

NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT

SLEEPING BEAUTY

BY
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S L E E P I N G B E A U T Y

A New Pantomime in Two Acts by Ron Hall

Characters in order of appearance:-

Lord Chamberlain, a dithering old man

King Timorous, a little timid man

Queen Bossanova, a large bossy woman

Jack, the Court Jester and well known twit

Nausea, a lady of the Court, mad about Jack (Comedienne)

Lucy Lastic, the Palace Nursemaid (Dame)

Good Fairies:- Golden Fairy

Silver Fairy

Sapphire Fairy

Pearl Fairy

Emerald Fairy

Ruby Fairy

Charcoal Fairy, the Wicked Fairy

Diamond Fairy, the Principal Good Fairy

Princess Aurora, beautiful daughter of King Timorous and Queen
Bossanova

Prince Rupert, handsome prince from neighbouring kingdom

Frederick, his companion

Morticia, Charcoal Fairy's assistant

Edward Bear, non-speaking part

Pie Seller, male or female street trader

Dragon, three or four chorus members under a skin

Mummy and Daddy Bear, Edward's parents, non-speaking parts

Skeleton, non-speaking part

Chorus as palace courtiers and villagers

Senior dancers as clowns, bats/phantoms, Tyrolean folk dancers
and guests at wedding

Junior dancers as village children, woodland creatures and
sandmen/fairies and possibly horses

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Note:- Alternate scenes have small numbers of characters so that they can be played in front of tabs allowing time to change the main set manually. To reduce the number of scene changes the final scene can be played in front of the Palace Banqueting Room cloth if required.

Estimated length of show allowing for songs, dances and 15 minute interval:- 2 hours 25 minutes.

On the assumption that the Dame is played by a man and the parts of Rupert and Frederick by girls then number of principals required is as follows:-

Female:- Fourteen

Male:- Four

Either:- Five (Not including dragon)

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S L E E P I N G B E A U T YAct IScene 1 - The Palace Banqueting Room

(This is an opulent room with two thrones. The chorus dressed as courtiers are on stage)

Opening Chorus (Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- Another opening, another show (Kiss Me Kate)
Cabaret (Cabaret)
That's Entertainment (The Band Wagon)

(The Lord Chamberlain enters with staff in one hand and scroll in the other. He knocks staff on floor for silence and opens scroll which reaches right down to the floor. He comes forward, trips on scroll, chorus giggle. He coughs to silence them and proceeds with announcement)

Lord Ch:- His Royal Majesty King Timorous of Ambrosia, Defender of the Right, Keeper of the Peace and Knight of the Order of St.Pancras and all stations to Peterborough.

(King enters)

Not yet, I haven't finished.

(King exits)

Minister without portfolio, Secretary of State to the Foreign Office and Caller at the Palace Derby and Joan Bingo Club.

(King re-enters)

(Whispered) I still haven't finished.

(King exits embarrassed)

Count of Cornucopia, Commander of the Ambrosian Forces and part-time wicker bottom chair repairer. (King does not appear) You can come out now your Majesty I've finished.

(King enters again)

King:- Oh sorry, I didn't realise, I do apologise, I really do - - -

Queen:- (Offstage) Stope muttering Timorous and let the Lord Chamberlain get on with his announcement.

King:- Quite so my dear. I'll stop talking at once and let the Lord Chamberlain continue with his duties which he carries out without complaint so that the business of the day - - -

Queen:- (Offstage) Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- (Offstage) Shut up.

King:- Yes dear.

Lord Ch:- Her most magnificent Royal Majesty Queen Bossanova of Ambrosia, fairest blossom in the land, best dressed woman in the kingdom, winner of the title Mastermind of Ambrosia for three years in succession and B.Sc. in car maintenance.

Queen:- (Offstage) You've forgotten the most important thing you idiot.

Lord Ch:- Oh yes, of course. (He studies scroll) And Miss Lovely Legs of - - (Current year).

(Queen Bossanova enters grandly. She is overdressed)

Queen:- Well, don't just stand there Timorous. I wish to sit on the throne.

King:- Didn't you go after breakfast?

Queen:- I mean the royal throne you idiot. Today is the christening of our lovely daughter Aurora and there must be no mistakes - or there'll be no cocoa tonight.

King:- Yes dear.

(He takes her arm and escorts her to the throne. He brushes the seat for her with his hankie. She sits down and there is a rude noise. She has sat on a joke cushion)

I told you not to have curry for dinner last night.

Queen:- That wasn't me you fool, it was the cushion. (She rises) Who has been playing tricks?

(There is a stony silence)

Lord Ch:- (Greasily) I'm not one for telling tales your majesty but I think I know the culprit.

Queen:- Then speak up man.

Lord Ch:- It was Jack the Court Jester.

Queen:- Jack the Court Jester, Jack the Court Jester! Send for him at once.

Lord Ch:- Send for the Court Jester.

Offstage Voices:- Send for the Court Jester. (This is repeated by another)

(Jack enters)

Jack:- You wanted me.

Queen:- Your Majesty. (Meaning he should address her so)

Jack:- No you've got it wrong, I'm not your Majesty, you are.

Queen:- Don't bandy words with me young man. What is the meaning of this?

(She points to cushion)

Jack:- (Innocently) Of what your Majesty?

Queen:- This cushion.

Jack:- It looks a perfectly ordinary cushion to me.

Queen:- Timorous demonstrate.

King:- Do I have to?

Queen:- Yes.

King:- Very well. (He sits down gingerly and there is the rude noise)

Jack:- Oh nasty. I should keep off the baked beans if I were you.

Queen:- Are you responsible?

Jack:- Certainly not, I only tell the jokes, I don't do the cooking.

Queen:- For the cushion I mean.

Jack:- T'was but a little jape to brighten up your day your majesty.

Queen:- Then I'll have to reciprocate.

Jack:- Pardon!

Queen:- I'll brighten up your day by locking you up in the dungeons for 24 hours without food or drink.

Jack:- Oh no, not the dungeons, they're full of rats and mice and there's no running water.

Queen:- Yes there is - - down the walls. Take him away.
(Two guards enter)

King:- Please my dear, have a little pity, it was only meant as a joke.

Queen:- That's what your mother said to your father when you were born.

King:- But my dear - -

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Shut - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Take him away.
(The guards seize Jack. Nausea enters)

Nausea:- Please spare him. I am a suppliant at your feet.
(She flings herself down in front of the Queen)

Queen:- Who is this woman?

Nausea:- I am Nausea, Jack's intended.

Queen:- Is this true? Is she your intended?

Jack:- That depends on what she intended.

Nausea:- I want to marry you, oh light of my life.
(She grabs his leg)

Jack:- Ger' off, everybody's looking.

Nausea:- I know the light's pretty dim at times but I love him with a burning passion and I don't want him left in a dungeon where the mice can nibble his attributes.

King:- Forgive him dear, for the sake of our lovely daughter Aurora. Let nothing spoil the day of the Royal Christening and I'll do the royal washing up every day for the next month.

Queen:- You always do the royal washing up.

King:- I'll even do the royal ironing.

Queen:- You always do the royal ironing.

King:- I'll do the royal shopping as well.

Queen:- Oh no you don't, you'll be calling in at the - - - (local pub) for a quick one.

Jack:- I'll be good from now on I promise. (He moves to Queen)

Nausea:- Yes, I'll make sure of that. (She gets up and moves to Queen)

King:- Show us what a truly great Queen you are my dear. (He moves to Queen)

Queen:- (To audience) Shall I forgive him? (Reply) I can't hear you. Shall I forgive him? (Reply) I still can't hear you. If you don't do better than that he'll have to go to the dungeon. Shall I forgive him? (Reply) Very well, so it shall be. As I'm such a kind and generous person I forgive you.

All:- Hooray!
(Nausea kisses Jack who immediately wipes it off)
(There is a fanfare)

Jack:- Has someone switched on Channel Four?

Queen:- Stupid boy! (To Nausea) Get him out of here before I change my mind.

Nausea:- Yes your Majesty.

(She grabs Jack by the scruff of the neck and they both exit)

Queen:- Ah, it's the old nurse with our beautiful daughter Aurora.

(Dame enters carrying doll)

Dame:- Here I am your workshops with your little bundle of joy. (To audience)
Oh what a morning I've had. I've made the beds and emptied the - - -
ashtrays. I've changed the baby's nappie and powdered her little pink
behind. The trouble is I'm getting rather short-sighted and I forgot
to turn her over when I gave her the bottle. I thought her cheeks
seemed unusually big and rosy.

Queen:- Bring the child to me. Let me see my daughter on the day of her
christening.

Dame:- At once your flagship. (She takes 'baby' to Queen) Here she is. Isn't
she lovely?

Queen:- (Taking 'baby') Of course she is; she takes after me you know.

King:- Don't you think she looks a bit like me my dear?

Dame:- She reminded me of you earlier this morning your chipshop.

King:- Really?

Dame:- Yes, when I was powdering her bottom.

Queen:- Don't be rude to my husband woman. He can't help it if he's got a face
like the back end of a bus.

Dame:- Sorry, your high-up-ness. My tongue ran away with me.

(There is another fanfare)

Lord Ch:- Your majesty, the village children are here to pay their respects
to your beautiful daughter.

Queen:- Then let them approach.

Dance (Junior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:-You must have been a beautiful baby

Baby face

Baby love

(This number can be sung by the chorus whilst the children dance if
required. During the number the children place presents by the throne.
They exit at the end of the dance)

Queen:- Now wasn't that nice. What a popular queen I am.

King:- Isn't it about time we left for the church my dear?

Queen:- We're not having the christening in church; we're having it here.

King:- But the vicar's had a new font specially built near the altar.

Queen:- A new font?

King:- Yes so he can baptise babies at both ends.

Queen:- Enough of this tomfoolery! (To Lord Ch.) Were the invitations sent
to all the fairies in the kingdom?

Lord Ch:- All apart from Larry Grayson.

Queen:- We are not amused.

Lord Ch:- A thousand apologies your Majesty. It was just a joke.

Queen:- Yes, just a joke. And have the fairies arrived?

Lord Ch:- Yes they are without.

Queen:- Without what?

Lord Ch:- I mean they are outside your Majesty.

Queen:- Then let them enter and pay homage to my lovely daughter Aurora.

Lord Ch:- Let the fairies enter.

Voices Offstage:- Let the fairies enter (repeated twice)

Processional

Suggested numbers:- March of the Siamese Children (The King and I)
Sleeping Beauty Waltz

(This played softly below dialogue should enhance the magical quality of the scene. The Golden Fairy enters)

Lord Ch:- The Golden Fairy

Golden Fairy:- Beauty is the gift I bring,
Fair as flowers in the Spring
She will be for all her days,
Everyone will sing her praise.

(The Silver Fairy enters)

Lord Ch:- The Silver Fairy

Silver Fairy:- Grace is what I give today,
She will walk and talk and play
In a manner so disarming,
Everyone will find her charming.

(The Sapphire Fairy enters)

Lord Ch:- The Sapphire Fairy.

Sapphire Fairy:- Wisdom is the thing I give,
All the days that she shall live.
At the university
She shall gain a high degree.

(The Pearl Fairy enters)

Lord Ch:- The Pearl Fairy.

Pearl Fairy:- She'll be thoughtful, sweet and kind,
Generous and pure of mind,
Tender hearted, loved by all.
These are gifts that never pall.

(The Emerald Fairy enters)

Lord Ch:- The Emerald Fairy.

Emerald Fairy:- May her voice be like a bird,
In the verdant woodland heard,
Singing in such wondrous tones,
Like the brook upon the stones.

(The Ruby Fairy enters)

Ruby Fairy:- She'll have lovely waltzing feet,
Pretty ankles, trim and neat.
She'll be belle at any ball,
Finest dancer of them all.

(Music suddenly stops and stage darkens)

Dame:- What's happened? Has there been a power cut?

(The Charcoal Fairy enters with a flash, drum roll and chord in a minor key. She is carrying wand)

Charcoal F:- (Menacingly) And what of my invitation?

Queen:- And who are you pray?

Charcoal F:- I am the Charcoal Fairy who lives in the depths of the petrified forest on the very edge of your kingdom.

Queen:- You're not a fairy, you're an old witch. Remove her at once.

(The guards come forward. They touch the Charcoal Fairy but let go of her very quickly with agonised screams as though she is electrified)

What's the matter? Can't you fools do anything right? Chamberlain, get rid of this old harridan.

(Chamberlain tries but with same results. Fairy laughs evilly)

Are you all incapable? Timorous, throw her out.

King:- Who me?

Queen:- Yes you. Are you a man or a mouse?

King:- I like cheese.

Queen:- I suppose I'll have to do it myself.

(She gets up, gives Timorous the 'baby' and grabs hold of Fairy. She screams, lets go and falls on the floor. Timorous gives the 'baby' to the nurse and rushes to her. Fairy laughs. Timorous tries to lift her but cannot)

King:- Give me a hand Lucy.

(Dame gives 'baby' to a courtier and there is business as King and Dame lift Queen back onto throne. Queen comes to and 'baby' is given back to Dame)

Are you alright my dear?

Queen:- No thanks to you. You're about as much use as a chocolate tea-pot.

(Fairy laughs evilly)

King:- We're sorry we didn't send you an invitation Mrs. Fairy, but we didn't know of your existence.

Charcoal F:- A likely story. You're just like all the rest. You don't like me so you ignore me.

Queen:- Well I suppose there's truth in the old song 'Nobody loves a fairy when she's forty'.

Charcoal F:- Beware you're playing with fire.

Queen:- Don't threaten me woman. Now run along or my husband will be obliged to throw you into a dungeon, won't you Timorous?

King:- Will I?

Queen:- Of course you will. We can't have old witches - - I mean fairies coming along uninvited and upsetting my daughter's christening can we?

King:- Can't we?

Queen:- Of course we can't. Now do your duty. (Queen rises)

(Timorous approaches Fairy. Suddenly she laughs. Timorous jumps into Queen's arms. Queen falls back onto throne)

Charcoal F:- Don't worry little man I'm going, but before I do here's my christening gift for the Princess.

Though she will be blessed with grace,
Pure by nature, fair of face,
Kindest maiden ever seen,
She will die at seventeen.

(There are gasps from all on stage)

There will be a spinning wheel.
It's sharp spindle she will feel.
Her sweet finger she will prick.
Isn't that a lovely trick?

(Further gasp)

Poison shall this pin impart,
Poison that will reach her heart.
She will then collapse and die.
So your Majesties goodbye.

(There is another flash and drum roll and she exits laughing)

Queen:- (Getting up and tipping Timorous onto the floor) My baby! (Dame gives her the baby) Oh what is to be done? You can't die at seventeen. It isn't fair. (To other fairies) Can't you help us?

Golden F:- I fear not, our magic is not strong enough.

Emerald F:- We have already presented our gifts to the Princess.

Pearl F:- There is no way we can undo the mischief caused by the Charcoal Fairy.

Queen:- (Sitting down) Won't somebody help us?

(There is tinkling music and a flash. The Diamond Fairy enters)

Queen:- Who are you?

Diamond F:- I am the Diamond Fairy and have yet to present my gift to the baby princess.

King:- Please help us. You can't let our daughter die at seventeen.

Diamond F:- When I saw the Charcoal Fairy arrive I knew she had come for her own evil ends so I deliberately hid from sight and let her think that all the other gifts had been bestowed.

Dame:- Ooh Mrs. Fairy if you can help us I'll never complain about changing nappies again.

Diamond F:- I cannot completely undo the spell, it is beyond my power, but I I can make it less severe.

Dame:- How do you mean?

Diamond F:-
She will prick her finger still,
And will fall asleep until,
Her true lover hears of this,
And awakes her with a kiss.
He must be both brave and strong,
Fit enough to right all wrong.
Sweet Aurora will not die,
So your Majesties goodbye.

(Diamond Fairy exits to music and flash)

Dame:- Hey, you can't go yet, we don't know all the details.

King:- It's too late, she's vanished.

Queen:- Oh my baby, you're not going to die after all. What a relief!

Dame:- I've just had a thought.

King:- What's that?

Dame:- If she doesn't get kissed for a hundred years we're not going to be around when she wakes up.

Queen:- There's only one answer. She musn't prick her finger in the first place.

King:- Or in the second place either.

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Shut - - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- From this day on all spinning wheels are banished from the kingdom.

King:- What a good idea! (To Dame) She is a clever woman you know. She's a sort of cross between Barbara Woodhouse and Princess Anne.

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

All:- Shut - - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Chamberlain, take down my particulars.

Lord Ch:- What, in front of all these people?

Queen:- Just get your pen out and stop talking.

Lord Ch:- Yes your Majesty.

(He produces pen and writes on back of scroll)

Queen:- Let it be known throughout the land that it is an offence upon pain of death for anyone in the kingdom to possess a spinning wheel. Fourteen days will be allowed for all such spinning wheels to be taken to the Palace incinerator and burnt. Signed Timorous the Thirteenth, King of Ambrosia.

King:- But I didn't say that.

Queen:- You did now. Sign it.

King:- Yes dear.

(Lord Chamberlain gives him pen and he signs the scroll)

Queen:- And now let the festivities continue. Nothing must mar the day of our daughter's christening.

Lord:- Send in the clowns. (Calling offstage)

Voices Offstage:- Send in the clowns. (Repeated twice)

(Senior dancers enter dressed as clowns)

Dance and Chorus (Senior dancers and Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- Be a Clown

Comedy Tonight (A Funny Thing Happened)

(Tabs draw at end of number with 'picture', all saluting Princess)

Scene 2 - A Corridor in the Palace (Tabs or Frontcloth)

(Jack enters)

Jack:- Enjoying the show? Well never mind, it gets better as it goes on. Now that we're alone together I want you to do something for me. Will you? (Reply) I said 'Will you?' (Reply) That's better. Every time I come on I'll say 'Hi Gang' and I want you to say 'Hi Jack'. So you'll all be 'Hi-jackers'.

Shall we try it? I'll go off and come on again. Here we go.

(He exits and comes straight back on)

Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- Have you all gone home? I couldn't hear you. You'll have to do better then that. We'll try it again.

(He exits and returns straight away)

Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- Have you all got laryngitis? I want you to raise the roof with the noise. We'll give it one more try.

(He exits and returns straight away)

Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- That's better. Now remember every time I come on I want you to yell that out, okay? (Reply) Now what's happened to that Nausea?

Nausea:- I'm here Jack (Offstage)

Jack:- I suppose I'd better give her a hand.

(He exits and he re-enters with Nausea carrying spinning wheel)

Come on Nausea, you can do better than that.

Nausea:- I can't, I've been working for seven days non-stop.

Jack:- Seven days? (They put down wheel)

Nausea:- Yes and you know what they say about seven days, don't you?

Jack:- No, what's that?

Nausea:- They make one week (weak). (She laughs at her own little joke)

Jack:- The only place you're weak is in the head.

(Nausea bursts into tears)

Oh not the waterworks again. Here use my hankie.

(He takes out enormous hankie with appropriate slogan on it. She takes it and blows her nose to suitable band accompaniment)

There, how do you feel now?

Nausea:- (Between weeps) You don't love me.

Jack:- Yes I do.

Nausea:- You don't care for me at all.

Jack:- Yes I do.

Nausea:- You think I'm plain and unattractive.

Jack:- Yes I do.

(Nausea bursts into tears again)

Jack:- I mean I don't. I think you're the best thing since the 'F' Plan Diet (or other suitable topical innovation).

Nausea:- Do you really?

Jack:- Of course I do, and you're so strong and healthy.

Nausea:- Am I?

Jack:- Yes, now give me a hand with the spinning wheel.

Nausea:- Where are we taking it?

Jack:- To the Palace incinerator to be burnt.

Nausea:- What a shame! It's such a lovely wheel isn't it?

Jack:- Yes and it's the only one left in the kingdom.

Nausea:- Then why burn it?

Jack:- You know what the Queen said - If all spinning wheels aren't destroyed within fourteen days - - - (He draws his finger across his throat and makes suitable noise. Nausea repeats action) Exactly, now let's get moving. Today is the last day.

(They lift it and start to carry it across stage. Charcoal Fairy disguised as old lady in hooded cloak enters behind them. She draws back cloak so audience can see who she really is. She also carries wand)

Charcoal F:- Ha ha ha. (To audience) Yes tis I, the Charcoal Fairy come to take my revenge on the King and Queen. By the time I've finished with them they'll wish their daughter had never been born. (She hisses at audience) Now to assume my disguise. (She dons cloak and hood). (In 'old lady' voice) Good morning my dears (To Jack and Nausea).

Jack:- (Putting down wheel and turning round) Good heavens it's Nora Batty (Or Hilda Ogden).

Charcoal F:- I am on my way to the land of Transylvania where I make my living spinning yarns. My own spinning wheel was recently stolen by thieves and I have nothing on which to spin my yarns.

Jack and Nausea:- Aw!

Charcoal F:- If I cannot make cloth, I cannot make a living.

Jack and Nausea:- Aw!

Charcoal F:- And without money I will starve.

Jack and Nausea:- Aw!

Charcoal F:- And I don't know what to do.

Jack:- Aw!

Nausea:- What about this spinning wheel Jack? Why don't we give it to the old lady?

Jack:- But to own a spinning wheel means certain death.

Nausea:- Not if she takes it out of the country.

Jack:- That's true and it's much better than burning it. Here old lady you can have this one.

Charcoal F:- Thank you my dears, you are generosity itself. I have a pony and trap outside.

Jack:- Then we will carry it for you. Come on Nausea. (Jack and Nausea start to move it in the direction they brought it on.)

Jack:- I feel like a coalman.

Nausea:- I don't, they leave dirty finger marks all over you.

Jack:- Come on, let's get it to the pony and trap.

(Jack and Nausea exit with wheel)

Charcoal F:- (Flinging back cloak) Ha ha ha, little do they know that they are helping to bring about the death of the infant princess, ha ha.

(She hisses at audience and exits. Dame enters from opposite side. She is wheeling a pram with doll in it)

Dame:- Hey did you see that? It was that Charcoal Fairy. I bet she was up to no good. I think we ought to hiss every time she comes on, don't you? Are you any good at hissing? Shall we have a practice? I'll pretend I'm the Charcoal Fairy and come on again. I want you to see how loudly you can hiss. (She exits and returns immediately looking evil. Audience hisses) That's not very good is it? There's more hiss in a leaking gas pipe. Let's give it another whirl. (She exits and returns immediately) That's an improvement but you can still do better. Let's give it one more try. (She exits and returns. Audience hisses) Good, that ought to frighten her.

I've just realised I haven't introduced myself, have I? My name's Lucy and do you know what my last name is? Yes, it's Lastic, so I'm Lucy Lastic. It's an unfortunate name isn't it? I'm always being blamed for things that go wrong. When the royal washing machine broke down, who got the blame? - Lucy Lastic. When the King lost his shorts playing football, who got the blame? - Lucy Lastic. And when the Queen made a spectacle of herself at the royal swimming pool, who got the blame? Yes, you've guessed it - Lucy Lastic. Never mind, as you're a friendly lot you can call me Lucy.

I'm nursemaid to the baby princess. I take her out for walks in this pram and look after all her needs. I'm going to sing you a little song about my job and you'll see just how busy I am.

Song:- 'My Name is Lucy Lastic' (Dame)

(Tune:- It's a Long Way to Tipperary)

Oh my name is Lucy Lastic,
Royal Nursemaid, that's me.

Though my methods are rather drastic,
I'm the best there is you see.

(She takes 'baby' from pram)

I have brought up many babies,
Bottle fed them too.

(She takes bottle from pram and feeds baby. A trick bottle can look as though it's emptying)

Everybody calls me Lucy Lastic,
But Lucy to you.

(She puts back bottle and takes out nappie)

I have learned how to change a nappie,
And I'll show you the way.

That is how you can keep them happy,
Every hour of the day.

(She is changing nappie and powdering behind)

Though it's not a bed of roses (Holds nose)

You will soon win through,
Everybody calls me Lucy Lastic,
But Lucy to you.

(Song continued) When the nappie is safely pinned up,
 And the baby's been fed.
 You must help her to get her wind up,
 Long before she goes to bed.
 (She puts baby over shoulder and large 'burp' is heard)
 It's a hard life but I love it,
 Days are never blue.
 Everybody calls me Lucy Lastic,
 But Lucy to you.
 (She puts baby back in pram)
 Yes my name is really Lucy Lastic,
 But Lucy to you.
 (She exits wheeling pram)

Scene 3 - A Woodland Glade (Seventeen Years Later)

(The chorus are on stage. They are members of the Court dressed for a picnic and carrying baskets, hampers, etc)

Song (Chorus)

Suggested Numbers:- The Lusty Month of May (Camelot)
 Teddy Bears Picnic
 In the Country (Cliff Richard Number)
 Out of Town
 Mountain Greenery (The Girl Friend)

(Jack runs on chased by Nausea)

Jack:- Hi Gang.

Audience:- Hi Jack.

Jack:- Leave me alone Nausea, I bruise easily.

Nausea:- But it's Spring and my sap's rising.

Jack:- Mine isn't.

Nausea:- Seventeen years we've been going out together and you still haven't given me a ring.

Jack:- Ah well I've got a good reason for that.

Nausea:- What's that?

Jack:- The telephone hasn't been invented yet.

(She is gradually approaching him. He is moving backwards)

Nausea:- Don't spurn me lover boy.

(The King and Queen enter. The King is staggering under the load of a very large hamper. Jack backs straight into the Queen. He falls down and then gradually rises keeping his eyes level until he is looking into Queen's face)

Jack:- (Swallowing) Hello, nice day isn't it?

Queen:- Definitely the dungeons this time. Take him away.

(Two chorus men grab Jack)

Jack:- Help I'm being abducted.

King:- Be generous my dear, it's our daughter's seventeenth birthday today.

Queen:- No way, the man's a walking disaster area. To the dungeons with him.

Jack:- Let me tell you a joke to cheer you up. Did you hear the one about the Irish wall of death rider who went on a 'go slow'?

Queen:- (Stony faced) No tell me it.

Jack:- That was the joke your Majesty.

Queen:- Definitely the dungeons. Hang him by the manacles.

Jack:- Pardon.

Nausea:- No, anything but that.

(Aurora rushes on)

Aurora:- Oh mother please don't lock Jack up. He didn't mean to back into you.

Queen:- He never means to do anything but he always does. For twenty years I've been sitting on the throne and there's never been any relief.

Jack:- How about trying Exlax?

Queen:- That does it! The dungeons.

(The two men begin to drag Jack off)

Aurora:- Oh no please mother, let him go.

Queen:- I'm sorry dear, this time he's gone too far.

King:- Do let him go my dear.

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Shut - - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Aurora:- Let Jack go mother and it can be your birthday present to me.

Queen:- But we've got a cake with seventeen candles on it. It's in the picnic hamper.

King:- And there's a video recorder waiting for you back at the palace.

Queen:- You and your big mouth Timorous; that was supposed to be a surprise. That's the trouble with you, you're always talking and throwing your weight about. I don't know how I've put up with you all these years.

King:- Sorry dear.

Aurora:- I don't want expensive presents mother, I would sooner see everybody happy.

Queen:- Very well, but don't come running to me when you missed - - - (grotty TV programme) and expect me to have recorded it for you. Come Timorous, let us find a suitable place to have our picnic.

(The two men let Jack go)

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- And we'll eat the cake ourselves.

King:- Yes dear.

(The King and Queen exit, King staggering with hamper. The chorus follow)

Jack:- (To Aurora) Thank you your highness, I will try to be good in future. (He curtsies)

Aurora:- I'm sure you will Jack and I'm sure Nausea will keep you on the straight and narrow.

Nausea:- Oh I will your highness. I'll keep my eye on him day - - - and night. Come along my superman, let's go deeper into the woods.

Jack:- Oh heck, out of the frying pan and into the fire.

Nausea:- What did you say?

Jack:- I said 'I'm your greatest fan mad with desire'.

Nausea:- Ooh, I knew you had a secret passion for me. Let's go and study the birds and the bees.

Jack:- (Weakly) Tweet, tweet!

(Nausea drags Jack off)

Aurora:- What a beautiful day! And what a pleasure it is to be away from the palace and all its pomp. I feel free and if only there was that special someone here my joy would be complete.

Song and Dance (Aurora and Junior Dancers dressed as woodland creatures)

Suggested numbers:- Oh What a Beautiful Morning (Oklahoma)

Some Day My Prince Will Come (Snow White)

When I Dream (Crystal Gayle Number)

I Feel Pretty (West Side Story)

(At the end of the number the Junior Dancers exit. Aurora sits on a tree stump and begins to pick wild flowers which are within her reach. Prince Rupert and his companion Frederick enter. They are in hunting costume with horns, etc. Rupert sees Aurora and signals Frederick to keep silent. Rupert picks some flowers near to where he is standing without Aurora knowing. He goes up to her and clears his throat)

Aurora:- Oh sir, you startled me.

Rupert:- Do forgive me, I saw you sitting there looking so lovely that I felt I just had to pick these flowers for you.

(He gives them to her)

Aurora:- Thank you, they are the nicest birthday present I've ever had.

Rupert:- Birthday present?

Aurora:- Yes today is my seventeenth birthday.

Rupert:- Many happy returns.

Aurora:- Thank you.

Rupert:- Allow me to introduce myself. I am Prince Rupert of Bohemia and this is my companion Frederick. (He bows)

Frederick:- Your servant ma'am. (He bows)

Aurora:- (Rising) I am the Princess Aurora of Ambrosia. (She curtsies)

Rupert:- Frederick, go and attend to our horses, I will join you presently.

Frederick:- At once your highness. (He bows and exits)

Rupert:- We were out hunting and stopped for a rest.

Aurora:- Is Bohemia faraway?

Rupert:- It is about two hours ride. You are the loveliest creature I have ever seen.

Aurora:- (Turning away) You flatter me sir.

Rupert:- Not at all; it is the truth. My father's kingdom is filled with pretty girls but none can compare with you.

Reprise (Aurora and Rupert)

Song sung by Aurora earlier in scene

(They exit hand in hand. Jack rushes on out of breath. He sits on tree stump)

Jack:- Hi Gang. (Audience replies)
That woman's got arms like an octopus. I can't win round here. I either upset the Queen or Nausea upsets me. I'd emigrate to Australia but I can't stand kangaroos. Everything I do turns out wrong, even Treets melt in my hand and not in my mouth.
(Nausea enters and creeps up behind him. She places her hands over his eyes)

Nausea:- Guess who?

Jack:- The Princess of Wales?

Nausea:- No, but you're close.

Jack:- Elsie Tanner?

Nausea:- (Taking her hands away and sitting on tree stump next to him)
It's me your sweetheart childheart.

Jack:- My sweetheart childheart?

Nausea:- Yes sock it to me baby. (She snuggles up to him)

Jack:- I've no sock left in me.

Nausea:- Where's your 'get up and go'? (Forcing him off stump)

Jack:- It's got up and gone. (He falls onto floor)

Nausea:- (Leaning over him) Kiss me passionately.

Jack:- Whereabouts is that?

(Dame enters with hamper)

Dame:- Hello hello hello, what's going on here then?

Nausea:- (Trying to look as though nothing has happened) We were discussing the wildlife in the woods.

Dame:- Discussing it? You looked as though you were practicing it. Now give me a hand with this table cloth. (She puts down hamper and takes white table cloth from it. Nausea takes one end and they set it down on stage) Here we are, how would you like a nice piece of cake? (She takes cake from hamper and places it on the table cloth)

Jack:- What's it made of? (He sits)

Dame:- All the ingredients came out of my own head.

Jack:- Ugh! I don't like the sound of that.

Dame:- Stupid boy! When I say the ingredients came out of my head I don't mean the ingredients came out of my head I mean the ingredients came out of my head. Is that clear?

Jack:- As clear as - - - (local place) on a foggy day.

Nausea:- Well I'm going to have a piece anyway.

Dame:- Here you are Nausea. (She hands cake to Nausea who sits on the tree stump to eat it)

Nausea:- Thank you. (She tries it) Mm! It's delicious.

Jack:- I'll have a piece please.

Dame:- Very well. (She cuts a piece for Jack. Whilst this is going on a brightly coloured spider is let down from the flies directly above Nausea on the tree stump. It brushes her ear and neck. She brushes it away without seeing it. The spider rises a foot or so and then comes down again. Nausea brushes it away again. It rises again)

Nausea:- The flies are a nuisance round here.

Jack:- (Facing front) They're not bothering me.

Dame:- (Facing front) Or me.

(The spider comes down again and brushes Nausea's neck. She brushes it away. It swings back and hits her face. She sees it, 'screams' silently and dashes off with cake. The others are oblivious)

Jack:- (Turning round) Where's Nausea gone?

Dame:- She's probably spending a penny.

Jack:- But there aren't any shops in the woods.

Dame:- This boy's a fool. Well I might as well sit on the tree stump, it's comfier than the ground.

(She sits on tree stump. Spider routine is repeated ending with Dame running off. Jack is oblivious)

Jack:- (Facing front) It's nice cake isn't it? (Silence) I said it's nice cake isn't it? (Silence. He turns to find Dame gone) Now Lucy's gone. She must have had a penny to spend as well. Oh well I'll sit on the tree stump, I'm getting back ache down here.

(He does this. Spider routine is repeated but instead of dashing off he covers himself with white table cloth. Spider goes up into flies. Jack is trembling under cloth. He staggers to the back of the stage. Dame and Nausea return. They do not see Jack)

Dame:- (Picking up cake and putting it in the hamper) The spider seems to have gone so we'll pack the cake away.

Nausea:- (Helping her) Yes and then we'll go back to the palace.

(Jack moans like a ghost)

Dame:- What was that?

Nausea:- Just the wind in the trees.

(Jack moans again)

Dame:- Are you sure?

Nausea:- Yes, that's all it was.

(Jack moans a third time. Dame and Nausea freeze and then slowly turn to see him as he moans again. They scream and dash off with hamper)

Jack:- (Taking off cloth) Hey don't go and leave me here by myself. Spider comes down again in front of him. He screams and runs off after Dame and Nausea. Spider goes back up into flies. Aurora and Rupert enter)

Rupert:- I must soon return to Bohemia.

Aurora:- And I to the palace.

Rupert:- May I see you again Aurora?

Aurora:- Yes I should like that.

(King, Queen and Chorus enter. King is still struggling with hamper)

Queen:- And what is going on here pray? Do you realise my daughter is a minor young man?

King:- I thought she was a princess.

Queen:- Timorous.

King:- Yes dear.

Queen:- Shut - - - up.

King:- Yes dear.

Rupert:- A thousand pardons your Majesty. May I introduce myself. My name is Rupert and I come from Bohemia.

King:- (About to shake hands) How do you do. I'm King Timorous the Thirteenth of - - -

Queen:- (Slapping King's hand) Timorous, you do not shake hands with commoners.

Aurora:- But mother - - -

Queen:- No buts Aurora, we've brought you up for better things than he can give you.

Aurora:- But mother - - -

Queen:- You'd best be gone young man before I throw you into the dungeons.

Rupert:- Goodbye Princess Aurora.
(Frederick enters)
Frederick.

Frederick:- Yes Highness.

Rupert:- Prepare our horses.

Frederick:- Very good your Highness.

Aurora:- Goodbye Prince Rupert.
(Frederick exits and Rupert is about to follow)

Queen:- Wait a minute. What did you say your name was?

Rupert:- Prince Rupert of Bohemia.

Queen:- (Effusively) Oh my dear boy. Welcome to Ambrosia. Do come and dine with us.

Rupert:- Regretfully I must return to my own kingdom, but with your Majesties' permission I will call again in seven days to visit your daughter.

Queen:- With the greatest of pleasure.

Rupert:- And now I must depart.

Aurora:- Farewell Rupert.

Queen:- Farewell - - - Rupert.

Rupert:- Until next week.

Song (Rupert, Aurora, Principals and Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- Goodbye (White Horse Inn)
I'll See You Again (Bitter Sweet)
Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Goodbye
Far Away (Blitz)

Scene 4 - The Charcoal Fairy's Castle (Tabs or Front Cloth)

(The Charcoal Fairy enters with book of spells and wand)

Charcoal F:- (Hissing at audience) Pretty isn't she, the Princess Aurora? And just seventeen years old. Little does she know that within twenty four hours she'll be dead, pricked by the spindle of a spinning wheel. That will serve them all right, serve them all right for for not inviting me to the christening and at last I'll be triumphant. Morticia, come here quickly and bring the ingredients for the poison.

(Morticia enters carrying small table, various ingredients, spindle, bowl and large spoon. This scene will be more effective if smoke and flashes can be made to rise from the bowl as the ingredients are added)

Morticia:- Here we are ma'am, all the things you need to make up your evil brew.

Charcoal F:- (Laughing evilly) Good. Now let us try out the magic spell.
(She recites from the book)

Leg of newt and wing of bat,
Ear of mouse and eye of cat,
Tooth of goat and horse shoe nail,
Hair of dog and rabbit's tail.

(She throws the contents into the bowl as she speaks)

Stir the contents round and round,
Add a fishbone finely ground.
Then you say the magic spell,
'Hubble Bubble Flames of Hell'

(There is a flash as she says spell)

Come my demons of the night,
Weave a dance for my delight.

(Senior Dancers dressed as bats/phantoms enters)

Let the flames of evil kindle,
Make some poison for this spindle.

Dance (Senior Dancers)

Suggested Numbers:- Danse Macabre
In the Hall of the Mountain King (Peer Gynt)

(During the dance Charcoal Fairy dips spindle into bowl. She exits laughing with spindle. Morticia exits with table and contents as dance finishes)

Scene 5 - A Turret in the Palace

(Charcoal Fairy enters carrying hooded cloak and spindle also her wand)

Charcoal F:- Quickly Morticia, bring on the spinning wheel.

(Morticia enters carrying spinning wheel)

Morticia:- Very good ma'am.

Charcoal F:- Now place it down there and bring the stool.

Morticia:- Yes ma'am. (She exits)

Charcoal F:- At long last my dreams are about to come true. Aurora will prick her finger and die, ha ha ha.