



# King Arthur's Tale - Sword in the Stone

by Ellie King

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NODA LTD  
15 The Metro Centre  
Peterborough PE2 7UH  
Telephone: 01733 374790  
Fax: 01733 237286  
Email: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)  
[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk)

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# ACT I

## PROLOGUE - SCENE 1

FOLLOWING OVERTURE and as MAIN DRAPE flies out or lights come up, we become aware of the sound of waves breaking with

MUSIC - ETHEREAL PIPE MUSIC ECHOING IN THE DISTANCE.

We see a SMALL BOAT moving slowly through the mist across the face of the setting sun

SPFX - MIST

There is the lone figure of a CELTIC WARRIOR standing in the bow leaning on his SPEAR

V.O.

Uther Pendragon we bid you farewell  
Now in far Avalon's halls you must dwell  
Your time here is over and poor mortals sing  
Sad songs, recalling the days you were king  
Your only son Arthur is nearly full grown  
And soon will take his rightful place on your throne  
Speed mighty Uther - to your final rest  
As we follow your son on his heroic quest.

The FOREST SCRIM if used becomes opaque OR the FRONTCLOTH FLIES IN

## SCENE 2 - SOMEWHERE IN BRITAIN

SPFX - FLASHPOT

and the Demon King appears - wearing a kilt. He is apparently Scottish.

DEMON KING

Hellooooooooo - it's me - your very own  
incredibly bonny Demon King! Did I hear a wee  
boo? (encouraging and to boo) Och - that's  
useless! Ye call that a boo? There's more

boos at an office party. Try again - (biz)  
It'll do for the noo. Soo we'll begin! A young  
man's awa' on a quest - so I think I'm gonna  
destroy him! (happily) I am! It's what Demon's  
do best!!

## SFX - FAIRY BELLS

Enter Fairy Queen

### FAIRY QUEEN

(pausing to accept and encourage cheers)  
Why thank you all: so glad you remember;  
It's been quite a while since last December!  
Now don't you worry about a thing  
Young Arthur undoubtedly will become king

### DEMON KING

Och Fairy Queen - don't count your haggisses  
before they're hatched! 'Cos I've found a wee  
human so evil (encourage audience to reply  
'how evil is she') she makes Meghan Markle (or  
favourite villain) look like Dolly Parton  
(favourite hero) - and she's gonna help me  
bring Arthur tae a horrible, terrible, no  
good, sassenach end! Ta ta the noo.

## EXITS CHORTLING

### FAIRY QUEEN

I'll ta ta his noo - just you wait and see!  
Does he honestly think he can ever beat me?  
He can say what he likes, I don't give a jot  
For I will bring Arthur to Camelot!!

## EXITS

## SCENE 3 - THE VILLAGE OF

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGWYLLGOGERYGHWYRNDROBWYLLANTISILIOGOGOGOGOCH  
(HERE'S HOW TO SAY IT: CLAN-FIRE-PUCH-GWIN-GICH-GOGERRY  
CHWINN-DROBWIL-CLANTIS-SILIOG-GOGOGOCH)

We are in the VILLAGE SQUARE. There are various shops  
including the POST OFFICE: it is market day.  
The Villagers, Dai & Rhea Jones, Nurse Gladys, Amaryllis  
Plant and Owen Money perform

MUSIC - OPENING CHORUS

Enter Dafydd THE DRUID

MUSIC - HAIL TO THE CHIEF

ALL SING

ALL

Hail to the Chief dippy dopey daffy druid!

DAFYDD

Now, now, now - that's Dafydd Druid, not daffy: Show a little respect!

DAI

Oh we do show a little respect.....

RHEA

.....so little - it's not there at all!

NURSE GLADYS

Behave yourselves - or I'll tell your mother!

DAFYDD

Thank you Nurse Gladys.

NURSE GLADYS

You're welcome.

They share a shyly soppy moment

ALL

OoooOOOooo!!!

Which breaks the spell.

DAFYDD

Ahem - now everyone - are you ready for the eisteddfod (Aye-steth-vod) next week.

OWEN MONEY

I've learnt a special song - all about sheep.  
And I'm dedicating it to Rhea.

DAFYDD

What's it called?

OWEN MONEY

(taking hold of Rhea's hand) I'll never find  
another you (ewe)

ALL

Ad lib baaas and groans.....

Rhea pulls her hand away and moves off followed by Owen

DAFYDD

What about you Dai? Do you have a song?

DAI

No - but I'm learning to play the violin  
(banjo, ukelele any instrument we happen to  
have) to impress Amaryllis. Maestro....

MUSIC - VERY SHORT INTRO AND AWFUL PLAYING WITH MUSICAL  
DIRECTOR ACCOMPANYING

DAI

Well Amaryllis - what d'you think?

AMARYLLIS PLANT

Well - I think I'd like to hear you play solo.

DAI

Really??

AMARYLLIS PLANT

Yes - so low I can't hear you!

ALL

Laughter

SFX - NOISES OFF, PLUS ANCIENT MOTOR CAR SOUNDS WITH HONKING  
HORN AND BACKFIRING

DAI

Ma!!

RHEA

Ma!

MUSIC - (SUGGEST GET OUT AND GET UNDER) DAME'S ENTRANCE

We see Widow Jones AND Grandpa Jones enter driving a CARTOON LIKE CAR which does a circuit of the stage. It stops at the centre and.....

SPFX - PYRO - EXPLODING CAR

....explodes, depositing them both onto the ground.

OWEN MONEY

(waving a CHEQUERED FLAG) The winner!!

DAFYDD

(helping Widow Jones to her feet) Widow Jones - you shouldn't drive like that - one day you'll go too far see.

WIDOW JONES

(giving him a push) Ooo - chance'd be a fine thing!!

RHEA

Ma - why're you still driving that old piece of junk?

WIDOW JONES

Piece of junk? I'll have you know this is a Rolls Canardly

OWEN MONEY

Yeah - rolls down one hill, can 'ardly get up the next!

ALL

General Laughter

DAI

What did you bring us ma?

WIDOW JONES

Foir you - nothing! But I've got lots of sweeties for the kiddies out there.

Widow Jones throws candies out to the children in the audience and everyone else waves and shouts hello.

NURSE GLADYS

Now come along Grandpa Jones ...(she has helped Grandpa to his feet) - you look quite rattled.

GRANDPA JONES

Who wants a battle?(takes up boxing stance)

NURSE GLADYS

No, no - did you have a fright?

GRANDPA JONES

Always ready for a fight! (still doing  
fisticuffs moves)

RHEA

No Grandpa - (Shouting) DID YOU HAVE A SHOCK

GRANDPA JONES

(looking at POCKET WATCH) Half past one.

ALL

General laugh

WIDOW JONES

It's a shame - we only keep him around out of  
cruelty! Just kidding. Come on Grandpa and  
I'll give you a piece of fruit cake

GRANDPA JONES

No, I never get it.

WIDOW JONES

What?

GRANDPA JONES

Toothache! I'm pretty fit for an old timer

NURSE GLADYS

You're not such an old timer.....

GRANDPA JONES

Half past three

NURSE GLADYS

I take it back.

ALL

Laughter

AMARYLLIS PLANT

Widow Jones, could you open the post office  
please: I need a stamp for my letter.

DAI

(all dopey and love-sick) I can give you one  
from my stamp collection Amaryllis!

RHEA

Silly boy - philately gets you nowhere!



ALL

General Laughter as everyone leaves.....

GENERAL EXIT

Leaving Owen Money alone on the stage watching Rhea leave...

OWEN MONEY

Bye Rhea: see you later.... (sigh: then to aud) Hi how are you??? You're a bit quiet - I know just to get us warmed up, everything I say, you say back to me OK?? Right - here we go. Hello..( ): how are you ( ): I'm happy to be ( ) in ( ) Llanfairpwllgwyngychgogerychwyrndrobwllylanti iliogogogoch( ) No? Well, here's something else we can do. Every time I come out here I'm going to shout 'How's it goin' and I want you to shout 'Wonderful Owen' - 'cos that's my name, see. Right, let's practice (usual biz) Well, I'm off to find Rhea. See you later.....

EXITS INTO POST OFFICE

Guinevere enters carrying a hat - she looks for a place to hide. We hear Arthur's voice off:

ARTHUR

Gwinny - Gwinny!! Come back.....Gwinny...

Guinevere hides as Arthur enters

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Guinevere - where are you? That's my best hat - ma'll be mad if I lose it. Gwinny - come on! Where are you.....

Guinevere has crept out from hiding place and is behind Arthur

GUINEVERE

Boo!!

There is a short 'chase-me-charlie' ending with them sitting on a bench/hay bale??? to catch their breath as Arthur puts his hat back on.

GUINEVERE (CONT'D)

You're too slow to catch a cold Arthur Jones

ARTHUR

No I'm not - I let you get away

GUINEVERE

Did not

ARTHUR

Did too

GUINEVERE

Did not

Beat

ARTHUR

Gwinny - will you go to the sheep dog trials  
with me?

GUINEVERE

Didn't know they'd been arrested!

ARTHUR

(beat) Oh very funny.

GUINEVERE

(laughing) Kidding! Yes I'll go.

ARTHUR

Gwinny... (beat - then he clears his throat)  
Ahem: we've been friends a long time haven't  
we.

GUINEVERE

Nearly our whole lives.....

ARTHUR

And we've always got on well, haven't we?

GUINEVERE

We have.

ARTHUR

So. Well, I was wondering..... that  
is...(pause to collect courage) will you mmmm -  
will you mmmm -(he can't complete the  
sentence)

To cover the moment of embarrassed silence, Guinevere steals  
Arthur's hat again and they begin to chase. Widow Jones,  
Villagers, Dai, Rhea, Dafydd, Owain, Nurse Gladys and  
Amaryllis re-enter.

OWEN MONEY

How's it goin'?

Arthur and Gwinny bump into....

WIDOW JONES

Oi - look out

ARTHUR

Sorry ma

GUENIVERE

Sorry Widow Jones

WIDOW JONES

You're supposed to be working, not running around like a couple of henways.

ARTHUR

What's a henway.

WIDOW JONES

About two pounds. (aud) Henway? You'll have to be quicker than that. Anyway, get on and do your chores.

ARTHUR

What chores?

WIDOW JONES

Thank you - I'll have a large gin!! (back to Guinevere) Now you - go and help the girls bring in the sheep

AMARYLLIS PLANT

(to Guinevere & Rhea) and we'd better make the sheep dip.

GUINEVERE

Only make it thicker this time

RHEA

Last time it kept slipping off the chips!

Guinevere, Rhea and Amaryllis exit laughing

NURSE GLADYS

(to Dai & Owen who are staring after the girls) What's up with those two: are they sick?

WIDOW JONES

Lovesick! Go on boys - get off and help them.

AS THEY RUN OFF AFTER THE GIRLS:

DAI

Thanks Ma - Amaryllis: wait for me!!

OWEN MONEY

Rhea....Rhea - I'm here Rhea

THEY run off after the girls, overlapping ad lib dialogue  
as.....

WIDOW JONES

(grabbing Arthur's ear) As for you - c'mere  
you little toe rag.

ARTHUR

Ow! What's up?

WIDOW JONES

Your grandfather's blood pressure that's what.  
It's time for his bath.

ARTHUR

Has it been a year already?

WIDOW JONES

Not your grandfather, Idris!

ARTHUR

Oh - he won't like that.

WIDOW JONES

He never does - now where is he??

ARTHUR

Search me..

WIDOW JONES

In that outfit? There's only just room for  
you (calling) Idris, Idris! Come on everybody -  
help us call Idris.

BUSINESS of everyone including audience calling Idris. Idris  
- a very cute young, pink DRAGON - enters through house  
ending up on stage.

WIDOW JONES (CONT'D)

Where have you been you naughty little  
dragon??

Business of Idris hiding behind Arthur who snuggles him.

WIDOW JONES (CONT'D)

Don't encourage him; take him inside for his  
bath.

IDRIS & ARTHUR EXIT INTO POST OFFICE

WIDOW JONES

And now - for the delight and delectation of  
all I shall sing a little song entitled 'Get  
off the gas stove grandma, you're too old to  
ride the range'. Professor.....

MUSIC PLAYS INTRO

Widow Jones opens mouth to sing as Arthur re-enters

ARTHUR

Hey ma....

WIDOW JONES

Oh you wicked boy - cut me off in mid  
glissando. That's a terrible thing to do to a  
woman of my age.

ALL

general laugh

WIDOW JONES

What d'you want?

ARTHUR

Grandpa needs help with Idris.

WIDOW JONES

Oh that dragon - he's more trouble than a  
party full of teenagers. Right (to aud) Keep  
your motors running, I'll be back.

GEN EXIT

There is a beat and then Merlin and G'norman  
the Gnome enter. G'norman is carrying a large  
bag or sack which he puts down.

MERLIN

And here we are. Llanfair.....  
Llanfairpwll..... Llan..... (half beat) The  
village where I left the baby all those years  
ago. (looking round) Now I wonder where ....

Merlin makes magic passes over his magical staff

MERLIN (CONT'D)

Higgledy piggedly hocus pocus, find me Arthur

(beat while nothing happens; shakes staff)  
Come on staff - focus!!

Staff glows or (?)

MERLIN (CONT'D)  
(consulting staff) Ah - he's over - there!  
(crossing to post office and knocking on door)

WIDOW JONES  
(off) If that's the rent man there's no-one  
home.

MERLIN  
(knocking again) Open up!

WIDOW JONES  
(opening door) Whatever it is we don't want  
any, besides I've got a box full of 'em, the  
carpets don't need cleaning and we've plenty  
of natural gas as it is - good morning.  
(closes door

MERLIN  
(knocking very hard this time) Widow Jones - I  
am insistent.

WIDOW JONES  
No, you're persistent. Go on - beat it  
(brushes him away with her broom) this is the  
brush off! (to aud) Brush off!!!

During the above Villagers re-enter

MERLIN  
Madam - don't move!

WIDOW JONES  
Eh?

MERLIN  
The way the light strikes you - you look just  
like a saint!

WIDOW JONES  
Oooh - a saint! St. Joan or St. Catherine?

MERLIN  
St. Bernard!!

ALL  
Laughter

MERLIN

(as WIDOW threatens him with broom again) Just  
my little joke! Please - accept these  
(produces FLOWERS from his sleeve or robe)

ALL  
sounds of awe - 'oooh'; 'aah' etc

WIDOW JONES  
Oo - magic!

MERLIN  
Yes - I am a magician.

WIDOW JONES  
So you'll be stopping for a spell!

ALL  
Laughter

WIDOW JONES  
(look to aud - back to Merlin) Actually - you  
look familiar.....

MERLIN  
Madam, I wouldn't dream of being familiar with  
you!

WIDOW JONES  
Oo, you wicked wizard! (indicating G'norman)  
And what's that?

MERLIN  
That is my g'nome - G'norman (pronounces 'G')

WIDOW JONES  
Isn't he a bit big for a gnome?

G'NORMAN  
I'm g'normous. But my brother G'nigel's even  
bigger than me.

WIDOW JONES  
Oh yes?

G'NORMAN  
Yes. He's huge, he's gigantically immense:  
he's so big(pauses).....

WIDOW JONES  
I'll bite. (encourages aud to join in) How  
big is he?

G'NORMAN  
He's so big - he makes Big Bird look like a

budgie! (or any reference that works for you)

ALL

Laughter

During the above G'nigel has worked his way out of the top of the sack. He is very small. He tugs on G'norman's sleeve

G'NORMAN

Oh, hello G'nigel.

WIDOW JONES

I thought you said he was huge

G'NIGEL

(1/2 beat) I've been sick.

WIDOW JONES

I should say - you're not far enough out of the ground to be healthy. Pleased to meet you anyway. And you - if you're a magician - do some magic.

MERLIN

Very well - give us some food and we'll make it vanish.

WIDOW JONES

Cheek! Well you can join us for lunch.

MERLIN

Ah dear lady - what's on the menu?

WIDOW JONES

An old Welsh favourite, leek soup, but there's none left.

MERLIN

Why's that?

WIDOW JONES

It leaked out of the pot! Leek - leaked.....never mind.... We were going to have a ploughman's lunch - but he wouldn't let go of it. (beat) The main ingredient in the shepherd's pie went on his holidays (beat) and the cottage pie was condemned (beat) so we'll have to make do with dessert.

G'NORMAN

What's for dessert?

WIDOW JONES

Cobblers.



MERLIN

He only asked.

WIDOW JONES

Silly sorcerer - apple or blackberry cobbler.

Come on in - and later on you can show me your magic wand!

GEN EXIT

SPFX - FLASHPOT

Enter Demon King

DEMON KING

Och, what a happy wee place: how very Disney!

Much more of this and I'll need insulin.

Still - my evil queen is nearly here. She'll get rid of Arthur before he even leaves this sticky little village and then the future of the kingdom will be dark desolate and doomed - followed by light showers with a 50% chance of flurries. Och no - can it be that I win so soon???

SFX - FAIRY BELLS

Enter Fairy Queen

FAIRY QUEEN

I couldn't help but overhear -

Were you having a gloat? I thought so, oh dear

I'm afraid your friend is going to be late

The spell I cast on her has altered her fate

Instead of arriving before Arthur goes

She won't get here in time and he'll escape his foes

DEMON KING

What???? Where is she?

FAIRY QUEEN

That's for me to know and for you to find out

She's right where I left her - just wandering about...

DEMON KING

Why you - what did you - how did - Bah .....

## EXITS

FAIRY QUEEN

Temper, temper - that Demon is such a grouch  
He should know when it comes to spells I'm no  
slouch!

Well I really must be on my way  
To keep a close eye on Morgana la Fey

Merlin & Widow Jones enter from Post office followed by  
Arthur and the G'nomes.

WIDOW JONES

I SAID you looked familiar

MERLIN

Yes indeed. I brought Arthur to you for safe  
keeping all those years ago and you've done a  
fine job. But now he must come to Camelot and  
undergo one final test to prove he's the king.

ARTHUR

I'm right here! And just to be clear, I don't  
want to be king and I'm not going anywhere.

MERLIN

Now my boy - you must know in your heart you  
are meant for greater things? Be honest - did  
you ever truly feel you belonged here?

ARTHUR

Well.....

MERLIN

You have to fulfill your destiny. Without you  
Morgana la Fey will become queen. Then the  
land will grow barren, the crops will wither,  
and death and pestilence will be the order of  
the day.

ARTHUR

Really? Oh. (beat and then strongly and a bit  
heroically) Very well - I will go with you,  
magician! (less certainly) Um - just what is  
this final test?

MERLIN

Oh - um - nothing to worry about.

WIDOW JONES

You'll keep him safe?

MERLIN

Of course!

WIDOW JONES

(making Arthur spit on her hankie as she wipes his face and smooths his hair) Make sure you wear clean underwear.

ARTHUR

Ma!! (heroically) Lead on!

Enter Dai, Rhea, Amaryllis Plant, Owen Money, Nurse Gladys, Dafydd and all Villagers

OWEN MONEY

How's it goin?

WIDOW JONES

Ooo - you're all just in time to say goodbye to Arthur.

Guinevere has entered with Grandpa & Idris just in time to catch the end of the last speech

GUINEVERE

Arthur - you're leaving?

Idris runs to Arthur

ARTHUR

Gwinny - it seems I have to. I'll come back for you; (includes Idris) both of you - I promise.

MERLIN

(has been observing his STAFF which is giving off an unhealthy glow) My boy - we must leave now.

RHEA

Why the hurry? And why's your staff doing that? Is there some danger?

MERLIN

Yes... NO! No -(innocently) we just need to - um - to make the most of the daylight. Yes.

DAFYDD

Well boy bach - we'll miss you. Here's a song to remember us by.....

MUSIC - WE'LL KEEP A WELCOME

#### SCENE 4 - FRONTCLOTH OR FOREST SCRIM - A PATH IN THE FOREST

Enter Morgana la Fey - furious

MORGANA

(to aud) And what're you looking at? Don't - or I'll turn you all into toads. (beat - looking out) Oh - too late I see. Tell me - have any of you seen Sir Mordred? He whom I laughingly refer to as my champion? No? Curse - he must be round here somewhere: how careless of him to have lost me. (she tries to decide which way to go, and shows her frustration) Aaahhh!  
I've been going round in circles for hours: it's like looking for help in Walmart (or favourite store that fits the bill). Well I'm off - um -(decides) this way.

EXITS

Sir Mordred enters limping and bad-tempered:

SIR MORDRED

Ooooh, my feet. Where is that woman. (to aud) Did you see a short, loud, incredibly evil person pass this way? You did? Which way did she go? (threatens aud with sword) Tell me or I'll have your gizzards for garters! That way?? I don't trust you - I think you're fibbing. So I'm going... (deciding) this way.

Morgana re-enters

MORGANA

Mordred!

SIR MORDRED

Morgana!!! Sister!! I mean Your Majesty! How truly wonderful to see you; how very beautiful you look: we have been bereft without you.

MORGANA

Bereft! Any more and you'll be left - without a major body part.

SIR MORDRED

Oh your highness is pleased to jest! How droll, how hilarious, how.....

MORGANA

..... much longer before you shut up. Where were you going just now?

SIR MORDRED

That way.

MORGANA

Wrong.

SIR MORDRED

(pointing at aud) It was their fault; turn them into toads! (looks at aud) Oh, too late.

MORGANA

So're you - I already did that one. (produces small device and looks into it)

SIR MORDRED

What's that, your magnificence?

MORGANA

Well brother dear - you know my magic mirror back at the castle?

SIR MORDRED

Yes....

MORGANA

This is a portable version: it's my I glass.....

SIR MORDRED

(awed) Technomancy!!

MORGANA

.....a-a-and it shows me that our little half brother has already left the village. Drat! And tarnation!

SIR MORDRED

I like it on my cereal.

MORGANA

What?

SIR MORDRED

Carnation. Evaporated milk. Yum.

MORGANA

You know, I don't think you look as dumb as you are.

SIR MORDRED

Thank you. Hey.....!

MORGANA

(shakes mirror) Frozen - DON'T sing the song!  
Grrr - I knew I should have gone android. I  
can't see anything ... (indicates aud) Hmm -  
they've seen everything that's gone on up  
here. Pop down and torture a few of them.  
They'll soon tell me what I need to know.

As Mordred starts towards audience....

SPFX - FLASHPOT

Enter Demon King

DEMON KING

Morgana! It's you!

MORGANA

Who were you expecting, the Queen of  
Hearts?(or pop star/celebrity/politician etc)

DEMON KING

Ah ha ha - yes. And how are we today?

MORGANA

What're you selling? I'm not buying any Girl  
Guide cookies.....

DEMON KING

Shame - I make 'em out of real Girl Guides.  
But no - (ingratiatingly)I bring you  
information.....

MORGANA

So inform me.

DEMON KING

Ah - right - (to Mordred) direct, isn't she.

SIR MORDRED

You don't know the half ....

MORGANA

Get on with it or you'll be walking funny

DEMON KING

Ah. Weel ah've come to tell ye that Arthur's  
left the village and he's travelling to  
Camelot with Merlin and the G'nomes.

MORGANA

Double drat. I need him alone!

DEMON KING

Ahem. (poses) Allow me to assist.....

MORGANA

And what exactly are you anyway?

DEMON KING

I (with a flourish) am the Demon King!

MORGANA

(unimpressed) I suppose a Demon could be useful.....

DEMON KING

Not 'a' Demon, 'the'. The Demon. (another pose) The Demon King!

SIR MORDRED

What's going on?

MORGANA

The plot if you'd pay attention. You (Demon) Demon thing...

DEMON KING

...king!!

MORGANA

...take me to Arthur. You (Mordred) stay close by. (to Demon) Well???

DEMON KING

(slightly off his stroke) Oh, um, right uh - follow me! Mwah, ha - ha.... (his laugh tails off on Morgana's look as she pushes past him and they -)

EXIT

SIR MORDRED

Oh don't worry Your Low and Rotten Nastiness, I'll stay really close by, because when the time comes - I'll get rid of you for good; and then I'll be king

Sir Mordred follows them off, miming an attack - strangling or smack on head or with sword or???

SCENE 5 - THE BANKS OF THE LOST LAKE

If we have a FOREST SCRIM we bleed through and if a FRONTCLOTH we fly it to reveal Arthur, G'norman, G'nigel and Merlin - leaning on his staff - entering the scene which is deep in a forest. There is a lake with a very slight mist rising behind some rocks,

MERLIN

Dear me, I'm getting too old for this!

G'NORMAN

We could make camp here.....

MERLIN

Good idea. You and G'nigel collect some firewood while Arthur and I clear a space.

BIZ during the following dialogue

ARTHUR

Is it much further?

MERLIN

Oh dear me yes - we're going all the way to Cornwall

ARTHUR

Cornwall!!?? But that's the other end of the country.

MERLIN

Well done. Ah G'nomes. Put it here.  
(firewood) Now to light the fire.

He prepares to do magic with his staff - this is where we will encourage our audience conjurors to join in by repeating the spell after Merlin

MERLIN (CONT'D)

Biggety, boogetty I proclaim  
Miggetty moogetty let there be flame!

Nothing happens.

MERLIN (CONT'D)

Mmm - I'll try again:  
Biggety, boogetty I proclaim  
Miggetty moogetty let there be flame! (Still nothing)

G'NORMAN

Maybe you need some help?.

MERLIN

Mmm yes. Are there any wizards or princesses



out there who know the magic spell? Where are you? Stand up. Good - now I'm going to count to three and then you say the spell with me so we can light this fire. Are you ready? (the G'nomes count too) One, two, three; Biggety, boogetty I proclaim Midgetty moogetty let there be flame!

## THE FIRE LIGHTS

MERLIN

Well done! Now this fire must burn all night, so the three of you go find some more wood: and stay together.

G'NIGEL

We will.

Arthur and G'nigel exit

G'NORMAN

You be all right with g'no-one here?

MERLIN

Of course.

G'NORMAN

Because you g'never g'know what's waiting to jump out and g'nobble you.....

MERLIN

I'll be fine.

G'NORMAN

Well OK then - back in a g'nonce...

EXITS

Merlin seats himself and begins to play his pipe. LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD enters carrying her basket.

RED RIDING HOOD

Excuse me.....

MERLIN

Yes??

RED RIDING HOOD

Have you seen a wolf?

MERLIN

Around here? No - but I've seen a few