wealth and power are what get you through this life. That's what she'll learn to love.
- FILTCH** But
- SWINDLE** *[Clapping his hand over FILTCH'S mouth.]* Don't worry, boss, we'll find her. You know what they say – two heads are better than one.
- GASPAR** *[Looking at them.]* Not necessarily! Now start searching around here. Check every sideshow and search every tent.
- FILTCH** What do we do if we find her?
- GASPAR** Bring her to me, you numbskull.
- SWINDLE** Right boss.
- GASPAR** At least this visit won't be a futile one. Sophie Sawdust, who owns this ramshackle set of sideshows, owes me money on a loan I made to her six months ago. And it's time for her to pay up.
- SWINDLE** Oooh, have we got to be menacing and sinister?
- GASPAR** Yes. If she doesn't cough up the dough, we'll have to use some strong-arm tactics.

- FILTCH** Oh, I don't think I can do that.
- SWINDLE** Why not?
- FILTCH** I've hurt my wrist!
- GASPAR** *[Cracking his whip.]* We'll use whatever methods we need to. But first, you must find Goldilocks. Now get on with it. *[HE cracks his whip again. SWINDLE and FILTCH yelp and run for the exit. SOPHIE enters.]*
- SOPHIE** Who's having a whip round? *[SHE sees GASPAR.]* Gaspar Grey as I live and drink! *[SHE crosses down to him.]*
- GASPAR** Sophie Sawdust. Still peddling your little sideshows, I see.
- SOPHIE** *[Indignantly.]* Sideshows! I'll have you know this is a highly respected organisation.
- GASPAR** Sophie Sawdust's Spectacular Carnival?
- SOPHIE** Yes. All our customers call us a *spectacle*.
- GASPAR** I've no doubt. But is it making money?
- SOPHIE** We're managing.
- GASPAR** Yes. On what I loaned you six months ago.
- SOPHIE** You'll get it back – one day.
- GASPAR** And today's the day. It's time to pay what you owe, or else I shall confiscate this shoddy set of sideshows and sell it to the highest bidder.
- SOPHIE** *[Playing up to him.]* Oh, you wouldn't take a poor woman's livelihood away, just because of a few pounds?
- GASPAR** *[Looking her over.]* A few pounds? More like a few hundred weight!
- SOPHIE** I'm talking money. *[SHE starts to play up to him again.]* I mean, what are a few pounds between friends? And we are friends, aren't we, Gaspar?
- GASPAR** *[Horrified at what she is saying.]* What?
- SOPHIE** All those years ago, when we were at school together, and you used to arm-wrestle me to see who would buy lunch!
- GASPAR** I did no such thing.
- SOPHIE** Oh yes, you did. And do you know what? I used to let you win – just so that we could hold hands!

- GASPAR** You used to let me win? I don't think so. I was always the strongest at school.
- SOPHIE** Oh, you were. All those muscles rippling away under your Rugby shirt! [*SHE runs her hands over his chest.*] Ripple, ripple, ripple!
- GASPAR** Madam! Please!
- SOPHIE** [*Trying to grab him.*] I know, why don't we arm wrestle again? If I win, I don't have to pay you what I owe!
- GASPAR** [*Pulling away.*] Certainly not.
- SOPHIE** What's the matter? Afraid you might lose?
- GASPAR** I won't lose because I'm going to collect my money, so hand it over.
- SOPHIE** But I haven't got it.
- GASPAR** What?
- SOPHIE** I mean, I don't keep that sort of money lying around. You never know who's going to rifle through your drawers! [*GASPAR is speechless.*] Today's takings should more than cover it. I'll have it for you tomorrow.
- GASPAR** Tomorrow it is then, but not a minute longer.
[SWINDLE and FILTCH enter.]
- SWINDLE** No sign of her, boss.
- FILTCH** We've searched everywhere.
- SOPHIE** Who are your friends?
- GASPAR** Swindle and Filtch, my business associates.
- SOPHIE** [*Dubious about them.*] Yes, I'll bet they are. Who are you looking for?
- SWINDLE}** [*Together.*] A young girl –
FILTCH} His ward –
- GASPAR** [*Stopping them.*] It's my fiancée.
- SOPHIE** [*Aghast.*] Your financy?
- GASPAR** Yes. She went out for a walk this morning, so I'm going to meet up with her and surprise her.
- SOPHIE** Surprise her? I should think meeting up with you would give her heart failure!
- GASPAR** I can't think what you mean.

- SOPHIE** I never thought anyone would be brave enough to take you on!
- SWINDLE** Mr Grey has given her everything.
- FILTCH** And she's going to give him everything! [*GASPAR hits him and he falls.*]
- SOPHIE** Well, I hope you'll both be very happy. My condolences to the bride-to-be.
- GASPAR** [*Wanting to leave.*] We must be going. Until tomorrow.
- SOPHIE** Not too early. I need my beauty sleep! [*SHE beams at him. HE shudders and exits, followed by SWINDLE and FILTCH. SOPHIE suddenly gets agitated.*] Oh dear. What am I going to do?
- [JOCKO comes bounding on.]*
- JOCKO** Are you happy? [*Audience responds, and he gives the thumbs up.*] Great stuff! [*To SOPHIE.*] What's up with you? You look like a – [*Name of a football team not doing very well.*] – supporter!
- SOPHIE** [*Pacing back and forth.*] Oh, Jocko, I've been a very silly girl.
- JOCKO** What now?
- SOPHIE** Well, six months ago, I borrowed some money from Gaspar Grey.
- JOCKO** Not that measly moneylender?
- SOPHIE** Yes. I had so many debts to pay off otherwise I could have lost the carnival and fairground.
- JOCKO** But things are better now – surely.
- SOPHIE** Well – yes, they are.
- JOCKO** And I suppose he wants his money back?
- SOPHIE** Yes. I've told him I'll pay him tomorrow – but I won't have the money.
- JOCKO** Why not?
- SOPHIE** Because I spent it on my new outfit! [*SHE bursts into tears.*]
- JOCKO** But what about today's takings?
- SOPHIE** I need that to pay the daily bills. Oh, Jocko, I'm back where I started six months ago! [*SHE cries big tears. TOMMY and GOLDILOCKS enter, followed by GLORIA.*]
- TOMMY** What's the matter?

- SOPHIE** Oh Tommy, I've been a very silly girl.
- JOCKO** A very, very, very silly girl!
- SOPHIE** *[Glaring at JOCKO.]* All right. I can fight my own battles, thank you very much! *[To TOMMY.]* It's that moneylender I told you about. He's come to get what I owe him.
- TOMMY** That awful man, Gaspar Grey? *[At the mention of his name, GOLDBLOCKS gasps. SOPHIE nods, and TOMMY turns to GOLDBLOCKS.]* Do you know him?
- LOCKS** Er – no! Never heard of him.
- SOPHIE** Aren't you the lucky one? Nasty piece of work. And those two sidekicks of his were snooping around, looking for someone.
- [GOLDBLOCKS turns away, rather distressed.]*
- JOCKO** We'll just have to make sure we attract a capacity crowd and tell him we'll pay him next week.
- TOMMY** *[To SOPHIE.]* And no more new frocks!
- SOPHIE** I promise. But do you think we can guarantee people will come?
- JOCKO** What we need is a new act. Something to attract the customers.
- TOMMY** Yes. Something out of the ordinary – something no one has ever seen before.
- SOPHIE** But we can't afford a new act!
- TOMMY** Goldilocks could do the horse-riding sequence.
- LOCKS** Yes.
- JOCKO** And we can all pitch in, drumming up trade.
- [ALL agree.]*
- SOPHIE** Oh, you are all so kind. I don't know what to say.
- GLORIA** Come on, Sophie, cheer up. We're not going to let someone like Gaspar Grey do us down.
- ALL** No. That's right. *etc.*
- JOCKO** Remember what you always tell us –

COMPANY NUMBER

[The song starts during which the CHORUS enters. The number builds to a big production sequence. At the end, they all exit as ZARINA enters down right.]

- ZARINA** Goldilocks seems to have found a lot of new friends at the carnival, but how long will it be before Gaspar discovers where she is hiding? Her destiny lies here and not with that evil moneylender, so I must keep watch and try to thwart his plans. *[SHE looks off stage.]* Ah, here she comes now. *[SHE resumes her 'old lady' look as GOLDILOCKS enters left.]* Good day, my dear.
- LOCKS** Oh, hello.
- ZARINA** I am Zarina – the clairvoyant.
- LOCKS** I'm pleased to meet you. Everyone has been so friendly since I arrived.
- ZARINA** They are a friendly bunch. You'll soon fit in. Let me see your hand.
- LOCKS** Oh, I'm afraid I have no money
- ZARINA** I need no payment. This I do because of who you are. *[SHE takes GOLDILOCKS' hand and looks at it.]* You have been unhappy, my dear. *[GOLDILOCKS turns her head away.]* But don't fret. Things are starting to change for you. Here you will find yourself amongst friends who will care for you. One especially. *[SHE sees something in the hand.]* But wait! What is this? A dark figure crossing your destiny line. *[GOLDILOCKS looks worried and pulls her hand away.]* The course of true happiness doesn't always run smoothly, but have faith and trust in yourself – and in your new friends.
- LOCKS** *[Slightly wary about ZARINA.]* I will. Thank you.
- ZARINA** No need to thank me. But remember what I have said. Trust in your friends. *[SHE exits down right. GOLDILOCKS is troubled and looks at her hand. JOCKO runs on from left and does his 'pose'.]*
- JOCKO** Are you happy? *[Audience responds. HE gives thumbs up.]* Great stuff! *[To GOLDILOCKS.]* Hello Goldie. How are you settling in?
- LOCKS** Fine, thank you, Jocko. I've just met Zarina. She read my palm.
- JOCKO** Oh yes. She's our regular – *[Gives the name of a well-known clairvoyant or astrologer.]* Has her own column in the – *[Name of local paper.]*
- LOCKS** She said my destiny lay here.
- JOCKO** Then you've come to the right place! Anyway, I've come to tell you that Tommy has saddled up Prince for you to try out. He's on the showground.
- LOCKS** Oh, thank you, Jocko. I'll see you later. *[SHE exits right. JOCKO starts to cross to stage left. SWINDLE and FILTCH enter from the left and stop him.]*

SWINDLE Just a moment, mate. You might be able to help us.

JOCKO The only person who can help you is a plastic surgeon!

SWINDLE What was that?

JOCKO Nothing. Just a little joke.

FILTCH 'ere, who are you calling a little joke?

JOCKO *[Pointing to SWINDLE.]* Him.

FILTCH Oh, that's all right then.

JOCKO What can I do for you?

SWINDLE We're looking for someone.

JOCKO You've found him!

SWINDLE Not you. We're looking for a young girl.

JOCKO Aren't we all?

FILTCH She's run away.

JOCKO Who from?

SWINDLE Our boss.

FILTCH And he's not very happy.

JOCKO What does this girl look like?

SWINDLE She's about this high. *[Hold out his hand measuring GOLDILOCKS' height.]*

FILTCH *[With too big a gesture.]* And about this wide!

SWINDLE *[Hitting him.]* No, she's not! She's very slim. And she's got red hair.

FILTCH It's yellow.

SWINDLE Well, it's a sort of reddy-yellow.

FILTCH More like golden.

JOCKO *[Realising they could be talking about Goldilocks.]* Golden?

SWINDLE And such a good cook.

FILTCH Yes. We missed dinner last night and breakfast this morning.

SWINDLE We need to find her – and quick.

FILTCH She’s going to marry our boss.

JOCKO Then why has she run away? Did she get cold feet?

FILTCH No, she had her shoes on! [*JOCKO rolls his eyes and shakes his head at the audience.*]

SWINDLE Just wedding nerves, I expect.
[TOMMY enters left and listens to them.]

JOCKO And what did you say her name was?

FILTCH Goldilocks.

TOMMY Goldilocks?

SWINDLE [*Turning to him.*] Yes. You haven’t seen her, have you?

TOMMY [*Shaking his head and indicating JOCKO should do the same.*] No!

JOCKO No! No one of that name around here.

FILTCH Well, if she should turn up, just let us know.

JOCKO Okay.

TOMMY Why don’t you try looking on the other side of the fairground? By the woods.

SWINDLE The woods. Good idea. I bet she’s hiding there.

FILTCH We’ll find her. When we’ve got a task to do, we keep at it until we get a result. We’re very fastidious.

JOCKO Yes. He’s fast, and you’re hideous.

TOMMY [*Pointing off left.*] The woods are that way.

SWINDLE Are they? [*HE points right.*] But I thought it was

JOCKO [*Pointing left.*] No, that way. It’s a shortcut.

FILTCH Oh, thank you. See you again.

JOCKO Don’t bet on it, mate!

SWINDLE What?

TOMMY He said, "can't wait!" *[Pushing them off left.]* Goodbye. *[SWINDLE and FILTCH exit left. TOMMY turns to JOCKO.]*

JOCKO What's going on, Tommy? Why are those two looking for Goldilocks?

TOMMY They must work for her guardian. She's run away from him because he was so mean to her. Oh, Jocko, please don't tell anyone who she really is.

JOCKO Of course not. The secret is safe with me.

TOMMY Thank you. It's only until next week, her twenty-first birthday. Then she will be free of him.

JOCKO And good riddance by the sound of it.

[GLORIA enters right.]

GLORIA Tommy, there you are. Goldilocks is ready to try out Prince.

TOMMY Oh, really?

GLORIA *[Knowingly.]* I thought you might like to watch.

TOMMY *[Slightly embarrassed.]* Yes, yes. I suppose I should. Make sure everything is all right with Prince. *[HE exits right.]*

[GLORIA and JOCKO move down stage, and a front cloth depicting any part of the carnival drops in.]

PantoScripts Perusal

SCENE 2 ANOTHER PART OF THE CARNIVAL

GLORIA I think Tommy is quite smitten with our new horseback rider.

JOCKO Really?

GLORIA Surely you noticed?

JOCKO Noticed what?

GLORIA How he's been following her around ever since she arrived.

JOCKO He's just making her feel welcome.

GLORIA You mean like how you made me feel welcome when I first arrived?

JOCKO Did I?

GLORIA No!

DUET – GLORIA AND JOCKO

[At the end of the number, the lights fade and the scene changes to]

PantoScripts Perusal

SCENE 3 INSIDE SOPHIE'S CARAVAN

[A brightly coloured inset scene with an entrance left and a curtained entrance up right. A small table is against the wall down right. On it are various items, including a large container of bath salts. As the scene opens, we hear SOPHIE singing to herself off stage.]

SOPHIE I feel pretty, oh so pretty! *[There is a knock at the door.]* Come in if you dare!

[TOMMY enters.]

TOMMY Hello Sophie.

SOPHIE Is that you, Tommy?

TOMMY Yes.

SOPHIE Just a minute. *[There is another knock.]* Come in if you're wealthy!

[JOCKO enters.]

JOCKO Are you happy? *[The audience responds. HE gives thumbs up.]* Great stuff. *[To TOMMY.]* Hello Tommy, where's Sophie?

TOMMY She's back there. *[HE calls.]* Sophie, what are you doing?

SOPHIE I'm trying on my new costume.

JOCKO New costume? What's that for?

SOPHIE When I'm at the entrance booth, welcoming the punters.

JOCKO Come on then, let's have a look.

[SOPHIE emerges wearing an outrageous costume. It represents an attraction at the fair, such as a Ferris Wheel etc. On her behind is a bum-bag.]

SOPHIE *[Doing a twirl.]* Well, what do you think?

TOMMY *[Open-mouthed.]* It's certainly different.

SOPHIE It's so people can see me from far away.

[TOMMY and JOCKO look at each other with surprise.]

JOCKO Dressed like that, they'll see you in Australia!

TOMMY *[Pointing to the bum-bag.]* And what's that for?

- SOPHIE** *[Reaching around and pulling out a bottle of gin.]* Refreshments! *[SHE takes a drink and puts the bottle back.]*
- JOCKO** Very impressive.
- TOMMY** But you don't need to go to all that trouble.
- SOPHIE** I do. With what I owe that awful Gaspar Grey, we need to attract as many people as possible.
- TOMMY** Talking of that, what did you think of Goldilocks riding Prince?
- SOPHIE** She was very good.
- TOMMY** So will it be all right for her to stay?
- SOPHIE** *[Teasing him.]* Well
- TOMMY** Sophie!
- SOPHIE** Yes, of course.
- TOMMY** I'll go and tell her the good news. *[HE exits.]*
- SOPHIE** I think our Tommy is smitten. And he's not the only one. Did you know old Gaspar is getting married again? He told me so this morning.
- JOCKO** Who on earth would want to marry him?
- SOPHIE** Well, he was considered quite a catch in his day.
- JOCKO** Quite a catch? The only thing to do now is throw him back!
- SOPHIE** He was out looking for his *financy*. Had a couple of shady-looking characters with him.
- JOCKO** *[Picking up on this.]* Was one of them – *[HE describes SWINDLE.]* and the other – *[HE describes FILTCH.]*?
- SOPHIE** Yes. Do you know them?
- JOCKO** No! Never seen them!
- SOPHIE** Well, you've got a pretty good idea of what they look like!
- JOCKO** Just a guess.
- SOPHIE** *[Suspicious.]* Jocko, is there something you're not telling me?
- JOCKO** No! I'd better go and do – er – some – things?