



Hansel & Gretel

by Andy Nutting

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Cast

<i>Town Crier</i>	<i>Narrator for this tale</i>
<i>Evergreen (Dame)</i>	<i>Guardian of the woods</i>
<i>Hansel</i>	<i>Principal boy</i>
<i>Gretel</i>	<i>Principal girl</i>
<i>Mum</i>	<i>Mother of Hansel and Gretel, not very bright</i>
<i>Dad</i>	<i>Father of Hansel and Gretel, not very bright</i>
<i>Witch</i>	<i>Evil villain</i>
<i>Pork</i>	<i>Henchman</i>
<i>Scratchings</i>	<i>Henchman</i>
<i>Woodland Pixies (3)</i>	<i>Children's roles</i>

Scenery

Woods
Home
Witches Cottage

Songs

<i>Song 1</i>	<i>Act 1 scene 1 (evergreen, crier, pixies)</i>
<i>Song 2</i>	<i>Act 1 scene 2 (mum and dad)</i>
<i>Song 3</i>	<i>Act 1 scene 3 (hansel and Gretel)</i>
<i>Song 4</i>	<i>Act 1 scene 4 (witch, pork and scratchings)</i>
<i>Song 5</i>	<i>Act 2 scene 1 (witch)</i>
<i>Song 6</i>	<i>Act 2 scene 2 (evergreen)</i>
<i>Song 7</i>	<i>Act 2 scene 4 (hansel and gretel)</i>
<i>Song 8</i>	<i>Act 2 scene 5 (audience)</i>
<i>Song 9</i>	<i>Finale (all)</i>

Act 1. Scene 1.

Curtains open to reveal woods, town crier enters right

Crier - Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye..... welcome one and all to our Panto.
Allow us to bring you a tale full of fear and danger, brimming with hope and love and overflowing with bad acting and awful singing. To be perfectly honest with you, if it wasn't for me being in this, you wouldn't have got your moneys worth at all.
So welcome to Bluebell woods, beautiful all year round and protected by our very own guardian of the woodland

Evergreen singing from side of stage

In fact, I think I can hear her coming now.... .

Evergreen enters stage right singing

Evergreen - Ohhhh hello there my esteemed gent, what brings you to my beautiful woods this fine evening?

Crier - Good tidings to you my dear dear.... Lady?

Evergreen - Oh yes you saucy minx, I'm a lady don't you know.
Oooh and look at all the friends you brought along with you. Hello ladies and gentlemen and all you little chilblains. These are my woods, I don't own them but I am the guardian of these here Bluebell Woods, and I take my responsibility very seriously. Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Evergreen.
I know what would be fun, whenever I come on, I'll shout hello everybody, and you answer hello Evergreen, shall we try?.....Hello everybody **(hello Evergreen)**.....What was that? You're not going to be one of those audiences, are you? Let's try again....Hellooooooo everybody **(hello Evergreen)**....ooh that's better, you seem to have overcome your shyness.

Crier - Please Evergreen, can you tell the boys and girls, is it a difficult job, being the guardian?

Evergreen - oooh no, it's a joy and I have the help of my lovely woodland pixies

Pixies enter stage right

Evergreen - And here they are, right on cue. Which is more than they managed during rehearsals.

SONG 1

Evergreen - Ahhh that was lovely. Anything to report my pixie friends?

Pixie 1 - Nothing to report, the woods are in perfect condition

Pixie 2 - Which is more than can be said about you Evergreen, you have a bogey hanging down

Pixie 3 - Don't be rude.... That's her face

Pixie 1 - I know and look at all that bark on her face

Pixie 2 - Well her bark is worse than her bite

Pixie 3 - Especially when shes forgotten to put her false teeth in

Pixies all giggle

Evergreen - Oh you cheeky little pixies, go on get off with you..... bye bye everybody

Evergreen and pixies exit right

Crier - Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye..... oh..... I've run out of news, see you later boys and girls (shrugs and exits right)

Hansel and Gretel enter left

Hansel - Cooooome on mum and dad, last ones a rotten egg

Gretel - They already smell like rotten eggs

Both laugh

Mum (holding basket) and dad enter left

Mum - Oi Hansel, Gretel, we heard that

Dad - Yes you two, don't be so naughty, you know your mum doesn't like washing

Mum hits dad and they all laugh

Mum - I do love it here in the woods, so peaceful and you can't beat getting close to nature

Dad - Yes I do enjoy the company of all the animals

Hansel - Well you do look like most of them

Gretel - Well he is related to half of them

Both laugh

Mum - Isn't life good, we have everything so perfect including living in a gorgeous friendly village

Dad - Yeah, none of them Playstation things or mobile phones for us, we have all we need. What did you both want for your birthday this year?

Hansel - A Playstation

Gretel - A mobile phone

Both Hansel and Gretel beg and say pleeeease

Mum - You'll have an orange like you do every year and appreciate it

Dad - You know we can't afford expensive gifts like that

Hansel - We're only joking, we know how much you do for us

Gretel - And one day, we will both make our fortunes

Hansel - And look after you both in your old age

Gretel - We better do it soon then, they're both REALLY old already

All Laugh

Dad - You're the best kids any parents could ever wish to have and we love you so very much

Mum - Right come on everybody, we're here to forage from nature's pantry, it's amazing what food you find here

Dad - We need something to go with the fish I caught this morning....did you want me to try and find some bees?

Hansel - Oh no, not fish and mushy bees again

Gretel - Pity there are no monkeys here, we could have had fish and chimps

All laugh

Mum - Do you remember when we first met in these very woods?

Dad - Yes my dear of course I do, it was love at first sight

Mum - Was it?

Dad - Yes my dearest

Mum - Was it really?

Dad - Yes my dearest it was

Mum - Oh it was, was it?

Dad - YES IT WAS

Hansel - Come on Gretel we'll go look somewhere else, I think mum and dad want to be alone

Gretel - Yeah I agree, I'll grab a couple of sandwiches in case we get hungry
(takes sandwiches from basket).... Bet you can't catch me Hansel...

Gretel exits right and Hansel follows

Mum - Be careful please, take care and don't get lost and be back before it gets dark

Dad - They'll be ok, it's the safest woods in the whole of the county, and the most beautiful ones too, just like you my darling

Mum - Awwww thank you my handsome husband. But I do worry about them two, they are so giddy sometimes

Dad - They're wiser than you think, they will be alright, and one thing for sure, they'll always look after each other no matter what

Mum - Yes I guess you're right, lets go forage and we'll meet them back here later

Mum and dad exit left

Pork and Scratching enter right

Pork - This place looks alright, seems nice and private

Scratching - Yeah, could get up to all sorts of mischief in here, best let her evilness know

Pork - I suppose so, but she scares the pants off me, especially when shes in a bad mood like she is today

Witch enters right

Witch - And just who are you implying is in a bad mood?

Scratching - Oh my gracious leader, we meant you, but its no surprise, seeing as those peasants chased us out of the last village

Pork - Chasing us and running us out of town with pitch forks and torches like that, we hadn't even done anything too bad

Scratching - All we wanted to do was kidnap a few of their bratty kids

Pork - And eat a couple of them for our dinner

Witch - Some people are just so touchy,

Pork - This place looks ok though, we could settle nicely in these woods

Scratching - Its nice and quiet too, no one would hear you scream in here

Pork - Scream like you, you mean, when you see a spider haha scream like a little girl you do

Scratching - Shut up you, at least I'm not stupid like you, you're so stupid you'd even fail a blood test

Pork - Well you're so ugly, when you stick your face out of the window the police arrest you for mooning

Witch - WILL YOU BOTH SHUT UP... I'm tired, I'm hungry and I'm so so angry, and you two are not helping.

But I agree, this might be a good place to try and settle. All we need is a new home and a plan to lure in some little brats, so we can eat.

You both start by making us a new cottage, and make it from something that appeals to young folk. Let me think..... YES I have it, make it out of sweets, children will find it irresistible and we will have all the kiddies we could ever eat hahahahaha

Pork - Ooooh yes, we can have steak and kiddy pie

Scratching - Mmmmm yeah or or or brat wurst

Witch - We will eat like royalty as soon as we capture some snotty kiddywinks, so go and build the perfect trap,,,,, I mean cottage haha, do you still have some of the gold egg left that my clever bird laid?

Pork - **(bowing)** Yes your grossness, and your wish is our command

Scratching - (bowing) We were born to obey you

Pork - I am you most faithful of servants

Scratching - No I am your most faithful of servants

Pork - No you're not, you're so ugly the world created covid, just to make you wear a mask

Scratching - Well you're so stupid you make **(local reference)** look intelligent

Witch - STOP IT, just be quiet the both of you, now gooooo and get building

Pork and scratching exit right

Witch - Oh those two drive me bonkers, but they are very loyal. And yeeees this place looks perfect to settle down and before long, I'll have my larder full of horrible bratty kids. Hahahahaha come to me you sniffly snotty smelly children hahahahaha

Witch exits right

Mum and dad enter left

Dad - Wow, look at all the goodies we've found, we'll have a full larder by the time get home and put it all away, especially if Hansel and Gretel have found as much as us

Mum - We will for sure..... Oh, where are those two? I specifically told them to return before dark

Dad - They will be back shortly, mark my words, soon as they get hungry, they'll be running back

Mum - (sighs) yes, I'm sure you're right, but I can't help but feel worried..... oh where are you children?

Dad - It is getting rather late.... I bet they've been back here and saw that we weren't here and gone on ahead and went straight home.

Mum - I hope you're right. What should we do?

Dad - Lets get this food home and if they're not back there waiting for us, then I'll come straight back out and look for them.

Mum – I suppose you know best my dear, lets hurry then

Mum and Dad exit left

Hansel and Gretel enter right

Gretel – Muuuuum Daaaaaad we're back..... oh theres nobody here

Hansel – I thought they would have finished by now, they told us to be back before dark

Gretel – what should we do? Do you think we should wait for a bit?

Hansel – Lets wait for a little while, and if they don't come back then we'll walk home, lets sit here and rest for a while

Pork and scratchings enter left

Pork– Ere Scratchings, look over there, theres a couple of kiddies now

Scratching – mmmmm all ready for the pot too, leave this to me, it'll be a walk in the park

Pork – Don't you mean a walk in the woods?

Scratching – Idiot.....hello little ones, are you lost?

Hansel – No we're not, we've been out looking for food

Pork – (sniggers) Yeah so are we and we've found some

Scratching – Shut up Pork, you'll make them suspicious

Gretel – (looking worried) Well we're finished now and must be getting home, come on Hansel, please lets go

Hansel – (both backing away to stage right) ye..ye..yeah, we'd best be getting on now..... (when off stage) RUN Gretel

Pork and Scratching get in each others way and exit right shouting GET THEM

Curtains close

Scene 2

Enters front stage right and stands on front of stage

Crier - Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye..... here are the headlines from this month's newsletter. People were left shocked when they found out how bad **(local reference)** is as an electrician. All is not good in the **(local reference)** household when **(local reference)** replaced the bed with a trampoline, **(local reference)** hit the ceiling. **(local reference)** tells **(local reference)** that she's drawn her eyebrows too high.... She looked surprised.

In other news.... The evil witch and her henchmen, Pork and Scratchings, are on the prowl. Also, Hansel and Gretel have not been seen since scene 1, and as we're only just starting scene 2, its hardly a long time is it, but for the sake of suspense, lets pretend it been all night, although I know for some of you it probably does feel like its been a long night already.

I'm on my way to see the missing children's parents now, at their cottage to get an update.
So on with the show....

Crier exits right

Curtains open to reveal cottage, mum is busy putting food away

Mum - Oh where have those two got to? I do hope father has managed to find them. I'm sure I'm worrying for nothing but they've never stayed out this late before.

Dad enters right

Dad - Mother, I'm home

Mum - oh my darling, please tell me you found them. Are they ok? Not hurt are they?

Dad - I'm sorry my dearest, I couldn't see any sign of them. I've looked everywhere.

Mum - oh no, what should we do now?

Dad - we could always nip to the pub

Mum - WHAT??? drinking when our poor little ones are lost in the woods?Have they still got the special on all the ciders?

Dad - I meant to see if anyone there has seen Hansel and Gretel

Mum - oh... yeah.... I knew that..... so have they still got the special on all the ciders?

Hear knocking on door

Dad - Hello.. who's there?

Crier - (off stage right) Figs

Dad - Figs who?

Crier enters stage right

Crier - Figs your doorbell, its not working..... is this the home of the missing children?

Mum - yes it is... or at least... it was (starts crying)

Crier - well I'm here to help with the search, I'll spread the news far and wide... we'll soon find them

Dad - See my dearest, the village are going to help us find them and get them home safely, so please don't upset yourself.

Crier - I'll just take down some details from you... can you tell me where their favourite place to visit is?

Mum - Not really, normally we just did the rehearsal and we went our way home, and they went back to their homes with their families, we didn't engage in small talk.

Crier - I'm talking about the characters that they're playing

Mum - Oooooooh, haha I thought you meant..... oh no wait, I mean boo hoo, I'm so upset, our children are missing

Dad - they just normally play around here and never go anywhere far on their own

Crier - ok noted.... Height?

Dad - I'm 5 foot 11.... Whats that got to do with anything?

Crier - I mean the children

Mum - that depends on what shoes they are wearing

Dad - or what they are stood on

Crier - hmmmm hair?

Mum - yes they both have hair

Crier - we really aren't getting anywhere are we..... names?

Dad - I'm known as father and shes called mother

Crier - FOR THE LOVE OF..... THE CHILDREN..... WHAT..... ARE.....THE.....CHILDRENS.....NAMES?

Mum - ooooooh... someone got out of bed the wrong side this morning, you always this grumpy?

Crier - Please just tell me what the childrens names are.... pleeeeeease

Dad - Hansel and Gretel

Crier - (writing down names) Hansel.... And.... Gretel, that's unusual names, why did you call them that?

Mum - we didn't, the story writers did

Crier - ok, well I'll be off and see what I can do, but please stay positive, I'm sure they'll be home safe and sound very soon

Dad - not too soon, or else we'll have to finish the panto early

Crier - yeah, but the sooner its over, the sooner we can get over to the pub

Mum - can we?

Crier - yes we can

Mum - can we really?

Crier - yes we really can

Mum - oh we can, can we?

Crier - YES WE CAN

Mum - have they still got the special on all the ciders?

Crier - oh I'm not sure, I'll investigate that too, bye for now

Crier exits right

Mum - do you really think they will be home soon?

Dad - Oh I'm sure they will my dearest

Song 2

Dad - All will be ok my dear, mark my words

Mum - Oh I do hope you're right

Dad - come on, lets get some supper ready for when they come home

Mum and Dad exit left

Curtains close

PantoScripts Perusal

Scene 3

Witch enters from back of hall

Witch - Oooh yes. I see we have lots of children in the audience tonight. Would any of you like to be my dinner? I.. I mean join me for dinner? All you well behaved kids, sat there doing as you're told.... It makes me want to throw up. I detest little ones.

Its not my fault that I don't like children, I had a troubled upbringing. When I was 8, I asked my mother if I was adopted, she said, 'not yet, but we have placed an advert'. So I decided that when I grew up, I would become a witch, theres a lot more witches about than you think, there could be one living next door to you right now.... Don't believe me? Just ask (local reference) neighbour.....

Its not easy either, witches are despised and frowned upon, you get chased out of town after town.... And its your fault, you peasants! Looking down on me, you are good-for-nothing worms! Everywhere I look, I see the repulsive sight of hundreds of revolting little children. You should be thanking me for ridding this world of horrible smelly kids! Not chasing me away.

Now lets see if those two cretins of mine have finished building my cottage of sweets.

Curtains open to reveal woods.

Pork and Scratching enter left

Witch - Ahh just in time, I was about to call for you both, how is my cottage coming along?

Pork - hello your evilness, we are nearly finished, we made the walls of sweetest gingerbread

Scartchings - mmmmmmm ginger bread, I like gingerbread

Pork - the carpet is made of the finest marsh mellow

Scratchings - mmmmmmm marsh mellow, I like marsh mellow

Pork - the curtains are woven from the longest candy laces

Scratchings - mmmmmmm candy laces, I like candy laces

Pork - the seating is the most delicious Turkish delight

Scratchings - mmmmm Turkish delight, I like Turkish delight

Witch - nearly finished? What do you mean NEARLY FINISHED? ... you SHOULD be finished, whats taken you so long?

Pork - it's his fault, he kept eating everything as soon as I built it. Even the flowers that I made out of laxatives

Scratchings - mmmmm laxatives, I like.....wait, what? laxatives? (grabs bum) oh err oh errr I gotta dash...

Scratchings exits left

Pork - that'll teach him

Witch - incompetent fools, get after him and get that cottage finished.... NOW!!!

Pork - yes your majestic crone, I mean witch, I mean oh great one

Witch - I said.... NOW!!!!

Pork and Witch exit left

Hansel and Gretel enters right

Gretel - oh Hansel, I knew it we're lost

Hansel - at least we managed to lose those brutes that were chasing us, we should be safe now

Gretel - Safe? How can you say that? We don't know where we are

Hansel - its ok dearest sister, you remember the sandwiches that you took? Well I've been breaking bits off and leaving a trail, all we have to do is follow the trail back to where we started from

Gretel - oh Hansel, you are clever

Hansel - yeah I know, its difficult being the hero all the time

Song 3

Gretel - oh I feel better already knowing I have you to keep me safe

Hear singing from off stage right

Gretel - oh no, hear that, its them back again, quickly lets hide

Hansel and Gretel hide stage left. Evergreen enters stage right

Evergreen - oh hello everybody (hello Evergreen) oh you are marvellous.
Are you enjoying yourselves? Oh well nevermind.
The important thing is not to take anything too seriously, I always take life with a pinch of salt.... A slice of lemon.... And a shot of tequila.
Now as you may know, those two lovely children, Hansel and Gretel have gone missing, and we're all out looking for them.

Hansel and Gretel enter left, looking behind them as they enter

Evergreen - You will tell me if you see them won't you?
(They're behind you)
Whats that my dears? Have you seen them?
(They're behind you)
They're where?
(they're behind you)
Behind me? Are you sure?
Oh no they're not
(oh yes they are)
Oh no they're not
(oh yes they are)
Oh there you both are, we've all been out looking for you

Gretel - who who who are you? Please don't hurt us

Evergreen - hurt you? No my dears, I'll not harm you, allow me to introduce myself, my name is Evergreen, I'm the guardian of the woods, and I've been out all over looking for you, apparently your parents are very worried.

Hansel - mother and father? Are they ok?

Evergreen - oh yes my dears, they are perfectly safe. According to the town crier, they are preparing supper for you, awaiting your return

Gretel - oh yes, supper, I'm so hungry I could eat a horse

Evergreen - A horse? Oh my, you really are hungry, but you can't go eating horses my dear, we're not in the EU anymore.
But as luck would have it, on my way here I've been finding little bits of sandwiches on the floor, would you like some?

Hansel - Sandwiches? On the floor? noooooo

Evergreen - oh don't you worry my lovely, nothing wrong with a bit of dirt (blows on bread and dusts it off) see, good as new

Hansel - you don't understand, that was our trail, we laid them down to find our way home

Gretel - how will we get back now? Do you know the way home Evergreen?

Evergreen - well yes of course I do, its... its... this way, no wait, its this way.... Or was it that way?

Gretel - oooh you don't know do you? Hansel we're lost for good

Hansel - come on Gretel, she's obviously a bit potty. I'm sure its this way, we'll be home for supper before you know it, follow me

Hansel and Gretel exit left without Evergreen noticing

Evergreen - no I'm pretty sure its this way..... or was it that way? They all look the same don't they?

Pixies enter right

Evergreen - oh hello my pixie helpers, are you looking for the children too?

Pixie 1 - no, we're looking for you, we knew you'd get lost

Pixie 2 - so we followed our noses and here you are, we found you

Evergreen - how clever, you followed my scent

Pixie 3 - well it is the strongest smell in the woods

Pixies all laugh

Evergreen - Oi cheeky, see children I told you..... now where have they got to now?

Pixie 1 - your smell might have scared them away

Pixie 2 - or it might have been her face

Pixie 3 - or her smelly tree breath

Pixies laugh

Evergreen- oh you pesky pixies are so rude

Evergreen puts hand to mouth to check her breath

Pixie 1 - are you coming back with us, or should we leaf you here?

Pixies laugh

Pixie 2 - Do you want us to show you the way back so you can get spruced up?

Pixies laugh

Evergreen - I'll have you know that I know these woods like the front of my hand

Pixie 3 - is that because you're a palm tree?

Pixies all laugh

Evergreen - come on my pixie friends, lets get back and tell the Crier that we've seen the children.

Evergreen and Pixies exit right

Curtains close

Scene 4

Crier enters from front right

Crier - Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye..... Good tidings one and all, here are more headlines from this months newsletter...
(local reference) said his new orthopaedic shoes wouldn't help with his posture, he stands corrected.
(local reference) sacked as set designers for the panto, they left without making a scene. A ghost walked into the pub and ordered a shot of vodka, they refused him and said that they don't serve spirits.

In other news..... Evergreen found Hansel and Gretel, and both were safe and well..... then she lost them again. Then she managed to get lost in the very same woods that shes guardian of. Luckily the clever pixies were on hand to lead her back.
Meanwhile, the witch has ordered her henchmen to build her a cottage out of candy, and if we've managed to keep up with the script, then they should just be about finished.... Shall we see?

Curtains open to reveal candy cottage, Crier exits front right

Pork and Scratchings are busy finishing building

Scratching - This is tedious, I hate working. We must be nearly finished by now

Pork - Yeah, I hate working with you too. If you got your finger out, we'd be done by now

Scratching - (shows his finger stuck in donut) I told you already, I can't get it out, its been stuck for ages now. I couldn't help it.

Pork - **You're so stupid, I'm not sure whether to insult you or pat you on the head**

Scratching picks up a drill

Pork - in fact, you're so stupid..... (drilling noise starts and Pork talks through the noise)

Scratching - (Drilling stops).... What did you say?

Pork - I said..... (drilling noise starts and Pork talks through the noise)

Scratching - (Drilling stops).... Hey?

Pork goes to hit Scratching.... Witch enters right

Witch - Well well well, if its not the thickie brothers... have you actually finished?

Pork - Almost your evilness, we're just on the last bit

Witch - Grrrrrr, you two bufoons should be finished by now, you are so.... (drilling starts and witch talks through noise shaking her fist)

Witch - (Drilling stops) And I swear one day I'll take my magic wand and shove it.... (drilling starts and witch talks through noise waving her wand)

Drilling stops

Witch - do I make myself clear?

Pork and Scratching look at each other and both say - Pardon?

Hansel and Gretel enter front stage right

Hansel - Don't worry Gretel, we'll find somewhere safe to spend the night

Gretel - I hope so, I'm cold and so very hungry

Witch - Look my idiotic gruesome twosome, I think we have our first two courses, sorry I mean visitors coming now, quick hide

Witch hides stage left, Pork and Scratching hide stage right

Hansel - We'll be ok sister of mine, you'll see..... look whats that there?

Gretel- Its ... it's a cottage.... And look, its so pretty, come on

Hansel and Gretel enter stage from front

Hansel - Wow what a place, so colourful and smells..... smells..... ummmmm so yummy

Gretel - licks a wall That's because its made of sweets, Hansel, its made of sweets

Both eat parts

Hansel - Oh Gretel, you're right, it is made of sweets, the bestest sweets I've ever tasted

Witch enters left

Witch - Hello my pretties, and who do we have here?

Gretel - Oh sorry, we didn't mean any harm, we didn't know anyone lived here

Witch - that's ok my lovelies, eat all you desire, my home is made of the finest candy

Hansel - ummmm yes it is, its so tasty and we're so hungry, but we have no money, we can't pay you for the sweets

Witch - Oooh you don't need money here, feel free to fill yourselves up, get nice and Plump

Pork and Scratching sneak on stage right

Gretel - But we are not able to repay you

Witch - Haha that's ok, after you've finished eating, I'll just errr how shall I put this.... Ah I know.... I'll eat you

Hansel - Haha, for a moment then, I thought you said you would eat us

Witch - that's because I DID

Pork and Scratching grab Hansel and Gretel

Witch - Hahahahaha we have them, well done you incompetent pair

Pork - your plan worked brilliantly your nastiness

Scratching - Hehe we'll eat well tonight

Witch - No no not tonight, we need to fatten them up first, we'll start with..... let me see..... this one here, the boy

Hansel - you can't eat us, I'll not let you

Pork - stop your snivelling, whats a brat like you gonna do?

Gretel - He'll beat you up, he's a black belt at karate

Scratching - yeah well.... We're blacker belts at... at.... Origami

Witch - Enough of this nonsense, throw him the cage there, and this one, the girl can help with the chores, whilst we get him nice and plump

Hansel is put into cage and Gretel given a duster to start cleaning

Witch - Oh I do love it when my plan comes together, and don't get ideas of escaping young lady, or he gets it... do you understand? Now start by cleaning my birds perch, he's very special to me..... (pets bird) you going to lay mummy another golden egg?

Gretel nods and starts to clean

Song 4

Witch - Keep cleaning my dear, and don't think about escaping or else your snotty brother there will pay the price hahahaha, oooh I'm so brilliant, I even surprise myself sometimes.

Pork - Yes you are so clever my graciousness

Scratchings - and no one is as evil as you either, not even (local reference)

Witch - well yes yes, I am all that and more. Its difficult sometimes being so amazing.

Pork - and no one else could make it look so easy, as what you do.

Scratchings - (mimicking Pork in a sarcastic way) and no one else could make it look so easy, as what you do..... you witches pet

Witch - Stop the bickering you two, honestly you're worse than them whinging horrible children out there. Oh I need a lie down, its so tiring being so awesome all the time.

Witch exits stage right

Pork - I think I need a lie down too, all this building has made me exhausted

Scratchings - and I think I need to dash too, those laxitives are..... ooooooooooh nooooooo..

Pork and scratching exit left

Gretel - Hansel! Did you hear what that witch said? This bird lays golden eggs

Hansel - yeah right, as if... and I suppose **(local reference)** is a stand up comic

Gretel - But Hansel, we'd be rich just think about how happy mum and dad would be

Hansel - yeah but you're forgetting one thing. I'm locked in a cage

Gretel - I know you are, but I'm not

Hansel - What?? you're not seriously thinking about running away are you? You heard her, I'll be eaten if you escape

Gretel - oh honestly Hansel, you're so selfish, its not all about you, you know

Hansel - Oh I'm so sorry, for not wanting to be eaten..... But you're probably right, my sacrifice would mean that you and mum and dad would be rich

Gretel - sooooo, just so I know, what you're saying is that I should take the bird and run?

Hansel - NOOOO I'm being sarcastic, of course I'm not saying that. Now get me out of here

Gretel tries to open the cage

Gretel - it's no good, that's a very strong lock

Hansel - ok, we need a plan of how to get the key. Any ideas?

Gretel - oh yeah of course, I'll just think of a plan and have you out in no time at all

Hansel - oh brilliant, you have a plan already

Gretel - of course I don't have a plan, you're not the only one who knows sarcasm you know. Who do you think I am, Macgyver? Although I'm obviously much too young to know what that reference means

Hansel - oooh sarcasm again, aimed at the script writers, I like that one. Why don't we take a break and try to think of one?

Curtains close