



# Puss In Boots

by Long & Rawnsley

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# "PUSS IN BOOTS"

Written by  
Peter Long & Keith Rawnsley

## CHARACTERS

JOHN MILLER.....PRINCIPAL BOY  
 TABBY.....PUSS IN BOOTS  
 PRINCESS JASMINE.....PRINCIPAL GIRL  
 DELIA SMYTHE.....DAME & PALACE COOK  
 SAMMY SMYTHE.....DELIA'S GORMLESS SON  
 DOTTY.....THE PALACE MAID  
 KING ARTHUR.....KING OF GREENACRES  
 CRUSTY MILLER }  
                               }.....OWNERS OF THE CORN MILL  
 DUSTY MILLER }  
 EDWIN.....THE KINGS EQUERRY  
 ROSIE RAGS.....THE SCARECROW  
 THE EVIL CROWMAN.....THE SCOURGE OF GREENACRES  
 DAISY.....THE PANTOMIME COW

## ALSO FEATURING

DANCERS

SUNBEAMS

CHORUS

## Character Descriptions

- 1: John Miller:** (Female) Principal Boy. The youngest of three brothers. His elder brothers own the local corn mill but they exclude John from everything and all he has got in the world is his faithful cat Tabby. When John is offered shelter 'below stairs' at the Royal Palace could it be possible for him to romance the fair Princess Jasmine?
- 2: Tabby:** (Girl or Boy) This role is Puss in Boots. John's faithful Cat, perhaps it would be easier to describe the person who would be suited to take on this important and demanding role. A young and lithe Girl or Boy who is a competent dancer and acrobat and can capture the feline mannerisms required.
- 3: Princess Jasmine:** (Female) Principal Girl. The pretty outgoing yet privileged daughter of King Arthur of Greenacres. Young male suitors are a bit thin on the ground in the Kingdom of Greenacres so when John Miller turns up, living downstairs at the Palace will the fair Princess find romance?.. not if her father has anything to do with it!
- 4: Delia Smythe:** (Male) Dame. She is the Palace cook and rules the roost around the Palace, droll and loveable she takes most things in her stride. Her comic antics with her son infuriate the King. She is always there if someone needs help.
- 5: Sammy Smythe:** (Male) Comic Lead. Delia's son, a gormless yet warm hearted and friendly young man. He helps his mother with her chores around the Palace, although his mother doesn't agree with the help bit, for he spends more time chasing Dotty the Palace maid!
- 6: Dotty:** (Female) The Palace Maid. As her name implies Dotty is a little, shall we say, *Dotty!* She hangs on every word that Sammy utters and he gets her into various scrapes. A loveable girl who tries her best.
- 7: King Arthur:** The King of Greenacres. Full of his own importance, yet a comical character. His only thoughts are for his daughter's well being and he is somewhat perturbed by the Princess's interest in the penniless John Miller.
- 8 & 9: Crusty & Dusty Miller:** (Both Male) Owners of the corn mill. These characters are the traditional pantomime "Brokers Men" When they have no corn to grind they hatch a plan to steal some from the "Crowman". They neither look or behave like their younger brother John, no surprise then when it transpires that John is *not* their brother. But where did he come from?, and what is his true identity?
- 10: Edwin:** (Male) The King's Equerry. A bumbling and forgetful sort of character who believes whatever the King tells him. He likes to think himself important but he is merely the Kings 'go for'

## Character Descriptions (CONT/D)

**11: Rosie Rags:** (Female) Our loveable Scarecrow. This is the traditional Fairy character of the pantomime who tells the story in rhyme. She tries her best to fight the evil Crowman, because it was he who cursed her many years ago to stand in a field as a scarecrow when she was of noble birth. Will she return to her old self before the pantomime ends?

**12: The Evil Crowman:** The Baddie of the piece! Evil through and through, the Crowman steals all the grain in the Kingdom and stores it at Crow Castle. This sinister man frightens the people into submission until, together, they decide to fight back. His dialogue is spoken in rhyme.

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## SCENES

### ACT 1

SCENE 1....."THE CORNFIELDS AT BARLEY BOTTOM"

SCENE 2....."THE PALACE KITCHEN"

SCENE 3....."THE CORNFIELDS AT NIGHT"

SCENE 4....."THE ROYAL PALACE"

SCENE 5....."THE CORNFIELDS AT BARLEY BOTTOM"

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### ACT 2

SCENE 1....."THE CORNFIELDS LATER THAT DAY"

SCENE 2....."UP UP AND AWAY"

SCENE 3....."INSIDE CROW CASTLE"

SCENE 4....."THE FORGOTTEN ROOM"

SCENE 5....."THE CORNFIELDS AT BARLEY BOTTOM"

SCENE 6....."CROW CASTLE GETS A MAKE OVER"

SCENE 7....."SONG SHEET"

SCENE 8....."THE NEW CARRABAS CASTLE"

WALK DOWN  
AND  
FINALE

## **PUSS IN BOOTS**

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OVERTURE.....CURTAIN

**ACT 1...SCENE 1..."THE CORNFIELDS AT BARLEY BOTTOM"**

SET:....FULL STAGE WITH LIGHTING FOR JUST BEFORE DAWN....WITH CLOTH DEPICTING CORNFIELDS...A FLAT REPRESENTING PART OF A WINDMILL IS POSITIONED TO GIVE MAXIMUM EFFECT....FRONT STAGE RIGHT IS A SCARECROW WHICH IS THE CHARACTER "ROSIE RAGS" THE STORYTELLER, SHE IS ADOPTING THE TYPICAL SCARECROW 'POSE'..(THERE COULD BE A WOODEN FRAME FOR HER TO HOLD THE POSE FOR LONG PERIODS)....A FEW BALES OF STRAW ARE POSITIONED TO COVER A LATER "DUMMY" GAG

SOUND F/X:....COCK CROW....LIGHTS UP FOR DAYBREAK..... ROSIE YAWNS AND STRETCHES

**ROSIE:** It was a dawn such as this many years ago,  
That began the tale I've to tell.  
It was Tabby the cat that came on the scene,  
Carrying a babe in a bundle as well.

It carried the child up to the mill door,  
Then gently laid it to ground,  
Curled up around it to keep the babe warm,  
And soon both by the Miller were found.

But that was more that twenty summers ago,  
And now we're back to the present day.  
And much has gone on in the days that have passed,  
And not all for the good, sad to say!

SOUND F/X: OF CROW....THEN MOCK CROW SWOOPS OVER ROSIE  
AND THEN OFF

**ROSIE:** (CONT/D...THEN AS IF TO CROW)....Shoo!!...get away from here!!  
Oh, by the way, Rosie Rags is my name,  
And my job is to frighten the crows.  
Buts that's not all, I tell the story as well,  
And it's a story with its highs and its lows.



Please excuse my appearance, it goes with the job.  
 I was a Lady of means oh so grand.  
 But the Crowman with magic took all that away,  
 And left me to stand here on the land!

The Crowman I speak of, is evil and cruel,  
 And with magic the people he taunts.  
 He's imprisoned young people from towns around here,  
 So their families will do as he wants.

But the key to their freedom, is Tabby the cat.  
 His efforts will deserve our salutes.  
 For the story will take a dramatic turn,  
 When he pulls on his magical boots!!

Listen! Someone approaches, and I'm talking to you.  
 No one knows I've a mind of my own.  
 It's the workers on their way to a day in the fields,  
 To reap the harvest from the seeds they have sown.

The story I'll tell, concerns a boy and his cat,  
 And the excitement throughout their pursuits.  
 There'll be dancing and singing and laughter galore,  
 In this year's Pantomime, our own "Puss in Boots".

ROSIE RAGS RE-ASSUMES HER POSE AS A SCARECROW

ENTER DELIA, DOTTY, DANCERS, SUNBEAMS AND CHORUS

♪ ....**MUSICAL ITEM No 1**....INTO A "HOE DOWN" TYPE ROUTINE  
 FEATURING DELIA, DOTTY DANCERS SUNBEAMS AND  
 CHORUS.....AFTER ROUTINE

**DELIA:** (TO COMPANY)...Right you lot.... all the food is ready for you in the  
 top meadow...just go and help yourselves....(TO DOTTY)...  
 go with 'em Dotty....and save me some of that bacon and egg flan, you know the  
 stuff....don't they call it "Quickie Lorraine" or something?...  
 (EXIT THE COMPANY AND DOTTY....THEN DELIA TURNS HER  
 ATTENTION TO THE AUDIENCE)....Oh, hello you lot!...come on, speak to  
 Delia!...yes, Delia Smythe's the name....actually I'm the Cook up at the Palace,  
 but I always see that the farm workers are fed as well....

anyway, welcome to Barley Bottom....(POINTS TO WINDMILL)....do you like our windmill?..we used to have two windmills do you know?.. yes we did, but we had to knock one down...yes, there was only enough wind for one!

**SAMMY:** (UNSEEN AND AS IF FROM ABOVE) ....Mother!.. Mother!

**DELIA:** Hey, that's our Sammy....(CALLING)...Sammy, where are you!?

**SAMMY:** (STILL UNSEEN)...I'm up here!

**DELIA:** Eh?..(LOOKING UP)...Oh, there you are...I'd forgotten you were up in that tree, watching in case that horrible Crowman comes near...get yourself down here right quick!

**SOUND F/X:...**BRANCH SNAPPING....AND AN UNSEEN SAMMY CALLS OUT AS IF FALLING....AT THE SAME TIME A DUMMY DRESSED LIKE SAMMY DROPS FROM ABOVE AND FALLS BEHIND THE BALES OF STRAW PREVIOUSLY SET

**DELIA:** I didn't mean that quick!!.

SAMMY PREVIOUSLY POSITIONED STANDS UP FROM BEHIND BALES OF STRAW AS IF HE HAS JUST FALLEN FROM TREE...HE COMES FORWARD STAGGERING AND DAZED

**SAMMY:** (TO AUDIENCE)....Hey kids!...don't try that at home.... you see, I'm a trained stunt man (GRIMACES AND RUBS HIS LEGS)... and I think I've stunted both my legs!...(THEN TRYING TO SOUND A TOUGH GUY)....but all hear this!...I....Sammy Smythe, answers to no one!!

**DELIA:** Sammy!!!

**SAMMY:** What??...(TO AUDIENCE)...well no one except my Mother.

**DELIA:** Was there any sign of that nasty Crowman?

**SAMMY:** No...(THEN ACTING TOUGH AGAIN)....he won't come here whilst I'm about!..(HE ASSUMES A KARATE TYPE POSE)... he knows I'm waiting for him!

**DELIA:** (TO AUDIENCE REFERRING TO SAMMY)...Just look at him!...I think we should have him frozen, until they find a cure!!...(TO SAMMY)...standing like that won't frighten the Crowman...he would eat you for breakfast, he likes worms!!...(THEN TO AUDIENCE)...hey!.. you lot haven't met the Crowman yet, have you?....evil?!..evil isn't the word!..he makes Hannibal Lector look like Dale Winton!!

**SAMMY:** Where did this Crowman come from then Mother?

**DELIA:** Oh it was years ago....he just appeared from nowhere...he moved into the castle that belonged to the Marquis of Carrabas.

**SAMMY:** And what happened to the Marquis and his family?

**DELIA:** Look, never mind all these questions...get yourself up to the top meadow with the others, and get your dinner...and don't be dribbling down that clean shirt!

**SAMMY:** Oh Mother, why can't you talk to me as if I'm a responsible adult male?

**DELIA:** (AS SAMMY MAKES TO EXIT)...All right then, if that's what you want...THEN RAPID NAGGING)...don't be calling at the pub on the way home!...and them shelves won't put themselves up!..that front door wants a coat of paint!...then there's two lawns that need cutting!...and put the top back on the toothpaste when you've finished with it!...(SAMMY EXITS HURRIEDLY..... THEN TO A LADY IN THE AUDIENCE)...I bet that's you and your Husband to a tee, isn't it Mrs!??..now then, what was I going to do?..oh yes, I want some flour...I'll see if there's anybody in at the mill

AS DELIA APPROACHES THE WINDMILL THE DOOR OPENS AND JOHN ENTERS WITH HIS CAT TABBY....THEY ARE BOTH LOOKING GLUM

**DELIA:** Oh hello John....I was just coming to see you, or your brothers, for some flour.

**JOHN:** Sorry Delia...I don't think we've got any flour....the Crowman's gang came and stole all the grain!

**DELIA:** Never mind....if there's no flour to bake bread, we will just have to eat toast instead!...(JOHN IS STILL GLUM)...don't you get it?...toast!...that was a joke John....I'm trying to cheer you up!..you really look down in the dumps!

**JOHN:** Well, I've just had some bad news....it seems that I'm not welcome at the mill anymore, now that Father has died....the mill now belongs to my brothers' Crusty and Dusty....all I'm left with is Tabby here.....(STROKES CAT)

**DELIA:** Well, Tabby is worth ten of them windmills, aren't you Tabby?...(TABBY AFFECTIONATELY RUBS UP AGAINST DELIA AS CATS DO)

**JOHN:** Oh I love Tabby dearly....but with no home, and no money....we've no future!

**DELIA:** Don't be daft!..you can come and stay with us downstairs at the Palace...at least until you get yourself sorted out.

**JOHN:** We don't want charity Delia.

**DELIA:** Oh you'll both have to earn your keep!..you John, can work in the gardens....and you Tabby, can catch all the mice you want.

**JOHN:** (TO TABBY)...Well Tabby, what do you think?..I don't think we'll get a better offer today old friend....shall we accept Delia's offer?  
(TABBY NODS A DEFINITE YES)

**DELIA:** Good!..I'll take that as a yes then....come on, let's get you both settled in...(THEY MAKE AS IF TO EXIT)...oh, and before we go any further John....I don't want you chatting up the Princess, otherwise the King will have you thrown out before you've unpacked your bag!

**JOHN:** (CHEEKY INNOCENCE)...Me?!..talk to the Princess?...(TO AUDIENCE WITH A CHEEKY WINK)....as if I would!

JOHN, DELIA AND TABBY EXIT

♪ **....MUSICAL ITEM No 2....**FEATURING ROSIE RAGS AND THE SUNBEAMS WHO HAVE ENTERED DRESSED AS LITTLE SCARECROWS....AFTER ROUTINE THE SUNBEAMS EXIT AND ROSIE ASSUMES HER SCARECROW POSE

ENTER CRUSTY AND DUSTY FROM THE WINDMILL WEARING WHITE 'MILLER' TYPE COSTUMES WITH APRONS AND WHITE SHORT PEAKED TYPE CAPS....THEY ARE DUSTING FLOUR FROM THEIR CLOTHING

**DUSTY:** Well that's it Crusty....we've ground our last grain!..things are desperate...we're on the bread line!

**CRUSTY:** It's more desperate than that Dusty....we've no bread!..we're just on the line!

**DUSTY:** No bread eh?..There'll be no cobs for the kids!...no rolls for the Royals!...no batons or baps for the Blacksmith!..not to mention Delia's bloomers!!

**CRUSTY:** (GRIMACING)...I wish you hadn't mentioned Delia's bloomers!..the least said about Delia's bloomers the better!

**DUSTY:** Well, now that John's gone, I suppose we've one less mouth to feed.

**CRUSTY:** Two less mouths....don't forget Tabby the cat...he used to eat as well.

**DUSTY:** Yes, but he ate mice!

**CRUSTY:** I know...and if things don't improve, we'll be eating mice!!

**DUSTY:** Can't we import some grain from abroad?..you know...like we did once before...didn't it come from Spain?

**CRUSTY:** No chance...the Spaniards are worse off than us...they've had terrible weather...flooding all over!..all their crops have been washed away!

**DUSTY:** You mean, the grain in Spain flows mainly down the drain?!!

**CRUSTY:** (TO AUDIENCE)...By jove he's got it!..I think he's got it!..listen Dusty, I happen to know where there is an abundance of corn...(ASIDE)...apart from this script, that is!...it's all up at the Royal granary....that's the only place so far that the Crowman hasn't plundered!

**DUSTY:** Well we can't just go up there and take it!

**CRUSTY:** I'm well aware of that...we must go back to the mill and make plans....it's going to take someone with a keen brain...(HE TAPS HIS TEMPLE)...to work this one out!

**DUSTY:** I agree...but who do we know that has a keen brain?

**CRUSTY:** I've no ide....I mean me, you fool!!....come on.

THEY EXIT JOSTLING AS THEY GO IN MILL DOOR TOGETHER

TABS CLOSE.....STAGE BLACKOUT.....DURING WHICH...**SOUND F/X**:  
A STORMY WHISTLING WIND....SUDDENLY WE SEE THE CROWMAN  
WHO IS PICKED OUT IN THE **F/X** OF LIGHTNING AND  
THUNDER....THE STORM SUBSIDES AND THE STAGE LIGHTS UP FOR  
THE CROWMAN DIALOGUE. HE IS DRESSED TO LOOK EXTREMELY  
SINISTER WITH BLACK CLOAK AND BRIMMED 'SANDEMAN' TYPE  
HAT...HE HAS A **REALISTIC** DUMMY CROW ON HIS SHOULDER, AND  
EACH SUBSEQUENT APPEARANCE WILL SEE THE AMOUNT OF  
CROWS INCREASE.

**CROWMAN:** I am the one called the Crowman,  
And the one that everyone fears.  
I accept that people despise me,  
So I don't care about your booing and jeers.

Because I know I can win you over,  
And change your thinking to mine.  
All of this kingdom will be on my side,  
And all of you too, given time!

I live in a castle once owned by a Marquis.  
Carrabas was the family name.  
I banished the parents to a land far away,  
But know nothing of what their baby became.

The infant I speak of will be now a young man,  
And his whereabouts I just do not know.  
People say I won't find him, but I know that I will.  
I'm a devious and wily old crow.

In an effort to find him, I've taken the steps,  
To imprison all youths I can find.  
To make sure their siblings don't miss them too much,  
I take them as well, aren't I kind!?

I also steal grain and I know where it's stored,  
But to reach it my task will be hard.

It's in the King's Palace, but security is tight,  
As they are forever changing the guard.

CROWMAN EXITS

🎵 ....**MUSICAL ITEM No 3**....FEATURING DANCERS AS MILITARY GUARDS FOR 'CHANGING THE GUARD' TAP ROUTINE.....AFTER ROUTINE....DANCERS EXIT

TABS OPEN FOR.....

### **ACT 1....SCENE 2...."THE PALACE KITCHEN"**

SET:....CLOTH DEPICTING BARONIAL KITCHEN....IN A PROMINENT POSITION ON SET IS A "DUMB WAITER" - IN FACT IT IS SIMPLY A FLAT WITH TWO SLIDING DOORS GIVING AN OPENING OF APPROXIMATELY 2' 6" SQUARE....IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS PROP IS REALISTIC IN THAT IT ACTUALLY LOOKS AS IF IT GOES 'UPSTAIRS', OVER THE OPENING IS AN INDICATOR SHOWING WHICH FLOOR THE "DUMB WAITER" HAS REACHED....OTHER PROPS ON STAGE INCLUDE A WORK TABLE AND THERE IS A FLIGHT OF STAIRS TO THE REAR CORNER AS IF THEY GO UP TO THE FLOOR ABOVE

DELIA AND DOTTY ARE ON STAGE....DELIA IS PREPARING FOOD AT THE TABLE....WHILST DOTTY, WHO IS DRESSED AS A DROLL KITCHEN SKIVVY IS SCRUBBING THE FLOOR

KING ENTERS FROM DOWN THE FLIGHT OF STAIRS....HE IS DRESSED IN A DROLL NIGHT SHIRT AND NIGHT CAP ON TOP OF WHICH HE IS WEARING HIS CROWN

**KING:** (STERNLY)...Delia!..where is my breakfast!?

DELIA AND DOTTY STOP WHAT THEY ARE DOING AND DROP INTO CLUMSY CURTSIES

**DELIA:** (PUTTING ON AIR AND GRACES)...Hoh!...King HArthur... a thousand apologies!..we...er...we are a little short staffed this morning.... I'll see that Sammy brings it up to you the minute he gets up...I mean the minute he gets back!



**KING:** See that he does!...(TO DOTTY)...and what are you staring at girl!?

**DELIA:** (AS DOTTY LOOKS AWAY SHYLY)...Sorry your Majesty, it's just that we've never seen you in your night attire before.

**KING:** What?...(REALISES)...oh yes, quite...(STARTS TO EXIT UP THE STAIRS)...oh, and bring me up some hot tea...I'm cold...it's very draughty around my private quarters!!

**DELIA:** (SAUCILY TO DOTTY AS HE LEAVES)...I'm not surprised wearing that night shirt!...(THEN TO KING)...I'll see you get your breakfast directly sir.

KING EXITS

DOTTY RESUMES SCRUBBING VIGOROUSLY

**DELIA:** Dotty, if you scrub that spot any longer, we'll have a trap door into the cellar....go and get me some fresh milk.

**DOTTY:** (IN AWE AND KEEN TO HELP)...Right Mrs. Delia...I'll get you some milk...have I to get long life?

**DELIA:** Why?...how long will I have to wait for it?...look, just get me some fresh milk....the fresher the better.

DOTTY EXITS TO REAR

ENTER SAMMY STAGE LEFT....HE LOOKS HALF ASLEEP AND IS DRESSED AS A DROLL 'FORMAL' WAITER COMPLETE WITH TAIL COAT

**DELIA:** Ah!...there you are....you should have been here earlier.

**SAMMY:** Why?...what happened?

**DELIA:** Nothing happened...(SHOVES TRAY OF CROCKERY IN HIS HANDS)...look, take the King his breakfast...his stomach thinks his throat has been cut!

SAMMY MAKES AS IF TO GO UP THE STAIRCASE BUT TRIPS ON THE BOTTOM STEP CAUSING CROCKERY TO FALL AND BREAK



**DELIA:** (TO AUDIENCE)...Well that's one lot of pots that won't need washing!...(TO SAMMY)...I hope you realise, that was best china!

**SAMMY:** (LOOKS AT A BROKEN PIECE)...China?...it says "Made in Taiwan" here!

**DELIA:** Well...Taiwan isn't far from China....look, you'll have to take up another tray when Dotty gets back with the milk.

**SOUND F/X....A LOUD MOO OF A COW**

ENTER DOTTY WHO IS DRAGGING ON "DAISY" THE PANTOMIME COW...THE COW HAS A BLANKET OVER HER

**DELIA:** (TO DOTTY REFERRING TO COW)...What's that!?

**DOTTY:** It's a cow Mrs. Delia.

**DELIA:** I know it's a cow!...(ASIDE)...well it vaguely resembles a cow...(TO AUDIENCE)...now don't you lot be clapping for Daisy here....I think Daisy will be doing its own clapping outside...in fact it looks clapped out!...as you've probably noticed!...(TO DOTTY)...and why may I ask, has it got a blanket over it?

**DOTTY:** It's to keep it warm....'cause Sammy said it was Fresian!

**DELIA:** Well thank goodness it isn't a Jersey cow, 'cause that would have been a challenge for the costume department!....now I know that I asked for fresh milk Dotty...but I didn't want it on draught!

**SAMMY:** Don't worry Mother, I'll soon have it milked.

VIZ BIZ HERE OF BUCKET UNDER COW AND ATTEMPTED MILKING

**DOTTY:** (IMPRESSED WITH SAMMY)...Oh just look at him Mrs. Delia....he's a natural with animals...he reminds me of that television programme.

**DELIA:** Which one, "Animal Hospital"?

**DOTTY:** No...that with James Herriot...what did they call it?...oh yes... "All Creatures Grunt and Smell"!

**DELIA:** No, you mean "All Creatures Great and...(STOPS TO THINK)...no, maybe you're right!

**SAMMY:** (STILL STRUGGLING TO MILK DAISY)...Come on Daisy!, I only want a pint!

**DOTTY:** (STILL IMPRESSED WITH SAMMY)...He talks to the animals as well....he's a proper Doctor Doolittle.

**DELIA:** I don't know about a proper Doctor...but he's a proper Doolittle!

SAMMY ATTEMPTS TO MILK DAISY WHO KEEPS MOVING AND  
SAMMY HAS TO KEEP MOVING STOOL AND BUCKET

ENTER EDWIN THE KING'S EQUERRY DOWN THE STAIRCASE

**EDWIN:** The King demands his breakfast!..if he waits any longer it will be time for his lunch!...(SEES DAISY)...and what pray tell me, is that broken down old cow doing in here!??

**SAMMY:** (AS ALL HEADS TURN TO DELIA)...My Mother is making the King's breakfast!

**DELIA:** (TO SAMMY)...Less of your cheek Doctor Doolittle!..and hurry up with that milk!

**SAMMY:** I think I've got a jug full..(HE PUTS IT ON THE TRAY)...hey Mr. Edwin....I don't suppose you would like to take it up to the King?

**EDWIN:** You're right...I wouldn't like to take it to the King...I am his Equerry!..you are the waiter!..you take it up.

**SAMMY:** Oh no...not all those stairs again!

**DELIA:** Why don't you use the "Dumb Waiter"?

**SAMMY:** The what?

**DELIA:** (GOES TO DUMB WAITER)...This thing... (DEMONSTRATES)... you put the food in here...close the doors and wind it up to the King's bedroom with this handle here...(HANDLE TO SIDE)

**SAMMY:** Ah, but the King likes to be waited on personally.

**DOTTY**: Why don't you get in with the tray and go up with it?

**EDWIN**: You are winding him up, aren't you?

**DELIA**: No, I'll be winding him up....it's a good idea that Dotty...get in then Sammy...don't just stand there Edwin...give Sammy a hand.

EDWIN AND DOTTY HELP SAMMY INTO THE DUMB WAITER...HE SITS CROSSED LEGGED AND DELIA HANDS HIM THE TRAY

**DELIA**: Right then....are you ready?

**SAMMY**: (LOOKING AS IF UP THE CHUTE)...Aye, I suppose so... ready as I'll ever be!

DOTTY CLOSES THE SLIDING DOORS AND DELIA STARTS TO WIND THE HANDLE...**F/X: RATCHET SOUND**...AND THE GAUGE OVER THE DOORS (SIMILAR TO THOSE OVER AMERICAN ELEVATORS) GIVES THE EFFECT THAT THE "DUMB WAITER" IS RISING....IT REACHES HALF WAY ON THE GAUGE WHEN DAISY THE COW GOES TO PESTER DELIA WHO LETS GO OF THE HANDLE TO SHOO DAISY AWAY WHICH RESULTS IN A RAPID REWIND OF THE HANDLE AND THE GAUGE...THEN A LOUD CRASH AS DUMB WAITER HITS THE BOTTOM

**DELIA**: (TO AUDIENCE)...Oh no!..I daren't look!..shall I?...go on then....(SHE SLIDES DOORS OPEN AND WE SAMMY ON HIS SIDE WITH BREAKFAST ALL OVER HIM....THEN TO SAMMY)... Sammy!...are you all right?

**SAMMY**: (HALF STUNNED)....I've brought your breakfast your Majesty!

**DELIA**: Your Majesty??..I'm your Mother you daft bat!!...you're back in the kitchen!

**DOTTY**: He must be concussed...he's very confused!

**EDWIN**: Well that's nothing new!

**DELIA**: (TO SAMMY GETTING HIM ANOTHER TRAY)...Look... take another one....and watch what you're doing this time!

**SAMMY:** Me!?!..watch what I'm doing!?!..look, I'm going to stand up with this one!..(HE DOES AND WE CAN ONLY SEE HIM FROM HIS WAIST DOWN.....DELIA CLOSES THE DOORS)

DELIA COMMENCES TO WIND UP THE DUMB WAITER AGAIN AND WHEN THE GAUGE SHOWS ALMOST AT THE TOP....

**EDWIN:** Do you know Delia...winding that handle won't help the rheumatism in your shoulder, will it?

**DELIA:** (RUBS HER WINDING ARM WITH HER FREE ARM... THEN TO AUDIENCE)....Aaah!..that fooled you lot!..you thought that I was going to let go of the handle, didn't you?...(OH YES...OH NO BIZ)

**DOTTY:** (TO DELIA)...Who thought you would let go of the handle?

**DELIA:** (INDICATES WITH A NOD OF THE HEAD TOWARDS AUDIENCE).....Him there...on 'C' row!

**DOTTY:** Who??

**DELIA:** (NOW IRRITATED POINTS HER WINDING HAND)...Him, just there!...(THERE IS THEN A PAUSE AS IF THE DUMB WAITER IS STUCK...THE AUDIENCE WILL BE SHOUTING TO DELIA THAT SHE HAS LET GO OF THE HANDLE)...I've what??.let go of what handle??

DELIA THEN REALISES HER MISTAKE, BUT BEFORE SHE CAN GRASP THE HANDLE IT GIVES A RAPID REWIND AND THE GAUGE DROPS, FOLLOWED BY **SOUND F/X: CRASH BANG**

**DELIA:** Oh no!..Edwin, you look this time.

**EDWIN:** Oh don't worry...he'll be all right....he was standing up don't forget.

EDWIN OPENS THE DOORS OF THE DUMB WAITER AND WE SEE SAMMY'S LEGS FROM HIS WAIST DOWN WITH HIS TROUSERS ROUND HIS ANKLES SHOWING DROLL BOXER SHORTS...THEY HELP HIM DOWN AND HE HAS MOCK 'FRIED EGGS' OVER EACH EYE

**SAMMY:** Mother!!..I can't see!!

**DELIA:** Come here...(SHE REMOVES EGGS)...I knew you would end up with egg on your face....pull your trousers up and let's go and get you cleaned

up...come on Dotty, and bring that milk machine (DAISY) with you....(THEN TO EDWIN)...oh Mr. Edwin....(FLIRTY)...you wouldn't like to do me a favour would you?..(EDWIN PREENS)...and help me out.

**EDWIN:** Why Delia my dear thing...you know that I would do anything for you!

**DELIA:** Oh good...clean all this mess up then, will you?

DELIA, SAMMY AND DOTTY EXIT

**EDWIN:** (AS DELIA EXITS)...Certainly Delia darling....(THEN REALISES)...what!?!...clean up!?!...me!?!...oh what's the use...where's the pan and brush?

EDWIN EXITS

ENTER JOHN AND TABBY

**JOHN:** Well Tabby...I've settled in all right, what about you old friend... (CAT NODS)...I wonder where everyone is?...Delia said there would be breakfast on the table...(LOOKS AROUND)...it looks as if most of it is on the floor...(TABBY MAKES AS IF TO LAP UP SOME SPILT MILK)...that's the way Tabby, you can have your breakfast!

PRINCESS ENTERS HURRIEDLY DOWN THE STAIRCASE

**PRINCESS:** What is going on down here?..(SEES JOHN)...oh I'm sorry....I er....who are you?

**JOHN:** (TAKEN ABACK)...Oh er....no one important...my name's John, we are just staying here in the Palace for a while...until we find regular work.

**PRINCESS:** We?

**JOHN:** Oh yes...that's myself and Tabby here, my cat.

TABBY GOES TO PRINCESS AND RUBS AGAINST HER AFFECTIONATELY

**PRINCESS:** (STROKING TABBY)...Well hello Tabby...you're a fine handsome cat...almost, may I say, as handsome as your master John.

**JOHN:** You flatter me, but thank you....but who am I thanking?

**PRINCESS:** (OFFERS HER HAND)..Jasmine is my name...(JOHN TAKES HER HAND)...Princess Jasmine.

**JOHN:** (DROPS ON ONE KNEE)...I beg your pardon your Royal Highness....I didn't think that you would come to the downstairs kitchen.

**PRINCESS:** Oh yes...I love to sneak down here, because Delia always makes me feel special.

**JOHN:** Well I have only just met you, and I think that you are very special.

ENTER EDWIN WITH DUSTPAN AND BRUSH

**EDWIN:** (SEES PRINCESS AND BOWS)...Your Royal Highness, I must apologise for this mess in the kitchen.

**PRINCESS:** What?...oh, I never noticed any mess...(GAZES AT JOHN)....I'm a little pre-occupied at the moment.

**EDWIN:** (CONCERNED)...I must stress your Highness, that your Father would take a very dim view of you mixing with commoners!

**PRINCESS:** He won't get to know!..will he!?...and if he does, I will know where it has come from, won't I?....and then I will have to tell him that you water down his whisky!

**EDWIN:** (FLUSTERED)...Oh.....yes well...er...I think I've just remembered that I have got...er...other things to attend to upstairs...  
(TO TABBY)...I need your help Tabby...er...mice in the scullery and things!

EDWIN EXITS UP STAIRCASE WITH TABBY...HE TRIPS COMICALLY...JOHN AND PRINCESS BREAK INTO A GIGGLE

**PRINCESS:** I only have to mention Father's whisky. and it flusters Edwin every time.

**JOHN:** For a Princess, you seem very down to earth!

**PRINCESS:** Well, it's because I like the life down here...there's more fun and laughter....it's all so formal upstairs.

🎵 **MUSICAL ITEM No 4....FEATURING PRINCESS, JOHN AND THE DANCERS (POSSIBLY DRESSED AS MAIDS)...EARLY IN THE ROUTINE....TABS CLOSE FOR ROUTINE TO END ON TABS**

BLACKOUT FOR JOHN, PRINCESS AND DANCERS TO EXIT...ALSO FOR ROSIE RAGS TO ENTER AND STRIKE HER POSE

TABS OPEN FOR...

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### **ACT 1...SCENE 3..."THE CORNFIELDS AT NIGHT"**

LIGHTS UP FOR MOONLIGHT EFFECT WHICH PICKS OUT ROSIE AND THEN TABBY ENTERS AS IF MOUSING...TO THE SIDE OF ROSIE ARE THE ENCHANTED BOOTS FOR TABBY

**ROSIE:** (AS TABBY CHASES SHADOWS).....Pssst!...(TABBY STOPS AND LOOKS AROUND AND THEN CONTINUES MOUSING)....  
pssst...Tabby!...over here...(TABBY LOOKS AT ROSIE THEN ARCHES BACK CAT LIKE AS IF THREATENED)....now now Tabby, don't get your hackles up at me....I'm going to be your best friend!

TABBY GIVES A PUZZLED MEEOW AND WARILY GOES TOWARDS ROSIE, CHECKS HER UP AND DOWN AND THEN LOOKS PUZZLED AT BOOTS

**ROSIE:** Those boots you see there are enchanted,  
And I've brought them especially for you.  
They belonged to the Carrabas Equerry,  
Who served the family for years good and true.

And with the help of fairy tale magic,  
When you wear them you'll walk like a man.  
Not only walk, you'll be able to speak.  
Yes, talk like all humans can.

Now put on the boots my dear Tabby cat...(HE DOES)  
And let their magic commence.



Now stand up straight, and hold your head high,  
You are doubting my word I can sense.

**PUSS:** (WITH BOOTS ON AND STANDING)...Well, you've got me walking...but I thought you said I would be able to talk?..(THEN REALISES)

**ROSIE:** Well there you are, you've said your first words,  
And when a cat speaks, people take heed.  
Because what you say will change peoples lives,  
Giving them hope, and that's what they need.

The oppression that's caused by the Crowman,  
Has made peoples' outlook too narrow alas.  
But you can change that with your master called John,  
Who in truth is the Marquis of Carrabas!

**TABBY:** Don't forget Rosie Rags...I've always known that John was the Marquis of Carrabas...I saved him as a baby....and I knew you when you were Lady Rosemary Raglan...but I just couldn't tell anyone!

**ROSIE:** Well dear Puss, you now have the means,  
To spread the good news with a view to  
Telling the world, but firstly the King,  
That you've found his dear Princess a suitor.

PUSS STRUTS ABOUT THE STAGE ADMIRING HIS NEW BOOTS AND  
WHILST HIS BACK IS TURNED **ROSIE EXITS**

**TABBY:** And what about you Rosie...(TURNS)...where has Rosie gone?....well, I can still walk and talk, so the magic is still working.....this feels great!...I'm on top of the world!...I'm "Puss in Boots"!!

🎵 **....MUSICAL ITEM No5....**FEATURING PUSS IN BOOTS AND THE  
SUNBEAMS AS KITTENS....AFTER ROUTINE THEY ALL EXIT AS TABS  
CLOSE.

ENTER CRUSTY AND DUSTY STEALTHILY ON TABS...THEY ARE  
CARRYING SHOVELS...**SOUND F/X:**....THE HOOT OF AN OWL

**DUSTY:** What was that?



**CRUSTY**: It was an owl.

**DUSTY**: A howl!..oh no!..it's not that Wolf from last year's Panto, is it?..I don't think Red Riding Hood has got over that yet!

**CRUSTY**: Just shut up a minute will you...I've cancelled plan 'A', you know, when we planned to steal grain from the Palace.

**DUSTY**: We've dropped plan 'A'?..Why?

**CRUSTY**: (SHOWS DUSTY A PLAN)...Well, I've done a reccy of the job and it's too dangerous!...(POINTS TO MAP)...First of all we've to get through six feet of razor wire!!

**DUSTY**: You mean we'll be slashed and slit by six feet of sharp slivers of stainless steel, sticking and stabbing into our sinews and skin, severely sapping our strength!!?

**CRUSTY**: Then if we manage that, we will then be confronted by fifty savage and hungry man eating tigers!

**DUSTY**: (HORRIFIED)...What!!?...facing fifty famished, fanged, ferocious, fighting felines!!?

**CRUSTY**: Yes....but that's not all of it....we then have to cross the moat full of killer piranha fish!!

**DUSTY**: You mean a pulsating perimeter of plump piercing, picking and piking piranhas'!!

**CRUSTY**: It gets worse!..when we attempt to scale the palace wall, there will be boiling oil poured over us!

**DUSTY**: Oh no...(TO AUDIENCE)...wait for it!...beleaguered by a bubbling barrel of B. P., belching over the battlements on our bonces!!...(TO AUDIENCE)...you didn't think that I had any more, did you?...(OH NO...OH YES BIZ)

**CRUSTY**: Anyway, that was plan 'A', and I've dropped that!

**DUSTY**: Well thank goodness for that!