



Pantoscripts Perusal

Alice In Wonderland

by Ellie King

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CHARACTERS

THE RED DEMON	Bit of a smart Alec, he seems to be light-hearted and fun but can turn really nasty when he chooses. The ultimate force for evil.
THE BLUE FAIRY	Feisty, good sense of comedy, magical, the ultimate force for good.
ALICE	Principal girl, a young adult Alice, smart, brave, the audience should love her
DAME PATTI CAKE	Dame, the castle baker, mother to the flower girls, major comedy chops required.
RED QUEEN	A force of nature take-no-prisoners type of woman, she rules her queendom absolutely
KNAVE OF HEARTS	The 'Idle Jack' character. Constantly put-upon, he enlists the audience's help to keep him cheerful. He still loves his queen even though she's changed a lot since the got engaged.
THE RED WIZARD	Tries very hard to do real magic and occasionally succeeds, he is the Red Queen's sidekick.
PRINCE WILFRED	Our hero, principal boy, not very good at buckling his swash. Kind, brave, clumsy.
MAD HATTER. }	
MARCH HARE }	Zany, physical comedy. Can double as ensemble in earlier scene.
DORMOUSE. }	

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING ROLES CAN ALSO BE PLAYED OR CAN DOUBLE AS MEMBERS OF THE WONDERFOLK:

WHITE QUEEN	Vague, sweet, small role
DUCHESS	Courtier, a little vague, kind to Alice. Small role.
THE WHITE RABBIT	Scared of his own shadow, he is also the court herald blowing his little trumpet and making his announcements.
ACE }	
DEUCE }	Red Queen's guards, male presenting.
TREY. }	
LILY. }	
IRIS. }	Flowers in the Red Queen's garden, female presenting.
DAISY }	
INCHWORM	Used to be a caterpillar, but it's been sick. Not very helpful, snobby.
TWEEDLE DEE. }	Twins. Not very bright. One scene.
TWEEDLE DUM }	
CHESHIRE CAT	Could be projection, puppet, mask or performer.
JABBERWOCK	A monster. Could be costume or puppet.
THE RED KNIGHT	An evil being: stage combat skills.
THE WONDERFOLK	Our chorus of Wonderland-type people.

ACT I

SCENE 1 - DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

SFX – FLASH AND/OR RED SMOKE: note this occurs on all Demon entrances and exit.

Enter RED DEMON

RED DEMON *(proclaims)* I am the Evil Red Demon: fear me – for I am king of all things yucky and icky: master of everything slimy and grimy: lord of that nasty sticky stuff that gets stuck to your fingers when you take the labels off things before you re-cycle them which serves you right for being a bunch of woke – anyway – where was I? Oh yes – beware of me 'cos I'm a ba-a-a-a-d boy! And this time, I'm gonna beat the powers of good once and for all, see if I don't! I just need to find a project worthy of my talents –

All of a sudden the WHITE RABBIT appears from down right and hurries across the stage to exit down left, crossing below the Demon, checking its watch and all the time exclaiming –

WHITE RABBIT Oh my ears and whiskers, I'm late, I'm late, I'm LATE! Oh my paws and whiskers, oh my nose and toes, oh my Head and Shoulders *(1/2 a beat then brushes shoulders)*, oh my oh my, oh my... *(ad lib to exit – on the way it sees the DEMON, squeaks and runs off.)*

We bleed through the SCRIM if used (or?) to see ALICE fall down the rabbit hole. She lands with a bit of a bump, sits up and looks around then follows the White Rabbit off L, crossing above the Demon calling

ALICE Oh Mr Rabbit – wait, Mr. Rabbit *(etc)*

RED DEMON Now there's something you don't see every day! Well, I don't know why girls are chasing rabbits or falling down rabbit holes, but this will be my new project. Time for me to have some fun! She'll be very sorry she ever came to Wonderland. *(begins to exit, rubbing hands together and laughing evilly etc)*

SFX – FAIRY BELLS

Note there are Fairy Bells on all Fairy entrances and exit.

ENTER the BLUE FAIRY as the SCRIM becomes opaque – if used.

BLUE FAIRY You stop right there: leave her alone
She's under my care till she finds her way home.

RED DEMON Well, well, well – if it isn't the Blue Fairy.

BLUE FAIRY Yes, I am the Blue Fairy – *(pose & wait for reaction – then...)* Please feel free to cheer!
(encourages the aud. to do so)
And as for the reason that I'm over here,
Sweet little Alice might need my assistance
So I'll keep her safe. As for you – keep your distance!

RED DEMON Oh please – this isn't *fairyland* it's Wonderland, and you've got as much power here as a solar-powered miner's lamp! *(explaining)* Miners? Underground? No sun? Please yourselves. As for you, Blue-berry, go home. Leave Alice to me.

BLUE FAIRY Oh I'm still plenty strong so don't be so fast
To dismiss my powers: I can still whup your - ahem
And the bad things here are outnumbered by good -
Except, of course, for in the Dark Wood;
And as long as she stays away from there
She'll be fine: so Demon don't you dare
Meddle with Alice's destiny
Because if you do you'll be dealing with me. *(exit)*

RED DEMON Dealing with me! Ha, fiddle-de-dee! *(claps hand to mouth)* Whoops - Nothing to see here, I
didn't rhyme. Not me. Anyway - I'm definitely gonna win this time! Mwah ha ha ha *(exit)*

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SCENE 2 - THE RED QUEEN'S PALACE GARDEN

It's a garden party - where the garden parties along with those in it. There are giant flowers, small flowers, flowers everywhere. And bushes and greenery. All the flowers are varying shades of red, except those on one rose bush which are white. There is a GRAND STAIRCASE to one side, leading through a GRAND DOORWAY presumably into the palace. It is decorated with red hearts and drapes and so on.

AT RISE everyone is busy partying, except the THREE RED GUARDS, ACE, DEUCE AND TREY who are desperately trying to paint the white roses red helped by their special friends, THE FLOWER GIRLS IRIS, DAISY and LILY

THE WONDERFOLK, GUARDS & FLOWER GIRLS, WHITE RABBIT and DUCHESS perform the OPENING CHORUS

MUSIC - OPENING CHORUS

Following the opening chorus, THE WHITE RABBIT blows a mournful note on his toy trumpet and announces

WHITE RABBIT Let the games begin!

The Wonderfolk begin to party again, playing various games including trying to play croquet using flamingoes. Enter Alice running - just in time to see the White Rabbit exit

ALICE *(aside)* He's gone again! *(to aud)* You know I've never seen a rabbit with a pocket watch before. But I wonder - why does a rabbit even have a pocket, let alone a watch? *(turns into scene)* Oh - what a strange garden - and that looks like croquet! But I wonder.....

The CHESHIRE CAT appears close by her, giving her quite a start

CHESHIRE CAT *(it speaks with a very nasal, pussy-catty sort of voice)* Mia-owoo-of course you dooooo.

ALICE Oh! *(she curtseys)* Beg your pardon?

CHESHIRE CAT Mwiii-I said of course you do - mmmmw- it's no wonder you wonder - you're in mwww-Wonderland!

ALICE *(looking back at croquet game)* Wonderland?

CHESHIRE CAT Nnyesss- everything here is wonderful. But - you musst beware of the queeennn. *(it is fading)*

ALICE Queen?? What queen? And why should I beware. ? Oh he's gone - and he left his smile behind!

Her attention is taken by the GUARDS, ACE, DEUCE AND TREY OF HEARTS who are painting a rose bush:

DEUCE Hey, watch who you're splashing Trey!

TREY I'm not splashing Deuce - it's you!

AD LIB 'Gerroff, stop splashing etc etc as there is much flicking of paint brushes etc,

ACE Oi, oi oiH'ENOUGH! It's both of you wot's a-splashin' An; I know 'cos h'l'm the orficer!

ALICE Excuse me -

ACE 'ello miss

ALICE - why are you painting those roses?

DAISY Because they're not right.

LILY They ought to be red -

IRIS and they're white.

ALL THREE FLOWER GIRLS and that's wrong!!

ALICE Why are white roses wrong??

ALL THREE GUARDS & ALL THREE FLOWER GIRLS Shhhshhhhhshhhhhh.....

ACE THIS h'is the Red Queen's garden....

DEUCE ...an' all the flowers.....

TREYhas got to be

ALL THREE GUARDS & ALL THREE FLOWER GIRLS RED!!

ALICE That looks like a very long job. Isn't there an app for that?

As they all turn back to their painting task, with the FLOWER GIRLS helping the GUARDS, THE DUCHESS arrives and sticks her chin on ALICE'S shoulder, links arms with her and walks her aside.

DUCHESS I say old thing - do you play?

ALICE *(moving away)* Beg pardon?

DUCHESS Croquet! *(beat)* Do you play? *(darkly)* Do you have your bird?

ALICE Bird?????

DUCHESS Better get one: and quickly. *She's* about to arrive.

ALICE *Who??*

DUCHESS Her Royal Haughtiness, the Scarlet Sovereign, the Ruby Ruler. *(as ALICE is still blank)* THE RED QUEEN!!

GENERAL *(panicky)* THE QUEEN!?!?!?!?!?

ALICE Queen?! The cat said I should beware. Why should I beware????

But no-one is taking any notice because.....

SFX - NOISES OFF

ACE It's her!

THREE GUARDS HIDE THE PAINT!!

As they scramble to hide the paint helped by the Flower Girls everyone else panics ending with Duchess and everyone else curtseying and bowing deeply as we see A PASTRY CART enter, loaded with goodies and pushed by DAME PATTI, the castle cook.

DAME PATTI Make way, make way - coming through - gangway!!!

It all ends in disaster as the cart tips spilling all the cakes onto the floor. Daisy Iris and Lily help their mum pick up the cakes and reload the barrow.

ALICE *(curtseying)* Pleased to meet you, your majesty.

DAME PATTI Majesty????? Eh?? Where???? Ooooooh - you mean me?!! No, I'm not a queen - *(aud)* watch it! Although that was a right royal entrance that was! No - I am DAME PATTI - the Queen's cook!

ALICE *(curtseying again)* And I'm Alice.

DAME PATTI How de do. Have a candy. In fact, everyone have a candy

Wonderfolk all interact with audience members as Patti throws candy out. Then.....

DAISY Hey Ma - what's shaking.....

LILY Whatcha been baking?

IRIS Any for us?

ALL THREE FLOWER GIRLS Hmmmmm??????

DAME PATTI Oo, yes, I've been busier than a dog in a hydrant factory. Here - *(holds up a cake shaped like an angel)* There's an angel cake - for my little angel! *(gives it to Daisy then holds up cup-shaped cake, complete with handle and icing)* And a cupcake for my little cupcake....

Gives cake to Lily

DAME PATTI *(shows apple pie and givs it to Iris)* Apple pie for the apple of my eye. This one's for *(insert name of politician losing a vote here)* *(holds up LARGE PIE with ACME HUMBLE PIE written on it)* and I was going to make an electric cake.

ALICE What's in an electric cake?

DAME PATTI Full of currants. *(she drops another cake on the floor with a resounding clunk)*

DAISY What's that ma?

DAME PATTI A pound cake.

ACE More like a ten pound cake!

DAME PATTI Gercha! And finally, I made these!! *(produces JAM TARTS on a plate or platter)*

DAISY Oooh mummy –

LILY – yummy –

IRIS yum yum!

They go to grab them but PATTI CAKE moves them out of the way...

DAME PATTI Nah ah aaaahh – don't touch 'em! These're *magic* jam tarts made especially for the queen; and because she doesn't want anyone else to eat them, for everyone else, they're poisonous. Now I'm going to put them here to cool and if anyone comes anywhere near them I want you to call my name – that's Patti Cake – right away. Let's have a practise. *(biz. pretending to take them and – encouraging audience to call Patti)* That's perfect.

During above pastry cart is taken offstage by a couple of Wonderfolk.

SFX – TRUMPET FANFARE OFF

DUCHESS THE QUEEN!!!!!!

ALICE Should I beware now?

THE GUARDS – who had resumed painting the roses – try to hide their paint again, and there is chaos as everyone tries to hide and curtsy or bow at the same time...

ENTER THE RED QUEEN, THE KNAVE OF HEARTS AND THE RED WIZARD – THE KNAVE OF HEARTS carrying the long train of the queen's dress.

RED QUEEN *(waving royally)* Yes, yes – you may adore me. Grovelling is good. In fact I recommend it. *(seeing roses)* WHAT????? *(pointing)* EXPLANATION!!

THE GUARDS all point at each other ad libbing 'it was him' 'no it was him' 'not me' etc...

RED QUEEN QUIET!! *(as they cower)* Well?

ACEwell your majesty, h'it was h'ay bit of h'ay mistake, h'as you would say...

RED QUEEN No I wouldn't say and I know EXACTLY what this is. It's treason! OFF with their heads!

KNAVE OF HEARTS Now Rosie my dear – I wouldn't exactly call it treason....

RED QUEEN Quiet - or you'll be sending your head 'wish you were here' cards.

The Red Wizard and the Knave of Hearts try to distract the Queen and move her away from the rose bush

RED WIZARD Oooh - Majesty look - jam tarts! (*he goes to pick them up*)

GENERAL PATTI CAKE, PATTI CAKE

DAME PATTI arrives and takes the tarts away from the Wizard and replaces them on the front of the stage.

DAME PATTI (TO AUD) Thank you. And you (*Wizard*) stay away from those.

AS Patti is talking to the Wizard, The Knave also goes for the tarts.

DAME PATTI (*off audience response*) Thank you again. (to Knave) Oi - give 'em 'ere...

RED QUEEN Ah - my special jam tarts. Gimme gimme .(*goes to take one - Patti moves them away*)

DAME PATTI Oooh dear me no, not yet Your Royalness - they're way too hot. You'll burn the royal beak!

RED QUEEN Well they'd better be ready soon! What is that? (*seeing ALICE who has been trying to hide behind the Duchess*) Bring it here.....

The Duchess pulls Alice out from behind her and pushes her towards the Red Queen. At the same time, the Red Wizard's staff lights up and he looks deeply into the globe atop it, glancing sideways at ALICE from time to time.

DUCHESS Curtsey nicely and say what you mean.

ALICE I always mean what I say,

DUCHESS Not the same thing..

ALICE Oh yes it is.

DUCHESS Oh no it isn't

ALICE (*encouraging audience*) Oh yes it is.

RED QUEEN SILENCE! (*to Duchess and pointing at Alice*) What is it?

ALICE (*curtseying*) Please Your Majesty - I'm Alice.

RED QUEEN And what exactly is an Alice?

RED WIZARD Um, Your Majesty.....

RED QUEEN Ah, Red Wizard - do YOU know what an Alice is?

RED WIZARD Ah, no Majesty but there's something I need to tell you...

RED QUEEN Not NOW Rufus! (*to ALICE and tapping her toe ominously*) So-o-o-o-o?

ALICE (confused) Ummmmm,,.....

RED QUEEN (shifting gears) No matter. (to all) I want to play croquet. (to ALICE) Where's your bird?

DUCHESS I warned you...

ALICE I don't have one.

RED QUEEN Off with her head!!!!

The GUARDS arrive and take ALICE away from the Queen, who is given a flamingo and begins playing croquet with the Knave still carrying her train as....

ALICE (Sees tarts and picks them up) Ooo, jam tarts!

There is a general cry of "Patti Cake, Patti Cake",

DAME PATTI (off audience reaction) Thank you. NOW who's after my tarts?? (EVERYONE points at ALICE)
Alice! You can't have those. (takes them)

ALICE Well then you shouldn't leave them lying around. Besides I'm very hungry (goes to take one) and I love jam tarts.....

DAME PATTI Not these you wouldn't (she replaces them on the ground)

Enter WHITE RABBIT carrying a scroll. He attempts to blow his trumpet, but there is only the miserable squeak. He unrolls the scroll:

WHITE RABBIT Hear ye hear ye hear ye: her royal highness the White Queen invites everyone for tea at her palace. Ahem - be there or be square. There may be karaoke.

ALICE Why - it's the rabbit!! (calling and chasing after him) Mr Rabbit... oh Mr. Rabbit...

But he's gone and Alice exit after him

RED QUEEN Down with your birds - I want my tea!

MUSIC - GOING TO HAVE TEA SONG OR RED QUEEN

At the end of the song, everyone is leaving as the FRONTCLOTH flies in

SCENE 3 - FRONTCLOTH

Enter WHITE RABBIT through the house hurrying.

WHITE RABBIT Oh dear oh dear I mustn't be late *again!* Oh my ears, oh my nose, oh my eyes, oh my toes, oh my oh myoh my....

Exit

ALICE enters also through the house.

ALICE (to aud) Did you see the White Rabbit? You did? Which way did he go? That way? Perhaps he went to tea with all the others: maybe I should go too! (thinks) - oh but I couldn't without a proper invitation; that would be impolite. Although this is such a strange place, maybe people DO go to tea without proper invitations!

SFX - NOISES OFF AS OF A PERSON FALLING OFF A HORSE. THERE IS NEIGHING ETC.

Enter PRINCE WILFRED rubbing his bottom and limping a little.

PRINCE WILF Ow. (he is surprised to see ALICE) oh, hello.

ALICE Hello. Did you just fall off your horse?

PRINCE WILF NO! Not at all - no. You see there was a fence: he jumped and I didn't - that's all. Ow.

ALICE (laughing) I think you fell off!

PRINCE WILF Well he's a very challenging animal to control. He's a quarter horse.

ALICE What's the rest of him made of?

PRINCE WILF (beat) Hm? Oh!, I see. A joke. Ha ha! Yes that's very good. (there's a slight pause) What's your name?

ALICE I'm Alice.

PRINCE WILF Alice who?

ALICE Just Alice.

PRINCE WILF Well, Just Alice, I am PRINCE WILFRED the White. Allow me to escort you.

ALICE Where to?

PRINCE WILF It's teatime, so we're going to tea with my mother! (holds his hand out)

ALICE Oh. But don't I need an official invitation?

PRINCE WILF Very well - (bowing) I officially invite you to tea. Will that do?

ALICE *(laughing & taking his hand)* Thank you. I accept!

PRINCE WILF Then let's be going.

ALICE What about your quarter horse?

PRINCE WILF Oh he'll be fine: the other three quarters are homing pigeon. Shall we?? *(they exit)*

Beat: the Red Queen enters walking swiftly with the Red Knave carrying her train. The Red Wizard is hurrying along behind trying to catch up

RED WIZARD Wait up, Your Majesty, wait up.

RED QUEEN Certainly not. Queens don't 'wait up'. Besides, I want my tea.

RED WIZARD But it's the Blue Princess! I believe she's here!

RED QUEEN *(stops suddenly, the KNAVE runs into her back. She bops him on the head with her sceptre)*
The Blue Princess? She whom.....

RED WIZARD *(sonorously)* ...whom it is foretold, will become the Blue Queen and take away all your power.
(normally) yes.

RED QUEEN And you know this how?

RED WIZARD *(sonorous again)* Because it is foretold.

RED QUEEN *(bops him on head with sceptre)* Well duh - I just heard you foretell it! I meant how do you know she's here.

RED WIZARD Oh I saw it in my magic crystal.

RED QUEEN *(pulling down the staff and looking into crystal atop it)* Well I don't see anything.

RED WIZARD No, Majesty, *(sonorous again)* only I am granted the power.....

RED QUEEN WHAT???

No-one has more power than me - OFF WITH HIS.....

Enter RED DEMON

RED DEMON Hello.

RED QUEEN And who the devil are you?

RED DEMON Bingo!

RED QUEEN Don't be impertinent. Off with his head!!! And off with his too *(pointing to the skull atop the Demon's staff)*

Neither the WIZARD nor THE KNAVE moves. There might be a bit of foot shuffling and backing away.....

RED DEMON Now, now queenie, is that any way to treat a fiend - er, friend?

RED QUEEN Queenie?!? Thin ice demon! And why would you be my friend?

RED DEMON Let's just say we can help each other out.

RED QUEEN All right - we can help each other out. *(beat)* Which way did you come in? *(to aud)* Oh come on - I gotta have *one*. Joke

RED DEMON Hilarious indeed. Now, I think you have a little problem.

RED QUEEN I know - but he's useful for carrying my train. *(with forced patience to KNAVE who has dropped train)* Well pick it up.....

RED DEMON I mean the Blue Princess. I'm sure you know what is foretold.

RED QUEEN AGAIN with the foretelling? *(Red Wizard shrinks a little as she glares at him briefly)* Of course I do! *(as they all look expectantly at her)* Supposedly she arrives one day from the Upworld, is crowned blue queen, I lose my throne yada yada yada....*(yawns)* Not gonna happen. Predictions are so yesterday.

RED DEMON That sounds a bit quantum to me. *anyway, this prediction could come true.* You might have met your nemesis.

RED QUEEN My nematode? I met a worm?

RED DEMON Your nemesis! Your fate!

KNAVE OF HEARTS What have her feet got to do with it?*(QUEEN smacks him)* Begorrah.

RED WIZARD Alice is the Blue Princess! *(he's looking into the glowing crystal)*

RED QUEEN Are you sure?

RED WIZARD I'm certainly almost positively definitely nearly sure that it could be her. maybe.

RED QUEEN Not good enough - OFF WITH HIS HEAD!

RED DEMON And as much fun as that is, not really helping the situation. For your crown to be safe, Alice has to go away and never come back. You should make her run away into the Deep Dark Wood. Once in there the Jabberwock will make sure she never comes out.

RED QUEEN And my crown stays safely on my head. I LIKE IT! But how to make that happen.

RED DEMON Accuse her of something bad, everyone'll turn against her and that'll make her want to go away. People just LOVE believing bad things about other people! I should know.....

RED QUEEN BRILLIANT! *(thinking)* Hmmmmm - I'll say she's been....*(inspiration!)* stealing! And that's really bad it's an absolute crime! Unless you're the government then it's called income tax.

RED DEMON Ah yes – one of my better ideas. Along with nosey neighbours and Brexit. Well I've got to go and convince some more people that climate change isn't real. Later. Mwah ha ha. *(exits laughing)*

RED QUEEN *(sees TARTS and is inspired)*. AHA! *(WIZARD & KNAVE jump in surprise)* K nave – steal those tarts.

KNAVE OF HEARTS Oh – but I can't.

RED QUEEN But you can.

KNAVE OF HEARTS I won't

RED QUEEN You will – if you want to be around long enough to see the season finale of (?)

KNAVE OF HEARTS But if I go near them they'll *(audience)* shout for DAME PATTI

RED QUEEN Hmmmm – Rufus – cast a spell so my cook can't hear this rabble.

RED WIZARD Very well majesty:
Ahem: thunder and lightening and hockey night cheers And other loud noises fill up the cook's ears
No matter what noise these people bring *(aud)*
DAME PATTI won't hear a thing!

SPFX FLASH

RED WIZARD Done, your majesty.

RED QUEEN Good. You *(Knave)* hide the tarts and then join us for tea... Rufus – my train! *(they exit)*

KNAVE OF HEARTS *(to aud)*. Oh dear, I don't want to do this but the Queen will have my head if I don't do what she says. *(looks around)*. You probably wouldn't believe it but when she was a princess she was really sweet, but since she's been queen – well, she's not very nice at all. We've been engaged to be married for ages but now she's so bad....and now I'm so sad. *(sobs into large handkerchief covered in red hearts, ending with very noisy nose-blowing)* I know, why don't we play a little game to cheer me up. Every time I come out here I'll shout "hiyah kids" and I want you to shout 'Hiya Jackie' – 'cos I'm the Jack of Hearts you see. Shall we practise *(biz)* Right – *(picks up the tarts)*, now I'd better hide these tarts or my life won't be worth living...even more than it isn't now. bye kids.... *(exits)*

SCENE 4 - GARDEN OF THE WHITE QUEEN'S PALACE

This is a mirror image of the Red Queen's garden except all the flowers are white, the gateway has white hearts on it and there is a Table, set for tea, with a very large teapot on it. There are four chairs at the table, two of which are occupied by the MAD HATTER & THE MARCH HARE.

Alice & Wilfred enter

PRINCE WILF I must go and see to my horse. I won't be long - there's tea over there: please - help yourself
(*he bows and exits*)

As ALICE heads towards the table, the occupants jump to their feet.

MAD HATTER/

MARCH HARE No room, no room

ALICE Nonsense, there's plenty of room. (*she sits at the end of the table*)

MAD HATTER Have some more tea

ALICE I haven't had *any* yet so how can I have *more*?

MARCH HARE That's very rude!

MAD HATTER Your hair needs cutting!

ALICE NOW who's being rude!

MARCH HARE Tell us a story.

ALICE Well -

MARCH HARE That is too deep a subject.

MAD HATTER Why is a raven like a writing desk?

ALICE Um.....

The Dormouse sleepily appears out of the teapot

DORMOUSE Twinkle, twinkle, twinkle, twinkle

The White Rabbit appears on the White Palace Entrance and attempts to blow his trumpet, producing a mournful squeak.

WHITE RABBIT Announcing her most spotless majesty, whiter than white, brighter than bright - Bianca, our Wonderful White Queen!!!!!!

The White Queen appears in the grand entrance. As she does so, all the Wonderfolk also arrive, as do the Guards, the Flower Girls, the Duchess & DAME PATTI - all carrying large tea cups

WHITE QUEEN Welcome! Welcome one and all. Let's have tea!!

MUSIC - SONG AND DANCE ABOUT ENJOYING TEA

Following song and dance,

WHITE RABBIT *(fanfare - of a sort)* My lords, ladies and general rabble- announcing her regal rubyness, the scarlet sovereign the magenta monarch Her Royal Majesty - Rosacea, The Red Queen

RED QUEEN with RED WIZARD carrying her train enter.

WHITE QUEEN Sister Rosie - welcome *(she goes to embrace the RED QUEEN who pushes past her)*

RED QUEEN Never mind that Bianca - where's my tea.

There is much kerfuffle at the tea table as MAD HATTER & MARCH HARE rush to get out of the way. Red Queen sits

RED QUEEN TEA!

Hatter and Hare attempt to lift up large teapot to pour tea but the Dormouse is sleeping half in and half out and they end up pouring him into the Queen's cup. As this is happening, The Knave - looking a bit shifty - arrives.

RED QUEEN Well if I can't have tea, I'll have one of my *(winking at KNAVE who is very uncomfortable)* special jam tarts. COOK!!!!

DAME PATTI Yes your majesty. They're just over here - *(goes to place where she left the tarts)* Oooo - where've they gone??

General consternation looking for tarts.

RED QUEEN *(banging both hands on table)* WHERE ARE MY TARTS!?!?

DAME PATTI I don't know. I left them right here to cool.....

RED QUEEN *(standing and pointing at DAME who moves away hurriedly.)* OFF WITH HER HEAD!

WHITE QUEEN Now sister...

RED QUEEN Don't you 'now sister' me. Did you take them?

WHITE QUEEN NO! I didn't even see them.

MAD HATTER That's because they weren't there.

MARCH HARE We've been here all the time.....

MAD HATTERand we would know.

RED QUEEN Then someone - *(pause for effect)* has stolen them!

There is a large intake of breath, followed by a moment's silence into which drops.....

DORMOUSE Twinkle twinkle twinkle twinkle

RED QUEEN Shut that animal up or I'll stuff a pillow with it! Where's the Knave - ah Jack (*meaningful*).
Don't you have something to say??

KNAVE OF HEARTS What? Oh, right

RED QUEEN Well????

KNAVE OF HEARTS Um....(*off look from RED QUEEN: very uncomfortable, pointing at ALICE and reciting:*) It must be *her*: she's not one of us. She tried to take them before.

RED QUEEN Exactly - she took my tarts; off with her head!

ALICE I *didn't* take them!

RED QUEEN Don't be contrary, Mary.

ALICE I'm Alice!

RED QUEEN Whatever. Cook - was this girl at my tarts before?

DAME PATTI Yes. I mean NO, I mean she might've picked them *up*, but I'm sure she wouldn't *steal*.....

RED QUEEN Enough!! Did anyone else see her with my tarts before? (*staring at everyone else who gradually and reluctantly nod*) It's unanimous - off with her.....

ALICE But I didn't!

RED QUEEN Prove it!

ALICE I can't prove a negative!

RED QUEEN You are a thief. Thief thief thief thief...

The Wonderful Guards, Flower Girls, Duchess all join in shouting 'thief thief' and pointing at Alice as they close in on her. Suddenly she can't take it any more and runs away crying.

RED QUEEN And that's the end of *her*! Cook!!

DAME PATTI Yes your Redness?

RED QUEEN Make me some more of my special jam tarts, chop chop! (*As DAME hesitates*) And that will be the last sound you'll hear if you don't hurry up! (*DAME EXIT hurriedly*) Knave, Wizard, Duchess - we're leaving too. (*they exit*)

There is a buzz among the people on stage into which THE WHITE KNIGHT enters.

PRINCE WILF What's going on

ACE Alice stole the jam tarts!

PRINCE WILF Nonsense – she wouldn't do that. Anyway, you three have been here all the time and you'd have seen her wouldn't you?

MARCH HARE Oh yes

MAD HATTER Indubitably

DORMOUSE Absolutely. Twinkle.

PRINCE WILF And did she take them?

MAD HATTER No! They weren't even here.

PRINCE WILF I knew it! Where is she now?

MARCH HARE She went that-a-way!!

MAD HATTER Into the Deep Dark Wood!!

MARCH HARE Beware the Jabberwock my son!

ALL The Jabberwock!! (*much hiding and quivering and ad lib worrying etc*)

PRINCE WILF A terrible beast – we must find her – and quickly! Who's with me?

ALL Ad lib cheering etc.

PRINCE WILF (*To MADHATTER TRIO*) How about you three? Will you come into the Deep Dark Wood?

MAD HATTER What?? I might be mad but I'm not stupid! There's Jabberwocks in there!

MARCH HARE Ooh – how'd you know?

MAD HATTER You told me.

MARCH HARE Did I?

MAD HATTER Yes.

MARCH HARE Then it must be true. (*very scared*) Jabberwockses!! Aagggghhhhh!

DORMOUSE (*joins in and clutches March Hare*) Aaaagggghhhhh!

WHITE QUEEN Well whatever you decide, you're not staying here any longer. You've been hanging round drinking my tea for ages, and now you have to go.

MARCH HARE But but but...

PRINCE WILF You heard what mother said – you have to leave.

MARCH HARE Well I never did.....

MAD HATTER Yes you did - remember that time in the library.....

MARCH HARE Oh dear - what'll we do without tea?

MAD HATTER We have to have our tea.....

They are weeping loudly, using their oversized handkerchiefs to blow their noses etc

MARCH HARE Dormouse - wake up.

MARCH HARE Wake up!!!

MAD HATTER/

MARCH HARE Wake up!!!

DORMOUSE (*waking*) Oh - hello chaps? Time for tea?

MARCH HARE No more tea!

MAD HATTER We have to leave!

MARCH HARE What'll we do -

MAD HATTER Without tea???

MAD HATTER/

MARCH HARE We'll die

Much sobbing & wailing

WHITE QUEEN No you won't.

DORMOUSE (*he's gone all 'British explorer-like'*) Indeed - we won't! Chin up lads! We'll mount an expedition and search for another source of the tea. I once heard tell of a place where the sun always shines, you can stay for ever and the tea grows on trees instead of in bags.....

MARCH HARE For ever?

DORMOUSE Yes - for an eterni-tea! (*pause for groans*)

MARCH HARE What's the name of this magical place?

DORMOUSE It's called - Oolongri-la!

MARCH HARE Oolongri-la!

MAD HATTER Oolongri-la!

MAD HATTER Then that's where we'll go.

MARCH HARE Forward to Oolongri-la

PRINCE WILF And on your way you can help us look for Alice.

ACE I'll come with you

DAISY And me....

DEUCE & TREY & IRIS & LILY And us.....

PRINCE WILF Then let's go find Alice then on to Oolongrila....

ALL Oolongrila!

MUSIC – PRINCE WILF

The FRONTCLOTH comes in during the song and at the end everyone exit through the house.

PantoScripts Perusal

SCENE 5 - ON THE WAY TO THE RED QUEEN'S CASTLE

Enter the BLUE FAIRY

BLUE FAIRY So the wicked Red Queen has her way And dear Alice is having a terrible day! I'd like to help her if only I could!

She must be so frightened alone in the Wood
But my powers are weakened and one step inside it My magic stops working - I know, 'cos I've tried it I'll send my friends even though they're quite small There are some who fly and some who crawl They'll be her friends and act as her guide
Until she reaches the other side:

Once there she'll find the magic Blue Palace
And the crown that'll change her into Queen Alice And then I know our girl will be safe
Boy, won't that make the Red Demon chafe! But I must away, there's so much to do
I'll be back very soon to visit with you. *(exits)*

Enter DAME PATTI

DAME PATTI 'ello. Nice to see you again. Well, what a palaver over those jam tarts! I'm just off to make some more.

Enter Knave of Hearts

KNAVE OF HEARTS Hiyah kids!

DAME PATTI Oh 'ello. Where are you going?

KNAVE OF HEARTS Nowhere

DAME PATTI Well I wouldn't go there, it's closed. Anyway seeing as you're doing nothing you can come and help me.

KNAVE OF HEARTS Who me?

DAME PATTI No, the feller behind you. *(as he looks behind himself and stands scratching his head)*. Sharp as a bag of jelly! Go on - you go off to the kitchen. *(Knave exits)*. There he goes - two fries short of a Happymeal! Wonder what he was looking for. Maybe it was the tarts. Fancy them vanishing like that.... Anyway, let's go and make some more.
(She walks 'through' the frontcloth as it rises to reveal-)

SCENE 6 - THE KITCHEN OF THE RED QUEEN'S PALACE

The kitchen of the Red Queen's Palace. There is a table set up for pastry making. Knave is there busy fiddling about with stuff on the table.

DAME PATTI Right - are you any good at baking?

KNAVE OF HEARTS Well my dad made lots of dough 'cos he was well bred

DAME PATTI I expect it was the yeast he could do!

KNAVE OF HEARTS And we really 'needed' it!

DAME PATTI Enough! Stop loafing around! What? Now, let's make some pastry? First we need flour-
Knave produces a big flower

DAME PATTI *(taking flower, bopping Knave over head and throwing the flower off).* Not FLOWER, flour!!

KNAVE OF HEARTS How about this. *(puts bag of flour on table. It rises into the air).* It's Self-raising flour!!

DAME PATTI Take it away. *(he does)* It's a good job I've got some pastry already made. Now here's some for you and here's some for me. First roll it into a ball -

They do, and it ends up as a table-tennis match.

DAME PATTI No, no, no, no - now roll it out flat - like this.

As they roll out pastry, Patti's rises up in the middle.

DAME PATTI Ooh - look at that - rampant inflation! Stop it quick before interest rates go up.

She rolls her pastry until flat, but the Knave's now rises up in the middle.

KNAVE OF HEARTS Look at that! There's a big bump!

DAME PATTI And there's another one. *(smacks him over head with rolling pin)* Now flatten it out.

KNAVE OF HEARTS Who me?

DAME PATTI No, the feller behind you.

As Knave turns round to look behind him, Dame flattens his pastry making hers rise.

DAME PATTI Ooh - look at that.....

KNAVE OF HEARTS Now you've got a great big bump!

DAME PATTI That's me all over!