



Frankenstein

by David Swan

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Frankenstein the Panto

It's a hard life for little orphan Heidi in Pumpernickel's Tavern. The greedy innkeeper and his bossy wife treat her like a slave. And that's not all ... up in his castle, gormless Count Dracula and his gummy grandmother are planning a dinner party, with Heidi as the main course!

Luckily, she's got the audience and other friends to help: her faithful dog Kodak, her best friend Frankie Stein and the handsome Prince Ludwig. The Forces of Evil never stand a chance ... especially when Professor Crackpot transforms Frankie into a Superhero!

The only real *horrors* are a party of rowdy schoolgirls under the supervision of Miss Nelly, famed pedagogue and pantomime dame. They're studying how to create havoc ... and they're all fast-learners!

Other titles by David Swan

Aladdin

Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves

Pinocchio

The Sleeping Beauty

Pant

*For Pamela and Dennis Quinn
and
In memory of Paul Stephenson,
who would have laughed*

Suggestions for Musical Numbers

Most of the suggestions listed here will be familiar to audiences and are therefore more likely to be enjoyed. Authorization to use any copyright songs and music must be obtained from: **The Performing Rights Society Ltd., 29-33 Berners Street, London W1P 4AA.**

Song A	"Hello, Hello There!" (<i>Bells Are Ringing</i> - Jule Styne)
Song B	"Master Of The House" (<i>Les Misérables</i> - Boublil & Schonberg)
Song C	"Give A Little Whistle" (<i>Pinocchio</i> - Walt Disney)
Song D	"Once A Year Day" (<i>The Pyjama Game</i> - Adler & Ross)
Song E	The School Anthem (<i>The Liberty Bell</i> - Sousa)
Song F	"The Sun'll Come Out Tomorrow" (<i>Annie</i> - Strouse & Charnin)
Dance A	Junior Ballet ("Alfred Hitchcock Presents" theme - available on "Television's Greatest Hits, Vol.1", TVT 1100, HMV - Tower London)
Song G	"Look What Happened To Mabel" (<i>Mac and Mabel</i> - Jerry Herman)
Song H	"Ghostbusters" (<i>Ray Parker Jnr.</i>)
Song I	The School Anthem (<i>Reprise</i>)
Song J	"It's A Hard Knock Life" (<i>Annie</i> - Strouse & Charnin)
Song K	"Suddenly, Seymour" (<i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> - Ashman & Menken)
Song L	"The Loco-Motion" (<i>G. Goffin & C.King</i>)
Song M	Songsheet
Song N	"Once A Year Day" (<i>Reprise</i>)
Song O	"I Don't Need Anything But You" (<i>Annie</i> - Strouse & Charnin)

CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Herr Pumpernickel	<i>an innkeeper</i>	(M)
Frau Pumpernickel	<i>his wife</i>	(F)
Frankie	<i>their servant</i>	(M)
Heidi	<i>an orphan (principal girl)</i>	(F)
Kodak	<i>her dog</i>	(M/F)
Buckles	<i>the prince's valet</i>	(M/F)
Prince Ludwig	<i>of Bavaria (principal boy)</i>	(F)
Professor Crackpot	<i>a crazy inventor</i>	(M)
Miss Nelly	<i>a headmistress (dame)</i>	(M)
Bridget Bloggs	<i>a schoolgirl</i>	(F)
Mabel Crumb	<i>a schoolgirl</i>	(F)
Agnes Swipe	<i>a schoolgirl</i>	(F)
Constance Swot	<i>a schoolgirl</i>	(F)
Ethel Ready	<i>a schoolgirl</i>	(F)
Count Dracula	<i>a vampire</i>	(M)
Granula	<i>his grandmother</i>	(F)

Chorus and Dancers: Citizens of Bavaria, schoolgirls, bats and ghosts.

16 Principals: 5 male, 9 female and 2 male/female.

Some doubling up possible: Herr & Frau Pumpernickel with Dracula and Granula.

ACT I

Scene 1	Pumpernickel's Taverna, Bavaria	<i>(full set)</i>
Scene 2	Outside Pumpernickel's Taverna	<i>(front of tabs)</i>
Scene 3	The Haunted Bedroom	<i>(half set)</i>
Scene 4	A Hallway in Pumpernickel's Taverna	<i>(front of tabs)</i>
Scene 5	Professor Crackpot's Laboratory	<i>(full set)</i>

ACT II

Scene 1	Dracula's Castle	<i>(full set)</i>
Scene 2	Song Sheet	<i>(front of tabs)</i>
Finale		

Note: The scenes are designed to blend into one another: full set, front of tabs, full set, etc. They offer the opportunity for elaborate and imaginative staging but are equally suitable for a small-scale production.

Description of Characters

Herr Pumpernickel is extremely oily and obsequious. He panders to anyone with money and willingly squeezes pennies from the poor. Though harsh on Heidi, he is not a 'heavy' villain and should be played humourously.

Frau Pumpernickel his prodigal wife, is very generous ... with herself. She has an unquenchable thirst for vulgar finery and thinks that her coarse manners are the height of etiquette. They are a well-matched, selfish, couple.

Frankie should be a believably real person. He is kind-hearted, humourous and naturally likeable ... the audience must regard him as their friend. He takes neither his role as the cheeky servant nor the dumb monster seriously.

Heidi is exploited by the Pumpernickels because she is a helpless orphan. Despite this, she is not a pathetic character ... she is humorous, hard working, forthright and uncomplaining.

Kodak is a challenging, non-speaking part. The performer should incorporate as many 'doggy' mannerisms as possible into his performance: sniffing, licking, scratching, etc.

Buckles is practical, down to earth and doesn't suffer fools gladly. He is older and wiser than Ludwig and often has to bail him out of awkward situations.

Prince Ludwig attempts to be very grand but is too inexperienced to be convincingly regal. He is shy, tends to be forgetful and obviously relies heavily on Buckles.

Professor Crackpot a 'nutty', absent-minded professor. He should speak with a phoney, but intelligible, German accent. His dishevelled clothes and unkept hair are proof that ~~great minds have little time for personal appearance!~~

Miss Nelly is brazen, effervescent and quick-witted. She is totally unshockable as far as her girls are concerned ... we should get the impression that their behaviour is the result of her careful training.

Bridget Bloggs is a dumb-blonde and "gold-digger", well trained in the art of trapping her man. She should look 'sexy' in her uniform and believe that she is the focus of all male attention.

Mabel Crumb is a lazy loafer. She couldn't care less and this should be reflected in her slovenly appearance and sloppy mannerisms.

Agnes Swipe is a hyperactive "super-brat". She is a fast-moving, quick-tempered bully with a well developed criminal mind.

Constance Swot is teacher's pet. She appears to be meek and well-behaved but is, in fact, the 'brains' of the gang.

Ethel Ready is a hypochondriac and a moaner. She would love to be the centre of attention but never is. The others constantly push her around.

Count Dracula is basically an upper-class twit. He has impeccable manners and should speak with a very posh, "Sloane Ranger" accent. A failure as a vampire, he would have expired eons ago had it not been for his granny.

Granula looks decrepit but appearances are deceptive: she can leap quickly into action when required. She is more vicious than Dracula and has brains enough for two.

NOTE: None of the schoolgirls have to be played by juveniles

Act One

Scene 1

Pumpernickel's Taverna - Bavaria

(Full-stage ... see Appendix A. There are stairs U.L. to the first floor of the tavern and beneath this a swing-door with a sign saying "Kitchen". The main door is U.C. and above this is a changeable sign which, at the moment, reads "Pumpernickel's Taverna". There is a window with sky beyond U.R. and another door with a sign saying "LAB". There is a Bar R. which also functions as a Reception Desk later in the scene. On the Bar is a sign saying "Happy Hour" and a bell. Tables and chairs are scattered around the rest of the stage.

The decor of the opening set is "German" and should be bright and cheerful. A mirror hangs on the wall near the Kitchen Door. There are signs everywhere: "Credit? No! Nein! Non! Nee!", "No Nose Blowing On Tablecloths - The Management", "Rooms to Let" "Cash Only", "Menu - Today's Special - Snail Quiche - Sweet and Sour Kraut - Best Wurst"

The Chorus and Dancers are dressed in German peasant costumes. Throughout the opening production number: HERR PUMPERNICKEL pulls steins of beer behind the bar; HEIDI takes trays of beer to the customers; FRAU PUMPERNICKEL and FRANKIE come in and out of kitchen, serving food; KODAK, the dog, scrounges titbits.

SONG A

Principals and Chorus

ALL sing one verse and chorus of the song. The music continues with a short dance - a hands and thigh-slapping 'folk-dance' routine. ALL sing a final, rousing chorus and the song ends. Exit DANCERS. FRANKIE and HEIDI move D.C. and bow. The CHORUS continues eating and drinking unobtrusively. KODAK lies down beneath a table. HERR and FRAU PUMPERNICKEL pick up broom, a mop and a bucket (containing streamers). They move to FRANKIE and HEIDI)

Herr Pump *(handing bucket and mop to FRANKIE)* Alright, you two, that's enough of that ... get back to work.

Frau Pump *(handing broom to HEIDI)* Yes ... I want this place sparkling from top to bottom.

Herr Pump Scrub that floor ...

Frau Pump ... and dust those chairs ...

Herr Pump ... polish that door ...

Frau Pump ... and sweep those stairs ...

Herr Pump ... tote that barge ...

Frau Pump ... and lift that bale ...

Both *(singing)* "Get a little drunk and you land in jail ... (*"Ole Man River"* - Showboat)

(They laugh. HERR PUMPERNICKEL returns to the bar, replaces the "Happy Hour" sign with one saying "Reception", and counts money with the aid of a giant calculator. FRAU PUMPERNICKEL exits to kitchen)

Frankie *(curtseying)* Yes sir and madam!

Heidi Oh Frankie, I'm so tired.

Frankie Cheer up, Heidi, we'll soon be finished - you sweep the stairs and I'll mop the floor.

Herr Pump (*shouting*) And be quick about it!

Frankie

&

Yes, Herr Pumpernickel! (*HEIDI scurries upstairs*)

Heidi

Frankie (*D.L.*) Rotten old codger! (*starts to mop the floor and notices the audience*) Oh, hello there - I didn't see you! Have you come to see the show?

Audience Yes!

Frankie That's nice. (*to someone in front row*) Here ... don't chuck your rubbish on the floor. You're not in *local town* now you know! (*to whole audience*) No. This is Bavaria. We like everything kept spotlessly clean here. Even our pigeons have to fly upside down! (*swings mop over shoulder*) Welcome to Pumpernickel's Taverna! (*pointing at HERR PUMPERNICKEL*) That's the landlord of this establishment ... Herr Pumpernickel's the name. (*secretively*) Do you want to know something? (*D.C.*) Well, don't say I told you but (*loud whisper*) he's the meanest, tight-fisted old skinflint in the whole of Bavaria! He'd do anything to make more money. He'd even sell his own grandmother ... oh, no ... he already sold her! He's so stingy he won't even buy a pair of shoes - he just paints his feet black and laces up his toes! (*FRAU PUMPERNICKEL enters from the kitchen with tray and goes to tables*) That's Frau Pumpernickel, his wife. They make a good pair, those two ... he makes the money and she spends it. The only thing she ever put aside for a rainy day was a pair of wellies and a Beecham's Powder!! (*FRAU PUMPERNICKEL exits to kitchen and HERR PUMPERNICKEL moves behind FRANKIE, carrying the calculator and stuffing money into his pocket*) Her favourite book's a cheque book: once she starts one, she can't put it down till it's finished! (*He swings the mop and clouts HERR PUMPERNICKEL in the face ... a drum-beat*) Ooo-er!

Herr Pump What do you think you're doing?

Frankie Just mopping your brow. (*to audience*) He's got ears in the back of his head, that one!

Herr Pump Who are you talking to?

Frankie I was just telling the boys and girls how *kind-hearted* you are.

Herr Pump Boys and girls? (*peering at audience*) Oh yes! There's lots of them - goody, goody gumboils! (*gleefully counting the audience*) Let's see now, that's 300 people (*using calculator*) at £2 a ticket - that's £600! Ha ha! I'm stinking rich!

Frankie No ... you're just *stinking*!

Herr Pump How dare you!

Frankie What I mean is ... there might be 300 people out there, but they haven't all *paid* for their tickets.

Herr Pump Haven't paid???

Frankie There's a big party of *orphans* here tonight.

Herr Pump Orphans??

Frankie (*Soulful music. He tearfully wipes his face with the cloth*) And it's Christmas time. And they haven't got any mummies and daddies to buy them tickets. Ahhh! (*Music stops*)

Herr Pump They haven't got any mummies and daddies? So what??

Frankie (*chirpily*) So we let them in *free*!

- Herr Pump** *(turning his back on FRANKIE and raging)* Free! Free! I'm going to come down there and chuck you all out!
(Enter FRAU PUMPERNICKEL from kitchen with a large hat. She looks in the mirror and puts it on)
- Frankie** *(encouraging audience)* Boooo!
- Audience** Boooo!
- Herr Pump** And as for the rest of you ... all those who've paid for their tickets can stay and enjoy the show. And if you don't ... too bad, 'coz I'm not going to give your money back!
- Audience** Boo!
- Herr Pump** *(muttering)* Orphans! It's disgusting ... nothing but a lot of good-for-nothing leeches ...
(FRANKIE mimes throwing the bucket of water over HERR PUMPERNICKEL)
- Frankie** *(to audience)* Shall I give it to him?
- Audience** Yes.
- Frankie** Right, here goes. *(FRAU PUMPERNICKEL comes D.S. behind FRANKIE)*
- Herr Pump** *(continuing over)* blood-suckers ... parasites ... you must think I'm made of money ...
- Frankie** *(raising bucket)* One! Two! Th...
- Frau Pump** What do you think you're doing?
- Frankie** *(lowering bucket, startled)* Nothing, Frau Bumperknickers.
- Frau Pump** *(hitting him)* "Pumpernickel"! Get back to work! *(FRANKIE kneels D.L. and washes the floor)* Hello, my sweetiekins! *(kisses HERR PUMPERNICKEL)*
- Herr Pump** Hello my sugar-lamb!
- Frau Pump** Why was everyone booing you, my darling?
- Herr Pump** It's "Be Kind To Orphans" week ... and they think I'm being unkind!
- Frau Pump** *(to audience)* Oh but that's *not* true ... we *are* kind to orphans.
- Frankie** *(encouraging audience)* Oh no you're not!
- Herr Pump**
 & Oh yes we are! *(repeat twice)*
- Frau Pump**
- Frau Pump** Quiet! Stop it! We *are* kind, and I can prove it! *(calling upstairs, harshly)* Heidi!
- Heidi** *(at top of stairs, with broom)* Yes, Frau Pumpernickel!
- Frau Pump** Come down here at once! *(HEIDI comes downstairs)* At the double. *(HEIDI hurries)* Hup-one-two-three! Hup-one-two-three!
- Frankie** *(to audience)* Let's say "hello" to Heidi, everybody. *(waving to Heidi)* Heidi, hi!
- All** Ho-di-ho!
- Frau Pump** About time too. What took you so long?
- Heidi** I'm sorry, Frau Pumpernickel ... I sprained my ankle.
- Herr Pump** That's a lame excuse! *(laughs)*
- Frau Pump** Now, Heidi, I want you to tell all the boys and girls about your mummy and daddy!
- Heidi** *(sadly)* But I haven't got a mummy and daddy!
- Frankie** Ahhhh!

- Frau Pump** *(to audience)* What did I tell you? *(indicating HEIDI)* An orphan! *(to HEIDI)* Now tell them how kind we are to you.
- Heidi** *(doubtfully)* You're very kind to me!
- Frau Pump** Do it properly!
- Heidi** *(curtseying)* You're very kind to me, sir and madam!
- Frau Pump** That's better. *(to audience)* Now I hope you're satisfied! *(to HEIDI)* Alright Heidi, you may go and clear the tables.
- Heidi** *(curtseying)* Thank you, Frau Bumperknickers. *(she collects plates from the tables)*
- Frau Pump** Watch it! *(to HERR PUMPERNICKEL)* How much money have we made today, my treasure?
- Herr Pump** *(pulling out banknotes and handkerchief)* Eight hundred and fifty six pounds thirty three pence ... and a snotty handkerchief.
- Frau Pump** And a snotty handkerchief?
- Herr Pump** Yes, someone dropped it. I thought we could give it to Heidi for her Christmas Present.
- Frau Pump** Oh, you're so thoughtful. You're the kindest, cleverest, bestest landlord in the whole of Bavaria.
- Herr Pump** I try. I try.

SONG B

Principals & Chorus

(During the song, FRANKIE moves up to the main door and changes the tavern sign to read "Nickelpumper's". The song ends. Exit CHORUS. Exit HEIDI to kitchen followed by KODAK. FRANKIE mops the floor once more)

- Frau Pump** Oh, I'm so excited ... Prince Ludwig is coming to town today! I must go and buy a new hat! *(she snatches the bank-notes from him)*
- Herr Pump** *(trying to retrieve them)* Hat's are too expensive ... I can't afford it.
- Frau Pump** Of course you can afford it ... you're my husband.
- Herr Pump** Yes, and I've been paying for it ever since!
- Frau Pump** Bye for now. *(exits through Main Door)*
- Herr Pump** *(chasing after her)* Give me back my money! It's not fair! Come back ... *(exit)*
- Frankie** *(standing and picking up bucket)* Serves him right, the old skinflint! Well, that's the floor finished! *(moving towards the Reception Desk)* I'd better go and clean the cellars now ... here, wait a minute ... I haven't introduced myself yet, have I? *(sets down bucket)* My name is "Frankie". Hello boys and girls!
- Audience** *(feebly)* Hello Frankie!
- Frankie** You don't seem very sure of my name. I said "My name's 'Frankie'". Hello boys and girls!
- Audience** HELLO FRANKIE!
- Frankie** That's great! Mind you, I only let my friends call me 'Frankie'. Everyone else has to use my full-name: Frank N. Stein! *(short pause)* No, no, no ... not *that* Frankenstein! I don't look like a big, ugly, green monster with bolts through my neck, do I? Who said "yes"? No, my name's Frank N. Stein - the "N" stands for my middle name. I come from a world-famous family. There's my father, Roger ... he can play "The Sound of Music" on his teeth with a hammer ... you must

have heard of him: "Roger and hammer Stein". Oh, they get worse! Then there's my brother - he is the *one* brain in the family ... Ein Stein. And my stupid sister, Phyllis Stein. And last but by no means least, you all know my great, great, great grandfather ... he lived to one hundred and twenty six and was over seven feet tall ... Old Lang Stein! Well, I'd better get on with my work. *(looking into bucket)* Oh, this water's filthy ... I'd better chuck it out. *(Lifts bucket and prepares to throw at audience)* Are you ready to duck? One! Two! Two and a half! *(lowers bucket)* Oh no, I'd better not ... there's a little girl hiding under the seat down here! *(lifting bucket)* It's alright I was just pretending. I'm not going to soak you. *(moving suddenly to another section of audience)* I'm going to soak this lot instead! *(He throws the contents of the bucket at the audience ... the streamers flood out)* Ha ha! That fooled you! See you later. *(exits)*
(BUCKLES enters through Main Door)

Buckles Make way, make way for his Royal Highness: Prince Ludwig of Bavaria.
(Enter PRINCE LUDWIG through the Main Door to C. and immediately reads a speech from the scroll he is carrying)

Ludwig Loyal Subjects, Citizens of Bavaria, lend me your ears ... *(BUCKLES coughs, politely trying to interrupt)* ... I come to bear bad tidings not give good ones ... *(BUCKLES coughs louder)* ... the evil in the night is after us ...

Buckles M'lord?

Ludwig ... and the good ... what is it?

Buckles There isn't anyone here, M'lord!

Ludwig There isn't? *(raises a monocle to his eye and looks around)* Drat! *(strides nervously up and down, followed by BUCKLES)* Where is everybody? This is a matter of life and death! *(stops suddenly and BUCKLES bumps into him)* Ouch! Well don't just stand there, find someone!

Buckles Yes, sir. *(he crosses to the Reception Desk)* Your Highness, there's a bell over here.

Ludwig Well why don't you ring it?

(BUCKLES rings the bell. Enter HEIDI from the kitchen, drying her hands on a towel)

Heidi Hello. Can I help you, sir?

Buckles We must see the master of the house immediately ... it's a matter of life and death!

Heidi Oh dear. There's no-one here but me. Everyone's gone to welcome Prince Ludwig.

Buckles But Prince Ludwig is *here*!

Heidi *(looking around)* Where?

Ludwig I am Prince Ludwig.

Heidi Oh, I'm terribly sorry your majesty ... I didn't recognise you. *(curtseys and stays down)*

Ludwig It's alright, you don't have to curtsey. Let me help you up.

(He gives her his hand and she rises. Romantic music. They gaze at each other and are instantly smitten)

Heidi Thank you, sir.

- Ludwig Call me "Ludwig".
- Heidi Oh I couldn't do that, sir.
- Ludwig Why not?
- Heidi You're a prince and I'm only a servant girl.
- Ludwig *(using monocle, dreamily)* What's your name?
- Heidi Heidi, sir.
- Ludwig *(breaking away)* Well, Heidisir, a pretty girl like you shouldn't be left unguarded.
- Heidi Why not?
- Ludwig *(significantly)* You are in grave danger!
- Heidi *(alarmed)* What sort of danger?
- Buckles Vampires!
- Heidi Vampires???
- Ludwig You must be protected.
- Heidi Oh, don't worry about me ... I've got a great, big dog to protect me.
- Ludwig A dog?
- Heidi He's my best friend. You'll like him. I'll call him for you. *(She whistles. Nothing happens)* Oh dear ... I'm sorry about this ... he's a bit deaf, you see. Would you help me whistle for him?
- Ludwig Certainly. *(All three whistle. Nothing happens)*
- Heidi ~~No. He still can't hear us.~~
- Ludwig *(indicating audience)* Perhaps all the boys and girls will help us?
- Heidi What a good idea. *(to audience)* Can any of you whistle? You can? Oh good. I'll count to three and we'll all whistle together. One. Two. Three. *(ALL whistle. Nothing happens)*
- Buckles *(to audience)* That's not loud enough!
- Ludwig *(to audience)* You'll have to do better than that!
- Heidi *(to audience)* Let's try again. Take a really deep breath this time and whistle as loud as you can.
- (ALL take a deep breath and whistle. KODAK bounds in from the kitchen and down to the others, wagging his tail)*
- Heidi *(to audience)* Thank you, everybody. *(to KODAK)* Say "thank you" to the boys and girls. *(KODAK barks at the audience)*
- Ludwig What's his name?
- Heidi I call him Kodak ... that's because he's always snapping at people!
- Ludwig *(stepping back)* Oh!
- Heidi Don't worry. He wouldn't hurt a friend. *(raising voice and speaking deliberately)* Kodak, say hello to Prince Ludwig. *(KODAK barks)* You see ... he likes you.
- Ludwig Good. *(to KODAK, offering hand)* Paw. *(no reaction)*
- Heidi You'll have to speak up a bit.
- Ludwig Oh, yes. *(shouting)* PAW! *(KODAK offers paw and he shakes it)* How do you do.
- Buckles He won't be much good as a guard dog!
- Heidi Why not?
- Buckles He can't hear you whistling for him.

- Ludwig** That's true!
- Heidi** Oh dear, what are we going to do?
- Buckles** I know. (*indicating audience*) Why not ask your friends to help?
- Heidi** That's a good idea. (*to audience*) If you ever hear me shouting for help, will you all whistle for Kodak as loud as you can? Will you?
- Audience** Yes.
- Ludwig** Let's have a little practice. (*to BUCKLES*) You pretend to grab her ... (*to audience*) and when you hear Heidi shout for help, whistle for Kodak. O.K.? Off we go! (*BUCKLES pulls an ugly face and grabs HEIDI*)
- Heidi** Help! Help!
(*The audience whistles. KODAK growls, chases BUCKLES around the stage and bites his bottom*)
- Heidi** Here boy! (*KODAK comes to her side. BUCKLES rubs his bottom*)
- Ludwig** (*to audience*) Well done! Now don't forget ... if you ever hear Heidi calling for help, you have to whistle as loud as you can.

SONG C

Heidi, Ludwig & Buckles

(*The song ends. Enter HERR PUMPERNICKEL through the Main Door, closely followed by FRAU PUMPERNICKEL in a garish new hat. They come D.S., bickering*)

- Herr Pump** You're not going to spend another penny, and that's final!
- Frau Pump** But darling, I need a new dress to match my hat.
- Herr Pump** You've got a face to match the hat, isn't that enough.
(*FRAU PUMPERNICKEL screams and points at LUDWIG*)
- Herr Pump** What is it?
- Frau Pump** (*ecstatically*) Prince Ludwig! He's my idol!
- Ludwig** (*bowing deeply*) At your service, maam.
(*FRAU PUMPERNICKEL immediately starts rummaging in her bag and pulls out a photograph*)
- Herr Pump** A prince in my humble establishment! (*grovelling on his knees*) Oh your majesty, your highness, your worshipness, your holiness ... how can I ever repay you for your gracious patronage!
(*He seizes PRINCE LUDWIG's hand and kisses it fervently. FRAU PUMPERNICKEL seizes his other hand and thrusts a photograph into it*)
- Frau Pump** Look at this, your worship.
- Ludwig** What's this?
- Frau Pump** It's your portrait. I carry it with me everywhere. (*handing him a pen*) Please autograph it for me!
(*LUDWIG disengages his hand from HERR PUMPERNICKEL, who is still slobbering over it*)
- Ludwig** I shall need something to rest on.
- Herr Pump** (*offering his back*) Please rest on me, your magnificence, I shall always be most humbly grateful!
(*LUDWIG rests on HERR PUMPERNICKEL's back and signs*)

- Frau Pump** (*peeping over his shoulder*) Put "love from".
- Ludwig** Oh, very well. (*handing photo back*) There we are!
- Frau Pump** (*reading*) "Love from Prince Ludwig" ... oooo! (*she dashes to Main Door, shouting*) Greta! Marlene! Helga! He's here! Come quick!
(*Enter CHORUS through Main Door. FRAU PUMPERNICKEL shows off her autographed portrait to them*)
- Buckles** Your highness, I think it's time to tell everyone the *bad news*.
- Ludwig** Oh yes, of course. (*gets out 'speech'*) I shall need a chair to stand on.
- Buckles** Landlord ... a chair for his majesty.
- Herr Pump** Certainly. (*bawling*) Frankie!
- Frankie** (*entering*) Hello, boys and girls.
- Audience** Hello, Frankie.
- Herr Pump** Don't stand there chatting. A *chair* for Prince Ludwig.
- Frankie** Oh yes ... (*loudly*) Hip Hip.
- All** Hooray!

SONG D

Principals and Chorus

(*At the end of the number, BUCKLES gets a chair and places it centre and LUDWIG stands on it*)

- Buckles** Silence please. (*bellowing*) Quiet! Give the man a chance!
- Ludwig** (*clears throat and reads*) "Loyal Subjects, Citizens of Bavaria, lend me your ears."
- Herr Pump** Why does he want to borrow our ears?
- Buckles** Shshsh!
- Ludwig** I come to bear bad tidings not give good ones!
The evil in the night is after us
And goodness will vanish with the sun!
- Frankie** Get to the point!
- Buckles** What his highness is trying to say is ...
- Ludwig** There's been terrible trouble at my chateau.
- Herr Pump** What is it?
- Ludwig** Well, it's a sort of castle with turrets and a drawbridge and ...
- Herr Pump** No ... what's the trouble?
- Ludwig** Count Dracula is back!
- All** Dracula!
- (*A sinister fanfare. ALL gasp in horror and clutch their throats. PRINCE LUDWIG climbs down and BUCKLES removes the chair*)
- Ludwig** He arrived last night with his hideous grandmother.
- Herr Pump** Dracula's bad enough ...
- Frau Pump** But Granula's even worse.
- Frankie** Yes, she's a pain in the neck! (*laughs*)
- Ludwig** (*dramatically*) They have no power while the sun is shining, but when it's dark ... beware!

(The CHORUS panic and dash for the main door. HERR and FRAU PUMPER-NICKEL rush to the reception desk, pull out a suitcase and throw items into it)

Chorus *(variously)* Dracula's back! Out of my way! Wait for me! Mummy! I'm too young to die! Help! Etc. *(together as they exit)*

Frau Pump Run for your lives!

Herr Pump Let's get out of here!

Ludwig What are you doing?

Herr Pump Running away, of course! *(to audience)* And so will you if you've got any sense!

Frau Pump Yes ... Count Dracula's crazy for pretty, young girls.

Frankie You'll be quite safe then!

Frau Pump Cheek! *(moving away)* Come along, Titus.

Herr Pump Yes, dear. *(to FRANKIE)* You can send us a letter when the coast is clear.

Frau Pump If you're still alive!

Ludwig Wait!

Both No fear!

Frau Pump We're going where it's safe to walk the streets at night!

Herr Pump Where the sun shines all year round!

Ludwig Where's that?

Both *Local 'rough' area. (They exit)*

Heidi They've gone. What are we going to do?

Buckles Keep calm. That's the important thing.

Ludwig Yes. Whatever you do ... don't panic.

(There is a loud explosion: the LAB door bursts open and smoke billows onto the stage. LUDWIG and BUCKLES panic: they run in opposite directions, return and barge into each other. FRANKIE and HEIDI watch them, unruffled)

Both *(variously)* Arrgh! It's Dracula! It's Granula! Which way out? This way! No, it's this way!

(PROFESSOR CRACKPOT appears, coughing and spluttering, with his lab-coat in charred tatters. His hand raised, with the thumb and forefinger forming a "circle")

Crackpot Eureka!

Ludwig Don't worry, Heidi ... I'll protect you! *(shields her)*

Crackpot *(coming D.S.)* I've done it!

Ludwig Get back, you fiend!

Heidi It's alright, your highness.

Frankie It's just Professor Crackpot.

Crackpot Success at last! I've done it!

Ludwig Done what?

Crackpot *(showing 'circle')* Here, see! *(proudly)* My latest invention!

Heidi I can't see anything!

Crackpot That's elementary, my dear Heidi ... of course you cannot see nothing! This is a hole!

Others A hole??

Crackpot Ja, ja! All I need to do now is work out how to put the mint around it!

- Frankie** Very good, Professor ... that'll make lots of money.
- Crackpot** Ja, it'll make a mint! (*ALL groan*)
- Heidi** (*to LUDWIG*) Your Highness ...
- Ludwig** (*interrupting*) Ludwig.
- Heidi** Ludwig ... may I introduce Professor Jacob Crackpot, the most famous member of the Cracker Family.
- Crackpot** Ja, I am Jacob ... the cream of the Crackers.
- Ludwig** (*holding out hand*) How do you do ... I'm Prince Ludwig.
- Crackpot** (*shaking hand*) How do you do? (*letting go and scrabbling on floor*) Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear.
- Ludwig** What's wrong?
- Crackpot** I've dropped it! Ah, here it is. (*stands up holding "circle" carefully*) I'll put it in here for safe keeping. (*puts hand in pocket*) Now I've got a hole in the pocket!
- Frankie** More like a hole in the head!
- Crackpot** Maybe I could interest you in one of my latest inventions, Prince Bigwig? (*pulls a black-painted light bulb out of his pocket*)
- Ludwig** A black lightbulb? What use is that?
- Crackpot** It's very good for reading in the dark. No? (*putting bulb back in pocket*) Oh well. (*extracting a tea-bag from his pocket*) How about this then?
- Ludwig** What is it?
- Crackpot** ~~The world's first waterproof teabag! No? (*tosses teabag over shoulder*)~~ Then maybe I could interest you in my marvellous new invention for looking through solid walls! I call it a "window". And I have also discovered something that does the work of ten men!
- Ludwig** What's that?
- Crackpot** Ten women!
- Buckles** He's crazy!
- Crackpot** How dare you? I am the man who gave the world colour radio!
- Buckles** He's mad!
- Crackpot** I'll show you who's mad. Take a look at this! (*He rips open his lab coat. ALL recoil and cover their eyes. CRACKPOT takes a strange-looking gun from its holster*) Stick 'em up, cowboy! (*ALL step back*)
- Ludwig & Buckles** (*raising arms*) Don't shoot!
- Frankie** (*raising arms*) Careful with that thing!
- Crackpot** (*chuckling*) It's alright ... it's not loaded. This is my latest invention. I call it a "Hypno-Gun".
- Ludwig** What does it do?
- Crackpot** You aim it at someone. Fire it. And "hey presto" ... they are instantly hypnotised. Allow me to demonstrate. Which of you would like to volunteer? (*pointing gun at BUCKLES*)
- Buckles** (*stepping back*) Not likely!
(*He points the gun at HEIDI and FRANKIE*)

- Both** Keep away!
- Crackpot** (*pointing gun at LUDWIG*) It won't hurt a bit, I promise. Ready?
- Ludwig** This is ridiculous!
- Crackpot** Aim!
- Ludwig** It won't work!
- Crackpot** Fire! (*electronic beeping*)
- Ludwig** I've never been ... (*he freezes, mouth open, eyes wide*)
- Frankie** It's worked!
- Heidi** Amazing! (*she walks around LUDWIG, examining him*)
- Crackpot** Shsh! (*to audience*) He is now in a deep hypnotic trance, so everybody must keep very quiet. (*to LUDWIG*) Can you hear me? Nod your head if you understand. (*LUDWIG nods head*) Good! Arms up! Arms down! Touch your toes! (*LUDWIG obeys*) Excellent. Now, Heidi ... give me the first word that comes into your head!
- Heidi** (*behind LUDWIG*) Er ... "bottom".
- Crackpot** Bottom? (*HEIDI looks embarrassed*) That'll do, I suppose. (*to LUDWIG*) Listen carefully Prince Earwig. Everytime you hear the word "bottom" you will shout "knickers" at the top of your voice. Nod your head if you understand. (*LUDWIG nods*) Good. Now, I am going to count to three and snap my fingers and you will awake with no recollection of what I have just said. One. Two. Three. (*snaps fingers and LUDWIG 'awakes'*)
- Ludwig** ... in hypnotism. I've never been hypnotised in my life. It's a load of rubbish.
- Crackpot** Rubbish, is it? Tell me Frankie ... if the attic's at the top of the house, where is the cellar?
- Frankie** (*pointing down*) Down below.
- Crackpot** No, no. (*whispers in his ear*)
- Frankie** (*giggles*) I see, Professor. If the attic's at the top of the house, the cellar's at the bottom.
- Ludwig** (*straightening up*) Knickers! (*Laughter. He looks confused*) What's everyone laughing at?
- Crackpot** Nothing. (*they laugh again*)
- Ludwig** I don't see what's so funny. There's nothing to laugh about. (*moves to Main Door*) We are all in grave danger. (*opens door ... a ruddy light floods in*)
- Crackpot** Danger?
- Ludwig** It's almost dark outside.
- Heidi** Yes. What a beautiful sunset. (*shyly*) It's so romantic.
- Ludwig** It's horrible!
- Heidi** Horrible?
- Ludwig** You know what they say. "Red sky at night, vampire's delight"! (*closes door*)
- Crackpot** Vampires? (*knowingly*) Ahhh ...
- Heidi** What are we going to do?
- Ludwig** There's only one thing to do: eat lots of garlic. (*the others grimace*) That'll drive the vampires away.
- Frankie** That'll drive the audience away!

Frankenstein the Panto

Heidi There must be something else we could eat.
Crackpot Rubbish!
Frankie No, I don't fancy eating that!
Crackpot There's something that vampires hate worse than garlic.
Others What's that? (*Bubbling noises from the LAB*)
Crackpot I, Professor Crackpot, the world's greatest inventor and vampire vanquisher, have the solution. (*produces "hole" from his pocket*)
Ludwig What solution?
Crackpot My peppermint solution: I left it boiling in my laboratory.
Others Peppermint?
Ludwig You don't mean that, surely?
Crackpot I do. And don't call me "Shirley". You know what they say: "Suck a peppermint all night long 'coz vampires can't abide the pong"! (*goes the LAB door*) Come, Prince Fuzzywig. I shall need your help. (*Exits. BUCKLES moves to LAB door*)
Ludwig Coming. (*to HEIDI and FRANKIE*) Make sure that all the doors and windows are locked. (*moves to LAB*)
Frankie Yes, your Magnificence!
Heidi (*to FRANKIE*) I'll check upstairs and you check down. (*she moves to stairs*)
Frankie Right. We'll check the place from top to bottom.
Ludwig Knickers!

(The others laugh. Exit LUDWIG and BUCKLES into the LAB. FRANKIE mimes walking downstairs and disappears behind the Reception Desk. HEIDI exit upstairs.

Almost immediately, there is a loud knocking at the main door. Enter MISS NELLY. She is dressed in a travelling cloak and a mortarboard and is clutching a phrase-book)

Miss Nelly Yoo-hoo! Hello there! Anyone home? (*reading sign above the door*) "Nickel-pumper's Taverna" ... well this looks like the right place! (*calling through the doors*) Alright girls, you can come in.

(Loud cheering and screeching. MISS NELLY is thrust aside as the stage is invaded by the SCHOOLGIRLS dressed in dishevelled school uniforms and battered hats. They carry bags, violin cases and hockey sticks. Members of the Chorus can be used to swell their ranks, but there are five main girls. BRIDGET is dressed 'sexily' and carries a make-up bag; MABEL is extremely dirty: she wears a scruffy cardigan and is constantly chewing gum and blowing bubbles; AGNES is a bully and a talented confidence-trickster; CONSTANCE is a swot and 'teacher's pet': she wears spectacles and always has her nose in a book; ETHEL is a hypochondriac and a constant moaner.

The unruly bunch of girls dash D.C. and sing the "School Anthem" defiantly at the audience. MISS NELLY follows and conducts the girls energetically)

SONG E

The School Anthem

"The Liberty Bell" by Sousa ("Monty Python" theme)

Don't be a dope and sit and mope
And throw you life away!
Don't go on strike: get on your bike
And just live for today!
Don't be all meek and stand for cheek:

Let nothing in your way!
 Don't be polite and ladylike
 And always run away!
 Oh, give 'em a knuckle sandwich
 On the chin!
 You've gotta fight with all your might
 And not give in!
 When ever you're in trouble
 Knock 'em out of sight!
 In our school the golden rule
 Is fight, fight, fight!

Miss Nelly *(during the song)* Sing out Ethel. Keep the beat Agnes. Smile Bridget. Keep going.

(The song ends. CONSTANCE steps away from the group, sits on the floor and opens her book)

Miss Nelly *(ecstatically)* When I hear your innocent little voices raised in song it makes me want to throw caution to the wind ... *(coarsely)* and belt you all in the mouth with a wet kipper! How many more times have I got to tell you to sing out?

Agnes I *did* sing out ... my voice filled the auditorium.

Miss Nelly Yes, Agnes ... half the audience left to make room for it!

Bridget Everyone knows that I'm the best singer ... I've been singing ever since I was two years old.

Miss Nelly No wonder your voice is hoarse!

(BRIDGET steps huffily away from the others and touches up her makeup)

Miss Nelly And Mabel ... you should open your mouth and *project*.

Mabel What, like this? *(She opens her mouth wide and does a 'Tarzan' bellow)*

Miss Nelly The last time I saw a mouth like that, Willie Carson was sitting behind it! *(to ETHEL)* And I didn't hear you singing at all, Ethel.

Ethel *(moaning)* Singing makes my throat sore, Miss ... I think I'm getting the flu. I've got a temperature, Miss ... *(MISS NELLY puts a hand on her forehead)* ... I feel all hot and bothered.

Miss Nelly You might be hot, dear, but you'll *never* be bothered. *(turning to MABEL who is wiping her nose on her sleeve)* And don't wipe your nose on your sleeve, Mabel ... where's your hanky?

Mabel I'm trying to keep it clean, Miss.

Miss Nelly *(pointing at BRIDGET who is looking in a mirror)* You should all copy Bridget ... what a *model* pupil.

Agnes Yes, she's all stuck-up with glue.

Bridget I always try to look my best ... you never know when a handsome prince will turn up!

Girls *(sneering)* Oooooooooo!

Bridget I'm destined for great things: when I was born they fired a 21 gun salute.

Mabel What a pity they missed. *(MABEL and BRIDGET shout and scuffle)*

Miss Nelly Girls! Quieten down. Why can't you be well-behaved and studious *(pointing at CONSTANCE)* like Constance?

- Agnes** (*snatching CONSTANCE's book*) Teacher's pet!
- Constance** (*standing*) Give me back my book!
- Agnes** Make me!
(*AGNES and CONSTANCE fight, rolling on the floor. The other girls step back and egg them on. MISS NELLY observes the fight in mock-horror for a few moments before breaking it up*)
- Miss Nelly** (*clapping hands*) Alright girls, break it up, break it up. (*She grabs them by the ears and pulls them up*) You should be ashamed of yourselves ... that's no way for ladies to behave in public. Have you forgotten what I taught you about etiquette and elocution ... and the martial arts. How many more times do I have to tell you, Agnes ... the way to get someone down on the ground is to kick their feet from under them (*she demonstrates on AGNES who lands on her bottom*) like this! And Constance ... don't pull hair, give her a quick karate chop, like this! (*she demonstrates on CONSTANCE who is felled by the blow. The other girls cheer and applaud*) See? It's easy when you know how. (*AGNES and CONSTANCE get up*) I am in the business of knocking young heads off young shoulders.
- Constance** (*moaning*) Miss!
- Miss Nelly** What is it, my pet?
- Constance** She stole my book, Miss!
- Miss Nelly** Give it to her, Agnes.
- Agnes** You said it ... (*she whacks CONSTANCE over the head with the book*)
- Constance** Ouch! Give it back or I'll tell her what you did!
- Miss Nelly** (*twisting CONSTANCE's ear*) What did she do?
- Constance** She stole your bloomers, Miss.
(*MISS NELLY pats her skirt and is shocked to find them missing*)
- Miss Nelly** Oh my goodness! (*to AGNES, calmly*) I'm impressed, Agnes ... you're a girl of hidden talents.
- Agnes** Thank you, Miss.
- Miss Nelly** Hand them over. (*AGNES extracts a large pair of bloomers from her uniform and gives them to MISS NELLY together with the book*) And take one hundred lines ... "I must not nick knickers whilst folks is still wearing 'em".
- Agnes** (*poking tongue out at CONSTANCE*) Tell-tale tit! (*she joins the other girls*)
- Miss Nelly** (*examining book*) What's this you're reading, Constance. "The Embarrassing Moment" by Lucy Lastic! (*clutches her bloomers to bosom*) Oh ... there's no need to rub it in.
- Constance** (*snatching book*) I wasn't Miss ... I'm studying for my exams!
- Miss Nelly** Exams, my foot!
- Constance** You said it! (*she stamps on MISS NELLY's foot*)
- Miss Nelly** Ouch! Alright girls, settle down. (*crossing to Reception Desk*) I shall see about our rooms. Where is everybody? The place is deserted. (*seeing the audience*) Oh look, there's lots of people out here. (*opens phrase book*) Let me see now ... oh yes ... (*reading laboriously*) "Speak-un sie En-g-lish?" (*no response*) They must be deaf as well as foreign! What's the matter, don't you understand Ger-

man? Do you speak English? Speak up, I can't hear you ... can you speak English?

Audience Yes.

Miss Nelly Well that's a relief ... my German's a bit rusty. I'm having trouble with my vowels. Thank goodness I've got this phrase book to help me. It's taught me lots of things ... like how to say "yes" in twenty seven languages! The trouble is I don't get asked very often! But it doesn't really matter ... I can speak the one language that everyone understands ... the language of LOVE! Mind you, I'm a little rusty at that too, so if anyone fancies some conversation practice, I'll see you after the show!

(She rings the bell on the reception desk. FRANKIE appears instantly behind the counter)

Frankie Ja?

Miss Nelly *(frantically thumbing through phrase book)* Hang on a minute, I've lost my place. *(FRANKIE folds his arms)* Here it is ... "Have-un sie ein room-un for die night-un?"

Frankie With or without a bath?

Miss Nelly Oh, you speak English.

Frankie Ja!

Miss Nelly Ja? What terrible journey we've had!

Frankie Ja?

Miss Nelly Ja! We came by coach ... I wouldn't say it was crowded, but even the driver was standing!

Frankie Ja?

Miss Nelly Ja! It took us six days to get here ... four days on the coach and two days to fold the map.

Frankie Ja?

Miss Nelly Ja! Is that all you can say?

Frankie Ja!

Miss Nelly Are you the landlord?

Frankie Nein, nein, Fraulein ... I'm Frank N. Stein.

Miss Nelly *(stepping back, horrified)* Arrgh! It's Frankenstein! Get him, girls!
(The GIRLS attack him. Enter HEIDI from upstairs)

Frankie Ouch! No! Call them off!

Heidi What's going on here?

Miss Nelly Heel, girls.

(The GIRLS stand back. A ripping noise as FRANKIE staggers to his feet. AGNES holds up a pair of underpants)

Agnes Got 'em! *(the GIRLS cheer)*

Frankie Are you deaf, or what? I said "my name is Frank N. Stein".

Miss Nelly What does the "N" stand for?

Frankie Neil.

Miss Nelly *(kneeling)* If you insist. *(offering hand)* How do you do, Mr. Stein.

Heidi He's not a "Mr" ... he's a "Herr".

- Agnes (*displaying underpants*) He doesn't look like a "her" to me.
- Miss Nelly (*standing*) Agnes Swipe! You give those back to Mr. Stein. (*FRANKIE clutches himself incredulously*)
- Agnes Awww, Miss ... I want them for my collection, Miss.
- Miss Nelly At once!
- Agnes Yes, Miss.
(*She returns them to FRANKIE who turns his back on the audience and stuffs them down his trousers. BRIDGET examines HEIDI contemptuously*)
- Heidi I hope your girls are going to behave themselves.
- Miss Nelly Oh yes ... my girls are proper little madams. (*BRIDGET tugs HEIDI's hair*)
- Heidi Ow! We're in enough trouble as it is. (*moves to Reception Desk. MABEL trips her up*)
- Miss Nelly (*dignified*) My girls are the crumb de la crumb. (*The GIRLS cheer and jeer. HEIDI retreats behind the Reception Desk*)
- Miss Nelly Now then, have you got our rooms ready? (*HEIDI shakes her head*) I booked them by telephone.
- Heidi That's impossible: telephones haven't been invented yet.
- Miss Nelly But I've got reservations! (*aside*) and I should have by the look of this dump!
- Heidi (*producing a large, dusty ledger*) What name is it please?
- Miss Nelly Let's see ... there's Mable Crumb, Ethel Ready, Agnes Swipe, Bridget Bloggs ...
- ~~Heidi~~ ~~Nein. Nein.~~
- Miss Nelly (*counting girls*) Oh, there's more than nine of us.
- Heidi No. What's your name?
- Miss Nelly "Nelly".
- Heidi 'Mrs' or 'Miss'?
- Miss Nelly 'Miss' (*nudging FRANKIE*) ... but you never know your luck.
- Heidi (*writing*) Miss Smelly.
- Miss Nelly 'Nelly'! 'Nelly'!
- Frankie Oh ... as in 'elephant'.
- Miss Nelly Watch it, buster.
- Heidi (*writing*) Smelly Nelly ...
- Miss Nelly (*exasperated*) No ... the name is Miss Nelly.
- Girls (*'Singing' the "Dallas Theme"*) Tra la, la la ... etc (*MISS NELLY conducts them for a few seconds and then signals them to stop*)
- Frankie That's a stupid name!
- Miss Nelly How dare you! I'm very well educated: my full title is Miss Nelly B.A., Ph.D., M.Sc., and Iceberg.
- Frankie Iceberg?
- Miss Nelly Yes, I've got 'lettuce' after my name! (*producing passport from bag*) Here's my passport if you don't believe me. (*FRANKIE opens it and laughs*) What are you laughing at?
- Frankie You look even worse than your passport photograph.
- Miss Nelly That photo doesn't do me justice.

- Frankie** It's mercy you want, not justice. And look at this ... you've crossed out your date of birth.
- Miss Nelly** *(snatching passport back)* I don't want people to know how old I am.
- Frankie** Yes. Few women admit their age.
- Miss Nelly** And few men act theirs! Eh, girls? *(GIRLS cheer and shake their fists. To audience)* This is a feminist panto. *(to HEIDI)* Now what about our rooms?
- Heidi** *(shaking head)* I'm sorry, there's too many of you.
- Miss Nelly** But you don't expect us to find another hotel at this time of night, surely?
- Heidi** My name's "Heidi".
- Miss Nelly** Sorry. You must be able to squash us in somewhere, Heidi ... try!
- All** Ho-di-ho!
- Heidi** Well, you can have my room if you like. I'll sleep down here.
- Miss Nelly** How kind.
- Heidi** That's settled then. Would you like morning tea in your chamber?
- Miss Nelly** I'd prefer it in a cup.
- Heidi** *(offering ledger)* Sign here please.
- Miss Nelly** Where?
- Heidi** At the bottom.
- Ludwig** *(throwing open LAB door)* Knickers! *(slams door)*
(MISS NELLY comes to edge of stage, outraged. The SCHOOLGIRLS step forward and scan the audience threateningly)
- Miss Nelly** How rude! Who said that? Who was it? Own up! *(pointing at someone in the front row)* It was you, wasn't it? *(rolling up sleeves)* I'm going to come down there and give you a good hiding.
- Frankie** It wasn't his fault.
- Heidi** No. It was Ludwig.
- Miss Nelly** Oh, it was Ludwig, was it? I'll knock his block off!
- Frankie** You can't do that.
- Miss Nelly** Why not?
- Heidi** He's a prince!
- Girls** A prince!
- Bridget** *(excited)* Is there a prince staying here?
- Heidi** *(defensive)* Yes. He's a good friend of mine, actually.
- Bridget** I'm dying to meet him! Where is he?
- Frankie** He's in the lab.
- Miss Nelly** In the lav? *(covers her mouth in "horror")*
(The LAB door opens. Enter BUCKLES)
- Frankie** Here he comes now.
- Buckles** Make way for his royal Highness, Prince Ludwig of Bavaria. *(Enter LUDWIG)*
- Girls** *(sighing)* He's gorgeous!
- Miss Nelly** Attention! *(the GIRLS line up)* Let's give his highness a right royal salute. *(saluting)* Dib dib dib.
- Girls** *(saluting)* Dub dub dub.
- Miss Nelly** *(shaking fist)* Oompah. Oompah.